



Drott Lodge No. 168
Vasa Order of America
Washington, D.C.

NEWSLETTER

www.drott-lodge.org

June 2014

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we emerge from a long and dark frozen winter, we are perhaps more closely attuned with the experiences of our Swedish brethren than in years past. We not only welcomed spring, but many are now taking full advantage of the glorious summer-like weather and basking in the sunshine or planning grand outdoor adventures. In Sweden, the appreciation of nature and warmer weather culminate in the midsommar festival; a uniquely Scandinavian celebration. I invite each of you, especially your families, to join us on Sunday June 15th as we celebrate this joyous holiday, decorate and raise the maypole, participate in traditional dances and children's games, and feast with friends and family – all in the warm glow of summer. Mother and Father Olson, my amazing parents, will be traveling from Oklahoma to join this year's celebration, and it would be an honor for them to meet each of you.

While the lodge is typically less active during the summer months, this year is the exception to the rule. Details on an upcoming trip to visit the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia as well as cooking for the Children's Inn at NIH can be found within this newsletter. Vasa's Grand Lodge convention is also taking place this July in Rye, New York, outside New York City. As a demonstration of our support for this event, Drott Lodge is placing an advertisement (picture above, designed by Vice Chairman Eric Randolph) in the official convention program. Many of our members will be preparing to attend the District convention in Gettysburg in September; representing our local Lodge as delegates and participating in planning sessions for the continued improvement and future growth of Vasa Order of America.

Wherever your travels take you, I wish each of you a wonderful and safe summer holiday!

In truth and unity,

Julie L. Olson

Drott Lodge No. 168
Chartered February 18, 1910
Pennsylvania No. 9

Extends its greetings to the
38th Quadrennial
Grand Lodge Convention
New York City

Julie L. Olson <i>Chairman</i>	Eric Randolph <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Linda E. Smith <i>Recording Secty.</i>
Marianne Diaz <i>Treasurer</i>	Dennis P. Roy <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	Carol Whitley <i>Financial Secty.</i>
Arne Dunhem <i>Cultural Leader</i>	Eva Dunhem <i>Historian</i>	Martha Wolf <i>Chaplain</i>

Visit us when visiting our Nation's Capital
www.drott-lodge.org

MEMBERSHIP

Have you paid your 2014 Membership Dues? If not, please send your check to Carol Whitley at 4600 Connecticut Ave., NW #819, Washington, D.C. 20008-5707 as soon as possible.

GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge has asked us to share the motions being presented at the 38th Grand Lodge Convention, July 4-11, near New York City, with our membership. The 60-page document will be available in the “members only” section of our website, to access use our current lodge password when prompted. The Grand Lodge has asked that members review and submit any concerns. Please submit your concerns to Vice Chairman Eric Randolph (eric.randolph@me.com) by June 13th. We will compile all the concerns and submit them to our District delegate, Past District Master Bruce Elfin.

LODGE NEWS

Members enjoyed creating their own unique woolen tomtes during a workshop with artisan Karen Richardson on Sunday May 18th. Karen is an award-winning craftsperson and sought-after fiber arts teacher for more than 40 years. She works extensively with Scandinavian and locally produced fibers, in the traditional palette of Scandinavian folklore. Her studio is in Gaithersburg, Maryland (woolshoparts.com). Karen will be designing a special project for members to make and sell at this year’s Swedish Bazaar – more details to come.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! The Lodge received and accepted the applications of seven new members on May 18th. They include: Leslie (Les) Smith, husband of member Linda E. Smith, and their daughters, Lydia Custer of North Carolina, and Victoria Howard of La Plata, MD; Tim Champney, husband of Martha Clarke, Joseph Coelho of Annapolis, MD, Marit Knollmueller of Silver Spring, MD, and Kristen Leedom of Springfield, VA. Initiation will take place at our October meeting.

During our April meeting Cultural Leader Arne Dunhem organized a food drive to support the Capital Area Food Bank, he is pleased to announce that our total collection in April was 48-pounds.

Drott Lodge will be sending eight delegates to the 56th Biennial Convention of District Lodge Pennsylvania No. 9, being held in historic Gettysburg, PA September 26-28. Delegates are: Larilyn André, Joann Moretti, Eric Randolph, Dennis Roy, Linda Smith, and Carol Whitley. Two potential delegates have been identified, but have not yet agreed to serve. Please contact Chairman Julie Olson if you are interested and willing to serve as a delegate or as an alternate. For more details a link to the District 9 website can be found at www.drott-lodge.org home page.

VASA WAS HERE!

Members Leslie and Linda Smith recently traveled to France and visited the American Military Cemetery near Omaha Beach in Normandy and Point du Hoc, one of the Normandy beaches in the D-Day invasion of France during World War II. The 70th Anniversary of the Invasion is June 6th.



IN OTHER NEWS

Following a private members tour of Don Beyer Volvo in April, it was learned that Volvo Cars unveiled a revolutionary new inflatable child car seat concept. From their April 14th press release: “Children’s car seats are historically bulky, hard to move and tedious to mount. This is why Volvo Cars has designed a lightweight and inflatable rearward-faced child seat concept using groundbreaking technology. The seat is safe, easy to pack and carry and will enable parents to use it in many situations not practical with the seats on the market today. Lawrence Abele, Design Manager at the Volvo Monitoring and Concept Center in Los Angeles and the designer behind the new seat, had his two children in mind while designing the concept seat: “For me child safety is always the number one priority and when we lived abroad with two toddlers we had to haul bulky child seats through airports and then into taxis. For many, traveling with young children is a challenge; any assistance to simplify the parents’ life with young children is a great thing.” The concept presents new



opportunities, for example grandparents and friends who take care of your kids and need an ultra mobile child seat. It is also very convenient when travelling by taxi, rental car or bus, situations where you historically had to rely on the safety measures available.” More information and video can be found on the company’s website: <https://www.media.volvocars.com/global/en-gb/media/pressreleases/list>, by searching Press Release ID: 142275 in the filter section. (Source www.media.volvocars.com)

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Did you know a complete list of events is available on our website?
Visit www.drott-lodge.org/calendar-events to see all our events and other cultural programs.

MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION at CARDEROCK PARK | Sunday, June 15, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

This year marks our 13th year celebrating Midsummer jointly with the American Scandinavian Association (ASA), the Swedish Women’s Education Association (SWEA), and the Norwegian Society. Events to include: Children’s Games, Maypole decorating, the Maypole procession, dancing around the Maypole, and a potluck picnic (coffee will not be provided). Please bring a dish to pass: last names beginning with “A-G” please bring a main dish, “H-R” please bring a salad/side-dish, and “S-Z” please bring a dessert. Please bring enough to feed a family group plus four or six more.

DAY OF SERVICE at THE CHILDREN’S INN at NIH | Sunday, July 27 Drott Lodge will be hosting a Sunday Supper for newly arriving patients at the Children’s Inn at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Lodge Vice President Eric Randolph is coordinating this event as a “Day of Service” for the lodge, enabling us to reach out to our local community through volunteerism. We are calling out for Drott Volunteers to help prepare and serve a meal at the Children’s Inn on July 27th. We will need at least 10 volunteers to help serve the meal at the Inn and additional volunteers to help cook food items. To keep the meal simple and enticing to the children we will be preparing an Italian menu of pasta dishes, bread, salad, and providing a Swedish themed desert selection. The Inn has suggested planning for upwards of 60 people, but we will have a fixed head count prior to the 27th. If you are interested, please email Eric Randolph at eric.randolph@me.com.

AMERICAN SWEDISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM – PHILADELPHIA DAY TRIP | Saturday,

August 9th. Members and friends of Drott Lodge are invited to join us for a day trip to the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, PA on August 9th. The American Swedish Historical Museum is the oldest Swedish-American museum in the United States and is located in Franklin Delano Roosevelt Park in South Philly. The museum sits on part of a historic 17th century land grant provided by Queen Christina of Sweden to early settlers of New Sweden. Because we are not renting a bus, members will need to provide their own transportation; please contact Linda Smith (leslieandlinda2@comcast.net) if you would like to join and let her know if you are willing to take others in your vehicle or if you are in need of a ride so we can coordinate. Deadline to “RSVP” is July 26th.

• GIFT MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE •

With Father’s day fast approaching, give him the gift of membership to Drott Lodge No. 168 – Vasa Order of America. Contact Carol Whitley, Financial & Membership Secretary, for more information.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The Newsletter will be on summer hiatus through September. **Submissions for our September Newsletter are due by August 18, 2014 to Linda Smith.**



Palace Guards entering the Royal Palace in Stockholm on the occasion of Princess Estelle, Duchess of Östergötland's baptism in the palace chapel on May 22, 2012.

© Eric Randolph, May 2012

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**THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN ASSOCIATION
DROTT LODGE, VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
SWEDISH WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION
NORWEGIAN SOCIETY**



Everyone is welcome to

The 13th ANNUAL JOINT

MIDSOMMAR CELEBRATION

SUNDAY JUNE 15, 2014

3 p.m. to 6 p.m. - Carderock Park, MD

Schedule:

- 3:00 Children Games**
(Prizes) and
Maypole Decoration
- 3:45 Welcome**
Remarks
- 3:50 Maypole**
Procession
- 4:00 Dancing** round the
Maypole
- 4:45 Potluck Dinner**
with live music



Please bring:

Bring one dish per the first letter of your last name (this rotates each year):

A - G; main dish

H - R; salad

S - Z; dessert

Soft drinks, bottled beer, cups, paper plates, and plastic-ware are supplied.

Coffee will NOT be provided. If you want coffee, bring your own in thermo bottles.

There are games and fun prizes for the children at 3:00 PM.

Bring greens and flowers for the Maypole!

Help decorate and raise the Maypole.

Join in ring dances around the Maypole with live music.

Bring lawn-chairs or a picnic blanket for your comfort

Directions, parking information and a map are on the other side.

DIRECTIONS TO CARDEROCK PARK PAVILION AND PARKING INFO

From I-495 in Maryland:

1. Take I-495 West and take Exit 41 toward Carderock/Great Falls.
2. Merge onto the Clara Barton Pkwy and continue 1 mile to the Carderock exit (on the right is the David Taylor Model Basin - 9500 MacArthur Blvd., West Bethesda, MD 20817).
3. Take the Carderock exit and at the stop sign, turn left to cross over the Clara Barton Pkwy. Follow the road until you reach a second stop sign.
4. Turn right for parking lot "B" and the restrooms. The pavilion is located to the left of this parking lot - follow the path past the restrooms. Overflow parking is available in Lot "C" to the right.

From I-270:

1. Take I-270 South and keep right to take I-270 Spur South toward I-270/Washington/I-495 /Northern Virginia.
2. I-270 Spur South becomes I-495 South/Capital Beltway.
3. Take Exit 41 toward Carderock/Great Falls.
4. Merge onto the Clara Barton Pkwy and continue 1 mile to the Carderock exit (on the right is the David Taylor Model Basin - 9500 MacArthur Blvd., West Bethesda, MD 20817).
5. Take the Carderock exit and at the stop sign, turn left to cross over the Clara Barton Pkwy. Follow the road until you reach a second stop sign.
6. Turn right for parking lot "B" and the restrooms. The pavilion is located to the left of this parking lot - follow the path past the restrooms. Overflow parking is available in Lot "C" to the right.

From I-495 in Virginia:

1. Take Exit 41 (Carderock/Glen Echo) from the American Legion Bridge and at the fork, bear left toward Great Falls/Carderock.
2. Merge onto the Clara Barton Pkwy and continue 1 mile to the Carderock exit (on the right is the David Taylor Model Basin - 9500 MacArthur Blvd., West Bethesda, MD 20817).
3. Take the Carderock exit and at the stop sign, turn left to cross over the Clara Barton Pkwy. Follow the road until you reach a second stop sign.
4. Turn right for parking lot "B" and the restrooms. The pavilion is located to the left of this parking lot - follow the path past the restrooms. Overflow parking is available in Lot "C" to the right.

From Washington (Georgetown):

1. From the intersection of "M" Street and Key Bridge, go west for approximately .5 miles and bear left onto Canal Road.
2. Stay straight on Canal Road which turns into the Clara Barton Pkwy and follow the Clara Barton Pkwy for approximately 9 miles to the Carderock exit (on the right is the David Taylor Model Basin - 9500 MacArthur Blvd., West Bethesda, MD 20817).
3. Take the Carderock exit and at the stop sign, turn left to cross over the Clara Barton Pkwy. Follow the road until you reach a second stop sign.
4. Turn right for parking lot "B" and the restrooms. The pavilion is located to the left of this parking lot - follow the path past the restrooms. Overflow parking is available in Lot "C" to the right.

MAP TO CARDEROCK PARK PAVILION

