



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

August 2026

Upcoming Conventions		
Thyra No. 9, and Valborg No. 1	April 8-10 2027	Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella
Upcoming Installations		
Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10	September 5 2026	Ferndale, Danish Hall
Valdemar #12. Dannevirke # 9	Oct 2, 2026	Reno, IOOF Hall
Dannevang # 7 Danebod # 16	Oct. 17. 2026	Lamee Villa Livermore

Dannebrog & Dania Grand Presidents

Dear Dannebrog and Dania Members,

This July started off with a bang following the Santa Maria BBQ for the 4th. We traveled with Tom M., to Santa Maria to enjoy the BBQ. Along the way, we stopped in San Luis Obispo to meet up with James' friends, Zack and Lori, who joined us for the festivities.

The BBQ in Santa Maria lived up to all the rumors: the food was delicious and we had a great time. All the fixings, linguica sausage samples, pastries, and desserts were wonderful. The raffle was also quite generous to us, and the peach pies we won were very tasty. It was nice to meet and visit with the members while enjoying the event. We had the great honor to present to Elvin "Slim" Juhl his 70-year pin. He shared with us his long history on the Central Coast. Thank you Santa Maria and Solvang lodges for your hospitality and for hosting the BBQ.

Later that evening, we attended a get-together at Zack and Lori's friends' place in Templeton for a buffet and fireworks. Lori even made a pie that morning. Templeton allows fireworks until 10 PM, and right on cue, it began to rain lightly as soon as the clock struck ten.

Best regards, Dennis Nielsen and James Jensen,
Dannebrog and Dania Grand Presidents

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	Robert Lamee robertlamee@yahoo.com	Tracey Lamee tnlamee@yahoo.com
Grand President	James O Jensen jamesolefjensen@yahoo.com	Dennis Nielsen nielsen.dennis.a@gmail.com
Grand Vice President	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Susan Gauthier s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net
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	John Jensen jajensend2@gmail.com	Anette Christensen anettechristensen@charter.net
Grand Vice Marshal	Stuart Mahler smahler52@gmail.com	Susan Mirkovich Mahler mirkmahler@att.net
Grand Trustee #1	Steen Skjellerup stivaxsteen@gmail.com	Daniel Joensen dj@danken.com
Grand Trustee #2	John Scheuber consultingjohns@gmail.com	Jessica Jobe Sea jessica@jobesea.com
Grand Trustee #3	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net

IN MEMORIAM:

Inger Rasmussen, Dana #15, Salinas

NEW MEMBERS:

SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

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

Happy Birthday wishes to all our August birthdays, and we have quite a few. Happy Birthday to Poul Andersen, Ever Dominguez, Javier Colón, Elizabeth Jensen (Hi Mom!), and Danmark #2 Honorary Member William Jensen. Tillykke med fødselsdagen. Skål!

July marked our first meeting at our new venue, the Mission Masonic Lodge in San Francisco. This hall has exceeded our expectations. The kitchen and dining hall are completely stocked with dishes and utensils. The meeting hall is indeed grand, surpassing even the large meeting hall at the Odd Fellows Hall. The staff is friendly and parking is easy, although somewhat limited. Our lodge is lucky to have found this great new home. Thanks again to the Fox Brothers and James, Dennis, and Tom for moving us in. Our next live meeting at Mission Masonic Lodge is planned for Saturday September 12th at Noon. Our August meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday August 12 at 7 PM. Details will be emailed soon.

If you haven't already, mark your calendar for Danmark #2 and Thyra #3's Summer BBQ in Sunol. Saturday August 22nd and it starts at Noon. It will be at the Kilkare Woods Clubhouse on Glenora Way in Sunol. Just like before, our lodge will provide meat and heat, and sides and desserts are potluck. The menu so far is Lockeford sausages and BBQ chicken, plus whatever everyone brings, which I know will be delicious. We will have some beers but be sure to bring your favorite beverages of choice. Not too late to RSVP so I can get the details out via email. Heck, just show up if you know how to get there. There will be enough food. And bring your bathing suit! Feel free to ask me questions at the email address below. Hope you can make it!

Have a beautiful August!

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

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

We are now having triple digit hot weather, it's the "Harvest Season".

I don't check the weather forecast each morning as I don't have raisins out drying. I'm not missing it.

Our Fresno Lodge doesn't have summer meetings, so I don't have any news to report.

We will be having a meeting on the second Friday in September at the usual Denny's. Hope to see you. Enjoy your summer.

Martha 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

Our Condolences to Inger Rasmussen's Family and Friends in her passing. She was longtime member of Dana #15, who will be missed by the whole Branch.

We are looking forward to our 3:00 PM Coffee & Cake at the Masonic Center Sunday, August 2. NH.

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

The hot August night are upon us, and not only in Reno. The forecast has some hot hot days in it. Dan and I went up to Fairfax to watch the amazing Danish violin player, Mads Tolling. The setting in the redwood grove was gorgeous and his music amazing. Along with American classics he played 5 Danish songs. If you get a chance go see him play (you can follow him on Facebook). Thanks to all the well-wishers for my special day celebrating my birthday along with a wedding celebration for Dan and I. It was beyond special at the Mission de Oro.

Well as for the rest of the Livermore group, I hope you are enjoying these summer months off from meeting until September when we resume meeting again on the 12th. More details to follow in the September newsletter. A reminder that the San Francisco group is hosting a BBQ and swim party at Noon, Saturday, August 22, at Kilkare Woods Association Clubhouse, Glenora Way, Sunol. They provide the meat and we are to bring a salad or dessert, and a favorite beverage. Guaranteed to be a good time by all. See you there and stay cool. 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 are not meeting in August. The Zoom meetings will resume on the second Thursday of September. A Zoom link will be sent to members a few days prior to the meeting. If you are a member of another branch and would like to join us, please

contact Susan Gauthier at s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net and you will be sent a meeting link. *Enjoy this beautiful summer weather and stay cool!*

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 meet at 11am on August 1 followed by a CC Catering lunch provided by Don Christensen to celebrate his birthday month. The theme is Karen Blixen, the renowned Danish author who wrote 'Out of Africa'.

We are beginning to prepare for our Labor Day weekend Installation. There is a slight change to the agenda--Saturday 3:30pm Social Hour/hors d'oeuvres; 5pm Installation; 6pm CC Catering dinner. Sunday--10am set up for bocce ball; 1pm

lunch. Dinner entrees include prime rib or salmon with a vegetarian option. Various salads and vegetable dishes will be included as well as a choice of apple, berry, or lemon meringue pie with ice cream for dessert. Chicken or hamburgers are offered for Sunday with salads, Calico beans, chili beans, and Strawberry Shortcake with ice cream cups. The cost is \$50 for both days, \$35 for Saturday only, and \$15

for Sunday only. We are planning an auction on Saturday evening. Please make your reservations with Don (dtchkhc@gmail.com) or Mary (marykempgigi1@gmail.com) phone (707)786-9670 by **August 28**. If you arrive on Friday afternoon, come by the hall to see if we are still there preparing. We hope that many of you will join us!! Lynn Wachter

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 on Friday July 3rd at 6:30 pm with 10 members in attendance. It was great to see Ina and her caregiver Boschnee, as a guest. We had a nice BBQ and was not interrupted with a lot of wind, like last month. We also had lots of nice side dishes as well. A very short meeting was held during dessert of coffee and a red, white and blue cake. Everyone that ate the cake left with blue lips. ☺ Very dark blue icing on the cake, but it was very good and patriotic! Anette thanked everyone for attending The Sankt Hans Fest. For our August 7th meeting we will have a regular potluck and have election of officers. We are looking forward to our installation on October 2nd which is just around the corner again. We will serve Open Face Sandwiches which has become a tradition now.

☺ Come one, come all to this event! We love seeing all our Danish California friends for the instillation. Anette is our Grand Marshal along with John Jensen. Our sick list is about the same. I was unable to attend breakfast with the Olsen's, but I texted Karen and Ruth is still doing pretty good. Kurt Tomozy had

tripped over a piece of concrete and looked pretty beat up in his face and really skinned his knee. Glad to see him and Olivia in attendance and that he is healing well. Barbara Iler is doing better after her fall. We hope everyone is doing well.

We want to send our congratulations to Kathy Thomsen and Dan Holm on their marriage at the beautiful Hotel Mission de Oro in Santa Nella. We love you both. Congratulations also goes out to Lori and Barbara; Lori's daughter is expecting her 2nd grandchild and Barbara's great grandchild. It's a boy and he will arrive around Christmas. Also, a very happy 6th wedding anniversary to Jordan and Nina. Our August birthdays are Skye Matuzak, Ruth Olsen, Poul- Erik Christensen, and Jordan Potter. HAPPY BIRTHDAY everyone. Hope everyone had a safe and wonderful 4th of July. Stay safe and healthy and take care. Sena-Marie. I want to add a little message. Thank You so very much for my lovely 4th of July gift from Graysen and of course mom and dad. Love you all so very much. "Cousin Granny".

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

We are surviving the heat here in Modesto. We had decided at our last meeting there was no reason for us not to start meeting in July. As it turned out we only had 11 at our meeting. Hopefully our August meeting will bring more members. We welcomed a guest, David Hansen, a friend of Roger Gearhart. He had family years ago that were involved in the Fresno Dania Lodge. David is President of the Stanislaus Senior Softball Association. We were pleased to see our member Doris Skow attend our meeting. Thanks

to Bente Ellis for bringing her to Modesto. Our members Brian and Susan Mefford have moved to Idaho for a year while Brian is working on a project for the company he had retired from a few years ago. They will keep their home here in Modesto and Susan and maybe Brian will be making trips back home throughout the year. We wish them well and hope to see them soon. We are deeply sorry that Bente's son lost his battle with cancer. He fought it for five years. A moment of silence was given for her son. As many

of us know, the pain of losing a child no matter what age is most difficult and everlasting. Doris reported that Ron Nielsen's condition is improving, Lisa McDaniels will be getting physical therapy for walking, and Maud Hansen is having breathing problems. Sandi Scheuber reported on her scalp surgeries for removal of cancer are almost complete.

Solvang, California

Hejls Minde No. 23

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

President Kristin Worthley opened the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

There were 16 of us at this month's meeting/luncheon. We celebrated Else Hansen and America this month with singing "Happy Birthday". Kristen Worthley won the 50/50 drawing for \$40.00. Slim Juhl won the Patriotic Flowers and Tom Wilson

July birthday greetings went out to: Max Stowers, Kim Giacinto, Joan Olsen, Doris Skow and Lilian Rasmussen.

Thanks to my smart and kind grandson Benjamin Hoover for taking the minutes because I was unable to make the meeting. Secretary Marge Scheuber

won the Patriotic Ty Beanie Baby (to sit alongside his Elvis Beanie Baby). Congratulations to our winners! It was reported to our Sunshine Committee that Wayne Allen is feeling under the weather this week. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 with the singing of the Danish National Anthem. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at noon at Solvang's Bit O' Denmark. -Elaine Anes

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

The annual 4th of July Holger Danske #23 and Valkyrien #23 picnic went off without a hitch. Thank you to the wonderful Decorating and BBQ committees. Again, you did a great job! Thank you, Debbie, for the wonderful peach pies that you donated to the raffle; they were delicious! Thank you to Bent Olsen and his grandson for donating four

Kringles to the festivities. It is appreciated. Thank you to Kristen Worthley from the Solvang Hejls Minde #23 and all the Grand Dania/Dannebrog officers for traveling to Santa Maria to join in the celebration. It was good to see you all. Happy Birthday, America!
EA