



# GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

*Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada*

**November 2017**

**Dannebrog Grand President, Stuart And Dania Grand President, Daniel**

We wish everyone the happiest of Thanksgiving and look forward to seeing everyone soon.

**The Joint Committee in Pursuit of Blending Dania and Dannebrog**

After each committee had met at least once by themselves, a joint meeting was called to have an open dialogue in the interest of both organizations. More than 10 topics were discussed, all relating to a long-term transition of blending the organizations together. These have been summarized into the five topics shown below. A sample of the benefits of blending the two organizations would result in a single slate of qualified officers, as well as operational efficiencies. After considerable discussion, the following items are being proposed for both of the executive committees to review in preparation for the 2018 Convention.

## **Our Proposal**

| <b>Item</b> | <b>The Topic Presented</b>            | <b>The Joint Committee's Recommendation</b>  |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1           | Maintain each organization's Identity | Both Dania and Dannebrog feel strongly that there must be a continuation of recognition for Member of the Year, the awarding of 25 & 50 year pins, and the offering of Scholarships.   |
| 2           | Maintain Officers                     | As long as Dania and Dannebrog are maintained as separate organizations, they will each keep their own Secretary, Treasurer and Trustees in place.   |
| 3           | Blend Remaining of Officers           | Starting in 2018 elect just one Vice Marshal, in 2019 elect one Marshal, in 2020 elect one Vice President, in 2021 elect one President. An effort will be made to alternate between D & DB each year to identify a qualified candidate. If a qualified candidate is not identified, the office may be filled by the other organization.                            |
| 4           | Special Joint Session at Convention   | In 2018 an introductory session will be held individually by each organization (D & DB). A joint session will then be held to discuss this blending concept in detail and answer questions for clarification before we vote. A secret ballot will be taken following the joint session. If blending is accepted, future conventions will have more joint sessions. |
| 5           | Installation of Grand Officers        | As we move to one officer in each position instead of two, there will be less duplication and redundancy.  |

### In Summary:

Simply put, we are advocating the blending of officers and meetings at the Grand Lodge level, just as many branches are doing today at the local level. While the Committee knows well that our #1 problem and concern is declining membership and that a concerted effort needs to be made to enhance it, that is not the charge of this Committee. This topic of membership is being addressed by the Membership Committee, and every branch needs to make an effort to help. The Committee also feels that the blending of officers for the reasons given is indicative of our effort to be more progressive, which should also improve our membership situation.

### The Process:

Once the Executive Committees review and accept this proposal, it will need to be communicated to the entire membership to include the local branches. This can be done by posting this document in our newsletter and sending a copy to each branch to study in preparation for a vote at Convention. As described above, most questions will be answered at the joint session, followed by our individual sessions for further clarification before we vote. The Committee feels strongly that this proposal should be voted on with a secret ballot in each organization as one composite motion. Our Joint Committee Members are available to attend Branch meetings for explanation and clarification, if requested.

Submitted by the Joint Dania/Dannebrog Committee

**Grand Lodge Secretary**

**IN MEMORIAM:**

**DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP**

Lis Lacey in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Gail and Dick Hansen in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Laurie Wong in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Pat Brouillette & Greg Gleeson in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Mary Christensen in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Danebod #16 in memory of Rita Post and Eleanor Alford  
Randall & S. Nielsen in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Robert M. Sorensen in memory of Gunnar Nielsen

**DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Lis Lacey in memory of Gunnar Nielsen

**DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND**

Valborg #1 in memory of Lise Vanderbeck  
Pat Brouillette & Greg Gleeson in memory of Lise Vanderbeck  
Lynn Wachter in memory of Lise Vanderbeck  
Deanna Dunbar in memory of Gunnar Nielsen  
Zena & Mel Lundberg in memory of Gunnar Nielsen, Lise Vanderbeck  
Beth Cowan in memory of: George Cumming, Jr., Lise Vanderbeck, Gunnar Nielsen

**NEW MEMBERS**

Ian Anders Nielsen, Danmark #2, San Fransico  
Javier Colon, Danmark #2, San Fransico  
Richard Lee Leipold, Danmark #2, San Fransico

**DANNEBROG GENERAL FUND**

**Branch Sectaries**

There are a lot of changes to our web site with additions to Dannebrog Info section where you will find all of the forms you need, also the Dania Forms have been move to the Dania Info section. These are all elctroinic forms that you can type in your information, save it to your computer then send it on by

**Local Branches**

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

**Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday every month 7:30 PM Odd Fellows Building; 26 Seventh Street, San Francisco CA 94103**

**Danmark #2 Secretary Roger Gearhart E-mail [rgearhart@comcast.net](mailto:rgearhart@comcast.net) 209-329-3687 Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade**

We had the distinct pleasure of initiating three new members to Danmark #2: Javier Colón, Ian Anders Nielsen and Richard Lee Leipold. Both Javier and Richard speak some Danish and Ian is the grandson of Gunnar and Martha Nielsen and the son of our member, Dennis Nielsen. We are very pleased to welcome each of them into our group. President John Jensen is getting quite adept in managing the initiation program---we adhere closely to the traditional and rigorous Dania formula. The procedure may be lengthy but it is also fondly remembered by the members.

The prospective members were escorted out of the meeting room. The Secretary read the applications and the members voted to accept. Then the President and Vice President appointed an Investigating Committee of Peter Schakow, Jim Jensen and James Olef Jensen. The Committee reported favorably on the applicants and the members accepted the Committee's report. The members voted to dispense with the ballot box and the applicants were then accepted for membership by a show of hands. The Marshal was asked to present the membership book (we use the original book dating from 1882) to the Committee and the President requested that

| <b>Upcoming Conventions</b>    |                             |                            |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12 | April 19-21, 2018           | Nugget, Sparkes NV         |
| Thyra #9 and Valborg #1        | April 11-13 2019            | Grosvenor S. San Francisco |
| <b>Upcoming Installations</b>  |                             |                            |
| Dannevang #7 and Danebod #16   | Feb. 24, 2018               | Odd Fellows Hall Livermore |
| No. 9 Thyra and Valborg No. 1  | March 10 <sup>th</sup> 2018 | Cattlemen's Livermore      |

e-mail or print it out and mail it. We will be trying a new Senior Assistance form and it should be ready in a few weeks. If you have any questions about the different forms and when to use them, please give us a call at (831) 426-4623 Natalie and Tim

the Committee have the applicants sign. Once that was done, the President dismissed the Committee with thanks. The Marshal returned the book to the Secretary and then escorted the applicants into the room. They were marched around and presented to the President. He then read the ritual and the applicants responded. He then declared them members of Danmark #2 with much applause.

The new Membership Committee cards were given out and everyone was encouraged to use them to solicit new members. Francis Claussen's name was drawn for the Attendance Prize but he was not present. Then new member Anne Marie Maris's name proved to be a winner; Daniel Joensen had won the previous month. Congratulations to the winners. Each of the new members were asked to speak and each expressed pleasure in being welcomed into membership. We then adjourned to the dining room for our annual Oktoberfest: Bratwurst, sauerkraut and all of the trimmings. The appetizers were excellent as they always are. And the deserts were outstanding. Everyone was well fed and the singing was spirited. Indeed, a great time was had by all.

The next meeting will *Onsdag*, November 8. We gather at the Odd Fellows Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, at 6:30 or so for a beverage and a social hour. A brief meeting at 7:30, then down to the serious business of having a good time and a wonderful meal. Henrik

#### **Hejmdal No. 4**

**Meets four times a year, contact the secretary for further information  
Secretary Robert Schall, [schallb48@gmail.com](mailto:schallb48@gmail.com)**

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

**Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup>. Thursday every month 11:30 AM. Hope Lutheran's Conference Room, 364 E Barstow Ave, Fresno.  
Secretary, Christie Pettitt, [poppatango@msn.com](mailto:poppatango@msn.com)**

On Wednesday Oct.4 2017 the Fresno Lodges met at Jeb Blueberry restaurant. This was a trial previously agreed upon to determine if this would be a plan for other lodge meetings. Many of our members do not prefer in the evenings as well as heavy traffic for some.

The restaurant was fine, food and service good. We encountered another meeting in an adjoining room which made it difficult to hear.

As a result we voted to return to Hope Lutheran church since we obtained a noon venue. Betty Green and Lone Taylor will

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

**Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday every month at 1:00 P.M.; Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA 93901-2904  
Secretary, Natalie Heer, [timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net)**

My crystal ball last month was spot on! Our installation was a Danish Fest for sure, mostly thanks to all our guests that came in their Red and White "danskattire". And, after all the festive formalities, fellowship, good food and fun, Steen and Martha got us up off our seats and dancing Danish style!

So much fun and lots of smiles on the faces of the dancers and on those in the cheering section. The only unexpected surprise of the day was discovering that I've been spelling Stuart's name wrong all these years! My apologies (again) Mr Mahler. Please

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

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 6:00PM; 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Potluck, The Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way in Livermore.  
Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, [Robertlamee@yahoo.com](mailto:Robertlamee@yahoo.com) Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen, [danskfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:danskfarm@yahoo.com)**

Happy Fall! Even if it does feel more like Indian summer right now, change is on the way.

Mark your calendars for two fun events coming up here in Livermore, our Christmas party will be December 9, 6:00 at the farm bureau building. The special Lamee family recipe for frikadeller, with red cabbage and creamed potatoes followed by bingo. Second will be installation on February 24, 2:00, back at the Odd Fellows Hall, installation first, followed by a cold table

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

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

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

Thyra and Valborg will celebrate the Holidays and the 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Greg Gleeson with a potluck dinner at his home on Saturday, December 16th. We'll gather around 6 p.m. for beverages and appetizers, with dinner around 7 p.m. Greg and Pat will provide the ham and birthday cake. Please bring your favorite dish to share, appetizers, salads, or hot or cold side

Nielsen, Roger and Anne Gearhart will be treating---something special is anticipated. Visitors are always welcome.

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

be hostesses Festivities commence at 11:30 A.M. on Thursday November 2 in the Conference room.

Our Christmas Party will be held at Hope Lutheran Church on Friday December 1 2017 at 6:00 P.M. Wine and appetizers.

Dinner at 6:30 PM with the traditional Pork Roast, red Cabbage, red Potatoes with gravy, salad and dessert. The price will be \$20.00 per person and children 12 and under \$10 with a choice of chicken.

Condolences to Martha and all of the family  
Rene Lastreto & Betty Green

plan to join us next year for our Second Annual Dansk Oktoberfest when we'll honor our 2nd Dania & Dannebrog All Male Grand President Team!

Next time we meet will be on January 7th 2018 to ring in the New Year and celebrate Tim'nNat's 50th Wedding Anniversary, and you know you won't want to miss THAT! Plus there will be a handmade Pink marzipan Piggy waiting to go home with somebody. Please RSVP to Tim'nNat skaal! JHG=

of various Danish/American style open face sandwiches. Our next meeting is November 11, 6:00, we will have chile and cornbread with all the trimmings, hope to see you there. Bob Lamee was the happy winner of our attendance prize in October. Sue and Kindle Frederich were happy recipients of the Dannevang No. 7 scholarships. Have a wonderful thanksgiving, KRT

dishes. We would also like to continue the tradition begun by George Cumming of donating new, unwrapped toys to the Salvation Army. Mary Esther will collect the items after the party and deliver them on Sunday. Greg has asked that you just bring gifts for the Salvation Army families. Please RSVP to Pat Brouillette, no later than December 8th at 510-278-9430, or [pab0718@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pab0718@sbcglobal.net).

### Sønderjylland No. 10

**Meeting 2nd Saturday of April, June, August and October, 11:30 AM Kastania Fælled, Petaluma**  
**Secretary, John Cruger-Hansen [j.cruigerhansen@comcast.net](mailto:j.cruigerhansen@comcast.net) Home: 510-232-6998 or cell: 510-375-5070**

**Note: Next regular meeting is Saturday March 10, 2018. Christmas Party is on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.**

Sønderjylland #10 had to cancel the scheduled October 14, 2017 meeting due to the disastrous fires in Sonoma and Napa Counties. Fortunately, none of our members lost their homes, but many members had to evacuate and all of Sønderjylland #10 members were seriously affected by the smoke from the fires. Because of the continuous issues with the fires we decided to forego meeting before our annual Christmas Party on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Sønderjylland #10 will have their Christmas Party on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 11am at the Aldersly Retirement Community, 326 Mission Ave, San Rafael, (844)-696-9644. As in the past, the lunch is free to members of Sønderjylland #10. Guests are welcome, but will be charged for the lunch.

The menu will include traditional Danish Flæskestej med rødkål og brunede kartofler and all the trimmings.

This year we will join up with the Danish Rebild Society and share company with their members at the lunch at Aldersly. You will receive an invitation to the Christmas party in the mail from the Rebild Society. You may respond to the invitation,

but remember, Sønderjylland #10 is paying for your lunch. But, also, please call or email either John Cruger Hansen or Karen Friis Lysmer whether you will attend on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> and if you will be bringing any guests. Let us know no later than November 19.

We will have a short business meeting at the Christmas lunch since we need to nominate Representatives (Delegates) for the 2018 Dania Convention in April 2018, and decide where to have our Valentine's Party, scheduled for Saturday February 10, 2018. Also, our Treasurer will be collecting the Sønderjylland #10 dues at the lunch. So please bring your checkbook. \$25.00 per regular membership, \$20.00 for members over 80.

Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary,  
([soenderjylland.10@gmail.com](mailto:soenderjylland.10@gmail.com)) 510-232-6998

Karen Friis Lysmer, President ([MorKarenInUsa@Yahoo.com](mailto:MorKarenInUsa@Yahoo.com))  
510-526-5665

### Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

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

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

We had a small turnout at Bless my Soul, but hope to have more for our November meeting. November 4 we will gather at 11:00 for a business meeting and enjoy a catered meal at 12:30. The menu will be a "Big-4" type of meal, chicken cacciatore, polenta, ravioli, apple fritters, salad and dessert. We will be starting our afternoon movie at the Danish Hall on Sunday November 12 at 1:00. Our first movie for this season

will be Brothers a Danish film in Danish with English subtitles. Stop by to watch the film, bring a friend and enjoy the afternoon. December we will have a live performance of Saint Lucia and in January we will be showing Adams Apple another Danish film in Danish with English subtitles.

### Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9

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

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

On Friday October 6 the Reno Lodges held another great gathering of members and friends. We celebrated October fest with great food and desserts. Anette brought her blue table clothes and we gathered at one long table. The Nevada Governor had just declared October 6th as "Unite Nevada Day", in the wake of the Las Vegas shooting, and to wear blue and silver, our state colors. It was really nice. Dinner started with a very good sauerkraut and sausages, red cabbage and sausage dish, potatoes, salads and a lot of other goodies and of course October Fest beer (Spatan) and wine. For dessert, a pear cobbler, made by Donna Vanderbeck, ice cream, and apple cakes made by Lars Jensen and Ingrid Hedman. Palle Larsen brought a princess cake with marzipan for Anette's belated birthday. During dessert Anette opened the meeting and first on the list was our convention. Anette and a small committee will go over the menu and decide what meals we can choose for the Saturday night dinner and Sunday installation. Leif Larsen is working hard to get everything in order for the programs, registration forms etc. Then we reminded everyone about the November meeting. It will be a Thanksgiving potluck. Everyone is to bring something that fits

around the great turkey roasted by Lars Jensen, with the assistance of his wife, Marian Gnant! Next on the agenda was the Christmas party. Lars Jensen will handle all the reservations for the lovely holiday party. Same as last year; MEMBERS AND 1 GUEST. Ingrid Hedman is gearing up for the St Lucia performance and announced the practice times. The menu remains the same, Danish smorgasbord with all the trimmings. Steve Myers have agreed to be the "Nisseman" and we will end our Christmas party with the drawing of raffle prizes. It should be a wonderful evening coming up on December 1. We also discussed "the Blending of the Grand Lodges". Everyone listened and will discuss this more at our November meeting. We finished the meeting by singing happy birthday to Anette.

We sure missed Ina, Mike Vanderbeck, Glenn Fritz, Ann-Katherine, Paul and Cindy and all the rest of the members that were unable to attend. No one on the sick list. YEAH: Our November birthdays are Lone Webb, Susanne Powers, Donna Vanderbeck, and Denise Rosaia. Happy Birthday all. Last I would like to say, that all of us in Reno hope that none of our



Danish friends lost family or loved ones in that horrible Vegas shooting.

Happy Thanksgiving to all and TAKE CARE.. Sena Marie

### **Bornholm No. 14**

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

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

Bornholm #14's October meeting was moved from October 20 to October 27 due to hall availability. 18 members and one guest attended the October-Fest October 27. We started at 6 PM with hot dogs, sauerkraut and German beer. Everybody had a good time at least if you look at the consumption of hot dogs, beer and wine, plus two delicious Danish kringler donated by Bente Ellis.

The meeting was called to order a little after 7 PM by President John Scheuber. Anni Champagne introduced her sister Alice Olsen visiting from Denmark, who by the way is also member of Bornholm #14. They had to leave early for a church event. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and corrected. Membership drawing was won by Kirsten Johansen, who donated the \$50 to the children's Christmas Fund. Thank you, Kirsten.

The last details of our Theater trip were agreed upon, and we are now set for Sunday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. Starting from VSI at 12 Noon

and returning around 8 PM. The Play is 2 PM and dinner at the National Hotel is around 5:15 PM. A signup sheet was passed around with menu choices.

Our Christmas Party is now set for Saturday December 16.

Details will be worked out by John Scheuber.

Jerry Zoller presented the donation committee's proposal for 2017. Moneywise it is the same as last year, but one of the recipients has changed.

This year we are again shopping for 10 children in need at \$120 each from money coming from our monthly raffle.

The final update of our by-laws was presented by John Scheuber. It has taken several members many meetings and iterations. It was voted unanimously by the present members and therefore met the two third demand. It now goes to Grand Lodge for final approval.

Our next meeting is November 17. We start 6 PM with Potluck. John

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

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

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

NO MEETING in November DWS

### **Hejls Minde No. 23**

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

**Secretary, Marie Jaeger**

Hejls Minde # 23 held its regular meeting ,Wednesday, October 25, at 12 Noon, at the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark" in Solvang.

20 members were present, plus 2 guests. While we were waiting for Lunch to be served, we sang a medley of Danish and American songs.

The Lunch Menu: Green salad, Frikadeller, stewen peas and carrots, potatoes, Beer and snaps.

Dessert: Cheesecake/Fresh Raspberries/Whip Cream. Coffee.

A delicious Danish Lunch.

It was nice to see Judith Thompson and Arla Høj again.

We had a couple of guests today: Poul Andersen and Hanne O' Ferril.

Thanks for corning, we enjoyed having you visit.

The door Prize was won by Arla Høj - \$20.00. Congratulations!

If you attend the meeting on your birthday, the club will pay for your Lunch (\$20.00). Last month we had 4 members who had a birthday on the meeting day.

We opened the business meeting by singing: "God Bless America". The President Hans Kardel opened the business meeting with welcome remarks to the members and guests Roll call of officers present were taken by the Secretary Marie Jaeger. The minutes from the previous meeting was accepted as read. The treasurer Agnes Laesen read the financial report, to be filed for audit. The meeting ended with the singing of "Der er et yndigh Land"

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, November 1 2017at the Restaurant "Bit a" Denmark" at 12 Noon,

Hope to see you there. Submitted by Kate Nielsen (K,K,)

### **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**