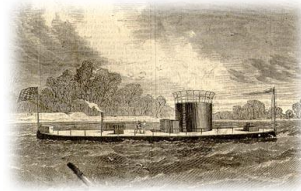


Monitor Lodge #218

Sacramento, California

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

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



November (November) 2025

Our October meeting was spent enjoying a new Swedish cultural tradition: Swedish tacos! Unfortunately October was also a sad month for Monitor in that Joyce Willow's husband Tom and Norris Anderson, who only joined us a year ago, both passed away. We will be draping the charter at our November meeting in memory of the loss of loved ones.

Upcoming Monitor events. We gather on Friday, November 7th for an evening enjoying FIKA, *uppsdansning* (Swedish polska dance) and fellowship. Our November meeting will be the last opportunity to nominate officer candidates for 2026. We also need to ramp up our planning activities for Julbord and St. Lucia in early December.

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 are no updates for November:

A grattis på födelsedagen to our birthday celebrants for **November**: Mike Carlson*, Susan Edelmayer*, Kathy Goldsberry*, Donna Niemoller*, Elizabeth Swenson-Miura, Loren Weatherly*, Larry Woodward and Susan Youngquist (* denotes member 75 years of age or older).

Did you know _____ about Monitor Lodge? This occasional section features factoids about Monitor Lodge and VASA. This month we have a few pictures of members enjoying our holiday festivities leading up to Christmas:

2025 Calendar of events

(dates subject to change)

November 7th – Friday –
FIKA- elections

December 6th – Saturday –
Julbord and Glögg party

December 12th – Friday –
St. Lucia program

2026 Calendar of events

(dates subject to change)

January 9th – Friday –
Installation of officers

February 6th – Friday – **Pea Soup & Pancakes**

March 6th – Friday - **Corned Beef & Cabbage**

April 11th – Monitor's **114th Anniversary** luncheon

April 24-26 – **District convention** location TBD

May 9th – **Kraftskiva** at location TBD

June 5th – Friday –
Midsommar at IOOF Hall

June 6th – Saturday – **District Sweden Day** – location TBD

July – no meeting

August 8th – Saturday –
Kraftskiva

September 4th – Friday –
Nominations – 2027 officers

November 6th – Friday –
FIKA- elections

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1988-11-12 DeeDee Dahlberg at holiday Smörgåsbord



1999-12 Christmas event - Maria Sampanis and daughter Athena Eriksson (6 months)



Julbord 2024 (photo by Sara Huber)

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Current financial report (summary) as of October from our Financial Secretary and Treasurer. We continue to be comfortably in the black but with the demise of the Scandinavian Festival we need to explore other opportunities to raise monies to support Monitor's activities and scholarships.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Children's Club</u>	<u>Nål och Tråd</u>	<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Totals</u>
\$9,324.01	\$93.77	\$5,189.37	\$9,054.62	\$23,661.77

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, **snölykta**, is provided by the [December 17th, 2018](#) edition of *The Local* is a word is just as beautiful as the object it describes. Here's the story of 'snölykta' or 'snow lantern'. The Swedish language can boast an extensive snowy vocabulary.

The word *snö* (snow) is related to the English equivalent, as well as to Norwegian *snø*, Danish *sne*, German *Schnee*, Dutch *sneeuw*, and many more words for "snow". They are all wintery descendents of the word **snaiwaz* in proto-Germanic, spoken around 2,500 years ago, which became *snjor* in Old Norse.

As well as being used as a noun on its own in Swedish (*titta på snön!* – look at the snow!) and as the verb *snöa* (*titta, det snöar!* – look, it's snowing!), it is also used to form dozens of compound nouns when you want to get specific about exactly what kind of the white stuff you're dealing with.

For example: *kramsnö* (snow that can be squished together to make snowballs, formed at 0C or slightly higher temperatures), *pudersnö* (powdery snow) and *nysnö* (fresh snow). And *snö-* is often used as a prefix to define snowy or snow-related objects, such as *snöväder* (snowy weather), *snöman/snögubbe* (snowman), and *snökaos* (snow chaos, or bad weather/traffic conditions due to heavy snow).

Snölykta is one of these compound words, and a very Swedish one too. The second part of the word, *lykta*, means "lamp" or "lantern" and is related to English "light".

A *snölykta* or Swedish snow lantern can be made when there's enough *kramsnö* to make several *snöbollar* (snowballs), but instead of using these as ammunition in a snowball fight,

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they are put to a more wholesome use. You can build a pyramid or tower shape out of the balls, and place a candle or tealight (or several, if your lantern is big enough) in the centre. This is a really popular winter activity for Swedish families so keep an eye out for *snölyktor* lighting the way.

Examples

Snälla mamma, jag vill bygga en snölykta! Please mum, I want to build a snow lantern

Jag ville bygga en snölykta men det fanns ingen kramsnö utan bara blötsnö I wanted to build a snow lantern but there was no squeeze-snow, only wet snow

For the good of the order: 1. A fascinating short documentary (about 3:30 minutes) talking about Sweden's change from driving on the left to driving on the right:

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/2546209319081799>

2. *Uppdansning* (Swedish polska dance) is part of the intangible cultural heritage of Sweden. It is recognized by UNESCO. Although it is sometimes associated with central Sweden, it attracts folk dancers from all over Sweden and other countries, in Europe, North America, and Japan. Dancers go to Sweden every summer to test in front of judges to earn medals. Three Monitor Lodge members and friends (Sandi, John and Virginia) have traveled to Sweden in recent years to train for and test at *Uppdansning* (dancing up).



Editor: Chuck Johnson

Two Longships Are Not Especially Equal

Published in 2020

