



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

September 2020

Dannebrog Grand President

Well, here I am again, writing this from my home office in Fremont with the strong smell of smoke outside from the horrific fires. My heart aches for those people who have lost their homes and those who had to flee their homes not knowing if they will have a home when they are able to return. To answer Jana's question from last month's newsletter, I have rediscovered my love of jigsaw puzzles and have graduated from 500-piece puzzles to 1,000-piece puzzles. Actually, it has become an addiction! For those of you who have not responded to Jana's request, it's not too late. We are interested in what the members have been doing during this unprecedented time. Stay safe!—*Beth Cowan, Dannebrog Grand President*

Dania Grand President

And now under Good of the Order, I recognize Dannebrog's Past Grand President Anette Christensen from Reno. . .

"I experimented with planting potatoes for the first time this year. I had a bag of red potatoes that started to sprout, so I planted them to see if anything came of it? I planted 39 potatoes and 38 came up with the best homegrown potatoes I have seen in a long time! ☺ I found a cross stitch project that I never finished - I know I started on it many years ago - the kids were small then. I have put together many puzzles - a couple of ladies & I rotate puzzles, so we have some new challenges. I have always enjoyed sewing and found a new love for making masks! ☺ I have to have one of each color to match my outfits ☺ Our granddaughter was spending a week with us and I taught her to use the sewing machine - she made sleeping bags for her animals. I almost forgot about Poul ☺ he has been very productive! Working in the yard, painting the house and always working on small projects around the house! Good thing Home Depot and Lowes are open!"

Thank you Anette for your uplifting card and filling every square inch of space with your cheery news. Just one question, did you finish the cross stitch project you found? ☺ Anyone else have something to offer . . . Oh - Eric Jorgensen! How did I miss seeing you standing there? Seriously, nobody overlooks a Jorgensen ☺.

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Alan Filiu adfiliu@sbcglobal.net
Grand President	Jana Heer juganddana@sbcglobal.net	Beth Cowan beth.cowan@att.net
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Grand Trustee #2	Peder Hoy pedohoy@yahoo.com	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net
Grand Trustee #3	Robert Lamee robertlamee@yahoo.com	Tracey Lamee tnlamee@yahoo.com

"Ironically, my life did not change after retiring to the Everett WA area 3 & 1/2 years ago. In the winter I work on projects inside the house. When the weather changes I work on projects in the yard. In the past, I spent my life in the hardware and grocery stores. Now, I spend my life in the hardware and grocery stores with facemasks donned. No travel, no dancing, no dating, no family visits to & fro. Just Zoom my way through the days. Computers and various apps have been a godsend to survive Covid-19." Eric added how much he is enjoying his Hayward branches ZOOM meetings, and also having the opportunity to catch up with other members who have moved out of the area. Thank you Eric, so good to hear from you.

Since there was only two responses to my request last month I'm eager to give it another try in October, and if you are all a little burnt out with Covid maybe you have a wildfire evacuation story to share! I can't remember a time when "stay safe" has been said so many times for so many reasons. Also - if anyone else

sent a note in the mail between the 14th and the 21st, unfortunately I didn't receive it because while in the mountains escaping the smoke and heat, Steen's mailbox got broken into and all mail was stolen! "Skål" to better days ahead! Jana Heer, Dania Grand President

IN MEMORIAM:

Phyllis Allman, Laura #8, San Jose

NEW MEMBERS

Mette Olsen, Dannevirke #9, Reno

Jesper Olsen, Valdemar #12, Reno

DANIA GERNERAL FUND

Ole M Pedersen in memory of Robert Sorensen (This donation made back in April but was unfortunately not report until now. This happens way too often, so if it happens to you please let me know)

Danmark No. 2 & Thyra No. 3

Meeting: 2nd. Wednesday every month 7:30 PM Odd Fellows Building; 26 Seventh Street, San Francisco CA 94103

Danmark #2 Secretary John A. Jensen, E-Mail jajensend2@gmail.com Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

The entire San Francisco lodge wishes you good health, safety, and sanity this month. As we end August, it has gotten too crazy. Our thoughts are with all members who have been displaced by the wildfires. We hope than anyone who had to leave their home in haste can return to find it waiting, safe and sound, as soon as possible. Our August meeting was another backyard gathering at Tom Martin's house. We shared good food and good company under a hazy sky. It was a slightly smaller crowd than last month, but we managed to eat the same amount. From the pickled herring to the grilled peaches and

Thor No. 5 & Thora No. 11

Meeting: 1st. Saturday, 11:30 AM. Denny's 1110 Shaw Ave (on the north side, just east of First Street) Fresno. Secretary, Martha Nielsen nielsenmarta@gmail.com

Here we are, still in the midst of the shutdown. This week everyone would be heading up to Ferndale for the big weekend of their installation. CC Market would be catering all the dinners and their prime rib is scrumptious. Christian Nielsen would be in charge of the bar, making it such a festive time that we have all enjoyed. President Kay Jensen is home from her trip south to be with her sister who just lost her husband. Kay has made calls to many of our lodge members to just check on them. Many that we haven't heard from in a while are: Barbara Ahlberg, Mary Christensen, Ruth and Susan Christensen, Bonnie Terkelsen, Betty Green, Lone Taylor, Gail Hansen and Pam Kjar. Doris and Rene Lastreto are still at San Joaquin Gardens. Doris says Rene is having a tough time of it and he has a caregiver for help. I talked to Carl and Betty Jensen and they are well with the exception of Betty having a pinched nerve in her back.

Upcoming Conventions		
Bornholm #14	Double Tree in Modesto	April 22-24, 2021
Upcoming Installations		
TBA		

homemade cookies, everything was fantastic. Hot links, BBQ chicken, and tri-tip – Oh my! Thanks again Tom for being such a great host. Less business, more socializing has been the theme of the summer. I cannot say if or when we will hear a gavel again. We are planning another weekend gathering for mid-Sept. Location to be determined, but we are determined to have another great time. Stay safe Dania and Dannebrog! Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary, jajensend2@gmail.com , 510-299-1855

She's to have a 'shot' this next week, hopefully she'll be out of pain soon. Carl had also talked with Doris and Rene and Lone Taylor. Lone is in the middle of medical testing after a stay in the hospital. Hope you're on the road to recovery Lone. September has always been a busy month with picking and drying the grapes for raisins and going to Solvang's Danish Days to dance. Solvang has cancelled the celebration for this year. Congratulations to Bent and Susy Olsen on the 50th Anniversary of their bakery. It's a tradition that we start with breakfast at their bakery with 'hot out of the oven' Danish Rundstykke, butter, Havarti cheese and raspberry jam served with lots of good hot coffee. Bent and Susy are always visiting with all the Danes coming in for the weekend, including the Danish Nimbus motorcycle group that Bob Lacey is a part of. It's really a special time that we all enjoy so much.

We miss dancing with all our family of dancers on Tuesdays nights, there's just been a few of us dancing at the Holts patio each week. Still keeping busy, when you have a Peach tree with ripe cling peaches you make pies, cobblers plus can up the extra peaches. Jerry said he would peel them, so I cut, cooked and washed jars. Now have 22 quarts of beautiful peaches ready to eat. Our air quality is so bad here in Fresno with the dust from the almond harvest and with all the fires throughout California. Some of our members from other lodges are

facing evacuation, my daughter in Santa Cruz County has been packing. She has said that some areas like Paradise Park has already been evacuated, which means Tim and Natalie must be out. This is such a scary time for all of them. When you look around at your home and wonder what you need to save. Bottom line it comes down to what's the most important, family. So when we look at the Covid virus and how it has turned our world upside down, we need to look beyond and know we will survive this. Stay safe and healthy. Martha Nielsen

Freja No. 6 & Dana No. 15

Meeting: 1st. Sunday every month at 1:00 P.M.; Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA Secretary, Natalie Heer, timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

It has not been a fun time in our Monterey County, due to all of the smoke in the area from three fires. One of those named the River Fire was the largest, and had the biggest impact on Family and Members of Dana & Freja. PGP Arne Graversgaard was evacuated from his house in San Benancio. He is safely back home now, and the fire is no longer a treat to his area, but still being fought further South near Arroyo Seco. Miller's Lodge which was a big part of Dana & Freja's history was under an evacuation warning but that has been lifted now. There is a larger fire burning in Santa Cruz County which forced

Natalie and Me into a mandatory evacuation of our home for the last seven days, which has been lifted. This fire has also impacted members of Danebod, and Valborg who have cabins in the area. I know that there are Members up and down the state that have been affected by any number of fire, our thoughts are with all of you at this time. Ole Pedersen wrote "Once again we are reminded that if there's something one wants to do, do it now, because it may not be possible later, such as going to Ferndale for Labor Day." Good advice Ole, hope to see you all in Ferndale next year. TJH

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meets 2nd Saturday at 6:00PM; the Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way, Livermore. Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, Robertlamee@yahoo.com Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com

So what can we say about 2020? Between Covid-19, Fires, Riots, Politics it's all too much, too much for anyone to handle. Since I was coming up blank on what to include in this newsletter, I asked our president Diane Reinstein if she had any words of wisdom for the newsletter. She said how about a Danish recipe. Well for the year 2020 the only recipe I can think of include: Akavit (made from potatoes),

whiskey (rye, wheat, barley) wine (which is made from grapes) or beer (made from malted barley or hops). Last month I encouraged you to eat more almonds, this month to keep up with the theme of supporting farmers, I am encouraging you to drink more (responsibly of course!!!). Stay safe, sane and sober despite my rant here, Cheers, KRT

No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1

Meeting: 2nd. Thursday every month 7:30 PM; 20920 Redwood Road, Castro Valley CA 94546. President, Susan Gauthier, s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, beth.cowan@att.net

We will be holding a virtual meeting via Zoom at 6:30 PM, on Thursday, September 10. Please note the earlier start time! The Zoom meeting invitation will be emailed to our members. If you are not a member of the Hayward

branches, and would like to join us, please email me at s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net. I hope everyone is staying healthy! Susan

Sonderjylland No. 10

Meeting 2nd Saturday of April, June, August and October, 11:30 at Kastania Fæled, Petaluma. John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary, 8426 Bel View Court, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2557 Home: 510-232-6998 or cell: 510-375-5070, E-Mail: j.crugerhansen@comcast.net

Sønderjylland #10 had no meeting in August 2020.

The Sønderjylland #10 Board of Directors is re-sending the following message to our members:

We hope all of you are well and coping with our new normal during this difficult time of the COVID-19 outbreaks in our area, our country, and in the world.

Because of the outbreak we have cancelled, until further notice, all of our scheduled meetings for year 2020 at the Kastania Fælled in Petaluma. It is unfortunate that we have to take this action, but having our meetings would put our members in unnecessary danger of being infected with the COVID-19 virus. Better safe than sorry.

So far, we have not heard of any of our members getting sick with the virus, thank goodness, but please do let us know if you need any help or if you know of any of our members who need help.

In addition to the COVID-19 virus, we are now also dealing with wildfires affecting all of us. Hopefully these inconveniences from the fires are short term, however the health effects from the heavy smoke almost everywhere can be very dangerous, so please stay out of the smoke.

Until further notice, stay safe, stay healthy, and stay in contact with each other.

Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary

From Past President Karen Friis Lysmer's Desk:

Hoping our fellow members and friends in both Dania and Dannebrog are healthy and safe during these critical times.

I have called our members in Sdr. #10 to see how they are doing. I spoke to over half of them in person and left messages for the unavailable. So far only positive news, except Holger Jorgensen's phone is disconnected.

I believe he is in the fire zone in Monte Rio and Guerneville. We sincerely hope our 92-year-old friend and fellow member is safely evacuated.

It looks like it will be quite a while into the future, before we will enjoy each other's company again. Meanwhile stay safe, healthy and in touch.

The most excitement I had this year was burning an apparently illegal bonfire on a little beach in Alameda on the eve of Solstice, otherwise called Sant. Hans (in Dk)! It started out with an invitation from one of my daughters to have a little evening picnic on her favorite beach in Alameda....and ...she said we would have a small fire too, because it is not part of the Eastbay Parks, so it's safe. I realized it was Sant Hans Aften, so it was even more special. It was a small perfect fire right by the water's edge, and we got to enjoy it for nearly half an hour, when we heard the fire sirens. As the three firefighters came toward us, I wished them "Happy Solstice", and told them of the Danish tradition of bonfires by the water all around our coasts of Denmark on this special evening. They kind of chuckled, as they explained that fires were not allowed. We apologized and promised we would NEVER do this again. They put out our small perfect fire, and stayed and chatted till every ember was killed, while we offered them some snacks. After living in the US for 59 years, I finally broke the law, unintentionally. Wonder what my father, the local Police Chief would have said.... and then at my age!

Stay positive and happy. Respectfully, Karen Friis Lysmer. P.Pres.

Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

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

Secretary, Christian Nielsen, ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net

We are still closed and don't plan on meeting until sometime in 2021

Hope everyone is healthy and staying safe.

Christian Nielsen

Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9

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

Secretary, Sena Marie Freeman P.O. Box 4575, Sparks NV 89432; Anette Christensen, anettechristensen@charter.net

The Reno Lodges of Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9 met at the Odd Fellows Hall at 7 PM on Friday August 7th. 15 members and 2 visitors were in attendance. A genuinely nice get together with social distance and masks. Carl and Helen Christiansen prepared Tri-tip for all of us and they did a great job – it was unbelievably delicious. A big thank you to them both. Anette had made a Danish potato salad from home grown red potatoes. Sena- Marie had made chocolate chip cookies, so nobody left hungry. Anette opened the meeting at 8:30 PM during dessert and coffee. We welcomed 2 new members to Valdemar and Dannevirke. Jesper and Mette Olsen who have lived in Reno for a couple of years. Welcome to you both! Under

“good of the order”, Helen announced that Carl Christiansen has passed his American citizens test and will be sworn-in, in a few weeks. Congratulations! Sena-Marie read a brief history on our beloved member Karma Smith who passed away on July 22, 2020 after a long illness. Karma has been a member of Dannevirke #9 since July of 1968. She was born and raised in Reno and married her husband Jim in 1969. They moved to different places while Jim was in the service and settled in El Paso, Texas in 1985. She loved being called a Dane! Karma's grandmother was Hulda Nielsen, the first Grand President from Reno, 1920-1921. Hulda passed away in Reno in 1948. Karma & Nina Christensen (Ann-Kathrine Sawyer's

mother) were sisters. I remember being raised around Karma and was Marshal of our local branch when she was initiated into Dannevirke. Rest in peace dear friend and you will be missed.

Glad to see Glenn Fritz at the meeting – you were missed. There were no other sicknesses that we know about. Thank Goodness. Nina and Jordan arrived home from Oregon safe and sound. Nina will be starting back to school August 17th at a new school. Ann-katherine's assisted living place is still overly concerned about their people, but a little more relaxed with activities, but still no

Bornholm No. 14

Meeting: 3rd. Friday every month 5:00 PM To Be Determined

President Bente Ellis, Bentfra@comcast.net Secretary Ann Stowers, ann.max@att.net

Hello to everyone. First off, I want to thank my sis Margie for taking over for me last month. Max was hospitalized for several days for gall-bladder surgery. Because of the COVID 19 Virus, I was unable to be with him in the hospital. When he was discharged, he developed complications and has been back several times. On the bright side I have learned that I can be a valet, nurse, gardener, garbage person, cook and waitress! Last night we tried our first “Zoom” meeting. Hopefully we will get better at it or the “sheltering” will no longer be necessary because a cure has been discovered. (hope, hope, hope)

As many of you probably heard, the Clarion Hotel where we were planning to have the 2021 Convention has been sold. John Scheuber and his committee are currently negotiating with the Double Tree in Modesto to hold this

Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8

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

President, Doris Skow, dws1929@gmail.com, Secretary, Kim Nielsen Giacinto, kimgiacinto@gmail.com

As it is with all the branches, we here in San Jose are still on lockdown and will not be meeting for some time. Lis Lacey reported that she and Britta Lange went to see Maud Hansen, and she is doing well. I spoke with Ellen Jensen and she is doing well. She said her son Ken and his wife in Bonny Doon have had to evacuate and don't know when they will get back in.

Renae Nielsen-Fish is packed to evacuate if need be and you know Tim and Natalie are out of their house and living in the RV. Prayers and good thoughts go out to everyone to stay well and safe.

Hejls Minde No. 23

Meeting: 1st. Wednesday 12 noon at Bit O' Denmark, Secretary, Jean Kardel, 5765 Oakhill Dr. Santa Maria, CA 93455

Holger Danske No. 27 & Valkyrien No. 23

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

Holger Danske Secretary, Wayne A. Allen; Valkyrien Secretary, Darlene Iversen

visitors or walking off property. We hope all is well and we will see you soon. We are thinking about you all.

For the September 4th meeting - everyone should bring their own picnic basket, since it looks like we will be keeping our distance for quite a while longer. Coffee and drinks will be supplied. Dessert of some kind will also be served. Our September Birthdays are Jennifer Baker, Anette Christensen, Eva Demosthenes, Glenn Fritz, Bonnie Larsen and Steve Myers. Happy Birthday All. Be safe, stay healthy and take care. Sena-Marie

event in April 2021, hopefully from the 22nd – 24th. Details will follow soon.

Sunshine Chairperson, Marge Scheuber reported the we have and will celebrate birthdays for Shirley Jorgensen, Danielle Higbee, and Elouise DeGrendele in June; Max Stowers, Joan Olsen, Lillian Rasmussen & Hugo Rasmussen in July. She also reported that Pedar Hoy is in remission and is doing well but is staying out of heat. Our weather has forced many of us to shelter at home.

It was reported that our traveling duo George & Bodil are camping now & Susan and Brian spent time in Sparks Nevada a few weeks ago.

Happy birthday to our August babies: 4th, Ann; 6th Bente; 7th, Mereta ; 8th Marge & the 22nd, Gunver.

We hope everyone is doing well and we look forward to getting together in the not too distant future. - Ann

I do have some sad news to share, our member Phyllis Allman passed away in her sleep on August 18. Due to the covid-19 lockdowns there are no plans for services. Our sympathy goes out to her husband Chuck and the family. You may remember PGP Joanne Davidson from Sacramento, She and Phyllis were sisters.

The rest of our members are holding their own and I keep in touch. The smoke here has been so thick that it has cut my gardening way down. I go out at 7 a.m. and water, then come back in for the rest of the day. Until next time. DWS