



Drott Lodge No. 168
Vasa Order of America
Washington, D.C.

NEWSLETTER

www.drott-lodge.org
info@drott-lodge.org
202-669-2476 – Carol Whitley

SEPTEMBER 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear [First Name]

Our Charter will be draped at our next meeting on October 13th in memory of our dear devoted brother Gerry Schueman who sadly passed away on July 3rd. We will have a solemn ceremony to celebrate Gerry. Please see the separate email that I sent out on September 26th to our Membership on about the Memorial Service for Gerry on October 26th. Gerry leaves big shoes to fill. We miss him!

Please join us after the celebration of Gerry at the business meeting that will focus on the current financial information for Drott Lodge.

Välkommen!

THE CRAYFISH PARTY – WHAT A GREAT PARTY

Many Members with friends showed up for an afternoon celebrating one of the biggest Swedish end-of-summer celebrations – the Crayfish Party. We socialized, we sang, we toasted, we of course ate crayfish, we ate Swedish meatballs, quiche, bread and cheese, salads and many other delicacies. The tables were overflowing with all the potluck foods brought by the Members besides all the crayfish flown up from New Orleans particularly for our party.



As is customary at a real Swedish crayfish party, we were wearing funny hats and crayfish bibs. To mark this celebration, we even had a guest from Japan that came solely to experience a Swedish crayfish party. And then we had our youngest attendee, the one-year old daughter of Ragnar Magnusson and his wife Queenie.



A lot of thanks to all who volunteered to organize and make this great event possible.



UPCOMING OCTOBER MEETING – OCTOBER 13 – 2:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 13, 2:30 pm
Undercroft of St. James' Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac MD

Please join us for our next regular meeting.

Firstly, as noted above, we will have a solemn remembrance of our dear member Gerry Schueman who sadly passed away on July 3, 2019. We will Drape the Charter in the celebration of Gerry. Members will be offered the opportunity to speak about their memory of Gerry.

Secondly, as part of our business meeting, we will discuss the current financial information for Drott Lodge. Our Treasurer Eva Dunhem has worked diligently the last few months to review in detail all financial records since 2016 to ensure that we have a complete understanding on the financials for our Lodge. She has been greatly aided by the QuickBooks bookkeeping software to enter all available financial information. Eva has been able to reconcile with all available bank statements to get accurate profit and loss statements and balance sheets.

Our auditors will also review the information prior to the meeting.

Members will receive by email prior to the meeting Profit-and-Loss statements and Balance Sheets for the period of January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018 and for the period October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019. Summaries of the financial results will be discussed for our two 2018 bazaar activities, our own bazaar and our participation at the SWEA/HoS bazaar. A proposed budget for year 2020 will be presented for review and approval by the Membership. The proposed budget will include proposed allocations among others for meeting and cultural activities, Special Goals donations and administrative expenses.

One thing becomes very clear: Our Lodge will financially not survive more than a few years without having our yearly Bazaar. It is what gives us the financial resources to do our activities and thrive as a Lodge. Our financial reserves will be depleted within few years without the Bazaar. So, please support by volunteering for our Bazaar in November and let us all strive to keep going with the Bazaar for many years to come.

We have been renting a storage unit 10'x10' in size in Rockville, MD for all our Lodge items including a lot of items for our Bazaar. However, the rent was just raised to \$300 per month. After significant work effort by some Members, we have been able to find and move to a different storage unit 10'x10', also in Rockville, MD. The rent is about \$134 per month plus \$16 per month in insurance. This results in a savings of about \$1,900 per year.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our Membership Chair Carol Whitley has over the last month sent numerous reminder letters with enclosed reply envelopes to Members that are overdue with their annual dues for 2019. Many of you have responded and submitted the dues payment. This is highly appreciated. If you have not yet paid your 2019 dues, please mail a check to Treasurer Eva Dunhem at Drott Lodge #168, 20640 Hope Spring Ter, #406, Ashburn VA 20147-2953. If you have any questions, you can send Carol an email to carol4600@verizon.net or give her a call at 202-686-6214.

Dues for regular Members is \$50 per year. Dues for Youth Members and Drott Lodge Life Members in 2019 is \$25.75. Youth Members are those aged 14 to 24; Life Members are those who are 75 or older and who have been Members of the Lodge for 10 or more years. The reduced amount due begins in the year following the 75th birthday. Paid membership entitles a Member to a pass on the meal fees associated with the March Pea Soup dinner and the September Welcome Back Crayfish Party. However, those Members who pay only the minimum dues required (\$25.75) are expected to pay meal fees if they attend.

The reduced amount for Youth and Life Members is equal to the amount of the assessments the Lodge must pay out annually to the Grand and District Lodges for each Member. No part of this reduced amount is retained by Drott Lodge.

Many Lodge Members choose to pay the full amount of the annual dues even if in "Life Member" status. Others add an extra amount to the required minimum dues to help support the Lodge.

With all due respect, and in truth and unity, we hope to hear from each of you who have not paid yet.

BAZAAR

Here is a link to our latest Bazaar Flyer:

[2019 Swedish Bazaar Flyer Redesign 40th v2.pdf](#)

Our annual Bazaar is on Saturday November 2nd with preparation and set-up on Friday November 1st. We need many Volunteers, see below. We also need assistance with spreading the word about the Bazaar.

Please assist by distributing Flyers to local bulletin boards, to friends, and wherever you believe we can advertise a little.

There are magnetic signs that you can stick on metal surfaces like the doors of your automobile.

There are business cards that you can handout to people you meet and you believe

can be interested in our Bazaar.

Please contact Julie Olson on more about how you can assist, email:
julie.lynn.olson@gmail.com

CALLING VOLUNTEERS

We Need Many Volunteers for Our Bazaar!

As you may gather from the above, Drott Lodge cannot support its activities through dues payments received from Members. It is our annual bazaar in November and bazaar-type activities throughout the year sponsored by other organizations in which we participate that keep us solvent as a Lodge. But, we do need more Members to Volunteer for these extra Bazaar selling opportunities.

We hope that as many Members as possible will sign up to work at our annual Bazaar on the 2nd of November in the Parish Hall at St. James Episcopal Church in Potomac, MD. We also hope that many bakers will bake items for our Baked Goods table. If you are not able to help, we understand and hope that you will support the Bazaar by attending if you live in the area. Or perhaps ask one of your children or grandchildren to work at the Bazaar, or a friend or a neighbor. All help is greatly appreciated.

We need Volunteers for the following:

- Work in the Kitchen with food preparation
 - Work in the Food Line, being a food server, cashier, or food runner to the kitchen
 - Imported Foods
 - Imported Gifts
 - Assistance with transportation to/from storage with items
 - Assistance with set-up before and clean-up after the Bazaar
 - We need Volunteers for both Friday November 1st and Saturday November 2nd
-

CALLING BAKERS

Swedish Bakers to the Rescue!

Our Bazaar baked goods table is one of the most popular destinations for visitors that rush through the doors after our opening. I would like to ask our Members to bake Swedish cakes, breads, and cookies to help support us this year. Please email me (Julie.Lynn.Olson@gmail.com) if you need a wonderful recipe.



A glimpse of the Baked Goods Section – 2 minutes after opening our doors!



Specifically, we need you to bake:

- Swedish Rye Loaves
- Cardamom Bread, buns, cakes or loaves
- Tosca Torte
- Apple Cake
- Almond Cakes

We are fortunate to have a new Member to Volunteer as 2019 Baked Goods Section Lead namely Laura Soerensson. Thank you, Laura!

A very special thank you to our Lodge's baking champions over the last few years, including: Linda Smith, Janet Johnson, Marjorie Morris, Ginny Cain, Lone Linke, and Eva Dunhem. You've baked so much over the years.

Let's go Drott Lodge Bakers!
Julie Olson and Laura Soerensson

STORAGE

Members of Drott Lodge during the week of September 16th, 2019 relocated all its stored items from a storage facility in Rockville, MD to a new storage facility on Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD. This relocation will result in a cost reduction of about \$1,900 per year. We installed a new metal shelf system to permit the storage of a number of plastic boxes and containers for items that we use or sell during our Bazaar. It will also be used to store a number of boxes with historical files about Drott Lodge. Christmas and Midsommar celebration related items that belong to American Scandinavian Association (ASA) are also stored at the new facility for which ASA compensates us.

ANYONE THAT CAN DONATE A LAPTOP COMPUTER FOR THE DROTT LODGE FINANCIAL SYSTEM?

As indicated above by our Treasurer, we need to change our financial bookkeeping system to a Windows based laptop. Our Treasurer only has MacBooks laptop, but no Windows laptop.

Question: Is there any Member that can donate a Windows laptop computer to be used for our new financial bookkeeping system?

DISTRICT PENNSYLVANIA #9 CONVENTION 2020

Our District Pennsylvania #9 of VASA Order of America will have its next years convention in Frederick, MD. There are three local lodges in this District, Drott Lodge being one, SVEA in Erie, PA, and Nobel Monitor in Cleveland, OH. Besides our District, there are 20 other districts in VASA. Our District has a convention every two years and the responsibility to organize the convention rotates between three local lodges. Next year 2020, it is the responsibility of Drott Lodge to organize and coordinate.

The convention is open to old and new delegates from the three lodges and to new participants. Drott Lodge being the biggest local lodge can have several delegates and participants. So we will encourage new participants from our Membership. More information will be provided about this over the next few months.

**STAY CONNECTED WITH DROTT LODGE
REGISTER YOUR ACCOUNT IN OUR MEMBERPLANET SYSTEM**

OR UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION HERE:

<https://mp.gg/qdg9t>

MemberPlanet will provide our Members with several great benefits some of which are:

- Secure Member Personal Access
- Member Newsletters
- Rapid Email Broadcast and Notices, including Text Messaging, when accepted
- Interactive and Searchable Member Directory
- Event Planning and Invitations
- Payments for Events and Activities
- Membership Dues Payments
- Member Surveys
- Discussion Groups and Forums
- Digital Member e-Cards
- Document Storage, like Newsletters, Bylaws, etc.
- Planning and Direct Communications with Event Volunteers
- Photo Album for the Member
- Email Campaigns for Reaching-Out to New Potential Members

If you have not already created an account in our MemberPlanet system, this gives you the opportunity to do it now. Please fill in your information to include your first and last name, your email address and a password of your choosing. If you already have an account you need only enter your email and your chosen password. If you have forgotten your password, no problems. You can easily follow the instructions to create your new password.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

ARTS CLUB OF WASHINGTON D.C. CELEBRATION OF OUR FORMER MEMBER RUTH BIRD

Paintings by late sister Ruth Meixner Bird will be shown during the month of October at the Arts Club of Washington, 2017 I Street, NW, Washington DC. Ruth and artist Susie Eisinger had been scheduled to mount a joint show but with Ruth's passing in late December this was not to be. Instead, Susie will open a show in the Spilsbuy Gallery noted as "In memoriam to Professor Ruth Meixner Bird." Some of Ruth's paintings have been collected for this exhibit, which opens on Friday, October 4, and runs through October 26. There is an opening reception from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on Friday. Gallery hours are 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday, and from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday. The Arts Club does not charge for its exhibitions but it would be courteous to RSVP on its website if you intend to attend the opening reception.

ASA PROGRAM – EXPLORING THE NORTH

Exploring the North

Monday, October 7, 2019 at 8pm

St. John's Church, Wisconsin Ave & Bradley Blvd., Chevy Chase, MD

Dr. Katya Uryupova, ASA's first Siberian born speaker, will share her experiences as an explorer, scientist, guide, and photographer. She has traveled and researched extensively in the Arctic and Antarctic regions since 2000, focusing on marine protected areas, climate change, and environmental monitoring. Dr. Uryupova received her PhD in marine biology from Moscow State University, and her MA at the University of Salford, UK. Her affiliations include the Smithsonian Institution, The Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty in Argentina, and the Hurtigruten tour Company in the Arctic regions.

ALLSANG I WASHINGTON

Sunday October 13th, 2019

5 - 9 p.m.

River Road Unitarian Church

6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817

We are all invited to come and enjoy an evening of Swedish community singing, entertainment, and fun & food with friends. This is an event organized and hosted by The Swedish Song Group under the leadership of Kerstin Hendrickson.

Eva Tjernebo from Nykoping, Sweden will lead the singing and share stories and folklore. Both the Swedish Song Group and the Washington's Spelmanslag will perform. Additional talent from the Washington, D.C. area will entertain.

The event is limited to 100 people. Ample free parking. Food will be served. Bring your own drinks - beer and wine is allowed.

Please respond by October 1st to Kerstin Hendrickson. \$30 per seat. Payment in advance is required.

Please see the attached Flyer

[ALLSANG IN WASHINGTON OCTOBER 13TH.pdf](#)

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Please send input for the next issue of the newsletter to Arne Dunhem at adunhem@gmail.com by October 17th.

VASA Drott Lodge 168
c/o St. James Episcopal Church
Potomac, MD 20854

[Add us to your address book](#)

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you prefer not to receive future emails from us | [Privacy Policy](#)

powered by **memberplanet**