

The Monitor

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization since 1896

Vol. 24. No. 2

February 2000

Monitor's first social in the new millennium (or at least, the new century) will be on **Friday, February 4**. Refreshments are served at 6 pm and our popular pea soup and pancake supper will be ready around 6:30—all you can eat for just \$5 (children under 10 free).

Yellow pea soup with ham and a dessert of Swedish pancakes with lingonberries is a traditional Thursday night meal throughout Sweden. Do come and enjoy this really Swedish meal.

And we have special program planned by Carol Churkin asking, what is cultural heritage? There is more to culture than holiday observances and traditions, dala horses and lutefisk. Is there a Scandinavian **character** and **outlook**? Come prepared to share insights or tell a Scandinavian joke that maybe exemplifies a character trait.

[Editor's comment: Articles in the Mar 97 (p.5), Aug-Sep 97 (p.5), and Oct 97 (p. 5) newsletters could serve well as a starting point for our "character discussion"—that is, if you had the foresight to save these issues!]

No business meeting, just a lot of fun, so bring family, friends and prospective members.

And a heads-up for our March 3 meeting: Henrik Hanson, the Danish director of Sacramento's

new Gold Country Chamber Orchestra will better acquaint us with the music of Scandinavian composers. This orchestra received standing ovations at its first two concerts.

Next Business Meeting

will be held on **Wednesday, February 16, 7 pm**, at Ellen Harrod's house.

Chairman's Message

Greetings, all Monitor members in this unique and wonderful time period, a new century, a new Millennium, and a new Monitor year of friendship, fellowship, and sharing our Scandinavian heritage and culture. We are fortunate to be brothers and sisters in the Vasa Order. Let us all make the most of our opportunities.

We are pleased to enclose the Monitor program and membership book for 2000 with this issue of the newsletter. Assistance from Brian Stockham and our most capable Monitor editor, Ingrid Kennedy, made this possible. Now we ask you to check your personal data and to notify David Benson of any changes. They will be published next month's newsletter.

You are urged to use the program book in the following ways:

- Membership – If you know

of someone who might be interested in the Vasa Order, call a membership committee member. Let's do even better than the 21 new members we had in 1999!

- Friendship – When you are aware of a member experiencing illness or other difficulty, call the Friendship Chairperson or a committee member. Look in your next newsletter for a plan for keeping in touch with our home bound members.

- Program – If you have an idea or resources for cultural programming, call our Cultural Leader, Carol Churkin.

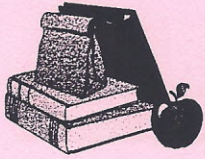
- Newsletter – If you have ideas or information for an item, call Ingrid Kennedy.

Finally, it takes many hands to lighten the load of providing meetings, dinners, and programs for our lodge. Please plan to do your part in contributing to the success of Monitor Lodge. Volunteer your assistance at least once this year, and be ready to respond when your help is requested. We can all contribute and reap the benefits of an outstanding lodge, enjoying the pleasure of meeting new people and old friends.

In Truth and Unity,
David Benson

A BIG THANK YOU TO SIERRA KRONAN LODGE FOR HOSTING THE JOINT INSTALLATION OF OUR NEW OFFICERS!

Scholarships



Deadlines are approaching for applications for various scholarships.

First, there is our Monitor Lodge scholarship in the amount of \$500, which will be awarded to a graduating high school senior planning to attend college or vocational school next fall. Either the applicant or the applicant's parent or grandparent must be a member of Monitor Lodge. Application forms and further information can be obtained from the Scholarship Committee chair, Jillian Stanley (448-9765). The deadline for application is March 15, 2000.

District Lodge Golden Gate #12 offers a scholarship award of \$500 to a member enrolled in or entering college or vocational school. The Monitor Lodge Scholarship chair has information and applications.

The Grand Lodge offers an array of scholarships to high school seniors or college students who are members of the Vasa Order. The information is in the December issue of The Vasa Star. (If you do not have this information, the scholarship committee chair can send you a photocopy.)

And, finally, there are ten national scholarships to the Swedish Language Camp held in Minnesota next August. They are available to students age 13-17

who are, or whose parents or grandparents are, members of the Vasa Order of America. This information is also in the December issue of The Vasa Star.

— Jillian Stanley

More Opportunities

Have you, your son/daughter, or grandson/granddaughter considered study for a summer, semester, or year in Scandinavia? English-speaking courses are offered at many universities and schools in a wide variety of fields. Did you know that many American universities offer Scandinavian languages? Contact Carol Churkin, 530/671-4628, for details.

☆ Birgitta's Swedish Sentences ☆

(Do not pronounce single letters in brackets)

Swedish: Hoppas din jul var vacker och det nya året också
 Sounds like: Hoppas din (as in English din) yul vaar vacker ock de[t] (as in them) nja (as in knit) aaret ocksa
 English: Hope your Christmas was beautiful and the New Year, too.

Swedish: Firade du med familj och/eller vänner?
 Sounds like: Feerade dew med familj (a as in some; i as in Indian; j as in yellow) ock/eller vanner (as in air)
 English: Did you celebrate with family and/or friends?

Swedish: Kanske du studerar på en kurs nu. Hur går det?
 Sound like: Kanshe dew studerar paa en kush new. Huur gaar de[t] (as in set)
 English: Perhaps you are taking a study course now. How are you doing?

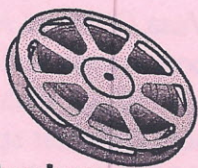


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Let's Go to the Movies

You've got to see the Swedish movie "The Immigrants"! Come and join Monitor members at the home of Violet DeBord on **Friday, February 18, at 7 pm.** Please call 685-2908 if you are coming and you will get directions to 8600 Lodestone Circle in Elk Grove. In May of 1998, Violet visited the farm where the movie was filmed. It's now a historical museum.



More Movies

According to Vestkusten (Dec 99), there will be a Swedish film bonanza in the Bay Area in January-March.

Beginning January 8, a series of four Astrid Lindgren films will be shown at the Pacific Film Archives in Berkeley and at the Rafael Film Center in San Rafael.

In February and March, the Rafael Film Center will also show ten Bo Widerberg films, which have drawn much attention in New York and Los Angeles.

For information on films at the Pacific Film Archives, call 510/642-1124. For information on films at the Rafael Film Center, call 415/383-5256.

Scandinavian Festival

Please come to the next Scandinavian Festival planning meeting on **Monday, February 14, 7 pm.** It's held at the Sons of Norway Hall, 770 Darina Avenue.

Looking for Roots?

The Family Tree Magazine is billed as the first mass-market, user-friendly magazine about genealogy and family history for a beginner or those already deeply immersed in tracing their roots. And it also offers a Web site, www.familytreemagazine.com.

Columns include tips on "reading" photos for clues to the past; storming through brick walls encountered in research; and reviews of available resources.

The cover price is \$3.99 and subscription information is available on the Web site.

Folk Costumes for Sale

Elizabeth Johnson has all the makings for two folk costumes (one man's and one woman's), including the apron and the form for cap. These costumes represent the Jönköping area in Sweden's Småland province. If



you're interesting in buying one or both from Elizabeth, call her at 452-2470 **before February 15** (because after that date, she and Harry will be moving).

Deadline

for the March newsletter is **Thursday, February 10.** Please send input no later than and preferably before that date to Ingrid Kennedy, 10582 Apple Grove Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-2317. Or you can send it to c-mail address iken@gvn.net.

Best Wishes

to Ethel Hoffman who has been suffering from very painful shingles.

Cook books

We still have cook books for sale. They make excellent gifts.

For More Information

about Monitor Lodge, please contact one of the following: Membership Committee members Michelle Kaufman at 451-3075, Dee Benson at 933-5502, or Elizabeth Swenson at 739-7637.

Vice Chairman Don Carlson, 783-0262

Chairman David Benson at 933-5502

Address Change

Our member Ingrid Gilchrist has a new address and phone number:

3734 Hollister
Carmichael, CA 95608
944-3375

Plea to All Members

We hope Monitor members will start thinking about taking over preparation and/or mailing of this newsletter. Our current editor is moving south as of our summer break. We need someone by May to participate in mailing out this editor's last newsletter.





2/01 - Cecile Spencer
 2/02 - Lucy Dahlberg
 2/03 - Mimi Hjermsman
 2/04 - Kevin Bergstrom
 2/04 - Stanley Hagstrom
 2/04 - Leah McLam
 2/05 - Greg Anderson
 2/05 - Annabel Audet
 2/05 - Lisa Bleasdale
 2/06 - Charles Johnson
 2/08 - Milo Ahlstrand
 2/08 - Helen J. Starkey
 2/08 - Christina Fletcher
 2/09 - Ethel Johnson
 2/09 - Ruth Volkoff
 2/09 - Mindy Patterson
 2/09 - Ruby Hendrickson
 2/10 - Carol Kwolek
 2/11 - Maude Udvardy
 2/13 - Jill Stockham
 2/18 - Richard Westrup
 2/19 - Kurt Pfannkuch
 2/21 - Michelle Waldrop
 2/22 - Jone Canaday
 2/22 - Marie Tillman
 2/24 - Hans Fors
 2/26 - Birgit Dillard

February Dues Anniversaries

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

Evelyn Anderson
 Annika Anderson
 Thomas Anderson
 Mirjam Auger
 Jean Barney
 Robert Barrett
 Sue Bergman

Keith Bergstrom
 Kevin Bergstrom
 Russel Ellis
 Bertil Erickson
 Anne and HansFors
 Helen Jenson
 Ethel Johnson
 Lars Ostlund
 Anne Phelan
 Louise Sims
 Cecile Spencer
 Brian and Jill Stockham
 Ruth Volkoff
 Debbie Nickless

Dues are \$18 a year, payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. You may pay them at the Februari meeting or by mail to our financial secretary, Johanna Benker, 7881 Charlotte Lane, Vacaville, CA 95688. If you would like a receipt and membership card, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Please call Johanna (707/446-2718) if you have questions or if there are errors on this list.

About Our Order

The Vasa Order of America began in 1896 as a benefit society for Swedish immigrants to the United States. Membership was limited to Swedish-born men who, through the Vasa Order, met others who needed to learn the new language and ways of the new country. A benefit fund provided a small income during sickness and a death benefit helped cover final expenses. The Order is named for Gustav Vasa, who liberated the country in the 16th century and became the first King of modern Sweden. The name Vasa reflects the Order's roots as a Swedish-American

Fraternal Organization.

Over the decades, many things changed and the Order has grown to meet new needs. Where in the past, members looked to the Vasa Order to help them learn the ways of a new country and provide them a means to share problems and solutions, today, the Order provides members a means to share their rich heritage with fellow Americans and helps them learn or remember the meaningful ways and values of the "Old Country."

The Vasa Order of America now welcomes men and women over 14 year of age with Scandinavian roots and their spouses who would like to rediscover the traditions of their ancestors and share their Scandinavian heritage. We do this by encouraging the observance of special dates such as Midsummer and Lucia with proper festivities including *smörgåsbord* and Scandinavian music. Many lodges and districts sponsor language classes as well as children's clubs.

There are nearly three hundred lodges in the Vasa Order, governed by 19 district lodges in the United States, Sweden, and Canada.

— From www.vasaorder.com



☐ Scandinavian Guide to Computer Lingo ☐ To Help Clarify Some of Your Computer Questions

(Submitted by Mark Roop who received it from his mother-in-law,
a member of the San Mateo area Swedish club.)

Ready? Vell here we go den!

LOG ON - Making da vood stove hotter.

LOG OFF - Don't add vood to the stove.

MONITOR - Keep an eye on da vood stove.

MEGAHERTZ - Vhen a big log drops on your bare feet in da morning.

FLOPPY DISK - Vhat you get from carrying too much vood.

RAM - Da hydraulic ting dat makes da voodsplitter vork.

DRIVE - Getting home during most of da vinter.

PROMPT - Vhat ya vish da mail vas during da snow season.

ENTER - Come on in. Do ya vant some coffee?

WINDOWS - Vhat ya shut when it gets 10 below.

SCREEN - Vhat is a must during black fly and mosquito season.

CHIP - Vhat ya munch on during da Vikings games.

MICROCHIP - Vhat's left in da bag vhen da chips are gone.

MODEM - Vhat ya did to da hay fields last Yuly.

DOT MATRIX - Einar Matix's wife.

LAPTOP - Vhere da grandkids sit.

KEYBOARD - Vhere ya suppose to put da keys so da Missus can find em.

SOFTWARE - Da plastic picnic utensils, ya?

MOUSE - Vhat leafs dem dern little turds in da cubboard.

MAINFRAME - Da part of da house that hols up da room.

PORT - Vhere da commercial fishin boats dock. In Dulut.

RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY - Vhen ya can't remember how much ya spent on the new deer rifle (or snowmobile) vhen the vife asks about it den.



Nål och Tråd

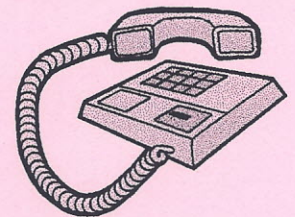
We have another *Nål och Tråd* meeting coming up in January and one in February as follows:

Wednesday, 26 January, 10 am, at Dorothy Mogford's home, 181 Whispering Pines in Rancho Cordova (635-4541). Bring a brown bag lunch.

Tuesday, February 8, 7 pm, at Myrtle Widmark's, 3900 Silver Spur Way, Sacramento (481-4056). There's a lot of work to be done so we'd like to see as many Monitor members as possible attending. Besides work, we have a lot of fun!

Help!

We need more telephone callers! To help, please contact Myrtle Widmark at 481-4056.



AND IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS, BE SURE TO LET THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR KNOW, SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE IMPORTANT NEWS!

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Vasa Order of America
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Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

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