

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



Chairman's Message

We had a happy group of about 60 people at our September meeting. If you were there, you know that after the usual business meeting, we all enjoyed a great Viking dinner. Our thanks go to Delphine, Dorothy and the entire kitchen team. I think it was Dorothy (or was it Laurie, our hardworking editor) that snapped the picture of a fierce-looking Viking appearing next to this column. For all you enquiring minds I must confess that it depicts me, your humble chairman. The photo will come in handy next week when I go to renew my American passport. Why not – it really shows how I look every morning before my first cup of coffee.

On a more serious note – as you all know we are fast approaching the end of 2012 and it's time to start thinking

about the election of Lodge officers for the coming year. Please, consider where you can get involved and how you can serve our Lodge. To indicate your interest, you may talk with members of the nominating committee that I plan to appoint at our next meeting.

In the near future we'll see significant changes. All accounts of GVBC (the Building Corporation) are scheduled for transfer to our Lodge within the next two weeks. From then on, as resolved at our Lodge meeting on June 14,

these assets will be managed by a Finance Committee. I expect the committee to have its first meeting on November 9. I see no need to have any further meetings of the corporation except possibly for a general meeting (several months from now) to declare that the State of California has approved the dissolution. The current officers and directors of the corporation will continue as temporary members of the Finance Committee. Tommy Eneberg becomes chairman of the committee, Stig Klintare will serve as its vice chairman, Hubert Pitters is appointed

Happy Halloween

treasurer and Kerstin Engblom assumes the position of secretary for the committee. Election of new committee members will not take place until our regular Lodge meeting on January 10, 2013. In the meantime, we need to establish guidelines. At our next meeting I plan to appoint a person to lead the development of rules that will be submitted to our members for review and approval in the same manner we keep tabs on the scholarship committee.

Dissolution of the Building Corporation means that the general membership of our Lodge will gain direct control of all our finances. In the future I believe administrative costs, for instance, need to be approved at our monthly meetings. Also, I think the financial committee should handle only matters directly associated with budget & finance. Other items, like social events and charity, could be handled by a separate committee. There is no need, in my opinion, to have eleven people engaged in the financial committee – the number could easily be cut in half and the meetings could be reduced to one every other month. However, to be fair, these are questions for the rules committee to investigate.

On several occasions in the past our scholarship program received donations of \$1,000 from a lady that wished to be anonymous. I am now free to reveal that our generous benefactor was Bertha Evelyn Kalm who passed away earlier this year at the age of 97. Unfortunately, I didn't have the opportunity to meet her - she never applied for membership in the Vasa Order. However, her friend, Gunilla Thelin (GVL Chairman 2006-07), kindly has provided me with the following data about her interesting and adventurous life. Bertha Kalm was born in California on October 9, 1914. Her parents, Charles and Amanda Kalm, were immigrants from Sweden. In 1933 she graduated from San Bernardino Junior College. Later she studied at USC where she received her teacher's credentials. For many years she taught business administration, most of the time within the Los Angeles school system. In 1952 she took a sabbatical leave and travelled 12,000 miles by car through Europe and several countries in the Middle East. Her interest in exploring the world remained with her. Later in life she travelled in South America, Africa and Central America.

At our meeting on September 13 it was announced that the Golden Valley Lodge is a beneficiary of a trust that was set up by Ms. Bertha Kalm who passed away on April 11. I'm sorry that this important information wasn't disseminated to our general membership at an earlier date. The law office administering the trust attempted to contact me through a registered letter on May 2. I was on travel, however, and didn't return to

California until July 27. The first time I heard of the inheritance was on the 6th of September and, because of unfortunate circumstances, a copy of the letter didn't reach me until September 19. However, it is still too early to determine the size of the inheritance – taxes and expenses need to be accounted for first. The documents show that the trust is invested in shares of several companies. Before distribution of the trust, it may be advantageous for the Lodge to authorize Gunilla Thelin, the successor trustee, to sell the shares on our behalf. We need to discuss and vote on this issue at our October 11 meeting.

As always, at this time of the year, we also need to discuss our contributions to charity. The directors of the Building Corporation (soon to become members of our Finance Committee) have spent some time evaluating worthy causes. Their recommendations will be presented for your consideration. If you wish to introduce other ideas, and you know of an organization that you think deserves our support, you must be prepared to back up your suggestion with hard data.

In addition, we have an initiation ceremony to perform at our next meeting – we could get as many as eight new members. Let's make sure they feel at home in our Lodge. After the ceremony and after the business meeting we all sit down for dinner. The refreshment team this month consists of Ruzenka di Benedetto, our Youth Group leader, and Inga Francis, our recording secretary. In the kitchen, Inga is in charge of appetizers but she also will help Ruzenka prepare the main course which includes lasagna, salad, vegetables and home-made pumpkin soup. Doesn't that sound yummy?!

In closing, let me remind you that this year's Christmas Party is scheduled for December 15. The committee for this event is already hard at work under the leadership of Sonja Andonian and Kerstin Wendt. They ask all you generous people who plan to donate items for our Christmas raffle to please hold your contributions until the November meeting when Sonja will be ready to collect them. By the way, our November meeting takes place on the 15th of that month (yes, on the third Thursday). But let's not get ahead of ourselves – first we have the October meeting on the 11th (the second Thursday of the month as we normally do). I look forward to seeing you all there.

In truth and unity,

Bertil



GVL Happenings

Special Tribute to Arne Ljungren

Maidie was kind enough to send information on the district scholarships for our newsletter. She also shared some information about the recent passing of Arne Ljungren:

We had a moment of silence for Arne Ljungren at our last meeting. He was a member of our lodge for many, many years and was very special to so many of us. For those that have been members of the Golden Valley Lodge for a while, *Arne was an icon*. He worked very hard for the Swedish community and for the Swedes in Swedish Hollywood Club.

Arne loved classical music, books, and old movies. His New Year parties were a special event for 100 or so Swedes, with plenty of good food and lots of music. His house was always open for his friends both when he lived in Van Nuys and later Palm Desert,

Arne was present at our 2010 Christmas party where he read the poem "Tomten". He was a wonderful speaker and often was used as "Master of Ceremonies" at many dinners. *For all that were fortunate enough to know him, Arne will be greatly missed!*

A tribute to Arne Ljungren was sent to the archives.

Dates to Remember

- Golden Valley Lodge Meeting..... Thursday, October 11
- Santa Anita Annual Social..... October 21st
- Halloween..... October 31
- GLV November Meeting..... November 15
- Bring your Christmas party
ra e donations to this meeting!
- Christmas Party..... December 15



The delicious dinner we had was prepared by Jason Trowbridge, Delphine Trowbridge, and Dorothy Burns.

Flower March

The Flower March took in \$49. I seem to have misplaced the details for all the winners of the drawings. Congratulations to all of you! You know who you are -- and when the paperwork turns up, so will the rest of us! So sorry! I did find June's Report though.

From the meeting on June 14th, 2012:

Congratulations to Roy Olson for 1st place, Ruth Wilkening for 2nd place, and Ann-Kristin Karling for 3rd place! The capsule drawing winner was also Ruth Wilkening, again!



Golden Valley was represented by Maidie Karling and Inga Francis. They were among the winners in the Meatball Contest of 2012! Thank you both for all your work... and congratulations!



District Scholarships

e application deadline for all scholarships is December 10, 2012

Sandberg Scholarship

Andrew Wendell Youth Award

- Available to members 14 thru 17 year olds interested in attending the Swedish Language Camp in Minnesota
- One \$2,300.00 Scholarship (incl. \$500.00 travel)

Ellen Bergstone Scholarship

- Available to members 55 years of age and above wishing to attend an Elderhostel class with a Scandinavian flavor
- Two \$1,200.00 scholarships

Carl G. Lindquist Scholarship

- Available to members who are full or part-time student attending a Vocational, Technical, or Trade School
- One \$3,000.00 scholarship

Raymond A Johnson Medical Scholarship

- A four-year scholarship awarded to a member studying for the Medical profession.
- One new four year scholarship: \$5,000.00 first year

Note: Above is a brief statement about each scholarship. Full requirements, rules, etc. are available from your Local Lodge Secretary or on-line at www.vasaDL15.com.

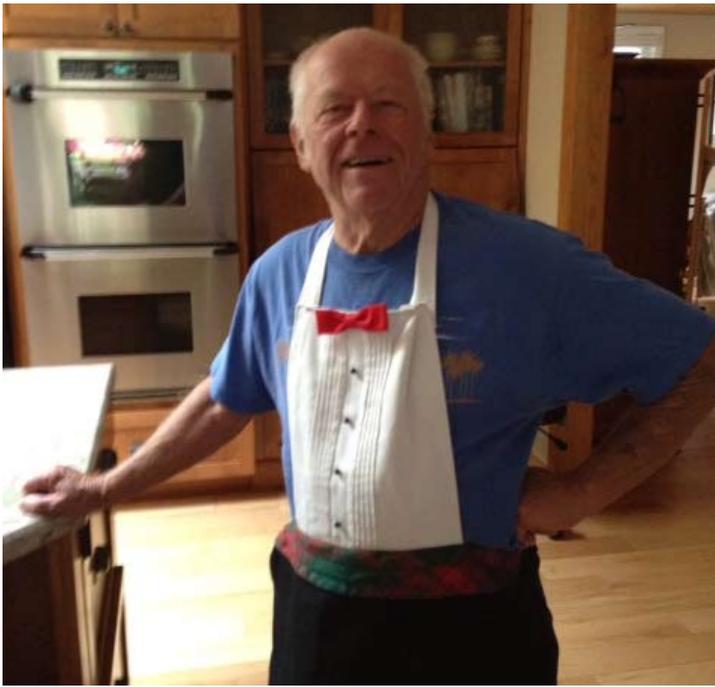
Youth Central

Youth Group Update

Tell your kids to check out our facebook page. New activities are being planned!



If your child is 14, or even *close* to turning 14, have them visit our next meeting with you. We have a special table for our youth to introduce them to the other youth in our lodge!



ROY OLSON joined the Golden Valley Lodge in 2011. He was born in Aberdeen, Washington and presently lives in Granada Hills but has also lived in the San Francisco Bay area, and Santa Barbara. His Swedish roots are from the areas of Bohuslän and Värmland in Sweden and Hedmark, Norway. Roy's parents brought him to VASA and Sons of Norway meetings – he remembers falling asleep on the wooden chairs, but there were also some entertaining moments too. In 1946 he became a member of

the VASA Lodge Framåt #363 in Aberdeen, Washington and in 1948 became an assistant secretary.

He is married and they have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. Two of his grandchildren were able to attend Viking Village this year and really enjoyed it – in fact, his granddaughter is pictured in the Marknad tri-fold brochure as she flew through the air on the zip line.

Roy is retired now, but was a physics professor at Cal State Northridge for many years. He enjoys flying, gardening and science investigations. When asked what languages he speaks he answered: “There are various opinions on that!” That’s because he sometimes mixes Swedish with Norwegian, I think.

This past summer he and his wife Hanna travelled to Europe for a month. First, they were in Switzerland for three weeks and they travelled around the Alps. While in Switzerland, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in the same village where they were married. The guests (nearly 40 of them) were mostly the same ones as at the wedding, plus children and grandchildren. Twelve of their fourteen family members were there. The last week in Europe was spent in Sweden where they visited several groups of cousins and friends in western Sweden. It was a wonderful trip.



Happy October Birthday to You!



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|---------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Monica Carabas | Oct. 2 | Heidi Klintare | Oct. 12 |
| Gun Olin | Oct. 2 | Conny Klintare | Oct. 13 |
| Eugene Paulin | Oct. 3 | Daga-Karin Lindquist | Oct. 15 |
| Lisa Rosenquist | Oct. 5 | Ingela Sorensson | Oct. 15 |
| Yvonne Klintare | Oct. 5 | Ann Heinstedt | Oct. 16 |
| Anneli Anderson | Oct. 5 | Stephen Osman | Oct. 16 |
| Delphine Trowbridge | Oct. 7 | Bertil Ohlsson | Oct. 17 |
| Larry Polutanovich | Oct. 7 | Katarina Holstein | Oct. 24 |
| Wenche Eklund | Oct. 8 | Gunvor Sabo | Oct. 25 |
| Nils Possecker | Oct. 8 | Brad Richards | Oct. 25 |
| Lillemo Possecker | Oct. 10 | Rickard Siwerson | Oct. 26 |



Favorite recipe? Upcoming event happening?
Send your newsletter submissions to laurietaylor@hotmail.com.

Marknad 2012

It was an absolutely gorgeous day at Vasa park for this year's Marknad. There were so many fun events to attend, delicious food, and lots of shopping! Here are some pictures from the day, captured by Dorothy Burns.



Visitors and Members To Be

