

The

# AMERICAN DANE

February 1980

Magazine



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# What's New For February

1980 is barely underway and already the activities are gearing up. You'll find important announcements in this issue about many fraternal programs including the Bowling Tournament, Camp Grants, Creative Writing Contest, plus a new contest for Young Vikings. Others are mentioned in the Viking Adventures column.

Also this month we have one more chapter to Danish Literature in History, as Chet Gottfried tells us about three GIANTS — Danish authors Pontoppidan, Nexø and Jensen. Two of these literary greats won Nobel Prizes for their brilliant talents.

In March we have lined up two special features about Easter — each of them with a tie to our Danish Heritage. Until then, pleasant reading!

*Robert E. Coffey*

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# The American Dane magazine



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Please enclose check or money order for each subscription.

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*Cover Photo: The Queen's Guard in Copenhagen*  
*—by Dan Shepard, 1162 E. 2nd St.,*  
*Long Beach, CA 90802*

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**NEW!**

## A Contest for Young Vikings

**THIS CONTEST IS VERY SPECIAL.** An essay contest just for Danish Brotherhood members between the ages of 9 and 18. Four winners will be selected to receive cash prizes of \$25 each.

**WHY SPECIAL?** Your essay entries will help the National Headquarters staff determine where Young Viking mini-summer sessions should be held in the summer of 1980. The idea originated in Portland, Oregon, last year when the first sessions was led by Young Vikings leader Mark Pihl. It's such a good idea, we want more Young Vikings to learn about their heritage and have fun, too.

**TO WRITE YOUR ESSAY,** you must understand what the Young Vikings mini-summer session will be, so please read this brief description carefully. Participating Young Vikings will attend the sessions for two days. During this time they will learn a little about Danish language, Danish costumes, history, a craft and perhaps a folk dance.

**NOW, ABOUT THE CONTEST.** Write an essay on "Why I Would Like to Have a Young Vikings Mini-Summer Session Near My Home," not more than 500 words in length.

The four cash winners will be judged on sincerity, understanding, and English usage.

Locations of the sessions will be determined after essays have been evaluated and local lodges can be contacted. Sessions will be held in July or August.

**ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 1980.**

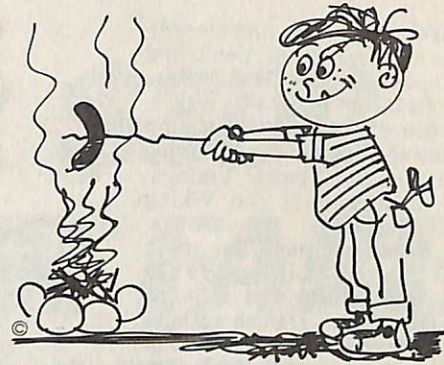
**SECTION 7, PARAGRAPH 3 [b]** — Payment authorized in the laws of the Society under one or more of the laws following Section 5, paragraph 4; and/or Section 6, paragraph 2; Section 14, paragraph 2, is hereby published:

JANUARY 1980

George J. Jacobsen, salary, \$276.88.

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### 1980 Camp Grant Awards



Our society's camp grant program has been expanded, but requirements for application remain the same. Children who are members or who are relatives of members may apply.

Grants are awarded for attendance at a regular supervised camp. Awards will be based on need and interest shown by the applicant in attending.

Request application blanks from The Danish Brotherhood in America, P.O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131, *not later than May 15, 1980.*

## National Bowling Tournament

It is time, again, for the Danish Brotherhood National Bowling Tournament. All lodge secretaries will receive entry forms for their lodge teams.

The dates for bowling are between April 1 and June 1. Prize money will be awarded to the top 20 teams. Prize money will also be awarded for the high men's game, lady's high game, and top "Young Viking" score, as well as the high series in each category. Teams may be mixed, but all participants must be members of the society.

The high ladies' team will receive an award and provision has been made for an award to the high Young Vikings team. Total amount of prize money will be just under \$1,000.

No entry fee or expense is connected with this tournament other than the fee charged by the bowling establishment.

# The President's Column



DBIA President  
George Jacobsen

Your Board of Directors heartily supports the upcoming Regional Workshops. They are part of a continuing program to assist our local lodges and districts. Every interested DBIA member should reserve his or her place at a workshop close to your lodge.

Prior to area workshops, lodges will receive a letter of explanation, a reservation sheet, and flyers to distribute to other members. The flyers will contain the sites and times of the workshops, as well as program details.

You should attend. You will learn about your society and your ability to operate effectively within your lodge or district will grow as a result of the training you receive.

## *Tentative Dates and Locations of Regional Seminars*

The date and location of the workshops with both the Fraternal and Insurance Departments participating, assisted by the National Board of Directors, have now been tentatively selected as follows:

<b>OMAHA</b>	February 16, 1980	Nebraska, Western Iowa, South Dakota & Colorado
<b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	March 1, 1980	Northern California
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	March 2, 1980	Southern California & Nevada
<b>SEATTLE</b>	March 15, 1980	Washington, Oregon & Idaho
<b>KENOSHA</b>	March 29, 1980	Wisconsin & Illinois
<b>DETROIT</b>	April 19, 1980	Michigan, Ohio & Indiana
<b>NEW HAVEN</b>	May 3, 1980	New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Vermont & Connecticut
<b>ALBERT LEA</b>	May 17, 1980	Eastern Iowa & Minnesota

District and Lodge Officers, Lodge Leaders, Lodge Representatives as well as anyone who might be interested in becoming a part-time lodge representative should plan on attending the workshops.

Subjects to be discussed with everybody participating will include: *"Improving Lodge Programming"* — *"How To Conduct Membership Drives"* — *"Duties of Lodge Officers"* — *"Danish Brotherhood Life Insurance"* and *"Communicating With The National Headquarters"*.

Mark your calendar for the date of the seminar for your area and plan to attend!

# Danish Literature in History

Part XI

## GIANTS

© Chet Gottfried

There were three giants living and working in Denmark at the turn of the twentieth century — that is, literary giants. They were grand and their works were grand including epic novels over a thousand pages long. They were also masters at short story writing, and today, in English, it is mostly by their short stories that we know them: Henrik Pontoppidan, Martin Andersen Nexø, and Johannes V. Jensen. Both Pontoppidan and Jensen won a Nobel Prize each, in 1917 and 1944, respectively. Nexø also might have won one, but after two brilliant epics, he turned to political writing, all but ignoring fiction.

In many ways Henrik Pontoppidan (1857-1943) fulfills the popular idea of a Scandinavian author; he was a handsome man with striking features, and his writing had all the gloom of dark and despair that many associate with the North. However, his pessimism—and pessimism it certainly was—served an extremely useful purpose—to wake up a drowsy Denmark by indicating what was rather than what should be. Consequently, he is affectionately known as Denmark's conscience.

Pontoppidan's short story "The Eagle's Flight" is characteristic of his mood: it is a curious but reverse parallel of Hans Christian Andersen's tale "The Ugly Duckling." In the latter, the young swan, thought to be an ugly duckling, experiences various insulting mishaps; nevertheless, it grows into a beautiful and an admired swan. Near the tale's end, Andersen states that it doesn't matter if you're born in a farmyard as long as you're a swan. Pontoppidan, himself remarking upon the similarity with Andersen's story, describes a young eagle being raised on a farm. For many years the eagle's wings are clipped, but after the original owner dies, the eagle is ignored and the wings grow back. One day, by mistake, the eagle takes off, soars over the farm, and encounters a female eagle who lures it further and further away, higher and higher in the sky. Out of shape and out of condition, the farmyard eagle becomes frightened at being so far from home,

gives up the pursuit, and flies back. On its return, a farmhand thinks that it is a wild bird—and shoots it dead. Pontoppidan concludes that it doesn't matter if you're an eagle as long as you're born in a farmyard. One can conclude that the improvement of Denmark wasn't to be found in gifted individuals until the country as a whole was improved.

Pontoppidan wrote three epics: *The Promised Land* (1891-95), *Lucky Per* (1898-1904), and *The Kingdom of the Dead* (1912-16). It is unfortunate that none of these works have been translated into English in their entirety, the closest attempt being in 1896 when two of the three volumes of *The Promised Land* were translated. Needless to say, this translation would be exceedingly difficult to obtain. This situation is an enormous loss, especially considering that *Lucky Per* is regarded as a major achievement of Danish literature. To a large degree autobiographical, *Lucky Per* (in eight volumes) chronicles the life of Per Sidenius, the son of a Jutland clergyman. The vacillations of Per, between career and travels, women and religion, take us up and down Denmark in one of the most complete descriptions of the country at that time.

Incidentally, Pontoppidan shared the 1917 Nobel Prize with Karl Gjellerup (1857-1919) who was also Danish. Although Pontoppidan is still highly regarded, Gjellerup—popular enough during his own lifetime—has passed into a literary oblivion.

The dedication of *Pelle the Conqueror* (1906-10) was to Pontoppidan, and its author was Martin Andersen Nexø (1869-1954) who spent his youth alternately living in a Copenhagen slum or on a farm. He was one of eleven children, and he and a brother had the responsibility of supporting his family. When twelve years old, he worked on the farm of the widow of a minor Danish poet; she took an interest in him and saw that he received an education, and when he was ill, she arranged a walking tour through southern Europe for him.

From the very beginning, Nexø identified with the poor and downtrodden, attributing an innate goodness to many of them but not overlooking their faults nor troubles; his most endearing word portraits are of these people. His short story "Gossamer" describes two such slum children who, one day, "escape" from school in order to wander about the countryside. They enjoy pleasure after pleasure such as finding sandwiches that someone had thrown away. Their ultimate triumph is discovering an overburdened cherry tree and eating the fruit, stones and all, but they are caught and given a beating. Afterwards they head home, concluding that it has been a most wonderful day (they were familiar with beatings, but to eat a cherry—that was an experience).

*Pelle the Conqueror* was both Nexø's first book and his masterpiece; and of all the epics mentioned in this article, it is the one most likely to be found in a library. In four volumes, the novel follows the fortunes of Pelle: his working on a farm as a young boy; his apprenticeship to a cobbler in a small town; his attempts at earning a living in Copenhagen and his share in the general strikes of the time; and his eventual success in forming a cooperative. The book is positive in its outcome in Pelle's achievements, but the number of ongoing injustices it describes is immense. Equally immense is the number of unforgettable characters: Lasse, Pelle's tragic/comic father, whose positive attitude toward life enables him to continually live as best he can in spite of poor farms or being caught in a Copenhagen slum; Ferdinand the thief; Hanne, who was the princess of the Ark which was a rickety, multistoried, wooden structure where the lowest-working classes lived together in a sort of super family; and many many more. It's truly a novel to be involved with.

Following the success of *Pelle the Conqueror*, Nexø wrote *Ditte, Child of Man* (1917-21) in five volumes that tells of the brief life of Ditte, a lower-class woman who is something of an unlucky Pelle. This epic was also successful.

Afterwards, the rhetoric that filtered into Nexø's first two epics became the dominant theme of his writing. He became an ardent communist, believing that communism was the answer to all of life's problems that he wrote about and knew of. He completed two more novels which not only were much shorter but had little of his former ability; however, in his autobiography (1932-39), he maintained his previous standards. During World War II, Nexø was captured by the Germans but escaped to Sweden; after the war and still a communist, he returned to live in East Germany.

Although a contemporary to Pontoppidan and Nexø, Johannes V. Jensen (1873-1950) was not involved with any one

(Continued on page 12)

# Does Your Lodge Have A Representative?

If not, do someone a favor by recommending him or her as your lodge representative and earn \$100.00 for yourself.

## 1. WHAT IS THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM?

It is an arrangement whereby each lodge appoints a representative, trained and assisted by members of the home office staff to sign up new lodge members and provide members with information about the various life insurance plans available from your Society.

## 2. HOW IS THE REPRESENTATIVE COMPENSATED?

The representative who usually works part time for the Brotherhood receives a commission on all new insurance written — the same as he would with most other Fraternal Societies or commercial life insurance companies.

## 3. HOW SUCCESSFUL IS THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM?

During the 50 year period prior to the inception of the Representative System (from 1923 to 1973) membership in The Danish Brotherhood decreased by almost 11,000 and life insurance in force decreased by 6 million. During the first 5 years of the Representative System membership increased by 1,881 and insurance in force increased by 8¼ million. Your representatives have been responsible signing up 82 percent of all new social and 92 percent of new insured members as well as writing 96 percent of the protection provided our members.

## 4. HOW DO MEMBERS BENEFIT FROM THE LIFE INSURANCE?

In addition to providing valuable protection at the lowest possible cost, the premium income generated from the sale of life insurance also provides for the national fraternal programs, such as scholarships, camp grants, orphan benefit and fraternal aid.

## 5. DO LODGES BENEFIT FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM?

The local lodge will benefit from the representative's activities by the increasing number of new members and the resulting local dues.

## 6. HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR LODGE?

A. Recommend a qualified individual to become a representative for your lodge and receive a \$100.00 cash bonus (\$50.00 after he or she has signed up 10 new insured members and the balance of \$50.00 when the representative has signed up a total of 20 new insured members.)

B. Help organize a membership committee whose primary purpose is to regularly recommend new families for prospective members.

C. Help appoint an aggressive program committee who will plan interesting programs for each meeting.

D. Consider the entire family becoming members in the local lodge. In any event, plan more family activities that appeal to younger members.

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### I RECOMMEND AS A LODGE REPRESENTATIVE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LODGE NO \_\_\_\_\_

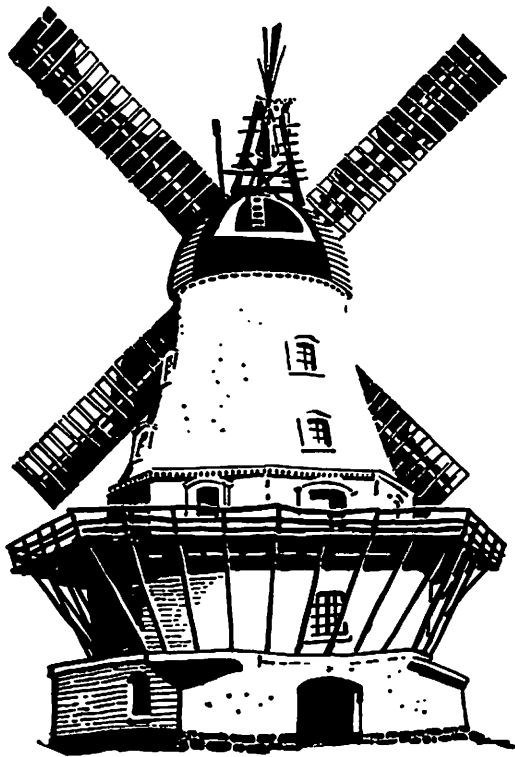
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LODGE NO \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



## New Members

Name	Lodge No.	Location	Sponsor
Paul D. Nelsen	1	Omaha	Andy Andersen
Verta Jean Nelsen	1	Omaha	Andy Andersen
David J. Ott	14	Kenosha	Fred Caracciala
Clifford J. Hanson	14	Kenosha	Carl H. Jensen
Michael G. Dunlap	34	Dwight	James Wilkey
Linda D. Dunlap	34	Dwight	James Wilkey
Joanne H. Gostell	34	Dwight	Oscar Seerup
Anders Hermansen	35	Chicago	John Skovmose
Gerda M. Wallace	56	Kansas City	Chris S. Thomsen
Phillip E. Sorensen	75	Albert Lea	Alton Neve
Jeffrey M. Seyller	92	St. Charles	Dennis Seyller
Lester C. Christiansen	92	St. Charles	Einar Danielsen
Marian C. Emberson	92	St. Charles	Robert Emberson, Jr.
Ralph N. Olesen	92	St. Charles	Marty Seyller
Beverly A. Olesen	92	St. Charles	Marty Seyller
Lois K. Skraboly	92	St. Charles	Einar Danielsen
Beatrice J. Thwaites	92	St. Charles	Marlowe Seyller, Jr.
Bernard F. Humphrey	113	Enumclaw	Wendell R. Oliver
Scott MacHaffie	167	Portland	Ingeborg MacHaffie
Jan Christensen	167	Portland	Mel Pihl

Mogens Johansen	167	Portland	Jens Gimbel
Lauritz P. Jensen	186	Luck	Harry M. Jensen
Grayce C. Jensen	186	Luck	Harry M. Jensen
Thomas J. Bommarito	227	Detroit	Howard Hansen
Leo V. Larsen	227	Detroit	Tage Gulbrandsen
John W. Pettit	227	Detroit	Donald R. Boyd, Sr.
Irwin Rogge	227	Detroit	Robert Sorensen
Robert L. Tremaine	227	Detroit	Howard Hansen
James W. Jensen	268	Junction City	Kris Sand
Robert L. Work	283	Dagmar	Gregg Nielsen
Anton Jacobsen	299	Solvang	Eric T. Jensen
Carl W. Rasmussen	299	Solvang	Peter Weber
Quinton Ralph Smith	306	San Diego	Lillian Suda
Russell L. Clinton	325	Nassau Co.	Egon Larsen
Knud M. Warschauer	600	Omaha	Andy Andersen

### DBIA/DAFI Flight to Denmark

**WHEN DOES IT LEAVE?** June 20, 1980, at 5:30 p.m.

**FROM WHERE DOES IT LEAVE?** Minneapolis, Minnesota

**WHEN DOES IT RETURN?** You can choose either July 5, July 12 or July 19 as your return date

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?** \$499 + \$3 tax for adults; \$332 + \$3 tax for children ages 2-11; \$68.40 + \$3 tax for children under 2

**WHAT ABOUT EVER-INCREASING AIRLINE RATES?** If you pay for your reservations in full immediately, you are guaranteed no increase.

**WHERE DO I GET INFORMATION?** Write to Margrethe Brown, Danish American Fellowship Institute, 4500 Morningside Road, Minneapolis, MN 55416, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for full particulars.

Yes, you can bring someone back from Denmark at the group rate, but you must purchase the ticket through the DAFI prior to departure. Northwest Airline personnel will carry your extra ticket to Denmark and deliver it for the return flight.

## Let's 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	Birth Place	Lodge No.	Location	Year Joined
12-6-79	John M. Bech	89	Morke-Randers-Denmark	42	Spokane, Washington	1909
11-23-79	Louis H. Binderup	71	Denver, Colorado	43	Denver, Colorado	1931
11-12-79	Fredé T. Salomonsen	59	Copenhagen, Denmark	45	Minneapolis, Minnesota	1947
3-20-79	Laurits Jensen	95	Odense, Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1906
11-26-79	Jack F. Wood, Sr.	67	Moline, Illinois	3	Davenport, Iowa	1947
11-27-79	Paul C. Hansen	71	Denver, Colorado	43	Denver, Colorado	1931
12-2-79	Norman R. Petersen	53	Hartford, Connecticut	314	Hartford, Connecticut	1947
12-15-79	Ingemann Pedersen	85	Skandeborg, Denmark	29	Seattle, Washington	1923
12-13-79	Christian Andersen	79	Derby, Connecticut	41	Derby, Connecticut	1936
8-19-79	Niels C. Nielsen	92	Vester Vrigum, Denmark	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	1924
12-1-79	Ansgar Hansen	82	Kalslund, Denmark	49	San Francisco, California	1920
11-26-79	Niels C. Petersen	79	Vijrup, Denmark	95	Ferndale, California	1922
12-11-79	Soren M. Stenderup	73	Riber, Denmark	319	Bakersfield, California	1926
12-18-79	Hans J. Reuss	86	Menominee, Michigan	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1913
12-23-79	Marinus Jorgensen	85	Hvejsel, Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1913
6-26-79	Henry J. Johnson	81	Copenhagen, Denmark	675	Omaha, Nebraska	1937
9-29-79	Niels Jensen	74	Denmark	257	St. Petersburg, Florida	1975



Lodge 143 members enjoy their Costume Party [see story below].

# Our Lodges In Action

## NEBRASKA

**Lodge No. 161, Ruskin, NE** — A dance honoring Kenneth Pedersen, Director, National Board of Directors, will be held at the Community Hall on March 14. Members of all Nebraska lodges are invited.

**Ginny Schultz.**

## IOWA— MINNESOTA

**Lodge No. 3, Davenport, IA** — In December we had a moment of silence for Jack Woods who had passed away. Jack served as secretary in our lodge for 33 years.

We are in the process of securing new members. After a recent meeting we had a joint social hour with the Sisterhood lodge.

**Kai Hansen.**

**Lodge No. 45, Minneapolis, MN** — In December we had potluck dinner after our regular meeting. There was plenty of glogg made by President Jens Hoj to warm everyone's spirits. Each member brought a small gift to be handed out by a very convincing Santa Claus (Olav Grand). All the gifts were very useful except for the brush and comb set received by one bald-headed member.

Later, everyone joined in singing Christmas carols.

We are looking forward to the beginning of 1980, at which time we will have a membership drive dinner and also our annual banquet.

**Bill Aagaard, Reporter.**

**Lodge No. 263, Askov, MN** — The Danish Brotherhood lodge and the Sisterhood lodge held a joint installation party January 12. Officers installed for the Brothers were as follows: past president, Larry Peterson; president, Arol Hansen; vice president, Louis Clausen; secretary, Becky Melzark; treasurer, Byron Petersen; conductor, Clarence Morgensen; chairman, trustee, Gilbert Clausen; trustee, Jerry Sostak; trustee, Ed Melzark; outer guard, Alvin Jensen.

Of special interest was the fact the installing officer, Iowa-Minnesota district president, Byron Petersen had the pleasure to install his daughter, Becky Melzark as the secretary of the lodge.

The evening started with cocktails, a potluck dinner and ended with dancing until early in the morning.

**Byron Petersen.**

**Lodge No. 15, Des Moines, IA** — We are happy to report on the following events which have been very successful and well attended:

- 1) A picnic in September
- 2) Mortensaften in November with roast goose and all the trimmings
- 3) Christmas party for children and their families in December
- 4) New Year's Party (the first one after 10 years)

5) A talk by Floyd Pinder, a member of our Danish class, who visited Denmark for the first time after having traced his ancestors to Langeland and Falster in Denmark.

At our January meeting we will have another program and slide presentation by another member of

the Danish class who, together with her husband, visited Denmark and Russia. Mrs. Valborg Wiegel is of Danish descent while her husband, Fred, is of Russian descent. Both were visiting there for the first time.

At this same meeting we will be planning events for the coming year, and have installation of our newly-elected officers.

**Kirsten Lundgren,  
Correspondent.**

## CALIFORNIA— NEVADA

**Lodge No. 143, Petaluma, CA** — Our October meeting was a highly successful Halloween party. The picture above shows the brothers and sisters who dressed for the occasion. We had Halloween games, refreshments and prizes for everyone.

In December we had a Christmas party along with the Sisterhood lodge. Santa was there, and we were entertained by a youth group.

Plans are made for installation of officers in February. The event will include cocktails, dinner, a drill performance and dancing.

**Walt Miller.**

**Lodge No. 323, Alhambra, CA** — We wish all of our members and friends a very happy and prosperous New Year. **GODT NYTAAR! Skaal!**

We are hosting the joint installation of Lodge 126 and Sisterhood Lodge 68 in January. There will be cocktails, dinner and dancing.

**Kate Krake.**

**Lodge No. 345, Orange County, CA** — The family Christmas party in December more than filled the hall with 134 people attending.

The children danced around the Christmas tree as the Danish language class sang under the direction of instructor Kaj Bjorn, accompanied by Evelyn Andersen.

Then Santa arrived along with two of the cutest elves to help him pass out the presents to everyone.

The traditional Christmas tree bulb was again given to members. It was inscribed "Glaedelig Jul 1979", made by Parry Pedersen and Ferdinand Christensen.

The Danish Language class had an authentic Danish dinner at the home of Kaj Bjorn later that month. It has been a year of learning, fun and fellowship for the members of the class.

**Marile Christensen,**  
Secretary.

## MIDWEST

**Lodge No. 34, Dwight, IL** — On the first day of December we had our annual Kringle sale. We picked up 500 kringle at Racine and brought them back to Dwight. We were all sold out by 10:45 a.m.!

Later that month about 150 people gathered for a lot of good food at our Christmas potluck. After supper there were drawings for the many door prizes.

Long-stemmed roses were presented to the "Copenhagen Review Ladies" from our 90th anniversary party. Then Corky the clown and magician entertained us. While we were singing around the Christmas tree, Santa came in and talked to all the children while passing out sacks of goodies.

At our December 10 meeting we had a "first" — the first name drawn for the pot was present. Judy Anderson walked off with \$35.25, and now we start all over.

**Margaret Goodwin,**  
Reporter.

**Lodge No. 14, Kenosha, WI** — Two big events took place in November. First of all, we had the "Julefest" — a Danish Christmas Fair. Over a thousand people shopped at the various booths. Special thanks to all who participated, especially to some of our advertisers — Scandinavian Design, AAA Travel Agency, and Sisterhood Lodge 20. We served food to over 400 people, using 120 pounds of medisterpølse and about 2,000 aebleskiver. The committee consisted of 56 people who all worked very hard.

The second big event was a fine

torsk dinner attended by 136 people. We were entertained by the Tremper Choraliars (who chose to come even though their football team was playing for the state championship that night.) They received a standing ovation for their wonderful performance.

**Bob Ibsen,** Reporter.

**Lodge No. 35, Chicago, IL** — Members of our lodge, their children and grandchildren enjoyed a Christmas party held at the lovely home of the John Jorgensens. We sang Danish Christmas songs, made and exchanged Danish Christmas ornaments, and had some delicious food.

At our January meeting we initiated four new members and installed the officers for 1980.

At that meeting we also introduced a new feature — a "Dane For The Night." This time it was Martin Christensen (unknown to him beforehand). He wore a gold crown adorned



"Dane for the Night" — Martin Christensen — Lodge 35.

with Danish flags while answering questions posed by Cindy Sloth on where he was born, when he came to America, etc.

Everyone enjoyed this feature, and "Dane For The Night" will be a regular at our meetings from now on.

**Elsa Petersen,**  
Correspondent.

**Lodge No. 4, Racine, WI** — We are asking members to get their bowling teams together for the Midwest Bowling Tournament on April 19 in Kenosha.

The committee for the 25-Year Club met and planned an all new celebration to honor all those with over 25 years' membership. The event will be open to all members and friends, with the theme being an American-Danish sing-along.

## EASTERN

**Lodge No. 46, Perth Amboy, NJ** — Our annual Christmas dinner-dance, under the chairmanship of Eric Brown, was a complete success — a

full house, good food, and a an abundance of prizes. DBIA President and Mrs. George Jacobsen favored us with their presence.

Coming up this year are a spring dance and two picnics in the summer.

This past October some of our members manned booths at the Ethnic Festival in Liberty Park, Jersey City, where we were able to take a boat ride to Ellis Island. There we toured the area that so many of our forebears passed through.

**Jens C. Jessen,**  
Correspondent.

**Lodge No. 334, Geneva, NY** — In December we held our annual Christmas party in conjunction with the Sisterhood lodge. A large number of members were present to enjoy a delicious dinner.

The Sisterhood had a bazaar following dinner and had a table of handmade Christmas ornaments and many household aids. We sold DBIA calendars, which went like hot aebleskiver!

**Lodge No. 190, Schenectady, NY** — Happy New Year to all of our Brothers, Sisters and Friends! As we usher in the 1980's, let's all give thanks that we live in this glorious country where we are allowed to have our own groups, where we can carry on the customs and traditions that our fathers enjoyed before us.

During December we enjoyed two dinner meetings, one of which we toasted our brothers who had their birthdays that month.

After re-electing our present officers to serve again, we will have installation in January together with Sisterhood Lodge 142.

Our members showed the spirit of Christmas we voted to send gifts to the widows of former lodge brothers. We've received many cards of appreciation.

**William J. Peterson.**

### February ASSESSMENT No. 968

is Due and Payable to the  
Lodge Treasurer

**February 1, 1980**

And Must Be Paid Before

**March 1, 1980**

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

**HOWARD CHRISTENSEN,**  
Secretary-Treasurer.

**Lodge No. 325, Long Island, NY —**  
At our December meeting we were served a traditional Danish "Julemiddag". Later, Dr. James A. Mills showed slides of frescoes from Danish churches.

Later that month we had our Christmas Tree for the children. Santa was there with a gift for each child. Games were played and goodies given to the kids.

**Niels B. Hansen,**  
Secretary.

**Lodge No. 294, Barre, VT —** Our Christmas party was held in December with a large number of people attending.

The evening began with a delicious dinner, followed by some very interesting entertainment. The audience enjoyed slides of Denmark shown by Debbie Spooner, a disco ballet number danced by Stacey Wilson, a clarinet duet of Christmas carols played by Wendy and Pam Raymond, and songs from Keith Mackie, Cassandra Pletzer and Mary Ellen Town.

Later, Santa (Andy Christiansen) arrived with boxes of candy for the children. Then Kris Christiansen accompanied us for Christmas carols.

We noticed that the bewhiskered Viking in the boat in our picture in the November issue was not identified. His name is Harold Thygesen.

**Gertrude E. Mikkelsen,**  
Secretary.

**Lodge No. 172, Philadelphia, PA —**  
We celebrated Christmas with our usual vigor and high spirits. An eager group of young Danes met Santa Claus at the Children's Party, and there were gifts and treats for young and old alike.

The Christmas Dinner-Dance was an outstanding success. Music by the Norsemen and a real Danish Christmas dinner set the mood for a festive evening.

**Lodge No. 342, Bucks County, PA —**  
Our Christmas Party was a dazzling success. We enjoyed a superb dinner, sang carols together in English and Danish, and welcomed Santa Claus with his many gifts.

"Horse Racing" is the theme of our January entertainment. Rumor has it that there will be approximately 92 horses and 17 jockeys — no movies are involved!

## FLORIDA

**Lodge No. 257, St. Petersburg, FL —**  
At our last meeting of 1979 we welcomed about 45 members and two guests from Canada, Mr. and Mrs. Hansen.

Refreshments were served after the meeting with 92-year-old Stine Schmidt treating us to aebleskiver. Our president also treated us to a glass of Christmas cheer.

Gifts donated by members were raffled off and netted us quite a few dollars.

The ladies in charge of entertainment made every effort to make this a real Christmas party. At every table we all joined hands and wished one another a "Glaedelig Jul"!

**Bill Steffensen,**  
Secretary.



After another successful year, a few changes have been made in awards for 1980 but topic, content, and style remain unrestricted. Please do observe the 1500 word limit in all categories. Entrants may be members of the society or related to members.

### Contest Rules

1. All work must be original, preferably typewritten, double-spaced, and accompanied by a title page, giving the title of the work, name and return address of entrant, your lodge number or relative's lodge number, and group and category for entry. This information should not appear on the manuscript.
2. For return of manuscript, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.
3. Include a snapshot of the author.
4. Entries must be postmarked by August 30, 1980, and received by September 11, 1980.
5. Enter as often as you like in as many categories as you like; however, no more than one prize per entrant per category will be given.
6. First, Second and Third prizes will be awarded in each category if

we have 12 entries or more. First and Second prizes will be awarded if we have five to eleven entries in a category. First prizes only will be awarded in categories receiving four or fewer entries.

Prizes in all categories will be: 1st place, \$15, framed certificate and publication in **The American Dane** magazine; 2nd place, \$10 and certificate; 3rd place, \$5 and certificate.

### Categories

Group I (Age 12 and under)  
Poetry, Fiction, and Non-Fiction

Group II (Age 13-18)  
Poetry, Fiction and Non-Fiction

Group III (Age 19 and over)  
Poetry, Fiction and Non-Fiction

Send entries to: **The Danish Brotherhood in America, P.O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131.**

Include: 1. title sheet, 2. 3 copies of manuscript, 3. photograph of author, and 4. return envelope (optional).

**Remember, deadline is  
August 30, 1980!**

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST

**Lodge No. 29, Seattle, WA** — A few years ago when Paul Nielsen retired as Danish consul for this area, a fund was established at the University of Washington in his honor — the Paul Nielsen Educational Fund. It has now accumulated enough interest to be put



Officers for 1980, DBIA Lodge No. 167, Portland, OR. L to R; front row: Delores Sharp, Corresponding Secretary; Mel Pihl, Past President; Don Bogh, President; Bill Hansen, 2nd Trustee; June Pihl, Program Director. L to

R, back row: George Larsen, Conductor; Jens Gimbel, Secretary; Helge Buck Jensen, Vice President; Magnus Esrom, 1st Trustee; Ruth Healey, Inner Guard; Jens N. Jensen, Treasurer; Nils Jenses, 3rd Trustee.

**Lodge No. 167, Portland, OR** — In November we had a potluck dinner to honor those who have reached 90 years of age or more and also 50-year members. Those so honored were: Silvano Hansen, Sigvald Alexander Steensen, Hans Junker, Lorentz A. Lorenzen, Jorgen Christensen, Gustav Haraldsen, and Marcus Peter Pihl.

A really, truly Danish Fastelavn Fest is set for February 22. To assure that it will be authentic, the commit-

tee consists of members who were all born in Denmark!

Our second New Member Orientation was a success for all those attending. First, information was given about our lodge, the national organization and the Pacific Northwest District. Later, June Pihl showed how to make Danish decorations for their Christmas trees.

Our membership is on the rise with 261 total at last count, fourth in the nation, according to Treasurer Jens Jensen.



Members enjoy Lodge 225's Christmas party.

## MICHIGAN OHIO

**Lodge No. 225, Canton, OH** — Our Christmas party was a great success  
Page 12

— a great turnout, a lot of good food, and a surprise visit from Santa.

We would like to wish all the lodges growth and prosperity in the 1980's.

**Mark Nodo,**  
President.

## Danish Literature

(Continued from page 6)

cause or style. Rather, Jensen was an artist par excellence combining ideas and styles from many different aspects of life, varying from realism to fantasy. Perhaps the most characteristic form of Jensen's works inasmuch as they're a form invented by himself are his "myths." Using both poetry and prose, a Jensen myth could be a story, a mood, a description, an essay, or something else; he was equally adept in each. He surely had the background for such writing, having lived and traveled through various parts of the world including the United States.

In 1959, the American-Scandinavian Foundation published a selection from the several volumes of Jensen's myths, **The Waving Rye**. The fourteen myths include "The Waving Rye" and "The Cornfield," which are word portraits of Danish fields; "A. Conradsen," a remarkable portrait of a many faceted cobbler; "The Banks of Life," a reminiscence of Jensen's father, but also more than that; "The Windmill," which turns time; "Did They Catch the Ferry?" which describes an unusual race; and others.

How Johannes V. Jensen will be best remembered is a matter of opinion. Some prefer his myths and various short stories; others prefer his epic **The Long Journey** (1908-22), a series of six novels that traces the history of the "Cimbrians" (who, according to Jensen, originated in Jutland) from the end of the Ice Age until Columbus. It is one of the more ambitious projects in literature! In 1922-24, five of the six novels were translated into English; they were reprinted a number of times and, again, a good library may have a copy.

Regarded as one of the greatest Danish writers, Jensen published over sixty volumes of works that include novels, plays, "myths," short stories, essays, poems, and more. His writing always looked forward, but he never neglected the past: He translated an Icelandic saga and wrote some of his poetry in the Old Norse style. And while Jensen's work would span thousands of years and thousands of miles, he was equally at home in describing his native Jutland; his three volumes of **Tales of the Himmerland** are regional literature at its best.

At the turn of the century, there were other giants and near-giants in Danish literature. Both Sophus Claussen (1865-1931) and Johannes Jørgensen (1866-1956) were two of Denmark's more important and productive poets. They were both involved with "symbolism" which is the mystical side of literature. As with many other symbolists, Jørgensen became a Catholic; however, Claussen remained within symbolism and wrote many beautiful though occasionally obscure poems.

# WE'RE HANS AND GRETA!

Color our picture, clip it out and send to — The Danish Brotherhood in America, P.O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131. You might win a LEGO building kit. Include:

1. Your name
2. Your return address
3. Your date of birth
4. Our colored picture

You need not be a DBIA member to enter. Three LEGO toy kits awarded in three age groups each month (ages 2-5, 6-8, and 9-12). You may win once during a six month period. *December winners: Colleen Lampe, T.J. Sorensen, and Kristianna Bertelsen.*



Winter's warmer when you enjoy it with a friend.

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## Artifacts Sought for Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle

A search for artifacts for the Seattle-based Nordic Heritage Museum, the first such in North America, has been launched.

Items will be collected to illustrate the pioneering story of Pacific Northwest immigrants from the five Nordic countries—Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, and the Faeroe Islands, said Svein Gilje, president of the Pacific Nordic Council.

The Nordic Heritage Museum Foundation, a nonprofit organization, has been chartered, and the museum will open its doors to the public in early 1980.

We are looking for old tools, farming and fishing and maritime equipment, furniture, national costumes and textiles, kitchen utensils, paintings, carvings, sculptures, prints, drawings, photographs, and church and organizational items.

Donations made to the museum are income tax deductible.

Further information about donation of artifacts may be obtained from the Nordic Heritage Museum, Collection Development Committee, 3014 N.W. 67th Street, Seattle, WA 98117.

## ANISE FORK COOKIES\*

[Anis Gaffel Kager or Aniskager]

1/2 cup butter or margarine  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. anise seed  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1 cup sugar  
1 large egg  
2 1/4 cups sifted flour  
1 tsp. cream of tartar

Soften butter or margarine. Add soda, anise seed and salt. Mix well, gradually blend in sugar. Beat in egg. Sift flour with cream of tartar and stir into the mixture. Shape into 1/2 inch balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheets. Dip fork tines in flour and press into each cookie in criss-cross style. Bake in a preheated 350° oven for 8 minutes. Cool on wire racks. Store in an airtight container. Yield: 7 dozen.

# Grandma's Kitchen

\*Recipe from *A Taste of Danish* by Lodge No. 1, Omaha. Available by mail from Marilyn Storms, 4129 N. 100 St., Omaha, NE 68134, 96 pages, \$3.50, postpaid.

## Viking Adventures

**Coming Together—A Beginning**

**Keeping Together—Progress**

**Working Together—Success**

So many new programs are underway to assist our lodges that we used a little color this month to highlight some of them. But just so you don't miss any, here's a listing.

*President's Awards program providing recognition for local lodges through the districts and for the districts through the national program.*

*Regional Workshops being held in 8 locations for district and lodge officers, lodge leaders, lodge representatives and interested members.*

*A new essay contest for Young Vikings to help us determine the best locations for Young Vikings Mini-Summer Sessions in 1980.*

No programs have been removed from the existing list, and members may look forward to seeing scholarship winners, camp grant winners, creative writing contest winners, and bowling tournament winners announced as well as other programs continued. Later this year, we will add an adult monthly photo contest and other new events for our Young Vikings.

We will begin projects to lead us into our centennial celebration in 1982. The earliest of these is described below.

### ORAL HISTORY RECORD

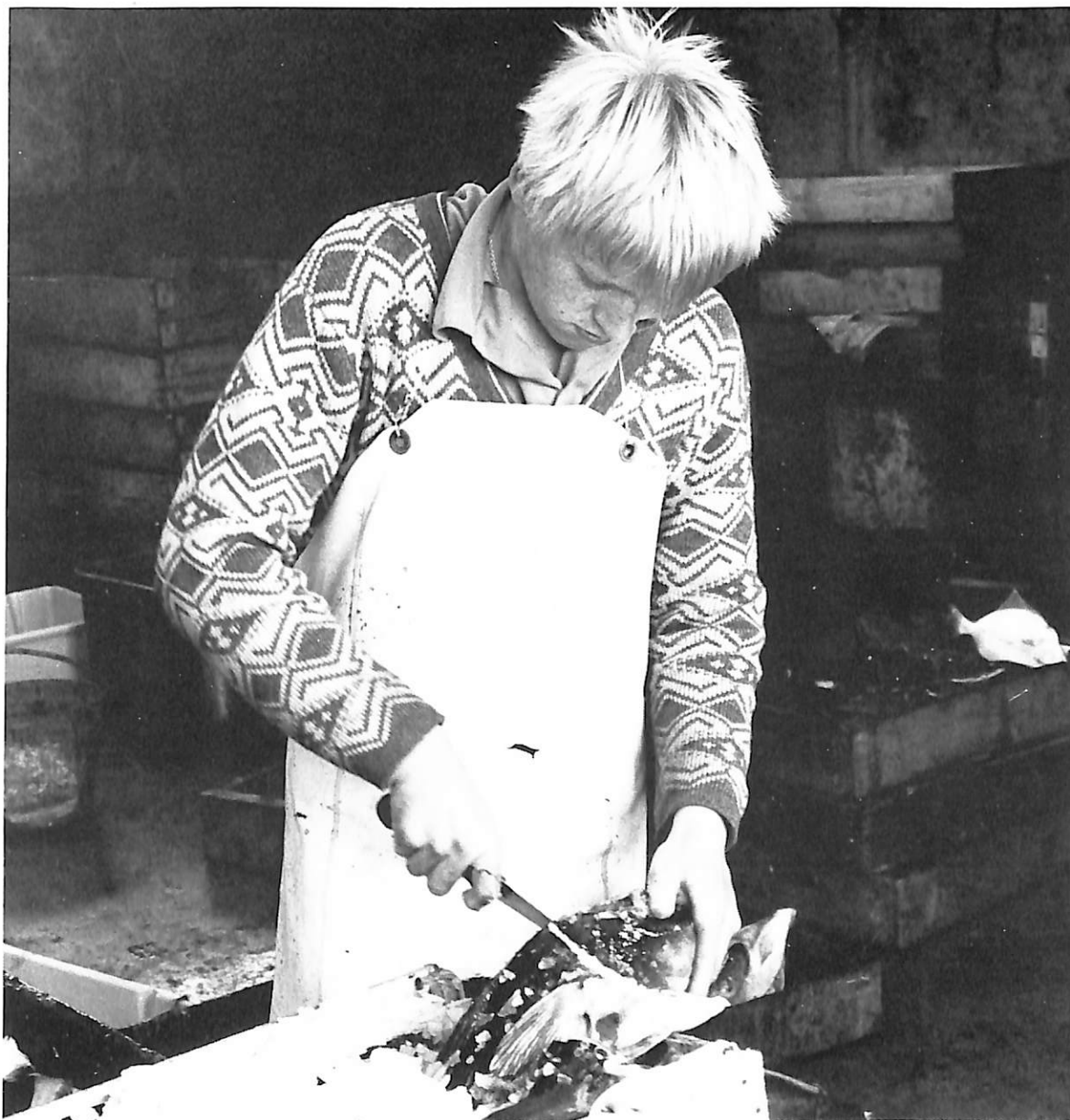
Each lodge has been sent a cassette tape, a format guide and a request to implement an oral history program. We have asked the lodges to contact one or two of their older members and have them record their recollections of the early days of their lodge and, if applicable, memories of immigration.

All tapes will be given to the Grand View College Archives when the project has been completed. This gift from all of the lodges of The Danish Brotherhood will make it possible for students and scholars to have access to what will be a substantial amount of interesting information.

A few extra tapes are available and will be distributed in the order requested until the supply is exhausted. Tapes may be returned to the office as soon as each lodge completes its participation in the program.

# Faces of Denmark

Photo by Dan Shepard.



## AMERICAN DANE CLASSIFIED

**NEW, UNIQUE GIFTS**, lovely for Easter, Birthdays, Mother's Day, Friends. Penned in Beautiful Calligraphy by Kathryn Anderson, Calligrapher/Artist.

Fine, deckle-edged Teton single-fold cards with matching envelopes. Indicate "Christian Faith" or "All Birthday". 10 assorted cards, custom boxed. \$5.95 postpaid.

Poems printed on parchment, custom matted and ready for framing. "A Visit Back Home" 8"x16" (My special, senti-

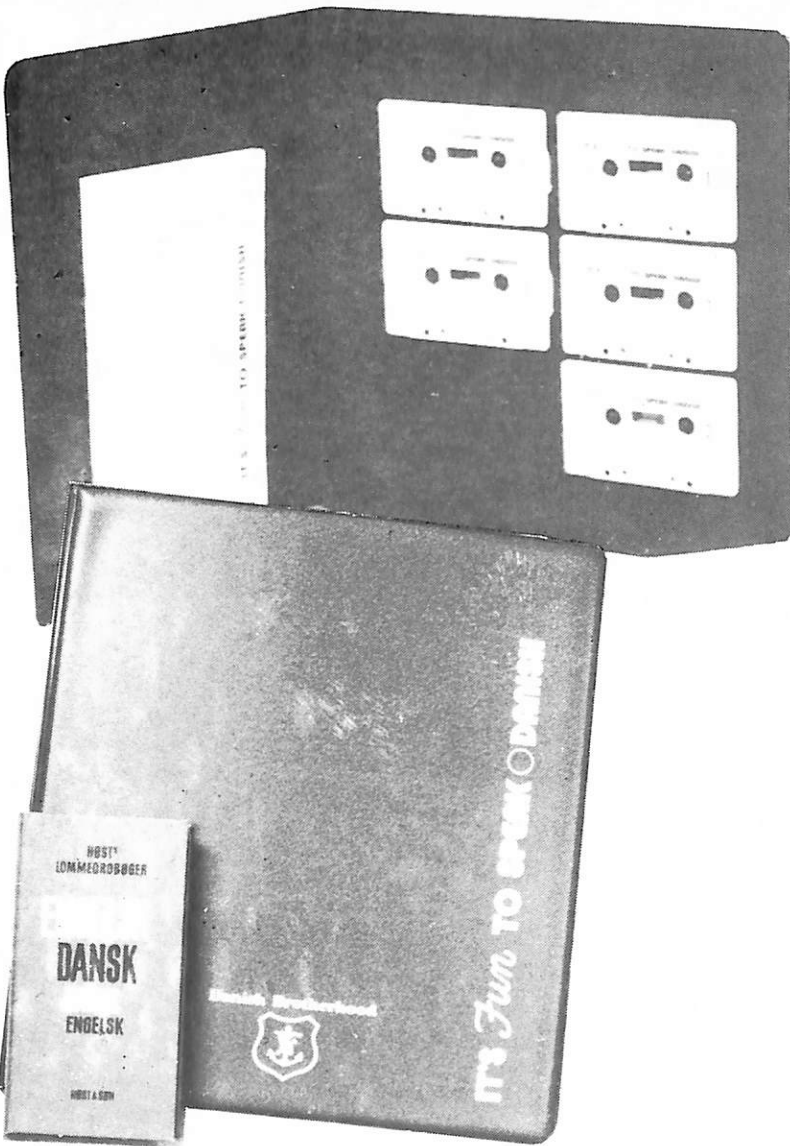
mental poem for Mother or Grandmother), "Evening Prayer" 8"x10", "Mother's Prayer for Her Child" 8"x10", "The Benediction" 8"x10", "Travel Onward" 8"x10". \$5.95 each, postpaid.

Parchment Note-paper, 6 assorted verses. Indicate "Friendship" or "Bible" verses. 60 printed sheets and 60 matching envelopes. \$9.95 postpaid.

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# IT'S FUN TO SPEAK DANISH

We have replenished our stock of Danish language cassette tapes. And we're really pleased that we were able to acquire more.

Learning or re-learning to speak Danish is fun for the whole family. And it is a wonderful activity for the individual lodges, too.

These five full length cassette tapes fit any standard tape player, and our kits also include a read along script as well as an English/Danish Dictionary all packaged in a handsome red travel or storage album.

This is a fantastic way for second or third generation Danes to become involved in our Danish heritage. And these tapes are perfect as a refresher course if you're planning a trip to Denmark.

For the convenience of beginners, young or old, both Danish and English are used in the five tapes. The tapes were developed by experts and educators to make the learning process fun. The cassettes are titled: (1) How To Speak Danish; (2) Putting Words Together; (3) What Did I Say?; (4) As We Say In Danish; (5) Sing It, Say It.

An easy, enjoyable way to build a useful vocabulary, learn pronunciations, and hear old Danish sayings and songs.

And all for only \$29.95 including postage and handling. (We are offering a lodge discount if more than five tape sets are ordered at one time. For five or more tape sets, the price becomes \$24.95 per kit.)

SEND TO:

Danish Brotherhood in America  
P.O. Box 31748  
Omaha, Ne. 68131



Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Danish language cassette tape sets. (Nebraska residents — 3% Sales Tax)

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## Proud to be a Dane?

We're proud of our Danish heritage and would like more information about The Danish Brotherhood. We understand we can become members even though we may not be near a local lodge. We will receive **The American Dane** each month as members and be eligible to apply for other membership benefits. Please send information to:

name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ other family members:

street address \_\_\_\_\_ name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_

city, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_ name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_

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