

Wisteria Hall
3830 "U" Street
Sacramento, CA

Monitor Lodge
No. 218
Editor: Marie Tillman



VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

Vol. 16, No. 1

January, 1992



Our new year will begin with the business meeting starting at 7:00 pm on Friday, January 3rd., 1992. We will hear the annual reports and elect delegates to the district convention in April. The new officers will provide refreshments after the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we enter the 1992 new year I see by our program calendar that Monitor Lodge is going to be very active. And, it is through the cooperation of all our members, working together, that the year's activities will be successful.

Our big event is the 80th Anniversary and District Convention in April. It will be exciting to have Swedes from District #12 visiting Sacramento and receiving the Monitor hospitality.

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We also have the bus trips planned to the bay area to see the play "Värmlänningarna" on May 17th and to hear the Swedish Music at the Festival on May 30th.

Many thanks to our "Glögg Party" refreshment committee for

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Vasa Order of America
2529 Eastern Ave #26
Sacramento, CA 95821

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a table of delicious food. Also, a big "Tack ska du ha" to the "Tomte" for his visit and gifts. It would not have been a complete Christmas program without Swedish music. Our chorus director Marianne Ek had some nice selections including a solo by newly initiated member Betty Schoepf.

The members who received cookies and poinsettias were very appreciative to the lodge for remembering them. The members that I visited were in good spirits and would like to have more visitors. Thanks to the Nål och Tråd group for bagging and delivering the cookies, including Elizabeth Johnson who took care of the plants.

It was wonderful to see so many people come out Friday evening the 13th, for the Lucia program. We saw many members who brought their grandchildren. The Children's Club leaders had an excellent program with Lucia singing, a Lucia play, and reading the story "Tomten" in both Swedish and English. These children are getting a good background in Swedish culture.

We all want to thank Marie Tillman for the great professional printing job on our newsletter. It is very easy to read, and helps us keep up to date on Monitor activities.

A very happy new year to everyone.

In truth and unity
— Myrtle Widmark

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE

Susan Lydecker, daughter of Vickie Lydecker, will be our Maid of Sweden for the International Friendship Committee's (IFC) Luncheon and Camellia Parade. Does anyone have a national costume that Susan could borrow?

So far, members volunteering to work on these functions are: Jean Anderson, Karin Bodelson, DeeDee Dahlberg, LaVerne Gilbertson, Ethel Johnson, Ingrid Kennedy, Ted Olson, Kurt Pfannkuch, Jillian Stanley, and Arlie Veis. We still need a General Chairperson, Maid coordinator, and helpers with luncheon tickets, the exhibit booth, raffle tickets, and the parade. At the January 3rd. lodge meeting, interested members can sign up to help. I'll also take names for General Chairperson and Maid Coordinator, to be turned into the IFC Chair, Shirley Lentsch. So be thinking about which project you'll sign up for. Since there will not be a float this year, there is not so much to be done. The next IFC planning meeting is January 14, 1992. Our lodge volunteers will need the support and help of all our members for this year's festivities. Remember to mark your calendar, the Camellia show is **March 7 & 8**, the International Friendship Luncheon, **March 14**, and the Parade **April 4**.

possession and continued after the land became Swedish in 1658. He had money which he loaned to other farmers taking mortgages on their farms. When many of the farmers were unable to pay he foreclosed on many of these and added more estate to his property.

He had no son to inherit his properties but he had five daughters. They all married well-to-do farmers on Orust or the neighboring island of Tjörn. The daughters were Ingegärd, Malin, Maret, Bengta and Anna.



In 1664 Jöns was the logical leader of a tax protest concerning the royal bailiff, Anders Larsson. The protest went all the way to the authorities at Stockholm and Anders Larsson was investigated and reprimanded. Anders Larsson had his revenge. He accused Jöns of "conversation with the devil" or witchcraft. In spite of appeals by many important people, Jöns was imprisoned in 1669. There were many important citizens who offered to go security for Jöns' freedom to no avail. Jöns died in prison in 1671.

No one accused of witchcraft could be buried in the sacred ground of the churchyard. However, Jöns' friends, with

connivance of the minister, buried him secretly in the churchyard.

I am indebted to my cousin Britty Gundersson of Orust for this vignette of medieval Sweden. It has special interest to me. Jöns is my earliest ancestor of whom there is record. My paternal grandfather was descended from Malin Jönsdotter. My paternal grandmother has Ingegärd, Anna and Bengta in her genealogical record.

— Ted Olson

of the cabin. Here the people of the homestead prepared and ate their food, slept and busied themselves with all kinds of tasks and handicrafts. Most of the furniture was attached to the walls; beds, benches, shelves and cupboards. There was usually a table on the floor. When hearths were improved and the cabins had proper chimney facilities, the people had the opportunity of raising their standards of living by decorating their everyday surroundings. They had their cupboards and beds painted with a new technique which came to be known as "rose painting." A cadre of professional artists gradually formed, first in the parish of Rättvik, and then in the neighboring parish of Leksand. Towards the 1790's the painters introduced figures into their paintings.

In Dalarna, people lived as isolated from outside influences as in most other agricultural communities. During those times of the year when the farms required few workers, people would wander south to the more central parts of the country to look for work. On these trips, they would absorb a certain amount of outside influence that they would then bring home with them; the poor economy of the province helped to limit the effect of such influences.

The world of these peasant farmers was in fact very small. It consisted of the home village, neighboring villages and the

"church village"; the village where the church was and where they went as often as possible to hear the latest gossip. The church was sometimes decorated with paintings to look at while the vicar delivered his sermon. (To be continued)

Submitted by
— Eivor Pfannkuch
Cultural leader

JÖNS GULLBRANDSSON OF ORUST

Orust is the third largest island of Sweden after Öland and Gotland. It is on the west coast and separated from the mainland by a relatively narrow strait. The island is rather rocky and only about half of the land can be cultivated. In the 1600's, when most people subsisted directly off the produce of the land, ownership of the cultivated land was very important.



At this time Jöns Gullbrandsson was the largest and richest land-owner on Orust. He had begun acquiring land while Orust was still in Norwegian

NÅL OCH TRÅD

Tisdagen den 7 januari, kl 19.00
hos:

Louise Sims
Timberlake, 1051 Fulton Ave.
(916) 489-7331

Louise will meet us at the security gate. We will be making a felt dalahäst from pattern of Ruth Volkoff.



Tisdagen den 21 januari, kl 19.00
hos:

Helen Tura
3713 Jo Ann Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95821
(916) 489-7833

The plan is to make aprons a la Ellen Harrod's pattern. Come join us.

REMEMBER

- ★ Turn in your lodge inventory.
- ★ Bring in your aluminum cans and bottles to be recycled.
- ★ Share your favorite recipes for our cook-booklet, for sale at the Scandinavian Festival.
- ★ Wear your name badge at all meetings and sign the attendance sheet.
- ★ Submit your lodge receipts to the secretary before meetings.
- ★ Make payments to the Financial Secretary before meetings.



LOST

One of the blue Swedish aprons the helpers wore at the smörgåsbord is missing. If you accidentally wore it home, please return it. Francis Misenti also lost her large glass platter with roses on it.

FOUND

Found items not claimed this month will be cleaned out. A brown cardigan, a glass casserole dish, a hankie, two small "julbockar," an address book, and a light blue windbreaker left at the smörgåsbord. Call Myrtle Widmark for more information.



DUES ANNIVERSARIES

Some of you have paid ahead, if so please ignore the listing of your name. Thank you for the promptness.

Andersson, Birgitta
Anderson, Gerda
Andersson, Lennart
Andersson, Britt Marie
Anderson, Vera
Badgley, Charles
Badgley, Thelma
Campbell, Charles
Campbell, Ellarie
Dillard, Birgit
Doscher, Jack
Doscher, Estrid
Goldsberry, Kathleen
Gustafson, Maybelle
Hagstrom, Jeanne

Hagstrom, Stanley
 Håkansson, Kerstin
 Håkansson, Kjell
 Hallen, Viola
 Ingvarsdén, Dale
 Ingvarsdén, Mary
 Johnson, Carl Herb
 Johnson, Mildred
 Johnson, Karin
 Linn, Charles
 Linn, Margaret
 Lutz, Barbara E.
 Nelson, Berthell
 Nelson, Charles
 Norling, Inez
 Olson, Barbara
 Olson, Phil
 Segerstedt, Cecilia
 Stangl, Frank
 Stangl, Gladys
 Trnka, Joyce
 Uffens, George
 Veis, Arlie

Dues are \$14.00 per year, payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. You may pay them at the January 3 meeting or mail them to the Financial Secretary; Elizabeth Johnson, 4332 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95819. Phone number: 452-2470



Please mail your checks, inasmuch this is a long list and the January meeting is always a busy one. Of course, you can always bring your dues to the next meeting on January 3, 1992.

After January, your new Financial Secretary will be Ethel Johnson. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
 — Elizabeth Johnson

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Betty Jane Schoepf
 2529 Key West Way
 Sacramento, CA 95826
 (916) 363-6237



SICK REPORT

As of December 11th, Ruth Lundberg was doing better and taking an interest in her baking. Then came the blood report and she had to have 3 units of blood by transfusion. However, this should help her perk up more.

A couple of months ago, Lars Ostlund tried to take wing from a step ladder on a scaffolding. He survived and was seen dancing at the smörgåsbord.

Lennart Andersson showed up at the audit session with a huge bandage on one thumb; a broken thumb. You can get the story from him.

Marjorie Skicklig has sustained a hairline fracture of the leg.

There are others who are about the same as last reported. Our best wishes to a better 1992 and pleasant holidays for our ailing members.

— Elizabeth Johnson

BIRTHDAYS

Hjärtliga
 gratulationer på
 födelsedagen!
 Congratulations!



- 1/04 Cecilia Segerstedt
 1/04 Elayne Lincecum
 1/06 Alice Olson
 1/07 Thomas Anderson
 1/08 Roland Carlson
 1/08 Gladys Stangl
 1/09 Leisma Krastins
 1/10 Doris Haas
 1/12 Phil Olson
 1/13 Ted Olson
 1/13 Kersten Barney
 1/21 LaVerne Gullans
 1/22 Thelma Badgley
 1/23 Maybelle Gustafson
 1/24 Brian Stockham
 1/25 Birgitta Ellis
 1/25 Viola Bodelson
 1/27 Ed Dahlberg

FROM THE EDITOR

It looks like I will have an opportunity to spend time with my family in Sweden this upcoming February. This means



I am unable to produce the March issue of the newsletter. Is anyone interested in filling in for me? If so, please call me at (916) 668-1646.

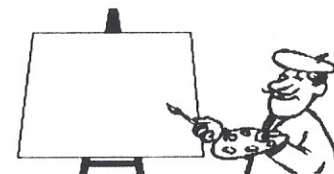
— Marie Tillman

FOLK PAINTINGS FROM DALARNA

"Dalamåleri" or Dal Painting, is the name given to the peasant art practiced by self-taught painters in Dalarna between the 1780's and the 1870's, a period of barely 100 years.

Dalarna, or Dalecarlia as it is also known to English-speaking visitors, is the Swedish province that was first to attract tourists, and it is still considered a Sweden in miniature.

The colorful costumes, the unusual architectural tradition, the rich peasant art forms - painting and music - and the desire to preserve old traditions have all combined to attract travellers for the past twenty years or so.



Dal painting developed in the part of the province where agriculture and forestry are the main sources of income - an area known as Upper Dalarna or, to many, the real Dalarna. This part of Dalarna was populated by people who had for generations owned their own small plots of land. In this peasant community, people lived in small one or two room timber cabins. The greater part of their time indoors was spent in the *stuga*, the main part