

129th Annual Convention Report



Held at
The Grosvenor Hotel
In So. San Francisco
April 23-25, 2009

FRIDAY April 24, 2009

Grand Officers, Delegates, Past Grand Presidents and Members assembled at The Grosvenor Hotel in So. San Francisco for Dania's 129th annual convention on April 23 and 25, 2009. Host Lodges are Thyra #3 and Danmark #2 of San Francisco

GRAND OFFICERS

Grand Past President	Stanley Kjar	Thor #5	Fresno
Grand President	John Champagne	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Vice President	Roger Gearhart	Danmark #2	San Francisco
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	Freja #6	Salinas
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson	Thyra #9	Hayward
Grand Marshal	Lilian Rasmussen	Sønderjylland #10	Petaluma
Grand Vice Marshal	Kurt Høj	Hejls Minde #23	Solvang
Grand Trustee	Peter Hoy	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Trustee	Bent Olsen	Hejls Minde #23	Solvang
Grand Trustee	George A Cumming Jr.	Thyra #9	Hayward

DELEGATES

Danmark #2	James E Gearhart	Thomas Martin	James Jensen
	John Jensen	James Olef Jensen	
Hejmdal #4	Bob Schall		
Thor #5	Gunner Nielsen	Richard Hansen	Carl Jensen
Freja #6	Ole Petersen	Arne Poulsen	Erik Rasmussen
Dannevang #7	Arthur Reinstein	Jackie Nielsen	
Thyra #9	Rowland McNeil	Tony Fronchek	
Sønderjylland #10	Karen F Lysmer	Jeannie Melendez	
Valhalla #11	Mel Lundberg	Nick Wilson	
Valdemar #12	Pete Olsen	Carl Christiansen	
Bornholm #14	John Schueber	Johanna Gade	Anni Champagne
	Ann Stowers		
Danneskjold #17	Robert Lacey	Arne Rasmussen	
Hejls Minde #23	Alice Quimby	Niels Djernaes	
Holger Danske #27	No Delegates		

Grand President, John Champagne, Bornholm #14 called the convention to order at 9:00 A.M. The password was taken up by Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen, Sønderjylland #10 and Grand Vice Marshal Kurt Høj Hejls Minde #23. After the password was obtained the Grand President called for the opening sign.

9 Grand Officers, 25 Delegates and 15 Past Grand Presidents responded to roll call. See addendum for the complete Roll Call results.

Grand President, John Champagne, Bornholm #14 asked the Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen,

Sønderjylland #10 to escort the Convention Chairman Grand Vice President, Roger Gearhart, Danmark#2 to his side. Grand Vice President, Roger Gearhart Welcomed the Grand Officers, Delegates and Past Grand Presidents to the 129th Grand lodge Convention, and then presented a Danish flag that was used in Chicago during the visit of the T.R.H.The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess. This Flag is a gift of the Kongelig Dansk Ambassade of Washington, DC and The Consulate General in Chicago. The request for a flag was made by Grand Vice President, Roger Gearhart, and Grand President John Champagne thank Roger for making the arrangements for the flag and asked the Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen to place it on the altar where it stayed during the rest of the convention. Copies of letters have been attached as an addendum to this report.

The assembly then rose to recite the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed by the singing of the Danish National Anthem, led by Niels Djernaes, Hejls Minde #23

Grand President John Champagne then declared a moment of silence for those departed members this past year as Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen draped the Charter.

Grand President John Champagne, wished everyone in attendance welcome, and then declared the 129rd Dania Convention in session with full power to act. The Grand Marshal then escorted Past Grand President Stuart O. Mahler, Thyra#9, to the chair on his right to act as his advisor during the Convention in the absents of Past Grand President James Jorgensen who is unable to attend the Convention due to recent back surgery.

Minutes from the close of the 128th convention were read and approved.

Grand President John Champagne turned the meeting over to Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart. The Grand President read his report. (**see addendum**). It was moved by Past Grand President Gunnar Nielsen, Thor #5 that we accept the report of the Grand President. Seconded by Rowland McNeil Thyra #9 and carried with a round of applause. The Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart after ruling on the motion returned the Gavel to Grand President John Champagne.

Report of the Executive Committee was read. Moved by Past Grand President Kaj Kristensen Danmark #2 to accept the report. Seconded by Rowland McNeil Thyra #9 and carried. **See addendum.**

Grand Secretaries report was reviewed. Moved by Past Grand President Kaj Kristensen, Danmark #2 to accept the report. Seconded by Tom Martin Danmark #2 and carried. **See addendum.**

Grand Treasurers report was reviewed. Anni Champagne, Bornholm #14, moved to accept the report. Seconded by John Jensen Danmark #2 and carried. **See addendum.**

Grand Trustees report was reviewed. Tom Martin, Danmark #2, moved to accept the report. Seconded by Past Grand President Graham Sorensen, Bornholm #14 and carried. **See addendum.**

Recess at 10:10AM. Convention reconvened at 10:45AM.

The Grand Marshal collected the password from the new members in attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Grand President John Champagne asked Past Grand President Graham Sorensen, Bornholm #14 to read the report of the Constitution Committee which was appointed last year to review amendment number 2 and 3 that were presented last year. The Committee reported that they could not support either of the amendments. Grand President John Champagne thank the committee for all of their work during the past year and introduced the Committee Past Grand President Graham Sorensen, Bornholm #14, Grand Trustee George A. Cumming Jr., Thyra #9, Richard Hansen, Thor#5, Rowland McNeil, Thyra #9, and Jana Heer Glovaski, Danmark #2, and Past Grand President of Dannebrog.

Grand Vice President, Roger Gearhart the proponent of the amendments moved to withdraw Amendment number 2 and 3, Seconded by Grand Trustee Peder Hoy, passed unanimously.

Grand Trustee Bent Olsen asked what happened to the suggestion made in the past to have Beer available at The Friday morning Coffee Brakes. Bent noted that other fine Danish Organization have offered this to their delegates during their morning brakes and it is very well received by their members. No action taken.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

History committee report: Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart, Danmark #2 gave the report. After reading his report it was moved by Tom Martin, Danmark #2, to accept the report. Seconded by Past Grand President Graham Sorensen, Bornholm #14 and carried See **addendum**.

Advisory Committee report: Past Grand President Peter Hoy explained that no new requests were made of the Advisory Committee so they had no report to file.

RV Committee Report: Rowland McNeil Thyra#9 gave a report on the activities of the Campers. After his report it was moved by Past Grand President Gunnar Nielsen Thor #5 to accept the report, Seconded by Jana Heer Glovaski, Danmark #2 and carried.

Fashion Report: Rowland McNeil Thyra#9 gave a report on the income from the sales of shirts and hats. After reading his report it was moved by Alice Quimby Hejls Minde #23 to except the report, Seconded by John Schueber Bornholm #14 and carried See **addendum**.

Grand President John Champagne appointed the following **Standing Committees:**

Law:	George A Cumming Jr.	Grand Trustee Thyra #9
	Hugo Rasmussen	Past Grand President, Bornholm #14
	James Olef Jensen	Danmark #2

Resolutions: Gunnar R Nielsen
Nick Wilson
Karen Lysmer

Thor #5
Valhalla #11
Sønderjylland #10

COMMUNICATIONS:

Thank you note from Scott Jorgensen for his Scholarship
Thank you note from Jonathan Jensen for his Scholarship
Thank you note from Brandon Reinstein for his Scholarship
Thank you note from Zack Reinstein for his Scholarship
Thank you note from Vince Lastreto for his Scholarship
Thank you note from Aldersly Inc. for membership renewal
Thank you note from Solvang Lutheran Home for a donation
Thank you note from Bethel Lutheran Home in Selma for a donation
Thank you note from Danish American Historical Society of California for a donation
Thank you note from The Danish Immigrant Museum for a donation of the Plow Book
Thank you note from Elverhoj Museum for a donation
Thank you note from Past Grand President Jim Jorgensen and best wishes to the present Grand Lodge Officers and Good luck to the New ones.

Letters of greeting for a successful convention from:

Thyra #9
Danmark #2 and Thyra #3
Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9
Sønderjylland #10

NEW BUSINESS

Past Grand President John Johansen Bornholm #14 Reported the income from Google of \$43.69.
Past Grand President John Johansen Bornholm #14 Moved to have the incoming Grand President form a committee to look into our status with the IRS and look into the new rules. Seconded by James Olef Jensen Denmark #2, the motion carried unanimously.

Grand President John Champagne called for a Lunch break from 11:40 A.M. till 1:30 P.M.

Grand President John Champagne reconvened the meeting after the Lunch break at 1:30 P.M.

Nomination of new Grand Officers

Past Grand President Stuart O. Mahler Thyra #9 moved that in the case of one nominee that the Grand Secretary cast the ballot. In the event of the Grand Secretary nominee, the Grand Treasurer will cast the ballot. Seconded by Grand Secretary Tim Heer Freja #6 and carried.

Past Grand President Graham Sorensen Bornholm #14 nominated John Champagne for the office of Grand President. John thanked Graham for the confidence but he declined the nomination.

The following were nominated and elected:

Grand President	Roger Gearhart	Danmark #2	San Francisco
Grand Vice President	Lilian Rasmussen	Sønderjylland #10	Petaluma
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	Freja #6	Salinas
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson	Thyra #9	Hayward
Grand Marshal	Kurt Høj	Hejls Minde #23	Solvang
Grand Vice Marshal	Johanna Gade	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Trustee #1	Bent Olsen	Hejls Minde #23	Solvang
Grand Trustee #2	George A Cumming Jr.	Thyra #9	Hayward
Grand Trustee #3	Peter Hoy	Bornholm #14	Modesto

Grand Secretary Tim Heer Freja #6 moved to pay the following bills. Seconded by Arne Poulsen Freja #6

Pay the Grand Secretary \$150.00 per month expense reimbursement

Pay the Grand Treasure \$100.00 per month expense reimbursement

Pay the Grand Trustee \$1.00 per year expense reimbursement

Pay the Convention Committee \$300.00

Set Funeral Benefit at \$200.00

Set the annual per capita tax at \$20.00 per member paid semi annual.

Anni Champagne Bornholm #14 moved to amend the motion by changing the amount for the Grand Secretary to \$200.00 per month expense reimbursement the amendment was excepted and the motion was adopted.

Moved by Rowland McNeil Thyra #9 to remove the \$2.00 annual per member for the Old Age Fund from our list of Bills. Seconded by Grand Secretary Tim Heer Freja #6, passed with four opposed.

Grand Secretary Tim Heer Freja #6 moved to pay the following bills. Seconded by Arne Poulsen Freja #6

Pay \$40.00 annual dues to Aldersly

Donate \$25.00 to the Bethel Lutheran Home in Selma

Donate \$25.00 to the Solvang Lutheran Home

Donate \$50.00 to the Danish American Historical Society in Fresno

Pay \$100.00 bowling prize to the 2010 convention committee

Pay \$100.00 golf prize to the 2010 convention committee

The Motion passed

Grand Secretary Tim Heer Freja #6 moved to pay the Grand President and the Grand Marshal and additional \$600.00 over the amount listed in our Constitution. Seconded by Arne Poulsen Freja #6. Anni Champagne Bornholm #14 moved to amend the motion by changing the amount to \$900.00 over the amount listed in our Constitution. Seconded by Jeannie Melendez Sønderjylland #10, this amendment failed and the motion was carried unanimously. as originally proposed.

Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart Danmark #2 moved to Conduct an open Installation of Officers at 2:00 P.M. Saturday, Seconded by Tom Martin Danmark #2. Motion passed.

SATURDAY April 25, 2009

Convention was called back to order at 10:00 A.M. by Grand President John Champagne. The password was taken up by the Grand Marshal and Grand Vice Marshal
9 Grand Officers, 24 Delegates and 12 Past Grand Presidents responded to roll call

Resolution Committee report: the Resolutions were read by the members of the Committee Gunnar R Nielsen Thor #5, Nick Wilson Valhalla #11, Karen Lysmer Sønderjylland #10. The report was accepted. **See addendum**

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen Sønderjylland #10 invited the Grand Lodge to hold their next convention at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks Nevada April 15-17 2010 this is to be hosted by Sønderjylland #10, Thyra #9 and Danneskjold #17; Moved by Rowland McNeil Thyra #9 to accept the invitation, Seconded by Mel Lundberg Valhalla #11 motion carried.

Grand President instructed Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen to escort George A Cumming Jr. Thyra #9 and Robert Lacey Danneskjold #17 to the Dannebrog meeting to invite them to the 2010 Conventions.

While the delegation were out the room Mel Lundberg Valhalla #11 invited all to Ferndale for the Labor Day weekend September 5 and 6 along with greetings from Francis Sweet Valhalla #11 to the Delegates and Grand Officers.

Grand Vice Marshal Kurt Høj announced that the date for the 2012 Convention in Solvang have been set for April 17 and 18th.

Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart moved for a vote of confidence that would allow Past Grand President Kaj Kristensen Danmark #2 to explore the Idea of Brotherhood Members being interested in joining a Dania Branch. Seconded by Past Grand President Kaj Kristensen Danmark #2

Past Grand President Gunnar Nielsen Thor #5 moved to have the Grand Vice President create a Nominating Committee as a Standing Committee, Seconded by Past Grand President Alan Filiau Thyra #9, motion passed

Grand President John Champagne asked Grand Marshal Lilian Rasmussen to escort Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart to the front where Grand President John Champagne asked Grand President elect to address the Delegates.

Grand President elect Roger Gearhart appointed his committees:

Advisory committee: Past Grand President Allen Thomsen Dannevang #7 (1 yr)
Past Grand President Peter Hoy Bornholm#14 (2 yr)
Past Grand President Stan Kjar Thor #5 (3 yr)

Auditors: Past Grand President Graham Sorensen Bornholm#14
 Past Grand President Alan Filiu Thyra #9
 Tom Martin Danmark #2

Dania RV committee Rowland McNeil Thyra #9
 Don Petit Thor #5
 Tom Envernizzi Thor #5
 Lis Lacey Laura #8, Dannebrog
 Doris Skow Laura #8, Dannebrog

History committee Grand Vice President Rodger Gearhart Danmark #2
 Grand President John Champagne Bornholm#14
 First Delegate from each Branch

Fashion Apparel Rowland McNeil Thyra #9

Web Committee Grand Secretary Tim Heer Freja #6
 Jim Gearhart Danmark #2
 Ole Pedersen Freja #6

He then introduced his password and named Past Grand President Stuart O Mahler Thyra #9 as his advisor.

He also announced a new Committee for this year, the Travel Committee to be chaired by Denise Pagan. The Other new Committee that was created during this convention was the Tax Committee to be composed of by the Executive Committee, the Advisory committee and Past Grand President Graham Sorensen Bornholm#14.

Grand President John Champagne declared the 129th annual convention closed

At 2:00PM Dania and Dannebrog participated in a joint installation of Grand Officers.

2009- 2010 DANIA GRAND OFFICERS

Grand Past President	John Champagne	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand President	Roger Gearhart	Danmark #2	San Francisco
Grand Vice President	Lilian Rasmussen	Sønderjylland #10	Petaluma
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	Freja #6	Salinas
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson	Thyra #9	Hayward
Grand Marshal	Kurt Høj	Hejls Minde #23	Solvang
Grand Vice Marshal	Johanne Gade	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Trustee #1	Bent Olsen	Hejls Minde #23	Solvang
Grand Trustee #2	George A Cumming Jr.	Thyra #9	Hayward
Grand Trustee #3	Peter Hoy	Bornholm #14	Modesto

MINUTES TAKEN BY Timothy J Heer Sr.
 GRAND SECRETARY, Freja #6

GRAND PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April 24, 2009

Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents, Delegates and Members,

To start the Grand President's report, I would first like to give a tusind tak to my spouse, Anni Rem Hendriksen. Her support during the previous four years has been outstanding. We have not missed an Installation since I was elected Vice-Marshal. In addition, Anni accompanied me to all Lodge visits during my Grand President year. I would like to say thank you to all the Delegates and Past Grand Presidents who elected me as the Grand Vice-Marshal four years ago. A special thanks to my Advisor, Past Grand President James Jorgensen, who unfortunately is unable to attend due to a recent back operation. I am grateful to Past Grand President Stuart Mahler, who with very short notice, graciously agreed to step in and advise me during this Convention.

In addition to presiding at each Lodge installation, I was able to make an official visit to all the Lodges in accordance with Article IX, Section 3, Par 15, of the Dania Constitution. Dates of Installations, visits, and other duties are attached as enclosure number one. I was received with hospitality and honor at each Lodge.

Also I was privileged to be the first Grand President to have the first female Grand Marshal assisting at each Installation. Lilian Rasmussen carried herself professionally in the performance of her duties. She is a friendly, poised and caring person dedicated to Dania. Additionally, I had the honor of introducing the debut of "The Dania March" at the Ferndale Installation composed and played by Mr. Don Kreuger.

It has been my pleasure to bestow Past Grand President Mr. Arne Graversgaard, Freja #6 with his Dania 50 year pin. Later I was present at the award of the Dania 50 year pin to Mr. Ernest Bach of Danmark #2. At the Dannevang #7 installation I presented the Dania 50 year pin to Mr. Howard Lamee and Past Grand President Mr. Arthur Reinstein. We owe very much to those special individuals who have been members of our Society for one half of a century.

To the Dania Ladies Society Dannebrog of California and Nevada, its Grand Officers and members, special thanks for their loyal support. I wish to recognize Dannebrog Grand President Kay Jensen and Dannebrog Grand Marshal Colleen Heer-Cave for the efficiency and professionalism they exhibited in carrying out the duties of their respective offices.

During the course of the year I received a gift, from each of the Lodges for doing my job. The gifts were most appreciated and many have been consumed or are still in use at my home.

My theme was Ritual and History. A bit of Danish/American history was shared by me with each Lodge. I undertook researching Lodge names in September 2005. I was assisted by Anni's mother, brother and sister in Denmark. With their invaluable aid plus

my own research in Denmark and the U.S. I was able to obtain meanings of our Lodge names. We may never know why a Lodge was named as such, as all the founders have passed away sometime ago, but we do now have a definition of the name. I was impressed with the level of ritual at most of the Lodges. Ritual runs the gamut from nonexistent at some to a high degree at others. Ritual defines who we are and binds us to our founders. This year we celebrate 130 years of Dania. Odin Number 1 was instituted on December 11, 1879. We can take heart that even

through the throes of lower membership we still exist.

I would be remiss if I did not report on state of individual finances moving through the chairs.

Office	Miles	Hotels	Reg & Meals	Gas	Total
Vice-Marshal	3424	\$253.00	\$548.00	\$407.00	\$1,208.00
Marshal	3695	430.00	360.00	421.00	1,211.00
Vice-President	3403	864.00	553.00	452.00	1,869.00
President	7540	1,373.00	614.00	978.00	2,965.00
TOTALS	18,062	\$2,920.00	\$2,075.00	\$2,258.00	\$7,253.00

I received a stipend of \$600.00 as Grand Marshal and \$1,200.00 as Grand President. As you can see the majority of costs are picked up by the individual. My congratulations to the Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents and the many members as well as their spouses who time after time support the Installations and events throughout our Lodges in California and Nevada.

My time as your Grand President has come to a close. Looking out at the assembled group I see that the future of Dania is in good hands. Bring your new ideas and work together for the success of Dania but be ever watchful of unintended consequences and insure that any change is for the benefit of the Society and not just to satisfy an individual's personal agenda.

I have been asked on more than one occasion, as I am sure the rest of you have, would you change anything in your life? My response has always been "Probably, but I would never change two things, I would always marry the same woman and make a career of the United States Army." To this I now add, "I would always go through the chairs and serve as the Grand President of the Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada.

For those who follow through the Chairs, maintain the legacy and remember ritual and history.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN J. CHAMPAGNE

Grand President, Dania, 2008-2009

Incl

Grand President Report, 2009

**ENCLOSURE TO REPORT GIVEN BY
GRAND PRESIDENT JOHN J. CHAMPAGNE
TO THE 2009 DANIA CONVENTION**

- 04-12-08 Installed as Grand President, Dania.
- 04-14-08 Visited Grand Vice-Marshal, Kurt Høj at Memorial Hospital, Modesto.
- 04-18-08 Official visit to Bornholm #14, Modesto. Initiated new member.
- 04-25-08 Visitation, in Modesto at Wake of Deceased Member, Virginia Rehder, long time member of Alfa #14 and Bornholm #14.
- 05-02-08 Presided at Installation of officers at Valdemar #12, Reno, NV.
- 05-14-08 Official visit to Danmark #2, San Francisco. Initiated two new members.
- 06-05-08 Official Visit to Thor #5, Fresno.
- 06-07-08 Official visit to Valhalla #11, Ferndale. No meeting, picnic in the park celebrating Lilly Victorine's 80th Birthday.
- 07-04-08 Official visit to Holger Danske #27, Santa Maria. Fourth of July, Bar-B-Q.
- 07-10-08 Formed Committee to review two proposed Constitution Amendments.
- 07-12-08 Presided at Installation of officers at Freja #6, Salinas.
- 08-02-08 Presided at Installation of officers at Bornholm #14, Modesto, Dania only.
- 08-09-08 Attended Executive Board Meeting in Petaluma.
- 08-09-08 Presided at Installation of officers at Sønderjylland #10, Petaluma, Dania only.
- 08-19-08 Visited Henrietta Clemens at Bethany Manor, Ripon, Ca, longtime Alfa #14 member, widow of PGP Arthur Clemens, Bornholm #14, Modesto.
- 08-22-08 Attended and spoke at the Memorial Service in Davis, Ca, for PGP Norman Dalgaard, 77 and 1/2 year Dania member, Hejmdal #4, Sacramento.
- 08-28-08 Attended and spoke at Memorial Service in Livermore for Charles Smith, 25 year Dania member, Dannevang #7, Livermore.
- 08-30-08 Presided at Installation of officers at Valhalla #11, Ferndale. This was also the Debut of "The Dania March".
- 09-07-08 Presented 50 year pin to PGP Arne Graversgaard, Freja #6, Salinas.
- 10-03-08 Official visit to Valdemar #12, Reno, NV.

- 10-09-08 Official visit to Thyra #9, Hayward.
- 10-22-08 Completed Committee work on Constitution Amendments.
- 11-01-08 Researched, compiled and furnished the Grand Secretary with a list of Dania members with most years in the Society.
- 11-05-08 Official visit to Hejls Minde #23, Solvang.
- 11-08-08 Official visit to Danneskjold #17, San Jose.
- 11-08-08 Official visit to Dannevang #7, Livermore.
- 11-29-08 Retrieved eleven previous Convention Reports from the Bornholm #14 storage facility and mailed to Roger Gearhart, History Committee Chairman.
- 12-13-08 Official visit to Hejmdal #4, Sacramento.
- 02-07-09 Attended Executive Board meeting in Fresno.
- 02-07-09 Presided at Installation of officers at Thor #5, Fresno.
- 02-14-09 Presided at Installation of officers at Danneskjold #17, San Jose.
- 02-21-09 Attended Memorial Service in Carmel for Karen Jensen.
- 02-21-09 Presided at Installation of officers at Danmark #2, San Francisco.
- 02-28-09 Presided at Installation in of officers at Dannevang #7, Livermore. Presented Dania 50 year pin to Mr. Howard Lamee and PGP Mr. Arthur Reinstein.
- 03-07-09 Attended Modesto, Bornholm #14, Fish Dinner.
- 03-15-09 Official visit to Sønderjylland #10, Petaluma.
- 03-21-09 Attended Executive Board meeting in Livermore (Hayward Installation).
- 03-21-09 Presided at Installation of officers at Thyra #9, Hayward, at Livermore venue.
- 03-28-09 Presided at Installation of officers at Hejls Minde #23, Solvang. Dania only.
- 04-09-09 In the company of PGP Hugo Rasmussen, visited PGP Jim Jorgensen at the Castro Valley Rehab Hospital.
- 04-23 to
- 04-25-09 Presiding Officer at the 129th Annual Dania Convention.

Encl to Grand President Report

**GRAND LODGE DANIA
of
CALIFORNIA-NEVADA**

Report of the History Committee:

John Champagne of Bornholm #14 presented the History Committee with Convention Reports for many years between 1936 and 1987. The Committee now has a more nearly complete set, missing all before 1929 and 1930-1935, 1938, 1941, 1945-6, 1948-9, 1957, 1959, 1962-6, 1968, 1973-7, 1979-86. Perhaps the Branch Secretaries can search their lockers and we can fill in many of the missing dates.

There are many things on display in the back of the room along with the collection of Dania/Dannebrog Convention pins. The earliest year pin is 1916 and other years represented are: 1925, '29, '31, '34, '35, '38, and '39. Then there is a big jump to 1999 and 2002. It would be great to fill in as many years as possible. Hopefully, we will be able to fill in the missing dates as more are donated.

Carl Jensen, Thor #5, donated an unusual Dania emblem, one designed to worn by a "Chaplain", displaying a rendition of the "Holy Bible". This is certainly a rare emblem and a very welcome addition to the collection.

Also on the table in the back are some Danish Immigrant Museum Information sheets for their growing genealogical records. If you need more copies, please let me know.

All family histories, especially as they relate to Dania members, are of great interest. And we are interested in what the younger generation of members is doing and accomplishing. We would also like to compile a complete collection of photos of Grand Presidents---so far, we have only a few.

The Danish Royal Embassy in Washington, D.C. has presented our Society with a special Danish flag that was used on the visit of T.R.H. The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess to Chicago in March 2009. The letter stated that "Society Dania is doing magnificent work, strengthening the ties between Danish and American culture". This Dannebrog will have special significance and can be displayed at our conventions and installations for many years to come. We hope that the History Committee will continue to receive contributions. All members are encouraged to offer suggestions and to make contributions. Our collection of miscellaneous books and items of general interest is continually growing. We thank everyone for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted this 24th day of April 2009.

Roger Gearhart
Chairman

John Champagne
Deputy Chairman

129th Dania Convention
Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents and Delegates Roll Call

		4/24	4/25			4/24	4/25			4/24
Jr. Past Gr. Pres.	Stanley Kjar	X	X	Danmark #2				Valhalla #11		
Grand President	John Champagne	X	X	James E. Gearhart	Ø	Ø		Mel Lundberg	X	
Grand Vice President	Roger Gearhart	X	X	Thomas Martin	X	X		Nick Wilson	X	
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	X	X	James Jensen	X	X				
Grand Treasurer	Gregory Gleeson	X	X	James Olef Jensen	X	X				
Grand Marshal	Lilian Rasmussen	X	X	John Jensen	X	X				
Grand V. Marshal	Krut Hoj	X	X	Hejmdal #4				Valdemar #12		
Grand Trustee	Peder Hoy	X	Ø	Bob Schall	Ø	Ø		Pete Olsen	Ø	
Grand Trustee	Bent Olsen	X	X					Carl Christiansen	X	
Grand Trustee	George Cumming Jr.	Ø	X	Thor #5						
				Gunnar Nielsen	X	X		Bornholm #14		
Past				Richard Hansen	X	X		John Schueber	X	
Grand Presidents				Carl Jensen	Ø	Ø		Johanna Gade	X	
		4/24	4/25					Anni Champagne	X	
James Jorgensen	Bornholm #14	Ø	Ø					Ann Stowers	X	
Svend Christian	Freja #6	X	X	Freja #6				Alt Doris Hoy	X	
Niels W. Hansen	Thyra #9	Ø	Ø	Ole Pedersen	X	X				
Stuart O. Mahler	Thyra #9	X	X	Arne Poulsen	X	X				
Peder Hoy	Bornholm #14	X	Ø	Erik Rasmussen	Ø	Ø		Danneskjold #17		
Erik Jensen	Thor #5	Ø	Ø					Robert Lacey	X	
Arthur Reinstein	Dannevang #7	X	Ø	Dannevang #7				Arne Rasmussen	X	
Glen A. Fritz	Danmark #2	Ø	Ø	Art Reinstein	X	Ø				
Gregory Gleeson	Thyra #9	X	X	Jackie Nielsen	X	X		Hejls Minde #23		
Graham Sorensen	Bornholm #14	X	Ø					Alice Quimby	X	
Alan D. Filiau	Thyra #9	X	X	Thyra #9				Niels Djernaes	X	
Allen Thomsen	Dannevang #7	Ø	Ø	Rowland McNeil	X	X				
Robert Sorensen	Bornholm #14	X	X	Tony Froncek	X	X		Holger Danske #27		
Tim Heer	Freja #6	X	X							
Gunnar Nielsen	Thor #5	X	X							
Hugo Rasmussen	Bornholm #14	X	X	Sønderjylland #10						
Kaj Kristensen	Danmark #2	X	X	Karen Lysmer	X	X				
Arne Graversgaard	Freja #6	X	X	Jeannie Melendez	X	X				
Robert Lacey	Danneskjold #17	X	X	Alt Finn Kjaer						
John Johansen	Bornholm #14	X	X							

Dania Executive Board meeting held on August 9, 2008 at the Kastanjefællid, Petaluma California.

Present:

Stanley Kjar	Grand Past President	Thor #5 and Chairperson
John Champagne	Grand President.	Bornholm #14
Jim Jorgensen Sub for	George A. Cumming	Grand Trustee Thyra #9
Peder Hoy	Grand Trustee	Bornholm #14
Tim Heer	Grand Secretary	Freja #6 (non voting)

Meeting was called to order by Grand Past President Stanley Kjar at 10:00 AM

Grand Trustee Funds: The mailing of the Grand Trustee's Monthly report was discussed. It was agreed the Grand Secretary should be added to the mailing of the monthly report and then send a copy to the current Grand Past President and Grand President.

Insurance: Questions of what our Insurance covers, No action taken

Correspondence: A letter from a member was read and placed on file concerning the Newsletter. There was a discussion about the Newsletter and its current content and format. It was agreed to table this until the some future date.

Report of The Grand President: John Champagne gave a full and complete report on his visit to the Local Branches, Funeral Services and Hospital visit while wearing his regalia.

Next Meeting time and Place: The Grand Past President did not set a meeting time or place for the next Executive Board suggesting that we would not need to meet in Ferndale at the end of the month but would have two more during the year.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: Timothy J Heer, Grand Secretary, Freja #6

Dania Executive Board meeting held on November 18-21, 2008 on the Phone and E-Mail

Present:

Stanley Kjar	Grand Past President	Thor #5 and Chairperson
John Champagne	Grand President.	Bornholm #14
Peder Hoy	Grand Trustee	Bornholm #14
Bent Olsen	Grand Trustee	Hejls Minde # 23
George A. Cumming	Grand Trustee	Thyra #9
Roger Gearhart	Grand Vice President	Danmark #2 (non voting)
Tim Heer	Grand Secretary	Freja #6 (non voting)

Meeting was called to order by Grand Past President Stanley Kjar

Correspondence: A letter of resignation was received from John Johansen dated November 18, 2008 resigning as the Editor and Webmaster effective February 1,2009 Copy of Letter has been attached to these minutes.

On November 20, 2008 Stan Kjar acting on behalf of the Executive Committee except John Johansen resignation with regrets and asked him to stay on until February. Copy of Letter has been attached to these minutes.

On or about November 21, 2008 a vote was taken to ask Tim Heer Grand Secretary to assume the role of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster to be effective February 1, 2009. The Chairman ruled the vote was unanimous in favor and the Grand Secretary accepted the challenge.

Respectfully submitted: Timothy J Heer, Grand Secretary, Freja #6

Dania Executive Board meeting held on February 7, 2009 in Fresno

Present:

Stanley Kjar	Grand Past President	Thor #5 and Chairperson
John Champagne	Grand President.	Bornholm #14
Peder Hoy	Grand Trustee	Bornholm #14
Roger Gearhart	Grand Vice President	Danmark #2 (non voting)
Tim Heer	Grand Secretary	Freja #6 (non voting)
Greg Gleeson	Grand Treasurer	Thyra #9 (Visitor)

Meeting was called to order by Grand Past President Stanley Kjar at 4:00

The Meeting was called to review the portfolio of the Grand Trustee account. After a review of where we stood it was agreed to make no recommendation in changing the funds.

Grand President gave a full and complete report of his activities from 08-09-08 until 12-13-08, a copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

Respectfully submitted: Timothy J Heer, Grand Secretary, Freja #6

Dania Executive Board meeting held on March 21, 2009 at the Cattlemen's Restaurant, Livermore California.

Present:

Stanley Kjar	Grand Past President	Thor #5 and Chairperson	
John Champagne	Grand President.	Bornholm #14	
Arne Gravesgaard	Sub For Peder Hoy	Grand Trustee	Bornholm #14
Robert Lacey sub for	Bent Olsen	Grand Trustee	Hejls Minde # 23
George A. Cumming	Grand Trustee	Thyra #9	
Roger Gearhart	Grand Vice President	Danmark #2 (non voting)	
Tim Heer	Grand Secretary	Freja #6 (non voting)	
Hugo Rasmussen	PGP/Auditor	Bornholm #14 visitor	

Meeting was called to order by Grand Past President Stanley Kjar an 9:30 A.M.

Dania Scholarship: A motion was made to award four (4) Dania Scholarship this year of \$300.00 each, seconded and passed.

This year's recipients are:

Lani Rasmussen Submitted by Daneskjold #17, Jonathan Jensen submitted by Thor #5. Christianna Reinstein submitted by Dannevang #7, and Emily Roberts submitted by Thyra #9. All were awarded a \$300.00 Scholarship.

Dania Memorial Scholarship: A motion was made to award five (5) Memorial Scholarship of \$200.00 each seconded and passed.

This year's recipient are Vince Lastreto Member of Thor #5, Scott Jorgensen Member of Thyra #9, Zack Reinstein Member of Dannevang #7, Christopher E. Lamee Member of Dannevang #7, and Brian Defreitas Member of Danmark #2. All were awarded a \$200.00 Scholarship.

Dania Member of the year: After review the deserving nominees Grand Past President Stanley Kjar excused himself from the meeting alone with Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart, The Grand Secretary took charge of the discussion and voting on the Member of the year, Past Grand Presidents Arne Gravesgaard and Hugo Rasmussen shared the vote of the Grand Past President, With an unanimous show of hands Past Grand President Stuart O. Mahler Sr. Thyra #9, was selected as the member of the year.

Grand President Report: John Champagne Grand President made a report on his activistes for the period of 02-07-09 through 03-28-09

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Timothy J Heer, Grand Secretary, Freja #6

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 129th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 24th and 25th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention, and because of the hotel personnel being so efficient and accommodation we sincerely thank them all.

Whereas:

The Grosvenor Hotel in South San Francisco was the host hotel to the 129th annual convention of the Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

Therefore be it resolved:

We express our sincere appreciation for all services to us and the Personnel were very accommodating and quite Jovial while serving us.

Be it further resolved:

That this resolution is spread upon the records of the Grand Lodge and a copy is forwarded to the aforementioned officials, individuals and organization.

Resolution committee:

Gunnar Nielsen Past Grand President, Thor #5

Karen Früs Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10

Nick Wilson, Valhalla #11

April 25, 2009

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 129th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 24th and 25th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention

Whereas:

The Queen of Danmark, Her Royal Highness Margrethe II, celebrating her 69th birthday on April 16

Therefore be it resolved:

That this convention sends congratulations and best wishes;

Be it further resolved:

That this resolution is spread upon the records of the Grand Lodge and a copy is forwarded to the aforementioned officials, individuals and organization.

Resolution committee:

Gunnar Nielsen Past Grand President, Thor #5

Karen Friis Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10

Nick Wilson, Valhalla #11

April 25, 2009

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 129th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 24th and 25th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention

Whereas:

The San Francisco Lodges, Danmark #2 and Thyra #3; hosted the 129th annual Danish Society Dania and Dannebrog 2009 convention at the Grosvenor Hotel, South San Francisco CA;

Therefore be it resolved:

That this convention sends congratulations for a job well done.

Be it further resolved:

That this resolution is spread upon the records of the Grand Lodge and a copy is forwarded to the aforementioned officials, individuals and organization.

Resolution committee:

Gunnar Nielsen Past Grand President, Thor #5

Karen Friis Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10

Nick Wilson, Valhalla #11

April 25, 2009

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 129th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 24th and 25th at Grosvenor Hotel; would like to thank the Danish Embassy in Washington DC for delegating the Consulate General of Chicago to send one of the six flags displayed during the Crown Prince and Princess' visit to that city in March.

Therefore be it resolved:

That this Convention sends letters of deep appreciation to the Danish Royal Embassy in Washington DC and the General Consulate in Chicago for the gesture

Therefore be it resolved:

That this Convention thanks Grand Vice President Roger Gearhart for having the foresight to make this gift possible.

Be it further resolved:

That this resolution is spread upon the records of the Grand Lodge and a copy is forwarded to the aforementioned officials, individuals and organization.

Resolution committee:

Gunnar Nielsen Past Grand President, Thor #5

Karen Fris Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10

Nick Wilson, Valhalla #11

April 25, 2009

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION of SORROW

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 129th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 24th and 25th at Grosvenor Hotel do deeply regret the death Past Grand President Norman Dalgaard, our faithful member who gave his devoted service to our Society over many years, and do deeply regret the death of all lodge members of Grand Lodge Dania.

Therefore be it resolved:

We extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathy of sorrow

Be it further resolved:

That this resolution is spread upon the records of the Grand Lodge and a copy is forwarded to the aforementioned officials, individuals and organization.

Resolution committee:

Gunnar Nielsen Past Grand President, Thor #5

Karen Friis Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10

Nick Wilson, Valhalla #11

April 25, 2009

Dania Grand Past Presidents

James Jorgensen	Bornholm 14	1969-70
*Bjarne H. Carstens	Danmark 2	1970-71
*Burton F. Skow	Danneskjold 17	1971-72
*Holger Carstensen	Hejls Mnde 23	1972-73
*Borge Nielsen	Odin 1	1973-74
*Dan Mogensen	Thor 5	1974-75
*Clyde G. Brown	Dagmar 8	1975-76
*Paul W. Andersen	Danneskjold 17	1976-77
Svend Christian	Freja 6	1977-78
Niels Walter Hansen	Thyra 9	1978-80
*Howard J. Krogh	Bornholm 14	1980-81
Stuart O. Mahler	Thyra 9	1981-82
*Lawrence C. Bentzen	Sønderjylland 10	1982-83
*Jan A. Walker	Freja 6	1983-84
*Reynold F. Nielsen	Thor 5	1984-85
*Terje Schiller	Danneskjold 17	1985-86
Peder Hoy	Bornholm 14	1986-87
*Fred H. Mahler	Thyra 9	1987-88
Erik Jensen	Thor 5	1988-89
Arthur Reinstein	Dannevang 7	1989-90
* Norman Dalgaard	Hejmdal 4	1990-91
Glenn A. Fritz	Danmark 2	1991-92
Gregory Gleeson	Thyra 9	1992-93
Graham Sorensen	Bornholm 14	1993-94
Alan D. Filiau	Thyra 9	1994-95
Henning O. Petersen	Danmark 2	1995-96
Allen Thomsen	Dannevang 7	1996-97
Robert Sorensen	Bornholm 14	1997-98
*Arthur J. Jensen	Thor 5	1998-99
Tim Heer	Freja 6	1999-00
Gunnar Nielsen	Thor 5	2000-01
*Tedd Matusiewicz	Dannevang 7	2001-02
Hugo Rasmussen	Bornholm 14	2002-03
Kaj Kristensen	Danmark 2	2003-04
Arne Graversgaard	Freja 6	2004-05
Robert Lacey	Danneskjold 17	2005-06
John Johansen	Bornholm 14	2006-07
Stanly Kjar	Thor 5	2007-08
John Champagne	Bornholm 14	2008-09

*Deceased

Dania Member of the Year Award

*Chris Pedersen	1990	Danmark 2
*Melvin Oredsen	1991	Odin 1
Greg Gleeson	1992	Thyra 9
*Knud Ove Knudsen	1993	Danmark 2
*Raymond P. Olsen	1994	Bornholm 14
*Reynold F. Nielsen	1995	Thor 5
*Sigurd Thomsen	1996	Dannevang 7
*Ralph N. Kerr	1997	Thyra 9
*Dan Mogensen	1998	Thor 5
*Elmer C. Jorgensen	1999	Thyra 9
*Fred H. Mahler	2000	Thyra 9
Peder Hoy	2001	Bornholm 14
*Burton Skow	2002	Danneskjold 17
Henning O. Petersen	2003	Danmark 2
*Norman Dalgaard	2004	Hejmdal 4
James Jorgensen	2005	Bornholm 14
Carl Jensen	2006	Thor 5
John Johansen	2007	Bornholm 14
Kaj Kristensen	2008	Danmark 2
Stuart O Mahler	2009	Thyra #9

* Denoted Deceased