

November 2014

# Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter

## Happy Thanksgiving!

**Gratitude is not only the  
greatest of virtues, but the  
parent of all the others.**  
- Cicero

### Upcoming Events

- Our GVL November meeting is the third Thursday. Please bring your donations and white elephants to the November meeting for the Christmas party!!!
- The Fall Outing still needs to be decided upon.
- The Financial Corporation meeting will be held Tuesday 11-18-14 @ 6:30 pm, at the Wendt's home.
- The application deadline for the District Scholarships is December 10.
- Golden Valley Lodge Christmas Party/Lucia Program is Saturday, December 20th at Sons of Norway Hall
- SACA's installation dinner is planned for on January 25, 2015.

**Next meeting: Thursday, November 20, 2014**

# GVL Happenings

## The 4th Annual Schnapps Song Contest Winner

Welcome back and a big congratulations to Ruth Wilkening! She won first place in the Schnapps Contest with her song entitled, "Cheers to All Our Friends Today" sung to the melody of "Goodnight Irene."



*Cheers to all our friends today,  
drink up,  
drink up,  
drink up,  
No work today, make hay 'n play,  
Drink Schnapps the livelong day!*

## It's a Girl!



Maidie Karling's daughter Ann-Kristin gave birth to a beautiful daughter, Ashlyn Brianna Thai. She was born 10-28-2014 at 6:18 a.m., weighed in at 7 lbs. 8 oz. and 19 inches long. The family is well and very happy to have a healthy new family member!

## Open Positions!

We **MUST** have members to take a position in the following positions: Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chairman and a Delegate to Central Association (SACA). Please consider a position in our Golden Valley Lodge. Training will be provided!

## Happy November Birthday!



|                 |      |                |      |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Joshua Wendt    | 2nd  | Sonja Andonian | 15th |
| Natalie Taylor  | 7th  | Anna La Carr   | 19th |
| Per Forslund    | 8th  | Ruth Wilkening | 25th |
| Jennifer DeHart | 9th  | Laurie Taylor  | 29th |
| Ingrid Thomsen  | 10th |                |      |

## Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

# October Meeting Pictures



**Our Fabulous Dinner Hosts!**



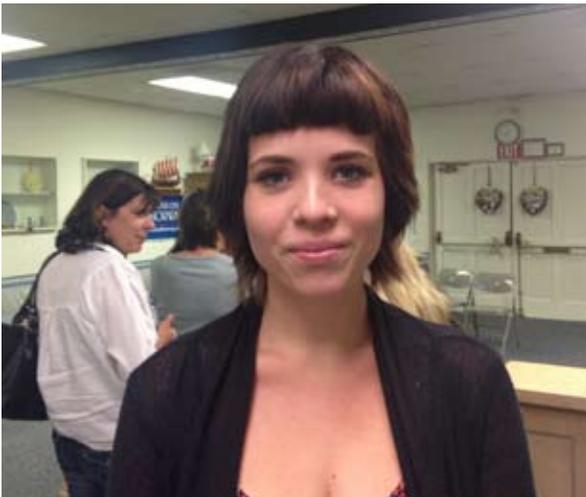
# More October Meeting Pictures

Our newest lodge members initiated  
at the October meeting.

Welcome to the  
Golden Valley Lodge!  
Jessica & Kayla Santana, Becca & Kerri  
Mikkelsen, Jennifer Dewey,  
and Richard Heinstedt.  
(Not pictured: Andrea Benitez  
and Erika Bosley)



*Jessica Santana &  
Kayla Santana (mother and daughter)*



*Becca Mikkelsen*



*Kerri Mikkelsen*



*Jennifer Dewey*



*Dual member, Richard Heinstedt*

# Culture Corner: All Saint's Day



*Photo: Cecilia Larsson/imagebank.sweden.se*

On All Saints' Day candles are lit on cemeteries all over Sweden in memory of loved ones and relatives that have passed away.

*Origins of All Saints' Day:* In the year 731 AD, November 1st was designated a day of remembrance for saints of the church who had no days of their own. From the 11th century, November 2nd was dedicated to all the dead, of whatever standing, and was called All Souls' Day. It was widely observed by the populace, with requiems and bell-ringing, but was abolished

with the arrival of the Reformation. In 1772, All Saints' Day in Sweden was moved to the first Sunday in November and in 1953 to the Saturday between October 31st and November 6th.

In the 1900s, however, people began putting lighted candles on the graves of the departed on All Saints' Day. This custom originated with wealthy families in towns and cities. But after the World War II, it spread throughout the country. Churches also began holding services of light to mark the day.

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The beautiful picture above is of Skogskyrkogården which is considered one of the most important creations of modern architecture, and is even inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. A UNESCO World Heritage Site is a place (such as a forest, mountain, lake, island, desert, monument, building, complex, or city) that is listed by the United Nations Educational, Sci-

entific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as of special cultural or physical significance. Skogskyrkogården is an example of the "designed experience", meaning that the design is created around the visitor's experience of the site.

This is a very popular tourist experience.

# Being Thankful... What are you thankful for?

The holi-daze are already upon us! Christmas music is on the radio even before we have a chance to celebrate Thanksgiving! I have been musing about all the things that I am thankful for. As with everyone else, the past few years have held some new challenges. But the unconditional love, kindness, and generosity of my parents, my family and family friends have been absolutely incredible.

Yesterday, a car with a confused man was suddenly coming head-on towards me in my lane. The aware driver of the car to the right of me was able to move a few inches out of the way so that it was just a very stressful close call. I was *REALLY* thankful!

## Be Thankful for Time!

“If you want to know the value of one year, just ask a student who failed a course.

If you want to know the value of one month, ask a mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

If you want to know the value of one hour, ask the lovers waiting to meet.

If you want to know the value of one minute, ask the person who just missed the bus.

If you want to know the value of one second, ask the person who just escaped death in a car accident.

And if you want to know the value of one-hundredth of a second, ask the athlete who won a silver medal in the Olympics.”

- Marc Levy

Treasure every moment that you have! And treasure it more because you shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time with. And remember time waits for no one.

Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That's why it's called the present.

- Unknown

“Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough”

- Oprah Winfrey

I am sure we all have many things to be thankful for. This month we celebrated Veteran's Day so that in itself is something to be thankful for. Of course we should all be thankful for our military and the honorable veterans, especially our disabled veterans, who served in protecting us.

Sometimes when we are caught up in life's ups and downs, we forget to be thankful. Here are some ideas to remind us. [Special note: If you are still really sad, *please* reach out to get some help. Sometimes holidays are overwhelming for people and *not* the “most wonderful time of the year.”]

## Some Things Others are Thankful for (from Thankfulfor.com)

There were some interesting things that people are thankful for daily at the web site [thankfulfor.com](http://thankfulfor.com).

I give thanks for my salary and all the bills I am fortunately able to pay!

I love my life!

I am thankful for my confidence. It took many years but I finally found it!

I was able to do something to help my dad today after all of the help that he has given me lately.

Feeling my baby kick!

I am thankful to be married to my best friend.

My vacuum... instant gratification!

I love the feeling of checking things off my to-do list!

I am thankful for my life. I am thankful for weekends. I am thankful for my gift of communication. I am thankful for my willingness to forgive and see how things really are.

I am healthy. My mind is working OK. I can connect with people in a meaningful way.



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