

COLORADO -- YOUR NATIONAL CONVENTION HOST

JANUARY 1975

**American
Dane**

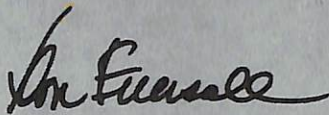
magazine



D B

comment

Make your plans now to attend the '75 convention in Denver, September 17-21.



Vol. LIX January 1975 No. 1

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The objects of the Brotherhood are to: (1.) Encourage its members in their fidelity to the constitution and laws of the country, in which they live, whether it be the United States of America, Denmark or the Dominion of Canada. (2.) Perpetuate memories and traditions from Denmark for the benefit of future generations in America. (3.) Render aid to its members and their dependents whenever illness, disability or death may befall its members or their dependents. (4.) Assist unemployed members in securing employment. (5.) Provide and maintain a fund for the payment of such sums, as may be stipulated by law, to the surviving beneficiary or beneficiaries of every insured member or person. Rules governing the administration and maintenance of the insurance fund are prescribed in the by-laws of this society. (6.) Conduct its affairs, as a fraternal benefit society, in the manner of the subordinate lodge system.

the American Dane magazine



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A Message From The President

In behalf of the Officers of the Danish Brotherhood in America I extend a most sincere greeting for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

In 1974 we admitted more new members into the Danish Brotherhood than we have admitted in any one year since I joined



Einar Danielsen

in 1940. To these new members I extend a special greeting for mutual benefit and a long association. I also want to remember the sick and the needy and remind them that we as a true Fraternal Society are ready and willing to help wherever we can. Let us all do our share so that we can continue to prosper and improve on the accomplishment of 1974 for more members, more service and greater benefits.

I ask that you support your Lodge Officers, District Officers, National Officers, Representatives and Home Office Staff and also the Denver National Committee for 1975. More people working together for a common cause will achieve our goals and accomplish our purpose.

Faternally,

Einar Danielsen

19th Consecutive Refund Announced by Board

A very real benefit of your membership in The Danish Brotherhood in America becomes obvious this month as the National Board of Officers announces the 19th consecutive refund of gains and savings to insured members of our fraternity.

All certificates which have been in force for two or three years, depending upon issue date, including fully paid-up certificates, will share in the refund. Not entitled to a refund are term insurance certificates, including those carried under the extended non-forfeiture option.

Members have the same options for receiving or applying the refunds that they have had in the past. These options are:

1. They may be used to buy additional paid-up insurance. This means that there are no monthly assessments to be paid on this additional insurance which the dividend will buy. This additional insurance will be payable at the same time and under the same conditions as the original certificate. This additional "paid-up" insurance is allowed regardless of the age, occupation or state of health of the member and, as mentioned, no additional assessments on account of this insurance are required.
2. They may be left on deposit with the Brotherhood to accumulate at interest, compounded at a rate to be determined by the Board.
3. They may be withdrawn at their cash value on the anniversary date of the certificate, the month of issue, or effective date of issue (consult your benefit certificate.)

Each qualified member is permitted to choose one of the mentioned optional uses for his refund.

If a member exercises no choice his dividend will automatically be used to buy additional "paid-up" insurance, the amount to which he will be entitled.

However, any member can receive payment of the cash value on the paid-up additions or payment of the

refunds on deposit whenever he wishes to do so, by making a written request to the Home Office.

Your officers believe that D.B. members will welcome the opportunity to use the refund to purchase additional insurance, fully paid-up, without the necessity of giving evidence of insurability, and regardless of age and state of health, and without the payment of monthly assessments on the additional paid-up portion.

In the interest of the member, this is the use of the dividend which your officers recommend. While the amount of insurance purchased by one dividend payment is relatively small, if the payments are used in this fashion repeatedly, the total amount of additional insurance will be substantial in time.

President: Consider Proposals To Be Submitted In Book

For many years it has been customary for the President to recommend changes to be considered at the National Convention in accordance with section 5, paragraph 2 of the Bylaws.

In view of the facts that the Board of Officers is proposing a number of changes that will appear in the Book of Proposals for the delegates consideration, I have no reason to submit additional proposals but instead I recommend that the delegates give serious consideration to the proposals submitted by the Board of Officers.

I do have one specific recommendation however and it is as follows: That the Board of Officers be authorized to adopt rules and regulations that will permit the Danish Brotherhood in America to establish affiliation with other Danish background organizations and clubs for the purpose of eventual full membership. The reason for this proposal is that we have had such requests and expect more but we have failed to sign up such groups because, at the present time, we have to sign them up for membership individually.

Einar Danielsen, President.

Bowling Tournament Begins March 15



The Danish Brotherhood National Bowling Tournament, always a popular event, will be held again in 1975. Entry forms and a special announcement will be sent to your secretary soon, so please contact him for entry forms and contest information.

Entry deadline is March 1 and you may bowl anytime between March 15 and May 1. The prize list will offer the same generous cash awards as last year and again will feature a special junior members category. The total

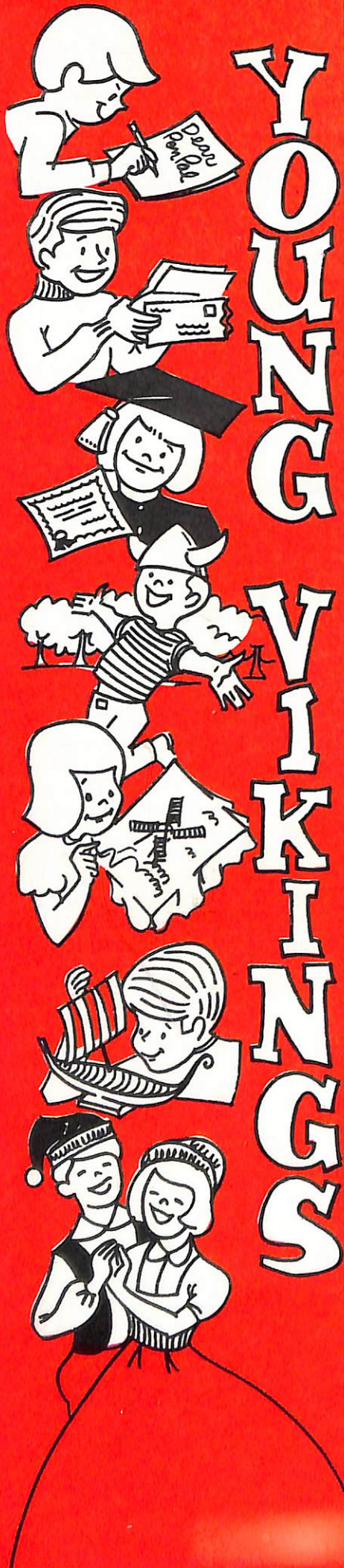
prize money to be awarded will amount to \$1,000.

You cannot win any of the prize money unless you enter the tournament before the deadline and also submit your score in accordance with the rules printed on the entry form.

Should you fail to receive an entry form from your Lodge Secretary, you may request one through National Headquarters.

And remember to support your District tournament. Good Luck!

"Stick Em Up" - The Danish Way



Stick 'em on your notebooks, your t-shirt, your bike! Let the whole world know, "Danes Have More Fun." Give one to a friend and let him be a "Dane For A Day." And try the "Kiss Me — I'm Danish" sticker — it just might work. [for grownups, too]. These colorful stickers adhere really well to wood, metal or paper, but **DON'T WORRY, MOM**, they peel right off clothing.

Available in "peel off" sheets — 10 stickers to a sheet. Use the coupon below and order yours now at the introductory price of 40c per sheet — or 3 sheets for \$1.00.

TO: Danish Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney St., Omaha, NE, 68131

I ENCLOSE \$..... PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING "DANISH STICKERS."

NO. OF SHEETS

..... "Kiss Me — I'm Danish" 40c each — 3 sheets for \$1.00

..... "Danes Have More Fun" 40c each — 3 sheets for \$1.00

..... "Dane For A Day" 40c each — 3 sheets for \$1.00

..... "Danish Days" 40c each — 3 sheets for \$1.00

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE..... ZIP.....

The National Board of Officers held their annual meeting in the National Headquarters October 17-21, 1974. All Board members were present.

Sonderup reported the Steering Committee for the 1975 National Convention has been working hard and a tentative program including a gathering Wednesday night, a tour into the mountains, a tour of the Air Force Academy in Denver and a banquet are being planned. Details have not been finalized and will be announced later.

The Danish costume day for the convention is in the planning stage. Patterns for Danish costumes will be made available by the fraternal department of the Home Office and all persons attending the convention are urged to bring Danish costumes and participate in this convention event.

As directed under Section 23 of the Bylaws, the Board selected members for the national convention committee on laws and their alternates. Members of this committee are: Robert Ibsen, Lodge No. 14; Clyde Langsted, Lodge No. 29; Joseph Janco, Lodge No. 172; Greg Witte, Lodge No. 206; Edmund Leese, Lodge No. 263; Peter Weber, Lodge No. 299; Vernon Nelson, Lodge No. 273; Carl Hansen Lodge No. 227; and Karen Bruun of Lodge No. 155.

Alternates selected were: Harry Davis, Lodge No. 245; Alfred Nielsen, Lodge No. 319; Peter Christensen, Lodge No. 46; Melvin Watson, Lodge No. 264; Gordon Sloth, Lodge No. 144; David Hunecke, Lodge No. 92; Gunnar Petersen, Lodge No. 43; Kenneth Johnson, Lodge No. 51; and Lewis Opdahl of Lodge No. 75.

The Board expresses its appreciation to each of those selected as law committee members or alternate members for their willingness to perform this important function for the Twenty-ninth National Convention. Vernon Nelson and Robert Ibsen were appointed temporary chairman and co-chairman of the committee, respectively.

The Nine-man Committee on Laws will meet in the Home Office on March 17, 1975. At this meeting, the committee will review and consolidate all proposals for change in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the society. A report by the committee will be published and distributed prior to the convention.

We remind all local lodges or districts wishing to submit proposals for change that these proposals must be received in the Home Office in duplicate by February 17, 1975.



Report To Members of Annual Board Meeting

Amendments to the bylaws to be proposed by the Board at the convention were discussed. Several proposals were formulated and approved.

With agency consultant John Dressler present, the representative system was discussed and attainments of this system during the past year were evaluated. Results experienced in increasing membership and member benefits under the system evidence that a successful program for growth is well underway. New representatives are being added to the rapidly growing field force, and the upward trend in membership is projected to further accelerate in 1975. The necessity of making insurance product development a continuous part of our society's activities was mentioned along with specific plans for new products.

Bid proposals were presented to the Board by the two firms being considered for the society's upcoming audit. The firm of Arthur Andersen & Company was selected to perform the audit by President Danielsen with Board approval.

Reserves for year-end reporting were established by the Board. Refunds of gains and savings were declared at 125 per cent of the original formula.

Don Eversoll, Director of Fraternal Affairs, presented a report of Fraternal Department activities since the last Board meeting in the spring.

Programs previously developed which continue to be popular with the membership include the Language Tape and Folk Dance kit. The availability of these two items has led to many lodges now conducting Danish language and Danish folk dance classes. So far, over 250 Language tape kits have been purchased and more than 120 of our members have taken advantage of the Folk Dance Kit. The fraternal department also announced that the items developed for our Young Vikings have elicited much interest. Many of our Young Vikings have received D.B. T-shirts, Viking balloons, Viking model ship kits and other Young Viking products. The Pen Pals program is still getting much response. In addition, a letter has been developed and mailed to all members who are high school students, reminding them of the availability of D.B. Scholarships. The fraternal department has also worked closely with area managers in the development of a guide for establishing new lodges.

The Fraternal Activities Committee, in its report, suggested new ways

(Continued on page 9)

Days I'll Always Remember

by SORENS K. PETERSEN

SO PASSES EARTHLY GLORY

One of the strongest desires in human nature is to receive recognition by some sort of achievement. One way to attain status is to accumulate wealth. Formerly a difficult accomplishment, but now regardless of high taxes it is comparatively feasible. Right now there are about 30,000 millionaires in the United States whose attainments draw like a magnet to our shores from many lands the ambitious and avaricious.

Jacob Grell (actually not his name) was born of a middle class family and came to this country in 1898, from a small town in Austria. He quickly learned our language and became a store clerk. Soon he founded a business that grew into one of the largest enterprises of its kind in the world. A golden stream flowing into his company's treasury. Like King Midas, whatever he touched turned into gold.

Later in life he became engaged to an Austrian lady, who persuaded him to have their marriage ceremony performed in a church in Austria, in which she was baptized and confirmed.

The sun was pouring down its yellow autumn rays upon the ancient church in the Gross Golckner Mountain Valley. The rector led Mr. Grell and his fiancée up a flight of steps, worn down by the footsteps of many generations. At the portal Mr. Grell paused to read the inscription chiseled on the stone over the door arch which read "Sic Transit Gloria Mundi," and thought, "it's amusing how those theologians love to confuse you."

The interior walls of the church were discolored by dampness, and crumbling with age. Everything bore the marks of the gradual decay of time. The letters on the murals were dim, the inscriptions covered with a thick coat of mold.

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After solemnizing their marriage, the priest led the couple over the squeaky floor, and called their attention to a large tablet from which he brushed off the grime and exposed, much to the astonishment of Mr. Grell, his own name. "This," said the priest, "is the name of the donor who built this church in 1536. Perhaps you are in some way related to him, and what could be more appropriate for an American millionaire than to have his name go down in posterity as the restorer of a church."

Mr. Grell sat in his Park Avenue penthouse apartment, groping among old letters and documents in futile search of a clue relating him to the builder of the church. His mother had often said that he was named after a nobleman, a distant relative who lost his life when Napoleon's army attacked the Austrians in the year 1800, at the battle of Hohenlinden.

To immortalize their name another American millionaire had restored the Rheims Cathedral in France. He would do likewise, even go them one better by proving relationship with the builder of the church. He advised his attorney to get in touch with, and engage the best informed genealogist in Austria to look into the matter.

Six months later he received a lineage from the genealogist tracing his descent from the builder of the church. Now that his genealogy had been verified, work was begun on the church to the tune of one million dollars, and much publicity. When finished, a date was set for the dedication.

Mr. Grell was in his office when his attorney called with the mournful news that a distinguished genealogist in Berlin had, after extensive search on Mr. Grell's claim to nobility, found it to be imaginary. The builder of the church was a member of an aristocratic German family who had immigrated to Austria.

"It makes me feel sad," said Mrs. Grell, "that I influenced you to get married in that old church."

"No," said Mr. Grell, "it was I who neglected to interpret the inscription, 'Sic Transit Gloria Mundi'; it is Latin for 'so passes earthly glory'."

WHAT BECAME OF HITLER?

On my last visit to Denmark in 1955, I met Erhart Hummel, a German working in a factory owned by one of my nephews. He proved to be an affable, well-mannered and intelligent fellow. Despite his unsuccessful persistency that I should sponsor his entrance into the United States, we became quite friendly.

The day before my departure, he came to my hotel room, pleading in vain for my sponsorship by relating a most fantastic tale. I cannot vouch for Erhart's veracity or the authenticity of his story, but there is some evidence that it could be possible.

The failure of the Ardennes offensive and the unsuccessful assassination attempt on the life of Adolf Hitler by the army traitors, on July 20, 1944, was an intimation to Hitler that the war was lost. He then began plotting his escape. A private, an image of Hitler, who had served with him in the same Bavarian regiment during the First World War, was chosen as one of the victims in the execution of his plan.

Sworn to silence and cooperation, he was taken to Spain. Francisco Franco, who was aided to power by the Nazis, reciprocated by furnishing an airplane which brought the dupe to the interior of Paraguay, South America, where he took ownership to a large cattle range. He was handed a large bundle of English pounds and an envelope containing instructions. "For a period of one year, you are never to commune or show yourself unnecessarily to your help, or to grow whiskers or a moustache, or to reveal any part of your past. An interpreter will arrive in a few days."

Erhart Hummel, to avoid being drafted into the German Army, had fled to Asuncion, Paraguay, where he worked as a clerk in his uncle's hotel. Late one evening a man came to the hotel counter. Erhart passed the register and a pen toward the prospective guest. He made no motion to sign, but said, "Mr. Hummel, would you be interested in a job as interpreter to a wealthy German who arrived here recently and bought a large cattle range in the northern part of this country?" "Indeed I would," said Erhart, "But," said the man, "there are stipulations. For a period

of one year you must not leave the place, nor let any of his employees commune with the owner, or let them get a good look at him. Like you, he is a deserter from the German Army and is wanted by the Gestapo. You can be sure that a satisfactory performance of your job will redeem you in the eyes of the law."

Things weren't going so well in the Third Reich. Enemy troops were converging on Germany from all sides. Hitler and his mistress, Eva Braun, his Propaganda Minister, Dr. Goebbels, his wife and six children had taken refuge in the underground bunkers, 50 feet below the Chancellery in Berlin. On April 29, 1945, during a heavy bombardment by the Russians, who were only a few miles away, Hitler and Eva Braun entered into a marriage and spent their last night in the bunkers.

On Monday, the 30th of April, the Russians were within a few blocks from the Chancellery. Hitler had finished the final preparation for his and Eva's spurious death. He shook hands and bid good-bye to the few remaining loyalists, took Eva by the arm and retired to their room. In a moment, a shot was heard. Hitler's valet entered the room and covered Hitler's face and body with an army blanket, carried his body to the garden and placed it in a shell hole. Eva, dead from swallowing poison, was placed next to Hitler's body and ignited with gasoline. To show how confused some people can get under emotional stress, some insisted that Hitler had not died that afternoon, but the previous day.

Dr. Goebbels didn't think it worthwhile to inform anyone of his intentions. His first act was to order his six children poisoned. Then he led his wife to the exit door, commanded his orderly to raise his rifle and shoot them, which he did. Theirs and the bodies of their children were also placed in a shell hole and burned.

The bones of Hitler and Eva were never found. But the fact is that the bones of Dr. Goebbels, his wife and six children were all found in a recognizable condition. This gave rise to rumors that Hitler and Eva had survived.

In the first part of May, 1945, a Spanish airplane landed on the turf in front of a luxurious villa near Guachalla, Paraguay. A personable smooth shaven gentleman made his exit and walked toward the villa's front door. His knock was answered by its owner, whereupon the visitor drew a revolver from a shoulder holster and shot him dead. As the

plane was about to leave, a beautiful blond exited and followed him into the villa. Their shouts of "Erhart Hummel, where are you?" went unanswered.

There were good reasons why Erhart did not answer. He had seen and heard what had happened to his master. He ran as fast as his legs would carry him to the nearby Pilcomay River, which he followed into Asuncion. From there he rode a donkey to Montivideo where he got a job on a tramp steamer bound for Copenhagen.

Because of Erhart's obsession toward the whereabouts of Hitler, I would not characterize him as a paranoia. In fact, he was a skilled raconteur.

MURPHY'S LAW

In 1933 I bought several acres of land in Great Neck, Long Island for a real estate development, which I named Petersen's Woodlands.

It was studded with immense oak trees. Under ordinary circumstances I should have been out in two years but everything that could possibly happen to a development happened.

First, the sewer's and water contractor was compelled to hire WPA workers, who took over a year to do the job!

When the first house was under contract, the purchaser's lawyer wrote me a letter in which he said that I had neither egress or ingress to the property. It developed that the man who sold me the property wasn't sure of its border lines and had left a 10-foot strip all around the property.

Some tricky lawyer had bought tax title to the strip of land! I wasn't exactly worried about it because I had a guaranteed title to the property and was indeed surprised when I went to the Title Company in Jamaica and found the Title Company was in Bankruptcy proceedings. In other words, the title to my property was no good! It took a tidy sum to satisfy the tricky lawyer.

Next, the plasterer's Union went on strike, which lasted six months. Then a carpenter fell down and broke his back. The Insurance company doubled the premium on my policy. Next, the city fathers decided that the main sewer wasn't large enough to accommodate the Woodlands, and a trunk sewer had to be built at the cost of \$40,000! This stopped the progress on the Woodlands for another eight months.

On September 21, 1938 the rain was coming down in buckets. I was standing in the open doorway of the small sales office watching the clouds in the sky moving with a most peculiar incessant motion. Suddenly the wind increased to a gale that reached hurricane force as the sky turned to gold dust and black velvet, crating an exciting grandeur. The wind came spinning at nearly 80 miles an hour, which blew the last remaining leaves off the oaks. Then with a booming as of great guns, the giant oaks, bent towards each other by the fury of the wind, toppled to the ground while the branches tore the slates off the roofs, and the trunks shifted the houses on their foundations and the roots tore the pavement to pieces. Not a tree was left in the Woodlands!

JANUARY ASSESSMENT

Number 907

IS DUE AND PAYABLE TO THE
LODGE TREASURER

January 1, 1975

AND MUST BE PAID BEFORE

February 1, 1975

Members failing to pay to their local lodge treasurer
as per above will be considered in arrears.

HOWARD CHRISTENSEN,
Secretary-Treasurer.



Iowa Church Celebrates Centennial This Year

A milestone in the rich Danish cultural and religious heritage of Elk Horn, Iowa will be observed April 27, 1975, when members of the Elk Horn Lutheran Church celebrate the 100th anniversary of the congregation.

The Rev. Lester Larsen, pastor of the historic church since 1967 is of Norwegian descent as was also its first pastor, but the other eleven who have served the parish were of Danish extraction and could speak the Danish language. There were Danish sermons and services as well as business meetings conducted in the Danish language up until the 1940's.

The centennial will be observed all year, but special meetings are planned for January 26, April 27, June 14 and October 26.

Nation's Fraternal Hear DB Speakers

Las Vegas, Nev., — A tiny rural schoolhouse in eastern Wisconsin where Flag Day was born may be given to the American people as part of the nation's 1976 bicentennial celebration.

The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCFA), at its 88th Annual Meeting here September 22-25, endorsed the National Fraternal Flag Day Foundation's "Project '76" as its official bicentennial project. NFCFA will provide funds and manpower to study the feasibility of transferring Stony Hill school at Fredonia, Wisconsin, to the federal government in behalf of the 98 societies which make up the National Fraternal Congress of America.

Among the 600 delegates attending the 88th Annual NFCFA Meeting from The Danish Brotherhood in America were Howard Christensen, National Secretary-Treasurer and Donald V. Eversoll, Director of Fraternal Affairs, who presented major speeches to the assembly. Mr. Christensen spoke on "The Promotion Of The Fraternal Effort Through Ethnic Heritage," and Mr. Eversoll spoke on "Communicating an Ethnic Lifestyle."

Thought for the Month

Many a man is so busy making a living, he has forgotten what he is living for.

Name	Lodge No.	Location	Sponsor
Bruce W. Woodward	4	Racine	Gordon Sorensen
Keith L. Rasmussen	4	Racine	Kenneth Janssen
James M. Kirby	14	Kenosha	Robert Ibsen
Raymond Matheny	14	Kenosha	Kenneth Learmont
Leonard P. Henrikson	14	Kenosha	Charles Madsen
Jack T. Aalto	14	Kenosha	Rudolph Bernhardt
Grethe K. Prip	17	Chicago	Peder M. Larsen
David L. Bondo	29	Seattle	James B. Langsted
John A. Holmes	32	New Haven	Barry Edmonds
June L. Jensen	34	Dwight	Genevieve Andreasen
Paul S. Schou	34	Dwight	Hilda Schou
Glen C. Jensen, Jr.*	34	Dwight	Genevieve Andreasen
Deborah J. Jensen	34	Dwight	Genevieve Andreasen
Arthur B. Johnson	46	Perth Amboy	Christ. Brems
Joseph W. Hanson	46	Perth Amboy	H. Mathiasen
Walter Rasmussen	46	Perth Amboy	H. Mathiasen
Harold W. Lund	46	Perth Amboy	H. Mathiasen
Gustaf E. Bergman	46	Perth Amboy	H. Mathiasen
John C. Sindet	46	Perth Amboy	H. Mathiasen
Willard R. Neary	46	P.A.	G.W. Ferdinandsen
Milton W. Hanson	46	P.A.	G.W. Ferdinandsen
Wilson L. Madsen	46	Perth Amboy	D.H. Farber
Ann Marie Nielsen*	126	Los Angeles	Benny Nielsen
Raymond P. Mohnsen	126	Los Angeles	H. Mathiasen
David C. Danielsen	144	Dike	Delmar Danielsen
Dennis C. Sloth	144	Dike	Gordon Sloth
Joseph B. Galloway	144	Dike	Leo Olsen
Margaret M. Vestre	172	Philadelphia	F. Hinrichsen
Bjorne Vestre	172	Philadelphia	F. Hinrichsen
Norma Kett	172	Philadelphia	John Nissen
Ralph Kett	172	Philadelphia	John Nissen
William S. Madsen	172	Philadelphia	Mogens Hempel
Melanie A. Madsen	172	Philadelphia	Mogens Hempel
Rosemary M. Baratta	172	Philadelphia	G. Clausen
James B. Gilbert	206	Blair	Paul Strand
Bernard J. Kros	206	Blair	Paul Strand
Raymond C. Hansen	206	Blair	Paul Strand
Enola Kjelgaard	206	Blair	Julia Petersen
Harold L. Kjelgaard	206	Blair	Julia Petersen
Adolph H. Madsen	217	Humboldt	W. Pedersen
Axel B. Donvig	227	Detroit	Gunnar Madsen
Andrew Paulsen	227	Detroit	Otto Pedersen
Elizabeth Rasmussen	256	Joliet**	Metha Jensen
Debra A. Sills	256	Joliet**	Metha Jensen
Albert A. Nelson	256	Joliet**	Metha Jensen
Viggo R. Wulff	299	Solvang	Bob Lassiter
Lester Bornhoff	299	Solvang	Bob Lassiter
Sharon L. Basse	301	Akron	Ejner Madsen
Deloris M. Ross	326	West Branch	Eva Bendixen
Kenneth K. Balling	400	Anaheim***	H. Mathiasen
Thorvald Christensen	600	Omaha	Ellen Charlebois

Elsie V. Lynch	600	Omaha	Helga Mikkelsen
Arthur Lister, Jr.*	600	Omaha	Arthur J. Lister, Sr.
Diane E. Clausen*	700	Omaha	Richard E. Clausen
Kenneth W. Cobeldick	700	Omaha	Ervin Tobeck
Diane J. Jensen	700	Omaha	Agee W.K. Jensen

* Juvenile Members

** Lodge in organizational stage in Joliet, Ill.

*** Lodge in organizational stage in Anaheim, Calif.

Our Readers Write



Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a check for \$7, for which I wish to buy seven Danish Calendars for 1975. I think this is a superb idea. Let's continue it through the years.

My husband has been a member of the Danish Brotherhood since 1911. Thank you.

Mrs. Wm. B. Schmidt
2894 Holly Street
Denver, Colorado 80207

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is my check for five more calendars. The calendars are beautiful and will make wonderful Christmas gifts.

Mrs. Alice Rasmussen
Lodge No. 143.

Gentlemen:

The recipes in the D.B. Calendar were so delicious to read about that it was necessary to go on a fast as the scale already reads, plus 8. Enclosed

is my check for \$4, for which please send me four more calendars.

Emmet Wilson
929 — 6th Avenue
Council Bluffs, Ia. 51501.

Dear Sirs:

I received your scholarship payment, No. 3. I want to again thank you and all the members of the Danish Brotherhood for the help you give. Believe me, your check comes at the right time. Your generosity is certainly appreciated.

I thought I'd tell you that I'm now applying for Law School. I took the National Law School Admission Test a few weeks ago and will soon get the results. When I get my scores, I'll be able to decide on which schools I should seriously consider.

School is more rewarding all the time.

Sincerely,
Steen Nielsen
Yale College.

Dear Friends:

I am a member of D.B. Lodge No. 41 and also a collector of vintage radios of the 1920-1927 era. I would very much like to add to my museum. If you have any such radios, please forward manufacturer's name, model number, condition, and asking price. For every radio purchased, I will donate an extra amount of \$3.00 to the scholarship committee treasury.

Daniel S. Gaidosz
342 West River Road
Orange, Conn. 06477.

"HAVE YOUR ANCESTRY TRACED"

Danish Family records
traced back by genealogist.

Send particulars and I shall
make you an offer.

John Thompson
Tjørnevej 28
3450 Allerød
Denmark

Report To Members Of Annual Board Meeting

(Continued from page 5)

of promoting fraternal programs be instituted to encourage lodges and members to take greater advantage of benefits. Ideas for lodge activities should be developed and presented to the lodges on a regular basis. Stress should be placed on the family lodge where husband and wife can go together. Publicity should be given to a lodge when it changes to a modern system. The advantages of getting more people to a meeting, having more people with ideas and a broader division of labor should be emphasized.

Slide and film programs will be made available for use without charge.

Jorgensen advised the Board of the suggestion made at the Pacific Northwest District convention to present a "Friend of the Fraternity" award to the National Geographic

magazine. The Board authorized the fraternal department to make arrangements for the presentation of this award, by Einar Danielsen, President, in Washington, D.C. The National Geographic has been a leading publication in giving recognition to Denmark and Danish-American activities.

The request of Lodge No. 257 to move its lodge from New York City to Florida was again discussed by the Board. An extension of time to meet the requirements set by the Board for making the move effective was granted.

Concern was expressed by Board members over the situation existing in one or two Danish Brotherhood districts where little or no interest in growth or expansion is in evidence. Action will be taken to see what can be done to assist the members of the

districts in creating more interest in the society.

The secretary-treasurer presented a report to the Board dealing primarily with administrative matters, as well as fraternal and agency department activities.

Nine-month budget figures were given to each Board member for review and projections for 1975 were discussed. Arrangements were made to send the 1975 budget for the society's operation to the Board for approval at a later date.

The Executive Committee held its meeting and recommendations for salary adjustments were made to the Board in that committee's report.

The date for the semi-annual meeting of the Board was established as March 17, to run concurrently with the meeting of the National Law Committee.



Our Lodges in Action

Tacoma for a periodic session of discussions. While the leaves were falling and torrents of rain dampened the day, we solved "all the world's problems" before settling down to local decisions which included donations to the Pacific Northwest Danish Home and to Dana College, recommendations to National Delegate Norbert Grove and auditing of Secretary Treasurer Martin Rasmussen's very fine records. Denmark visitations were reported by Brothers Regnar Brochner and Villy Rasmussen.

On December 15th, the Queen City Danes staged their annual Children's Christmas Party with the traditional tree, games, dances and goodies at the Swedish Club. New Member Kris Knudsen of Mountlake Terrace also joined the festivities. A May wedding is being planned for Anna Christine, daughter of Past President Charles Parker. Seattle-ites meet twice a month.

Also on December 15th, the Enumscratch Danes launched their annual Family Christmas Dinner, complete with "schnapps" and "skaal" to their National Delegate Niels Nedergard.

Norbert E. Grove, Correspondent.



Washington-Oregon British Columbia (Pacific Northwest)

Happy New Year and all the blessings possible for 1975 from the officers in all the Danish Lodges in Canada, Washington and the Oregon Coast to Danes and their friends everywhere. Past President Peter Rasmussen of McMinnville DB 194 must surely have set a record — Brother Pete has been elected President a total of 30 times — his wife, Ellen, has also been very active in Danish Circles. At a recent meeting of the Oregon Danes, Brother Otto Larsen showed slides from his trip to the Holy Land, Turkey and Greece — the potluck dinner featuring roast beef preceding the entertainment, was enjoyed by all. In the photo is Past District President Peter Rasmussen, left, receiving his 50-year pin from Past District President Sigurd Nielsen.



"Godt Nyt Aar"

On November 23rd, the City of Destiny Danes met at Past District President Henning Lindberg's home in Page 10



Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois (Midwest)

Lodge No. 14, Kenosha, Wis. — By the time you receive this we will have had another banner night by initiating another big group of new members. Joining us since the last newsletter were David Speaker, Jack Aalto, James Kirby, Martin M. Petersen III, Raymond Matheny, Eugene Rasmussen, Erik Andersen and Gerald Merfeld. That's really ending up a good year in fine style. We now have 185 members which is an increase of about 25 for the year. By National Convention time in September 1975 we should really be in fine shape. With Bennie Peterson doing such a fine job for us and all of you continuing to give him names a goal of 250 is not

unrealistic by convention time. Let's show them that we are one of the best by meeting that goal!!

Last but certainly not least I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the outgoing officers for a splendid year of achievement and dedication to their club. Their efforts and guidance have carried us through a good year. Congratulations to Bill Lee, Past President; Elmer Nelson, President, Gordon Andersen, Vice-President; Bob Ibsen, Secretary; Ronald Jensen, Treasurer; Leonard Baas, Conductor; Rudy Bernhardt, Jr. Head Trustee; Arnold Lehto, Second Trustee; Harold Petersen, Third Trustee; Charles Madsen, Inner Guard, Clarence Duffin, Outer Guard; Board of Directors — Elmer Nelson, Bill Lee, Bill Nelson, Rudy Bernhardt, Jr. Einar Sorensen and Gordon Andersen. Well done gentlemen.

A pat on the back to all you members who brought in a new member in 1974. To those of you who did not bring one in let's join the team — we need your support to help your club succeed. Call Bennie Peterson at 652-8136 and give him that name. Let's make 1975 the greatest ever!!

Bob Ibsen.

Lodge No. 182, Waukegan, Ill. — Two new members were recently added to our growing membership. At our last meeting, November 8, Charles Marcussen and Raymond Sorensen, Jr., were initiated. Welcome Charlie and Ray.

On November 9, two of our members, Laurits and Sine Petersen drove down to Dwight, Ill. and had a marvelous time at the dance given by Lodge No. 34. They also attended a pre-dance get-together at the Jim Andrea-sens. Thank you for the invitation, Dwight!!

The recent passing of our good and devoted brother Thorvald Mouritsen has greatly saddened us. We extend our sympathy to his widow and family.

November 17, our lodge celebrated its 71st anniversary when 53 met at the Swedish Manor Restaurant. After we enjoyed a delicious smorgasbord we heard a few words from our master of ceremonies Carl Petersen and area manager, Fleming Andersen. Our thanks to sine Petersen for making all the arrangements for this most delightful evening.

At our next meeting, December 6, there will be an election of officers followed by a small Christmas party.

Our best wishes to all for a joyous Christmas, a truly happy New Year and countless blessings always.

Janet Petersen, Correspondent.

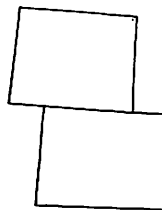
Lodge No. 34, Dwight, Ill. — Lodge No. 34 met for their regular meeting Monday, November 11, with approximately 32 in attendance. We had three new members — Billie Jo Lauritsen, and Bill and Carol Clavey. Welcome new members. The meeting was conducted by the President, Merv Madsen. We discussed the D.B. dance held November 9. Money was taken in and chances sold for a Christmas plate donated by Metha Jensen and there also were two cake walks. Overall, it was a very enjoyable evening for everyone.

On December 30, we are having a Christmas Party for the families. On January 11, we are planning another D.B. dance.

After the meeting, Mr. Larsen showed movies of Denmark. We want to thank him very much. Election of new officers is set for the December meeting.

Mrs. Marion Lund, Mrs. Margaret Lauritsen and Mrs. Beverly Lund were put on the lunch and entertainment committee for December. Lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

Beverly Lund, Correspondent.



Colorado-Wyoming

We hope you all have had a very pleasant Christmas, and that the new year 1975, will bring you good health, prosperity and happiness.

Columbine Lodge No. 43, take great pleasure to extend a cordial invitation to the members of the Danish Brotherhood, and the members of the Danish Sisterhood to attend the Danish Brotherhood 29th National Convention in Denver, Colorado from September 17 through September 20, 1975. We assure you that you will find a warm, friendly Western welcome awaiting you.

In looking at the map of these United States it is quite apparent that Denver and the Rocky Mountain area is very centrally located and is ideally situated for a National Convention.

The Metropolitan Denver area now has a population of well over one million people. A growth that has few equals anywhere, to go along with this growth, or perhaps the reason for the growth, is a very dynamic and aggressive business climate coupled with excellent City and Metro administration. The City of Denver is more than pleased to see The Danish Brotherhood will hold its National Convention in Denver September 1975.

Denver altitude is 5,280 feet above sea level. The Mile High City, as Denver sometimes is called, will provide a magnificent setting with the majestic Rockies as a back drop for our City. We enjoy the mild, sunny, semi-arid climate that prevails over much of the central Rocky Mountain region, without the extremely cold mornings of the high elevations and restricted mountain valleys during the cold part of the year, or the hot afternoons of summer at lower altitudes. Wind is lessened by the proximity of the mountains, and extremely warm or cold weather is usually of short duration. Denver enjoys a low relative humidity, low average precipitation and considerable sunshine, providing a comfortable outdoor

Slides Are Free

All slide and film programs in the series "A Living Heritage" are now **FREE** to any lodge or member, wishing to use them. For a list of these professionally-produced programs, see your lodge president or write The Home Office for a descriptive brochure.

climate any season of the year. This will give us the opportunity to arrange bus sightseeing tours for your enjoyment. Be our guest, won't you?

**Svend A. Sonderup, Chairman,
National Convention Steering Committee.**



**Connecticut, New York,
Vermont, New Jersey,
Pennsylvania,
Rhode Island
(Eastern Lodges)**

Lodge No. 190, Schenectady, N.Y. — Our meeting, held on November 6th, started with a fine dinner served by Sara Becker. Afterward, we all went upstairs for our meeting in the new meeting room. After the opening, the sick committee chairman, Evan Christensen, reported that Norman Jacobsen, Walter Jorgensen and Brother Ramsing had all been in the hospital, but all are now home and coming along fine.

Brother Carl W. Petersen lost his wife last week and a sympathy card was sent from the lodge. Our sincere sympathy to Carl and his family.

On December 6th, the lodge sponsored a dinner for the members and their friends. After dinner there was a grab bag for each guest attending.

Last, but not least, on December 19th, Rigmor and Chris Biering are going on vacation in Florida. We wish all a Happy New Year.

Chris Biering, Secretary.

Lodge No. 32, New Haven, Conn. — At our meeting held on December 12, we had installation of a new member, John Holmes, Jr. During the year our lodge has lost six members and gained five. All in all, it has been a good year.

We also had election of next year's officers. It will be the same as last year, except for inner and outer guard.

The installation will be held jointly with the Sisters on January 8, and, hopefully, the President of the G.C.E.L., Erling Braumann, will be the installing officer.

The Sisters had a good turnout at their Christmas Party. Our folk dance group had a party at Art Sorensen's place on December 15th, and on December 19, our JADA group has a party. All the children have been baking cake for this day, and we will have Christmas carols in Danish.

Norman Edmonds, Secretary.

Lodge No. 172, Philadelphia, Pa. — Our December meeting was a short one, and the annual Pollyanna custom was in effect. The Christmas tree was decorated for the big weekend. Beginning the New Year, we will have a jackpot drawing every month, but you must be present to win.

Mrs. Leila Erwin has volunteered to start a Danish Language Class every meeting night at 7:30 p.m. We would like to see everyone interested turn out for these.

Donations to our printing fund have been received from Svend Nielsen, Frank Ervin, Ralph Kett, Axel Rasmussen and Nanda and Carl Gamborg-Nielsen. Thank you.

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Sisters, our thanks to Annette Andersen and Lorraine Jordan for being on the committee last month. The Christmas meeting was held at Birthe Olesen's home. Dagmar Knudsen has asked to step down as our representative to the Old People's Home for health reasons. Birthe Olesen and Gyda Jensen will be our new delegates.

From the East Coast office, John Hinrichsen reports that the office is increasing its learning material center. We now have slide/tape presentations on Denmark, four of the Danish festivals in the U.S., and there are also 16mm films on Denmark. Among the small library of Danish books, is a beautiful Danish Bible contributed by a prospective Dane, Mrs. Paulsen. The Bible is over 100 years old and is in Old Danish Script.

Our membership is growing. We have submitted 36 new applications, 23 insured and 13 social.

If you're planning a vacation in Denmark next year, you can sign up with People-To-People and the Danish Brotherhood and get a choice of flights. Contact Flemming Hinrichsen, our Flight Chairman, for more information.

George Clausen, Secretary.

Lodge No. 325, Nassau County, N.Y. — Our last meeting for 1974 was held on December 14th, with nomination of officers for the next year. After a short business meeting, we had our usual smorgaasboard, this time Hans Jorgensen, Rita Nielsen, Jorgen Petersen and Lilli Goldstein were the hosts. We would like, at this time, to thank everyone who has served on the Hostess Committee during the past year.

After the smorgaasboard, we all pitched in to help decorate the Christmas tree for the children's party the 16th.

Also, our first Art and Hobby Show was a big success. This show was sponsored by Jorgen Endler who, regrettably, was unable to attend due to illness. Three prizes were awarded: Birgit Jacobsen, first prize for a beautiful painting of a Danish farm; Birgit Baggott, second prize for all kinds of needlecraft. Third prize went to Egon Larsen for a chess set made from parts of old furniture. The following members deserve honorable mention: Jorgen Endler, painting of a sailing vessel and carving of a street scene; Ejvind Laustsen, for a carved amagerhylde; and Niels Hansen, for a display of several paintings. We hope to see many more shows, and we all enjoyed this one very much.

As many of us know, Jorgen Endler underwent open-heart surgery about a month ago. I am now pleased to inform you that he is coming along fine. At this time, Jorgen would like to thank everyone for the cards and visits during his stay in the hospital.

Bill Steffensen, Secretary.

Lodge No. 116, Newark, N.J. — At our last meeting, a slate of officers for 1975 was presented. It is as follows: Frantz Klausen, Paul Ifversen, Svend Sorensen, Viggo Nielsen, Chris Mogensen, Carl Ingholm, John Jensen, Robert Nielsen and George Godthaab. There will also be two delegates and two alternates for the Danish Home for the Aged chosen. This was our last meeting this year.

We will have our Christmas Party, as usual, with gifts and smorgaasboard. Brother Paul Gehr was lucky to be at our last meeting. He drew the lucky number.

Viggo Nielsen, Secretary.



Michigan, Ohio

Lodge No. 30, Muskegon, Mich. — We are really enjoying our new meeting hall. It is much better located, and I am sure we will have a better turnout for meetings. Our bowling team gets better each week, so that is encouraging.

We had a fish supper, and games for our social meeting. Everyone had a nice time. At our business meeting, Don Hansen brought sandwiches, which everyone enjoyed.

Just to put a date down to keep open; we have decided to have the Michigan-Ohio District Convention the weekend of May 3, 1975. So put a big circle on that date, and plan to come to Muskegon for a good time. We'll give you all the details later.

Clayton C. Hansen, Secretary.

Detroit Lodge No. 227 — I hope a lot of the Brothers read my articles the last couple of months, particularly the parts dealing with the need for more of you to get active in the Lodge activities. Even though election of officers for the next year has taken place and the new officers are installed, the need for help is always there.

On November 13, 150 brothers and sisters enjoyed the monthly pre-meeting dinner. The Lodge had 65 members plus 12 officers at the business meeting that followed the dinner. At this meeting, our President, Werner Walther, initiated Howard Larsen into the Lodge and Brotherhood. Past President Harold Capion welcomed our new member to the Lodge.

Lodge No. 227 is proud to have been notified that Carl Hansen has been appointed to serve on the National Law Committee for the upcoming National Convention.

Carl Jacobsen, who now lives in Traverse City, Mich., was due to receive his 50 year pin so Axel Nielsen who also lives in Traverse City offered to present Carl with the pin on behalf of the Lodge.

Vandel Nielsen missed out on the lodge jackpot by not

being at the meeting. After the meeting we were shown two films that were procured from Omaha. They were entitled "Scandinavian Handicrafts" and "Christmas in Denmark".

After the November 27th meeting we were served Danish sandwiches to go along with our usual beer, coffee and pastry. Finn Sorensen missed out on a \$55.00 jackpot by not attending the November 27th meeting. The pot will continue to grow until we can pull the name of one of the brothers who is at the Lodge meeting on the night his name is pulled. When that happens, one of us could pick up a few dollars, which is never hard to take.

I guess that takes care of things from the Detroit area for this month. See all of you at the next lodge meeting.

Robert Sorensen, Correspondent.

Lodge No. 51, Ludington, Mich. — On Wednesday evening, November 6, 1974, Lodge No. 51 held their regular monthly business meeting in the lodge rooms of the Danish Hall with President William Smith presiding. Brother Lars Christoffersen pulled his own name for the jackpot, so now we must start all over again. After the meeting, a lunch of open-faced sandwiches, pickles, and assorted beverages was served by our President.

On Wednesday evening, November 20, we had our monthly social evening. The name of Brother Robert Jensen was called for the jackpot, but he was not present. For lunch we were treated to sloppy joe sandwiches prepared by Mrs. William Smith. Secretary Earl Jensen did the serving.

On Wednesday evening, November 27 the monthly Pinochle Party was held in the lodge rooms of the Danish Hall. The committee for the evening consisted of Brother Lars Christoffersen and Treasurer Alvin Garcia. At the conclusion of the games, prizes were awarded and a potluck lunch was served by the committee assisted by Mrs. J.M. Jeppesen, Mrs. Lena Hansen and Brother Frank Hansen and Mrs. Hansen.

Trustee Kenneth Johnson has been elected to be our delegate to the next national convention, and he will be calling a meeting soon of the local Law Committee.

As our election of officers will be coming in December, we are in hopes of having a good turnout for this important part of the lodge activities.

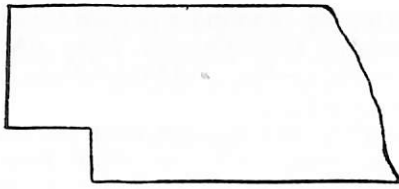
Fraternally yours,

Alf Larsen, Correspondent.

New Stickers Available From Home Office

Let the whole world know "Danes Have More Fun". Give one to a friend and let him be "Dane For A Day". Or try the "Kiss Me, I'm Danish" sticker — it just might work. Please use coupon on page 4 to order.





Nebraska

Lodge No. 16, Minden, Nebr. — Lodge No. 16 had a Thanksgiving supper at their November 13 meeting. Seventy members and friends attended, and, pictured at right are 12 of the 17 new members who were initiated into Lodge No. 16 during the past 12 months. The new members attended as honored guests.



Howard Christensen presenting 25-year pins to [left to right] Ivan Larsen, Lloyd Johnson and Herb Nielsen.

We were fortunate to have National Secretary-Treasurer Howard Christensen and Donald Eversoll Director of Fraternal Affairs with us. Mr. Christensen initiated three new members into the lodge. They were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bauer and Reuben Nelson. Howard also presented Ivan Larsen, Lloyd Johnson and Herb Nielsen with their 25-year membership pins.

Don Eversoll presented the plaques to the winners of the National Essay Contest, Duane Kristensen, Lonney Nielsen and Stephanie Juranek.



Minden "Danish Days" Queen, Linda Jones [left]; Essay Contest winners, Stephanie Juranek, Lonney Nielsen and Duane Kristensen.

Plans were also discussed on starting a folk dancing class and a conversational Danish class.

The evening ended with bingo and everyone had a very enjoyable time.

Herb Nielsen, Secretary.

Lodge No. 161, Ruskin, Nebr. — Lodge No. 161 had their annual Christmas Party and Supper on December 2, at the Wagon Wheel Inn at Ruskin. A delicious meal was served to 53 members. The business meeting was conducted by President Schultz. Two new members were

initiated into the lodge. They are Art and Mildred Andersen; Dr. and Mrs. J.M. Andersen, of Superior, were guests of the lodge in appreciation of their hospitality in letting the lodge use their cabin for the State Picnic at Lovewell Lake in August.

It was decided to sponsor a dance for the public to be held at the Hardy Community Hall on January 17. Music will be by Bob O'Neal. Members will be asked to sell advance tickets. Committee members appointed were Floyd Andersen, Chairman, and Kenneth Jensby, Julius Jensen, Hanley Jensen and Rex Sykes.

Election of officers was held with the following results: President, Floyd Andersen; Vice-President, Julius Jensen; Secretary, Glennis McCutcheon; Treasurer, Leotta Pedersen; Conductor, Gary Nielsen; Inner Guard, Hanley Jensen; Outer Guard, Soren Nelson; Trustees, Kenneth Jensby, Willard McCutcheon and Eugene Schultz.

A social evening was spent with each bringing a \$1.00 gift for the grab bag. Lunch was served at the close of the evening. Hostesses for the evening were Ella Groves and Keith and Heral Jean Schultz.

Glennis McCutcheon, Correspondent.



California, Nevada

Lodge No. 126, Los Angeles, Calif. — In last month's magazine, you saw a picture of Jens Lauridsen with his great granddaughter, Wendy Mathiasen, representing four generations of Danish Brotherhood members.

Now, here's Jens, with another of his great grandchildren, Ronny Mathiasen, also a D.B. member, and Jennifer Erikson, daughter of Grace and Carl Sorensen, who is soon to become a D.B. member.



Lodge No. 139, Viborg, S.D. — Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone from all of us here in the Viborg Lodge.

In December we have election of new officers and on the 28th of December, we will have our Christmas Family Party. Next Saturday night we have our money-making project, we have bingo for ducks, geese and turkeys and the ladies serve coffee and pie.

On November 1, we were hosts to an exchange group of six young men from Jylland, Denmark. We served a potluck dinner. Mayor Anderson welcomed them. The town had the flags up and the school band played for them. There was a program with Danish singing. They, in turn, told about themselves and their families. They had traveled the U.S.A. for two months and left on the

(Continued on page 20)

AMTRACKING TO CHICAGO

We have just finished a 2000 mile Amtrack journey from Los Angeles to Chicago. To our surprise, it was very enjoyable, unlike a similar journey in June, 1972. During the intervening two years Amtrack equipment and service has improved vastly. We can highly recommend Amtrack, anyway between L.A. and the Windy City. It rivals the best trains in the world — the famous crack expresses of Europe.

On the Amtrack there are both stewards and stewardesses, and they go far out of their way to make the 44 hour long trip pleasant for children as well as adults of all ages. There are several sessions of bingo games every day with prizes for the winners, if they will sing a song. Then, of course, everyone joins in. Even a sourpuss

two tickets to Chicago. "You have, of course, reserved space?" the clerk inquired.

"No — not really..." I answered.

The clerk interrupted my intended tale of woe by running an experienced finger down along a file. "Sure", he said "I have two cancellations for tonight".

I nodded enthusiastically as I shoved \$170.00 across the counter. As he was making out our tickets he spoke encouragingly to a dozen people standing behind me. "Don't worry", he said, "You will all get on. I'll hold the train if I have to".

I know driving a new Buick across country is more convenient and flying is faster; but if you want to see America-the-beautiful and in inexpensive comfort, then go Amtrack. It is a bit of exciting adventure from the

its fantastic glory — like a million multi-faceted diamonds trying to look their prettiest on soft black velvet.

We sleep again and wake as multi-colored rays light up the eastern part of the sky. Soon the suns fiery mass creeps over the edge of the desert. Gossamer like fog, veiling grotesquely shaped mountains, are swept away by the heat. The dry, sandy fields stretching as far as eye can see, are alive with dry tumbleweeds. The weeds dance on the wind, onward, jumping over rocks and boulders and ditches — endlessly, like folkdancers who dance to the music of a broken record.

Dried mesquite and dwarfed trees stretch their withered, twisted branches toward the sky in permanent prayer for water; but cacti, which dot the desert, stand tall and proud — they are king of these open spaces. To show that they really are alive, some bloom every seventh year, I am told.

We pass the border to New Mexico, but the landscape does not change much. We note unpainted houses with lean-tos here and there and long dusty roads leading to nowhere. The horizon is walled by oddly shaped mountains. With a bit of imagination it is easy to recognize grotesque human faces in their outlines.

A sunset in the desert is a glorious spectacle, not only because it is there, but also because the traveler has the time to watch it. But how do you describe a symphony in blazing color, where nuances pulsate, change from minute to minute or from second to second?

All the colors, all the shades that you know are splashed on the sky, on the clouds as mother suns gentle fingers press the keys. The colors zoom through the dry clean air to your eye in unbelievable volume, — redder, bluer, more brown, more purple, stronger, fuller, more vivid. You feel sad when the spectacle fades into nothingness. You breathe almost in pain as the sun disappears below the horizon, leaving only a faint, almost invisible halo in the darkening sky.

We rattle through a mountainous corner of Colorado and into Missouri. This is a different America. The fields are well cultivated. The farms look prosperous surrounded by patches of green vegetable gardens and shady trees.

Kansas City is on the horizon. It is early in the morning as we roll into the station for a change in engines and crew. A half hour later we are again on our way. Green fields, with corn,

Vagabondia

by LEVI PERSSON

would have a good time with this crowd.

The dining car is first class, not only in quality and service, but also in quantity and prices. Food costs on trains are often inflated. On some European trains they charge \$1.00 for a cup of coffee; \$1.50 for a beer; \$2.50 for a sandwich and \$5.00 for lunch.

When we travel in Europe we often bring our own food and drinks. You don't have to do that on Amtrack. Here you can buy three substantial meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) for around five dollars.

Obtaining space on the old "El Capitan" is something else. Danny, at the Solvang Viking Travel Service informed me that Amtrack was booked solid two months in advance. "About 30 per cent are no shows" Danny said, "So you have a good chance to get seats if you "stand by" at least an hour before the trains departure".

Edith and I decided to stand by and on the evening of our planned departure, we took the Greyhound to Los Angeles. "If we can't make the train, we will go by bus — there is a transcontinental leaving an hour after the train" Edith said.

With our suitcases in hand, we stepped up to the ticket office at the Los Angeles Union Station. I asked for

moment the conductor leisurely signals the engineer and un-hurriedly swings himself onto the slowly moving train.

We sit in our armchairs for hours and stare, almost in a trance, at the mixture of nature and the American civilization which sweeps past our windows at 70 miles per hour. We pass everything moving on the super-highway beside us — heavily loaded cross-country trucks and autos and motorcycles. For a spell they try to race, then they all drop behind. It is a thrill to constantly be on the winning side.

We clickety-clack over crossings and sweep in and out of sharp curves. We highball through small towns delivering mail on the fly and picking it up in the same split second. In the night we listen to that ominous warning from the engines whistle "oooh-oooh-oooh" telling man and beast to get out of the way — because we can't slow down; we won't stop.

We fall asleep and waken after midnight. The metropolitan center of Los Angeles is far behind us. Pitch darkness outside our windows tell us that we are in the California desert. We stare at the sky and recognize star formations, only here they seem to consist of bigger stars; brighter stars. The milky way dominates the sky in

barley and wheat pass in review and everywhere the farmer is harvesting the old crop and preparing for the new.

We enter Illinois and pass Joliet. This was my stamping grounds when I was young. I recognize cities and towns with glee. Now Chicago, the Windy City, is on the horizon. We pass industrial complexes, and rivers into which factories empty their waste. We pass slowly moving barges pushed by straining tug boats, and bridges and more channels, more rivers and super highways filled with heavily laden trucks.

Chicago skyscrapers peer above the smog. I recognize the Union Station. Oh sure, I remember it is on Canal Street. We glide to a smooth stop and the conductor glances at his old fashioned railroad watch. He smiles, nods and murmurs "We are on time."

TWO VAGABONDS AND A ROMANTIC FREIGHTER

It has been said that the longest journey starts with a single step. That, of course, is true only if the single step is forward — and you intend to go forward. But don't let anyone kid you; that first step can be very difficult, particularly when you are dealing with the evasive spirit of an old weatherbeaten tramp steamer. We had no intention of walking backward the 7,000 miles from Yugoslavia to darkest Africa, but for several weeks we actually thought we were stepping backward, or swimming backward to be more correct.

Our ship, the 6,000-ton Brezice, was scheduled to leave Rijeka on September 1st, but it was delayed by a dockworkers strike, which was followed by an emergency operation in a dry dock. The Brezice overcame the difficulties, and we finally are headed up the gang plank.

As we go aboard, we notice a blackboard informing all concerned that the Brezice is departing from Rijeka at 21.00, and as the zero hour nears, the beehive activity on the dock and aboard ship slows down. Now the last slings loaded with freight are lowered into the holds. Grimy longshoremen climb up the steep iron ladders leading from the ship's hot and humid interior. Warily they pause on deck to brush dust from their clothes and sweat and grime from their half-naked bodies. They jost and banter as they quaff quarts of cool water, pouring some over their wrists and over the heads of each other. Slowly they descend the gangway.

Now the deck-hands go into con-

certed action, cleaning up debris and securing deck cargo with steel cables that are pulled so tight you could almost play a tune on them. The boatswain, a graying son of the sea, is the boss but hardly an order is given. Each problem is solved efficiently and in almost total silence. The seaman exchange ideas with almost unnoticeable gestures, with nods and shakes of the head.

Hatches clang shut; the booms snap into their sockets and are bolted down. Seamen on watch disperse to the bow and stern where, under the guidance of the first and second mate, they will handle the moorings as they are cast loose. We are ready for the 1100 mile, 3-day, haul down the full length of the Adriatic Sea around the Italian Boot to Livorno.

Two muscular tugboats are standing by. Nylon ropes connecting them to the Brezice are kept taut by idling propellers. The tugs are the bouncers of the harbor and in collaboration with the pilot, they can handle any emergency. They ooze with latent horsepower from stem to stern. Every piece of equipment aboard is of heavy caliber, double strength and durable. Right now, they appear to be excited and impatient — like two prize fighters waiting for the bell.

I cross the deck to the port side of the ship and ask Adam Pezraik, an old salt, what we are waiting for. Adam looks at his watch, curses under his breath, and answers, "these darn pilots are always late. They think we can't do without them. I got news for those guys. Why, our 'old man' knows more about this harbor than most pilots. He could take the Brezice out to sea anytime." He laughs as he tests the winch which will lift the gangway as soon as the pilot is aboard. He nods, adding, "I could do it myself if I had to."

Our attention is drawn to some commotion at the end of a warehouse and we note a speeding auto negotiate the sharp corner on two wheels. It comes to a screeching stop in front of us. A uniformed man, our pilot, jumps out and sweeps up the gangway, three steps at a time. Adam curses under his breath as he starts to lift the heavy landing plank with his hand winch. He motions for me to give him a hand, which I gladly do. When the plank is alongside and secured, he thanks me and rushes off to his other station on the bridge.

From the bridge the sound of a shrill whistle rends the air and our stern lines splash into the sea. One tug goes beserk. It shivers and shakes as it strains its mighty muscles. The



propeller is hurling black brine backward, where it forms ever spreading whirlpools. The Brezice is inching away from the dock.

Now the bowlines are dropped. The second tug goes into action; its engines stutter and belch black smoke. High powered searchlights guide the action and I note steam-like moisture bounce into the air from the taut towing cables. The gap between ship and shore is widening. I stare towards the wharf. It is empty and silent, but for the lone watchman who let go our lines. Sitting on a standard, he puffs on a cigarette as he waves a tired farewell.

The Brezice is in the middle of the channel; its bow is pointed toward the harbors exit. Our pilot exchanges signals with the tugs. They disengage and steam away. We skirt several lighted, clanging buoys and pass the last breakwater. We are in open water now, the vast expanse of the Adriatic Sea is before us.

The Captain resumes command. The pilots pick-up launch, which has been following us, comes alongside. It coordinates its speed with ours. The pilot scampers down the swinging rope ladder. At its bottom he pauses a moment before he jumps onto the rocking, heaving launch. He grabs a guide bar, steadies himself, waves goodbye and disappears into his cabin.

I am on the bridge with Captain Zvab and the AB at the wheel. The pilothouse is illuminated only by the faint light of the compass, the radar and the sonar. The Skipper's eyes scan the ship quickly to assure himself that all is in order; then stepping over to the engine room telegraph he turns the handle to "Full ahead".

I glance back at Rijeka's disappearing lights. I look at my watch; it is 11 p.m. We are off to darkest Africa. With Edith, I wonder what adventures lie ahead.



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Q: I received a leaflet in the mail recently that advances an interesting theory, "Someone always pays for life insurance whether you have it or not?" Is this true?

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MAIL TO: Danish Brotherhood in America, National Headquarters, 3717 Harney St., Omaha, NE, 68131.

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Danish Kitchen

In recognition of Askov, Minnesota, where the Rutabaga Festival is held every year, we are printing this recipe.

The recipe was developed by Andrew Wilson, and is from his recipe book, "The Delicious Rutabaga." Mr. Wilson admonishes us to leave the cover off the pot when cooking rutabagas, and to add a little sugar to dispel any possible bitter taste.

Try rutabagas, if you haven't already.



Rutabaga With Cheese Sauce

- 3 pounds rutabagas
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 3 tablespoons margarine or butter
- 3/4 cup rutabaga liquor
- 3/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup corn flake crumbs
- 1 1/2 cups grated Cheddar cheese
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 cup crumbled bacon

Cube the rutabagas and cook in 1 inch salted and 1 tablespoon sugar water or so it just covers

them. Cook about 20-25 minutes. They must be firm.

Melt the margarine and combine with the flour to form a paste. Add the rutabaga liquor and the cream to form a smooth sauce. Add the salt. Cook over double boiler until thick.

In a buttered baking dish layer the rutabagas by putting one layer of cubes on the bottom, sprinkle with cheese, then the bacon, and repeat until all ingredients are used. Cover with corn flakes mixed with 4 tablespoons bacon drippings.

Bake in a 350 degree oven for 25 minutes. Serves 6.

Lest We Forget

IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF THEIR SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP, WE HONOR THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY SINCE THE LAST REPORT.

Date Of Death	Name	Age	Birthplace	Lodge No.	Location	Year Joined
Nov. 12	—Lenius Gottlieb	77	Aarhus, Denmark	14	Kenosha, Wis.	1924
Nov. 15	—Einer J. Jepsen	86	Sindal, Denmark	15	Des Moines, Ia.	1922
Sept. 23	—Thomas T. Andersen	87	Egensoy, Denmark	49	San Francisco, Ca.	1921
Oct. 31	—George V. Bahnsen	77	Hartford, Ct.	314	Hartford, Ct.	1942
Nov. 6	—Erik Torring	70	Chicago, Ill.	161	Ruskin, Nebr.	1962
Nov. 2	—Clifford Grove	44	Cadams, Nebr.	161	Ruskin, Nebr.	1966
Nov. 7	—Robert L. Jensby	46	Superior, Nebr.	161	Ruskin, Nebr.	1973
Nov. 2	—Thorvald Vissing	85	Aarhus, Denmark	149	Luverne, N.D.	1917
Nov. 19	—Gilbert Jensen	67	Harlan, Iowa	15	Des Moines, Ia.	1938
Nov. 23	—August M. Mortensen	77	Rockford, Ill.	64	Rockford, Ill.	1916
Nov. 17	—Wallace C. Hoffman	84	Kansas City, Mo.	35	Chicago, Ill.	1910
Nov. 25	—Hans Andersen	86	Denmark	164	New York, N.Y.	1927
Nov. 30	—Wm. E. Nielsen	78	Meridian, Ct.	314	Hartford, Ct.	1938
Nov. 23	—Frederick A. Raaberg	85	Denmark	261	Fowler, Colo.	1913
Nov. 27	—Walter T. Andersen	92	Fakse Seylland, Den.	144	Dike, Ia.	1908
Nov. 29	—James H. Jeppesen	74	Copenhagen, Denmark	268	Junction City, Ore.	1926
Dec. 5	—Peter Hansen	90	Eglved, Denmark	46	Perth Amboy, N.J.	1906
June 26	—Richard Andersen	59	Osceola, Nebr.	1	Omaha, Nebr.	1971
Apr. 28	—Emil J. Jensen	78	Omaha, Nebr.	1	Omaha, Nebr.	1974
Nov. 20	—Raymond Andersen	69	Wisconsin	29	Seattle, Wash.	1971
Sept. 21	—Anders Petersen	84	Denmark	46	Perth Amboy, N.J.	1971
Nov. 29	—Fred Jensen	74	Cozad, Nebr.	262	Cozad, Nebr.	1950
Dec. 6	—Soren Thomsen	72		32	New Haven, Ct.	1967

Our Lodges in Action

(Continued from page 14)

next Tuesday. They claimed the highlight of the trip had been coming to Viborg and meeting all the Danish people who could still speak Danish. They all spoke English. It was a very enjoyable day.

Our good Secretary, Anton Jacobsen, passed away. We miss Anton at our meetings. He was a man that took great interest in the lodge and hardly ever missed coming to the meetings.

Ruth Peterson, Secretary.

Lodge No. 257, St. Petersburg, Fla. — We are working hard to establish our lodge in sunny Florida, and now have had two meetings with good attendance. We meet the third Thursday each month at 2 o'clock, p.m. at Pinellas Park Club House, 6026 — 75th Avenue, Pinellas Park, Florida.

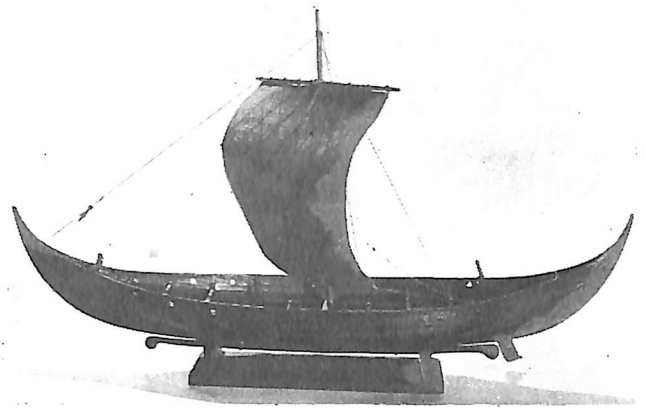
During the two meetings held, we have accepted as dual members twelve brothers from lodges up north. At our November meeting, we accepted seven social members into the lodge. We have also added two juvenile members. We are also, at present, processing additional applications, both social and insured, and hope to have them ready for our December meeting.

At our meeting on January 16th, we will have two Danish films to show, courtesy of the Danish Information Office in New York City, so we expect all the members to attend and bring all prospective members and guests.

Interested persons needing more information about this, the first Danish Brotherhood lodge on the west coast of Florida, should contact either the President, Elmer W. Jensen, 1915 Seminole Blvd., Lost 123, Largo, Fla., 33540, or the Secretary, Georg R. Pedersen, P.O. Box 1026, Bradenton, Florida, 33506.

Georg R. Pedersen, Secretary.

NEW PRODUCT AVAILABLE



VIKING SHIP

The lines were taken from an actual Viking ship raised in 1962 and presently on display in the "Viking Ships Museum" at Roskilde. This was a typical small merchant vessel of the Viking period, beautifully formed, of oak, on which the prow was featured, and which probably moved merchandise by charter across the Baltic Sea, North Sea, and into larger rivers.

Merchandise was stored amidships, under hides, while the crew of four to six men stayed on the half deck, fore or aft. From these half decks they rowed the ship by means of long oars stuck out through openings in the uppermost plank, along the side. Whenever possible, the wind was used for propulsion. The mast stood mid-ship, fitted into a slot in the keelson, braced by a mast beam. In addition, brace ropes held it from both sides, and to forward, from the mast head, running to rings fixed into the upper planking. The merchant ship was about 43 feet long, about 11 feet wide, and about 5½ feet high, midship. Some 75% of the original timbers were preserved for reconstruction.

The kit comes complete with paint, sail cloth, rigging, nails and complete building instructions. Length 25½". Width 6". Height 14". Scale 1:20

TO: Danish Brotherhood in America, P. O. Box 31748, Omaha, Nebraska, 68131.

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Also notify your lodge secretary of your new address

January 1975

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Lodge No. _____ the lodge is _____

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