

The Monitor

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization since 1896

Vol. 19, No. 4

April 1995



WELCOME TO ALL OUR new members! It's so nice to have you join us. Our members love to eat and we're always cooking up something or planning an event. I do hope you'll keep active and get involved. I'm sure you will find we're a fun organization.

Our April meeting is something no one should miss. On April 7, Monitor Lodge will be celebrating its 83rd Anniversary with a special, catered dinner. We'll be having a real Texas-style Bar-B-Q. It's considered the best Bar-B-Q in Sacramento. The ribs are rated four stars, and we were lucky to have this caterer come because they are very busy: always booked for at least three events a day on weekends. Having tasted it, I can guarantee it will be the best food you've eaten in a long time. Besides, where can you get so much to eat for only \$6.75 (including tax and tip)! To top all this off, our new member Lou Johnson will entertain on his classical guitar.

However, we must have advance reservations by April 1 to make sure there will be enough food. Please check the enclosed flyer for further details and put this big anniversary event on your calendar.

There will be no business transactions at this dinner. Instead, this month's business

meeting will be held at the home of Arlie Veis, 2116 Bell Street, on **Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 PM.** His phone number is 489-5729 if you need directions.

*In Truth and Unity,
Margaret Carlson, Chairman*

Friendship Committee

To all our member and friends who are under the weather, may you soon feel better!

Special thoughts go to Jeanne Hagstrom who had cancer surgery. She's home now and will be starting chemotherapy shortly.

Several of our members have been to see Helen Tura at the nursing home and she was glad for the visits. Arlie's daughter Karin Johnson sprained an ankle and we hope she'll be getting around again soon. Jewel Wright had eye surgery for cataract and is now enjoying greatly improved vision. Eivor Pfannkuch says she is feeling great and has to use only one crutch now.

We sure were glad to see Hank Hjersman at our last meeting. You're looking good, Hank! Come more often.

Deadline

for the May newsletter is **Friday, April 14.** Please forward your input to Ingrid Kennedy, 10582 Apple Grove Way, Rancho Cordova, 638-3212.

Happy Birthday!

- 4/01 - Robert Barrett
- 4/02 - Millie Johnson
- 4/03 - Harry Johnson
- 4/07 - Inez Norling
- 4/05 - Lennart Anderson
- 4/05 - Bertil Erickson
- 4/08 - Harold Mattson
- 4/11 - Sven-Eric Carlsson
- 4/16 - Lois Mullen
- 4/17 - Robert Titus
- 4/20 - Michelle Kauffman
- 4/21 - David Dorey
- 4/23 - Ronny Kagstrom
- 4/28 - Annika Anderson
- 4/30 - Annalena Bronson
- 4/30 - Holger Nordquist

Nål och Tråd

Our *Nål och Tråd* group will take a spring vacation in April. After the Scandinavian Festival, we will need to recharge!

We're happy to have two new members in our group: Helen Starkey and Dorothy Mogford. We welcome them and others who might like to join us.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again in May!

Swedish TV

We are happy to share with you that the SCOLA network is again broadcasting Swedish TV Channel 4 from Stockholm. You can view this program on our Cable Channel 21, Saturdays 1:10-1:30 PM.

Condensed Minutes from March 3 Business Meeting

1. Margaret Carlson called the meeting to order and roll was called.



2. The secretary reported two new membership applications.
3. Initiations were held for six new members.
4. Previous minutes were approved with minor corrections, one involving Sweden Day: there is no talk about discontinuing it entirely.
5. Marianne Ek has sent an article to the *Vasa Star* about our Swedish pea soup dinner.
6. The annual scholarship was increased from \$300 to \$500.

7. Lots of volunteers are needed for the Scandinavian Festival, including help with baked goods and to make the pancake batter.
8. Arlie Veis presented the report from the dues increase committee. The meeting discussed the Monitor's financial situation, including the nonprofitability of some events. The meeting voted to increase the dues from \$14 to \$18 effective immediately.
9. A catered Bar-B-Q anniversary dinner was discussed. Motion passed for the lodge to defray part of the cost of the meal for paid-up members. Members would have to pay only \$6.75 with others paying the full fare.

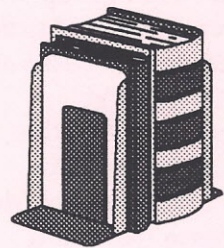
10. The secretary summarized 11 convention resolutions which will be voted on at the next meeting. Copies will be available at that time.
11. A motion passed to pay our delegates to the district meeting 12¢ per mile plus \$30 toward lodging.
12. The lodge will have access to an additional storage room at Wisteria Hall for our tables, the bar, sound equipment, etc.
13. Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's reports were read.

— Brian Stockham, Assistant Secretary

The Swedish Language Class

meets at the Coloma Community Center, 4623 T Street, on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The spring schedule is

April 20 and 27, May 4, 18, and 25 (not on the 11th), and a class picnic at Winterstein School park, at 6:30 PM, Thursday,



June 1. For additional information, call instructor LaVerne Gullans, 485-2609.

Raffle Tickets

If you bought Sweden Day raffle tickets, please return the stubs.

— Myrtle Widmark

Scandinavian Festival, April 1

We would like to see as many people as possible at the last planning meeting before the festival on **Monday, March 27, 7 PM**, at the Sons of Norway Hall, 770 Darina Avenue.

A big event like this takes a lot of planning, organization, and helping hands. And please don't forget to come and help with the set-up Friday night before the festival! For planning purposes, it's necessary for volunteers to sign up in advance.

For sign-up or information, call our festival representative, Ethel Johnson at 457-0966.

For More Information about Monitor Lodge

call one of the Membership Committee representatives:

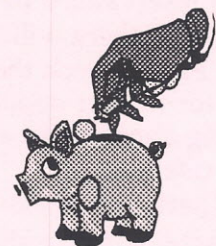
Ethel Johnson, 457-0966
Jean Anderson, 682-7438
Eivor Pfannkuch, 673-6917

April Dues Anniversaries

If you have already paid, please ignore this reminder and thank you for your promptness.

Annabel Audet
June Brown
Ethel Hubbell
Arthur and Donna Niemoller
Dorothy Scherer
Marie and Terry Tillman
Eleanor Vine
Myrtle Widmark

Dues are \$18 a year, payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. You may pay them at the April meeting or by mail to our financial secretary, Gail Nemy, 4239 Day-break Lane, Sacramento, CA 95821.



Roster Changes

Please add the following new members to your program book:

Gloria Braswell
417 Florin Road #53
Sacramento CA 95831
(Phone not available)

Brita & Sven-Erik Carlsson
2084 Promontory Pt. Lane
Gold River, CA 95670
638-2556

Kay & John Ericson
87 Tristan Circle
Sacramento, CA 95823
428-2391

Lou Johnson
434 Colfax Avenue
Grass Valley, CA 95945
(Phone not available)

And we have some address changes:

Judy Rae Beal
100 Woodview Court
Folsom, CA 95630

Dale Ingvaridsen
11651 Boom Pointer Way
Gold River, CA 95670

Milo Alstrand
3245 Isabella Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056

Lennart and Britt-Marie Andersson's phone number is (360)683-6063, i.e., the area code is new.

Please delete David Anholm and Thor & Erica Barrows who are no longer members.



Mail Call

We have received a nice note from Lennart and Britt-Marie Andersson. Britt-Marie is doing well with no pain following her hip operation. The next one is scheduled for June 14. They are coming to California in May to wave goodbye to their son Leif who is sailing for New Zealand with his wife and four children. They're sorry to miss our meeting, but Britt-Marie needs to get back to start donating blood for her next surgery. We wish you well, Britt-Marie.

The Dala Horse

Among the multitude of examples of Swedish folk art, few have attained such a long-lived and important status as a symbol for Sweden as *Dalahästen*, especially the one from Mora in the Dalarna province.

White, blue, or most commonly orange red, its popularity has spawned a whole cottage industry not only in Sweden but in parts of America as well. It decorates street signs, official vehicles and uniforms in Lindsborg in Kansas, Scandia in Minnesota, and Kingsburg in California. And the biggest dala horse is at home not in Mora, Sweden, but in Mora, Minnesota.

Little is known about the origins of the Dala horse. It supposedly came from Mora, but the carving of wooden horses probably was a folk art practiced in many parts of Sweden. Wood carving was a common pastime during the winter.

The Dala horse center of the world is now definitely in Nusnäs in Dalarna, where Nils Olsson Hemslöjd AB produces some 800,000 horses a year of all sizes. It is an industry, but one with no machinery except a band

saw that cuts out the blocks used as raw material for a horse. Every Nusnäs horse is hand-made; the carvers work from home or at their own handicraft studios. The best can carve a horse in 6-8 minutes after many years of practice, but the old guard is approaching retirement age at a time when demand is constantly growing. Nusnäs recently advertised for apprentices for the first time in many years, and although woodcarving is not a thing that will make you rich, the response was nothing but astounding. The future of the craft seems assured.

The horses are finished off with the traditional rosemaling decorations. The horses are first painted with a base, dipped in two color baths, sanded, and then dipped in a final color bath before being decorated and varnished. The rosemaling is often done from home as well, and experienced painters are no less fast and skilled than the woodcarvers.

If you are interested in reading about the history of the Dala horse, you can order Anne Marie Rådström's book, "Wooden Horses from Sweden" from the Bokhandel, Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55407. [Sorry, the article doesn't give a price.]

- From *Vestkusten*, Jan. 15, 1995



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Vasa Order of America
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Now Open in Fair Oaks Village...

TIVOLI GARDEN

- Authentic Scandinavian Breads & Pastries Daily!
- Fresh Soups & Salads or specialty Sandwiches
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SWEDISH TEXAS STYLE BAR-B-Q

to celebrate the

83RD ANNIVERSARY OF MONITOR LODGE

at Wisteria Hall, Friday, April 7, 1995

Refreshments at 6:00 ■ Dinner at 6:30 pm



☼ MENU:

Three kinds of barbecued meat:

Beef Briskets (mesquite smoked 16-18 hours),

Pork Ribs, and Chicken with sauce of the side

Also Potato Salad, Cowboy Beans, Cole Slaw, Corn Bread,

Condiments, Anniversary Cake and Coffee

☼ PRICE:

Vasa members – \$6.75

Nonmembers and guests – \$12.00

Children age 5-10 years – \$4.00 (under 5 free)

RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN APRIL 1

Call Ethel Johnson 457-0966

or Arlie Veis 489-5729 (leave message)

or Margaret Carlson 742-9346 (leave message)



