



NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 12, 2017, 3:00 pm
Screening of Kalmar Nyckle: The Forgotten Journey
HOUSE of SWEDEN, 2900 K Street
NW, Washington DC

For our February meeting, Drott Lodge will take advantage of our location and access to events sponsored by the Swedish Embassy by going on a field trip to House of Sweden in Georgetown for a free screening of a new documentary about the 17th century ship which brought the first Swedish and Finnish settlers to the New Sweden Colony in 1638.



The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Sam Heed, the film's executive producer and historian for the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation. If you will be joining us for the screening, kindly register online at <http://bit.ly/2j2jkOa> (House of Sweden website) or contact Drott Cultural Leader Marit Knollmueller at 917-482-1899. Seating may be limited.

If you require a ride to Georgetown or are willing to offer a lift to others, please contact Marit (917-482-1899 or mknollmueller@yahoo.com) who will coordinate rides leaving from our normal venue St. James' Episcopal Church in Potomac. Those rides will need to leave St. James' at 1:30 pm. Parking in Georgetown is available in the garage next to the embassy for \$12 and there are a variety of other garages in the area. Parking Panda (<http://bit.ly/2jS86w9>) provides a map of nearby garages and the ability to pre-pay in most instances. Those traveling by public transportation may take the Union Station DC Circulator Bus to the closest stop at 31st Street

and K Street or walk from the Dupont/Rosslyn bus route from Wisconsin Ave. and M Streets (<http://www.dccirculator.com>). You can also take the Circulator Bus that runs on the DuPont Circle to Rosslyn Route, again getting off on M Street and walking down to HOS. South entrance of DuPont Circle.

Please note: This screening is a prelude to a Drott Lodge outing in August 2017 for a sailing from Lewes, DE on the reproduction ship which was launched in 1997. If you are interested in participating in this summer day trip, please contact Marit Knollmueller, so we can keep you informed of all the details.

We hope to see you at House of Sweden!

Cookie Baking Competition Postponement

If you signed up to participate in our baking competition at the last meeting, we are rescheduling that program from February to our May 7th meeting. So you do not need to start baking yet! We will be in touch with details a little closer to the time and continue to invite more members with cookie, bun, or cake recipes from your family or of your own invention to register before May 7th.

RECENT EVENTS

The January meeting focused on the election of Drott's 2017 Officers. All the 2016 officers except Assistant Recording Secretary have agreed to continue in 2017. The list of 2017 officers is included on the last page of this newsletter.



In addition, Don Morris was reelected for another term as Trustee; Ione Linke was reelected for another term as Auditor, and Susan Remmert was elected to fill an unexpired auditor term of one year.

Four applications for membership were approved: Robert Johnson, Lisa (Johnson) Jacobson, Andrew Scott, and youth member Kevin Shoemaker. Welcome!



In addition to the business portion of the meeting, Joe Siryani, a graduate of Chalmers University, gave a thought-provoking presentation about the important role of Swedish technical universities in the support and development of cultural initiatives in Sweden.

VASA District 9 Scholarships

There is still time to apply for a District 9 Scholarship. Applications for both the “District Youth Language Camp Scholarship to Concordia Language Villages” and the “Adult Scandinavian Cultural Opportunity for Learning” Scholarship must be postmarked no later than March 1.

The intended focus for the youth program is the development/strengthening of interest in their Swedish cultural heritage through a 2-week cultural immersion program at Concordia Language Village in Minnesota. A travel allowance of \$300 is available. The applicant must be between the ages of 12 and 18. The Financial Secretary of the Local Lodge in Pennsylvania District No. 9 in which qualifying membership is claimed must verify in writing – on Local Lodge stationery – that the applicant, or at least one of the applicant’s parents or grandparents, is currently a member in good standing of that Local Lodge and has been a member in good standing for at least two full years prior to January 1 of the year in which the application is made.

We encourage you to visit the Concordia website at ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org to learn more about the range of exciting camp activities offered along with the language instruction.

For adults, The “Scandinavian Cultural Opportunity for Learning” scholarship is intended to assist members in exploring the Swedish culture. Expenses up to \$3,000 will be allowed for transportation, lodging and incidentals related to program participation (registration fees, etc.). The Financial Secretary of the Local Lodge in Pennsylvania District No. 9 -- in which qualifying membership is claimed -- needs to verify in writing on Local Lodge stationery --that the applicant has been a member in good standing for at least two full years. Lodge membership must be achieved by January 1 of the prior year.

If you have questions or wish to obtain an application for either scholarship or a Program Guide from the Concordia Language Camp, contact Susan Remmert at 301-613-7629 or sremmert@earthlink.net. Applications are also available from the Drott Lodge website, www.drott-lodge.org.

VASA Grand Lodge Scholarships

VASA SCHOLARSHIPS TO SWEDISH LANGUAGE CAMP

The Grand Lodge Executive Board will award Sjölundens Scholarships to qualified applicants from the U.S. and Canada.

Eligibility

Applicant must be between 12 and 18 years of age as of April 1, 2017.

Applicant, parent/guardian or grandparent must be a member of the Vasa Order of America for at least two years prior to April 2017.

Requirements

Award winner is expected to provide:

- A. Evidence of health/accident insurance and a statement absolving the Vasa Order of America of any liability,
- B. A letter of recommendation from a current teacher and the latest records of grades,
- C. A brief essay on “WHY I SHOULD BE CHOSEN TO GO TO THE SJÖLUNDEN SWEDISH CAMP,”
- D. A letter, bearing the Local Lodge Seal, verifying that applicant, parent/guardian or grandparent has been a member for at least two years prior to April 1, 2017,
- E. Other comments that will assist in selecting the winners.

Awards

The Vasa Order of America will pay the basic tuition (around \$2,060) for the two-week 2017 Summer Program and will reimburse reasonable travel expenses against submitted receipts. All other costs will be borne by the recipient.

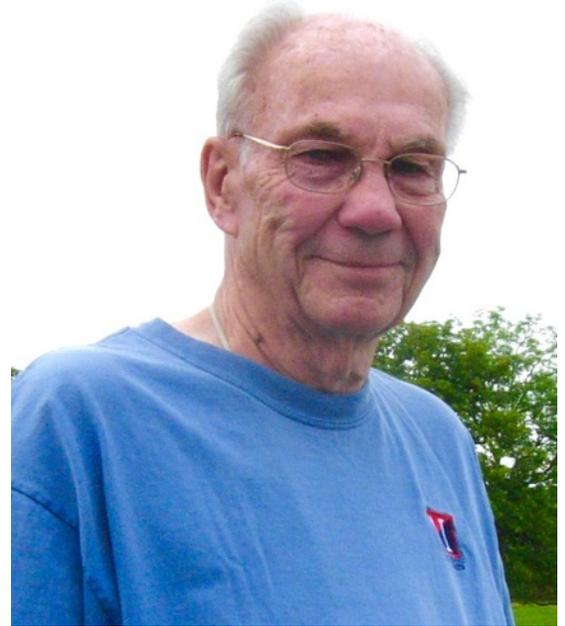
Date of Camp: <http://www.concordialanguagevillages.org/youth-languages/swedish-language-village>

Additional information and the scholarship application is available on the Vasa web site: www.vasaorder.com.
Deadline for application is a postmark date of February 10, 2017. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

MEMBER NEWS

Robert J. Widholm

Robert J. Widholm (Bob) a member of Drott Lodge since January 1989, passed away on December 10, 2016 due to complications of pneumonia. He was 89. Born in Chicago IL on October 8, 1927 to Robert Axel and Edna Lillian (Harnstrom) Widholm, he was raised in Madison WI and graduated from Madison Eastern High School in 1946. He served his country in the U.S. Navy Reserve. Bob was co-owner with a high school friend of the Four Lakes Boat Company in Madison before moving to Milwaukee in 1951 to work in the elevator business, a career that ultimately brought him to the DC Metro area and which he pursued until his retirement in 1989.



Bob was well-loved by his many Drott Sisters and Brothers. He could always be counted on to show up early to help with set-up and to stay late to help with clean-up. On bazaar days he could be found in the counting room. Before and after the bazaar he would be helping to load up at storage and return items there at the end of a tiring day. He served multiple terms as a Drott auditor.

Predeceased by his wife Carol in 1988, Bob is survived by four children, eight grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and a sister. A highlight for Bob was the trip to Sweden in 2010 with a group of Drott friends as part of one of the Lodge's celebration of its 100th Anniversary. The high spot of the trip for Bob was debarking from the boat on the Gota Canal in Motala to meet a second cousin and members of her family, an arrangement that had been facilitated by late Drott member Vivian Buch.

A kind and gentle man, a devoted and loving father and grandfather, Bob will be greatly missed.

VASA WAS HERE

District Chairman Julie Olson kindly forwarded a message from her parents, Peter and Linda Olson, who recently visited the VASA National Archives in Bishop Hill, IL.

“While in Bishop Hill Illinois this past Christmas season we had the pleasure of visiting the VASA National Archives. We met Kathy Cuff, the very personable archivist, who showed us the many displays and artifacts. Most of the items related to life at Bishop Hill and how difficult it must have been. Also on display were items specifically related to VASA.



Kathy also explained what her duties are and went into some detail about her efforts at preserving and organizing all the historical records on file, a monumental effort and they are short on resources. I might also point out that Kathy is a professional archivist. It was a very interesting visit and glimpse at Swedish life in Illinois in the middle of the nineteenth century.”



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

February 1, 18, 15, 22 at 7:30 pm, The Nordic Dancers of Washington DC, Highland View Elementary Elementary School in Silver Spring, Maryland. Newcomers are welcome. They meet regularly on the first Wednesday of the month. Come any Wednesday and learn traditional folk dances of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Newcomers are welcome; no prior dance experience is necessary. Info, contact Chris Kalke at: 301-864-1596 or ckalke@verizon.net. Visit: www.sites.google.com/site/nordicdancersdc

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Your submissions for the March issue of the newsletter will be needed no later than February 26. Please send them to Linda Smith at leslieandlinda2@comcast.net or call Linda at 301-467-8477.

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