

139th Annual Grand Lodge Dania Convention Report



**Held at the Grosvenor Hotel,
South San Francisco, CA
April 11-13, 2019**

FRIDAY April 12, 2019

Grand Officers, Representatives, Past Grand Presidents, and Members assembled at Grosvenor Hotel, South San Francisco, CA for Dania's 139th annual convention on April 12 and 13, 2019. Host Lodges were Valborg #1 and Thyra #9

GRAND OFFICERS

Jr. Past Grand President	Daniel Joensen	Danmark #2	San Francisco
Grand President	John Scheuber	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Vice President	Jana Heer-Glovaski	Freja #6	Salinas
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	Freja #6	Salinas
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson	Thyra #9	Hayward
Grand Marshal	Bente Ellis	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Vice Marshal	Michael Vanderbeck	Valdemar #12	Reno NV
Grand Trustee	James "Jim" Jensen	Danmark #2	San Francisco
Grand Trustee	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Bornholm #14	Modesto
Grand Trustee	Peder Hoy	Bornholm #14	Modesto

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Danmark #2	John Jensen, Robert Fox, James Olef Jensen, Peter Christensen,
Thor #5	PGP Steen Skjellerup, Jerry Hansen
Freja #6	Ole M. Pedersen,
Dannevang #7	Gregg DiMartino, Robert Lamee, Dan Holm, Tracey Lamee
Thyra #9	PGP Mr. Gregory A. Gleeson
Sønderjylland #10	Karen Friis Lysmer, John Cruger-Hansen
Valhalla #11	PGP Mel Lundberg, Daniel Barney
Valdemar #12	Leif Larsen
Bornholm #14	Bodil Whitehouse, Max Stowers, Doris Juul Hoy, Alt George Dutra
Danneskjold #17	PGP Robert Lacey, Lee Dove
Hejls Minde #23	Bent Olsen, Finn Rurge
Holger Danske #27	No Representatives

Grand President John Scheuber appointed Past Grand President, Lilian Rasmussen to fill the Office of Grand Vice Marshal in the absents of Michael Vanderbeck. He noted that Lilian was our first Lady to serve as Grand President. He instructed the Grand Officers to take their respective stations and the Acting Grand Vice Marshal Lilian Rasmussen, to close the door at 9:05 A.M.

The password was taken by Grand Marshal Bente Ellis and Acting Grand Vice Marshal Lilian Rasmussen. After the password was obtained the Grand President called for the opening sign.

Grand President John Scheuber asked the Grand Secretary Tim Heer, to call the roll of Grand Officers, Representatives and Past Grand Presidents. 9 Grand Officers, 11 Past Grand Presidents and 23 Representatives responded to roll call. It was noted during the calling of the Roll of Representatives of Bornholm #14 that Alt George Dutra was taking the place of Max Stowers. The Grand President requested the Grand Secretary to calculate the maximum number of possible votes being cast on any future motions. See the complete Roll Call result attached to this report.

The assembly then rose to recite the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed by the singing of Der er et Yndigt Land, led by Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen and Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23.

Grand President John Scheuber asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence in honor of our departed Members.

Grand President John Scheuber welcomed everyone to the convention and then proclaimed the 139th Annual Convention of The Danish Society Dania of California and Nevada in session with full powers and authority to act on all subjects brought before this session, in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Grand President John Scheuber instructed Grand Marshal Bente Ellis to escort his advisor, Past Grand President Thomas Martin, to the chair on his right to act as his advisor during the Convention.

Grand President John Scheuber asked Grand Secretary Tim Heer to read the minutes from our previous Convention, The Grand Secretary then read the minutes from the close of the 138th Convention to the opening of this Convention. In the report it was noted that we had two new members due to the membership business card. It was moved by Past Grand President Gregory Gleeson, that we accept the report, seconded by James Olef Jensen, Danmark #2. The Motion was adopted

Report of the Grand President: Grand President John Scheuber instructed the Grand Vice President Jana Heer-Glovaski to take charge of the meeting as he gives his annual report.

Grand President John Scheuber, started by explaining that he would not read his entire report but that it will be included in the Annual Convention Report. It is printed below.

When you agree to be a Grand Officer you have to remember you are making a long 5 year commitment. By itself it is not a terribly demanding job, but when you have other outside involvements it is more of a challenge. I want to personally thank all of my Grand Officers and their dedication to attend most of the installations and meetings and other activities when possible.

Our year started out rather quickly as it was decided even before last year's convention that the day after convention we would stay in Reno and have their installation. We all share in some light breakfast and on with our ceremony. All went well. Alan Filiau, the Dannebrog Grand President soon learned how to help each other through the process. Every year the Santa Maria branch has their annual BBQ on July 4th. This is one you won't want to miss. It is a challenge to know this group is really not well structured, and doesn't really have official meetings but maybe 2 activities per year. Are they compliant with our protocol? Is this an issue or should we be happy that they meet in the interest of carrying on their own local Danish culture? These are the kinds of things you think about as we review our Constitution knowing we either change it to be less demanding or we make sure all of us are in compliance.

In early August Bornholm has historically held its installation. We have to remind ourselves that this is a Dania only ritual, which differs from our joint installations. I am personally a strong advocate for eventually having one agreed upon ritual for all of our Dania/Dannebrog installations. It took Marge and I a long time to find Ferndale which was our next stop. Most of you know she is heavily into genealogy so we are seeking more information on our roots. We took a little side trip to Portland, Tacoma and Seattle on our way to Ferndale, CA. We found some new distant relative of hers as we made this trek. Finally the Labor Day weekend with Ferndale is always such a joy.

Soon thereafter I made a visit to Hayward to see where they meet (in a Pizza Parlor, no less) and how they proceed with our protocol. Since they were gearing up for convention some of the time was spent on planning. Later in September the Livermore Branch held a special BBQ at the Lamees which was extremely well done. We participated and found just how dedicated all their members are. Since I hadn't yet been there I ventured off to Fresno, where they meet in a church hall. I benefitted by their potluck and we had a chance to discuss some of the Constitution Revisions as well. Before long we were off to Salinas, the Nations Salad Bowl, for their installations. Now if you want to get really confused, just assume almost every officer has a dual role of being that same office in two different organization, yes for both Dania and Dannebrog. Oh yes, and both Grand Presidents gets to read an almost same sounding ritual for each office. There is a bit of redundancy here and it is just a little confusing.

At this point in our year Marge and I headed to our Animal Health Buying Group meeting in Wild Dunes, South Carolina. In 1987 we invested in this company, called Durvet, and it has become one on our major sources of products. I have been personally attending board meetings in Kansas City for over 19 of those years, or have taken about 73, 2-3 day trips. . After 3 days with Durvet we jetted to Florida to meet up with our old friends from Indiana who now winter in Florida.

Every year on Thanksgiving all of our extended family join our Rocklin Family and each of us either walk or run a 5 or 10 K in the Folsom Run for the Hungry. In our family of 25 only about 2or 3 don't make the run. It is a prerequisite to be included in the Thanksgiving Dinner. Shortly after that we headed to Solvang to carry out their Dania only installation. There meetings are all held at the Bit of Denmark Restaurant, so we benefitted by excellent smorebrod sandwiches, that were out of this world. In early December we headed to San Francisco to their annual Christmas Party. It was well attended and American and Danish carols were a highlight. Then back home to Bornholm's Christmas event, which included Santa and Christmas Carols as well.

To avoid all the duplicate Holiday Parties, Livermore held their Holiday Festivity in January at the Lamee's home. What a spread of turkey, multiple salads and lots of good food and great fellowship. With the start of the new calendar year we started down the Installation circuit to Fresno in early February, followed by the next week to San Francisco, and 2 weeks later to San Clara with a delightful Brunch prior to our installation.

To maintain a long established tradition, Bornholm, in Modesto held its annual Fish Dinner on the first Saturday of March. We had a great turnout with wonderful appetizers, great fish and plenty of beer, wine and Akavit. The next day it was off to Salinas to witness one of their regular meetings. I benefitted by a conversation on our Constitutional Revisions and found the diversity of opinions that existed there; more so than any other branch visited. Just a few days later I trekked to Petaluma for their regular meeting and enjoyed their meeting and some great Split Pea Soup and sandwiches.

Mid March took me to the Cattlemen's in Livermore where we held the Hayward Installation and our annual Executive Meeting so we could select our scholarship recipients and pick our Member of the year. Two of our required audits were also completed. This facility and the planning of the Hayward Branch makes this a very special day. As my year was winding down I was extremely concerned that I had not attended and regular meeting in Ferndale and Reno. Since both are on the same weekend that was my challenge. Unfortunately, due to the challenges of weather and other personal and business conflicts, I didn't get to either and I truly apologize for that.

So What Does A Grand President Learn at these Visits?

1. Tradition – While tradition is not mentioned aloud, a concerted effort seems to be made to maintain that as a mainstay that continues to be important. It is interesting to see who follows the protocol to the nth degree and who feels that they need to add their own little twist for individuality. While I admire and respect our tradition, it cannot be our only concern.

2. Culture – It becomes very apparent whether serving Akavit, abbleskivers, frikadillas, smorebrod, or pork with red cabbage, most want to carry on with some of the culture that has survived many generations. We need not lose sight of the Danish Christmas Carols or the Danish National Anthem and continue to make them part of our culture.
3. Diversity – Whether at the Eagles or Odd Fellows Hall, a Church Conference Room, a Nearby Restaurant or Pizza Parlor, or whether you are still fortunate to have your own hall, we have quite a diversity of where we meet. We all become adaptable to make sure we can go on even when the conditions aren't ideal.
4. Family Dominance – While most branches are centered around a diverse membership. In 3 or 4 cases, one family or one extended family is in total control of the branch. Some would not have succeeded without this intense involvement, but this can be limiting to new membership if we aren't careful. Some people are intimidated in these situations. A concerted effort must be made to make everyone feel welcomed into our organization.

In summary

1. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I never take on a task unless I can get totally entrenched in it. One day Bent Olsen said to me “you love this stuff and you are good at it and we need you or someone to do it” Bent is partially right, I don't love this stuff and just don't want my name associated with something that isn't correct, or needs revision.
2. If you want an upgrade or something more progressive I am your man. When we joined this organization we weren't joining the Danish Historical Society. While we have a committee for that, it isn't our primary mission. Let us be as progressive as the country we represent.
3. If you are satisfied with the status quo or prefer a more lethargic approach, count me out.
4. Since 2004 starting with a survey of both Dania and Dannebrog followed by the Unity Committee, I have chaired most, if not all, the Statewide Committees for Unity, Joint Ritual, Dania Only Ritual and for the last 4 years, I've worked on the Constitutional Revisions. That was also when you elected me to be your Grand Vice Marshal. Now I am ending my term as your Grand President.
5. My involvement is based on relevance and accuracy. Don't force your Grand President to state in the installation ritual that “we are primarily a sickness and benefit organization”, when in reality it doesn't state that in our Constitution, but it does state that these are maybe 2 of 12-14 aims and objectives or tenets we are to follow. When immigrants came to America in the late 1800's the need for this provision was much more important than it is today, when no one had insurance. We will never omit or forget that tenet as it is vital to our tax status. Folks, I feel that there is nothing wrong with admitting that most of us stay involved because of the social and cultural benefits we all enjoy.
6. Some of us elect to only be involved socially and prefer not to serve on a committee or don't want to get too involved and therefore are subject to no criticism. However, those of us who elect to serve and get involved become vulnerable and subject to much criticism. Please respect those who elect to carry the load whether it be as a Grand Officer or Committee Chair, as they are fulfilling a function that someone has to perform for this organization to move forward.

Thank you for placing trust in me and allowing me to serve this great organization.

The Grand Vice President asked the Delegations what are our wishes regarding the report of the Grand President. It was moved by Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen, Danmark #2, that we accept the report of the Grand President, seconded by Past Grand President Mel Lundberg, Valhalla #11. The Grand Vice President ruled that the motion was adopted, and then returned the meeting back to the Grand President.

Minutes of the Executive Committee: The minutes of the meetings held on March 16, 2019 were read by the Grand Secretary. It was moved by John Jensen, Danmark #2, to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee,

seconded by Karen Friis Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10. The motion was adopted. The Minutes are attached to this report.

Grand Secretary's Report: In the interest of time The Grand Marshal and Grand Vice Marshal handed out the reports of the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and The Grand Trustees before the meeting opened. The Grand Secretary's annual report was read. The Grand Secretary apologized for the miss spelling of Sønderjylland in three places, later, it was pointed out the Bornholm was also misspelled. The Grand Secretary's report is attached at the end of this report. The Grand Secretary continued his report and called the Member's attention to the itemized reports of the Branches on Membership, Assets, Receipts, and Disbursements for review. A complete copy is attached to this report. It was moved by Grand Treasurer PGP Gregory Gleeson, Thyra #9 to accept the reports. Seconded by Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen, Danmark #2, the motion was adopted with a two thirds majority Voice Vote. One negative vote was noted.

Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Past Grand President Roger Gearhart who moved to include an accounts receivable and an accounts payable to the Grand Secretary's report. Seconded by Past Grand President Thomas Martin, Danmark #2. John Jensen, Danmark #2, moved to table the motion until New Business, later this Convention.

Grand President John Scheuber declared a Coffee recess at 10:15 A.M. to reconvene at 10:25 A.M.

Grand President John Scheuber asked for all those who were not in the morning session to stand, there being no one standing, he reconvened the meeting.

Grand Treasurer's Report: Grand Treasurer, Gregory Gleeson, presented the Grand Treasurer's report for review. Past Grand President Roger Gearhart moved to accept the report, seconded Past Grand President Mel Lundberg, Valhalla #11 and the motion was adopted. The Grand Treasurer's report is attached at the end of this report.

Grand Trustees' Report: Grand Trustee #1 James "Jim" Jensen read the report. Past Grand President Roger Gearhart moved to accept the report, seconded by John Jensen, Danmark #2 and the motion was adopted. The Grand Trustees' report is attached at the end of this report.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

History Committee Report: Past Grand President, Roger Gearhart, gave the following report:
It is a great pleasure to have located a Dania treasure, a Proclamation, from Mayor Dianne Feinstein, dated January 27, 1982. The Proclamation reads, in part:

"DENMARK NO. TWO OF SAN FRANCISCO

has made significant contributions to San Francisco and is celebrating (their)

100th ANNIVERSARY JANUARY 30, 1982

in our city and to extend appropriate honors on this occasion, I, Dianne Feinstein, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, do hereby set aside this day in recognition of this important event, and commend its observance to all San Franciscans".

It is signed by the Mayor and her seal is prominently displayed.

Danmark #2 would like to present this Proclamation to the Dania History Committee for safe keeping.

Inasmuch as this is the sole contribution to the Dania History Committee during the past year, I would like to switch to the

History of the Danish Kings and Queens.

The TV series, “Vikings” has completed its 5th year. The sons of Ragnar Lodbrook are still prominent in the series but “artist’s license” has become more pronounced. Ragnar’s son, Ivar the Boneless, has become a despotic King at Kattegat, whereas historical sources state he remained in England as the benevolent King of Wessex and later died in Ireland. The series continues to depict our common Viking history in an often violent way. We all come from a great heritage of warriors from the far North. The TV series is very well done and still very entertaining.

My report last year ended with the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and the start of the dynasty that would rule England for centuries. Now we can begin to discuss the Danish Royalty beginning with King Gorm den Gamle. He deposed the young King Sytrigg Gnuerson in 936. Gorm ruled over Jylland from Jelland together with the renowned Queen Thyra.

Thyra was highly honored and respected, credited with the completion of the Danevirke. At her death, Gorm raised a huge burial mound and had a large rune stone crafted in which Thyra is credited with being “Danmark’s Salvation”. To the present day she is revered and respected in all of Denmark. Gorm and Thyra had three sons Toke, Knut (Canute) and Harald, later King Harald Blåtand. The three sons went out each year as Vikings, raiding and plundering where ever they went. Knut was killed while raiding at Dublin, not in battle but by a cowardly assassin. A famous painting by Vilhem Thomsen depicts Gorm on the throne as Thyra informs him of the death of their son. Also, their daughter Gunnhild is called “Mother of Kings.”

Another large burial mound was raised following Gorm’s death in the winter of 958-9 and a second huge rune stone was crafted in his honor at Jelland by his son, King Harald Blåtand. More about King Harald next year.

A final comment: It is quite remarkable that we know so very much about this turbulent era. It is said that the Viking era may well be the golden age of our Scandinavian history. In any event, we have many illustrious ancestors. We can all be proud of our strong Danish heritage and of Denmark’s place in the world.

Submitted by Roger Gearhart, April 12, 2019

Personal note: I had planned on resigning as the Dania Historian. However, the presentation of very old photos from the Olsen family (Modesto) convinced me to remain for another year. Tim Heer has volunteered to be prominent on the History Committee. Further, I would like to remain as the “Danish Historian”, to continue the narrative of the succession of Danish Kings and Queens up to the present day. It is remarkable that Denmark has the distinction of being the longest continuous monarchy in the world. And June 15 this year will be the 800th year when our flag, Dannebrog, descended from heaven. On that occasion the Danes were fighting the Estonians and the battle suddenly turned, giving us another victory. Presumably, Royal Copenhagen will produce a commemorative plate in honor of that occasion as they have done for the 700th and 750th year anniversaries. I would be pleased to add that to our personal collection

It was moved by Past Grand President Tim Heer Freja #6, to accept the report and also name PGP Roger Gearhart “Danish Historian”. Seconded by Karen Friis Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10, the motion was accepted.

After the report the Grand President donated some very old photos from the Olsen family of Modesto. Taken at a number of past conventions, two from the 33rd Convention April 23, 1915, and April 24, the 35th Convention April 17, 1917, the 39th Convention 1921, the 43rd Convention 1925, the 54th Convention 1936, and a hat from the 1936 Convention, all from Grand President’s Wife’s family. PGP Roger Gearhart accepted all of the items on behalf of the history Committee and asked to be able to stay on the committee one more year so that he would be able to get these photos framed.

Report from the Advisory Committee: Past Grand President Thomas Martin reported on behalf of the Committee’s members, Past Grand President Peder Hoy, and Past Grand President John Johansen, that there was no action or advise prepared by the committee. The Grand President accepted the report.

Standing Convention Committees: Grand President John Scheuber appointed the following:

Resolutions: John Jensen
Karen Friis Lysmer
Grand Marshal Bente Ellis

Danmark #2
Sønderjylland #10
Bornholm #14

Law: Daniel Joensen
Johanne Rasmussen Gade
Mel Lundberg

Jr. Past Grand President, Danmark #2
Past Grand President, Bornholm #14
Past Grand President, Valhalla #11

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was read of greeting from Carl and Betty Jensen.

A thank you for a Scholarship from Ben Hover

A letter was read of greeting for a successful convention from Thyra #9 and Valborg #1 of Hayward.

A letter was read of greeting for a successful convention from Valdemar #12 of Reno.

The Grand President asked for a motion to approve the Communications report, it was moved by Grand Vice President Jana Heer-Glovaski, Freja #6, to accept the report. Seconded by Grand Treasurer Gregory Gleeson, Thyra #9, the motion was adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Grand President John Scheuber asked if we had any Unfinished Business.

Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Finn Runge, Hejls Minde #23, who moved to create a 60 year pin and a 65 year pin, seconded by Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23. Past Grand President Tim Heer moved to amend the motion to have the incoming Grand President establish a Committee to do a feasibility study as to the affordability of the two pins. Seconded by Past Grand President Thomas Martin, the motions to amend was accepted. The Motion as amended was accepted. Grand President John Scheuber, instructed the Grand Vice President to appoint this committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Grand President John Scheuber asked the Grand Secretary to present the bills.

Grand Secretary Tim Heer moved to pay the Grand Treasurer \$100.00 per month expense reimbursement, it was seconded by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 24 no 1 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary Tim Heer moved to pay the Grand Trustees \$1.00 each per year expense reimbursement; it was seconded by Grand Treasurer, Gregory Gleeson. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 24 no 4 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary Tim Heer moved to set the Funeral Benefit at \$200.00, seconded by Grand Treasurer, Gregory Gleeson. Past Grand President Roger Gearhart moved to amend the motion to state that the full Funeral Benefit to be set at \$200.00, seconded by Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen. The motion requires a two-thirds majority

vote to pass, the vote was yes 24 no 0 the Grand President ruled the amendment to the motion was adopted. The motion as amended requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 21 no 1 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to set the annual per capita tax at \$30.00 per member to be paid in two installments, with the exception of those Branches that have a net worth less than \$5,000.00, in which case their amount would be \$20.00 per member, seconded by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass; the vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to donate \$25.00 to the Danish American Historical Society in Fresno, seconded by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 28 no 4 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to donate \$25.00 to the Elverhoj Museum of History and Art, seconded by the Grand Treasurer, Gregory Gleeson. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 24 no 1 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to pay \$45.00 annual dues to Aldersly, it was seconded by Past Grand President Tom Martin. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 23 no 2 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to donate \$25.00 to the Bethel Lutheran Home Selma, it was seconded by Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 24 no 1 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to donate \$50.00 to the Solvang Lutheran Home, it was seconded by Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass; the vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President; the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to pay the (2019) Convention Committee \$300.00 for expenses and it was seconded by Past Grand President Tom Martin. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass; the vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President; the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to support the Web Site Committee not to exceed \$300.00 it was seconded by Past Grand President, Lilian Rasmussen. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass; the vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President; the motion was adopted.

Grand Treasurer moved to pay the Grand Secretary \$200.00 per month expense reimbursement, it was seconded by Past Grand President Steen Skjellerup. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 23 no 2 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Treasurer moved to pay the Grand Secretary \$100.00 per month expense reimbursement for the printing of the Monthly Newsletter, it was seconded by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass; the vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President; the motion was adopted.

Past Grand President Roger Gearhart moved to increase the Grand Presidents traveling expenses by \$600.00 over the current Constitutional amount of \$600.00 to a total of \$1,200.00, to be paid monthly, it was seconded by Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 24 no 1 the

Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand Secretary moved to increase the Grand Marshal traveling expenses by \$300.00 over the current Constitutional amount of \$300.00 to a total of \$600.00, to be paid monthly, it was seconded by Past Grand President Roger Gearhart. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the vote was yes 23 no 2 the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber recognized Past Grand President Johanne Gade who moved to recess for lunch at 12:00 P.M. with the Convention to reconvene at 2:00 P.M. and seconded. The motion did not require a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the Grand President ruled the motion was adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber asked for all those who were not in the morning session to stand, Past Grand President Glenn Fritz stood and the Password was received, The Grand Secretary informed the Grand President that Danneskjold #17 has a second Representative by the name of Lee Dove and he was in attendance during the morning meeting. The Grand President then reconvened the meeting.

The Grand President reverted back to Committee Reports:

Report of the Special Membership Committee: John Jensen, Danmark #2, reported that the Business Card is working well. The Grand President questioned if we really received two new members by the Business Card. John Cruger-Hansen, Sønderjylland #10, confirmed that they received two new members who picked up two cards at the Nordic House and contacted him. It was moved to accept the report, seconded and the motion was adopted.

Report of Special Committee: The Nominating Committee member, Grand Trustee #1, Mel Lundberg, reported that they had a nominee for Grand Trustee and Grand Marshal but are still looking for a nominee for Grand Vice Marshal. Past Grand President Roger Gearhart, moved to accept the report, seconded by Karen Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10, and the motion was adopted.

The Grand President Reverted back to New Business

The Grand President called on Past Grand President Roger Gearhart to give a report of the Legacy Gift to Dania Committee, along with the report a form was included. Past Grand President Roger Gearhart during his report, he handed a double seal envelope to be opened after his demise to the Grand Secretary. He also noted that this is not included in his trust but he is confident that his trustees will have to honor the gift to Dania. Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen moved to accept the report so it could be discussed, seconded by Past Grand President Tom Martin, Danmark #2, and the vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President, the motion was adopted. The report is attached at the end of this report.

Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen moved to request the incoming Grand President for next year to establish a Special Committee of three or more to investigate the Legacy Gift issue, seconded by The Grand Secretary. The vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President, the motion was adopted.

Grand President called on the Constitutional Revision Committee to give their Proposal:

The Grand President asked all of the Committee Members to vacate their current stations and assemble together by the Grand Treasurer's table, he then introduced the Chairperson Bente Ellis, Grand Marshal who in turn introduced the Committee; Past Grand President Thomas Martin, PGP Johanne Gade, Grand Trustee #2, and Bob Lamee, Dannevang #7, she made a special introduction of Tracey Lamee who was not a member of the committee but

acted as their recording Secretary and was thanked for all of her hard work on putting all of this information together for the committee which the over 42 pages long proposal clearly represents.

Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen moved to accept the report of the Constitutional Revision Committee as submitted so it could be discussed, seconded by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The Grand President Ruled the motion adopted.

The Grand Treasurer ask that all motions regarding changes to the constitution be done by secret paper Ballot to insure an accurate count and that only those entitled to vote are allowed to vote. This request was granted by the Grand President. The Grand Secretary then moved to have the Grand Vice Marshal handle the Ballot Box while the Grand Marshal is away from her station as she serves as Chairperson of the Constitutional Revision Committee. Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen seconded the motion that only the Grand Vice Marshal is to handle the Ballot Box. The vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President, the motion was adopted.

Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen called for a point of order regarding the motion made by the Grand Treasure regarding voting by written Ballot, he stated that the motion has not been voted on. The Grand President ruled that he had granted the request for a paper ballot on all motions regarding changes to the constitution and that the Grand Treasurer did not make a motion.

The Grand President called on Past Grand President Peder Hoy who moved a onetime vote on the whole proposal as presented and if it passes then all of the changes would be adopted but if it fails to receive the required 2/3 majority vote then we would consider the 6 topics individually, seconded by John Cruger-Hansen, Sønderjylland #10. The Grand President appointed Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23, Past Grand President, Robert Lacey, Danneskjold #17, and Past Grand President, Steen Skellerup, Thor #5 as Tellers. After all who were entitled to vote had cased their paper ballot and the tellers had completed their duties, The Grand President asked The Grand Secretary for the results of the Ballot which was reported as a one blank, 21 Yes and 13 No. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, there were 35 votes cast which required a vote of 24 in favor to pass the motion having received 21 in favor the Grand President ruled the motion not adopted.

Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen rose to a point of order to appeal the ruling of the Chair regarding his granting of a written ballot, in that the Constitution requires a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting to be able to have a written Ballot. The Chair agreed with the appeal and ruled his granting of a written Ballot out of order. Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen moved to hold a written Ballot be taken on all motions regarding changes to the Constitution be a written Ballot, seconded by Past Grand President Tom Martin. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, there were 29 votes cast which required a vote of 20 in favor to pass the motion having received 14 in favor and 15 opposed the Grand President ruled the motion not adopted and we would hold a hand vote on motions to change the Constitution.

Grand President John Scheuber declared a Coffee recess at 3:30 P.M. to reconvene at 3:45 P.M.

Grand President John Scheuber asked for all those who were not in the morning session to stand, there being no one standing, he reconvened the meeting. He announced that due to the need to use this meeting room for tonight's dinner we had to recess by 4:45 P.M.

Grand President John Scheuber called on Bob Lamee, Dannevang #7, to present the first topic as recommended by the Committee. He gave a brief history as to how the Committee worked on putting the changes together and explained the time line they worked with, he reported that after they sent the proposals out for review the first time they received 108 responses, they incorporated some of those into their final draft and on February 1, 2019 the final

draft was sent out to all the Branches, Grand Officers and Past Grand Presidents. They received 118 responses and suggested changes, but they decided that it would be unfair to make any changes so close to convention they are submitting the proposed changes as circulated on February 1, 2019. He then explained the reasoning behind Topic number one as printed in the February 1st cover letter, seconded by Past Grand President Tom Martin.

Past Grand President Johanne Gade, moved to table the motion until next year, seconded by Past Grand President Peder Hoy. After a lot of discussion Past Grand President Johanne Gade withdrew her motions to table.

Past Grand President Peder Hoy rose to withdraw his second to the original motion, before the Grand President ruled that the motions dies for lack on a second, Past Grand President Roger Gearhart second the motion and the debate continued.

Grand President John Scheuber called for the vote on motion number one regarding topic number 1, the motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and there were 25 votes cast which required a vote of 17 in favor to pass the motion having received 11 in favor and 14 opposed the Grand President ruled the Motion not adopted.

Past Grand President Tom Martin moved to table the topic number two until the Saturday session seconded by James Olef Jensen, Danmark #2. Grand President John Scheuber called for the vote on motion to table by a show of hands. The vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President, the motion was adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber declared a recess until 8:30 A.M. Saturday morning.

SATURDAY April 13, 2019

Convention was called back to order at 8:30 A.M. Grand President John Scheuber instructed the Grand Officers to take their respective Stations and the Acting Grand Vice Marshal Lilian Rasmussen to close the door.

The password was taken up by the Grand Marshal, Bente Ellis and Acting Grand Vice Marshal Lilian Rasmussen. the opening sign was given.

Grand President John Scheuber asked the Grand Secretary to call the roll call of Grand Officers, Representatives and Past Grand Officers. 9 Grand Officers, 22 Representatives and 11 Past Grand Presidents responded to roll call.

The assembly then rose to recite the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed by the singing of Der er et yndigt land, led again by Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen and Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23.

Grand President John Scheuber asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence in honor of our departed Members.

Grand President John Scheuber called on Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen for a report of the Committee on Laws. He read the following Minutes

Minutes from the Dania Grand Lodge Committee on Laws Meeting

Meeting Date and Time: Friday, April 12, 2019 Approximately 16:45 pm until 17:00

Members: PGP Mel Lundberg, PGP Johanne Rasmussen Gade, Jr. PGP Daniel Joensen

The Committee on Laws considered the document presented by the Constitution Revision Committee, had a discussion and presents its observations, findings and recommendations:

- 1) The Committee on Laws wishes to balance the strict observation of protocol and law with a desire to get things done and not unduly block progress
- 2) Of the six Topics presented, the first has already been voted upon so the Committee recommends that the votes stand.
- 3) At future Conventions, the Committee on Laws must be given appropriate time to review documents before a motion or topic is brought before the Convention. Thus, we recommend that all such discussion is undertaken on Saturdays giving the Committee overnight time to meet and review material
- 4) The proper format for motions to alter or amend an Article, Section or Paragraph are described in the Constitution ARTICLE XXVII, Section 3. This format has not been used.
- 5) The Members of the Grand Lodge should receive an example of a properly formatted motion to alter or amend.
- 6) Topics 4 and 5 are simpler in concept and should be brought to discussion at this Convention applying a deviation from the Constitution.
- 7) Topics 2, 3 and 6 are more complex and should not be allowed to be made into motions at this Convention. We recommend that these are presented in the required format at a future Convention

Respectfully, Daniel Joensen, Scribe

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized Past Grand President Roger Gearhart who moved for the acceptance of the Committee on Laws minutes, second by Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23. The vote was 25 in favor 1 opposed, The Grand President ruled the motion adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen who asked for the Grand Marshal and Grand Vice Marshal to distribute a sample form to be used to make proposed changes to the Constitution. This sample form is attached to this report.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized The Grand Secretary Tim Heer who moved to have this agreed to as an example of a form to be used to make proposed changes to the Constitution in the future, seconded by Past Grand President, Mel Lundberg. The Vote was 25 in favor 2 opposed, The Grand President ruled the motion adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized James Olef Jensen, Danmark #2 who moved to adopt topic number 4 as it relates to funds of the Grand Lodge, second by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and there were 32 votes cast which required a vote of 22 in favor to pass, the motion having received 27 in favor and 5 opposed the Grand President ruled the motion adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized James Olef Jensen, Danmark #2 who moved to adopt topic number 5 as it relates to use of gender in the constitution, second by John Jensen, Danmark #2. Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen moved to amend the motion to require the Committee on Laws to address all of the places where ambiguity exist with the addition of a plural pronoun be corrected by the Committee, second by Past Grand President Tom Martin. The motion to amend the motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and there were 35 votes cast which required a vote of 24 in favor to pass, the motion having received 29 in favor and 6 opposed the Grand President ruled the amendment to the motion adopted. The motion as amended requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and there were 32 votes cast which required a vote of 22 in favor to pass, the motion having

received 32 in favor and 0 opposed the Grand President ruled the motion as amended adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized Past Grand President Tom Martin, Danmark #2 who moved to table all the remaining topics until next year's Convention, seconded by Jr. Past Grand President Daniel Joensen, Danmark #2. The Grand Secretary rose for a point of information and stated that the motion referred to topic number 2, number 3 and number 6. The Grand President called for the vote without debate The Vote was 25 in favor 6 opposed, The Grand President ruled the motion adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber declared a Coffee recess at 10:00 A.M. to reconvene at 10:15 A.M.

Grand President John Scheuber asked for all those who were not in the morning session to stand, there being no one standing, he reconvened the meeting.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized Tim Heer, Freja #6 who moved to request a special Committee to assist all committees with issues related to the Constitution to be appointed at some time during the year, seconded by Past Grand President Roger Gearhart. The Vote was 20 in favor 10 opposed, The Grand President ruled the motion adopted.

Grand President John Scheuber Recognized James Olef Jensen, Danmark #2 who moved to allow the incoming Grand President to create a Committee on Laws at any time before the next convention, seconded by Past Grand President Tom Martin. After some debate the proposer withdrew his motion before a vote was taken as allowed in Article VIII Section 2

Nomination and election of Grand Officers

The Grand President appointed Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23, Past Grand President, Robert Lacey, Danneskjold #17, and Past Grand President, Steen Skjellerup, Thor #5 as Tellers and he gave the instructions to the tellers on how to process the votes.

Past Grand President, Thomas Martin, Danmark #2, moved that in the case of one nominee that the Grand Secretary is to cast the ballot. Grand Secretary, Tim Heer, Freja #6, moved to amend the motion that in the event of the Grand Secretary nominee, that the Grand Treasurer will cast the ballot and in the case of the Grand Vice President the Grand Vice Marshal shall take the Ballot Box to the Tellers second by Grand Treasurer, Gregory A. Gleeson, Thyra #9. The Grand President ruled the motion adopted.

The Grand President opened the nomination of Grand Officers for 2019-2020. The following were nominated and elected individually.

Grand President	John Scheuber Bornholm #14	he very respectfully declined
	Jana Heer-Glovaski	Freja #6
Grand Vice President	Bente Ellis	Bornholm #14
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	Freja #6
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson	Thyra #9
Grand Marshal	Thomas Martin	Danmark #2
Grand Vice Marshal	Lilian Rasmussen	Bornholm #14 She very respectfully declined

The Grand President asked for an understanding regarding having the Office of Grand Vice Marshal left vacant.

The Grand Secretary expressed the opinion that the Grand President has the authority to fill a vacancy of a Grand Office, and that he would consider the office of Grand Vice Marshal as being vacant.

Grand Trustee #1	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Bornholm #14
Grand Trustee #2	Peder Hoy	Bornholm #14
Grand Trustee #3	Roger Gearhart	Danmark #2 he respectfully declined
	Robert Lamee	Dannevang #7

Grand President John Scheuber thanked and dismissed the tellers

The Grand President entertained a motion to hold an open joint installation of Grand Officer with the Grand Lodge of Dannebrog. Past Grand President Thomas Martin, Danmark #2 so moved and seconded by James Olef Jensen, Danmark #2. The vote was ruled unanimous by the Grand President, the motion was adopted.

The Grand President requested the Grand Marshal to go and invite the Grand Lodge of Dannebrog to join with us in an open, joint, installation at 2:00 P.M.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Past Grand President Thomas Martin who thanked everyone for their support in electing him as the Grand Marshal and allowing him to go through the line again.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Bent Olsen who was thankful to be able to supply this Convention with pastry and goodies and over the years but with new laws in affect and Convention centers changing he does not see how he is going to be able to continue that in the future, unless convention are held in private Halls in the future. The Grand President thanked Bent for all of years of suppling refreshments to the Grand Lodge and as he is a part of the convention committee next year he will be looking into the issue and see if they cannot make sure that Bent does have access to the kitchen in Modesto. John Jensen, Danmark #2 moved that we only hold Conventions where Bent will be allowed to provide us with his wonderful Pastry. It was seconded but a vote on the motion was not taken.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Past Grand President Mel Lundberg took the opportunity to congratulate our native son of Ferndale on agreeing to except the Office of Grand Marshal again.

The Grand President; called on the Grand Marshal to report on her visit with the Grand Lodge of Dannebrog. She reported that they have accepted our invitation to hold a joint installation at 2:00 P.M.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Ole Pedersen, Freja #6 who expressed his thanks and congratulation for a very productive and successful Convention.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Past Grand President Thomas Martin who thanked the hard working Constitutional Revision Committee for all their effort in getting this prepared for this convention.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized The Grand Secretary who also thanked the Constitutional Revision Committee for all their work because it brought our Constitution to the forefront where it gave an opportunity for all of our members to have a greater understanding of our Constitution.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23 who express his thoughts as to how educational this Convention has been.

The Grand President John Scheuber; recognized The Grand Secretary who requested that we revert back to New Business for the purpose of making a motion to change our Constitution. The change had been included in the Constitutional Revision Committee presentation but was omitted from any of the 6 topics. As the whole proposal of the Constitutional Revision Committee had been reviewed by the Committee on Laws, The Grand Secretary moved to adopt the Constitutional Revision Committee recommendation regarding ARTICLE 1 Section 1 which is to remove the extra “of” in our name so that the corrected Name shall be “The Danish Society Dania of California and Nevada” second by John Jensen, Danmark #2. The Grand President called the meeting under New Business and called for the vote. The motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, the Grand President ruled the vote was unanimous and the motion adopted.

The Grand President instructed the Grand Marshal to escort the Grand President-elect Jana Heer-Glovaski to the podium.

Grand President-elect Jana Heer-Glovaski thanked everyone for this successful Convention. She explained why she joined Dannebrog and Dania and her vast family history which included a Great Grand Father who was born in Danmark and was a charter Member of Freja #6 in 1892. It included her Grand Mother who was born in Hayward in 1876 to Danish parents and was a charter member of Dana #15 in 1920. She took the opportunity to thank those present from Freja #6 and Danmark #2 for their years of support and friendship, along with others who have inspired her and have kept her going. She ended her remarks that she is very proud to be the third Dania Grand President to wear mascara.

Presidents Advisor:	Past Grand President, Tim Heer, Freja #6
Advisory Committee	Past Grand President, Steen Skjellerup, Thor#5 Past Grand President, Lilian Rasmussen, Bornholm #14 To be named Later
Auditors	Past Grand President, Robert Lacey, Danneskjold #17 Past Grand President, Steen Skjellerup, Thor#5 Past Grand President, Lilian Rasmussen, Bornholm #14
Nomination Committee	Jr Past Grand President, John Scheuber, Bornholm #14 To be named Later
Membership Committee:	Ole Pedersen, Freja #6 John Jensen, Danmark #2 To be named Later
Legacy Committee	Past Grand President Roger Gearhart, Danmark #2 Past Grand President Mel Lundberg, Valhalla #11 To be named Later
Web Committee:	Past Grand President Tim Heer, Freja #6 Past Grand President John Johansen, Bornholm #14

History committee Past Grand President Roger Gearhart, Danmark #2
Past Grand President Tim Heer, Freja #6
The First Representative of each Branch

Constitution Committee To be announced latter

She announced her personal goal to bring Dania and Dannebrog closer together and come to know each better.

She announced her appropriate Password for the year.

At the conclusion of Grand President-elect Jana Heer-Glovaski remarks, the Grand President John Scheuber instructed the Grand Marshal to escort her back to her station and thanked her for her remarks.

Grand President John Scheuber instructed the Grand Marshal to escort the Resolution Committee to the podium.

Resolution Committee report: the Resolutions were read by the Resolution Committee, John Jensen, Danmark #2, Karen Friis Lysmer, Sønderjylland #10 and Grand Marshal, Bente Ellis, Bornholm #14 (**See addendum**)

The Grand President; recognized Grand Secretary, Tim Heer who moved to except the report of the Resolution Committee, second by Past Grand President Roger Gearhart, Danmark #2. The Grand President ruled the vote was unanimous and the motion was adopted.

The Grand President recognized Bent Olsen, Hejls Minde #23, who thanked Grand President John Scheuber for a wonderful year as Grand President then led the group in singing a medley of Danish drinking songs as part of a tradition that should never be forgotten.

Grand President John Scheuber led the singing of God Bless America. He then declared the 139th annual convention closed and asked for the closing sign at 11:50 A.M.

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

2019- 2020 DANIA GRAND OFFICERS

Jr, Past Grand President	John Scheuber	Bornholm #14
Grand President	Jana Heer-Glovaski	Freja #6
Grand Vice President	Bente Ellis	Bornholm #14
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer	Freja #6
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson	Thyra #9
Grand Marshal	Thomas Martin	Danmark #2
Grand Vice Marshal		
Grand Trustee #1	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Bornholm #14
Grand Trustee #2	Peder Hoy	Bornholm #14
Grand Trustee #3	Robert Lamee	Dannevang #7

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

List of all Past Grand Presidents of Daina

Year installed		Name	Branch
1880-84	*	O.F. Westphal	Oden #1
1884-87	*	Fred Petersen	Oden #1
1887-89	*	Thorvald Orlob	Oden #1
1889-92	*	James Madison	Danmark #2
1892-93	*	John H. Lytgens	Danmark #2
1893-94	*	Halvor J.T. Jacobsen	Thor #5
1894-95	*	Halvor J.T. Jacobsen	Thor #5
1895-96	*	Halvor J.T. Jacobsen	Thor #5
1896-97	*	C.P. Jensen	Dagmar #8
1897-98	*	O.P. Kielsen	Thor #5
1898-99	*	Jacob Petersen	Danmark #2
1899-00	*	Carl Plow	Sonderjylland #10
1900-01	*	Johannes Sandholdt	Thyra #9
1901-02	*	Hans Ahrenberg	Thor #5
1902-03	*	H. C. Hermansen	Oden #1
1903-04	*	F. W. Andreasen	Valhalla #11
1904-05	*	Carl Rasmussen	Skamlingsbanken #20
1905-07	*	Robert Nelson	Valdemar #12
1907-08	*	Peter C. Krogh	Hejmdal #4
1908-09	*	Carl Holm	Dannevang #7
1909-10	*	Hans Sorensen	Thyra #9
1910-11	*	H.P. Vogensen	Sonderjylland #10
1911-12	*	H. P. Mathiesen	Dannebrog #16
1912-13	*	C. W. Hansen	Helga #3
1913-14	*	C. H. Duborg	Valdemar #12
1914-15	*	Martin Eriksen	Valhalla #11
1915-16	*	Martin L. Cramer	Danmark #2
1916-17	*	John C. Scott	Oden #1
1917-18	*	Jens T. Lund	Freja #6
1918-19	*	Ole Christopher	Danneskjold #17
1919-20	*	Peter Petersen	Helga #3
1920-21	*	Hans Vejby	Thyra #9
1921-22	*	Anton B. Ibsen	Hejls Minde #23
1922-23	*	John Christensen	Valhalla #11
1923-24	*	Christian Iversen	Danmark #2
1924-25	*	J. P. Knudsen	Oden #1
1925-26	*	Carl Jorgensen	Thor #5
1926-27	*	Finn Andersen	Danmark #2
1927-28	*	Hans J. Sorensen	Bornholm #14
1928-29	*	Peter Sorensen	Dannevirke #24
1929-30	*	P. A. Nielsen	Oden #1
1930-31	*	Albert L. Christopher	Danneskjold #17
1931-32	*	Viggo C. Dahl	Danmark #2
1932-33	*	Henry Gilling	Helga #3
1933-34	*	Iver Frydendahl	Dannevang #7
1934-35	*	Marius Petersen	Valdemar #12
1935-36	*	Carl Fauerso	Bornholm #14
1936-37	*	Marius Kristensen	Helga #3
1937-38	*	Janes Martensen	Dagmar #8

1938-39	*	Clifton M Anthonsen	Vitus Berhring #18
1939-40	*	Andy Madsen	Thor #5
1940-41	*	Hans Skytt	Hejls Minde #23
1941-42	*	C.H. Gregers	Oden #1
1942-43	*	James Bach	Danneskjold #17
1943-44	*	E. Jurvig	Danmark #2
1944-45	*	Ted Petersen	Bornholm #14
1945-46	*	Ted Petersen	Bornholm #14
1946-47	*	Peter J. Juhl	Freja #6
1947-48	*	Albert Henriksen	Vitus Berhring #18
1948-49	*	Julius Hansen	Thor #5
1949-50	*	Carl Jensen	Holger Danske #27
1950-51	*	Jim Nielsen	Helga #3
1951-52	*	Hans C Jorgensen	Thyra #9
1952-53	*	Asmund Andersen	Vitus Berhring #18
1953-54	*	Chris Pedersen	Danmark #2
1954-55	*	Clement Miller	Valhalla #11
1955-56	*	Raymond Olsen	Bornholm #14
1956-57	*	Walter Christensen	Helga #3
1957-58	*	Art Christopher	Danneskjold #17
1958-59	*	Melvin Oredsen	Oden #1
1959-60	*	Ted Poulsen	Hejmdal #4
1960-61	*	Knud Clausen	Dannebrog #16
1961-62	*	Corrad Moldt	Dannevang #7
1962-63	*	Knud Weaver	Danmark #2
1963-64	*	Arthur N. Clements	Bornholm #14
1964-65	*	Hans J Therp	Sonderjylland #10
1965-66	*	Robert L. Lind	Thor #5
1966-67	*	Henry G. Kari	Hejls Minde #23
1967-68	*	Jorgen Rasmussen	Danmark #2
1968-69	*	Peter Brix	Thyra #9
1969-70		James Jorgensen	Bornholm #14
1970-71	*	Bjarne H. Carstens	Danmark #2
1971-72	*	Burton F. Skow	Danneskjold #17
1972-73	*	Holger Carstensen	Hejls Minde #23
1973-74	*	Borge Nielsen	Odin #1
1974-75	*	Dan Mogensen	Thor #5
1975-76	*	Clyde G. Brown	Dagmar #8
1976-77	*	Paul W. Andersen	Danneskjold #17
1977-78	*	Svend Christian	Freja #6
1978-80	*	Niels Wolter Hansen	Thyra #9
1980-81	*	Howard J. Krogh	Bornholm #14
1981-82		Stuart O. Mahler	Thyra #9
1982-83	*	Lawrence C. Bentzen	Sønderjylland #10
1983-84	*	Jan A. Walker	Freja #6
1984-85	*	Reynold F. Nielsen	Thor #5
1985-86	*	Terje Schiller	Danneskjold #17
1986-87		Peder Hoy	Bornholm #14
1987-88	*	Fred H. Mahler	Thyra #9
1988-89	*	Erik Jensen	Thor #5
1989-90	*	Arthur Reinstein	Dannevang #7
1990-91	*	Norman Dalgaard	Hejmdal #4

1991-92		Glenn A. Fritz	Danmark #2
1992-93		Gregory Gleeson	Thyra #9
1993-94	*	Graham Sorensen	Bornholm #14
1994-95		Alan D. Filiau	Thyra #9
1995-96	*	Henning O. Petersen	Danmark #2
1996-97		Allen Thomsen	Dannevang #7
1997-98		Robert Sorensen	Bornholm #14
1998-99	*	Arthur J. Jensen	Thor #5
1999-00		Tim Heer	Freja #6
2000-01	*	Gunnar Nielsen	Thor #5
2001-02	*	Tedd Matusiewicz	Dannevang #7
2002-03		Hugo Rasmussen	Bornholm #14
2003-04		Kaj Kristensen	Danmark #2
2004-05		Arne Graversgaard	Freja #6
2005-06		Robert Lacey	Danneskjold #17
2006-07		John Johansen	Bornholm #14
2007-08		Stanly Kjar	Thor #5
2008-09	*	John Champagne	Bornholm #14
2009-10		Roger Gearhart	Danmark #2
2010-11		Lilian Rasmussen	Sønderjylland #10
2011-12	*	Kurt Høj	Hejls Mnde #23
2012-13		Johanne Gade	Bornholm #14
2013-14		Mel Lundberg	Valhalla #11
2014-15		Robert Shall	Hejmdal #4
2015-16		Thomas Martin	Danmark #2
2016-17		Steen Skjellerup	Thor #5
2017-18		Daniel Joensen	Danmark #2
2018-19		John Schueber	Bornholm #14
	*	Deceased	

Dania Member of the Year Award

Name	Year	Branch
*Chris Pedersen	1990	Danmark 2
*Melvin Oredsen	1991	Odin 1
Greg Gleeson	1992	Thyra 9
*Knud Ove Knudsen	1993	Danmark 2
*Raymond P. Olsen	1994	Bornholm 14
*Reynold F. Nielsen	1995	Thor 5
*Sigurd Thomsen	1996	Dannevang 7
*Ralph N. Kerr	1997	Thyra 9
*Dan Mogensen	1998	Thor 5
*Elmer C. Jorgensen	1999	Thyra 9
*Fred H. Mahler	2000	Thyra 9
Peder Hoy	2001	Bornholm 14
*Burton Skow	2002	Danneskjold 17
*Henning O. Petersen	2003	Danmark 2
*Norman Dalgaard	2004	Hejmdal 4
James Jorgensen	2005	Bornholm 14
Carl Jensen	2006	Thor 5
John Johansen	2007	Bornholm 14
Kaj Kristensen	2008	Danmark 2
Stuart O Mahler	2009	Thyra 9
Stanley Kjar	2010	Thor 5
Francis Sweet	2011	Valhalla 11
Tim Heer	2012	Freja 6
*Kurt Høj	2013	Hejls Minde 23
Roger Gearhart	2014	Danmark #2
Johanne Rasmussen Gade	2015	Bornholm #14
Rowland McNeil	2016	Thyra 9
Glen Fritz	2017	Danmark #2
Mel Lundberg	2018	Valhalla #11
Robert Lacey	2019	Danneskjold #17
* Denoted Deceased		

139th Dania Convention Delegates

Grand Officers		4/12	4/13	Representatives		4/12	4/13	Representatives		4/12	4/13
Jr. Past Gr. Pres.	Daniel Joensen	X	X	Danmark #2				Valhalla #11			
Grand President	John Schueber	X	X	John Jensen		X	X	PGP Mel Lundberg		X	X
Grand Vice President	Jana Heer			Robert Fox		X	X	Daniel Barney			
Grand Secretary	Glovaski	X	X	James Jensen		X	X				
Grand Treasurer	Tim Heer	X	X	Peter Christensen		X	X				
Grand Marshal	Gregory Gleeson	X	X	Alt Anne Marie Maris				Valdemar #12			
Grand V. Marshal **	Bente Ellis	X	X					Leif Larsen		X	X
Grand Trustee	Michael Vanderbeck										
	James "Jim" Jensen	X	X								
Grand Trustee	PGP Johanne Gade	X	X								
Grand Trustee	PGP Peder Hoy	X	X								
		9	9	Thor #5				Bornholm #14			
Past Grand Presidents				PGP Steen Skjellerup		X	X	Bodil Whitehouse		X	X
		4/12	4/13	Jerry Hansen		X	X	Max Stowers			
James Jorgensen	Bornholm #14							Doris Juul Hoy		X	X
Stuart O. Mahler	Thyra #9			Freja #6				Alt George Dutra		X	X
Peder Hoy	Bornholm #14	X	X	Ole M Pedersen		X	X				
Glen A. Fritz	Danmark #2							Danneskjold #17			
Gregory Gleeson	Thyra #9	X	X					PGP Robert Lacey		X	X
Alan D. Filiau	Thyra #9							Lee Dove		X	X
Allen Thomsen	Dannevang #7			Dannevang #7							
Robert Sorensen	Bornholm #14			Gregg DiMartino		X	X	Hejls Minde #23			
Tim Heer	Freja #6	X	X	Robert Lamee		X	X	Bent Olsen		X	X
Hugo Rasmussen	Bornholm #14			Dan Holm		X	X	Finn Rurge		X	X
Kaj Kristensen	Danmark #2			Tracey Lamee		X	X				
Arne Graversgaard	Freja #6	X	X	Thyra #9							
Robert Lacey	Danneskjold #17	X	X	PGP Gregory A. Gleeson Esq		X	X	Holger Danske #27			
John Johansen	Bornholm #14										
Stanley Kjar	Thor #5										
Roger Gearhart	Danmark #2	X	X								
Lilian Rasmussen	Sønderjylland #10	X	X								
Johanne Rasmussen	Bornholm #14	X	X	Sønderjylland #10							
Gade	Valhalla #11	X	X	Karen Fris Lysmer		X	X				
Mel Lundberg	Hejmdal #4			John Cruger-Hansen		X	X				
Bob Schall	Danmark #2	X	X	Alt Debbie Cruger-Hansen							
Thomas Martin	Thor #5	X	X								
Steen Skjellerup											
		11	11			14	14			9	9

Sub Grand V. Marshal

**	PGP Lilian Rasmussen		
		X	X

Dania Executive Board meeting held on March 16, 2019 at the Cattlemen's Restaurant, Livermore California.

Present:

Daniel Joensen	Jr. Past Grand President	Danmark#2 and Chairperson
John Schueber	Grand President	Bornholm #14
James "Jim" Jensen	Grand Trustee #1	Danmark #2
PGP Johanne Gade	Grand Trustee #2	Bornholm #14
PGP Peder Hoy	Grand Trustee #3	Bornholm #14
Jana Heer Glovaski	Grand Vice President,	Freja #6 (non voting)
Tim Heer	Grand Secretary	Freja #6 (non voting)

Meeting was called to order by Jr Grand Past President Daniel Joensen at 10:00 A.M.

The Chairman asked the Grand Secretary to call the roll of the members in attendance. **Dania Memorial Scholarship:**

the Grand Secretary explained that the financial status of the of the Scholarship Fund. The Fund did not have an increase in value. After much discussion it was moved by James "Jim" Jensen, Grand Trustee #1 to award one Scholarship to the only applicant, Sonja Giacinto Member of Danneskjold #17, the amount of \$500.00 taking it from the principle of the Fund, Seconded by Grand President, John Schueber. The Chairman ruled the motion approved.

Dania Scholarship:

James "Jim" Jensen, Grand Trustee #1, moved to remove the application for consideration from the member who was just awardee the Dania Memorial Scholarship from the Dania, Scholarship list. Seconded by PGP Peder Hoy, Grand Trustee #3, the motion was adopted.

After reviewing the remaining four application PGP Johanne Gade Grand Trustee #2, move to award the remaining four applicants for the Dania Scholarship \$300.00 each. Seconded by PGP Peder Hoy, Grand Trustee #3, the motion was unanimously adopted. Those awarded were Leonard J Giacinto submitted by Danneskjold #17; Brenna White submitted by Danneskjold #17; Aaron Holt, a Member of Thor #5; and Kaelie Martin-Mahler submitted by Thyra #9.

The Grand Secretary requested permission to rewrite the application to make them less confusing for the applicant to fill out. PGP Johanne Gade Grand Trustee #2, moved to allow the Grand Secretary to revise the applications, Seconded by Grand President, John Schueber, the motion was unanimously adopted.

Dania Member of the year:

After reviewing the deserving nominees, a vote was called for and the committee unanimously elected PGP Robert Lacey as the 2018 Member of the Year.

New Business:

Grand President, John Schueber, presented a proposal from PGP Roger Gearhart regarding a Legacy Gift committee. The Committee voiced their opinions regarding the concept.

Grand President, John Schueber brought up and asked the committee for their opinions regarding how the proposed changes should be handled and it was the consensus of the committee that the February 1st document should not be changed but presented as it was distributed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

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

Legacy Gift to Dania

Presentation

We recognize that DANIA has been chronically short of funds for many years. Consequently, there have been appeals for donations, largely funded by the larger and more prosperous branches. Recently, the semiannual tax was considerably increased. However, the problem of shortage of funds has not gone away. And I am certain that the members would like to have the semiannual tax decreased.

Grand President John Scheuber asked me to form a committee to address the issue and, specifically, to explore the possibility of creating a Legacy Gift proposal. I asked Peter Hoy, Henrik Nielsen and Daniel Joensen to join me on the committee; the Grand President is an *ex officio* member of all committees.

I solicited input from the committee and used other sources to explore the concept. Now, on behalf of the committee, I am able to make this presentation.

A Legacy is a written commitment for a bequeath donation to be funded upon one's death. The gift can be a specific dollar amount, property (such as real estate, vehicles, stocks, bonds, artwork, tangible goods, etc.) or as a fractional amount of a Trust or Estate. Most commonly, it would probably be in the form of a fixed dollar amount funded from a Trust.

Legacy Gifts can be allocated for a specific purpose: for example, to the Dania General Fund, the Dania Memorial Scholarship Fund, the Senior Assistance Fund, or to a more narrow purpose.

The Grand Secretary would create a list of "Legacy Donors" and a list of all Legacy Donors would appear monthly in the Dania/Dannebrog Newsletter. As Gifts are received, the Donor's name will be continued to honored, perhaps in an additional category.

The Grand Secretary would also report, to the extent that it is known, the total dollar amount of the Legacy Gifts proposed. However, it may be that the donor would submit the Legacy Gift to the Grand Secretary in doubly sealed envelopes with instructions that they would be opened only upon the death of the Donor.

Upon the death of the Donor, the Grand Secretary would communicate with the Donor's family, Estate Attorney and/or other appropriate individuals to make arrangements to receive the bequeath. It is recognized that there may well be an extended period of time to finalize.

A simple Legacy Gift form has been drafted and a copy of it is included in this handout. There are more complicated bequeaths that could be made. Those are best left for discussion and drafting with the Donor's advisors

I truly appreciate all of the wonderful friends and experiences I have had as a member of Dania. I know I am not alone in that regard. Speaking from my personal experience, I have

wanted for a very long time to make a suitable bequeath for Dania. However, it has not been done. Therefore, I wish to be one of the first to do so today.

Anticipated questions:

1. Can the Legacy Gift be modified or rescinded? Yes.
2. Could one do a Legacy Gift to a Local Branch? Yes.
3. Could one do a Legacy Gift to host a specific function? Yes.
4. Could one do multiple Legacy Gifts. Yes.
5. Suppose I already have a Legacy in place?
 - a. Present the Grand Secretary with the information with appropriate documentation.
 - b. Dania sincerely appreciates your plans for a Legacy Gift.
6. Should we include Dannebrog? Better to leave it up to them.
7. Can we trust the confidentiality Grand Secretary? Let us hope so.
8. Should a Special Legacy Committee be formed? Up to the members.
9. Action to be taken at the 2019 Convention:
 - a. Open discussion
 - b. Vote on the concept
 - c. Vote to accept the form
 - d. Encourage all members to consider a Legacy Gift.
10. Problems would be addressed by the Law Committee and/or the Executive Committee, as appropriate.
11. The Grand Secretary will acknowledge the receipt of a Legacy Gift with an appropriate letter of appreciation: a representative letter is yet to be drafted (this may require a committee).
12. Does the Legacy Concept really solve our financial dilemma?
 - a. Certainly not in the short term.
 - b. Most probably, in the long run.

Submitted April 12, 2019 by Roger Gearhart, Past Grand President

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to the Danish Society of California and Nevada, FID 94-1540241, the sum of \$ _____, or _____% of the value of my/our trust herein named: _____. The funds are to be applied as follows: _____. Should the Danish Society of California and Nevada is no longer in existence and there is not a successor to the Society, this gift shall lapse and be of no effect.

February 1, 2019

To: Dania Grand Officers
Past Grand Presidents
All Branch Secretaries
From: The Dania Constitution Revision Committee
Re: Suggested Revisions to our Dania Constitution

Background:

Over that past 3 years, much effort has gone into updating our Dania Constitution. A committee was formed in the 2016-17 year which included: Roger Gearhart, Tom Martin, Peder Hoy, Bob Schall and John Scheuber. They worked all year and were ready to present their recommendations at the 2017 Convention for a vote. However, just prior to that topic, the concept of merging or blending Dania and Dannebrog was presented, and it was decided to postpone those considerations until a decision was made on the merger topic. John Scheuber, as the new Grand President, appointed a new Constitutional Review Committee including: Johanne Gade, Tom Martin, Bente Ellis and Bob Lamee.

In August of 2018, the committee sent out suggested revisions and solicited feedback from all the current Grand Officers, many Past Grand Presidents and all branches. The committee has been extremely pleased with the number of responses, and many of the suggested changes have now been incorporated into this new version.

The Committee, in its preparation of these revisions, made certain that:

1. The suggested changes do not detrimentally impact the tradition of the Grand Lodge.
2. The suggested changes do not detrimentally impact our tax status.
3. The changes remove some redundancy in some places where duplication should be avoided.

To Prepare for Convention:

The revised constitutional changes, with your feedback incorporated, are being sent to you now so that all Delegates, Grand Officers, and Past Grand Presidents can study these changes and be ready to discuss and cast their vote at Convention. We hope each branch will discuss these revisions in detail and take a position to pass on to their delegates.

The Committee has summarized these constitutional revisions into the topical areas that follow, to facilitate discussion and voting. Keep in mind that a motion will need to be made to Suspend the Rules to allow us to proceed by voting on this complex matter.

Topic 1: Define Existing Standing Committees and Add Some New Permanent Committees

Background

Over the years there have been a limited number of standing committees, but not all of them are well defined, or the process of selection is not well stated. In addition, the committee believes we are suggesting committees that have been used for several years or more and are not listed as they should be. Some committees, such as the Ritual and Constitution Committees, are appointed only when needed; this is fully understood and there is a provision to do just that.

Committee Recommendation

Include definitions for each committee; those newly added committees be a part of each year's committee assignments as they provide and important function.

The Motion

Move to add new definitions and newly added committees as noted. Updates are contained in the following locations within the Constitution:

Page	Article	Section		Page	Article	Section
8	VI	1		9	VI	3
9	VI	2		9	VI	4

Topic 2: Eliminate outdated or unused practices within the Grand Lodge and Local Branches and replace with current practices and terminology

Background

Some practices in the Constitution are no longer used or are performed differently than documented. Page number, article, and section is referenced with each item.

Committee Recommendation

- a) Replace outdated or unused practices within the **within the Grand Lodge** with current practices and terminology, specifically those shown below:
 - 1) Historically, a quorum was determined to be satisfied if two-thirds of the branch delegates were present. Since approximately half of the voting attendees are current Grand Officers and Past Grand Presidents, the Committee believes the two-thirds requirements should apply to all of the representatives (Delegates, Grand Officers, and Past Grand Presidents) versus only the Branch Delegates. (P5, Art. III, Sec. 7)
 - 2) State the objective of the Grand Lodge is to announce the site of the next three (3) annual conventions. (P6, Art. III, Sec. 8)
 - 3) Add Local Branch Past President to the list of those eligible for election as a Grand Lodge Officer (P7, Art. V, Sec. 1)
 - 4) Reference monies paid to the Grand Officers as a "draw", and state that draws are voted on annually at the Convention. (P10, Art. VII, Sec. 1)
 - 5) Incorporate additional verbiage making the use of bonds and blanks for bonds optional and not required. (P10, Art. VII, Sec. III; P16, Art. IX, Sec. 5; P18, Art. IX, Sec. 9)
 - 6) When a presentation is made to the Executive Committee for approval, the presenter may make the presentation and stay on to clarify any questions, but has no voting rights. This is especially true if the topic relates to the local branch of a current Grand Officer serving on the Executive Committee. (P18, Art. X, Sec. 2)
 - 7) State the yearly per capita tax will be voted on at convention. (P20, Art. XI, Sec. 3)
 - 8) Replace the term "salaries" with "draws". (P21, Art. XI, Sec. 3)
 - 9) Incorporate additional definitions for "Primary Members", define "Secondary Members", redefine "Honorary Members", and "Honorary Life Members". (P31-32, Art. XXI, Sec. 2-9)
- b) Replace outdated or unused practices **within the Local Branches** with current practices and terminology, specifically those shown below:
 - 1) Increase the notification time to the Grand Secretary from four (4) to six (6) months for convention details (P5, Art. III, Sec. 3)

- 2) Reduce the number of members needed to start a branch from twenty (20) to ten (10) (P22/Art. XII/Sec. 2)
- 3) Redefine the number of members required granting a temporary charter from ten (10) to six (6). (P22, Art. XII, Sec. 3)
- 4) Redefine the number of branch meetings annually required to maintain a charter from one (1) general meeting each month to three (3) meetings per year. (P23, Art. XIII, Sec. 3)
- 5) Include email addresses (if applicable) to the list of items maintained in the branch membership file. (P24, Art. XIII, Sec 13)
- 6) Update the list of local branch officers to reflect current practices (Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Secretary offices and Property Custodian). (P24, Art. XIV, Sec. 1)
- 7) State that auditors may not be authorized signers on branch bank accounts and other financial holdings. (P24, Art. XIV, Sec. 1)
- 8) Eliminate the statement that if a local branch does not have a special sick benefit fund, sick benefits shall have a first right of lien on and upon all of the assets of the local branch. (P26, Art. XV, Sec. 3)
- 9) Redefine the process for approving and auditing bills to reflect current practices performed by the majority of the local branches. (P27, Art. XVII)
- 10) Incorporate additional verbiage making the use of warrants optional and not required. (P27, Art. XVII)
- 11) Eliminate the requirement to present a medical certificate for members transferring to another branch. (P33, Art. XXII, Sec. 2)
- 12) Remove the reference to clearance cards and replace with receipts to indicate a member was in good standing upon withdrawal from a branch. (P34, Art. XXIII, Sec. 1)

The Motion

Move to update the Constitution to eliminate outdated or unused practices within the Grand Lodge and Local Branches and replace with current practices and terminology. Updates are contained in the locations referenced in the items listed above.

Topic 3: Additional motions that are acceptable parliamentary moves to be utilized in meetings and convention

Background

The current listing of motions is not adequate to address many situations that may occur during a session.

Committee Recommendation

The Committee believes that a number of motions currently in use are not listed as acceptable motions in the existing Constitution. It is recommended, that the additional motions be added to allow parliamentary maneuvers to be made to clarify a position, challenge the Chair, if needed, and to help resolve the main motion being addressed.

The Motion

Move to update the Constitution to incorporate additional parliamentary maneuvers. Updates are contained in the following locations within the Constitution:

Page	Article	Section		Page	Article	Section
11	VIII	3		12	VIII	6*
11	VIII	4		12	VIII	7*
12	VIII	5*				

*Also applies to Topic 6

Topic 4. Eliminate references to funds that are no longer used.

Background

Historically, all of the funds were maintained based on a greater need within the general membership. Today these funds are only used for members who do not have a branch membership and belong to the Grand Lodge only. Normally the local branch covers this responsibility. In recent years all of the Sick, Burial and Funeral Benefits have been paid from the Grand Lodge General Fund and properly account for.

Committee Recommendation

Remove references to those funds that are not used (Funeral and Burial Trustees' Fund and Sick Benefits Trustees' Fund). For those funds that are still used (Funeral and Burial Fund and Sick Benefits Fund), update the Constitution to state they are included in the General Fund and accounted for separately. This update will reflect how these funds are currently being accounted for.

The Motion

Move to update the Constitution to: (1) remove references to the Funeral and Burial Trustees' Fund and the Sick Benefits Trustees' Fund; and (2) add language to reflect the Funeral and Burial Fund and Sick Benefits Fund are included in the General Fund.

Page	Article	Section		Page	Article	Section
4	II	4		27	XVI	3
20-22	XI	2-6		29	XIX	3

Topic 5: Update the Constitution to reflect a more diverse membership.

Background

In the back of the Constitution, a revision states that all of these male references can be converted to "him/her" or "he/she". In light of the greater diversity of our community, this is an opportunity to update the Constitution to reflect this change.

Committee Recommendation

Update the Constitution to reflect gender-neutral pronouns.

The Motion

Move to update the Constitution to reflect gender-neutral pronouns throughout.

Topic 6: Clarify the Terms Delegate and Representative

Background

Over the years, the term Delegate has had different definitions and been used inconsistently. Historically, many would say those who are elected from the local branch are often referred to as Delegates. The term Representative has seldom been used verbally, but is documented in our Constitution.

Committee Recommendation

Anyone who is a representative of their local branch will be referred to as a **Delegate**. The term **Representative** will be used as an all-inclusive term to define all voting attendees at the convention, to include (1) Delegates; (2) Grand Officers; (3) Past Grand Presidents.

The Motion

That all provisions of the Constitution be revised to comply with the definitions stated above. Updates are contained in the following locations within the Constitution:

Page	Article	Section		Page	Article	Section
3	II	1		6	III	10
4	II	3		7	IV	2 - 8
5	III	5		7	V	1
6	III	7		12	VIII	5-8, 10, 12
6	III	9		25	XIV	8

Our Timeline

1. By September 1, 2018 - Send out the Suggested Constitutional Revisions to all Grand Officers and to each Branch to solicit their response. We suggest that the local President appoint a committee of 3-5 to study these revisions, present them to the branch for discussion and send their final feedback to the Grand Lodge Dania Constitution Revision Committee. **Completed**
2. By December 31, 2018 – Summarize responses from the Branches and revise the Constitutional Revision Document. **Completed**
3. By February 1, 2019 – Send the final revision of the Constitution to each Branch in time for all branches to study and prepare their Delegates for the branch's position as they prepare for convention.
4. From February 1 to April 11 – Have an open dialog with each branch to answer questions and identify any concerns that may need to be addressed during Convention.
5. April 11-13, 2019 – Present the revisions at Convention for discussion, voting and implementation.

Dania Constitution Revision Committee

Bente Ellis, Chair – bentefr@comcast.net

Johanna Gade – 209-847-0448

Tom Martin – thomm1@comcast.net

Bob Lamee – robertlamee@yahoo.com

John Scheuber, Ex Officio – john.scheuber@vsi.cc, 209-541-4092



SUGGESTED REVISIONS TO THE DANIA CONSTITUTION
SUBMITTED BY
CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMMITTEE

In 2016-2017, this committee included: John Scheuber, Chair, Roger Gearhart, Bob Schall, Peder Hoy, and Tom Martin. After several meetings and obtaining feedback from the branches, they were to make a proposal at the 2017 Convention. When the possibility of a merger came up, it was decided to wait and see the outcome of that first. When that failed at the 2018 Convention, Grand President, John Scheuber, appointed a new committee to continue the work of the previous committee. The new committee included: Bente Ellis (chair), Johanne Gade, Tom Martin, and Bob Lamee; John Scheuber acted as the Ex Officio member. Our charge was to update the Danie Constitution by: (1) eliminating those areas no longer relevant, and (2) completing an overall review to update terminology with detrimentally affecting the tradition that should be carried forward. The new committee has met twice and is now ready to distribute its revisions to the Branches for review and feedback between August and December. It is our goal to present and implement these changes at the 2019 Convention. To meet this goal, we will: (1) review Branch feedback; (2) make revisions as appropriate, and (3) redistribute the final document to all Branches by early February, allowing ample time to prepare for Convention.

Proposed updates to the document are as follows:

- Underlined text indicates an addition. (E.g., underline)
- Strikethrough text indicates a deletion. (E.g., ~~striketrough~~)
- ****NOTE**** at the beginning of a section defines changes to that section, and is shown in *italics*.
- For those viewing these updates either on-screen or printed in color, these changes will also be visible in blue.

TABLE OF CONTENTS
 THE DANISH SOCIETY OF DANIA OF CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA
THE CONSTITUTION

<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
ARTICLE I:	Name, Objects and Organization of the Society	<u>31</u>
ARTICLE II:	The Grand Lodge	<u>31</u>
ARTICLE III:	The Convention of the Grand Lodge	<u>42</u>
ARTICLE IV:	Representatives to the Convention of the Grand Lodge	<u>74</u>
ARTICLE V:	Election of Officers at the Convention of the Grand Lodge	<u>85</u>
ARTICLE VI:	Standing Committees at the Convention of the Grand Lodge	<u>86</u>
ARTICLE VII:	Laws Governing the Grand Lodge	<u>106</u>
ARTICLE VIII:	Rules of Order at Convention of Grand Lodge	<u>117</u>
ARTICLE IX:	Grand Officers	<u>138</u>
ARTICLE X:	The Executive Committee	<u>1813</u>
ARTICLE XI:	Receipts, Disbursements and Assets of the Grand Lodge	<u>2015</u>
ARTICLE XII:	Charters for Local Branches	<u>2217</u>
ARTICLE XIII:	General Rules for Local Branches	<u>2318</u>
ARTICLE XIV:	Administration of Local Branches	<u>2419</u>
ARTICLE XV:	Sick Benefits of Local Branches	<u>2621</u>
ARTICLE XVI:	Funeral and Burial Benefits of Local Branches	<u>2621</u>
ARTICLE XVII:	Order of Business of Local Branches	<u>2722</u>
ARTICLE XVIII:	Merger of Local Branches	<u>2722</u>
ARTICLE XIX:	Suspension, Dissolving or Discontinuance of Local Branches	<u>2923</u>
ARTICLE XX:	Members Whose Membership Is Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge	<u>2924</u>
ARTICLE XXI:	Membership	<u>3025</u>
ARTICLE XXII:	Certificate of Transfer of Members	<u>3328</u>
ARTICLE XXIII:	Withdrawal of Members and Clearance Cards	<u>3428</u>
ARTICLE XXIV:	Suspension of Membership	<u>3529</u>
ARTICLE XXV:	Revocation of Charters, Office, or Membership	<u>3529</u>
ARTICLE XXVI:	Dissolution	<u>3530</u>
ARTICLE XXVII:	Law and Amendments	<u>3630</u>

THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME, OBJECTS AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SOCIETY

Section 1

The name of the Society shall be: The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada.

Section 2

The aims and objects of the Society shall be: To unite under its banner people of Danish descent, as described in Article XXI, who want to aid members in sickness and distress; to procure work for unemployed members; to secure a fitting funeral and burial for deceased members; to insure the fitting and proper care of the elderly members; to give educational scholarships to members and their families; to preserve the Danish culture, heritage and history, and to create and encourage knowledge of Danish art, heritage, history, culture and sciences; to arrange social gatherings, including lectures and discussions, etc., and to support such movements which, in the judgment of the Society, will advance and further its welfare and create esteem for the Danish nationality among our fellow citizens; and to create love and interest among its members for these United States so as to loyally perform our duties as good American citizens.

Section 3

The Society shall consist of a Grand Lodge and local Branches. Local Branches may be organized in areas west of the Rocky Mountains where a sufficient number of people express a desire to organize a local Branch.

Section 4

Neither the Grand Lodge nor any local Branch may adopt laws, which in any way interfere with the political or religious rights of a member.

Section 5

The Society shall have the prerogative to procure, buy, receive, own and control real estate, personal property, bonds and documents of all descriptions, and may sell, assign, transfer and/or mortgage the same.

ARTICLE II

THE GRAND LODGE

Section 1

The Grand Lodge, when in session, is the highest authority of the Society, legislative as well as judicial. It may adopt a Constitution. It may adopt such further laws, rules, regulations and duties for the implementation of the purpose and aims of this Society, which do not conflict with this Constitution, ~~and which terminate at the convening of the next succeeding convention.~~ It may also carry out business throughout the year following its Convention by calling on its Delegates, Grand Officers and Past Grand Presidents to deliberate and vote on any matter that does not require a Constitutional assembly.

Section 2

The Grand Lodge is conducted by the following corps of officers:

- Junior Past Grand President
- Grand President
- Grand Vice President
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Marshal
- Grand Vice Marshal
- Three Grand Trustees

Section 3

****NOTE**** This section defines Representatives and Delegates, and defines who has speaking and voting rights.

Representatives to the Convention of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the following: (1) current Grand Officers, (2) Past Grand Presidents, and (3) duly elected Delegates representing their respective Branch. Representatives have the right to speak to, and vote on, all matters presented at the Convention. The Grand Lodge shall consist of the Grand Officers, all Past Grand Presidents and all duly elected representatives from the local Branches. All members of the Grand Lodge shall have the right to vote on all matters, save and except that the Grand President may cast a vote only to make or break where there is a tie, or where it is necessary to obtain a result. If a person has a right to vote in more than one capacity during each vote, he shall have a total of only one vote. All Dania members in good standing of the Grand Lodge shall have speaking privileges.

Section 4

The Grand Lodge, unless otherwise set forth in this Constitution, shall have the following prerogatives:

1. To determine the composition of the Grand Lodge.
2. To determine the duties, ~~and~~ compensation and the amount of expense reimbursement of officers and committees.
3. To levy and collect taxes and dues for the purposes of carrying out the aims and objects of the Society and for its administration.
4. To establish a general fund, a funeral and burial fund, a funeral and burial Trustees' fund, a sick benefit fund, a sick benefit Trustees' fund, and such other funds as needed by the Society and to adopt such rules and regulations for the administration of these funds. The general fund may also be used for funeral and burial benefits, sick benefits, and other such benefits; appropriate accounting will be made.
5. To adopt and prescribe rituals to be used for the organization of new local Branches, ~~and at the~~ installation of officers, installation of candidates, funerals, etc.
6. To adopt and prescribe the form of emblems, regalias, blanks, bonds, and certificates to be used in the Society.
7. To participate in discussions with other Danish societies in the United States; to develop a plan of cooperation for the mutual benefit of the Danish societies, and pass laws and legislation for such cooperation.
8. To hear an appeal from a decision of the Executive Committee, if the said appeal is filed within 30 days after the decision of the Executive Committee is appealed, then the decision of the Executive Committee is stayed until a decision of the Grand Lodge is issued.
9. To sit as a court and have jurisdiction in all cases concerning its own members. It is the Supreme Court in all appeals from local Branches and from the Executive Committee. Its pronouncement of judgment is final and decisive.

ARTICLE III

THE CONVENTION OF THE GRAND LODGE

Section 1

The Grand Lodge shall meet at least once a year, and the meetings shall be officially known as conventions. The conventions shall remain in session until all business brought before it has been considered and acted upon.

Section 2

Par. 1. In case of wars, epidemics or other elements endangering the public welfare, the Grand President together with the Executive Committee shall be empowered to postpone a regular convention until such state of urgency has been overcome, but must call a regular convention within six months after the conclusion of such a state of urgency.

Par. 2. If conditions should prevent the Grand Lodge from holding a yearly convention, the present Grand Officers and all regulations shall continue through the next succeeding convention.

Section 3

The local Branch in charge of the convention for the ensuing year shall, at least ~~four~~six months prior to the opening of the convention, inform the Grand Secretary of the date and place for holding same.

Section 4

Par. 1. Extraordinary conventions may be called at any time by the Grand President, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Par. 2. The Grand President shall call an extraordinary convention whenever one-third of the local Branches ~~shall~~ demand it. If the Grand President declines to comply with this demand then an appeal may be made to the Executive Committee whose duty ~~it shall then~~ be is to call a convention.

Par. 3. Whenever an extraordinary convention is called, the Grand Secretary shall notify the local Branches of the time, date and place of the said extraordinary convention in the usual manner. The reason for calling said extraordinary convention must be clearly stated and no other matters, except as so stated, shall be considered at such convention.

Section 5

Upon the convening of the Grand Lodge, the following order of business is to be followed:

1. Meeting opened; password taken up.
2. Roll call of Representatives (Grand Officers, Delegates representatives and Past Grand Presidents).
3. Reading of minutes of previous Meetings.
4. Report of Grand President.
5. Report of Executive Committee.
6. Report of Grand Secretary.
7. Report of Grand Treasurer.
8. Report of Grand Trustees.
9. Report of Standing Committees.
10. Appointment of Convention Standing Committees.
11. Reading of communications.
12. Unfinished business.
13. New business.
14. Good of the Order.
- 14-15. Election of Officers.
- 15-16. Closing of meeting.

Section 6

Following the election of the Grand Officers, their installation shall take place either in the regular session of the Convention, under New Business, or a session open to the public, after the close of the convention, to be decided by a majority of the Grand Lodge voting at the said convention.

Section 7

The eConvention is legally constituted, therefore a quorum, when two-thirds of the

~~Representatives elected~~ are present.

Section 8

The Grand Lodge shall, before the close of a convention, determine by a majority when and where the next convention shall be held. The objective of the Grand Lodge is to announce the site of the next three (3) annual conventions.

Section 9

If a member of the Grand Lodge is in arrears for dues in their own local Branch, then he they shall be disqualified to sit in the Grand Lodge as a Representative. ~~either as a Grand Officer, delegate, or Past Grand President.~~

Section 10

***NOTE**: New Par. 1 describes the process for determining the valid number of votes. Original Pars. 5 & 6 (below Par. 7) were moved up and are now Pars 3 and 4.*

Par. 1. The number of voting Representatives is validated and established by completing roll-call and taking the password at the beginning of each daily session of the convention.

Par. 21. Voting is done by the raising of a hand and a majority shall rule.

Par. 34. On request of two-thirds of the Representatives present, the voting shall take place by written ballots.

Par. 45. On request of three-fourths of the Representatives present, the voting shall take place by calling the roll, in which case each separate vote shall be recorded in the minutes.

Par. 56. Any member entitled to vote can, at any time, request that they vote with the minority and have this recorded in the minutes.

Par. 62. All proposals in regard to the payment of money must have at least two-thirds of the votes cast in favor in order to carry.

Par. 73. A motion to pay out monies cannot be accepted by the Chair unless it clearly states the amount and purpose for which it is to be spent and each expenditure must be considered individually.

~~Par. 5. On request of three-fourths of the representatives present, the voting shall take place by calling the roll, in which case each separate vote shall be recorded in the minutes.~~

~~Par. 6. Any member entitled to vote can at any time request that he vote with the minority and have this recorded in the minutes.~~

Section 11

It is the privilege of every member of Dania in good standing to be present at the meetings of the convention.

Section 12

The sum of THREE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$300.00) shall be paid to the local Branch sponsoring the convention.

ARTICLE IV

REPRESENTATIVES DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION OF THE GRAND LODGE

***NOTE**: Updated to reflect the use of the term "delegate". Section 5 moved to Article V, Section 1.*

Section 1

Three (3) months before the opening date of the eConvention, the Grand Secretary

shall inform the local Branches of the exact date and place for holding same.

Section 2

Election of ~~Delegates~~representatives must take place in time for the names thereof to be in the hands of the Grand Secretary not less than sixty (60) days before the convention opens.

Section 3

Delegates~~Representatives~~ shall be elected in the following ratio: Local Branches consisting of 25 members or less: Three (3) ~~representatives~~Delegates, and thereafter one (1) ~~representative~~Delegate for every twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof.

Section 4

Any number of alternates Delegates deemed necessary by the local Branch shall be elected at the same time as the Delegate. Alternate Delegates, ~~who~~ shall act whenever a regular elected delegate is prevented from attending the Grand Lodge Convention.

Section 5

~~Past presidents, and current serving presidents and vice presidents shall be eligible for election as representatives to the Grand Lodge. However, any member who has held the office of financial secretary, recording secretary, secretary, or treasurer for at least three years shall also be eligible~~

Section 56

While having some officer experience at the local Branch level is preferred, a local Branch may elect any member in good standing as a ~~representative~~Delegate to the Grand Lodge if it cannot secure enough eligible ~~representatives~~Delegates to accept nomination. However, such members shall be ineligible to hold office in the Grand Lodge.

Section 67

The names of duly elected ~~d~~Delegates and ~~a~~Alternates must be submitted to the Grand Lodge in writing and signed by the recording secretary or secretary of the respective local Branch.

Section 78

~~Representatives~~Delegates and ~~a~~Alternates are elected for one (1) Grand Lodge term, which dates from the opening of the convention succeeding their election until the opening of the next ordinary succeeding convention.

Section 89

It is the duty of every Grand Officer and ~~representative~~Delegate to be present at every session of a convention. Should a Grand Officer or ~~Delegate~~representative be absent from two (2) consecutive sessions of a convention without a valid excuse, ~~they~~he shall be considered as having voluntarily resigned and shall have lost ~~their~~his seat, office and position in the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE V

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT THE CONVENTION OF THE GRAND LODGE

****NOTE**:** *Section 1 below is from Article IV, Section 5 (above). For clarity, content changes in Section 1 are indicated in blue underline or blue strikethrough.*

Section 1

Local Branch ~~P~~past presidents, and current serving presidents and vice presidents shall be eligible for election as ~~representatives~~an officer to the Grand Lodge. However, any ~~member~~representative who has held the office of financial secretary, recording secretary, secretary, or treasurer for at least three years shall also be eligible.

Section 2

Election of Grand Officers is done on individual ballots by writing in the name of one (1) nominee. Nominations must precede elections and separate ballots must be had for each office to be filled.

Section 32

Absolute majority of all votes cast is required before a candidate can be declared elected. Where there are three (3) or more candidates for an office, and neither receives an absolute majority on the first ballot, the name of the candidate receiving the smallest number of votes shall be dropped and this same procedure is to be followed until an absolute majority is obtained.

Section 43

Before the election is opened, the Grand President shall appoint an election committee consisting of the three (3) members who take their places in the center of the hall. The Grand Marshal and the Grand Vice Marshal shall distribute the ballots. Balloting shall be by roll-call, the committee shall count the same and announce the results. At the order of the Grand President, one of the members of the election committee shall open each ballot, acquaint ~~themselves~~himself with the contents and pass the ballot to the second member who shall read the contents aloud and thereafter pass the ballot to the third member for verification. The Grand Secretary shall keep an accurate list of the number of the votes for each candidate and shall read the results aloud after each vote. When it appears that a candidate has reached an absolute majority, the Grand President shall declare ~~the candidate~~him elected.

Section 54

With the exception of the Grand Trustees, the Grand Officers are elected for one (1) term at a time, which means until the close of the next ordinary convention and until the successor of the individual Officer is elected and lawfully inducted into office. One Grand Trustee, whose terms shall be three (3) years, shall be elected at each convention and one (1) Grand Trustee retires at the close of each ordinary convention. The three (3) Grand Trustees are called according to their seniority first, second and third Grand Trustee.

ARTICLE VI

STANDING COMMITTEES AT THE CONVENTION OF THE GRAND LODGE

***NOTE**: Six (6) Standing Committees were previously not included and have been added to the Constitution. They include the following: Auditing Committee; Advisory Committee; Nominating Committee; Membership Committee; Web Committee; History Committee. Old Sections 3 and 4 are now reflected in Section 2, items a) and b), respectively. Original Section 5 is now Section 3. Original Section 6 is now Section 4.*

Section 1

Par. 1. The Grand President shall appoint the following committees on the first day of the convention, each ~~to consist~~ing of three (3) members. The two committees listed below serve the duration of the convention and throughout the subsequent year.

- a) ~~A committee on laws~~The Law Committee, which shall be a fact-finding committee, whose duty ~~is it shall be~~ to examine all proposals for new laws or amendments of old laws, ~~under which (including the~~ Article, Section, or Paragraph of the laws under which they should be inserted), and to report any and all problems and conflicts that the ~~said~~ committee finds.
- b) ~~A committee on resolutions. The Resolution Committee shall draft resolutions of complement for a job well-done, sympathy for families and friends of the deceased, Past Grand Presidents and Danish Dignitaries, and all other areas as recommended by the Grand President.~~

~~Par. 2. These two (2) committees serve during the duration of the convention.~~

Section 2

On the last day of the convention, just before adjournment, the Grand President ~~Elect~~ shall appoint the ~~a~~Auditing ~~e~~Committee, ~~and the Advisory Committee Board, the Nominating Committee, the Membership Committee, the Web Committee, and the History Committee.~~ A minimum of three (3) individuals will be appointed to each committee. All committees will function throughout the year and will report back at the Convention. Their reports will be included in the Convention Report of the Grand Lodge, as appropriate.

- a) The Auditing Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) individuals. They shall have access to all of the books and accounts of the Grand Officers during their term. Prior to each convention, the Auditing Committee shall examine and audit the books and accounts of the Grand Officers and render a report to the Grand Lodge at the Convention. This report, after having been received, shall be added to the Convention Report of the Grand Lodge.
- b) The Advisory Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) individuals. They shall make recommendations to improve the overall Grand Lodge and its proceedings, present their recommendation(s) in a report at the Convention, and submit it as part of the Convention Report.
- c) The Nominating Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) individuals. They shall be charged with finding capable, prospective candidates for all open Grand Lodge Offices. The objective is to have at least one candidate for each open position. The Committee will see that all candidates indicate their interest in the office and offer a brief resume that will be published in the Newsletter prior to the Convention.
- d) The Membership Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) individuals. They shall support the local branches in their efforts to hold activities and distribute Dania literature in the interest of finding new members.
- e) The Web Committee shall be made up of the Web Master and their members, with the objective of utilizing relevant software to facilitate the Grand Lodge's functions, in keeping the membership informed, and ensuring all records are maintained in secure files. The Chairperson will select their own committee based on their interest in computer applications and with the approval of the Grand President. Coordination with the Society of Dannebrog is essential.
- f) The History Committee shall be responsible for locating and preserving historical data and artifacts regarding Dania. The Chairperson will seek out volunteers who are interested in this project and with the approval of the Grand President.

Section 3

Other special committees intended to carry out Grand Lodge business shall be appointed by the Grand President, as needed.

Section 4

Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, all vacancies occurring on any committee shall be appointed by the Grand President, who has the option of adding members as they deem necessary.

Section 3

Par. 1. The auditing committee, consisting of three (3) members, shall have access to all of the books and account of the Grand Officers at any time.

Par. 2. Prior to each convention, the auditing committee shall examine and audit the books and accounts of the Grand Officers and render a report to the Grand Lodge at the Convention. This report, after having been received, shall be added to the Convention Report of the Grand Lodge.

Section 4

The Advisory Board shall have three (3) members, one (1) appointed each year for a term of three (3) years, and shall make a report of any and all recommendations that it sees fit at each convention. Once the said report has been received, it shall be added to the Convention

Report of the Grand Lodge. Section 5

~~Such other special committees needed to carry out Grand Lodge business shall be appointed by the Grand President.~~

Section 6

~~Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, all vacancies occurring on any committee shall be appointed by the Grand President.~~

ARTICLE VII

LAWS GOVERNING THE GRAND LODGE

***NOTE**: New Section 1 lists those officers who receive a draw for expenses, and thethat amount is voted on annually. Remainder of sections renumbered.*

Section 1

The The Grand Officers listed below are entitled to a draw from the General Fund for expenses incurred while carrying out the responsibilities of their respective positions:

- Grand President
- Grand Marshall
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Trustees

The amount of the draw will be determined at the Annual Convention for the upcoming year's activities. The term of the Grand Lodge is the period of time between ~~two (2)~~ ordinary annual conventions.

Section 1

~~The Grand President, during his term of office, shall be entitled to draw on the general fund the amount of SIX HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$600.00) as traveling expenses incurred in visiting the local Branches.~~

Section 2

~~The Grand Marshal, during his term of office shall be entitled to draw on the General Fund the amount of THREE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$300.00) as travel expenses incurred in visiting the local Branches.~~

Section 2 3

The Grand Lodge shall furnish the local Branches with a seal, regalia membership badges, membership cards, application blanks, rituals, which shall be paid for by the local Branches to the Grand Lodge at its cost.

Section 3 4

The Grand Lodge shall, without charge, furnish each local Branch with a charter, copies of this Constitution, blank for bonds, if used, as well as blanks for the report of the various offices of the local Branch, and give the local Branch a number following the number of the last previous established local Branch.

Section 4 5

Par. 1 All communications from the Grand Lodge and the Executive Committee to local Branches must be signed by the Grand Secretary with the seal of the Grand Lodge, as applicable, attached and a copy of such communications and the date of sending must be entered in the records.

Par. 2. The sending of such communications to the last address furnished the Grand Secretary by a local Branch, or the secretary thereof, shall be considered as satisfactory evidence that the same has been lawfully sent by the Grand Secretary and received by the local Branch, and all acts resulting from same shall be considered as lawful and binding.

Section ~~5~~ 6

All payments to the Grand Lodge shall be sent to the Grand Secretary by check or money order made payable to the Grand Lodge of Dania.

Section 7

~~The term of the Grand Lodge is the period of time between two (2) ordinary conventions.~~

Section ~~6~~ 8

A report of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge as of the 31st day of December of each calendar year shall be prepared by the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and Grand Trustees. The Grand Secretary shall furnish a sufficient quantity of all financial reports for the members of the Grand Lodge and distribute the same to each of them at the opening of the convention. These financial reports shall be added to the Convention Report of the Grand Lodge after its approval.

ARTICLE VIII RULES OF ORDER AT CONVENTION OF GRAND LODGE

Section 1

The Grand President shall maintain order during the meetings. ~~He~~The Grand President shall announce the result of every vote, ~~and shall~~ judge in all questions in dispute, ~~and his~~their decision shall be final, unless appeal is made to the convention, which then has the authority to decide. In such case, the Grand Vice President shall put the matter to a vote.

Section 2

When a motion is made and seconded, the Grand President shall put the motion before the house. When a motion is put before the house by the Grand President, it shall be open for discussion, and the proposer shall at any time be privileged to withdraw the motion before it is voted on. When the discussion is complete, all whom wish has expressed themselves, the Grand President shall put the motion to a vote.

Section 3

When a motion is before the house, nothing else shall have consideration except as follows:

1. To adjourn.
2. To call for a recess.
3. Raise to a question of privilege.
- ~~1.~~4. Rise to a point of order (to challenge the President on procedure).
- ~~2.~~5. To lay on the table.
- ~~3.~~6. To ~~close debate~~ call for the previous question (in an effort to close debate).
4. 7. To postpone to a definite time.
8. To refer give to a committee (to study in more depth).
9. To suspend the rules (to allow a one-time deviation from the constitution).
10. To reconsider (a chance to reconsider a topic after voted on when more information allows for another chance to review the topic).
- ~~5.~~11. A motion to withdraw the motion being discussed (information provided during the discussion prompts the maker of the motion to find it is no longer relevant so it is withdrawn).
6. To amend.
12. 7. To indefinitely postpone.

~~They~~ Motions shall have precedence in the order ~~listed~~named.

Section 4

The motion (Call for the Previous Question) to close the debate must carry with at

least a two-thirds majority vote and when the proposal to adjourn the meeting is made before the vote upon a motion it must carry with at least two-third majority vote.

Section 5

No interruption of ~~the any r~~Representatives speaking shall be allowed, and anyone so doing shall be called to order. ~~or an explanation demanded.~~ Only in the case of a point of order, the representative may interrupt the speaker at which time the Grand President will make a judgement of clarification so the meeting can proceed.

Section 6

A ~~r~~Representative, on being called to order, shall resume ~~theirhis~~ seat ~~until this question is decided and he may then~~ and continue by permission ~~of the Grand President.~~

Section 7

When a ~~r~~Representative desires to speak, ~~theyhe~~ shall rise, identify themselves by stating their full name and their Branch affiliation, and request permission from the Grand President. If two or more rise at the same time the Grand President shall decide who shall speak first. The Grand President may elect to set a time limit to allow those interested time to speak.

Section 8

A ~~r~~Representative shall, when speaking, confine ~~himself themselves~~ to the matter under consideration and avoid all personalities.

Section 9

No one may speak more than once on the matter until all who wish to do so shall have expressed themselves.

Section 10

A motion to reconsider a vote can be made by two (2) ~~r~~Representatives who voted with the majority.

Section 11

Should the Grand President desire to join in the discussion, ~~hethey~~ may do so by turning the meeting over to the Grand Vice President.

Section 12

All documents, resolutions, rules, alterations, amendments, regulations, papers and reports, save and except the reports of the Laws and Resolutions Committees, which are submitted to the Grand Lodge at its convention for consideration by the Grand Lodge, shall be submitted with sufficient copies for all of the ~~Representatives Grand Officers, delegates and Past Grand Presidents~~ who are present, at the cost of the submitter.

Section 13

No one may leave the meeting without permission from the Grand President.

Section 14

A single paragraph of this article or a part of such paragraph can be suspended during the meeting by a two-thirds majority vote, but permanent changes in these rules or order must be proposed and carried in the same manner as is done in regard to changes in the laws governing the Grand Lodge.

Section 15

All parliamentary questions which cannot be decided according to these laws and rules shall be decided according to the latest edition of Roberts' Rules of Order.

ARTICLE IX

GRAND OFFICERS
Section 1
Duties of Grand Officers

Besides the duties enumerated in this article, it shall be the duty of each Grand Officer to acquaint and familiarize ~~themselves~~himself with this Constitution, the Laws for Dania - Dannebrog Old Age, and particularly, with the laws affecting ~~their~~his own office.

Section 2
Junior Past Grand President

Par. 1. The office and function of the Junior Past Grand President is assumed by the last retiring Grand President.

Par. 2. To be entitled to the rank and privileges of a Past Grand President, one must have served, as a Grand President" until ~~their~~his successor has been appointed, elected or succeeded to the office or the Grand President.

Par. 3. ~~As he, by virtue of having filled the highest office in the Society, has acquired an intimate knowledge of the laws and workings of the Society, Having acquired an intimate knowledge of the laws and workings of the Society by virtue of having filled the highest office in the Society,~~ the duties of the Junior Past Grand President shall be to assist the Grand President and the Grand Officers by counsel and service in every way possible.

Par. 4. ~~On his~~Upon ~~their~~ retirement from office, it is ~~his~~the Junior Past Grand President's privilege to install the newly elected Grand Officers.

Par. 5. Should the office of Grand President and Grand Vice President be vacant at the same time, then the Junior Past Grand President shall assume the office, and position and duties of Grand President until one or both of the said offices and positions have been filled.

Par. 6. ~~He~~The Junior Past Grand President shall chair the Executive Committee and ~~he shall~~ have the right to vote at all times.

Par. 7. If the Grand President is disqualified or does not attend a meeting of the Executive Committee, then the Junior Past Grand President shall temporarily appoint a Past Grand President as a substitute.

Section 3
The Grand President

Par. 1. The executive authority of the Society is vested in the office and person of the Grand President.

Par. 2. ~~He~~The Grand President is the supreme executive, not only of the Society as a whole but also of each local Branch, and as such ~~he~~ they shall at all times have authority to examine the books and accounts of the Grand Lodge as well as those of the local Branches, ~~and he~~ The Grand President may at any time, demand a report from the Grand Officers or from the officers of local Branches relative to their respective offices.

Par. 3. ~~He~~The Grand President may organize new local branches and grant permanent or temporary charters to same.

Par. 4. ~~He~~The Grand President shall have authority at any time ~~he~~they may desire to assume the presiding chair in a local Branch when such local Branch is assembled in regular meeting, and should the President of such local Branch dispute the authority and adjourn the meeting, then the Grand President shall have the authority to reopen the meeting and continue with the proceedings.

Par. 5. ~~He~~The Grand President shall have the authority whenever ~~he~~they deems it expedient, to call an extraordinary meeting of a local Branch, provided that notice must be issued at least four days previous to such meeting. It shall be the duty of such local Secretary to notify each individual member of ~~such~~ the local Branch in writing that an extraordinary meeting has been called. Should the local Secretary refuse to issue such

notice, or refuse to surrender the names and addresses of the members of the local Branch to the Grand Secretary, then ~~he~~they shall immediately stand suspended from all the rights and privileges as a secretary. When such a meeting has been assembled, the Grand President shall assume the chair as presiding officer and state the object for which the meeting has been called.

Par. 6. ~~He~~The Grand President shall be authorized to designate a Grand Officer to act in ~~his~~their place and to perform such acts as directed by the Grand President.

Par. 7. In all circumstances, where the authority and jurisdiction to enforce this Constitution are not delegated to any particular Grand Officer, such authority and jurisdiction shall be vested in the office ~~and person of~~ the Grand President.

Par. 8. ~~He~~The Grand President shall hear appeals, questions and disputes from the decisions of a local branch or from members. The decision of the Grand President is final but may be appealed to the Executive Committee within 30 days after ~~he~~they ~~have~~ issued ~~his~~their ~~decision~~decision. If this decision is appealed, it is stayed until the decision of the Executive Committee is issued.

Par. 9. ~~The Grand President~~He may appoint an assistant of ~~his~~their own choosing, who must be a Past Grand President, to be seated to ~~his~~their right during the convention.

Par. 10. Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, ~~he~~the Grand President shall fill all vacancies which occur among Grand Officers or on committees, but such appointments shall terminate with the expiration of ~~his~~their own term in office.

Par. 11. Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, ~~he~~the Grand President shall appoint all committees, and the first member appointed by ~~him~~them shall be considered as the chair~~person~~man of the committee.

Par. 12. ~~He~~The Grand President shall open and preside at all the meetings of the Grand Lodge, ~~and shall see that order is maintained, and that~~ the laws are followed and carried out, ~~and a~~After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, ~~he~~they shall make a clear and complete report of ~~their~~his work during ~~the~~his term. The report may also include any suggestion or recommendation ~~he~~they may deem advisable to set forth; ~~and once~~ ~~the~~his report has been received and accepted by the Grand Lodge, it shall be included in the Convention Report of the convention.

Par. 13. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge, ~~the Grand President~~he shall announce the result of any vote taken and decide all questions submitted; ~~and his~~their decision shall be final unless an appeal is made to the assembly, which has the final authority. Such an appeal shall require a two-thirds majority in order to reverse the decision of the Grand President.

Par. 14. ~~The Grand President~~He shall, as far as possible, see that all officers of the Grand Lodge and in the local Branches perform their duties faithfully.

Par. 15. ~~The Grand President~~He shall visit the local Branches as often as ~~they~~he may find it expedient.

Par. 16. At the installation of officers in the local Branches, ~~he, or his assistants~~the Grand President or their assistants, shall satisfy themselves prior to the installation that the officers to be installed are familiar with the ritualistic work. ~~They~~He shall assist the officers of the local Branches and instruct them in the management of the local Branch and the conducting of meetings.

Par. 17. ~~The Grand President~~He may have an assistant in every local Branch; ~~and~~ it shall be the duty of such assistant to perform such duties as ~~the Grand President~~he may legally require of them.

Par. 18. ~~The Grand President~~He shall sign such papers, which require ~~his~~their signature to make them valid.

Par. 19. ~~The Grand President~~He shall give the annual password.

Par. 20. ~~The Grand President~~He shall appoint as a temporary: member of the Executive Committee, a Past Grand President to act as a substitute member of the Executive Committee when a member of the Executive Committee fails to attend a duly

called meeting of the Executive Committee or when ~~he is~~ they are otherwise disqualified.

Par. 21. At each meeting of the Executive Committee, ~~the Grand President~~ he shall give an oral report of ~~their~~ his activities since the last meeting of the convention or Executive Committee.

Par. 22. ~~He~~ The Grand President shall appoint an Election Committee at the convention and ~~he~~ shall declare a candidate elected when ~~they~~ he ~~have~~ has received an absolute majority.

Par. 23. With the approval of the Executive Committee, ~~the Grand President~~ he shall postpone the convention until the state of emergency has ended.

Par. 24. When required, ~~the Grand President~~ he shall call extraordinary conventions.

Par. 25. ~~He~~ The Grand President shall sign such drafts and checks with the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer for the payment of monies.

Par. 26. ~~He~~ The Grand President shall supervise the merger, suspension, dissolving, or discontinuance of local Branches.

Par. 27. ~~He~~ The Grand President may cast a vote at the convention where there is a tie or where it is necessary to obtain a result.

Par. 28. ~~He~~ The Grand President shall execute the decisions of the Executive Committee.

Par. 29. ~~The Grand President~~ He shall be a voting member of the Committee of the Dania-Dannebrog Old Age Fund.

Section 4

Grand Vice President

Par. 1. The Grand Vice President shall assist the Grand President in the performance of ~~their~~ his duties, preside at the convention when the Grand President gives ~~their~~ his report or participates in the discussions on the convention floor, or when ~~their~~ his decision is appealed to the convention, ~~the Grand Vice President shall put the matter to a vote.~~

Par. 2. In the absence of the Grand President, or in case of ~~their~~ his death, ~~the Grand Vice President~~ he shall immediately assume the office and duties of the Grand President.

Par. 3. ~~The Grand Vice President~~ He shall be an auditor of the financial records of the Dania-Dannebrog Old Age Fund.

Par. 4. ~~The Grand Vice President~~ He shall attend all Executive Committee Meeting.

Section 5

Grand Secretary

Par. 1. ~~The Grand Secretary~~ He shall furnish a bond, if required, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, for the faithful performance of ~~his~~ their duties. The amount of the bond shall equal ~~to~~ one-half of the assets under ~~his~~ their control.

Par. 2. ~~The Grand Secretary~~ He must be present at all meetings of the Grand Lodge and the Executive Committee and keep a true record of the proceedings.

Par. 3. On the first day of the annual convention, immediately following the Grand President's report, ~~the Grand Secretary~~ he shall be required to render a complete report covering the financial condition of the Grand Lodge and the local Branches. Once ~~their~~ his reports have been received and approved by the Grand Lodge, it shall be included in the Convention Report of the convention.

Par. 4. ~~The Grand Secretary~~ He shall keep an accurate record of the annual reports of the local Branches, such as cash-on-hand bank balance, values of property and furnishings, etc., ~~how many have died~~ number of deceased members, how much expended for sick benefits and aid, and such other historical and statistical information as

may be of interest to the Society.

Par. 5. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall keep a complete and true record of all receipts and disbursements of the Grand Lodge and of accounts between the Grand Lodge and the local Branches and others. ~~They~~~~He~~ shall collect all monies due the Grand Lodge and give a receipt of the same. ~~They~~~~He~~ shall pay to the Grand Treasurer all monies that may come into ~~their~~~~his~~ possession, taking ~~his~~~~their~~ receipt for the same.

Par. 6. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall keep a true record of all the members of the Society, containing their names, birthplace, age, date of initiation, withdrawal, suspension, transfer, death, and rejection by ballot, with a notice of the latter to be sent to all local Branches.

Par. 7. The Grand Secretary ~~He~~ shall, before the close of each term, send to each of the local Branches the necessary blanks for the yearly report to the Grand Lodge, ~~and also~~ four blanks for bonds, ~~if required~~. ~~He~~ The Grand Secretary shall have in ~~their~~~~his~~ keeping the seal of the Grand Lodge; ~~and he~~~~they~~ shall be the only one who has the right to use the same. ~~They~~~~He~~ shall also have in ~~their~~~~his~~ keeping all books, minutes, archives, documents, printed matter and other effects of the Grand Lodge. ~~He shall, after~~ Within 60 days following the close of the convention, the Grand Secretary shall prepare and provide a complete, have printed a complete convention report to all Grand Officers and Branch Secretaries, which will include of the transactions, committee reports and financial reports of the Grand Lodge. This convention report shall be immediately printed in a quantity corresponding to the total membership of the Society and be distributed among the local Branches in proportion to their membership. It is the duty of the Secretary of the local Branches to make copies of all convention reports available to interested distribute these convention reports to the individual members.

Par. 8. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall ~~have charge of~~ be responsible for all printing for the Grand Lodge, ~~also and~~ the purchase of regalias and membership emblems.

Par. 9. ~~He~~ The Grand Secretary shall be entitled to render ~~their~~~~his~~ bill in the form of an order on the Grand Treasurer each month for ~~their~~~~his~~ expense reimbursement, postage and other expenses as Grand Secretary.

Par. 10. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall perform such other duties as required by these laws, the Grand Lodge, the Executive Committee and the Grand President.

Par. 11. When an extraordinary meeting of a local Branch is called by the Grand President, the Grand Secretary shall notify the Secretary of the local Branch by certified mail of the extraordinary meeting. Should the local secretary refuse to notify the local members of the said extraordinary meeting or refuses to surrender the names and addresses of the members of the local Branch to the Grand Secretary, then the local secretary shall immediately be deemed suspended from all of the rights and privileges as a secretary and the Grand Secretary shall take ~~their~~~~his~~ place until there is another secretary legally elected or appointed by the local Branch.

Par. 12. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall be a nonvoting ex officio secretary of the Executive Committee.

Par. 13. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall keep an accurate list of the numbers of votes for each candidate for a Grand Office at the Convention, and ~~they~~~~he~~ shall announce each vote.

Par. 14. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall notify the local Branches of the exact date and place of the holding of the Convention or extraordinary conventions.

Par. 15. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall sign such drafts and checks with the Grand President and Grand Treasurer for the payment of monies, and ~~they~~~~he~~ shall sign such documentation along with the Seal of the Society, if as required.

Par. 16. Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, the Grand Secretary~~he~~ shall manage, control, receive and expend all funds as created, allowed and provided for in this Constitution.

Par. 17. The Grand Secretary~~He~~ shall report to the Executive Committee and to the

Convention those members, who have membership under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, who are sick and entitled to sick benefits and what has been paid to the sick member.

Par. 18. The Grand SecretaryHe shall appoint three (3) members to a sick committee when a report is needed to state the condition of a member whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and who is entitled to receive sick benefits.

Par. 19. The Grand SecretaryHe shall receive notification of sickness from members whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

Par. 20. The Grand SecretaryHe shall notify members whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge that they will be dropped from the rolls because they are six (6) months in arrears in their dues.

Par. 21. The Grand SecretaryHe shall mail proposals and resolutions to the local Branch of changes to this Constitution received by themhim at least two (2) months prior to the Convention.

Par. 22. The Grand SecretaryHe shall receive the names and addresses of newly elected officers and representatives of the local Branches.

Par. 23. The Grand SecretaryHe shall put the time, date and place of the meeting of the Executive Board into the newsletter, if it exists and when theyhe can reasonably do such.

Par. 24. Unless he-the Grand Secretary is otherwise qualified to vote, theyhe shall be a non-voting ex officio secretary of the Dania-Dannebrog Old Age Fund.

Section 6

Grand Treasurer

Par. 1. The Grand Treasurer shall receive and give theirhis receipt for all such sums as theyhe may receive from the Grand Secretary. The Grand TreasurerHe shall pay all drafts and checks which are issued in a lawful manner and signed by themselveshimself, the Grand President and the Grand Secretary. The Grand TreasurerHe shall keep an accurate account of the money received and distributed, by him.

Par. 2. The Grand TreasurerHe shall be entitled to render theirhis bill in form of an order on the Grand Lodge each month for his postage and other expenses relating to the office of the Grand Treasurer.

Par. 3. The Grand TreasurerHe shall furnish a bond, if required, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, for the faithful performance of his duties. The amount of the bond shall equal one-half of the assets under his control.

Par. 4. The Grand TreasurerHe shall present theirhis annual report to the Grand Lodge at each convention, which when received and approved by the Grand Lodge shall be part of the Convention Report of the Convention.

Par. 5. The Grand TreasurerHe shall perform such other duties as required by these laws, the Grand Lodge, the Executive Committee and the Grand President.

Section 7

Grand Marshal

Par. 1. The Grand Marshal shall be required to open the meeting place, and to put all in order for the opening of the meetings, and perform such other duties as may be required by the Grand President.

Par. 2. That heThe Grand Marshal shall receive the password, see that order is maintained, distribute and collect ballots, and assist in the installation of incoming officers of local Branches.

Section 8

Grand Vice Marshal

The Grand Vice Marshal shall assist the Grand Marshal in the performance of their duties, guard the door to the convention, ~~to~~ distribute and collect ballots, and in the absence of the Grand Marshal, or in case of their death, the Grand Marshall shall immediately assume their office and duties and ~~shall~~ perform such other duties as may be required by the Grand President and the Grand Marshal.

Section 9

Grand Trustees

Par. 1. The Grand Trustees shall be present at the conventions and shall perform such duties as these laws and the Grand Lodge and Executive Committee may require of them. They shall furnish such bonds, if required, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, as the Grand Lodge may determine from time to time.

Par. 2. ~~That a~~ All three (3) Grand Trustees acting together shall, in the name of the Grand Lodge, manage and control all of the assets and funds, save and except the General Fund, the Funeral and Burial Fund and the Sick Benefit Fund of the Grand Lodge, as if they were the sole owner thereof provided, however, that the consent of the Executive Committee shall be obtained before the said Grand Trustees buy or sell real or personal property, bonds, securities, stocks, execute mortgages or deposit funds in accounts not insured by an agency of the United States of America.

Par. 3. The said Grand Trustees shall keep a strict account of the assets and funds under their control. A report of the various assets and funds under the control of the Grand Trustees, as of the 31st day of December of each calendar year, shall be prepared by the Grand Trustees and shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge at each convention, which, when received and approved by the Grand Lodge, shall be part of the Convention Report, of the Convention.

ARTICLE X

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The Executive Committee is the supreme authority in the period between conventions, and shall act in all such matters as may develop during that time.

Section 2

Par. 1. The Executive Committee shall be five in number, consisting of the Jr. Past Grand President, Grand President, and three Grand Trustees, with the Grand Secretary as secretary ex-officio without voting power. In addition, the Grand Vice President shall attend all Executive Committee Meetings without voting power.

Par. 2. ~~A member of the Executive Committee cannot act in any case where he himself, or his own local branch, is the party under consideration. When a member of the Executive Committee has a topic presented from their own local Branch, they can only provide input and answer questions on the topic but may not act (vote) on it.~~ When a member is thus disqualified, or does not attend a meeting, the Grand President shall temporarily appoint a Past Grand President as a substitute. If the Grand President is disqualified or does not attend a meeting, the Junior Past Grand President shall temporarily appoint a Past Grand President as a substitute.

Par. 3. It is the duty of each member of the Executive Committee who cannot attend a meeting to notify the Grand Secretary forthwith.

Section 3

If a member of the Executive Committee fails to attend two consecutive meetings without a valid or lawful excuse, the said member shall be deemed to have voluntarily resigned from their Grand office and their position on the Executive Committee shall be deemed to be vacant.

Section 4

If the position of Junior Past Grand President, Grand President and Grand Vice President shall become vacant at the same time, then the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall appoint Past Grand Presidents to assume the office, position, and duties of the vacant offices and positions.

Section 5

The Executive Committee shall hold meetings whenever it may deem it practical and necessary as called by the Junior Past Grand President or Grand President. The meetings shall be chaired by the Junior Past Grand President who shall have the right of vote at all times. Three (3) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business unless otherwise provided by this Constitution. The time, date and place of the said meeting of the Executive Board shall be placed in the newsletter, ~~if it exists and~~ if it can reasonably be done.

Section 6

In addition, it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to:

- a) Act as advising council to local Branches and the Grand President.
- b) Decide by majority vote such matters which in accordance with these laws, may be brought before it.
- c) Sit as a court in such matters, which in accordance with these laws may be brought before it.
- d) Act on laws of local Branches. New ~~By-Laws~~bylaws or amendments to ~~By-Laws~~bylaws of local Branches must be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and are not operative until sanctioned by the Executive Committee.
- e) Hear appeals from the decision of the Grand President. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final unless it is appealed to the Grand Lodge within 30 days after the decision is issued. If the decision of the Executive Committee is appealed, it is stayed until the decision of the Grand Lodge is issued.
- f) Give advice and consent to the Grand Trustees relating to the buying and selling of real or personal property, bonds, securities, stock, the execution of mortgage or deposit funds in accounts not insured by an Agency of the United States of America.
- g) With the Grand President, postpone the convention until the state of urgency has ended.
- h) Call an extraordinary convention when the Grand President declines to call the said convention when required to do so.
- i) Approve the merging of local Branches.

Section 7

The Executive Committee shall also act as a Court and have jurisdiction in these matters:

- a) Differences between local Branches.
- b) Differences between members of separate local Branches.
- c) Differences between a local Branch and a Grand Officer.
- d) ~~To hear~~Hear all Petitions for the revocation of Charters, Office, or membership and to render a decision upon the said Petitions.
- e) ~~Try the complaint according to law, In-in~~Try the complaint according to law, In-in cases where one or several members consider themselves as victims of injustice or unfair treatment, and ~~his, or~~his, or their local Branch, has refused to take action, ~~and try the complaint according to law.~~

ARTICLE XI
RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND
ASSETS OF THE GRAND LODGE

Section 1
Assets

The assets of the Grand Lodge shall come from the following sources:

- a) Per capita tax and dues.
- b) Money received through the sale of printed matters requisites, charts, and other supplies to the local Branches by the Grand Lodge.
- c) Donations, legacies, bequests and the like.
- d) Funeral and burial assessments.
- e) Assessments for sick benefits.
- f) Fund raising events.
- g) Such other legal sources as authorized by this Constitution, the Grand Lodge, or the Executive Committee.

Section 2
Funds

Par. 1. The assets of the Society shall be accounted for in the General Fund, which includes the Funeral and Burial Fund and the Sick Benefit Fund. These funds are accounted for separately in order to provide an accurate accounting and audit trail. Other funds may be added, as needed, by the Grand Lodge. divided into the following funds:

~~The General Fund.~~

- ~~a) The Funeral and Burial Fund.~~
- ~~b) The Funeral and Burial Trustees' Fund.~~
- ~~c) The Sick Benefit Fund.~~
- ~~d) The Sick Benefit Trustees' Fund.~~
- ~~e) Such other funds as needed by the Grand Lodge.~~

Par. 2. Such funds and asset under the jurisdiction of the Grand Secretary may be commingled at the discretion of the Grand Secretary for the full and proper administration of the said funds, but each fund shall be accounted for separately and individually.

Par. 3. Such funds and assets under the jurisdiction of the Grand Treasurer may be commingled at the discretion of the Grand Treasurer for the full and proper administration of the said funds, but each fund shall be accounted for separately and individually.

Par. 4. Such funds and assets under the jurisdiction of the Grand Trustees may be commingled at the discretion of the Grand Trustees for the full and proper administration of the said funds, but each fund shall be accounted for separately and individually.

Section 3
General Fund

Par. 1. The receipts of the general fund shall be: A yearly per capita tax which shall be collected through the local Branches, the amount of which shall be determined for the coming year and voted on by ~~at~~ the convention. This tax shall be collected in two equal installments on the first of January and the first of July of each calendar year and must be paid to the Grand Secretary before the following first day of February and August respectively.

Par. 2. Further receipts of the General Fund shall come from sources authorized in subparagraphs a), b), c), f) and g) of Section 1 of this Article.

Par. 3. All interest and dividends from the assets in the General Fund shall be added to

the General Fund and shall be used as the General Fund is used.

Par. 4. ~~From the general fund shall be paid a~~All the administration expenses of the Grand Lodge, such as ~~salaries~~³ draws, traveling expenses of the Grand Officers, printing matter, postage, purchase of regalia, rent of quarters for meeting purposes, etc., ~~shall be paid from the General Fund.~~ This fund can also be used to defray the expenses connected with such undertakings as the Grand Lodge at its convention or by the Executive Committee at its meetings may decide as being to the advancement of the Society.

Section 4 Funeral and Burial Funds

Par. 1. The income of the funeral and burial fund shall be from funeral and burial assessments as authorized in Sub-Paragraph d) of Section 1 of this Article and collected by the local Branches from each member and individually from members whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. In each fiscal year there shall be collected not more than five funeral and burial assessments, according to the demand upon the fund.

Par. 2. Should the stipulated numbers of assessments be insufficient to meet the demand upon the funeral and burial fund, the Grand Secretary is authorized to draw upon the ~~funeral and burial Trustees' fund~~General Fund for the deficiency.

~~Par. 3. All interest or dividends from the assets in the funeral and burial fund or from the funeral and burial Trustees' fund shall be added to the funeral and burial fund and shall be used as the said funeral and burial assessments are used.~~

Par. ~~34~~. The Grand Lodge acting at any regular yearly convention may determine ~~the number of funeral and burial assessments, as well as~~ the amount of the funeral and burial benefits, which, however, in no event shall exceed ~~FIVE TWO~~ HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$~~52~~00.00).

Par. ~~45~~. ~~Following the distribution of a Funeral and Burial payment, the Grand Secretary will replenish the fund to its maintenance level of If, after the collection of five funeral and burial assessments and the payments of funeral and burial benefits, there shall remain more than the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) in the, funeral and burial fund, such excess shall be turned over to the Grand Trustees for deposit in the funeral and burial Trustees' fund. Funds will be replenished from the General Fund.~~

Par. ~~56~~. From the ~~funeral and burial fund~~General Fund, after notification to the Grand Secretary of the death of a member in good standing, funeral benefits shall be paid pursuant to Paragraphs ~~67~~ and ~~78~~ of this Section.

Par. ~~67~~. Members are entitled to funeral and burial benefits according to their age at the time of their most recent initiation as follows:

Age 14-50: 100% ~~of~~ funeral benefits set at the convention.

Age 51-55: 75% ~~of~~ funeral benefits set at the convention.

Age 56-60: 70% ~~of~~ funeral benefits set at the convention.

Age 61-65: 50% ~~of~~ funeral benefits set at the convention.

Age 66-70: 40% ~~of~~ funeral benefits set at the convention.

Age 71 ~~+ and over~~: _____ 20% of funeral benefits set at the convention.

Par. ~~78~~. Members will be entitled to the full funeral and burial benefits described in Par. ~~7~~, only after ten years or more of membership in Dania. The funeral and burial benefits will be phased in at the rate of 10% of the full benefit for each year of membership up to 100% vested after 10 years. No member shall receive any funeral and burial benefits during the first full year of membership in Dania.

Section 5 Sick Benefits Funds

Par. 1. ~~The income of the~~Income used to provide Sick Benefits ~~Fund~~ shall come from the monthly dues paid by members whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and that part of the assets of a local Branch which was suspended, dissolved, or discontinued and was transferred to the Grand Lodge and as authorized in Section 1e) of this Article.

Par. 2. If the Sick Benefit Fund is insufficient to meet the demand upon the said fund, the Grand Secretary is authorized to draw upon the ~~Sick Benefit Trustees' General~~ Fund ~~of the Grand Trustees~~ for the deficiency.

Par. 3. ~~Following the distribution of a Sick Benefit payment, the Grand Secretary will replenish the fund to its maintenance level of If at the end of each calendar year, the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00). or more remains in the Sick Benefit Fund, the sum in excess of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) shall be turned over to the Grand Trustees by the Grand Secretary for deposit into the Sick Benefit Trustees' Fund. Funds will be replenished from the General Fund.~~

~~Par. 4. All interest or dividends from the assets of the Sick Benefit Fund or from the Sick Benefit Trustees' Fund shall be added to the Sick Benefit Fund and shall be used as the said Sick Benefit Fund is used.~~

Par. 45. All sick benefits to be paid to members whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, ~~shall be paid from the Sick Benefit fund until the said Sick Benefit Fund and Sick Benefit Trustees' Fund are exhausted at which time, no further sick benefits shall be paid until the Sick Benefit Fund receives further income or assets.~~

Par. 256. The amount, rate and computation of payment of sick benefits is set forth in Article XX of this Constitution.

Par. 67. ~~That if there has been If~~ no sick benefits ~~have been~~ paid from the Sick Benefit Fund ~~or from the Sick Benefit Trustees' Fund~~ for a period of five (5) consecutive years and if there are no members whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, then the assets of the said Sick Benefit Fund ~~and of the Sick Benefit Trustees' Fund~~ shall be transferred to the Funeral and Burial Fund to be used pursuant to the rules and regulations of the said Funeral and Burial Fund.

Section 6 Other Funds

~~That the~~The Grand Lodge shall set forth such rules and regulations as is needed for the management, control, payment, disposition and dispersion of any and all other funds created by the Grand Lodge and the monies received therein.

ARTICLE XII CHARTERS FOR LOCAL BRANCHES Section 1

Before a local Branch can function as such, it must have been granted a charter from the Grand Lodge of the Society.

Section 2

New local Branches cannot be organized with less than ~~ten (10)~~20 members, ~~and~~ ~~w~~When a local Branch is organized with the minimum membership, the Grand President must see to it that the conditions are favorable for the growth of the local Branch so organized.

Section 3

Par. 1. The Grand President may, at ~~his option~~their discretion, grant a temporary charter to a new local Branch that is being organized and has ~~ten (10)~~six (6) or more members.

Par. 2. ~~That t~~This temporary charter shall be valid for a period of one (1) year.

Par. 3. ~~That t~~The Grand President may issue a temporary charter to a new local Branch for no more than five (5) consecutive years.

Par. 4. If a permanent charter cannot be issued to a new local Branch on or before the end of the fifth consecutive temporary charter, then the new local Branch shall be merged, suspended, dissolved or discontinued pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 4

Each local Branch must take a name as it decides, as well as the consecutive number issued to it by the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XIII GENERAL RULES FOR LOCAL BRANCHES

Section 1

The local Branch shall have jurisdiction involving settlement of disputes between a member and ~~his~~-their local Branch. The decision of the local Branch shall be final unless it is appealed to the Grand President within thirty (30) days after the decision is issued. If the decision of the local Branch is appealed, it is stayed until the decision of the Grand President is issued.

Section 2

Each local Branch shall hold at least three (3) meetings per year ~~one (1) general meeting each month~~ and their election of officers shall be for a full term.

Section 3

Five (5) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum. However, if a local Branch consists of twelve (12) members or less, three (3) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4

The term for officers of local Branches shall be from the installation of the said officer until the installation of ~~his~~-their successor.

Section 5

Each local Branch may formulate and pass its own By-laws~~bylaws~~ and rules and regulations relating to membership and sick benefits, but these must not be contrary to this Constitution. Before the By-laws~~bylaws~~, rules and regulations of the local Branch, or changes in same can be put into effect, six (6) copies of same must be sent to the Executive Committee and approved by same.

Section 6

The correspondence of a local Branch with the Grand Lodge or the Executive Committee shall be addressed to the Grand Secretary.

Section 7

All payments to the Grand Lodge, shall be sent to the Grand Secretary by check, or money order and be issued payable to the Grand Lodge of Dania within thirty-one (31) days after it becomes due and payable. If all said payments are not so paid, then the local Branch shall have lost its claim on the Grand Lodge and its resources until the said payment has been made.

Section 8

Each local Branch shall, immediately after the election of officers and representatives and through its secretary, advise the Grand Secretary of the names and addresses of the newly elected officers and representatives.

Section 9

Each local Branch shall at the end of the calendar year send to the Grand Lodge a complete report on the transactions for the year just ended. Forms for said reports containing the principal items of interest to the Society shall be furnished by the Grand Lodge and forwarded to the local Branch.

Section 10

Permission is granted to each local Branch to incorporate under the laws of its State.

Section 11

When a member resigns or transfers, the secretary of the local Branch must notify the Grand Secretary at once. Likewise, ~~he~~they must notify the Grand Secretary when a member is expelled and the reason therefore.

Section 12

Each local Branch shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary of the initiation of a new member, ~~his~~their name, birthplace, ~~and the~~ date of ~~his~~ birth, and the date of ~~his~~ initiation.

Section 13

It is the duty of each local Branch to keep an accurate list of mailing addresses, email addresses (if applicable), and telephone numbers of its members.

Section 14

Each local Branch shall notify all members in writing of the contents of every communication from the Grand Lodge, as far as the communication concerns the rights in and duties of the members toward the Society.

Section 15

The funds and valuables of a local Branch are property in common and can only be used for the purposes as mentioned in the laws of the Society. Under no circumstances must this property in common or any part thereof be divided among the members. If a local Branch is for any reason merged, suspended, dissolved or discontinued, it shall at once deliver and divide the assets of the local Branch pursuant to this Constitution.

Section 16

The secretary of a local Branch shall advise the local Branch of a Dania Ladies Society Dannebrog, on request, as to whether a member is in good standing or not. Also, ~~he~~they shall advise said Society when a member of the local Branch, who is also a member of Dannebrog, withdraws or is suspended.

ARTICLE XIV ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL BRANCHES

Section 1

The Officers of each local Branch shall consist of the following:

Past President
President
Vice President
Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, or Secretary
~~Recording Secretary~~ Treasurer
Marshal
Vice Marshal
Property Custodian
One, Two or Three Trustees
One, Two or Three Auditors
Property Custodian, as needed

Together with such other officers as the local Branch may require, ~~the~~the offices of financial secretary and recording secretary may be held by the same person, who thereafter shall be called Secretary. The office of financial secretary and treasurer may also be held by the same person, who thereafter shall be called Treasurer. Auditors may not be authorized signers on branch bank accounts and other financial holdings. ~~The Past President, Vice President, Marshal and Vice Marshal may also be Property Custodian and Auditors.~~

Section 2

The office of Past President shall be assumed by the last retiring president.

Section 3

To attain the rank and privileges of a past president, a member must have served as

president until ~~his~~their successor has been appointed, elected, or succeeded to the office of President.

Section 4

The officers are elected at the general meeting for a full year and can be re-elected as often as the local Branch desires. However, the Trustees shall be elected for a period of three (3) years in the conformity with the general election so that one retires at the end of each year. The officers continue to serve until the installation of their successors.

Section 5

Following the election of the officers of the local Branch, an installation shall take place, which may be open or closed, at the discretion of the said local Branch.

Section 6

The President may appoint a President's assistant from the past presidents of the local Branch.

Section 7

Par. 1. The local Branch shall fix the amount of the bond, if required, of the various officers.

Par. 2. The bond, if required of the various officers, shall not be less than fifty percent (50%) of the personal property of the said local Branch under their control, which shall be paid by the local Branch.

Par. 3. If the local Branch does not want the bond requirements as set forth in Par. 2 of this Section, then the signatures of at least two (2) separate designated officers of the said local Branch, as selected by the ~~said~~ local Branch, shall be required for any and all transactions relating to the financial matters of the ~~said~~ local Branch.

Section 8

At or after the December meeting of the local Branch, ~~representatives~~ Delegates and ~~a~~ Alternates shall be elected to the Grand Lodge.

Section 9

Each local Branch has the right to determine the duties and remuneration of its own officers.

Section 10

It is the duty of every officer to acquaint ~~himself~~themselves with the laws of the Society and of ~~his~~their own local Branch and to perform each of the duties therein described.

Section 11

Par. 1. Every local Branch may, at their option, waive the opening and closing ceremonies and waive the procedure and ceremony of allowing members to enter and exit a meeting and have a joint and/or open meeting with their respective local Branch of the Dania Ladies Society Dannebrog of California and Nevada.

Par. 2. ~~That if~~ a local Branch does have joint and/or open meetings with their respective local Branch of Dania Ladies Society Dannebrog of California and Nevada, the president shall see that only members of the local Branch of the Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada shall vote on matters before the said local Branch.

Par. 3. That all other provisions of this Constitution and that of the Ritual shall be followed by the said local Branch.

ARTICLE XV SICK BENEFITS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

Section 1

A local Branch ~~shall at all times~~should have a standing sick committee which ~~shall is~~be elected or appointed as per the rules of the local Branch and whose duties ~~shall be~~are plainly set forth in the ~~by-laws~~bylaws of the local Branch.

Section 2

Each local Branch ~~shall~~should maintain a sick fund ~~and shall~~, state the amount of the weekly sick benefits in its ~~by-laws~~bylaws, and who is entitled to receive the said sick benefits.

Section 3

~~If a local Branch does not have a special sick benefit fund, sick benefits shall have a first right of lien on and upon all of the assets of the local Branch.~~

Section 34

A member must decide if ~~they~~he wants to be entitled to sick benefits from ~~their~~his local Branch pursuant to the rules and regulations of ~~their~~his local Branch.

Section 45

Each local Branch has the right to determine in its by-laws the sickness for which there shall not be paid any sick benefits. However, any restrictions upon the type of sickness covered shall apply only to and upon members initiated after the adoption of the said restrictions.

Section 56

If a member is taken sick away from ~~his~~their own local Branch and there is a local Branch of Dania at the place where ~~he is~~they are residing during ~~his~~their illness, it shall be the duty of such local Branch to care for ~~him~~them as for one of its own members, and, when authorized by ~~his~~their own local Branch to do so, pay ~~him~~them sick benefits to which ~~he is~~they are entitled and also report ~~his~~their condition to ~~his~~their home local Branch once every month. A bill for sick benefits paid must be sent once a month to the local Branch.

Section 67

Par. 1. A member who has transferred ~~his~~their membership to another local Branch shall be entitled to benefits in case of sickness from ~~his~~their old local Branch for the first six (6) months after the transfer, after which ~~his~~the new local Branch assumes the obligation, unless the said transferred member has retained ~~his~~their sick benefits in ~~his~~the old local branch pursuant to this Constitution.

Par. 2. If the member retained the sick benefit in ~~his~~their old local Branch, then the member shall receive sick benefits from ~~his~~their old local Branch pursuant to their rules and regulations and ~~he~~ shall not receive any sick benefits from ~~the~~his new local Branch of which ~~he is~~they are a member.

ARTICLE XVI FUNERAL AND BURIAL BENEFITS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

Section 1

On the death of a member, ~~his~~the deceased's local Branch ~~shall~~immediately notify the Grand Secretary ~~and send a statement of the member's local Branch account, signed by the local Branch president or recording secretary,~~so that the funeral and burial benefits may be paid as soon as possible, ~~and at the same time send a statement of the deceased member's account with the local Branch, which statement must be signed by the president or recording secretary of the local Branch.~~

Section 2

~~In case of the death of a member of the Society without he having indicated to whom the funeral and burial benefits shall be paid, or if the named beneficiary is dead or cannot be found, or if the decedent member has no relatives at hand, In the event a deceased member of the Society has not indicated to whom the funeral and burial benefits shall be paid, or if the named beneficiary is deceased or cannot be found, or if the deceased member has no relatives at hand,~~ it is the duty of the local Branch, to the best of its ability, to arrange for and conduct the funeral.

Section 3

Where it is not possible find ~~the deceased's~~ his legal heirs, the balance of the funeral and burial benefits shall be returned to the ~~funeral and burial~~ General Fund of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XVII ORDER OF BUSINESS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

A local branch, for want of rules of order of its own, may use the rules adopted by the Grand Lodge. When the meeting has been opened in regular form as prescribed in the ritual, the following, or a similar order of business, may be used.

1. Roll of officers called
2. Membership
 - a. Application received
 - b. Investigation Committee appointed
 - c. Report of investigating committee
 - d. Balloting
 - e. Initiation of members
3. Minutes of previous meetings read and approve
(possible errors should be corrected)
4. Report of Trustees
5. Communications
6. Members sick and distressed reported
7. Report of sick committee
8. Payment of sick benefits
 - a. Employment
 - b. Employment wanted
9. Help wanted
10. Bills presented ~~to auditor~~ to the membership for approval
- ~~10. Approval of Auditors report~~
11. Warrants drawn, if used, for payment of bills
12. Recess
13. Reports from committees
14. Members in arrears for dues
15. Unfinished business
16. New Business
17. Good of the Order
18. Receipts and disbursements of meeting
19. Treasurer's balance
20. Adjournment.

ARTICLE XVIII MERGER OF LOCAL BRANCHES

Section 1

Two or more local Branches desiring to merge into one (1) local Branch, shall follow rules set forth in this Article.

Section 2

Each local Branch desiring to merge with another local Branch must obtain the

approval of the merger by a two-thirds majority of the members at a legally constituted meeting of each local Branch.

Section 3

Notice of the said meeting shall be mailed to each member of each local Branch at least seven (7) days prior to the actual meeting and the notice of the said meeting shall be placed in the Newsletter of the Grand Lodge, if it exists, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting when the voting is to take place.

Section 4

If the local Branches desiring to merge receive a favorable vote to merge, the merging local Branches shall set forth a sick benefit plan and a funeral and burial plan where the sick benefit and the funeral and burial benefit will be at least equal to the most favorable plans for the members that exist prior to the merger by one of the merging local Branches.

Section 5

No member of the merging local Branches who is in good standing, and had sick and/or funeral and burial benefits in ~~his~~their own local Branch prior to the merger, shall be denied sick benefits and/or funeral and burial benefits in the new merged local Branch if ~~they~~he maintains ~~his~~their good standing.

Section 6

The assets of the merging local Branches shall be segregated so that the sick benefit and funeral and burial benefits to which the members are entitled are protected.

Section 7

None of the assets of the merging local Branch shall be transferred to the Grand Lodge because of the said merger.

Section 8

That the merging local Branches shall provide for agreeable meeting dates, locations, facilities and a name of the new merged local Branch.

Section 9

Unless otherwise agreed upon, at the final joint meeting of the merging local Branches, all prior officers shall resign and all of the new officers shall be elected, which officers shall serve until their successors are duly elected.

Section 10

That all members of the merging local Branches shall retain all of the rank, title, position and status they had prior to the said merger unless otherwise set forth in this Article.

Section 11

The merging process shall be supervised by the Grand President who shall preside at all Joint meetings.

Section 12

The Executive Committee shall give the final approval before the merging of the local Branches is actually consummated and shall determine the local Branch number for the new merged local Branch.

ARTICLE XIX
SUSPENSION, DISSOLVING OR
DISCONTINUANCE OF LOCAL BRANCHES

Section 1

When a local Branch of Dania has been suspended, dissolved or discontinued and its members have fulfilled all lawful requirements, then all members who wish to remain members of Dania may transfer to another local Branch.

Section 2

A member of a suspended, dissolved or discontinued local Branch who is in good standing and has fulfilled all ~~his~~-their obligations, and if there is no local Branch reasonably close to the said member, or if the member's health or age prevents a transfer, the said member may retain ~~his~~-their membership under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge itself pursuant to this Constitution.

Section 3

Par. 1. The assets of the suspended, dissolved or discontinued local Branch shall be divided among the Grand Lodge and local Branches in ratio to the number of sick benefit members of the suspended, dissolved or discontinued local branches who have transferred to the Grand Lodge or to local Branches.

Par. 2. If there are no members transferred, then all of the assets of the suspended, dissolved or discontinued local Branch shall be transferred to the Grand Lodge to be placed in the ~~Funeral and Burial~~General Fund.

Par. 3. If members are transferred then any and all assets received by the Grand Lodge or by a local Branch from a suspended, dissolved or discontinued local Branch shall be placed in the ~~Sick Benefit fund~~General Fund of the Grand Lodge or of the local Branch.

Section 4

The Grand President, and such other Grand Officers as ~~he~~-they selects, shall assist in the implementation of this Article and the transfer of members and assets to local Branches or to the Grand Lodge, whichever is appropriate.

ARTICLE XX
MEMBERS WHOSE MEMBERSHIP IS UNDER THE
JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE

Section 1

The yearly dues for members under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall be FOUR and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4.00) payable yearly in advance ~~as well as, and~~ the funeral and burial assessment levied on local Branches each year as well as the regular semi-annual or yearly tax. The dues shall be kept in a Sick Benefits Fund out of which eventual sick benefits shall be paid.

Section 2

All dues, assessments and taxes shall be paid to the Grand Secretary. If the said member is unable to pay ~~their~~his dues, the Grand Lodge may waive the payment of the said dues or have the said dues paid from the Sick Benefits Fund created from the assets of the said members' prior dissolved local Branch, if the said member is entitled to the said sick benefits.

Section 3

A member in arrears on dues, taxes and assessments for a period of six (6) months is not in good standing and has no right of claim to sick benefits or funeral and burial benefits.

Section 4

A member indebted to the Grand Lodge for a period of six (6) months shall be dropped from the rolls by reason of such arrearage; provided however, that the Grand Secretary,

before such action is taken, shall notify such member by certified mail at least two weeks prior thereto.

Section 5

Par. 1. Sick benefits in the sum of FOUR and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4.00) per day shall be paid to sick benefit members, whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, for a period not to exceed thirteen (13) weeks in anyone one (1) year or twelve (12) month period. Thereafter, the same amount shall be paid until the sum of SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$728.00) has been paid.

Par. 2. After the sum of SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$728.00) has been paid to a member, whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, a sick benefit member shall ~~4~~ then receive TWO DOLLARS and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2.00) per day for a period not to exceed thirteen (13) weeks in any one (1) year or twelve (12) month period. Thereafter, the same amount shall be paid until the total sum of ONE THOUSAND NINETY-TWO and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$1,092.00) has been paid, after which said member shall be entitled to no more sick benefits.

Par. 3. The period of sickness covered by the first payment shall start the one (1) year or twelve (12) month period.

Section 6

To arrive at the total sum paid, there shall be added the amount of sick benefits received by the member from local Branches in which theyhe held membership before coming under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

Section 7

A sick member must at once notify the Grand Secretary of theirhis sickness and no sick period will be considered as beginning more than one (1) month prior to the date postmarked on the letter of notification or email.

Section 8

A report of a sick committee, consisting of three (3) members appointed by the Grand Secretary, or a physician's statement must be submitted ~~at least once every month~~, commencing with the one accompanying the first sickness, which sets forth the condition of the said member.

Section 9

If a member under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge is receiving benefits from the Dania-Dannebrog Old Age Fund, the Grand Secretary shall receive the said benefits and place the same in the General fund and thereafter, shall pay the said benefits according to the rules and regulations as set forth by the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XXI MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Subject to the rights of each local Branch to formulate and pass its own By-Lawsbylaws pursuant to Article XIII, Section 5, hereof, any person of a Danish heritage or persons who are blood or step-related through marriage or as close friends of a member of Dania, or any person who hasve an interest in Danish heritage or customs shall be eligible for membership subject to the rules and regulations of the Society.

Section 2

****NOTE**:** Par 1, items a) and b) moved from Section 9, Pars 1 and 2. Par 2 moved from Section 9, Pars 3 and 4. Par 3 moved and revised from Section 4. Par 4 is new. Par 5 moved from Section 9, Pars 5 and 6.

~~The membership consists of:~~

- ~~a) Primary Members;~~
- ~~b) Secondary Members;~~
- ~~c) Honorary Members.~~

Par. 1. Primary Members

Section 3

- a) A member must be over fourteen (14) years of age at the time of his initiation, must fill out and sign a regular approved petition blank, submit to a ballot and Sign the membership book of the local Branch in order to be entitled to any financial benefits from the Grand Lodge or its local Branches.
- b) A primary member will pay dues as mandated by the Primary Branch. The Primary Branch will pay the appropriate per capita taxes to the Grand Lodge.
- c) A Primary Member may apply for Secondary Membership in any other Branch.

Par 2. Secondary Members

- a) A Secondary Member will pay dues as required by the Secondary Branch. Membership will not accrue to the Grand Lodge.
- b) A Secondary Member cannot hold an Elected position.

Par 3. Honorary Life Members

- a) An Honorary Life Member is a member who has, at the discretion of their local Branch, achieved special status in Dania.
- b) Honorary members will have their dues and semi-annual taxes paid by their local Branch. The Grand Lodge will recognize Honorary Members as Primary Members for the purposes of calculating membership roles.
- c) Honorary Members are those who have been members for 50 years or who have been awarded this status due to other conditions such as medical or physical limitations that may prevent them from attending meetings on a regular basis.
- d) Honorary members retain all of the rights of Primary Members such as voting rights and the ability to hold office.

Par 4. Honorary Members

- a) An Honorary Member is a person who has been given special recognition for their contributions to the Danish community.

Par. 5. Account of Memberships

- a) The accounting of Primary and Secondary Memberships will be maintained by the Grand Lodge.
- b) A Member may elect to transfer their Primary Membership by following the procedure as defined in Article XXII. A member may hold one Primary Membership.

Section 4

~~Par. 1. Honorary members are men of Danish birth or extraction, who have distinguished themselves in the arts or science, or otherwise, and by their acts conferred honor upon the Danish nationality, also men over 50 years of age, whose influence and standing in a community, in the judgment of a local Branch, would be of benefit, if he is included in the membership roll.~~

~~Par. 2. Honorary members pay no fees or dues of any kind, nor do they have any claim on the Society, financial or otherwise, nor does the local Branch pay any assessments or dues to the Grand Lodge for honorary members.~~

Section ~~35~~

Par. 1. When a candidate applies for admission as a member, the petition must be sponsored by one (1) member who shall vouch for the candidate. The initiation fee shall accompany the petition.

Par. 2. After a favorable report has been received from the investigation committee, the candidate is balloted for with white balls and black cubes or balls. The white balls are cast for the candidate and the black cubes or balls against ~~the candidate~~him.

Par. 3. If at the first ballot there should be cast one (1) or two (2) black cubes or balls, a re-ballot shall be taken and if there should be no more on the re-ballot, the candidate is elected. If three (3) or more black cubes or balls are found, the candidate shall be rejected and ~~their~~his initiation fee shall be returned ~~to him~~. ~~They~~He cannot seek re-election before a period of six (6) months has elapsed.

Par. 4. ~~That t~~The voting upon an individual candidate by the use of the white balls and black cubes or balls may be waived at the time of each balloting by the unanimous vote of the members present and voting, ~~and if~~ so waived, then the candidate shall be voted upon using the normal voting procedure, with each negative voting being deemed as a black cube or ball.

Section ~~46~~

If a candidate is rejected by ballot, the Grand Secretary shall be notified at once. ~~He~~ ~~They~~ shall, in turn, notify all other local Branches thereof.

Section ~~57~~

The initiation of all members shall take place in accordance with the rules and rituals as prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

Section ~~68~~

It is the duty of every member to acquaint ~~himself~~ ~~themselves~~ with the provisions of this Constitution and to submit to them in every respect as it now exists and with changes and additions made from time to time.

~~Section 9Par 1; A Primary member will pay dues as mandated by the Primary Branch. The Primary Branch of the Primary Member will pay the appropriate per capita taxes to the Grand Lodge.~~

~~Par 2; A Primary Member may apply for Secondary Membership in any other Branch.~~

~~Par 3: A Secondary Member will pay dues as required by the Secondary Branch. Membership will not accrue to the Grand Lodge.~~

~~Par 4; A Secondary Member cannot hold an Elected position. Par 5; The accounting of Primary and Secondary Memberships will be maintained by the Grand Lodge.~~

~~Par 6; A Member may elect to transfer their Primary Membership by following the procedure as defined in Article XXII. A member may can hold one Primary Membership.~~

Section ~~710~~

It is the duty of a member to advise the secretary of ~~his~~ ~~their~~ local Branch of any changes in ~~his~~ address and telephone number. All communications sent to ~~their~~his last known address shall be considered as lawful and ~~they~~he must submit to any resulting consequences of such notification.

ARTICLE XXII
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFER OF MEMBERS

Section 1

A member who wishes to transfer from one local Branch to another shall be provided with a transfer card showing ~~their~~his full name and birthplace, date of initiation and financial standing with the former local Branch, also how much has been paid to ~~them~~him in sick benefits, if any. This must be signed by the President and Secretary and sealed with the seal of the former local Branch.

~~Section 2~~

~~Before a member can join another local Branch he must show a current medical certificate, if he is a sick benefit member, and be balloted upon in the usual way. However, he remains a member of his former local Branch until he is finally accepted in the local Branch to which he has transferred.~~

Section ~~2~~3

Par. 1. A member, who is receiving or is entitled to receive sick and/or funeral benefits from ~~their~~his former local Branch but does not want or is ineligible for the said benefits in the local Branch to which ~~he is~~they are transferring, may join the new local Branch as a member without sick and/or funeral benefits, ~~and retain his sick and/or funeral benefits from the local Branch from which he is transferring, without membership therein.~~

Par. 2. ~~A member~~He shall pay to the former local Branch any and all dues and assessments attributable to the sick and/or funeral benefits of ~~their~~his former local Branch.

Par. 3. ~~A member~~He shall be deemed as a member of the local Branch to which ~~they~~he transferred and pay all of the dues and assessments of the said local Branch and of the Grand Lodge to the said Local Branch ~~they~~he transferred as a non-sick and/or non-funeral benefit member.

Par. 4. He shall have no right of vote nor right of membership in his former local Branch, but he shall be entitled to any and all sick and/or funeral benefits that any other sick and/or funeral benefit member receives from his former local Branch, if he retains his sick and/or funeral benefit in his former local Branch.

Par. 5. A member shall lose ~~their~~his sick and/or funeral benefits from ~~their~~his former local Branch when ~~he is~~ no longer a member of a local Branch or of the Grand Lodge or when ~~they~~he fails to pay any and all dues and assessments attributable to the said sick and/or funeral benefits.

Par. 6. This section shall not refer to nor shall it have any reference to any and all funeral benefits provided by the Grand Lodge.

Section ~~3~~4

If a member does not join another local Branch within six (6) months from the date of issuance or the certificate of transfer, ~~he~~they shall retain ~~his~~their membership in the former local Branch and be considered a member in good standing for all purposes so long as ~~they~~he continues to pay ~~his~~their dues and assessments.

Section 5

A member should present ~~himself~~themselves for presentation to the local Branch mentioned in ~~his~~their certificate of transfer within the ~~above mentioned~~above mentioned limit of time. The local Branch may on special occasions excuse a member from appearing in person and the President then has the authority to pronounce ~~him~~them a member of the local Branch.

Section 6

Par. 1. Before a certificate of transfer may be issued, the applicant must pay six (6) months dues in advance to ~~his-their~~ former local Branch, which shall not be refundable.

Par. 2. That during this six (6) month period ~~he-they~~ shall receive all of the sick benefits to which ~~he-is~~they are entitled from ~~his-their~~ former local Branch.

Section 7

On the issuance of a certificate of transfer, the former local Branch shall send to the Grand Secretary the name of the applicant and the name and number of the new local Branch to which ~~he-they~~ desires to transfer.

Section 8

When a member is accepted by a certificate of transfer, the new local Branch shall notify the Grand Secretary and the recording secretary of the former local Branch of ~~his~~their name and number of the former local Branch which issued the certificate of transfer.

Section 9

If qualified, a member entering another local Branch under a certificate of transfer shall not for this reason be entitled to greater advantages in regard to sick benefits than the other members of the new local Branch. The amount ~~he-hasthey have~~ already received in sick benefits in ~~his-their~~ former local Branch shall be deducted from the total sum, which ~~his-their~~ new local Branch may pay for this purpose. The same rule applies to a member who has resigned or has been suspended and is re-instated.

ARTICLE XXIII

WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERS ~~AND CLEARANCE CARDS~~

~~Section 1~~

~~A clearance card shall be issued by the secretary of the local Branch at the request of members who are not indebted to the Society. Such a clearance card shall be evidence that the member to whom the same is issued was in good standing at the time he withdrew from the local Branch.~~

Section ~~1~~2

A receipt from one of Dania's local Branches showing that the holder is in good standing in ~~his-their~~ local Branch shall be proof that ~~he-wasthey were~~ in good standing at the time of withdrawal from the local Branch.

Section ~~2~~3

Should a member withdraw from membership, ~~he-they~~ may, within one (1) year after ~~his~~-withdrawal, be reinstated.

Section ~~3~~4

The said member who chooses to be reinstated must pay all monies due the local Branch and assessments and taxes due the Grand Lodge that become due and payable during the period of withdrawal.

Section ~~4~~5

The said member who chooses to be reinstated shall be entitled to all of ~~his-their~~ benefits.

Section 6

Should the local Branch from which a member withdrew be suspended, dissolved, or discontinued when ~~he-they~~ wishes to be reinstated into the Society as allowed by this Constitution, ~~he-thenthey~~ shall pay ~~his-their~~ arrearages to the Grand Lodge and become a member whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XXIV SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

When a member is in arrears with ~~his~~their dues and assessments for a period of six (6) months to ~~their~~his local Branch, ~~then he~~they shall be suspended for non-payment of dues, but only after being notified in writing by certified mail.

Section 2

The said suspended member may, upon request to ~~their~~his local Branch, have ~~their~~his suspension stayed until the adjournment of the following convention.

Section 3

Within six (6) months after the beginning of the period of suspension or if the suspension is stayed, then at time before the adjournment of the following convention, the suspended member, upon payment ~~by him~~ of all monies due the local Branch and assessments and taxes due the Grand Lodge, be reinstated.

Section 4

During the period of suspension, whether stayed or not, the said member shall have no claim against the Society, the Grand Lodge or ~~his~~their local Branch.

Section 5

All other suspended members may join the Society like any and all other qualified persons.

Section 6

Should the local Branch from which a member was suspended for non-payment of dues be itself suspended, dissolved, or discontinued when ~~he wishes~~they wish to be reinstated into the Society as allowed by this Constitution, ~~he then~~they shall pay ~~their~~his arrearages to the Grand Lodge and become a member whose membership is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XXV REVOCATION OF CHARTERS, OFFICE, OR MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Any member may file a Petition with the Executive Committee requesting that a Charter of a local Branch be revoked, a Grand or local officer be removed from office, or that the membership of a member be revoked.

Section 2

That any Petition filed shall set forth the reasons and grounds and shall list that part of this Constitution or the local ~~By-laws~~bylaws that has been violated.

Section 3

The Executive Committee shall hold such open hearing and shall receive all testimony from all persons as is reasonably needed in order to reach a decision.

Section 4

The Grand President and such other Grand Officers as needed, shall execute the decision of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XXVI DISSOLUTION

~~That should~~Should the said Grand Lodge decide to dissolve, then all of the assets of

the said Grand Lodge, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the said Grand Lodge shall be paid to the following organization, to wit:

1. An undivided one-half (1/2) thereof to all of the retirement homes which have been created, sponsored and controlled by the Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada at the time of its dissolution, share and share alike; and if there be none, then to all of the retirement homes to which the Grand Lodge has contributed or maintained membership within the five (5) years immediately preceding the said dissolutionment, ~~share and share alike~~; and if there be none then to the organizations as set forth in Paragraph 2 of this Article XXVI.
2. An undivided one-half (1/2) thereof to all of local Branches of Dania which are in existence at the time of the said dissolutionment, in proportions to the members in each local Branch; and if none of the local Branches are in existence, then to the organizations as set forth in Paragraph 1 of this Article XXVI.

ARTICLE XXVII LAW AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Where an alteration or amendment to this Constitution is contemplated, a proposal of the said alteration or amendment may be submitted sent to the Grand Secretary at least two (2) months prior to the opening of the convention. If so received by the Grand Secretary, ~~he~~ they must send a copy of the said alteration or amendment, forthwith, to each local Branch.

Section 2

Alterations or amendments to this Constitution can only take place at a lawfully assembled convention of the Grand Lodge, and such alterations or amendments must be adopted by a two-third majority of all votes cast.

Section 3

A motion to alter or amend an Article, Section or Paragraph must be made in writing and must include the original as well as the proposed Article, Section, or Paragraph, as altered or amended, and must point out the changes desired. Copies shall be provided as required by Article VIII, Section 12, of this Constitution.

Section 4

All new or amended Articles, Sections or Paragraphs shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after their adoption, ~~U~~ unless the Grand Lodge shall provide otherwise.

ARTICLE XXVIII

Section 1

~~Where ever the male gender is used in this Constitution change such to read and be inclusive of similar female gender in the following manner: "HE" is changed to "He or She", "His" to "His or Hers", "Man" to "Man or Woman", "Men" to "Men or Women", and "Male" to "Male or Female".~~

30

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

By: /s/ LAWRENCE C. BENTZEN Lawrence C.
Bentzen, Sønderjyl1 and No. 10

/s/ STUART O. MAHLER Stuart O.
Mahler,
Thyra No. 9

/s/ JAN ALTON WALKER

Jan Alton Walker,
Freja No. 6

/s/ ELMER C. JORGENSEN
Elmer C. Jorgensen,

Thyra No.9

Adopted by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 11, 1986.

Amended ARTICLE IV Section 3, Section 4 and ARTICLE XIV Section 11 Par.1 and Par 4 by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 14, 2007

Amended ARTICLE X Section 2, Paragraph 3 by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 12, 2008

Amended ARTICLE XI Section 4, Paragraph 7 by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 16, 2010

Amended ARTICLE XI Section 4, Paragraph 8 by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 16, 2010

Amended ARTICLE IV Section 5, Paragraph 1 by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 12, 2014

Amended ARTICLE XXI Section 9 and add Paragraph 1-6 by The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada, effective forthwith, on April 21, 2018

Timothy J Heer
Grand Secretary

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT SUGGESTED #1

An amendment to The Constitution of the The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada amending Article ___ VII ___, Section ___ 1 ___ relating to ___ LAWS GOVERNING THE GRAND LODGE ___

Currently the section reads:

The Grand President, during his term of office, shall be entitled to draw on the general fund the amount of SIX HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$600.00) as traveling expenses incurred in visiting the local Branches.

The proposed new reading is:

The Grand President, **shall during a term of office** be entitled to draw on the general fund the amount of **TWELVE HUNDRED** and 00/100 DOLLARS (**\$1,200.00**) as **reimbursement for** traveling expenses incurred in visiting the local Branches.

Motivation:

Setting the standard reimbursement to reflect more than 10 years of practice. Eliminate the gender specific pronouns

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT SUGGESTED #2

An amendment to The Constitution of the The Danish Society of Dania of California and Nevada amending Article ___ VII ___, Section ___ 2 ___ relating to ___ LAWS GOVERNING THE GRAND LODGE ___

Currently the section reads:

The Grand Marshal, during his term of office shall be entitled to draw on the General Fund the amount of THREE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$300.00) as travel expenses incurred in visiting the local Branches.

The proposed new reading is:

The Grand Marshal, **shall during a term of office** be entitled to draw on the general fund the amount of **SIX HUNDRED** and 00/100 DOLLARS (**\$600.00**) as **reimbursement for** traveling expenses incurred in visiting the local Branches.

Motivation:

Setting the standard reimbursement to reflect more than 10 years of practice. Eliminate the gender specific pronouns

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 139th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 12th and 13th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention, and

Whereas:

The Queen of Danmark, Her Royal Highness Margrethe II, celebrated her 79th birthday on April 16

Therefore be it resolved:

That this convention sends congratulations and best wishes;

Be it further resolved:

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

Resolution committee:

Brent I. Lee
Lance Travis Lyzner
John L.

April 13, 2019

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 139th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 12th and 13th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention, and

Whereas:

The Hayward Lodges, Thyra #9 and Valborg #1; hosted the 139th annual Danish Society Dania and Dannebrog 2019 convention at the Grosvenor Hotel, South San Francisco CA;

Therefore be it resolved:

That this convention sends congratulations for a job well done.

Be it further resolved:

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

Resolution committee:

Bent A. Eklund

Karen Tris Lyngby
John H. Lyngby

April 13, 2019

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 139th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 12th and 13th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention, and

Whereas:

The Grosvenor Hotel was the host hotel to the 139th annual convention of the Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

Therefore be it resolved:

We express our sincere appreciation for all services to us

Be it further resolved:

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

Resolution committee:

Bento 968

Kenneth Fries Lymer

John H. Lee

April 13, 2019

Grand Lodge Dania of California and Nevada

RESOLUTION of SORROW

Whereas:

We the Officers and Delegates of the 139th Grand Lodge convention in South San Francisco on April 12th and 13th at Grosvenor Hotel; have enjoyed a successful convention, and

Whereas:

We do deeply regret the passing of our faithful members who gave their devoted service to our Society over many years, and do deeply regret the death of all lodge members of Grand Lodge Dania.

Therefore be it resolved:

We extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathy of sorrow

Be it further resolved:

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

Resolution committee:

Bert I. Lee
Karen Trish Lyman
John H. Lee

April 13, 2019