



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

August 2023

Dannebrog Grand President

On Tuesday July 19, 2023 I Had the privilege to attend the official groundbreaking at Aldersly Retirement Community, representing Dannebrog and Dania. The groundbreaking was for their Marselisborg expansion project. The project has been in the planning stages since 2015, 100 years after the Aldersly community was first conceptualized by members of Dania and Dannebrog. The Aldersly board, neighbors and community spent a lot of time developing the concept and site plan along with an artist conception on what the project would look like. The final step was securing the 75 million dollars to finance this great project.

To see what the project will look like copy and paste this link or click the link to open: <https://aldersly.org/independent-living/marselisborg-expansion/>

There was a nice crowd in attendance which included Aldersly board members, residents, friends of Aldersly and neighbors. Shannon Brown, Executive Director Aldersly, welcomed all of those in attendance. She then introduced Peter Schakow, president Aldersly Board of Directors and a member of Danmark #2 of Dania. Peter provided a brief history of the founding of Aldersly by the members of Dania and Dannebrog and how the home has evolved to what it is today. He then went into the process of developing the concept of Marselisborg to where they are today.

Maribeth Bushey, Councilmember in San Rafael, spoke a few words and indicated how excited the city and neighbors are with the project. Soo In, Principal Perks Eastman, and Nick Misakian, Project Manager with Cahill construction, provided some words on their company's involvement with the project.

After the brief remarks there were ceremonial pictures of various groups shoveling dirt for the official groundbreaking.

It has been many years since I last visited Aldersly. Before the festivities I had a chance to walk the grounds. They have done a lot of projects to keep up with current trends and changes in the retirement community as well as improving services to the residents. I enjoyed my time there and reacquainted myself with the Aldersly community facility. If you are ever in the area, drop by and visit Aldersly. I am sure they would love to show you around!

Next up; a trek to Ferndale for their annual Labor Day installation. See you there.

Grand President, Stuart Mahler

Dania Grand President

Summer festivities are always a treat.

I travelled to Reno for their annual St. Hans Fest and, as usual, it was a fun event. A good turnout of locals including some young folks who came to send off the witches in style. We had a nice BBQ and then Annette got the bonfire started. She found what looked to be last-year's Christmas tree and with a few other branches and sticks built a nice pyre. We added some wood

from the woodpile and we were ready for a nice fire. Several witches were incinerated and sent on their way. That was Friday evening...I'd promised the folks in Ferndale that I would attend their annual Mid-Summer Festival sponsored by all of the Scandinavian lodges in the Humboldt vicinity on Saturday... After the Reno St. Hans Fest, I drove to Susanville for the night. The drive to Ferndale is 6 1/2 hours from Reno, staying in Susanville shortened the morning drive by 90 minutes.

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Bente Ellis Baellis06@gmail.com	Deanna Dunbar deannadunbar530@gmail.com
Grand President	Tom Martin thommartin99@gmail.com	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@gmail.com
Grand Vice President	Dan Holm Danholm@gmail.com	Kathy Thomsen danskfarm@yahoo.com
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer tim-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 332-4196	Natalie Heer natalie-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 334-1372
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Grand Vice Marshal	James O Jensen jamesolefjensen@yahoo.com	Dennis Nielsen nielsen.dennis.a@gmail.com
Grand Trustee #1	John Jensen jajensend2@gmail.com	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net
Grand Trustee #2	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Jessica Jobe Sea jessica@jobesea.com
Grand Trustee #3	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Martha Nielsen marthanielsen@yahoo.com

I arrived in Ferndale expecting I was too late for Bocce and went straight to the hall where preparations were being made for food and games. Hans Kristian had the meeting room set up for various games and a few folks were learning some new ones. I visited with many of the members and met a few new people. We had a nice BBQ and pot-luck spread. The Lindy Montova Orchestra provided music for dancing and many participated in the traditional dances. The raffle was a roaring success (I won the favored basket).

It was nice to see the festival back in action after a two-year pandemic delay.

The last day of June was a bit warm...I had planned to ride the motorcycle to Modesto for their meeting but the weather forecast was for 104 degrees in Modesto...I had planned to stop at Brannan Island to check out the campground for another event and it was going to be over 100 degrees there by 10:00 in the morning. I opted for the air-conditioned car and do not regret it. I arrived at Brian and Susan Mefford's home a few minutes before 5:00. Brian invited me in and offered a cool beverage. Within a few minutes a good size group had gathered and there were a lot of familiar faces, many I hadn't seen for almost a month! We had a great BBQ and more than one cool beverage before we got down to their meeting. Mr. Scheuber presided as the current president was unable to attend. We discussed my favorite subject, social events, and I believe Bornholm will be holding a picnic this fall. More on that later. Once we'd completed the business, Susy brought out coffee and cake for dessert. You won't meet any nicer folks.

NEW MEMBER:

IN MEMORIAM:

DANIA GENERAL FUND/DANIA SCHOLARSHIP

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Dannevang #7 in memory of Diane Reinstein
Doris & Peder Hoy, in memory of Arne Graversgaard
Johanne Gade, in memory of Arne Graversgaard

SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

Robert and Lis Lacey in memory of Charles Allman
Doris Skow in memory of Chuck Allman

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Dania Secretaries

Just a reminder July 1st the second half of the per capita tax is due. It is based on \$15.00 per member as of July 1st. please make

Branch's Up and coming events.

So far so good, I have 3 tentative and 2 for sure coming to have some fun in Hollister. The dry yard will be the location for the event. We can circle the wagons and have a fun time so let me know by Sept. 15th for sure if you plan to come. 408-313-7235

“Danmark #2 and Thyra #3's August Gathering Saturday August 26th at Noon Kilkare Woods Association Clubhouse in Sunol”
I will send an email with more details to the secretaries. Hope you can make it!

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

On Saturday, July 1st, I attended the meeting and BBQ put on by Valhalla and Ydun in Ferndale. Christian provided the pulled pork and a vegan alternate made from Jackfruit. There were many side dishes and desserts to choose from as well. With the recent passing of actor Alan Arkin, we watched The Russians Are Coming while chatting over dessert. Most of the film was shot on location in Mendocino County.

I celebrated our country's 247th birthday with the fine folks of Holger Danske and Valkyrien at Waller Park in Santa Maria. We had about 50 people there to enjoy the fabulous BBQ. The mountain of beef is always impressive and pretty darn tasty too! There were lots of raffle prizes including a dozen home-made apple pies. Slim cleaned up on the raffle prizes but I don't think he took any of the pies. You can't beat the hospitality of those folks down south!

I stayed in Santa Maria and attended the Hejls Minde meeting on July 5th. Kristin Worthy presided over her first meeting as their new president. We celebrated the 99th birthday of one of their members with a nice cod luncheon at the Bit O' Denmark. I took the scenic way home through the backroads and avoided more than 100 miles of Hwy 101. It was a great finish to a great motorcycle ride.

Hope to see you at one of the upcoming events. Please check your newsletter for all the juicy details.
Indtil vi mødes igen Regards, Tom Martin, GP

Upcoming Conventions		
Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16	April 11-13 2024	Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella
Upcoming Installations		
Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10	Sept. 2-3, 2023	Danish Hall Ferndale
Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9	Oct.6, 2023	Odd Fellows Hall Reno
Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16	Oct.21, 2023	TBD

your check payable to “The Danish Society” Just your Dania members. Thank you to those Branches who have already sent their payments in. Tim Heer

or doris92ranch@gmail.com. If I don't get more definite campers coming then I will cancel this event. On Saturday evening we can sit around the campfire and share stories of our life and/or our travels.
Doris

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

As predicted last month, August has arrived before we knew it. Or at least before I realized it.

Let me start by again inviting everyone to Danmark #2 and Thyra #3's August Gathering – Saturday August 26th at the Kilkare Woods Association Clubhouse in Sunol. Thank you everyone who has RSVPed already. As mentioned, it will be a potluck style event, so let us know what you can bring. We will have some famous Lockeford bratwursts and BBQed chicken to share. Beer? Why yes! And don't forget there's a swimming pool. RSVP to me early and often and I will update with the details soon.

I spent almost all of July in Vermont and upstate New York. My family and I managed to skirt the horrific flooding in Vermont on Monday the 10th. Thanks for checking up on us Johanne! On Sunday the 9th, we travelled to Putney from the Burlington area and by Tuesday morning many of the cities we had passed through were in bad shape. Even the interstate we traveled on was closed. Our plans to travel to Long Lake in New York state were cancelled as that small community in the Adirondacks took a hard hit. All roads in and out of the small town were closed,

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

The Fresno Lodge Members are surviving the heat by staying inside under their AC. I'm trying to keep everything watered, weeded and alive, otherwise I'm at the coast or in the mountains for long weekends, keeping cool.

I called Carl Jensen, my one man Cheer Committee, to find out who he's checked in with this month. Betty Green is still having the ongoing chemo, Carl said she perked up a bit when visiting with him.

Christie Pettitt is back to doing her thing and feeling good. Pam Kjar is thrilled to be back down in the valley. Her daughter and granddaughter were helping her to get settled in at her new place. Stan was having issues with kidney stones and is awaiting an operation.

Kay Jensen was having spells of dizziness and was light headed which resulted in 4 days in the hospital. They found she had a 76% clogged artery in her heart. She is now waiting for a date for surgery.

Carl has just celebrated his 95th Birthday on July 16. There was a big party and all his family members were present to celebrate

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

Jana and Steen are back from traveling in Denmark, and Patricia Heer Anderson and her Granddaughter Violet had fun celebrating their Birthdays' on July 16th .

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meet 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 summer all! Hope you are staying cool and hydrated. We will not have a meeting in Livermore during August, but hope to see you 2nd Saturday in September. We were happy to have Sherril join our little group at our July meeting. She has tons of

some because they were essentially missing. Our thoughts are with our friends and all those who lost something in the flooding. I know that many regions in Vermont, New York, and Pennsylvania are still recovering. We wish them all the best and God's speed.

After the extreme weather, my family had a nice stay in the Adirondacks. We visited with relatives and friends we had not seen since last summer. And the black flies were not biting! Well, not as much as normal. We spent a week in Keene among the high peaks, just a few miles east of Lake Placid. Then a week at Rainbow Lake, just north of Saranac Lake. We had sun, smoke, and some more rain, and then sun again. A great vacation but it is nice to be back home.

Speaking of back home, I think my friend Roger would agree that back home is good – glad you are feeling better and hope to see you soon!

Hard to believe that school starts for my sons before the end of the month. Summer will be over soon. Please join us in Sunol on Saturday August 26th for an end of summer party. Hope to see you there!

Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary,
jajensend2@gmail.com , 1-510-697-4658

with him. Carl has 2 sons, 5 grandchildren and 8 great grands and all their spouses.

Carl was telling me that in the past there had been 4 celebrating their birthdays at the same time as he, now it's just Doris Skow and Carl. Happy Birthday to both of you!! May you have many, many more!!

We have another month of vacation before we all meet again in September, remember it will be the second Friday, after the Labor Day holiday.

Living in this hot ag producing valley not everyone is off, all the orchards, crops still have to be sprayed, watered, and ground plowed up; then finally harvested. So, all the farmers are still out in this heat, producing their income for the whole year. The weather has the power to make or break. We're hoping we will have a good dry spell for the raisins, almonds, walnuts and all the crops needing it.

Stay cool and healthy. M. Nielsen

We are working to have election of Officers in August. TH

expertise in areas that we greatly need and appreciate. Thanks to Bob and Tracey for hosting us.

We will be headed up to Ferndale Labor Day week end and look forward to seeing the gang up there. Enjoying each other's

company over some good food, perhaps a beer or two and bocce ball games Sunday morning. It is a long way up. but the drive through the Redwoods, the hospitality, and the quaint town of Ferndale make it worth the trip. It is with sadness we report that Rick Reinstein, (3rd son of Art & Diane, resident of Kimberly, Idaho) passed away after a very long battle with leukemia. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to

the Reinstein family once again. The obituary can be found at rosenaufuneralhome.com. Word is Diane sent a double rainbow the next day to welcome him home. On a brighter note, a huge congratulations to the Dane, Jonas Vingegaard for winning the Tour de France a second time. Awesome achievement! Cheers to that, KRT

No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1

**Meeting: 2nd Thursday every month 6:30 PM; On Zoom
President, Eric Jorgensen, e.jorgensen.54@gmail.com #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, beth.cowan@att.net**

Anyone desiring to attend our meetings should contact Stuart Mahler at smahler52@gmail.com to get onto the Zoom link distribution list.

The Hayward Lodges met on June 8th with nothing new to report. The Hayward Lodges will be taking the months of July

and August off. We will resume zoom meetings on September 14th.

There was no winner of the progressive attendance drawing, so the drawing for our September meeting will be \$40. Enjoy your Summer EJ

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 July 2023. Our next meeting is on August 12 at 11:30 am. This meeting will be held at our member Birthe Tarp Baekgaard's home in Santa Rosa. This will be the first time we are meeting at a private home since the Kjaer's moved to Oregon. We hope for a good turnout. Birthe's place is practically among the vineyards on Barnes Road in Santa Rosa. If you are not familiar with the exact address, let me know, and I will give it to you. Out of privacy concerns we do not give out the addresses of private homes in our newsletters.

After our meeting we will have lunch, and as usual, President Debbie will provide the Aquavit for the lunch. Please let me know if you will attend and/or bring guests (guests are always welcome) or potential new members. Send me a text or call to 510-375-5070 or email to j.crugerhansen@comcast.net. 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 and Ydun lodge along with the Sons of Norway, Balder and Brotherhood lodges celebrated our 70th Scandinavian Festival over the Midsummer weekend. We had a good turnout playing Bocce, board games and dancing to Live music played by Lindy Mantova. A good assortment of food was presented at the potluck lunch and lots of raffle prizes were won. This was the first festival after a two-year hiatus. Plans are underway for next year's festival. Our next gathering will be for a Christmas Party on December 1 at the Sons of Norway hall. Potluck dinner at 6:00 with a white elephant gift exchange. August 5: Valhalla – Ydun will meet at 11:00 for a meeting, with lunch following. Members are asked to bring a side to go with the birthday celebration. Don Christensen will bring cake and tamale pie for his birthday celebration.

September 2 -3: Valhalla – Ydun Labor Day weekend Installation of Officers Saturday Social at 4:00 with Installation at 5:00 and dinner at 6:30; Sunday Bocce at 10:00 with Lunch at 1:00 RSVP by August 14 to Christian @ 707.499.3746 this early date is to get the Salmon for the Saturday night dinner. Reservations can be made up to August 28. **We need to know the number of reservations, if you want prime rib, salmon or vegetarian.** Cost is \$35 for Saturday, \$20 for Sunday per person. Motels in Fortuna: Best Western Country Inn 707.725.2888 or 1.800.528.1234; Camping available at Riverwalk RV Park 707.725.3359 or Ferndale Fair Grounds at no reservations required, just stop by the camp host trailer upon arrival. 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 Friday July 7th at 6:30 pm with 10 members in attendance. Very nice evening to Barb-b-que and everyone bought hot dogs to grill and nice side dishes. Sena Marie had made dessert of a white

cake with chocolate frosting and 4th of July decorations on top. We did not have a meeting, since there wasn't much to talk about, just a very nice social gathering and fellowship evening.

We did talk about what a fun St. Hans Fest we had at the River School Farm and I'm sorry I missed it.

For our August 4th meeting will be a potluck, or if you want to bring something to grill, we will set up the barb-b-que for you. Anette is making a Danish Dessert, "koldskaal", which tastes better than it sounds, if you know what it is? 😊 I know it will be yummy.

Our sick list is about the same, we hope Solveig is better. Ann-Katherine was at the lodge. Thank you, Nina and Jordan for bringing her. It is always nice to see her at our meetings. Janet Pulsipher is still holding her own. Her memory is getting worse. So sad, because we miss seeing her. Ruth Olsen is doing well. She had a minor fall, but is okay. Missed seeing all our other members. Hope all is well.

August Birthdays are Ruth Olsen, Skye Matuzak, Poul-Erik Christensen, and Jordan Potter. HAPPY BIRTHDAY everyone.

Bornholm No. 14

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

President Bente Ellis, Baellis06@gmail.com Secretary Marge Scheuber, olemarge1@sbcglobal.net

Hope all of you are having a summer to remember. We are sure our president Bente Ellis had a wonderful time in Denmark. Our member Danielle LeBeouf spent time last month in Denmark enjoying her visit with relatives. It has been fun hearing about members traveling here and there and taking advantage of the sunny weather.

Our last meeting on June 30 took place at the lovely welcoming home of Brian and Susan Mefford. Brian gives Susan credit for designing the beautiful landscaping around their pool. Despite the extremely hot weather outside, Chef Brian dutifully barbecued an All-American Dinner of hamburgers and hot dogs. Susan prepared the delicious side dishes of beans, potato, macaroni, and green salads.

We were honored to have our Grand President Tom Martin with us once again. Other guests included Brian and Susan's

Danneskjold No. 17

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

President, Laila Solyst atlailaspring@hotmail.com Secretary, Kim Nielsen Giacinto, kimgiacinto@gmail.com

Well, now that the fireworks are over we can settle into the rest of the summer with food, fun and good friends.

On August 12th at 11:30 we will gather at my Hollister ranch for lunch and a business meeting. Please put this on your calendar and if you need a ride, please reach out to others that are coming. It is a bit of a ways so carpooling is best.

Hejls Minde No. 23

Meeting: 1st. Wednesday 12 noon at Bit O' Denmark, Secretary, Darlene Iversen and Elaine Anes

Our July 5th meeting was well attended and we welcomed Grand President Tom Martin to our table. July 4th was a busy day for many with beautiful weather, parades, picnics and fireworks.

Holger Danske No. 27 & Valkyrien No. 23

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

Holger Danske Secretary, Wayne A. Allen 805-937-4720; Valkyrien Secretary, Darlene Iversen 805-260-3601

The July 4th picnic was a big success and thank you to Grand President Tom Martin and the many other visitors who came. Our BBQ team of Kenny and Debbie Jacobsen and Peter Jacobsen did a fantastic job. The raffle table was a big hit and

Enjoy the rest of your summer and hope to see everyone at our October 7th installation. Be safe and healthy and Take Care, Sena-Marie

Now I would like to make a tribute to my cousin Herb Iler. I met Herb when I was 6 or 7 years old. Barbara was dating Herb. They came to a lot of the family functions. Herb enjoyed family, friends, dinners, etc. I was 8 years old when I was a flower girl at their wedding. This is a memory that I will never forget. Herb loved parties and social gatherings with family and friends. Always a big smile on his face. Now on June 30th 2023, there was a very nice Celebration of Life, with a wonderful luncheon afterwards. Barbara, Lori and Lynne's families all did such a great job. I know Herb was looking down from Heaven with the biggest smile on his face. Rest in Peace dear Herb, the family will miss you very much. Love Sena-Marie Freeman

daughter Ally and Susan's sister Ayoe Fisher. There were eighteen of us all together.

Vice President John Scheuber presiding over the meeting. We were excited about our nominations of upcoming officers. We have younger members willing to participate in holding an office. Hurrah!

We are sorry to hear Johanne is still suffering in pain with her shoulder. We hope she can get the needed surgery soon. All other members are hanging in there at the present.

We made plans to revive our Orange Blossom Picnic this fall. We will discuss that more at our August and September meetings. John and Marge Scheuber will host our August meeting. Secretary Marge Scheuber

I have not heard that anyone is on the sick list at this point so that is a good thing.

Please RSVP by August 7th if you are coming or not. 408-313-7235.

I look forward to seeing everyone.

DWS

The weather has finally turned warm in Solvang and lots of visitors are in town. Hope everyone has a good summer. Darlene

the winners were smiling. We had quite a few children attending and they loved having their numbers called and choosing a prize. Hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. Darlene