



NEWSLETTER

WALPURGIS NIGHT WAS A BIG HIT!

We send a giant “THANK YOU” to Arne Dunhem, Chairman of Drott Lodge, and Kate Novak, President of the Swedish Women’s Educational Association (SWEA-DC), right, for their wonderful job of organizing a local celebration of Walpurgis Night, Valborgsmässoafton on April 30 with strong support from Gerry Schueman and Marit Knollmueller from Drott Lodge and Pia Jensen from SWEA. This event, which dates back to the Middle Ages, is widely celebrated in Sweden and marks the coming of spring. We had a large crowd in a lovely private park in McLean VA with Göran Lithell, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Swedish Embassy, providing the “Welcome Spring, Goodbye Winter” speech for this first-time area event. Attendees



provided their own picnic food. There were games, led by Eva Dunhem of Drott Lodge, with prizes for the many children who attended and singing around a bonfire to keep us warm and ward off the sprinkles of rain late in the evening.



Kate Novak and
Deputy Chief of
Mission Göran
Lithell



Traditional white school caps were much in evidence.



We hope that this relationship of Swedish organizations will persist and prosper. The interaction of groups with similar interests could generate a larger presence with a broader range of activities for all. The up-coming Midsommar Celebration which is now in its 15th year is a good example of the value of this relationship. We hope you will come to enjoy the food, the music, and the chance to meet new friends.

COMING EVENTS

June 26, 3 - 6 pm, 15th Annual Midsommar Celebration, Carderock Picnic Pavilion, Carderock Park, MD

As in previous years this event is being sponsored in cooperation with SWEA-DC and ASA. Attendees are asked to RSVP and to bring a dish for the picnic in the food category specified for the first letter of your last name. There will be music, dancing around the Maypole and games for the children starting at 3 pm. The picnic flyer and driving directions are enclosed as an attachment.



July 17, 5 pm, Drott's Day of Service at the Children's Inn at NIH, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda MD

For the 3rd year, Drott will provide and serve dinner to families arriving at NIH to get treatment for their children who will be undergoing serious medical treatment. This will provide a chance for families to settle in with a welcoming home-cooked meal after a long day on the road. Dinner will be an Italian-themed meal so we will need to provide cooked entrees of various pastas, vegetables, salad, rolls, etc. **We are looking for several more members who can make a dish for this event, set up, serve, etc.** This event is a very rewarding experience for the members who participate. Please contact Linda Smith at 240-912-7120 or leslieandlinda2@comcast.net or Carol Whitley at 202-686-6214 or carol4600@verizon.net if you are interested in helping. NIH has very specific guidelines for this activity which we will need to send you ahead of time.

SAVE THE DATE: September 11, 2:30 pm, Drott's Welcome Back/ Potluck and Crayfish Dinner, St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD.

VASA NEWS

2016 Vasa Grand Lodge Scholarships

We are pleased to report that two recipients connected to Drott Lodge have been awarded Vasa Grand Lodge Scholarships to two-week sessions at Concordia Language Camp. They are: Kevin Shoemaker, son of Keith and Wendy Shoemaker, and Claire Custer, granddaughter of Leslie and Linda Smith. Congratulations to them both!

Pennsylvania District 9 Convention, September 23-25, Punderson State Park, Newbury Township, OH (just east of Cleveland)

Attendance at the Vasa District Convention is a good opportunity to learn more about the Lodge; how the District organization functions, the current issues important to the Lodge, and meet delegates from our fellow District lodges in Cleveland and Erie. Delegates are elected by the Lodge and names must be transmitted to the District Secretary by the end of June. You may also attend the Convention as a non-delegate observer. Drott member Margaret Schueman is District Master of Pennsylvania District 9. Please contact Recording Secretary Linda Smith at leslieandlinda2@comcast.net or 240-912-7120 if you are interested in representing Drott at this convention, attending as an observer, or willing to assist in note-taking, etc. We are also seeking a volunteer who can assist the District Secretary at the Convention, someone who can take good notes and type them into the computer as the meeting progresses.

2016 DUES

If you haven't paid your 2016 dues yet, please send your check to Carol Whitley (payable to Drott Lodge #168).

VASA WAS HERE

Larilyn André and Linda Smith toured the Swedish ship Kalmar Nyckel as part of their visit to Springfest at Fort Christina, the 17th C Old Swedes Historic Landmark, Wilmington DE.



OTHER EVENTS

May 7 - August 28, Exhibit: Mats Ek- A Dance Rebel on the Move for Forty Years, House of Sweden, 2900 K St., NW Washington, DC.

May 14, 1:30 pm, Eurovision Song Contest, LIVE Streaming Event, House of Sweden. Televised in Stockholm. For more info go to: www.swedenabroad.com.

May 16, noon, Admiral Jay Cohen, "Developing Security Threats and Consequences in the Baltic Theater", Swedish American Cultural Union, Marriott Key Bridge Hotel, 1401 Lee Highway, Rosslyn. Reserve by May 16, contact Carl Ek at ekcarl@msn.com or call 703-255-6228.

June 1, 5 pm, Swedish Soccer Night at DC United, RFK Stadium, DC United versus Seattle Sounders. Erik Friberg, age 30, from Lindome, Sweden, signed with the Sounders team in 2015. SACC-DC tickets are in section 204. For tickets, go to: <http://sacc-dc.org>.

June date TBA, 6:15 pm, Jenny Lind: the Swedish Nightingale Concert and Reception, the American Tour of the the 2016 recipient of the Jenny Lind Scholarship, House of Sweden, supported by SWEA-DC. Free, suggested donation \$15. RSVP to: sweadcprogram@gmail.com

FROM THE EDITOR

The next issue of the Drott Newsletter will be the September issue. Inputs will be due by August 28. Please send them to Newsletter Editor Linda Smith at leslieandlinda2@comcast.net or call 240-912-7120.

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