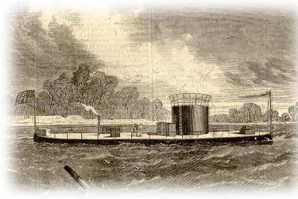


Monitor Lodge, #218
Sacramento, California
Meets at I.O.O.F. Hall, 1831 Howe Ave



November 2021

Our ZOOM meeting for our October meeting again provided our out-of-town members and guests the opportunity to participate. In addition to Elizabeth Swenson-Miura in Wyoming and Jill & Brian Stockham in Idaho, this time we also had Mike & Jean Barney, former members many years ago, joins us from Kentucky despite the three hour time difference. We conducted a brief business meeting and concluded with a presentation on the evolution and history of coffee and fika in Sweden developed by Glenn Sweitzer of Svea Lodge #253 (Indianapolis) and presented by Eivor Pfannkuch on his behalf.

Upcoming Monitor events. The next few months will still be a challenge to us all as attending events and social contact are still being restricted. At present all Monitor-related in-person events are being evaluated on a regular basis based on COVID guidance issued by the CDC and the state's Department of Public Health. We are planning on holding some kind in-person event for Jul/ St. Lucia event in December although though food may be very limited.

We will have a **ZOOM** meeting on **Friday, November 5th**. This meeting will continue the nomination process for our 2022 officers in preparation of our version of "voting by mail" in mid-November. The meeting will also include a vote to adopt the proposed changes to our bylaws and rules regarding our scholarship program.

How good is your Swedish vocabulary? If you want to brush up on your Swedish, you will find Swedish vocabulary and lessons in **Nordstjernen** (<http://www.nordstjernen.com/>) or the Swedish edition of **The Local** (<https://www.thelocal.se/>) which offers a Swedish word in their October 8, 2021 issue to help explain a strange device you're likely to spot in Sweden.

2021 Calendar of events
(dates subject to change)

November 5th – Friday - agenda TBD plus election of 2022 officers - ZOOM

December 4th – Saturday – **Julbord** (tentative)

December 10th – Friday – **St. Lucia** celebration (tentative)

2022 Calendar of events
(dates subject to change)

January 7th – Friday - Dinner and installation of officers

February 4th – Friday - **Pea Soup and Pancakes**

March 4th – Friday – **TBD**

March 19th – Saturday – **Scandinavian Festival** (maybe)

April 2nd – Saturday – 110th **Anniversary** luncheon (tentative date)

April 22-24 – Golden Gate annual convention in Sacramento

May 7th – Saturday – Sill Frukost - **TBD**

June 3rd – Friday – Midsommar **TBD**

July – no meeting

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Kattrappa means “cat staircase”, and it’s a ladder-like contraption for cats leading up to an apartment balcony. It allows the animals to come and go as they please – and means that owners can consider apartments above the ground floor without compromising on giving their cat some freedom.

Sweden has strict policies around animal welfare, and dog owners for example, may only leave their pets alone for a limited number of hours per day, so it makes sense that people in Sweden would ensure outdoor cats have plenty of chances to get out. Look out for the *kattrappor* as you walk around Sweden, as some of them are quite artistically designed.

So why is it our Swedish word of the day? Cat ladders aren’t a uniquely Swedish phenomenon, but they do highlight a new approach to the Swedish lifestyle. The phrase *villa, Volvo, vovve* (detached house, Volvo car, pet dog) sums up the typical middle-class Swedish dream. But with a housing shortage making it harder to get on the property ladder, this ambition is increasingly out of reach for many. Others are simply choosing different priorities: apartments close to city amenities, electric cars or other forms of transport, for example.

Annual Program book updates. Our annual program book/member directory is mailed each December and is available on our [website](#) where we also post updates throughout the year. It is a “living” document and we have no changes for October:

Three important reminders.

1. Don’t forget to review the call for 2022 officer nominations. (copy attached just in case you misplaced the one sent out earlier this month). We will do a mail vote as we did for our 2021 officers.
2. Please review the enclosed document with proposed changes to Monitor’s scholarship program. The vote for changes will be held at the November meeting.
3. Our 2022 dues are due on January 1, 2022. 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 when you send in your renewal check in honor or in memory of a loved one or just because.

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A grattis på födelsedagen to our birthday celebrants for **November 2021**, they are Diane Brownell, Susan Edelmayer, Russell Ellis*, Donna Niemoller*, Elizabeth Swenson-Miura, Loren Weatherly* and Larry Woodward (* denotes member 75 years of age or older).

Sunshine (Friendship) Committee: We often have members and their families dealing with health issues or unable to 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**

Memory lane travels. Please consider sharing some of your photo album discoveries or news in future issues of Monitor's newsletter. This month we have two VASA Star excerpts from 2001 and 2011 at the end of this newsletter. One article describes Monitor's "Sounds of Sweden" radio show and the other article is pictures of Monitor's Children's Club lace making activities.

Current financial report (summary) from our Financial Secretary and Treasurer. While current events have created some unusual impacts on our 2021 income and expenses, we are still very comfortably in the black. Below are our fund balances as October 30, 2021:

| <u>General Fund</u> | <u>Children's Club</u> | <u>Nal och Trad</u> | <u>Building</u> | <u>Scholarship</u> | <u>Totals</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| \$12,373.27 | \$402.22 | \$6,335.77 | \$4,662.26 | \$7,685.60 | \$31,459.11 |

The above totals reflect the crediting of CD interest and the payment of monthly IOOF Hall rent through September along website hosting expenses.

For the good of the order – There is a plethora of online Swedish music videos and two that you may enjoy featuring Helen Sjöholm with Benny Andersson's Orkester:

"Vår sista dans" (Our Last Dance) performed at Skansen 2001
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=gBkcUMpd_dk

"Du Är Min Man" (You Are My Man) performed at 2009
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CU5wo2lq_xg

Njut av!



Newsletter editor: Chuck Johnson

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Excerpted from the April-June 2011 issue of the *VASA Star*



L-R Jack Larson & Arlene White

L-R Anita Nord & Marianne Ek

“A small group from Monitor Lodge #218, Sacramento has formed a radio program to promote music, culture and products of Sweden. This group is comprised of voluntary broadcasters and engineers, all Monitor Lodge members. The broadcasters prepare the programs and play the CDs on the air, and the engineers work the switches for the vocal and advertising segments. The broadcasters are Kurt and Eivor Pfannkuch, Jack Larson, and Marianne Ek. Our Engineers are Arlene White and James, Melissa and Ed Netzel. The group is working to extend knowledge of Sweden, its music, cultural and local activities. In the broader picture, we now have available, through www.KJAY1430.com, archived weekly programs that can reach anywhere in the world. This new program is dedicated to Sweden and where applicable, other Scandinavian countries. This project is a labor of love but we are hoping that good reviews will lead to paid advertising that will keep the program on the air. Just think announcement of your event could be heard in the USA, Sweden or anywhere in the world via the global broadcast on the Sounds of Sweden. For further information on this program email us at ‘soundsofsweden@hotmail.com’. We welcome your comments and value each listener's opinion.”

Submitted by: Marianne Ek
Pictures by: Brian Stockham

One note to readers – the “Sounds of Sweden” email address no longer exists.