



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

**NEWSLETTER**  
www.drott-lodge.org

## MARCH 2019

Heja Drott!

We are quite pleased to report that our February meeting more than made up for the January winter storm. The new Drott Officers for 2019 were voted in at last and duly elected. We also were completely smitten with Ashley Mullinax, our very own homegrown Swedish-American TV superstar, who brilliantly guided us through the trials and tribulations of her “homecoming” and heartwarming Great Swedish Adventure (*Allt för Sverige*, the Swedish Emmy award winning reality show), all while we enjoyed ärtsoppa, pannkakor (or plattor?!) and punsch, via Drott’s Pea Soup & Pancake Dinner. Thanks to all who made the day a success! Our next meeting is scheduled for April 14th and will feature a presentation on Swedish Easter decorations and traditions, followed by a business meeting. As previously reported, in lieu of the March meeting, next up is ABBAPalooza Två!



Välkommen!



## DUES ARE OVERDUE

If you have yet to pay your 2019 dues please be sure to pay them right away! Mail your check payable to “Drott Lodge #168” and send to Financial Secretary Carol Whitley, 4600 Connecticut Ave., NW, Apt. 819, Washington, DC 20008-5707. Dues for most members are \$50. Dues for Youth and Life Members are \$25.75. Refer to the February 2018 Newsletter for detailed information regarding the dues fee structure. We are step-by-step introducing our new MarketPlanet software system which will also allow you to pay your membership dues with a credit card. Some members are in arrears and if you are unsure whether you need to pay for one or for two years, check with Carol.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ABBAPALOOZA 2 – HERE WE GO AGAIN!

**Saturday, March 23, 7 - 10 pm**

**Parish Hall at St. James' Episcopal Church**

**11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac MD**

**Members \$20 / Guests \$30 / <https://mp.gg/0hr1p>**

Join us for a fun evening of film, food, dancing and ABBA! Reprising our first ABBAPalooza – which coincided with the release of the *Mamma Mia!* film – “del två” features the 2018 sequel *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again*. As the film plays out on two large screens, participants may be dressed as their favorite ABBA member, *Mamma Mia!* film character or in other disco attire. Dance alongside a dinner buffet with dessert, snacks (including popcorn), refreshments and two free glasses of wine. Space is limited and tickets required. More information can be found and tickets bought by typing in the [blue](#)



MemberPlanet link from below (or the headline above) in your web browser or simply click on it from the newsletter. You may also email Arne Dunhem for ticket and registration information at [adunhem@gmail.com](mailto:adunhem@gmail.com).

<https://mp.gg/0hr1p>



## **SWEDISH EASTER TRADITIONS/DROTT BUSINESS MEETING**

**Sunday, April 14, 2:30 pm**

**Undercroft of St. James' Episcopal Church**

**11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac MD**

Karin Weeden will discuss traditions in Sweden to celebrate Easter, including how to make authentic Swedish decorations and insights into how "Holy Week" is different to how Americans celebrate. A buffet will feature traditional Swedish Easter foods. The cultural program will be followed by a business meeting, both of which are free and open to visitors. The business meeting will include the draping of the Charter in memory of four Sisters who passed in late 2018.

## **VALBORGSMÄSSOAFTON**

**Walpurgis Eve Picnic and Bonfire**

**Saturday, April 27, 4:30-7:30 pm**

**Private Location, McLean, Virginia**

Our Valborg picnic with lawn games, Swedish music and the traditional bonfire will usher out winter and welcome spring! We will send information out privately to our members and Drott Lodge sister organizations that promote Nordic culture and traditions in the DC Area. Specifics and directions will be provided in your online sign up form. Please contact Arne Dunhem at [adunhem@gmail.com](mailto:adunhem@gmail.com) to help out.



## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

### ASA NORDIC LANGUAGES MEETUP

**Wednesday, March 6, 5 - 7 pm, Embassy of Finland  
3301 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC**

Join the monthly group of passionate and curious linguists to learn and practice your Swedish. Smaller discussion groups are formed to speak Swedish, Icelandic, Danish, Finnish and Norwegian. Everyone is welcome, no language skills required, although you must specify a Nordic language of interest to join!

### WORLD STAGES – SWEDEN’S CIRKUS CIRKÖR: “LIMITS”

**Wednesday - Saturday, March 6 - March 9, 8 pm**

**The John F. Kennedy Center**

**Eisenhower Theater**

**2700 F Street NW, Washington, DC**

*Box Office 202-467-4600*

*Use booking code SWEDEN for 25% off!*

Swedish contemporary circus group Cirkus Cirkör performs their astounding show *Limits* as part of *The Human Journey*, a Kennedy Center collaboration with National Geographic Society and The National Gallery of Art. Artistic Director Tilde Björfors conceived this cutting-edge production that transforms circus arts into activism. Combining physically daring feats, English

text,  
video



projection with original music, you can experience exploration of the concepts of flight, migration and the breaking down of harsh borders in the world to bring people together. The performances include athletic aerial acrobatics, teeterboard, juggling, vocals, musicians and roué cyr, a body sized hoop. A panel discussion will be moderated by the Embassy of Sweden’s Cultural Counselor, Linda Zachrisson. Founded in 1995, Cirkus Cirkör is Sweden’s first and largest contemporary circus.



## THE FEMINIST

Friday, March 8, 5 - 7:30 pm

D.C. Independent Film Festival

The Carnegie Institution for Science

1530 P St NW, Washington, DC

202-387-6400

<https://dciff-indie.org/quickindex/>

Feminist trailblazer Gudrun Schyman is a social worker who led the Leftist

party to record breaking election results, was shamed for struggles with addiction, overcame her demons and founded Europe's first feminist party. Her story is the subject of the documentary *The Feminist – A Swedish Inspiration* by Swedish Director Hampus Linder, which will be screened as part of International Women's Day and in association with the Embassy of Sweden. The Embassy's Cultural Counselor, Linda Zachrison, will moderate a panel discussion following the film. In Swedish with English subtitles. Running time 91 minutes.



## NEW SWEDISH EXHIBITIONS

Beginning Saturday, March 9, 2019 (Saturdays & Sundays, 12 - 5 pm)

House of Sweden

2900 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20007

*free admission/guide available*



*Siri Berg: Statements* – Born in Stockholm in 1921 and a New York resident since 1939, Siri Berg's works offer visually unexpected abstract painting.

*Urban Challenges* – Explores Swedish solutions to absorb the impact of a rapidly growing urban environment to leave a smart, creative and inclusive city... a legacy that following generations deserve.

*Children In The City: Little Library & Funky Town* – Little Library is an inviting and ideal space with books, puzzles and games to encourage children to start a dialogue to make cities more accessible to them. Funky Town is an interactive game that allows them to be city planners and understand the complexity and how important the creation of a friendly and human city is.



## **SCANDIA DC THIRD SATURDAY DANCE PARTY**

**Saturday, March 16, 7 - 10 pm**

**Greenbelt Community Center Dance Studio**

**15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD**

Scandinavian couple dancing the third Saturday of the month. No partners necessary. Wear a costume if you like, bring finger food to share if you can. Most importantly, bring yourself. Teaching 7-8, open dancing 8 to 10. Cost \$10. For information, call Linda or Ross at 202-333-2826 or send an e-mail to [linda@scandiadc.org](mailto:linda@scandiadc.org) or visit [www.scandiadc.org](http://www.scandiadc.org). If inclement weather, call 301-474-0646.

## **SVENSKA SÅNGGRUPPEN (SSG)**

**Wednesday, March 20, 7 pm**

**7294 Mandan Road, Greenbelt, Maryland**

Anyone interested in singing in Swedish is welcome to attend, learn and practice Swedish ballads, hymns, and/or folk songs. The annual season runs through May, with no summer meetings. SSG will perform at Drott's Valborg! Please bring something to share for the snack table! For more information contact Eva Hartzell at [eva.c.hartzell@gmail.com](mailto:eva.c.hartzell@gmail.com).

## **MAJ DORIS**

**Wednesday, March 20, 7:45 pm**

**Environmental Film Festival**

**AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center**

**8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, Maryland**

*Tickets \$13 / 301-495-6700 / [www.dceff.org](http://www.dceff.org) or <http://www.afi.com/silver/>*



Maj Doris Rimpi is a 74 year old Sami artist, painter and actress who traveled the world twenty years ago. Now living on a reindeer farm alone in the Swedish Arctic Circle, she struggles with hard work and almost gave up. Then she got unexpected help. But does she have the energy to continue? Directed by Jon Blåhed. Running time 73 minutes.

## SWEDISH AMERICAN CULTURAL UNION LUNCHEON

*The Latest News About Fitness – What Does The Research Say?*

*Mai-Lis Hellénus, MD, PhD*

**Tuesday, March 26, 12 pm**

**Marriott Key Bridge Hotel**

**1401 Lee Highway, Rosslyn, Virginia**

*\$30 for SACU member/\$35 for non-members*

*Contact Nils Bruzelius at [nils.bruzelius@gmail.com](mailto:nils.bruzelius@gmail.com) or 202-544-0062*

D. Mai-Lis Hellénus is a professor in cardiovascular prevention at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. She also serves as a senior consultant at the Lifestyle Clinic at the Department of Cardiology at Karolinska University Hospital. She has more than 30 years of experience as a researcher and a teacher on the prevention of cardiovascular disease. In her recent book, *Vitality Important*, she has written that many of us have fallen into the trap of a sedentary life-style and need a lifestyle change. She will explain how we can improve our health as we get older by being physically active, eating a healthy diet and managing our weight, and learning to manage stress.

## MANASSAS VIKING FESTIVAL

**Saturday, May 11, 10 am - 5 pm, rain or shine**

**Harris Pavilion & Manassas Museum Front Lawn**

**Old Town Manassas, Virginia**

*[manassasvikingfest@gmail.com](mailto:manassasvikingfest@gmail.com)*

*<https://www.facebook.com/manassasvikingfest>*

After drawing 4,000 people in its first year, the Manassas Viking Festival gears up for its second educational and cultural event that is open to the general public. Drott Lodge participated last year with a table selling Swedish gift items and plans to do so again this year as well. The “Norseman”



Viking Ship will also return and there will be dancers, musicians and much more. Although the event is free, the festival uses vendor fees, donations, sponsorships for support. They are also raising money via contributions on their facebook page. See the link above.

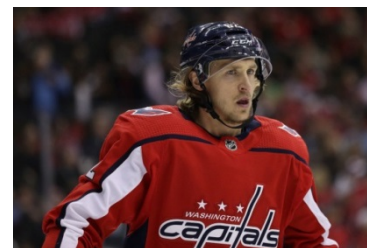




## OTHER NEWS

### CARL HAGELIN JOINS THE CAPITALS

Defending Stanley Cup champs Washington Capitals just got faster by acquiring a fourth Swede, speedy winger Carl Hagelin. Carl has played for the University of Michigan, the New York Rangers, the Anaheim Ducks, the Stanley Cup winning team for the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Los Angeles Kings. He also won a silver medal with Sweden at the 2014 Winter Olympics. Born in Södertälje, Carl joins fellow Swedes Nicklas Backström, Christian Djoos and Andre Burakovsky.



### DROTT LODGE IS USING MEMBERPLANET

Drott Lodge is introducing step-by-step the new software system MemberPlanet for membership benefits. A key feature is that it will provide members new and additional benefits that we have never had before. The intention is to use it for our newsletter, emails to members for website updates and event invitations, payment of events and membership dues by credit card as well as hosting the membership directory, taking member surveys, broadcasting messages (such as urgent messages in the event of unfortunate cancellations due to snow events), and online discussion groups. All of the new features look great on both desktop computers and iPhone or Android smartphones. A MemberPlanet app can be downloaded to smartphones for a personalized member profile and access to the MemberPlanet system. We have already begun using MemberPlanet for the ABBAPalooza invitations and ticketing system, invitations to create member profile updates and reminder emails. We will create a new newsletter format and we also plan to have training sessions for members who might be interested in learning more about MemberPlanet. For more information or questions, please contact Arne Dunhem at [adunhem@gmail.com](mailto:adunhem@gmail.com).

### 2019 DROTT CULTURAL COMMITTEE



### DROTT LODGE CONTACT

[www.drott-lodge.org](http://www.drott-lodge.org)  
[info@drott-lodge.org](mailto:info@drott-lodge.org)  
202-669-2476 – Carol Whitley

### APRIL NEWSLETTER

Please send input for the next issue of the newsletter to Jeffrey de Hart at [jeffrey.dehart@telia.com](mailto:jeffrey.dehart@telia.com) by March 28.