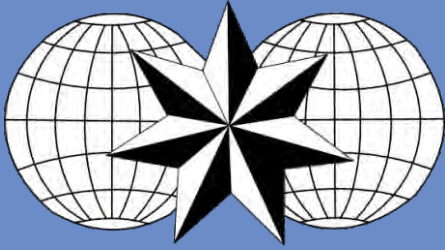


Desember 2023



Newsletter

- brings Druids together



Dear IGLD Brothers and Sisters

*Merry Christmas
and a happy new year*

*May the Christmas season fill your home with joy,
your heart with love and your life with laughter.*

*Take the time to celebrate your desires,
values and affections with your loved ones.*

Lets hope all the best for 2024!

Unity - Peace - Concord

Kay Hagby

Kay Hagby
IGLD Grand President

Geir-Kåre Jordheim

Geir-Kåre Jordheim
IGLD Grand Secretary

Per Arne Meijgren

Per Arne Meijgren
IGLD Grand Treasure



30th Druid World Congress, Stavanger Norway June 2024

Friday 14/6 -2024

Registration for visiting Brothers

18.30 Welcome aperitif

19.30 Get-together dinner buffet

Saturday 15/6-2024

12.00 Lunch for all participants

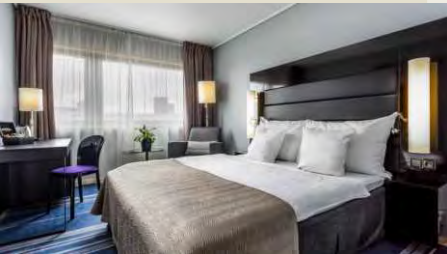
13.30 Ritual meeting 1.part
Initiation new IGLD members

15.30 Coffee break

16.00 Meeting 2.part
Presentation of new decisions
Elections
Installations

19.00 Aperitif

19.30 Galla dinner





Druids of Germany – more than 150 years celebrated.



Earlier this year in the German magazine “Druidenstern” the celebration of the first 150 year of Druidism in Germany was nicely covered with pictures and highlights. The editors of IGLD News think this was a milestone and therefore we like to bring some of this to all druids as a reminder of our long, lasting brotherhood and our World Wide connection.

As we know it was in 1781 the Druid Order was founded in London. The political, religious and social conditions were so incomplete and unsatisfactory that idealistic minded men saw in this in their own living conditions. The basis for this was the Age of Enlightenment. Today our work and way of thinking is still committed to their ideals: freedom of thought, humility, tolerance and respect for human dignity. To stand up for this is the goal and the way for our unification. We still strive for moral and ethical ideals and want to realize this in everyday life through human actions. Druids of today stand for fraternity, charity, justice and a friendly life of all people.

This was the main frame of the 150

annual celebration in Berlin with guests from Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and California. The message just as up to time as ever before and even more important than ever to bring forward and to be put into practise by daily action of all Druids.

More than 120 Brothers and Sisters celebrated in Berlin during a worthy ritual meeting followed by a fantastic evening with lovely food, live band, dance and edifying conversations into the small hours. many new friendships were established, many speeches were given and all in all a very worthy celebration in the spirit of Druidism. We Druids also know how to celebrate and great thanks to all the Brothers involved in the preparations and implementation. All the well-planned work gave all participants an unforgettable celebration.





True friends – thanks to the Druids



Often when you are getting older your personal network gets smaller. Specially after retirement your network does not expand as quickly as before, maybe members of your family and friends are not all with us anymore. Of course, neighbours and people we know does pop in and give a helping hand but the need for true friends and family can become an uncovered longing for some of us.

Druids do have something in common but maybe we have to “speak one's mind plainly” and create new contacts over borders. Many of us has maybe already found some of our true friends within the Druid Order but as we learn – there are always room for one or two more. We often say



that The Druids are one big family and maybe like in most big families there are some members we get closer connected to than others. We can also ourselves make an influence on this that will establish life lasting friendship – and also over the borders. This is what happened in Sweden some time ago – and still last, which should be as an inspiration for others.

During the Swedish National Grand Meeting in 2013 two Druid brothers got in contact and has ever since developed this not only for themselves but for their wives as well. Of course, the two Bothers had met during several occasions before so they knew each other by name but nothing more. Then, during the Swedish National Grand Meeting in Lund/Malmø in 2013 both the wives was present as well. Br. Lars Grefmar was a bit busy during this meeting and later that evening his wife cold tell him that she had been spending some time with a very nice couple from far up in the north of Sweden, almost where Santa lives 12. The Wikstens had promised to stop by in Malmø before going back to the north by air.

This happened and over a nice drink they suddenly found a lot of common interests and also that they shared the same kind of good and including conversation regarding many aspects in life. The two wives also soon found the same interest in food, music and (of course) shopping. They also shared the same interest for Spain and holidaying. The two couple decided to meet again quite soon as another occasion within the Druids was not far away.

After this first meeting there has been a number of common visits both ways. The Grefmars has been up north and explored winter in Boden and summer days in Degernäs. Boat trips, water scooter trips, and also trips to Kukkolaforsen In Finland. And the Wiksens has been south exploring the lovely southern part of Sweden, like Smygehuk, Ale Stones and Österlen – and not to forget the beaches of Skåne. The two couples has also been to both Denmark, Germany and France.

A first contact has now lasted for more than 10 years, which probably was not foreseen when it all started. True friends and true friendship can come out of the unexpected, but we all have to open up when opportunity knocks. Be open minded and do not think that even if your traditional network is not as expanding as before, there opportunities crumbled away. “Age is just a number and not a hurdle” say ROÄ/Hd Lars Grefmar



159th Annual convention



Our 159th Annual convention this year was held in Santa Rosa at the Santa Rosa Grove hall from June 23-25th. We were rewarded with excellent weather and a tremendous turn out of twelve (12) of our fourteen (14) Groves sending delegates. This is the largest turn out of Groves, by far, in many past years.

There was a large amount of business conducted at convention dealing with the

Grand Grove fiscal year, the scholarship 501 (C)3 program, insurance, yearly budget, mortuary plan, hospitalization plan and per capita tax discussion; to name a few items. All this will be further explained in the "Journal of Proceedings" booklet that will be distributed to the secretaries of each Grove. Be sure to attend your Grove meeting to converse with your delegate(s) and look over the booklet for any questions you may have. The first night of convention was the Grand Ball where we enjoyed a group dinner and a jazz band.

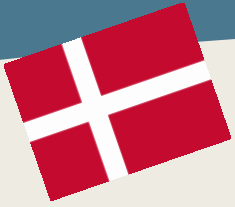
Forrest Bryson, Noble Grand Arch (back row, second from right) with Grand and Past Grand Officers at the completion of Convention. We held an IGLD meeting on the first day of convention in the morning. IGLD meetings are continuing to be held quarterly. Next meeting planned for Sunday January 7th.

The Druidic Scholarship Awards Program. Continues to give out twenty \$1500 awards to deserving students each spring. We want to thank all the generous people who have made that possible over the years. With the Awards Program's new status as a 501(c)(3) fully tax deductible corporation it is our hope that you will continue to support our efforts to provide assistance to these young people with financial help to follow their dreams.

Grand Reception. The Brothers of Frederick Sieg #94 hosted the Grand Reception to honor their Brother, Noble Grand Arch Forrest Bryson, and the leaders of the other branches of the Order, Grand Chief Knight John Rainwater, and Grand Arch Druidess Tracy Stephens. Jr Past Noble Grand Bill Beretta was included in the list of honorees for his service during the term just completed.



The weather was ideal for an outdoor picnic event with plenty of shade to sit and listen to music, converse with friends and enjoy a cold beverage. Attendees were welcomed with a band playing an eclectic mix of oldie, rock, and country music. Meal time came with barbecued chicken or beef, beans, macaroni salad, and cornbread. The order still slowly returns to a past normal before Covid, as not all Brothers have returned. Some of the Groves have show a better return and continue to keep up recruitment efforts.



I.G.L.D. – meeting in Vejle



On Saturday October 28, 2023, a meeting of I.G.L.D. (International Grand Lodge of Druidism) was announced at Logen Camelot's premises in Vejle.

On this Saturday in October, 55 brothers from Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Germany, and Denmark had gone to Vejle to participate in this meeting, where no less than 14 recipients knocked on the door to be accepted into this international degree.

The officials, led by President Jan Moosmand, made a dignified and solemn admission of the 14 recipients, whom three had made the trip from Iceland to Vejle to be admitted to I.G.L.D.

After the solemn admission, Grand Treasurer Per-Arne Meijgren gave a status to I.G.L.D. and mentioned, among other things, that the 30th World Congress would be held in Stavanger, Norway in

2024.

Vice President of Denmark René Corvinius reported for Denmark in which he mentioned that there were 248 brothers in Denmark, but work was being done on PR initiatives to get an influx of brothers. Several of the lodges in Denmark had made fine donations to various organizations.

The ideal speech of the night should have been conducted by Rigs Old Ærk Harry Hansen, Logen Sirius, Br. Harry had unfortunately fallen into disrepair, instead his speech was read by Ring Brother Kevin Refvik, Lodge Sirius.

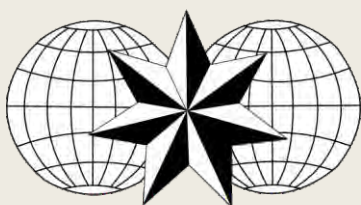
The speech dealt with the travails of the external world, which can also take its place in our lodges, and each time to irreparable damage and what disappointments and doubts in relation





to our fellow brethren it can give. After the conclusion of the lodge meeting, the brethren gathered for a fraternal meal in the after-lodge. Here the brothers spent a few enjoyable hours talking to the new I.G.L.D. brothers, along with a menu

consisting of the obligatory red and white Herrings and with Kale with brown/white potatoes and ham/Sausages. It was a memorable day for everyone.



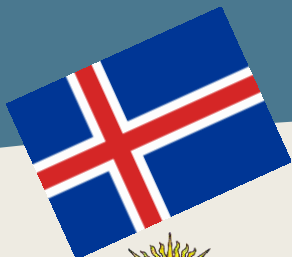
IGLD

Mailadress:

igldnews@druid.no

IGLD Newsletter editors would like druid news from all over the world. It's important that you inform us about what's happening in your

Lodge and your country.



Hin Islenska Druidregla SGDR



After several years of preparation, it was time to found a new Riksstorlodje in Iceland. There is a lot of good and time-consuming work behind this historic event, and brothers from Germany, Australia, USA, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland would witness this

On Thursday 25 February it was time for the foundation of a new National Grand Lodge in Iceland. Work with our own Riksstorlodje in Iceland started in 2018. After a significant effort by our Icelandic brothers and the Norwegian Druid Order were they finally arrived. The meeting was ritually opened at 14.00 in the premises of the Freemasons' lodge, by Storlosje Isafold at SEE Gêtar Árnason. On the meeting was attended by 170 brothers from Germany, Australia, the USA, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland, in addition to the Grandmasters from Icelandic and the Norwegian Masonic Order. On the agenda was the dissolution of Storlosje Isafold and establishment of the new Riksstorloje in Iceland. RSEE Geir-Kåre Jordheim with his officials entered Lunden and announced that the Norwegian Riksstoremetsmenni had invented upon application from Grand Lodges Isafold and lodges Janus, Fjöltnir, Geysir and Gaia, about the creation of a new Grand National Order at Iceland. RSEE Geir-Kåre Jordheim stated that it

was a big one pleasure to be able to fulfill this wish. This would benefit and strengthen the Druidic work. He then requested the Icelandic officials in Storlojelsafold to leave their seats. The retired officials were solemnly awarded their ex-regalia and the Norwegian officials subsequently took over the offices in Lunden.

Grand Lodge Isafold's Druidic flame became extinguished and the new one that had been brought from Norway was lit. RSEE then asked that the meeting be opened as a National Assembly. It was voted on the Law of Order and committee and new members were chosen.

The following brothers were elected as officials: RSEE Johann Bogason, RSOE Grêtar Árnason, RSME Hjörtur Hans Kolsöe, RSBibl Ari Grêtar Björnsson, RSSkr Eiríkur S. Aðalsteinsson, RSSkm Stefân Bragason, RSCM Áki Ingvarsson, RSV Vilhjálmur Karl Karlsson.



Carved Maori Shield

CARVED MAORI SHIELD A handsome carved shield, the work of Henare Toka, of Taiporohenui, is to be seen in Mr. A. E. Wainwright's window just now. The shield is to be donated by the Maori brethren of the Star of Egmont Lodge of Druids, Patea to the Grand Lodge of England for ritual competition. The centre of the shield is a symbolic representation of Matangirei, the house of the great tupuna (ancestor) Turi, of the Aotea Canoe.

The design of the carving is known as Una Unahi, or the scales of a sea monster. This is the fish Te Parata, into whose greedy throat the Aotea Canoe nearly sank during her historic voyage. Una unahi typifies the dangers of the world. With plain border inset with pawa shells is Matangirei; above the house the design Mata.kupenga, shows the meshes of the fishing net. Herein lies the meaning of the shield. Though the dangers of this world surround us, those who come within the meshes of the Druids' net find safety in the house built by the men of the olden time

A carved representation of an ancient Druid completes the shield. Lightly indicated on his shoulders is a Maori cloak such as a chief would wear."

Patea Mail, 2 May 1938

PERSONAL - Mr and Mrs F. Ramsbottom leave on Saturday for Wellington, en route for England. Mr

Ramsbottom is taking with him a carved shield from the Maori brethren of the Star of Egmont Lodge of Druids, Patea, to the Grand Lodge of England, for ritual competition.

PATEA Wanganui Chronicle, Volume 80, Issue 102, 3 May 1938

ENGLAND AND NEW ZEALAND

MAORI SHIELD APPRECIATED - Members of the local Lodge of Druids will be glad to learn that the handsome carved shield which was presented by the Maori members of the Lodge to the Grand Lodge of England, was duly presented to the Grand Lodge delegates at the International conference held at Hull recently. In conversation with a representative of the "Press" Mr. Ramsbottom stated that the gift was greatly appreciated not only by members of the Grand Lodge, but also by the delegates who were present from all parts of the world. The gift was regarded by all present as a gesture of goodwill from the Maoris to the Motherland. The shield was immediately insured and placed for safe custody in a vault in London in company with the documents and other articles of value belonging to the Grand Lodge. The shield will be displayed at each annual conference in future, and also at each quinquennial International Conference of the Order.