



## VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization since 1896

Vol. 18, No. 1

January 1994

**O**ur January 7 business meeting will begin at 6:30 pm with annual reports and election of delegates to the district convention in April. Sierra Kronan members will be our guests for a joint installation of officers for 1994. District Master Barbara Lantz will be conducting the ceremony. This is an opportunity for all lodge members to be present at an installation.

The food committee will be providing refreshments with our coffee afterwards. We hope you are all able to come.

### Chairman's Message

As we look forward to 1994 and the activities planned by our lodge, we will continue to carry on our Swedish cultural heritage and be involved in community affairs.

The *glögg* party had a large attendance, and we have new *glögg* makers for next year. We thank Herb Johnson for performing this important function for many years. As usual, our members arrived with all kinds of good food for the party, and the kitchen committee appreciated all the food and help. Apart from a short executive board meeting, this was a social evening enjoyed by everyone with time to visit with friends. The Christmas tree and Swedish decorations were beautiful. Our Valley Viking

singers under the direction of Marianne Ek entertained with familiar Swedish Christmas songs. Everyone also enjoyed the sing-along which got us all into the Christmas spirit. We thank John Loken for being this year's *Tomte* and giving out the gifts. Thanks also to Ted and Alice Olsen for helping out at our Christmas parties for many years when Ted was our *Tomte* and Alice his assistant!

Our *Nål och Tråd* group packaged the cookies received. They and the beautiful donated poinsettias have been delivered to our members.

The Lucia program is always one of the highlights of the year and it was absolutely beautiful. Our Lucia, Carly Caldwell, and all the other children gave a wonderful performance singing, story telling, and dancing. The program ended with *Tomten* and presents. The lodge thanks our children's club leaders, Peggy Carlson and Camilla Caldwell, along with Christy Kagstrom and other parents, for their work with the group throughout the year.

As I turn the Chairman's gavel over to Margaret Carlson, I wish her the success I have enjoyed as your leader for the past two years. I always had wonderful support from the officers and members. We had some new ideas and revived some old ones, always keeping in mind what's

best for the lodge and its growth. Our active membership committee has been interviewing new and younger members, and some lodge activities are planned with this change in mind.

I thank everyone for the assistance I have received and for the opportunity to represent the lodge at conventions and meeting district and other lodge officers from other lodges. It has all been a valuable experience. I now look forward to working with you as Past Chairman.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year!

*In Truth and Unity,  
Myrtle Widmark*

### A Message from Our Secretary

Marianne Ek still has a few 1994 calendars from the various Scandinavian countries at \$9 each. They are in both English and the respective Scandinavian language and show both American and "old country" holidays.

Marianne also wants you to know that she has available for check-out a new, big book on Sweden in English with lots of beautiful pictures. She will bring this book to the January meeting.

The reprints from the *National Geographic* August article about Sweden are all sold out. However, Marianne has kept a copy for our library, if someone has not seen this article.

## WELCOME

to a new member of the Monitor family, Lorena Johanna born 4 August 1993, who arrived in the household of Ronnie and Christi Kagstrom on November 10.



## Scandinavian Festival

A planning meeting for the Scandinavian Festival will be held on **Monday, 10 January, 7 pm**, at the Sons of Norway, 770-776 Darina Avenue.

It is very important that everyone who will be helping out in any way at this festival attend the meeting. Jobs need to be assigned NOW, not at the day of the festival!

If it is impossible for you to attend this meeting, please call Ellen Harrod, 362-5273, to let her know what you can do at the festival. Don't wait to the day of the festival!

## Camellia Festival Cancelled!

For the first time in forty years, the spring 1994 festival has been cancelled. Because of the economic situation in Sacramento, there was not enough support from community businesses and private donations. We hope things will improve for next year so this annual tradition can be carried on.

The lodge thanks the students who had offered to be our representatives to the festival.

## January Dues Anniversaries

Gerda Anderson  
Vera Anderson  
Birgitta Anderson  
Britt-Marie Anderson  
Lennart Anderson  
Charles Badgley  
Thelma Badgley  
Charles Campbell  
Ellen Campbell  
Birgit Dillard  
Jack Doscher  
Estrid Doscher  
Kathleen Goldsberry  
Maybelle Gustafson  
Jeannie Hagstrom  
Stanley Hagstrom  
Kerstin Hakanson  
Kjell Hakanson  
Viola Hallen  
Mary Ingvaridsen  
Dale Ingvaridsen  
Herb Johnson  
Mildren Johnson  
Karin Johnson  
Charles Linn  
Margaret Linn  
Barbara Lutz  
Berthell Nelson  
Charles Nelson  
Inez Norling  
Barbara Olson  
Wendell Olson  
Cecilia Segerstedt  
Frank Stangl  
Gladys Stangl  
Joyce Trnka  
George Uffens  
Ruth Uffens  
Arlie Veis

Dues are \$14 a year, payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. You may pay them at the January meeting or by mail to our financial secretary, Gail Nemy, 4239 Daybreak Lane, Sacramento, CA 95821.

## Ditt och Datt

★ Don't forget to wear your **name badge** at meetings. If you don't have one, contact Kurt Pfannkuch.

★ Turn in **bills** to the secretary and make **payments** to the financial secretary before meetings.

★ We had several **guests** at the December meeting: Sue Bergman from Duluth, Minnesota; Runi and Virginia Westergren from Erie, Pennsylvania, who are members of Svea Lodge #296 and Pennsylvania District Lodge #9; and three Swedish au pair girls, Ingela Åberg from Gävle, Elizabeth Watten from Uppsala, and Maria Knutsson from Växjö.

★ Our **new sound system** was in use at our *glögg* party and the Lucia program and everyone agreed that it was a vast improvement. Our thanks to Arlie Veis and Dale Ingvaridsen who spent a lot of time shopping for the best buy.

★ Hope you all saw the article about Birgit Dellert having one of her decorated eggs on display in the White House to represent California. It was published in the *Neighbors* insert with the December 15 issue of *The Sacramento Bee*. If you're new to the lodge, Birgit is one of our long-time members.



## Smörgåsbord Report

Here is the report Margaret Carlson submitted. She says it is the most profit we've ever made and thanks everyone for all the help and support.

### Income

259 paid dinners	\$4,321.50
Bar receipts	817.00
Food sold afterwards	35.00
	<u>\$5,173.50</u>

### Expenses

Unitarian Church	\$600.00
Bond	250.00
Liquor license	25.00
Dishwashers/helpers	100.00
Door prizes	25.00
Paper goods (plates, cups, napkins, table cloths, tickets, flyers, etc.)	254.44
Bar expenses	445.39
Food expenses	<u>1,344.95</u>
	\$3,044.78
	<u>\$2,128.72</u>

### Profit

## Swedish Language Classes

Beginning - Birgitta Ellis, 920-0696

Thursday, January 6, 7 pm

The class meets in Russ

Ellis' office, 520

Calvados Avenue.

This is a brick, professional building one block from the light rail station at Oxford & Del Paso.



Advanced -

Karin Bodelson, 485-0815

Thursday, January 13, 7 pm, at Karin's house, 2529

Eastern Avenue, Apt #26, at the north-west corner of Eastern and El Camino.

## Member of the Month

Here's our chance to get to know **Viola Bodelson** a little better:

I was born Viola Maria Dahlen right in the middle of Manhattan, New York City, of Swedish parents. I had two older brothers and we grew up with lots of other Swedes nearby. My father worked with his brothers in Dahlen's Store on 3rd Avenue, where they dealt in Swedish goods and often stored the belongings of Swedes just arriving in this country. We all attended Sunday school at the Swedish Salvation Army, but we were all later confirmed at Gustavus Adolphus Church. When I was 12, my family moved to Jackson Heights on Long Island. My family was active in one of the local Vasa lodges. I was on the drill team.

Upon graduation from high school, my Aunt Allie took me on a summer-long trip to Sweden. Among those we visit-

ed were the Bodelssons of Vinslöv in Skåne. Their son, Alfred, had boarded with my family in New York. Little did I know then that I would end up marrying him.

I went into nurses' training at Flushing Hospital. Upon graduation, I specialized in pediatrics, training cadet nurses during WW II. I married Alfred in Gustavus Adolphus Church, and we alternated living in Vinslöv and New York for the next nine years. After my husband died in Sweden, my father came and stayed with me until I sold the house we had lived in. In all, I lived in Sweden for about eight years.

In 1969, I took my niece, Christine Bodelson, all over Europe, including Sweden, of course. Since then, I have returned for visits five times, each time accompanied by my sister-in-law, Karin Bodelson, and a changing cast of characters.

In March of 1986, Karin and I moved to Sacramento to be near

Christine and her family. We joined Monitor Lodge and have made many good friends. Now the Swedes come to visit us...and sunny California.

## Happy Birthday!

1/04 - Elayne Lincecum  
 1/04 - Cecilia Segerstedt  
 1/06 - Edna Anderson  
 1/06 - Alice Olson  
 1/07 - Robert Anderson  
 1/07 - Thomas Anderson  
 1/08 - Don Carlson  
 1/08 - Gladys Stangl  
 1/09 - Leisma Krastins  
 1/10 - Doris Haas  
 1/12 - Phil Olson  
 1/13 - Ted Olson  
 1/16 - Billye Nelson  
 1/21 - LaVerne Gullans  
 1/22 - Thelma Badgley  
 1/24 - Brian Stockham  
 1/25 - Viola Bodelson  
 1/25 - Birgitta Ellis  
 1/27 - Ed Dahlberg  
 1/29/34 - Jewel Wright

### *Nål och Tråd*

**Tisdagen den 11 januari, kl. 19.00, hos:**

Ellen Harrod  
9546 Mira Del Rio Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95827  
Tel.: 362-5273

Please bring Scandinavian cookie recipes for our proposed recipe booklet.

**Tisdagen den 26 januari, kl. 19.00, hos:**

Christine Bodelson  
2644 La Mesa Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Tel.: 482-9762

More cookie recipes, possibly. Also any other projects.

### *For Your Roster*

The following is an address and phone number correction:

Sue Bergman  
2310W Arrowhead Road  
Duluth, MN 55811  
(218) 728-0508

**BEST WISHES  
FOR THE  
NEW YEAR!**



**Monitor Lodge No. 218**

**Vasa Order of America**

2529 Eastern Ave #26

Sacramento, CA 95821

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