



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

April 2026

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

Our last installation as Grand Presidents was Thyra #9 and Valborg #1, Hayward. It was a small but fun crowd. We want to extend a special thank you to Sue and Stuart Mahler for their generous hospitality hosting the Executive Committee meetings in the morning and a continuation of fellowship after the installation.

As of the writing of this, our final newsletter, we are planning to trip to Ferndale to attend their April meeting and Easter luncheon. We're looking forward to joining them. It's always fun to visit our Ferndale friends in their beautiful Dania Hall.

Convention is right around the corner – how did it get here so fast?! A great big thanks to San Francisco for hosting this year. It's no small job, and we know it will be a fun time for everyone. And to Dennis and James, we know you will be awesome Grand Presidents. We wish you and your slate of officers all the very best.

Lastly, thank you for the honor and privilege of being your Grand Presidents over this past year. It's hard to believe this journey is almost over, and difficult to put into words what this experience has meant. One thing that has stuck out for both of us is how welcoming everyone has been. We are proud to call you our Danish Family.

Mange Tak, Bob & Tracey Lamee, Grand Presidents

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY'S

We are looking forward to another wonderful time at Convention. Our Grand Presidents have been working very hard on preparing for the business of convention and our Vice Grand Presidents have been hard at work on the fun part.

Just a reminder that the Dania Branches, your first half of your annual tax is due. For those who have a

Grand Officers

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

net worth less than \$5,000.00 your tax is based on one half of \$20.00 per member as of January 1st, for the rest of us it is half of \$30.00 per member as of January first Natalie & Tim

IN MEMORIAM:

Margaret Lenore Raven, Thora #11, Fresno

NEW MEMBERS:

SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

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 & Thyra #3 Secretary John A. Jensen, E-Mail: jajensend2@gmail.com

Spring has sprung! It is April and we already have had a heat wave. Happy Birthday to all our April birthdays – Kathy Christensen, Dennis Nielsen, Jessica Jobe Sea, Yoko Ølsgaard, and yours truly. Tillykke med fødselsdagen. Skål! We had a great March meeting at the Odd Fellows Hall. The Saint Patrick's Day parade in San Francisco sure messed up our travel route, but we eventually got there. Most of us. Brannan Hall is indeed a grand meeting room. The next time we may need the PA system so everyone can hear from across the room.

It is time for our 2026 Convention! We are excited to see everyone again at Hotel Mission de Oro. Chanacey and Lisa have been so helpful as we planned this event. Please give them and the entire hotel staff a big Thank You when you see them. Everything is in order and we can't wait to get down to business and celebrate another year of our Danish Society Dania and Dannebrog. Feel free to reach out to me directly if you have any questions.

And yes, we are still soliciting raffle items. If you have something, please contact our Raffle Chair

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

With all of the warm hot weather we are having, those weeds will be coming up overnight. Since I'm no longer on the farm, it's not a worry for me. I'm sorry to report the passing of one of our members, Margaret Lenore Raven, DOB 8-2-1933, DOD 3-11-2026. She grew up in the farming community outside of Fresno in Easton. Her parents sponsored Gunnar's parents when

Jessica Jobe Sea via email at jessica@jobesea.com. Please give us the item title or brief description, who has donated it, from which lodge, and an estimated value so we can create proper signage. All donations are welcome, even ones that arrive at the last minute. Tak!

Our April meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday April 1st. No joke! We moved it from the second Wednesday to the first Wednesday to make room for the convention. Hopefully my emails made the lodge aware of the change prior to reading this news article.

For our May meeting we hope to gather again in Brannan Hall in the Odd Fellows building. The date will be Saturday May 9th. We are still working on a deal to rent the hall for our meetings and have access to the second-floor club room for our social gatherings. More to come – Check that email.

Happy Easter! See you in Santa Nella.

Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary, jajensend2@gmail.com

they came from Denmark in 1948. Her services will be held on our convention weekend. Our next lunch meeting will be the first Friday, April 3, 2026, at 11:30AM at Denny's restaurant on Shaw Ave, just East of First Street. Wishing you a joyful Easter spent with family and friends and lots of chocolate rabbits and Easter eggs. Hope to see you at the convention. M. Nielsen

Salinas, California

Freja No. 6 & Dana No. 15

Meeting: 1st. Sunday in August at 12:00 P.M.; Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA Secretary, Natalie Heer, timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

Thank you to those who have paid their dues!
Just a reminder to those who haven't paid annual
2026 dues are \$15.00 for Dana and \$25.00 for
Freja.

Please Mail to 487 Paradise Park, Santa Cruz, CA
95060 T&N

Livermore, California

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

**Meet 2nd Saturday at 5:00PM; the Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way, Livermore.
Dannevang #7 & Danebod #16 Secretary Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com**

April is a month to celebrate Easter and as
always convention. Looking forward to going
back to the lovely Mission de Oro. I've heard a
rumor there might be some lively games at the
Bocci Ball courts, stay tuned for more
information from the San Francisco group.
Livermore met in March to discuss a little bit of
business and enjoy a feast of Frikadeller and lots
of other goodies. However Dan and I had to miss
it due to a trip to the Emergency room that same

weekend which resulted in Dan having an
infected gall bladder removed. Would have much
rather been at the meeting. He's recuperated
well (and super fast). Must be that good Danish
blood! We will not meet in April and the next
planned meeting is May 9th, possibly a Cinco de
Mayo theme.

Here's hoping for some April showers to bring
May flowers. Happy Easter and see you at
convention. KRT

Hayward, California

No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1

Meeting: 2nd.Thursday every month 6:30 PM; On Zoom

President, Susan Gauthier, s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net, #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, beth.cowan@att.net

Hayward lodges conducted their annual
installation of officers on March 21 at the Benicia
Grill. Thank you to the Grand Officers who
attended to install our officers and the other out-
of-town guests who joined us as well. Thank you
to Stuart and Susan Mahler for hosting the
Executive Board Meetings for Dannebrog &
Dania in their home prior to the installation. And,
also hosting an after party with delicious
desserts and refreshing beverages. A good time
was had by all!

Valborg and Thyra will not hold a meeting on
April 9, 2026, as most of our members will be
attending the San Francisco convention. We look
forward to seeing a lot of our friends at the
convention. We will resume our Zoom meetings
on May 14, 2026, at 6:30PM. Non-Hayward lodge
members are always welcome to join us. If
interested contact Susan Gauthier and she will be
more than happy to provide you with the Zoom
link. Skal!

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, Mary Kemp, marykempgigi1@gmail.com

Ydun 10 and Valhalla 11 will have an Easter Celebration after our meeting, which begins at 11:00 on Saturday, April 4. CC Catering will serve ham, baked chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, scalloped potatoes, peas, carrots, and various salads. Desserts include carrot cake, berry pie, lemon meringue pie, and ice cream. We give a hearty welcome to Grand Presidents Tracey and Robert Lamee and are glad that they can enjoy a meeting and catered lunch/dinner with us.

While I was watching the Winter Olympics early one morning, I saw a Dutch skater and a skater in red come out in front from the beginning of the Men's Mass Start Speed Skating and extend their lead throughout the race. The results showed that the skater in red was Viktor Hald Thorup

from Denmark. He is Denmark's first ever speed skater to win a medal and only the second to win a Winter Olympics medal in Denmark's history. Good going, Viktor!!

Ydun 10 and Valhalla 11 wish the Grand Officers, delegates, and all attendees a successful and fun convention. I have found the Hotel Mission de Oro to be a beautiful, interesting, and well-organized facility. Meetings are important for the continuation of our lodges. Meals are always enjoyable, and activities are fun. I find my mouth watering when thinking about Bent Olsen's break time pastries! Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend this year. I will miss my friends and hope to join you next year. LW

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 Friday March 6, 2026, at 6:30 pm with 11 members in attendance and of course our little man Graysen. Anette did it again, a very delicious St. Patrick's dinner with corn beef and cabbage. She had green hats and other decorations on the tables. We also had a great chicken dish and salads. Really nice dinner. During the desert of mini cupcakes and devil's food cake and coffee, Anette opened the meeting. The meeting was mostly about the convention April 9- 11th. Kurt and Olivia Tomozy will be delegates for Valdemar #12, and Bonnie Larsen for Dannevirke #9. Sena-Marie Freeman will sub if Karina Davies can't make it for Dannevirke #9. This will be my (Sena-Marie) 54th convention.

Our April 3rd meeting will be an Easter potluck. Sena-Marie will bring dessert. Don't know yet, but I will think of something. ☺ I will be having breakfast with the Olsen's March 12th. Karen and I keep in touch, she still says Ruth has good days and bad days. I love visiting with them each month. I missed being with them last month since I was in

California for a Freeman Family reunion. Hopefully everyone else is doing well. Our April Birthdays are Kurt Tomozy, Sena-Marie Freeman, Carl Christiansen, Glenn Christensen, Gregg Di Martino and Brandur Jensen, HAPPY BIRTHDAY everyone and Happy Easter! Safe travels to the convention, stay healthy and safe. TAKE CARE Sena-Marie I would like to add another sad note. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Paul & Cindy Christensen family. David Christensen, brother to sister Ann-katherine Sawyer and brother Paul. David was a member of Valdemar #12 many, many, many years ago. After marriage he moved on working a government job, traveling the U.S. and the world. David leaves behind his 2 children, Brother Paul and sister-in-law Cindy, nieces Deonne, Nina and her husband Jordan, nephews Christian Graysen and Soren. Cousins Sena-Marie Freeman and Barbara Iler. He was a very sweet man that we all loved dearly and will be missed. Rest in peace with his parents, aunt Betty, (wife) sister aunt "Kaki" as all nieces and nephews called her. REST IN PEACE DEAR COUSIN Sena-Marie

Modesto, California

Bornholm No. 14

Meeting: 2nd Thursday at 5 p.m. Perko's Restaurant

President Jason LeBeouf, jlebeouf@yahoo.com, Secretary Marge Scheuber, olemarge1@sbcglobal.net

Spring is finally here! The return of sunny days, green grass and bright beautiful flowers! Sixteen Bornholm members met on March 12 at Perko's Café. Corn beef and cabbage was enjoyed by Danes who chose to feast on an Irish dinner in celebration of St. Paddy's Day. Happy Birthday wishes were given to our members Ben Hoover and Lise Christian. Thanks to Bodil Whitehouse who treated members to her delicious Danish

AEblekage for dessert. We were saddened to hear Lisa McDaniel's son passed away. Our condolences go out to her and her family. Final plans for our upcoming convention were discussed. Anita Parham and Michael Gearhart will be our delegates. We are looking forward to another great convention at the lovely Hotel Mission Del Oro in Santa Nella. Marge Scheuber, Secretary

Solvang, California

Hejls Minde No. 23

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

Eighteen people gathered in Solvang for our monthly luncheon/meeting on Wednesday, March 4. Of those eighteen people, seventeen were members and one was a guest from the San Francisco Lodge, Mr. Tom Martin. Tom, it was so good to see you again! March welcomed four birthdays – Alice Quimby, Mark Bates, Finn Runge, and Kristen Worthley. Our song leader, Alice, was not present, so the Solvang Danish choir of the remaining 17 members present had to sing without a leader. It was not pretty; in fact, we sang it twice, but everyone was happy and laughter was everywhere. It was so much fun! I don't think we

will be invited to go Christmas Caroling in December! LOL
Darlene won the 50/50 drawing for \$35.00. Fun Fact – Darlene won the drawing last year also. You go, girl!
Bent Olsen will be our delegate going to this year's convention. We look forward to being updated about all of the festivities from him at our May meeting. Elaine Anes will be attending the convention; however, she will not be a delegate. She is just going as a visiting member. The meeting adjourned at 1:30, but we saved all of the Bit O'Denmark patrons by NOT singing. We will save that for when Alice comes back. We really missed you, Alice!

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

Happy New Year and Happy St. Patrick's Month! Holger Danske #27 will be sending one delegate to this year's convention in Santa Nella, CA. Elvin "Slim" Juhl will be representing our little Santa Mara Lodge. He is very excited, and we look forward to any update that he will have for us. Have fun, Slim!