

Vasa District, No. 9, Pennsylvania Newsletter With Latest News



**VASA DISTRICT NO. 9
PENNSYLVANIA
NEWSLETTER / JANUARY 2023**



DEAR DIRECT MEMBERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS!

Welcome to our new District #9 Email Newsletter. This is the first email Newsletter we have had. In addition, the District #9 has also just launched its new website.

Check out our new website by clicking here:

[Check out our new District #9 website](#)

We are all excited about this development. Our new website describes more about Vasa, our District #9 and our Local Lodges, about our history and our ongoing activities.

The website works very well on any smartphone besides any regular computer so you can access the website anyplace and any time.

Keep checking the website for updates and news about the District #9, its Local Lodges; Nobel-Monitor, Drott Lodge and Svea Lodge and their activities. Each local lodge also has a website that can give more detailed information about their Lodge. There are lots of Scandinavian things to check out on the web these days!

In addition, if you click and sign-up below, you will receive the regular District #9 Newsletter.

[Sign-up for the District #9 Newsletter](#)

WHAT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER?

The intent is to send this Newsletter by email regularly reflecting current or coming events or activities within the District or our Local Lodges; Nobel-Monitor, Drott Lodge and Svea Lodge. A summary of some key events or activities will be included in the Newsletter. It will include "buttons" that you can click on for signing-up for the various events or activities.

Our new website will also be continuously updated to show these events and activities, so make sure that you check out our website and the individual lodge websites regularly.

All current Direct Members, Board Members and others related to District #9 will automatically receive our email Newsletters, as long as you have provided a current email address.

OUR NEW MEMBER DATABASE SYSTEM WITH WILD APRICOT

The new software system that we are using for the new websites and this Newsletter is called Wild Apricot, see a description of it below. In addition we will also use Wild Apricot, as our new District #9 member database. As a starting point, we will include information we have about our Direct Members and Board Members; your name and email address into the Wild Apricot CONTACT data base system. The benefit of this is that we can very easily send out emails, like this Newsletter. However, to be included in the MEMBER data base system, you will need a user

name and password. If you need assistance getting your membership status organized, Pat will be happy to assign you a password, unique to you, and get you upgraded. (contact her: info@svea-erielodge.org) Being a MEMBER allows you to access the directory of members, Members Only information, and your profile. This system will also permit our Direct Members to easily pay their annual membership dues. (This feature is not yet set up, we will apprise you when this is available.)

WHAT IS WILD APRICOT?

Wild Apricot is web-based software that automates and simplifies the management of the membership of an association like our Lodge and its website.

Wild Apricot consists of several modules that work together:

- membership management
- website (CMS)
- event registration, both free as well as paid for
- online payments coming soon
- emails, e.g. Newsletters
- donations

The Wild Apricot account can be accessed from anywhere with a browser and an Internet connection. If there are volunteers and board members working from home or from different locations, they can all access the same data at the same time without updating and emailing membership lists back and forth.

Through our District #9's Wild Apricot website, the Direct Members and Board Member can access member-only pages, and perform self-service functions such as updating their membership profile.

NEXT DISTRICT EVENT

January 25, 2023 - District #9 Board Meeting via Zoom @ 6:00PM. We will be discussing:

- Our new initiative: Restart & Rebuild
- The new websites
- Grand Lodge Assessments due to Pat by January 31, 2023.
- Preliminary thoughts for the 2024 Convention

FYI - The District Convention will be held in 2024, historically scheduled in the Fall. We will keep you informed in plenty of time to attend. Cleveland's Nobel-Monitor Lodge is slated to host the Convention. If you've ever wanted to visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, see a Brown's game, or go to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, now is the time to start planning! All are welcome to attend, we are stronger together!