

The Monitor

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization since 1896

Vol 22. No. 7

August-September 1998

SEPTEMBER WILL SOON BE here and our first meeting for the fall will be on **Friday, September 4, at 7 pm**, at our usual meeting place, Wisteria Hall. This will be primarily a business meeting. We'll have a report from our nominating committee, take in new members, and discuss future activities to plan our program for next year. Please come and give us your ideas for a successful year.

After the meeting we'll have a cultural program and a nice *kaffekalas*. So please bring a plate of open face sandwiches, cookies, or coffee bread.

-Margaret Carlson

Chairman's Message

Welcome back to the start of another season of Swedish-style activities and entertainment, courtesy of Monitor Lodge. I hope you all had a wonderful summer of rest and relaxation.

I hope to see you all at our annual crayfish party on August 22. Because of the heat, the start time has been moved back to 7:30 with a short business meeting scheduled for 7:00. We will be voting on some new members so, if possible, try to come early and VOTE! (Note: Times may change so believe what you hear from the Telephone Committee!)

We bid goodbye to our treasurer, Betty Schoepf, this summer. She finally made good

on her promise to move up to the desolate northern wilderness of Washington state. We'll miss you, Betty, and deeply appreciate all you have done for our lodge. Gail Nemy has graciously agreed to take over the duties of treasurer for the remainder of the year.

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a short questionnaire. Please take a minute to fill it out and return it at the sign-in desk/bar at our September meeting (or if you can't make the meeting, please mail it to me or the secretary). Couples: If you can't agree, just take a sheet of paper, and write down the question number followed by the number you have circled. RE-MEMBER, your comments are important! No signatures are required so feel free to be frank and honest. I really want to know how you, our members, feel.

We will be discussing next year's activities at the September meeting and your willingness to participate and assist will greatly influence our planning.

So, anyway, come to our potluck supper on the 22nd and join us for coffee etc. in September. **DON'T FORGET THE QUESTIONNAIRE. FILL IT OUT NOW!**

*In Truth and Unity,
Art Niemoller*

Time Change!!

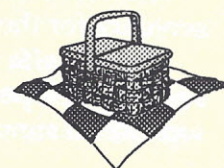
For members fortunate enough to receive this newsletter before August 22 (newsletter mail is often very slow), here's an important time change: To avoid the worst heat, we've decided to start the crayfish party a little later. The business meeting will begin at **7:00 pm** and we'll start partying at **7:30**. For other details, see our June-July newsletter.

Hail and Farewell

We sincerely wish our newest members welcome to Monitor Lodge. Initiated at our last meeting before the summer break were Diane Curtis, Lin and Greg Anderson, and Pamela and Randy Johnson. We're sure you will enjoy our activities—and we count on you becoming very active participants!

And we sadly say farewell to Betty Schoepf, who has moved to the state of Washington. Betty was a dedicated lodge treasurer for several years and also a wonderful singer and entertainer. We'll miss her valued contributions and her spectacular sense of humor. Best wishes, Betty, and let's hear from you from time to time!

**Happy
Labor
Day!**



New Officers

The Nominating Committee is trying very hard to come up with a slate of officers and committee people for next year. If you get called, PLEASE don't say no. We all must work together, if we're going to continue to have the kind of activities we all enjoy.

Turlock Festival

The annual Turlock Scandinavian Festival will again be held on September 25-27. Monitor Lodge will have a big part in this festival thanks to Ruby Hendrickson, one of our members, who goes out of her way to create "a little bit of Sweden" for us to enjoy.

We do need help though. We'll have a cooking demonstration, a genealogy corner, videos, displays, etc. If anyone is interested in being a part of this fun weekend, please contact Eivor Pfannkuch or Margaret Carlson.



Swedish Classes

Swedish classes will resume on **Monday, September 14**. The beginner class will start at 6:30 pm and the low intermediate class at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the times, please call me at 920-0696.

And here is the Swedish sentence for the month:

Hoppas alla haft en underbar sommar. (Hope everyone had a wonderful summer.)

– Birgitta Ellis

Nål och Tråd

Monitor's "Needle and Thread" group includes all members, men and women, who are interested in crafts and needlework. Things we're doing (besides having a lot of fun) include weaving, embroidery, sewing, bobbin lace, floral head bands, *dalamålning*, and wood crafts. We make some items for ourselves, but most of them are sold at our meetings and at the annual Scandinavian Festival in April.

Our meetings are held at members' homes, and most of them are during the day since some people don't like to be out at night.

We really need new members to continue our activities and it doesn't cost anything to belong. Won't you please come and join our group? For more information, contact Dorothy Scherer at 967-6809, Myrtle Widmark, 481-4056, or Margaret Carlson (530)742-9346.

Scandinavian Dancing and Picnic

The El Dorado Scandinavian Dancers are sponsoring all afternoon-all evening dance workshops, potluck, and party on **Saturday, September 5, 1998**.

All this will take place at 3100 Ponderosa Road, Shingle Springs. Take Highway 50 to Ponderosa Road. Go north two miles, pass the vineyard on your left, and watch for a sign on your left directing you to the parking area. For more information, contact Teddy at (530) 677-1134

Here's a breakdown of the various activities and time frames:

Advanced Dance Workshop 2:30-4:30 pm

Music Workshop 2:30 - 4:30 pm (please preregister)

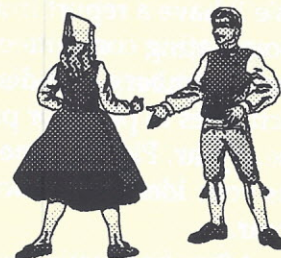
Potluck picnic under the oaks 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Easy dances taught 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Dancing on typically Scandinavian outdoor wooden deck under the stars 8:00-11:00 pm

The costs are \$5.00 for afternoon dance workshop; \$5.00 for evening party; \$10.00 for music workshop.

– Myrtle Widmark



Condensed Minutes from Business Meeting 5 June 1998

1. Minutes from May 13 were approved as printed in the newsletter
2. Five new members were initiated.
3. Samples of new lodge name badges, produced by Kurt Pfannkuch, were passed around and approved.
4. A Swedish flag has been donated by the family of Audrey Fales and can be effectively displayed at lodge functions.
5. The July ice cream social and picnic was canceled for lack of location. The Niemoller family offered their cabin at Tahoe for the event, but the general consensus was that it was too far away.
6. Chairman Niemoller urged all members to attend the September meeting to participate in the planning of next year's activities.



8/01 - Carl E. Larson
 8/05 - Sigrid Thorsen
 8/06 - David Benson
 8/07 - Louise Center
 8/08 - Jeanne Hanson
 8/08 - Durl Van Alstyne
 8/08 - Tom M. Anderson
 8/09 - Paul Gullans
 8/11 - Sue Bergman
 8/14 - Sandrine Soderberg
 8/15 - Lars Ostlund
 8/15 - Larry M. Hultquist
 8/17 - Elizabeth Bushnell
 8/19 - Charles Badgley
 8/20 - Helen Baker
 8/26 - Birgitta Ostlund
 8/28 - Jillian Stanley
 8/29 - Dorothy Kingren
 8/29 - Gail Nemy
 9/02 - Anne Miller
 9/04 - Erika Lewis
 0/05 - Emily Carlson
 9/06 - Carol Churkin
 9/07 - Kenneth Olson
 9/12 - Peggy Carlson
 9/13 - Anne Fors
 9/16 - Arlie Veis
 9/18 - Lin Anderson
 9/19 - Carl A. Larson
 9/20 - Joesie Henning
 9/21 - Ethel Hubbell
 9/23 - Britt Marie Anderson
 9/23 - Gloria Braswell
 9/29 - Estrid Doscher
 9/30 - Barbara Anderson

Deadline

for the October newsletter is
Thursday, September 17, 1998.
 Please send input to Ingrid
 Kennedy, 10582 Apple Grove
 Way, Rancho Cordova, CA
 95670-2317.

Roster Changes

Please add the following new
 members to your program books:

Pamela and Randy Johnson
 361 Municipal Drive
 Sacramento, CA 95838
 925-5218

Lin and Greg Anderson
 945 Lucile Way
 Rio Linda, CA 95673
 991-9334

Diane Curtis
 P.O. Box 221129
 Sacramento, CA 95822-8129
 442-1683

Here are some address
 changes:

Betty Schoepf
 262 Bigfoot
 Newport, WA 99156
 509/447-4073

Cecil Spencer
 2701 Capitol Ave., Apt 504
 Sacramento, CA 95816-6018

Sue Bergman
 c/o Magnolia BLF
 9525 Buffalo Avenue
 Orangevale, CA 95662-5706

We also have a correction from
 the last newsletter: The address
 for Christina and Naomi Fletcher
 is 5517 Lancelot Drive (not 5571).

IF WE HAVE ANOTHER
 PANCAKE BREAKFAST THIS
 FALL, ARE YOU WILLING
 TO HELP AND COME OUT
 TO SUPPORT US?

August and September Dues Anniversaries

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

Carl E. Larson
 Milo Ahlstrand
 Dee and David Benson
 Karna and Richard Boyer
 Elsa Cisar
 Laurine Coplen
 Ingrid Gilchrist
 Camilla and Gilbert Holm
 Larry Hultquist
 Don and Joyce Johnson
 Vicki Lydecker
 Mindy Patterson

Dues are \$18 a year, payable to
Monitor Lodge No. 218. You
 may pay them at the September
 meeting or by mail to our finan-
 cial secretary, Karin Dorey, 2434
 Stokewood Way, Rancho
 Cordova, CA 95670. If you would
 like a receipt and membership
 card, please enclose a self-ad-
 dressed, stamped envelope.

Please call Karin (858-8568) if
 you have questions or there are
 errors on this list.



For More Information

about Monitor Lodge, please
 contact one of the following:

- Membership Committee
 members Astrid Broess, 791-4463,
 Michelle Kaufman, 451-3075, or
 Dee Benson at 933-5502
- Secretary David Benson,
 933-5502
- Vice Chairman Marianne
 Ek, 372-1015
- Chairman Arthur
 Niemoller, 631-9330

Congratulations to us!

As reported in *The Vasa Star*, May-June 1998, our district, Golden Gate District #12, was the 1997



membership campaign winner with 10.7%, receiving \$250 and the Grand Master's trophy. Central Canada #16 came in 2nd place with 8.5% and Rocky Mountain #11 was in 3rd place with 2.2%. The awards were based on the percentage increase of new members initiated minus members who resigned or were dropped.

Gains or losses by transfer, death, or merger of lodges were not considered. The first three winners of the local lodge awards were Reno #711, Skogen #700, and Lindgren #754, in that order.

Stockholm City Hall is 75

Stockholm natives and tourists who chose not to flee the city on Midsummer Eve could this year attend all the festivities celebrating the 75th birthday of one of the city's most beautiful and famous assets: the City Hall. Among other things, this is where the Nobel banquets are held every year.

It was on Midsummer Eve, 1923, that the City hall was inaugurated by King Gustaf V. The day was chosen—listen up, Vasa members!—for its historical significance. It was on this very day in 1523 that Sweden's first real King, Gustav Vasa, chose to triumphantly enter the city after having chased the Danes away.

— From *Vestkusten*, July 1, 1998

Swedish in New York



◆ The New York skyline would not be what it is if it hadn't been for David Lindquist. Working for the Otis elevator company, the Swedish-trained engineer developed the gearless-traction elevator that became the standard in all high rises. Lindquist later introduced an automatic system of self-leveling and the automatic signal control system

that made buildings like the Empire State Building possible. Called the "father of the New York skyline," Lindquist won 64 revolutionary patents.

◆ Another son of Sweden has had an impact on New York real estate. For a boy whose grandfather came from Sweden with two empty hands, Donald Trump has done just fine.

◆ The Bronx gets its name from Swedish captain Jonas Jonasson Bronck, who arrived in New Amsterdam (now New York) in 1639. That was just a year after the founding of the first settlement across the river in Wilmington, Delaware (then called New Sweden). Bronck built a homestead of considerable size in the borough named after him. There are still a lot of Swedes living in the Bronx.

◆ There is much from Sweden to see in and around the United Nations. The Economic and Social Council Chamber was designed by architect Sven Markelius and features a Swedish marble floor and burgundy curtains from Märta Måås-Fjetterström's studio. The large iron ore slab and the abstract painting by Bo Beskow in the Meditation Room are Swedish gifts. The room was the idea of Swedish Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld, and he and Folke Bernadotte are honored with plaques outside. Now there is also a sculpture of Raoul Wallenberg in the compounds of the UN building. Outside you can also see Carl-Fredrik Reuterswärd's anti-violence sculpture, Barbara Hepworth's abstract bronze sculpture, and a bust by Carina Ari erected in the memory of Dag Hammarskjöld.

◆ John Ericsson, designer and builder of the USS Monitor, was the first Swede to become famous in America. You can see his statue at Battery Park. Ericsson's birthday is commemorated next to the statue each year by the local John Ericsson Society (c/o Kjell Lagerström 212-980-9655). John Ericsson lived in Manhattan from 1839 until his death 50 years later.

◆ The best way to see New York and its five boroughs is by the familiar red, white and green Circle Line boats. What few Swedish tourists know is that the owner of this New York institution is Karl Andrén, a Swede who immigrated to the United States in 1962. Andrén also owns the luxury World Yachts and is chairman of the New York Convention and Visitors Bureau.

— From *Swedish Press*, Aug 98

Recovery of the USS Monitor

US Navy divers are trying to assess the condition of the USS Monitor, the historic Civil War ship, which was designed and built by a Swedish engineer and which revolutionized naval warfare. The divers are also trying to recover parts and artifacts, such as the ship's trademark 110-ton gun turret.

Monitor sank off the North Carolina coast in 1862 and came to rest upside down. The wreck was found in 1973 and designated a marine sanctuary two years later. Monitor's artifacts, including the ship's giant propeller, 10-foot propeller well cover, part of the shaft, and a deck plate, will be conserved and displayed at The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia. During this summer's expedition, divers are taking extensive measurements and photographs of the rapidly deteriorating ship as part of a \$22 million project to stabilize the wreckage and recover artifacts.

— From *Sacramento Bee* articles 26 May and 6 June, 1998

The Zipper is Partly Swedish

Such a necessity today, the zipper did not become an instant success when it was first invented. It was only after Gideon Sundbäck got the American Army interested in his invention that there was any money to be made on the zipper. The soldiers had uniforms with zippered money belts that had to be constantly replaced.

Patriotic Swedes don't want to know this, but the zipper was not entirely a Swedish invention. Gideon Sundbäck, whose invention was patented in 1913, was only one in a long line of inventors who had a go at the zipper.

Elias Howes made the first zipper already in 1851. Lewis Walker was the first one to manufacture zippers and he employed Peter Aronsson from Värmland to build the machines for him. The zippers became better as the years went by but there was little interest from the consumers. In 1907, Walker employed Gideon Sundbäck. He was a trained engineer and had been living in the USA for four years. He was able to improve on the zippers and it was his final touch that lunched the zipper as we know it today.

— *Swedish Press*, June 1998

Drive Safely in Sweden

From the CNN webpage (June 17, 1998), we have learned that getting behind the wheel in Europe is comparatively safe in Britain and Sweden. Portugal and Greece are most hazardous. European Union statistics show that for each one million inhabitants, 64 people died on British roads in 1995 and 65 in Sweden. By comparison, the figures for Portugal and Greece were 217 and 195, respectively.



Carl Sandburg

It is said that Carl Sandburg, the Swedish-American poet, rather had his picture on that first 13 cent stamp than getting the Nobel Prize, which he never received—except “second hand” in a telegram from the recipient Ernest Hemingway. When John Steinbeck received the prize, he said: “Of course, I am glad to get it. But I wish it had gone to Sandburg. Damn it. He is America.”

Carl Sandburg (1878-1967) was the son of immigrant Swedes who settled in Galesburg, Illinois. He was proud of his Swedish heritage and of the honorary doctorate given to him by the Uppsala University in Sweden in 1950.

Carl Sandburg is still America. His poems and ballads are read and sung across the nation every day by students and professionals.

He had his “office” in the attic where he typed away on his typewriter placed on an organ crate. In the summer he moved his typing to the back of the house near the pasture.

That's where he created his six-volume Abraham Lincoln Biography. His daughter Helga tells that no one was allowed to tidy up his working area: “We were reminded daily by mother to be quiet when he worked and she always said that ‘after all children, he is a genius.’ She felt it, my father knew it, and we accepted it.”

— From *Sweden Now*, Spring 1997



Drive solely in Sweden
I find the Volvo 740 GLE quite a bit better than the Volvo 740 GLE. I find the Volvo 740 GLE quite a bit better than the Volvo 740 GLE.



...and the Volvo 740 GLE is a bit better than the Volvo 740 GLE. I find the Volvo 740 GLE quite a bit better than the Volvo 740 GLE.

Carl Sandburg

It is said that Carl Sandburg the Swedish-American poet, writer and the poet laureate of the United States, who was born in 1898 and died in 1967, was a great admirer of the Swedish poet, writer and the poet laureate of the United States, who was born in 1898 and died in 1967.

Carl Sandburg (1898-1967) was the son of a Swedish immigrant who settled in California. He was a great admirer of the Swedish poet, writer and the poet laureate of the United States, who was born in 1898 and died in 1967.

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Recovery of the USS Monitor

US Navy divers are trying to recover the remains of the USS Monitor, the first ironclad warship, which was designed and built by a Swedish engineer and which is considered the first warship. The divers are also trying to recover the remains of the ship's 110-ton gun turret.

Monitor was off the North Carolina coast in 1862 and came to rest upside down. The wreck was found in 1973 and salvaged by a private company two years later. Monitor's 110-ton gun turret was covered by a giant propeller. 10-foot propeller was covered part of the hull, and a oak plate will be covered and displayed at The Mariners Museum in Newport News, Virginia. During this summer's expedition, divers are taking a series of photographs and photographs of the ship's structure. The ship is part of a \$25 million project to raise the wreck and put it overboard.

Carl Sandburg is a great admirer of the Swedish poet, writer and the poet laureate of the United States, who was born in 1898 and died in 1967.

The Zipper is Truly Swedish

Such a mystery today, the zipper is not because so many people think it was first invented in the United States. In fact, the zipper was first invented in Sweden. The zipper was first invented in Sweden in 1893 by the Swedish engineer, Erik Erikson.

Carl Sandburg is a great admirer of the Swedish poet, writer and the poet laureate of the United States, who was born in 1898 and died in 1967.

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Monitor Questionnaire

Your officers would like to see how you, the members, feel about the way Monitor Lodge is being run. We have instituted some radical changes in the way we do business over the last couple of years and would like to find out how you, the general membership, feel about them. Please consider carefully the following statements and circle the number that best conveys your feelings. Each statement has an area for comments for your use if desired. No names are required, but **PLEASE** take the time to fill out this questionnaire and return it at the September meeting (or by mail to our lodge secretary). Thank you!

Below each statement is a scale from 1 to 5 indicating a range of agreement/disagreement with the statement. Please circle the appropriate number.

1) I am satisfied with the way the lodge is being run.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

2) I feel I get my money's worth from my dues and the price charged for each activity.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

3) I would like to see the lodge put greater emphasis on Swedish culture with more presentations on Swedish heritage, history, events, personalities, etc.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

4) I am willing to put on or assist in the production of such presentations.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

5) I strongly support the choir, children's club, and crafts groups and would like to see them participate more in lodge activities.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

6) I would like to see the lodge schedule more meals, entertainment, and activities both at, and in addition to, the regular meetings.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

7) I would support a lodge policy requiring each member to work at one or two lodge activities each year.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

8) I would support a lodge policy that offers incentives (e.g., lower dues, free admittance) to members who work at lodge activities.

(Agree) 1 2 3 4 5 (Disagree)

Comments _____

GENERAL COMMENTS:
