



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

www.danishsociety.com Email timh@danishsociety.com

January, 2016

Grand Lodge Dannebrog Grand President

I hope that everyone was able to enjoy a Glædelig Jul with family and friends. My daughter and I spent Jule aften with my sister and brother-in-law (my nieces and nephew were in Wales to see a soccer match on Boxing Day) eating stew, pies, and a delicious chocolate cake. Christmas Day we met at the cinema to watch “Star Wars”, take a walk along the Hammond Trail (once the path of the Hammond Lumber Company logging rail to Samoa), and eat clam chowder in bread bowls for dinner. What a relaxing time (although we did miss the excitement of the anticipation brought by children).

Earlier in December, I had a wonderful time visiting more lodges. I enjoyed the sight of yellow leaves still clinging to the branches of trees, especially those lining the river banks, on the drive down (still trying to be a leaf peeper). I had planned to arrive at Tom and Gloria's much earlier in the afternoon, but at 17:00 hours, I received a call from Tom asking where I was. I could answer him with confidence that I was 1 ¾ miles from his exit (since the highway sign was in perfect view). Anyway, upon arrival I managed to change quickly and climb into the car with Tom at the helm. We arrived at the BART station in plenty of time to ride to San Francisco. It had been decades since my previous ride on BART – I had forgotten how fast it can move! Next time I think I'll bring earplugs, though. It was a short walk to the Odd Fellows Building, where we took a man-operated elevator (not many around anymore) to the correct floor. An assortment of food was being set out, including pickled herring, cheeses, cold cuts, salads, crackers, breads, assorted desserts, etc. I was glad to see Tom in action as President, especially since I won't have the opportunity at Convention. I was impressed! I also enjoyed watching the Marshals take the passwords – it's a good way to prepare for Convention! The next day I drove to Nordic House while Tom and Gloria were at work (and spent more kroner than I planned – good thing that I don't get there often). It was fun looking at the different kinds of foods and the Christmas items. Good thing that Tom and Gloria's refrigerator had room for the pickled herring I bought! But why can I never find the t shirt I want in my size – this time the one that said “May the Norse Be with You”? I could have worn it on Christmas Day to the movie!

Returning to the house, I had time to take a nap before preparing for the evening's meeting. I appreciate Tom's willingness to help me! He chauffeured me to the Hayward meeting at the Hill and Valley Club even though he had already made a visit there. Hayward had been meeting at that club since 1952, and this was to be their last meeting at that location before moving to Round Table. Tom and I were honored to witness the initiation of Greg Gleason into Dannebrog. The meeting ended with the BANG of Thor's

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Robert Schall schallb48@gmail.com	Mary Jo Schall jojoschall@gmail.com
Grand President	Tom Martin thomm1@comcast.net	Lynn Wachter wachter.lynn@gmail.com
Grand Vice President	Steen Skjellerup stivax@aol.com	Martha Nielsen nielsenmarta@gmail.com
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer tim-gs@sbcglobal.net	Natalie Heer natalie-gs@sbcglobal.net
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Pat Brouillette pab0718@sbcglobal.net
Grand Marshal	Daniel Joensen dj@danken.com	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@att.net
Grand Vice Marshal	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Alan Filiau adfiliau@sbcglobal.net
Grand Trustee #1	James “Jim” Jensen j13jensen@yahoo.com	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net
Grand Trustee #2	James Olef Jensen jamesolefjensen@yahoo.com	Elizabeth Jensen ecjensen@mac.com
Grand Trustee #3	Mel Lundberg melandzena@gmail.com	Colleen Heer Cave winegal59@yahoo.com

Hammer, Mjollnir, clashing against the forces of evil as the gavel fell! The mood turned quite “jolly” with the onset of open-faced sandwiches, cookies, and other delicacies, while Santa swung his hips over in the corner beside the Christmas tree.

Friday morning I headed for San Jose's Christmas party. After taking a few wrong turns, I pulled out my trusty AAA map and found my way to Bente's house. What a perfect place to have a Danish party with the Danish Modern furniture, Danish plates hanging on walls, needlework scattered around, and the tableware! After various appetizers, we sat down to a meal of roast pork with rind, mashed potatoes with gravy, caramelized potatoes, red cabbage, agurkasalat, beets, peas and carrots followed by rice pudding. Bente found the whole almond in her dish, so she received the chocolate pig (instead of a marzipan pig). Gifts of Christmas ornaments were opened.

Needless to say, I had a wonderful trip! Since I don't plan to do much in January, I will continue this newsletter in February. For now, suffice it to say that I attended a total of two meetings and four parties in four days! WOW!
I send a big thank you to all of the lodges for making me

Grand Lodge Dania Grand President

Hello Dania members,
December has been a busy month. While everyone was busy shopping for Christmas and preparing for all the parties, I was attending them.
Gloria and I had the pleasure of hosting Dannebrog Grand President Lynn Wachter for a few days so we could attend some meetings and parties. Who doesn't like meetings, er, I mean parties! Lynn arrived on Wednesday the 9th and joined us for our meeting at Danmark #2. We completed our elections for next year and had a wonderful time conversing with our members. On Thursday the 10th we visited the kind folks of the Hayward lodges for their last meeting at the Hill and Valley Club. I look forward to joining them for meetings at their new location, the Round Table Pizza in Castro Valley. Same time, different place. On Friday, while I went off to work, Lynn attended the Christmas Party of the San Jose lodges. I wish I could have been there, but duty sometimes calls. Saturday we did double duty. We travelled to beautiful South San Francisco for the Danmark #2/Thyra #3 Christmas party at the Grosvenor Inn. We celebrated in the lobby lounge as we have for the past couple of years. I like the ambience much better than the stark back rooms we've abandoned. We had a great turnout with guests from near and far including our current Grand Past Presidents. We enjoyed the Christmas songs lead by our wonderful singers Uffe and Daniel. I think everyone had a great time. We then travelled to Livermore to celebrate with their lodges. We had a very nice time with lots of great food and a couple of hours of bingo. Again Bob and Mary Jo were in attendance and everyone was in good cheer.

Lynn left Sunday morning into the storm on her way back home. I hope her trip was uneventful. I rode my motorcycle to breakfast with my club on Sunday as the weather report said it wouldn't rain until after 9:30. Boy were they wrong. It was raining by 7:15, good thing my riding suit is waterproof. After breakfast, I got plenty of rain on the way home and got the bike into the garage just before

Grand Lodge Secretary

IN MEMORIAM:

NEW MEMBERS:

Rowland "Mac" McNeil; Valborg #1; Hayward
Gregory Gleeson; Valborg #1; Hayward
Irene Simms; Thyra #9; Hayward

TO DANNEBROG GENERAL FUND:

TO DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP:

Lise and Gregg DiMartino in memory of Virginia Smith

feel so welcome (and to Tom and Gloria)! I have enjoyed every second of being in the presence of so many kind and wonderful people....Godt Nytaar!
Med venlig hilsen, Lynn Wachter, GP Dannebrog

a major downpour came. I looked out the garage door and couldn't see across my street. Great timing!
On Saturday the 19th, it was another day of parties. Gloria joined me for Bornholm's Christmas party at the Familia Bistro in Modesto. They put on a nice lunch with plenty of festivities. We had several performances by the young people of the lodge and then managed to get the whole crowd in on the singing. I believe there were more than 60 in attendance. Santa Claus even dropped in to give presents to the little ones. A ton of raffle prizes contributed to their Christmas fund raising. It is great to see activities that support others in their community. They always make us feel welcome. After Modesto's party, Gloria and I raced off to Oakland to join my company's Christmas party. I had hoped to make it to more, but I think I'm all partied out for the year. January should be a quiet month for the lodge, I will try to make it to a couple of meetings and my company will have inventory in most of our branches, so they will keep me busy.

But the rest will be short-lived. Everyone get ready, February is Installation Month. We'll start out in Fresno on the 6th, then to Livermore on the 13th and San Jose on the 14th. Finally, Danmark #2 will have their installation on the 20th. I hope to see many of you at the installations. Make the trip to another lodge and support them at theirs, maybe they will return the favor and come to yours.
Glædning ferie, Tom Martin, Grand President Daina

Upcoming Conventions		
Thor #5 and Thora #11	April 15-16 2016	Clovis Veterans Memorial Hall
Danmark #2 and Thyra #3	April 2017	Stay Tune
Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12	April 2018	Nugget, Sparkes NV
Upcoming Installations		
Thor #5 and Thora# 11	Feb. 6, 2016 12:00 PM	Spike and Rail Selma
Danneskjold #17 Laura #8	Feb. 14, 2016 12 Noon	Marianni's Santa Clara
Danmark #2 and Thyra #3	Feb 20th	

DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

Eva Kristensen in memory of Dorthy Christoffessen

Eva Kristensen in memory of Tove Lindquist

Eva Kristensen in memory of Lise Petersen

Sena Marie Freeman in memory of Ron Freeman

Dania Secretaries:

As a reminder, you all should have received your Branches annual report by now please fill them out and get them back to me, You can also include your first half of your per capita Tax. This is at \$10.00 per member listed on your annual report. Thank Tim Heer

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](mailto:ragearthart@comcast.net) Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

Hejmdal No. 4 & Luren No. 13

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

Secretary Robert Schall, schallb48@gmail.com

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 Gail Hansen dickgailh@aol.com

Members of Thor #5 and Thora #11 enjoyed a delicious traditional Danish dinner instead of a regular meeting. We were entertained by the Great Danes, a group arranged for by Steen

Skjellerup. A good time was had by all who attended. Our next meeting will be Jan. 7, 2016!!! Happy New Year to everyone !!!
CP

Freja No. 6 & Dana No. 15

Meeting: 1st. Sunday every month at Noon.; Installation 1st Sunday in August, Salinas Masonic Center,

48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA 93901-2904. Freja/ Dana Secretary: Natalie Heer, timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

Dana 15 and Freja 6 hope you all had a wonderfully warm and magical Christmas and send wishes for a very very Happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing more of everyone at installations and special events in 2016. Dana and Freja will be honoring Danish Holiday traditions and ringing in the New Year on Sunday,

January 3, 2016, at the Masonic Hall in Salinas, we'll be gathering at noon. If you are reading this before Dec. 28 and you are able to join us please contact Tim'nNat so we know to set another place, a \$10 donation is requested. Godt Nytar!!! JHG

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meets 2nd Saturday at 6:00PM; 4th Saturday Potluck, IOOF Hall, 2160 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551.

Dannevang #7 Secretary: Robert Lamee, Robertlamee@yahoo.com Danebod Secretary Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com

Happy New Year and best wishes for a Healthy, Happy, and Safe 2016!

We will have our January meeting on the 9th, starting at 4:00. We are attempting to start our meetings at an earlier time to be able to get a parking spot on those busy Livermore Saturday nights. That town is a happening place. Our Christmas dinner was delicious, the goodies and the bingo were a big addition. We were honored

to have both Grand Presidents and both Grand Past Presidents. Hope they enjoyed the evening of our Livermore traditional Christmas party as much as we all do.

A reminder that dues are due in January, Dannevang No. 7 members pays \$22.00 and Danebod No. 16 members pay \$12.00. Be safe out there and hope to see you all in 2016. KRT

No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1

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

s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net #9 Thyra / Valborg #1 Secretary Beth Cowan beth.cowan@att.net

At our meeting in December we welcomed special visitors, the Grand Presidents of Dannebrog & Dania, Lynn Wachter and Tom Martin. It was great to see you both at our meeting! Thank you to Signe Ann, Mac & Beth for serving on the refreshment committee. We have also welcomed "new" members to our lodges in the past few months. Rowland (Mac) McNeil and Gregory Gleeson were initiated into Valborg and Irene Simms was initiated into Thyra. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:30 pm at our new location: Round Table Pizza, Meeting Room,

20920 Redwood Road, Castro Valley CA 94546. There is sufficient parking and no stairs to maneuver at the new location.

Note from Hayward Treasurers:

Membership dues are payable for the coming year. Please bring to a meeting or mail to respective Treasurers. Checks payable to Valborg #1, in the amount of \$12, mail to Pat Brouillette, 1400 Jacqueline Place, San Lorenzo CA 94580. Checks payable to Thyra #9, in the amount of \$35 for sick benefit members and \$29 for social members, mail to Stuart Mahler, 803 Bantry Way, Benicia CA 94510. Susan Gauthier, President

Sønderjylland No. 10

Meeting 2nd Saturday every month 11:30 AM Kastania Fælled, Petaluma

Secretary, John Cruger-Hansen j.crugerhansen@comcast.net

Sønderjylland held their annual Christmas lunch on Sunday December 13 at the Flamingo Hotel and Resort in Santa Rosa. 26 members attended and all had a great time. Jeannie Kjaer brought some beautiful table decorations as did several other members. President Jim H wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and held a short business meeting after the lunch. We

discussed the February 2016 Valentine's Day get together and Jeannie Kjaer made a motion we try for Oakmont with the Flamingo as a second choice. Motion was approved and Jim will make the reservation and we will notify everyone in January of the outcome. There is no meeting in January 2016.
John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary

Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

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

Secretary Christian Nielsen ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net

Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9

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

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

Wow! What a Christmas Party we had in Reno on December 4. Biggest crowd ever with 152 in attendance and about 30 of them were children. The day started around 2 pm with members setting up tables and preparing foods in the kitchen. The party started at 6 pm with Gløgg and Æbleskiver. 6:30 the Lucia performance started with Ingrid Hedman as director. She explained that the children have worked very hard, learning all the songs in Swedish and that this is Ingrid's Christmas gift to all of us. Brooke and Hannah Hansen-Matuzak read the Lucia story in English and Erik Jensen read it in Danish. Lucia and her court entered singing "St. Lucia" then followed by "Goder Aften" and "Staffan var en Stalle Drang". Ingrid introduced Lucia and her court. Elisabeth Hermansen as Lucia and her Followers, Skye Hansen-Matuzak, Zoe Bloom, Camille Bloom, Elli Becker, Brooklyn and Callie Pimpl, Zoey Christensen, Elvira Weisshaar; Starboys, Nikolas Powers, Liam Becker and Tomte Nisse, Dillon Vorderbruggen.. Lucia read from the Bible, Luch 2:8-11. She also sang "The Holy and the Ivy" an English Folksong. The Court sang "Nu tandas Tusen Juleljus". The audience joined in singing "Silent Night" and "O' little town of Bethlehem". Anette Christensen sang 2 traditional Danish Christmas songs, "En Rose saa jeg skyde" and "Blomstre som en rosengard".

Ingrid thanked the performers including Erik, Brooke & Hannah and the parents for making this possible. Ingrid received a well deserved gift from the Parents and one from the Lodge. Then it was time for the wonderful Danish dinner of Herring with curry salad, pork roast, caramelized potatoes, red cabbage and Fano cabbage, Medister polse (Danish sausage) Leverpostej and Frikadeller just like we know it from Denmark. Lars Jensen roasted the pork roast and with John LaRoch's help they managed the kitchen that night, Ingrid had cooked all the sausages and Anette had made most of the other foods at home and it was being warmed in the ovens. Ina was keeping an eye on

everything to make sure everything went according to plan. Thank you so much to everyone who helped in any way. There were plenty of food, so if you left the table hungry, it was your own fault. After dinner the "Nisse man", Steve Myers entertained the children and adults in the room next door. Everyone enjoyed his performance and it finished with Anette leading the singing and dancing around the hall "Nu er det jul igen" (Now it's Christmas again) The "Nisse" handed out gifts to the children. Thank you Steve for another performance well done! Now it was time for dessert Rice pudding with Cherry sauce. Cookies, cheese and fruit trays – all so good!

The list of people who helped cook is long and I would like to thank: Ann-Katherine Sawyer, Janet Pulsipher, Ina Segasman, Anette Christensen, Lars Jensen and Marian Gndt for the rice pudding. We can't forget our kitchen clean-up crew: Nina and Jens Christiansen. What a great job they did and what a lot of plates they had to clean!

The list of helpers who set up and cleaned up is even longer. Ina Segesman, Debbie Lamb, Knud Sorensen, Leif and Bonnie Larsen, Solveig & John LaRoch Helen & Carl Henrik Christiansen, Ingrid Hedman and Lynda McClellan (who works with Anette at UNR). If I forgot anyone with food or other help, please forgive me.

We missed Baxter and Marlene Swaffer tonight and want to wish him well. Our prayers are with you both.

Our January meeting will be January 1st. Yes, January 1st, (New Year's Day). It will be our fish dinner of Cod, potatoes and mustard gravy. Everyone is to bring appetizer, salads or desserts to complete the potluck.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Virginia Smith of Livermore. I know she will be missed deeply. Happy New Year to everyone from the Reno Lodges.

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

Bornholm #14's Christmas party was held on December 19. Over 50 members and guests participated.

It was a great party at the Famiglia Bistro Ristorante, great food and even a visit by Santa Claus with presents for the children. We had also performances of Christmas songs by several children.

There is nothing better to get your Christmas spirit up than music, songs and festive dressed families.

Our next meeting will be January 15 starting at 6 PM with a pizza party hosted by Susan & Brian Mefford. Anni Champagne will provide the desert.

Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8

Meeting: 2nd Saturday at 1 PM in various homes.

President: Doris Skow dws1929@gmail.com

Our December Christmas Party at Bente's was fantastic. She cooked a great meal. There were 18 present including Dannebrog's Grand Pres. Lynn Wachter from Ferndale. Christmas Ornaments were exchanged and a full afternoon of fun and sociability was enjoyed by all.

Our January 9th meeting will be at my home. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by our meeting. Please let me know if you are coming. [408-313-7235](tel:408-313-7235). This is our planning meeting so be sure to come prepared with ideas as well as dates that you might be able to serve on the committee.

Hejls Minde No. 23

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

Secretary: Marie Jaeger

Hejls Minde # 23, 2015 held its regular meeting Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 12 Noon. at the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark" in Solvang, with 22 members in attendance. Snaps were brought in by Anker Juel Nielsen, Lucille Wulff and Wayne Allen. Thank You!

The Lunch Menu. Celery Soup, Pumpernickel bread, "Hakkebøf med fried egg on top." (Beef Patty with a fried egg on top), red cabbage, cucumbersalad. Dessert: Crepes with icecream and stewed apples. Coffee, we all enjoyed the snaps and beer. A delicious lunch!

The door prize was won by Knud Jacobsen. \$20. Congratulations!

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

We opened the business meeting by singing: "God Bless America."

President Hans Kardel opened the business meeting with welcome remarks, before the meeting started at 1:05 PM. The secretary,

Holger Danske No. 27 & Valkyrien No. 23

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

Holger Danske's Secretary: Wayne A. Allen. Valkyrien's Secretary Darlene Iversen

Our Installation will be held on SUNDAY FEB.14, VALENTINES DAY. It will again be held at Marianni's Restaurant and Lodge, 2500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara. It is just West of San Tomas Exp. We will start at 12 noon with the Brunch Tables, followed by our Installation of Officers. The cost this year will be \$40.00 per person. Reservations should be made to Doris Skow, [408-314-7235](tel:408-314-7235) or dws1929@gmail.com. Prepaid reservations should be mailed to Doris at 1862 Homestead Rd. Santa Clara, CA 95050-6929. Deadline for cancellations is FEB. 10. DWS

Marie Jaeger, read the list of officers present. The Recording Secretary, Kate Nielsen, read the Minutes from the previous meeting. Approved as read. The Treasurer, Agnes Larsen, read the financial report.

Ove Andersen, hospitalized. To be on dialysis. His wife, Erna, went up to Petaluma to be with family. She got sick while there and had to be hospitalized. We wish both Ove and Erna a speedy recovery.

Arla Høj went to Sacramento to be with family. After just one day there she got sick. She wanted to get back to the hospital in Santa Barbara, so the Dr. ordered an ambulance to take her there.

We finished the business meeting by singing: "Der er et yndigt Land". The meeting closed at 1:55. PM.

The next meeting will take place Wednesday, January 6, 2016, at the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark" at 12 noon. Hope to see you there. KKN