

**MONITOR LODGE # 218
VASA ORDER OF AMERICA**

May 2014

Chairman, Charles Rea
Vice Chairman, Brian Horsfield
Secretary, Yvonne Magneheim
Treasurer, Johanna Benker
Financial Secretary, Elizabeth Swenson

CURRENT EVENTS

Midsommar Smörgåsbord Celebration

On Friday, June 6th, Monitor will celebrate its second indoor Midsommar with good food, music, and dance. If you have a Swedish costume, this would be the perfect time to show it off for all to see. Let's enjoy this very traditional Swedish holiday with all our Monitor friends and kick off "Sommar 2014!"

*** James Netzel will set up a majstång (maypole) right in the middle of our hall at 1831 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, for our midsommar celebration. Traditionally it is decorated with fresh green foliage—birch twigs are especially popular in Sweden—and with lots of flowers. Have some flowers in the garden? We can use them to decorate our "Majstång". We need people to help set up at 4 PM, decorate the majstång, set up tables (put on tablecloths, etc). If you can help please call Barry Moore at 916-969-8904 or Charley Rea at 916-483-2064.

*** The bar will be open at 5:30 for our social hour and during that time we will be placing the dishes you bring at the designated table for our potluck smörgåsbord.

*** Please bring enough food to serve 6-8 people and have your dish ready to serve so you just need to put it on the table upon your arrival. Put your name on your plate or bowl so you are sure to get your dishes back at the end of the evening.

You never know exactly what to expect for a potluck, but we certainly got a good variety of Swedish foods last year. We've assigned members to bring food based on names/alphabet. Please see below for what table you're assigned. If you have any questions, please call DeeDee Dahlberg at 916-995-4631.

Don't forget to wear your dancing shoes and bring your voice. We will have dancing and singing around the majstång with traditional Swedish music and some instruction for some simple ring dances from the very accomplished Barry Moore.

Potluck Smörgåsbord

Yes, this is a potluck dinner with a Swedish twist for midsommar!

Table 1 (Members from Ed Dahlberg to Dale Ingvarlsen)

Traditionally the smörgåsbord begins with Herring of all kinds: Dream Herring, MustardHerring, Currant Herring, Onion Herring, Lemon Herring, Elderflower Herring, Lingonberry Herring.

The variety of different kinds of pickled herring is a never-ending story! Maybe you can create a herring variation of your own by starting with a jar of pickled herring. You could also bring some salmon such as smoked salmon or gravlax. Shrimp is also served with this first course. This is the table where we could use some deviled eggs, some fresh boiled new potatoes with dill, and some cheese. If you can bake, we'd love to have some fresh homemade limpa for this table too!

Table 2 (Members from Helen Jensen to Carol Nesevich)

Think COLD food. This table will focus on cold cuts such as various sausages, sliced ham, cold roast beef, and different pâtés. Various salads and cold side dishes are served with this course also such as pickled cucumbers, potato salad, cabbage salad, pickled beets, jellied veal, chicken salad, fresh green salad, pickles and olives.

Table 3 (Members from Ed & Judy Netzel to Amy Winter)

Focus on HOT food for this table. We will have a strip outlet available if you want to bring your dish in a crockpot to keep it warm. You could also put your serving dish in the oven for a short time to keep it warm before serving. Think about bringing some Swedish meat balls for this table or some warm sausages like the little prinskorv. Spareribs are popular on this table for midsommar. Hot side dishes are needed here too, like cabbage rolls, brown beans, red cabbage, boiled new potatoes with dill, and a Jansson's Temptation.

Table 4 (Members from Theresa Alberts to Deidre Dahlberg)

DESSERTS! We'd love to have some homemade baked goods for this table—some cookies or maybe a light cake. This is the spot for a mixed fruit salad. And STRAWBERRIES! Midsommar would not be midsommar without strawberries—served alone with a little sugar and whipped cream—or with ice cream, on top of a meringue, or in the form of jordgubbstårta (Swedish version of strawberry shortcake). Please don't forget to bring the strawberries!

If you are willing and/or able to help with the clean-up, including the un-decorating of the majstång, please plan on staying after the party to help. Många tusen tack.

FUTURE EVENTS

June Business Meeting – There will be a business meeting to pay the bills on June 9th at 7 PM at Charley Rea's home at 2212 Homewood Way, Sacramento.

Scandinavian Festival – Please put the Scandinavian Festival on October 6th on your calendar. We need many hands to make this event a success, so if you are able to work please contact Barry Moore or Gail Nemy at the next meeting. We will have sign-up sheets.

Crayfish Party – Put Saturday, August 2nd on your calendar for the annual crayfish dinner at James and Melissa Netzel's home. We are planning to have singing and dancing. There will be a newsletter in July (no June newsletter) with more details.

2014 DUES

Congratulations! We have been successful in the collection of dues so far this year. Let's see if we can have 100% of dues paid by June 1st. This year Monitor Lodge raised the dues for the first time in many years to **\$35 per person per year**. If you haven't paid your dues for 2014, you should send them to our Financial Secretary, Elizabeth Swenson at P.O. Box 22943, Sacramento, CA, 95822 or see Johanna Benker at the Midsommar Potluck.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/1 Elsa Cisar	6/4 Kris Arnlund	6/9 Beatrix Clark
6/10 Beatrice Matson & Christine Brainerd	6/15 Elizabeth Johnson	6/16 Jack Larson

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/7 Daniel Eriksson	7/10 Eivor Pfannkuch	7/16 Arlene White
7/19 Meribeth Bean & Robert Johnson		

A belated, but no less enthusiastic, happy birthday to Hal Mattson and Don Johnson, who were inadvertently left off of the appropriate birthday lists.

We are in the process of putting together a birthday master list. If your birthday did not appear in the appropriate month, please send a note to Karin Johnson at kmjohnsonk1p2@aol.com.

Nål och Tråd

There hasn't been a meeting of Nål och Tråd in 2014. However, in preparation for the Scandinavian Festival, we should try to meet in June, July and/or August. If you can cut paper or would like to learn a little more about some handicrafts, this would be a good opportunity. If you have a suggestion for a meeting time and date, please call Karin Johnson at 916-482-3755.

Member News

It is with great sadness that we report that long time member Wanda Nesewich passed away after celebrating her 100th birthday.

Other members that are recovering or convalescing are: Theresa Alberts, Myrtle Widmark, Linda Larson, Ed Dahlberg and Christine Bodelson. A card or phone call would probably be appreciated.