

Wisteria Hall  
3830 "U" Street  
Sacramento, CA

Monitor Lodge  
No. 218  
Editor: Marie Tillman



## VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

*A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization, since 1896*

Vol. 17, No. 1



January, 1993

The regular business meeting will be **Friday January 8, 1993**, at Wisteria Hall, at 7:00 pm. There will be the annual reports and election of delegates to the April district convention in Redding. Our district deputy, Corry Weidman, will be present to install the officers for 1993. The new officers will bring refreshments for after the meeting. Other members will be needed to help with set up and serving.

Do you enjoy singing? Marianne Ek, our chorus director, invites anyone to join the group which has been invited to perform at other lodges and festivals. Rehearsal will be at **5:30 pm, January 8th**, at Wisteria Hall before the meeting. If you have any questions call Marianne at 972-7485.

### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Many thanks to all who brought cookies and poinsettias for our members who have been unable to come to meetings because of illness, they do not drive at night, or

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live alone. These were packaged and delivered by the Nål och Tråd group. The recipients were happy to be remembered by the lodge with a visit and a present. It was interesting to listen to some members tell about the lodge activities of many years ago. Did you know they had men's and women's choruses that

Monitor Lodge No. 218

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

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gave concerts? It would be an addition to our historical archives to have these oral histories recorded.

Everyone enjoyed the Christmas party with activities to put us in the Christmas spirit. The activities included making tree decorations, refreshments, sing-a-long, and



Tomte's arrival with the exchange of gifts. It was a fun evening. This included, of course, Herb Johnson and committee's glögg. No Swedish Christmas party is complete without this. There was the opportunity to socialize and catch up on visiting with friends.

One of our venerable members Inez Norling, flourishing at 95, donated a painting she made when she was 90 years old. This painting was raffled off, with proceeds going to the Scholarship fund. And, the raffle winner was this year's Lucia, Tiffany Niemoller!

Once again our Children's Club leaders put on an outstanding Lucia presentation. Camilla Caldwell and Peggy Carlson have worked hard

with their group of children to have an authentic pageant of the Lucia story. They presented a play about a Swedish family preparing for Christmas, and used slides to illustrate the Tomte story some children read. The lodge thanks them not only for the Lucia, but for their work throughout the year teaching Swedish heritage to the group.

Monitor welcomed many new members in 1992 and they are already taking an active part in the lodge. We have again scheduled many interesting events for 1993. Support your officers and come to the meetings and dinners. Let's make 1993 a year for Monitor to grow.

*In truth and unity,  
— Myrtle Widmark*

## REMEMBER

Wear your name badge. The Master of Ceremonies may collect \$.25 if you do not. This money goes to the Friendship Committee for cards and plants. If you do not have your badge, call Russell Ellis at (916) 920-0696 to get one.

Always put your name on any dishes or trays that you bring with you to the lodge functions.

## FOUND

After the smörgåsbord we found a large plastic salad bowl, a writing pen, a marking pen, and a pair of scissors. After the Lucia Party we found a pink comb, and a metal tray with a picture of cats and a snowman. Please contact Myrtle Widmark to re-claim your treasures.

Many Swedish families remained in Finland after it was annexed by Russia. Descendants of these families were well represented in the Finnish senior officer corps, there are names such as Lundquist, Hägglund, Ericsson, Ekholm, Linder, Österman and Svensson. However, the most important of these Finnish Swedes was General Carl Gustav Mannerheim.

### **Norway, Sweden, Finland**



Mannerheim was from a Swedish speaking family. His primary languages were Swedish and Russian. He did not learn Finnish until after Finnish independence. He earned his general's rank in the Imperial Russian Army. He detested communism and was glad to give his service to his native Finland. He organized the Finnish militia force to throw out the Red Guard of Russians and communist sympathizers in 1919. At that time he had to give his orders through interpreters.

Because of Mannerheim's experience he knew the Russian military mind and the Russian military manuals. This was a tremendous asset to the Finns in the defense they were able to prepare against the Russian invasion.

*— The End —*

*— Ted Olson*

time for Karin, what with Monitor and her church activities and grandson. She says she has made a lot of friends through Monitor and feels very much at home here.

All of us in Monitor are very thankful for Karin's continued support of our lodge - especially when it comes to making sure this newsletter is folded, stapled and mailed out. Thank you Karin.

— Eivor Pfannkuch,  
Cultural leader

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## THE WINTER WAR

(conclusion)

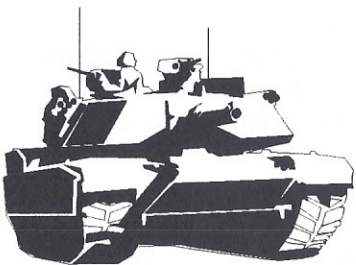
By the peace terms, Finland was forced to give up Karelia and some other territory without the compensation of territory previously proposed. There were also monetary reparations. The loss of Karelia was serious. There were more than 400,000 Finnish citizens who elected to leave the ceded territory. The Finnish government provided homes or compensation for these or new farms for farmers. This required some compulsory expropriation.

On June 22, 1941, Hitler launched his attack on Russia. Apparently the decision was based on the weakness demonstrated by Russia in the Winter War. Finland attempted to remain neutral but the Russians bombed several towns in southern Finland. On June 25, Finland declared a state of war existed. By the end of August all the ceded territory had been reconquered. This Finnish

action resulted in declaration of war by Great Britain against Finland but no hostilities took place. The Finns tried to limit their involvement in the world war, but large numbers of German troops used Finnish Lapland as a transit to Russia.

The final peace treaty after World War II restored the previously ceded territory to Russia. As with so many wars, little or nothing was gained at great cost.

Finland had been an integral part of Sweden from the middle ages until 1809 when it was annexed by Russia. Swedish influence still existed in Finland and many Finns were bilingual in Finnish and Swedish. When Russia began to use Finnish speaking Russians to listen in on walkie-talkie communications or attempt to disrupt by false orders, the Finns could and did switch to Swedish.



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## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Scholarship Committee is now taking applications from high school seniors (1993 graduates) for the annual Monitor Lodge Scholarship. The applicants must be lodge members, children of members, or grand-children of members. Those interested can obtain the needed forms by writing to:

Jeanne Hagstrom  
8871 Sharkey Avenue  
Elk Grove, CA 95624



The applications will include:

- the student's completed application form,
- three letters of recommendation, and,
- a written composition.

The composition theme will deal with the applicant's goals for the future and how the scholarship will help him or her toward those goals.

Please mail the completed application package to the lodge secretary. The due date for completed application packages is March 15, 1993.

— Eleanor Vine, past scholarship  
committee chair

❖ Please keep the scholarship fund in mind when you would like to make a donation in memory of someone. Donations are always accepted and appreciated.

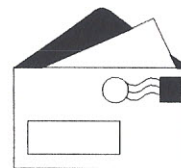
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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Inez Norling  
2100 Butano Drive #52  
Country Club Manor  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Ph# (916) 488-9028

Amy Glad  
5311-A Lawton Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94618  
Ph# (510) 601-9769

Elizabeth Coleman  
3048 Rockford Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833-3003  
Ph# (916) 988-1788



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## NEW PHONE NUMBER

Carl A. Larson  
(916) 737-1671

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## FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for the February issue of the Monitor is **January 15th**, 1993. Send your typed or hand printed information to: **Ingegerd Kenne-dy**, 10582 Apple Grove Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

It has been a rewarding three years as Monitor's editor. I want to thank my husband Terry Tillman for helping me. We both enjoyed the challenge and have shared a special pride in giving you a polished product. Thank you all.

— Marie Tillman

## DUES ANNIVERSARIES

If you have already paid, please ignore the listing of your name. Thank you for your promptness.



### January Dues:

Gerda Anderson  
Vera Anderson  
Birgitta Andersson  
Lennart & Britt Marie Andersson  
Charles & Ellarie Campbell  
Birgit Dillard  
Kathleen Goldsberry  
Maybelle Gustafson  
Stanley & Jeanne Hagstrom  
Kjell & Kerstin Håkansson  
Herb & Mildred Johnson  
Karin Johnson  
Charles & Margaret Linn  
Barbara Lutz  
Charles & Berthell Nelson  
Inez Norling  
Philip & Barbara Olson  
Frank & Gladys Stangl  
Joyce Trnka  
George Uffers  
Arlie Veis

Dues are \$14.00 per year, payable to **Monitor Lodge No. 218**. You may pay them at the January meeting or mail them to the Financial Secretary; *Ethel Johnson*, 4344 53rd Street, Sacramento, CA 95820. Phone number: (916) 457-0966. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish a receipt.

— *Ethel Johnson*

## BIRTHDAYS

Ja, må de leva!

1/4 *Elayne Lincecum*  
1/4 *Cecilia Segerstedt*  
1/6 *Edna Anderson*  
1/6 *Alice Olson*  
1/7 *Robert Anderson*  
1/7 *Thomas Anderson*  
1/8 *Gladys Stangl*  
1/9 *Leisma Krastins*  
1/10 *Doris Haas*  
1/12 *Phil Olson*  
1/13 *Kersten Barney*  
1/13 *Ted Olson*  
1/16 *Billie Nelson*  
1/21 *LaVerne Gullans*  
1/22 *Thelma Badgley*  
1/23 *Maybelle Gustafson*  
1/24 *Brian Stockham*  
1/24 *Viola Bodelson*  
1/25 *Birgitta Ellis*  
1/27 *Ed Dahlberg*  
1/29 *Jewel Wright*

Congratulations!



## NÅL OCH TRÅD

Tisdagen den **12 januari**, kl. 19:00, hos:

Eleanor Vine  
7304 Sunsilver Lane  
Sacramento, CA 95828  
Tel. (916) 688-5296

Tisdagen den **26 januari**, kl. 19:00, hos:

Muriel Hjersman  
640 40th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
Tel. (916) 451-6940

## Culture Corner

### ❁ Get to Know Your Lodge Member

Karin was born in Boston Massachusetts of Swedish parents. Her father, born in Malmö, came to the U.S. during World War I. Her mother was born in Småland in Kalmarlän, and came to the U.S. when she was 16. They met in the U.S. through a Swedish lodge. Karin's mother belonged to Lyran

*Karin H.  
Bodelson*

Lodge (Vasa) in Malden, Massachusetts, which Karin also joined in her early twenties. Millie Johnson's mother (Millie's mother) was a Lyran Lodge member also, although she didn't know Karin then.

The whole neighborhood where Karin grew up consisted of families with Swedish born parents and children born in the U.S.. Most of them went to the Lutheran Church and were confirmed there. At one time Karin was Lucia at their church in Malden.

After graduating from Simmons College in Boston, Karin worked for a lawyer for about five years and then took a position as church secretary at Gustavus Adolphus Church in New York City. There she met her husband, Eric Bodelson, who had come over from Skåne. Their daughter Christine, also a member of Monitor Lodge, was born in New York City.

In 1963 the three of them spent ten weeks exploring a good part of Europe by car, including visits to family and friends in Sweden. In all, Karin has been to Sweden eight times. Her first time was on their wedding trip. Karin says she had to be able to converse in Swedish to talk with her in-laws.

Karin returned to work as a legal secretary as their daughter was finishing high school, and continued after her husband's death, until her retirement. When Karin's daughter and family settled in Sacramento, her sister-in-law Viola Bodelson and she moved here too. Far from being quiet and relaxed, retirement has been a very busy

