

April 2022

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I have some sad news to report. One of our sisters, Kristina Foley has passed away leaving two young children and a grieving partner. Andrea will send flowers to the children with our condolences. Tina DeHart, another sister, lost her husband the end of last month. Andrea is also sending flowers to her. I am sorry to have to give you all such bad news.

We will have our meeting next Thursday and we will have pizza because Kristina was

planning our dinner for April. The letter for our Yosemite trip will be mailed out the first of the week. May meeting will be our social and we will have Taco Guy and his truck, wine tasting by our new member Theresa, the Olson's will serve margaritas and Linda will make her famous guacamole. We will play bingo and have nice Swedish prizes. Please mark your calendars.

Delphine

If you have not paid your membership dues, they are due.
Questions? Ask:
akarling20@yahoo.com

Please send your checks to:
Ann-Kristin Karling
13754 Burbank Blvd.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

Reimbursement for an expense:
Dorothy Burns
8201 Glade Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91304

or
gladegal2003@yahoo.com

GVL Happenings

Happy April and May Birthday!!!

April (4)

Natalie Mikkelsen	1
Eivor Wester	1
Nikki Taylor	5
Maria Dobres Wood	5
Barbro Granath	5
Tommy Eneberg	6
Michael Barahona	9
Kristina Thorsen	11
Kerstin Wendt	13
Ann-Kristin Karling	14
Erik Karling	16
Jessica Santana	16
Rebecca Mikkelsen	16
Ann-Sofi Holst	17
Clinton Lien Jr.	21
Marianne Farm-Reinholds	24
Gunilla Hamaoui	29

MAY (5)

Roland Gustavsson	1
Rebecca Thorsen	4
Anders Heinstedt	10
Kerstin Thorsen	11
Carter Lien	13
Lena Osman	17
Stefan Lundberg	17
Kayla Santana	21
Elizabeth Wubker	22
Carolyn Manley	23
Roy Olson	24
Ernie Jurgens	27
Berit Stenhoj	31
Norma Halvorson	31



Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

2021/2022 Golden Valley Lodge Board & Service Positions

Chair: Delphine Trowbridge
Vice Chair: Andrea Tabanelli
Past Chair: Maidie Karling
Corresponding Secretary: Dorothy Burns
Assistant Secretary: Mona Steffen
Financial Secretary: Ann-Kristin Karling
Treasurer: Birgitta Clark
Chaplain: Beth Bunnell
Master of Ceremonies: Jason Trowbridge
Assistant MoC: Lucas Taylor
Cultural: Laurie Taylor
Chairman of Trustees: Kerstin Wendt
Trustee 2 years: Maria Jacobs
Trustee 3 years: Wenche Eklund
Chairman of Auditors: Maidie Karling
Auditor 2 years: Britt Potter
Auditor 3 years: Ann Heinstedt
Membership Chair: Maidie Karling
Events Co-Chair: Maggie Connelly & Delphine Trowbridge
Scholarship Chair: Beth Bunnell
Financial Chair: Hubert Pitters
Historian: Laurie Taylor
Vasa Park: Richard Heinstedt
Bar: Roy and Hanna Olson
Newsletter: Laurie Taylor
Youth Group: Jason Trowbridge

Get Well Wishes

Isabella Muscarella, Maria Jacobs,
and Laila Jensen

Kerstin Wendt suggested that we wear Swedish Easter Witch costumes to the next meeting as it comes very close to Easter! See p. 7-8 for Nordic Easter traditions

**Church of Sweden needs members!
Join this year for free!!!**

In order to stay open and allow for ministers to be sent from Sweden, they need members. Go online for free membership application. 2023 will be approximately \$35 for membership.

Norway finds black turbine blade 'can cut bird deaths

By Mark Kinver



Turbines at the Smøla windfarm, Norway (Image: Statkraft)

Bird strikes are one of the main environmental concerns surrounding onshore wind farms

Painting one blade of a wind turbine black could cut bird strikes at wind farms by up to 70%, a study suggests.

Birds colliding with the structures has long been considered to be one of the main negative impacts of onshore wind farms, the authors observed.

The RSPB welcomed the research but said the priority remained avoiding placing wind farms where there was a risk to wildlife, such as birds.

The findings have been published in the Ecology and Evolution journal.

“Collision of birds, especially raptors, is one of the main environmental concerns related to wind energy development,” observed co-author Roel May.

“In Norway, 6-9 white-tailed eagles are killed annually within the Smøla wind-power plant; This has caused opposition and conflict.”

The Smøla wind farm is located on the west coast of Norway, consisting of 68 turbines over 18 square kilo-

metres, making it one of the largest onshore wind farms in Norway.

Paint it black

Dr May, a senior researcher from the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research in Trondheim, said the team were keen to test whether mitigation measures could reduce the rate of bird strikes.

“One of the mitigation measures we tested was painting one of three rotor blades black,” he told BBC News.

“The expectation is that this design reduces so-called motion smear, making the blades more visible to birds.



Painting a turbine black (Image: Statkraft)

Painting one of the blades on a turbine is believed to reduce “motion smear”, allowing birds to see the rotating blades

Dr May said the concept of reducing the motion smear of the rotating blades was based on laboratory experiments carried out in the US at the beginning of the century.

The authors observed: “The annual fatality rate was significantly reduced at the turbines with a painted blade by over 70%, relative to the neighbouring control (i.e. unpainted) turbines.”

Dr May said that the findings were encouraging but further testing at different wind farms was needed in order to make the findings more robust.

He observed: “Although we found a significant drop in bird collision rates, its efficacy may well be site- and species-specific.

“At the moment there exists interest to carry out tests in the Netherlands and in South Africa.”

Martin Harper, the RSPB’s director for conservation, welcomed the research but said it was important to remember the development of wind farms needed to “take place in harmony with nature”.

“Wind turbines are the right technology when we find the right places for them, so studies like this are valuable and build on our understanding of what additional mitigation could be used once we identify locations suitable for wind farms,” he said.

“As the report acknowledges, this studied a single site and more work needs to be done, so we would be interested in seeing more research in this area.”

‘Interesting development’

Meanwhile, a spokesman for manufacturer Siemens Gamesa said the issue was one for developers and operators of wind farms to consider, rather than manufacturers.

Conservationists recognise the importance of onshore wind farms, but say that they must not be at the expense of wildlife.

He told BBC News: “We don’t take part in the ongoing running of a wind farm, so we’re not familiar with instances of bird strike.”

But he added: “We could manufacture to a specification laid down by the developers.”

A spokeswoman for ScottishPower Renewables, which operates the UK’s largest onshore facility - the 539MW Whitelees wind farm in Scotland, described the study as “definitely an interesting development”.

She said: “Our approach to wind farm development takes account of the local bird population right from the very start.”

“That includes careful planning to ensure we pick the right locations in the first place; and we also work closely with the likes of RSPB and Scottish Natural Heritage to ensure we do everything we can to protect local wildlife.”

Dr May said he would like to see wind farm developers adopt mitigation measures, such as the painted blade, where it was proven that bird strikes were an issue.

“If done prior to construction, it will be a very cost-effective measure that may help reduce unnecessary conflicts,” he added.

“What hasn’t been tested yet, is whether other rotor blade patterns (e.g. red blade tips as used to warn aviation) might be equally effective.

“Any improvements (or co-benefits) of the design could be interest for further study. This does however not preclude implementation of the current design.”



Golden Valley Lodge March Meeting

Photos by Kerstin Wendt, Mona Steffen, and Laurie Taylor



Our Dinner Hosts: Richard and Ann Heinstdt
Table decorations by Cecilia Danhi



New members initiated! Zoey Shoemaker, Sara Buck,
Alex Lund, Michael Barahone, Teresa Zales-Shoemaker,
Susan Carlson & Chuck Bunnell



Initiated: Teresa Zales-Shoemaker



Initiated: Prince of Peace's retired Pastor,
Chuck Bunnell



Initiated: Michael Barahona



Initiated: Sara Buck



Initiated: Zoey Shoemaker



Initiated: Alex Lund



Initiated: Susan Carlson



Andrea Tabanelli



Semlar for dessert made by Gertie Lingstrom



True and Grace Foley



Great entertainment by Ernie Jurgens at the cocktail hour!

Culture Corner: Easter in the Nordic Countries

The Nordic countries may have a lot in common, but the cultures and traditions of each country are uniquely their own, which adds to the appeal of the region.

Sweden

Springtime and Easter in Scandinavia! After the long nights of winter, Easter and the arrival of spring are truly celebrated in Scandinavia. Whether they spend their Easter holidays in the city welcoming the return of the spring flowers or they escape to the mountains taking advantage of the longer spring days to get in the last of the season's skiing, Easter is a time of renewal for Scandinavians, celebrated with good food and good company. At Easter Swedes get together with their families. They celebrate by painting eggs and eating traditional Easter food like eggs, fowl, fish and lamb. Indulging in spiced schnapps around the dinner table is another favorite custom. Birch twigs are decorated with colorful feathers. Children dress up as påskkäringar (Easter witches) with bright kerchiefs on their heads and sporting a broomstick. They go from door to door and offer drawings and other handy crafts in exchange for Easter eggs filled with candy and wish all Glad Påsk - Happy Easter.

Norway



Easter in Norway is all about the arrival of spring. Traditionally Norwegians would go to the tops of mountains to watch the sunrise and observe the weather as a sign of how the summer would be. Skiing is very popular. Like in much of the world, the egg is a symbol of Easter in Norway as well. That said, over time real decorated chickens eggs gave way to chocolate eggs. And these, in turn, have been replaced with colorful paper eggs filled with chocolates. Children will search for these bright paper shells and gorge on the sweets inside, while the adults gather to prepare a festive breakfast on Easter Sunday, complete with eggs and pancakes.

Finland

You may find yourself answering a knock at the door to see a little witch or two waving birch twigs reciting "Virvon, varvon, tuoreeks terveeks, tulevaks vuodeks; vitsa sulle, palkka mulle!" This translates as "I wave a twig for a fresh and healthy year ahead; a twig for you, a treat for me!"

You should have some sweets on hand, because you'll have to compensate the little witches for clearing your home of evil spirits with their rhyme. While cute little witches are welcome, evil witches are not. So, they will light large bonfires during Easter to keep the less desirable sorcerers at bay. In addition to witches, another sign that it is Easter time in Finland is the abundance of Mämmi, a traditional Easter dessert made from rye flour, malted rye, molasses and orange zest. The divisive treat (you either love it or hate it) has been an Easter tradition since the 13th century. The Easter grass (rairuoho in Finnish) is a must in any household with children. It symbolizes the spring. You buy a pack of Easter grass seeds in any grocery store. Plant the seeds a week before Easter to get a good grass patch.

Six Funny Things that Belong to Finnish Easter

- #1 Finns rarely like small decorative trinkets. At Easter, we have little chicks, roosters, bunnies, and eggs all over the house.
- #2 Finns do not particularly like yellow. At Easter, we decorate everything with yellow.
- #3 Finns rarely eat lamb. At Easter, we eat only lamb.
- #4 Finns know that willow makes you allergic. At Easter, we decorate the house with willow twigs.
- #5 Finns do not let their kids eat sweet things for breakfast. At Easter, children eat chocolate eggs in the morning.
- #6 Finns don't like cold porridge. Well, nobody likes it. At Easter, we eat mämmi, cold sweet rye porridge with cream and sugar.

Iceland

Walk into almost any grocery shop or convenience store and you'll find yourself navigating around boxes upon boxes of chocolate Páskaegg (Easter eggs). The hollow chocolate eggs come in many different sizes and often have a fluffy yellow chick on top or a character from children's cartoons. And, of course, they're filled with an assortment of other goodies, like chocolate bars, liquorice pieces and gummy candies. How popular are these Easter treats? The small handful of companies that prepare the eggs start production right after Christmas and churn out over 1 million of the confections in time for Easter. Take into consideration that there are just 350,000 Icelanders and you start to get just how important these eggs are to the season. Icelanders will traditionally dive into a chocolate egg on Easter Sunday, so we'll just have to assume the other 700,000+ eggs were eaten as practice for the big day!

Denmark

Friends and family members prepare paper snowflakes marked with riddles. These are then signed with dots in lieu of the sender's name. The receiver of the "teaser note" then has fun trying to guess who sent them the letter. If they guess correctly, they receive a chocolate egg for a job well done. The game dates back to the 1600s and is still popular throughout the Easter season.

In addition to riddles and guessing games, Danes also celebrate the arrival of spring during Easter. At this time of year many homes and shops are adorned with yellow and green decorations and spruced up with daffodils and birch branches.

