



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

January 2022

Dannebrog Grand President

Hello my friends. December was the month I was finally able to attend in person gatherings with Danish friends. The first event was the delightful San Francisco Christmas Party which was held at the Encinal Yacht Club in Alameda. A delicious lunch was served, songs were sung, door prizes handed out, and an ugly (or beautiful or gaudy) sweater contest was held. The following weekend, the Hayward lodge held their Christmas potluck dinner at the home of Greg Gleeson. Thank you to both lodges for the enjoyable gatherings. As we look back on 2021, there were a number of challenges we had to face, but also good news with the covid vaccine rollout. We lost members who we will never forget, and I offer my sincerest condolences for their loss. My wish for 2022 is for a healthy and safe year for all of you.—*Beth Cowan, Dannebrog Grand President*

Dania Grand President

Well, December sure looked and felt a lot like Christmas's past (if you don't count the mask wearing when necessary and seating arrangements) and my calendar filled up very fast. In addition to Fresno's Thor #5 and Thora #11 Christmas party, I accompanied Steen to the holiday celebrations of The Danish American Historical Society Of California in Selma, the Fresno Yacht Club, and the Fresno Danish Dancers together with the Fresno Great Danes musicians. I've enjoyed participating in these organizations and getting to know these wonderful people who are doing an excellent job of preserving Danish heritage and culture.

The Fresno Yacht Club isn't a Danish group but they are indeed doing a great job of promoting sociability among their members and friendly competition on the lakes of Fresno. Then on the 18th and 20th the gatherings took a sadder turn. Many masked Dania and Dannebrog members greeted and supported each other for the loss of two of our longtime members at

IN MEMORIAM:

Betty Jensen; Thora #11, Fresno
Don Pettitt; Thor #6, Fresno

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Alan Filiu adfiliau@sbcglobal.net
Grand President	Jana Heer juganddana@sbcglobal.net	Beth Cowan beth.cowan@att.net
Grand Vice President	Bente Ellis Baellis06@gmail.com	Deanna Dunbar deannadnbr@yahoo.com
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer tim-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 426-4623	Natalie Heer natalie-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 426-4623
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Pat Brouillette pab0718@sbcglobal.net
Grand Marshal	Tom Martin thommartin99@gmail.com	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@att.net
Grand Vice Marshal		Lynn Wachter wachter.lynn@gmail.com
Grand Trustee #1	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Elizabeth Jensen ecjensen@mac.com
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

two separate memorials this month each at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Easton CA. Our hearts go out to the families and loved ones of Betty Jensen, and of Don Pettitt, and to the lodge members of Fresno's Thor and Thora. Let's all step forward into 2022 with hope and enthusiasm for the New Year, but let's not leave behind all that we've learned about keeping ourselves, our families and communities safe and healthy. Godt Nyttar my friends! Jana Heer, Grand President Dania

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Doris Skow in memory of Zena Lundberg and Betty Jensen
Signe Ann and Mac McNeil in Memory of Betty Jensen

DANIA-DANNEBROG SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

Johanne Gade in memory of Betty Jensen and Finn Kjaer
Johanne Gade in memory of Don Pettitt and Rene Lastreto

DANIA GENERAL FUND/DANIA SCHOLARSHIP

Marge and John Scheuber in memory of Betty Jensen
Glenn Fritz in memory of Finn Kjaer and Zena Lundberg
Marge and John Scheuber in memory of Don Pettitt, Rene Lastreto and Zena Lundberg
Doris Skow in memory of Don Pettitt and Rene Lastreto
Ole M Pedersen in memory of Zena Lundberg

Dania and Dannebrog Secretaries

Godt Nyttår! And with the New Year comes the first half of your Dania Tax based on \$15.00 for each member as of January 1st. I will be sending out your annual report for you to fill out and mail back to me.

Danmark No. 2 & Tyra 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!

Godt nyttår! It is 2022 and not a moment too soon.

Goodbye and good riddance to 2021. Yes, 2021 brought us the vaccine, but it also brought more variants than a Greek spelling test. The only good parts were the times spent with family and friends. I think I speak for everyone when I say we are looking forward to more of that in 2022.

We hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday and a safe New Year's celebration. And we want to give a special thanks to everyone who joined us for our Christmas Luncheon last month. It was so nice to see people again in person. Hope everyone had as much fun as I did. Our singing could have used a few more baritones but we managed to fill the room with some

Thor No. 5 & Thora No. 11

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

Hoping everyone had a joyous Christmas season. With all holiday programs you can't help but enjoy the Christmas music.

Our Lodge Christmas party was held the first Friday in Dec. we had our usual members but not as many we had hoped. Norm Jensen came in to join us bringing gifts of almonds and dried figs for all. He was telling us that his wife, Gerrie is now at Kaiser

Upcoming Conventions		
Bornholm #14	Double Tree in Modesto	March 31 – April 2, 2022
Upcoming Installations		
TBA		

Dannebrog your annual report will also be mailed to you shortly.

songs. Everyone should bookmark that location as I think the San Francisco lodge may return to the Encinal Yacht Club for more events. Stay tuned. Congratulations to Tom Martin for being named Danmark #2 Member of the Year! Tom's hospitality in 2021 (and 2020) kept our lodge connected. So many backyard barbeques we lost count, maybe because we ate and drank too much. Tom is the one who started our lodge's new tradition of a monthly social gathering with no business – Thanks Tom! Here's to a prosperous, not preposterous, 2022! Hope to see all of you in April.

Stay Safe Dania and Dannebrog!

Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary,
jajensend2@gmail.com , 1-510-299-1855

and was also put on Hospice. That's a difficult and sad time for all families to face.

We have lost three members in our small lodge that were elected to join that heavenly choir of angels. The first one was Rene' Lastreto, on November 19, 2021. He had been a member of Dania since 1977. He was always involved in the lodge, holding various positions until the last few years. Rene's DOB was 11/20/1923, he was almost 98. Doris has spent the

last few years being a caregiver and then just being with him at the care facility. We look forward to having Doris back at our meeting.

Carl Jensen called to tell me Betty had passed, Dec. 6, 2021. She had been in the hospital a few days to have the fluid taken from her lungs and they had just got her back and settled in at Bethel home when she passed. Her DOB was 4/2/1927, she was 94. The Memorial service was well attended by the church members, friends and lodge members. The Dannebrog Grand Pres. Beth Cowan was looking good, she came with her daughter, Susan. We also had many more of the Dania and Dannebrog board. Grand Vice Pres. Deanna Dunbar, Grand Secretaries, Natalie and Tim Heer, also his sister Dania Grand Pres. Jana Heer. Carl and Betty were very active in our local lodge and attended most of the conventions until Betty wasn't able to. She had held every position plus was even in charge of the now defunct drill team. Betty was one of those rare people that was really an angel in disguise. Always there to help you, many times Carl and Betty would come in early to lodge to help me set up the room for our meeting. Then we lost Don Pettitt December 8, 2021. Don and Christie were very active in the Dania and Dannebrog RV group. He was such an upbeat happy guy, always

a smile to greet you with. Don served as our President just a few years ago. His Memorial service was also well attended by church members and his many friends. Most of the RV group came plus all the Grand lodge members including the Grand Treas. Pat and Gregory Gleeson. We're going to miss all of them.

I talked with our President Kay Jensen at the Memorials services, her sister Gail from Sacramento was here and they were taking off on Amtrak going south to visit another sister for Christmas.

I missed attending the San Francisco Christmas party, it's one of the jolliest and most fun. I'm also one of their "Honorary Members". I had the Danish American Historical function to attend the next day at noon. With Fresno's fog you can never be sure you'll make it to an early morning function. Next year I will plan ahead, pick and choose, as we all know this is the busiest time of the year.

We will be having our first meeting in the New Year on the first Friday January 7, at 11:30 a.m. at Denny's on Shaw, same price \$5.. Come out to visit with your fellow Danes. Here's hoping the New Year will bring Joy and Good Health to all our family and friends.

Happy New Year!! Martha

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

We did have to postpone our Christmas party in a preponderance of caution during these uncertain times. We are hopeful that the new year bring an end

to these difficult times and allows us to meet with confidence..

Just as a reminder Freja and Dana's dues are Due. Happy New Year, Godt Nyttår! N&T

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

Happy New Year! Let's hope it's a good one! Our Livermore group had a small but cozy Christmas gathering at Kathy's house. We even got her brother Allen and Mary to join in. Bob Lamee easily won the award for eating the most aebleskiver's, although we really had no competition and there was no award.

If you haven't yet paid dues for 2022, It is \$12 to Tracey for Danebod No.16 or \$22 to Bob for Dannevang No. 7.

We should be rejoicing for all the snow in the mountains and rainfall we have been receiving. What a gift. 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 hold a virtual meeting via Zoom at 6:30 PM, on Thursday, January 14. *Please note the earlier start time!*

Valborg & Thyra members could win an attendance drawing, if attending the virtual meeting...Don't miss

out! If you would like to join the Hayward branches 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.

A Note from Hayward Treasurers:

Membership dues are payable for the coming year.

Please bring mail to the respective Treasurers.

Sonderjylland 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

Sonderjylland #10 had no meeting in December 2021.

We wish all our Sønderjylland #10 members and our Dania friends a very happy and prosperous New Year 2022.

Because of the current increase in Covid-19 infections and the Omicron variant, we do not expect to have our traditional Valentine's Day lunch in February, it is just too dangerous for our membership to come together indoors. Also, we will assess whether it will be safe for us to meet in April at Kastania Fælled in Petaluma. We will keep you all posted.

It is that time of the year to pay our annual membership dues, \$30 per member, and an additional

Checks payable to Valborg #1, in the amount of \$12, mail to Pat Brouillette, 1400 Jacqueline Place, San Lorenzo CA 94580. Checks payable to Thyra #9, in the amount of \$35 for sick benefit members and \$29 for social members, mail to Stuart Mahler, 803 Bantry Way, Benicia CA 94510.
Happy New Year, Susan

\$10 if you get the Dania printed Newsletter via the mail. Please mail a check made out to Sønderjylland #10 to 8426 Bel View Court, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2557.

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

Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen
Secretary/Treasurer

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

Valhalla #11 Ydun #10 Ferndale CA

Jan 8: Valhalla – Ydun will be meeting at 11:00 for a business meeting with a Soup Salad potluck lunch at 12:30.

As most of you know **Francis Sweet** has a new address, he is living at: First Choice 456 10th Street, Fortuna CA. 95540 phone number 1.800.385.2527. Francis is doing well and enjoys getting out with his daughter.

We had a little shaker that broke a few windows on main street. The Danish Hall has a few cracks in the drywall but is still standing. I think we got lucky as it kind of rolled rather than having a quick jerk. It will take a little drywall mud and paint, not bad at all. Hopping this finds you and your family well and staying safe at these difficult times.

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 met Friday December 3rd at the Odd Fellows Hall at 7 PM. There were nine members in attendance. We didn't hold a meeting, but everyone was working hard stuffing goodie Christmas bags for all our members. Thank you to all the members who donated cookies, fruit, candy, and æbleskivers made by Anette. The bags and tissue paper donations as

well. After all the bags were stuffed, we drank coffee and ate cobbler and pumpkin loaf. The delicious cobbler was made by Bonnie and the loaf was made by Sena-Marie. A BIG BIG THANK YOU to Ingrid Hedman, Anette, Eva Demosthenes, Leif and Bonnie Larsen for all the miles you traveled to get these bags out to our members.

For our January 7th meeting we meet at the Odd Fellow Hall at 7 pm and ask that you bring your own dinner basket. We are still not out of the woods with covid, so we limit sharing food etc. Sena-Marie will bring dessert. The Lodge will supply coffee and other drinks. We continue our well wishes to Grand Past Presidents Elizabeth Jensen and Lynn Wachter. We are really wishing Francis Sweet from Ferndale our best. Our well wishes to our members, Janet Pulsipher is still in rehab in Carson City. I received a phone call from Janet's sister-in-law with the address of the rehab and if any member would like to visit Janet, however only one visitor at a time. Call Sena-Marie for more info. Ann-katherine moved to a rehab and doing as well as can be expected. Barbara Iler is doing well at the rehab that she is in. I spoke to her daughter, and she said that the Rehab facility is happy with her progress. We are also

sending our best wishes for a speedy recovery to Solveig Asvitt who had back surgery. On a happier note, Grae-Marie Biggs, had a baby girl on December 6 and they named her Zoe-Marie. Congratulations to the parents and Grandparents, Helen & Carl Christiansen. Our January birthdays are Jens Christiansen, Erik Jensen, John Matuzak, Knud Sorensen, Ingrid Hedman, and Marlene Swaffar. HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALL! We hope everyone enjoyed quality time with family and friends over the Christmas Holiday and are hopeful for 2022. Keep your fingers crossed for a better year and that we may leave this Covid behind us soon. Looking forward to seeing more of our members as we have missed seeing you the last two years. The Reno Lodges wishes everyone a Happy New Year – May you all be safe and healthy! Take care. Sena-Marie

Bornholm No. 14

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

President Bente Ellis, Baellis06@gmail.com Secretary Ann Stowers, ann.max@att.net

Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8

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

President, Doris Skow, Doris92ranch@gmail.com Secretary, Kim Nielsen Giacinto, kimgiacinto@gmail.com

I hope this newsletter finds you starting out the new year healthy and well fed. We were sorry to hear of the passing of 3 members of the Fresno Lodge. Our sympathy goes out to the families of Betty Jensen, Don Petit and Rene Lastrado. As I said before, we will not be meeting until at least June. There are still to many virus' going around to take unnecessary chances.

Some of my family got together at the Holidays' and now some of them have tested positive. I was not with them at all. I am happy to hear that Lee Dove is home from the hospital and doing well. I want to thank all those members that took up the challenge to send cards this year. I have enjoyed each one I got and I got quite a few. Godt Nytaar to all, DWS

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

Godt Nytaar