



AMERICAN

DANE

December 1983

The Danish Brotherhood in America



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American Dane

magazine



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Denmark Our Heritage - America Our Home

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DECEMBER 1983

NUMBER 12

Cover photo: 1982 photo contest winner Carol Larsen caught the "nissemand" sleeping by the farmer's straw house shoes.



President's Page

Robert E. Ibsen
National President

Glaedelig Jul

Christmas with its magic is nearly here. We reach out to family and friends and we remember, too, all those other Christmases — when we were children or the first year our spouse shared our Christmas. Christmas past, which we now take the time to remember, has contributed to the way we feel about Christmas present. Hours spent waiting in line at a store so our children could sit on Santa's lap or staying up until sunrise Christmas morning trying to follow directions printed partly in Oxford English and partly in a foreign tongue. The first time you took their latest grandchild home to spend Christmas with Grandpa, Grandma and Aunt Helen.

And how the season has changed. Is it better? Is it worse? Do you let the commercialism of Christmas interfere with your enjoyment of these special days? I sincerely hope you do not!

Whether your seasonal celebration is spent in intimate gatherings at home, away from home with the company of friends, or quietly by yourself with warm remembrances, it's your right and privilege to have Christmas.

We return, this time of year, to a hopeful childlike state of love and trust of our fellowman. We help so every man may have food for his family. We pray no children will want for the comfort of a loving home, and that through some miracle of love, the trust given in December will last through the coming years. This is the fervent hope of fraternalists everywhere — be they conducting their fraternal work through the Danish Brotherhood, Lutheran Brotherhood, Knights of Columbus, Woodmen of the World, or one of the many other fraternal organizations. The broad concept of fraternalism is **we do** make a difference in the quality of life. We try all year to keep Christmas, fulfilling our fraternal purpose.

Have you noticed the scholarships awarded to students over the years? National, local or district awards? Have you seen the announcement of camp grants, given annually by your society? Are you aware of the lift general fraternal aid (to keep a member's insurance in force) or the monthly receipt of extra income because of our special aid program has given? And our orphan's benefit promises to further our fraternal ambitions. Scholarship amounts have grown tremendously and we now award a total of \$2,000 to college or vocational school freshmen. The allowance for annual camp grants was doubled at this convention. Millions of dollars have been paid in insurance claims and benefits.

Lodges across the country have programs to help members in need no matter what the season. Members make special efforts to comfort and assist each other. Lodges have projects to help their communities. And you do all of this, as members. You may not think you are involved, but every time a member does a good deed in the name of The Danish Brotherhood, you are part of that deed. Without you and your friends, it wouldn't be possible.

Why are we able to extend ourselves and serve others when the troubles of this world sometimes seem so overwhelming? Because we have the united strength of lodges, districts and thousands of members working toward common goals. We are good people, the pillars of the community, the foundation upon which the strength of the country rests. All of those platitudes we grow weary of hearing have survived because they do describe what we are.

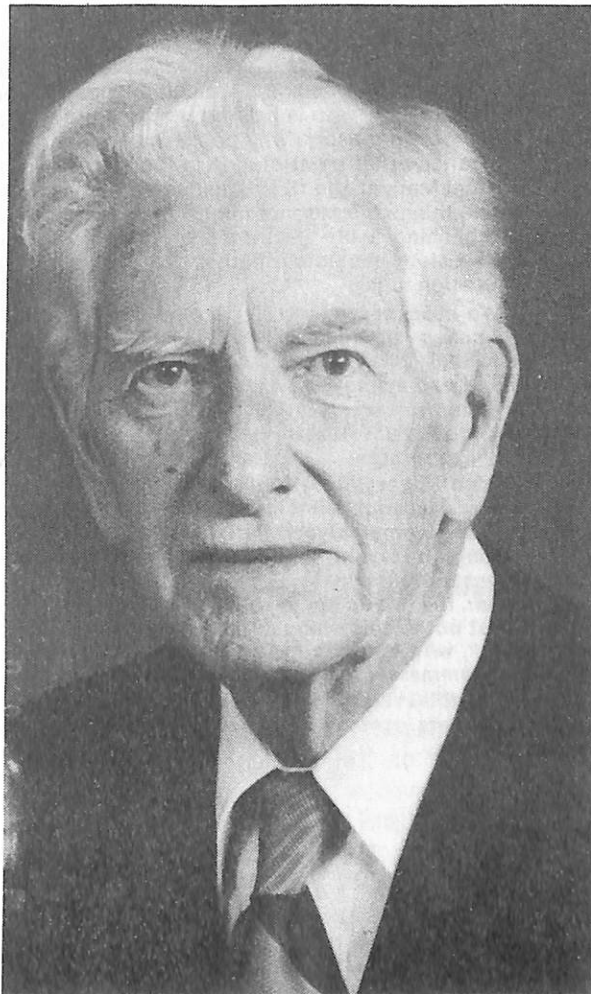
We have seen our organization grow, become more productive, open a National Headquarters building, employ and train a full-time professional staff. Each member of this staff believes in The Danish Brotherhood, the way it functions and in the future of our society. And each member of the National Board of Directors feels the very same way. We will become bigger, more of a fraternal, and more of a force in the world.

The Danish Brotherhood is a living organization. How can an organization which has done so much and continues to do so much and be so much a part of the lives of its members possibly be anything else? Are our problems so different from the problems of any other similar group? Do we exaggerate them to ourselves and under-emphasize the importance of the good we do or the cause of preserving a cultural heritage and cultural diversity which we serve?

If you said The Danish Brotherhood is an old organization, I would have to agree with you. I'm rather proud we are entering our 102nd year of public service. I'm rather proud to be the President of your National Board of Directors and I'm proud to tell you of my personal commitment and that of my fellow directors on our National Board. I'm rather proud to look forward to the coming four years, having a part in seeing everything is gained and knowing the direction our Danish Brotherhood has taken.

Like the Little Drummer Boy who stood before the baby Jesus in the manger of Bethlehem and felt unworthy because he had no gift to bring, I cannot give each of you a wrapped and tied package. Our Christmas gift to you is a gift of commitment.

In Memory



Fred Jensen was born on June 8, 1898, in Knudstrup, Denmark, and died October 31, 1983, in Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Jensen was elected to the Board at the 24th convention of The Danish Brotherhood. He served 16 years on the Board. Fred became a member of Cutoff Lake Lodge No. 195 of The Danish Brotherhood on the third day of January, 1922 at the age of 23. He was an active member of his lodge and district, attending the Nebraska District convention in August of this year with his wife, Sena, daughter, Betty, and son-in-law, Edward Krause, of Omaha.

by James A. Ballew, CLU

James A. Ballew, CLU, has more than 30 years experience writing about life insurance. He has served as editor of the Fraternal Monitor since 1965 and also serves as a consultant to fraternal benefit societies.

Life Cycles (Part II)©



In our last column, we introduced a young man whom we called Mark Worth. Mark, we established, is a typical, if wholly fictional fellow who is helping us point out a few of the reasons why people need life insurance at different stages in their lives. We met Mark at age 15 and discussed some of the things his parents might consider in establishing a life insurance program for young Mark, including, perhaps, a college education fund.

We next meet Mark Worth as a 21-year-old college graduate (BS, Business Administration), sharing an apartment with a friend and employed as a salesman for the printing firm where he worked during high school. His annual income is about \$20,000 and his outstanding debts include a \$2,000 student loan, plus a total of \$4,500 in car and stereo equipment loans. Mark is dating a young woman named Patty, whom he met through a running club to which they both belong. Although they see a lot of each other, the two do not have plans to marry, at least not at this stage in their relationship. Mark, who is active in the Junior Chamber of Commerce, is also pursuing his M.B.A. through evening classes at the state university extension in his home town. In

addition to the \$5,000 Whole Life plan he has had for many years (and on which he is now paying the premiums), Mark has \$15,000 of group life insurance from his employer.

Is Mark's current level of life insurance protection adequate? If you were his fraternal life insurance representative, what would you recommend?

In terms of immediate concerns, Mark's original policy and group coverage would probably be sufficient to pay final expenses (typically, \$3,000-\$5,000) and settle his outstanding debts, plus provide an emergency fund to cover any additional last expenses, such as unpaid medical bills. As his fraternal life insurance adviser, however, you would want to encourage Mark to look to the future, pointing out that as his personal and economic situation changes, through marriage, children, increased income and additional financial responsibility, his need for life insurance will increase. You might further mention the advantages of anticipating these needs and doing something about them now. Mark's youth and apparent good health enable him to get a sensible head start on his adult life insurance program.

At age 21, Mark's premiums will be lower than if he waited two or three years, and he would probably be able to buy the coverage at standard rates now, a situation that could change if Mark were to develop health problems in the future. Another reason for establishing the plan early is budgetary. It is much easier for a young individual or a married couple to keep up a life insurance program if the premiums are an accepted, manageable part of their household expenses from the start, rather than a major new item added at a time when they're setting up a home or beginning a family. Further, life insurance is the cornerstone of a well-rounded financial security and investment plan. With its specific guaranteed costs, values and benefits, it serves as the risk-free foundation upon which a more speculative program may be based. The financially astute man or woman commits an adequate portion of income to the long term security only life insurance provides before venturing into investments which present a greater risk while offering a potentially higher return.

Continued on page 11

A Child's Danish Christmas



by Jean Matteson

For weeks our only thought was of the coming Christmas Eve. The great feast and the greetings that would ring through the softly falling snow. "Glaedelig jul, Merry Christmas, glaedelig jul."

I was a lucky child of both worlds, that far off place across the sea called Denmark, and my home in a small Cass County Nebraska community, where nestled those dear old delightful Danes who told us breath-taking stories about Christmases in Denmark. Just think! We had two charming fellows to bring our gifts. One, the little nissemand (an elf) who lived under a toadstool, and the other our own delightful Santa Claus.

So many preparations went into those festivities. My adopted Danish mother spent weeks making among other things, klejner, cooked in deep fat, and vanillekranser (vanilla rings), crisp and golden. My American mother made sugar cookies cut into Santas, snow men, angels, and stockings along with many other cookies and Christmas candies.

Another adventure was to pull on your snow suit, mittens, stocking cap (made from dad's old wool stocking), overshoes, and complete with a sharp ax and sled trudge into the woods to cut the Juletrae. Legend says people of Scandinavia once worshiped trees and when they became Christians they made the evergreen a part of the Christmas festivities. Isn't it exciting that our Scandinavian ancestors originated this beautiful Christmas custom? That makes the Juletrae a great part of our heritage. The German people were probably the first to decorate the Tannebaum but the Scandinavians added fish nets and little flags to the decorations. Later they added Christmas cookies, apples,

gilded nuts and candles. Another custom that came from the Norse and Anglo-Saxons was the use of a Yule (yool) log, but we had no fireplace in our home and were unable to enjoy this tradition.

Finally that magical evening arrived. Christmas eve! Juleaften. Merry voices rang through the cold crisp winter air. The snow scrunched underfoot while the stars shone brightly overhead as we walked to the country home of the Thomassen family or while they trudged over to ours. In Weeping Water some older bachelor Danes joined in the procession to join in the festivities. As a mountain of gifts piled up under the Juletrae cries of "velkommen" and "glaedelig jul" filled the air. The tree itself contained precious ornaments that my Danish grandmother made. My grandparents emigrated in the late 1800s and the Thomassens came in the 1920s. I never had the fortune of knowing my grandmother as she died before I was born but at Christmas time she was always remembered.

The house was filled with the delicious odors of roast goose, potatoes, which had been boiled with their skins on and red cabbage. My mother learned how to cook Danish dishes so we always had the traditional meal. However we never had the famous risengrød with the almond in it. The stories of how the famous nut was hidden in the rice pudding was not unfamiliar, however, because several Danish families in the community enjoyed this special treat.

The men drank home-made beer while the women finished the dishes. Then one by one the candles were lighted on the tree,

(Continued on page 13)

Former Ambassador to Denmark Dies

Val Peterson died October 15 at the age of 80 in Fremont, Nebraska. Peterson was a three-term governor of the State of Nebraska, an official in the Eisenhower administration and ambassador to Denmark and Finland. He was a member of Lodge No. 84 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Group Exemption for DBIA Lodges

December 4, 1945, the Internal Revenue Service declared The Danish Brotherhood tax exempt and provided a federal employer identification number. The Danish Brotherhood National Headquarters and all lodges are still qualified under this group exemption.

Our lodges must obtain an employer identification number under this exemption. Your lodge must obtain this identification number even though the lodge has no taxable income.

If your lodge has not filed Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, with the Internal Revenue Service, contact the home office, P.O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131. We will provide forms and a copy of the blanket tax exempt letter to accompany the completed Form SS-4.

Tax information Form 990 must be filed by lodges having \$25,000 or more of income. Income does **not** include insurance assessments collected from members and forwarded to the home office.

Museum Director Sought

The Board of The Danish Immigrant Museum seeks a **director** to assume a major role in developing and operating the new facility on a twenty-acre site in western Iowa. The museum's focus is collection, preservation, and interpretive exhibition of Danish immigrant material culture in North America. Strong administrative and acute public relations skills, fund-raising experience and ability, and curatorial skills required. Candidates should have background in Northern European ethnography/history and American cultural history. An exceptional opportunity for individual capable of planning a museum and its program. Salary: \$18,000-\$22,000 with additional fringe benefits. Closing date: January 15, 1984. Send statement of interest, resume' and academic transcript; names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to: Donald K. Watkins, Dept. of Germanic Languages and Lits., University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045. The Danish Immigrant Museum is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.



Brother Marius S. Sorensen playing his old violin on 94th birthday.

Violin Sounds at Age 94 by Norbert E. Grove

It is Indian Summer in Dell Rapids, South Dakota, and that reminds me of my childhood when cousin M.S. would pay me to do odd jobs around his ranch next to Ash Grove Dairy Farm in Lynn Township, Moody County, home of Colman DB Lodge 259.

Many beautiful falls have passed since those good old days but "Uncle Marius" still plays the fiddle for his family every Sunday morning and especially on December eighth, his milestone anniversary. Joining The Danish Brotherhood in 1907 as he became 18, he probably is the only surviving member of a once very active lodge.

A farmer all his life, he married in 1914, had three children, eight grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. His wife, Enga, passed away in 1976. Happy Birthday to an old-timer of sound mind and of pure joy to his houseguests, Alice and Ed De Vaney.

DECEMBER ASSESSMENT NUMBER 1014

Is Due and Payable to the
Lodge Treasurer

December 1, 1983
And Must Be Paid Before
January 1, 1984

Members failing to pay to their local
lodge treasurer as per above will be
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HOWARD CHRISTENSEN,
Secretary-Treasurer

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This year, bring the warmth of an old-fashioned Scandinavian Christmas into your home!

Christmas Recipes from Scandinavia is a delightful new paperback cookbook, filled with recipes for the best-loved holiday dishes of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland...from *pinnekjøtt* and *green-pea porridge*...to *pepparkakor* and *lutefisk*!

Inside, you'll find easy-to-prepare mouth-watering appetizers for the *smørgasbord*—

heartly main dishes—delectable, home-baked breads, cookies, pastries—and more!

Plus you'll get a fascinating look at the customs and traditions of a Scandinavian Christmas—with ideas you can use to keep the memory of the old country alive at your house this holiday season!

Send for your copy of *Christmas Recipes from Scandinavia* today—and be sure to order extra copies for family and friends. Make this Christmas an extra-special celebration of your Scandinavian heritage!

The lives of your children and grandchildren will be richer—when you take time to hand down the old ways!

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Danish Commemorative Plates for American Collectors



Desiree Porcelain Factory. Hans Christian Andersen Series — "The Ugly Duckling." 1975. Diameter 19 cm.

Commemorative plates (or "platte") originate from Denmark; they followed the development of cobalt-blue underglaze ware in 1885. The very first such plate — produced by Royal Copenhagen Porcelain to mark the 1888 Scandinavian Fair for Industry, Agriculture and Art in Copenhagen — depicts a crown above three wavy lines.

The first-ever Christmas plate appeared in 1895 and was produced by Bing & Grøndahl, who also created the first-ever Mother's Day plate in 1969. Royal Porcelain has produced 74 Christmas plates since 1902 and Mother's Day plates since 1971.

Most of these, along with commemorative plates in porcelain or glass from other Danish manufacturers, are now available to American collectors from Dansk Plattehandel og Export, Løkkegravene 49, DK-5270 Odense N, Denmark, who specialize in the supply of both antique and modern commemorative ware from Denmark to individual collectors and to the trade.

The subjects illustrated on Danish commemorative ware are varied — ranging from landscapes and seascapes to royal occasions, wildlife, the Olympic games, and historic Danish churches, as well as anniversaries such as that of American Independence in 1976 (Royal Copenhagen).

In 1970 the Desiree Porcelain Factory began a series of Hans Christian Andersen plates starting with Andersen's birthplace and followed by the Little Matchseller, the Little Mermaid, the Ugly Duckling and other fairytales. And the only Danish commemorative plates produced in glass, introduced in 1971 by Kastrup & Holmegaard who created a black and white series, depict old Danish sailing ships.

As a result of increased interest in such commemorative ware all over the world, Dansk Plattehandel are seeking representatives throughout the United States. Further information and price lists are available from Dansk Plattehandel og Export, Løkkegravene 49, DK-5270 Odense N, Denmark.

Princeton Gift

James A. Mills of Glen Head, NY, president of DBIA Lodge 325, has given his collection of color slides of wall paintings in Danish churches to Princeton University.

The collection consists of some 3,000 numbered and indexed color slides taken and assembled over the

last 15 years by Mills, recently retired as a professor of pharmacology at the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy. Mills notes the collection covers "practically all of the churches considered important by Niels Saxtorph, who wrote the definitive listing of the murals of the churches in Denmark." The earliest frescoes date from about 1200 and the latest from about 1550, according to Mills.

Approximately, one-third of the collection has already arrived in the University's Department of Art and Archaeology Section of Slides and Photographs, where it will be available not only to the University community, but to all scholars.

Valued in excess of \$10,000 the collection will be known as the Mills-Kronborg Collection; Kronborg is Dr. Mills' wife's maiden name. Mills' stepson, John Kristian Best, graduated from Princeton in 1969.

Pacific Northwest Danish Cultural Conference by

Dr. Betty Jensen Pritchett

It's a tradition and very Danish. The annual Pacific Northwest Danish Cultural Conference has become the highlight of the summer for many Danish Americans living in the northwest.

The fifth annual conference was held June 25-26, 1983. The conference is sponsored each year by the Danish American Heritage Society. Few of the 130 delegates would not agree the conference fulfilled its stated purpose. . . "To focus on Danish heritage, to give serious thought to how an interest in Danish tradition and culture might be preserved and encouraged, and to participate in a program of song, lectures, dialogue and fellowship."

The conference opened with a presentation by Arnold Bodtker, president of the Danish American Heritage Society. In honor of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of N.F.S. Grundtvig, Mr. Bodtker elaborated on the lasting influence of that remarkable man.

Other featured speakers were Dr. Inga Kromann-Kelly, Professor of Education, Washington State University, who spoke on "Contemporary Social Issues as Viewed by Danish Novelist Martha Christensen", Dr. Inga Wiehl, Instructor in Composition and Literature, Yakima Valley Community College, who recounted the story of Leonora Christina Ulfeldt, remarkable daughter of King Christian IV who was a political prisoner for over twenty-five years; Harlan and Anne Pedersen, Sierra Madre, who told of Cornelius Jensen, California's first Dane; Dr. Agneta Nordmark Buck, Instructor of Art Appreciation and Art History, Linn-Benton Community College, who elaborated on the contributions of Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, "Father of Danish Painting." A group of postwar immigrants who had recently visited Denmark discussed their impressions of Denmark today.

For the second year, many delegates brought their children or grandchildren and a special program was provided for the younger set. The children had special Danish language classes, they learned Danish songs and folk dances, and they listened to Danish folk tales. Swimming, nature walks and gymnastics provided an outlet for youthful energy.

But perhaps the part of the conference which will be most treasured and remembered is friendships nurtured. Not often is it possible to spend a weekend with others who share a unique dual heritage and who are committed to preserving that heritage.

The Pacific Northwest Danish Cultural Conference has enjoyed five successful years. It has provided an opportunity for Danish Americans who know little of

their heritage to learn from those who have lived in Denmark or who come from homes where "Danish ways" are practiced and the Danish language is spoken.

Dr. Signe Betsinger, Associate Dean, College of Home Economics at the University of Minnesota, called attention to the influence of Danish design in home and house furnishings, effectively illustrated with slides. Later Dr. Betsinger, who chairs the Danish Immigrant Museum Committee, reported on its progress, pointing out that the museum was well on the way to becoming a reality, since the site (Elk Horn, Iowa) had been selected.

The 1984 conference will again be held at Menucha, June 22-24.



J. O. P. Pedersen, member of Lodge No. 46 in Perth Amboy, NJ, is helping raise money to restore the old Perth Amboy Ferry Slip. He has created a pen and ink rendering of the slip which will be sold and raffled as a limited edition print. John is a well-known artist in New Jersey and certainly in The Danish Brotherhood as illustrator of many DBIA calendars. Here he presents an artistic gift to Mayor G. Otłowski honoring Perth Amboy's 300th anniversary.

Dana College Opens Centennial Year



Photo by Mark Amman, Dana College News Service.

Dana College and First Lutheran Church, Blair, celebrated the start of their centennial years October 30 at two morning services at First Lutheran and an afternoon service at Dana. The church and school were founded in 1884 by Pastor A. M. Andersen, a Danish pioneer.

A procession from First Lutheran to the Dana campus preceded the afternoon ceremony. It was led by a horse-drawn carriage like those used in the last century by Andersen and other pastors in traveling to the rural congregations they served.

Pastor and Mrs. John Beck rode in the carriage. Beck's great-grandfather was one of the founders of Trinity Seminary, Dana's mother institution. Director of development at Dana, Beck wore a Danish pastor's ruff from the college archives. His wife wore a 19th-century duster coat made by the mother of Mrs. Ivan Johansen of Blair.

The horse and carriage were provided by Clark Jenson. He and his wife, who are members of First Lutheran, walked by the horse and carriage in the procession.

IRA

TAX DEDUCTIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN

Most men and women work hard during their lifetime trying to save money for their retirement. However, saving for retirement with after-tax dollars becomes increasingly difficult. Recognizing this problem, Congress passed a law which allows individuals even if already covered by a qualified plan to establish Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA). This law allows these individuals to make tax deductible contributions to a retirement fund. In addition, earnings accumulate on a tax-favored basis. This provides a distinct advantage to help save for retirement. This plan is easy to establish with Danish Brotherhood. The following are answers to questions frequently asked about such a plan.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

1. What is the purpose of an IRA?

The purpose is to allow individuals the opportunity to build a more secure future for themselves and their families by establishing a Tax-Favored Retirement Plan.

2. Who is Eligible?

Individuals are eligible who have earned income even though participating in a qualified corporate pension or profit-sharing plan, a Keogh Plan (HR-10) or a government retirement plan.

3. How much may I contribute to an IRA?

You may contribute and deduct each year an amount not to exceed 100% of your earned income or \$2,000, whichever is less.

4. How is my IRA funded?

A flexible premium annuity with no deductions for service charges or administrative fees and currently paying 10% is funding your IRA with The Danish Brotherhood. A reducing surrender charge is applied if the annuity is surrendered during the early years of the plan prior to retirement.

5. When may I receive retirement benefits?

Your benefits may begin as early as age 59½ but not later than the close of the taxable year in which you attain age 70½. Benefits, however, may begin earlier if you are totally and permanently disabled.

6. May I withdraw benefits before age 59½?

Yes; however, the benefits are subject to a special Federal income tax penalty. A tax of 10% is imposed on the entire IRA distribution in addition to regular income taxes.

7. How are the benefits taxed at retirement?

When you begin receiving monthly income benefits, they are taxable as ordinary income.

8. How do I begin an IRA with The Danish Brotherhood?

The procedure is simple. With the help of your Danish Brotherhood representative or the home office agency department you complete the required forms and begin making contributions.

Your personal retirement fund will grow **LARGER AND FASTER** than an equal investment earning the same return which is subject to income taxes. Also, since you will reduce the amount of income tax paid part of the contribution is made with money which you would otherwise pay to the Internal Revenue. For example, if you set aside \$2,000 each year to build for your retirement you might accumulate:

After	With the help of a tax-sheltered account	After	With the help of a tax-sheltered account
5 years	\$ 13,432	25 years	216,364
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_____ I am interested in learning more about the IRA.

Name _____ Age _____ Lodge _____

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Plain Talk, continued

Mark, for example, could buy \$15,000 or \$20,000 of permanent, cash value life insurance to augment his original policy. This would be a good base which he can eventually use to build the broader coverage he and his future family will need (as we will see later in this article).

One additional feature that should be included in this new plan is the Guaranteed Insurability Option (GIO). This optional "rider" to the policy would enable Mark to buy identical amounts of permanent life insurance as in the base plan at specific future option dates at standard rates and without evidence of insurability. The option dates are at ages 25, 28, 31, 34, 37 and 40. but the feature is also extended to include marriage and the birth of a child. With the GIO as part of his new policy, if Mark were to become uninsurable (or uninsurable at standard rates), he could still build an adequate life insurance program. In fact, if he started with a \$20,000 policy and just used the six options beginning at age 25, Mark could acquire \$120,000 of additional permanent life insurance at standard rates by his forty-first birthday, even if he couldn't buy any coverage at any price normally. This added benefit will increase the premium of the plan slightly, but considering the potential importance of the GIO, the small extra expense is obviously well worth it.

Remember, too, we said this is a "reader participation" column. We asked you to assume the role of Mark's fraternal life insurance adviser while you're reading. Make your own recommendations for more or

less coverage based on Mark's situation. Along the way, you may discover that Mark's circumstances and yours are pretty much alike. So sharpen your pencils and let's see what Mark Worth is up to these days.

At 23, Mark is married. He and his wife, Patty, are renting an apartment and have no children. Mark is doing well in his job as a printing sales representative and Patty, also 23, is a cashier at a bank in town. She and Mark plan to build their savings for a year or two before starting a family. Assuming Mark followed our advice and purchased \$20,000 of permanent life insurance two years ago, he now owns \$25,000 of protection on his life, plus \$10,000 of group coverage from his employer. Patty's bank provides her with \$8,000 of group life insurance, but she has no other coverage. As their fraternal life insurance adviser, what would you recommend to Mark and Patty at this stage of their lives.

(To be continued)

Investment With Big Return



Daniel E. Jensen receives a \$500 check from National President Robert Ibsen.

Daniel E. Jensen is the winner of the final prize of the Insurance Department's Centennial Membership Contest. His selection was announced by Sales Director Andy Andersen. The Centennial Membership Contest gave every sponsor of a new Danish Brotherhood member a small return on his or her investment in the Society. Each received a bumper sticker for each new member sponsored, and, as more new members were sponsored, the awards were greater.

Each sponsor during the contest period was automatically entered in a drawing. At the close of the contest, one name was drawn to receive their choice of a trip to Philadelphia for the 31st National Convention or \$500 in cash.

Daniel Jensen of Kenosha, Wisconsin, was the lucky sponsor whose name was picked at random for the final award. Daniel sponsored a total of three new members in 1982, including his son Mark (24), daughter Laura's (21) fiance and Mark's future father-in-law. Mr. Jensen is Vice President of Thomson McKinnon Securities, Inc., and became a member of The Danish Brotherhood in 1977.

Nordic Book Catalog

Books with a Nordic Heritage 1984 is a new catalog of books about Scandinavia now available from Nordic Books. Among the 65 titles listed in this catalog, special attention can be drawn to a new book, "N.F.S. Grundtvig - Tradition and Renewal," just published in honor of the bicentenary of the birth of Grundtvig. Also new in this year's catalog is "The Danish Americans" by George R. Nielsen; "Whistler's in the Night and other Verse" by Nis Petersen; "Swedish Exodus" by Lars Ljungmark; and "The Folk Arts of Norway."

The catalog is yours for the asking. Write to Nordic Books, P. O. Box 1941, Philadelphia, PA 19115.

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bringing it to life. The gifts were opened amid shouts of delight, little did it matter that most of them were home-made. During the Great Depression years in particular, the joys far outweighed the sorrows on such occasions. Once the excitement cooled down the guests began to go home. Wishes for a "glaedelig jul" were intermingled with those of "farvel" and "tak for i aften." It was time for the children to go home and dream what wondrous things Santa Claus would find to fill the stockings with.

The animals were not to be neglected on Christmas eve either. Grandfather always gave them extra portions of grain on Christmas and never failed to remind dad to take special care of them after he was unable to do so himself. Thus they never minded us abandoning them for an entire evening when it was our turn to go calling.

The Danish festivities were not limited to Christmas eve. Somewhere between Christmas and New Years all the Danes in our community gathered in the Odd Fellows Hall in Weeping Water for a big Danish julefest. Our mothers went all out to cook their finest dishes and everyone dressed in their Sunday best. We couldn't wait to run up the steps to find a warm Danish welcome awaiting us. The Danish Ladies Aid Society members met us with open arms. In the middle of the room stood the Juletrae with all of its Danish flags and delicately cut hand-made decorations. Everyone was welcome, old, young, farmers, and businessmen and all had a wonderful time.

The Danish ladies had gone overboard to provide entertainment and we played games like fish pond where we fished for gifts including fish. They were cookies of course, and not real fish! We also raffled off a beautiful hand-made quilt. When it came time to draw the lucky number, the smallest child there was given the

honor of selection. Joy was yours if you carried home the prize! Laughter rang through the hall, the men played cards, the language was a mixture of both worlds and the highlight of the evening was when we danced around the Juletrae. Our elders sang "Nu har vi jul igen" and we danced and danced. It was a happy time even though we didn't understand the words.

Many a sleepy child nestled in a warm coat or lay down to sleep upon a chair bed. At the evenings end those lovable old Danish ladies gave everyone present, an orange and an apple to take home along with good wishes for the coming New Year.

With a twinkle in his blue eyes grandfather would tell the children about the little elf (nissemand) in Denmark who lived under the toadstool. About the sixth of January he would fill wooden shoes that the children left outside their doors. But somehow America seemed to replace these old shoes with fireplace stockings.

How very fortunate we children were to be a part of two worlds. With the coming of modern transportation, the ending of the great depression and the leaving of the older Danes it was indeed unfortunate that these scenes no longer were a part of our community.

However, it is with a great deal of pride that I am able to share these wonderful experiences with my children, my friends and you. A part of me that is Danish is very much alive, especially at the approach of the Christmas season when we once again become children of our childhood.

As the snow falls softly to earth I hear again in memory the beautiful voices of those dear old Danes of my long ago past. "Glaedelig jul" "Glaedelig jul," "Ringe i julen;" (Ringing in Christmas) and "Peace on earth good will toward men."

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Scholarship Announcement

The Scholarship Committee of the Board of Directors of The Danish Brotherhood wishes to announce that scholarship applications for the school year beginning September, 1984, will be considered beginning February 15, 1984. Eligible members wishing to apply should write to: The Danish Brotherhood in America, Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131. No applications received after February 15, 1984 will be considered by the Committee for the 1984 awards.

Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$250.00 per semester and are renewable, pending qualification, to a total amount of \$2,000.00.

Eligible for scholarship awards are insured members in good standing within their local lodge who are attending or planning to attend an accredited college, technical school, or vocational school in an undergraduate status. Under some circumstances, eligible persons attending school in Denmark may receive an award.

Changes approved by delegates to the Thirty-First National Convention of the society have increased the amount of scholarship awards. Eight scholarships may now be awarded annually, two of which must be awarded to applicants planning to attend a vocational or trade school. (See Art. V of the Bylaws).

Our Lodges in Action

Material for publication must be received by the tenth of the month preceding month of issue.

The American Dane is mailed by the sixth day of the month of issue.

The magazine reserves the right to edit material accepted for publication.

*Seasons
Greetings*



Best Suggestion Contest Begins January 1984

Each month during 1984, beginning in the January American Dane, one suggested or idea for a lodge activity will be selected as the suggestion of the month. The winning suggestion will be chosen from lodge news published that month. The idea will be highlighted and the lodge will receive a check for \$10.

Our Lodges in Action Photo Contest Begins January 1984

A total of \$120 in cash will be divided equally among 8 winners of the Our Lodges in Action Photo Contest. All photographs submitted for publication in the Our Lodges in Action section of the American Dane will automatically be entered.

All photos will be held for judging until publication of the December 1984 issue is completed. All photos submitted should include the name of the photographer. Color or black and white photos are eligible. Photos properly identified will be returned at the close of the contest.

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST

Lodge #29, Seattle, WA — Our annual picnic Sunday, August 28, netted us some cute photographs of the children hunting for coins in the straw and hopping down the field in the sack races.



The little ones race to victory.



Hunting for coins in the straw.

Flemming Sorensen, Past President, had the pleasure of bringing his daughter Tove Lise Sorensen into adult membership in our lodge on September 7, our annual Veterans night. The same evening Jens Jorgensen was presented his 25-year commemorative membership pin by National Vice President Clyde Langsted.



Tove Lise Sorensen becomes a voting member of our lodge. She is being introduced by Past President Jens Nielsen and initiated by her father, Flemming Sorensen, at the podium. Secretary Gerald Jensen is also pictured.



Jens Jorgensen, an excellent bowler and soccer player, receives his 25-year pin from Vice President Clyde Langsted.



New Members

Name	Lodge No.	Location	Sponsor
Esther S. Welliver	1	Omaha	Frances Doak
Timothy A. Yorgan	4	Racine	Gordon A. Hansen
Lawrence G. Christensen	14	Kenosha	Walter Christensen
Walter E. Christensen, Jr.	14	Kenosha	Walter Christensen
Dardis P. Richards	14	Kenosha	Harry Data
Roy P. Staude	14	Kenosha	Wilfred H., Hoff
Steven Vines	14	Kenosha	Walter Christensen
Vernon D. Barksdale	29	Seattle	Per P. Larsen
Raymond L. Hansen	29	Seattle	Ed Olsen
Jean Ellen Sorensen	32	New Haven	Barry Edmonds
Anton L. Weller	34	Dwight	Herman W. Perschnick
Marilyn M. Weller	34	Dwight	Herman W. Perschnick
Katherine E. Pedersen	43	Denver	Svend A. Sonderup
Christian R. Miller	46	Perth Amboy	George W. Ferdinandson
Robert C. Miller	46	Perth Amboy	George W. Ferdinandson
Julius E. Petersen	62	Sioux City	Charles W. Boulden
Pearl L. Petersen	62	Sioux City	Charles W. Boulden
J. Hobart Belknap	111	Austin	Jens I. Larson
Einar A. Johnson	113	Enumclaw	Fred C. Madsen
Albert H. Jorgensen	161	Ruskin	Ed Meyer
Shirley E. Jorgensen	161	Ruskin	Edith Meyer
John A. Welander	164	New York	Grete Leth
Danell L. Danielsen	167	Portland	Tonny Blair
John O. Nielsen	167	Portland	Mark Jensen
Harold W. Hansen	170	Rocky River	John Gormsen
Mildred E. Gamborg-Nielsen	172	Philadelphia	Flemming Hinrichsen
Ronald N. Hansen	217	Humboldt	Carroll J. Jensen
Joseph C. West	217	Humboldt	Hedy Sorensen
Kristen L. Sorensen	219	Clear Lake	Thorvald Sorensen
LaVonne B. Sorensen	219	Clear Lake	Thorvald Sorensen
Elizabeth Pedersen	325	Nassau County	George Jacobsen

Our nominating committee was appointed in October and election of officers will take place this month.

Ted Kofoed, Cor.

Lodge #33, Tacoma, WA — With the fall and all its beauty of foliage comes the desire to have a party.

Our Host Fest was held at the Titlow Beach Hall, Saturday, October 22. Maryanne Rasmussen decorated our tables to coincide with the brilliance of our pretty outdoor foliage. Colors of brown, yellow and green, along with yellow chrysanthemum plants and orange candles made the hall a lovely room for members and their guests, totaling 62.

Vice President Herluf Andersen and his wife Elsa were host and hostess for the evening. Carsten Rasmussen, our president, was away on a business trip. Herluf played tapes of Scandinavian music throughout the evening. The social hour began at 6 p.m. Mem-

bers and their guests visited freely as they partook of beer, wine, and soft drinks.

Dinner was served at 7 p.m. Elsa Andersen and her sister, Tove Askilsrud were busy frying medisterpølse and frikadeller. Salads and desserts were brought by members. Many Danish songs led by Hanna Lange were sung during the dinner hour.

Raffle tickets were sold for akvavit and two chrysanthemum plants. Marie Dess won the bottle and Hanna Lange and Myra Brochner, the plants.

An announcement was made concerning the Scandinavian Days held in Tacoma October 4 through 8. The Danish Brotherhood's booth netted \$1,422, featuring pea soup, Danish hot dogs and Danish pastry. These funds go to the Leif Erickson committee for scholarship donations.

It was a successful party, thanks to Marianne and Herluf Andersen and his committee.

Signe Wenness, Cor.

Lodge #167, Portland, OR — Max Madsen was born in Copenhagen, Denmark 88 years ago. Max came to the United States with his mother and father in 1911, directly to Portland where he has resided these many years. Max joined The Danish Brotherhood in Portland in 1918, dropped out in 1928, joined again in 1933 and has been an active member since that day.



Max Madsen receives his 50-year pin from President Jens Gimbel at Portland's Lodge No. 167.

He held every office and the presidency at least one term. Max was President of the D.B. 167, three times, years 1936, 1956, and 1972. He was the Pacific Northwest District President in 1978. He was honored by attending The Danish Brotherhood National Convention in 1951 at Detroit, Michigan.

Max is in charge of visitations to sick members. He shares this responsibility with Magnus Esrom. A hard worker for The Danish Brotherhood over the years, we honor Max Madsen for his loyalty and devotion to The Danish Brotherhood.

Jens Jensen, Cor.

Lodge #328, Vancouver, BC — On November 5 we enjoyed "andespil" (bingo) with smørrebrød. We sponsored a Christmas room for adults and children followed by an adults only party on November 27.

Our newsletter has been focused on a series of articles about Denmark's history for the past several issues. This month's issue related a tale from Norse mythology.

Lodge #348, Eugene, OR — Correspondence in October told us about a gymnastics group from Randers, to hopefully tour the Northwest in October 1984.

Page 16

Housing and transportation would be needed. There was a favorable vote from the group to get more specific information. David Lando, a University of Oregon student from Denmark hosted by Svend and Lois Toftemark, was our guest.

Lois Toftemark, Cor.

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

Lodge #126, Los Angeles, CA — Our 84th anniversary party at Joe Petrelli's September 24, was very much enjoyed by all. Good food, good service, and the band was superb. We danced until the last minute. The band had to tell us it was time to go home. We had four visitors from Denmark, members of Niels and Knud Jensen's family. Brother Erik Jensen, wife Gerda, sister, Else Nielsen, and her granddaughter Conny Nielsen. It was an exceptional night for them, because, it was the first time in forty years the three brothers have been together at the same time. It made the party even more special.

Our fish dinner and bingo for the fall is here again. Twenty-one members have attended six or more meetings for the past year and will receive a free fish dinner. This idea boosted our regular meeting attendance.

Our family and friends Christmas party at the "Alamo" is December 16.

Los Angeles Lodge 126, Alhambra Lodge 323, Princess Marie Lodge 68 will hold joint installation January 20.

Margaret Jensen, Sec.

Lodge #184, Hayward, CA — Our installation of officers will be Friday, February 4, 1984. We will be joined by Olga Marie Lodge No. 166 of Danish Sisterhood and Anker Lodge No. 337 from Fremont. We are planning a dance afterwards, so please save that date. Details of time and price will be in the January issue.

Our Reno trip on October 9 and 10 was a big success. Everyone had a good time. We have already reserved the Sundowner for next year on October 8 and 9. You may start making your reservations now. Money must be turned in at

time of reservation. Diane Mahler is in charge again and the price is tentatively set at \$45.00. We really appreciate the work Diane has done. She has been in charge of these trips since we started them 3 years ago.

We have another new member. We would like to welcome Louis Carstensen to our lodge.

We would wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Signe Ann McNeil, Sec.

Lodge #299, Solvang, CA — At our October 12 meeting discussion was held about having an open meeting and with prospective members invited to try and interest them in membership. We had one new application for membership. It was agreed to have a joint celebration with the Sisterhood to celebrate the Brotherhood's 70th local anniversary and the Sisterhood's 100th national anniversary on November 12.

We had detailed reports from Johannes Jaeger and Peter Weber on the national convention in Philadelphia. They reported a good convention. The committee for November is Jorgen Hansen, Pablo Petersen, Arnold Detmer and crew.

Henry Edwards, Cor.

Lodge #323, Alhambra, CA — Doris Davis is awaiting an answer from Omaha to be informed if she is to become our insurance representative.

Our Christmas party will be held Friday, December 2, 1983, at the lodge hall in Monterey Park. We will be having a traditional Danish roast pork dinner with all the trimmings, gløgg, Santa Claus, gift exchange, etc.

Kate Krake, Cor.

Lodge #319, Bakersfield, CA — The December meeting will be canceled in favor of the Christmas Party for adults and children on December 15 at the Labor Hall. Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. when sandwiches and cookies will be served. Those bringing children are asked to call Inge McDonald. Musical entertainment will be provided by Bill Fowler and his accordion.

Starting with the January 5

meeting, time has been changed to 7 p.m. at the Labor Hall. It was decided that a change during the winter months should be tried and everyone agreed.

Dorothy Peterson, Cor.

Lodge #345, Orange County, CA —

It sounds like a good time was had by all who attended the "Grandma Moses" night on October 8. I would like to have seen the painting as I've heard some good remarks from the "Critics." Marie Christensen was the high bidder, so she took the work of art home with her. A big thank you to Evelyn Andersen for coming up with the idea and making all the arrangements, even if she couldn't be at the meeting because of back problems. Thanks to Kaj Bjorn who was the instructor for the painting.

Our November meeting will be a busy evening. Our delegate to the national convention will give his report. We will have election of officers and our annual bazaar.

Our installation will be held at the Griswald Inn in Fullerton on January 7. The price of the banquet and ball will be \$14 per person.

Hazel Kjellsen, Sec.

Lodge #346, Riverside, CA —

Kodan lodge really treats its secretary right! Members and friends recently turned out for a surprise dinner party to show their appreciation. I'm still glowing! Not only was I treated to a delicious dinner, but I was given a pair of gorgeous pearl earrings and a bouquet of pink roses. Thank you for kind words and especially for being there. I understand all arrangements were made by Anelise Andersen, Hans Terkelsen and Kaja Del Grippo. Special thanks.

We had a grand turnout — approximately 40 people — for our



Knud Andersen shows the symbols of DBIA to initiate Jeanie Fox, while President Vikki Garrison explains their meaning.

annual family picnic. Thank you to Hans Terkelsen for arranging the beer keg, Howard Wogan for the music, Janet Jensen for the prizes, and Pete Petersen for organizing games. Seeing how much the children enjoyed themselves really made my day. We held an informal meeting and initiation ceremony among the trees. Welcome newest member, Jeanie Fox.

November will feature the film, "Christmas in Denmark." The lodge will draw the name of the winner of the \$20.00 "turkey" gift certificate. We're expecting to see Bill Johansen's videotapes of the family picnic and the coconut golf tournament. The nominating committee will present its slate for next year's officers. Election of officers will be held in December, with installation January 14.

Coming events include a bake sale spearheaded by our Champion Chairman, Kaja Del Grippo; a bus trip to Newport Beach (with harbor cruise); and our annual Children's Christmas Party on December 11.

Nancy Nielsen, Sec.

IOWA— MINNESOTA

Lodge #10, Council Bluffs, IA —

The annual aebleskiver breakfast and bazaar was held Sunday, November 13, at the Danish Hall. There was a bazaar and bake sale at the same time.

Brotherhood Lodge 10 is 100 years old this year and it is the 100th anniversary of the Danish Sisterhood of America and the 94th anniversary of our local Sisterhood Lodge 10.

Our lodge met November 8, with a meeting of the Danish Hall Association first and the regular meeting following thereafter. Refreshments were served.

Lodge #15, Des Moines, IA —

Lodge 15 had its monthly meeting at Dania Hall October 10, 1983. "Happy Birthday" to J. O. White on his 50th. After the meeting a celebration was held in his honor. Valborg Christiansen, treasurer of the Danish Sisterhood Lodge 102, presented a substantial donation to the lodge to help defray ex-

penses during the district convention held in Des Moines. A thank you note was received from Paul E. Strand for the convention. Edith Poulsen reported people at the National Convention in Philadelphia had favorably commented on the Iowa-Minnesota convention held over the Labor Day weekend in Des Moines. Ferry Christiansen got a standing ovation for a great job well done. Bob Ferguson will be filling in temporarily. Willy Christensen gave an extensive report from the National Convention held in Philadelphia. It was announced that Des Moines had been chosen as the site for the next National Convention in 1987.

A hearty welcome back to Vice President Richard Hansen who recently returned from vacationing in Denmark and Greece. Lodge 15 will be celebrating its 100th anniversary November 26 in the "Fiddler's Room" at the Holiday Inn, Des Moines, Iowa.

Ann Ferguson, Cor.

Lodge #144, Dike, IA —

At our October meeting, we had a very good attendance, with about 50 persons enjoying aebleskiver prepared by the ladies of Sisterhood Lodge No. 176.

Dike Lodge 144 lost two brothers, Niels Chris Rasmussen and William C. Johnson. Brotherhood and Sisterhood members extend their condolences to their families.

Although a formal presentation of the award was made at high school graduation, the Brotherhood made payment of the \$100.00 scholarship to Janice Knudsen at their October meeting. A very nice note was received by the Brotherhood from Miss Knudsen, telling of her successful start at Iowa State University.

Looking forward to two interesting regular meetings in November and December, the two Dike lodges anticipate hearing from two young ladies at those meetings. One is an exchange college student from Denmark and the other a local area resident, who toured Denmark last summer.

Also upcoming is the annual Danish folk dancing for children at the December meeting.

Lyle R. Refshauge, Sec.

Lodge #217, Humboldt, IA — We met Monday, October 10, at the Senior Citizen's Building in Humboldt. Thirty members were present. Two new members were welcomed — Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Hansen. Visitors were: Evelyn and Darwin Hansen, Marcella Hansen, and Lavona and Frank Christensen from West Bend. To become better acquainted with visitors and new members, all lodge members introduced themselves.

The scholarship winner from the Iowa-Minnesota District was announced — Joanne Jurgensen from Westbrook, Minnesota. New business concerned the Christmas party. A committee consisting of Esther Hall, Carla Faltinson, Helen Larsen was appointed.

Carroll Jensen gave an interesting report on his trip to Denmark in September. Carroll drove to Toronto, Canada, and left from there for Copenhagen. He rented a car and visited many places of interest, such as Copenhagen, Odense, Horsens and the birthplaces of his parents' ancestors. Carroll reported on the industries and products of Denmark. He said gasoline was about \$2 a gallon.

Reports on the Iowa-Minnesota District Convention at Des Moines,

Iowa, were given by delegates Lucille Christensen and Carl Hansen.

An excellent report was given by Marilyn Hansen, our delegate to the National Convention in Philadelphia, PA. Thirteen lodges with 14 delegates were represented from this district.

A delicious lunch was served by the refreshment committee, Claretta Wigans and Mary Verna Nielsen.

Edna Johnson, Sec.

Lodge #219, Clear Lake, IA — Two members were initiated at the September meeting. They were LaVonne and Kristen Sorensen. Alvin Miller, Insurance Representative, presented Kristen with a Young Vikings Certificate and a booklet for LaVonne along with their insurance certificates.



President Thorvald Sorensen initiates Kristen (left) and LaVonne Sorensen (right).



The Iowa-Minnesota Super Lodge Award will be displayed with pride by Lodge 219 in the coming year. Thorvald Sorensen (left) and Vice President Steve Sorensen (right) introduced it to our lodge.

Reports of the Iowa-Minnesota District Convention held in Des Moines were given by delegates Jerry Sonsalla and Steven Sorensen. Kathy Sonsalla was elected 1st Trustee of the District. Steven Sorensen had been made parliamentarian and had also given the prayer at the opening of the joint session of the Sisterhood and Brotherhood meetings. Jerry Sonsalla had been placed on a committee at the convention. Clear Lake Lodge was given an award for last year's newsletter. The District Traveling Rug Award

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	Birth Place	Lodge No.	Location	Year Joined
9-26-83	Edward O. Hickenbottom	60	Missoula, Montana	113	Enumclaw, Washington	1952
9-23-83	Niels Chris Rasmussen	71	Grundy County, Iowa	144	Dike, Iowa	1930
10-4-83	Edward William Larsen	89	Belvedere, Illinois	64	Rockford, Illinois	1920
9-17-83	Tage Anders Moller	61	Struer, Denmark	126	Los Angeles, California	1953
10-12-83	Peter Rasmussen	85	Snode, Denmark	194	McMinnville, Oregon	1924
10-7-83	Richard G. Tansey	64	Erie, Pennsylvania	242	Erie, Pennsylvania	1945
10-8-83	Wesley E. Johansen	60	Davenport, Iowa	3	Davenport, Iowa	1963
9-30-83	Clarence G. Morgensen	74	Chicago, Illinois	263	Askov, Minnesota	1938
8-27-83	Louis C. Winters	61	Orleans, Michigan	106	Trufant, Michigan	1949
10-4-83	August Reineck	81	Copenhagen, Denmark	257	St. Petersburg, Florida	1941
10-19-83	Christian P. Nielsen	74	Thise, Denmark	107	Chicago, Illinois	1941
9-24-83	Bjarne B. Foss	86	Copenhagen, Denmark	299	Solvang, California	1925
10-11-83	Sigurd Lunde	76	Askov, Minnesota	299	Solvang, California	1926
10-24-83	Frank Gundersen	77	Omaha, Nebraska	1	Omaha, Nebraska	1927
10-18-83	Leo Rasmussen	82	Fenwich, Michigan	70	Greenville, Michigan	1935
10-19-83	William D. Steeves, Sr.	84	Bridgeport, Connecticut	37	Bridgeport, Connecticut	1946
10-25-83	Hans Andersen	84	Ringkobing, Denmark	172	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1925
9-1-83	Hans C. D. Mogensen	87	Kolerup Sogn, Denmark	43	Denver, Colorado	1928
8-1-83	Jens P. O. Christensen	94	Halling, Denmark	147	Newell, Iowa	1910
8-31-83	Lillian Back	87	Racine, Wisconsin	182	Waukegan, Illinois	1967
3-16-83	Christian Elster	87	Copenhagen, Denmark	167	Portland, Oregon	1958
10-6-83	Marvin Swanningsen	68	Niagara, Wisconsin	14	Kenosha, Wisconsin	1981
10-18-83	Esbern C. Hagedorn	72	Chicago, Illinois	35	Chicago, Illinois	1976
3-16-83	Hilda B. Petersen	89	Elk Horn, Iowa	341	Kimballton-Elk Horn, Iowa	1976
10-6-83	Viggo Sorensen	64	Aarhus, Denmark	227	Detroit, Michigan	1973
10-27-83	Joe A. Bartholomy	55	Sutter Bay, Michigan	51	Ludington, Michigan	1983

was given to our lodge and was on display at the meeting.

Birthdays of Steven Sorensen and John Smeby, Jr., were celebrated. Dr. and Mrs. Steven Sorensen presented a program on their trip to the Virgin Islands. Edith Skene, Thorvald Sorensen, Kathy and Todd Sonsalla and delegate Jerry Sonsalla attended the National Convention in Philadelphia.

Kathy Sonsalla, Cor.

Lodge #341, Kimballton-Elk Horn, IA — We enjoyed a torsk dinner November 7 at the Kimballton Town Hall. About 100 consumed a bountiful meal — the torsk and potatoes were furnished, with members bringing salads, vegetables and desserts. Six guests from Atlantic attended and three guests locally.

Enid Nielsen and Minna Larsen were initiated by President Dorothy Mortensen. Helen Thompsen gave a report on the district convention in Des Moines. Five guests from Kimballton displayed Danish crafts.

Irene Boose, Sec.

Lodge #347, Cedar Rapids-Marion, IA — The lodge had their annual picnic and St. Hans bonfire at Karen and Paul Nielsens in July. August brought everyone to Don and Ruth Rosdail's for an old-fashioned ice cream social. In September many members attended the Iowa-Minnesota convention and really enjoyed themselves. Entertainment for September was local square dance cloggers.

Arthur and Ulla Wall attended the National Convention in Philadelphia. Thank you to the hosts for a great convention.

In October we had a silent auction. Harold Jorgensen gave interesting insights to his "adventure" while tracing for his roots in Sønderjylland last summer — very, very interesting. In November, we will be looking forward to a dinner in honor of Iva Karch, given by Harry Simonsen and followed by bingo to earn the turkey for Mortensaften or Thanksgiving. Jule ønsker og Nytaars ønsker to everyone.

Ulla Wall, Sec.

MIDWEST

Lodge #14, Kenosha, WI — Our softball team has finished its first season. Our younger members are to be congratulated for their efforts. They raised all the money and bought uniforms and equipment which showed a great deal of initiative on their part.

Welcome new members: Roy Staude, Joseph Campol, Albert Christianson and James Cross.

Lodge 92 in St. Charles did a tremendous job of organizing and presenting a fantastic weekend for the MWD. National Board Member Norbert Grove was the representative from DBIA and did a great job. Ben Peterson and Ron Jensen were delegates.

Next year's convention will be held in Chicago and hosted by Lodge 17. (Congratulations to the father-daughter team — MWD Brotherhood President Merle Nylén and MWD Sisterhood President Karen Nylén of Chicago.)

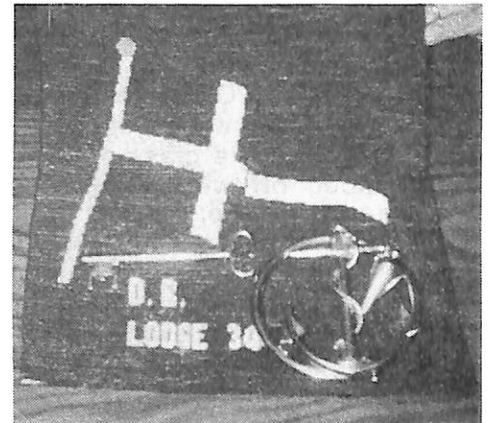
Danish Night was a new venture of our lodge, and those who attended had a very relaxing and enjoyable evening. We were treated to some real Danish sandwiches, herring, ice cream, coffee, beer and akvavit. There was time for friendly conversation as the sandwiches were being prepared fresh from the kitchen. After the food we were treated to two excellent films — one on Scandinavian countries and one on Denmark. Making all of the sandwiches for 100 people was a tremendous task. We congratulate Chairpersons Tommy and Judy Nielsen whose idea this was along with their hard working committee.

Lodge #34, Dwight, IL — October 15 was the Midwest District Dart Extravaganza hosted by Lodge 92, St. Charles. I have heard nothing but "Great" from all members who participated. The meal was excellent! Of course, President Rick Sullivan was lucky enough to draw Dale Seyller as his partner and they walked away with 1st place. Gregg Jensen came in fifth. Thanks St. Charles for getting this event "fired up."

Ninety-one members were at our 94th anniversary dinner/dance. MWD President Merle Nylén and



Practicing on the new dart boards getting ready for the MWD Dart Extravaganza sponsored by Lodge 92, St. Charles, on October 15. The dart stands were made by lodge member Clarence Jacobsgaard.



Handmade needlepoint scarf made by Art Nielsen in memory of his brother, Irvin (Babe) Nielsen, who was treasurer of Lodge 34 for many years.

his wife were on hand to give us a word.

Welcome to our new members, Lavern and Marilyn Weller.

Margaret A. Goodwin, Sec.

Lodge #36, Milwaukee, WI — Because of our members' and friends' contributions, time and hard work, our October 22 Pork and Red Cabbage Dinner, chaired by Sally Jorgensen, was a big success. In addition to wonderful food, there were eighteen door prizes, six raffle items and pleasing background music. Special thanks to the visiting Scandinavian Chorus, to Paul Triplett who led them and to Tye Triplett for her piano accompaniment.

Our members attending Julefest at Lodge 14 in Kenosha Sunday, November 6, had only good reports regarding the aebleskiver and medisterpølse luncheon served and of the affair in general.

The start of our 94th lodge anniversary celebration November 15

was an aebleskiver supper. The theme for the evening was "Our Roots and Our Shoots." In keeping with our theme, the topic of our guest speaker, Florence Petterson, was Scandinavian genealogy. She is a member of the Milwaukee County Genealogical Society and Wisconsin State Genealogical Society and well-qualified on the subject of tracing our roots. Our regular business meeting followed.

Albert L. Larsen, Sec.

Lodge #182, Waukegan, IL — The evening of October 22 was rainy and cold, but that didn't dampen our spirits. Forty-seven members and friends gathered at the Waukegan Yacht Club to celebrate the lodge's 80th anniversary. The meal began with a glass of wine, was topped off with a piece of anniversary cake, and was delicious. However, eating was not the primary reason for the gathering; it was a time of celebrating, reminiscing and renewing friendships.



(left to right) National Director Woody Petersen, Carl Petersen, Treasurer of 182, Janet Petersen, Secretary of 182, Chris Jensen, Lodge President and National President Robert Ibsen join in celebrating the 80th anniversary of Dannevang Lodge 182.

We were privileged and honored to welcome as our guests at the dinner not just one, but two members of the National Board. Traveling from Park Forest, Illinois, was National Director Woodrow Petersen. Then, it was indeed a pleasure to have our National President, Robert Ibsen, bring us greetings from Home Office. Accompanying Bob that evening was his lovely wife, Elaine.

Former lodge president, Walter Petersen, and wife, Ann, traveled 500 miles, from Osage Beach, Missouri, to join us for the festivities.

We were saddened recently by the passing of member Lillian Back. Lillian's husband, Peter, hosted a Danish music radio show in Racine, Wisconsin, during the 1940s and 50s.

The December meeting will feature the election of 1984 officers; following the business portion of the evening. Christmas cookies, cakes and pastries will be enjoyed by the members.

Janet Petersen, Sec.

Lodge #186, Luck, WI — Darlene Jensen reported on her delegation to the National Convention in Philadelphia at our last meeting.

A group of our members enjoyed an evening's entertainment presented by the Copenhagen Percussion Ensemble of Denmark given at River Falls, WI September 22. The program was made possible through the support of the Danish government, the Nordic Arts Exchange of Washington, D.C. and the Cultural Exchange of the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Wisconsin at River Falls. The group made four appearances in the U.S. this fall. The conductor, Bent Lylloff, is among Scandinavia's pre-eminent musicians. He is a member of the Royal Danish Conservatory and teaches at the Malmo Music School. The ensemble was made up of young men who have been or still are students at the Royal Academy. After the program, our group enjoyed fellowship and lunch at "The Perkins", all sitting at one, long table extending the length of the restaurant.

November 15 was the date of our pancake supper with the public invited. Proceeds will help pay for the insulation of the ceiling of our hall in anticipation of conserving fuel during the cold Wisconsin winters.

Our Christmas banquet will be December 10 followed by a short meeting.

Esther Nies, Sec.

Lodge #340, Wood Dale, IL — Jack Andersen, Ted Kaiser, and Rune Karsbaek represented us at the MWD dart extravaganza hosted by St. Charles Lodge 92. The day was filled with a lot of fun, and we took home a prize (our first one of the

year for MWD events). Rune took sixth place in the competition.

Our meetings have gone to the dogs. At Amateur Night, in October, the music was so good a cute little dog found himself a chair and enjoyed the show with everyone else. Entertainment was provided by Ted Kaiser on accordion, Poul Sorensen on harmonica and Rune Karsbaek on piano. Arline's father, Kristian Poulsen, provided a film he made in 1948 or '49 about a railroad fair. Everyone is still talking about how good it was. Thanks to everyone for participating.

Our Christmas party will be December 7.

Barb Karsbaek, Cor.

Lodge #343, Waupaca, WI — An aebleskiver supper was served on September 20.

On October 1 our group participated in Fall-O-Rama, also known as Lost Art's Day, at the Waupaca Armory by sponsoring a Danish booth, featuring aebleskiver pan, recipe and samples, plus demonstrations of weaving Danish baskets and making of other Danish decorations for Christmas trees. Helen Petersen, Jean Lundorf, Margaret Miller and Aleine Miller worked at the booth in Danish costumes.

Saturday, November 12, at the Waupaca Country Club, we experienced another enjoyable Mortensgaas dinner with 70 members and guests present. Included in the program were the following: Pledge of Allegiance to United States flag, singing of the Star Spangled Banner, Danish prayer, Danish songs and special music from Waupaca High School Vocal Department featuring selections from the musical, "Annie Get Your Gun." Dancing and fellowship followed.

We have contact with Danish exchange and rotary students in the area.

We are looking forward to our potluck Christmas dinner party December 15.

Aleine Miller, Sec.

Lodge #344, Janesville, WI — We have been busy!

Our September meeting was show and tell when members

brought and told about their favorite Danish possession. This meeting could have been called "Getting to know you", a good start for the '83-'84 season.

October 22, we had a torsk dinner at the Freemans Club in Tiffany, Wisconsin. Thanks to Don Desing, Inger and John Kuijer, and Jens Lademann, along with their committees, for serving a fine "torsk" in true Danish style.

I will report on our Christmas party later, as it is still in the planning stage, but we have been invited back to our Secretary's (Alice and Marvin Barlass) house for kaffe and Julekage. This I am sure of; it's always a nice treat.

Howard Hansen, Cor.

NEBRASKA

Lodge #1, Omaha, NE — The October committee worked very hard to have a super Halloween costume party and dance. Prizes were awarded to John Norton, Viva Husk and Martha Hineline for best costumes of the evening.



(left to right) Martha Hineline, John Norton, and Viva Husk won costume prizes in October.



Guests Morris and Harriet Palle (left) join Andy and Annette Andersen on the dance floor.

In November delegate Jim Weedman gave the members a very interesting and thorough report of the convention activities as our delegate to the 31st National Convention of The Danish Brotherhood in America. He presented the lodge with the 1982 National President's Award for Best Social Activ-

ity — won by the lodge for sponsoring the lecture presentation by Dr. Frederick Hale during the Centennial Weekend in Omaha. Jim had accepted the award on behalf of the lodge during the National Convention.

Lodge #16, Minden, NE — It was a beautiful evening, September 22, when approximately 45 people gathered for a Harvest Fest at the farm home of Herbert and Shirley Nielsen. A soup supper in their quonset all decorated for fall with pumpkins and squash, etc.

Four kinds of soup (furnished by the lodge) were prepared by the committee. The committee furnished brownies and decorated cupcakes. The tables were beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Following supper, a business meeting was held. There was an old time dance, with music furnished by Bill DeCamp and the Wempen's.

About 40 attended the October meeting. We had seven visitors from the Grand Island, Ne. lodge. Games were played, a sing-a-long included a Danish song, piano solos and readings were held. The committee served Danish apple cake and crackers. Herbert Nielsen, delegate to the national convention, reported. At the District Convention our lodge received the District President's Award in recognition of our outstanding activity.

For November we plan a Thanksgiving party with hot turkey sandwiches. Each family is asked to bring a relish dish or a salad. The committee will furnish the pumpkin pie. We will elect officers for 1984.

Lillie K. Hansen, Cor.

Lodge #161, Superior, NE — Lodge 161 met Saturday evening, November 12, at the Ruskin Party Room for a cooperative pre-Thanksgiving supper. Mrs. Mae Grove, hostess, had decorated the dining tables with pumpkin vases filled with live fall flowers, and the serving table featured a centerpiece which was a turkey made from a pineapple surrounded by miniature pumpkins. Twenty-seven were present. A business meeting, including election of officers for the ensuing

year, was held. David Autrey spoke to the group on Danish Brotherhood IRA plans. Plans were made for the December meeting which will be a dinner/dance with a gift exchange, to be held at the Elks in Superior.

Lois Lewis, Sec.

MICHIGAN-OHIO

Lodge #51, Ludington, MI — We met November 2 with 18 members in attendance. We wish to welcome Walter E. Pankow, Edward A. Sutula, Gary A. Boerema and David A. Wakarejczak, recently initiated into The Danish Brotherhood. At this meeting we nominated officers.

October 29, one-hundred-twenty people enjoyed our Halloween party! Dinner started at 6:30 p.m. followed by the children's games, including a penny and candy scramble; an egg walk and a peanut push. The hardest part was costume judging as over 70 people came in costume.



Kids in costumes.



Our grand prize winners — Mike Bray as Dracula; and Arlie Heemstra as Old Man.

After Thanksgiving we are going to have dancing lessons. Lois Soneral will instruct. She will teach Danish dances downstairs at the Danish Hall on Friday evenings.

Knowing how much satisfaction the older people of Oakview Medical Center get out of playing bingo, the bingo committee puts on a bingo at Oakview once every two months. They did so October 25 with 18 players participating.

The Danish Brotherhood furnished prizes. Bingo workers this time were Alf Larsen, Ed Geil, Linton Frost, Al Garcia and Arnold Koegler.

The annual Juleaften is being planned for Saturday, December 17 with the children's party starting at 1 p.m. Activities will include games of glaedelig jul, making fugl (christmas birds) and Danish paper Christmas hearts, followed by a visit from Santa or Nissemand. Ice cream and cake will be served with the kid's party ending around 3 or 3:30 p.m.

The adults will celebrate Juleaften with a potluck dinner at 7 p.m. A dance featuring Dan Stewart and Judy Joynes "Preferred Stock", will start at 9 p.m.

Our New Year's Eve party is Saturday, December 31, at 9 p.m. Live music by the Country Keyboards. Favors — lunch. Come out and bring the new year in at the Danish Hall. Members and guests make reservations at the bar in person or call 943-4900, Ralph and Pam Christensen, chairmen.

Keith Koegler, Cor.

Lodge #170, Rocky River, OH — At our October meeting we celebrated the 90th anniversary of Brother Marius Gundersen.

Marius invited members with their families and several friends to join in celebrating this great milestone in his life. He treated us all to a very delicious prime-rib dinner, prepared by the very capable ladies of our lodge.



Marius Gundersen celebrates 90 years.

Marius came to America in 1910 and joined The Danish Brotherhood in 1913. He was commended for his faithful dedication and friendship accorded our lodge throughout his many years of membership.

Brother Gundersen owned and operated a large truck farm and greenhouse in Avon, Ohio, for

many years before his retirement a few years ago.

John Gromsen, Sec.

Lodge #227, Detroit, MI — Our members approved buying 80 new chairs for our lodge room at the second meeting in October. It was agreed the old chairs were a safety hazard. After the meeting most of our members participated in raffles, white elephant sales and refreshments at the Sisterhood card party.

Forty-six brothers and sisters enjoyed the Danish Soldiers Society dinner-dance at Nankin Mills Lounge on October 15. After this successful event, we were told to watch for more entertainment that is being scheduled.

The Senior Danes had fun eating, autumn color sightseeing, and shopping on their Frankenmuth bus trip.

Be sure to attend our lodge's annual children's Christmas party December 26 at the Danish Hall.

Phone in your reservations for the Danish Old Peoples' Board Christmas luncheon party for the Senior Danes at 12 noon on December 21 at the Danish Club.

Our first meeting in January will be on the first Wednesday (January 4) — not the usual second Wednesday. This will give us time to plan for the annual meeting of the Danish Club, which starts at 10 am., January 8, 1984.

Brother Viggo Sorensen died on October 6. He will be missed by his many lodge friends.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Nels Hansen, Sec.

GCEL

Lodge #32, New Haven, CT — On October 14 we held our first Friday night meeting with friends and members totaling 40. The children had a fun time with gifts and apples for each one. They played games, had a scary story told to them and just had an all-round good time. The costumes were all fun and original. Special thanks to Inge-Lise Pazano for putting the whole evening together. There was a short business meeting downstairs to take care of any lodge business.

Our December meeting will be a Christmas party, and in January, installation of officers.

Winnie Edmonds, Cor.

Lodge #116, Newark, NJ — Friday, November 11, was observed as Ex-Presidents Night. At this meeting the nominating committee presented their recommendations for office for the coming year, after which, election was held. Delegates and alternates to the Old Peoples Home were also elected.

Now that the two big events of the year are gone but not forgotten, meaning the conventions; just a little reminder that the General Committee convention for 1984 will be held in Bucks County, PA, and the next National Convention, four years from now, will be held in Des Moines, Iowa.

John C. Madsen, Cor.

Lodge #172, Philadelphia, PA — Our nominating committee worked hard on a slate of officers for 1984. The final election took place in November.

Millie Gamborg-Nielsen has been approved for membership by Omaha.

Georg Olesen has reported that "Philadania" was a huge success for our lodges. The joint effort made it happen. We must continue to work together!

We thank Elin Jeantet for showing us how to make Danish Christmas decorations at our October meeting.

In November we held our annual "Andespil" (bingo).

Lorraine Malmquist, Cor.

Lodge #190, Schenectady, NY — The big news this fall was the report on the National Convention, named Philadania, by delegate Norm Hanson. He described it in detail and was most happy with the treatment he received. Norm said it was an extremely successful convention.

September and October meetings were well-attended. The dinners were good.

A highlight during October was an invitation received from the Troy Lodge to attend their dinner meeting, October 8. Fifteen of us attended and had a delightful Danish dinner, good fellowship

and a wonderful time seeing how a co-ed lodge works. It was fun; we must do that more often.

Saturday evening, December 17, 6:30 p.m. with cocktails to 7:15 p.m. is our Christmas party.

Harold Hansen and Bill Peterson were appointed by President Peter Nielsen and they will be prepared to submit a slate of members who will be chosen as officers for 1984.

We at Lodge 190 extend our seasons greetings to all of you. Our lodge is always open to members that happen to be in our town and we ask the local members to try it again. We meet the first and third Wednesday of each month at The Elks Club and Lodge 480, 650 State St., Schenectady, NY.

William Peterson, Cor.

Lodge #257, St. Petersburg, FL —

At our October meeting we almost made "another low" in attendance. We keep our fingers crossed for big improvements in the future.

Our meeting was opened with a minute of silence in memory of a departed member, August Reinck, a resident of Anaheim, CA, who died at age 81. Our sympathy to his family.

As our delegate to the national convention in Philadelphia, PA, Elmer Jensen, Cimbria's president, gave a detailed report.

Several members were reported sick.

Bill Steffensen, Sec.

Lodge #325, Long Island, NY — November 11 was the meeting we showed our arts and crafts.

Welcome to our new member, Elizabeth Pedersen.

Niels B. Hansen, Cor.

Lodge #342, Bucks County, PA —

First of all, congratulations to Lodge 172 and our Sisterhood lodge for the splendid and successful job they did sponsoring the 1983 National Convention!

We had three visitors with us in October: Tage and Sharon Kvist and Harold Hokanson. We received an application for membership from Norma Teti.

Our lodge received \$122 for our share of work during Scandinavian Weekend. Thanks go to Ulla, Geert, Toby, Kirsten, Sonja, Palle and June, Inge, Cyndy (Toby's daugh-

ter) and her husband and Guda Jensen. Sure hope we didn't miss anybody! Let us know.

Details are now final for our joint annual Christmas party. It will be held at the Viking Lodge, on their regular meeting night, December 16.

Lorraine Malmquist, Cor.

American Dane Classified

Congratulations to the newly elected Board of Directors of The Danish Brotherhood in America and to the Philadelphia lodges for hosting a successful 31st National Convention. Our sincere thanks to everyone for your cards and notes during Axel's illness. He is improving a little all the time. We wish each of you a very, Merry Christmas.

Axel and Rose Skelbeck



Youth News

Young Vikings, Lodge #167, Portland, OR — The Young Vikings had their first meeting Sunday the 9th of October. There they planned the rest of their year's activities and enjoyed refreshments. Also they made Viking mobiles.

In November the YV's will be guests of Jan Hansen, new brother, at the Oregon Pheasant Breeders Association annual competitive live game bird show.

Jan's show director will give the YV's and their families a free tour of the competition, awards, and all particulars in raising game birds. It will be a chance to see some beautiful plumage and to meet people from all parts of North America.

The YV's are planning a Christmas cookie bake and decorations-making party for December. More information will be available at the next meeting.

Creative Writing Winner . . .

The Open Road

The open road lies before me
Yet it has not been traveled upon.
It is bordered by a fence
Yet before long it may not be.
I await it, It awaits me.

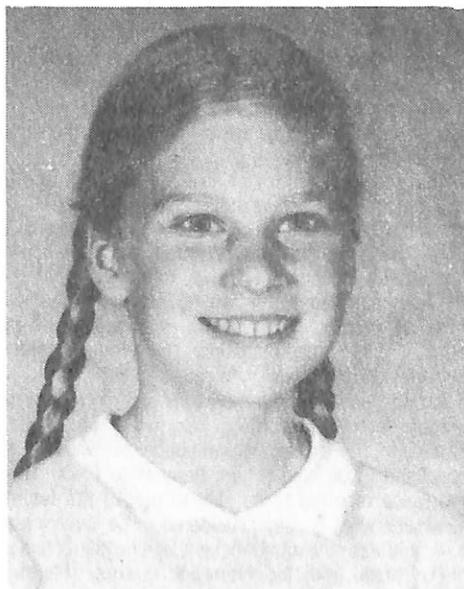
My journey carries me through new thoughts,
Bouncing up and down.
Sometimes there are flowers
blooming with hope,
Other times there is mud
dripping with stench. Maybe . . .
I await it, it awaits me.

Uphill. Sunlight — Bouncing off the fragrant,
laughing flowers. I'm running now.

Beauty
Freedom
Laughter
Music

My destination is no longer the future —
— But the Present!
Now I have my own radiance.
I'm free!

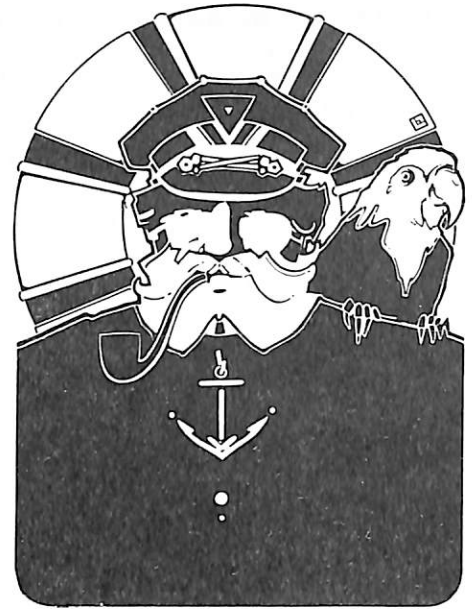
The road now follows me.



**by
Kristianna Bertelsen
Lodge No. 322
Santa Barbara, CA**

Mermaids and Mermen

by Jean Bray



Mermaids and mermen originated in Norse mythology. In the early German language, the name merman meant "sea man." Mermaids first had a similar origin, but the second half of the word later drifted into another Old High German word meaning "love," "the beloved," or, in a child's language, "mama" or "mother." Sailors described the beings as having the upper bodies of humans and lower parts with the finny tails of fish.

Just how the myth of mermaids and mermen began is open to question. Some people simply say the sailors were either quite drunk or a little crazed from their long journeys at sea. An old book, **Historia Norvegiae**, written in 1170 A.D. offers an unusual description of a merman. In this a merman is said to be "the largest wild beast, but without head and tail. Thus it is just a tree trunk when it leaps up and down, and it does not show itself without its foretelling danger for seafarers."

Modern science has recently offered a new explanation. When a warm air mass slowly moves over cooler surface air, especially when the surface is flat, certain natural sights are greatly distorted. Such conditions occur frequently in the Arctic seas just before a storm. The images are "real" to the extent that they can actually be photographed with telephoto lens. The closer the observer is to the surface, the more distorted the image. Medieval Norse ships were very close to the waterline. Later ships had higher decks with elevated lookouts, which might explain fewer sightings of "mermen" as time went by.

A thirteenth century book, **King's Mirror**, adds an unflattering description of a mermaid. She was described as having large, webbed hands, breasts, and ugly features consisting of sharp eyes, broad forehead, large mouth, and wrinkled cheeks. She appeared only before severe storms, foretelling danger to ships and sailors. Sometimes she held fish in her hands. If she ate the fish or threw them in the direction away from the ship, the sailors had hopes of weathering the storm. If she played with the fish or tossed them toward the ship, the signs indicated misfortune.

Originally mermaids and mermen were seen only in northern waters, especially the Greenland Sea. By the eighteenth century the legend had been accepted by sailors of all regions, and mermaids were reported in southern areas. In the 1750s explorers discovered two

warm water mammals, the manatee and the dugong, which, with a little imagination could resemble human-like sea creatures. Of these, the manatee is generally considered the most likely to be mistaken for a mermaid, and the description in **King's Mirror** might be stretched to fit.

Three species of the manatee, sometimes called a "seacow," are known. One lives off the west coast of tropical Africa, one on the eastern side of South America, and the third from Yucatan to occasionally Florida. Manatees are black, nine to fifteen feet in size, and weigh perhaps a thousand pounds. In a general way, they are shaped like seals, with flipper "arms" and broad shovel-like tails. They have the bald head of a seal, no ears, tiny eyes, and a swollen upper lip with whiskers.

Sailors of olden days often described mermaids as holding infants and nursing them at their breasts, and in this respect manatees could also fit the description. With just head and shoulders rising upright out of the water, a manatee mother does clasp her baby with her flippers and lets it nurse at visible breasts in the same area as a woman's.

The dugong looks much like the manatee and is found in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean. All are tropical creatures, so could hardly be the Norse mermaids unless the early voyagers ventured far from home. These early sailors are known to have visited the northern parts of North America, though, and just possibly they could have traveled southward far enough to see some manatees. There is no recorded evidence of this, however, to date.

In most legends, both mermaids and mermen were usually described favorably. They were supposed to be able to play musical instruments well, sing beautifully, and to be able to lure humans to them. They were also reported to be able to predict the future. Mermaids were usually considered to be lovely creatures and were the most frequent leading characters in many tales told by homesick sailors. Mermen appeared less often in the old stories, but there is at least one such old myth.

One autumn two fishermen caught a merman and brought it to King Hjordliof, a Nordic king. The merman had sunbleached hair and the chest, arms and shoulders of a mighty swimmer. He was well-treated, but no one could get him to speak a word.

The king had two wives, Queen Aesa the Bright and

Queen Hild the Slender. One day Queen Hild accidentally spilled a horn full of wine on the former's cloak. When King Hjordliof struck her for the deed, she blamed the dog, so the king kicked at the animal. All this caused the merman to burst out laughing.

"Why, pray tell, do you think this so funny?" the king demanded.

"Because you have been a fool, sir. These two will some time save your life," the merman answered.

"Ah, I have heard that you mermen and mermaids can foretell the future. If you will tell me more, I'll give you your freedom," the king then said.

As they made their way back towards the sea, the merman chanted verses predicting events to come, but he did not tell exactly the details.

One night the royal lodge of King Hjordliof was attacked by a personal enemy named Reidar. The dog heard the arrival of Reidar and began to bark. The king escaped to a nearby forest but had to watch while his home was burned, his wives kidnapped, and his personal wealth stolen.

Later King Hjordliof rode alone to his enemy's house and asked his own wife, Aesa, to help him get revenge. Instead, she betrayed him to Reidar, who ordered the king to be hung up by his shoe strings between two fires. The second wife, Hild, came to his aid. For awhile she kept the fires low by pouring liquid on them. Then when Reidar fell asleep while drinking heavily, she released King Hjordliof.

The king killed his enemy and returned home with his two wives. Queen Aesa, however, was ordered to return to her parents forever. King Hjordliof lived on with his dog and Queen Hild, the two who had fulfilled the merman's prophesy.

Payment to Board Members

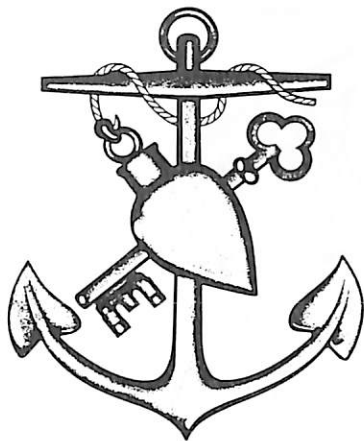
Section 7, Paragraph 8(b) — Payment of the Society under one or more of the laws following Section 5, paragraph 4; and/or Section 7, paragraph 2; Section 14, paragraph 2, is hereby published:

OCTOBER 1983

Woodrow T. Petersen, Lodge No. 301, anniversary visit, \$224.10.

NOVEMBER 1983

Robert E. Ibsen, salary, \$269.45.



AMERICAN DANE

The Danish Brotherhood in America

The American Dane is the publication of The Danish Brotherhood in America and is sent to members each month as a membership benefit. We would appreciate our readers' opinions of features and articles. Questions in this survey pertain only to the December issue. Only your answers can tell us if we are planning issues to meet your needs.

I read the American Dane regularly occasionally

President's Page, p. 4 I read I did not read I will read

The President's Page should bring you news and direction. Does it? yes no

Plain Talk . . . About Life Insurance, p. 6 I read I did not read I will read

Jim Ballew's Plain Talk should educate you to your personal life insurance needs and life insurance in general. Does it? yes no

A Child's Danish Christmas, p. 11 I read I did not read I will read

Monthly feature articles should entertain you and help make you more aware of your special Danish heritage. Did this article do that? yes no

Our Lodges in Action, p. 14 I read I did not read I read my lodge's news I read my district news I plan to read

Mermaids and Mermen, p. 24 I read I did not read I plan to read

Did this article entertain you? yes no

Viking Adventures, p. 27 I read I did not read I will read

Viking Adventures should provide activity ideas for your lodge. Does it? yes no

Grandma's Kitchen, p. 26 I read I did not read I will read

Add your comments in this space:

Please respond and mail your response to The Danish Brotherhood, P.O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131. Thank you.

Hans and Grete



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, and 4. our colored picture.

You need not be a DBIA member to enter. Four LEGO toy kits awarded in four age groups each month (ages 2-4, 5-7, 8-9, 10-12).

November winners: Charles Hokanson, Jr., Krista Suda, Chad Jorgensen, Dena Marrison.

Grandma's Kitchen

Grandma Long's Crescent Rolls

½ cup sugar	½ cup lukewarm milk
½ cup soft butter or margarine	2 packages dry yeast dissolved in ¼ cup lukewarm water
1 teaspoon salt	4 cups unbleached flour
2 eggs	

Mix together sugar, butter, salt, and eggs until smooth. Stir in milk. Add dissolved yeast. Beat in flour, using wooden spoon. Scrape dough from sides of bowl and cover bowl with a damp cloth. Let rise until double.

Shape as crescents (cut in pie-shaped wedges and roll up, starting with side end). Place on greased cookie sheets, cover; let rise until double. Bake in preheated 425 degree oven, 12-15 minutes or until golden brown. Makes about 1½ dozen rolls.

Taken from **Recipes and Reminiscence — A Dana College Centennial Cookbook**, prepared by the Dana Women's Club. To order, send \$9 plus \$1 for mailing to Nancy Bearman, Manager, Dana College Bookstore, Dana College, Blair, NE 68008. Nebraska residents add 36¢ for sales tax. 200 pages.

Best Holiday Wishes!



Viking Adventures

Coming Together — A Beginning

Keeping Together — Progress

Working Together — Success

In honor of the Centennial Year of The Danish Brotherhood, many of our lodges wrote histories. This information has been kept in the archives in the National Headquarters, properly stored in archival boxes for present or future research. But everyday we make history. Lodges who have started historical records are encouraged to keep the project going by appointing a historian. Others should start such a project now. **Arnold Bodtker** has prepared a history for Lodge No. 268 in Junction City, Oregon. What he found was touching and sometimes amusing.

BITS OF HISTORY

"The Danish Brotherhood was organized to provide insurance and mutual help to its members in time of illness, distress and death, and at the same time, to provide an opportunity for fellowship for its members, their families and friends.

"It was on January 4, 1908, that a small group of Danish Americans met, formally, to take the first step in the formation of this lodge. . . .

"The minutes of the meetings from these early days are available. Generally they are quite brief and terse. They are written in Danish though now and then spiced with Americanized Danish. What follows are some highlights and the citing of a few events and situations of human interest, with comments when that seems appropriate. Some reading between the lines is possible, and also legitimate, but this is left to the reader.

"March 13, 1908: Decided to give \$20.00 (all there was in the Treasury) to Brother Walter Tilden, Devils Lake, Dakota. This was the first of such actions that would be taken many times hereafter as brothers in needy circumstances were reported to the lodge. . . .

"November 13, 1908: It was decided that the lodge should have a party (et gilde) to which all the Danes in the community would be invited. As it turned out, the party was actually held January 1, 1909, and was limited to lodge members and their families. It was to be a commemoration of the founding of the lodge, in Danish referred to as a 'Stifteles Fest'. This party was to become an annual event of celebration and merriment. For many years at the meeting where arrangements for the party were made it would be proposed and seconded that alcoholic beverages be served. The motion



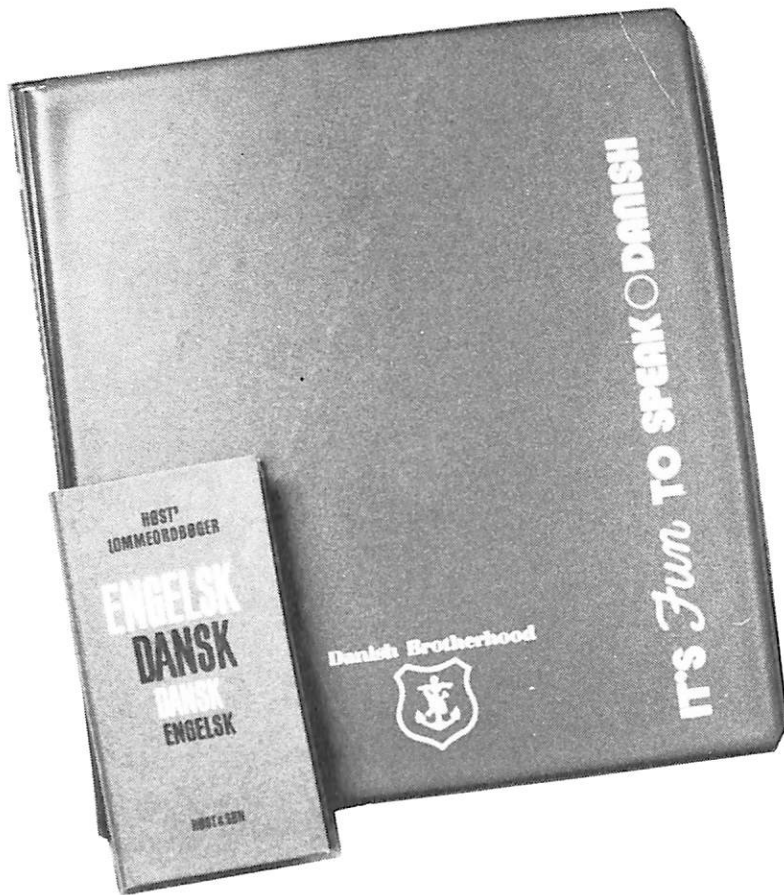
invariably was defeated and was followed by another to serve alcoholic beverages, which always carried. . . .

"October, 1911: It was moved and seconded that the lodge have a wedding party, for the first unmarried member over age 30 who gets married within six months of this date. The minutes hereafter do not show that a qualifying marriage took place in the next six months.

"February, 1912: It was decided that a party be held at the next meeting, with the ladies invited, and with the unmarried brothers bearing the cost. It was further decided the "Chokalada og Fastelavns boller" be served. It may be that this party grew out of the earlier wedding proposal, and that the unmarried brothers had to pay a price for not performing as far as the marrying was concerned. . . .

"Over the years 330 members were enrolled in Lodge #268 — not a large number, but even so, the lodge has had a significant part in the community life of Junction City. It has served its members well in time of stress and has been a source of enjoyment and fellowship to its members, and their families and friends."

Mr. Bodtker's account contains a great deal more information about the Junction City lodge. We thank him for his interest and willingness to carry out this project. We thank the officers of the lodge for bringing it to our attention.



IT'S FUN TO SPEAK DANISH

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.

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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 \$35.00 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 \$29.95 per kit.)

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Omaha, NE 68131



Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ Danish language cassette tape sets. (Nebraska residents 4% Sales Tax).

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Before you move use this coupon to notify the Home Office. Clip out so old address is included. Notify your lodge secretary, too.

NOTICE!!! List all family members affected by this change.

I belong _____ My number _____
to Lodge No. _____ in the lodge is _____

Name _____

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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 _____

name _____ age _____

Mail To:
The Danish Brotherhood in America
P.O. Box 31748, 3717 Harney Street
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