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Drott Lodge Newsletter

February 2022

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www.drott-lodge.org

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February is the month when we have a special day to show our friends and family that we care about them. I am currently in Sweden and I am taking a closer look at how they celebrate this holiday over here. Like Halloween, Valentine's Day was not widely celebrated when I left, but by the late 1990s, Sweden had fully imported these American traditions.

The days are getting longer and we can look forward to spring very soon. Take some time to walk outside and reinvigorate your body and mind. I can't help but noticing that Swedish families take more time to exercise and spend time outdoors. I see people walking or riding their bikes to work, even if the bike road surface is covered by snow and sometimes ice.

Swedish bakeries are busy competing for customers by baking and assembling Semlor (Fat Tuesday buns) daily. You can also pick them up at the grocery stores and sometimes at gas stations. I have had two so far and they were delicious! Just like I remember, they were creamy, sweet, and had that wonderful taste of almond paste and cardamom. I will continue my journey to find the best one before I return to the US. Good thing they also sell mini semlor.

We will see you at the Zoom meeting on February 13, 2022, when Gunnel Hamilton will teach you some useful Swedish words and phrases. Gunnel has been teaching at the Swedish School in Falls Church, VA for many years and we look forward to her presentation.

I wish good health to you and yours and a Happy Valentine's Day!

Karin Weeden
Past Chairman
Drott Lodge 168

**Upcoming Zoom Event
February 13, 2022 2:30 PM
Business Meeting
Cultural Program: Talar du svenska?**

This coming Sunday, we will have our regular business meeting followed by a cultural presentation. Here are attachments for the business meeting:

[Drott Lodge Meeting Ground Rules and Guidelines 2022.pdf](#)

[February 13 2022 Meeting Agenda v4.docx](#)

[Drott Lodge Meeting Minutes Jan 9 2022.docx](#)



This month's speaker is our chaplain, Gunnel Hamilton, a teacher or "Filosofie magister" (MA) at the Swedish School, or Svenska Skolan, in Falls Church, VA. Gunnel's presentation includes a history of the Swedish language and how it was influenced by Finland, Russia and Germany.

Members will find Gunnel's talk useful as she will teach us some commonly-used Swedish words and share some hints about proper Swedish pronunciation. Gunnel will also teach us Swedish words that might prove useful in Vasa meetings.

We may not leave the meeting bi-lingual, but we may come away with a better appreciation for the spoken Swedish language!

Materials for her session include a short text, a wordlist (words and phrases), and a sound file.

[Ordlista Drott 2022.xlsx](#)

[Useful phrases.docx](#)

[Audio_Gunnel Hamilton .mp3](#)

VÄLKOMMEN!

For the Zoom meeting, just click on this link on Sunday February 13, 2022 at 2:30 pm:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F82997822878&data=04%7C01%7C%7C27c6323e4c784058ac9408d9ea853f2d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637798680271790566%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000&am;odata=pDkurrQE4%2Fzle5HxktxjKtu2iz7LgY2cn5sc6BsU28%3D&reserved=0>

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.

Grand Lodge News

Last month we announced that the Grand Lodge Convention will take place July 1 – July 8, 2022 at the Marriott Philadelphia Old City in Philadelphia, PA.

Here is information on presenting Motions for consideration at the meeting. All motions must be received **on or before March 1, 2022**.

[Official Call for Grand Lodge Meeting_ July 18 2022.pdf](#)

Scholarship Opportunities Don't Miss the Deadlines

District Lodge PA No. 9 two-week session at the Concordia Swedish Language Camp in Minnesota for youths between the ages of 8 and 18. Applications must be **e-mailed/postmarked by March 7, 2022**.

Visit ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org to learn more about its exciting camp activities and language instruction. See below for instructions and the application form.

[District 9 YOUTH Scholarship Announcement 2022.pdf](#)
[District 9 YOUTH Scholarship Application 2022.pdf](#)

The District's Adult Scholarship for Learning for an adult or family experience at Concordia Swedish Language Camp, the Vasa National Archives, or for an independent project. Applications are due (postmarked/e-mailed) by **March 7, 2022**. Here is the application form and instructions.

[Adult Scholarship Application 2022.pdf](#)

The Vasa Grand Lodge has a Scholarship and Essay Contest for students attending or planning to attend an institution of higher learning. Applications were available on the VASA website <https://www.vasaorder.com>. Applications and all enclosures must be postmarked **no later than February 15th** to be considered.

[2022_Scholarship_Announcement.pdf](#)
[2022_Scholarship_w_Application_form.pdf](#)

Other Financial Support

The American Scandinavian Association also provides financial support for grants and scholarships and gives preference to members of ASA or other Scandinavian

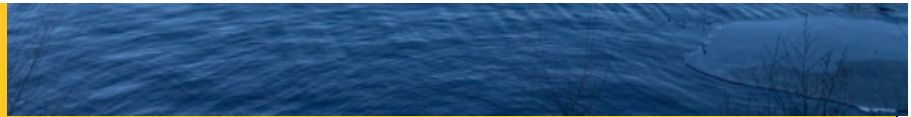
organizations. Application specifications can be found at Scandinavian-dc.org/Grants. For more information contact Anne Marie Hvid at 571-245-1216 or annemariehvid@hotmail.com.

Swedes Love Winter Sports

The 2022 Winter Olympics are underway in Beijing, China. We cheer on the Swedish athletes (Heja Sverige!), hoping for more medals in the ski races, speedskating and ice hockey. This is an international winter multi-sport event where many new events have been introduced lately, most of them involving snow and ice.

Meanwhile in Sweden, you can participate in other types of winter sports. As you can see in the picture below, this is not for the faint-hearted. You can see the shiny ice outside the dock. Maybe you think this event is better suited for summertime and warmer weather, but winter swimmers beg to differ. With a season running from October-February, winter swim races take place in the ice cold waters, in safe areas inside docks and boat landings, and the water surface is cleared of any ice. The picture was taken at the Stockholm Winter Swim Open 2022 that took place Feb 5. All participants could enjoy a warm sauna after the race and they all deserve a gold medal!





Stockholm Winter Swim Open 2022

Swedish Flags Flying in Frederick, MD

Drott members Nick and Marianne Diaz stepped out on the night after Christmas to have dinner in downtown Frederick to celebrate Nick's birthday. After dining, they strolled along Carroll Creek to view the installation of lighted sailboats. And there among many other creatively decorated boats was one flying three Swedish flags. This was a small scale replica of the famous battleship Vasa, a 64-gun warship that sank on its maiden voyage in 1628, having traveled only a short distance across the Stockholm Harbor.

The installation remains through March. If you go, consider arriving shortly before sunset so that you can view the boats while it's light and again after it gets dark and the lights come on.

Carol Whitley



Vasa ship in Frederick MD

Genealogy News February - April 2022

February 20, 2022

The Swedish Genealogy Group of MD, DC, and VA will meet on **Sunday Feb 20th at 1:30pm**, both in person and via Zoom.

If you would like to participate, please contact **JanetJohnson30254@gmail.com**. We will work on breaking down members brick walls and specifically discussing the new map collection available online through the Swedish National Archives: Riksarkivet.

March 2022

Roots-Tech is available for free to all attendees virtually. A wonderful experience to expand your genealogy skills. **March 3-5, 2022.**

RootsTech will present more than 1500 online recorded and live sessions on family history. This year's sessions including sessions on Swedish genealogy research:

1. An Introduction to Scandinavian Church Records part I, II, III.
2. Records Analysis: Finding Your Unknown Soldier— Swedish General Muster Rolls
3. Use ArkivDigital to Discover Your Swedish Roots
4. Swedish Research 101

Register at:

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/next/>

APRIL 2022

The 24-Hour Genealogy Webinar Marathon

Kathy Meade of ArkivDigital will be one of the 24 speakers for the Third Genealogy Webinar Marathon sponsored by Legacy Family Tree Webinars.com and MyHeritage. She will be giving the following presentation: Introduction to Swedish Military Records

Date: Friday, April 8, 2022

Time: 6 AM EST (New York)

<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>

Visit the Carl Larsson House with ASI

April 27, 2022

Virtual Swedish Museum Series: Carl Larsson-gården

ASI's Swedish Museum Series returns with a virtual tour of the famous homestead of renowned artist couple Carl & Karin

Larsson. Carl Larsson-gården in Sundborn is one of Falun's most popular tourist destinations and an icon in Swedish home decoration and family life. Here, the artist Carl Larsson lived with his wife Karin and their children.

<https://38380.blackbaudhosting.com/38380/VIRTUAL-Swedish-Museum-Series-Carl-Larsson-gardon>.

Valentine's Day in Sweden Alla hjärtans dag

Valentine's Day is another US holiday that has caught on in the Nordic countries—but with a twist. In Sweden and Norway, the day is called “Alla hjärtans dag,” which translates to “All Hearts Day.” In Finland, it is “Ystävänpäivä,” or “Friends’ Day.”

As the names suggest, Valentine's Day in the Nordic countries is not just about celebrating a romantic partner, but friends and family as well. It's little surprise then that 17% of internet users in Sweden polled by Svensk Handel said they would buy a Valentine's gift for someone besides their significant other. Among females, this share rose to 26%.

Still, purchasing a present for a romantic partner was more common, cited by 45% of respondents who planned to celebrate the holiday.

Regardless of who they are buying for, it's unlikely that Valentine's Day gift-givers in Sweden will be purchasing any big-ticket items. Svensk Handel found that the majority (63%) would spend between SEK100 and SEK500 (\$11.68 and \$58.40) on the holiday.

Chocolates and flowers topped the list of the most popular presents. Svensk Handel noted that sales of those two items spiked by 90% and 59%, respectively, around Valentine's Day compared with an average week.

All told, Svensk Handel found that 48% of the country's internet users would celebrate Valentine's Day, up from 44%.

Source: Valentine's Day in Sweden: More of a Family Affair - eMarketer

If you enter an American store after the new year, you are not surprised to see Valentine's Day merchandise already showing up on the shelves. There is so much stuff, you cannot avoid it. Bags and boxes of chocolate, heart shaped candy, mugs, stuffed animals, sleepwear, socks, toys - all with hearts. I'm sure I left something out. Swedish stores are more lowkey, actually to the point where we almost walked by the TWO small displays of Valentine's Day items. You can buy red roses, chocolates, cards, and a few other items. Here are some sample items available to purchase in Swedish stores:



Giftbags, silk roses, heart shaped boxes.



Stuffed bears, keyrings, cookie cutters.



Great chocolate by Anthon Berg.



Heart suspenders and bow ties.



Large empty heart containers to fill with goodies.

**Drott Lodge Members Celebrate All Hearts
Day
Send in Your Pics!**

Your fellow members want to see how you celebrate Valentine's Day. Will you celebrate with friends, family, loved ones – or enjoy a relaxing evening at home with a book or watching a musical? Send in a photo of yourself/others – and a quick caption (due by March 5) to pk_weeden@msn.com. We will be making a glorious collage of our Drott Lodge members and will share our photos and comments in the March newsletter. Don't miss out!

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

The next newsletter will be distributed in March. Do you have something you want to share with us? All submissions are due to pk_weeden@msn.com by **Mar 5, 2022**.

VASA Drott Lodge 168
c/o Carol Whitley, Member Secretary, 4600 Connecticut Ave NW
Apt 819
Washington, DC 20008
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