



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



Glad påsk! Happy Easter!

Drott Lodge Newsletter
April 2022

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on our
webpage

:
www.drott-lodge.org

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Vasa Order
of America -
Drott Lodge
168

Välkommen tillbaka

When looking ahead at our calendar of events, we have a program filled with opportunities to celebrate the Scandinavian culture, and an array of outdoor gatherings where we are eager to see one another (at long last) in person and enjoy the comradery that has always been a pillar of our lodge.

We are about to embark on a guided tour of the Vasa Museum in Stockholm (something we would never have envisioned attempting two years ago), and then - - we have a flurry of outdoor activities and events.

In keeping with Sweden's love for nature, we'll be joining ASA for a bonfire on 1 May to celebrate Walpurgis (joined by the Swedish Song Group and area musicians). Come visit Drott Lodge on 14 May in Manassas at the Viking Festival (enjoy reenactments, the Nordic Dancers of DC, food, and over 70 exhibitors and booths). On 22 May, a foraging expedition is planned in Wheaton's Regional Park (where we will forage for spring edibles: mushrooms, edible flowers, and berries, and conclude with a picnic together). Then we will kick-off the summer holiday with a Midsommar celebration at Carderock park on Sunday, 19 June.

Dust off your calendars and planners – we have a full schedule this year and we can't wait to see each of you!



April



May 1



May 14



May 22



June 19

Julie Olson
Past Chairman
Drott Lodge #168

Upcoming Drott Lodge Zoom Event
April 23, 2022

Join Us on the Vasa!



Come and journey back to 10 August 1628 and discover the amazing ship Vasa, which sank in Stockholm Harbor as it departed for its maiden voyage. For those who have already toured the Vasa Museum, this will be a wonderful chance to re-visit those memories. For those who have never been to see the Vasa, you are in for a treat as you have a glimpse into one of the most popular museums in Sweden.

Drott Lodge will sponsor a virtual tour of the Royal Ship Vasa in conjunction with Vasamuset, Stockholm. Peter Rydebjörk, Assistant Director of Museum Services, will be our guide as we have a unique opportunity to tour this historic ship. The tour will last approximately one hour, with time reserved for questions and answers at the tour's conclusion.

Date: April 23, 2022

Time: 4 pm (Eastern Time)

Cost for Drott Lodge Members:	NO CHARGE
Cost for Guests/non-Members:	\$10.00 per person
Registration deadline:	Midnight, April 19, 2022
Maximum number of attendants:	95

You must register to attend this event. Here is the link:

<https://mp.gg/miz7b>

We will send you another link prior to April 23, so you can log in to the Zoom event.



**Upcoming Drott Lodge/ASA Event
Walpurgis in Woodbine, MD
Sunday, May 1st, 2022
2 pm – 6:30 pm**

Come join us for an afternoon of fun in beautiful Howard County. There is plenty of room to celebrate this special Spring event at Norman Farm. After two years of Zoom meetings, we are more than ready to meet in person and maybe meet some new friends.

Games for Young and Old • Sing Along • Songs by the Swedish Song Group led by Kerstin Hendrickson • Music with Washington's Spelmanslag • Speech to the Spring • Bonfire!

Directions and more information in this flyer:

[Valborg ASADLFlyer .pdf](#)

Link to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/valborg-celebration-valborgsmassoafton-2022-tickets-312652531137>

**Upcoming Drott Lodge Event
May 22, 2022
Drott Lodge Spring Foraging Expedition**



On Sunday, May 22nd from 3 pm - 4:30 pm, Drott Lodge will embark on a spring walk in Wheaton Regional Park* to forage for native spring edibles: mushrooms, ramps, edible flowers, and berries. Following our foraging trip, participants will meet for fika at picnic shelter #2 at the park. Those wishing to continue their day are invited to join at the fire pit for a cozy spring fire. Bring your own marshmallows to roast!

Our Spring Foraging Walk will be led by Matt Cohen of Matt's Habitats. Matt is a landscaper who became interested in foraging after spending time working on an organic farm; he hosts between 10 - 15 walks each year in the Takoma Park and Silver Spring area in search of wild edibles such as henbit, a member of the mint family, which can add a gourmet touch to a pesto.

You never know quite what you'll find underfoot once you start learning to identify the local flora. A wildflower known as the Virginia Spring Beauty yields not only mild-tasting flowers, but also has roots resembling tiny potatoes. (It's also been given the whimsical nickname of "fairy spuds.") This wildflower is rich in carbs and can be boiled like its larger namesake. "Some wild foods are really packed with vitamins and nutrients," Cohen says.

Knowing how to identify and safely —and legally— collect wild plants, fruits, and nature's other noms can net nutritional benefits and help supplement your grocery bill with fresh greens, especially this time of year when young plants boast the sweetest flavor from warm days and cool

nights.

During the walk, Cohen points out more than two dozen types of plants and trees, giving a bit of historical background on some and cooking recommendations on others.

Registration for the event is required – Deadline is May 17

Members	\$ 0.00
Non-Members	\$15.00
Children (non-Member) 6-14 years	\$ 5.75
Children under 6 (with parental supervision only)	\$ 0.00

Please join us at 4:30 pm for fika, even if you don't go on our foraging trip. If you are interested in a picnic supper, you may bring your own or order a boxed lunch from Panera.

Box lunches will be available for pre-order for the event. These include your choice of a Tuna Sandwich, Turkey Sandwich, or Veggie Sandwich. Each comes with a cookie and chips for \$10. These must be ordered by May 17th and more information will be sent closer to that date.

Link to sign up:

<http://www.memberplanet.com/events/vasadrottlodge168/drottlodgespringforagingexpedition>

Be sure to wear sturdy boots or shoes, and comfortable clothes for our walk in the woods. Learn more about our guide on his website:

<https://sites.google.com/a/mattshabitats.com/www/>

*Wheaton Regional Park offers additional recreational and educational opportunities: The "Shorefield Area" has beautiful spots for fishing and relaxing. The "Adventure Playground" includes climbing structures, swings, slides and a sand castle. Nearby "Brookside Gardens" has year-round horticulture displays, ponds, and walking trails, and the "Brookside Nature Center" offers displays of live reptiles and mammals to delight young naturalists.



**Upcoming Drott Lodge Event
Manassas Viking Festival
May 14, 2022, 10 am - 5 pm
Old Town Manassas, VA**

The Viking Festival is May 14th in Manassas. We need at least 10 volunteers for set-up and to run the booth. This is our best opportunity in 2022 to market ourselves.

Please email Julie at Julie.Lynn.Olson@gmail.com if you are able to help support:

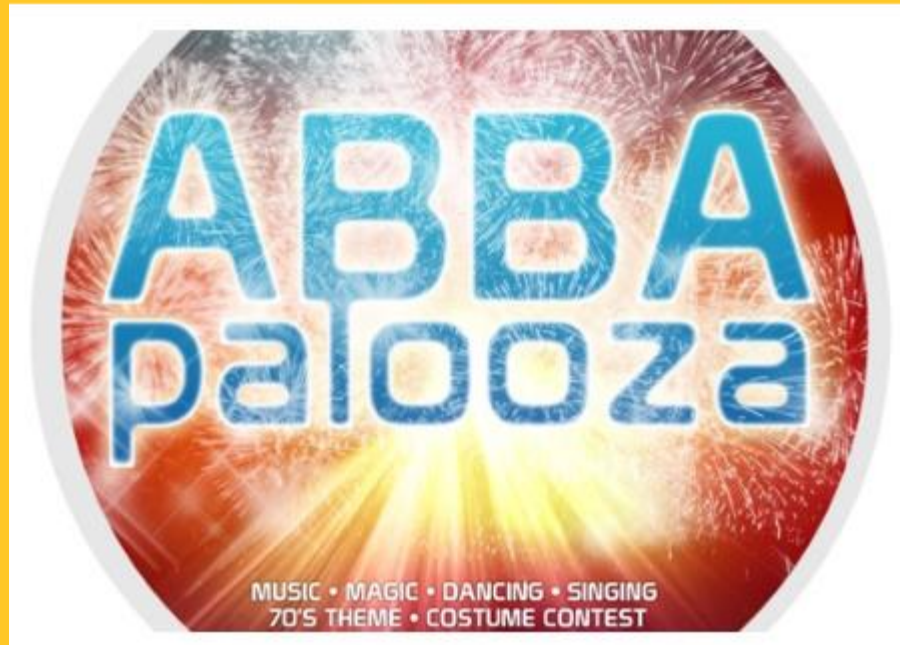
- prep work at storage starting next week.
- set-up on 14th
- table/selling 14th
- breakdown after the event 14th

Participating in events like this will help us gain new members and provide funding for our wonderful programming throughout the year!

We need at least 10 volunteers for a successful day and so far we only have four. Let us know if you can work in the morning, afternoon, or all day.



**Grand Lodge Convention
July 2022
Philadelphia, PA
ABBApalooza**



Of all the lodges in all of Vasa Order of America, we have been asked by the Grand Master himself to plan and execute ABBApalooza 2022 in Philadelphia at the Grand Lodge Convention this July. (They've all seen how well we can throw a party – and this is indeed a great honor!)

With the release of the new album, ABBA Voyage, and the band's first Grammy nomination (for record of the year), their concert set to open in London this spring (with the ABBAstars), we have an incredible amount of material to work with as we plan the festivities. To pull this off, we'll need expert assistance from members attending the convention on Tuesday, July 5, 2022. Please email adunhem@gmail.com or Julie.Lynn.Olson@gmail.com if you plan to be in Philadelphia.

*****Past Zoom Event***
Business Meeting
Cultural Program: Let's Go to the Movies!**

March 13,

2022

The cultural committee sends a big shout out to our resident film historian, Marit Knollmueller. Her excellent introduction to the classic Swedish film, "The Phantom Carriage," gave us a better understanding of this Viktor Sjöström 1921 film. Selma Lagerlöf's original novel on which the movie is

based was described by Marit as a “morality tale with a Swedish twist.” Indeed, the film speaks to the universality of the themes of Lagerlöf’s works, and thanks to a short, biographical sketch of Lagerlöf, we could see some of the influences her life had on her work.

A discussion followed the viewing – and Marit, who has a PhD in Film History, was able to deftly field members’ questions and comments. A future mini-meeting might include a viewing of another adaptation of Lagerlöf’s works such as Gösta Berlings Saga.

Drott Lodge has so many talented and knowledgeable members – we are grateful when they share their expertise.

Here is the link to the business meeting minutes:

[Drott Lodge Meeting Minutes 31322 v26746.docx](#)

On-Going Event Paper Crafts & Cardmaking



Our Cultural Committee (with additional Drott volunteers) spent another Saturday creating an array of hand-made Swedish-themed greeting cards to send to our members throughout the year.

This was the second of several card-making events, so please email Janet

Johnson at JanetJohnson30254@gmail.com if you are interested in joining this creative team in the future!

A special thanks to our talented members and hostess Janet Johnson for donating your entire Saturday to help lift member spirits!

Get to Know Your Drott Lodge Members

April Feature - Drott Lodge Pet Parents

We received the following photos from our Drott Lodge pet owners. Enjoy the collage that Julie Olson put together!

Drott's Pet Family

Beau – Larilyn Andre



Abbey – Katie Peterson



Hoagie –
Ashley Mullinax



Miss Libby –
Janet Johnson



Isabella –
Larilyn Andre



Kiwi & Coconut –
Ashley Mullinax



Finn – Katie
Peterson



Nughette –
Larilyn Andre



Peppi – Larilyn Andre



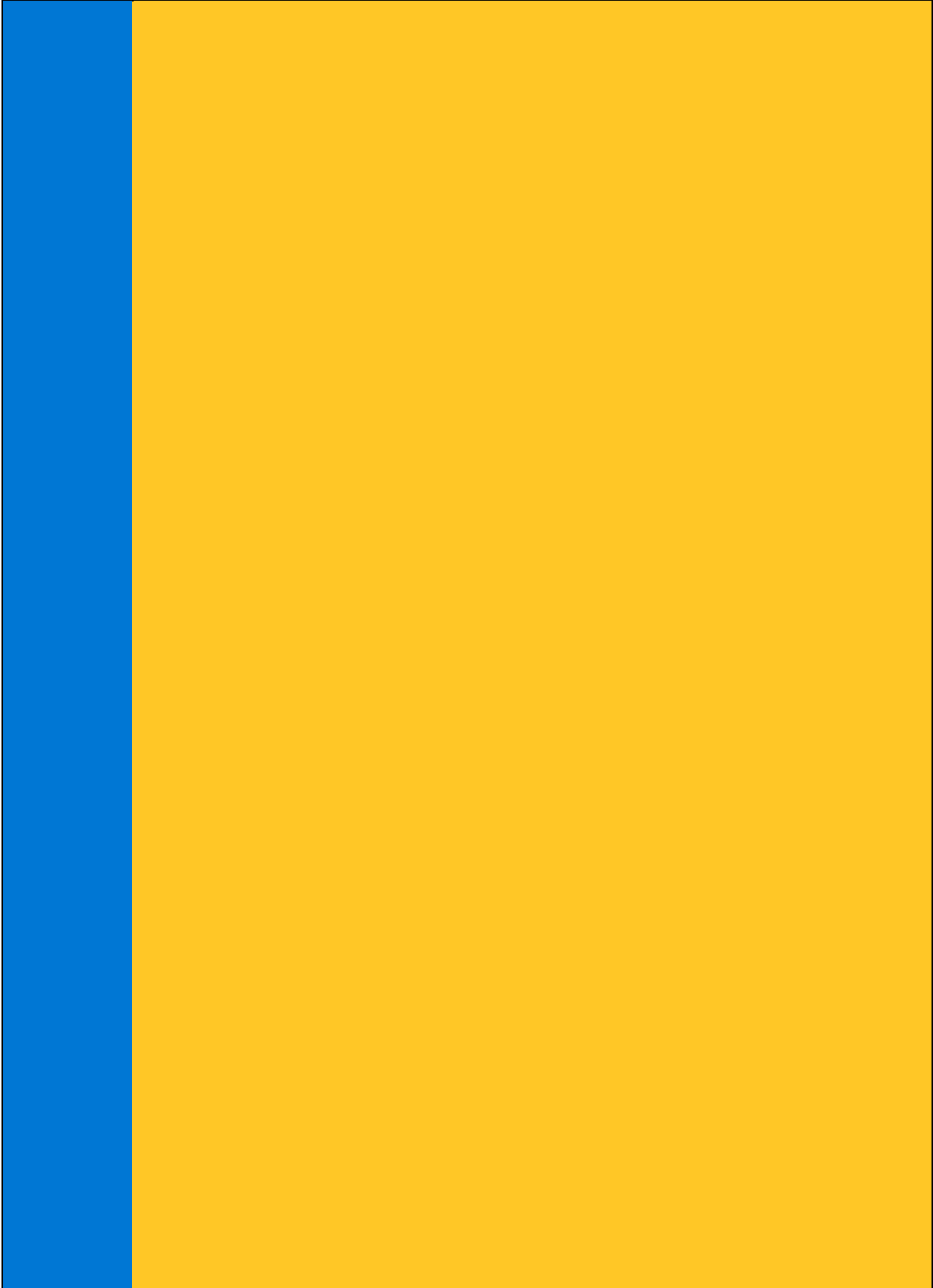
Membership Fees for 2022 are Due

Regular annual membership fees due are \$50.00

Life Members and Youth Members still at \$25.75.

Please go to Member planet and make your payment.

You can also send in a check. Please contact Carol Whitley at carol4600@verizon.net.



Fat Tuesday Bun Sampling Adventure



Most tourists visit Sweden during the summer months to take advantage of the nice weather, delicious summer foods, and all the fun outdoor activities. There are also many things to do in Sweden during the dark winter months. In the weeks leading up to Easter, Swedish bakeries go crazy producing Fat Tuesday buns (in Swedish: one semla, two semlor). Traditionally, they were sold on Tuesdays and only during Lent. That is no longer the case, as you can find them as early as January and any day of the week.

Arriving in Sweden on Feb 2, I found myself in Semla heaven! Already at the airport cafes, I could see the wonderful buns being displayed in neat rows. Being a good Swede/American Tourist, I was excited to take on the task as Drott Lodge Semla Reviewer. Most of you know the regular semla with a cardamon flavored bun, top piece cut off, bottom piece gutted and filled with almond paste filling and whipped cream, top added back on, and finally dusted with powdered sugar. Those are all good, but I set out to find some newer semlor that I had never tasted.

After four weeks of traditional semla, semla wraps, croissant semla, Wiener semla, whole wheat semla and many more, I hit the jackpot on Fat Tuesday. A day earlier, the local newspaper announced that the Ornässtugan cafe in Dalarna would be offering eleven (!) historically inspired and new semlor. Needless to say, I was there when they opened up shortly

before lunch. The cafe is situated on true historic Vasa ground, the place where Gustav Eriksson (later King Gustav Vasa) was hiding out from his enemies and escaped via the outhouse! The cafe's semla selection did not disappoint. I ended up buying 4 to take home and sample: Vasa Semla, Queen Semla, Cinnamon Roll Semla and Lady of the House Semla.

After 5 weeks I was ready to crown a winner. The best semla was the Wiener Semla that I bought in Eskilstuna. No, it's not a hot dog bun. Wiener in Swedish refers to what Americans call Danish. Go figure. Anyway, the Wiener semla was light in texture, had a perfect almond paste filling and the whipped cream was very tasty. In second place was the Vasa Semla from Ornäs. It had a regular cardamon bun, walnut filling and orange flavored whipped cream. Delicious! In third place was the Queen Semla. It had a regular bun, filled with vanilla cream, Queen jam and Queen jam whipped cream. (Queen jam is a berry mix, usually blueberries and raspberries).

And for those of you that worry that too many semlor is not a good idea, I did a lot of cross-country skiing in between to make sure I "earned" my next tasting.

Enjoy the pictures!

Karin Weeden



Did you know that.....

.... the Vasa National Archives has a Genealogy Form that you can fill out to help provide a more complete picture of Scandinavian heritage in the U.S.?

The application you completed to become a Vasa member requires only a checkmark in the Ancestry portion, where one checks if his/her ancestry is one or more of the five Nordic countries and a line only on which to write other countries.

But the Genealogy Form on the Vasa Archives website (VasaArchives.org) asks for much more than that. Occupation, date entered the United States, birth places of parents and grandparents. Search "Forms" on the website.

Check it out and let's help provide the Archives with more data about Swedish immigration to the U.S.

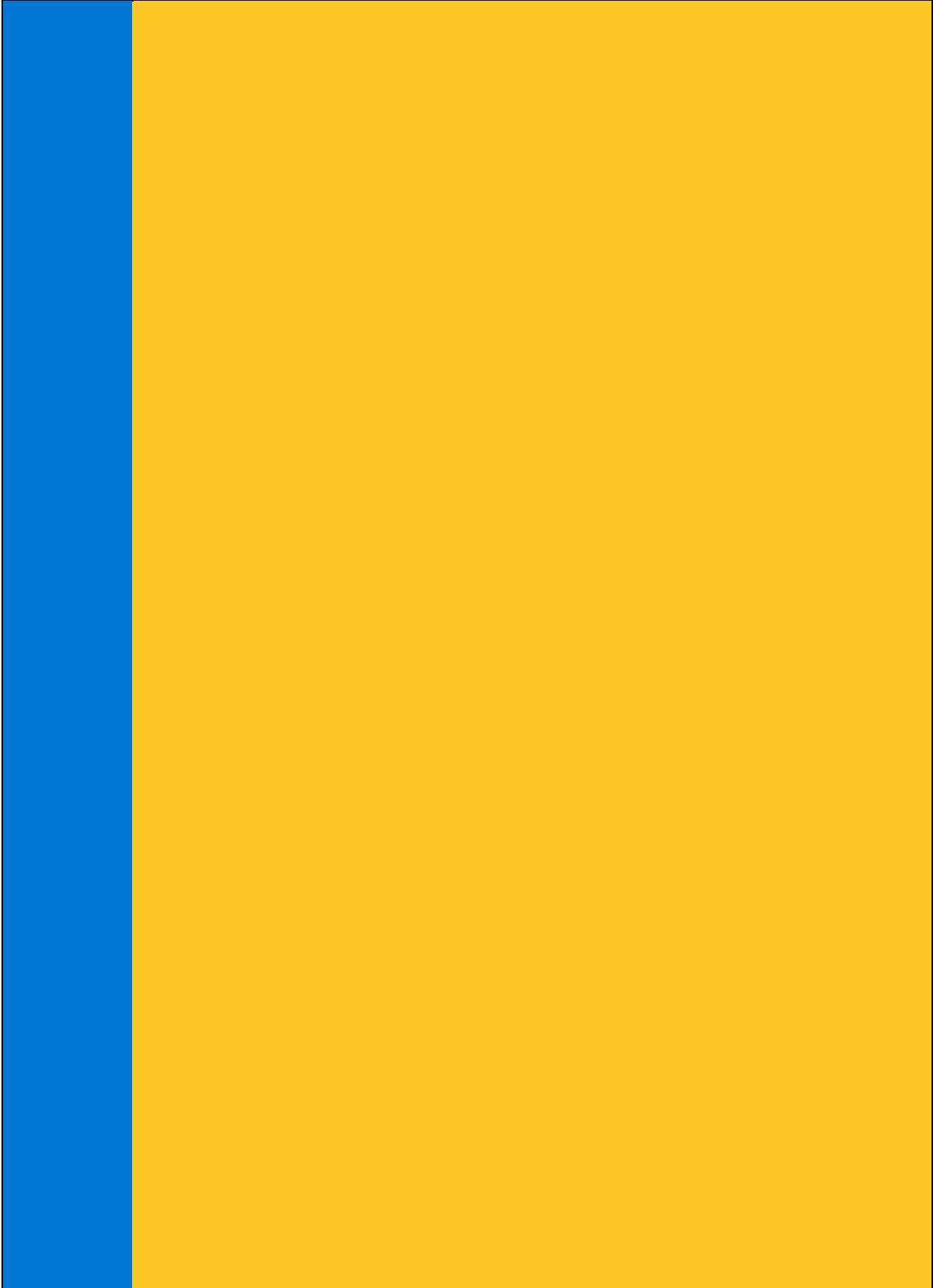
Keep Your Memberplanet Account Up to Date

Please update Drott if you have new contact information, such as if you have moved or have a new phone number.

Newsletter Deadline May 5

The next newsletter will be distributed in May. Do you have something you want to share with us?

All submissions are due to pk_weeden@msn.com by **May 5, 2022**. Please make sure to include the word **NEWSLETTER** in the subject.



VASA Drott Lodge 168
c/o Carol Whitley, Member Secretary, 4600 Connecticut Ave NW Apt 819
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