MONITOR LODGE NO. 218 CHARTERED APRIL 8, 1912

THE



MONITOR

Jack Larson, Chairman—Yvonne Magneheim, Vice Chairman -Arlene White, Secretary—Charley Rea, Assistant Recording Secretary, Kurt Pfannkuch, Financial Secretary—Gail Nemy, Assistant Financial Secretary—Craig Johnson, Treasurer

FEBRUARY

2/26 @ 2:00 PM 2012 Meeting Magneheim Residence

MARCH

3/2 @ 7:00 Game Night Kaffekalas (No Dinner!) See Page 8

APRIL

4/13 @ 7:00 NOTE: THIS IS THE 2ND FRI-DAY OF THE MONTH

Homemade
Sandwiches
Members A-L
Business Meeting
Convention/Anniversary
Issues

4/27@ 7:00 PM District Convention Welcome Reception DoubleTree, Sac.

4/28 @ 6:30 100th Anniversary Banquet, DoubleTree

CARL MICHAEL BELLMAN 1740-1795



A Swedish poet-musician, whose songs have remained very popular in Scandinavia. Beginning as a writer of Bacchanalian songs, Bellman produced over seventeen hundred poems, most set to music. In his early youth Bellman published religious and satirical works and translations from German and French, without any inclination to lead a Bohemian life.

Carl Michael Bellman was born into a respectable middle-class family in Söder in Stockholm. His father, Johan Arndt Bellman, was a secretary at the King's office and mother, Katarina Hermomia, was a daughter

of a priest. Bellman was educated at a private school. He lived in Stockholm his whole life except when he studied at Uppsala University for a short time and when he in 1763 ran away from creditors to Norway. More or less due to the scandal his father left the King's office, sold the house where his family had lived for 20 years and moved first to Årsta and then to Visbohammar. After returning to Sweden Bellman could not continue in his post at the National Bank. In the following restless years he started to write drinking songs. Bellman was first time dead drunk in 1759 when he had too much French red wine, but poems had written earlier. Among these works is 'Tankar om Flickors ostadighet' (1758), a poem about the girls' fickleness.

By the late 1760s Bellman had already became famous with his songs and biblical parodies, which circulated by word of mouth, and in handwritten copies and printed sheets. After his parents died in 1765, creditors took all what was left from the property. In 1766 Bellman established his 'Bacchi Orden' which parodied contemporary fashionable knightly orders and celebrated the joys of wine. The members of the Order were notorious drunks, who had been dismissed from their post.

(Continued on page 11)

In Memory of . . .

Please consider honoring a departed Vasa member, relative, or close friend by making a contribution to our Monitor Scholarship Fund. Send a check to our Financial Secretary, Kurt Pfannkuch, along with the name of the special person you would like to honor. Your generosity will help provide scholarships

MARCH BIRTHDAYS 3/1 Dorothy Bjur 3/2 Dorothy Scherer 3/17 Ken Carlson 3/18 George Kantar 3/20 Helen Johnson 3/29 Joyce Burns 3/30 Art Niemoller

Volunteers for the 2012 District Meeting April 27-29,2012

We will need Monitor Lodge members to help make our convention a success!

- 1. Registration table Friday, April 27^{th -} Karin Johnson– (916) 482-3755
 - 3pm to 5pm 4 members
 - 5pmto 7pm– 4 members
- 2. Registration table Saturday, April 28th Karin Johnson (916) 482-3755
 - 7:30 am 9:00 am
- 3. Morning Coffee Saturday, April 28th Raye Brown (916) 791-1908
 - 7am to 9am 4 members
- 4. Morning Coffee Sunday, April 29th Raye Brown (916) 791-1908
 - 7am to 9am 4 members

The hotel is allowing us to bring in authentic homemade SCANDINAVIAN BAKED GOODS. We need Bakers to make enough for 100+ people for both Saturday and Sunday morning:

Homemade Swedish Almond Cake Cardamom Braided Bread Swedish Coffee Cake Contact Raye Brown at (916) 791-1908

Annual Dues for Monitor Lodge

Many members, both old and new, have asked when we pay dues, what timeframe they cover, and how much they are. Dues are currently \$30 per member per year and cover the calendar year, January 1st through December 31st. They are NOT pro-rated for partial years, in that over \$28 of the dues are forwarded to the District and Grand Lodges in assessments for each member on our rolls as of December 31st each year. Accordingly, our dues are due and payable as of January 1st each year.

The Local Lodge constitution does provide for a grace period of three months before a member is considered delinquent and suspended. Many members have become used to the "idea" that dues are not <u>due</u> until April 1st, however, that is the point at which we are delinquent and, according to our Constitution, a member is to be suspended, forfeiting "all rights, benefits, and privileges in the local, district, and Grand Lodge." One of those benefits includes the member "discounts" for the anniversary dinner in April and the Julbord in December.

We will be collecting dues at our March meeting, so plan to bring your checkbook. You can also mail your check, at any time before the end of March, made out to Monitor Lodge #218 to the Financial secretary, Kurt Pfannkuch, 1921 Columbia Drive, Yuba City. CA 95991. Your timely payment helps the Lodge with the capital necessary to continue to provide the VASA fellowship we all love. Thank you for your support!

På svenska

We all know what tack means. Do you know what tak means? Ask a Swedish speaker at the next meeting.



"Daddy, how do you spell 'steam train'?

"The way it sounds."

"Choo-Choo-Choo?"

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE

www.monitorlodgesac ramento.org

To see:

- 1. All recent photos
- 2. All past photos
- 3. Download Member Application
- 4. View Calendar of upcoming events
- 5. Find a map to an upcoming event
- 6. Genealogy
- 7. Links
- 8. Make Site Suggestions
- 9. And much more!

Very special thanks to Paul Johnson for making our hand/held/ wireless microphone useable through the hall sound system!!

Also, special thanks to Ed Netzel for making it possible to use the "true blue" Swedish Flag by altering (or making a new) the flag stand.



VISIT www.vasaarchives.org

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

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MONITOR LODGE #218 MINUTES February 3, 2012

The February meeting began with 5:30 PM social hour. The singing of "God Bless America" and the pledge of allegiance was followed by the Chaplain's message given by Birgitta Ellis.

Dinner was then served before the initiation and business meeting. The dinner was made and served by Team 2, and it was most delicious.

QUORUM:

Chair Jack Larson
Vice Chair Yvonne Magneheim
Secretary Arlene White
Asst. Rec. Secretary Charley Rea
Financial Secretary Kurt Pfannkuch (absent)
Asst. Fin. Secretary Gail Nemy
Treasurer Craig Johnson
Cultural Comm. Karin Johnson
Deidre Dahlberg
Chaplain Birgitta Ellis

ACTIONS & ACTIVITIES:

Recognition was given to Paul Johnson who made it possible to use the cordless microphone. The following applications were read along with short biographies. Richard and Daniel Eriksson were introduced by their father Richard Eriksson. Susan Edelmayer was sponsored by Karin Johnson and Amy Winter was introducted by Eivor Pfannkuch and sponsored by Johanna Benker. Brian Horsfield gave a brief biography about Laila Harris, who was not able to attend. The prospective initiates were escorted from the room so the membership could vote. The motion was made and seconded to accept the initiates.

The membership sang "Ja, ma han leva" to all those having birthdays in February.

The charter was draped in honor of Dan Backman. Birgitta Ellis and James Netzel did the draping and Birgitta read the obituary. Dale Ingvardson was an acquaintance of Mr. Backman and gave a brief biography. This was followed by singing "Children of The Heavenly Father".

Gail Nemy, chair person of the 2012 Convention and Monitor's 100th anniversary, alerted everyone to the next meeting regarding the convention. The meeting will be held at Yvonne Magneheim's on February 26 @ 2:00 PM.

(Continued on page 7)

INTRODUCING FOUR RECENTLY INSTALLED MEMBERS Kerstin Herrmann, Paul Johnson, Darlene Miller, and Barry Moore (Submitted by Carol Nesewich, Star Reporter!)

KERSTIN

Kerstin's daughter, Theresa, is a member of Monitor and asked her mother to join. Kerstin was familiar with the VASA Order already and belonged for a few years to a Swedish lodge in Seattle. She was born in Boras, Västergötland, a textile town in western Sweden. Her one remaining brother still lives in the area. She knew, as a small child, that she would came to America one day and at age 20 she did indeed emigrate. She settled in L.A., but moved many times, especially when married to her second husband who was an airline crew member. She worked for a couple of airlines herself over the years, sometimes as concierge, making use of her fluency in several languages. Kerstin wants to pursue her interests in art – all her uncles were artistic either as painters, sculptors, iron workers, etc. She paints; has designed and sewn tablecloths, napkins, and wall hangings using old patterns; she weaves, and does picture framing. Kerstin still communicates with her family in Sweden and her daughter, even as a young child, has flown there any number of times to visit her grandparents. Kirstin is in possession of a family tree done by other relatives who have traced their origins as far back as the 1650's. Kerstin speaks Swedish and English, but also has acquired fluency in German, French, Spanish, and knows some Japanese. Her wish for America is to have more emphasis on languages.

PAUL

Paul learned about the VASA Order from our member, LaVerne Griffith when they met through their church choir. Paul is 1/4 Swedish, 1/4 English, and 1/2 God Knows. He has some information regarding his Swedish grandfather who immigrated to America in the early 1900's and decided to join Monitor Lodge to become more familiar with this part of his heritage. He grew up in Tacoma, graduated from college with a degree in mathematics, and started working with computers as a programmer completing many interesting assignments. One of which included participation in the deep sea drilling project which helped prove the theory regarding continental drift. Paul moved to Sacramento in 1986 and retired in 1992. In association with the lodge, Paul would be interested in various areas including learning some Swedish songs. His mother's love of music lead him to teach himself how to play the piano at an early age and he later played at a small church for two years before taking his first lesson. Paul went on a tour of Scandinavia about 10 years ago but doesn't know where his ancestors lived. His grandfather's sister put together some genealogical information and the beginnings of a Family Tree which Paul intends to go through more thoroughly as he learns more about his Swedish family.

DARLENE

Darlene's introduction to Monitor Lodge was through Birgitta Ellis who translated a letter that had been found in an attic trunk by Darlene's cousin in Idaho. Her great grandmother had written to son Karl about the death of his father in Sweden in 1913. Shortly thereafter, Darlene joined Birgitta's Swedish language class and became a member of the lodge in 2003. She had to drop out for awhile but now has rejoined. Darlene's four married sons and their families live in the area and keep her very busy. She is second generation American. Her father, Carl Widman was born in Minnesota, the son of Swedish immigrant Karl Johannesson from Hogen in Ör Parish. Karl changed his name to Charles Widman for some reason after he became a citizen. Darlene is interested in learning all she can about Swedish history and culture, the significance of Swedish holidays, and the traditional foods. She may restart Swedish language lessons and perhaps learn some Scandinavian dances. The search for her Swedish origins began in 1950 when her mother passed away and Darlene found

(Continued on page 10)



We all agree the Team 2 outdid themselves preparing the Pea Soup and Pancake "Thursday Night Dinner" for us to enjoy at the February meeting. We must not forget the extra-delicious ham cooked to perfection. The team was missing four of its members but other pitched in to fill the gap.



Myrtle Widmark and Dorothy Scherer decorated tables with primroses to add to the festive feeling of the evening

The Charter was draped for Daniel Backman with the eulogy read by Chaplain Birgitta Ellis and comments shared by Dale Ingvardsen.



Monitor Lodge initiated and welcomed four new members. Pictured above (I-r) Amy Winter, the Brothers Eriksson, Daniel and Richard. Amy's interests include SCUBA diving, traveling, running, computers and gardening. Daniel's interests include woodworking, playing saxophone and skiing. Rick doesn't list hobbies, so it's up to us to find out a bit about that from him. Our fourth new member is Susan Edelmayer, whose picture appears on the following page and enjoys photography.



Following the initiation of Amy, Dan, Richard and Susan, Cultural Leaders Karin and DeeDee, with the assistance of Birgitta Ellis and Yvonne, encouraged us to learn Du Gamla Du Fria and Helan Gor.

Barry Moore gathered those interested (several actually) into a circle to learn a simple line dance (no, not Western!). Barry is an excellent teacher and has the patience of Job! He needed it working with a bunch of tired Monitor members. It was fun and we hope Barry doesn't give up on us!



A drawing for this basket was held at the end of the meeting with the funds going to the 2012 Convention/Anniversary Fund.

As always, a special thank you to Tom Anderson at the Keyboard!



(Continued from page 4)

Brian Stockham will help with the display for the convention and Arlie Vies is diligently working up Monitor's history. Gail asked for a show of hands for attendees to the Saturday night dinner (April 28th) Scott Matthews encouraged the membership to stay overnite at the Double Tree. There will be a golf tournament at Hagen Oaks at 9:45 AM. In case clarification was needed, any lodge member in good standing can attend the convention.

No correspondence was read.

Sunshine committee asked that we keep the following people in our thoughts: Christine Bodelson Ed Dahlberg Kurt Pfannkuch

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Our new treasurer, Craig Johnson, read the bills and the motion was made and seconded to pay our obligations.

Eivor Pfannkuch gave us the income report for the dinner and the dues collected.

Those wishing to purchase the flowers, used as decorations on the tables, the income generated would go to the convention fund.

CULTURAL PROGRAM:

Karin Johnson and Deidre Dahlberg presented the cultural program followed by Scandanavian dancing instructed by Barry Moore.

Submitted in Truth and Unity Arlene White, Secretary

GAME NIGHT-KAFFEKALAS IN MARCH

Bring a favorite game, Swedish or otherwise, to share and encourage fellowship at the March meeting. The Cultural Committee will introduce "Vasa Jeopardy." Try your skills out with Swedish Monopoly! If your last name begins with an A through L, homemade cookies would be a welcome treat to share.

We will be initiating Ann Clewett and Laila Harris.

Several things came up at the Business meeting at Yvonne's that need to be discussed and decided upon; your support is necessary.

<u>A PAST CHAIRMAN PIN</u> will be awarded to Past Chairman James Netzel in appreciation for his service to the lodge as Chairman in 2011.

Myrtle Widmark and Dorothy Scherer will have supplies available to anyone wishing to make head wreaths at home and to sell as a way to add to the 2012 monies. I'm sure they will show you how to do these if you need help!





MY CHOICE AS SOMETHING TO FILL AN EMPTY SPACE!

Nordic Crime Fiction: A Menacing Quartet, February 1, 2012

Judging by the icy stories presented here, cool Nordic crime fiction is still hot with U.S. publishers and readers. And Sweden, land of the Midnight Sun and Stieg Larsson, remains the genre's heart of darkness as Åke Edwardson's Inspector Erik Winter and Liza Marklund's ace reporter Annika Bengtzon deal, respectively, with wartime crimes and murder at a Nobel Prize dinner. Also tackling a case of the Scandinavian blues is Kristina Ohlsson's Swedish federal investigator Frederika Bergman, making her American debut. Finland's racial tensions take James Thompson's tough cop Kari Vaara into dangerous territory. [Irene Huss, Helene Tursten's Swedish inspector, returns in Night Rounds, reviewed on p. 52.—Ed.]



Edwardson, Åke. Sail of Stone: A Chief Inspector Erik Winter Novel. S. & S. Mar. 2012. c.336p. tr. from Swedish by Rachel Willson-Broyles. ISBN 9781451608502. pap. \$15. M

In his sixth outing (after The Shadow Woman), Erik Winter investigates two missing-person cases in Gothenburg, Sweden. One involves the disappearance of an old girl-friend's father, who traveled to Scotland to search for his own father, presumed to have died during World War II. When the missing man is found dead, Winter goes to Scotland to determine whether wartime smuggling activities played a part in this case. In an unrelated story line, Winter's colleague Anetja Djanali investigates a case of possible domestic abuse. The more she tries to contact the possible victim, the more she is stonewalled by the woman's family. VERDICT Winter and his team are usually involved in murder investigations, and so the twisty plots here are a departure from Edwardson's regular procedural format. And the fascinating character of Djanali, an African Swedish detective, is more fleshed out and developed than in previous books. Fans of Scandina-

vian mysteries, especially those who like Camilla Läckberg, Kjell Eriksson, and Håkan Nesser, will enjoy adding this award-winning author to their reading list. [See Prepub Alert, 9/23/11.]—Jean King, West Hempstead P.L., NY

Marklund, Liza. Last Will. Emily Bestler Bks./Atria: S. & S. Apr. 2012. c.416p. ISBN 9781451606928. \$25. M

While covering a Nobel Prize dinner at Stockholm's City Hall, hard-nosed investigative reporter Annika Bengtzon (Red Wolf) witnesses the brutal assassination of a recent science winner and the prize's famous benefactress. Unable to shake her visceral memories, facing increasing scrutiny at her newspaper job, and fighting ongoing ennui and hostility in her home life, Annika dives into investigating the crimes, which leads her to a professional killer named The Kitten, hints of scientific intrigue and international terrorism, and an old play concerning the life of Alfred Nobel. VERDICT With its insistent crosscutting, this Swedish thriller is confusing and disengaging. Marklund's characterizations lean toward the narcissistic and self-absorbed, producing a tone of mean-spiritedness against the backdrop of murder. Fans of this series will likely remain loyal; however, potential new converts might be deterred. [See Prepub Alert, 10/21/11.]—Jennifer Rogers, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community Coll. Lib., Richmond

Ohlsson, Kristina. Unwanted. Emily Bestler Bks./Atria: S. & S. Feb. 2012. c.368p. ISBN 9781439198896. \$25. M

Swedish federal investigator Frederika Bergman is an academic whose intellect assists her in formulating unique theories during her investigations. Unfortunately, her mostly male colleagues show contempt at her lack of previous police experience and push aside her findings and opinions. But before Frederika can quit and work in a profession more appropriate for her talent, a simple custodial interference case quickly turns into a serial kidnapping and murder spree. VERDICT This award-winning first volume in an acclaimed Swedish crime series spends a significant amount of time introducing and setting up Frederika's investigative team. While this makes for a slightly lengthy thriller, it does not take away from the compelling story line. Ohlsson's U.S. debut is a complicated novel that delves into every parent's nightmare. Fans of detective or thriller fiction will delight in discovering this excellent addition to the Scandinavian mystery genre. [See Prepub Alert, 8/26/11.]—Jennifer Funk, McKendree Univ. Lib., Lebanon, IL

Thompson, James. Helsinki White: An Inspector Vaara Novel. Putnam. Mar. 2012. c.336p. ISBN 9780399158322. \$25.95. M

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 5)

a letter written by her father around 1932. Up until then, she thought he had died in a lumber accident before she was born. She now has pictures, artifacts, and genealogical information enough to go back almost to Adam and Eve! She's found a few cousins living in the US, but has never been to Sweden.

BARRY

Barry's Scandinavian dance group performed dances for the Monitor Lodge on several occasions and Jack and Linda Larson attended dance classes for a time up in Cameron Park where he was co-instructor for Scandinavian dance. At a performance a few summers ago he picked up literature on the VASA Order. Then Jack asked if he might be interested in becoming a member. He has no known Scandinavian heritage so his connection is primarily general interest: ethnic studies, languages, regional variations in dialect, customs, folk tradition, music and dance, history, films and literature. Sweden has very much a living tradition regarding music and the folk arts. Previously Barry worked as an aerospace engineer and so has an interest in various aspects of technology as well. He has no known relatives in the Scandinavian countries, but an American friend of his currently lives near Stockholm, and visits the U.S. annually as a dance instructor and musician at Sons of Norway Camp Norge in Alta. And he has acquaintances from various dance camps and workshops who are dance masters primarily of Swedish and Norwegian folk dances. Barry thoroughly enjoys studying languages and has spent some time studying Swedish, primarily on his own, and also has worked with Norwegian a little. He intends to return to the study of Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish (quite different).



This day was in some places more commonly known as "our-lady day", vårfrudagen, as in this dialect was pronounced as våfferdagen, easily related to våffeldagen. The Waffle day is an old tradition with its roots in the agricultural Sweden. Back then, Sweden was a poor country and food was not always granted for the day. The ingredients for waffles were simple, common, and inexpensive; water and some flour, for more luxury waffles eggs were added to the batter. Still not much was needed in order to make a dinner into a feast. Since the day is celebrated in spring time when the hens just start to lay eggs, fresh eggs were available again after a long winter.

(Continued from page 9)

After the decapitated head of Finland's top minority-rights crusader arrives at the offices of an immigrant political group, the country erupts in racial violence. Inspector Kari Vaara is tapped to lead the investigation, despite being compromised on several counts—he's a new father, a recent surgery to remove a benign brain tumor has left him incapable of feeling emotion, and he's up to his neck in corruption, leading a rogue black-ops group that steals drugs, guns, and money from criminals. With the help of a Finnish-born former French Legionnaire—turned—spy (!), Vaara and his team connect the dots between the murder and an unsolved kidnapping, a discovery that imperils the cop and his family. VERDICT In his third Vaara thriller (after Lucifer's Tears), Thompson adeptly conveys the ugliness of the racial intolerance currently permeating Western Europe. Less successful is the cartoony covert-ops angle (think Stieg Larsson meets The A-Team) and the choice to strip Vaara of his conscience. Crime fiction readers with a taste for Nordic ultraviolence will be satisfied, but those yearning for less gore and more depth will be left cold.—Annabelle Mortensen, Skokie P.L., IL

www.libraryjournal.com

The poet developed ties to the court of King Gustav III (1746-92), a devoted patron of the arts, without forgetting Stockholm's underclass. In spite of his contacts, he was considered as a lowly clown, generally despised, and when he fell in love with Wilhelmina Norman, her family opposed their marriage. In 1777 Bellman married Lovisa Fredrika Grönlund; they had four sons. He was appointed in 1779 as a government official at the Lottery Office. Despite Gustav III's appreciation and financial support, Bellman's choice of subject matter made him an outsider at court. However, the poet was a loyal supporter his royal benefactor, even during the years before his murder in 1792 when opposition against the King grew stronger.

Bellman combined in his works the classical allusions, elevated metaphors, and pastoral motifs so loved by the Enlightenment with perceptive descriptions of life's comic and tragic realities. Some songs dealt with figures from the Old Testament. The most famous is about Noah:

Gubben Noach, Gubben Noach Var en hedersman När han gick ur arken Plantera han på marken Mycket vin, ja mycket vin, ja Detta gjorede han.

(Old Man Noah, Old Man Noah / Was a gentleman...)

With this song Bellman became a celebrity, although he arose much indignation among the clergy. 1765 Bellman began producing a cycle of songs, FREDMANS EPISTLAR, the title alluding to the Pauline Epistles. Among the central characters are Father Berg, Fredman, a watchmaker, Mollberg who wants revive of the past glory of Sweden, Movitz, a musician, and Ulla Winblad, the nymph and priestess of the temple of Bacchus. Fredman was originally the clockmaker Jean Fredman, who took care of chuck clocks. Ulla Winbland was Maria Kristina Kiellström (1744-1798), who came from a poor family. The poems depicted mostly tavern life. They were followed by FREDMANS SÅNGER (1791), also a varied collection containing mainly drinking songs. BACCHI TEMPEL (1783) contained some songs and engravings.

In most of his songs, Bellman borrowed the tunes from minuets, folk songs, opera, and march music. Some of the melodies Bellman composed himself. In 1794 Bellman started to write his autobiography, but he did not finish it. Bellman was imprisoned in 1794 for ten weeks because of unpaid debts to Enoch Nobelius, but was soon released with the help of his friends. According to rumors, Nobelius wanted to revenge when Bellman's wife did not respond to his attention. However, the poet's health was already broken. He died of tuberculosis on February 11, 1795. Bellman plays were published posthumously. Adolf Bellman, the poet's youngest son, later wrote his father's biography and depicted the warm relationship between his parents in spite of the constant financial problems that troubled the family.

CORRECTIONS TO THE PROGRAM BOOK

Please contact Gail Nemy, gnemy@sbcglobal.net, 481-0373, or Arlene White, Lodge Secretary, abwhite@volcano.net, 209-295-7930 if you find any errors in phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses or spelling of member names. We like to have accurate information for our members.