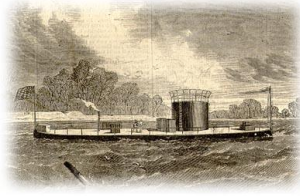


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Sacramento, California  
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**NOVEMBER 2020**

**Upcoming Monitor events.** The situation regarding public gatherings is still very uncertain and health related issues are not abating. After consultation with Monitor's leadership and input from several members we are **cancelling our December Julbord and St. Lucia events.** We are hopeful we can resume our in-person get-togethers early in the new year.

**Lodge business meetings schedule.** We do not know when we will have our next in-person business meeting. Monitor's officers are in regular contact with each other and we are holding our first virtual executive meeting in mid-November to figure out how we might facilitate hosting some virtual **social** meetings in the future. In the meantime if you have any questions regarding the status of our business activities, please don't hesitate to contact any of the officers.

**How good is your Swedish vocabulary?** If you experience language withdrawal, you might find the Swedish lessons in [Nordstjernen](#) or the Swedish edition of [The Local](#) will help.

Here is some more seasonal vocabulary courtesy of The Local's [Word of the Day](#)?

Höstrusk is a common term to describe the Swedish weather in November. It's a word to use when indulging in the Swedish pastime of complaining about the weather. *Höstrusk* is about as Swedish as a word can get, and doesn't just describe an undesired autumnal weather condition, it also encompasses the mood and feeling that goes with it.

**2020 Calendar of events**  
**(dates subject to change)**

December 5<sup>th</sup> – Saturday – **Julbord** and Glögg party **cancelled**

December 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday  
**St. Lucia celebration - cancelled**

**2021 Calendar of events**  
**(dates subject to change)**

January 8<sup>th</sup> – Friday- Dinner and installation of officers

February 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday - **Pea Soup and Pancakes**

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday – **To Be Determined (TBD)**

April – Anniversary, Scandinavian Festival and District convention **TBD**

April 23-25 – Friday – Sunday – **Golden Gate District #12** convention

May 7 – Friday – **Sill Frukost.** Specifics still **TBD**

June 4-5 – Friday – Saturday – **Midsommar** and **Sweden Day.** Specifics still **TBD**

July – no events normally scheduled.

August 7<sup>th</sup> – Saturday – **Kräftskiva** (crayfish party). Specifics still **TBD**

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*Höstrusk* best translates as 'nasty damp autumn weather' (literally, *höst* means autumn, and *rusk* means nasty or horrible) and is heavily used among Swedes in October and November to describe the rainy, cold, and grey period just after the trees lose their leaves but it's still too early for snow and Christmas lights.

The word has quite a negative ring to it and its application pretty much coincides with when the Swedes start spending much more time indoors (a period which generally lasts until the spring and has earned them the reputation of 'isolating' themselves during the winter months).

Swedish writer, poet and painter August Strindberg (1849-1912) definitely doesn't seem to have been a big fan of the Swedish *höstrusk* weather. In 1885, he wrote that "all that was left for me to do was to go on a journey in the midst of *höstrusket*" (*För mig återstod således blott att midt i höstrusket företaga en resa*).

**Examples:**

*Jag ger mig aldrig ut i det där höstrusket.* I'll never head out into that nasty autumn weather.

*Njut av vädret innan höstrusket kommer.* Enjoy the weather before the nasty autumn weather sets in.

*Det är skönt att vara inne när det är regn och rusk ute.* It's nice to be inside when it's rain and that horrible weather outside.

**Two important reminders.** **1.** Don't forget to return your ballot for our 2021 Monitor officers **no later than November 25<sup>th</sup>**. (copy attached just in case you misplaced the one sent out earlier this month) **And 2.** Our 2021 dues are due on January 1, 2021. 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, Monitor Financial Secretary  
6435 Palm Ave.  
Carmichael CA 95608

Tack så mycket in advance for your diligence in getting payment in early. We also ask that you consider making a donation to our scholarship fund in honor or in memory of a loved one or just because.

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**Did you know \_\_\_\_\_ about Monitor Lodge?** This occasional section features interesting factoids about Monitor Lodge and VASA. Monitor Lodge was an active participant in Sacramento's annual Camellia Festival and won best float awards several times over lifespan of the Festival's parades (1965, 1966, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1976, 1977 and 1985 that we have records of). In 1976, Monitor won the Grand Sweepstakes trophy with a 16 ft Statue of Liberty made with some 2,000 camellias and 14,000 staples. The Sacramento Bee article reads in part: *"Standing in front of his lodge's award-winner, President Lennart Andersson was asked for a flowery statement to befit the mile-long march and victory. The accent and the length was classical Swedish: 'We are very happy'."*



1976 - Camellia Festival Sac Bee article and Monitor Lodge's Grand winner (photo clipped from article)

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1966 Camellia Festival – Monitor was the Sweepstakes Trophy winner of the Children's Camellia Parade with Jon Veis (3<sup>rd</sup> from left, son of Arlie Veis) and Kenneth Njord (5<sup>th</sup> from left with silver tie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lars Njord). The float depicting the earth with two spinning Gemini satellites.



1971 Camellia Festival - winning Monitor's Children's float featuring Snoopy and the Red Baron

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1988 Camellia Festival - Erik Carlson (red vest), Caleb & Kyle Hjersman, Kurt Pfannkuch, Linnea Carlson, Peggy Carlson, Erik Carlson and Karin Pfannkuch. NOTE: Erik is Peggy & Ken Carlson's son while Linnea & Erik (black vest) are Oscar (Don) Carlson's children.

**Memory lane travels.** As we are spending more time at home please dig out your old photo albums and share your Swedish memories of your youth with family and friends. Or just send us some current news about family and friends. **Please** consider sharing some of your discoveries or news in future issues of Monitor's newsletter. Just scan and send your labeled photos to Chuck Johnson. Short stories are also welcome.

**Grattis på födelsedagen** to our birthday celebrants for **November 2020**. They are Diane Brownell, Susan Edelmayer, Russell Ellis\*, Donna Niemoller\*, Karen Sandberg, Elizabeth Swenson-Miura, Loren Weatherly and Larry Woodward (\* denotes member 75 years of age or older)

**Sunshine (Friendship) Committee:** Recently Myrtle Widmark has moved into hospice and Helen Jenson has moved into a care home. We often have members and their families dealing with health issues or unable easily travel to Monitor events and they appreciate receiving your cards, phone calls and visits. Please contact Larry Woodward or Will Hanley, our Sunshine committee members, if you know of a member in need of our assistance in some manner. **Tack så mycket**

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**Vänligen nå ut (Please reach out)** to folks. Check on each other, be it by phone, e-mail or a card until we can gather again in person. It is much appreciated .

**Annual Program book updates.** The 2020 program book is available on our [website](#) where we also post updates throughout the year. It is a “living” document and we have a couple of changes for **November:**

Page 7: Mark Delle  
193 Sussex Place  
Carson City, NV 89703-5376  
916-427-8451 cell

Page 9: Helen Jenson	
<b>(residence - <u>no mail</u>)</b>	<b>(mailing address)</b>
A & C Care Home	P.O. Box 584
2949 Garfield Ave.	Foresthill, CA 95631-0584
Carmichael, CA 95608	

Page 11: Karen (nee Sandberg) Crawford      Karen and Tim got married on September 14, 2019 and sent us a letter in mid-March to update us on all their changes. While they are leaving Monitor they asked that we share their contact information:

Karen & Tim Crawford  
4101 Founders Way  
Modesto, CA 95357  
[crawfordkaren@pm.me](mailto:crawfordkaren@pm.me)  
209-272-0128 cell – Karen  
209-247-3112 cell – Tim  
No landline

**Current financial report (summary)** from our Financial Secretary and Treasurer. While current events have created some unusual impacts on our 2020 income and expenses, we are still very comfortably in the black. We will provide a summary of our financial status in our December newsletter.

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**And for the good of the order** – The Hopkins family is on a roll. Not one to rest on her laurels, **Lollie Hopkins** has published another book: “**Before It's Too Late**“, a story about a family dealing with how to preserve the legacy of the family’s dying patriarch. You will find it on Amazon.com at: <https://www.amazon.ca/Before-Its-Late-Lollie-Hopkins-ebook/dp/B08LBP8H8K>

And not to be outdone by Lollie and Nicole, Andy now is featured as the guitarist providing the musical background for the **Blue Line Millennial** podcast starting with episode 6. This is a multi-faceted podcast which seeks to bring to the listener real stories from today's generation of law enforcement officers which you will find on-line at: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/blue-line-millennial/id1525612157?i=1000496561426>

**Bästa önskningar för en säker men glädjande säsong (Best wishes for a safe yet joyous holiday season)**



Newsletter editor: Chuck Johnson