

# The Monitor

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

*A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization since 1896*

Vol 23. No. 3

March 1999

**O**N FRIDAY, MARCH 5, WE will again serve our popular moose stew dinner. Gil and Camilla Holm, long-time members, are coming all the way from Idaho to make this dinner for us.

As usual, refreshments and social time will start at 6 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30. The cost is only \$5 for all the stew, salad, limpa, and dessert you can eat. (Children under 10 free.)

We'll have a business meeting after dinner with initiation of new members. Our cultural leader, Carol Churkin, has a program planned for us [see below]. It will be a busy evening, but you won't want to miss it.

*- Margaret Carlson*

## March 5 Program

After our moose stew dinner at our next meeting, Henrick Hervall, owner of Skytours Travel in San Francisco will talk to us about travel to Sweden.

Skytours is the second largest ethnic Scandinavian agency in the United States promoting tours to the Scandinavian countries. Henrick will talk about Midsummer, the Stockholm Water Festival and other events this summer, a Stockholm card and hotel checks, car rental, purchase and shipping, and other interesting information.

*- Carol Churkin,  
Cultural Leader*

## Chairman's Message

This month, I want to use this forum to reiterate a message you've all heard many times, but I feel it is important enough to bear repeating. We're maintaining, and plan to continue, a fairly ambitious program for the enjoyment and entertainment of our members. According to the feedback I have received, you all seem quite satisfied with the quality (and extremely reasonable price!) of our activities. We are able to accomplish this only because many of you volunteer your time and effort. I want to thank all the members who have helped out and ask all of you to participate in the future.

We are entering our busiest season with the pancake breakfast in March and the Scandinavian Festival in April. We have the key people to do the management but they can't do all the work. When the telephone committee calls you to volunteer, please sign up. I will try to get the organizers to provide lists of specific duties so we can match people to duties, jobs, times etcetera.

I, personally, would like to organize a small, elite band of pancake flippers. Pancake flipping is a time-honored Swedish art form passed down from generation to generation and recognized worldwide as a means of building character and self esteem! If you are interested,

give me a call (631-9330). We will receive on-the-job training from the old masters at the pancake breakfast and those who qualify will be invited to all those great kitchen parties we've heard about but never were allowed in! Call now! I guarantee a fun time!  
**YOUR LODGE NEEDS YOU.**

*- In truth and Unity,  
Art Niemoller*

## Tusen Tack

to our pea soup and pancake committee for the wonderful supper we had at our last meeting. Donn Stafford had secured a new grill that we were able to use. Larry Hultquist and Kent Kjelstrom, along with our regulars Ernie Skorheim and Donn Stafford, manned the kitchen. Many others helped make this a wonderful evening.

We served well over a hundred members and guests and thanks to Carol Churkin, we heard an interesting talk from a visiting Swede about the large waves of immigration into Sweden since Word War II.

## Check Your Program Book

to make sure we have your correct address and phone number. Please let our secretary, David Benson, and/or newsletter editor Ingrid Kennedy know if you have corrections.



## Pancake Breakfast

We're bringing back our Swedish pancake breakfast. Date and place is **Sunday, March 14, 9 am - 1 pm, at Wisteria Hall.** Please invite family, friends, and neighbors and stop by on your way to or from church.

Besides pancakes, we'll have scrambled eggs, sausage, orange juice, and coffee—all you can eat for only \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 5-12.

Please support our lodge and plan to attend. We're hoping this will be a good money maker. We also need all the help we can get, so please contact Margaret Carlson as soon as possible.

A large flyer is enclosed. Please post it somewhere. Four handouts are also enclosed that we hope you'll give out to friends and neighbors.

## Shopping Tips

Everyone raved about the pea soup we served in February and now you can make your own. This is where to find the special whole yellow peas: Morants Sausage kitchen, 5001 Franklin Blvd., Sacramento. They also have the Swedish brown beans, and you'll love their home-made sausages. They even have potato sausage and herring of all kinds. Call 731-4377 to ensure they're not temporarily out of stock.

- Margaret Carlson

## Nål och Tråd

This crafts group will meet at Myrtle Widmark's house on **Tuesday, March 23, at 10 am.** Pack your lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided. Bring your projects for the Scandinavian Festival so we can price the items.

## Scandinavian Festival

The next planning meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 9, 7 pm,** at the Sons of Norway Hall, 770 Darina Avenue. Do come with your ideas! And the bakery table will need your homebaked breads, cookies, etc. The festival is on April 10 and is coming up fast!

Our telephone committee will be calling everyone to pair up helpers and chores.

Monitor's contact person on the festival planning committee is Myrtle Widmark, in case you have any questions.



## Norwegian Dinner

The Sons of Norway will be serving a dinner of torsk, lutefisk, meatballs, and lefse on **Saturday, March 27,** at the Sons of Norway Hall, 770 Darina Avenue. The dinner will be served at 5:00-7:30 and then there will also be music for dancing.

For more information, call Florence Smith, 783-8830, or Pearl Lemkuil, 483-4496.

## Learn to Dance

Attend an introduction to Scandinavian dance and music on **Saturday, March 13, 1:00-5:00 pm,** and an evening dance party 7:00-11:00 pm at Oddfellows Hall, 467 Main Street, Placerville, sponsored by the El Dorado Scandinavian Dancers. For registration or information, call Nick Jensen 933-0671 or Marida Martin, 672-2926.



*Happy  
March  
Birthday!*

3/01 - Astrid Horyza  
3/02 - Dorothy Scherer  
3/03 - Solveig Eltner  
3/04 - Karin Dorey  
3/04 - Laurine Coplen  
3/05 - Ellen Herting  
3/05 - Mark Roop  
3/06 - Berthell Nelson  
3/08 - Jack Doscher  
3/13 - Henry Hjersman  
3/17 - Kenneth Carlson  
3/17 - Donn Stafford  
3/17 - Trudi Kauffman  
3/18 - Edwin J. Cook  
3/20 - Helen Jensen  
3/26 - Robert Johnson  
3/24 - Gerda Anderson  
3/24 - Faye Powell  
3/26 - Lennart Thornros  
3/28 - Daniel Backman  
3/29 - Joyce Burns  
3/29 - Kjell Hakansson  
3/29 - Richard Boyer  
3/30 - Frank Lindahl  
3/30 - Arthur Niemoller



*Dear Monitor Friends:*

*I want to thank you for your beautiful plant. We will always remember the love and caring shown us by our lodge members when Ed died suddenly January 4. Ed very much enjoyed the Swedish lodge and the friends we made there.*

*- Billye and family*





## Birgitta's Swedish Sentences

Swedish:	Vi ses
Sounds Like:	Vee (as in <u>fee</u> ) ses (as in <u>se</u> mester)
English:	See you soon or We'll see you
Swedish:	Vem är det?
Sounds Like:	<u>V</u> em (as in <u>ve</u> nom) ay day?
English:	Who is it?
Swedish:	Det är Mamma och Pappa
Sounds Like:	Day ay Mamma au (as in awe) Pappa (as in <u>so</u> me)
English:	It is Mom and Dad



### March Dues Anniversaries

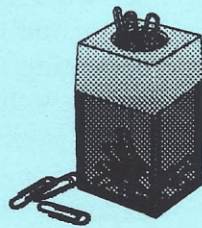
If you have already paid, please ignore this reminder and thank you for your promptness.

John and Ruby Anderson  
 Sharon Anderson  
 Helen and Gary Baker  
 Annalena Bronson  
 Emily Carlson  
 Lowell Carlson  
 Margaret Carlson  
 Brita and Sven-Erik Carlsson  
 Louise and Thomas Center  
 Carol and Michael Churkin  
 Deidre Dahlberg  
 Kay and John Ericson  
 Jeana Hultquist  
 Elizabeth and Harry Johnson  
 Dorothy Kingren  
 Leo Krastins  
 Carl A. Larson  
 Ann Miller  
 Wendy Strand  
 Richard Westrup

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

### Did you Know

that the paper clip was a Norwegian invention, that it's 100 years old this year, and that the Norwegian post office is publishing a special stamp in honor of the anniversary?



During the World War II German occupation, the paper clip became something special. The Norwegians started wearing a paper clip in the coat or jacket lapel as a symbol of national unity, something that kept the Norwegian people together. The Germans eventually figured it out and expressly prohibited this demonstration.

- Submitted by Ellen Harrod

### Deadline

for the April newsletter is **Thursday, March 18**. Please send input any time prior to this date to Ingrid Kennedy, 10582 Apple Grove Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-2317. Or you can send it to my e-mail address [iken@gvn.net](mailto:iken@gvn.net).

### Address Changes

Our thanks to Christina and Naomi Fletcher for notifying us of their new phone number: 332-2585. Naomi's e-mail address is [wcseagle@hotmail.com](mailto:wcseagle@hotmail.com).

And thanks to June Brown for sending us her new address:

419 Mason Street, #212  
 Vacaville, CA 95688

According to the Post Office, the following members also have new addresses:

Dale Ingvarlsen  
 6478 Cedar Ranch Drive  
 Citrus Heights, CA 95621

Carl and Launna Nelson  
 3644 J Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95816

Kenneth and Peggy Carlson  
 6042 Lincoln Avenue  
 Carmichael, CA 95608

LaVerne Gilbertson  
 6519 Westbrook Drive  
 Citrus Heights, CA 95621





## Condensed Minutes from Business Meeting, February 10, 1999

(Full minutes available from Secretary David Benson)

1. The pea soup and pancake dinner was profitable. Exact figures will be available at the next meeting. Seating for members and 29 guests was a problem and has become an issue at other events also. A discussion ensued on proposals for speeding up the food line or the serving, such as taking plates to the tables and having double lines for buffets.
2. In the case of double memberships, the District Board has made it clear that full dues are paid at each lodge and full District and Grand Lodge assessments are paid by both lodges. Assessments total \$15.96 out of our annual \$18 dues.
3. Membership applications were approved and initiations will be held at the March meeting.
4. The meeting voted to purchase and deliver floral presentations to home-bound members for Easter.
5. A letter of congratulations on behalf of Monitor will be sent the Barbro Osher, who has succeeded Siri Eliason as Honorary Consul General.
6. Carol Churkin presented ideas for coming cultural programs, including current issues in Sweden, singing and music, the Children's Club, and dancing.
7. 25-, 50-, and 60-year pins will be ordered and presented at the lodge anniversary dinner.
4. Reservations will be needed for the anniversary dinner, which will be catered by a lodge member.
5. Sierra Kronan has volunteered to work with Monitor in a joint venture if Monitor accepts responsibility for hosting the District Convention in 2002 or 2003.
6. Interest was expressed in giving special recognition on 80<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays, including special mention in the newsletter.
7. Until the policy has been changed, the Scholarship Committee will be awarding scholarships only to graduating highschool seniors.
8. Monitor has been given the following tasks for the April Scandinavian Festival: Be in charge of making sandwiches; serving coffee; bringing pancake batter and frying pancakes; and managing the craft tables. The Viking Valley Singers have been asked to sing. Baked goods are needed, and reimbursement for expenses for materials in baking or making pancake batter can be requested.



### Swedish-Danish Connection

After three years, the 4,050 meter tunnel under Öresund from Denmark towards Sweden has been completed, six to eight weeks ahead of schedule.

According to plans, it will open for traffic on 1 July 2000. The tunnel ends at a small island, Peberholm, from which a bridge will provide the final connection to Sweden.

This is a four-partition tunnel: two tunnels for car traffic, one towards Sweden and one towards Denmark, and two tunnels for trains, one in each direction.

- Submitted by Ellen Harrod

### For More Information

about Monitor Lodge, please contact one of the following:

☐ Membership Committee members Michelle Kaufman, 451-3075, Dee Benson at 933-5502, or Elizabeth Swenson, 739-7637

☐ Secretary David Benson, 933-5502

☐ Assistant Secretary LaVerne Gilbertson, 722-9046

☐ Vice Chairman Don Carlson, 783-0262

☐ Chairman Arthur Niemoller, 631-9330

### Note to Nonmembers

We really want to mail out as many newsletters as possible to

tell about our activities and share our Swedish heritage. However, Monitor Lodge has now found it necessary to limit the number of free issues to six per nonmember. It's all we can afford! We hope that in the meantime, you have decided to join the lodge and keep receiving the newsletter.

When someone has received six issues and has decided against joining, it will still be possible to stay on the mailing list for \$10 a year. If you have received six free issues and do not plan to join Monitor, please send your subscription check to:

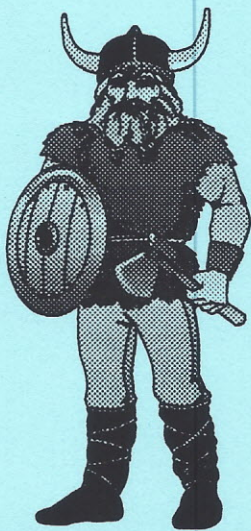
Karin Dorey, Fin. Secy  
2434 Stokewood Way  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



## The Vikings Are Coming!

Since The Vasa Order of America has pronounced 1999 "The Year of the Viking," here's description of the Vikings and their activities from the Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia

Vikings is the collective designation of Nordic people — Danes, Swedes, and Norwegians — who explored abroad during a period of



dynamic Scandinavian expansion from about AD 800 to 1100. Land shortage, improved iron production, and the need for new markets probably all played a part in Viking expansion. The Viking Age is commonly associated with unbridled piracy, but not every Scandinavian was a professional warrior or Viking, and not every Viking was a pirate.

The first recorded Viking raid was a seaborne assault in 793 by Norwegian marauders on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, off the northeast coast of England. Growing evidence indicates that considerable overseas Viking migration occurred long before then. Swedish entrepreneurs penetrated the Russian hinterland, founding city-states and opening the way to Constantinople (present-day Istanbul) and the markets of Arabia and East Asia. Danish warriors fought the crumbling Carolingian Empire—Hamburg, Dorestad, Rouen, Paris, Nantes, Bordeaux—until in 911 one of the armies accepted by treaty the area of Normandy (Normandie) in northern France and settled there.

In the 11th century, Vikings briefly established a Scandinavian empire of the North Sea, composed of England, Denmark, and Norway. Norwegian adventurers and Danish Vikings discovered and settled uninhabited lands in the Atlantic—first the Faroes, then Iceland, then Greenland. From Greenland they attempted to settle on North America's eastern seaboard, but they soon abandoned these attempts. Franco-Viking descendants conquered England in 1066 and Sicily from 1060 to 1090.

The lasting impact of the Vikings was less enduring than might have been expected. In general, they had a great capacity for being assimilated into local populations. The settlers brought to the British Isles energetic art forms, new farming techniques, mercantile acumen, and a vigorous language. They introduced new forms of administration and justice, and in Iceland, Vikings produced the great medieval literature of the sagas.

In their time, the Vikings had crisscrossed half the world in their open boats and vastly extended its horizons. Having achieved that, however, they had neither the manpower nor the staying power, neither the reserves of wealth nor the political experience, neither the cohesion at home nor the confidence abroad to master effectively the older, richer, more stable states they tried to overrun. Their dynamism was gradually exhausted and even their swift, magnificent ships were superseded, replaced by much larger, more prosaic vessels better suited to bulk cargo carrying.





**Monitor Lodge No. 218  
Vasa Order of America  
10582 Apple Grove Way  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

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Sacramento, CA**

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# **SWEDISH PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**Served by Monitor Lodge of the  
Vasa Order of America,  
a Swedish-American fraternal organization**

Members with family and friends,  
as well as the general public, are invited  
to enjoy a delicious, plentiful breakfast  
of the famous thin Swedish pancakes  
along with juice, coffee, eggs, sausage, etc., etc.

**Sunday, March 14, 1999  
9 am - 1 pm  
Wisteria Hall  
3830 U Street  
Sacramento**

**\$5 for adults and \$3 for children under age 12**



# SWEDISH PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Presented by Mother Lodge of the  
Swedish Order of America  
Swedish American Fraternal Organization

Swedish pancakes are served  
with lingonberry sauce and  
sour cream. The traditional  
Swedish breakfast consists of  
porridge, cold meat, and  
cheese.

Swedish Pancake 14  
10:00 - 1:00  
Columbia Hall  
123 U Street  
Baltimore

22 for adults and 12 for children under age 12



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MEMORANDUM  
FOR THE RECORD

Subject: [Illegible]  
Date: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

Very truly yours,  
[Illegible Signature]

[Illegible text at bottom]

MEMORANDUM  
FOR THE RECORD

Subject: [Illegible]  
Date: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

Very truly yours,  
[Illegible Signature]

[Illegible text at bottom]

MEMORANDUM  
FOR THE RECORD

Subject: [Illegible]  
Date: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

Very truly yours,  
[Illegible Signature]

[Illegible text at bottom]

MEMORANDUM  
FOR THE RECORD

Subject: [Illegible]  
Date: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

Very truly yours,  
[Illegible Signature]

[Illegible text at bottom]