



# GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

January 2018

## Dania Grand President

November 27<sup>th</sup> was the start of a busy Christmas Season with lots of Celebration, when the neighborhood association turned on the lights on the trees.

On December 1, we went to see a Christmas Carol and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> we had three parties to attend. In comparison, the rest of the month was quiet with a few days without any parties at all. December 9<sup>th</sup>, Danmark #2 and Thyra #3 held our Christmas Party. This year we were in Pleasanton and we had guests from near and far. There was excellent Danish caroling and also a few ones in English.

We had family visit from the 16<sup>th</sup> and enjoyed a quiet Christmas weekend at home.

We are heading back into the busy season and I look forward to the remaining Installations and preparations for the next Convention.

Looking forward to a “Godt Nytaar! (“Happy New Year!”)

Daniel Joensen, Dania Grand President

## Dannebrog Grand President

Welcome to 2018! I hope and trust all of you had a great Christmas and joyous holiday season! My wife, Susan, had both knees replaced on December 20, 2017. After a few days in the hospital she came home. Continues to improve on a daily basis and pain is minimal...so far. She keeps me busy with all the support efforts she requires.

I am looking forward to the upcoming installations over the next few months, followed by the 2018 convention. It should be a lot of fun as we get together in Sparks, Nevada.

Have you or are you in the process of selecting your delegates? Any of your members interested in pursuing a fun filled experience by running for an officer’s position in Grand Lodge Dannebrog?

At the 2017 conventions of Dannebrog and Dania both selected committees to explore and meet together to discuss the merits of a potential merger. That has occurred and the report of the combined committee’s effort has been posted online and in the newsletter. In short: NO MERGER AT THIS TIME, it was decided to blend the line officer’s of Dannebrog and Dania. What does that mean? If you are in a city where there is a Dannebrog and Dania branches, and you meet together with shared officer’s...that is our proposal of the efforts of the committee work.

## Grand Officers

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

Conventions have the option to waive items in the constitution to make things happen, which has occurred in the past. If this proposal is adopted by both conventions there will be additional work during the year to make modifications with the constitutions as well as working out the order of business for the 2019 convention to accommodate both Dannebrog and Dania required business at the respective annual meeting of both organizations.

If you are interested in reading the report or have questions let the committee know. The report is also online for your viewing.

Stuart Mahler, Dannebrog Grand President

**Grand Lodge Secretary**

**IN MEMORIAM:**

**DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP**

**DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND**

Glenn Fritz in memory of PGP Gunnar Nielsen

Glenn Fritz in memory of George Cumming Jr.

Glenn Fritz in memory of Edel Christensen

Glenn Fritz in memory of Lise Vanderbeck

**NEW MEMBERS**

PGP Dorothy Petersen, Sønderjylland #10, Petaluma

Deborah Johanssen, Sønderjylland #10, Petaluma

Per Johansen, Sønderjylland #10, Petaluma

**DANNEBROG GENERAL FUND**

**Branch Secretaries**

Branch Secretaries and those who submit articles to the newsletter, as we start a new year please make an effort to have your articles to me no later than the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month, or let me know not to wait for your article. To many times last year I have received articles on the last day of the month and this is not fair to those who get me an article a day after their meeting and unfair to those Branches who have their meeting in the

**Local Branches**

**Danmark No. 2 & Thyra No. 3**

**Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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](mailto:ragearthart@comcast.net) 209-329-3687 Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade**

We had another excellent meeting in December. However, the elevator at the hall was down for major maintenance and we held the meeting in the second floor lounge. Some of our younger members trekked up to the sixth floor to get the essentials---plates silver ware, coffee, and especially, Akvavit. We had elections and the big changes are for President, Tom Martin, and Vice President, Peter Schakow. President John Jensen will become our new Past President. The President appointed several committees including one to work on the details of our Joint Installation in February or perhaps in March..

The Christmas luncheon was held at the Pleasanton DoubleTree Hotel and the venue, food and especially the turnout (55) were all excellent. Everyone enjoyed the singing in both Danish and English. And the bar was reportedly very

**Hejmdal No. 4**

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

**Secretary Robert Schall, [schallb48@gmail.com](mailto:schallb48@gmail.com)**

**Thor No. 5 & Thora No. 11**

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

**Secretary, Christie Pettitt, [poppatango@msn.com](mailto:poppatango@msn.com)**

Dania and Dannebrog met at Hope Lutheran Church conference room at 11:30 Thursday November 2,2017. We had 13 members present to enjoy lunch done by Betty Green and Lone Taylor, consisting of fried and baked chicken, salads, rolls and ending with pumpkin pie with lots of whipped cream. It was refreshing not to be required to furnish food for the meeting.

<b>Upcoming Conventions</b>		
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
<b>Upcoming Installations</b>		
Thor No. 5 and Thora #11	February 3 2018	Spike and Rail, Selma
Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16	February 24th, 2:00	Odd Fellows Hall, Livermore
No. 9 Thyra and Valborg No. 1	March 10 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Cattlemen's Livermore

first week of the month. Thank you in advance for your support in getting the Newsletter out in a timely manner. Tim Heer Grand Secretary and Editor.

good. We may well have found something very unique for future venues. Jim Jensen did all the heavy lifting and everyone had a great time.

Johanne Rasmussen Gade's name was drawn for the Attendance Prize and she gladly collected. She has rarely missed a meeting proving that you have to be there to win. The next meeting will *Onsdag*, January 10. We gather at the Odd Fellows Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, at 6:30 or so for a beverage and a social hour. There is a brief meeting at 7:30, then we get down to the serious business of having a good time and a wonderful meal. The tradition has been that the ladies of Thyra treat us to Æbleskiver Visitors are always welcome.

Med venlig hilsen, Roger Gearhart, Secretary, [ragearthart@comcast.net](mailto:ragearthart@comcast.net), 209-329-3687

Cheer report found member Bonnie Terkelsen now under care at Willow Creek Home.

The meeting was conducted by Vice President Don Pettitt in the absence of President Dave Willis. Election of new officers resulted in the follow new officers for 2018 year,

Past President	Dave Willis
President	Don Pettitt
Vice President	Kay Jensen

Secretary Christie Pettitt  
Treasurer Nancy Willis  
Marshal Lone Taylor  
Vice Marshal Carl Jensen  
Trustees Steen Skjellerup and Stan Kjar  
Auditor Kathi Mehrten and Steen Skjellerup  
Lodge Christmas Dinner was at Hope Lutheran Community Center Friday December 1, 2017. At 6:00PM there was wine

tasting with cheese and crackers. Dinner at 6:30PM consisting of a Roast Pork meal with all the trimmings, Christmas carol singing and dancing around the Christmas tree will be part of the evening.  
Lodge installation will be at Spike and Rail, Selma CA, Saturday February 3, 2018. More Detail coming.  
Wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone and their families.

### **Freja No. 6 & Dana No. 15**

**Meeting: 1st. Sunday every month at 1:00 P.M.; Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA 93901-2904**

**Secretary, Natalie Heer, [timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net)**

Happy New Year everyone! Hope you all had a wonderful, warm and cozy Christmas with family and friends! Now that all your holiday meals have settled, get ready again for Sunday, January 7th and come on down to Salinas for a New Year's Danish meal and raise a glass or two to wish Tim and Nat a Happy 50th Anniversary! We'll start at 12 noon - and if you

haven't already RSVP'd, please do, ASAP! To [timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net) or 831-426-4623, Hope to see you there! skaal! Jhg

Do not forget that your dues are due, Freja's is \$25.00 and Dana's is \$15.00. Please mail your check to Tim Heer, 487 Paradise Park, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.... Thanks TJH

### **Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16**

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 6:00PM; 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Potluck, The Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way in Livermore.**

**Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, [Robertlamee@yahoo.com](mailto:Robertlamee@yahoo.com) Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen,**

**[danskfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:danskfarm@yahoo.com)**

Happy New Year! Can you believe it is 2018? We will bring in 2018 by having our first meeting at Bob and Tracey Lamee's house, 4:00, Saturday, January 13th. Reminder to pay your dues, \$12.00 for Danebod 16 to our treasurer Tracey Lamee

and \$24.00 for Dannevang No. 7 to our treasurer Bob Lamee. Hope we have some rain by then. We will be planning our upcoming installation which will be February 24, 2:00 at the Odd Fellows Hall in Livermore. KRT

### **No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1**

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

**President, Alan D Filiu, [adfiliu@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adfiliu@sbcglobal.net) #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, [beth.cowan@att.net](mailto:beth.cowan@att.net)**

I'm looking forward to seeing our members at the January meeting on the 11th.

Hope you all had a blessed Christmas and wish you a happy and joyous New Year. Alan

### **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](mailto:j.crugerhansen@comcast.net) Home: 510-232-6998 or cell: 510-375-5070**

Sønderjylland #10 held their annual Christmas Lunch on December 2, 2017 at Aldersly in San Rafael. We also had a short meeting with the members and Board.

This time we paired up with the San Francisco Chapter of the Danish Rebild Society for an especially festive traditional Danish Flæskestej med svær and rødkål and brunede kartofler. For desert we had a magnificent Ris A Lamande, complete with a mandelgave. The Aldersly chef did such an absolutely superb job that many of us were reminded, happily, of our younger days and the Julemiddage we enjoyed while living in Denmark. After the lunch we sang Christmas songs, both English and Danish and many of us got teary-eyed when singing the Danish julesalmer.

We want to thank the Rebild Society for allowing us to join them at Aldersly. If everyone agrees, this may become our new Christmas Lunch tradition.

After the lunch we went outdoors and had a short meeting, chaired by President Karen Friis Lysmer. We introduced and

welcomed three new members to Sønderjylland #10, Dorothy Petersen, Deborah Johansen and Per Johansen.

Vibeke Jensen gave a short treasurer's report which was accepted as presented and Secretary John Cruger-Hansen gave a short report.

We then discussed the Dania Convention to be held in Reno in April 2018 and it was decided that our President Karen Friis Lysmer and Secretary John Cruger-Hansen will be our delegates with Debbie Cruger-Hansen as an alternate.

We also discussed our Valentine's Day lunch in February. Several suggestions for location were made, possibly going back to Oakmont Golf Club as we have done before. Date and location will be determined after discussion with members and the board. See the January 2018 newsletter for details.

The next regular scheduled meeting is on Saturday March 10, 2018 at 11:30 at Kastania Fælled, Petaluma.

We wish all our members, our friends and our sister associations a Happy New Year/ Godt Nytår 2018.

Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary

**Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10**

**Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup>. Saturday every month at 11:00 A.M., Danish Hall, Ferndale, CA 95536**

**Secretary, Christian Nielsen, [ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net](mailto:ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net)**

December gave us a great turnout at our Danish Christmas. 70 people were in attendance and we had a great dinner of Prime Rib and Turkey.

Our annual Crab and Spaghetti feed is at a real risk, since the crab season will not be open until the end of December. We will still meet on January 6 at 11:00 for a business meeting and have a Spaghetti feed at 12:30. Cost is \$5.00 per person and the

meal will include a green salad, bread, spaghetti with homemade sauce, coffee, tea and dessert.

January 14 at 1:00 we will be showing Adams Apple a Danish film with English sub titles. We will be choosing the next film to watch. It will probably be an American film, just to switch it up a little.

Have a blessed holiday season, Christian Nielsen

**Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9**

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

**Secretary, Sena Marie Freeman P.O. Box 4575, Sparks NV 89432; Anette Christensen, [achristensen@med.unr.edu](mailto:achristensen@med.unr.edu)**

On Friday December 1, 2017 the Reno Lodges celebrated our Danish Christmas party at the Odd Fellow Hall. It was one of the nicest party ever. Wonderful food and fellowship. The room was so festive with Christmas decor on the walls and the tables, so very pretty. The evening started with gløgg and æbleskiver. Next was Ingrid Hedman and the St. Lucia performers, who ranged in age from 2 to 19. They did a great job and was so beautiful & cute. Thank you again to Ingrid for taking the time to practice with the children - such a great job! Then dinner was served of the traditional Danish Smørbrøds bord. If anyone left hungry, it was their own fault. The "Nisse", Steve Myers performed for the children and adults alike. Handed out the presents for all the children and did an outstanding job. Thank you Steve!

After Steve's performance it was time for coffee and dessert - not that we were hungry anymore. There were "Ris a la mande" (Ricepudding) made by Marian Gndt, cookies made by Sena Marie

The raffle was a great success as well with pretty prizes. A huge thank you goes out to everyone that put this party together. Let's not forget the cleanup crew. Nikolas Powers and his dad for cleaning the dishes. Marian, your Rice Pudding was wonderful as always. Anette and Sena Marie's Cookies. Ann-Katherine for the Fanø Cabbage, made by your nephew Christian Christensen, who owns the restaurant Sup together

with his wife Kasey. Lars Jensen for making the pork roast & red cabbage and for working in the kitchen all evening. Our January meeting will be on Friday January 5, 2018 and the menu is our Fish dinner, Cod, potato's with mustard gravy. We ask that everyone brings appetizers or desserts to share. Dues are due January 1. For Dannevirke members - \$20.00 to Ina Segesman and for Valdemar members: \$30.00 to Carl Christiansen. January birthdays are: Ingrid Hedman, Marlene Swaffar, Jens Christiansen, Erik Jensen, John Matuzak, and Knud Sorensen. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL. Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and a healthy & safe 2018.

The registration form for the 2018 Convention at the Nugget, Reno, will be out soon. The hotel info is as follows: Call the Nugget at 1-800-648-1177 or Local number: 775-356-3300. Ask for reservations and give code GDS or Danish Society California and Nevada. The room rate is: \$98.00 per night plus resort fee and tax.

Take Care Sena Marie. P.S. I would like to say thank you to Judi Heer for the lovely luncheon for the Grand Past Presidents. It was delightful and so good. Anette, Ann-Katherine and I had a wonderful time, and the trip down and back. It was a lovely tribute to dear Mary Jo. I know she was there in spirit. Thanks again, Sena Marie

**Bornholm No. 14**

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

**Secretary, Ann Stowers, [ann.max@att.net](mailto:ann.max@att.net)**

**Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8**

**Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 12 Noon in various homes.**

**President, Doris Skow, [dws1929@gmail.com](mailto:dws1929@gmail.com), Secretary, Lis Lacey**

Laura #8 and Danneskjold #17 had a will attended Annual Julefest with a lot of good food!!! Godt Nytaar to everyone.

**Hejls Minde No. 23**

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

**Secretary, Marie Jaeger**

Wishing everyone a Godt Nytaar! And hope to see you at "The Bit O' Denmark"

**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**

We Hope all had a wonderful Christmas and we wish you all a Happy and healthy New Year.

### **Danish History**

Peter T. Scherrebech: He is regarded by many sources as the first Danish settler in California. He came to Yerba Buena in 1835. The town, at that time Mexican, later became San Francisco. In 1844 he became the first police officer in the town. Later he was a tax collector and elected to the town council. He was elected with 86 votes while the candidate, J. Cooper, only got 2 votes in 1847.

He was born 18 Aug 1813 in Skærbæk, Hoptrup, Haderslev. Christened "Peter Skerrebek". Son of farmer Thomas Simonsen and wife Bodild Kirsten Scherrebeck. As with many of this era looking up history on him is somewhat confusing. In some places his Danish name is used Skerrebek, at other it is Scherrebech and even his decedents use Schubert as the spelling of their last name.

He Married a Mary Sullivan (or maybe Stevenson) and their firstborn, a daughter, was the second "White" Child of Anglo-Saxon Race, born in Yerba Buena. The little girl was born in 1846 and was named Cathrine.

Mary's Brother was one of the founders of Hibernia Bank in San Francisco.

Peter was first of all known as a carpenter and master builder. He constructed many buildings in the region of San Francisco and built his first home on the corner of Kearny and Washington streets, later the El Dorado and the, Parker Hotel. Peter T. Scherrebech was of the opinion that he built on his own grounds that belonged to him. He claimed that Governor Castro gave him a larger area of land as part of a land grant,

between Market Street and Rincon Hill and between 2nd and 3rd Streets there were about 12 City Blocks. After California became a State and Scherrebechs submitted his claims, they were registered on 3 March 1853, but they were rejected as invalid by the Country Commission on 6 March 1855. Some years Later, on 3 December 1859, this was overturned by the United States district Court. This order aroused great commotion in the young city, a study was started and some months after the Court's ruling, there was evidence to show that the Scherrebechs claims were invalid. The case ended in the United States Supreme Court which ruled that his claims were invalid in 1891.

Scherrebech has certainly believed that he was in his rights, but the papers were not submitted in time. (Scherrebechs son's widow, said that it was Scherrebechs Brother-in-law, lawyer Frank Sullivan, to whom Scherrebech had entrusted the supervision of his Grant, had neglected to have his map Approved in time).

The land Scherrebech claimed in 1853 was worth a fabulous fortune. It now covers well over 500 building plots in a densely populated business and residential district.

Only one year after the final decision of 1860, Peter T. Scherrebech passed away.

His Son Thomas J. Scherrebech was born November 21, 1851 and after his Mother passed away in 1879 moved to San Jose, where he lived near the Alum Rock Road and McLaughlin Avenue in the east San Jose.

All the best in 2018  
the Staff at the Dania & Dannebrog Newsletter