

JOTTINGS

A publication of the Danish American Archive and Library Sept. - Dec. 2020

MASTER OF ARTS PRACTICUM + DAAL'S PRIMARY MATERIALS + THE INTERNET = ONLINE EXHIBIT

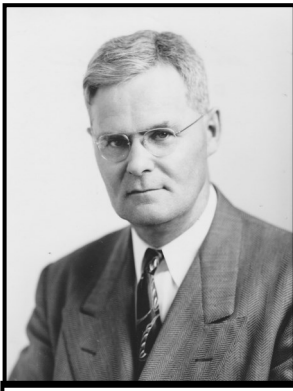
Researchers and scholars are always on the hunt for primary materials—original documents that contain first-hand information about a topic. This is exactly the type of information available at the DAAL, and that fact resulted in a wonderful and interesting online exhibit about a 1942 tour by a troupe of student actors from Dana College who performed selected scenes from the drama *Ordet (The Word)* by Kaj Munk in the original Danish.

Danish-born Catrine Kyster Giery was originally planning to come to Blair to work at the DAAL for the practicum part of her Master of Arts Program at American Public University. But as with so many other plans in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic made it impossible. That's when she began her practicum remotely with help from Executive Director Jill Hennick.

"Having access to the material online enabled me to do my practicum, which was the final class of my master's degree in public history," Catrine explained. "What was required for the class was 160 hours of on-site work. That requirement was waived due to the pandemic, but we were still required to work closely with an institution in the field and work on a hands-on project. The primary source material that I was able to access from the DAAL functioned in two ways – it provided information that helped me understand and put into context the 1942 Dana theater troupe tour and it also provided pictures and documents to put online that would help make the story and website/exhibit interesting for the viewers. We were able to promote the online exhibit in both the U.S. and Denmark, and to date, the website/exhibit has had 584 visitors."



Catrine Kyster Giery



Professor Paul Nyholm

The experience was a positive one for the DAAL as well, according to Jill Hennick, who described Catrine as a self-starter and very focused. "She came up with the dates, proposal, and responsibilities that she had already worked through with Tim Jensen (her internship supervisor). I played a more active part in this internship, because I was the one physically located at the archive, while Catrine and Tim were at their homes."

Jill went on to say that because of Catrine's interest in WWII and the fact that Tim and Sharon Jensen had recently immersed themselves in processing the Paul Nyholm collection*, they suggested the tour as a subject. Catrine immediately thought it would work well as an online exhibit.

To facilitate the research, the DAAL gave Catrine a link and password to access our internal scanned document database. Therefore, she was able to work in her own section of the computer program and copy documents that she wanted to work with.

"By checking our library catalog, Tim and Sharon were able to point me to folders in the Nyholm and other collections that would supplement the story," Jill said. "I did scans of the entire folders, so Catrine could page through a large volume of material. Then, when she found a photo she wanted to use in the website, it was scanned individually at a higher resolution that gave more detail.

"After the first draft of her online exhibit was complete, Tim, Sharon and I were able to review it, ask questions and make suggestions remotely. The final version exceeded our expectations. We were delighted to see the history the DAAL works so hard to preserve come alive!"

About her overall experience working with the DAAL remotely and the primary materials she was able to access, Catrine had this to say:

"In general, I LOVE the fact that so much historical material has been digitized, by the DAAL and other archives and museums, so that no matter where I am in the world, I can access primary source material that I'm interested in. On a regular basis, I use material from both U.S. and Danish archives. I have used such primary source material for the DAAL online exhibition as well as for student research papers and online projects and for research and inspiration for historical fiction stories. Primary source material is unique in the way that it provides insight into how things were – what people thought at the time – and I also find it very inspirational to see old photos and read old newspapers, letters, diaries, leaflets, etc. I hope the DAAL as well as other archives will continue to digitize lots of their material."

You can access Spreading "The Word" online at dana1942theword.org. ■

**Jottings* readers may recall the article in the September to December 2018 issue that detailed the efforts of Tim and Sharon Jensen in processing the massive amount of material contained in the Paul Nyholm collection.

FROM THE DANA ROOM

The Story of *Hail Dana* by Ann (Harms) George

This article is based on one in the Fall 2005 Dana Review, the college's alumni magazine, by the same writer.

"A need has long been felt by the students and friends of Dana for a college song, one in which is embodied the ideals of our college and which could be used at all of our activities. . . ." *Hermes*, Feb. 1926

With this introduction the campus newspaper announced a competition for an official school song. The prize, awarded by the student government, was \$10. The following April (the deadline was April 15), the *Hermes* announced that Max [Magnus] Christensen had written the winning entry.

Christensen, a student from Moorhead, Iowa, wrote his three stanzas to be sung to the melody of "America the Beautiful." Then approximately a year later, in March 1927, the *Hermes* reported that Prof. Waldo B. Nielsen – who directed the Dana Choir and was a member of the music faculty – "had written a splendid melody" for Christensen's "expressive stanzas."

Alumni were introduced to the words and music with a handout at Homecoming that spring (Homecomings at the time were held during the second semester), and an article summarizing Homecoming weekend activities, in the same March 1927 issue of the *Hermes*, reported that "All joined enthusiastically in singing the school song." This is what they sang:

*While yet our land was wilderness
And sturdy pilgrim reared
With brawny arm his lowly home,
A flower divine appeared:
O hail, fair Dana, hail to thee!
Our song to thee we sing;
May always we thy name revere
While truth to us be dear.*

*To all who would thy truths embrace,
Thy message true impart;
Be thou their guiding star throughout,
To manhood mold each heart.
O hail, fair Dana, hail to thee!
Thy children guide aright;
May they in faith and hope and love
Praise Him who dwells above.*

*And when we launch our little barks
On Destiny's deep sea,
As ivies to thy walls do cling,
Our hearts will cling to thee!
O hail, fair Dana, hail to thee!
Though time thy walls may claim,
Thy spirit live, another throng
Rise up and sing our song.*

But there's more to the story of *Hail Dana*.

Campus visitors have admired it. William Christensen (not related to Magnus) records the comments of one of them in his *Saga of the Tower*, the 75-year history of Dana and Trinity Seminary. He notes that in 1947 a visiting lecturer, Henry Goddard Leach, former editor of *Forum* and *Century* magazines and president emeritus of The American-Scandinavian Foundation, "commented on the beauty of the Dana song." Summarizing the visitor's remarks, Christensen writes that Leach considered *Hail Dana* "one of the finest college songs he had heard and that it captured the very spirit of Dana."

In 1948, the alumni news section in *The Alumni Quarterly*, a predecessor of the *Dana Review*, acquired a new name, one that was used in all future *Reviews*: "Destiny's Deep Sea," from the second line of the last stanza.

The college recognized Christensen and Nielsen in 1963 for their *Hail Dana* and gave them Distinguished Service Awards. (Christensen lived in Denver, Colorado, and Nielsen in Denmark.)

In 1982, when Alumni Memorial Auditorium, which was built in 1928, was razed to make way for the Madsen Fine Arts Center, a copy of the 1927 Homecoming song sheet handout was found in the cornerstone. The *Dana Review*, which reported the find, included Magnus Christensen's recollection of the competition.



*Composers of Hail Dana, Max Christensen
and Waldo B. Nielsen.*

(Continued Page 10)



Danish American
Archive & Library

"We never met a document we didn't like."

Sandra Wigdahl, Editor and Writer
Jill Hennick, Executive Director
John W. Nielsen, Executive Director Emeritus
1738 Washington Street, Blair, Nebraska 68008
(402) 426-7910 www.danishamericanarchive.com
info@danishamericanarchive.com
Hours: 8am-3 pm, Monday-Friday

VOLUNTEERS: 765 hours by 23 volunteers from Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska.

VISITORS: 24 visitors from Alaska, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska.

USERS: 55 users from Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, Denmark, Germany and email.

ACQUISITIONS

Materials:

The Archive could not continue to document the history of Danish Americans without these wonderful materials including complete family collections, photos, books, periodicals, music and obituaries. We appreciate your financial donations to support the processing and storage of your materials.

Erna Berthelsen (Albert Lea, MN)
 Dale & Laurel Christiansen (Dannebrog, NE)
 Poul & Susan Emsbo (Lakewood, CO)
 Chris Gehringer (Omaha, NE)
 Esther Grindberg (Circle Pines, MN)
 Karen Hansen (Omaha, NE)
 Marcia Hennick (Greer, SC)
 Michael & Jill Hennick (Blair, NE)
 Susan & Charles Hettinger (Westminster, CO)
 Roger & Linda Howland (Omaha, NE)
 Nancy Hulstrom (Broomfield, CO)
 Carol Kellogg (St Louis, MO)
 Marty & Linda Koefoed (Missouri Valley, IA)
 William Kruse (Columbia, MO)
 Joan Krogh (Blair, NE)
 Nancy B. Larsen (Milwaukee, WI)
 Phil & Florence Larsen (Omaha, NE)
 Michael Lowe (Logan, IA)
 Linda Miller (Henderson, NV)
 Liv Paulson Norderhaug (Chanhassen, MN)
 Donald B. Pedersen (Pea Ridge, AR)
 Judi Pedersen (Blair, NE)
 Dixie & Duane Petersen (Wichita, KS)
 Palma & Larry Plume (Evergreen, CO)
 Eleanor Schou (Albert Lea, MN)
 Charles Smith (Perry Hall, MD)
 Sandy Sonderup (Blair, NE)
 Larrie Stone (Ames, IA)
 Martha Stone (Providence, RI)

Tom Dein
 Lynda & Randy Truhlsen (Blair, NE)
 Wendy Gras
 Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
 Clifford K. and A. Veola Hansen
 James & Annette Brown (Mishicot, WI)
 Dean C. Henricksen
 Kathryn Henricksen (Parkville, MO)
 Elaine Bondo Hoyer
 Robert & Martha Christiansen (Scottsdale, AZ)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Ellen Marthedal Jamison
 Joan Jamison (San Rafael, CA)
 Irving Jensen, Jr.
 Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Dody Johnson
 Sherry Forrest (Omaha, NE)
 Everett Johnson
 Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
 Bonnie Jensen (Eagan, MN)
 Duane & Dixie Petersen (Wichita, KS)
 Arliss Stockdale (Ames, IA)
 Larrie Stone (Ames, IA)
 Calleta Koefoed
 Michael & Jill Hennick (Blair, NE)
 Bee Krantz
 Agneta Gaines (Omaha, NE)
 Bob Krogh
 Pat Bentsen (Blair, NE)
 Julie & Charlie Rohlfing (Blair, NE)
 Carl Mackie
 Lonnie Mackie (Blair, NE)
 Dr. C.C. & Esther Madsen
 Ken & Bonnie Jensen (Albert Lea, MN)
 Lowell & Sue Madsen (Fresno, CA)
 Laura Madsen
 Lowell & Sue Madsen (Fresno, CA)
 Margaret Madsen
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Robert & Hope Perdue (Greenville, MI)
 Maren Marthedal
 Joan Jamison (San Rafael, CA)
 Eileen Jorgensen Mattox
 Don Mattox (Sheboygan, WI)
 Karen Alexis Wagner McQueen
 Cal & Sandy Brummund (Elkhorn, NE)
 Darlene Nielsen
 Peter & Barbara Mathiasen (BC, Canada)
 Roger Olson
 Jack & Lois Beal (Bothell, WA)
 Julie & Charlie Rohlfing (Blair, NE)
 Phil Pagel
 Agneta Gaines (Omaha, NE)
 Lola Rahlfs
 Sandy Wunder (Eaton, CO)
 Brent Schou
 John & Anne Nielsen Hibbing (Lincoln, NE)
 Eleanor Koester (Mason City, IA)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Eleanor Schou (Albert Lea, MN)

John & Deb Schou Wood (Bloomington, MN)
 Bernice Sorensen
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Hans Sorensen
 Linda Sorensen Grandage Charitable fund
 Arlene & James Youmans
 Joyce Johnsen (Huntington Beach, CA)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen, Blair, NE)

Honoraria

Fran & Al Anderson's 50th Anniversary
 Julie & Charlie Rohlfing (Blair, NE)
 Bill & Betsy Anderson
 Lorraine Jensen (Bloomington, MN)
 Dr. Myrv Christopherson
 Arvin Hernes (Blair, NE)
 DAAL volunteers
 Maryann Lund (Mukilteo, WA)
 Family
 Arvin Hernes (Blair, NE)
 Sherry & Chuck Forrest's 50th Anniversary
 Julie & Charlie Rohlfing (Blair, NE)
 Michael Hennick
 Liv Paulson Norderhaug (Chanhassen, MN)
 Lorraine "Toots" Jensen
 Bill & Betsy Anderson (Blair, NE)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen
 Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
 Dorothy Olson
 Jack & Lois Beal (Bothell, WA)
 Joan Sorensen
 Mike & Karen Brodie (Richardson, TX)
 Janet & Charles Kahn (Gulf Breeze, FL)
 Duncan & Kathy Meldrum (Mertztown, PA)
 Sarah Meldrum (Mertztown, PA)

National Foundation for Danish America's "Hike for Danish America" pledges:

Joanna Christensen (Castle Rock, CO)
 Danish Sisterhood Lodge #21 (Littleton, CO)
Share Omaha/Giving Tuesday designated for digitizing:
 Addie Curley (Omaha, NE)
 Barbara & Dennis Garrett (Blair, NE)
 Jamie & Gayla Jensen (Eden Prairie, MN)
 Ric & Kathy Rocca (Spokane, WA)
Blair Area Community Foundation/Washington County Gives:
 Lori Bayne (Omaha, NE)
 Debbie Katt (Herman, NE)
 Gary & Karen Riddle (Blair, NE)
 Washington Co Bank (Blair, NE)

General Fund:

All donations are placed in the General Fund unless otherwise specified. Those who give through the 50/100 Club are listed in each issue of Jottings.
 Ernest & Marilyn Abariotes (Blair, NE)
 Dennis Andersen (Atlanta, GA)
 Fran & Allan Anderson (Omaha, NE)
 Lee & Norma Barney (Oregon City, OR)
 Jean Barry (Kearney, NE)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Memorials

Lois Petersen Andersen
 Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
 Ann George (Blair, NE)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Marian Peterson Anderson
 Suellen Hudson (Pensacola, FL)
 Ruth Larsen Randall Benson
 Chris Gehringer (Omaha, NE)
 John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)
 Liv Paulson Norderhaug (Chanhassen, MN)
 Eleanor Schou (Albert Lea, MN)
 Erika Bondo
 Mark H. Bondo (Freehold, NJ)
 Anne Christopherson
 Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

FINANCIAL REPORT (Cont.)

Dennis Barten (Manning, IA)
Gordon Batten (Camp Douglas, WI)
Lori & Kevin Bayne (Omaha, NE)
Susan Bennerotte (Maryville, MO)
Erna Berthelsen (Albert Lea, MN)
Egon & Diana Bodtger (Salem, OR)
Carol Bogacz (La Vista, NE)
Larry & Lois Bornemeier (Waukesha, WI)
Judy Brehm (Blair, NE)
Frida Brewer (Lampasas, TX)
Ronald & Mary Bro (Cedar Falls, IA)
Janet Campbell (Omaha, NE)
Lois Carter (Blanchard, LA)
Borge M. Christensen (Rochester, MN)
Vaughn Christensen (Blair, NE)
Dale & Laurel Christiansen (Dannebrog, NE)
John & Birgitte Christianson (Minneapolis, MN)
Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
Evonne Clay (Northfield, MN)
Bob & Joan Coffey (Menomonee Falls, WI)
Danish Brotherhood Lodge 35 (Homewood, IL)
Nancy Davis (Carroll, IA)
Anne-Marie Douglas (Chicago, IL)
Chris & Karen Eastlund (Raritan, NJ)
Anne Erling (Albany, NY)
Maria Erling (Gettysburg, PA)
Lyle & Dorothy Feisel (Chestertown, MD)
Phyllis Finger (Northfield, MN)
Dennis & Barbara Garrett (Blair, NE)
Bruce Garver (Omaha, NE)
Joyce & Charles Gauck (Plymouth, MN)
Chris Gehringer (Omaha, NE)
Barbara George (Indianapolis, IN)
Esther Grindberg (Circle Pines, MN)
Anne-Mette & Louis Hansell (Paoli, PA)
Charles E. Hansen (Mt Prospect, IL)
Erik & Greta Hansen (Racine, WI)
Joe H. Hansen (Des Moines, IA)
Kenneth Hansen (Blair, NE)
Larry & Sandra Hansen (Fremont, NE)
Robert D. Hansen (Minnetonka, MN)
Stuart Hansen & Erica Eddy (Mt Pleasant, WI)
Tom & Jane Hansen (Charlottesville, VA)
Kristie Hansen-Mendez (Chicago, IL)
Peter Haslund (Carpinteria, CA)
Janice Heath (Hardin, MT)
Alan Hanson & Mary Henriksen (Omaha, NE)
Roger Hanson (Cedar Falls, IA)
Kevin & SusanAnn Harrison (Portage, MI)
Marilyn Hawes (Fort Calhoun, NE)
James Heiser (McMinnville, OR)
David & Polly Hendee Charitable Fund of Omaha
Community Foundation
Michael & Jill Hennick (Blair, NE)
Ralf & Inga Hoifeldt (Urbandale, IA)
Ron & Rikki Hulsebus (Omaha, NE)
Richard Husk (Holis, NH)
Jim & Marge Iversen (Decorah, IA)
Shirley Iversen (Rochester, NY)
Dorothy Jahger (Baytown, TX)
Arnold Jensen (Charlottesville, VA)
Esther Jensen (Santa Maria, CA)
Frederik & Dawn Jensen (Minnetonka, MN)
Tim & Sharon Jensen (Blair, NE)
Lynda Jeppesen (Oak Park, IL)
Paul & Marilyn Jersild (Norfolk, VA)
David Johnson (Council Bluffs, IA)

Kenneth & Muriel Johnson
(Highlands Ranch, CO)
Kevin & Kari Jo Johnson (Omaha, NE)
Niel Johnson (Independence, MO)
Paul & Liz Johnson (Loveland, CO)
Don & Joyce Jorgensen (Ripon, WI)
Dorothy Jorgensen (Bemidji, MN)
Jim & Linda Jorgensen (Blair, NE)
Jon & Lona Jorgensen (Neeenah, WI)
Lis Jorgensen (Burnsville, MN)
Richard & Delores Jorgensen (Poy Sippi, WI)
Jean Kaldahl (Port Townsend, WA)
Nancy Kay (Omaha, NE)
Gladys Kempe (Tustin, CA)
Ramona Klaasmeyer (Omaha, NE)
Richard & JoAnn Kleber (Northfield, MN)
William Krause (Columbia, MO)
Ruth Krishnan (Broomfield, CO)
Joan Krogh (Blair, NE)
Martin O. Kuhr, Jr.
Charles Lang (Orlando, FL)
Lynn & Mark Langenfeld (Monticello, WI)
Keith & Lori Larsen (Blair, NE)
Liz Larsen (Cupertino, CA)
Lorene Larsen (Omaha, NE)
Marilyn Larsen (Underwood, IA)
Bruce Rønnow Lauritzen (Omaha, NE)
Bill & Toni Lawson (Green Bay, WI)
Larry & Susan Legore (Algona, IA)
Ginny Leppart (Eden Prairie, MN)
Nancy Lindblad (Blair, NE)
Michael Lowe (Logan, IA)
Edgar Madsen (Princeton, NJ)
Frank Madsen (Santa Maria, CA)
Gary & Diane Madsen (Omaha, NE)
Ruth McMaster (Omaha, NE)
Linda Karen Miller (Henderson, NV)
Patricia Miller (Crawfordsville, IA)
Ruth & Dale Mortensen (North Olmsted, OH)
Jorn & Bodil Muller (Hillsboro, OR)
William C. Nelsen (St Peter, MN)
Dr. & Mrs. Donald Nelson (Cedar Rapids, IA)
Kaj Neve (New York, NY)
Leon & Alice Neve (St Paul, MN)
Loyd Neve (Omaha, NE)
Howard Nicholson (Marquette, MI)
Cheryl Nielsen (Harlan, IA)
David Nielsen (Winfield, KS)
Lisa Nielsen (Fairfield, PA)
Stanley Nielsen (Monona, WI)
W. Clayton Nielsen estate
Folmer & Vera Nyby (Michigan City, IN)
Gunnar Nyholm (Valley, NE)
Kathy Oftedal (Waseca, MN)
Alis Olsen (Roseville, MN)
Jim & Sue Olsen (Blair, NE)
Bob Olsen (Richmond, TX)
Phil Panum (Englewood, CO)
Beth Paulsen-Olmstead (Westbrook, ME)
Donald B. Pedersen (Pea Ridge, AR)
Duane Pedersen (Ames, NE)
Duane & Dixie Petersen (Wichita, KS)
Eric Petersen (Mission, KS)
Jerry L. Petersen (Lincoln, NE)
Noel & Ruby Petersen (Omaha, NE)
Collyn & Phyllis Peterson (Overland Park, KS)
Joanne Peterson (Oshkosh, WI)
John Peterson (Pottstown, PA)

Larry & Palma Plume (Evergreen, CO)
Carl L.M. & Nancy Rasmussen (Sugar Grove, IL)
Nita & Martin Richards (Omaha, NE)
Charles & Marilyn Roun (Verona, WI)
Sandy Sonderup (Blair, NE)
Jan Sorensen (Columbus, OH)
Jane Sorensen & David Marchant (Fairfax, VT)
Paul & Marie Sorensen (DeKalb, IL)
Martha Staby (Loveland, CO)
Carl Steffensen (Houston, TX)
Arliss Stockdale (Ames, IA)
Cathy & Lyle Stone (Parkville, MO)
Martha Stone (Providence, RI)
Arlene Stork (Fremont, NE)
Starla & William Sweda (Selma, TX)
Ellen Thain (Stoughton, WI)
Wayne & Naomi Theye (Winona, MN)
Paul Thisted (Evergreen, CO)
Charlotte Travis (San Antonio, TX)
Arlen & Asta Twedt (Ankeny, IA)
Marion & William Vierow (Saco, ME)
Barbara Ward (San Diego, CA)
Carol & Robert Watson (Overland Park, KS)

Endowment:

JOHN T. BECK AND VIRGINIA (LIPPINCOTT)
BECK FUND by
John Beck (Colorado Springs, CO)
Barbara Meduna (Monument, CO)
Eric Beck (Twentynine Palms, CA)
DELORIS HANSEN BENGTONSON FUND by
Thomas Bengtson (Rock Island, IL)
GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND by
Schwab Charitable Fund by
Keith & Paula Anderson
Fritz Hansen (Wichita, KS)
Richard & Delores Jorgensen (Poy Sippi, WI)

2020 Thrivent Choice/YourCause Gifts:

Thomas Bengtson (Rock Island, IL)
Alice Hanson (Stoughton, WI)
Janice Heath (Hardin, MT)
Alvina Hjortsvang (Omaha, NE)
Paul & Liz Johnson (Loveland, CO)
Linda Kastrup (Blair, NE)
Kevin Knitt (Stevens Point, WI)
Lee Anne Lack (Montrose, MN)
Jeanette Larson (Pipestone, MN)
Jerry & Shirley Lincoln (Lincoln, CA)
Norman Madsen (Monroe, IA)
James Ruden (Littleton, CO)

50/100 Club:

Members of the 50/100 Club pledge to give at least \$50 per month toward our annual operating budget. Our goal is to have at least 100 donors give in this way. Members sustain the DAAL by giving a minimum of \$600 per year. Those at the Founder's Level give at least \$2,000 per year. All members of the 50/100 Club receive one donation acknowledgement for tax purposes in January reflecting a yearly total of all their donations. These donations are part of the General Fund.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Cont.)

50/100 FOUNDER LEVEL

Luther & Doris Kloth (Wauwatosa, WI)
Phil & Florence Larsen (Blair, NE)
John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)

50/100 GENERAL

Erna Berthelsen (Albert Lea, MN)
Mark & Erika* Bondo (Freehold, NJ)
Becky Bryant (West Des Moines, IA)
Borge M. Christensen (Rochester, MN)
Myrv & Anne* Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
Arlene & Neil Grover (Staples, MN)
Fritz Hansen (Wichita, KS)
Roger Hanson (Cedar Falls, IA)
Michael & Jill Hennick (Blair, NE)
Elaine Hoyer* (Blair, NE)
Tim & Sharon Jensen (Blair, NE)
Dody Johnson* (in our hearts)
Julianne Johnson & Judy Pollock*
(Columbus, OH)
Chuck & Joyce Jorgensen (Blair, NE)
Gene* & Nancy Lindblad (Blair, NE)
Barbara Meduna (Monument, CO)
Vordyn Nelson (Luther, MI)

John Mark & Dawn Nielsen (Blair, NE)
Lisa Nielsen (Fairfield, PA)
Donald Pedersen (Pea Ridge, AR)
Jay Planalp (Frederick, MD)
Palma & Larry Plume (Evergreen, CO)
Scott & Colleen Rasmussen (Omaha, NE)
Sandy Sonderup (Blair, NE)
Joan Sorensen (Richardson, TX)
Agnete Temali (Arden Hills, MN)
Nick Temali (Mahtomedi, MN)
John & Deb Schou Wood (Bloomington, MN)
Sandra Wunder (Eaton, CO)

Legacy Builders:

These donors have named DAAL in their estates (* indicates deceased). If you are not on this list but should be, please contact Jill Hennick at 402-426-7910.

Erna Berthelsen
Judy Brehm
Myrv & Anne* Christopherson
Bernhard* & Marilyn* Erling
Kathryn (Olsen) & Milbern Goetz

Lois Girtz Halley*
Roger J. Hanson
Michael and Jill Hennick
Arnold & Marianne* Jensen
Russell P.* and Esther A. Jensen
Tim & Sharon Jensen
Ada Jeppesen*
Julianne Johnson and Judy Pollock*
Oscar* & Dody* Johnson
Paul & Liz Johnson
Lorene Larsen
Phil & Florence Larsen
Gene* & Nancy Lindblad
Gary & Diane Madsen
George Madsen
Ronald D. Johnson* and Bodil Strom Muller
John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen
LeVern* & Marilyn* Nielsen
W. Clayton Nielsen*
Larry & Palma Plume
Joan Sorensen
Deb Schou Wood ■

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

\$10,000 and over

Borge M. Christensen, Rochester, MN
The estate of Lois Girtz Halley
The estate of Dody Johnson

\$2,500 - \$9,999

The children of John T. Beck &
Virginia (Lippincott) Beck
Benevity Community Impact Fund by
Stephanie Adams
Thomas Bengtson, Rock Island, IL
Erna Berthelsen, Albert Lea, MN
Mark Bondo, Freehold, NJ
Myrvin Christopherson, Decorah, IA
Frederick J. Hansen, Wichita, KS
Michael & Jill Hennick, Blair, NE
Shirley Jacobsen (Clever, MO)
Tim & Sharon Jensen, Blair, NE
Don & Joyce Jorgensen, Ripon, WI
John W. & Elizabeth Nielsen, Blair, NE
Joan Sorensen, Richardson, TX

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Ann Bansen, Yamhill, OR
Karen & Mike Brodie, Richardson, TX
Chris Gehringer, Omaha, NE
The Grandage Family Fund of Schwab Charitable
Julie Johnson, Columbus, OH
Richard & Delores Jorgensen, Poy Sippi, WI
Charles & Janet Kahn, Gulf Breeze, FL
Luther & Doris Kloth, Wauwatosa, WI
Philip & Florence Larsen, Blair, NE
Nancy Lindblad, Blair, NE
Edgar Madsen, Princeton, NJ
Gary & Diane Madsen, Omaha, NE
Lowell & Sue Madsen, Fresno, CA
Lisa Nielsen, Fairfield, PA
Beth Paulsen-Olmstead, Westbrook, ME
Larry & Palma Plume, Evergreen, CO
Sandy Sonderup, Blair, NE

Nick Temali, Mahtomedi, MN
Thrivent Choice
Sandra & LeRoy Wigdahl, Blair, NE

\$500 - \$999

Lois Andersen, Sierra Vista, AZ
Zahrt Family Fund of Schwab Charitable
by Keith & Paula Anderson
Anonymous
Becky & Phil Bryant, West Des Moines, IA
Danish Sisterhood Dagmar Lodge 4, Chicago, IL
Arlene & Neil Grover, Staples, MN
Roger Hanson, Cedar Falls, IA
Chuck & Joyce Jorgensen, Blair, NE
Bill & Toni Lawson, Green Bay, WI
Maryann Lund, Mukilteo, WA
Barb Meduna, Monument, CO
Kathy & Duncan Meldrum, Mertztown, PA
Linda Karen Miller, Henderson, NV
Vordyn Nelson, Luther, MI
John Mark & Dawn Nielsen, Blair, NE
The estate of W. Clayton Nielsen
Donald B. Pedersen, Pea Ridge, AR
Jerry L. Petersen, Lincoln, NE
Joanne Petersen, Oshkosh, WI
Jay Planalp, Frederick, MD
Scott & Colleen Rasmussen, Omaha, NE
Eleanor Schou, Albert Lea, MN
Agnete Temali, Arden Hills, MN
Deb Schou Wood, Bloomington, MN
Sandra Wunder, Eaton, CO

\$250 - \$499

Allan & Fran Anderson, Omaha, NE
Bill & Betsy Anderson, Blair, NE
Blair Area Community Foundation
Carol Bogacz, La Vista, NE
Frida Brewer, Lampasas, TX
Glen Christoffersen, Pleasanton, CA
Danish Brotherhood Lodge #35, Homewood, IL

Sherry & Charles Forrest, Omaha, NE
Stuart Hansen & Erica Eddy, Mount Pleasant, WI
Arvin Hernes, Blair, NE
Elaine Hoyer, Blair, NE
Shirley Iversen, Rochester, NY
Bonnie Jensen, Egan, MN
Ken & Bonnie Jensen, Albert Lea, MN
Joyce Johnsen, Huntington Beach, CA
Ray Johnsen, Pittsboro, NC
Paul & Liz Johnson, Loveland, CO
Jim & Linda Jorgensen, Blair, NE
Richard & Pat Jorgensen, Blair, NE
Jean Kaldahl, Port Townsend, WA
Liz Larsen, Cupertino, CA
Bruce Rønnow Lauritzen, Omaha, NE
Frank Madsen, Santa Maria, CA
Roger & Marilyn Nichols, Tucson, AZ
David Nielsen, Winfield, KS
Jim & Sue Olsen, Blair, NE
Jens & Eileen Simonsen, Oakdale, NE

\$100-\$249

Dennis Andersen, Atlanta, GA
Sara Auman, Columbus, OH
Lee & Norma Barney, Oregon City, OR
Jean Barry, Kearney, NE
Dennis Barten, Manning, IA
Gordon Batten, Camp Douglas, WI
Lori & Kevin Bayne, Omaha, NE
Jack & Lois Beal, Bothell, WA
Patricia Bentsen, Blair, NE
Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center,
Lawrence, KS
Egon & Diana Bodtker, Salem, OR
Curtis & Robin Boeck, Omaha, NE
Ronald & Mary Bro. Cedar Falls, IA
James & Annette Brown, Mishicot, WI
Janet Campbell, Omaha, NE
Lois Carter, Blanchard, LA
Vaughn Christensen, Blair, NE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 (Cont.)

Robert & Martha Christiansen, Scottsdale, AZ
 Bob & Joan Coffey, Menomonee Falls, WI
 Mary Cowling, Bethlehem, PA
 Danish Sisterhood Lodge #21, Denver, CO
 Nancy Davis, Carroll, IA
 Anne & Don Eppley, Omaha, NE
 Agneta Gaines, Omaha, NE
 Dennis & Barbara Garrett, Blair, NE
 Joyce & Charles Gauck, Plymouth, MN
 Jane Geddes, Cheyenne, WY
 Ann George, Blair, NE
 Lori Gerking, Nebraska City, NE
 Catrine Giery, Myrtle Beach, SC
 Charles E. Hansen, Mt. Prospect, IL
 Joe H. Hansen, Des Moines, IA
 Larry & Sandra Hansen, Fremont, NE
 Tom & Jane Hansen, Charlottesville, VA
 Kristie Hansen-Mendez, Chicago, IL
 Peter Haslund, Carpinteria, CA
 Janice Heath, Hardin, MT
 The David & Polly Hendee Fund of
 the Omaha Community Foundation
 Kevin & Jeana Hernes, Arlington, NE
 John & Anne Nielsen Hibbing, Lincoln, NE
 Ralf & Inga Hoifeldt, Urbandale, IA
 Suellen Hudson, Pensacola, FL
 Ron & Rikki Hulsebus, Omaha, NE
 Richard Husk, Holis, NH
 Jim Iversen, Decorah, IA
 Joan Jamison, San Rafael, CA
 Arnold Jensen, Charlottesville, VA
 Esther Jensen, Santa Maria, CA
 Frederik & Dawn Jensen, Minnetonka, MN
 Jane Jensen, Plainview, NE
 John Jensen, Miami, FL
 Lorraine Jensen, Bloomington, MN
 Lynda Jeppesen, Oak Park, IL
 Anna Johnson, South Bend, IN
 Kenneth & Muriel Johnson, Highlands Ranch, CO
 Kevin & Kari Jo Johnson, Omaha, NE
 Niel Johnson, Independence, MO
 Alice M. Jorgensen, Ferndale, MI
 Jon & Lona Jorgensen, Neenah, WI
 Lis Jorgensen, Burnsville, MN
 Debbie Katt, Herman, NE
 Richard & JoAnn Kleber, Northfield, MN
 Burton Knudsen, Wahoo, NE
 William Krause, Columbia, MO
 Ruth Krishnan, Broomfield, CO
 Joan Krogh, Blair, NE
 Martin Kuhr, Blair, NE
 Carolyn Kundel, Roland, IA
 David & Margaret Kundel, Letts, IA
 Lee Anne & Eugene Lack, Montrose, MN
 Keith & Lori Larsen, Blair, NE
 Lorene Larsen, Omaha, NE
 Marilyn Larsen, Underwood, IA
 Peter & Barbara Mathiasen, Surrey, BC
 Sarah Meldrum, Mertztown, PA
 Patricia Miller, Crawfordsville, IA
 Dr. & Mrs. Donald Nelson, Cedar Rapids, IA
 Leon & Alice Neve, St. Paul, MN
 Elliot Nielsen, Minden, NE
 Ron & Kathie Nielsen, Maplewood, MN
 Stanley Nielsen, Monona, WI
 Folmer & Vera Nyby, Michigan City, IN

Myrna & Dwayne Olsen, Prior Lake, MN
 Robert A. Olsen, Richmond, TX
 Philip Panum, Englewood, CO
 Ivan & Pat Paulsen, Walker, MN
 Duane & Dixie Petersen, Wichita, KS
 Julie Petersen, Lincoln, NE
 Noel & Ruby Petersen, Omaha, NE
 Collyn & Phyllis Peterson, Overland Park, KS
 John E. Peterson, Pottstown, PA
 Pounds Printing, Blair, NE
 Carol Prussa, Kearney, NE
 Ann Marie & Sigrid Rasmussen, Junction City, OR
 Carl L.M & Nancy Rasmussen, Sugar Grove, IL
 Donna Rector, Norfolk, NE
 Thomas & Karen Rietz, Iowa City, IA
 Charlie & Julie Rohlfing, Blair, NE
 Greg Schou, Albert Lea, MN
 Jan Sorensen, Columbus, OH
 Paul & Marie Sorensen, DeKalb, IL
 Helen Sorenson & Joe Villafane, San Antonio, TX
 Barbara Staab, Lecanto, FL
 Carl Steffensen, Houston, TX
 Arliss Stockdale, Ames, IA
 Larrie Stone, Ames, IA
 Lyle & Cathy Stone, Parkville, MO
 Martha Stone, Providence, RI
 James & Denise Sulhoff, Avoca, IA
 Carol Svendsen, Denver, CO
 Starla Sweda, Selma, TX
 Paul Thisted, Evergreen, CO
 Charlotte Travis, San Antonio, TX
 Lynda & Randy Truhlsen, Blair, NE
 Arlen & Asta Twedt, Ankeny, IA
 Barbara K. Ward, San Diego, CA
 Washington County Bank, Blair, NE
 Carol & Robert Watson, Overland Park, KS
 Kathy Zwanziger, Columbus, OH

\$50-\$99

Marilyn & Greek Abariotes, Blair, NE
 Robert & Sonia Albers, Roseville, MN
 Susan Allen, Missouri Valley, IA
 Dean & Penny Becker, Hartford, IA
 Marcia Bergmeyer, DeWitt, NE
 Ginny Blood, Burnsville, MN
 Judy Brehm, Blair, NE
 Dale & Laurel Christiansen, Dannebrog, NE
 John & Brigitte Christianson, Minneapolis, MN
 Anita Cooper, Houston, TX
 Janice Daniell, San Diego, CA
 Ronald & Karen Decker, Lakeland, FL
 Gwen & Jerry Dobson, Knoxville, TN
 Fred & Lois Donaldson, Vancouver, WA
 Anne-Marie Douglas, Chicago, IL
 Anne Erling, Albany, NY
 Maria Erling, Gettysburg, PA
 Lyle & Dorothy Feisel, Chestertown, MD
 Phyllis Finger, Northfield, MN
 Esther Grindberg, Circle Pines, MN
 Mark & Caryl Grorud, Wilton, CT
 Erik & Greta Hansen, Racine, WI
 Kevin & SusanAnn Harrison, Portage, MI
 M. Mariann Hayes, Bettendorf, IA
 Kathryn Henricksen, Parkville, MO
 Niel Henriksen, online
 Curt Hougen, Blair, NE

Philip & Karen Huber, Colby, WI
 Del & Trudy Hutton, Blair, NE
 Jamie & Gayla Jensen, Eden Prairie, MN
 Paul & Marilyn Jersild, Norfolk, VA
 Dave Johnson, Council Bluffs, IA
 Dorothy Jorgensen, Bemidji, MN
 Eugene & Beverly Kai, Pender, NE
 Gladys Kempe, Tustin, CA
 Ramona Klaasmeyer, Omaha, NE
 Dale Lemon, Blair, NE
 Ginny Leppart, Eden Prairie, MN
 Stanley & Janice Lillich, Madison, WI
 Sandra Lim, Omaha, NE
 Roger Lorsch, Blair, NE
 Lonnie K. Mackie, Blair, NE
 Don Mattox, Sheboygan, WI
 Deb McWhirter, Allison, IA
 Dana & Shirley Messerschmidt, Blair, NE
 Michael & Deborah Miller, Blair, NE
 Robert & Kathy Miller, Lincoln, NE
 Ruth & Dale Mortensen, North Olmsted, OH
 Jorn & Bodil Muller, Hillsboro, OR
 William C. Nelsen, St. Peter, MN
 Peggy & Steven Nelson, Coralville, IA
 Roger & Donna Nelson, Blair, NE
 Kaj Neve, New York, NY
 Loyd Neve, Omaha, NE
 Cheryl Nielsen, Harlan, IA
 Betty Norbeck, Iowa City, IA
 Dick & Jill Norenberg, Fremont, NE
 Gunnar Nyholm, Valley, NE
 Alis Olsen, Roseville, MN
 Dorothy Olson, Blair, NE
 Ted & Susan Paintin, Omaha, NE
 Duane Pedersen, Ames, NE
 Glenn Pedersen, Omaha, NE
 Robert & Hope Perdue, Greenville, MI
 Jane Petersen, Omaha, NE
 James & Sidney Rames, Omaha, NE
 Thomas Richardson, Fond du Lac, WI
 Roger & Joan Rietz, Cedar Falls, IA
 The Moses & Emily Margritt Rodriguez Fund of
 Schwab Charitable
 Carrie Roquet, online
 Jill Griffee Ross, Whitefish Bay, WI
 Charles & Marilyn Roun, Verona, WI
 Bob & Judy Schmoll, Greenville, PA
 Erling & Dorothy Schultz, Casa Grande, AZ
 Jane Sorensen & David Marchant, Fairfax, VT
 Martha Staby, Loveland, CO
 Robert Storms, Omaha, NE
 Ellen Thain, Stoughton, WI
 Wayne & Naomi Theye, Winona, MN
 Marion Vierow, Saco ME
 Bruce & Catherine Wilson, Iowa City, IA

\$49 and Under

AmazonSmile
 Glen & Carleen Andersen, Blair, NE
 Stacy Arehart, Manhattan, KS
 Betsy Auman, online
 Dennis Ausdemore, Persia, IA
 James Ausdemore, Persia, IA
 Bonita Bakker, Middleton, WI
 Gayle Barkhouse, Yuba City, CA
 Mary Barkley, Blair, NE

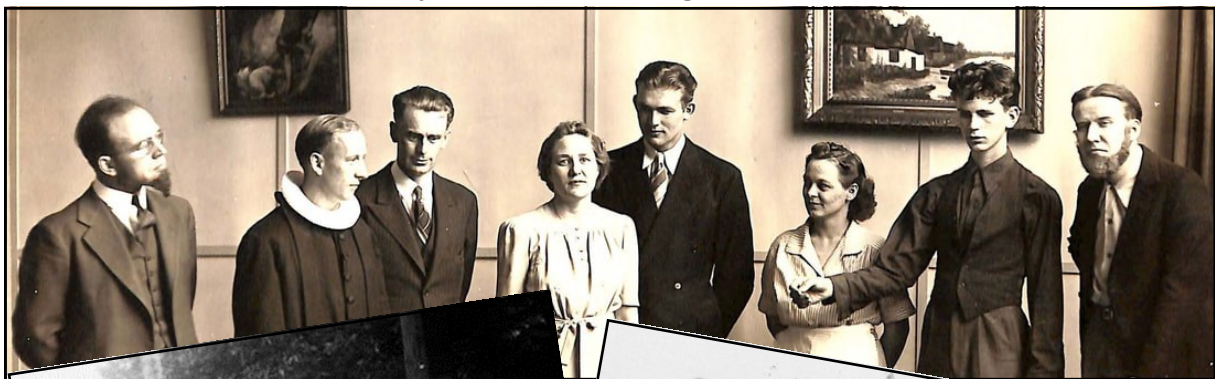
ANNUAL REPORT 2019 (Cont.)

Cheryl Baron, Omaha, NE
 Curt & Vicki Barr, Blair, NE
 Susan Bennerotte, Maryville, MO
 Donald Beran, Fremont, NE
 Larry & Lois Bornemeier, Waukesha, WI
 Richard & Rochelle Brenner, Iowa City, IA
 Karla Broman, Blair, NE
 Cal & Sandy Brummund, Elkhorn, NE
 Steve & Connie Buller, Blair, NE
 Jesse & Wanda Burkholder, Denver, IA
 Jeff & Kerri Christensen, Schuyler, NE
 Joanna Christensen, Castle Rock, CO
 Evonne Clay, Northfield, MN
 Kathy & Shirlee Collier, Omaha, NE
 Hattie Conradson, Fort Calhoun, NE
 Addie Curley, Omaha, NE
 Jean Cutsworth, Cedar Falls, IA
 Daniel & Paulette Dellovechio, Omaha, NE
 Gloria Drake, Omaha, NE
 Chris & Karen Eastlund, Raritan, NJ
 Dorothy Farthing, Colorado Springs, CO
 Sandy & Jim Fink, Sioux Falls, SD
 John & Lynette Fischer, Ellsworth, IA
 Nancy Gardner, Blair, NE
 Bruce Garver, Omaha, NE
 Barbara George, Indianapolis, IN
 Al Girtz, Mankato, MN
 Steve Godwin, Medford, OR
 Cynthia Gunderson, Elgin, IL
 Louis & Anne Mette Hansell, Paoli, PA
 Joanne Hansen, online
 Karen Hansen, Omaha, NE
 Kenneth Hansen, Blair, NE
 Mary Ann Hansen, Blacksburg, VA
 Robert D. Hansen, Minnetonka, MN
 Ronald & Sharon Hanson, Coralville, IA
 Cynthia Hart, Perry, KS
 Marilyn Hawes, Fort Calhoun, NE

Thomas & Audrey Hedrington, St Louis Park, MN
 Duey & Tracy Heffelfinger, Blair, NE
 James Heiser, McMinnville, OR
 Dennis & Angie Hemminger, Blair, NE
 Scott & Ruth Henneman, Omaha, NE
 Mark Hennick, Kansas City, MO
 Lynda Hennigsen, La Vista, NE
 Mary Henriksen & Alan Hanson, Omaha, NE
 Thomas & Marcia Herson, Omaha, NE
 Charles & Susan Hettinger, Westminster, CO
 Eloise Hiemke, Blair, NE
 Beverly & Thomas Hornig, Omaha, NE
 Martin & Nancy Hornig, Omaha, NE
 Roger & Linda Howland, Omaha, NE
 Paul & Jean Hundtoft, Blair, NE
 Dorothy Jahger, Baytown, TX
 David & Pamela Jensen, Blair, NE
 Donna Jensen, Blair, NE
 Clark & June Jenson, Blair, NE
 Marjorie Johnson, Blair, NE
 Nancy Kay, Omaha, NE
 Lois Kemble, Lincoln, NE
 Joyce King, Clinton, IA
 Gary & Kay Kinkel, Shakopee, MN
 Eleanor Koester, Mason City, IA
 Charles Lang, Orlando, FL
 Lynn & Mark Langenfeld, Monticello, WI
 Brad & Marsha Larson, Sioux Center, IA
 Larry & Susan Legore, Algona, IA
 Jerry & Shirley Lincoln, Lincoln, CA
 Carl & Diane Lorenzen, Blair, NE
 Michael Lowe, Logan, IA
 Richard & Roseanne Lubbert, Bellevue, NE
 Mark Lund, Farragut, IA
 George Madsen, Omaha, NE
 Mary & Riccardo Marchio, Omaha, NE
 Mary & Bernie Matthies, Omaha, NE
 Ruth McMaster, Omaha, NE

Ann McPhillips, Omaha, NE
 Mary Miller, Blair, NE
 Betty & Arno Neben, Papillion, NE
 Howard Nicholson, Marquette, MI
 Marilyn Nielsen, Sheffield, AL
 Mark & Susan Nielsen, Sioux City, IA
 Liv Paulson Norderhaug, Chanhassen, MN
 Kathy Oftedahl, Waseca, MN
 Lyn Pahls, Omaha, NE
 Mimi Payne, St James, MN
 Linda Pedersen, Omaha, NE
 Eric Petersen, Mission, KS
 Lynn Petersen, Omaha, NE
 Roger Petersen, Blair, NE
 Mic & Susie Pinguoch, Blair, NE
 Geordee Grable Pollock, Clarks Summit, PA
 Robert & Darlene Rademacher, Lincoln, NE
 Patricia Rahn, Omaha, NE
 Katherine Rhea, Fremont, NE
 Nita & Martin Richards, Omaha, NE
 Gary & Karen Riddle, Blair, NE
 Kristin & Kevin Ronnenkamp, Omaha, NE
 Michael & Nancy Roth, Omaha, NE
 Rick & Wanda Ruhge, Blair, NE
 Warren & Barbara Rushing, Omaha, NE
 Craig & Ronna Saylor, Blair, NE
 Merle & Linda Schlines, Omaha, NE
 Virgil & Janice Setterlund, Omaha, NE
 Randall & Bonnie Sibert, Omaha, NE
 Margaret Sidebottom, Blair, NE
 Lynn & Mike Spetman, Council Bluffs, IA
 Arlene Stork, Fremont, NE
 Sonja & Dick Switzer, Omaha, NE
 Barb Triplett, Blair, NE
 Dick & Linda Wardell, Blair, NE
 Carol Weckmuller, Blair, NE
 Lloyd & Joan Wright, Blair, NE
 Rhonda Zimmerman, Blair, NE ■

The Cast of "The Word" On Stage and On the Road



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



*Executive Director
Jill Hennick*

Because of the pandemic, we attempted to have our annual meeting solely by ballot of voting members (those who had given time, money or materials since January 2019). However, we did not receive the required 80% back. Therefore, we held a small meeting with only 9 members who had been named as proxies. When we added our proxies, the attendance rose from 9 to 76...which not only met our quorum, but was probably the largest attendance for an annual meeting yet! We've increased our use of technology for meetings, education and research.

While the Catrine Giery's online exhibit was viewable at the end of her practicum, other products of research or internships sometimes take longer. We were pleased to see two articles in the current issue of *The Bridge* resulting from time spent at the Archive. In August 2019, Ryan Gesme, a PhD candidate from the University of Tennessee –Knoxville, researched here. He was a recipient of a Bodtker Grant given by the Danish American Heritage Society to help cover some of his research expenses. His article is entitled, "From the Eider River to the Great Plains: The Danish American Community and the 1920 Slesvig Plebisites." An article by Chantal Powell, a spring 2019 UNO intern, is entitled "My Life as a Danish American Archive

and Library Intern."

Since we closed to the public in March 2020, Library Director Michael Hennick and I have continued to work in person. Some of our projects include:

- **Working on the family files.** Those are collections that have a limited amount of information and don't require an entire archive box. We evaluate the contents for duplicates and proper location; we enter information about them in both our online catalog and in our internal database; and finally digitize the contents.
- **Rearranging books and boxes.** We shifted all of the books on the library side to make room for more books. We have begun shifting all of the archive boxes to integrate new boxes alphabetically.
- **Creating the vintage postcard exhibit** in our display cases.
- **Working on research requests** (which have not slowed down).
- **Processing materials and donations.**
- **Helping volunteers working from home.** For example, we have produced two newsletters (well, three, including this one) with editor Sandra Wigdahl and correspondent Ann George working from home.
- **Mailing books:** the COVID-19 sale advertised in the spring *Jottings* and the pre-Christmas sale advertised in the fall *Jottings* reduced our book inventory by nearly 200 books!

Happy 10th Anniversary to the Archive! October 2010 we held our first volunteer week in this building. At that time it was so empty that people brought their own card tables and worked on the floor. How things have changed! New developments include:

- **New electronic records search tool (library catalog)** independent and available directly from our own website. We hope to create a joint cataloguing system with the Danish Immigrant Archives At Grand View University and the Museum of Danish America sometime in the future.
- **New branding** with an updated website, logo, and a fun new tagline, "We never met a document we didn't like."

We have made it to our 10th anniversary financially strong.

The best news is our endowment topped \$300,000 in July, which means we rebuilt all the money we lost when Dana College closed more than 10 years ago!

Our endowment fund has remained stable throughout the pandemic. In addition, we own our own building, so we are in an even better fiscal position than ten years ago. We have made a point of keeping enough funds liquid, so if a crisis like the closing of Dana College should occur in the future, we have a cushion of time to deal with it.

Thank you for your generous response to our year-end fundraising letter which enabled us to receive all the pledged matching funds. If you ever want to set up a challenge match, please let me know. We can publicize it or keep it anonymous according to your wishes.

We never know what the future will bring. We have lost a number of our special volunteers and donors this year. But because we are in a strong financial position, the board will always have time to adapt and change spending if necessary – there is no danger of closing overnight! **Thanks to all who support the DAAL** through donations and volunteer time. We are stronger than ever and well positioned to face the future because of all of you. ■



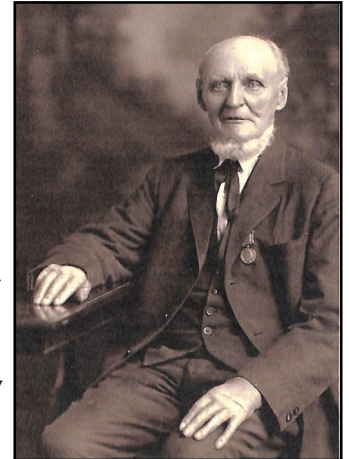
IN THE STACKS

Christian Tranberg and the Battle for a Long Life

By Michael Hennick, Library Director

On February 22, 1934, Christian C. Tranberg died at the age of one hundred. He had endured a life full of hardships that would have caused most others to die young, and yet Tranberg believed that had his life been easier he would not have reached one hundred.

He was born in a small village near Ribe, Denmark, to a poor farm family in 1833. The three years of schooling he would receive required a four-mile walk each way three times a week. This would be the only formal education he ever received. By thirteen he was essentially on his own. He got a job as a swineherd which required the watching of some one hundred pigs at all hours, in all weathers, out in the woods and fields of North Slesvig. With no proper coat or shoes Christian recalled suffering mightily during the winters. Later he would work as a hired hand for various other farmers, and somehow find time to study for his confirmation in the church.



Christian C. Tranberg

In 1856 he was called to do his military service in the Danish infantry. Later he would be called back into the military, but this time in the Navy where he served as a marine aboard the frigate “Jylland.”

It was on board this vessel that he participated in the Battle of Heligoland on May 9, 1864. This was a fierce four-hour sea fight pitting the Danes against the Prussians and Austrians who were forced to withdraw. The cannon at which Tranberg was stationed lost three of its twelve man crew, though he himself was uninjured. He later admitted that his chances of reaching the age of one hundred were not bright that day. He left military service later that year with a medal for gallantry and a small pension. A tall ship model of the “Jylland,” once held by Dana College, is now displayed at the DAAL.



A model of the frigate Jylland is currently housed at the DAAL.

Christian married Helena Lund in 1868 and settled down to farming and the raising of five children. Three of these children immigrated to America and the rest of the family followed them in 1893. Tranberg was sixty. They settled on a farm near Kennard, Nebraska. Sadly, he was destined to outlive two wives; Helena died in 1914 and Hansine, whom he had married two years after Helena’s death, died in 1920.

On Sunday, February 10, 1929 at First Lutheran Church in Blair, Nebraska, Tranberg was part of a ceremony in which the ninety-six year old veteran received the Danish Cross from King Christian X. He was now a “Dannebrogsmænd.” This “Man of Dannebrog” (the Danish flag) went to live with one of his daughters in Iowa for his final days where he lived to celebrate his centenary party with the extended family. He had survived toil, exposure, and battle; he had endured the challenges of farming, family and immigration. He is buried in the Blair Cemetery. Christian Tranberg is just one of the many examples in the DAAL Family Files of the strength and courage of our ancestors. ■

DAAL COVID-19 UPDATE



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Danish American Archive and Library remains closed until further notice. Volunteers are working from home as much as possible. Staff can still be contacted for research assistance by phone or email. For those wishing to enter the building, it is advised to inquire about an appointment two business days in advance. We don’t plan to schedule any volunteer weeks until we know that non-local volunteers are ready to travel and meet family and friends here in Nebraska. We will keep you updated through *Jottings* and our website.

Eben-Ezer Sanitarium staff, Brush Colorado, 1921. The current pandemic isn’t the first widespread health threat Danish Americans have dealt with. This sanitarium for tuberculosis patients was staffed by Danish American frontline workers 100 years ago.

1738 Washington Street
Blair, Nebraska 68008

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

From the Dana Room (Cont.)

He said he'd been influenced by the lyrics of an earlier school song that Prof. Nellie Falk – a member of the English department – had written, titled “Hail Dana,” [sung to “Auld Lang Syne] and that her first line, “Hail, hail to thee, fair Dana, hail!” had “greatly appealed” to him, and she gave him permission to use it.

Then in early 1985 Christensen wrote a letter to Dana. The 90-year-old said that after he'd again looked over the photocopy of the cornerstone song sheet Dana had sent him, “I discovered the words to which I object and wish to have eliminated. . . .” The words that disturbed him were “To manhood mold each heart,” the fourth line of the second stanza. He explained, “This was a grave error for which I take full responsibility. . . . I tell you truly when I inform you that the passage. . .

Readers can hear “Hail Dana,” sung by the Dana Chorale and directed by Dr. Richard Palmer, on the website created by Kori (Williamsen) Archbold, a 2006 Dana graduate by going to the Links page at www.danishamericanarchive.com. We thank Kori for creating this lovely website (there are photos, too) and for giving us permission to refer readers to it. (Kori also directs the alumni choir at Homecoming where, even though Dana has closed, alumni continue to sing “Hail Dana.”



The Dana College Chorale Directed By Dr. Richard Palmer.

has caused me a great deal of discomfort and also loss of sleep.”

Christensen suggested that the line be changed to “To virtue lead each heart.” His suggestion was adopted and the change announced in the *Dana Review*. (It took several years, however, before alumni no longer stumbled over the line.)

That completes the story of *Hail Dana*. But here's a challenge to Dana alumni who are reading this: Before Waldo B. Nielsen composed the music to Magnus Christensen's lyrics, for almost a year *Hail Dana* was sung to America the Beautiful. Try singing it to that tune. . . . Did you get beyond the third or fourth line without reverting to Nielsen's melody? Hard, isn't it? ■