

Skandia Nytt

SKANDIA LODGE #247, VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

VOL. 98, No. 7 AUGUST 2010

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Chairman's Message

I hope everyone is enjoying this wonderful hot weather, and are engaging in all the numerous programs being offered by the communities.

We had a very nice meeting last month. Everyone warmly welcomed Kathy Anderson as a new member in the lodge. She is a teacher and has a young daughter, Lily (we will most likely see Lily in the Lucia program). Lori and Betsy served some delicious refreshments – one being the scrumptious Kahlua Pie (thanks Lori and Betsy).

Keep September 19 open. That is the Marknad date in Vasa Park. Skandia is in charge of the hamburger stand with Mayflower Lodge. We need as many of you as possible to help out. Let Bob or Nel Solt know that you will be there.

Keep sending more articles to Bob for Skandia Nytt – such as vacation trips, what is going on with you and your family, etc.

This month's message is very brief, but there will be more next time.

Hej då,

Chairman **Birgitta**

A Bit of Culture

THE SWEDISH LANGUAGE

I used to smile at my Vasa friends who came back from a trip to Sweden and said that their Swedish family told them that their Swedish was old fashioned. Nobody has told me that yet but I can surely feel it at times.

Last summer I spent a few hours with my brother's three teen age granddaughters. The regular conversations were fine but listening to the three of them chatting between themselves could make me

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in the District

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A Bit of Culture (con't)

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wonder if I was in the right country.

So Shakespeare's English was quite different from today's British. But come on now!!!

My own conclusion is that perhaps we Swedes are not very proud of our language. It would be great to have one universal language but each country should also have its own. I do read quite a lot of Swedish magazines and books. Sometimes I have to stop and think what the writer is trying to say. For some reason this sticks in my mind: Personen bar snäva (or åtsittande) byxor. The article said personen bar "tajta" byxor. So what does it mean? Well, the person wore TIGHT slacks. Well Nel, duh!!

People swore when I left Sweden, for a year, in 1965. Not because of me leaving, they just swore. It could be somewhat okay depending on the company you were in. Today the average Swede seems to put a swear word into every sentence. You swear if you are 5 or 85 years old. The swear words have become part of the language. I can not get used to it. When I hear a young child use what once was "taboo" I look to see if the parents react.

Once in a Swedish souvenir shop I had the guts to ask why all shirts said Sweden and not Sverige. Some people travel to so many European countries and then they can't remember where they bought the item., was the clerk's answer. I take it that we become stupid when we travel!!

Rinkeby is one of Stockholm's suburbs. I believe its real growth started in the late 50's. The apartment buildings are horrible cement boxes. Like some other places, it was built in some desperation to find living quarters for every body. And this was where many immigrants ended up. Good people I am sure but with completely different backgrounds and languages than the Swedish. We work with what we have. And now Rinkeby Swedish was born. It is a mixture of many different languages, including Swedish. It doesn't have to be a bad thing but it can be difficult to follow for some of us who has been away for a long time.

And while the Swedish language and grammar sinks into the bottomless pit, so does the English. Good grief, People, I would never have passed my English classes if I used the same language as I hear on TV today.

It is not the words we use but how we use the words!
How wise!

Nel

August Happenings***Birthdays:***

6 *Sharron Deny*
10 *Joyce Mossberg*
Woodward
13 *Edward*
Yankowsky
20 *Kerstin*
Johansson
21 *Jeanne Reiber*
25 *Bob Cota*

Business Meeting:
(2 nd Thursday)

August 12
7 pm *Dinner Chicken*
Sloppy Joes
RESERVATIONS TO
NEL (by 8/10/10),
PLEASE. No reserva-
tions, no din-din

8 pm Meeting

Host / Hostess:
Betty Holm
Nel Solt

Go Paperless - Save a Tree!!

You can now request that your **Skandia Nytt** be sent, in color, to you via e-mail rather than regular mail. On request, we will e-mail you a .pdf version of our newsletter which you can either read as an attachment to you e-mail or print using Adobe Reader. To enroll, please send your e-mail address to BobSolt@juno.com and request Paperless Newsletter. Not only will you be saving paper, you will also save Skandia Lodge the cost of printing and mailing.

Miscellany

SWEDISH AMERICAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION – SACA

You are absolutely right! SACA is NOT Vasa! It is an umbrella organization for all Swedish Clubs and Organizations that wishes to join. At one time this group put on fabulous parties for Swedish dignitaries. Again things changes. Today's purpose is to put on the wonderful Midsummer celebration which is held in Vasa Park every year. Vasa Park Association continues to be extremely generous and lets SACA use the park free of charge. All expenses for rides, hired workers (i.e. life guards and parking attendants) are paid by SACA. Most of SACA's member groups are Vasa Lodges. Skandia is one. There are so many misunderstandings out there about SACA. We have even had delegates who thought they were working for Vasa!

Swedish Midsummer is a great holiday in the old country. It is celebrated somewhat differently in different places depending on who is running the event. People get together to enjoy each other, dance around the pole, picnic, play games, swim and perhaps in some places shop from vendors. This year there were some complaints from some guests about the fact that there was no rock climbing wall or zip line. These items are great fun for the fall's Marknad but they do not belong at a traditional Swedish Midsummer Celebration.

This years Celebration was one of the best that I can remember. The weather was perfect! The people were happy. Our lodge's work was to dress the Midsummer pole, with help from anyone who wished to get involved. Our members did a great job. It is such a wonderful feeling to hear friends and guests oh and ah about the beautiful pole. I know the people who did it!!!! I for one am so proud of my friends and their helpers.

This year's Celebration was very well attended. Thank you to Heather Coddling of Mayflower Lodge, who did a great advertising job. And Thank You to SACA's president Kristine Hofve who did a terrific job in getting new vendors (yes, I love our regulars) but the new vendors also brought in their friends to this joyous event. Thumbs up!!

Nel

ADVERTISEMENT!!!

Your District Lodge is in dire need to refurbish its general fund. Most Lodges are extremely generous in supporting the Great Conventions and the Scholarships. The District Lodge has many other expenses during the year. We want to work well for you!

We are asking for donations of sellable items. We all have something that we can live without. Sometimes it even feels good to get rid of some stuff (so we have space for the new). We'll welcome all usable and clean items. "Good" clothing is also welcome. There may be something from the last couple of years that "shrunk in the laundry". Cloths hangers may also be needed. Clothing should be freshly laundered and ironed. None of great-aunt Agnes's knickers please. (Boy, that Nel has the guts!!) Check with your friends, perhaps some one is moving!

You may contact me over the computer or at 626-355 0111.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Nel Solt

Skandia Nytt

Skandia Lodge #247

Vasa Order of America

2245 E. Colorado Blvd, Box #104/256

Pasadena, CA 91107

Events

Scandinavian Autumnfest and Marknad Celebration!

Sunday, September 19, 2010
9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Swimming Pool, 274' Waterslide, Zip Line,
Rope Course, Petting Zoo

Vasa Park, 2854 Triunfo Canyon Road, Agora Hills,

Entry Donation: Vasa Members: \$5.00 per car
Non-Members: \$8.00 per car

Skandia Nytt

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