



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

May 2018

Dannebrog Grand President

Now that the convention is over and we've started a new year, I would like to thank Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12 for a wonderful convention. Everything was perfect. The committee did a fantastic job!

Grand President Stuart Mahler conducted the meetings with great finesse and fun. Congratulations to the Grand officers who have moved up in position and to our newbies, Grand Vice Marshal Donna Vanderbeck and Grand Trustee Kathy Christensen.

At the truly Grand Viking Ball, I was privileged and proud to be able to present Martha Nielsen with the Dannebrog Member of the Year award. She was very shocked and surprised. What fun it was for my wife and I to assist two past presidents of Dania, Daniel and Stuart, in presenting my four sons, Michael – 36 year member, Scott – 34 year member, Mark – 33 year member, and Timothy – 26 year member, with their 25-year membership pins from Dania. The boys were really surprised.

Thank you Reno for having your local installation on Sunday, while we had so many people still in town to attend and enjoy.

I am hopeful some of the Dannebrog members will support John and his lodge at their installation in August. Have a safe, fun & happy summer. Alan Filiau, Dannebrog Grand President

Dannebrog Grand Past President

I want to thank Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12 for a great convention in Reno, they did a great job! Again, I want to thank the members, delegates, and officers for allowing me the opportunity to serve Dannebrog. And a special thanks to my wife Susan, who without her love and support this opportunity, would not have been possible for me.

Looking at the convention program one cannot miss the point that a lot of lodges are not taking advantage of the number of delegates they could send to convention. Some lodges even use Past Grand Presidents and Grand Officers as delegates. Those two have the right to speak and vote at convention. I would encourage you to not use them as delegates. Get other members involved to go to convention. Let them see some of the history and traditions of Dania and Dannebrog which they may not have been exposed to.

My guess is there are a lot of lodges where members are now participating or they are newer and have never seen how a meeting could be run. Today if there is a Dannebrog and Dania in the same city they are meeting together. As a result most of them are no longer observing a marching pattern, opening and closing signs,

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Daniel Joensen dj@danken.com	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@att.net
Grand President	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Alan Filiau adfiliau@sbcglobal.net
Grand Vice President	Jana Heer-Glovaski juganddana@sbcglobal.net	Beth Mahler Cowan beth.cowan@att.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	Bente Ellis Baellis06@gmail.com	Deanna Dunbar deannadnbr@yahoo.com
Grand Vice Marshal	Michael Vanderbeck mk_vanderbeck@yahoo.com	Donna Lipoma-Vanderbeck dlipoma@yahoo.com
Grand Trustee #1	James "Jim" Jensen j13jensen@comcast.net	Mary Esther Filiau
Grand Trustee #2	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Elizabeth Jensen ecjensen@mac.com
Grand Trustee #3	Peder Hoy phoy@inreach.com	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net

and what is a password? Then if they do go to a convention it is a different world for them.

Some will say it is nice to do away with old traditions and you must change to be relevant in today's world. There are also a lot of members today who have a rich family history in our organizations and enjoy some of these traditions which their parents, grandparents, and great grandparents were a part of. Sure, there are times when changes and modifications need to take place. But change for the sake of change?

Here is a well kept secret...if you have ten people interested in forming a new, or recreating a former branch of Dannebrog; Give us a call...we could make this happen.

I challenge all of you to seek and encourage new members into your branches. If you have areas where there is no

branch and want to create a new branch or recreate an older branch...let's do it!

Dania Grand President

First, I want to thank both Valemar 12 and Dannevirke 9, our Reno Branches, for doing a great job in hosting a beautiful 138th Convention. This always proves to be a nice setting for us. I am very honored and humbled to having been elected as your Dania Grand President. It is my goal to continue to build and stronger bond between Dania and Dannebrog.

Two of my dear friends were honored with the Member of the Year Award, Martha Nielsen for all her endless hours serving Dannebrog Fresno and just completing her 2nd term as Grand President, and Mel Lundberg, who has been extremely active in Ferndale and in many Grand officer roles. This award is to honor those who go beyond the normal effort to serve. It is very fitting here.

I was extremely disappointed in Dannebrog's negative response to Blending. Since 1981 many efforts have been made to tighten the working relationship which we have not yet accomplished. In 2004 I Chaired a Committee that surveyed both Dania and Dannebrog to determined the likelihood of this move to improve this situation. The Survey showed 84% of Dania and 67% of Dannebrog agreed with the concept, however, at the 2006 convention the effort met with defeat. As the result of a motion at the 2017 convention we thought it was time to pursue this once again. Both Dania and Dannebrog formed committees that first worked separately, then together. The second half of this year was spent informing the branches and responding to feedback from the branches. Not once

Dania Jr Past Grand President

By now the convention is over. It went extremely well. Much was decided and we covered a vast range of topics. I wish to thank Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9 for a very successful convention for 2018. The venue was great. We overcame problems with the elevators and had a grand time. The Gala featured a great Viking Show with singing and acting and we had lovely long-ship centerpieces.

Thank you to Bent Olsen for the Danish pastries.

At convention, we approved a change to the constitution with immediate effect that lets any member become a "secondary members of a second branch". This secondary membership does not accrue to the Grand Lodge and is a purely local matter. Please check for the updated constitution in a month to see the details.

The semi-annual tax was kept the same as last year. We approved the report from the committee addressing the blending of Dania and Dannebrog officers. Motions were made, but did not pass both Grand Lodges, so we are not proceeding this year.

Those are just a few highlights, Grand Secretary Tim Heer is writing a convention report.

Stuart O. Mahler Dannebrog Grand Past President

was there a negative statement made or a concern voiced. I, personally, called each Dania Branch Secretary to get a status report on their meetings and attitudes. I want to thank those who supported this effort. When Dania's vote was in, it was 77% in favor.

I guess you call it blind-sided when you plan for success and you are defeated. We asked for concerns and never heard one, until convention. Dannebrog's vote was a comparable 77%, but in defeat. Where did we go wrong? Who didn't inform us of the issues? What happened to the Joint Session at convention where we were to have to discuss the issues, if any? I can assure you that I will make a concerted effort to find those answers and come to some resolve. Every study and conversation ends with "some type of blending is inevitable", but when?

As we start a new year we have our Committees appointed to fine tune our Ritual and do a complete review of our Dania Constitution and make every effort to maintain relevance and reduce redundancy. I plan to do some fence mending with Dannebrog in the interest of a more positive relationship by our year's end. I hope you will join me in this effort. My wife, Marge Olsen Scheuber, and I, look forward to our travels this year to visit some of the Branch Meetings and all the Installations. We hope to attend the Santa Maria 4th of July BBQ and hope to see some of you there. We will all need to get the details soon.

John Scheuber, Dania Grand President

A few branches have taken Steen Skjellerup's recommendation to heart and started running 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. I hope that more branches will elect younger membership to its offices in the coming year.

We still have 3 female Grand Officers in Dania and two male officers in Dannebrog. While this is unusual in a historical context, it is not a blending (as the one discussed this year) since all officers are qualified members of a Branch under the relevant Grand Lodge.

Finally, I would like to thank all Grand Officers and committee members for their dedication to and hard work for Dania this past year. It has been a joy to be Grand President and I feel privileged to have been given the reins for the past year.

A great many thanks to Stuart Mahler, for being my counterpart from Dannebrog.

Tusind tak to Peder Hoy, for being my advisor. Looking forward to Grand President John Scheuber's year.

By Jr Past Grand President Daniel Joensen

Grand Lodge Secretary

IN MEMORIAM:

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP

Dannebrog Conventiom Green March

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

Dannebrog Conventiom Green March

Daneskjold #17

NEW MEMBERS

DANNEBROG GENERAL FUND

Irene Simms

Secretary's

A lot went on at this year's convention, and the Reno Branches did a fantastic Job. One of the big changes for Daina is allowing members to hold a membership in more than one Branch of Dania. This did take a change to our Constitution and the revised Constitution is available on our web site. Please download it and print a copy for your Benches. Also in a

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 Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

We had a very productive meeting with long discussions on the proposed blending/merger and we charged our delegates on how we would like them to vote. There were 4 separate issues involved. John and Marge Scheuber were our guests and John was asked to contribute to the discussion. Under Good of the Order, John related that it was his first ever visit to our meetings. He understands that we have lots of space for marching about. Now that he is Grand President we expect that he will be back very soon.

We have now returned from the wonderful Convention hosted by our friends in Reno: a great time was had by all.

Congratulations to all the Grand Officers and especially to our own members, Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen, Grand Trustee Jim Jensen and Grand Trustee Kathy Christensen. And we almost had John Jensen convinced to be a candidate for Grand Vice Marshal. We will hear about the Convention from our Delegates at our next meeting.

We have had recent Attendance Prize winners---Michael Fox and Daniel Joensen. They are faithful members, rarely absent. It pays to come to our meetings. We welcomed back into membership Eric Eichner. He somehow didn't realize that he had been suspended. It will be a pleasure to welcome him back into our midst. He is soon headed for DK but promised to be in attendance when he is back home.

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

We held the April 5 meeting at Hope Lutheran with 17 members and guests. Arla Hoj and her niece, Sonja Fabbian were visiting us. Arla is a member of Solvang #23. It was good to see Stan and Pam Kjar attending.

Geraldine Jensen, Betty Green and Don Pettitt were absent because of illness.

Martha Nielsen was in Santa Barbara for her Granddaughter Makayla's Gallery opening of her screen prints. Mikayla will be graduating in May.

Steen Skjellerup was still visiting in Denmark.

Upcoming Conventions		
Thyra #9 and Valborg #1	April 11-13 2019	Grosvenor S. San Francisco
Bornholm #14	2020	
Upcoming Installations		

few weeks a change to our Notice of New Member will also be valuable on line that conforms to this new type of Member.

Talking about new forms on the web site, there is an updated form for the Senior Assistances Application which is to be used going forward.

You may have seen our President Tom Martin on crutches at the Convention. He has had great trouble with his back and soon will have corrective surgery. And our Past President Elizabeth Jensen has also been experiencing great back pain. She has been getting about with her trusty cane. She is also having treatments---we wish them both speedy and complete recoveries.

We have an Event Committee studying our future events. The date for the Anniversary Party is February 9, location TBD. We are also considering other events, perhaps a picnic and an informal "gathering"; details to follow. At our last meeting we had several enormous and very tasty pizzas, all quickly devoured. Of course, we also had great appetizers thanks to Johanne and Elizabeth. And there was wine, beer, Akvavit, and coffee, perhaps even water, to drink. We always eat and drink very well. And the singing was just great.

Our next meeting will *Onsdag Mai 9*. We will be welcoming home our Convention Delegates and our Grand Officers. We gather at the Odd Fellows Hall, 6th floor, at 6:30 or so, for a beverage and a social hour. There will be a brief (hopefully) meeting at 7:30, then we will get down to the serious business of having a good time---and a wonderful meal. Everyone is invited but please come hungry. Med venlig hilsen, Roger Gearhart, Secretary, ragearthart@comcast.net, 209-329-3687

Congratulations to Carl and Betty Jensen for the anniversary of 70th years of a very happy marriage. They are both pillars of our Fresno lodge, always helping and doing whatever they can for us. The Reno lodge hosted a great convention held April 19, 20 & 21 at the Nugget in Sparks, NV. Steen Skjellerup and Don Pettitt were our Dania Representatives and Christie Pettitt, Deanna Dunbar and Martha Nielsen were the Dannebrog delegates.

Grand Past President Steen Skjellerup and myself, Grand Past President Martha Nielsen had the privilege and honor of installing the new Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge for 2018-19.

I was very surprised and honored to receive the 2018 "Dannebrog Member of the Year" award, joining a small group of outstanding women. The award was first given in 2010 with Doris Skow being the first recipient. We attended Reno's installation of the local lodge and breakfast on Sunday morning. Dannebrog Grand President Alan Filiu and Dania Grand President John Scheuber did an outstanding job of installing the new officers of the Reno lodge.

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 Secretary, Natalie Heer, timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

Dana 15 and Freja 6 will be meeting on Sunday May 6 to welcome their delegates, representatives and grand officers past and present, home from convention in Reno. We'll be at the Salinas Masonic Center at noon to enjoy a pan/plate/bowl/pot luck. Bring your favorite recipe and hopefully there won't be any leftovers. After our meal, our president will bang her gavel and request convention reports and gossip (kidding!). Many of us already know what a great time was had by all who were able to attend - many thanks to Reno's Valdemar #12 & Dannevirke #9

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

Reno put on a fine installation, enjoyed by all who attended. Congratulations to the newly elected Grand Officers and to Martha Nielsen and Mel Lundberg who were honored with member of the year awards. Now a few words from our president, Gregg DiMartino; "Please attend our next meeting.

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 are back from another successful convention which was hosted by Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12 of Reno. Congratulations to Stuart Mahler for a well run Dannebrog convention as Grand President! We look forward to the coming year with Alan Filiu as our newly installed Dannebrog Grand President. Congratulations to all the newly installed Grand Officers of Dannebrog and Dania.

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 #10 had no meeting scheduled in April 2018. The next regular scheduled meeting is on Saturday June 9, 2018 at 11:30 at Kastania Fælled, Petaluma.

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

May 5: Valhalla – Ydun will be meeting for an Aebelskiver breakfast at 10:00 (start cooking at 8:00) with a business meeting at 12:30. Members are asked to help out where you can. Committee is Francis Sweet and crew.

May 13: Valhalla – Ydun will be showing a Movie Matinee at the Danish Hall. Movie starts at 1:00 on the second Sunday of the month. Popcorn, coffee, tea, cocoa and Carlsberg will be available. We will be showing a 1958 American film "The

Our next meeting will be May 3, with Don and Christie Pettitt hosting for a "Welcome back Delegates and Representatives". We will have salads and sandwiches. The June meeting, which will be a picnic on Friday, June the 1st in Steen's backyard. He will have tri tip and everyone is to bring salads or a dessert, 5:00pm cocktails and 6:00 dinner. Martha Nielsen reporting.

for all their hard work and organizing to make this annual event a success. If you've never attended convention, we highly recommend it - you'll meet a lot of great people, reunite with old friends and want to come back again and again. Yes, Dania and Dannebrog's future depends on new members but even more importantly on the participation of current members who can contribute their experience, knowledge and insights to move us forward. Hope you all have a wonderful "Welcome Home" meeting this month! - jhg

We will choose a local charity to support and decide when and where to have an aelbeskiver night." Our next meeting will be May 12, 6:00, Farm Bureau Hall. We will have a Cinco De Mayo theme, see you there, KRT

Please join us when the Hayward Lodges meet again on Thursday, May 10. We will welcome back our Delegates and Representatives from the convention and also our Grand Officers from Valborg #1 and Thyra #9. Pizza and kringle will be provided by Valborg, beginning at 6:30 pm. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm. Visitors are always welcome! Susan Gauthier, President

Respectfully John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary

Vikings" In the Middle Ages, Viking warriors continue to raid the English coast. Starring Kirk Douglas, Tony Curtis, Ernest Borgnine and Janet Leigh. Bring finger foods, guests welcome and yes this is Mother's Day.

June 2: Valhalla – Ydun will be meeting at 11:00 with a catered lunch at 12:30. No charge for members, but we need reservations to Mel Lundberg by May 21, call him at (707) 822-3787. 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 Marie Freeman P.O. Box 4575, Sparks NV 89432; Anette Christensen, achristensen@med.unr.edu

The Reno Lodges met on Friday April 6 for our monthly meeting. It was a very rainy evening with 22 in attendance, but it was also a special evening – Sena Marie’s birthday! The potluck was great with a lot of different foods from Italian to wings, chicken, pork roast, potatoes, gravy and lots of salads. The dessert was really special - Anette made a birthday cake for me with fresh strawberries and everyone sang happy birthday to me! Anette, you always make everyone feel special.

Anette opened the meeting at 9:10 pm. Final preparations for convention was on the agenda. It was a busy meeting, but we got went through it fairly quick and closed the meeting at 10 pm.

We are sorry to lose two of our members. Bill and Irene York, who sent us a nice letter that they are resigning their membership. Since they are retired now, they want to travel. We will miss them and wish them happy trails!

Mike Vanderbeck is doing well after his neck surgery and should be out of the brace soon.

Update from Convention: Thank you to everyone for attending the convention in Reno and helping us celebrate Valdemar #12’s anniversary. It was a real pleasure to host the convention and we hope you had a good time and even enjoyed the program Saturday night? (We sure had fun) 😊 Maybe you even won some money? Congratulations to all the newly

installed Grand officers. A well-deserved congratulation to Martha Nielsen and Mel Lundberg as Members of the Year! Thank you all for attending our local installation of officers in Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12 on Sunday 4/22. Thanks for your RSVP - the catering department was very happy. A big shout out to our new Grand President’s John Scheuber & Alan Filiau and Grand Marshal’s Bente Ellis & Deanna Dunbar for a job well done at the first installation! Now the first one is in the books – it will be a “piece of cake”. Hope everyone had a safe trip home.

LASTLY - congratulations to Mike and Donna Vanderbeck, who are the newly elected Grand Vice Marshal’s. We are so proud of you and it is so nice to have Reno back in the line of officers!

Our May meeting will be on Friday 5/4/18 and it will be a potluck starting at 7 pm.

The Month of May birthdays are: Marian Gndt, Nina Sawyer, Lars Jensen and Greg Nielsen.

Happy Mother’s Day to all the Moms out there. Take Care, Sena-Marie.

PS: On Friday May 18, 2018 at 3 pm, there will be a celebration of life for Palle Larsen and place his urn at the Mountain View Cemetery at 435 Stoker Ave., Reno, NV 89503. Questions: Contact Anette.

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

On May 19, Danneskjold #17 and Laura #8 will meet at the home of Jonna Robinson, 6308 Blauer Lane, San Jose for our regular business meeting and welcome home delegates and Representatives lunch. We will begin with lunch at 12 noon, followed by our meeting and presentation of scholarships. NOTICE; PLEASE call Doris to let us know if

you are COMING OR NOT. Jonna will be away just before our meeting so she will not be available to take phone messages. New updated address list will be handed out at the meeting. If you have any questions, please call me at 408-313-7235 I hope to see everyone there. DWS

Hejls Minde No. 23

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

Secretary, Marie Jaeger

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 Iverse

Santa Maria Lodges, Holger Danske #27 and Valkyrien #23 wish to invite all members of the Danish lodges and their guests to our 4th of July B-B-Q in Santa Maria. The B-B-Q is held in Waller Park Space # 5. Call Wayne Allen at 805-937 4720 or

Darlene Iversen at 1 805-937-5014. Beans, bread, and meat, will be furnished, please bring a dish to share if you wish. See you all there to Celebrate!! Hope to see you on the 4th of July!! WA