

The Monitor

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

Vol. 24, No. 9

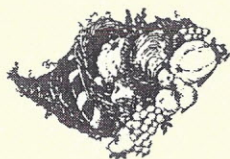
November 2000



Our next Business Meeting will be on November 3rd at 7:00 p.m.. Dinner will not be served, however, the meeting will be followed by a pie social. Everyone should bring a pie if possible and anything left over will be raffled off. There will also be a holiday bazaar.

As always, Carol, our cultural leader will have a great program about *tracing your ancestry*.

December 1st is fast approaching - time for our **Christmas Glögg Party and Smörgashbord!** Reservations can be made for members only at this time, however, after November 17th, reservations can be made for non-members. Reservations are to be paid in advance if possible and can be made at the November meeting. **Tickets will cost \$12.50 for adults and \$5 for children 3-10 years old (no charge for children under 3).** A committee is putting together the food and we will be asking for help on certain items. Help will be needed in the kitchen as well as setting up, decorating, clean up, etc. Members wishing to assist should contact Margaret Carlson.



Those of you who missed our October 6th dinner really missed a good time and a great meal!

A big thank you to **Ernie Skorheim, LaVerne Griffith and Margaretha Logus** for all their help in the kitchen. Margaretha isn't even a member yet. We couldn't have done it without them. Of course all other help was appreciated from those who helped clean up, set up, etc. Tack! Tack!

- Margaret Carlson



Chairman's Message

Again in October, we all enjoyed a delicious meal thanks to our kitchen crew. We are so fortunate to have members with talent and the volunteer spirit to make a significant contribution to our gatherings.

We encourage the membership to gather on November 3rd to enjoy a pie social, welcome new members, pay tribute to departed members and to learn about the process of researching our genealogical beginnings. For some of us it will provide information to further our research. For others who have wanted to begin an interesting journey, it will help motivate and provide direction. Next year we hope to compile and share the general information regarding our members, Scandinavian roots.

We all look forward each month for the opportunity to gather and enjoy the fellowship of our

members and friends. This month we would encourage each member to reach out to broaden your circle of acquaintances, introduce yourself and enjoy a few moments of conversation.

See you on November 3rd!

In Truth and Unity,
- David Benson



Cultural Heritage

Al Ashley, a staff member of the Family History Center in Fair Oaks, and president of the Mission Oaks Genealogy Club will speak to the question "*Why Climb Your Family Tree?*" Did you know that we have the seventh largest family history center in the world right here in Sacramento?

- Carol Churkin



there will be a Cultural Committee.

September 19 Business Meeting

1. Dates and events for the year 2001 were discussed.
2. Revenues and expenses of the Lodge were discussed generally. It was decided that in the year 2001, at a business meeting there will be a general discussion with the membership concerning revenue expenses, dues and cost of meals.
3. The April 2002 Convention will be held in Sacramento.
4. There will no longer be a Cultural Leader, rather

5. A plan for host committees was discussed and it was decided to present this to the membership at large.

6. The nominating committee chairperson made a report of the nominees for officers for the year 2001.

- Arlene Ericson



News from Vestkusten

- Sweden achieved 4 Olympic gold medals in shooting and swimming; 3 silver medals in swimming and table tennis, and 4 bronze medals in freestyle swimming.
- Intel and Microsoft invest with Swedish companies; Intel with Prover Technology, and Microsoft with Ericsson Technologies. (see *Vestkusten*, 9/15 and 10/1 issues).
- A Swedish-based telecommunications company is in negotiation to purchase Pac Bell's European operation. (see *Vestkusten*, 10/1 issue)
- The first train traveled over the new Oresund Bridge in August. The bridge connects Stockholm to Copenhagen. (see 9/15 issue of *Vestkusten*)

Scholarships

John and Sandy Olson have established scholarships for students majoring in the school of Engineering and School of Management at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, in memory of their parents. Preference will be given to members of Vasa. If you are interested, please contact the Financial Aid office at NJIT. (more info in *Vasa Star* Sep/Oct 2000 issue.)

American Scandinavian Foundation is offering fellowships and grants for the 2001 and 2002 school years. There are two awards, one for studies in a Scandinavian country, and the other for Scandinavians wishing to study in the U.S. Both awards are for advance studies and research. For more info, please see *Vestkusten*, Oct. issue or contact the Lodge secretary. For additional info:

American-Scandinavian
Foundation
58 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016
Phone: 212/879-9779
Fax: 212/249-3444
E-mail: grants@amscan.org
Website: www.amscan.org

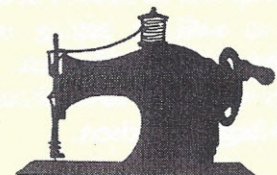


NAL OCH TRAD

Needle and Thread

November meetings are tentatively set for November 15 and 28. Please contact Myrtle Widmark or Ethel Johnson for more information.

- Myrtle Widmark





The Martin's Goose

On November 10, St. Martin's "Eve," people hailing from the province of Skane come together; not exactly because of the saint himself, but on account of his thousand-year old attribute – the goose. The connection between the two has an economic background. Geese are at their fattest in early November, so this is the right time for dispatching them. In St. Martin's native France, this was also the time for tasting the new vintage. And the saint had to be honored with a good meal, of course. So the trio of goose, wine, and Martin was forged in France, spread to Germany and, in the 16th century, found its way to Sweden.

The history of geese in Sweden goes back to the Stone Age, but the earliest known connection with Martin occurs in Stockholm in 1567. The Martin goose flourished among the upper classes until the end of the 18th century when agricultural improvement deprived geese of their favorite habitat, fallow fields, and they disappeared from most parts of Sweden.

By the end of the 18th century, geese were a rarity except in Skane, where the grazing lands round about the villages gave

them something to live on, and so the custom of eating goose on the feast of St. Martin survived there.

This is why many people believe that the custom is of Scanian origin. The menu is topped by a heavily spiced, sweet and sour soup, "black soup," made from goose or pig's blood, and of such disputed merit, even in Sweden, that an alternative – consomme, for example, is usually available.

The main course is the roast goose. For dessert there will be *spettkaka*, a remarkable three-foot high ziggurat made from innumerable egg yolks and sugar and baked over an open fire. This "pyramid cake" used to be widespread but today it is eaten only in Skane and the Pyrenees. To the Scanians, this trinity of "black soup," roast goose and *spettkaka* is a proud provincial symbol, so many of them wouldn't care to know that the whole thing was invented in a Stockholm restaurant during the 1850s.

(This article, submitted by Eivor Pfannkuch, is from "Maypoles, Crayfish and Lucia, Swedish Holidays and Traditions" by Jan-Ojvind Swahn.)

Sons of Norway

The Viking Fest will be held on Saturday, November 11th from 10:30 to 2:30. It will be held at the Sons of Norway Hall, located at 770 Darina Way, Sacramento. Admission is free!

You can order

. . . the new IKEA catalog, 344 pages of inspiration and ideas for the home, from www.ikea.com or by calling 1-888-434-4532.

Cookbooks

We still have some of the Monitor's excellent *Swedish cookbooks* for sale! It makes an excellent hostess gift, wedding gift, Christmas gift, thank-you gift, you-name-it-gift. You really can't do without it. To order, please call Margaret Carlson at 530/742-9346.

Sacramento Swedish Children's Group

Hello to everyone and happy fall! It is time to finally get rolling again with the **Children's Group**. Hope you all had a restful and fun summer!

I have set the date for the **Lucia Program** this year for **December 9th** in the early evening. Anna Kagstrom will be our Lucia this year.

Following is the Fall schedule :

Oct. 20: 5:00 p.m.

Nov. 3: 5:00 p.m.

Nov. 17: 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 1: 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 8: 5:00 (at Winterstein School)

Dec. 9: 5:00 p.m. Lucia Program

(please see attachment for info!

Looking forward!

- Christi Kagstrom





Birgitta Ellis' Swedish Sentences

Swedish
Sounds like

Middag är serverad på varje möte.

Mid (as English midday) – dag (long a as in bar – (do not pronounce the g) är (ä as air)
ser (e as in there – ve (e as in café) – rad (a as in some – d (as in David) var (a as in
some, - je (j as in yes). mö (o as in fur – te (e as in set) * på (å as in before)

English

Dinner is served at every meeting.

Swedish

a) Vad gjorde du igår?

b) Jag gick på bio.

Sounds like

a) Va/d (a is a long vowel sound as in bar (do not pronounce d in speech. Gjor (gj
as in yes) – or o (as in tool), R (as in red) – de (e as in bet) – du (u as in rude) igår (I as
in Indian) – går (g as in go, å (as in fore).

b) Jalg (as in yes, a (as in bar) (do not pronounce g)

gick (g as in yes, i (as in Indian) ck (as in c in column). på (å as in fore) bio (I as in
Indian, o (as in tool).

English

a) What did you do yesterday?

b) I went to the movies.

Swedish

Vi tackar vår gud för våra familjer!

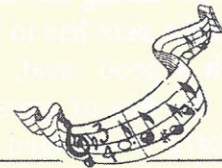
Sounds like

Vi (I as in Indian) tackar (both a's as in some) ck (as in column) var (a as in before).

GUD (Gis hard as in go) u (as in rude) D (as in David) for (o as in fur) va (a as in fore,
long vowel) ra (a as in some) fa (a as in some) nul (I as in Indian) jer (j as in yes, er (e
as in bet or set) another way jer (je as in yet)

English

We thank our God for our families.



Mamma Mia!

... will have its U.S. premiere in San Francisco running November 15th through January 7th at the Orpheum Theater. The new musical, a hit in London, weaves together 22 ABBA songs into a musical love story. The word on the street is its almost sold out! Tickets (\$33 to \$75) are available through Ticketmaster (415) 512-7779 or: www.ticketmaster.com. Groups of 20 or more may reserve tickets by calling (415) 551-2020. Please call editor Marti Gehrig (916/684-5088) if you are interested in attending with a group from the Lodge.

Scandi-fest Turlock

Your newsletter editor and family attended the annual **Scandinavian Festival** in Turlock on Saturday, September 23rd. Friendly greeters in folk costumes strolled the grounds which were decorated with brightly colored Scandinavian flags.

Tents were set up for exhibits and displays of various Scandinavian crafts and delicious food! We especially enjoyed the funnel cakes and potato sausage, very popular items - the lines were very long!

Music and folk dancing were held throughout the day. The dancers wore beautiful costumes and danced to the music of the various Scandinavian countries.

We thoroughly enjoyed our time and want to encourage members to attend next year's festival! (See pictures attached in this newsletter.)

- Marti Gehrig

November Dues Anniversaries

Any questions, contact:

Changes of Address:

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

Johanna Benker,
7881 Charlotte Lane
Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 446-2718)

Ken Habbestad
4808 Tenbury Court
Rocklin, CA 95677-4473

Kerstin Herrman
5521 Rubion Circle
Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7921

Bill & Becky Johnson
5994 Lakecrest Way, #16
Sacramento, CA 95822
916/393-3762

Helge Lind
No forwarding address

Lars & Birgitta Ostlund
7524 Sloughhouse Road
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Christie Peterson
92 Santa Elena Avenue
Daly City, CA 94015-4035

**Birth Announcement**

Baby Daniel was born to Rick and Mindy Patterson on September 5, 2000 weighing 6 lbs. 8 ounces. (Mindy is the daughter of Birgitta Ostlund). Welcome baby Daniel!

**Happy Birthday to us!****November**

11/01 - Anne Phelan
11/02 - Elizabeth Swenson
11/04 - Viola Hallen
11/05 - Brenda Spanfelner
11/06 - Louise Amundsen
11/06 - Kerstin Doze
11/06 - Ingrid Gilchrist
11/09 - William Dyckman
11/10 - Joyce Trnka
11/11 - Richard Eriksson
11/13 - Donna Niemoller
11/13 - Joy Carlson
11/16 - Russell Ellis
11/16 - Jeannine Lokey
11/19 - Alice Axberg
11/19 - Christine Kagstrom
11/22 - Judy Beal
11/24 - Lillian Stafford
11/25 - Terry Tillman
11/25 - Raymond Griffith
11/26 - Gloria Eriksson
11/27 - Barbara Olson
11/30 - Linda Becker
11/30 - Thelma Range
11/30 - Janice Sjogren
11/30 - Maria Dahlman
11/30 - Keith Bergstrom

**NOVEMBER**

Barbara Anderson
Tom Anderson
Alice Axberg
Johanna Benker
Lisa Bleasdale
Astrid Broess
Elizabeth Bushnell
Helen Dyckman
Rod Dyckman
Solveig Eltner
Arlene Ericson
Monica Eriksson
Ruby Hendrickson
Joesie Hennig
Ellen Herting
Louisa Johnson
Gertrud Kauffman
Michelle Kauffman
Melissa and Michael Karelius
William Kernander
Erika Lewis
Esther Oleson
Ivan Page
Patricia Page
Mark Roop
Mary-Beth Roop
Janice Sjogren
Roy Sjogren
Carolyn Swanson
Elizabeth Swenson

Dues are \$18 a year, payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. You may pay them at the November meeting or by mail to our financial secretary. If you would like a receipt or membership card, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Deadline

. . . for the December newsletter is November 13th. Please mark your calendars accordingly!

For More Information

about Monitor Lodge, please contact one of the following:

- Membership Committee members Michelle Kaufman, 451-3075
Dee Benson, 933-5502
Lisa Bleasdale, 366-7313
- Secretary Arlene Ericson, 736-3923
- Vice Chairman Don Carlson, 783-0262
- Chairman David Benson, 933-5502.



WELCOME TO A SWEDISH



LUCIA PROGRAM

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, 2000 - 6:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Vasa Order of America's Sacramento Monitor Lodge
Children's Group

Swedish Lucia
with the
children
performing
traditional
songs, dances
and verse.



Need more
information?
Christi
Kagstrom
641-8770

A Swedish
tomte (santa)
will visit.

Refreshments
served!

Swedish
Crafts!

**JOIN US AT THE WINTERSTEIN ADULT SCHOOL
CORNER OF MORSE AND NORTHROP**

Take Hwy. 50 to the Watt Ave. exit. Travel north past
Fair Oaks Blvd. to Northrop. Travel west to Morse.

