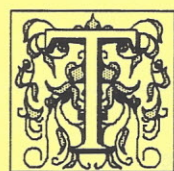


**VASA ORDER OF AMERICA**  
*A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization since 1896*

Vol. 20, No. 4

April 1996



THE APRIL 5 MEETING promises to be a big social event: We will be celebrating the 84th anniversary of Monitor Lodge with a Swedish potluck. We're asking each family to bring a favorite dish to serve at least 12 people. Refreshments start at 6:00 PM.

This meeting's "Remembering when..." theme will be about "*Påsk i Sverige*." We will also honor our past chairmen and help Inez Norling celebrate her 99th birthday. The Trustee Committee is in charge.

We'll have a small informal business meeting—just enough for a few important items.

You all know how fantastic our potlucks are, so you don't want to miss this one!

### **Chairman's Message**

We had a great corned beef and cabbage dinner in March. THANKS to Ed Dahlberg and Ernie Skorheim and all the other people who made it happen. Christi Kågström's decorations were beautiful. Thank you, Christi!

March and April are busy months for our Vasa members. Big THANKS to Myrtle Widmark who organized a very successful "Scandinavian Afternoon" in Davis on March 16. Our Scandinavian Festival will be held on

April 13 and that's an all-day affair with lots of food, crafts, and entertainment. Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about it. And please offer your help in any way you can. We especially need lots of baked goods.

April is also the convention month and our very own Kurt Pfannkuch will be leaving his post as District Master. With its "Gay Nineties" theme, it sounds like a good time and quite a few of us are going.

Welcome to our new members! Plan to be involved and I know you'll get the most out of your membership.

*In truth and Unity,  
Margaret Carlson*

### **Friendship**

Amidst all these activities, thoughts go to our friends who might not be able to participate. Marjorie Skicklig is in the hospital for hip surgery. Martha Fredrikson also had surgery.

And we think of Evelyn Anderson, Gerda Anderson, Charles Bagley, Viola Bodelson, Jeanne Hagstrom, Millie Johnson, Donna Niemoller, and George Uffens. Myrtle Widmark's husband had an accident and broke his hip.

All would certainly appreciate a card or a visit.

### **Scandinavian Afternoon**

Held at the International House in Davis, this was a very successful event with about 250 people dropping by—another example of excellent Scandinavian cooperation. It was nice to have the participation also of the Bay Area Icelandic organization.

There were exhibits, information tables, a video room, and a real Scandinavian "coffee table" with huge quantities of sandwiches, coffee bread, cookies, and even waffles and pancakes along with coffee and punch.

Space became tight, so people spilled over unto the sunny patio where they enjoyed live accordion folk music.

Myrtle Widmark, with her usual dedication and organizational skills, was the initiator and driving force behind this event (in spite of having to make a trip to Los Angeles on a family emergency during the last, critical planning days). Monitor helpers included Jean Anderson, Ethel Johnson, Margaret Carlson, Jewel and John Wright, Dorothy Scherer, and Jillian Stanley.

We were especially happy to see that Henry Hjersman made that long trip and seemed to have a good time.

*— Ingrid Kennedy*



## Raffle Tickets

At the April 5 meeting, Gail Nemy will be selling raffle tickets for the district convention. They're \$1 each or six for \$5. This is a 50-50 raffle, so the prize is money and the drawing is on April 27 at the convention.



## Nål och Tråd

There will be one meeting in April, on **April 9, 7 pm**, at Jean Anderson's. Her address is 126 Hibiscus Avenue in the Casa De Flores Mobile Home Park at 9465 French Road, Sacramento (682-7438).



## Very Special Birthdays

On April 7, Inez Norling will be celebrating her 99th birthday. We're hoping for a chance to honor her at our April 5 meeting, and we hope she gets lots of cards.

Faye Powell had her 90th birthday on March 24th—but it's OK to send belated birthday cards!

Faye has also donated Swedish-American Landmarks to the Monitor library. (You sure can tell where all the Swedes used to settle: they constitute the largest ethnic group in Minnesota). Thank you, Faye.

## Deadline

for the May newsletter is **Friday, April 12**. Please send input to Ingrid Kennedy, 10582 Apple Grove Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

## 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-Erik Carlsson  
 4/15 - April Nelson  
 4/20 - Michelle Kauffman  
 4/21 - David Dorey  
 4/23 - Ronny Kagstrom  
 4/28 - Annika Anderson  
 4/30 - Annalena Bronson

## 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 & Donna Niemoller  
 Terry & Marie 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 Daybreak Lane, Sacramento, CA 95821. If you would like a receipt, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your check. A membership card will also be sent. Membership cards can also be picked up from Gail at any meeting.

## Did You Know . . .

that Sweden has the most mobile telephones per capita in the world?

## For More Information about Monitor Lodge,

Please contact:

- Membership Committee members Jean Anderson 682-7438, Arlie Veis at 489-5729, or Eivor Pfannkuch, 673-5917.
- Secretary Marianne Ek at 372-1015
- Vice Chairman Arthur Niemoller, 631-9330
- Chairman Margaret Carlson, 742-9346



## More Updates

Here is more information on the current activities of our up and coming generation:

**Linnea Carlson**, daughter of Don and Jay Carlson, will graduate from North Park College in Chicago this year. She is majoring in psychology and plans a career in either occupational or speech therapy. Linnea was one of our Monitor scholarship recipients. She is studying Swedish and will be going to Jönköping as an exchange student. She sings with a gospel choir that will tour California this year.

**Kathleen Lagomarsino**, granddaughter of Stanley and Jeanne Hagstrom, is attending California State University, Sacramento, specializing in Japan studies with a minor in the Japanese language. She hopes to receive her doctorate degree and teach Japanese history.

**Janel Wright**, daughter of John and Jewel Wright, is attending American River College and plans to go on to Berkeley or UCLA. **Katie Wright** is working at Cost Plus. Her interest is Cosmetology for theatrical productions.

— Dorothy Scherer

# MONITOR'S BAY AREA BUS TRIP

on  
Saturday, July 13, 1996



We're planning many Scandinavian stops on this all-day trip and expect to have lots of fun. However, because the bus has a limited number of seats, reservations will be necessary: \$10 per person for paid-up members and \$20 for nonmembers. Members' reservations are refundable, and the checks will be returned on the bus. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions, call Marianne Ek at 372-1015 or Margaret Carlson at 742-9346.



**Note:**

Reservations must be received by 20 June.  
We need this leeway to cancel the bus  
if there is not enough participation.

**Note also:**

Cancellations must be made  
no later than 24 hours prior to the trip  
or the members' reservation charge cannot be refunded.

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Please detach this reservation slip and mail with your check to Marianne Ek,  
3500 Green Meadow Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

**Reservation for Monitor bus trip July 13, 1996:**

Number of Monitor members \_\_\_\_\_

Number of nonmembers \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# MONITOR'S BAY AREA BUS TRIP

on  
Saturday, July 12, 1998



We're planning many scenic nature trips on this all day trip and expect to have lots of fun. However, because the bus has a limited number of seats, reservations will be necessary. No fee for pickup members and fee for nonmembers. Members' reservations are refundable and the checks will be returned on the bus. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions call Marianne Ek at 725-7077 or Marianne Carlson at 725-7190.

## Note:

Reservations must be received by 20 June. We need this time to cancel the bus if there is not enough participation.

## Note also:

Cancellations must be made no later than 24 hours prior to the trip. If the member's reservation cannot be refunded.

Please detach this reservation slip and mail with your check to Marianne Ek, 3200 Green Meadow Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95991.

Reservation for Monitor bus trip July 12, 1998:

Number of Monitor members \_\_\_\_\_

Number of nonmembers \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Condensed Minutes from March 1, 1996, Meeting

(The Assistant Secretary has minutes in full, available for review by all members)

1. Minutes from the February 14 meeting were approved as published.
2. New members Gary and Helen Baker and Michael Churkin, Jr., were initiated.
3. Dorothy Scherer had called on Millie Johnson who has suffered compound fracture and broken shoulder. Martha Fredrikson was scheduled for surgery. Dorothy and Myrtle Widmark had gone to San Anselmo to visit Dorothy Erickson.
4. Monitor is hoping to display its historical regalia at the district convention in April.
5. Two more membership applications were received.
6. Christi Kagstrom thanked Nål och Tråd for letting the children's club sell craft items at the Lucia celebration.
7. The scholarship committee had received one application that must be returned by March 15. Ericka Lewis is moving to Southern California and resigned from the committee.
8. The Valley Viking Singers will be performing at the Scandinavian Festival. The group is looking for more singers.
9. Helen Tura donated books, some of which were sold to our Swedish language students. The money is being used for library supplies.
10. Myrtle Widmark and Arlie Veis reported on preparations for the Scandinavian Festival on April 13. Baked goods are very much needed.
11. Birgitta Ostlund will purchase a TV. We have a donated stand.



12. Don Stafford and John Wright moved all Monitor supplies and historical material from the old shed to temporary space rented by the Wrights. A 5x5 or 5x10 unit will be rented by the lodge as permanent storage. The Children's Club also has material to be stored in this unit.
13. The lodge is now saving at least \$20 a month because the Children's Club is meeting in Christi Kagstrom's home.
14. A budget-tracking book has been set up for input to the 1997 budget.
15. Correspondence included four convention resolutions, a thank-you note from Donna Niemoller, and a letter from District Master Curt Pfannkuch. The district still needs an Assistant District Secretary and a Cultural Leader.
16. The meeting discussed a bus trip to Bay Area Scandinavian shops in July [see separate flier]. Marianne Ek and Margaret Carlson are making final arrangements.
17. The meeting voted to
  - a. award honorary life membership for Viola Hallen for having the storage shed in her yard for so long;
  - b. purchase a gift for Curt Pfannkuch as he leaves his office as District Master;
  - c. contribute \$50 for each of the two rooms and 15¢ per mile to help defray costs to Monitor's four convention delegates.
18. Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's reports were read.

— Brian Stockham,  
Assistant Secretary

### Roster Additions

Please add the following new members to your roster:

Gary and Helen Baker  
4804 Runway Drive  
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Michael Churkin, Jr.  
310 Star Bend Road  
Yuba City, CA 95991  
(Same as Carol Churkin)

## Glad Påsk



### Attention!

The lodge is getting ready to acquire permanent storage for all historical papers and other property. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT NEEDS TO GO INTO THIS STORAGE, please contact Don Stafford NOW. We must be able to estimate how large a storage unit we will be needing.



**Monitor Lodge No. 218  
Vasa Order of America  
126 Hibiscus Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95828**

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
**Permit No. 771**  
Sacramento, CA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

## RESOLUTION 96 - 01

From: The District Executive Board  
Chuck Olson, Membership Chairman

Whereas this is the Centennial Year of the Vasa Order of America and many of the practices and ideas for meetings and the purposes are from the early years of Vasa's organization, and now with membership in Vasa declining,

Be it resolved that we, the local lodges and individual members, publicize the activities of our organization during this, the year of the Centennial of Vasa, so that a wider scope of people of Scandinavian descent are aware of our organization and thus we can have an increase in membership, and

Be it resolved that local lodges know and be encouraged to take creative approaches to practices within the Vasa guidelines, that will attract persons to become interested in programs and the purposes of Vasa; to draw persons of Scandinavian heritage to gather together in support of one another, to socialize and to learn more about the heritage and culture of Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Finland and Denmark.

Be it resolved that we, the members of Vasa, share our cultural interests with others through our programs---and to offer informative, educational, recreational and social programs of such high interest that new people will attend and join our organization

Be it also resolved that we, the members of Vasa, take interest in all individuals of all Scandinavian countries, and be inclusive and accepting in our approach to all people so that each person who attends a meeting or program will feel welcomed and appreciated and leave with a feeling of enthusiasm and an interest and plan to return to our next meeting.

This resolution is presented by the District Executive Board, moved at its regular meeting on February 3, 1996.

## RESOLUTION 96 - 02

From: The District Executive Board  
Chuck Olson, Sweden Day '95 Treasurer

### Sweden Day Picnic Books Change

Whereas the Sweden Day Picnic Planning Day has been changed to October of each year,

Article 20 now reads:

- (a) The books of the District Lodge shall be closed as of December 31st of each year

Be it resolved that Article 20 shall read:

- (a) The books of the District Lodge shall be closed as of December 31st of each year, **except for the Sweden Day Fund.**

**(1) The Sweden Day Fund Books shall be closed as of September 30 of each year prior to the Sweden Day Picnic Planning Meeting in October.**

**Motivation:** It is good business practice to have books closed and audited on a fiscal basis coinciding with the activity and change of officers.

At this time the Sweden Day secretary (the Vice District Secretary) is elected in April at Convention, the treasurer elected in October at Sweden Day Picnic Planning Meeting and Sweden Day held the following June. At present the books would be audited in January before the new activity and after the new treasurer takes office. All this is obviously very confusing; we are proposing to close the books by September 30 and plan an audit prior to the Sweden Day Picnic Planning Meeting when a new treasurer takes office. This audited report would be the financial report published in the following year's Convention Book.

This resolution is presented by the District Executive Board, moved at its regular meeting on February 3, 1996.



## RESOLUTION 96 - 03

From: The Executive Board  
Resolution Committee

### Traveling Expenses

Be it resolved to amend the District By-Laws, Article 15 - Traveling Expenses, Section (d). Page 6.

Now reads:

“(d) The traveling expense shall be computed at the rate of ten cents (10 cents) per mile and figured by the District mileage chart.”

AMEND to read:

“(d) The traveling expense shall be computed a the rate of fifteen (15 cents) per mile and figured by the District mileage chart.”

MOTIVATION: Traveling expense reimbursement has been at 10 cents per mile for over ten years. This increase would help defray the increased cost in transportation.

COST: In 1995 the additional cost with adoption of this change would have been a 50% increase from \$1060 to \$1590. The cost mainly depends upon the site of the District Convention.

This resolution is presented by the District Executive Board, moved at its regular meeting on February 3, 1996.

~~RESOLUTION 96 - 02~~

## RESOLUTION 96 - 04

Article 17 - District General Fund

Add Section (d)

(d) An account within the District General Fund that has been inactive for a period of two (2) full years shall terminate and be returned to the District General Fund at the close of the second fiscal year following the year in which the last activity occurred.

### MOTIVATION:

This section permits the release of funds back to the District General Fund in a timely manner once the purpose of a designated account has been fulfilled. These left-over funds are then available for other worthy purposes, for example, additional scholarships or for the District Charity. Passing this section would mean that at the close of Fiscal Year 1996 three (3) designated accounts will be returned to the District General Fund: the Library Account, the Spring Festival Account and the Swedish Traveler Account, thus making more than \$2700 available for other purposes.

Presented by Chuck Olson, member of Valhalla Lodge #746, present District Membership Chairman, former Executive Board Member