



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

www.danishsociety.com Email timh@danishsociety.com

May 2017

Dannebrog Grand Past President

This will be my last newsletter rounding out my term as Grand President of Dannebrog.

Just before the convention I attended the San Jose luncheon lodge meeting, along with Steen. It was held at Britta Lange's home. Following our lunch, Doris Skow opened the business meeting. I was surprised to find 16 members in attendance. Want to thank the San Francisco lodges, Danmark #2 and Thyra #3 for hosting a fun filled convention weekend. This certainly gave a big finale to our year.

We did take care of some serious business meetings, in between the coffee breaks. Bent Olsen had brought in wonderful Kringles and another treat of Hot cross buns. Both were served warm and enjoyed.

Toward the end of the convention we became aware that the Dania advisory committee thought we should consider the merger of our Dania/Dannebrog Grand lodges. You may recall that we did have a Unity committee a few years ago that put much work and time into researching this. There is to be a new committee established and hopefully there will be much discussion with a positive outcome.

I want to extend my Congratulations to the new Dannebrog Grand President Stuart Mahler and his slate of officers. Wish you much success in your endeavors.

I know we are going to have a year to look forward to. Dannebrog's Grand Past President Martha Nielsen

Dania Jr. Past Grand President

The San Jose group managed to fit in a meeting on April 8 th for Danneskjold #17 and Laura #8 at Britta Lange's home. It was nice to meet a good group of Danes I had not seen before. Doris conducted the meeting in fine style and issues were taken care of. Danish "hygge" was talked about, because English speaking countries do not have one word for how to do it, and they get a little lost when they try to explain it to each other. There was talk about why Danes are the happiest in the world. You could also say that they are the least unhappy in the world. That makes it easier to understand. So, we can be proud to be Danish.

By now the convention is over, it went well and a lot was decided. The semi-annual tax was raised to \$30, a promotion type business card for Dania/Dannebrog was approved, and a proposal to merge Dania and Dannebrog was granted the right to form a committee to come up with a proposal by October this year. Those were just a few of the highlights, Grand Secretary Tim Heer will put together a convention report. Through all my travels to the different branches and observations, I would like to recommend that the branches start to run young members through the chairs locally so we will eventually have more candidates who qualify for and want to run for the chairs of the Grand Lodge. It is a little unusual that we now have 3 women on the board for the men's Grand

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Steen Skjellerup stivax@aol.com	Martha Nielsen nielsenmarta@gmail.com
Grand President	Daniel Joensen dj@danken.com	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@att.net
Grand Vice President	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Alan Filiu adfiliu@sbcglobal.net
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer tim-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 426-4623	Natalie Heer natalie-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 426-4623
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Pat Brouillette pab0718@sbcglobal.net
Grand Marshal	Jana Heer-Glovaski juganddana@sbcglobal.net	Beth Mahler Cowan beth.cowan@att.net
Grand Vice Marshal	Bente Ellis Baellis06@gmail.com	Deanna Dunbar dcannadnbr@yahoo.com
Grand Trustee #1	Mel Lundberg melandzena@gmail.com	Colleen Heer Cave winegal59@yahoo.com
Grand Trustee #2	James "Jim" Jensen j13jensen@yahoo.com	Mary Esther Filiu
Grand Trustee #3	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Elizabeth Jensen ecjensen@mac.com

Lodge and 2 men on the board for the women's Grand Lodge. You might say we have taken the first 5 steps to the proposed merge through the back door.

Finally, I would like to thank the Grand Officers and committee members for all their hard work and dedication to Dania this past year. It has been a big learning experience for me, I feel I should have had one year experience before I took on the job, but this is not possible!

Mange tak to Martha Nielsen, for being my counterpart from Dannebrog.

Mange tak to Johanne Gade, for being my advisor.

Mange tak to Danmark #2 and Thyra #3, for putting on a very successful convention for 2017.

Tusind tak for giving me the opportunity to serve you as Grand President.

Looking forward to Grand President Daniel Joensen's year.

By Jr Past Grand President Steen Skjellerup

Dannebrog Grand President

Thank you San Francisco for the great convention they hosted for Dania and Dannebrog! Congratulations to Martha Nielsen for the well run Dannebrog convention as Grand President! Also, congratulations to the new Grand Officers of Dannebrog. I am looking forward to our Reno installation on May 5. It would be great to see a lot of out of towners to join us on May 5. I too am looking forward to all of our installations especially with my sister Beth Cowan, Grand Marshal. Congratulations to John Scheuber who had his winning ticket drawn for the Los Cabos vacation! All of the proceeds from the drawing went to the Senior Assistance Fund of Dania and Dannebrog. It looks like the preliminary amount raised is \$9300.00. A big THANK YOU to all of you who supported the Los Cabos drawing.

Anette Christensen is the recipient of the Dannebrog Member of the Year. She joined Reno lodge on July 7, 2000. She has been very active ever since joining and has been an officer over the years. Anette always has a smile on her face and is willing to set up for meetings and parties and cook Danish delights. She has added many new members to Reno. Anette works to make their installations resemble Danish Smørgasbord. Anette volunteers at her homeowners association and works in the school of medicine at the University of Nevada Reno. Congratulations Anette!

Dania Grand President 5/2/2017

I want to thank all the convention participants for coming to South San Francisco, California for a few days and making it a very special experience. In particular, I want especially to thank John Jensen, James Olef Jensen, James “Jim” Jensen, Anne Gearhart, Tom Martin and (last but not least) Roger Gearhart for being the leaders in putting the convention together in such special way. You guys did a great job.

We had a group of four for the Golf tournament and just two for the Bowling on Thursday. The participants had a great time and made it back in due time for the Senior Assistance Fund Meeting.

We ended the day with Danmark#2/Thyra#3’s welcome reception put on by the hotel and augmented by Thyra#3. We also had a test run of the hotel bar. I want to thank Johanne Rasmussen Gade, along with Elizabeth Jensen for putting the Danish Smørrebrød together for the Thursday reception.

Friday started with business meetings. The meeting was lead by now Jr. Past Grand President Steen Skjellerup with assistance of Grand Secretary Tim Heer and we made our way through a packed agenda. As President-Elect, I did manage to contribute to the meeting at a few occasions.

Several changes we approved to Dania (Only) Ritual for Installation of local Officers. The incoming Grand President was given a mandate to pursue greater Unity with Dannebrog (possibly in the form of a merger) and present a progress report by October 1.

Grand Lodge Secretary

IN MEMORIAM:

Rita Post, Danebod No. 16, Livermore.

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Daneskjold #17

Upcoming Conventions		
Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12	April 19-21, 2018	Nugget, Sparkes NV
Thyra #9 and Valborg #1	April 11-13 2019	Grosvenor S. San Francisco
Upcoming Installations		
Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12	May 5, 2017	IOOF Hall Reno, NV

Dania made a presentation at the Dannebrog convention. They are creating a committee of five of their members to be on a committee to look into the feasibility of a merger of Dania and Dannebrog. They requested Dannebrog create a committee to work with theirs. At this time there is nothing on the table just merely to look at pros and cons as well as ideas. Thank you to Doris Skow, Anette Christensen, Sign Ann McNeil, Tracey Lamee, and myself comprise Dannebrog's committee.

Dannebrog's Grand President Stuart Mahler

We will keep our focus on increased membership, web site upkeep, and support to our main purpose, which is sick and benefit help to our members in need.

We finished our business meetings on Saturday, and elected two new officers Grand Vice Marshal Bente Ellis and Grand Trustee Johanne Rasmussen Gade.

The installing Grand Presidents took charge of the installation and did a great job! After installation there was a brief photo session with the newly installed Grand Officers.

The Dannebrog Grand Presidents’ reception was hosted by Stuart Mahler and his wife Susan who helped me with the Dania setup as well. We had Carlsberg beer, home-infused aquavits, wine and light snacks and people walked back and forth between the two bars.

Saturday evening was concluded with a Gala and everybody wore their finest. The raffle was in Past Grand President (no longer Jr.) Tom Martin’s capable hands. The dancing was great – and only interrupted by the raffle and by announcement of slate of Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents and Dania member of the year Past Grand President Glenn Fritz. Just as last year, the evening ended with singing Auld Lang Syne (sku gammel venskab ren forgo) The Danish lyrics were written by Danish Poet Jeppe Aakjær with inspiration from the Scottish original by Robert Burns!

After a brief trip to family in Copenhagen, I look forward to visiting Reno in May. Grand President Dania Daniel Joensen

DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

Daneskjold #17

Dannevang #7

Olsen's Danish Village Bakery

Solvang Inn & Cottages

Grand Lodge Dannebrog Convention's Green March

Secretary's

Dania Secretaries at this year's Convention it was voted to raise the annual percapita tax from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per member as of January 1st and as of July 1st. This will go into effect on January 1st 2018, and does not effect the semiannual tax that is due on July 1, 2017 that amount was established at last year's convention. Please refer to your local Branch's' Bylaws regarding the procedure in increasing your members annual Dues.

At Convention Grand Lodge has approved the purchases of 25 and 50 Year pins. 25 Year pins maybe ordered now at a price

of \$25.00 each. The 50 Year pin is supplied to your member at no cost. All Orders will be filled as soon as the pins are available.

Grand Lodge also approved a design for an attractive hand out by the Membership committee the details of this has yet to be worked out, but for now you can place your order through the Grand Secretary's Office. See your Branch's Representatives for more information on action taken at this year's Convention.

Local Branches

Danmark No. 2 & Thyra No. 3

Meeting: 2nd. Wednesday every month 7:30 PM Odd Fellows Building; 26 Seventh Street, San Francisco CA 94103

Danmark #2 Secretary Roger Gearhart E-mail ragearthart@comcast.net 209-329-3687 Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

Our meetings continue to be well attended and great fun. We eagerly look forward to being together with good friends. At the April meeting we considered the major issues coming before the Convention and instructed our delegates how the membership would like them to vote. Some of the issues were closely contested. In any event, all of us are looking forward to the convention and seeing our friends from the other branches. And we know that we will be well fed and well entertained by the many functions we have planned. The business meetings and the election of new Grand Officers is always interesting.

After the meeting we were treated to a special Danish meal offered by Francis Claussen. He did have some help with serving from his son Mark, grandson Matt and a Danish friend Lars Green. There were all kinds of Danish specialties, all prepared carefully by Francis himself. *Der var appetitvækker med sild, karrysild, lever postej, gammel ost, og mange brøder, den der var flæskesteg, agurkesalat, frisk salat, asier, rødbejer, og paa deserter der var*

rodgrød med fløde og smaa kager. At drikke var vin, øl, Akvavit, og kaffe. Det helle var meget fine, total dansk og meget delikat. We dined much like Danish royalty. And Francis was treated with a rousing rendition of Hans Skal Leve. We greatly appreciate once again having Francis as an active member. Mark Claussen is also a member and we now have an application from Lars Green. Now we need to get *barnebarn* Mathew Claussen into the fold. By the way, *barnebarn* (grandson) is President John Jensen's word-of-the-month.

At our next meeting, *Onsdag, Mai 10*, we will be having our Welcome Home Party for our delegates and, especially, to welcome the new Grand President, our own Daniel Joensen. We gather at 6:30 or so for a beverage followed by a brief meeting and then we get down to the serious business of having a good time. Guests are always welcome
Med venlig hilsen, Roger Gearhart, Secretary,
ragearthart@comcast.net, 209-329-3687

Hejmdal No. 4

Meets four times a year, contact the secretary for further information

Secretary Robert Schall, schallb48@gmail.com

Luren No 13 has surrendered its Charter during the Dannebrog Convention this year.

Thor No. 5 & Thora No. 11

Meeting: 1st. Thursday every month 11:30 AM. Hope Lutheran's Conference Room, 364 E Barstow Ave, Fresno.

Secretary, Christie Pettitt, poppatango@msn.com

Freja No. 6 & Dana No. 15

Meeting: 1st. Sunday every month at Noon; Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA 93901-2904

Secretary, Natalie Heer, timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

Happy Spring everyone! Hope all convention goers had a grand time! Congratulations to the newest Ex'es for a job that we're all sure was well done, and more congratulations for the newly installed Grand Officers of 2017-2018, hope you have a wonderful year!

Dana & Freja will be meeting at the Salinas Masonic Hall on Sunday, May 7th at 1:00 for a "Meet and Greet and Eat and

Show 'n Tell". We've extended an invitation to some local folks we've "met" through a Facebook page that shares interests in Danish folk art and traditions. The plan for the afternoon is a Frikadeller lunch with rod kaal, potatoes and whatever additional side dishes we can make happen. We'll have a history table available to give our guests an idea of what we've been doing all these years and also to open up a conversation

about what they might be interested in contributing to in the near future. To attract new members we feel it's as important to find out what they're looking for, as it is to let them know what we have to offer. The FB group is world wide but not open to

the public, if you are on Facebook and you'd like to check it out, send Jana a message at juganddana@sbcglobal.net and she'll get you a link. You might even find some Danes that live close to you too. JHG

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meets 2nd Saturday at 6:00PM; 4th Saturday Potluck, The Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way in Livermore. Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, Robertlamee@yahoo.com Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com

A funeral Service for Rita Post will be May 12, Presbyterian Church in Livermore.

KT

No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1

Meeting: 2nd Thursday every month 7:30 PM; 20920 Redwood Road, Castro Valley CA 94546.

President, Alan D Filiu, adfiliu@sbcglobal.net #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, beth.cowan@att.net

We had better weather for our April meeting than the past few months. This was Alan's first evening presiding as president. Great job Alan! Greg Gleeson won the Valborg attendance drawing. Stuart Mahler and Tim Rhodes missed out on the Thyra drawings.

Please join us when the Hayward Lodges meet again on Thursday, May 11th. We will be welcoming back our delegates from the convention and our newest grand officers from Valborg #1 and Thyra #9. Pizza and kringle will be provided by Valborg #1 between 6:30 – 7:30 pm. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. Visitors are always welcome!

Sonderjylland No. 10

Meeting 2nd Saturday of April, June, August and October, 11:30 AM Kastania Fælled, Petaluma Secretary, John Cruger-Hansen j.crugerhansen@comcast.net Home: 510-232-6998 or cell: 510-375-5070

Sonderjylland postponed their April 2017 meeting to Saturday, May 13.

Next meeting is on May 13, at 11:30AM at Kastania Fælled in Petaluma.

Remember access to Kastania Road has changed and is only available from the off-ramp to Petaluma Blvd South, both North and Southbound directions on Hwy 101.

Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen Secretary

Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

Meeting: 1st. Saturday every month at 11:00 A.M., Danish Hall, Ferndale, CA 95536

Secretary, Christian Nielsen, ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net

Last month our Corn Beef and Cabbage fest was well attended. This month we are off to Convention in San Francisco. On May 6 we will be welcoming our delegates home with an Æbelskiver breakfast. Francis Sweet and his crew will be cooking up a wonderful treat. Friends are invited and the menu will consist of Æbelskiver, sausage, coffee and tea.

Summer will be here before we know it and in June we will be having a BBQ in our back yard with potluck sides. I hope to have more information soon regarding labor day weekend installation. Ferndale has messed with us by moving the Humboldt County Fair to run through labor day. This conflict has caused the local motels to be booked with fair goers. Christian Nielsen

Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9

Meeting: 1st. Friday every month at 7 PM, Odd Fellows Hall; 1300 Stardust Street Reno, NV 89503.

Secretary, Sena Maria Freeman P.O. Box 4575, Sparks NV 89432; Anette Christensen, achristensen@medicine.nevada.edu

The Reno Lodges Dannevirke #9 & Valdemar #12 celebrated Easter with a great potluck dinner on April 7. It was another rainy night, but didn't stop the 28 in attendance. The evening started out with our 11th Youth performance organized by Ingrid Hedman. We are proud to announce our young performers: Elizabeth Hermansen, violin - played Concerto #23 in G major by Giovanni Viotti. Nikolas Powers, piano - played Moonlight Sonata by Beethoven. Kaylee and Gianna sang acapella – "Better in Stereo" by Dove Cameron. Madeline Lenz and Sidoni Williams, violin – played Etude Duet by Shinshici Suziki. Jake, electric guitar – played Walking on a Dream by Empire of the Sun. Madeline and Ruth Lenz, violin - played Duet by Mazas. Wow - we really have a lot of young talents! Thank you again to Ingrid Hedman. Great job everyone! Following the concert we enjoyed dinner and

dessert. Vice President, Eva Demosthenes opened our meeting at 8:45 pm and the conversation was mostly about our installation on Friday May 5th.

For installation we start at 6 pm with cocktails, 7 pm dinner, 8 pm installation, then dessert and coffee after installations. We will be serving Smørrebrød (Open faced sandwiches) and the price will be \$20.00 per person. Please R.S.V.P. by May 1 to Sena Marie, 775-786-1630 (home), 775-224-6230 (cell) or danishgal9@gmail.com or Anette achristensen@med.unr.edu Anyone that can help make the sandwiches, please meet us at the Hall at 2 pm on 5/5. If you are an officer to be installed please contact Sena Marie if you can't make it so she can find substitutes. Thank you so much and hope to see everyone at our installation.

Before we closed the meeting at 9:10 pm, we sang happy birthday to our April "babies".

Our sick list is a lot smaller. Solveig is doing much better with her knee replacement, Sena Marie is back in a regular shoe, YEAH! Nina Sawyer spent 3 days in the hospital with a stomach problem. Nina that was a horrible way to spend

spring break from school. Glad you are feeling better now. Sorry, I didn't wish everyone a Happy Easter last month and save travels to the convention. Now for the May birthdays: Lars Jensen, Marian Gndt, Nina Sawyer, and Greg Nielsen. Happy Birthday everyone! Take Care Sena Marie

Bornholm No. 14

Meeting: 3rd. Friday every month 7:00 PM Eagles Hall 126 Camellia Way Modesto, CA 95351.

Secretary, Ann Stowers, ann.max@att.net

Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8

Meeting: 3rd Saturday at 12 Noon in various homes.

President, Doris Skow, dws1929@gmail.com, Secretary, Lis Lacey

May 20, at noon the members of Danneskjold 17 and Laura 8 will gather at the home of Bente Ellis to welcome home our delegates.

We will have Danish Sandwiches and Akavit to celebrate. This is a social, however we will hear reports from those who attended the convention.

Note: CALL BENTE AND TELL HER IF YOU ARE COMING OR NOT.

We were very pleased to have both of our Grand Presidents and both Grand Secretaries attending our April meeting at the home of Britta Lange.

We were a total of 16 in attendance and enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Britta. Mange tak. Lis Lacey taught some of us a new game and fun was had by all.

DWS

Hejls Minde No. 23

Meeting: 1st. Wednesday 12 noon at Bit O' Denmark, 473 Alisal Rd. Solvang, CA 93463.

Secretary, Marie Jaeger

Hejls Minde # 23 held its regular meeting wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 12 noon at the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark" with 15 members present. The Door Prize was won by Alice Quimby. \$20.00. Congratulations!

While we were waiting for Lunch we sang a medley of Danish and American songs, led by Erling Grumstrup.

For lunch we had Green salad, Salmon, Potatoes, Vegetables, and Pumpernickel bread. For dessert it was Cheesecake.

Coffee. Snaps and beer, Snaps was donated by : Alice Quimby, Dixie Allen and Finn Runge.

A very enjoyable Lunch.

Business meeting;

We opened the business meeting by singing "God Bless America." The President Hans Kardel opened the business meeting with welcome remarks.

Previous meeting Minutes were read by the Recording Secretary Kate Nielsen- approved as read.

One new member was initiated Dixie Allen- welcome. Happy to have you as a member. Dixie have been a guest at most of our previous meetings.

We still have two more Initiations coming up soon Hans Kardel Jr., and Pat Hansen, both from Santa Maria.

The treasurer Agnes Larsen read the financial report. To be filed for audit.

In sick bay: Birgit Nelson fell and hurt her head. No new report. Our former member Cora Vandecarr The butterfly Lady, a Resident at the Atterdag Village of Solvang, She has not been feeling well lately.

The next meeting will be held May 3, 2017 at the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark" at 12 Noon.

Kate Nielsen will not be present as she will be on a cruise at this time. I will give the minutes to Marie Jaeger to read. Thank You Marie. K.K.N.

Holger Danske No. 27 & Valkyrien No. 23

Meets four times a year; contact the secretary for further information.

Holger Danske Secretary, Wayne A. Allen; Valkyrien Secretary, Darlene Iversen