

The Monitor

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

Vol. 1 No. 2

March 2001

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who contributed the time, energy and skill to the success of our Annual Pea Soup and Pancake Dinner. Nål och Träd were our hosts.

"Everyone is a member of the Membership Committee". This is not just a slogan, but a reality. Those individuals who become members of Monitor as a result of invitation, encouragement and follow through by a current member have a good track record of remaining active in the Lodge. Newer members can benefit from a call by a current member encouraging attendance and involvement.

We all need to reach out to newer members by inviting them to sit with us and engage them with conversation, getting to know them better. Soliciting assistance of newer members by Host Committees for the individual events will encourage participation and a sense of belonging. An activity we can all participate in is looking for a visitor's badge and provide a hearty

welcome, sharing the friendship and fellowship that is a hallmark of Monitor Lodge.

In truth and unity,
- David Benson

Beef Kallops Dinner
Friday, March 2, 2001 we will again serve our popular **Kallops (beef stew) dinner**. As usual, **refreshments and social time** start at **6:00 p.m.** and **dinner** will be served about **6:30**. The cost is only \$5.00 for all the stew, salad, limpa and dessert you can eat (children under 10 are free). We'll have a business meeting after dinner with initiation of new members and another great door prize will be raffled off. It will be a busy evening and you don't want to miss it! See you all on March 2nd.

Hosts will be Scholarship Committee.

- Margaret Carlson

SPECIAL THANKS

. . . to all members for their expressions of sympathy at the death of my husband, **Jim**. The family greatly appreciated your support at the memorial service, and special thanks to Nål och Tråd and others for the reception following.

- Myrtle Widmark and Family

Scandinavian Festival

The March festival meeting will be **held March 19th at 7:00 p.m.** at the Sons of Norway Hall, 770 Darina Way, Sacramento.

2001 Convention

Members interested in attending the 2001 Convention in April, please contact Arlene Ericson at 916-736-3923, for sign up sheets and further details.

Scholarship Committee

Reminder: All high school students: A\$500 scholarship is being offered to students in pursuit of higher education. The Scholarship winner will be announced at the District Convention the last weekend of April and awarded at the Sweden Day celebration in early June. For more details, please call Jillian Stanley at 916-448-9765.

- Jillian Stanley

Minutes of the Feb 7, 2001 Meeting

1. Delegates to the District Convention are: Gail Nemy, Elizabeth Swenson, Dorothy Scherer and Liesma Krastens. Alternates are David & Dee Benson.
2. 89th Anniversary Party - ALERT:
Date - Saturday, April 21
Time - 4:30 Refreshments, Dinner 5:30
Reservations, required - \$10.00
Dinner will be prepared by outside cooks
Hosts - Officers of Monitor Lodge
3. Charity recommendation: Monitor Lodge to contribute \$100 to Hospice. This is the charity established for District 2001. It was suggested that the recipient be West Sacramento Hospice, a non profit organization we supported last year.
4. Recommendation: Provide flowers at Easter for our members who find it difficult to attend Monitor meetings. A basket will be available at the March 2 Beef Stew Dinner for contributions. All costs for Christmas delivery were covered by the generosity of our membership.
5. Recommendation: Monitor Lodge conduct a non-perishable food collection at a Lodge meeting for the local Food Closet.
6. General Planning is well underway for hosting the District Convention 2002. Look for future updates.

**Member of the Month**

OSTEN MAGNEHEIM was born in the seaport City of Gothenburg, Sweden. After completing College and Business University of Gothenburg, he first went to sea on the famous "Pedro Christophersen" and lived in Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina with his uncle, a sea captain, and again in 1941 during World War II, this time with Swedish American Mexico Line's "Tunaholm" picking up the crew of a Swedish ship in convoy from USA to England that was torpedoed by German submarines. (continued next page)

In 1942 Magneheim signed on with the famous "Gripsholm" which, chartered by the US. State Dept, ferried diplomats and prisoners of war from Japan, Germany and USA to such places as Mozambique, East Africa, Goa, India, Port Elisabeth, South Africa, Algiers, North Africa, Portugal, Spain, etc. Prior to this, Magneheim served in the Royal Swedish Navy on the destroyer "Stockholm" - fastest in the world at that time (38 knots) with patrols in the Baltic.

When in port in America, Magneheim admits "I didn't like it at all. I couldn't stand it! However, after a couple of weeks home in Sweden, I wanted to be back here in the USA. I saw the rest of the world and I liked to be out in it. Everything was so free here."

He sailed back to the U.S on the first ship (the "Drottningholm") that left Sweden after the war ended in April 1946 and began as Headwaiter at the famous Three Crowns Restaurant, the only one with a revolving smorgasbord and other Swedish delicacies. There he "served" such celebrities as Greta Garbo, Ingrid Bergman, Edward Persson, Viveka Lindfors, not to mention high government officials such as President Harry Truman before moving on to manage the internationally renowned Golden Door at Kennedy Airport. He was also manager of the La Cave Henri IV Restaurant, as well as being executive in charge of Food & Beverages with New York's Waldorf-Astoria and the largest hotel in New York at that time, Hotel Taft. Osten spent 25 years in New York.

Magneheim brought his culinary expertise and restaurant management skills to Maryland in 1968 when he became the General Manager/Director of Miller Brothers Restaurant in the former Statler Hilton Hotel in Baltimore. A graduate of the American Wine Institute as well as the French and Italian Wine Institutes, he was awarded its Certificate of Merit as well as a certificate in Hotel Administration and Accounting.

Osten also received The Diploma of Honor from the Culinary Philanthropique Society for the Panorama Restaurants at Kennedy Airport. Gourmet Magazine and other publications followed him there to write about innovative dishes his restaurant produced such as Veal Cutlet Fort Mc Henry (veal with crabmeat). In gratitude for helping the State publicize its seafood industry, Governor Marvin Mandel appointed Magneheim as Admiral of Chesapeake Bay in 1972.

While in Baltimore, Osten did much to keep Scandinavian traditions alive. He served as President of the Scandinavian Council of the Washington D.C. area, the umbrella organization of regional Scandinavian-American Groups (14) and was the President of The Swedish Society in Baltimore, Sveaborg, as well as president of the Norwegian-American Club of Maryland and the Norwegian-American Church of Baltimore.

Osten moved to Sacramento in April 1998 where he and his wife Evy and daughter, Yvonne reside. They have three other daughters: Arlene in Sarasota, Florida, Annette in Santa Barbara and Denise in Linthicum, Maryland.

Osten is still running his own company and has since 1972. He enjoys playing bridge and traveling. Always on the go, last year they traveled to Sweden, Iceland, Denmark, Hawaii, Alaska (twice) and twice to Maryland & New York.

Potpurri

Skiing Anyone?

If any one is interested in a weekend ski trip in March up in Lake Tahoe, please contact Arlene Ericson at 916-736-3923. We will discuss weekend suitability, meeting time, place, etc., for the trip. Please let me know by the end of February, so I can make the necessary accommodations and cabin rental.

If any one is interested in a camping trip in July up in Lake Tahoe, or down in Yosemite, please contact Arlene Ericson at 916-736-3923. Please specify if you are interested in a weekend getaway, or a weeklong getaway, as well as the dates of interest. Please let me know by the end of February for Yosemite, since they need reservation information 5 months in advance. For Lake Tahoe, please let me know by the end of May.

The Calling Committee

Members of the Lodge Call Committee make telephone calls to all of the membership for special events and other purposes. Myrtle Widmark of our Lodge coordinates this effort. There is a need for more individuals on the committee. A list covering a portion of the membership is provided to each caller. If you are willing to serve the Lodge in this important function, please call Myrtle Widmark

at 487-3106, June Delle, 363-7598, or Dave Benson at 933-5502.

-Myrtle Widmark

Sjolunden Scholarships

There are ten Vasa Scholarships to Swedish Language Camps. The Grand Lodge Executive Board will award up to ten Sjolunden Scholarships, one for every two applicants, to qualified applicants from the U.S. and Canada. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is March 15, 2001. For more complete information, please refer to page 8 of The Vasa Star (November-December 2000) issue, or call Arlene Ericson at 916- 736- 3923.

Did you know

That the original Coca-Cola bottle was designed by a Swede? It is today considered the world's best known bottle and a brand identification in itself. The 8-ounce contoured glass bottle is a replica of the 1915 design by Alexander Samuelson from Surte, Sweden. Many people were surprised by the glass box with Coca-Cola bottles at the Swedish pavilion at the World Expo in Sevilla a few years ago. Why a Coca-Cola bottle among Swedish products?

In 1883, at the age of 20, Alexander Samuelson and his brother emigrated to America, where he got a job at a glass works in Illinois. The inventive Swede would eventually come up with some technical developments

that revolutionized part of the American glass industry.

During his time at the Root Glass Company, some 30 of the US glass companies participated in a competition to create a bottle for a new drink the pharmacist, John Pemberton, had created in 1886. Taking the cocoa bean as the idea for their design, Samuelson and his team won the competition, creating a bottle that was an immediate success.

- from *Vestkusten*

Näl Och Träd

The next meeting will be held on **March 14th** at the home of **Dorothy Mogford**. Next one is at the home of **Myrtle Widmark on March 28th**. We will be pricing items for the upcoming Scandinavian Festival. The festival is Saturday, **April 7th**. Come with your ideas and learn how you can help. This is an event that all members can participate in!



This will be a brown bag event – all are welcome!

- Myrtle Widmark

Visit Sweden

Tour Sweden - from Kiruna to Stockholm - **June 18th - July 1st, 2001**. During 3 days in Kiruna visit the summer exhibition of the Ice Hotel, visit a saame family, a saame museum and

the worlds largest iron ore mine.

Transfer by bus to Pitea where we will spend the nights with host families belonging to the Friendship Force organization. We will celebrate midsummer here and do a lot of sightseeing as well as enjoying a really typical Swedish dinner.

Fly to Stockholm for a 4-day stay. Visit Skansen, the VASA Museum, Millesgarden or Liljevalls Art Museum, Old Town Stockholm, the Royal Castle, boat ride to Drottningholm Palace and end the visit with a dinner at Statshuskallaren where the Nobel Price Banquet is held each year. The trip is being handled by The Friendship Force Club (affiliated with Habitat for Humanity). If interested, contact member Margaretha Logus, telephone (916) 966-4296 for further information.

- Margaretha Logus

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!!

March

3/01 - Astrid Horyza
 3/02 - Dorothy Scherer
 3/03 - Solveig Eltner
 3/04 - Karin Dorey
 3/04 - Laurine Coplen
 3/04 - Osten Magneheim
 3/05 - Ellen Herting
 3/05 - Mark Roop
 3/6 - Mildred Sernholt
 3/13 - Henry Hjersman
 3/17 - Kenneth Carlson
 3/17 - Donn Stafford
 3/17 - Gertrude (Trudi) Kauffman
 3/18 - Edwin J. Cook
 3/20 - Helen Jenson
 3/24 - Gerda Anderson
 3/24 - Faye Powell
 3/28 - Daniel Backman
 3/29 - Joyce Burns

3/30 - Arthur Niemoller

March Dues Anniversaries

John Anderson
 Ruby Anderson
 Sharon Anderson
 Wesley and Dorothy Bjur
 Emily Carlson
 Linnea Carlson
 Joy Carlson
 Margaret Carlson
 Brita Carlsson
 Sven-Erik Carlsson
 Louise Center
 Thomas Center
 Carol Churkin
 Michael Churkin
 Deidre Dahlberg
 Maria Dahlman
 Violet DeBord
 Kay Ericson
 John Ericson
 Ken Ericson
 Joan Hagstrom
 Henrik Jul Hansen
 Elsa Herman
 Camilla Holm
 Gilbert Holm
 Jeana Hultquist
 Elizabeth Johnson
 Harry Johnson
 Karin Johnson
 Birgitta Kanna-Coffey
 Dorothy Kingren
 Leo Krastins
 Ann Miller
 Bud Mogford
 Tiffany Niemoller
 Debbie Oleson
 Darlene Palmer
 Violet Pearson
 Lennart Sernholt
 Mildred Sernholt
 Thresa Tomka
 Maude Udvardy (life member)
 Richard Westrup
 John and Jewel Wright

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

Dues are \$18/yr payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. You may pay them at the meetings or by mail to our financial secretary. If you would like a receipt or a membership card, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Any questions, contact: Johanna Benker at 7881 Charlotte Lane, Vacaville, CA 95688; (707) 446-2718.

Changes of Address

Ingegerd Kennedy
 4556 Bates Drive
 Yorba Linda, CA 92886
 714-854-7634

David Benson's phone number was incorrect in the member directory. Should be: 933-5502.

Deadline

... for the April newsletter is **March 12, 2001**. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Send input via regular mail or email to:

Marti Gehrig
 8287 Fox Hound Circle
 Elk Grove, CA 95758
 916/684-5088
 email: mgehrig@email.com

For More Information

about Monitor Lodge, please contact one of the following:
 Membership Committee
 Chairperson: Lisa Bleasdale,
 366-7313
 Secretary: Arlene Ericson,
 736-3923
 Chairman: David Benson,
 933-5502

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