



# GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

May 2025

Upcoming Conventions		
Danmark #2 and Thyra #3, San Francisco	April 9-11 2026	Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella
Upcoming Installations		

## Dannebrog & Dania Grand Presidents

Thank you to everyone who attended this year's convention. A fun time was had by all, and even the weather worked in our favor. Once again, the staff at Hotel Mission de Oro did a fantastic job. They even said our group is one of their favorites! We're looking forward to going back again next year, but what will we do with our spare time?

We'd like to give a big thank you to Bent Olsen for bringing the delicious kringle and cookies, and to all who donated the raffle prizes. To the Livermore Convention Committee, thank you for everything you did to make these last two conventions a success. It's been a joy working together.

It was our honor to present Slim Juhl the 2025 Dania Member of the Year award, and Stuart Mahler the 2025 Dannebrog Member of the Year award. Both have been dedicated lodge members and this is a well-deserved honor. Congratulations!

Congratulations to the new slate of officers. To the new Grand Vice Marshals, Anette Christensen and John Jensen, and Grand Trustees, Daniel Joensen and Steen Skjellerup, welcome! It's going to be a fun, fun year.

We look forward to attending local branch meetings, installations, and events. Please let us know what's coming up so we can get it on the calendar.

See you all soon, Bob and Tracey Lamee, Dania and Dannebrog Grand Presidents

## FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY'S

From PGP Robert Lacey: Robert wanted me to pass on to all the members of Dania and Dannebrog who over the past year have kept him in their prayers and especially those who have sent him cards of best wishes. He does want everyone to know he is doing fine with all the different treatments he has been

## Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	<b>Dan Holm</b> Danholm@gmail.com	<b>Kathy Thomsen</b> danskfarm@yahoo.com
Grand President	<b>Robert Lamee</b> robertlamee@yahoo.com	<b>Tracey Lamee</b> tnlamee@yahoo.com
Grand Vice President	<b>James O Jensen</b> jamesolefjensen@yahoo.com	<b>Dennis Nielsen</b> nielsen.dennis.a@gmail.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>Gregory A. Gleeson</b> gleeson2@icloud.com	<b>Susan Gauthier</b> s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net
Grand Vice Marshal	<b>John Jensen</b> jajensend2@gmail.com	<b>Anette Christensen</b> anettechristensen@charter.net
Grand Trustee #1	<b>Johanne Rasmussen Gade</b>	<b>Kathy Christensen</b> pgchris@pacbell.net
Grand Trustee #2	<b>Steen Skjellerup</b> stivaxsteen@gmail.com	<b>Daniel Joensen</b> dj@danken.com
Grand Trustee #3	<b>John Scheuber</b> consultingjohns@gmail.com	<b>Jessica Jobe Sea</b> jessica@jobesea.com

going through to battle his current fight with cancer. He and his Doctor are very optimistic. He has been fitted with a new leg that is a lot more comfortable for him. Cards can be mailed to 101 Calle Marguerita Los Gatos CA 95032

## **IN MEMORIAM:**

Knud Jacobsen, Hejls Minde #23, Solvang

### **DANIA NEW MEMBER**

Karen Lesney, Freja #6, Salinas

Poul Rasmussen, Freja #6, Salinas

### **SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND**

### **DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

### **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**

Let's start with Happy Birthday wishes to all our May birthdays in Danmark #2. Happy Birthday to Peter Christensen, Mark Claussen, and our Vice President, Ian Nielsen. And we can't forget Goldie Elsborg-Jones, our newest member. Tillykke med fødselsdagen. Skål!

It seems too soon to see May on the calendar. Maybe it's because we are still getting rain. We had such a great time in April it's hard to turn the page.

Congratulations to our new Grand Officers in Dania and Dannebrog! I know we will have another successful year with this line up. Its good to see some new faces in the Grand Lodge...well I guess that would be me as Dania's Grand Vice Marshal. I am looking forward to visiting all the lodges over these next 4 years. Let me know if there's a place to park my RV.

Once again, thank you to the entire Livermore Lodge for hosting such an awesome convention. You have set the bar for San Francisco next year. To Bob and Tracy, I must express my deepest appreciation for giving us the Hotel Mission de Oro "cheat sheet". And I would be remiss if I didn't thank Bent – we only show up for the pastries! Mange Tak! I know we are all looking forward to doing it again next year. And I would also like to thank everyone who donated to the raffle this year. There were truly some

## **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)**

Our Convention is over for the year with all the new officers stepping up to assume their new positions. Congratulations to our new Grand Presidents Bob and Tracy Lamee. They are going to have a great year traveling to visit all the lodges.

wonderful items to bid on and it made it a really special event (when I won them). Thanks. San Francisco only had a Zoom meeting in April, but we had another great social gathering in Tom Martin's backyard on that last April Saturday. Thank you Tom for remodeling just for us! And also for scheduling the only sunshine all weekend. We had a great turnout with some really great food. I hope the Ferndale sausage connection never ends. It was good to see Roger and his friend Mike come all the way out from Modesto to be with us (with an excellent kielbasa and sauerkraut dish). Also great to see Peter Maris back from his time in Portugal. He showed up and we had tri-tip again. Coincidence? We were sorry to miss Johanne (and her excellent Leverpostej), but she was recouping after getting some hardware removed from her arm. Hope you are doing well Johanne! This month we will have an in-person meeting at the Odd Fellows Hall in San Francisco on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> at noon. Snacks and socializing, then a meeting, and then a nice lunch. We still need to work on menu ideas so let the emails begin. Anyone can come! Let me know if you'd like to join us as we try to regroup after the convention.

Hope to see everyone again very soon. Happy Mother's Day! Happy Memorial Day!  
Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary,  
[jajensend2@gmail.com](mailto:jajensend2@gmail.com) ,

The Senior Assistance Fund meeting opened with Sena Marie, 1st Vice Chairman presiding. Secretary Tim Heer read a letter of resignation from Bob Lacey, who has been Chairman for a number of years. He's

no longer able to be at our meetings because of his health. We will miss him.

John Jensen was voted in as Chairman. Steen Skjellerup will be the 2nd Vice Chairman, all other positions will remain the same.

There were not any applicates this year so it was a very short meeting.

Friday evening was a fun night with the tables decorated with ball caps from all kinds of sport teams and most everyone in team jerseys.

We heard from Bente Ellis, who spoke about the Danish Museum, in Elk, IA. We need to renew our membership to support the museum.

Ian Nielsen, my grandson, spoke about his research program for his PHD which he's almost finished

### **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)**

Congratulations to the 2025 Convention Committee on a fantastic Convention. Everything went off without a hitch, from the sports night to the gala dinner! Congratulations also to our hometown boy who made good, Slim Juhl, the 2025 Dania Member of the Year, and my grandmother's hometown Boy, Stuart Mahler the 2025 Dannebrog Member of the Year, thanks you both for your past and future support of our Grand Lodges.

Dana15 and Freja 6 are happy to report that after much discussion during the past several months that included feedback from out-of-state members via

### **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 May! We are half way between the Spring Equinox and June Solstice. So gather up some wildflowers, make a garland for your hair, and dance around a May Pole, or not!!!

In order to wrap up the final tallies for convention and put a bow on, the committee feels we need to go back to Mission De Oro for our May meeting, talk over lunch and perhaps a beer.

So delighted that Stuart Mahler received the Dannebrog member of the year award, and that Slim Juhl made it up from Santa Maria to accept his

with. He's attending U.C. Davis. He's also a member of the San Francisco lodge.

The prizes were wonderful, so many to choose from. They gave out half on Friday night and the remainder on Saturday. It made a happy crowd, everyone was having a good time out dancing to the music.

This year the weather was warm and wonderful, no rain. That's good because it's going to be in the same place next year when San Francisco's lodges host it. We will be having our next lunch/meeting on Friday, May 2, 2025, at 11:30 am, at Denny's on Shaw just east of First Street. Come join us, we would love to have you. MN

email, last Sunday (the 27th) over a picnic-style chicken lunch with the small group of members able to attend we unanimously agreed to not start waving any white flags. Instead, we would renew our enthusiasm for the future with respect for our past and work toward exploring new, creative and exciting ways to reach out to our community to attract attention and participation and ultimately build our membership. We've given ourselves 365 days to see if we can pull this off. Wish us luck and stay tuned, we'll be sharing our journey with you along the way. Tak for sidst. JH

member of the year award from Dania. Congratulations to both of you and to the new slate of Grand Officers. I was the lucky winner of Bent Olsen's Kranse Kage, there were several good raffle prizes to choose from, thanks to all who donated and bought tickets. The photo both was a hit, do you have your pictures up on your fridge yet? I put mine right next to the picture from the Flower Party photo both.

See ya around the May Pole!!! KRT

**Hayward, California**

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

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

**President, Susan 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)**

The Livermore lodges hosted another amazing convention! Kudos to the Committee! Congratulations to the newly installed grand officers in Dannebrog and Dania. Hoorah, Hoorah to Hayward's own Stuart Mahler, as he was named our newest Dannebrog Member of the Year! Sending you a huge congratulations on your well-earned award. Our next Zoom meeting for Valborg #1 and Thyra #9 will be Thursday May 8, 2025, at 6:30PM. The

Zoom link will be out to our members at the beginning of the week. If you are a member in other Dannebrog or Dania branches and would like to join in, let Susan Gauthier know at [s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net) and we will send you the link. The SHADOW  
Best Regards, Susan

**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)**

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 April 4th at 6:30 pm at the Odd Fellows Hall with 18 in attendance and 2 guests Baby Graysen and Sandra Rose. Sandra plans on joining Dannevirke #9 at our May 2nd meeting. Our Easter Potluck was very, very nice and yummy including nice choices of desserts as well. Anette opened our very short meeting during coffee and desserts. Most of the meeting was about the upcoming convention. April 10th-12th. For our May 2nd meeting we will have a regular potluck. Bring whatever you desire. Sena-Marie will bring dessert. I don't know yet, but I will figure something out. Before we closed the meeting Anette reminded us about our St. Hans Fest June 20th. Same place as usual at the River School Farm.

Everyone is invited to this fun picnic and bon fire and you will hear more about it later. I had breakfast with the Olsen Family April 3rd. Ruth still has good days and bad, but always in good spirits. I also had breakfast with Barbara Iler and her daughter Lori on March 27th. We celebrated her 87th birthday. Barbara is doing well. At our meeting we missed Glenn Fritz, Bonnie and Leif Larsen. Sorry to hear about Kurt and Olivia being unable to attend the convention. Kurt is feeling better with his broken arm and shoulder but was not able to travel. Good Luck Kurt on a speedy recovery and hope we see you both soon. Also, sorry that Leif couldn't make it to the convention and hope he will be better soon.

Our May Birthdays are Marian Gndt, Nina Potter, Lars Jensen, Greg Nielsen, Eugene Gndt, and Zoey Christensen. HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALL. Now in closing we hope everyone had a great convention at the beautiful Mission de Oro Hotel and safe travels home. Congratulations to Anette for going through

the Grand Lodge as our new Grand Vice Marshal. We are going to miss our Jillian Baker when she moves to Florida in May. We wish her much luck and happiness with her new job. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in our Danish Lodges, Be healthy, Be safe, and 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)**

Another successful convention took place at the Hotel Mission DeOro thanks to Bob and Tracey Lamee and their committee for all the work in insuring us a fabulous experience: delicious meals, fun entertainment, great raffle items and tasty coffee breaks with Bent Olsen's to die for pastries. We were blessed with fantastic weather and were able to partake in enjoying spare time to meander around the beautifully landscaped outdoors. Friday night was a

blast with members dressed in their favorite baseball team attire and prancing around the dance floor to our favorite dance tunes. It was delightful to see youngsters enjoying dancing along with the elders. Congratulations to the newly installed Dannebrog's Grand President Tracey Lamee and Dania Grand President Bob Lamee. Thanks to our members Bodil Rasmussen, Bente Ellis, and George Dutra for fulfilling their duties as delegates. Marge Scheuber

### **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.**

Here is the summary of the Hejls Minde #23 meeting held on Wednesday, April 2, at Bit O' Denmark Restaurant in Solvang, CA. 15 members of Hejls Minde #23 joined together to welcome in a beautiful start to Spring! We celebrated the anniversaries of six of our members who have made it another year around the sun – Karen Haugse, Jytte Kirk, Doris Jensen, Henning Hansen, Edwin Skytte, and Suzy Olsen - with the singing of Happy Birthday! Darlene Iversen won our 50/50 drawing in March, and Tom Wilson won it this month.

We are saddened by the passing of one of our members; Knud Jacobsen passed on March 23. There will be a Celebration of Life at the Lutheran Church in Solvang on April 11, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to his family at this time.

We hope that everyone attending the annual convention next week (April 10-12) will have safe travels and a wonderful time. Personally, I am hoping for good weather for you all; last year's convention was a little damp.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at the Bit O' Denmark in Solvang, CA

### **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**