

November 2024

# Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



Photo Credit: Ann-Kristin Karling

## Golden Valley Members Participating in the Meatball Contest at Vasa Park

Jennifer Norman-Lund 2nd Place (Booth:  
Another Köttbullar Please)  
Annili & Cecilia Brady (Booth: Trollkaja)  
Ann-Sofi Holst 3rd Place (Booth: Lagom)



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 November/December Birthday!!!

### NOVEMBER (11)

Joshua Wendt	2
Jennifer Norman-Lund	3
Anneli Brady	3
Natalie Taylor	7
Joey Haines	7
Inger Stephens	8
Jennifer DeHart	9
Richard Heinstedt	9
Sonja Andonian	15
Rolf Gustafsson	16
Cecilia Trowbridge	19
Mary McMannes	21
Brandon Santana	28
Laurie Taylor	29

### DECEMBER (12)

Robert Holstein	25
Merry Shepler	25
Hubert Pitters	27
Aili Luna	28
Gunilla Polutanovich	29
Nicolas Storch	31



## 2024 Golden Valley Lodge Board & Service Positions

Chair: Delphine Trowbridge  
 Vice Chair: Jason Trowbridge  
 Past Chair: Maidie Karling  
 Recording Secretary: Dorothy Burns  
 Assistant Secretary: Cecilia Danhi  
 Membership Secretary: Danielle Sommer  
 Financial Secretary: Ann-Kristin Karling  
 Treasurer: Bingitta Clark  
 Chaplain: Beth Bunnell  
 Master of Ceremonies: Stig Eneberg  
 Assistant MoC: Lucas Taylor  
 Cultural: Susanne Moreland/Laurie Taylor  
 Trustee Chairman 1 yr: Maria Jacobs  
 Trustee 2 yr: Kerstin Wendt  
 Trustee 3 yr: Bertil Winther  
 Auditor chairman 1 yr: Ann Heinstedt  
 Auditor 2 yr: Britt Potter  
 Auditor 3 yr: Linda Trowbridge  
 Events Co-Chair: Maggie Connelly & Delphine Trowbridge  
 Scholarships: Beth Bunnell, Hubert Pitters  
 Financial: Hubert Pitters  
 Historian: Laurie Taylor  
 Vasa Park: Dorothy Burns, Richard Heinstedt, Linnea Heinstedt  
 Alternate Ann-Sofi Holst  
 Bar: Valerie & Dylan Olson  
 Newsletter: Laurie Taylor  
 Youth Group: Cecilia Trowbridge  
 Vasa Star: Laurie Taylor

### Chair's Message for November, 2024

November is our Anniversary month, and we have a special treat. Jen and Norman will have a delicious Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. We will also have a Princess Torta for dessert. Our December meeting will be short due to our Christmas Dinner and Lucia is 2 days away. A meeting is necessary in December because we need to vote for a new board for 2025 and write checks for our Christmas. Maidie will have pizza.

Reservations for our Christmas celebration should be made with Lisa Eklund soon as we can only handle about 150 guests. This event is for members and Lucia families and extra guests will be put on a waiting list to see if we have extra space for more people. We have reserved tables for groups over 6 people.

**Bring your raffle items at the November meeting which is the deadline for accepting items.**

See you Thursday.

*Delphine*

# Culture Corner



Credits: Helena Wahlman/imagebank.sweden.se

## Riksgränsen

**Riksgränsen**, ‘The National Border’ in Swedish, is a ski resort in Swedish Lapland on the border to Norway, 200 km north of the Arctic Circle. From mid-May the lifts operate under the Midnight Sun.

Riksgränsen is a popular location for testing cars and trucks. Manufacturers frequently use the location for winter launches, bringing journalists from across the world to drive the new cars on snow-covered roads and on courses specially prepared on frozen lakes.

## Events in Sweden in November

### **Stockholm International Film Festival, Stockholm.**

This is the Swedish capital's well-established film festival, ranking among Europe's best. It takes place over three weeks in November, although there are smaller spin-off film events in summer.

**Gotland Truffle Festival, Gotland.** This extravaganza on Gotland island includes truffle lectures, tastings, truffle-themed restaurant menus, and a weekend dedicated to those gourmet subterranean mushrooms.

**Christmas Markets, nationwide.** Christmas markets full of festive stalls and hearty warming food brighten up many towns and cities as early as late November, running right through until December 23. Among the most famous are Gothenburg's Liseburg Christmas Market and Stockholm's markets at Skansen Museum, Gamla Stan (Old Town) and Kungsträdgården park.



## Nature's Best Sweden

Crucial to the future of tourism in Sweden (and hopefully everywhere else) is that it develops sustainably. Nature tourism creates the conditions for achieving several sub-goals in Sweden's continued work with the UN's global sustainability goals – Agenda 2030. In particular the goals of **sustainable consumption and production, to protect ecosystems and biodiversity, and to combat climate change.**

Countries and regions create structures and initiatives that promote a development process towards a more sustainable society, where the individual companies participate and take their responsibility through various initiatives. Not sawing off the branch on which nature tourism itself sits will be one of the industry's major challenges.

Nature's Best is the first national quality label for ecotourism in the northern hemisphere. It was launched during the UN International Year of Ecotourism in 2002.

Nature's Best certifies and promotes the best Swedish tour operators and their finest products. It is often considered the most demanding and detailed quality brand in the world.

These are the six basic principles which Nature's Best make sure are fulfilled by every certified tour operator.

### **1. Respect the limitations of the destination – minimise the negative impacts on local nature and culture.**

Ecotourism is about preserving what the visitor has come to experience. The ecological and cultural capacity of each area must be respected. This means tour operators must have a solid knowledge of the destination, a local presence and work closely with others present in the area.

### **2. Support the local economy.**

Ecotourism is about community development. Conservation can easily fail if local people object to it. Tangible benefits from tourism are a positive force. Each visitor contributes economically to the well

being of the destination by renting rooms, hiring local guides and purchasing goods and services. The more the better.

### **3. Make all the operators activities environmentally sustainable.**

Ecotour operators must set a good example of sound environmental practice. Approved operators have policies to minimise environmental impact by prioritising e.g. collective transport, sustainable lodging, waste management etc...

### **4. Contribute actively to nature and cultural conservation.**

Ecotourism assumes responsibility for the protection of biodiversity and special cultural values. This means supporting nature preservation in various ways. Operators cooperate to find 'win-win' ways of doing business.

### **5. Promote knowledge and respect and the joy of discovery.**

Ecotourism is about travelling with curiosity and a respectful mindset. Approved operators are competent hosts providing visitors with a good introduction to the area. Good advice and guidance are often the key to a memorable trip.

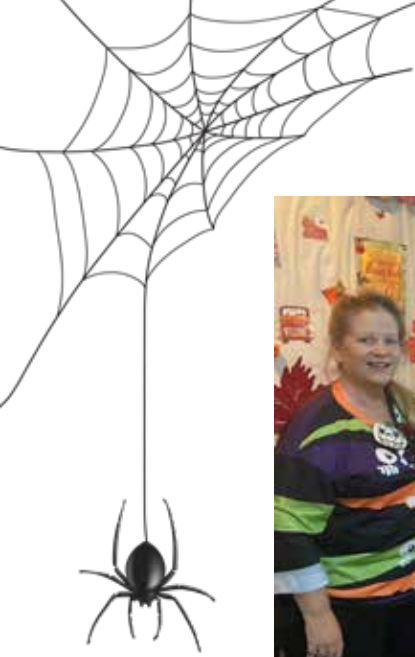
### **6. Quality and safety all the way.**

Ecotourism is quality tourism. Approved tours must meet and even exceed our customers' high expectations. Safety issues are taken very seriously, and they have many satisfied customers. An approved tour operator is a trusted supplier and partner.

These basic principles have been interpreted and listed in a document of criteria signed by each certified operator.

Nature's Best quality label is backed primarily by the Swedish Nature and Ecotourism Association. For more information visit:

<https://naturesbestsweden.com/en/home/>



# October Meeting Pictures



Our dinner hosts



Newly initiated in alphabetical order: AASA, Anna Maj Li DUCKETT, Camille EYLER, Jessica FRITHIOF, Linda Östergren FRITHIOF, Mikael ÖSTERGREN, Jonathan (son of Linda & Mikael Frithiof) LOCKMANN, Margo LOCKMANN, Ron NILSSON, (Rose) Marie VERA, Franco



Initiations were held outside because we had so many new members to add :)



Last Chance to bring quality donations to the meeting for our Christmas Party!