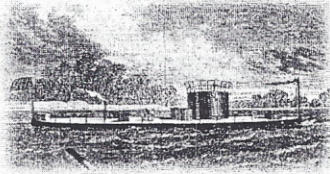


MONITOR LODGE NO. 218 CHARTERED APRIL 8, 1912

THE



MONITOR

Dale Ingvarlsen, Chairman—Matthew Wilson, Vice Chairman—Paige Tally, Secretary—Assistant Recording Secretary, Peggy Carlson
Gail Nemy, Financial Secretary—Diedre Dahlberg, Asst. Financial Secretary—Karin Johnson, Treasurer

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HEADS UP

11/2

Pie Social

Last Name A-M

(See Page 3 Köksnyheter)

Meeting

Initiation of new
Members

12/7

6:00

Annual Glögg
Och
Smörgåsbord

RSVP

Reservations are being
accepted now and until
November 2nd for
Members only.

Members and Guests
may make reservations
beginning November
2nd. Cutoff date for
all reservations
November 30th

Members \$20
Guests \$25

The Birth of the Ombudsman

In the year of 1697 and at the age of fifteen, Charles XII became King of Sweden. Three years later, in the fall of 1700, he won a fabulous victory over Tsar Peter's allegedly tenfold stronger Russian army at Narva at the present border between Estonia and Russia, a victory that forever made him a hero of his time and the subject of a famous Voltaire biography. However, nine years later, in 1709, he was thoroughly defeated by Tsar Peter on the banks of the Vorskla outside Pultava in today's Ukraine, a defeat that gave his hero's aura a tragic gleam - and eventually gave rise to the world's very first Ombudsman institution.

Following the defeat, Charles proceeded to Bender in today's Moldova and for five years became the sometimes welcome, sometimes undesired guest of the Sultan. In fact Sweden, a mighty European power at the time, was governed from this region until the fall of 1714, when Charles finally decided to return to his kingdom and undertook a spectacular two-week horse ride to Stralsund in Pomerania at the Baltic Sea, then a Swedish city.

A year before this ride, in October 1713 and in the castle of Timurtasch, Charles signed an ordinance by which he established the institution of the King's Highest Ombudsman. The task of this Ombudsman was to ensure that the judges, military officers and civil servants in Sweden were observing the laws of the country and the rules laid down for them. Having at that time been away from Sweden since he left thirteen years earlier on his campaign against Russia, the King obviously felt a need to have someone monitoring things in his home country on his behalf.

Timurtasch, where the ordinance was signed, is situated in today's Turkey, just south of Adrianople or Edirne. However, correspondence kept in the Swedish National Archives shows that the decision was preceded by thorough deliberations, including a close examination of the arguments for and against the use of the Swedish word "Ombudsman", by then already in existence for centuries. This correspondence is undated, but it is reasonable to believe that before King Charles left the Bender area, the idea was born in his mind to set up an Ombudsman institution, a concept, according to some scholars not only rooted in

(Continued on page 6)

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

VASA MONITOR CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER 2007

DANISH NIGHT & DINNER

Did you know that:

Denmark is one of only two countries that has two national anthems...
The Danish flag is the oldest national flag in the world
Denmark is territorially the smallest of the 5 NORDIC countries...and the largest if all of its offshore territories are included.
A 2007 Survey of Global Peace Index rated Denmark 3rd most peaceful country

These are some of the things you learned about Denmark if you attended our meeting on October 5th. Thanks to **Karin Johnson, Arlie Veis, Gail Nemy** and **Dale** for the cultural program about Denmark. The delicious Dinner, featuring some typical Danish foods was well planned and prepared by Team Leaders Jack and Linda Larson and members of Cook Team #1. All were pleased with the kitchen and lodge facilities for this, our first dinner meeting in our new meeting place—the Odd Fellows Hall.

Monitor Lodge Officer for 2008

Congratulations to the full slate of Lodge Officers elected at our last meeting. I believe that our Lodge will be in good hands next year. See list of officers elsewhere in this newsletter.

Calendar of Events for 2008

At the scheduled Program Planning meeting held on October 12th, at the Netzel residence, a calendar of Events was developed. This calendar will be included in *Member Handbooks for 2008* to be distributed at the Glogg Party & Smorgasbord Dinner in December.

Future Events

Nov 2 7:00 *Kaffekalas / Pie Social and MOVIE NIGHT*
Dec 7 6:00 *Glogg Party & Smorgasbord Dinner - at IOOF Hall*
Jan 7 7:00 *Audit and Annual Report - location to be announced*
April 26,27,28 *District Convention - in Redding*
Holidia Inn & Convernntion Center - Guaranteed room rate: \$89.00 + Tax
Registration forms and complete information will come later

Registration for Glogg Party / Smorgasbord Dinner - As of October 9th, 35

Members have registered. Members may register now by calling and sending checks (payable to Monitor Lodge) to Dale or Margaret Ingvarnsen, 6478 Cedar Ranch Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621...OR you may sign up and pay at the November meeting. Registration for guests begins on November 2nd.

I hope to see many of you in November, at our Kaffekalas and Film Night.

In Truth & Unity
Dale Ingvarnsen

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Richard Eriksson
Ruby Hendrickson
- 10 Joyce Trnka
- 13 Joy Carlson
Donna Niemoller
- 16 Russ Ellis
- 19 Christi Kagstrom
Alice Axberg
- 22 Karen Sandberg
- 24 Lillian Stafford
- 26 Gloria Eriksson
- 30 Thelma Range

At a Window

Give me hunger,
O you gods that sit and give
The world its orders.
Give me hunger, pain and
want,
Shut me out with shame
and failure
From your doors of gold
and fame,
Give me your shabbiest,
weariest hunger!

But leave me a little love,
A voice to speak to me in
the day end,
A hand to touch me in the
dark room
Breaking the long
loneliness.
In the dusk of day-shapes
Blurring the sunset,
One little wandering,
western star
Thrust out from the
changing shores of shadow.
Let me go to the window,
Watch there the day-shapes
of dusk
And wait and know the
coming
Of a little love.

Carl Sandburg

NÅL OCH TRÅD

Turkey time is almost here! Time for family and friends to get together for enjoyment and praise for a bountiful year.

Nål och Tråd will meet on Tuesday, November 20th at 10:00 AM at Myrtle Widmarks home. Bring a brown bag lunch and Myrtle will brew coffee and surprise us with a delicious dessert.

At our last lodge meeting on October 7th it was announced that Nål och Tråd will pay for the construction of the storage room at our new location, thanks to Ed Netzel for all his work, so be sure to come and see our table of arts and crafts at our regular meeting in November. Remember, Christmas is right around the corner.

Happy Thanksgiving to all our members, and especially to our shut ins!

Dorothy M.

KÖKSNYHETER

2007 MONITOR LODGE SMÖRGÅSBORD FRIDAY EVENING DECEMBER 7TH AT 7:00 PM

The word smörgås means something like "open sandwich", and bord is the Swedish word for "table", but still a smörgåsbord is not a table full of sandwiches. This specialty instead consists of a number of small dishes, from which you can take your pick. An average smörgåsbord may, for instance, contain a number of herring dishes (sweet-pickled herring, pickled herring with onions, mustard, dill, etc.), Swedish meatballs, salmon, pies, salads, 'Jansson's temptation' (sliced herring, potatoes and onions baked in cream), eggs, bread, boiled and fried potatoes and so on. Smörgåsbord was served already in the 18th century but at that time it was used as an appetizer before the main course. Gradually, however, it has become a meal in itself. Today few people ask for more after having tried everything on a smörgåsbord.

What you read above is what you can look forward to when you attend our Annual Glögg och Smörgåsbord Extravaganza! Read elsewhere in this newsletter for more particulars but **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY.**

Did you get your Frikadellar!? If you missed the October Dinner Meeting you did and that's a shame. Team 1, experienced the "maiden voyage" using the kitchen at our new location, and one and all can attest to the convenience of its layout, the cleanliness and efficiency of the room. Teams 2, 3 and 4 have something to look forward to. There were many guests that evening, and we had compliments on our meal. Thank you: The Bjurs, Whites, Hultquists and Larsons, Thelma Gorrell. Thanks also to Dorothy Mogford for her major help with the horsd'oeuvres table and thanks also to our new "kitchen supply guru" LaVern Griffith.

Remember, Team 2, you're "on" in February! See the September NL to remind you of who you are!!!

**FINAL SMÖRGÅSBORD PLANNING MEETING 7:00 PM FRIDAY
OCTOBER 26TH, MOGFORD RESIDENCE. MEMBERS A-M PLEASE BRING
DESSERT 11/2 MEETING.**

**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE FOR
THE SEPTEMBER
ISSUE IS 11/12**

**IN ORDER TO RE-
CEIVE THE NL VIA
E-MAIL AND IN
COLOR, YOU MUST
DOWNLOAD ADOBE
ACROBAT READER
www.adobe.com.**

**PLEASE TAKE A
GOOD LOOK AT
YOUR 2007 PRO-
GRAM BOOK TO
MAKE SURE
YOUR CONTACT
INFORMATION IS
UP TO DATE.
PLEASE CON-
SIDER INCLUD-
ING YOUR
EMAIL ADDRESS
IF YOU DO NOT
ALREADY DO SO!**

**WHEN CAROL
NESEWICH IN-
VITES YOU TO
PARTICIPATE IN
A BIO FOR THE
NEWSLETTER,
PLEASE CON-
SIDER DOING
THAT. WE
WOULD ALL
LIKE TO KNOW
YOU BETTER**

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

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Savor a German Christmas. Visit the
Christkindlmarkt at the Sacramento Turn
Verein.

Saturday, December 1st 10AM to 6PM
Sunday, December 2nd 11AM to 5PM

- Original creative gifts, live German music, German imports, toys and books, children's novelties, tree ornaments, cookies and cakes, Nuremberg sausage dinner. Gluhwein (hot spiced wine), roasted almonds and much more
- Adults: \$2.00. Children under 12 free
- Admission for entire family is free with the donation of a child's coat or sweater

Thanksgiving is a
time of gratitude to God,
our Creator and Provider,
whose guidance and care
go before us...
and whose love
is with us forever.

Thanksgiving is a time
to reflect on the changes,
to remember that we, too,
grow and change
from one season of life to another.

Thanksgiving is a time
of changing seasons,
when leaves turn golden
in Autumn's wake
and apples are crisp
in the first chill breezes of fall.

Let us remember the true meaning
of Thanksgiving.
As we see the beauty
of Autumn, let us acknowledge
the many blessings
which are ours...
let us think of our families
and friends..
and let us give thanks in our hearts.

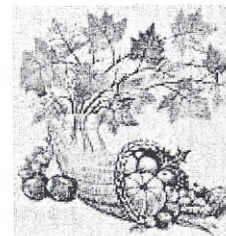
Pumpkin Poem

One day I found two pumpkin seeds.
I planted one and pulled the weeds.
It sprouted roots and a big, long vine.
A pumpkin grew; I called it mine.
The pumpkin was quite round and fat.
(I really am quite proud of that.)
But there is something I'll admit
That has me worried just a bit.
I ate the other seed, you see.
Now will it grow inside of me?

(I'm so relieved since I have found
That pumpkins only grow in the ground!)

Check out
<http://hnn.us/articles/406.html>
And discover 10 myths
About Thanksgiving!!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
2007



MONITOR LODGE OFFICERS FOR 2008

Chairman – Kurt Pfannkuch

Vice Chairman – Johanna Benker

Secretary – Charlie Rea

Assistant Recording Secretary – Karen Sandberg

Financial Secretary – Yvonne Magneheim

Assistant Financial Secretary – Lillian Stafford

Treasurer – Karin Johnson

Cultural Committee

Thelma Gorrell

Eivor Pfannkuch

Jewel Wright

Chaplain – Dorothy Scherer

Master of Ceremonies – Peggy Carlson

Asst. Master of Ceremonies – Larry Hultquist

Inner Guard -- Judy Netzel

Outer Guard – James Netzel

Historian – Brian Stockham

Trustees

1 Year – Art Niemoller

2 Year – Bud Mogford

3 Year – Marianne Ek

Auditors

1 Year—Marianne Ek

2 Year—Arlie Veis

3 Year – Gail Nemy

SAY HELLO TO BOB & ANN JOHNSON

Robert Johnson (Bob) was born 7/19/42 in Danville, Illinois, the son of Wilford Johnson who was the son of Peter Johnson immigrant from Sweden and his wife Jennie Dykstra (Dexter) who was born in Holland. Bob grew up Danville and attended the public schools until his family moved to San Diego in the mid-1950s, where he attended High School and then joined the US Army, 101st Airborne Div. during the Vietnam era. He served 3 years and was honorably discharged. He then embarked on a 40 year career with the telephone industry and commenced his college education at night school via the GI Bill. He attained his BS Degree and then finally his Master's Degree as he worked and was able to rise into the ranks of management and is now still working as the Engineering Supervisor for California, western Nevada and Southern Oregon. He enjoys golf, racquet ball, jogging, genealogy, and writing his families history, besides being very busy with his career. He married Ann, his high school sweetheart, shortly after he graduated from H.S. and is with her today. They had two children, and are now grandparents to 4 grandchildren which includes a set of twins. Ann Johnson, Bob's wife, followed her husbands travels and career moves with getting her gaining two years of college, and working in many fields of work as they moved from city to city with Bob's career in the telephone industry. She is also busy with genealogy, aquafit, various clubs and activities and is also very much interested in genealogy and doing family history.

Bob and Ann live in Lakeside in Elk Grove and enjoy the beautiful area very much.

Bob and Ann

BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO NEEDY FAMILIES IN THE SACRAMENTO AREA. THIS IDEA IS SPEARHEADED BY MYRTLE AND IS A CHANCE FOR THE LODGE TO REACH INTO THE COMMUNITY WITH A HELPING HAND!

(Continued from page 1)

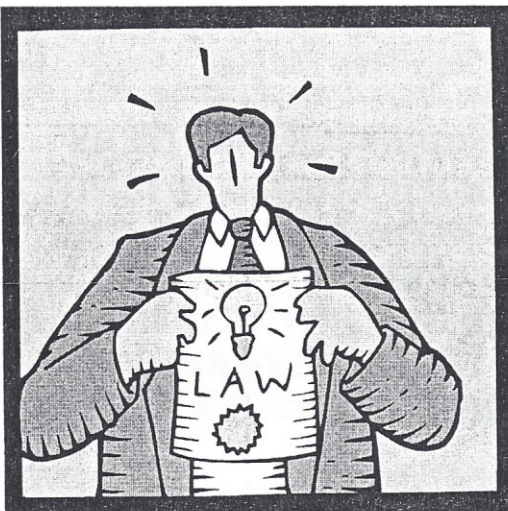
Ottoman administrative tradition as well as the Koran, but arisen even further back in the shades of history.

After arriving from Pultava in late July 1709, Charles and his followers soon took up residence outside Bender in the village of Varnitsa on the western banks of the Dnjestr. The location is known and the spot is now in the care of the Moldovan National Museum. Here he stayed until 1 February 1713, and thus Varnitsa in Moldova, together with Timurtasch, could claim to be the birthplace of the Ombudsman concept as well as of the word "Ombudsman" in its current internationally recognised sense.

The event resulting in the King's departure from Varnitsa is itself worthy of a place in the history books. It is referred to as the Bender Riot or, in Swedish using a loan from Turkish, *Kalabaliken i Bender*. It is famous above all because it allegedly is the last time in European history when a crowned head took part in the fighting himself, weapon in hand. It came about when the King's hosts had become less enthusiastic about having to care for their eminent guest, who totally ignored all suggestions that he return home or, at least, leave a country, which felt it had by then already housed him for far too long. The King left, under guard and eventually for the castle of Timurtasch, only after a horde of thousands of janissaries had set the royal house on fire and he and his few men had been overpowered, when making a rush for a safer house close by.

The reason, why the Ombudsman institution, thus established by the King in 1713, sometimes is not mentioned as the Forefather of all the world's Ombudsman institutions, is precisely its close connection with the executive power, its not being as independent as an Ombudsman is nowadays supposed to be. Its role in relation to the development of the Ombudsman concept is nevertheless significant. Strong under King Charles and his predecessors, the monarchy became weak soon after his death in November 1718, while Parliament grew correspondingly strong. As a result, this 1713 institution, in May 1719 renamed the Chancellor of Justice, *Justitiekanslern*, in reality became an institution of Parliament rather than of the King. When, however, the King again became absolute ruler in the latter part of the 18th century, the institution returned to being associated with the executive. But Parliament did not forget its value.

After a coup d'état following another lost war against Russia, the new Swedish Constitution of 1809 therefore established the Parliamentary Ombudsman of Sweden, *Justitieombudsmannen*, as a new independent institution of Parliament. This 1809 institution is still, almost 200 years later, a well-functioning institution in Swedish society, keeping public servants in check with its inspections and its criticism in individual complaint cases, helping others with useful advice and examples of good governance, seldom exercising its original role as a prosecutor bringing wrong-doers before a court of law.



It might be added that the Chancellor of Justice, too, remains an integral and well-functioning part of the Swedish constitutional framework, that the first Ombudsman institution outside Sweden was the one in Finland, established in 1918 when the country became independent of Russia, that the first Ombudsman institution outside the Nordic countries was the one in New Zealand, established in 1962, and that Ombudsman institutions today exist in more than 100 countries all over the world, particularly due to the early information activities of the first Danish Ombudsman, Professor Stephan Hurwitz, who took office as Folketingets Ombudsman in the year of 1955.

**Minutes of the Monitor Lodge Business Meeting
Odd Fellows Hall
October 5, 2007**

1. – 3. Opening and Welcome; Dinner; Cultural Program on Denmark. Prior to the business meeting of the Monitor Lodge No. 218, the flag salute, a song led by Oskar Carlson and the chaplain's message started the evening. Chair Ingvardsen welcomed all of the participants to the dinner celebrating the people and country of Denmark. Subsequently, a Danish meal was served.

After dinner, Arlie Veis and his daughter, Karin Johnson, presented the flag of Denmark while the "Royal" National Anthem of Denmark was played. Then, Karin and Arlie sang the second of Denmark's two national anthems—"A Lovely Land Is Ours." After dinner, Chair Ingvardsen provided interesting historic and contemporary points about Denmark, and Arlie Veis entertained everyone with noteworthy annotations on Denmark.

8:30 pm

4. Introduction of Guests. A larger number than usual were introduced as guests, and many were present in honor of the draping of the charter.

5. Roll Call. A silent roll call was taken. Officers present were Dale Ingvardsen, Ed Netzel, Gail Nemy, Karin Johnson and Paige Talley.

6. Birthdays. The September & October birthdays were recognized. Oskar Carlson led the attendees in the traditional Swedish birthday song.

7. Applications for Membership. It was announced that Susan Westeby sent her application for Membership in Monitor Lodge No. 218 to the Secretary, but the Secretary claimed that she had not yet received it. [Subsequently, Ms. Westeby's application was received by the Secretary.]

8. Minutes of the September 7, 2007 Meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the September 7, 2007 meeting minutes. (Magneheim/Veis)

9. Draping of the Charter. There was a solemn draping of the charter by immediate past chairman Ed Netzel and the Chaplain, Dorothy Scherer. The Secretary read the obituaries of Ray Griffith, Osten Magneheim, Donn J. Stafford, Shirley A. Stafford and Michael Brooks Larson.

10. Committee Reports/Announcements. None.

11. Unfinished Business. None.

12. Correspondence. None.

13. New Business.

Chair Ingvardsen read the nominees for the 2008 Monitor Lodge No. 218 Officers. They are:

Chairman – Kurt Pfannkuch

Vice Chairman – Johanna Benker

(Continued on page 8)

2008 VASA GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT 12 ANNUAL MEETING (Formerly known as Dist. Convention)

The convention is a wonderful experience!

- ◆ You renew old friendships, meet new Vasa Members from other lodges.
- ◆ You learn what District Business entails and Grand Lodge information.
- ◆ You learn about Rituals of Organization
- ◆ Make suggestions for change if desired.
- ◆ Make suggestions for cultural activities.
- ◆ Enjoy commraderie-Participate in committees at Convention.
- ◆ Consider being an Officer or Delegate.
- ◆ Get to go to different cities that hold the convention.

We are going to have a wonderful Convention here in Redding. We have a tour on Saturday of interest to those who do not want to sit part of the day in the meeting. It would be wonderful if as many members from Monitor can attend the convention since our District Master is from Monitor and this is his convention-The support would mean a lot to him from your lodge I'm sure. It is going to be a great time. Please consider attending the 2008 Convention in Redding. *(More info in subsequent newsletters....ed)*

In Truth and Unity, Karen Elliott-Convention Chairman

Leif Eriksson Continued and Concluded from October Newsletter

First Voyage

At the age of 24, Leif was asked to captain his first voyage. This was to bring gifts to King Olaf in Norway. Many preparations were made and Leif was very excited. Leif took along a crew of 14 and Thyrker.

The wind Leif was sailing on was fair at the beginning, but after their first day it slowed only to a gentle breeze. It was five days before they sighted Iceland. Most voyages make it in two.

The crew wanted to go ashore but Leif would not let them, so they kept sailing. They sailed for many days and Leif thought they would run out of food. Finally they sighted some small islands, the Hebrides, they realized they had sailed farther south than they had intended.

The day they arrived, a storm came in and didn't allow them to leave for a month. During this time Leif stayed in the house of the lord of the island. There lived the lord's daughter who was named Thorgunna. She was known to embroider tapestries and was believed to be learned in witchcraft.

Before Leif left for Norway, Thorgunna told him she was going to have his baby and she foresaw that it would be a boy. She had her child and named him Thorgils. Later he traveled to Greenland and Leif accepted him as his son. This is the only child known to be Leif's.

When the storm had cleared, Leif set off for Norway. The wind was good and they got there in a few days.

Meets With King

When he arrived, many people came to greet him and a messenger came to take him to King Olav's court. When the messenger told the king who he was he replied, "Leif Erikson, I knew your father well!"

The king was so impressed with Leif that he invited Leif to stay in Norway. Leif decided there was no reason to rush back home to Greenland, so he accepted the offer. While in Norway, he marveled at all the wonderful things and rested in the lap of luxury.

One day, while playing chess with Leif, King Olaf told him of how he used to also worship the gods Leif did. He also told him of how a plague had struck Norway and how many people had died. Then he told Leif of how he turned away from those gods and began to worship the living Christ. He was baptized along with thousands of Norwegians, and then the plague stopped.

Leif, not being very faithful to the Viking gods, became very interested in Christianity. He finally agreed to be baptized and accept this new faith. On his return voyage, he brought along a priest to spread the Christian faith to Greenland.

Discovering the New World

Sometime after Leif had returned to Greenland, he became restless. He decided to find the lands to the west of which Bjarni had spoke. So he bought Bjarni's boat and set off with Thyrker and some men towards the north, following Bjarni's course. After sailing up the western coast of Greenland, he sailed west for 600 miles and found a land with high glaciers and rock.

They landed, but were disappointed because the land seemed to be one huge slab of rock. Because of this he named it Helluland (Slab Land or Flat Rock Land), which is now believed to be Baffin Island. Leif then sailed south and found another land. When he went ashore he found it to be flat with white beaches and some trees. He named this land Markland (Woodland) which today is believed to be the eastern coast of Canada.

Then Leif sailed southeast for two days and came to an island with a mainland behind it. On this land the dew on the grasses seemed as sweet as honey. Here Leif had some booths or temporary shelters built. But, the land here was so rich that he decided to build at least one large house for the winter. On this land there were salmon bigger than any the Vikings had ever seen before, there were also very rich pastures there for their cattle (they had brought a few), and there were rich forests covering this land.

After the houses were built, Leif sent out an exploration group to explore the land. After one of these expeditions, Thyrker didn't return. The men searched for him all day and finally found him the next morning. When they found him he was very excited and blabbering in German. After he calmed down he explained to the men that he had found grapes on this land.

Leif ordered his men to load grapes and timber onto the boat, and then they settled in for the winter. But the winter here was very peculiar. No frost came to the grasses. They also noticed that the days and nights were of more equal length here.

When spring came and the men were ready to go, Leif gave this land a name, Vinland, which either means Wineland or Pastureland. We now know Leif's Vinland to be L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland.

Surprisingly, few people ever returned to Vinland, only Leif's sister and a small group of settlers who were killed by Indians. Because of this, Europe remained almost totally in the dark about the discovery of this new world. The only references to it are in the Norse sagas where most of the information concerning Leif Erikson is recorded.

In Boston, at the far western end of the Commonwealth Avenue promenade, Leif Ericsson stands, shading his eyes with his hand, surveying the Charlesgate flyover. He used to have a better view. When Lief was put there in 1887, he could actually see the river, and beyond it, the New World.



For more interesting information on this, check out <http://www.greisnet.com/needhist.nsf/VikingsontheCharles?OpenPage>

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VASA Order of America
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Citrus Heights, CA 95621