

<u>GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG</u>

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

November 2020

Dannebrog Grand President

Greetings! It seems nothing has changed since my last newsletter article, and I don't have much to add for this newsletter! November is the month for remembering and honoring our veterans, not just on Veterans' Day, but every day. And I wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving!— Beth Cowan, Dannebrog Grand President

Dania Grand President

The virus, the fires, the smoke, the politics, this year has given us much to stress about, but also given us opportunities to slow down and rediscover what's most important in our lives, the love and support of family and friends. March seems so long ago when we were trying to decide about cancelling our convention or not, and we're still making our way week by week. It continues to be difficult to make plans for the coming holidays let alone the new year ahead. I've loved reading our newsletters and seeing how positive all our members have remained through it all, thank you all so much for contributing every month. Right now, as I'm typing this on October 28th 2020 I feel like I'm riding up that first slow crest of the Big Dipper at Santa Cruz Boardwalk, jolted one click and clack at a time by the gears below me. I'm keeping my hands inside the car and holding on tight to the passenger next to me because this time, unlike the many times before, I'm not familiar with the track ahead. I hope when it rumbles down to a stop, I'll be able to steadily walk out into the sunshine, join the crowd of happy faces and celebrate with a corndog. See you on the flip side! Jana Heer, Dania's Grand President

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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	

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

IN MEMORIAM:

Erling Grumstrup, Solvang, Heils Minde #23

Viola Wilson, Hayward, Valborg #1 DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP:

Valborg #1, In Memory of Viola Wilson **DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Doris & Peder Hoy in Memory of PGP Kaj E. Kristensen, Danmark #2

Diane Liu & Mark Freiberg in Memory of PGP Kaj E. Kristensen, Danmark #2

DANIA GENERAL FUND

Ole M. Pedersen in Memory of PGP Kaj E. Kristensen, Danmark #2

DANIA/DANNEBROG S.A.F.

Johanne Gade and Elizabeth & Jim Jensen in Memory of PGP Kaj Kristensen Thyra #3 in Memory of PGP Kaj Kristensen Johanne Gade in Memory of Erling Grumstrup

Secretaries Desk:

It looks like some of the Grand Officers have been experiencing e-mails being sent out by what looks like their account but have not been sent by them. So Please if you receive an E-mail from a Grand Officer who is asking for help of any kind especially if they are asking for a cash card or want to use your account, please ignore it, delete it, and let us know. I know we all are ready to help our Danish Friends out of a jam or whatever they may be asking for but please remember that the Office Of The Grand Secretary is always available to help any of our Members in need.

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

Once again, the entire San Francisco lodge wishes you good health!

We had another backyard gathering for October. Tom you are the best! Turns out we are good at picking the hottest day of the month for our meetings. Formality is traded for efficiency when the meeting is in 95+ degree weather. It was Oktoberfest! We had great company and great food as we scrambled for shade. All the usual fixings plus bratwurst and sauerkraut. Then cookies, pumpkin pie and schnapps for dessert. I think we were spoiled a bit. It was great to see Dennis and Ian Nielsen again. We are reminded of just how long it has been since we have seen

our friends. D#2 and T#3 are trying to figure out how we can have a Christmas Luncheon this year. If there's a way to get dozens of Danes in one place to have a party in the Bay Area, we will find it. Wish us luck!

October was a bumpy ride for everybody, but we do our best to get through it and stay optimistic. Whatever happens in November, we must remember we are all in it together and for the long haul.

Stay Safe and Sane Dania and Dannebrog!

Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary,

jajensend2@gmail.com, 510-299-1855

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

News Flash!!! We have a Dannebrog member, Marjorie (Nielsen) Mott, that celebrated her 100th Birthday on October 2. I received the information from her daughter too late to put in the last newsletter. Many of you will remember Marjorie when she was married to Reynold Nielsen back when he was on the Grand Lodge. Because of the covid virus, they could not have the usual party so it was with calls, cards, and zoom. Marjorie is doing well, can't believe she's 100 as she looks so great. She's outlived 5 husbands and is still going strong which is amazing. Hope she has a great year of celebration.

I called our President Kay Jensen as she's made calls to check on many of our members. She had a nice long conversation with Stan Kjar, they're doing well and he was in great spirits. Carl and Betty Jensen are doing well. Carl is scheduled for cataract surgery in early November. Christie Pettitt has been in a lot of pain with her knee and is now waiting for a date for surgery. Doris Lastreto is doing well, says Rene is still in the care facility. They still have their place at San Joaquin Terrace. Kay talked with Bonnie Terkelsen, Barbara Ahlberg and the Carl Christensen family and everyone was doing well and appreciated her calls.

Kay was telling me that the Lutheran Church in Easton is now having services indoor and Deanna Dunbar and sister Kathy Mehrten were in attendance. Somethings are beginning to come back to normal.

Jerry Hansen is still dealing with insurance and cleaning up the remains of the debris of the fire. Have you ever put together jigsaw puzzles of the Danish Bing & Grondahl Christmas plates? We shoveled up the remains of the plates out of the ashes. It was so sad to see them shattered, some in more than 20 pieces. We ended up with 24 plates. We'll make a mosaic maybe later.

Our air is beginning to clear up from the smoke, except I'm still dealing with the walnut harvest dust. It will get better.

Hope all of you have a fun Halloween evening. Stay safe and continue those masks as we head into our Thanksgiving month. I will be giving thanks as this covid virus will eventually play out of our lives when the vaccines become available. I'm sure all of us will be giving thanks. I'm looking forward to the fun, happy times of our installations and conventions. Stay healthy everyone I want to see you there. M.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

For the most part Monterey County, has been smoke free. There are still hot spots in and around the area but with a few exceptions the air has been clear. I hope you have taken the time to have a flu shot and have a Happy

Thanksgiving. It may be hard right now, but there is a lot we have to be thankful for as we look forward to happier Days and being together again "SKÅL!" TJH

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

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

Happy Thanksgiving! Livermore will not be meeting, again, I haven't had any updates on our members, but I'm assuming that no news is good news. However you decide

to celebrate, or not celebrate, the upcoming holidays, be safe, be healthy, be grateful, and do something you enjoy. 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, <u>s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net</u> #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, <u>beth.cowan@att.net</u>

We will hold a virtual meeting via Zoom at 6:30 PM, on Thursday, November 12. *Please note the earlier start time!* Valborg & Thyra members have the opportunity to win an attendance drawing, if they attend the virtual meeting...Don't miss out! If you would like to join the Hayward branch Zoom meeting, and after meeting

socializing, please send an email to s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net. A Zoom Meeting invitation will be emailed about a week prior to the meeting.

I hope you and yours are well! Susan

Sønderjylland No. 10

Meeting 2nd Saturday of April, June, August and October, 11:30 at Kastania Fælled, 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 October 2020. A reminder from the Sønderjylland #10 Board of Directors:

Because the COVID-19 outbreak does not seem to have diminished in our area in any significant manner, we will continue, until further notice, to cancel our scheduled meetings for year 2020 and in to the 2021 year. 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.

We hope all of you are well and coping during this difficult time.

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.

Here is a message from our Vice President Deborah Droubay Johansen and her husband Per Johansen. Per is in regular contact with his family and friends in Denmark. Hello to all of you, John asked me to write a little for you, about how things are back in Denmark, and how they are doing during this pandemic.

Well, Denmark is a country where most people do what the government asks in a crisis like this. In Denmark we call it "samfundsbevisthed", (community awareness), which means that even though Denmark was hit pretty hard during the first wave and is now beginning a second wave, that due to people listening and taking care of each other, Denmark has a very low level of new cases compared to the rest of the world. At this writing there have been less than 800 new cases and only one death in a 24-hour period. During the whole pandemic there have been 43,000+ cases in all, and out of them 32,000+ are cured and healthy. Nearly three million people have been tested, and remember Denmark has a population of 5.5 million people, although some people have been tested more than once. In total, more than 700 people have died of the virus in Denmark. (If the US had acted like Denmark there would have been approximately 47,000 deaths as of now instead of the 225,000+ we have seen). What the Danish government is doing right now, is telling people to keep using masks in all public places, practice two meters social distancing, not be more than 10 people together, (for example birthdays and other gatherings), and at the same time all bars have to close at 10 pm. All stores open after 10 pm cannot sell alcohol after 10 pm. People

in Denmark are lucky that the public agencies in charge have made it possible to get all the help needed, both financially and medical. I don't know if you are familiar with how things work in Denmark, but all people have what we call "summer pay" (vacation pay). That amounts to about 12 % of what they earn every month that is put away for use during their holidays. Some of that money has been frozen for later use, and is now being paid out so people still can pay their bills and get food on the table. Schools and universities are generally open, but do close for a period if someone comes down with Corona. The same goes for all other places where people work.

So, all in all, Denmark is doing good, people are looking after each other, and life goes on the best it can with the restrictions given. As for my own family in Denmark no one has gotten sick and they hope to keep it that way. Deb and Per Johansen

With the hope you are safe, and in good health, we hope to see you all after this pandemic is over.

Send us your stories about how you and your family are coping. We would love to share your stories with the other club members. It's a way for all of us to still stay in touch. Until further notice, stay safe, stay healthy, and stay in contact with each other.

Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary

Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

Meeting: 1st. Saturday every month at 11:00 A.M., Danish Hall, Ferndale, CA 95536 Secretary, Christian Nielsen, Christian Nielsen@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 on Friday October 2nd at 7 pm. We had a very nice get together, with social distance and masks. Since there was only 5 in attendance, we had plenty of room. Everyone brought their own picnic basket dinner. We did make coffee there and Sena-Marie brought a German chocolate cake. No official meeting was held during dessert like normal. We just chatted about all the problems in the world – so there was plenty to discuss. We did decide with a heavy heart that there will not be a Thanksgiving dinner in November and to cancel our wonderful Christmas Party. We are so sad about this, even though our Governor raised the meeting groups to 250, we would still have to follow all guidelines. All the numbers are going in the wrong direction. It would be impossible to keep 6' apart and wouldn't want to take a chance that any of our members and guests would be compromised. Keeping everyone safe is more important, so we are saving all our energy for next year! November 6th meeting will be another "bring your own picnic dinner basket". Sena-Marie will bring another dessert. Coffee and drinks will be served. If you feel like splurging, you can order a sandwich from one of these lovely places. Sup: https://www.sup.restaurant/menu Grateful Garden: https://www.greatfullgardens.com/ Ike's Love & Sandwiches:

https://www.seamless.com/menu/ikes-love--sandwiches-

<u>2175-n-virginia-st-reno/706594</u> Ike's even have a "Going home for Thanksgiving Sandwich"

Linda Hill is feeling better and glad to see her. Glenn Fritz was not feeling good and was not in attendance, hope he feels better soon. Ina Segesman was going to attend, but ended up with a cold. I talked to her and she is now feeling better. I visited Ann-Katherine and she is in good spirits and wanted me to tell everyone in California and our members — Hello. She loves to talk on the phone and I call her every day. She misses everyone and welcome phone calls.

We want to send our deepest sympathy to Helen and Carl Christiansen's family in the passing of Helen's brother. They went to Utah the night of our meeting to be with the family and to attend his services. "Æret være hans minde!" As crazy as 2020 has been, 2021 is just around the corner. Just a friendly reminder that Dues are due in January. Dannevirke dues are \$ 20 and can be mailed to Ina Segesman, 1027 Tyler Way Sparks, NV. 89431. Valdemar #12 dues are \$30 and can be mailed to Carl Christiansen, 615 Beckwourth Dr. Reno NV. 89506.

November Birthdays are: Donna Vanderbeck, Lone Webb, and Nina Christiansen. HAPPY BIRTHDAY Everyone! Be safe, stay healthy and take care,

Happy Thanksgiving and don't forget to vote! Sena-Marie

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

Bornholm No. 14 Z00M Meeting – to be determined Our ZOOM meeting was called to order by President Bente Ellis. It is with sadness that we are not able to count on whether there will be a fish dinner or a convention in 2021. We can get our hopes up but the upcoming months will give us the answer. After taking care of business, we ended the meeting sharing what we have been doing to pass the lonely days of distancing from our friends and relatives.

Bente Ellis made a trip down to Atterdag Village in Solvang to visit with Dania's amazing centenarian Erling Grumstrup. Unfortunately, he had a stroke and passed away a short time later. George Dutra and Bodil Whitehouse motored up to the quaint town of Leavensworth, Washington. Reading up on it, I discovered it is actually an old gold rush and logging town. Being inspired by California's Solvang and needing to attract tourists, the townsfolk decided in the 1960's to develop it into Washington's State Bavarian Village. Speaking of gold rush towns, John and Marge spent 3 days in Murphy's California. They were pleased to see the large

sign upon entering Main Street instructing all to wear masks. Max and Ann Stowers attended their grandson's outdoor wedding in Madera, feeling mighty proud of him as he walked back down the aisle in his marine dress uniform arm in arm with his lovely bride. Brian and Suzy Mefford ventured on a few fun camping trips. Gunver Olsen is still in lockdown at Valley Comfort but staying healthy and looks forward to her visits through glass doors with her family. We hope we can entice more members to grab a beer, glass of wine or shot of aquavit and join us on our next ZOOM meeting.

We are sorry to hear about the passing of Kaj Kristensen. John and I had fun times with him over the years in Dania and attending Danish Brotherhood installations at Uncle Vernon Olsen's cabin in Lake Tahoe. We are also sorry to hear about those members that were affected by the wildfires. We wish all to be safe and healthy during these trying times and look forward to when we can meet again. Auf Wiedersehen.

Marge Scheuber (filling in for little sister Ann)

<u> Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8</u>

Meeting: 3rd Saturday at 12 Noon in various homes. President, Doris Skow, Secretary, Kim Nielsen Giacinto, kimgiacinto@gmail.com

Well here I am wishing you a happy but weird Halloween season. I painted pumpkins that now no kids will see. Oh well that is probably for the best, they are not very good anyway.

I am happy to say that as of today all our members are doing well and free of Covid-19. I know that some members are keeping in touch online, on zoom or on the phone. Some are doing work in their gardens, sorting out the closets, doing research or just relaxing with the tv or radio. As for me I am still supervising (bossing) the family as work is done in my garden.

This will be a quite different Thanksgiving for many of us who choose not to attend gatherings with family or friends. As for me, I will spend my holiday at home with dinner and a movie or a good book. I was blessed to have my son home for a one-week visit the middle of Oct. He stayed in the large camp trailer we have in the dry yard. I am very thankful to have family so close, however with so many either working or in contact with others, I felt that this year I should do my own thing.

I wish everyone an incredibly Happy Thanksgiving Holiday and remind you to stay well, safe and to count your blessings. DWS

Hejls Minde No. 23

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

<u>Holger Danske No. 27 & Valkyrien No. 23</u>

Meets four times a year; contact the secretary for further information. Holger Danske Secretary, Wayne A. Allen; Valkyrien Secretary, Darlene Iversen