

February 2015

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter

Happy Valentine's Day!



Isabella Muscarella

Chairman's Message

Thank you Golden Valley members for electing me to the Chair. This is my 3rd time and I must say that I enjoy it. Hopefully, we will have a very productive year. The scholarships are among the most important tasks we have to do. I hope I can get together a scholarship committee, as we have so much to give to our students. Please do not hesitate to tell me if you are interested in serving on any committee, we need all the help we can get. I guarantee you will feel happy and content about serving on this very important committee.

A reminder to all our bakers, we need you to help us with the baking goods for the Convention on Sunday afternoon the 22nd of February. We have had this assignment before and everybody really likes our baking. Please tell Maidie or me at our meeting that you will help and what you will bake. You will be reimbursed by the Lodge for your expenses.

Time is too slow for those who wait,
too swift for those who fear,
too long for those who grieve,
too short for those who rejoice,
but for those who love,
time is eternity.

- Henry Van Dyke

Remember the Lodge will pay for your dinner and lunch at the Convention **if your Dues are paid for 2015** and you show up. Please make reservations ASAP to let us know what you like to eat.

Call 626.355.0111 to make reservations and send your check made out to DLPSW No. 15 c/o Nel Solt, 505 No Hermosa Ave., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Do it ASAP so you won't be left out. Any questions, give me a call.

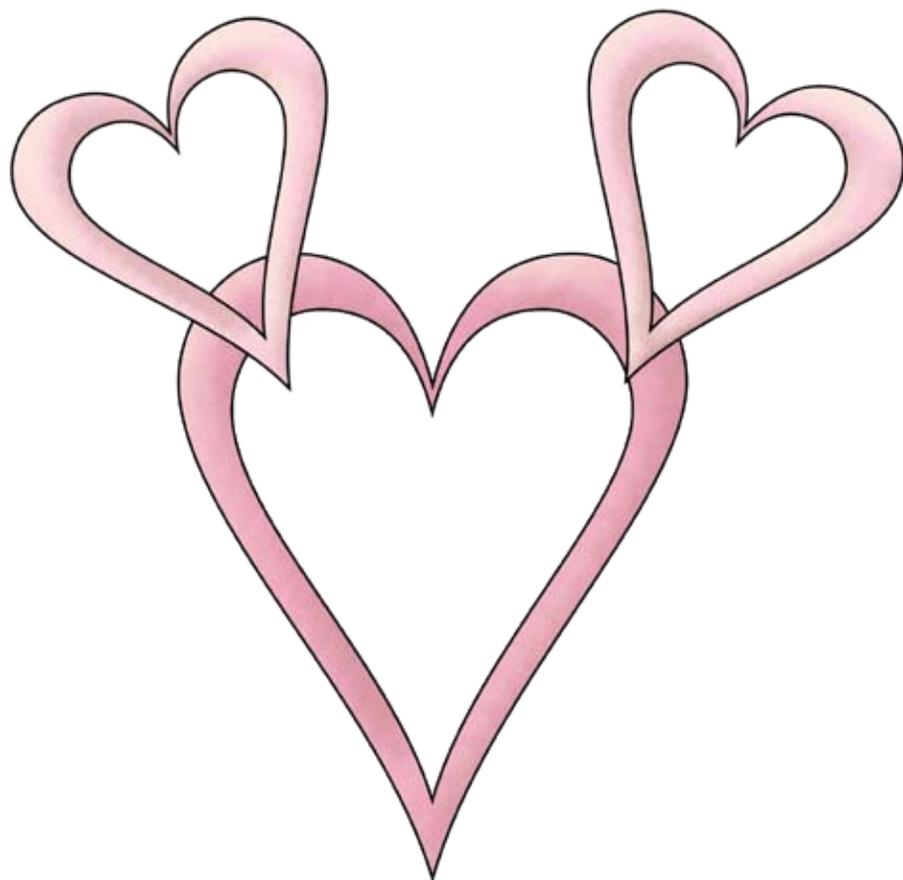
Remember your dues for 2015 are due and payable now.

In Truth and Unity,

Isabella Muscarella

Next meeting: Thursday, February 12, 2015

GVL Happenings



Welcome!

Welcome to our newly initiated member, Birgitta Sidanius. She lives in Sweden and is the sister of Viola Kindstrand.

Happy February Birthdays!

Sven Lingstrom	1st	Rina De Hart	22nd
Olof Wester	4th	Michel Hamaoui	22nd
Dagny Svensson	5th	Frank Muscarella	24th
Mona Steffen	5th	Bernice Dreher	24th
Viola Kindstrand	6th	Bengt Heinstedt	26th
Stig Klintare	7th	Johan Forslund	27th
James Thorsen	13th	Lage Engblom	27th
Maria G. Grew	14th		
Tyler Holstein	17th		
Melissa Steffen	19th		

Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

What a Great Trip!

What a delightful trip to the San Antonio Winery. A big thank you to Delphine Trowbridge for organizing this great adventure. We enjoyed wine tasting, an interesting and educational winery tour, and a delicious lunch. That was followed up by shopping in their unique gift shop. (Pictures follow on page 6.)

Happy 90th Birthday!

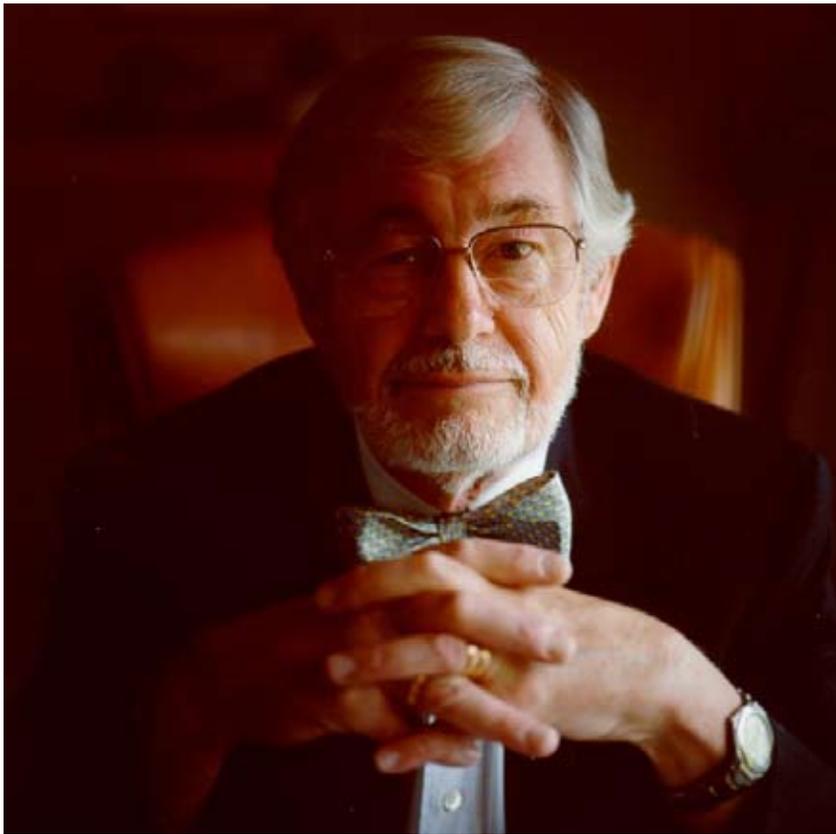
Bengt Heinstedt is turning 90 on February 26. The Heinstedt family will be providing Princess Cake for dessert for all to enjoy at the February meeting.

Get Well Wishes

It was reported by Hubert that Andrea Tabanelli suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized. Last news was that she is recovering well. All the best, Andrea!

Isabella Muscarella reported that Harvey Peterson is in a care facility. He is suffering from kidney and gallstone problems. We all hope he is recovering quickly!





Per-Ingvar Brånemark

Per-Ingvar Brånemark was a Swedish physician and research professor, touted as the “father of modern dental implantology”. The Brånemark Osseointegration Center, named after its founder, was founded in 1989 in Gothenburg, Sweden. (Wikipedia)

With the passage of time we all experience dental problems which are typically solved by the use of fillings, crowns, or root canals. Eventually the problems result in the loss of one or more teeth. Past generations handled the loss with bridges, or in extreme cases a complete set of false teeth which didn't work too well. Attempts to replace individual teeth by a prosthetic tooth anchored to the jaw were generally unsuccessful.

In 1952, a professor of orthopedic surgery in Sweden was doing research on bone healing. Part of the research involved attaching optical equipment to the bone for continuous observation without the need for surgery beyond the initial installation. This called for materials which were strong, light, and would not corrode or otherwise react inside the body of the subject, in this case a rabbit. The best choice turned out to be titanium. When the time came to remove the apparatus, he found that the bone had fused onto the titanium and they could not be separated. The titanium-bone fusion came to be known as osseointegration. The professor, Dr. Per-Ingmar Brånemark, realized the importance of this discovery and quickly moved to test osseointegration on humans. For years, Dr. Brånemark's students could be identified by a small scar on their upper arm.

Like many scientific advances, Dr. Brånemark's discovery was met with disbelief, medical journals would reject his papers, and applications for funding were turned down. It took almost 20 years before funding was provided by the US National Institutes of Health and the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare approved the process of osseointegration for dental implants. Dr. Brånemark's first titanium implant patient was Gosta Larsson, who had a cleft palate, jaw deformities, and a toothless lower jaw. A set of prosthetic teeth supported by four implants served him well for the remaining 40 years of his life. The commercial manufacturing and distribution of Dr. Brånemark's titanium implant system is done by the Nobel Biocare Corporation.

I can personally testify that my two titanium implants work very well. In addition to dental implants, titanium osseointegration has found many other applications in orthopedic surgery and in veterinary medicine.

Per-Ingmar Brånemark died on December 20, 2014 in Goteborg. He was 85 years old.

In Truth and Unity,
Bob Swanson

The Seals of Sweden Hit by New EU Trading Rules



News story by thelocal.se Photo credit: [jorgen Wiklund Imagebank.sweden.se](http://jorgen.wiklund.imagebank.sweden.se)

TheLocal.se reported that the rules for selling seal products have been tightened. An exemption allowing the trade of products made from seals culled as part of wildlife management has been revoked by the EU, which could affect seal trade in Sweden. The EU commission made the decision after pressure from the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which in November 2013 called the exemption discriminatory.

Sweden is one of six countries in the world that allows the hunting of seals, though only as part of wildlife management and with permission from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Naturvårdsverket). Around 300 seals were killed in 2014.

The EU decision does not forbid the culling of seals. But rather than selling the fur or the meat, the products must now be destroyed.

The new rules do not affect seal product trade amongst the Inuit people of the Arctic.

Swedish MEP Christofer Fjellner, member of the Moderate party, was among those who hit out at the new rules on Friday.

“The consequence is that you introduce legislation that says ‘shoot and dig’”, he said.

Last year the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Naturvårdsverket) ruled that up to 400 seals could be culled along the country’s coast in a bid to protect depleting stocks of fish.

“The seals cause significant damage for the fishing industry every year,” the agency concluded in a statement.

Going Cashless?



Recently, our GVL newsletter had a Culture Corner article about the beautifully designed new banknotes chosen for use in Sweden.

A follow-up to that is Sweden seems to be leading the way to a cashless society. While an estimated 55% of the US makes their consumer purchases with cash, Sweden is at 41%. Bills and coins recently constituted less than 3% of the GDP for Sweden while the Euro Area is at almost 10%. Many of their bank branches no longer carry hard currency. Some street vendors even use wireless card readers and various stores have signs that they do not even accept cash. There are shops that have signs which read: “This is a cash free store. We accept credit

cards” or “Vi hanterar ej kontanter.” There are several companies competing to replace cash and at least six of their major banks are cooperating to that end. A Swedish travel website noted that major credit cards (some restrictions may apply to American Express) are widely accepted throughout Sweden at banks, hotels, stores, restaurants, taxis, car rental companies, and for air, ship and rail tickets. But, in order to pay or withdraw cash with your credit card it requires that you have a card with chip and PIN (Personal Identification Number). The older magnetic-stripe cards will no longer work with their updated systems.

Sources: Internet - Telegraph.co.uk, riksbank.se, & visitSweden.com

January 2015 Meeting



A big thanks to our dinner hosts, Wenche Ecklund and Maidie Karling.



Initiating our Board for 2015 and new member, Birgitta Sidanius. (below left)

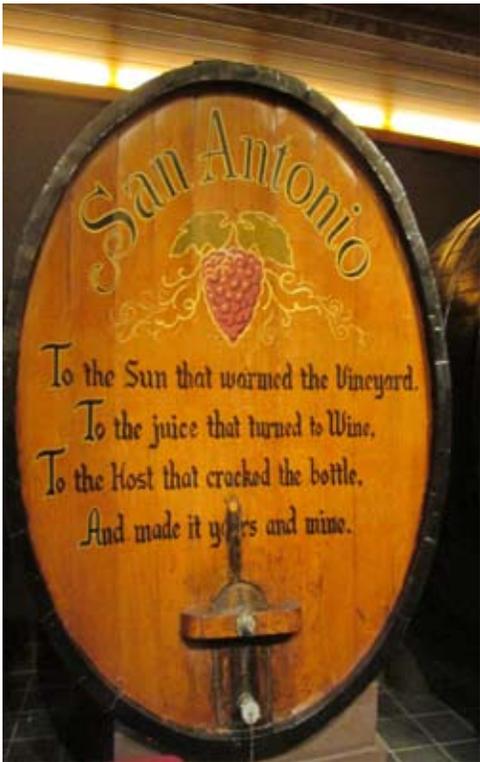


Julgransplundring
The tradition in Sweden and in Finland to plunder the Christmas tree is on Tjugondag Knut or St. Knut's Day on January 13. This is the day when Christmas is 'thrown out.' But, ... first we dance!



San Antonio Winery 2015





Reminder: Annual membership dues of \$25 are to be sent to Delphine Trowbridge 25937 Stafford Canyon Road, Unit B, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381 She will be moving so it would be easier if the dues are sent soon, or brought to the next meeting.

**Golden Valley Lodge, #616
Vasa Order of America
14312 Friar St.
Van Nuys, CA 91401**