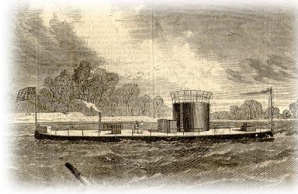


Monitor Lodge #218

Sacramento, California

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<https://www.monitorlodgesacramento.org/>



December (December) 2024

In November we had a very productive series of discussions on several items of importance to the lodge's future as well as closing out the nomination process for our 2025 officer slate. By the end of the evening we passed motions to raise our annual dues to \$50 per active member effective January 1st, 2025, dissolved the Building Fund, finalized Julbord fees and provided guidance as to Monitor's position on the serving of liquor at lodge events. Details on these items are recorded in our November 1st, 2025 business meeting minutes.

Upcoming Monitor events. We will be holding our Julbord on December 7th followed the next Friday by our annual St. Lucia celebration. January by the installation of our 2025 elected officers. In February we will have our annual Pea Soup and Pancakes dinner and business meeting.

Annual Program book updates. Our Program Book is updated in early December for printing and mailing to all active members in late December. Please contact Brian Horsfield, Anita Nord and Chuck Johnson **ASAP** with any needed changes so we can update the Program Book, member database and newsletter mailing list. Tack så mycket. We have one important update of our 2024 book:

Page 9: edlnetzel@yahoo.com new email address

Did you know _____ about Monitor Lodge? This occasional section features factoids about Monitor Lodge and VASA. This month we feature a short excerpt from our April **2017** lodge history summary submitted to Golden Gate District #12: *The Sacramento Scandinavian Festival began in 1983*

2024 Calendar of events (dates subject to change)

November 1st – Friday
Pie social (tentative)

December 7th – Saturday
Julbord and Glögg Party

December 13th – Friday
St. Lucia program

2025 Calendar of events (dates subject to change)

January 10th – Friday
installation of officers

January -date TBD – **annual audit meeting**

February 7th – Friday – **Pea Soup and Pancakes**

March 7th – Friday – **Corned Beef & Cabbage**

April 5th – Monitor's **113th Anniversary**

April 12th – **Scandinavian Festival**

April 25-27 – **District Convention** – location to be determined (not Sacramento)

May 3rd – Saturday – **Sillfrukost**

June 6th – Friday – **Midsommar**

July – **no meeting**

August 2nd – Saturday – **Kräftskiva**

September 5th – Friday – **Nominations**

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under the leadership of Arlie Veis and Monitor Lodge as an outgrowth of the Camellia Festival. It has continued for 34 years to the present day. Sacramento area Swedish, Danish, Finnish and Norwegian lodges are involved serving Scandinavian food, baked goods and wares and a variety of entertainment for the one day event.

Monitor sponsored Swedish language classes for many years which began at the home of Barbara Erickson in 1963. Hildur Benson was the first teacher, Brigitta Ellis and Eva Allred following. The Adult Evening Education program in Sacramento asked if Eva would teach a class. Open to the general public and it grew to 60 students with Marie Tillman and the Kagstroms as additional teachers. Some students subsequently became members of Monitor.

And a couple of updates to the history summary: 2025 will see the 41st annual Scandinavian Festival take place and our Swedish language classes continue currently under the tutelage of Will Hanley.

Current financial report (summary) as of November 2024 from our Financial Secretary and Treasurer. Note that the Building Fund has been zeroed out with 50% going to the General Fund and 50% going to Scholarship per the vote at our November meeting. We continue to be comfortably in the black.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Children's Club</u>	<u>Nål och Tråd</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Totals</u>
\$ 11,752.61	\$156.26	\$5,252.70	\$0.00	\$10,474.62	\$27,636.19

A grattis på födelsedagen to our birthday celebrants for **December:** Jenny Cavanaugh, Laila Harris*, Adam Johnson, Carol Nesevich* and Nils Wright. (* denotes member 75 years of age or older). On a side note, Will Hanley delivered a Svenska Blommor and had a delightful visit with Russ Ellis as Monitor acknowledged Russ' **102nd** birthday in mid-November.



How good is your Swedish vocabulary? ? If you want to brush up on your Swedish you have several options: we have Monitor's in-person/ZOOM Swedish language classes led by Will Hanley. In addition to the on-line tutorials utilized by some of Will's students at Innovative Languages (<https://www.innovativelanguage.com/>) you will find Swedish vocabulary and lessons in Nordstjernen (<http://www.nordstjernen.com/>) and in the Swedish edition of

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The Local (<https://www.thelocal.se/>). You can also get a language fix from bi-weekly podcasts at: <https://shows.acast.com/the-newbie-guide-to-sweden-podcast>.

This time we have a Swedish word of the day offering courtesy of The Local on [December 31, 2018](#). This month we explore the word Swedish word of the day: **god fortsättning**

Here's a word you can use to greet friends, neighbors and colleagues around this time of year. You may already know the Swedish holiday greetings *god jul!* (Merry Christmas!) and *gott nytt år!* (Happy New Year!), but there's a third seasonal saying that comes in particularly handy during the [mellandagar](#) and in the first week of January.

God fortsättning literally means "Happy continuation". Used between Boxing Day and December 31st, it means "have a good rest of the holiday season!", which is a bit of a mouthful in English, and from January 1st onwards it is used to mean "have a good rest of the year!". On December 30th and 31st, you can also use *gott slut!* (Happy end of the year!).

Whereas English speakers tend to say "Happy new year" to friends they see in the first days of January, if it's their first meeting since before New Year's Eve, Swedish *gott nytt år* is usually used only until immediately after the clock strikes midnight on January 31st, so *god fortsättning* is the more common early January greeting.

It's a useful little phrase, but how long can you keep saying it before it sounds a bit strange? This is a question that confuses even native Swedish speakers.

In general, you're safe wishing friends a *god fortsättning* at least up until Epiphany (January 6th), and can probably carry on using it until the 20th day of Swedish Christmas, [tjugondag knut](#), on January 13th, when the seasonal decorations are generally taken down. After that, it's time to revert to the usual greetings such as *trevlig helg* (have a good weekend), *god morgon/god kväll* (good morning/good evening).

Examples:

God fortsättning på det nya året Happy continuation of the new year (a longer form of the greeting)

God fortsättning till dig och din familj Happy rest of the year to you and your family

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For the good of the order: As part of your annual dues all members should be receiving the VASA Star as an insert to Nordstjernan (<http://www.nordstjernan.com/>) four time a year. The most recent VASA Star issue should have landed in your mailbox in late November. If you have not been receiving the VASA Star issues, please send an email to Yvonne Magneheim (yvonnemags2@gmail.com) with a CC: to Chuck Johnson (chuckj50@surewest.net).

And something to put on your 2025 “to do” calendar: consider participating in the **2025 Nordic Spirit Symposium** “*Before the Vikings - The Scandinavian Bronze Age*” It is a unique lecture/performance program presented by the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation and California Lutheran University. You can learn more about the symposium and how you can participate at:

<https://scandinaviancenter.org/nordic-spirit-symposium/>



Newsletter editor: Chuck Johnson

Seasonal Viking humor



Dad Jokes 
@Dadsaysjokes



Viking warrior Rudolph the red and his wife were on a stroll. Rudolph the red looked up at the sky and said: "We should hurry up, there is a storm coming".

So his wife asked: "How do you know?" And he replied...

"Rudolph the red knows rain dear."