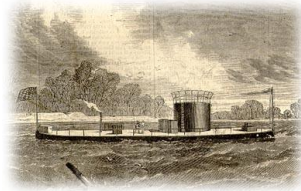


# Monitor Lodge #218

Sacramento, California

Meets at I.O.O.F. Hall, 1831 Howe Ave

<https://www.monitorlodgesacramento.org/>



## September (September) 2025

August was a warm month but that did not deter nearly 30 members and guests from enjoying each others company and we carried on with delightful conversations while consuming lots of Kräfter (crayfish) and other delicious food offerings. In addition to our hungry members we also had several prospective members and guests to share the repast, including Hans Fors a former member in the 1990s who spent a good chunk of the evening conversing in Swedish with Sara Huber sharing their thoughts on dancing opportunities in Sacramento.

We want to take a moment to acknowledge some of our busiest members who make all our gatherings enjoyable events: Larry Woodward & Will Hanley for not only serving as our bartenders throughout the year but also as Santa and his helper during the holidays, Dan Eriksson, Maria Sampras, DeeDee Dahlberg and others for set-up & clean-up for our meetings and Peggy Carlson for coordinating our delicious meals. Our meetings would not run smoothly without their help. We could not have a successful lodge without the on-going help of all our volunteers. **Tack så mycket** to everyone.

**Upcoming Monitor events.** We gather again on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> for an evening of sampling Smörgåstårta followed in October when we will enjoy Swedish tacos. September through December will find us meeting at the IOOF Hall as noted in the sidebar calendar.

**Annual Program book updates.** Please contact Brian Horsfield, Yvonne Magneheim and Chuck Johnson with any needed changes so we can update the Program Book, member database and newsletter mailing list. There is one update for September:

Page 7: Marianne Ek *new cell number*  
279-272-6466

### **2025** Calendar of events (dates subject to change)

September 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday -  
**Nominations** – 2026  
officers

October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday –  
**Swedish Taco Night**

November 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday –  
**Pie social (tentative)**-  
elections

December 6<sup>th</sup> – Saturday –  
**Julbord and Glögg party**

December 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday –  
**St. Lucia program**

### **2026** Calendar of events (dates subject to change)

January 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday –  
**Installation of officers**

February 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday – **Pea  
Soup & Pancakes**

March 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday - **Corned  
Beef & Cabbage**

April 11<sup>th</sup> – Monitor's **114<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary** luncheon+

May 9<sup>th</sup> – **Kraftskiva** at  
location TBD

June 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday –  
**Midsommar** at IOOF Hall

June 6<sup>th</sup> – Saturday – District  
**Sweden Day** – location TBD

**July** – no meeting

August 8<sup>th</sup> – Saturday –  
**Kraftskiva**

September 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday -  
**Nominations** – 2027  
officers

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**Did you know \_\_\_\_\_ about Monitor Lodge?** This occasional section features factoids about Monitor Lodge and VASA and this month we have a couple pictures from a quarter century ago (year 2000). The first picture includes current longtime members Don Carlson, Brigitta Ostlund, Lisa (neè Bleasdale) Rea and Jill Stckham while the second picture is also of longtime members enjoying some exercise at the annual Kräftskiva



### Monitor's Midsommar Melody-makers

(left to right) Tom Anderson, Don Carlson, Birgitta Ostlund, Birgitta Ellis, Lisa Bleasdale and Jill Stockham.



(Left) Eivor Pfannkuch leads husband Kurt, Jill Stockham and Michelle Kaufman in a ring dance.

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**Current financial report** (summary) as of August from our Financial Secretary and Treasurer. Despite a IOOF rent increase starting August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 we continue to be comfortably in the black.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Children's Club</u>	<u>Nål och Tråd</u>	<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Totals</u>
\$10,042.79	\$93.77	\$5,189.37	\$9,054.62	\$24,380.55

**A grattis på födelsedagen** to our birthday celebrants for **September**: Britt-Marie Andersson\*, Peggy Carlson\*, Sarah Cuthill, Mark Delle\*, Melody Friberg\*, Ginny Lee\*, Yvonne Magneheim\*, Arlie Veis\* and Joyce Willow\* (\* denotes member 75 years of age or older). And remember, this will be Arlie's 101<sup>st</sup> birthday!!!

**How good is your Swedish vocabulary?** If you want to brush up on your Swedish you have several options. We have Monitor's in-person/ZOOM Swedish language classes led by Will Hanley. In addition to the on-line tutorials utilized by some of Will's students at Innovative Languages (<https://www.innovativelanguage.com/>) you will find Swedish vocabulary and lessons in Nordstjernen (<http://www.nordstjernen.com/>) and in the Swedish edition of The Local (<https://www.thelocal.se/>). You can also get a language fix from bi-weekly podcasts at: <https://shows.acast.com/the-newbie-guide-to-sweden-podcast>.

Today's word of the day, **blunda**, is provided by the [January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019](#) edition of *The Local* with no direct English equivalent, but which is useful for everyday conversation.

*Blunda* means "to shut one's eyes", and can be used literally or figuratively. In the latter sense, you usually use it with the preposition *för*, for example: *det kan vara farligt att blunda för historien* (it can be dangerous to ignore history); *blunda inte för övergrepp!* (don't ignore assault!).

Old Norse had the word *blundra* with the same meaning, and the word probably shares an origin with the word *blind* (unable to see), found in Swedish, German and English among other northern European languages.

And *blunda* is still used in Icelandic, although there it has taken on the meaning "to doze": this is an example of how the definition of a word can shift over time, which often happens if there are other competing synonyms.

Swedish also has the related word *blund*, which refers to a sleep. You often hear it in the negated sense, as in *jag har knappt sovit en blund i natt* (I barely got a wink of sleep last night).

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Swedish speakers use the fictional name John Blund to refer to what English and German speakers know as the Sandman, a figure who sprinkles dust in your eyes to get you to doze off – hence the dust you may feel in your eyes the next morning.

### Example sentences:

*Det är nästan omöjligt att nysa utan att blunda.* It is almost impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

*Blunda och hoppa.* Close your eyes and jump.

**For the good of the order:** Our Julbord planning kickoff will take place in September and we encourage folks to starting thinking about volunteering to take on some of the duties of some of our longtime table captains. Don't worry, they will still be around to mentor as well as to enjoy the repast.



Editor: Chuck Johnson



In 1831, the Swedish Navy planted over 300,000 oak trees, planning to use them for shipbuilding 150 years later. However, with changes in shipbuilding materials, the trees were never harvested and remain standing to this day.

### [The Historian's Den](#)

In 1831, the Swedish Navy undertook an ambitious project to address the long-term need for shipbuilding materials by planting over 300,000 oak trees. This initiative was a visionary move, as oak timber was an essential material for constructing wooden warships at the time. The Navy's planners anticipated that the oaks would take well over a century to mature, ensuring a sustainable supply of high-quality wood for future naval vessels. The foresight of the plan was remarkable, demonstrating a commitment to resource management and the importance of preparing for generations to come. However, by the time these oak trees reached maturity in the 20th century, the landscape of naval engineering had

transformed dramatically. Wooden ships were no longer in demand, as iron and steel had become the dominant materials in ship construction. As a result, the carefully cultivated oak forest was never used for its original purpose. Today, the story serves as a fascinating example of long-term planning and how unforeseen technological advancements can reshape the course of history. The planted forest still exists, and it stands as a living legacy of Sweden's maritime heritage and an ecological testament to the vision of the past.