



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

March 2025

Upcoming Conventions		
Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16	April 10-12 2025	Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella
Upcoming Installations		
Valborg #1 and Thyra #9	March 15, 2025	Union Hotel 401 First Street Benicia

Dannebrog & Dania Grand Presidents

Well February flew by fast. We look forward to Hayward's installation on the 15th of March at the super fun and gorgeous historic Benicia Hotel. Hope to see you all there. Maybe Stuart and Sue will open their house for an after party again. (Hint, Hint) How do you celebrate your Danishness (if that's a word)? We like to watch Danish series, such as Badehotellet, Borgen, the Investigation and whatever we can find. Going to Solvang is always another delightful way of celebrating Danishness, we were actually there last weekend. I got to introduce 4 of my nieces to the Danish spots of Elverhoj museum, Bit O Denmark and the Copenhagen house, and of course Olsen's bakery. Let's bring some Danishness to the upcoming convention. Grand Presidents Dan Holm and Kathy Thomsen

More Convention 2025 News

For those who still need to send in their registration forms, early cut-off is March 10th. Plus, you'll save yourself a few dollars to spend on those raffle prizes! Speaking of raffle prizes, thanks to all of you who have donated. If there's something you would like to add to the already amazing collection, contact Tracey at tlamee@yahoo.com or 925-819-2785. Also, save time filling out those tickets and bring some return address labels to stick on the back. Reliable sources say this is the way to go!

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Tom Martin thommartin99@gmail.com	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@gmail.com
Grand President	Dan Holm Danholm@gmail.com	Kathy Thomsen danskfarm@yahoo.com
Grand Vice President	Robert Lamee robertlamee@yahoo.com	Tracey Lamee tnlamee@yahoo.com
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer tim-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 332-4196	Natalie Heer natalie-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 334-1372
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Pat Brouillette pab0718@sbcglobal.net
Grand Marshal	James O Jensen jamesolefjensen@yahoo.com	Dennis Nielsen nielsen.dennis.a@gmail.com
Grand Vice Marshal	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Susan Gauthier s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net
Grand Trustee #1	John Scheuber consultingjohns@gmail.com	Jessica Jobe Sea jessica@jobesea.com
Grand Trustee #2	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net
Grand Trustee #3	John Jensen jajensend2@gmail.com	Jillian Baker jillian.n.baker@gmail.com

Have you figured out what you're going to wear to Friday night's "Day at the Game" dinner? If past years are any indication, you won't be disappointed!
The 2025 Convention Committee

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY'S

Both Grand Lodges will be holding their respective Executive Committee meetings on March 15th at the historic Benecia Hotel starting at 10:30 AM.

IN MEMORIAM:

Palle Thomsen, Danmark #2, San Francisco.

SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Stuart Mahler, in memory of [Mary Ester Filiau](#)

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Danmark #2, San Francisco, in memory of Palle Thomsen.

Stuart Mahler, in memory of Eric Jorgensen

Johanne Ervin Gade, in memory of Eric Jorgensen and Mary Ester Filiau

Sena M and Roland McNiel in memory of Eric Jorgensen

DANIA SCHOLARSHIP GENERAL FUND

Doris Skow, in memory of Stan Kjar & Erik Jorgensen

Glenn Fritz, in memory of [Palle Thomsen](#).

San Francisco, California

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 John A. Jensen

It's March already? Let's start with wishing Happy Birthday to all our March birthdays. From Thyra #3, Kathy Christensen and Vibeke Jensen. And from Danmark #2, Anne Marie Maris, Gary Rounds, my brother James Jensen, and our Honorary Member Cameron Gearhart. Tillykke med fødselsdagen. Skål! Danmark #2 mourns the loss of our Life Member Palle Thomsen. Palle joined Danmark #2 on January 5th, 1984. He died on January 30th, just a few months before his 100th birthday. Palle was born on April 15, 1925 in Horsens, Denmark. He was the youngest son of Julius Eli Vraast-Thomsen and Baroness Olga Kaja Lydia Theodora Struve, daughter of Countess Olga Amalie Frederikke Bille of Denmark. His daughter Paula shared with us a touching obituary and many photos that I can forward to anyone who would like to see them. A truly great guy and an amazing life story. Paula thanks us for being such good friends with her father and wanted us to know how much he treasured his friends from Rebild, Danish Soldiers Club, Danish Sisterhood, and Dania.

Our installation last month was a great success and a great time. Thanks to all who attended – I hope you had as much fun as I did. The Encinal Yacht Club in Alameda did not disappoint. The food and service were excellent, and to top it off we had great weather too. Congratulations to our now Past President Jessica Jobe Sea for a term well served. And congratulations to our new incoming President Dennis Nielsen. We are in good hands even though we didn't get a new secretary.

This month we will meet at the Odd Fellows Hall in San Francisco on Saturday March 8th. We'll meet at noon for a bit of socializing, then our business meeting, and then a nice lunch. We are still working out the menu, but we always have Johanne's excellent leverpostej, some pickled herring, and some akvavit. Let me know if you'd like to join us, maybe we can carpool.

I hope to see many of you at an event this month.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day to everyone!

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

Fresno, California

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

February was a quiet month because I was organizing paperwork for the CPA. It's always a relief to have that over with.

I came down with a virus last month which knocked me out. I talked to President Deanna Dunbar about what I missed at our meeting. Our lodge has selected the delegates for the convention and the money was allocated. Cheer Committee Chairman Carl Jensen didn't have any news of the members for me. I missed not only our Fresno lodge meeting, but also the San Francisco installation - which I try to never miss.

Our next lunch meeting is the first Friday of the month, March 7 at 11:30AM at Denny's on Shaw, just east of First Ave. We'd love to have you come to our lunch meeting so we can surprise you with a free lunch!

I talked to my realtor this week and my goal is to have the farm on the market by mid- March, just after St. Patrick's Day. (Don't forget to wear green or you might get pinched!) By mid-March the orange trees will be blooming and the vineyard will be leafing out, perfect timing for prospective buyers.

Hoping we'll all have a bright warm March. M. Nielsen

Salinas, California

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

2025 Dues are due for Freja is \$25.00 and Dana is \$15.00. Are you interested in starting Zoom meetings like Hayward lodges are? Let us know.

Livermore, California

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meet 2nd Saturday at 5:00PM; the Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way, Livermore.

Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, Robertlamee@yahoo.com Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com

Happy March! Livermore will meet Saturday, March, 8th, 11:00 at the Farm Bureau Building. We will be tying up some loose ends, and maybe gathering up

some new ones, for the upcoming convention. Meanwhile we will enjoy sandwiches from Mr. Pickles as a reward for our hard labor. See you there, KRT

Hayward, California

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

Have you paid your dues for 2025?

Our February meeting via Zoom was well attended. We took care of second nominations and elections of officers for the year. Come to our installation and see who the lucky winners are! We also held second nominations and elections for delegates in Valborg and Thyra for the upcoming 2025 convention hosted by Livermore lodges.

Denise Anderson was the lucky winner of the Valborg attendance drawing. For the Thyra attendance drawing Ralph Mahler lost out on a chance for \$30 and Scott Filiau lost a chance for \$50. The Thyra drawing in our March meeting will be \$50 and \$40. Attend via Zoom and check out your luck. Next meeting will be March 13, 2025 at 6:30PM via Zoom. Look for an email the week of the meeting for

the Zoom link. Members in other lodges, if you want to attend let Stuart Mahler know and he will gladly forward the link to you.

Valborg #1 and Thyra #9 invite you to join us at our annual installation of officers and luncheon at the historic Union Hotel located at 401 First Street in downtown Benicia. The installation will be held on Saturday March 15, 2025 at 12 noon with lunch at 1PM. Please RSVP to Signe Ann McNeil at 510-490-6114 or signemcneil@gmail.com. Lunch menu selections are Hanger steak, Grilled Atlantic Salmon, Chicken Marsala, or Butternut Squash Ravioli. Salad selections are Caesar Salad or Napa Salad. There will be two choices for dessert after lunch. Please RSVP by March 10, 2025. The price for the event is \$50.00 per person. Look forward to seeing you on March

15th! Inflation has impacted on our price for the luncheon. However, the people who attended last

year thought it was a great meal.
The HAWK

Petaluma, California
Sønderjylland No. 10

Meeting 2nd Saturday of April, June, August, and October at 11:30am, at the Danish Soldiers Club Facility at 4560 Kastania Road, 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

Ferndale, California
Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

Meeting: 1st. Saturday every month at 11:00 A.M., Danish Hall, Ferndale, CA 95536
Secretary, Donald T. Christensen, dtchkhc@gmail.com

The first of March the members of Valhalla and Ydun Lodges will be celebrating Saint Patrick's Day, 'fejr det grønne,' with a catered lunch. Corned beef, hot vegetables, salads and dessert will be provided by CC Catering, no charge for members. Since 2001, the day has been celebrated in Copenhagen with a three-legged race. Participants are tied together in twos and move at a steady pace along a mile-and-a-half course. Racers refresh themselves with beer at the five pub pitstops.

Following the meeting on April fifth, those in attendance will acknowledge Påskefest with an array

of potluck dishes. The arrival of spring is a joyous time in Denmark. After a long winter, flowers are blossoming, spring is just around the corner. Traditional activities include family lunches, Easter egg hunts and writing gækkebreve, letters of rhymes and riddles. Back in northern California, only a few days until the convention at Mission De Oro in Santa Nella.

Since time passes at a swift pace, it should be mentioned that the committee for Syttende Mai, Norges nationaldag, will be planning for that observance after the meeting on May third. DTC

Reno Nevada
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; President, Anette Christensen, anettechristensen@charter.net

The Reno Lodges of Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9 met February 7th at 6:30 pm at the Odd Fellows Hall with 22 in attendance and one guest Chris. An application for membership was handed out right away. ☺ So maybe we will have a new member in March. Our soup potluck was very nice and we had a nice variety of soups. If anyone left hungry it was their own fault. Anette opened the meeting during coffee and dessert and again there were lots of choices. First was getting delegates for our convention. The delegates are Valdemar #12 Leif Larsen, Kurt Tomozy and Olivia Tomozy as an alternate. Dannevirke #9's delegates are Bonnie Larsen and Sena-Marie Freeman. Sena-Marie will also be at the S.A.F meeting. Anette offered to carpool to the convention and help out with driving for those who don't drive that far. Thank You Anette, you are always there when we need you. Our March 7th meeting will be a potluck. You may bring whatever your heart desires. Ingrid is bringing Swedish

pancakes and Sena-Marie is bringing Pistachio bread, (Green for St. Patty's day) Glad to see Solveig and John. Solveig is still not feeling well, but glad to see her up and around. Ruth Olsen has her good days and bad days. I will see her March 5th for breakfast. We missed Glenn Fritz, Ina, Jordan, Nina and of course little Graysen. Here is a little special note from Cousin Granny. Thank You for the lovely weekend January 19 and 20th. Sunday was his Baptism and Monday was his 1st birthday. It was so nice to see Paul and Cindy Christensen, their son, Christian and daughter Deonne. Hope to see everyone at our March Meeting. Barbara Iler has her good days and bad ones, too, but Lori said she is okay. Hope everyone else is okay. Our March Birthdays are Cynthia Birk, Barbara Iler, Ina Segesman, and Karina Davies. HAPPY BIRTHDAY to everyone! Happy St. Patrick's Day, be safe, and healthy. Take Care Sena-Marie

Modesto, California

Bornholm No. 14

**Meeting: 2nd Thursday evening (Time to be announced) every month Time and place to be Determined.
President Jason LaBeouf, Secretary Marge Scheuber, olemarge1@sbcglobal.net**

So, they say, March is in like a lion, and out like a lamb. Hope all of you Danes are looking forward to the eventful month of March: March Madness, St. Patrick's Day, First day of Spring and much more. Four of our members (Bente Ellis, Johanne Gade, John and Marge Scheuber) attended the installation of officers for Danmark No. 2 and Thyra No. 3 at the Encina Yacht Club in Alameda on February 8th. First, we enjoyed Bloody Mary's in the bar which overlooks the Alameda Estuary allowing us views of the awesome yachts, sail boats, and beautiful San Francisco on a pleasant sunny day. We felt sad for Matha Nielsen who was ill and unable to attend her son Dennis Nielsen being installed as President of Thyra No.3. Dinner was excellent served by a friendly staff who went out of their way to make our meal special. We had our 2nd meeting at of the year at Perko's Restaurant again. Members seem happy to make this our monthly meeting place with a few exceptions which may be held at another place during the year. Our member Bodil Whitehouse introduced her daughter Karen Whitehouse as a guest. We were happy to see Roger Gearhart out of rehab and attending our meeting. Anita Parham came with her arm in a sling. She fell while at exercise class and may have to undergo surgery. We learned from Doris

Skow that Lisa McDaniel recently moved to White Blossom Care Center in San Jose. Members signed a card and sent these wishes hoping she is feeling better. Our February birthday wishes to: Johanne Gade, Richard Olsen, and George Dutra. We voted on our delegates for the convention. They are: Bodil Whitehouse, George Dutra and Bente Ellis. Marge Scheuber will be an alternate. Bodil Whitehouse was a speaker for the month. She gave an interesting, detailed account of her upbringing in Denmark, her decision to move to be with friends in Stockton, CA. After getting married, she and her husband moved to Denmark where her first daughter Karen was born, and after a time came back to America where they had two more daughters. She heard about Dania and attended one of our fish dinners and quickly joined Dania Bornholm. Before our meeting adjourned Karen Whitehouse brought out a lovely decorated cake for all to enjoy and celebrate George Dutra's birthday. Our March meeting will be on March 13 at Perko's Restaurant. Marge Scheuber, Secretary
REMINDER: Membership dues for 2025 are \$30. If you have not paid your dues, please write check to Dania Bornholm No. 14 and mail to Johanne Gade at 12707 South Cometa, Oakdale, CA.

Solvang, California

Hejls Minde No. 23

**Meeting: 1st. Wednesday 12 noon at Bit O' Denmark,
President, Kristin Worthley, Karen Haugse, Co-Secretary, and Secretary, Elaine Anes.**

Our next meeting will be at noon on Wednesday, March 5 at Bit 'O Denmark restaurant in Solvang.

Santa Maria, California

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