



Happy Thanksgiving

Golden Valley News for November 2011

Chairman's Message

The holiday season is coming up soon with all the usual culinary temptations. Last week I read an article stating that the average Joe gains seven pounds between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve. The author goes on to say that Joe would gain 350 pounds during a 50 year period unless he managed to work it off after the holidays. Well I say that's why we have New Year's resolutions – don't ruin our favorite pastime 😊 But I can understand the frustrations of the housewife who spent 18 hours preparing a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner for her family, only to see it consumed in 12 minutes – that's the duration of half-time break in the football game on TV. I feel a little guilt by association there.

I have no idea what our dinner committee plans to serve at our next meeting – all I know it's going to be good. The Holstein and Thorsen families have signed up for kitchen duty and that means great food. This month Ruth Wilkening is in charge of our cultural edification. As usual, we'll have a short business meeting before we sit down at the dinner tables. Please note that our November meeting occurs on the third Thursday of the month.

This is the time of the year when we are reminded to share our blessings with other people. Of course, you have your say on how we should distribute our charitable contributions. The GVBC directors have evaluated a few organizations and at our next meeting Tommy Eneberg plans to present their recommendations.

Enclosed with this newsletter you'll find Sonja Andonian's flyer on the GVL Christmas Party that is scheduled for December 17. Please, note that space is limited so make your reservations

early. Sonja wishes to remind you to bring an unwrapped gift to our November meeting. The gifts will be used as raffle prizes at the Christmas Party.

As the year comes to an end, we need to put together a new board. Please think about what job you would like to take on. Isabella Muscarella is in charge of our nominating committee. Please give her a call and let her know what you are willing to do for the Lodge. Also, I'm looking for someone willing to take over as editor of the newsletter. Please contact me or Isabella about that. The elections will take place at the December meeting.

It was a pleasure to see six new members initiated at our meeting on October 13. They are: Roy Olsson, Nicolette Taylor, Sofie Thornten, Brad Thornten, Janet Bell and John Bell. With 21 new members joining our Lodge in 2010-11, our membership now stands at 156. Unfortunately, six members will be dropped next month unless they pay their annual dues soon.

This year we have a record number of scholarship awards. Hubert Pitters, Scholarship Committee Chairman, has promised to announce the names of the recipients at our next meeting (on November 17). I hope to see you all there.

In Truth and Unity, Bertil

Lottery Winners

Vice Chairman, Steve Tabanelli, reports that he and his helpers sold lottery tickets for \$112 at our meeting in October and the flower march brought in \$46. Isabella Muscarella was the lucky winner

of \$25 in the capsule drawing and on top of that she also got first prize (\$30) in the raffle. Nicolette Taylor won second prize (\$20) and Ruzenka di Benedetto third prize (\$10). We also raffled out several center pieces. Congratulations to all the winners!

Tidbits from Past Events

Our annual excursion took place on November 5. This time we visited the San Antonio Winery in central Los Angeles. As you all know, this event is paid for by funds donated in the last will of Åke Boschen. Our past chairman, Kerstin Wendt, had done a great job organizing the excursion which consisted of a one hour guided tour, wine tasting and then a great lunch at the in-house restaurant. Afterwards, many in our GVL group (consisting of 44 members) lingered in the wine store to stock up for the holidays.

In Memoriam

It is my sad duty to report that one of our long-time members, Edith Kastus, passed away on

March 31, 2011 at the age of 92. She joined the Lodge in 1968. Our sincere sympathies go to her friends and relatives. We will drape the Lodge charter at our general meeting on November 17.

Important Announcements

As I mentioned in the October letter, Ann Heinstedt is in the process of organizing our Lucia pageant. She is looking for children and young adults (ages 2-20) to take part in the program. As of today, only five youngsters have signed up. Those interested are asked to e-mail her or call her at phone number (661) 297-3507.

Sonja has asked me to publish another gentle reminder for those of us who wish to donate something for the Christmas raffle. Please, bring an unwrapped gift to the November meeting!

Birthdays in November

Joshua Wendt	2 nd	Sonja Andonian	15 th
Rut Eneberg	8 th		
Per Forslund	8 th	Ruth Wilkening	25 th
Jennifer DeHart	9 th	Brad Fagerstrom	28 th
Inga Kozell	9 th	Laurie Taylor	29 th
Rolf Olofsson	10 th	Leila Shoet	30 th
Ingrid Thomsen	10 th		

Happy birthday to you all!

Dates to Keep in Mind

November 6 th	End of Daylight Saving Time in the US
November 13 th	Fars Dag (Father's Day) in Sweden
November 17 th	Golden Valley Lodge meeting 6:30 pm – please note the date
November 24 th	Thanksgiving
December 1 st	Building Corporation meeting 6:30 pm at the Wendts' home

Wishing you all a great Thanksgiving holiday, Bertil