

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



HAPPY VALENTINE'S
DAY!

Photo: MariyaZ Flickr

Activities for the Golden Valley Lodge to Consider

Submitted by: Delphine Trowbridge

Look over the list to see if there is anything that might be fun. Add to the list and we can vote on an activity at our March meeting.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) Cruise LA to San Francisco | 6) San Antonio Winery |
| 2) Cruise to Ensenada | 7) Magic Castle |
| 3) Zion National Park by bus | 8) Wine tasting at Temecula |
| 4) Santa Anita Race Track | 9) Music Center |
| 5) Sedona, Arizona | 10) Other... |

GVL HAPPENINGS

Good afternoon, Vasa Park Association members,

Thank you for nominating me and voting me in as Vice President. I am looking forward to serving in this role by bringing in new ideas while keeping beloved traditions and encouraging and developing new activities. I am excited to meet and work with each of you and encourage you to communicate any suggestions you may have for Marknad and other park ideas.

Vasa has been apart of my life forever. My parents met at a Midsummer Ball in 1982 and chose to be active members throughout their entire adult life. I grew up boating with the Vasa Sports Club, singing in Lucia Pageants, camping out at Viking Village and Sjolunden, taking roles as Chairman, Youth Coordinator, and Inner Guard for Nordic Heritage and Golden Valley, running in the Midsummer Court, and leading the Children's Games at Vasa Park events. My Swedish culture has been a large identifying characteristic of my personality and giving back as Vice President to the organization that helped foster my heritage is the least I can do.

Outside of Vasa, I received my Bachelors of Science in Public Health Education from Utah State University, which has a large emphasis in program planning and evaluation, grant writing, and event implementation and marketing. I started work as a Behavioral Interventionist and Para-educator for children with autism after university. I am currently employed as the Camp Program Director for the Boy Scouts of America and specialize in event management.

I believe transparent leadership is the best way to develop trust and positive communication and would like to share a few personal goals I have as Vice President.

- 1) Bring fresh ideas to Marknad to increase the interest and participation.
- 2) Encourage and empower more youth to take active roles in their local lodges and VPA.
- 3) Increase marketing efforts for all VPA events.
- 4) Streamline communication and make myself accessible to those seeking to better the organization.

I know each of you have creative suggestions and goals of your own and I look forward to hearing them and getting to know each of you a little better.

Thank you for your time and happy New Year!

In Truth and Unity,
Linnea Heinstedt

2018 Membership Dues

Golden Valley Lodge's dues are \$25/year per person payable in January. Thanks to so many of you who paid at the January meeting. If you did not pay at the last meeting, please plan on taking care of that fee at the February meeting or mail it. We would like



all dues for 2018 paid by March.

Dorothy Burns,
GVL Financial Secretary
8201 Glade Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91304

What Is A Gold Card Member?

When the Financial Secretary reads the report every month and you hear "there are 32 GOLD CARD members," most of you know what that means, but I didn't really know until I got into the job. It means you have been a member of the lodge for 25 years AND you are over 70 years old. A Gold Card member no longer needs to pay dues.

What Is A Youth Group Member?

A youth group member is a person 14 years to 21 that is a member of our lodge. There is a special table for the youth group so that they can get acquainted. Fun activities are planned for their interests.

GVL HAPPENINGS

Golden Valley Youth Group's 2017 Disneyland Trip



The Golden Valley Lodge youth group had a terrific time at Disneyland and California Adventure last Saturday, February 3. There are 22 youth members of the Lodge between the ages of 14 – 21. Eleven members and 3 chaperones went on this trip, and a couple brought friends who paid their own way. We all joined together at 5:15pm for dinner at the Redd Rocket Pizza and enjoyed a meal of our choice – salads, pizza, mac & cheese, spaghetti & meatballs, drinks and more. All the kids played a Disney trivia

game together with their cell phones. After the meal and the group picture they all scattered again to see everything they could.

The Youth Group is going to have another gathering this summer when some of the kids will be back in town. Any suggestions? Please contact either:

Natalie Taylor (novalietaylor@gmail.com) or Jason Trowbridge (jason-trowbridge@gmail.com).

Did you know???

There is a FREE program called Duolingo that helps you to learn new languages? One of the languages offered is Swedish! Just go to Duolingo.com and create an account. If you log in regularly, you will progress. If you

don't keep it up, it will not promote you to the next level. There are a lot of fun things to keep it interesting!

Give it a try and let us know what you think!

OUR NEW BOARD



Golden Valley Lodge 2018 Board Initiation



Our Dinner Hosts: (L to R) The GVL Youth Group with Linda Trowbridge, Lucas Taylor, Natalie Taylor, Jason Trowbridge

HÄPPY FEBRÜARÛ BIRTHDÄY!



Sven-Olof Lingstrom	1	Stig Klintare	7	Keri Mikkelsen	21
Kristina Foley	1	Amador-Stromberg	10	Tina DeHart	22
Hanna Claesson-Dios	3	Jason Trowbridge	11	Michel Hamaoui	22
Olof Wester	4	James Thorsen	13	Bernice Dreher	24
Alice Karling	5	Tyler Holstein	17	Mark Weitz	25
Mona Steffen	5	Melissa Steffen-Coombes	19	Bengt Heinstdt	26
Viola Kindstrand	6			Lage Engblom	27

Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

OUR JANUARY MEETING



Mona Steffen



Jason Trowbridge



Dorothy Burns



Andrea Tabinelli, Laurie Taylor, and Natalie Taylor. Natalie was working in the kitchen during the initiation ceremony.



Lucas Taylor



Jason Blohm

Culture Corner: Sweden in the 20th Century

Source: /www.informationsverige.se

Democracy is introduced

At the beginning of the 20th century, people were still moving from the countryside to the cities. The number of farmers grew smaller as the number of factory workers grew. More people wanted the right to vote in elections. In 1907, all men over the age of 24 were given the right to vote. Only in 1919 did the Riksdag extend that right to women as well as men. At the end of the 19th century, workers joined together to form trade unions in order to try to improve conditions for workers and increase their wages. Sometimes they were successful. To protest against unfair working conditions, workers sometimes went on strike, refusing to work. In 1909 there was a general strike in which 300,000 workers stopped working. This was a significant event for the development of labour laws and democracy.

The First World War and the interwar period

When the First World War broke out in 1914, the Nordic countries signed an agreement that they would remain neutral, not taking sides in the conflict. The First World War lasted until 1918.

In 1922 the world's first institute of racial biology was founded in Sweden. The institute's task was to study the differences between people, and it was named the State Institute for Racial Biology. The institute was involved in promoting the passage of a law on sterilisation in 1934. Thousands of people who were considered of lesser worth were sterilised against their will. As Nazism grew stronger in Germany, racial biology faced increasing criticism. The idea that people were of different worth depending on their origins became widespread from the interwar years and had horrific political and humanitarian consequences in many parts of Europe. Read more on: www.levandehistoria.se/english.

Agreement between employers and employees

Major changes also occurred in the labour market. From the early 20th century until the 1930s, it had been common for employers and employees to argue about wages, working hours and workplace conditions. In 1938, the workers' trade union confederation, LO, and the Swedish employers' association,

SAF, agreed on a model of cooperation in order to reach agreement in future. This agreement became known as the Saltsjöbaden Agreement. Cooperation between employers and employees has been very important in the development of the Swedish economy.

The Second World War

The Second World War began in 1939. During the war, Hitler and the Nazis killed over five million Jews and hundreds of thousands of Roma, communists, homosexuals and people with disabilities. When the Second World War began, Sweden drew up an agreement that the country would be neutral and not take a side in the conflict. Sweden helped refugees from Denmark, Norway and the Baltic states. Sweden accepted 7,500 Danish Jews, who would otherwise have been sent to Germany.

Sweden was criticised during as well as after the Second World War for not having acted as a neutral country, e.g. by allowing the Nazis to transport soldiers and weapons through Sweden.

Following the Second World War, many countries came together to form the United Nations (UN) in order to prevent a new world war.

Europe after the Second World War

After the Second World War, Europe was divided in two, Eastern Europe and Western Europe. Eastern Europe came under communist rule and the Soviet Union was in charge of most decision-making.

Western European countries and the US joined to form NATO, a military alliance for the defence of Western Europe against communism. In response, the Soviet Union and its satellite states in Eastern Europe formed the Warsaw Pact for their own defense. The climate of conflict and tension that followed became known as the Cold War.

In 1961 the Berlin Wall was built in Germany to prevent people from leaving East Germany, which was a communist dictatorship during the Cold War and whose inhabitants were not allowed to leave

Culture Corner: Sweden in the 20th Century

the country. Before the Berlin Wall had been built, many people fled from East Berlin to West Berlin. The Berlin Wall is a symbol of the division of Europe during the Cold War. This division remained until 1989, when the Berlin Wall was also torn down. That event has become known as the Fall of the Berlin Wall.

Sweden from 1960 to 2000

In the 1960s, Sweden's economy improved. Child-care, healthcare and care of the elderly was expanded. Employees gained the right to four weeks' holiday. Sweden became a modern country that could provide its citizens with a good life. There was security and opportunities to get foot, housing and work. This security is normally called the Swedish welfare state. In 1974, a new constitution decreed that all public power comes from the people. The king was still the country's head of state, but all political work would be conducted by the Government and the Riksdag.

Carl XVI Gustaf was the first Swedish king to ascend to the throne following the introduction of the new constitution. In 1980, the law was also changed so that a woman could succeed to the throne. This means that Princess Victoria is the heir to the throne instead of her younger brother, Prince Carl Philip.

In 1979 the price of oil was raised. It was the countries in Opec (Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) that made this decision. When oil became more expensive there was a financial crisis among the countries in the west.

In 1986, the Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme was murdered. The murderer is still unknown.

The beginning of the 1990s was a troubled time in Europe. Sweden suffered from a banking and monetary crisis. Many people lost their jobs. Many businesses disappeared. The public finances became worse.

In 1994, the Swedish people voted in a referendum to join the European Union (EU).

Foreign Minister Anna Lind was murdered in 2003. Her murderer is in jail.

In the 21st century, several financial crises have had a major impact on the global economy.

Around 2000 the so-called dotcom bubble burst, leading to the bankruptcy of many businesses involved with the growing internet and information technology in general. The bubble was a result of extreme speculation, and when it burst the stock-market crashed.

In 2008, a financial crisis was caused by an over-valued and over-leveraged housing market in the USA. The financial crisis has led to several countries coming close to bankruptcy (Iceland, Greece, Spain) and the effects are still being felt (2017).

2010 was marked by a debt crisis in Europe, which continues even today (2017). This has led to higher expenditure than revenue in several EU countries, and the crisis has spread to a number of countries in Europe.

February in Sweden

Schools in Sweden have a holiday in February called the February holiday or the sports holiday. Children get a week off school. In February or March, many people in Sweden eat semla. This is a delicious bun filled with almond paste and whipped cream. It is a tradition from the time when people in Sweden fasted. People ate fatty food before beginning the fast. Those who are fasting eat nothing at all for a period of time, for example for religious reasons.

2017 Christmas Party and Lucia Presentation
Thank you to Jason Blohm for the pictures!!!!



Golden Valley Christmas Party 2017



Golden Valley Christmas Party 2017



Golden Valley Christmas Party 2017



Happy 97th Birthday, Aina Selinder!

Submitted by Maria Jacobs



Aina is shown celebrating 97 years on January 5, 2018! Our gold member, Aina, is blowing out her birthday candles and enjoying her cake as she celebrated her birthday at “The Nest,” a care facility in Encino Hills where she lives. Aina is very loved and treated so kindly by the other five ladies. Her

face often lights up with a big smile even as her sight is now diminished. She received a call from her great-grandniece in Sweden wishing her a Happy Birthday. She was born in Råneå and speaks English and Swedish. It is a pleasure to visit with her!

Lars Jonasson

The charter was draped for our dearly departed gold member, Lars Jonasson. Lars was born in Sweden and resided in Palm Desert. He became a member in 1991. He did not come to the meetings regularly

because of the distance. He was very good friends with Maidie, Wenke, and many others. Lars was about to get his 25 year pin but unfortunately didn't make it.