

February 2017

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter

Chairman's Message



Thank you all who elected me to this position. I wish that we all work together to make this year a great one. We will try to speed up the meetings so that we can eat earlier. That will allow us to finish everything at a more reasonable hour for anyone working the next day and the children going to school. I know how that can be. Let me know if you have any good ideas.

I wish to thank Isabella for all her many years of service to Vasa, the District and for the last two years as our Chairman. Your work is appreciated. You have earned a well-deserved rest.

To all delegates to the convention, especially the first-timers, go and enjoy yourselves. This is a chance to see how the District works and to make friends with members of other lodges.

To all, Happy Valentine's.

Inga Francis

*Happy Valentine's
Day!*

GVL Happenings

Gnome Homes for Vasa Park

Last month we told you about an idea for Vasa Park's District picnic April 30th. Nancy Kingston, District Cultural Chairman, suggested gnome homes or fairy homes to put out at the base of trees in the park.

Several ladies in Golden Valley thought it would be fun so we got together and made some – we will show them at the next meeting.



2017 Membership Dues

Golden Valley Lodge's dues are \$25/year per person payable in January. Thanks to so many of you who paid at the January meeting. If you did not pay at the last meeting, please plan on taking care of that fee at the February meeting or



mail it. We would like all dues for 2017 paid by March.

Dorothy Burns, GVL
Financial Secretary
8201 Glade Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91304

What Is A Gold Card Member?

When the Financial Secretary reads the report every month and you hear "there are 32 GOLD CARD members," most of you know what that means, but I didn't really know until I got into the job. It means you have been a member of the lodge for 25 years AND you are over 70 years old. A Gold Card member no longer needs to pay dues.

Thank you to Our January Dinner Hosts



Robert & Katarina Holstein and
Erik & Kerstin Thorsen

Introducing....

Maidie's beautiful new twin granddaughters Heather & Fiona. Their proud parents are Erik & Alice Karling.



Happy February Birthday!

Sven-Olof Lingstrom 1

Kristina Foley 1

Hanna Claesson-Dios 3

Olof Wester 4

Alice Karling 5

Mona Steffen 5

Viola Kindstrand 6

Amador-Stromberg 10

Jason Trowbridge 11

James Thorsen 13

Tyler Holstein 17

Melissa Steffen-Coomes 19

Keri Mikkelsen 21

Tina DeHart 22

Michel Hamaoui 22

Bernice Dreher 24

Mark Weitz 25

Bengt Heinstedt 26

Lage Engblom 27

Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

Culture Corner: Ale's Stones



Ale's Stones at Kåseberga, around ten kilometres southeast of Ystad.

Photo Credits: Conny Fridh/imagebank.sweden.se

Source: Wikipedia

Ale's Stones (Swedish: Ales stenar) is a megalithic monument in Scania in southern Sweden. It is a stone ship, oval in outline, with the stones at each end markedly larger than the rest. It is 67 m (220 ft) long formed by 59 large boulders, weighing up to 1.8 tons each.

The carbon-14 dating system for organic remains has provided seven results at the site. One indicates that the material is around 5,500 years old whereas the remaining six indicate a date about 1,400 years ago. The latter is considered to be the most likely time for Ales Stenar to have been created. That would place its creation towards the end of the Nordic Iron Age.

Excavations

In 1989, during the first archaeological excavations performed in order to scientifically investigate and date the monument, archaeologists found a decorated clay pot with burned human bones inside the ship

setting. The bones are thought to come from a pyre and to have been placed in the pot at a later date. The pot's contents varied in age; some material was from 330–540 CE while a piece of charred food crust also found inside was determined to be from 540–650 CE.

The archaeologists working on the project also found birch charcoal remains from 540–650 CE underneath an undisturbed boulder. According to the Swedish National Heritage Board, carbon-14 dating of the organic material from the site indicates that six of the samples are from around 600 CE, while one sample is from ca. 3500 BCE. The diverging sample came from soot-covered stones that are believed to be the remnants of an older hearth, found close to the ship setting.

On the basis of these results, the Swedish National Heritage Board has set a suggested date of creation for Ales Stenar to 1,400 BP, which is the year 600 CE.

Gotland



A ship barrow on Gotland. A ship barrow is a stone circle shaped like a ship. It was used during Viking times to mark a grave or a place of ceremony. There are about ten different ship barrows on Gotland.

Activities for Golden Valley Lodge to Consider

Submitted by: Delphine Trowbridge

Look over the list to see if there is anything that might be fun. Add to the list and we can vote on an activity at our March meeting.

Whale Watching Tours out of Newport Beach

Kingsburg Spring Festival in May

Riley's Farm in Glen Oaks

Solvang: Elverhoj Museum, wine tasting, Chumash Casino, Danish Days in September.

Near Solvang is the La Purisima Mission State Historic Park with events during the year. They have walking tours, Village Days in Aug and Nov., Mission Life Days in May, July and September.

Julian Apple Days Festival in September

Hollywood Bowl

Glendale Center Theater

Getty Villa

Autry Museum of the American West. A friend of mine is a docent.

San Pedro Dinner Cruise

Zion National Park

Other

District and Other News

Swedish Scholarships

Standard Filter Corporation, a Southern California corporation with Swedish ownership, offers a generous scholarship each year to students who are interested in studying in Sweden. The amount is \$3,000. Details are included in the link below. Electronic (only) applications are received through the end of February. The online application form can be found at: http://www.standardfilter.com/About_Us/SECH_Award/

103rd District Convention

The 103rd District Convention will be held on February 24-26, 2017 at the Hilton Hotel: 6360 Canoga Avenue, Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Vasa Park

A date has been set for the Scandinavian Spring Picnic 2017 and Member Appreciation Day. Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 30 10am to 4pm. Special events include the 4th Annual Car Show.

Membership "Capsule" Drawing – several had a chance to win....

Every month, after dinner, we have a capsule drawing. Every member has their name in a container and if your name is called, you must be in attendance to win the \$25 ... and you should also be up-to-date with your dues. LAILA JENSEN won \$25 at last month's meeting in January... but not until several names were

called who either left early or were not present: Thomas Anderson, Olof Wester, Hailey Carleson, Jennifer DeHart, Gunilla Hamaoui, Evelyn Linfors, and MarieMickelsen....sorry folks – we hope to see you at our next meeting, February 9th!

Golden Valley Lodge, #616
Vasa Order of America