

February 2025

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



Ann Heinstedt and Heidi Klintare are making pea soup and pancakes for the meeting.
See you Thursday at 6:30 pm!

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
reimbursement forms are available at our website

GVL Happenings

Happy February/March Birthday!!!

FEBRUARY (2)

Hanna Assad	3
Olof Wester	4
Alice Karling	5
Mona Steffen	5
Stig Klintare	7
Mikael Amador-Stromberg	10
Jason Trowbridge	11
James Thorsen	13
Anna Maj Lis Aasa	13
Tyler Holstein	17
Melissa Steffen-Coombes	19
Keri Mikkelsen	21
Michel Hamaoui	22
Bernice Dreher	24
Annika Cropper	26
Lage Engblom	27



MARCH (3)

Linnea Heinstedt	1
Lois Halvorson	3
Cecilia Brady	8
Jack Storch	11
Beth Bunnell	16
Morgan Klintare	20
Sara Buck	21
Valerie Olson	21
Britt-Marie Potter	22
Stig Eneberg	24
Kerstin Engblom	30
Maidie Karling	30

2025 Golden Valley Lodge Board & Service Positions

Chair: Jason Trowbridge

Vice Chair:

Past Chair: Delphine Trowbridge

Recording Secretary: Cecilia Danhi

Assistant Secretary: Dorothy Burns

Membership Secretary: Danielle Sommer

Financial Secretary: Ann-Kristin Karling

Treasurer: Bingitta Clark

Chaplain: Beth Bunnell

Master of Ceremonies: Stig Eneberg

Assistant MoC: Anneli Brady

Cultural: Laurie Taylor

Trustee Chairman 1 yr: Kerstin Wendt

Trustee 2 yr: Bertil Winther

Trustee 3 yr: Maria Jacobs

Auditor chairman 1 yr: Linda Trowbridge

Auditor 2 yr: Britt Potter

Auditor 3 yr: Wenche Eklund

Events Co-Chair: Maggie Connelly

& Delphine Trowbridge

Scholarships: Hubert Pitters, Beth Bunnell

Financial: Hubert Pitters

Historian & Vasa Star: Laurie Taylor

Vasa Park: Richard Heinstedt,

Linnea Heinstedt, Dorothy Burns

Alternate Ann-Sofi Holst

Bar: Valerie & Dylan Olson

Newsletter: Laurie Taylor

Youth Group: Cecilia Trowbridge

2025 Dues

Please pay your 2025 dues. If you paid for the Christmas dinner, then your dues are taken care of. If not, please pay early.

Tragic 2025 Risbergska School

The Worst Mass Shooting in Sweden's History

You have probably already heard about this horrible event. Here are some of the accepted facts at this point.

On February 4, 2025, a school shooting occurred at Campus Risbergska, an adult education centre in Örebro, Sweden. Eleven people were killed, including the perpetrator, and 12 others injured. (Six by gunfire, six by smoke inhalation. Apparently, there was also arson but it was not elaborated on.) Motives behind the attack are currently under investigation by the Swedish Police Authority and the Swedish Security Service. According to Swedish prime minister Ulf Kristersson, it is the worst mass shooting in the country's history. Fortunately, fewer than the usual students were in the building at the time of the shooting since many had gone home following a

national exam.

The suspect was named as 35-year-old Rickard Andersson the day after the shooting. The Swedish Police Authority stated that the suspect is believed to have acted alone, and has been confirmed dead in the shooting. Local police chief Roberto Eid Forest said the shooter appeared to have committed suicide - though there was gunfire exchanged with the police. An automatic firearm had been used in the shooting.

The suspect's residence in Örebro was barricaded and raided by the police. TV4 reported that the man had a firearms license and had no prior criminal convictions. He was also reported to be living reclusively and was unemployed.

Culture Corner

Sami National Day – February 6, 2025

The Sami make up one of the world's least numerous indigenous peoples. In fact, only about 80,000 Sami live in their homeland, Sápmi. Others are scattered around the globe.

The Sami are an indigenous people that have been living in the Northern areas of Finland, Norway, and Sweden, as well as the Kola Peninsula of Russia, since the Ice Age. About 20,000 Sami live in Sweden. They have their own cultural heritage, language, flag, and parliament.

Furthermore, the Sami are one of Sweden's five official national minorities. The others are the Jews, the Roma, Swedish Finns, and Tornedalers*.

Sami National Day celebrates the anniversary of the first Sami congress, which was held in Trondheim, Norway, in 1917. Sami National Day has been celebrated annually since 1992. On this day, Sami communities raise the Sami National Flag and sing the Sami National Anthem.



Credits: Lola Akinmade Åkerström/imagebank.sweden.se

The Sami people have their own folk costume, the kolt. The traditionally blue costumes have at least 12 different styles and differ for men and women.



Swedish Minority Flags Credits: Sofia Sabel/imagebank.sweden.se

Tornedalians come from the area of the Torne River valley in northern Sweden, near the border with Finland, and are the descendants of Finns who settled there in the 1800s - before the river became a border between the two countries.

Tornedalians are Swedes who speak Meänkieli, a Finno-Ugric language that is very close to Finnish, and although their distinct language and culture was initially supported by the Swedish, by the 1880s a policy of 'Swedishisation' and assimilation was put in place.

A ban on children speaking their mother tongue, or wearing traditional clothing, was strictly enforced in schools until early 1960s. Thousands of children were sent to boarding schools run by the Lutheran Church and forced to speak Swedish.

Historically, Tornedalians made a living from agriculture,

* Who are Tornedalians?

(far left) Their flag is a horizontal tricolor of yellow, white and blue, in reference to something a Tornedalian woman supposedly said when the border was being drawn: "The summer-blue sky, you cannot cut in two; Nor the white winter field can you part; And neither can you divide the clear yellow sun! That which you cannot cut in twain shall forever remain." or alternatively: "You may gladly draw a line in the earth, but the air, sun and land - that you can never cut in two."

The Nordic cross is not present on the flag as "No crusaders have we ever been"

hunting, fishing and reindeer herding, and today there are around 50,000 Tornedalians living in Sweden.

In 2000, the Swedish state officially recognised Tornedalians as a national minority, and Meänkieli as an official language with some protection in the education and legal system, the media and cultural life.

The new report published by the Commission says that more can be done to strengthen the status of the language by including Meänkieli in public broadcasting and in schools, and that the State of Sweden should "immediately launch an official process" of public apology to the Tornedalians.

Another commission in Sweden is currently investigating the discriminatory policies inflicted on the indigenous Sámi people. This report will be made public sometime in 2025.

Source <https://www.euronews.com/>



Jason and Delphine Trowbridge
New Chairperson and Past Chairperson



Our dinner hosts:
Maggie, Lillian, Britt and Birgitta



Board Initiations

