



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

October 2017

Dania Grand President

This Labor Day weekend, I joined Stuart in Ferndale to install local officers for Valhalla #11 and Ydun #10. This year was another well-planned and well-attended event as Christian Nielsen and committee sent out invitations early. It was a record heat day in Ferndale and the temperature peaked at 90. This was the warmest day on records and we are not used to such heat. The local lodge suggested that all were allowed to remove our jackets for the installation and the Grand Officers happily agreed. It was nice to see so many people participating in the installation and the following Banquet Dinner. They do know how to throw a party in Ferndale! I missed the Bocce Ball on Sunday as I had to head back home early.

This year I took a time to stop in Hopland for lunch. It was a delightful small town filled with charm and there it was an incredible 118 in the shade!

The Blending Exploration Committee had another meeting in mid-September (this time with the Dannebrog committee). Committee Chair John Scheuber will provide a progress report to the membership.

I look forward to the installation in Salinas, October 1 at Noon. Daniel Joensen, Grand President Dania

Dannebrog Grand President

The following is a SUMMARY of the work by Dannebrog and Dania Committees exploring merger options and feasibility. First recommendation is for **NO MERGER!** The committees are recommending the blending of Grand Lodge Officers and the two conventions meeting as one. This is the same thing that all cities with a Dania and Dannebrog branch are currently doing. So the membership should recognize how this would work.

Dania and Dannebrog would each keep their current practice for Member of the Year, 25 and 50 year pins, as well as their scholarship programs. Each will also keep their respective Secretaries, Treasurers, and Trustees.

If this concept is adopted by both Dania and Dannebrog at the 2018 conventions we would elect one Vice Marshal to start through the chairs. For several years current Grand Officers going through the chairs would remain, meaning two Presidents, two Vice Presidents, and two Marshals. In 2019 we would elect one Grand Marshal and one Grand Vice Marshal until we have only one officer in each of the four positions. The goal is to alternate the positions between Dania and Dannebrog.

The report of the committee work has been forwarded to the two Executive Committees'. It will also be published in the

Grand Lodge Secretary

IN MEMORIAM:

PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen; Thor #5 Fresno
Eleanor Alford, Danebod #16, Livermore

Grand Officers

	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 adfiliu@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

newsletter and a copy forwarded to the branch secretaries. Members of the committees will be available to come to your meetings to discuss it and answer any questions. At the 2018 convention Dania and Dannebrog will have a joint session together to discuss the plan and answer any questions. They will then reconvene in their regular meeting for further discussion and a vote. Both organizations would need to vote yes in order to implement this concept. Stuart Mahler, Grand President Dannebrog

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP

Jean Clemons in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Doris Skow in memory of Lise Vanderbeck and Edel Christensen

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Doris and Peder Hoy in memory of George Cumming and PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen and Lise Vanderbeck
Jean Clemons in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen

DANIA/DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

Johanne Gade in memory of George Cumming and Lise Vanderbeck
Doris Skow in memory of George Cumming and PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Irene Simms in memory of Lise Vanderbeck and George Cumming
Sena Marie Freeman in memory of Ron Freeman and PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
John & Marge Scheuber in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen and George Cumming
Signe Ann & Rowland McNeil in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Elizabeth Jensen in memory of Lise Vanderbeck and PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen and George Cumming
Stan & Kathy Ishimoto in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Johanne Gade in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Thyra #3 in memory of Lise Vanderbeck
Linda Guerrero in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Lennart & Bonnie Kullberg in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Steen Skjellerup in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Thyra #9 in memory of George Cumming
Karen Faraldo in memory of Rita Post and Lise Vanderbeck and George Cumming and PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Mary Esther & Alan Filiu in memory of Lise Vanderbeck and Edel Christensen and PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen and George Cumming
Herluf & Sharon Hansen in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen
Ole M. Pedersen in memory of PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen and George Cumming

NEW MEMBERS

DANNEBROG GENERAL FUND

Branch Secretaries

The Dania and Dannebrog special Committees have submitted a report to the Executive Committees of both Grand Lodges before the Dania’s deal line of October 1st. The complete report may found on our website under both Dannebrog Info and Dania Info. The following is our over view of that two page report.

Both Dania and Dannebrog’s Committees feel strongly that there must be a continuation of recognition for Member of the Year for both Grand Lodges, the awarding of 25 & 50 year pins for both Grand Lodges, that each keeps their own Secretary, Treasurer and Trustees in place, and the offering of their Scholarships.

The Committees 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 number one problem and concern is declining membership and that a concerted effort needs to be made to enhance it, this is not the charge of this Committee. The 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 is

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 209-329-3687 Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

We honored five members with their 25-year pins: Brad Porter, Jim Gearhart, Sven Kjærsgaard, Tom Martin, and Paul Nielsen. Unfortunately, Paul and Sven were unable to attend.

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		
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

indicative of our effort to be more progressive, which may also improve our membership situation.

The Committees feels strongly that this proposal should be voted on with a secret ballot in each organization. Our Joint Committees’ Members are available to attend Branch meetings to explain and make clarification on this proposal, please contact GP Stuart Mahler or GVP John Scheuber to arrange for a Committee Person to attend your meeting.

Respectfully Natalie and Tim Heer

President Daniel Joensen, Gloria Martin and Secretary Roger Gearhart. Gloria had the honor of pinning Tom, Brad was pinned by Grand President Daniel Joensen and Roger pinned his son Jim. Later, those honored were invited to speak. Jim summed it up by commenting how much he had enjoyed being a member and commented on how much had remained the same but also that much had changed. The one constant had been that everyone still greatly enjoyed membership in a great organization.

A committee was appointed to look at alternatives for our Christmas lunch. Another committee was appointed to look into how D#2 might respond to the recent hurricane disasters. There was no winner for the attendance prize of \$60. We had voted to refer all normal business to the Executive Board so that we could concentrate on our long-time

Hejmdal No. 4

**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**

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**

I'm gazing into my crystal ball and clearly see that Dana 15 and Freja 6 are having one of their best installations ever.

(on Sunday, October 1st) I see colorfully dressed people with big smiles on their faces, why, they all seem to be wearing red and white, and look at the ones in their unique interpretations of festive "Dans kattire". Now I see them marching around a room, hmmm, nice square corners! All the members of Salinas look pretty excited about being installed by the 1st all male Grand President Team! And all the guests seem to be enjoying the show as well! Oh! and the food! Is that medisterpølse and rodkål I smell? What a grand time, I know they will be talking about this one for many years to come! If you missed it, you can mark your calendars for January 7th 2018 when Tim and Natalie will be celebrating their 50th

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**

Fall is in the air and I'm enjoying the wonderful change in the weather that the season brings.

That Bob Lamee, he must know the best pizza place in Livermore. 12 of us had several pieces of delicious pizza and some healthy salad to go with it. We had a some what lengthy meeting, which is what happens when people bring a list of items that need discussing. All items were positive with good results. We were saddened to hear that our member Eleanor Alford had passed away. Our condolences also to Martha Nielsen and her family with the passing of Gunnar.

members. The evening started with a spread of wonderful hors d'ouvres and a champagne toast. After the meeting, we sat down to a great dinner featuring a wonderful honey-baked ham with all the trimmings. The new 25-year members were honored with "De Skal Leve". Everyone was in great form and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We all left ready for the next 25 years and certainly no one went home hungry. Our next meeting will be *Onsdag, Oktober 11*. We always gather at 6:30 or so for a social hour----then we will get down to the serious business of having a good time. Guests are always welcome

Med venlig hilsen, Roger Gearhart, Secretary,
ragearthart@comcast.net, 209-329-3687

wedding anniversary by cooking us a Danish New Years Feast of Flaeskesteg meg Svaer with all the trimmings. Since it's their anniversary, I guess I could help a little more this year.

And lastly, every year at installation we take time to remember our beloved members that have gone before us and honor their contributions to our society. This year are hearts are especially heavy with the passing of three members who have made a big impact on all of us and whose visits to Salinas we always look forward to, PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen, Lisa Vanderbeck and George Cumming will be missed this year and always. We extend our deepest condolences to their families and loved ones.

Skaal JHG

Sue and Kindle Frederich were each awarded with a scholarship from Dannevang No. 7. Congratulations to you both.

Sue was also the winner of our attendance prize, a lucky night for her for sure. Our annual October barbecue is delayed and will hopefully happen in the spring. We will continue meeting at the Farm Bureau building in 2018, however it is not a facility to have an installation in, so we are researching venues. Any one have ideas out there?

Our October 14 meeting will be at 6:00, with a baked potato bar. Yummy! See you there, 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 Filiou, adfiliou@sbcglobal.net #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, beth.cowan@att.net

It was great to welcome everyone back after the Summer break. We also had a visit from the Grand Secretaries, Natalie and Tim Heer. On a sad note, we lost two long time members, George Cumming Jr (August 23) and Lise Wolter Vanderbeck (August 28). They will be greatly missed. Grand President Stuart Mahler gave a committee report on the proposed blending of the Grand Lodges. He will keep us posted.

Pat and Greg have offered to have the Christmas Party again in December. We will also the donation of toys to the Salvation Army. This project was very dear to George. Don Osborne missed out on the \$50 drawing, his Dad Howard missed it at the June meeting. Andrew gave a very nice talk about his Father. Our next meeting will be Oct. 12 at Round Table Pizza at 7:30 PM 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 had no meeting in September 2017. We will have our next meeting, (the fourth and last regular meeting in 2017), on Saturday October 14th, 2017 at 11.30 am, at Kastania Fælled in Petaluma.

We will enjoy Danish open-faced Sandwiches (Smørrebrød) and Dessert after our meeting.

On the agenda will be suggestions and discussions on a location for our Christmas Party, as well as nominating Representatives (Delegates) for the 2018 Dania Convention in April 2018, among other items.

The Christmas Party in December will include a short meeting and voting on which Representatives will go to the Convention.

The first event in 2018 is our Valentine's Party Saturday February 10, 2018, where there will also be a short meeting before the festivities.

Please call or email either John Cruger Hansen or Karen Friis Lysmer no later than Monday Oct. 9th whether you will attend on Saturday October 14th.

Respectfully,
John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary,
510-232-6998
Karen Friis Lysmer, President
(MorKarenInUsa@Yahoo.com)
510-526-5665

Remember access to Kastania Road has changed and is only available from the off-ramp to Petaluma Blvd South, both North and Southbound directions on Hwy 101.

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

We thank all the Grand Officers who traveled our way to attend our installation of officers. We had a lot of fun and enjoyed the visit. October 7 we will be going to Bless my Soul

in Eureka for dinner at 6:00. November we will be meeting at 11:00 with a lunch at 12:30.
Christian Nielsen, Secretary

Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9

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

Secretary, Sena Marie Freeman P.O. Box 4575, Sparks NV 89432; Anette Christensen, achristensen@med.unr.edu

The Reno Lodges celebrates "Host Fest" (Harvest Fest) on Friday September 1, 2017. The potluck was really great. Lots of snacks and appetizers. Lars Jensen had prepared a pork roast, potatoes and gravy which was a wonderful supplement to the other hot dishes. Lots of great desserts for all. During coffee and dessert Vice President, Eva Demosthenes opened the meeting. It was a short meeting, but the main business was taken care of. For our October meeting we will celebrate October fest and for November we will celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck. Lars Jensen told us that he will roast a Turkey - his special way! YEAH - we are already looking forward to that!

We held a moment of silence for James (Jim) Myers and Lisa Vanderbeck. Both will be missed. To Mike and Donna Vanderbeck, our sympathy goes out to both of you and your family. This has been a very sad month for the Danish communities, we have lost several of our beloved members. The Reno Lodges, Dannevirke #9 and Valdemar #12 want to

extend our deepest sympathies to the Cumming families and to the Vanderbeck families, both from Hayward. They will be missed very much and have contributed so much over the many years as members.

The next day, after our meeting we also learned that Past Grand President of Dania, PGP Gunnar R. Nielsen, from Fresno passed away on September 1st. Our sincere sympathy goes out to Dannebrog's Past Grand President and current Grand Past President, Martha Nielsen and family. Gunnar will be missed by all of us, he was such a dear sweet man.

I would like to thank everyone that helped me set up and clean up the hall in Anette's absence, so I could leave early to get some Zzz's before I had to get up at 4 AM for the 3 day Rib Cook off. Thank you so, so much. Missed you Anette, hope you had a wonderful weekend.

Our October birthdays are: Linda Hill, Joan Topoian and Paul Christensen. Happy birthday all. Have a great month. 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

12 members and one guest attended the Bornholm meeting September 15. The guest was Lis, Bente Ellis's sister from Denmark, who we have had the pleasure of meeting before. We started at 6 PM with light sandwiches and as desert homemade Danish Æblekage.

The meeting started at 7 PM. Minutes of the August meeting were read and approved as read. John Scheuber won the attendance prize, which he donated to the Children's Christmas Fund. Thank you, John.

We were informed that Bob Schall now has completed his transfer to Bornholm #14. He will attend our October 27 meeting. Welcome Bob.

The yearly picnic in the Orange Blossom Park will be on September 30, and even if there are several conflicting events on that day, we will go ahead.

The theater trip was approved with an unanimously vote. More information will come to the members directly.

The Bornholm #14 constitution has been updated and send to the Grand Secretary for final approval.

Our next meeting will be October 27, **Note October 27 which is the fourth Friday.** We are going to celebrate

Octoberfest, and we start at 6 PM. Bodil Whitehouse and Kirsten & John Johansen are hosting.

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

The members of Laura #8 and Danneskjold #7 of Dania/Dannebrog held a very nice social at the home of Lis and Bob Lacey in Sept. Bob was in Solvang at Danish Days but the rest of us enjoyed a delicious Danish Lunch with frikadeller, potatoes, vegetables in cream sauce and salad. Our Oct. 21st meeting will be at the home of Jonna Robinson, (in the Villages) 6308 Blauer Lane, San Jose 408-532-0895. Jonna is preparing all of the lunch so it is important that you call her and let you know if you are coming or not.

I am pleased to report that my daughter Carole is improving everyday. My Twin Great Grandson are also growing daily and mom is getting rested and stronger. On the down side of the amily my granddaughter's fiance was in a life threatening accident on Sept 14, and is still in Stanford Hospital.

All prayers and good thought for James are welcome.

DWS

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 resumed its first meeting after the summer Black Out of July and August - Sept. 6 at the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark" Solvang, with 17 members in attendance.

We met at 12 Noon for Lunch with the meeting to follow. Lunch Menu: We started with a beautiful arrangement of 3 kinds of herring and pumpernickel bread with Beer and snaps.

The Entree: A beautiful looking plate with 3 pieces of open faced sandwiches, Danish Style. "Højt belagt", Pork, Shrimp, cheese, and potato salad.

Dessert: Served in a large glass goblet: Ice-cream, Sherbet, Raspberries and whip cream. Yummy, yummy!! A delicious Danish Lunch prepared by the Restaurant "Bit O' Denmark." Thank You!!!!

We had good news for the members. From mow on the club will supply the snaps, instead of the members supplying it on their birthday. Thank you!

Between Lunch and the regular meeting, we sang a medley of Danish and American songs under the leadership of Erling Grumstrup and his great voice .. Thank You!

We opened the meeting at 1:10pm by singing: "God Bless America." Our Santa Maria Group was present as usual, which is very much appreciated -We love you guys!

President Hans Kardel opened the meeting with welcome remarks. The door Prize was won by Lucille Wulff. \$20.00 Congratulations!

Corresponding secretary read the Minutes from last June's meeting.

The Secretary, Marie Jaeger read the roll call. She also talked about the upcoming Danish Days from Sept. 15 - 17 in Solvang.

Financial Secretary Agnes Larsen read the financial report. To be filed for Audit.

We closed the meeting by singing "Der er et yndigh Land."

Our next meeting will be October 4th, 2017 at 12 noon at the Restaurant Bit O' Denmark, Solvang.

Hope to see you there!!

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