

February 2019

# Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



♥♥ Happy  
Valentine's  
Day! ♥♥

Heart Shaped lake in Neckern, Linköping Photo Credit: Fredrik Schilyter\magebank.sweden.se

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
Thank you for electing me as Chair for 2019. I am excited about the new challenge and working with the board for a great year. I am always open to new ideas. Last year was a busy year with the move to a new location, beautifying our new location (thanks Steve Osman) and our trip to Zion. Also, our wonderful Lucia Christmas. This year we are making

plans for our May 9th Social meeting. We would like to have a Barbeque on our beautiful patio. We would like to have activities such as Aquavit tasting, fondue dipping and other ideas so please give me your suggestions. We are also working on having another adventure for this year.

Thanks again,  
Delphine

## 2019 Membership dues

Please try to get your 2019 membership dues of \$25 in early in the year. If you were initiated in the last half of 2018, you do not need to pay in 2019.

Just a reminder, when the Lodge has a social like the recent trip to Zion National Park, or you apply for a scholarship, you must be up-to-date with your dues.

You may bring your check or cash to the meeting, or mail to me: Dorothy Burns, 8201 Glade Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91304.

Thank you,  
Dorothy Burns, GVL Financial Chairman

♥♥ Next meeting: Thursday, February 14, 2019 ♥♥

**Please remember to RSVP to [dtrowbridge36@gmail.com](mailto:dtrowbridge36@gmail.com) every month!!!**

Golden Valley Lodge #616 • Vasa Order of America •

Meeting: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church | 9440 Balboa Blvd | Northridge, CA 91325  
[info@goldenvalleylodge.org](mailto:info@goldenvalleylodge.org) • [www.goldenvalleylodge.org](http://www.goldenvalleylodge.org)

# ♥♥GVL Happenings♥♥

Thank you Steve Osman!



*View of the courtyard with the new lights that Steve Osman put up.*

## 2019 Golden Valley Lodge Board & Service Positions

**Chair:** Delphine Trowbridge  
**Vice Chair:** Chase Dodd  
**Past Chair:** Inga Francis  
**Secretary:** Lisa Eklund  
**Assistant Secretary:** Mona Steffen  
**Financial Secretary:** Dorothy Burns  
**Treasurer:** Birgitta Clark  
**Chaplain:** Andrea Tabanelli  
**Master of Ceremonies:** Lucas Taylor  
**Assistant MoC:** Dylan Olson  
**Cultural:** Ruzenna & Ruzenka di Benedetto  
**Guard:** Cecilia Trowbridge  
**Incoming Trustee:** Kerstin Wendt  
**Auditors:** Ann Heinstdedt & Wenche Eklund  
**Historian:** Laurie Taylor  
**Vasa Park:** Dorothy Burns  
**Bar:** Roy and Hanna Olson  
**Newsletter:** Laurie Taylor  
**Youth Group:** Nicolette Taylor



## Happy February Birthdays!

Sven-Olof Lingstrom	1	Melissa Steffen-Coombes	19
Kristina Foley	1	Keri Mikkelsen	21
Hanna Claesson-Dios	3	Tina DeHart	22
Olof Wester	4	Michel Hamaoui	22
Alice Karling	5	Bernice Dreher	24
Mona Steffen	5	Lage Engblom	27
Viola Kindstrand	6		
Stig Klintare	7		
Mikael Amador-Stromberg	10		
Jason Trowbridge	11		
James Thorsen	13		
Tyler Holstein	17		



Ha en trevlig födelsedag!

# ♥CULTURE CORNER: Sweden's Sustainable Shopping♥



**The world's first recycling mall is found in Eskilstuna--ReTuna Återbruksgalleria is the world's first recycling mall, revolutionizing shopping in a climate-smart way.** Old items are given new life through repair and upcycling. Everything sold is recycled or reused or has been organically or sustainably produced.

to the recycling shops in the mall. The shop staff then perform a second culling, where they choose what they want to repair, fix up, convert, refine – and ultimately sell. In this way, the materials are given new life.

And the business concept is working: In 2017, ReTuna Återbruksgalleria had SEK 10.2 million in sales for recycled products.

But, ReTuna is more than just a marketplace. It also aims to be a public educator. ReTuna organizes events, workshops, lectures, theme days, and more – all with a focus on sustainability. The folk high school Eskilstuna Folkhögskola conducts its one-year education program “Recycle Design – Återbruk” in the premises. There are also conference rooms, where guests can hold climate-smart meetings. Organic lunch and baked treats are on offer at Café Returama.

## Ownership

ReTuna Återbruksgalleria and Retuna Återvinningscentral are run by the municipality-owned company Eskilstuna Energi och Miljö (EEM).

EEM is a municipal company tasked with running competitive organizations in the energy and environmental sector. EEM shall deliver optimal benefit to customers and residents – with minimal impact on the environment. The goal is to serve as a role model and source of inspiration in relation to energy and the environment, and to create sustainable societal benefit for current and



The mall opened its doors in August 2015 and is located next to the Retuna Återvinningscentral recycling center at Folkestaleden 7 in Eskilstuna. It is easy

for visitors to sort materials they are discarding into the containers and then drop off reusable toys, furniture, clothes, decorative items, and electronic devices in the mall's depot, called “Returen”. In the depot, staff from AMA (Eskilstuna Municipality's resource unit for activity, motivation and work) perform an initial culling of what is usable and what is not. The items are then distributed





future generations. EEM works within six business areas: Electrical Grid, Electricity Market, Water & Sanitation, Recycling, Energy, and Marketing & Sales.

ReTuna Återbruksgalleria is part of business area Recycling.

### **Where does the idea come from?**

Eskilstuna Municipality strives to be a green role model. In its environment-related development work, the idea came about to open a mall that had “regular” shops, but with a reused and upcycled range of products. The concept would attract a broad target group, and spread knowledge about sustainability and circular economy.

Local government politicians decided to turn the idea into reality, and construction of the project began in August 2014. ReTuna Återbruksgalleria opened its doors to the public on August 28, 2015.

In addition to offering sustainable shopping and serving as a public educator in relation to environmental issues, ReTuna Återbruksgalleria has generated over 50 new jobs. The mall has become international news – documentary filmmakers, journalists and curious tourists from around the world have visited ReTuna Återbruksgalleria. The concept is now spreading.

♥Golden Valley Lodge January 2019 Meeting♥



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