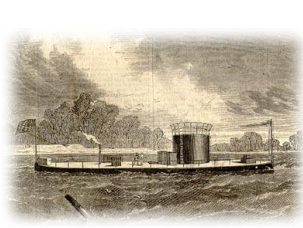


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November/December 2017

November event. We held elections for our 2018 officers at our Friday, November 3rd Kaffekalas meeting and the results are on the attached summary which includes proposed appointed positions.

December events. We hosted Sierra Kronan at our Julbord on December 2nd which included Glögg sampling and aquavit toasting. To say “**Tack så mycket**” to Peggy Carlson for leading this wonderful Jul celebration would be an understatement. Everyone did a terrific job. We had 105 people in attendance and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the food, Glögg and camaraderie.

On the following Friday, the 8th we held our Lucia celebration with a terrific turnout, with Annika Rea, our Lucia, having 9 attendants and 4 star boys. They were accompanied for many of their songs by Ginny Lee on her nyckelharpa. Lisa Rae and her crew did a **fantastic** job guiding the children, many first-timers, in delivering a wonderful program.

In addition to the pictures at the end of this newsletter, there will be more pictures of both events posted on our [album web site](#) soon. Many thanks to those folks who shared their photos.

2018 scholarship applications. Don't forget that applications for Monitor Lodge's 2018 scholarships are due by April 1, 2018 !! Applications for Golden Gate's scholarship are also due by April 1 but the Grand Lodge Scholarships are due by February 15, 2018. You will find more information on Monitor's [scholarship web page](#).

2018 Dues are due on January 1, 2018. The yearly dues are still \$35.00 per member 14 years of age and older. Dues are delinquent on March 31st. Please make checks payable to Monitor Lodge #218 and mail your dues to Anita Nord at 6435 Palm Ave, Carmichael CA 95608. **Tack så mycket** in advance for your diligence in getting payment in early.

Grattis på födelsedagen to our **November** (Diane Brownell, Susan Edelmayer, Russell Ellis, Richard Eriksson, Sr, Kathy Matthews, Donna Niemoller, Lillian Stafford, Elizabeth Swenson-Miura, Loren Weatherly,

2018 Calendar of events

January 5th, 2018 – Friday
Make your own Smörgåsar
and installation of officers

February 2nd – Friday - **Pea Soup & Pancakes**

March 2nd – Friday – **Corn Beef & Cabbage**

April 7th – Saturday –
Monitor's 106th
Anniversary Luncheon

April 21st – Saturday –
Scandinavian Festival

April 27-29 – Golden Gate
District #12 convention in
San Jose

May 5th – Saturday – **Sill Frukost** hosted by Chris Bodelson and Chuck Johnson

June 1st – Friday -
Midsömmar potluck

June 23rd – Saturday -
Sweden Day at Sveadal

June 29 thru July 6 – VASA
Grand Lodge convention
in Sacramento

July – no meeting

August 4th – Saturday –
Kräfskiva

September 7th – Friday –
Dinner (type TBD)

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Larry Woodward) and **December** (Ruth Marie Brown, Laila Harris, Adam Johnson, Carol Nesewich, Eric Swanson and Amy Winter) birthday celebrants

Member of the Month. This month we are featuring one of our newest members - Joan Bollman:

“Five of my great grandparents were immigrants from Sweden (Gustafsson, Anderson, Boklund, Hallgren, Nylund), and one great grandmother (Ahlsen) came from Halden, Norway, close to the Swedish border. Both of my grandmothers belonged to a needlework group that met in each other’s homes to do needlework and socialize together. My father met my mother at my mother’s parent’s house when he came to pick his mother up. Within a year my parents married.



My four siblings and I grew up on an apple ranch in Sebastopol. My father was the manager of the 40 acre ranch. We grew up working on the ranch in the summers learning the art of saving money for future needs.

When I married Chuck I moved to Sacramento where I found a job at the Federal Highway Administration as an environmental specialist. While there were lots of challenges in getting through all the requirements and satisfying multiple interests to the extent practicable, it was fulfilling to be a part of providing transportation improvements.

Chuck and I had no children, but we have been devoted uncle and aunt to 8 nieces and nephews and now the great niece and great nephew numbers are growing. In retirement, I have joined the Embroiderers Guild of America and the Davis Genealogy Club. My mother was very interested in genealogy and laid a good foundation for me to carry on. More importantly, she picked up family contacts in Sweden in three family lines for me to continue. She had also taken a number of my siblings and nieces to several St. Lucia celebrations at the Petaluma Vasa Lodge.

One of my mother’s cousins in Sweden is as interested in genealogy as my mother was and has not only provided us information about his family line, but also a second family line. He sent to me an article written by my second great grandfather’s brother about his childhood in Landskrona and events in his father’s short career as an artilliarman at the Landskrona Citadel. This article had been republished by the local historical group. This was very exciting, but wait, of course, it was in Swedish. I needed a translator. I clumsily searched for a translator (at the time, I didn’t discover the existence of the Monitor Lodge!) and found a lovely lady at the Petaluma Vasa Lodge, Ulla Flemstrom, who volunteered to translate it for me. And the story of the life and conditions of my second great grandfather’s childhood was unlocked.

This summer, my husband, sister and I went to Sweden for the first time and met 25 cousins from 6 to 96 years old in Karlskoga, Landskrona, Lund and Karlshamn. They made sure that we saw the sights and had a wonderful family experience. The Landskrona Citadel remains as a splendid historical landmark and it was thrilling to walk through it knowing that my third great grandfather had walked there too.”

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Upcoming Monitor events. We will have our traditional **Pea Soup & Pancakes** dinner on Friday, February 2nd followed by our **Corned Beef & Cabbage** dinner on Friday, March 2nd.

Scandinavian Festival 2018 updates. The Scandinavian Festival committee met on October 19th to elect officers for 2018 (Chuck Johnson is the 2018 chairman), finalize a date for the festival – it will be April 21, 2018 at Scottish Rite Masonic Center - and develop a first draft for menus, volunteer needs and activities. The next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM at Chuck's and Chris' home. Folks interested in attending are welcome. Just let Chuck know so he can add you to the email notification list. Tack så mycket

New Members. Members are encouraged to invite friends, family and co-workers to our activities. In addition, if you think sending someone our newsletter for a couple of months will pique or sustain their interest, please provide their email to Chuck Johnson so they can be added to the distribution list.

Would you like to hear more Swedish? Check out a new foreign film streaming video service offered by Mhz Choice (<http://watch.mhzchoice.com>). The cost is minimal and many of the films have English subtitles. If you want to see what is being offered, click on "search" then type in "Swedish" and enjoy. Tack to Marianne Ek for this new language resource.

Better yet consider practicing your Swedish while in the company of other Nordic devotees traveling together on a Capital Public Radio [tour of Scandinavia](#) in July 2018.

And then there are some local classes as well. Dick Baldwin has taken over the helm of hosting the Swedish Language class from Eric Swanson in his home in Curtis Park, and would like to add one or two more students to the group. Contact Dick via email at drichardbaldwin@gmail.com for more information.



Peggy Carlson (Julbord coordinator), Chuck Johnson (Monitor chairman) and Jim Melin (Golden Gate #12 District Master) and his wife Delores.



Members and guests digging in at the "cold" table. L-R: Eivor Pfannkuch, Elissa Silveira, Brian & Louanne Horsfield, Laila Harris, Birgitta Ostland and guest

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Julbord 2017 - We were not sure if we would have enough food 😊😊



Some well sated members and guests.



Kurt Pfannkuch and Yvonne Magneheim leading the aquavit toast



St. Lucia 2017

St. Lucia Annika Rea with her attendants Ashley Leaman, Clara Ellis, Lydia Ellis, Elsa Tjeder, Emily Brainerd, Mia Ragadio, Delaney Long, Kate Wilson and Camellia Cuthill and her star boys Emil Rea, Gavin Brainerd, Raymon Royer, and Noah Ragadio.

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Cami



Emily and Gavin



Delaney



Monitor Lodge's youth dancers and carolers



Santa and the children