

BRIEF REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ÖSTANBY FAMILY IN UPPSALA 5/9 1992

Karin Ronge, ~~chairman~~ chairman of the meeting, heartily welcomed all attenders. Oration to the memory of deceased members since last meeting.

The annual report was delivered, the accounts were rendered and approved as well as the auditors' report.

It was decided that the members' fee will be unchanged. The number of paying members has gone down during the last years, which can be a problem for the economy of the association. Different measures were discussed to improve the morals to pay, for example by reminders from contact persons. However this is a sensible step and the opinions were divided about it. This must be something for the new board to discuss.

The charter of Allan and Evelyn Johnsons donation-fund were read and approved. A fund board was set up, consisting of Ulf Rudhe, Harald Jahn and Harald Berner. Birgitta Sjöström was elected as new president after Karin Ronge, who had retired. Members of the board are now: Harald Berner, Torkel Bergman Olson, Helena Lindberg and Susanne Rehn (all re-elected) and Bengt Ohlsson (newly-elected). Next family meeting will be held in Nora. Staffan Eker and Kerstin Eneström agreed to be part of a festival committee.

A rainy Saturday in September we made for Uppsala and Vaksala parish hall to take part in the Östanby family gathering. The association would be 40, which had to <sup>be</sup> celebrated!

We were well received in the "Old house", which is a part of the parish yard. Usually the church runs a nursery school there, which the children soon were delighted to discover.

After well tasting sandwiches and pastry it was time for a guided tour in Vaksala church. Our guide was Hans Sjöström, previous priest in the parish. The church, which is ~~made~~ laid in granite is descended in its oldest parts from the twelfth century. The district around, with among other things a grave-field from the Stone Age, has entirely an old historical connection.

After an instructive and fascinating information about the church we could listen to the family choir, whose voices sounded beautiful in the church. Among other things they sang "Give me a day" and "In this delightful summertime", a melody from Dalecarlia. At every family meeting it is a great pleasure to listen to the choir.

But the practical details with sleeping-places must be cleared off. Some of us stayed with relatives, others at different hotels and Fyrishovs camping.

Then it was time for the annual meeting in the "Old house". The usual procedures issues were discussed. The retiring president Karin Ronge and the secreteray Christer Eker were thanked for their services. The meeting also thanked Allan Johnson and his family for their donation to the association.

After photographing outside it was time for dinner. Five long tables were laid, one for the many children. For dinner we had different kinds of delicious hot snacks and icecream for dessert. Speeches, family songs and barbershop songs gave us pleasure during the evening. Old family memories were told by Birgitta Jahn and Gun Jörler. Allan Johnson told us interesting memories from his life. The evening ended with dancing.

Next day, Sunday, was devoted to a visit to the home of the artist Bror Hjorth. His house, which is now a museum, is a very beautiful house in wood, from 1943. It was used both as studio and home for him. He lived most part of his life in Uppsala. In the museum we could see examples both of his sculptures and paintings. As an appreciated end of the meeting we were invited for lunch to relatives living in Uppsala. It was a nice and relaxing way to be able to talk about old and new memories, to get to know near relatives a little bit better and also to get to know more about the family and its history.

Åsa Berner