

February 2016

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter

Happy Valentine's Day!
Glad alla hjärtans
dag allihopa!

Time is too slow for those who wait,
too swift for those who fear,
too long for those who grieve,
too short for those who rejoice,
but for those who love,
time is eternity.

- Henry Van Dyke

Next meeting: Thursday, February 11, 2016

GVL Happenings

Buffet Buzz:



A big thanks to our January dinner hosts, Gunilla Thelin (on left) and Ingela Sorenson (on right.) The meal was delicious! Our February dinner committee is: Maria Jacobs, Laila Jensen, and Gunvor Sabo.



Our centerpieces were colorful bulbs and rich chocolates.



Jason Trowbridge won the capsule drawing. It pays to be at our meetings!



Happy February Birthdays!

Sven Lingstrom	1st	Tyler Holstein	17th
Hanna Dios	3rd	Melissa Steffen	19th
Olof Wester	4th	Keri Mikkelsen	21st
Dagny Svensson	5th	Tina De Hart	22nd
Mona Steffen	5th	Michel Hamaoui	22nd
Alice Karling	5th	Frank Muscarella	24th
Viola Kindstrand	6th	Bernice Dreher	24th
Stig Klintare	7th	Bengt Heinstedt	26th
Mikael Amador-Stromberg	10th	Johan Forslund	27th
Jason Trowbridge	11th	Lage Engblom	27th
James Thorsen	13th		
Maria G. Grew	14th		

Ha en trevlig födelsedag!



Culture Corner: More February Birthdays



H.R.H. Princess Estelle

Estelle Silvia Ewa Mary, Princess of Sweden, Duchess of Östergötland was born on February 23, 2012. She is the first child of Crown Princess Victoria and Prince Daniel.



H.R.H. Princess Leonore

Leonore Lilian Maria, Princess of Sweden, Duchess of Gotland, was born on February 20, 2014. She is the first child of Princess Madeleine and Mr. Christopher O'Neill.

Sweden is one of the oldest monarchies in the world, a castle has stood on the site of the Royal palace for over a thousand years. There has been a reigning monarch at the castle for several centuries, right up to the present day. King Carl XVI Gustaf is Sweden's 74th monarch.

The Swedish monarchy has performed its duties in various different forms throughout history. As with their Nordic neighbors, Denmark and Norway, Sweden is now a constitutional monarchy, which means that the monarchy's authority is regulated by the constitution. The official duties of the Swedish monarchy are chiefly symbolic, as a "collective representative and symbol of the country".

The Swedish Constitution act also states that The King

shall chair information and change of Government cabinet meetings, and meetings of the advisory Council on foreign affairs.

The King shall also open the parliamentary Session. In all other respects, it is the monarch's duty to represent Sweden at incoming and outgoing state visits, and to receive foreign ambassadors for accreditation.

If The King is prevented from carrying out his duties as head of State, for example due to foreign visits to distant or inaccessible regions, Crown Princess Victoria, Princess Estelle (after her coming of age), Prince Carl Philip or Princess Madeleine – in order of succession – step in as temporary representatives, in accordance with the Swedish Constitution.

Crown Princess appointed global change advocate

“It is both an honor and a pleasure for Sweden that Crown Princess Victoria has been chosen for this important role and that she has accepted,” said Prime Minister Stefan Löfven.

Photo by Kate Gabor/Kungahuset.se

In Stockholm on January 18, leaders gathered for the conference “Agenda 2030—Sweden’s efforts to achieve the global objectives of sustainable development,” in which they discussed Agenda 2030. Its global objectives were adopted at the UN World Summit in September 2015 where world leaders committed to creating conditions through 17 global objectives for inclusive, sustainable economic growth between 2016 and 2030.

The objectives are: to eradicate poverty and hunger everywhere; combat inequalities within and between countries; to build peaceful, equitable and inclusive societies; protect human rights and promote gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment; and, to ensure lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources. World leaders have created conditions for inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all, taking into account different levels of national development and capacity.

As a reflection of Sweden’s deep engagement in and commitment to the 2030 Agenda, UN Secretary-



General Ban Ki-moon appointed Crown Princess Victoria as one of the 16 members of the Sustainable Development Goals Advocates of Agenda 2030. Advocates are charged with leveraging “their unique standing and leadership” to promote the messages and encourage partnerships with governments, the private sector and civil society,” with an important role in inspiring action toward peace, security and respect for human rights. “The Global Goals give us 15 years of opportunities to build a better world,” said Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Margot Wallström.

“I am very honored to have been appointed as one of 16 advocates to promote the 2030 Agenda. The issues that the UN development goals highlight are crucial for the world. I hope to be able to contribute to this important work,” said Crown Princess Victoria in a Royal Court press release.

January 2016 Meeting



The initiation ceremony for our new officers for 2016.



Some of our Youth Group members.



Julgransplundring

The tradition in Sweden and in Finland to plunder the Christmas tree is on Tjugondag Knut or St. Knut's Day on January 13. This is the day when Christmas is 'thrown out.' But, ... first we dance!

District 15 Convention

The next District Convention will be held at the Hilton in Woodland Hills 2/26,2/27, 2/28.

All members are invited to attend, but only the delegates can vote. Our delegates are Wenche Eklund, Gerti Lingstrom, Dorothy Burns, Richard Heinstedt, and Kerstin Wendt.

Reminder:

Annual membership dues are \$25

Bring money to meeting or mail to:

Chase Dodd
5305 Ambridge Drive
Calabasas, CA 91304



Golden Valley Lodge, #616
Vasa Order of America