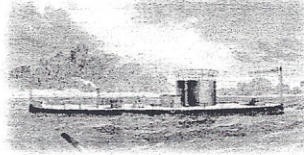


MONITOR LODGE NO. 218 CHARTERED APRIL 8, 1912

THE



MONITOR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Feature	1,2
Language	3
Chairman's Msg	4
Minutes	5
Nål och Tråd	6
Köknyhet	7
Of Interest	8,9

HEADS UP

4/7

94th Anniversary Party
Dante Club (See more
information Page 11)

4/12

Bus.Mtg.Netzel's

4/28-30

GGD Convention
Concord

5/5 Morsdag/

Norwegian Night
Dinner @7
Team 3

See Dues Reminder
Page 2

EMAIL DELIVERY
(See Pages 3 & 6)

4/22 Frukostklubben

SWEDEN COUNTRY SNAPSHOT, INTERESTING FACTS
"Cultural Contrast on the Baltic Shores"

Sweden is a land of cultural contrast, from the Danish influence of the southwest to the nomadic Laplanders in the wild Arctic north. And while urban Sweden is stylish, modern and sophisticated, the countryside offers a great deal of simpler pleasures for those in search of tranquillity.

Sweden's scenery has a gentler charm than that of neighbouring Norway's rugged coast. Much of Sweden is swathed in forest, and there are thousands of lakes, notably large stretches of water between Gothenburg and the capital, Stockholm. The lakeside resort of Östersund, in the centre of Sweden, is popular with Scandinavians, but most visitors opt first for the cities and the Baltic islands: the largest island, Gotland, with its array of ruined medieval churches, is a particular highlight. Another major attraction is the so-called 'Kingdom of Crystal', a forested area between Malmö and Stockholm boasting many fine glassworks.

The land, as well as its people, has an air of reserved calm, and while best known for its automotive and musical exports - Volvo and Abba are pretty much household names - a strong historical undertone bubbles close beneath the surface. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Stockholm, where dozens of museums deal with all imaginable aspects of the past, and medieval and Baroque edifices housing boutiques and cafes overlook the attractive harbour.

A military power during the 17th century, Sweden has not participated in any war in almost two centuries. An armed neutrality was preserved in both World Wars. Sweden's long-successful economic formula of a capitalist system interlarded with substantial welfare elements was challenged in the 1990s by high unemployment and in 2000-02 by the global economic downturn, but fiscal discipline over the past several years has allowed the country to weather economic vagaries. Indecision over the country's role in the political and economic integration of Europe delayed Sweden's entry into the EU until 1995, and waived the introduction of the euro in 1999.

Twenty-one counties (lan, singular and plural); Blekinge, Dalarnas, Gavleborgs,

(Continued on page 2)

APRIL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

- 1 Robert Barrett
- 2 Violet DeBord
- 3 Harry Johnson
- 5 Lennart Anderson
Bertil Erickson
- 8 Harold Mattson
- 12 Linda Larson
- 15 Joan Hagstrom
- 20 Michelle
Kauffman
- 22 Ronny Kagstrom
- 24 Margaretha Logus
- 29 Dorothy
Woodstrom



Tussilago (Coltsfoot)
an early spring flower
in Sweden

April Birthstone

If you've ever felt mesmerized by the dazzling rainbow of colors reflected in a skillfully cut diamond, then you've experienced the mystique of April's birthstone. Once an adornment possessed only by kings, this beautiful gem is surrounded by romance, mystery, and passion.



(Continued from page 1)

Gotlands, Hallands, Jamtlands, Jonkopings, Kalmar, Kronobergs, Norrbottens, Orebro, Ostergotlands, Skane, Sodermanlands, Stockholms, Uppsala, Varmlands, Vasterbottens, Vasternorrlands, Vastmanlands, Vastra Gotalands.

Aided by peace and neutrality for the whole 20th century, Sweden has achieved an enviable standard of living under a mixed system of high-tech capitalism and extensive welfare benefits. It has a modern distribution system, excellent internal and external communications, and a skilled labor force. Timber, hydropower, and iron ore constitute the resource base of an economy heavily oriented toward foreign trade. Privately owned firms account for about 90% of industrial output, of which the engineering sector accounts for 50% of output and exports. Agriculture accounts for only 2% of GDP and 2% of the jobs. The government's commitment to fiscal discipline resulted in a substantial budgetary surplus in 2001, which was cut by more than half in 2002, due to the global economic slowdown, declining revenue, and increased spending. The Swedish central bank (the Riksbank) focuses on price stability with its inflation target of 2%. Growth remained sluggish in 2003, but picked up in 2004. Presumably because of generous sicktime benefits, Swedish workers report in sick more often than other Europeans.

DUES REMINDER

If you haven't already sent in your annual dues please do so as soon as you can. Dues are \$30 per person, due on April 1st of every year. Please send your check to Gail Nemy, 4239 Daybreak Lane, Sacramento 95821 or pay at the next meeting. Membership cards are available.

Thank you.



On the Thursday before Easter, young girls paint their faces, put on scarves and long skirts, then roam from house to house collecting candy. On the hillsides, people light bonfires to scare off the evil spirits, and the blasts of firecrackers can be heard as revelers simulate shooting witches from the sky. Intertwined with the supernatural festivities is the traditional Christian holiday. The Swedish symbol of Easter is a birch twig decorated with colored feathers, and as the holiday approaches these colorful charms fill the markets, along the ubiquitous candy Easter eggs.



Väsen Live in Concert! Wednesday, April 26th
7.00 P.M. Sacramento Turn Verein Auditorium
3349 "J" Street \$14 Adults \$8 Students/Seniors.
Advance tickets available online at
www.runestone.org or call 530 913-1540 or email
tickets@runestone.org

APRIL FOOL!!!!

In 1962 there was only one tv channel in Sweden, and it broadcast in black and white. The station's technical expert, Kjell Stensson, appeared on the news to announce that thanks to a newly developed technology, all viewers could now quickly and easily convert their existing sets to display color reception. All they had to do was pull a nylon stocking over their tv screen, and they would begin to see their favorite shows in color. Stensson then proceeded to demonstrate the process. Reportedly, hundreds of thousands of people, out of the population of seven million, were taken in. Actual color tv transmission only commenced in Sweden on April 1, 1970.



SERIE

Birgitta Ellis says GLAD PÅSK to everyone and offers a special tack så mycket to Dale för en fin kväll på kaffekalaset på 3-03-06 och tack Marianne för IKEA allsång! The following song lines are a few of many that were sung at the IKEA opening March 1st.

EN FOLKMELODI FRÅN NORRLAND

SWEDISH: VÅR VINDAR FRISKA LEKA OCH VISKA

ENGLISH: FRESH WINDS OF SPRING PLAYFULLY WHISPER

SWEDISH: VAKAN DRING BERG OCH DAL

ENGLISH: VIGIL AMONGST THE MOUNTAINS AND THE VALLEYS

SWEDISH: VALLHORNETS KLANG BLAND KLIPPORNA DÖR

ENGLISH: THE FADING TUNES OF A HERDSMAN'S HORN AMONGST THE CLIFFS OF NORTHERN SWEDEN

GLAD PÅSK

Happy Easter

Påskan nalkas, vår Herres död och uppstånd delse, Jesus Kristus
Easter is approaching, the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ

(If you prefer Birgitta's familiar "sounds like" please let her know that. It takes a lot of time to do but she is willing if enough of you want it. ed.)

The IKEA Grand Opening was fun to be a part of. It would be great if someone in attendance would write an article for the next newsletter about it, and it would be great if someone who has pictures would share them with the editor. Please, folks, this is "our" newsletter not "my" newsletter. Ed.

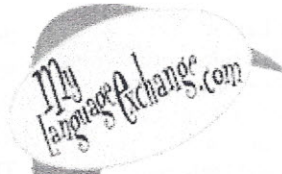
Skaparen och fadern till Mickey Mouse eller musse pigg som han heter på svenska föddes i Chicago Amerika den 5 December år 1901 och musse såg dagens ljus 1928 i filmen steamboat Willie fast Walt Disney ville att han skulle heta mortimer men hans fru ville att han istället skulle heta Mickey och så fick det bli.

FRUKOSTKLUBBEN 4/22 9:30 IHOP SUNRISE



**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE FOR
MAY ISSUE IS
04/12/2006**

WEBSITES!



Found a great Scandinavian Website? Share it with the membership!

Our Yahoo groups page needs your attention. Check it out. There has been no activity for several days. Surely, we have something to contribute. Jillian spent a lot of time setting this up. It's fun to check and find a new member and/or message. Give it a whirl. Check last month's NL to a refresher as to how.

**TO DOWNLOAD
ADOBE ACROBAT
READER WHICH IS
NECESSARY TO RE-
CEIVE THE NEWS-
LETTER ELEC-
TRONICALLY VISIT:**

**www.adobe.com AND
DOWNLOAD THE
FREE READER**

USE THE INTERNET!



Vasa Order of America
A Swedish-American
Fraternal Organization
since 1876

Wisteria Hall
3830 U Street
Sacramento, CA

Newsletter Editor:

Jack Larson
19721 Fallen Leaf Drive
Pioneer, CA 95666
Phone: & Fax:
209-295-4419
aswede37@hotmail.com
jaklinda@volcano.net

Circulation Manager:

Jim Woodstrom
1321 Meredith Way
Carmichael, CA 95608
916-283-4106

Membership Contacts:

Michelle Kaufmann
916-451-3075

Ed Netzel
916-362-4659

Birgitta Ellis
916-920-0696

Jack Larson
209-295-4419

Dale Ingvaridsen
916-457-5156

Who's Who?

All lodge officers
are listed at the
front of the
Program Book!

Movie Night a Success & Welcome to New Members

--- President's Message ---

Thanks to all of you who attended our recent Kafekalas Meeting. Four enthusiastic new members were initiated at this meeting—**“Rob” Oberbrunner, Carol Nesewich, Wanda Nesewich, and Karen Sandberg**. You will be hearing more of these new members in the future.

These new members were oriented prior to their initiation by a team comprised of **Birgitta Ellis, Ed Netzel, Myrtle Widmark** and yours truly. Topics presented were:

What is VASA and Its History
Requirements for Membership
The Organization and Structure of VASA
Our Monitor Lodge
Officers & Members
Activities Calendar for the Year

Responsibilities and Requirements of Members:

During their initiation, each new member received a packet of materials, a membership pin and their Membership Badge, with a **Blue Ribbon** attached. The blue ribbon may be removed when the new member has completed the responsibilities outlined for members.

All of you—**EVERY MEMBER of Monitor Lodge**---has a responsibility to our new members. Please welcome and greet each of them at every meeting, and at the end of the evening, again greet them and let them know that you will look forward to seeing them at the next meeting. You can tell who our new members are by the blue ribbons attached to their name badges.

The Scandinavian Film Night held this same evening was a success, with many members staying to view this award-winning film directed by world-famous Swedish film director, Ingmar Bergman.

Prior to the film, we all enjoyed the variety of pastries and coffee provided. Because Jack Larson, who had planned the Kafekalas, was “snowed in” and unable to get to the meeting, special thanks go to **Dorothy and Bud Mogford**, who, on very short notice, arrived at 3:00 p.m., decorated tables, made coffee, provided and set out most of the pastries, and set out napkins, plates and utensils, before members arrived.

Plans have been underway for some time on our 94th Annual Anniversary Dinner-Dance Party. This is our big social event of the year. Plan to “dress up” and bring your spouse or significant other to this gala event, and enjoy the great food, fellowship and dancing—both Scandinavian and ballroom. Members of the El Dorado Scandinavian Dance Group will be present to lead us in the Scandinavian group dances. Reservations are required by Friday, March 31st.

You must do two things to reserve a place: First, call **Richard Eriksson at 916-**

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

635-4640 and indicate your choice of entree' for dinner, and second, send your check to **Gail Nemy** at **4239 Daybreak Lane, Sacramento, CA 95821**.

Raffle Items will be needed at the Anniversary Dinner. If you are able, please bring one item valued at between \$5.00 and \$25.00. We hope to see you at the Anniversary Dinner-Dance Party, at the Dante Club, at 6:00 p.m., on Friday, April 7, 2006. See other information about this event elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks to those of you who have returned the REQUEST FOR MEMBER INFORMATION UPDATE form included in the newsletter last month. Many of you have not sent in your completed form, which has the return address printed on the reverse side. Please complete and send us this information, now!

Minutes of Monitor Lodge Meeting, March 3, 2006

The March kaffeekalas meeting was called to order by Lodge chair Dale Ingvarlsen.

All officers were present—missing only were the Inner and Outer Guards, as the Larsons were reported to be snowed in, up in the hills.

Hank Stoffel introduced guest Ed Bernesky, from the German–American Cultural Center at Turn Verein Hall, who invited us to attend a performance of folk music which will be held at Turn Verein on April 26. Tickets are available at the door and more information is available at www.runestone.org.

Two new members—**Rob Oberbrunner**, and **Karen Sandburg**—were initiated into the Monitor Lodge. Following their initiation, Monitor Lodge welcomed two additional members—Carol Nesevich and Wanda Nesevich—who are presently members of the Sierra Kronan Lodge. They will maintain dual membership in both Monitor and Sierra Kronan Lodges. Each new member received a membership badge with a blue ribbon attached. This ribbon will designate these people as new members during the next two months, after which they may be removed.

Dale reported that the IKEA grand opening was a success, and thanked Marianne Ek for arranging our part in it. Financial secretary Gail Nemy reported that Lodge income for February totaled \$1227, from dues paid plus the dinner, bar receipts, and raffle. Treasurer Karin Johnson reported a total of \$2,611 in the bank account. Ed Netzel reported that we now have keys to both the front and back doors; he needs to know who will be using keys.

Secretary Jillian Stanley reported the receipt of a check for \$25 as our Lodge's portion of Sweden Day Picnic dividends; next summer's Sweden Day will be held on June 10 at Oak Grove Park. Executive Board has announced the approval of three \$800 district scholarships. With the passing of Phyllis Petersen, Kathryn Matthews is now our District Deputy.

Also received were registration forms for all who will be attending the District Convention. The forms should be mailed before April 14th. If you need a registration form, contact the secretary (Jillian) or the chair (Dale). There are also raffle tickets for the convention drawing; these can be filled in and mailed with a check. You can obtain raffle tickets from Jillian or at the April anniversary dinner.

Dale proposed that the expenses of publishing the newsletter and providing for dinners and bar supplies all be met via advance draws rather than as reimbursements, due to the rather burdensome inconvenience the latter system places on those involved in planning. The motion was made, seconded, and carried that an advance payment will be made. The newsletter draw will be equal to the prior month's newsletter expense.

Donna Niemoller reported that the Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the Lodge scholarship. Ap-

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

plicants can be a child or grandchild of a lodge member who is planning to attend college or a trade school. The deadline is April 15th and applications can be obtained from Dale.

The snowing-in of the Larsons also meant the snowing-in of the refreshments they were bringing! Dorothy and Bud Mogford met a last-minute challenge and provided a lovely spread that was much appreciated. A basket for donations to offset food costs was passed.

Myrtle Widmark invited new members to attend NåI och Tråd, our arts and crafts circle, and asked anyone else interested to start making things to sell at the Nordic Festival (which will be held in September this year).

The business meeting closed with the singing of Du Gamla, Du Fria, accompanied on the piano by Gail Nemy. Following this, members enjoyed the refreshments and many stayed on to watch the classic film Wild Strawberries, by the great Swedish director Ingmar Bergman.

Submitted in truth and unity,

Jillian Stanley
Secretary

NÅL OCH TRÅD



My goodness! Let's hope spring hasn't forgotten us! Enough of rain, cold and snow. A songbird would be most welcome any day now, and sooner would be better.

We are still working on our projects for fall. **BE SURE TO SET ASIDE THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER** and come to the Scandinavian Festival to do some Christmas shopping.

Our next meeting will be on April 11th at Myrtle Widmark's home and on April 25th at Jewel Wright's. Our meetings begin at 10:00 A.M.. Bring your brown-bag lunch, coffee and dessert will be served by our hostess.

We welcome everyone to come and see what we do and we encourage you to offer new suggestions. New input is very important!

There are still a few Scandinavian Cookbooks available. Ask or call Myrtle Widmark or Dorothy Mogford. Either one will be glad to help you.

At our last meeting Helen Starkey surprised us with a visit. She and hubby have been touring the States the past two years. Helen was a NåI och Tråd member and made the most beautiful doll clothes. It was a pleasure to see her again.

THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER, AS WELL AS SUBSEQUENT ISSUES, WILL BE SENT VIA E-MAIL. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE E-MAIL, YOUR ISSUE WILL CONTINUE TO COME BY U.S. MAIL. SAVE MONEY AND SAVE A TREE

KÖKNYHET

(PRIMARILY THE RAMBLINGS OF A SNOW-BOUND EDITOR!)

Not very much will be happening in the Wisteria Hall Kitchen until May when Team 3 will do the honors and prepare the Norwegian Dinner in honor of Mother's Day. I remind you that Linda and I will NOT BE AVAILABLE to help this time; we'll be flying home from a week in Mazatlan. Please, please prepare early enough so that I can answer questions before we leave!!

It will be fun for the Larsons to experience a true evening out at the Anniversary Dinner and Dance. We look forward to an evening free of obligations to the dinner! This should be a gala affair, one that we all want to take in.

My thanks to everyone who made the kaffekalas in March "work," most of all Dorothy & Bud Mogford and those of you who responded to the SOS! The best laid plans of mountain-dwellers just fall apart at the whim of Mother Nature. Since the first of March, we have experienced to date (3/14) 40 inches of snow here at 4000 feet and it is falling at this moment. So far a 36-hour power outage with a 5-hour interlude of power (got the dishwasher run, flushed the toilets, etc.) and then it went off again for another 18 hours. On again for while and then off again for 8 hours What a time to have the generator in for repair!! We got a lot of reading done, I watched Swedish movies until the battery died on the laptop, and boy did we get a lot of reading done. Good thing we like one another!

Since I am already late getting this newsletter out I probably should get on with the important parts of doing that that include electricity. Soon the spring flowers will be blooming, but I don't think we'll forget the winter of 2006 very soon!



Top left: Carol Nesevich, Wanda Nesevich with Leisma, joint members Monitor/Sierra Kronan.

Middle and Lower Left: Robert "Rob" Oberbrunner and Karen Sandberg.

Upper right: Ed N., Matt W., Dorothy S., Dale I., Birgitta E.

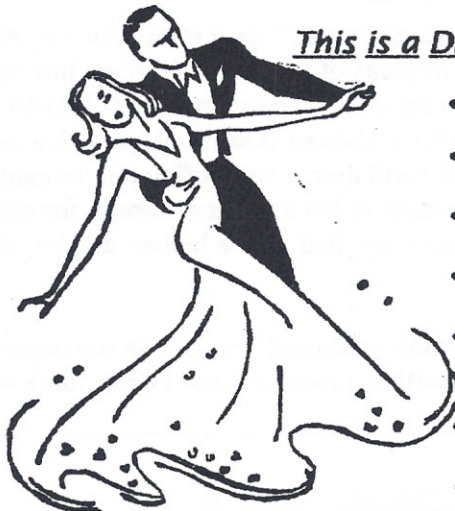
VÄLKOMEN!

MONITOR LODGE
VASA ORDER OF AMERICA



94th Anniversary Dinner-Dance Party
Friday, April 7, 2006

This is a Dress-up Event



- **Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.**
(Hors d'oeuvres with no-host bar)
- **Dinner at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Awards, Recognition**
- **AKAVIT Toast**
- **Dancing: (Scandinavian and Ballroom)...AND a Raffle**
- **\$15 per Member**
- **\$25 Non-Members & Guests**

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED – DEADLINE: March 31, 2006

To RSVP:

- 1) **Call 916-635-4640** – and place your Menu order (listed below):
 - **Salmon**
 - **Tri-Colored Vegetable Ravioli Primavera**
 - **Top Sirloin Steak**
- 2) **Mail check to: Gail Nemy, 4239 Daybreak Lane, Sacramento 95821**
- 3) **Raffle Items (\$5.00 to \$25.00 value)** – needed...if you can bring one

Location: The DANTE CLUB – 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.
(Between Howe and Fulton on the South Side)

QUESTIONS OR NEED INFORMATION – CALL 916-729-0696

May 19, 20, 21 Place: Swedish Village, Kingsburg



Valkommen! We invite you to a Scandinavian Vacation the third weekend in May. You can experience and taste the rich culture of Sweden here in the San Joaquin Valley. This three day event is filled with entertainment, food and fun. It all begins on Friday night with a Swedish Smorgasbord. Start your Saturday morning with a traditional Svenska Pancake (Swedish Pancake) Breakfast. Our Swedish Village is filled with specialty shops, there you can also see more of the Swedish Culture in the Swedish Culture Village on Draper and discover many food and craft booths and entertainment.



Birgit Nilsson was raised to be a farmwife, but she was born to be a diva.

Over the objections of her father, Nilsson attended music school in Stockholm and eventually became a global star admired for her interpretations of composer Richard Wagner.

Alan Blythe, a longtime music critic for *Gramophone* magazine, says Nilsson's pastoral upbringing helped shape her powerful constitution. Her stamina was marvelous, he says, as was her ability to project over an orchestra in full roar.

Nilsson's extraordinary range had sound engineers begging her to step back from the microphone during her highest notes. She shattered wine glasses, windows and supposedly a turquoise gemstone. Her sense of humor was also legendary.

Check out *Hounds of the Road: The History of the Greyhound Bus Company* by Carleton Jackson. It's a great book about the founder of the company, Swede Carl Eric Wickman.

SAG WORKSHOP Salt Lake City 15—22 October 2006. Join the group of researchers at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Contact Karna Olsson 207-338-0057 or e-mail sagworkshop@yahoo.com. Limited number of spaces!



Built in 1907, the Hall was designed by noted Swedish architect August Nordin, who designed over 300 buildings in San Francisco.

This building has been used as a meeting place for many generations of Swedish Americans. It has Old World charm, a grand ballroom and is flexible to accommodate meetings, parties, dinners, weddings, receptions, recitals and other special events.

THIS SPACE AS WELL AS PAGES 10 AND 11 ARE RESERVED FOR MEMBER INPUT TO THIS NEWSLETTER. IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY THE EDITOR AS WELL AS THE MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE SHARE.

Monitor Lodge
VASA Order of America
6478 Cedar Ranch Drive
Citrus Heights, CA 95621