

The international Odd Fellow meeting in Copenhagen, September 9 - 11, 2022

In order to overcome the local limitations that so easily arise when we operate at home, we in southern Sweden have taken the initiative for an organized regular international lodge collaboration, where we meet every two years in different places in Europe to learn from and be inspired by each other.

It all started in Malmö 2014 (B123 S:t Knut) and continued in Hildesheim 2016 (Rolandloge), Helsinki 2018 (B24 Kuninkaaportti) and now due to the covid pandemic, a little delayed in September 2022 in Copenhagen (B11 Columbus).

It is a big business to organize these meetings. Therefore, these are planned every two years and now it was Columbus's turn and it became an important international meeting. We met on Friday evening and parted on Sunday afternoon.

A palace from 1755 for Odd Fellow

Being able to be in and experience a lodge meeting in the Odd Fellow Palæet is a fantastic historical Odd Fellow experience. The palace that was built near Amalienborg on royal directive in 1755 is owned and run by our Danish brothers and sisters.



B 11 Columbus ÖM Björn Heimann at town hall



Copenhagen from the seaside

These fantastic premises give our togetherness both party atmosphere and strength. In addition, we visited Amalienborg and finished with a Sunday lunch meeting in Copenhagen City Hall's party rooms. We brothers, sisters and friends of the Order came to represent 9 countries and 33 lodges.

We were able to learn from each other during 3 days of togetherness and increase our understanding of the human consequences of the Ukrainian war, mediated by our Polish members who are committed neighbors of the war victims.

Through the efforts of Finnish brothers, we were able to collect funds for the Odd Fellows in Cuba. The Odd Fellows there are strong but very hard hit now by the boycott and covid crisis. Exstorsire Javier Sánchez Magadán reported, as a New Year's greeting from Cuba, that the funds collected were able to enable the necessary spare parts so that the Grand Lodge's car can continue to function, something that is necessary as the transportation system in Cuba is now greatly reduced.

Our international meetings can thus, in addition to developing ourselves, contribute to help around the world. More can be read at ioofint.com and regarding Cuba at ioofal.com (can be read with translate). The next meeting is in Breda Holland in 2024.

*Per-Åke Boström B123
St. Knut, Roger Wilhelmsson
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Review of history Lars Stridsberg B 172 Fritiof Nilsson, Erkki Savioja B 24 Kuninkaaportti och Per-Åke Boström B 123 S:t Knut