



## NEWSLETTER

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### Sisters and Brothers,

I write hoping each of you have had an enjoyable summer and found special moments throughout the vacation season to make happy memories and find some rest and relaxation. Dennis and I have spent much of the summer on the road visiting family and friends around Pennsylvania and Upstate New York and lots of quality time with the dogs — which for us is always a win. However, this summer, although filled with many happy experiences, it also came with the loss of a beloved aunt. Within our own Drott family, we experienced the loss of dear friends and fellow members Thomas Whitley, Pauline Hancock, and Vivian Buch. We will miss so much about them, but each, in his own special way, has left a lasting legacy within the Lodge. Their support, friendship, and service to the Lodge and Order will be just a few of the many things we will miss about them. The strength of our Lodge comes from the strong fellowship we share. At these moments in life when we lose those dear to us, knowing our sisters and brothers within the Order are there with loving support and encouragement makes the most difficult moments a little easier to bear.

Our regular activities will begin again in September with our Annual Crayfish Festival and Potluck Dinner. **It is important to note that starting with this meeting we will begin meeting in a new location within the St. James Church complex— in the church undercroft rather than the parish hall. Members can park behind the church and use the lower level entrance.** Many of you will be familiar with this location as our meetings were held there many years ago. While we are sad to be leaving the beautiful space of the Parish Hall, we are thankful that St. James will be continuing to accommodate our meetings. The good news is we will continue to hold this year's Swedish Bazaar in the Parish Hall in November. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our events this fall and wish you all well.

In Truth and Unity,  
Eric Randolph, Chairman

## **DROTT COMING EVENTS**

**September 13, 2 PM**

### **Our Traditional Welcome Back Dinner and Kräftskiva (Crayfish Party)**

It's time again for our Welcome Back Dinner, time to catch up and learn about everyone's summer activities. As usual, we ask that each family group bring a dish large enough for themselves and four others. We suggest a distribution of dishes as shown below. The Lodge will provide a selection of deli meats in addition to the crayfish.

Crayfish have been eaten in Sweden since the 16th century and we are planning to incorporate all the traditional activities; conical paper hats and lanterns, colorful tablecloths, bibs, and a jovial atmosphere for members to socialize and toast the end of summer. You may bring your own beer (BYOB) to enjoy as we learn to sing traditional Swedish drinking songs (snapsvisor) and "How to Peel a Crayfish". The cost will be \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members. Please RSVP to (202) 558-0175 or [drott-lodge@drott-lodge.org](mailto:drott-lodge@drott-lodge.org).

Please bring a dish per the first letter of your last name:

A-G: Main dish

H-R: Salad/side

S-Z: Dessert

### **September 6, Road Trip to ScanFest '15, Budd Lake, NJ**

Arne Dunhem is assembling a group for a road trip to attend this year's ScanFest at Vasa Park, Budd Lake, NJ. Contact Arne as soon as possible if you are interested in participating as car pools and hotel reservations needed to be arranged ahead of time.

ScanFest 2015 is an all-day celebration of Scandinavia at its best – where you'll discover the customs...the history...the music...and the ethnic variety of the six Nordic nations: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. It's a lot of fun! The ScanFest web-site is: <http://www.scanfest.org/> Ticket price at the Gate: \$14.00 (\$13.00 seniors) , advance web-ticket \$11.00

.Our plans are the following:

- Carpools would depart the Washington area Saturday morning around 7:30 am.
- We would drive to Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Delaware and visit the wonderful museum and summer garden which opens at 10 am. Their website is: <http://www.winterthur.org/> Ticket price: Adults \$20 (seniors \$18)

“Founded by Henry Francis du Pont, Winterthur (pronounced “winter-tour”) is the premier museum of American decorative arts, reflecting both early America and the du Pont family’s life here. Its 60-acre naturalistic garden is among the country’s best, and its research library serves scholars from around the world. We invite you to visit and explore this place of beauty, history, and learning.”

- After lunch at Winterthur we will depart around 2 pm for Budd Lake, NJ, arriving around 5 pm.
- Hotel stay overnight at Budd Lake, NJ. We recommend the Days Inn but an alternative is Super 8 Budd Lake. You will need to make your own reservations.
- Dinner around 6:30 pm at Branda’s Italian Grill, Budd Lake <http://www.brandasitaliangrill.com/>
- Breakfast at hotel, Days Inn around 8 am – 9 am
- Depart for ScanFest around 9:45 am
- Spend the day 10 am – 4 pm or so at ScanFest
- Depart ScanFest around 4 pm for the Washington, DC area
- Arrive back to the Washington, DC area around 9 pm (4 – 5 hours driving)

Hotel: We recommend Days Inn, Budd Lake,

<http://www.daysinn.com/hotels/new-jersey/budd-lake/days-inn-budd-lake/hotel-overview?cid=local>

Advance Rate, Non-Refundable Pre-Payment is \$67.99 (\$78.19 with taxes)

Cancelable, Refundable is \$79.99 (\$91.99 with taxes)

If there are many of us, we might get a discounted rate.

## **SAVE THE DATES: Sep 19 & Oct 17**

### **Baking with Eva**

The November 7 Bazaar will be here before we know it! Eva Dunhem has agreed to sponsor two days of group baking at her home which was a huge success last year. Even if you don't normally bake on your own, this is a good way for you to get involved. Eva and others



have a lot of experience in parcelling out the many steps involved so you can't go wrong. It's a lot of fun, in addition to being a very productive way for Drott to provide yummy home-baked goods in quantity. Last year many customers were asking which baked goods were made by our members. Let's make the most of this opportunity to participate in the 'farm to table' trend toward homemade products.

## **SAVE THE DATES: DROTT BAZAAR- Nov 6, evening for set-up, and Nov 7, all day**

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## RECENT DROTT EVENTS

### Midsommar Celebration

The day was very hot but we escaped the storms.

As always, there was a beautifully decorated Maypole, lovely traditional music and games, happy children, and great food.

Photo credit: Marshall H. Cohen, ASA



### Day of Service at the Children's Inn, NIH

For the second year, Drott members participated in a "Day of Service" at the Children's Inn at NIH in July. We cooked and served a selection of Italian dishes and Swedish desserts for about 80 people as a "welcome to Bethesda" evening meal. The pediatric patients and their families were checking-in to the Children's Inn after a long day of travel to receive state of the art medical treatment. At the close of the evening the Lodge was presented with a hand-made Thank You card



signed by the children and their families. It was a lovely addition to the rewarding smiles and thanks from the children and their families that we received throughout dinner. To learn more about the Children's Inn and the National Institutes of Health, visit [www.childrensinn.org](http://www.childrensinn.org) and [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov).

\* We were especially pleased to welcome the participation of new members Ann Black, Virginia Cain and Virginia's husband Peter Alterman.

## **DROTT MEMBER NEWS**

It is with sadness that we learned of the deaths of three Drott members—**Pauline Hancock, Tom Whitley, and Vivian Buch**. They will be remembered at a Draping of the Charter at the October meeting. We only recently learned of the death of Vivian Buch and will publish an obituary in a later Newsletter.

**Pauline Hancock**, a member of Drott Lodge since 1982, died June 30, 2015, at the age of 98. Pauline was born and grew up in Spokane, Washington, and always spoke highly of her mother and the Swedish immigrant community there. Pauline came to Washington, DC during World War II to assist in the war effort. She met her husband, Raymond, and they raised two sons, Kenneth and Richard, in Hillcrest Heights, MD.

Pauline joined Augustana Lutheran Church in Washington in 1946 and continued as an active member there for most of her life. Her love of music and care for others enriched her life. She sang in the Augustana Choir for more than 50 years and was a long-time member of the Choral Arts Society. She also recited annually the Luciafest Story in Swedish and English, dressed in traditional Swedish attire. Well into her 90s she swam several times a week and recorded books for the blind. After she moved to the continuing care community at Vantage House in Columbia, MD she played the piano for worship services there. She was a lover of cats and brought a succession of them to Vantage House. In addition to her two sons and Rich's wife she also spoke proudly of her only grandson

who is a veterinarian in the making. Her remains will be interred beside her beloved Raymond at Arlington National Cemetery.

**Thomas B. Whitley**, a member of Drott Lodge since 2010, died June 18, 2015 at the age of 85. Tom was born in St. Louis, MO, the only child of Elsa Eilers Whitley and Harry Thomas Whitley. The family soon moved to Kew Gardens, NY, and later to Beverly Hills, CA. In 1942, Tom's father joined the U.S. Navy and the family moved to the Washington Metro Area. He graduated from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, received an AB from Columbia College of Columbia University, and an LLD from Cornell Law School.



Tom was always interested in community and civic duty. Most recently he was active in the areas of planning, transportation and the environment. With real estate law as his specialty, he worked for Bethlehem Steel for over 20 years and later was Vice President and Counsel of a real estate brokerage firm in Manhattan. After retirement, he worked as a tour guide in Washington for 15 years and was elected as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner in the District's Ward 3 for 4 years. In later years he became involved in environmental advocacy, serving as chair and member of Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church's Earth Care Council and member of the National Capital Presbytery's Earth Care Network.

Tom is survived by his wife, Carol, whom he met in 1989 when she asked him to dance. They were married in 1991. He is survived by his daughter, Janine Whitley, and his son, Christopher Thomas Whitley. His marriage to Doris Mae Sterns ended in divorce. Other survivors include his step-daughter, Jennifer McAllister, his step-son, Erik Roberts (Mandy), and his step-grandson, Alexander Bonn, son of Jennifer.

## DISTRICT 9 SCHOLARSHIP

The District received a Thank You note (below) from Claire Custer, the 2015 winner of the District Youth Scholarship, who returned recently from two weeks at Sjölundén, the Swedish Language Camp in Minnesota. Claire is the granddaughter of Drott members Linda and Leslie Smith.



Hej!

I just wanted to thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to Sjölundén. I learned so much more there than I would have been able to teach myself! We learned easy/useful phrases, words, foods, body parts, etc. The best part was that we could put what we learned to use, because the counsultars only spoke Swedish! I tried so many foods that I never would have tried at home! I'm so glad I got to go! Hej då och tack så mycket!  
- Claire Custer

Claire and her Swedish art teacher with their painted Swedish Dala horses.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

**The Nordic Dancers of Washington, D.C.**, begin their fall season Wednesday, **September 9 at 7:30** at Highland View Elementary School in Silver Spring, Maryland. With the exception of the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas and New Year's Day, they will meet regularly on Wednesdays until June. Come any Wednesday and learn traditional



dances of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Newcomers are welcome; no prior dance experience is necessary. For more information, contact Chris Kalke at [301-864-1596](tel:301-864-1596) or [ckalke@verizon.net](mailto:ckalke@verizon.net), or visit their website: <https://sites.google.com/site/nordicdancersdc/> .

### **LEARN SWEDISH at the Swedish School – Svenska Skolan (for adults) in Falls Church, VA.**

A new semester starts on September 12.

Welcome to one of the programs on Saturday mornings 9:30-12 noon; Sept-Dec & Jan-June; five different levels. Where: Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, Falls Church, VA 22043. For information call: 703-538 7308; e-mail: [info@theswedishschool.org](mailto:info@theswedishschool.org), [www.theswedishschool.org](http://www.theswedishschool.org)

### **Delaware's Tall Ship, Kalmar Nyckel, Returns to Lewes DE**

43 Cape Henlopen Drive Lewes, DE 19958

Thur 9/3, Pirate Sail 10am- 12:30pm;

Fri 9/4, Day Sail 1pm-3:30pm;

Sat 9/5, Day Sail 3pm - 5:30pm;

Sun 9/6, Pirate Sail 4pm-6:30pm;

Mon 9/7, Pirate Sail 4:30pm-7pm

Public 2-1/2 hour Day Sails, Pirate Sails and free Deck Tours out of the Lewes Ferry Terminal Public Pier. To make reservations, contact the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation office at 302-429-7447 or visit:

[www.KalmarNyckel.org/BookASail.asp](http://www.KalmarNyckel.org/BookASail.asp). Sail prices are \$60 for adults and \$40 for children 17 and younger

## **NOTES FROM THE EDITOR**

There will be sign-up sheets at the September meeting for you to indicate how you want to help at the Bazaar. Don't forget to save the dates— Friday, November 6 in the evening to set up and Saturday, November 7 for the event.

Can you bake something? Our customers always look for homemade products. If we have to purchase items to resell, our profits are much reduced. Try something new and give your family members a surprise treat!

And last, but not least, don't forget we would like to hear from you. News items, family events, or travels are always welcome and will be included as space is available.

**Your submissions for the October issue of the newsletter will be needed no later than September 27. Please send them to Linda Smith at [leslieandlinda2@comcast.net](mailto:leslieandlinda2@comcast.net) and to [drott-lodge.org](http://drott-lodge.org).**

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