



# GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

April 2025

Upcoming Conventions		
Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16	April 10-12 2025	Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella
Upcoming Installations		

## Dannebrog & Dania Grand Presidents

Well we can almost call it a wrap for our year as Grand Presidents, or it will be after this convention when Bob and Tracey Lamee take the helm as Grand Presidents. They will be excellent. We have enjoyed all of our visits to lodges up and down California and Nevada, for installations, meetings, picnics and assorted gatherings. The last one being Haywards installation at the Union Hotel in Benecia. Every installation is unique and fun in it's own way, and most of them break a little with tradition each time, which to some may be excruciatingly painful and to others a sigh of relief. One tradition we have not kept up with this year is the introduction of grand officers during the meal following the installation, preferring to enjoy the social time without the interference of clapping for those we already know who they are. That's another "but we've always done that" and we get it, just don't feel the necessity of it as our gatherings get smaller and smaller.

Thank you to Stuart and Sue Mahler for hosting an after installation gathering at their lovely home. We can't end this year without a big thank you to all the people in both Dania and Dannebrog who make this happen and show up to support each lodge and at the same time have a good time doing so. We look forward to seeing you at convention and know "the best is yet to come" or at least we hope so.

Dan Holm Grand President of Dania  
Kathy Thomsen Grand President of Dannebrog

## Grand Officers

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

## More Convention 2025 News

Convention is here!!

Below are some items of note:

- Hotel check-in starts at 3:00 p.m. Once you've check in, please park your car in the south parking lot.
- Convention check-in also begins at 3:00 p.m. in the Business Center across from hotel check-in, same as last year.

- Thursday's Welcome Reception will start at 6:00 p.m. in the Franciscan Room, located upstairs facing the beautiful courtyard area.
- The Senior Assistance Fund meeting will be held Friday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m., same as last year.
- Friday's Coffee Break will begin around 10:00 a.m., following Friday's SAF meeting. Dania/Dannebrog meetings start at 10:30 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you all soon,  
The 2025 Convention Committee

**FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY'S**

See you all next week in Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella

**IN MEMORIAM:**

**DANIA NEW MEMBER**

Goldie Elsborg-Jones, Danmark #2, San Francisco  
Christ Halabird, Valdemar #12.

**SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND**

**DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Vibeke Petersen-Jensen in memory of Palle Thomsen  
Danebod #16 in memory of Helen Morse and Edith Andersen

**DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**DANIA SCHOLARSHIP GENERAL FUND**

**San Francisco, California**

**Danmark No. 2 & Thyra No. 3**

**Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:jajensend2@gmail.com) Thyra #3 Secretary John A. Jensen**

Happy Birthday to all our April birthdays in Thyra #3 and Danmark #2. Jessica Jobe Sea, Yoko Ølsgaard, and Dennis Nielsen. Tillykke med fødselsdagen. Skåll! Convention month is here! I can't wait to see everybody again at the Hotel Mission de Oro. I know we will have another fun and successful convention. Here's hoping our tuxedos still fit.

San Francisco lodge wishes to thank Valborg #1 and Thyra #9 for hosting such a great installation and luncheon last month. The Union Hotel staff (all 3 of them!) work very hard for us and it paid off. A good time was had by all! And thank you Stuart and Susan for the after-lunch hospitality. Does the party ever stop?

We had another fun lunch meeting at the Odd Fellows Hall in March. And we were lucky enough to add a new Danmark #2 member to our lodge – Goldie Elsborg-Jones. (I think I listed an alias in the

February newsletter.) Everyone will have a chance to meet her at the convention. Welcome Goldie! Our April meeting will be a Zoom meeting. We will hold it a week early to make room for the convention, so it's on Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM. Check your email for the invite with link.

The San Francisco lodge invites you to our April social gathering on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at noon in Tom Martin's Backyard. We will have had 2 weeks to rest up from the convention, so please come join us to finish out the month with some more cheer, food, and akvavit. Contact me or Tom to let us know you're coming and to get directions. Does the party ever stop?

We will all see each other very soon. Happy Tax Day! Happy Easter! Skåll!

Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary,  
[jajensend2@gmail.com](mailto:jajensend2@gmail.com) , 1-510-697-4658

**Fresno, California**

**Thor No. 5 & Thora No. 11**

**Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:nielsenmarta@gmail.com)**

April showers should be coming, but I think we received our share in March. The water was certainly needed.

Our members were happy to have our Grand Presidents Kathy Thomsen and Dan Holm join us for our March lunch/meeting, a nice surprise for us.

I talked with Carl Jensen, Cheer Chairman, to get the update on all the members he has talked with. Kay Jensen was flying to Seattle, WA with her sister Gail, to attend another sisters funeral. Kay has lost two sisters in the last few months. You have our condolences.

Another of our members, Margaret Lenora Raven, has now returned home after an ordeal in the hospital

and care facility. It started with a severe ear infection causing dizziness then she ended up in the hospital. She is now doing well.

We will be having our lunch/meeting on Friday, April 4, 2025, at 11:30 am, at Denny's on Shaw, just east of First St.

April brings all the Easter traditions, dyeing the eggs, having egg hunts with the Easter baskets, Chocolate Rabbits.

I remember doing all of this when growing up, then repeating all of it with our own kids and grandkids. That's life!!

Have a Happy Easter! See you at the convention.  
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](mailto:timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net)**

Happy Easter to all, 2025 Dues are due for Freja is \$25.00 and Dana is \$15.00. Thank you to those who have paid their Dues. Hope to see you at Convention.

**Livermore, California**

**Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16**

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

**Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, [Robertlamee@yahoo.com](mailto:Robertlamee@yahoo.com) Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen, [danskfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:danskfarm@yahoo.com)**

Happy Spring and greetings from the Livermore group. We are so excited to be hosting convention again and can't wait to see your smiling faces at

Mission de Oro. We will regroup again the 3rd weekend in May, stay tuned to the May. Have a blessed Easter and hope to see you soon. KRT

**Hayward, California**

**No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1**

**Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thursday every month 6:30 PM; On Zoom**

**President, Susean Gauthier, [s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net), #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, [beth.cowan@att.net](mailto:beth.cowan@att.net)**

Our March Zoom meeting was well attended by our members. Due to traffic and members living in other states meeting via Zoom has proven to be successful for us. Sure, beats not having any meetings! We finalized our plans for our annual installation on March 15, 2025. Grand Presidents Kathy Thomsen and Dan Holm joined us. If you are interested in joining us at a future meeting contact Stuart and he will provide the Zoom link.

Stuart Mahler had a productive meeting in that he won the Valborg drawing and the Thyra drawing. Kyle Mahler missed the second Thyra drawing as he was not in attendance. It pays to participate!

Valborg and Thyra will not hold a meeting in April as most of us will be at the convention, hosted by the Livermore lodges. Hope to see many others there. It is promising to be a grand time!

We held our annual installation of officers on Saturday March 15, 2025 at the historic Union Hotel in downtown Benicia. There were thirty-eight members from Dania and Dannebrog in attendance. The weather was beautiful, and the meal was awesome. After the lunch, some members joined Susan and Stuart at their home for a few cocktails and friendly discussions.

Grand Presidents Kathy Thomsen and Dan Holm presented fifty-year pins to Deborah Johnson in

Valborg and Greg Gleeson in Thyra,  
CONGRATULATIONS to you two!

Our next Zoom meeting will be May 8, 2025. Come  
and join us!  
The HAWK

**Petaluma, California**  
**Sonderjylland No. 10**

**Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:j.crugerhansen@comcast.net)**

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

**Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday every month at 11:00 A.M., Danish Hall, Ferndale, CA 95536  
Secretary, Donald T. Christensen, [dtchkhc@gmail.com](mailto:dtchkhc@gmail.com)**

Following our 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](mailto:anettechristensen@charter.net)**

The Reno Lodges of Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9 met Friday March 7th at 6:30 pm at the Odd Fellows Hall. I arrived at 5:30 pm and Anette had all the tables decorated with St Patrick's hats and goodies. Everything was so pretty, thank you Anette, you are the best.

We had 21 in attendance, including little Graysen for just a short while, because Nina and Jordan had another event to attend, but Nina brought me my belated Christmas Gift. They ordered it in November and just received it in late February. Snail mail - don't you think? It was a wonderful surprise! We had a great potluck, with a lot of assorted food items. Dessert and coffee were enjoyed with lots of desserts as always. Ingrid, your Swedish Pancakes were yummy, I had 4 of them. Anette opened the meeting and the first thing on the agenda, was reading the application for Chris Halabird. Eric Hansen brought Chris as a guest at our last meeting. We welcomed him into Valdemar #12 with open arms. Then we discussed a little bit about the convention in April and Anette asked us to mark our calendars for St. Hans Fest on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the River School Farm. Our next meeting will be April 4th, and it will be an Easter potluck. Sena-Marie will be bringing Easter

Cookies. It was nice to see Ina again, we have not seen her since the November meeting, Glenn Fritz came but left early because his legs and back were really hurting him. Hope he feels better soon. I'm sorry to report that Kurt Tomozy fell and broke his left arm/shoulder, so he and Olivia not going to be able to go to the convention, which they were looking forward to. We all wish you a speedy recovery.

I had lunch with Ruth Olsen, her daughter Karen, Ruth's sister-in-law Peggy, her son and grandson on March 5th. They are all doing well. Ruth still has some good days and bad days, but it is always nice to see them once a month. Barbara Iler and her daughter Lori are in Tennessee visiting Lori's daughter and granddaughter Lainey. (Barb's great granddaughter). They are returning on March 14th. Safe travels. We hope everyone else is doing well. We miss all our members who cannot attend. Our April birthdays are Sena-Marie Freeman, Brandur Jensen, Glenn Christensen, Carl Christiansen, Kurt Tomozy, and Gregg Di Martino. HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE. Safe travels to the convention and we are looking forward to seeing you soon. Happy Easter and stay healthy & safe. Take care, Sena-Marie

**Modesto, California**

**Bornholm No. 14**

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

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: 1<sup>st</sup>. Wednesday 12 noon at Bit O' Denmark, President, Kristin Worthley, and Secretary, Elaine Anes.**

Hejls Minde #23 meeting held on Wednesday, March 5, at Bit O'Denmark Restaurant in Solvang, CA. Even though there was rain in the forecast and outside, 14 members of Hejls Minde #23 braved the weather to commune together for a wonderful Pork Loin lunch followed by a dessert of Beignets and ice cream, in honor of Mardi Gras. Thank you, Susie, for the excellent lunch.

We celebrated the anniversaries of four of our members who have made it another year around the sun - Hank Haugse, Finn Runge, Kristin Worthley, and Mark Bates - with the singing of Happy Birthday! Hejls Minde #23 will be sending one delegate to Convention this year, Bent Olsen. We are looking forward to hearing all about it from him at our May meeting. Have fun everyone attending! Elaine Anes, Hejls Minde #23 Secretary.

**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**