



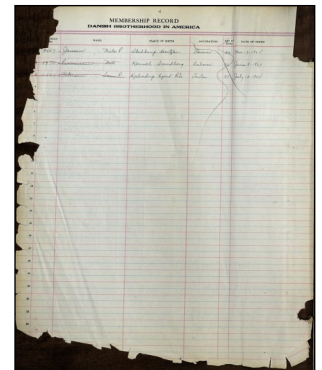
THE BIG BROTHERHOOD BOOKS

Omaha Lodge

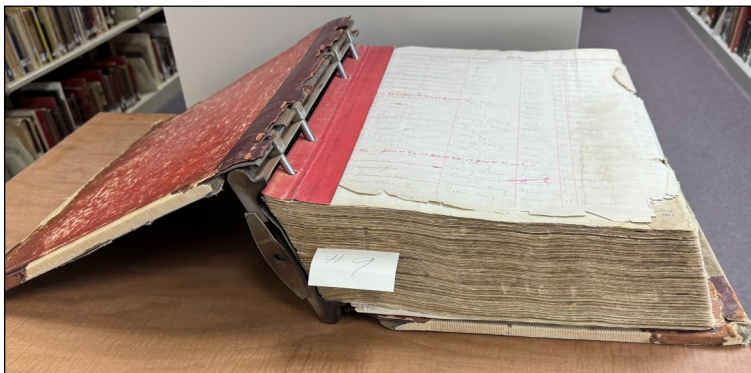
Number	Name	Entered	Place	Occupation	Age	Beneficiary	Remarks
48	Edde Soren	October	Omaha	Swedish	33	20 Aug. 1845	Return to Denmark
49	B. S. Madison	Jan	Omaha	Schoolkeeper	41	10 May 1841	To the Order
54	William Nielsen	July	Omaha	Clay Block	35	5 Jan. 1845	Karoline

Weighing in at between twenty and forty-five pounds, the membership books of the Danish Brotherhood in America are an important resource for those seeking information about the 80,000 men who were a part of the society from the 1880s to the 1970s. The entries tell such facts as the spelling of names (did they change?); place of birth; occupation; birth date; age when admitted; beneficiaries; amount of insurance; and whether or not they transferred to other lodges or left the organization. Oftentimes researchers were unaware of a man’s place of birth in Denmark, his occupation in America or the name of a mysterious “Mrs.” who is given a full name as the beneficiary.

As important as these fifteen books are genealogically, they are extremely unwieldy to work with as well as becoming quite fragile with age, as can be seen in the picture at the right. Therefore, over the past thirty years DAAL volunteers have been working to make their information available to the wider digital world. An in-house database that was laboriously extracted from the ledgers is available, which enables researchers to focus on one member and find his entries from often several different books. The latest project involves dismantling the massive ledgers and scanning the pages. These high-quality images will be available for viewing without the need of opening up the ledger books as the old database required. The scans of pertinent pages can then be sent remotely to researchers.



The Danish Brotherhood in America was founded in 1882 as a fraternal and social organization for Danish men. Lodges were located in the United States, Canada and Denmark. Over 340 lodges were chartered during the course of the society’s history. The headquarters were in Omaha, Nebraska. It was from there that the membership books came to Dana College and ultimately to the Danish American Archive and Library. The headquarters closed in 1995 when the insurance side of the organization was transferred to Woodmen of the World and the DBIA ceased to be a national organization. Many local lodges continued as social centers for their members. Sadly many of these have closed, but much of their material has found its way to the DAAL where it is preserved in over 470 archival boxes. These include books, periodicals, photographs, membership



and financial records, recordings, correspondence, events, meeting minutes, rules and rituals, and more. Hopefully other former lodges, or those disbanding, will decide to use the DAAL to house their history.

The DAAL is pleased to be the repository for the Danish Brotherhood in America, which is one of our largest and most important collections. We will continue to seek out new technologies to make this heritage evermore available – no weightlifting required. ■

FROM THE DANA ROOM

DID YOU KNOW... DANA RESCUED STRANDED CHINESE STUDENTS

By Karen (Nelson) Hansen

Who would have thought Dana College, a small Lutheran school in Blair, Nebraska would ever have had any connection with the 1989 student-led demonstrations in Beijing, China? The story is one of persistence, international maneuvering and the English language education of 18 Chinese students whose journey actually began in Japan. Early in 1989, 200 students were screened by the American College Locators International (ACLI), in which Dana was a participant. Several thousand applications had been submitted. The Chinese students ranged in age from 25 to 38, and all had advanced degrees in many fields. The 200 were to spend time studying Japanese before proceeding to the United States to study English and a variety of courses at Dana and several other colleges. Mastering Japanese and English was important to their professional status.

They happened to be in Japan at the time of the of the Tiananmen Square uprising in China between April and June of 1989. Here the plan became stalled. The United States refused to issue visas for the students to come from Japan to the United States, not wanting to cause any problems between the American and Chinese governments. The concern on the part of China was that the students would choose not to return to China. The group held advanced university degrees, some with doctorates. They were engineers, computer operators and instructors, statisticians, medical doctors, teachers, a radiologist and an artist. China feared a "brain drain," and the United States did not want to appear to be enticing this intellectual pool to study here and be absorbed into the intellectual population. The result was the complete shutdown of the plan of these students and the colleges intending to welcome them.



Chinese students (L to R) Fei Yu, Xiao Mei, Fin Wu, Hong Tao Zhang and Ping Liu in the Campus Center



Twelve of the students returned to America in 1999 for a ten-year reunion with Anne and Myrv Christopherson and Sybille Bartels

That summer with the plan growing stagnant and the students still in Japan, Dana President Myrvyn Christopherson and Dr. Greg Bartholomew, head of the ACLI flew to Tokyo to see about how the 20 students planning to go to Dana could continue their journey. These two men then flew from Tokyo to Washington, D.C. in hopes of obtaining visas for the 20 "Dana students." They approached Sen. James Exon of Nebraska and Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois (Dana '49). Sen Exon had already sponsored legislation that had passed in the Senate to stop discrimination against the Chinese students obtaining visas, as they were not part of the Tiananmen Square events. Furthermore, the students had employment agreements pending their return to China. An important piece to the 200 being selected in the first place was that they had money held in an escrow account to secure the cost of their return flights. Additionally, many of the students had spouses and children in China awaiting their return.

It was hoped that all 200 students could continue to their American assignments, but as of October only 18 students destined for Dana were cleared to finally complete the journey. So, in October of 1989, the 18 students arrived at Eppley Airfield

(continued on page 4)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A family tree is a diagram used to explain how individuals are related. The Danish American Archive and Library is a veritable forest of family trees!

Many relationships are documented in our family collections and library. Through October, we've had 158 researchers using the Archive, both in person and remotely. Over 100 families donated additional material.

We've had 331 visitors, 72 of whom attended "Kringle Mingle" during the Dana College Alumni Homecoming. They enjoyed viewing the permanent Danish American Commemorative Wall display and a temporary "Dana Trivia" exhibit in the two cases nearby.



*Executive Director
Jill Hennick*



Nielsen cousins at the 2024 Fall Volunteer Week: Loyd Neve, Julie Huetteman, Karen Nielsen, Leon Neve, Alice Neve, Lisa Nielsen

Dana College is the "alma mater" for many of us and the place where we formed kinships that will last for the rest of our lives. Many Archive Volunteers worked untold hours to complete scans of Dana College yearbooks. We thank them for their dedication! They can be accessed through our website. Go to [danishamericanarchive.com/digital archive/Dana College/Dana College Publications/Yearbooks](http://danishamericanarchive.com/digital%20archive/Dana%20College/Dana%20College%20Publications/Yearbooks). We also express our appreciation to the alumni who have helped identify mystery photos posted on our Facebook page.

Thanks to all who attended the Meeting of Members or sent in proxies. The most important duty of our voting members is to elect the Board of Directors. The Directors are: Cindy Larsen Adams, Colorado; Erik Andersen, New York; Christie Gehringer, Nebraska; Erik Jensen, Nebraska; David Johnson, Iowa; Marty Koefoed, Iowa; Lori Larsen, Nebraska; Gary

Madsen, Nebraska; Alice Neve, Minnesota; John Mark Nielsen, Nebraska; Cheyenne Jansdatter Norquist, Iowa; Sandy Sonderup, Nebraska; and Carol Svendsen, Colorado.

We've had 78 volunteers so far this year and 24 of them were new! Many of our local volunteers have started coming in two days per week rather than one. Thirty-five of our volunteers were able to attend a catered Volunteer Recognition meal one evening. Two new plaques near our breakroom honor volunteers who have worked five years or more.

The Archive seems to naturally attract family members to gather and work together. The 114 volunteers with five years or more of service includes 25 married couples and many other family relationships. I found myself wondering which volunteer had the most relatives in our volunteer list. Was it Leon Neve who had wife, parents, siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins from both sides of his family? Or, was it Joan "Jody" Sorensen who had husband, daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, nieces and cousins? But after I realized that one of Jody's cousins was Leon's dad, I stopped counting. No wonder we all feel like the Archive is one big family tree! ■



2003 evening volunteer meal at the home of Phil & Florence Larsen: Paul Neve, Eunice Neve, Joan "Jody" Sorensen, Roland Jensen, LeVern Nielsen

FROM THE DANA ROOM (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

in Omaha to a reception including Sen. Exon, President Christopherson, Mayor Jensen of Blair and many Dana faculty members and students. The students' Dana/American experience continued until their return to China in June of 1990. During those months Dr. Sybille Bartels, Program Director of Dana's Department of Languages, coordinated their activities and campus life, while Jeff Zabrocki (who had studied in China for two years) served as their English instructor. Also active in helping the students settle in was Peggy Sorensen (Dana '84). Rasmussen Hall was their residence. One student became a writer for the *Hermes*, another joined the string ensemble. They attended Dana athletic events, and joined in activities in the Blair community. There were many cultural exchanges such as folk music, shared cooking and simply the experiences of everyday life. One of the humorous discoveries was that the Chinese students had never had a fortune cookie until they came to America.

This story is another example of how Dana College was often focused on world events and exhibited concern for the true meaning of friendship and learning, even when it took a college president and a U. S. Senator from Nebraska to show that it is people, not politics or ideologies, who are what really matter in the long run. ■

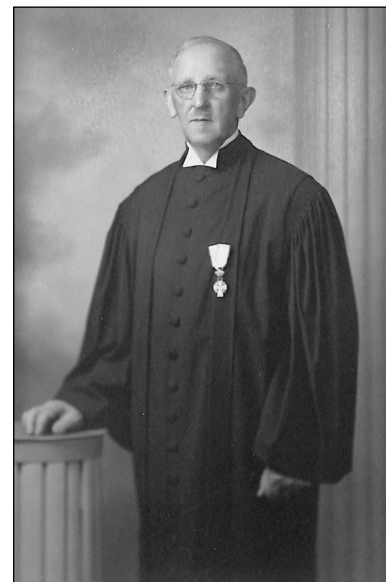
IN THE STACKS

J. C. Aaberg, Hymnologist

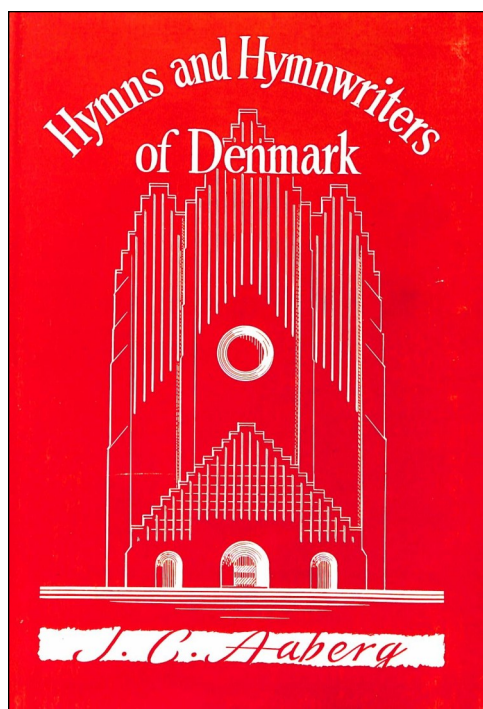
There is a blessed power
That shields us from all woe
And like a mighty tower
Protects us from the foe

"There is a Blessed Power," 1st verse, by J. C. Aaberg from *Hymnal for Church and Home* (1927)

Jens Christian Aaberg was born in Denmark in 1877 and came to America in 1901. Educated at Grand View College and Seminary, he went on to become a pastor in the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, and served congregations in Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota from 1908 to 1946. He married Elsie Raun in 1908 and the couple had five children.



J. C. Aaberg in clerical robe with his Knight of Dannebrog decoration.



J. C. Aaberg was a life-long student of hymnology, and translated some eighty Danish hymns and songs into English. He also had three of his own hymns in the *Hymnal for Church and Home* that was used by the two Danish Lutheran synods. His book *Hymns and Hymnwriters of Denmark* (1945) covers the history of the Danish hymn, and focuses primarily on the great writers: Thomas Kingo, Adolph Brorson and N. F. S. Grundtvig. Aaberg also worked as an editor or compiler on several song collections and hymnals. His aim was to preserve the Danish hymns (now translated into English) within the larger Lutheran hymnals. In 1947 he was awarded the Knight of Dannebrog decoration by King Frederik IX of Denmark.

The J. C. Aaberg collection at the DAAL consists of family information; a manuscript of an unpublished novel entitled *They Came to America*; articles he wrote; and hymnals, songbooks, and other reference books on both Danish and English hymns. ■

OLD BOOK ON THE SHELF

Hans Peter Gravengaard published *Christmas Again!* in 1936. The novel tells the story of Ole Hans Hansen as he lives among the pioneering and community-building Danes of Hamilton County, Nebraska. Later he serves in World War I and afterwards becomes a successful insurance man, but far from the land of his youth. Will he ever return to his people, the old pioneers he honored, the beloved church, and what about that girl, Marie? Will he miss another Christmas?

Gravengaard was a son of N. P. Gravengaard, a pastor in the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church who had served the church in Kronborg, Nebraska for a time. Like his character, Ole Hans, the author, Hans Peter, served in the Marine Corps during the First World War. ■



JOTTINGS FLASHBACK

From the November/December 1998 issue of *Jottings*

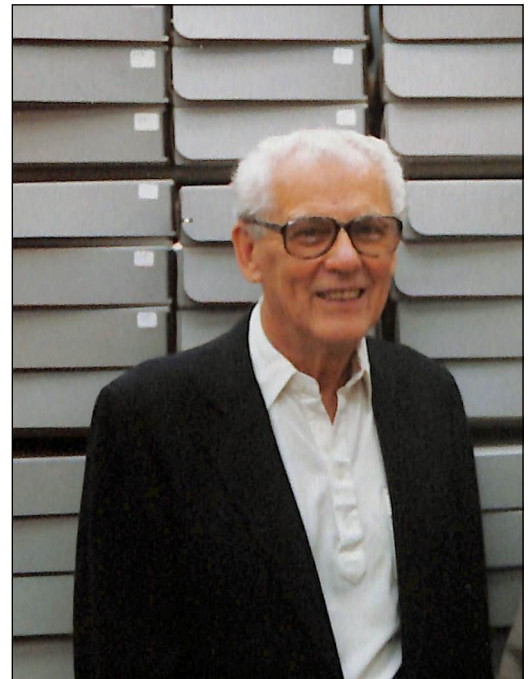
Year End Remembrance: Two weeks ago I received a request from Minden, Nebraska for the Danish text and a translation of “Klokken Staar,” a hymn often sung at the burial of loved ones. It begins:

Klokken staar,
Tiden gaar,
Evigheden os forestaar.

My translation:

The bell is tolling,
Time is passing,
Eternity engulfs us.

It is a good reminder, and as the hymn continues, there is a resolution to use the remaining precious time in serving our Lord. Without being irreverent, we of the Archive crew might add, “Let us use the time to preserve a heritage that will otherwise pass away before its time with the passage of each successive year.”



John W. Nielsen ■

VOLUNTEERS: 2,341 hours by 54 volunteers from California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

VISITORS: 187 visitors from Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin and Denmark.

RESEARCH: 42 researchers from Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Washington D.C., Australia, and email/phone/Facebook.

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.

Karen Allrege (Carbondale, CO)

Ronald Andersen (Omaha, NE)

Bill & Betsy Anderson (Blair, NE)

Anonymous (Blair, NE)

Christine Banuls (Pine Bush, NY)

Pat Bentsen (Blair, NE)

Blair Public Library & Technology Center
(Blair, NE)

Karen Blinkilde (Berkley, MI)

Ann Boos (Washington, DC)

Mark Christensen (Andalusia, AL)

Rolf Buschart Christensen (Ontario, Canada)

Sandra Eubanks (Commerce Twp, MI)

John Fisher (Hudson, WI)

Dennis & Barb Garrett (Blair, NE)

Chris Gehringer (Omaha, NE)

Catrine Giery (Myrtle Beach, SC)

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Julie Huetteman (West Lafayette, IN)

Richard & Delores Jorgensen (Poy Sippi, WI)

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Nathan Kramer (Omaha, NE)

Sieghard Krueger (Fremont, NE)

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Peter Mathiasen (British Columbia, Canada)

Michael Meixner (Farmington, MN)

Ruth Mortensen (North Olmstead, OH)

Rudi and Jean Jaspersen-Naegele
(Germany)

Lisa Nielsen (Fairfield, PA)

Sally Oberg (Hooper, NE)

Liv Paulson Norderhaug (Chanhassen, MN)

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Ron & Vicki Vig (Holdrege, NE)

Betty Wolsmann (Blair, NE)

Deb Schou Wood (Bloomington, MN)

Kirstin Wulfsberg (Northrop, CO)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Memorials

Barbara Cook Aanonson

David Aanonson (Coralville, IA)

Meta Brandes

Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

John Mark & Dawn Nielsen (Blair, NE)

Ed & Shirley Hansen

Lee Anne & Eugene Lack (Montrose, MN)

Pauline "Pollie" (Jorth) Hahn

Arno & Betty Neben (Papillion, NE)

Arvin Hernes

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Erna Berthelsen (Albert Lea, MN)

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Nancy Lindblad (Blair, NE)

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Phil Pagel

Lorraine Jensen (Bloomington, MN)

Honoraria

Betsy Anderson

Lorraine Jensen (Bloomington, MN)

Vaughn Christensen's service to Dana College

Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

DAAL Volunteers

Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

Myrv Christopherson's 85th birthday

Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

Torben Christopherson Clark (Gibsonia, PA)

Michael & Jill Hennick (Blair, NE)

Richard M. Jorgensen's 90th birthday

Michael & Jill Hennick (Blair, NE)

Jon & Lona Jorgensen (Neenah, WI)

Mitchell Jorgensen (Appleton, WI)

Savannah Jorgensen (Sacramento, CA)

Jim Olsen's 85th birthday

Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

Larrie Stone's service to Dana College

Myrv Christopherson (Decorah, IA)

Endowment Fund:

Thomas Bengtson (Rock Island, IL) for the Deloris Hansen Bengtson Memorial Fund
Myrv Christopherson for the Myrvin & Anne Christopherson Fund

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.

Marilyn & Ernest Abariotes (Blair, NE)

Connie Andersen (Blair, NE)

Ronald Andersen (Omaha, NE)

Anonymous/cash donations

Dennis Barten (Manning, IA)

FINANCIAL REPORT (continued)

Ginny Blood (Burnsville, MN)
 Hattie Conradson (Fort Calhoun, NE)
 Danish Brotherhood Lodge #16 (Minden, NE)
 Danish Sisterhood, Nebraska District
 (Ceresco, NE)
 Chris Gehringer (Omaha, NE)
 Berniece Grewcock (Omaha, NE)
 Scott & Shelly Grorud (Hutchinson, MN)
 Joe H. & Rose Jean Hansen (Des Moines, IA)
 Rudi & Jean Jaspersen-Naegele (Germany)
 Douglas Jensen (Aberdeen, SD)
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 Jean Kaldahl (Port Townsend, WA)
 Lowell & Marilyn J. Kramme (Des Moines, IA)
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 Dixie Petersen (Wichita, KS)
 Collyn Peterson (Overland Park, KS)
 Robert & Darlene Rademacher (Lincoln, NE)
 Kathy Ryan (Beaver Dam, WI)
 Cindy Schou (Bloomington, MN)
 Larrie Stone (Ames, IA)

2024 Thrivent Choice/YourCause Gifts:

Lee Barney (Oregon City, OR)
 Sybille Bartels (Omaha, NE)
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 Roger Clark (Franklin, WI)
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 Dorothy Jorgensen (Bemidji, MN)
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 Sue Olsen (Blair, NE)
 Skip & Dorothy Pedersen (Omaha, NE)
 James Ruden (Littleton, CO)
 Sandy Sonderup (Blair, NE)
 Elsa Steffensen (Hoffman Estates, IL)
 Linda Steffensen (Hoffman Estates, IL)

50/100 Club:

The name of the 50/100 Club was inspired by the idea that if 100 members gave \$50 per month, most of our operating expenses would be met. Members sustain DAAL by giving a minimum of \$600 per year (given monthly, quarterly, or yearly according to the donor's preference). Those at the Founder Level give at least \$2,000 per year. An added benefit of being part of the 50/100 club is receiving one

donation acknowledgment for tax purposes in January reflecting a yearly total of all donations, rather than getting a separate acknowledgment for each financial contribution. These donations are part of the General Fund. (* indicates deceased)

50/100 FOUNDER LEVEL

Phil* & Florence* Larsen (Blair, NE)

50/100 GENERAL

Erna Berthelsen (Albert Lea, MN)
 Mark* & Erika* Bondo (Freehold, NJ)
 Becky Bryant (East Dubuque, IL)
 Myrv & Anne* Christopherson (Decorah, IA)
 Arlene & Neil Grover (Zumbrota, MN)
 Roger Hanson (Roseville, MN)
 Michael & Jill Hennick (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 (Marshall, TX)
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 Nick Temali (Mahtomedi, MN)
 Ron & Vicki Vig (Holdrege, NE)
 Deb Schou Wood (Bloomington, MN)
 Sandy 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
 Borge M. Christensen*
 Myrv & Anne* Christopherson
 Bernhard* & Marilyn* Erling
 Kathryn (Olsen) & Milbern Goetz
 Lois Girtz Halley*
 Frederick "Fritz" J. Hansen*
 Roger J. Hanson
 Michael and Jill Hennick
 Russell P.* and Esther A. Jensen
 Tim* & Sharon Jensen
 Ada Jeppesen*
 Julianne Johnson and Judy Pollock*
 Oscar* & Dody* Johnson
 Paul & Liz Johnson
 Alice M. Jorgensen*
 Lorene Larsen
 Phil* & Florence* Larsen
 Carol Madsen Larson*
 Gene* & Nancy Lindblad
 Gary & Diane Madsen
 George Madsen*
 Ronald D. Johnson* and Bodil Strom Muller
 Brian Nevermann
 John W.* & Elizabeth* Nielsen
 LeVern* & Marilyn* Nielsen
 Lisa Nielsen
 W. Clayton Nielsen*
 Larry & Palma Plume
 Joan Sorensen
 Deb Schou Wood ■

ENDOWMENT FUND

The endowment fund is an investment in the future of the Archive. Some named funds have been established in memory of loved ones. The balance in the endowment follows. Figures are rounded to the nearest \$500 and are listed at historic cost.

Ada Stokes Jeppesen Memorial Fund	\$100,000
Deloris Hansen Bengtson Memorial Fund	75,000
Oscar & Dody Johnson Memorial Fund	13,000
Bernhard & Marilyn Erling Memorial Fund	10,000
John T. & Virginia (Lippincott) Beck Memorial Fund	7,500
Rev. Aster & Ruth Neve Family Memorial Fund	7,500
Dagmar Vasby Memorial Fund	7,000
Martin & Else Andersen Memorial Fund	5,000
Earl Jensen Family Memorial Fund	4,000
Rev. Sigurd D. & Dorothy M. Petersen Memorial Fund	3,500
Maryann & Jerry Lund Memorial Fund	2,500
Myrv & Anne Christopherson Fund	<u>1,000</u>
<i>Subtotal of named funds with balances over \$1,000</i>	236,000
General Endowment Fund	<u>147,500</u>
Total Endowment Funds	\$383,500

Red Boots & Lunch Bucket: Memories of a Country School by John Wolter Nielsen

“With wry humor and affection, Nielsen recalls both a bygone time and a place that doesn’t exist anymore, rendering it real and accessible for all of us for whom that experience is foreign and strange. His account functions as a kind of time machine, transporting us into a chilly, smelly classroom and introducing us to a lively cast of characters who made up his world almost a century ago. It’s an invaluable witness, not just for his own children and their descendants but also anyone whose life intersects in some way with education in the rural, one-room schools of the past.”

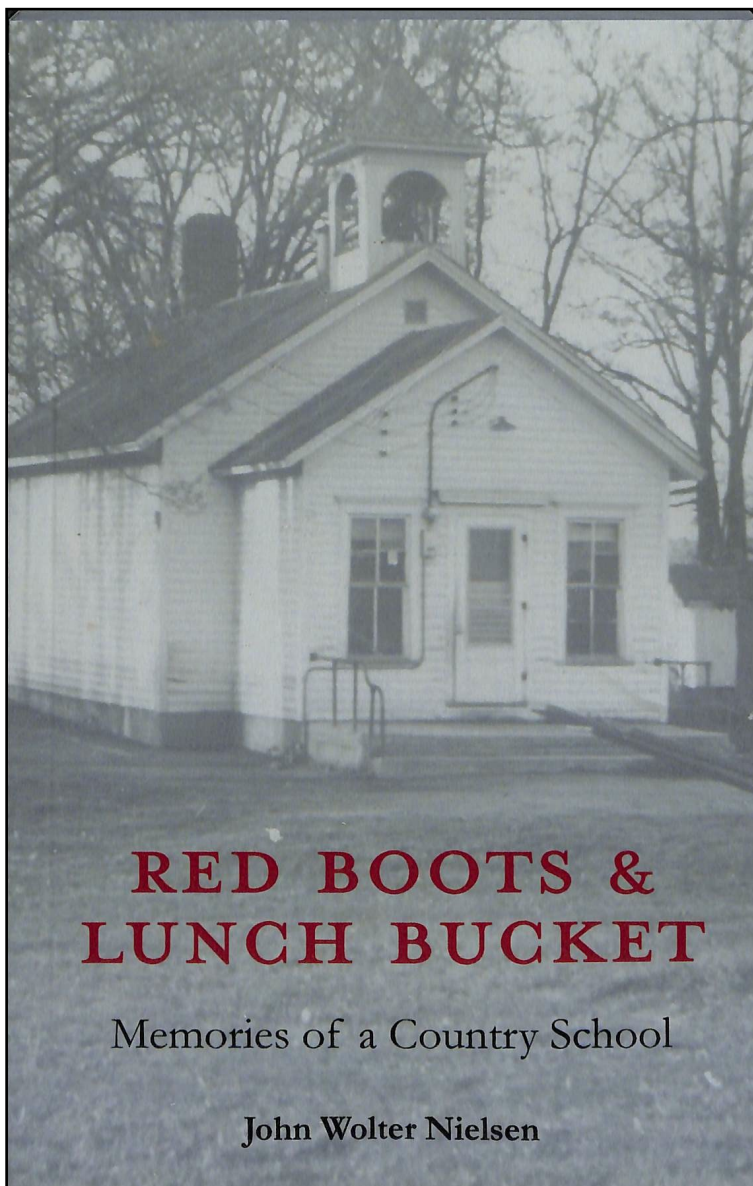
Julie K. Allen, Professor of Scandinavian Studies, Brigham Young University,
Editor of *The Bridge*

“This is an expanded version of *Red Boots and Lunch Bucket*, which was originally published in *The Bridge*, the journal of the Danish American Heritage Society, in 2023. Added to this version are two essays. The first, “On Preparing a List of Books,” is a brief essay that my father wrote in response to a number of Dana College students who had requested a list of books that an educated person should read. The second is a piece I wrote for the Winter 2018 issue of the *America Letter*, the publication of the Museum of Danish America. It is the story of his parents, my grandparents, and how the years surrounding the First World War shaped their lives. Including this provides context to references my father makes in *Red Boots and Lunch Bucket* to his father’s service in World War I.”

From the introduction by
John Mark Nielsen

Book price \$20
Shipping and Handling \$5 for the first book, \$1
for each additional book
Nebraska residents add 7% sales tax

To order, mail in a check made payable to the
Danish American Archive and Library or call
402-426-7910 with credit card information.



Danish American
Archive & Library

Jill Hennick, Executive Director
1738 Washington Street, Blair, Nebraska 68008
Telephone: (402) 426-7910
E-mail: info@danishamericanarchive.com
Hours: 8am-3 pm, Monday-Friday

Contact Information

Thank you for your interest in the Danish American Archive and Library. All members enjoy three issues of the *Jottings* newsletter each year and reduced program service fees. The newsletter is mailed in March, July and December. Please keep your contact information current.

OLD ADDRESS: see label on reverse, *or*

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NEW ADDRESS

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If not permanent: __ Temporary from ___/___ (month/year) to ___/___ (month/year)

__ Seasonal (repeat every year) from _____ (month) to _____ (month)

Phone _____ Email _____ (send *Jottings* via email)

Additional information _____

Featured Danish American Commemorative Wall Panel

<https://danishamericanarchive.com/danish-american-commemorative-wall-gallery/>

The Commemorative Wall at the DAAL was created to honor and remember Danish-American individuals, families and institutions.

The Wall continues to grow. Six more panels were added this summer. A limited number of panels are still available.

We will continue to feature a panel in each issue of the newsletter.

To see all of the panels, you have two options. The first is to stop by and view the exhibit in person. The second is to visit the Commemorative Wall Gallery on our website. ■



In memory of our Grandparents, strong in their faith:

Anders Valdemar Neve and Dora Christine Larsen Neve
Ringsted, Iowa Albert Lea, Minnesota

Niels Peter Nielsen and Maren Christina Olsen Nielsen
Neola, Iowa Poy Sippi, Wisconsin

Peter Petersen and Anna Jorgensen Petersen
Nyborg, Fyn, Denmark Trufant, Michigan

Ole Hansen and Christena Bertelsen Hansen
Coulter, Iowa Coulter, Iowa



With thankfulness,
Leon Neve and Alice Petersen Neve

“Blest be the tie that binds.”

PARTING SHOT



Niels Christian Nielsen was born in Vium, Denmark in 1873. He served as a soldier in the Danish army for a time and was educated at a technical school. Niels came to America in 1903 and settled in Uehling, Nebraska. He became a blacksmith and would go on to own several businesses in the area. In this photograph he markets himself as “old reliable.” It may be that the only part of Niels Christian Nielsen that was not reliable was his name. He freely used three different spellings: Chris Nielsen, Chris Nelsen or Chris Nelson.

From the Sally Oberg collection ■