



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

August 2017

Dannebrog Grand President

Dannebrog Merger Committee, Summary of meeting July 3, 2017
 Members attending: Doris Skow, Anette Christensen, Tracey Lamee, Signe Ann McNeil, and Stuart Mahler
 The information from the former Unity Committee work years ago was provided by John Scheuber. The information was reviewed and discussed.

Some of the feedback our committee members have heard from members dealt with a lot of particular details which would need to be worked out in any merger negotiation. Such as tax exemption, what happens to officers in a merger, scholarships, money etc?
 After considerable discussion it was determined that a merger at this time would be premature. The preferred concept would be blended meetings for Dania and Dannebrog at convention. As best as we could determine the remaining Dania and Dannebrog branches are meeting jointly and appears to be doing well. Also, as best as we could determine no branch of Dania and Dannebrog have ever actually merged. Branches have dissolved with remaining members choosing to join the Grand Lodges or join a nearby branch. Provides an opportunity to see what meeting together would be like. Then, do we look at merger in the future?

One of the questions of a blended convention would be the arrangement of current Grand Officers of Dania and Dannebrog currently going through the chairs. One thought for consideration is rotating the Grand Presidents. One opens the convention in the morning and the other conducts business in the afternoon, again just a thought.

Currently there is an approved order of business for branches meeting together. This would be the model for convention. After discussion and compromises a convention process would be adopted to include things Dania needs and Dannebrog needs.

With that said, combining both organizations in a blended convention would require additional time to conduct business fitting the needs of both Grand Lodges. A review of both annual reports will be conducted to see what could be streamlined? Could some items be determined in Executive Committee? One example is the payment of bills in Dania; make one motion to pay the specific bills versus acting on each one individually? If a member desires, they could move to pull one of the bills for further discussion and acted on individually.

Action for our next meeting would be to review the annual reports and Executive Committee guidelines for both lodges. Looking for ideas to streamline and/or to eliminate as well as leaving it to Executive Committees.

The above is the summary from our first meeting. Please feel free to contact any of the committee members for Dannebrog with your thoughts and questions so we may bring them forward during subsequent meetings.

I am looking forward to Ferndale installation over Labor Day weekend. Hope to see a lot of our members there.

Stuart Mahler, Grand President Dannebrog

Dania Grand President

At this year's convention, Dania instituted a committee to explore the possibility of a merger between Dania and Dannebrog. The committee consists of Grand Vice President John Scheuber as its Chairman, PGP's John Johansen, Peder Hoy and Roger Gearhart as members and me as ex-officio member. The merger exploration committee met on July 14,

<i>Grand Officers</i>		
	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Steen Skjellerup stivaxsteen@gmail.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 Filiau adfiliau@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 deannadnrb@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 Filiau
Grand Trustee #3	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Elizabeth Jensen ecjensen@mac.com

2017. We welcome members of Dania to contact us with concerns, questions or ideas related to a potential merger. You may contact any committee member.
 No decision has been made at this time – we are considering to merge or not to merge as well as a closer cooperation without a merger. We are considering our history, mission and how we

may best continue to both serve our members and attract new members.

We would like to hear from you as soon as possible! We will reach out to the Dannebrog committee before submitting a progress report in October.

I would like to see the membership committee take initiative to reach out to identify prospective members. Last years committee remains in place with James Olef Jensen as Chair.

Grand Lodge Secretary

IN MEMORIAM:

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP

DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

NEW MEMBERS

DANNEBROG GENERAL FUND

Secretary's

Dania Secretaries now is the time for all good Branches to send in their annual percapita tax of \$20.00 per member as of July 1st. I have received the shipment of 25 year pins but they are going fast out of the 50 I ordered I only have 15 left.

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 rgearhart@comcast.net 209-329-3687 Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

We had a great meeting in July to celebrate the Fourth of July in style---everything but the fireworks. It is our tradition to hold the meeting on the roof with the fantastic view of City Hall and the UN Plaza. President John Jensen conducted the meeting briskly and set a new record for brevity----4 minutes and 40 seconds. But we got all of the essentials done. We did suspend Søren Walther for nonpayment of dues. Treasurer James Olef Jensen announced that we were 10 cents short for the nickel beer night. There was then a deluge of payments. There are some members missing out on the attendance prize: Tom Martin, Peter Christensen, Stig Hansen, and Gunnar Larsen

Another July tradition is the enjoyment of hot dogs and garlic sausages with all the trimmings and with salads and, of course, *hors d'oeuvres*. We always relate the story behind the garlic sausages. Many years ago, someone brought some in addition to the hot dogs and the then Secretary, Knut Ove Knudsen, complained loudly: "Who brought those garlic sausages? They make me ____ (give me gas)." You get the idea. In any event, we have enjoyed them every year in his honor. The deserts were very special----a cake and home-made apple pies baked by Robert Fox.

We also had several guests---Javier Cólón, Mats Ronzau and Allan & Anne Marie Maris. We will be initiating new members in August and we will have a special "Honors Night" to

Hejmdal No. 4

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

Secretary Robert Schall, schallb48@gmail.com

As incoming Grand President, I asked that every lodge designate a person who can help the membership committee and be the local contact. Do remember that we now have a postcard size pamphlet, which we can hand out to potential new Dania/Dannebrog members.

I look forward to the Dania only installation in Modesto on August 5.

Daniel Joensen, Grand President Dania

The 2017 Dania's Annual report is on our web site and Dannebrog's is in the mail.

Natalie and Tim Heer

recognize several 25-year members in September. All of our meeting are great fun and the singing has gotten louder and perhaps even better.

At our next meeting, *Onsdag, August 9*, we will be initiating new members. 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, rgearhart@comcast.net, 209-329-3687

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		
Bornholm 14	August 5, 2017 11:30 A.M.	Modesto
Sønderjylland #10	August 12 11:30 A.M.	Kastania Fælled Petaluma
Valhalla Lodge #11 Ydun Lodge #10	September 2 3:00 P.M.	Ferndale
Dana #15 and Freja #6	October 1 12:00 noon	Salinas Masonic Center
No. 9 Thyra and Valborg No. 1	March 10 th 2018	Cattlemen's Livermore

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

Thor#5 and Thora#11 will not be holding a meeting until September. We hope you are having a GREAT SUMMER.

CP

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, umandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer, there's still time, one more month!

Freja and Dana will be rounding off our summer on Sunday, August 6th by welcoming 2 new members! Hoo-Rah! We'll gather at 1:00 for lunch which the Heers will make happen, with a meeting and initiation to follow. I better check my ritual, it's been a while!

Are you making plans to come on down October 1st. for our installation? We're making plans to make your trip worthwhile, Danish Oktoberfest, remember? "Dansktoberfest!" how 'bout that? We'll be ready for you at 11:30, come dressed in your choice of "Danskattire", anything will do from your basic Red and White to your ancestors handmade lace and knit caps.

There will be snacks and cold beverages before the installation, followed by a lunch that's still being decided on, but we promise it'll be very festive and better yet, reasonably priced (aka cheap!). Oktober can still be warm down here so I propose that the formals and tuxes stay home this time and everybody, Grand Officers and all, get into the spirit of the day! Hope to see you at the Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin St. Salinas. Please RSVP by September 22 so we'll know how many places to set, and beer and sausages to buy! Tim'nNat <umandnatalie@sbcglobal.net> or phone 831-426-4623.

Skaal! 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

Livermore isn't meeting until September, and we don't have any news so we'll leave it at that. KRT

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

Don't forget that Valborg and Thyra will not be meeting in July and August.

We hope to see some of you in Ferndale, and all of you at our Sept. 14th meeting at Round Table Pizza at 7:30 pm. Have a very enjoyable summer! 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 Home: 510-232-6998 or cell: 510-375-5070

Sønderjylland #10 will have Installation on August 12th, 2017.

We will open for refreshments at 11 am this time, and Installation will begin at Noon.

Lunch will follow. Cost is \$15- for guests,-- regular price for Sønderjylland members. Please make reservations by Sunday the August 6th deadline,

Guests: please make reservations with Secretary John Cruger-Hansen at the above contact options. -- Sønderjylland members contact President. Karen Friis Lysmer, @ (510) 526-5665- or MorKarenInUsa@Yahoo.com.

For directions: please take South Petaluma Blvd. exit, from either North or South direction on Hwy 101. - then cross over the overpass and continue on Kastania Road.

Entrance to Kastania Faelled is next to the gas station as before.

Note to Sønderjylland members. Please come early to help set up for the Installation etc. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted by
John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary,
& Karen Friis Lysmer, President.

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

July we had a potluck BBQ at the hall and it was so good. We will not be meeting in August, so our next gathering will be over labor day weekend for our installation of officers.

September 2 we will have appetizers and drinks at 3:00 with installation at 4:00 and dinner at 5:30. Cost is \$35 for Saturday and \$20 for Sunday or \$55 for both days. Sunday we will have a lunch at 1:00 with Bocce at 10:00. This year the Humboldt

County Fair will be still going on and will end on Monday September 4. Plan accordingly so that you can secure a motel room. Reservations for the weekend are a must and can be e-mailed to me at ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net or mailed to 3329 I Street, Eureka CA 95503 phone (707) 499-3746. I hope to see you soon, 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

First I would like to finish the update from last month. The Reno Lodges celebrated St. Hans Fest at the River School Farm on Friday June 21. The weather was nice and no jackets were needed. There were about 40 in attendance including special guest from out of town; Doris Skow, Lillian Rasmussen and her friend Inger. Thank you for attending and hope you enjoyed this special event? We all indulged in the great food, salads, and desserts. After dinner we lit the bon-fire and only 1 witch was sent off to Germany, but she was also very pretty – she was made by Helen Christiansen. We sang the traditional Midsummer song – “Vi elsker vort land” and a few more Danish summer songs. We also toasted in champagne, 2 wedding anniversaries; Carl Henrik and Helen Christiansen with 5 years and Lars and Marian Jensen 33 years. Congratulations to both couples. Lone Webb had made “snobrød” (dough to roast in the fire), which everyone enjoyed with strawberry jam.

Now for our July news, the BBQ at Lodge was great, lots of salads and desserts. 99 degrees, hot but a very nice evening. Thank you Mike Vanderbeck for grilling again. During desserts Anette opened the meeting and gave a report about the

“potential merger” meeting July 3rd. We will have more information later when Dania have met. We also talked about what will be going on the rest of the year. August, we will have another BBQ, as we did in June and July. Harvest fest potluck in September, Oktoberfest in October, Thanksgiving potluck in November and yes December Christmas party, YES CHRISTMAS is just around the corner!

There was a little discussion about our convention in 2018 as well as our installation the Sunday after convention. In August we will start to form committees for convention. We hope Lars Jensen is having a good time in Denmark, missed you tonight. We will miss Eva Demosthenes in August, she will be in Sweden. Safe travels to all. We have a few on our sick list and want Jim Myers and family to know that we are thinking of you! We also want to wish Lise Vanderbeck the best. Her nephew, Mike told us that she has not been well. Hope Stuart is feeling better too. Our August birthdays are Poul-Erik Christensen, Jim Myers, Ingrid Nowland, and Ruth Olsen. Happy birthday all. Enjoy the hot, hot sizzling summer. 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

Installation August 5 at: Familia Bistro Ristorante, 2501 McHenry Ave. Modesto, CA 95350.

We start with no host cocktails at 11:30 AM Installation is at 12:00 Noon. Lunch approximately at 1 PM. Guests \$30. No host bar. Reservations to John Scheuber 209 541 4092 email john.scheuber@vsi.cc

Our picnic this year at the Orange Blossom Park is Saturday September 30. Please mark your calendars.

Our next regular meeting is August 18. Susan and Brian Medford are hosting a pizza party. We start at 6 PM. John

Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8

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

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

In July Laura #8 and Danneskjold #17 held their social at the home of Eva Rasmussen in San Martin. I hosted cocktails and tid-bits for my birthday.

Following this Eva served a great Taco salad and toasted bread. Later in the afternoon we all enjoyed angel food cake with strawberries and whip cream. We had invited Salinas lodges to join us, however the date conflicted with some. We were pleased that Tim and Natalie were able to join in with us. We will try again to get together, as we are both small and it would be good I think.

We were sorry that Phyllis was not feeling well and was not able to attend. We all wish her well. Also greeting go out to Ellen Jensen.

I hope you realized my mistake regarding our BBQ Social at Torben and Jonas', it is July 29, Not June . We will get together at 2 p.m. rather then noon as usual. If you get this issue in time please come.

Bring a dish for 10-12 and your own meat. Table service, Beverages, Watermelon and Kringle will be

served. BE SURE TO CALL JONA AT [408-268-4429](tel:408-268-4429) TO LET HER KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING OR NOT. We will be presenting several scholarships this year so please try to come. I know that not all the recipients are living in this area at present but they re trying to attend and their parents will be with us. Also remember that if you wish to swim the pool is great and all are welcome. Bring your own towel.

On August 19, meeting will be at Britta Lange's home. We will start at noon with lunch prepared by Britta Then lunch will be followed by a business meeting and dessert.

BE SURE TO CALL AND LET HER KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING Or NOT. [408-257-5637](tel:408-257-5637)

I hope all of you are having a nice summer and doing just what you want. I know I am, I leave August 6, along with my son Karl an his wife Elvia on a 10 cruise out of San Francisco to Alaska.

Happy travels to all,
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 Iversen

Santa Maria Lodges, Holger Danske #27 and Valkyrien #23 wish to thank all those members of the Danish lodges and

their guests who attended our 4th of July B-B-Q in Santa Maria. A wonderful day made better by your attendance. Hope to see you next year on the Fourth.

History of Aldersly

The Danes, who came to California the first year after Gold discoveries in 1848-49 were just like the other newcomers younger Men, and by 1900 they began to be up in age, where it often becomes difficult to take care of themselves, and this put forward the idea of a Scandinavian old people's home and Nursing Home in San Francisco. Although this idea was talked about for a long time in the Scandinavian community it was not until the Dania Convention 1918 held in San Jose, that it was suggested by Carl Jørgensen from Fresno that Dania start working to obtain and setting up a home. However, there were no special Enthusiasm for the job; but Jørgensen's Proposal was adopted with 32 votes and 13 against. A Committee was appointed and asked to report back at the next convention. At the 1919 Convention the Committee reported that more work need to be done. The Following is a translation of their report. "We recommend that a Committee of five will be appointed, its Task should be to collect and receive Gifts and contributions to a Fund for the creation of a Dania-old people's homes. There can by this Fund also provide help for those old, needy members who may wish to remain in their own homes. Furthermore, to be included in this Committee and the Secretary to all Payments must be submitted to him and by him transferred to one of the Committee legitimate elected Treasurer. It must also be borne by this Committee to obtain such Facts and Information concerning an old people's home, as may be found necessary, and submit report of same, together with the report on the Administration of an old people's home at the next Convention." This Committee met four times during the year and at the 1920 convention a report as to the ground rules and to have Dannebrog involved in the process, and have Dania create a Supervisory Board for establishing a Dania-old people's homes. James Madison recommended that \$25,000.00 be set aside for the Supervisory Board to draw on for the purpose. On a proposal by James Madison the following was adopted as Article 14 in Rules for old people's home: "The first supervisory body to be set up under the Dania's Convention in 1920 and remain standing until the next Convention. It shall consist of 11 Members: Grand President, Grand Trustees for Dania, and three Representatives from the women's Association of the Dannebrog. The rest of the Board the Grand President is to be appointed in consultation with the Executive Committee. Those 11 will serve as the first Supervisory Board and organize themselves by choosing the appropriate Board Officers."

James Madison who was a Representative from Danmark #2 was appointed to the Board. Madison's great merits as a leader in the Danish community for many years, and a skillful financier, he was chosen as President. An Office he held with such superior skills until his death in 1925. Also named to this first Board of Directors were Mrs. Christine Larsen, C.J. Klitgaard, J.F. Otto, Carl Plow, H.P. Vogensen, and Mrs. O. Christopher. It was reported that their were \$32,000 in promised donation and more in store. During those year there were many articles open the process of set up this Home in the Bien that created great interest in the project. During that year's collection, there were many significant contributions received from the Danish people, who did not belong to "Dania" or "Dannebrog" and Interest was living outside as inside the two Associations. The idea of A general Danish old people's home was in constant Growth. As specific Board of Directors, to recommend for "Dania" and "Dannebrog", to give the Agency of the Foundation and all future Surveillance to the Danish People in California and Nevada.

At the 1921 convention held in Livermore the recommendation Resolution was then adopted (56 Votes for, 3 against). This Resolution stated that the Board of Directors spate from Dania and Dannebrog and the two Grand bodies disclaim any responsibility for establishing a Home for only Dania and Dannebrog members. It also turned over any donated funds to a now Privet Board of Directors. By this Resolution the Board was separated for the two Grand Bodies and on June 8th 1921 Aldersly was incorporated under the State of California. By 11 December 1921 Aldersly opened in the presence of around 500 people in attendance. It should be noted that even though Dania did separate its control over the creation of Aldersly, Dania and its members played an important role in its curation and ongoing maintenance, not only through providing funds but also for its many members who have served on its Board of Directors.

The above history was translated from Danske I California 1 Bind pages 486-500. As I worked on this story I was very interested in learning about how our two Grand Lodges had worked long and hard together, but in the end they were able to let go and hand off all of their work to a private group for the betterment of the entire Scandinavian community. Something we can all take pride in.