

GOLDEN VALLEY LODGE

Happy Father's Day!

(Fars Dag isn't celebrated until November in Sweden. Norway, Iceland, and Finland share the same day)



Per Bifrost Midsummer in Delarna imagebank.sweden.se

Upcoming Events

Golden Valley Lodge Meeting.....Thursday, June 14
 Father's Day.....Sunday, June 17
 Midsummer*.....Sunday, June 24
 Viking Village.....Sunday, June 24 -
 Friday, June 29

Independence Day.....Wednesday, July 4th
 Autumnfest & Marknad*.....Sunday, October 14

Thank you to all who attended the social only last month. I think that it is one of the best turnouts we have had. The food was wonderful, the entertainment (folk dancing) fun and the fellowship even better. This month we need to get everything set for Midsummer at the park. We need to deal with tombola and all the other stations so that they will have enough people to make them run. It should be fun with the raising of the may pole, ring dances, folk dancing and the presentation of the royal court. Hopefully, it will not be too warm.

We also need to finalize the Zion trip if there are any places left. That takes place at the end of September. It should be a great trip. Hopefully, the Viking Village will be filled as well. It is a great experience for the youngsters. Get your reservations in.

To all graduates, fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers as well as any wedding couples, hope your "special days" go well.

I wish all of the members a very happy and healthy summer break.

In Truth and Unity,

Inga Francis, Chairman



You're Invited!

World Cup

Soccer Watching Party

Sweden vs. Germany

When: Saturday June 23rd at 10:30 AM

Where: Keegan's Sports Bar & Grill

<http://keeganssportsloungelandgrill.com>

1434 Marcelina Ave

Torrance, CA 90501

Organized by: Mayflower Lodge No. 445

Vasa Order of America

No Host Bar/Refreshments

There are Salmon tacos and Grilled Salmon on the menu!

RSVP before June 16th required to rdanryd@gmail.com with your name and number of guests or call (310) 697-9646 and leave a message.

We will be accepting a \$5.00/person donation to benefit

The Mayflower Lodge. You are invited! Please share with your lodge and friends who would like to watch the World Cup with us.

Kindly respond to Rolf Danryd

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We are on Facebook at Vasa Order of America - Golden Valley Lodge #616, Van Nuys, CA.

Our website is GoldenValleyLodge.org





Midsummer

Midsummer is widely celebrated in Sweden and Midsummer's Day is a public holiday. It is the most important holiday, after Christmas. The May pole is still raised in all parts of Sweden and people dance around it and sing old songs. In many parts of the country, people like to dress up in national costumes, play folk music, dance traditional dances, and of course, eat well.

History:

Originally, back when the Vikings ravaged in Scandinavia, it was a fertility rite. The May pole was a symbol that was supposed to fertilize Mother nature, in hopes that the harvests would be good later in the year. Apparently, the festivities could probably go pretty wild sometimes! As with many 'pagan traditions', the church now has part of it. Midsummer Day (St John's Day) is celebrated on the Saturday and commemorates the birth of John the Baptist. Midsummer Day was originally celebrated on 24 June but in 1953, it was moved to the nearest Saturday. Nowadays in Sweden, Midsummer Eve always begins on a Friday. In the beginning it marked the summer solstice - the longest day of the year and the shortest night. Summer in Sweden is very short. The Swedish summer

is lush and green; the nights are scarcely dark at all. In the north, the sun never sets.

Traditions:

There are many traditions about Midsummer that still live on in Sweden. A wreath or a bouquet with seven (or nine - the traditions vary) different flowers is powerful if you pick them all alone and don't speak to anyone while you are picking them. If you dare pick one flower from the churchyard, the power increases even more. If a girl puts the flowers under her pillow, it is said that she'll dream of her future husband that night. You may also hang the wreath from the ceiling and your house will stay happy and healthy. Planting a pair of young birch trees by the front door also bring happiness into the house.

People thought that nature during Midsummer night was filled with hidden and magical powers. The dew was considered magical and was used to heal sickness and all kinds of wounds. Adding some dew to the dough when baking made the bread bigger and tastier. Birch leaves were also considered powerful and could be used as bandage. Adding night leaves in your bath

(Midsummer continued)

eased pain. This was also the night when elves came out to dance and if you were lucky, maybe you could spot a 'troll' hiding behind a tree!

Flowers are an important feature at Midsummer. Many girls and women wear wreaths in their hair, and most people like to dress up in pretty, summery clothes.

The May pole ('midsommarstång' or 'majstång') doesn't look the same in different parts of the country, but it's usually decorated with leaves and flowers. In some areas, it's customary to gather the day before

Midsummer Eve and prepare the May pole together - and that is a good beginning for a little party! When family and friends get together, they eat pickled herring ('sill'), the first, fresh, new potatoes of the season, sour cream, crisp bread and drink snaps (vodka) and beer. Fresh Swedish strawberries are also an important feature (for dessert), but it's the fresh potatoes that are the real symbol of Midsummer for many people.

Now, doesn't all that make you want to go to our beautiful Vasa Park for the Midsummer Celebration on Sunday, June 24? ...I'll see you there!

Happy Birthday!!! Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

JUNE (6)

Lars-Ove Nilsson 6
Thomas Anderson 6
William Osman 7
Hanna Olson 9
Christina Poe 12
Daniel Wendt 13
Robert Linfors 15
Cheryl Haggerty 16
Victoria Zdor 16
Lindsey Wendt 17
Nathan Coddling 18
Gary Andonian 20
Jessica Osman 29

* JULY (7)

Gunilla Thelin 2
Anette Richards 4
Daniel Buck 5
Jake Durbas 7
Mark Hanson 7
Jens Kevin Mikkelsen 9
Dorothy Burns 10
Andrea Tabanelli 14
Tiffany Storch 17
Britt Anderson 18
Inga Francis 18
Joyce Gaynor 26
Ruzenna di Benedetto 30

* AUGUST (8)

Christer Olin 6
Maria Jacobs 8
Gunilla DePaoli 8
Elisabet Perez 10
Evelyn Weare-Linfors 12
Gertie Lindstrom 20
Hailey Carleson 20
Amanda Holstein 20
Marie Mickelson 21
Justin Bell 24
William Liljeberg 27
Sayd Birgitta Sidenius 29
Chelsea Rhoades 30



May Social Only



May Social Only



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