

# NORDIC NOTEWORTHY



## Vasa Lodge Nordic #660



Trinity Lutheran Church 11716 Floral Drive, Whittier, CA

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2016 ISSUE



### JANUARY

Happy New Year to everyone, I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and that 2016 will be a happy and healthy year for all of us.

Our next Potluck will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church on Friday January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm and a business meeting will follow. I hope this newsletter finds you all in good spirits and hope to see you all at our next meeting.

#### Refreshment Committee



Bob Salk & Sean Thomsen



### February

Happy Valentines to you I hope you will plan to join us at Trinity Lutheran Church on Friday February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm for a Potluck, I'm planning a game not sure as yet which one. Our business meeting will follow.

#### Refreshment Committee



Peter & Cynthia Lindgren

#### 2016 Nordic Lodge Elected Officers

Chairman	Sean Thomsen
Vice Chairman	Bob Salk
Master of Ceremony	Karl Almquist
Treasurer	John Dorming
Secretary	Cyndi Lindgren
Asst. Sec.	Janis Smith
Financial Sec.	Peter Lindgren
Chaplain	Cheryl Johnson
Cultural Leader	LeRoy Anderson
Historian	Cyndi Lindgren
Inner Guard	Weldon Johnston
Trustee	Sean Thomsen
	Karl Almquist
Auditor	Ken Murphy
	LeRoy Anderson

#### Let's make 2016 a time for



#### Financial Secretary's Dream

I fell asleep the other night,  
And while I had my snooze,  
I dreamed each member stepped right up  
and promptly paid their dues.  
But when I found it was a dream  
I nearly had a fit,  
It's up to you to make it true  
Please do, please do REMIT!

Membership dues are payable for 2016 of \$25.00 per adult. PLEASE make your checks payable to Nordic #660 and send them to our Financial Secretary Peter Lindgren at P.O. Box 40191, Downey, CA 90239 or simply bring your dues to our Potluck on January 8<sup>th</sup> and celebrate with us and make it a really Happy New Year.



**CHRISTMAS VISITS**

Each year our lodge delivers poinsettia plants to some of our members that are not able to attend lodge meetings and activities for numerous reasons. This year Peter and I enjoyed visiting Ellen Anderson and Norma Harmon at the Oakmont of Whittier Assistant Living.

We met with Ellen first as she was walking about visiting with her neighbors as we arrived. She took us upstairs to her beautiful apartment where we enjoyed visiting with her and catching up. Ellen enjoys hearing how the members are doing and our lodge activities and sends greetings to everyone and thanked the lodge for the poinsettia plant.



**Ellen Anderson & Peter Lindgren**

We went down stairs to visit with Norma Harmon and met two of her friends sitting with her in the cafeteria. Norma was quite excited to see us and so grateful to be remembered. Norma misses all the members and lodge activities and also enjoyed catching up and hearing how everyone is doing.



**Peter Lindgren, Norma Harmon & Cyndi Lindgren**

Peter and I then drove to see Florence O'Brien and received a warm welcome from her. Florence's caregiver Nelly was very accommodating and we were fortunate that Florence's daughter Karen and family stopped by. We had a chance to get

acquainted and enjoyed our time together very much. Florence thanked the lodge for thinking of her and sends best wishes to everyone.



**Florence O'Brien & Peter Lindgren**

**District Lodge Pacific Southwest No. 15  
98<sup>th</sup> District Convention**

The 2012 Convention will be held at the Hilton Woodland Hills Hotel on February 26 – 28<sup>th</sup>.

This year John Dorming will be our lodge delegate. If members can stop by for a visit to get acquainted with what goes on at the convention or for the banquet Saturday evening or the luncheon on Sunday you would enjoy yourself.

Member Peter Lindgren is currently the Vice District Master and you are encouraged to attend and be supportive.

**2016 Refreshment Committee Calendar**

- January 8<sup>th</sup> - Bob Salk & Sean Thomsen
- February 5<sup>th</sup> - Peter & Cyndi Lindgren
- March 4<sup>th</sup> - Sean Thomsen & Ken Murphy
- April 8<sup>th</sup> - Lodge Members
- May 6<sup>th</sup> - John Dorming/Cheryl Johnson
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> - LeRoy Anderson/Karl Almquist

JULY & AUGUST ARE DARK

Calendar Continued:

- September 9<sup>th</sup> - Peter & Cyndi Lindgren
- October 7<sup>th</sup> - Bonnie Matlick & Marianne Dickerson
- November 4<sup>th</sup> - Cheryl Johnson & Virginia Severson & Weldon Johnson
- December - Lodge Members

**VOLUNTEERS**

We cannot live only for ourselves; a thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men.

By Herman Melville





### Change of Address

Virginia Severson  
14129 Adoree Street Apt. #406  
La Mirada, CA 90638  
562-202-4747



#### JANUARY

Karl Almquist 1/13  
Kathleen Lundquist 1/25

#### FEBRUARY

Bonnie Dodson 2/3  
Kenneth Murphy 2/3  
Bebe Blondfield 2/6  
Jonathan Valverde 2/11  
Florence O'Brien 2/19  
David Dickerson 2/28

### NORDIC'S DECEMBER CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

In December we enjoyed our Christmas Social with the room decorated with a Christmas Tree and a fire going in the decorated fireplace. It was warm and cozy with decorated tables.

We had Starbucks coffee on every table and some donated sweets. Members brought a variety of finger foods and it was a very relaxing and festive evening.

LeRoy Anderson led us in songs of Christmas carols on his accordion and we had several guests from the Vasa Choir sing to us as well.

I have to say we all sounded great and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Printed below are a few photos of our very fun evening.



Marianne & David Dickerson w/ granddaughters Natalie & Evelyn



### VASA DISTRICT PACIFIC SOUTHWEST JOINT INSTALLATION & DINNER

January 10, 2016 at Skandia Hall  
2031 East Villa Street, Pasadena, CA 91107

PROGRAM: Social hour at 1pm, *Ceremony* at 2 pm,  
Dinner at 3:00 pm

#### MENU

Hors d'oeuvres  
Chicken Tetrizzini  
Dessert

Wine, soft drinks, coffee or tea  
Donation \$15.00

Please make check payable to:  
District Lodge Pacific Southwest #15  
Send Reservations to:  
Gertie Lingstrom  
621 East 14th Street  
Upland, CA 91786



Cyndi, Bob, Sean, Inga, Cheryl, Daniel, Karl



Cheryl Johnson, Inga Francis, Sean Thomsen

**"An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. The pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves". Bill Vaughn**



Weldon Johnston, Uno Kasperson, Karl Almquist, Inga Francis, Maidie Karling & LeRoy Anderson



Everyone wants happiness  
Nobody wants pain  
But you can't have a rainbow  
Without a little rain.

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### ONCE AGAIN, GIANT YULE GOAT BURNS IN SWEDEN

In what's become a Christmas tradition to some Swedes, a giant decorative goat made of straw was set a blaze early on Sunday and police arrested a 25 year old man suspected of arson.

The straw goat is a beloved Christmas symbol in the city of Gavle, in Central Sweden. However it's also become a tradition of sorts to burn it down.

This year's edition lasted nearly a month on a downtown square before going up in flames.

Police said they arrested a man wearing a balaclava and clothes reeking of lighter fluid. His face was covered in soot and his hair damaged by fire.

Police said he would be questioned once he sobered up.

The goat is an ancient Scandinavian Yuletide tradition that preceded Santa Claus as the bringer of gifts.

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## Valentine's Day in Denmark, Norway, and Finland

Although Valentine's Day is a relatively new holiday in Denmark (celebrated since the early 1990s according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark), the country has embraced February

14th with a Danish twist. Rather than roses, friends and sweethearts exchange pressed white flowers called snowdrops.

Another popular Danish Valentine's Day tradition is the exchange of "lover's cards." While lover's cards were originally transparent cards which showed a picture of the card giver presenting a gift to his sweetheart, the term is now synonymous with any card exchanged on Valentine's Day.

On February 14th, men also give women *gaekkebrev*, a "joking letter" consisting of a funny poem or rhyme written on intricately cut paper and signed only with anonymous dots. If woman who receives the *gaekkebrev* can correctly guess the sender, she earns herself an Easter egg later that year.

**Norway** follows the British and Scottish tradition of valentines' day. They celebrate it on February 14th and the primary intentions of Valentine's Day celebrations are honoring the Great Saint Valentine and expressing the love. Valentine's Day in Norway is celebrated with sheer enthusiasm and happiness but in a grand American way. Roses, chocolates, candies and cards are the most popular gifts People prefer for the romantic occasion.

**Finnish** Valentine's Day is considered as a 'day of "love", which can be celebrated by anyone who wants to express the love and gratitude to a certain person.

When the whole world is celebrating love, Finland has its unique interpretation of the 14<sup>th</sup> of February. Valentine's Day in Finland is celebrated as Friends Day. Finns decided to include everybody in this day. Friends, family, neighbors, colleagues and of course the sweethearts too! They may all receive cards, flowers and chocolates on this day.

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### OLE AND SVEN GO FISHING

Ole and Sven grabbed their poles and headed out to do some ice fishing. As they were arguing over the hole in the ice they heard a loud voice from above say, "There are no fish under the ice."

Ole and Sven moved about 25 feet over and started to make another hole. The voice said a little stronger, "There are no fish under the ice."

They both looked around and then looked up. Ole said in a humble voice, "Are you God?"

The voice spoke back, "No ya idiots! I'm the ice rink attendant."



Please contact me with stories of interest that you have to share with me. I wish all of you a wonderful New Year!

Editor, *Cynthia Lindgren*