



VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT No. 9

Distrikt Tidningen

Fall Newsletter 2023

DEAR DIRECT MEMBERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND FRIENDS!

This seems to be the summer for travel! Arne and Eva Dunhem have been hiking through Spain, literally over mountains! Gunnell and Kenneth Hamilton have been in Sweden or several months. Svea's newest member, David Hills is returning soon from Sweden. One of our convention sessions might be a travel log of members' adventures!

Don't forget to check out our website; scroll down to the photos and description of Drott Member, Karin Weeden's experience exploring Sweden's National Parks last year. That experience was made possible because she applied and was awarded the Adult Scholarship sponsored by PA District #9. It's not too early to start thinking about what you could do with \$3,000 in scholarship money! On the website is also a tab to help explain the youth and adult scholarship opportunities. The Youth and Adult applications will be available soon.

Keep checking the website for updates and news about PA 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!

Check out our website by clicking here:

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

What's in the Summer newsletter?

- Mark Your Calendar
- News from the 3 Lodges
- The latest District Board Meeting
- Think Summer!

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TBA- Restart & ReEnergize, our District Working Group will meet via Zoom as soon as our abroad travelers come back home! We are tasked with coming up with ideas that the 3 Lodges could do together, retention of members strategies and recruiting new members. Plans are in the works for a District Program on Lucky Strike, the joint relationship between Sweden and the American soldiers during WWII.

October 4, 2023 - District Board Meeting via Zoom at 6:30PM.

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2024 - The District Convention 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!

NEWS FROM THE 3 LODGES

Drott #168 - Ride the Longship - Sea Raven on October 14, 2023 (rain date 10/21). The ship is an authentic reconstruction of a Viking-era vessel. Drott is also sponsoring a Genealogy Conference, Saturday, November 11, 2023 or a day of research at a virtual Swedish Genealogy Conference. Four presenters are all experts in the field of Swedish genealogy. Check out their website for more information.

Nobel-Monitor #130 - Members will celebrate Leif Erickson Day at Shooters on the Water in Cleveland, Ohio along with other Scandinavian clubs in their area. It is a lunch event on October 9th.

Svea #296 - Svea is learning about Swedish Death Cleaning - minus the Death part. Each member is asked to bring in some Swedish decor that they would like to swap/give to other members. It's a great way to refresh your home and give to other members who are just starting their collection of tomte! Any items not claimed or taken back home will be donated to a local thrift shop.

Our friends from Goteborg Lodge #452 in Sweden sent Svea a beautiful book entitled Gothenburg 400! It shares the history of the city that launched the majority of Swedish immigrants to the US.



UPDATE FROM THE 6-7-23 DISTRICT 9 BOARD MEETING

We had to postpone the September meeting but the first order of business will be to come up with a venue for our 2024 Convention that is accessible, yet cost effective. 3 sites are being investigated: Punderson State Park, Geneva On the Lake Conference Center, and Quail Hollow. The 2016 Convention was held at Punderson but the group felt that although it is cost effective, it was not very accessible, even with the elevator. Geneva will not give us a firm quote for our convention more than 11 months out so we have to wait until October to get a quote. No information is available yet for Quail Hollow, they are in the midst of a major renovation and are not open for business. There may be a special executive board meeting to visit the places.

Being in the Cleveland area, possible outside programs could include: wine tours, Abbapalozza, boat tours of Lake Erie, a trip to Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Since Wild Apricot has the capabilities to set up conventions, we are hoping to make the registration process available on line.

Svea has presented its updated by-laws to the District Board for approval. Rolf and Bruce will review them to make sure they align with the Grand Lodge Constitution and then the board members will review.

*Drott knows how to put
together a Smorgasbord!*



Ädelmod, Sanning och Enighet
Generosity, Truth and Unity