



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

October 2026

Upcoming Conventions		
Thyra No. 9, and Valborg No. 1	April 8-10 2027	Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella
Upcoming Installations		
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 Dania and Dannebrog Members,
This month, Ferndale hosted the officer installation for Valhalla No. 11 and Ydun No. 10, marking our first installation event of many. The Grand Lodge officers installed both new and continuing officers into their respective positions. Attendees enjoyed a delicious dinner and participated in a raffle conducted by President Tom Martin, which featured many generous donations. On Sunday, members competed in a few games of bocce ball and shared another wonderful luncheon before heading home.

Additionally, Dennis reached out to President Susan Gauthier for an invitation to the September meeting for Thyra No. 9 and Valborg No. 1 of Hayward Lodge. I attended the meeting via Zoom as President Gauthier and the officers conducted business. The meeting ran efficiently, leaving extra time to visit with the members.

We wish everyone a wonderful remaining summer and look forward to seeing you all soon.

Best regards,

Dennis Nielsen and James Jensen
Grand Presidents, Dannebrog and Dania

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:

NEW MEMBERS:

SENIOR ASSISTANCE FUND

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

Dannevang #7 in memory of Jorgen Clausen

GRAND SECTARIES: Our long-time member Viola Jensen's birthday is Oct 8 and she will be 102! It would be nice to shower her with Birthday cards, please ask us for Her address.

San Francisco

Danmark No. 2 & Thyra No. 3

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday every month 7:30 PM The Masonic Hall 2668 Mission St, San Francisco, CA
Danmark #2 & Thyra #3 Secretary John A. Jensen, E-Mail: jajensend2@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to all of our October birthdays! Mike and Bob Fox, Henrik Nielsen, Aidan Jobe Sea, and Marissa Christensen – Happy Birthday! Tillykke med fødselsdagen. Skål!

Our September meeting was held at the Mission Masonic Lodge in San Francisco. It was my first time at this venue, and I must say what a great place this is! We may have to turn on the sound system to be heard in the grand meeting hall. For lunch, we enjoyed delicious casseroles by Tom Martin and Dennis Nielsen as well as all the sides and salads by our usual suspects. Another productive meeting and great feast– Mange Tak!

We are soliciting feedback from members on returning to our old monthly meeting schedule on the second Wednesday evening of the month. If you haven't done so already, please drop me a line and let your opinion be heard. Saturdays and weekends are precious, and the Wednesday evening routine would

work well at the new venue. So far, the response has been favorable. Let me know what you think.

Our October meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday October 14th at 7PM. Maybe our last Zoom meeting? Details will be emailed out as the date approaches.

It's not too early to get into the Christmas Spirit. We are taking RSVPs for our annual Christmas Party. Once again, we will have a luncheon at the Hotel Mac in Point Richmond. Danish Christmas Carols, Ugly Sweater Contest, Poinsettia prizes, and steak or salmon for lunch. We plan on having as much fun as we did last year, hopefully more. The date is Saturday December 12th and we start the festivities at noon.

The price will probably be the same as last year.

RSVP for you and your guests today.

Happy Halloween! Hope to see you in Reno and Livermore this month.

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

This last month I attended Ferndale's installation with my son, Dennis. The evening started off with cocktails to get everyone in a party mood. The Grand Presidents Dennis Nielsen and James Jensen had everyone installed without a hitch, very smoothly done. Ferndale always serves a wonderful dinner, plus homemade pies. Can't go wrong with that. Sunday those that stayed played bocci and then had lunch at the hall before getting on the road. I called Carl to get a report on our members. Everyone seems to be well. Carl wanted a report on the Solvang's Danish Days weekend which I had attended. We danced for 3 days, the crowd seemed to be smaller than usual, but the motels were full. They're still making and serving the Æbleskivers on the street. Everyone loves them as the line is always long. They've cut the parade down, it seems like half of the length it was, so it's much shorter now. We missed all the Danish Nimbus motorcycle crowd along with our own Robert Lacey that always brought his Nimbus to ride in the parade. The Village dancers

still dance on the street all day entertaining the tourists that are bused in for the weekend. Some things haven't changed. Have a booth serving pulled pork sandwiches. They are very good, plus this is a fun small town with rides for the kids

I reported on our loss of Jorgen Clausen last month, which will be added to this newsletter.

We are so sorry to have lost one of our Great Dancer Danes, Jorgen Clausen with his wife Kristine danced with our Fresno Danish Dancers. He's been a member of Dania for a while, joining Livermore in 1961, then transferring to Fresno, Thor #5 in 1983 when they moved to the valley. He was born and raised in Denmark, DOB 9-16-37, passed with complications of a heart issue 8-21-26.

He was a Past-President of the Danish-America Historical Society and was still very involved with cooking the frikadelles for the dinners. He was also into sailing up at Huntington Lake and competed in the National Western Regatta. He was a good sailor as he won many races.

He will be greatly missed, our Condolences to Kristine and family.
We missed both Jorgen and Kristine at Solvang, they have been part of our folk-dance group for over 3 years.

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

Ok Autumn, I'm waiting here in Fresno, not even long sleeve T-shirt weather yet, 100's predicted for this weekend. I see 60's to low 80's for Salinas on my weather app. and it looks like Reno will be a good place to spend this weekend for their installation, I'm ready to go. The Dana & Freja planning committee has been discussing the idea of a Danish Christmas craft get-together sometime in November. We are fortunate in Salinas to have a flexible arrangement with The Masonic Center in regards to which Sunday of the month we can hold our events there. We'll have a plan in time for November newsletter, stay tuned. For the last year and a half Dana's & Freja's focus has been towards expanding awareness out to our local Monterey County community. In years past many of our members had a connection with St Ansgar's Lutheran Church next door to our meeting

Remember our October lunch/meeting will be the second Friday, Oct. 9, at 11.30 am., meeting at Denny's. Come have lunch with us. Martha Nielsen

place, and sometimes our activities would intermingle. A few weeks ago, our local members attended the memorial service there for our longtime member Inger Rasmussen. I had the opportunity to meet with their new (as in just 4 weeks) young Pastor to discuss my presentation of a passage from Dannebrog's funeral service. He was surprised to hear about our Lodge and interested to learn more. I'm hoping this could provide an opening to the interest and inclusion of church members in our events. Inger's sons, Anders and Poul, who are also members of Freja, made a wonderful tribute to their mother, a true Celebration of a beautiful life. Inger was one of our core Danish Ladies who kept us strongly connected to our Danish ancestry through delightful stories and delicious food, we miss them all. JH

Livermore, California

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meet 2nd Saturday at 12:00 Noon; the Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way, Livermore. Dannevang #7 & Danebod #16 Secretary Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com

Happy Fall Y'all! We were happy to have 17 at our September meeting, a full table. We had a delicious meal consisting of sloppy joes, Cole slaw and all kinds of goodies. During the meeting we initiated 3 new members, Stuart Mahler, Sue Mirkovich Mahler and Duane McNeil. They are not new to Dania/Dannebrog, but we welcome them with open arms. And if you are interested in joining us, we have our very own special initiation that only Tracey knows how to perform.

Come join us for up our Oktoberfest installation, Saturday, October 17th, installation at 11, lunchtime to follow. For the mere cost of \$20.00 and you will get to enjoy the ambiance of the Lamee residence in Livermore.

Reservations to Tracey, (925) 819-2785 or tnlamee@yahoo.com.

Dress code is casual. Come join us for a good time. 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

At the meeting in September, we had the regular meeting proceedings. It included updates on members reported sick and those needing 'Thinking of You' messages, and also the reading of names of members

celebrating birthdays in August and September. A special thank you goes out to Dannebrog Grand President Dennis Nielsen for joining us over Zoom and spending his evening with our group!

The Hayward Lodges will be meeting via Zoom on Thursday, October 8th at 6:30 p.m. The Zoom link will be sent out a few days prior to the meeting. If you are a member in another branch and would like to

join us, please contact Susan Gauthier at s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net and she will send you the link. Hope to see you at an upcoming meeting or installation soon. Skall!

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, Don Christensen, dtchkhe@gmail.com

Valhalla 11 and Ydun 10 were honored to have many of our Grand Officers attend our Installation. The Grand Presidents and Grand Marshals did a wonderful job of conducting the Installation with support from other Grands. Other visitors also arrived, including from Fresno and the Solvang Lodge. After dinner on Saturday, we had another fun auction.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, 3 October, at 11:00 am followed by a CC Catering lunch in honor of Ydun 10's 114th anniversary. The menu will include pork roast with prunes, chicken, winter squash, applesauce, baby carrots, cider, rolls, various salads, and pumpkin and lemon meringue pies for dessert. Bring your appetite!!

More on Crown Princess Martha: she was born in Sweden to Prince Carl, Duke of Vastergotland, and PRINCESS INGEBORG OF DENMARK. She

married Crown Prince Olav in 1929. She did NOT live to be Queen. She died on 5 April 1954 after several years of deteriorating health. Olav became King in 1957. He never remarried. Their son, King Harald V, who recently passed, met and dated in secret a commoner, Sonja. He managed to convince King Olav V who in turn convinced the Storting to allow them to marry. Was this the beginning of modern-day royalty marrying commoners, as did King Frederik X of Denmark marrying Queen Mary of Australia? King Harald V was the first Norwegian born monarch since King Olav IV in 1380. PBS is reshooting the film Atlantic Crossing featuring Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha during Germany's invasion of Norway in 1940 until their return with King Haakon after the war's end.
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

Thank you to all the members that helped me set up and clean up for our meeting in September, since Anette traveled to Ferndale for installation of their officers over Labor Day weekend. I really appreciated it. The Reno Lodges of Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9 met Friday September 4th at 6:30 pm with 16 members in attendance. We had a nice variety of food, salads and appetizers. For dessert we had the pistachio bread I promised to bring last month. Vice

President Gregg DiMartino opened a very short meeting. Mostly about our October 2nd installation of Open Face Sandwiches. Hopefully some of our members will come at 2 pm to help set up. Our bartenders Carl and Jens will have the bar open at 6 pm. Dinner will be at 7 pm and installation at 8 pm. Dessert and coffee will follow the installation. Hope everyone will enjoy it. Since there won't be a meeting in October, our November 6th meeting will be

Thanksgiving Potluck. Hopefully we can talk Lars Jensen into roasting his famous great turkey. YUMMY. Sena-Marie will bring dessert. I have not decided yet what to make, but I will bring something. Our sick list is about the same. I didn't have breakfast with the Olsen's on September 2nd. Karen told me that there was too much going on in Fallon. So, they hurried Ruth to the doctor and straight home. Karen did say that Ruth is doing well. So that is great news. Barbara Iler and daughter Lori went to Tennessee to see Lori's daughter and son-in-law and baby girl.

Modesto, California

Bornholm No. 14

Meeting: 2nd Thursday at 5 p.m. Perko's Café 3500 Oakdale Rd. Modesto, CA

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

Witching you a spook-tacular October! Our September meeting brought guests all the way from Santa Cruz: Yes, you know who they are: Dania Grand Secretary Tim Heer and Dannebrog Secretary Natalie Heer. I apologize for not posting the address to our meeting place. Sadly, the Heers ended up at the older Perkoss, but a call to Roger Gearhart set them on the right track and they arrived ahead of most members. Our Vice President Merete Meeks presided over the meeting. Meeting topics included best birthday wishes to Susan Mefford, Cindy Higby, Sandi Scheuber, Henning Rasmussen and Maud Hansen. Get Well wishes went to Roger Gearhart who is in the hospital in Manteca with a foot ailment and Sandi Scheuber who is recuperating from recent

Hopefully we can get Lori to bring Barbara to our installation. Nina and Jordan told me our dear little man Graysen, had a little mishap and had to go to E.R. Graysen fell and had stitches on his chin. He wasn't a happy little man at our meeting, he was still in pain, Poor little guy. Hopefully everyone else is doing well. Our October Birthdays are Linda Hill, Joan Topian, Paul C. Christensen, and Bryanna Hansen. HAPPY BIRTHDAY everyone. Hope to see everyone soon. Safe travels, stay healthy, and take care. Happy Fall from Sena-Marie

surgery. John reported on our upcoming Potluck Picnic on Oct 11 at Orange Blossom Park in Oakdale, CA. Our aebleskiver specialist Bryan Mefford has moved to Idaho, and no one has volunteered to take his place so we will have coffee and Danish pastry ready to serve at 9:30. George Dutra and Bodil Whitehouse will be serving Bloody Mary's. David Meeks will be barbequing hamburgers and hot dogs. Members will be bringing side dishes. Lunch will begin around 12:30. John Scheuber will be bringing lawn games. Those who have a National Park Pass please bring your pass to avoid paying a fee. Marge Scheuber

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 called the meeting to order at 12:29 p.m. with 13 members in attendance. We sang, God Bless America. Hank Haugse was the only September birthday; we celebrated with a Happy Birthday song. Congratulations to Marie Jaeger, winner of the 50/50 drawing. Congratulations to Slim Juhl receiving his 70-year pin as a member of the Santa Maria Dania lodge, which he was honored with at the annual Santa Maria barbeque on the Fourth of July. Darlene Iversen is recuperating from an illness

and Wayne Allen's condition is slowly improving. Ainsley Haws is the 2026 Danish maid of the 89th celebration of Danish Days, which will be held on September 18 to 20. We ended lunch by singing two songs: Sing a Song (by the Carpenters) and the Danish National Anthem. The next meeting will be at noon at the Bit O' Denmark Restaurant on October 7, 2026.

Karen Haugse

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