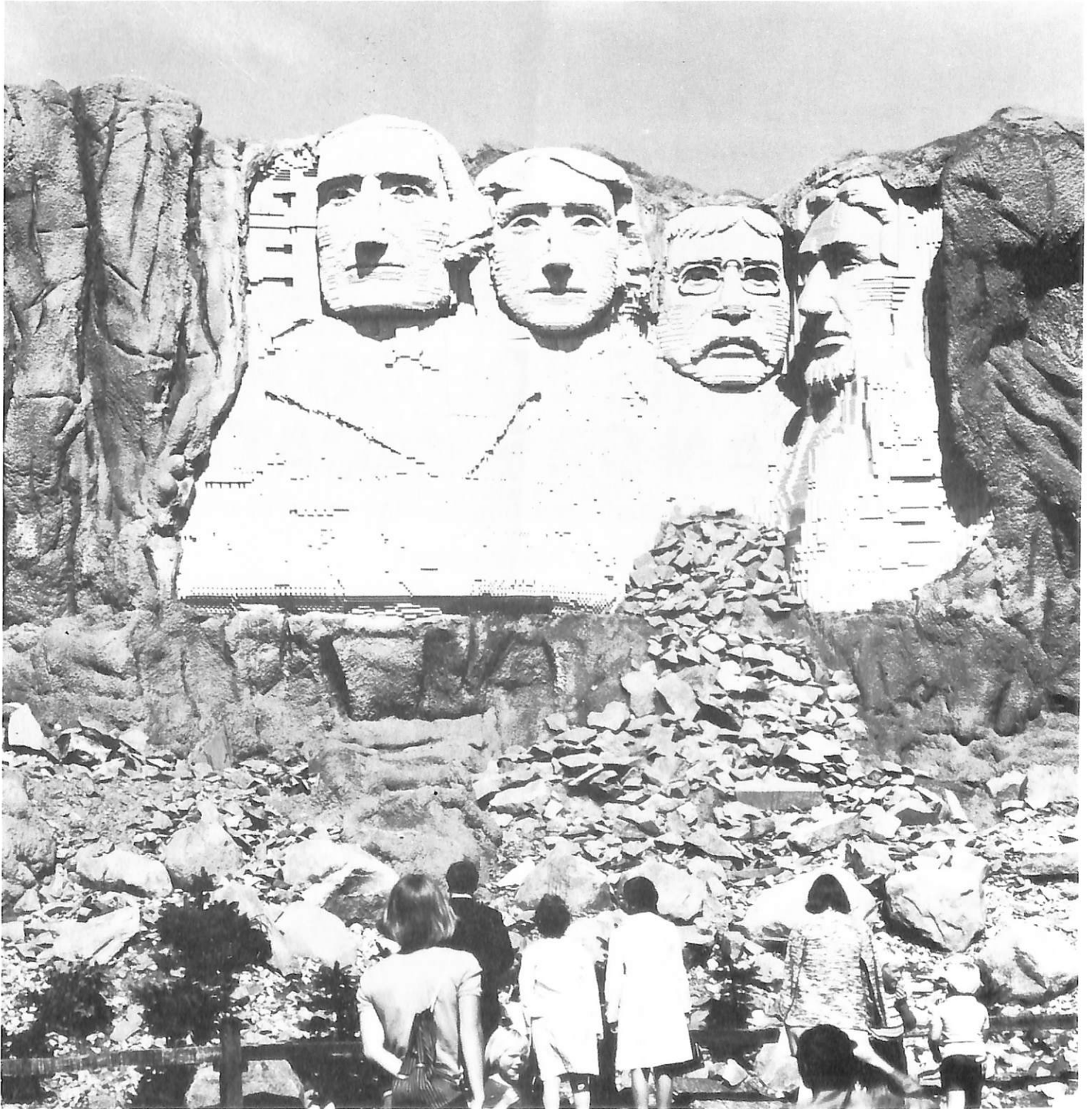


May 1985

American Dane

The Danish Brotherhood In America





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The American Dane is the official publication of The Danish Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131. Second-class postage paid at Askov, Minnesota 55704. The magazine is provided to members each month as a benefit of membership. Non-member subscription rates or gift subscriptions, \$6.00 annually, domestic; \$8.00 foreign. Advertising rates provided on inquiry. Both display and classified advertising can be purchased. Members receive a 30% discount on display ads. All inquiries and correspondence should be directed to: The Danish Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131, telephone (402) 341-5049.

American Dane

magazine



USPS 148-180
ISSN 0739-9170

Denmark Our Heritage - America Our Home

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VOLUME LXIX

MAY 1985

NUMBER 5

Cover photo: One of the attractions in Legoland, the popular miniature village in Jutland, Denmark. Danish National Tourist Office Photo.



President's Page

Robert E. Ibsen
National President

This month's column is devoted to the annual report of the President which enables myself to inform you of the decisions made by our Board of Directors during the past year. As I reflect back through 1984, I am reminded of decisions made with ease and great anticipation, yet I also remember decisions which proved very difficult to make.

On May 4, 1984, our newest lodge was chartered — Lodge No. 349 in Atlantic, Iowa. It was my pleasure to attend this memorable occasion as a representative for the Board of Directors. I was able to provide the Danish Immigrant Museum a grant from the Danish Brotherhood to Museum Secretary-Treasurer, Lisa Riggs, also that evening.

The annual meeting of the Board began on October 25, 1984. As part of the extensive report by the Secretary-Treasurer, Howard Christensen, the Board welcomed reports from Jerome Christensen, General Office Manager; Andy Andersen, Sales Director; and Diane Doyle, Director of Fraternal Services. Jerry, Andy, and Diane were called upon to answer questions and review plans with the Board.

Each Board member reported good conventions were held in 1984. I attended the Nebraska Convention in Minden, Woodrow Petersen attended the California-Nevada Convention in Petaluma, Peter Weber attended the General Committee of Eastern Lodges Convention in Bucks County, Kenneth Pedersen attended the Pacific-Northwest Convention in Bellingham, Clyde Langsted attended the Midwest Convention in Chicago, Paul Carlsen attended the Iowa-Minnesota Convention in Kimballton-Elk Horn, and Erling Braumann attended the Michigan-Ohio Convention in Greenville.

Reports were also heard from the following: the Retirement Plan Committee, Scholarship and Camp Grant Committee, Alternate Funding Liaison Committee, Building Committee, Bylaw Committee, President's Awards Committee, Audit and Securities Committee, Investment Committee, and the Executive Committee.

As a result of these reports several decisions were made. It was with great enthusiasm that the Board decided to raise the matching funds to help send members, children and grandchildren of members to Skovsøen. In 1985 the National Headquarters will match up to \$100 given by a lodge for each villager. We have already realized a considerable amount of response from lodges as a result of this particular decision.

In addition, 13 camp grants were awarded last year. Nine scholarships were awarded totaling \$17,200. \$4,070 were given to nine members for assistance through Fraternal Aid.

A quarterly newsletter which will circulate among Danish clubs in the United States was approved. This will be co-sponsored by the Danish Brotherhood and the Danish Interest Conference with the intent to familiarize our organization to other Danish clubs.

National President's Awards were declared as follows: Best District - Midwest; Best Single Social Activity - Lodge No. 16, Minden, NE for Centennial Banquet; Best Single Civic Activity - Lodge No. 325, Nassau Co., NY for International Games for the Disabled; Best Annual Activity Schedule - Lodge No. 14, Kenosha, WI for 23 events; and Best Newsletter - Lodge No. 167, Portland, OR for "Portland Dane." The President's Awards Committee granted special recognition to Lodge No. 143 of Petaluma, CA for the Youth Program held in conjunction with the 1984 district convention.

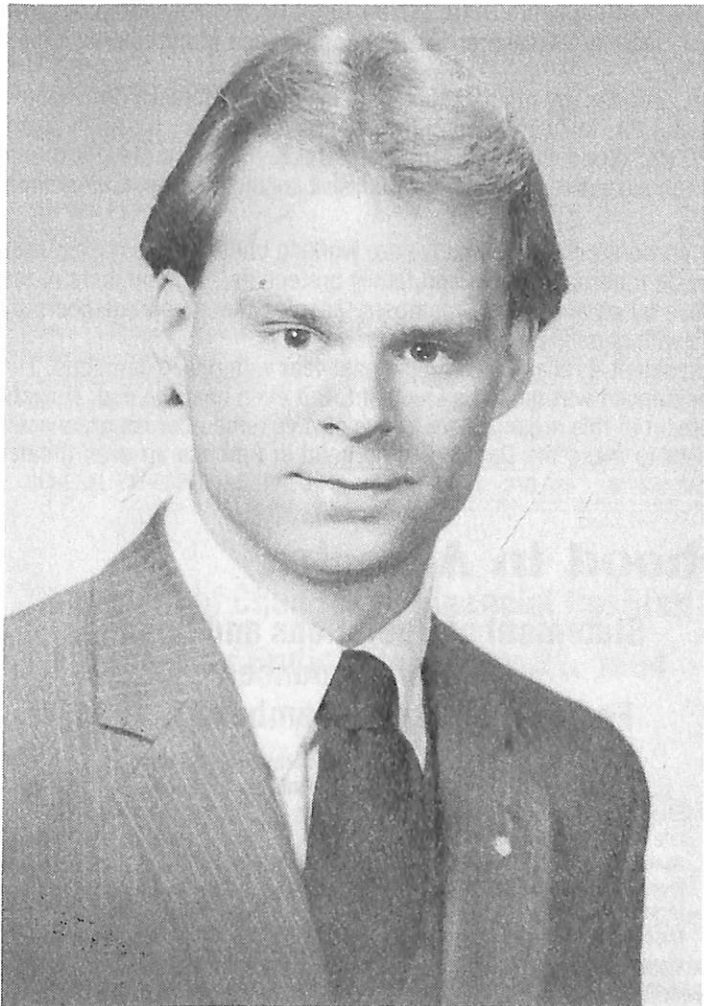
It was also decided that in 1985 the Best District will receive \$200 versus \$150 in 1984, lodges winning at the national level will receive \$100 versus \$50, and lodges winning within the district will receive \$25.

Several items were reviewed by the Board including the 1983 National Convention Report, our insurance program, the District Manager system, our membership promotion program, departmental budgets and, of course, the Alternate Funding Committee Report; this committee is now in the final stages of incorporating all information received from lodges and districts into a final report to be forwarded to the Board of Directors. Support was given to encourage local lodges to participate in the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Campaign with financial assistance.

Special items of interest noted in our Agency Department include the hiring of a District Manager for the Pacific Northwest District. Robert J. Wiegand accepted this position effective November 1, 1984. Jens Jensen, of Lodge No. 167 in Portland, Oregon, was declared "Representative of the Year" for 1984.

Our great society experienced a tragic loss on December 16, 1984. Howard E. Christensen, National Secretary-Treasurer, lost his three-year battle against cancer. On December 19, 1984, an emergency meeting of the board was held. After considerable deliberation, Jerome L. Christensen was appointed Acting Secretary-Treasurer.

I am extremely pleased to announce at the Spring, 1985 meeting, the Board permanently appointed Jerome L. Christensen to the position of National Secretary-Treasurer.



National Secretary-Treasurer, Jerome L. Christensen.

Jerry received his degree from Dana College in December of 1981 with a double major in accounting and business administration. Since that time he has continued his education by completing Parts 1 through 6 of the Life Office Management Association FLMI (Fellow, Life Management Institute) educational program. Jerry began working at the home office on January 4, 1982, in the Accounting Department and was promoted to General Office Manager in January of 1984. Along with his wife, Jenny, and two children, Jacob and Joni, Jerry resides in Blair, Nebraska, where he is also the President of Lodge No. 206.

The Board feels very fortunate to have secured the services of Jerry and we are looking forward to a lasting relationship that will continue to be as beneficial to the Danish Brotherhood as that of his predecessor.

On January 15, 1985 we incurred another substantial loss when Diane Doyle resigned her position as Director of Fraternal

Services. At that time, Pamela K. Dorau was selected to fill the vacancy as Acting Fraternal Director.

It is also my pleasure to announce that at the Spring, 1985 meeting, the Board has permanently appointed the position of Director of Fraternal Services to Pam Dorau.

Pam first started working in the home office in March of 1982 as the Agency Secretary. On August 1, 1984, she accepted the position of Underwriter. Pam and her husband, Dale, and their children, Molly and Jesse, are members of Lodge No. 1 in Omaha, and make their home in Bennington, Nebraska. To help support her role as Fraternal Director, Pam attended the National Fraternal Congress of America Mid-Year Conference of the Communications and Fraternal Section, and also the Fraternal Retreat held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania during March, 1985.

After visiting the National Headquarters in April and speaking with Jerry, Andy, and Pam, I can report that the transition has been made smoothly and is now in effect. I know that both Jerry and Pam will perform their duties in the same creditable manner that we have been accustomed to from their predecessors. Also, I am sure you will enjoy working with them as you correspond with the home office.

We are fortunate to still be able to rely on Andy Andersen, National Sales Director, for the responsibility of the society's insurance program. Andy joined the home office staff in 1974 and was promoted to his present position on April 1, 1976. I would like to salute Andy for the loyalty and dedication he has shown to the Danish Brotherhood.



Pamela K. Dorau, Fraternal Director.

Along with Andy, I would also like to salute the entire home office staff for their dedication and hard work shown during the transitional period. Our home office staff is one which we can take pride in.

May I draw attention to page 10 which contains the letter from the Director of the Danish Immigrant Museum, June Sampson, and take this opportunity on behalf of the Danish Brotherhood to thank the Danish Sisterhood of America for their generous contribution in memory of Howard Christensen. We certainly all agree that this was an appropriate tribute to Howard and I am sure the museum would be most grateful for any contributions of this nature.

Speaking of the Danish Sisterhood, I have recently learned that the National President Gladys Nordine was in an automobile accident on March 13 suffering leg injuries. She is now at home recuperating and we all send her our very best for a most speedy recovery.

At the conclusion of the Spring 1985 meeting, I, along with the Board of Directors, home office staff, and the family of Howard Christensen, had the pleasure of attending an unveiling ceremony of a portrait of Howard Christensen painted by Mrs. George (Birgit) Jacobsen which will hang in the Board room with dignity and honor. On behalf of the entire DBIA, I thank Birgit for this beautiful painting in memory of Howard. She has also painted portraits of Axel Skelbeck, our Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus and Queen Margrethe which are portrayed in the Board room.

Since my last report, it was my pleasure to attend several functions. Besides my official representation at the Nebraska Convention, I attended at my own expense the following: GCEL Convention at New Hope, PA; Midwest District Convention at Chicago, IL; Anniversary parties at Chicago No. 17, 100th; Omaha No. 1, 103rd; Racine No. 4, 103rd; Wood Dale No. 340, 10th; and Kenosha No. 14, 93rd; and meetings of Lodge No. 229 in Solvang and No. 34 in Dwight. I also had the pleasure of visiting the Danish Language Camp, Skøvsoen in Minnesota.

As I did in my last annual report, I once again want to mention our corporate purpose that we are working under at the present time — "To promote and perpetuate Danish culture and traditions, and to provide fraternal benefits and family protection." As members of the Danish Brotherhood in America, we must all be responsive to this purpose by *obtaining* new members, *keeping* those new members by having good fraternal programs and activities, and *providing* our members with good insurance products.

In closing, and as I reach the half way point in serving you as our president, I reflect back on the past year with mixed emotions. The passing of our dear friend and dedicated Secretary-Treasurer Howard Christensen was indeed a low point. But even near the end, Howard was encouraging all of us on the Board to continue to work for the betterment of this organization. Let us always remember his great spirit and determination and dedicate ourselves in his honor to do our very best to make the Danish Brotherhood in America an even greater fraternal organization than it already is.



The Danish Brotherhood in America

Balance Sheets December 31, 1984 (Note 1)

Admitted Assets	Fraternal Fund	General Fund	Total
Cash, including \$165,014.52 of C.D.'s and savings accounts	\$ 57,690	\$ 125,306	\$ 182,996
Investment in Bonds, at amortized cost	219,771	5,334,782	5,554,553
Short-term Investments	—0—	226,630	226,630
Real Estate, at cost: Land, Building, and other improvements, net of depreciation of \$99,938	—0—	231,888	231,888
Certificate Loans and Liens	—0—	109,091	109,091
Premiums Receivable from Lodges	—0—	8,009	8,009
Interest Income Due and Accrued	2,814	129,150	131,964
Other Assets	—0—	—0—	—0—
TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS	\$280,275	\$6,164,856	\$6,445,131
Liabilities and Fund Balances			
Aggregate Reserve for Life Policies and Certificates (Note 4)	—0—	\$4,166,198	\$4,166,198
Retirement Plan Group Annuity Contract Reserve (Note 3)	—0—	139,877	139,877
Policy and Certificate Claims	—0—	81,479	81,479
Estimated Refunds to Members, payable in 1985	—0—	75,000	75,000
Premiums Received in Advance	—0—	61,353	61,353
Liability for Premium Deposit Funds	—0—	51,347	51,347
Accrued General Expenses	—0—	29,984	29,984
Accrued Tax, Licenses, and Fees	—0—	7,142	7,142
Other Liabilities	—0—	35,484	35,484
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ —0—	\$4,647,864	\$4,647,864
Mandatory Securities Valuation Reserve	—0—	57,594	57,594
Fund Balances (Note 2)	280,275	1,459,398	1,739,673
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$280,275	\$6,164,856	\$6,445,131

Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances For Year Ending December 31, 1984

	Fraternal Fund	General Fund	Total
Income:			
Life Premiums and Membership Assessments	\$ —0—	\$ 375,558	\$ 375,558
Investment Income, net of expenses of \$47,735	24,071	490,881	514,952
Miscellaneous	2,500	30,406	32,906
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 26,571	\$ 896,845	\$ 923,416
Benefits and Expenses:			
Death Benefits	\$ —0—	\$ 159,058	\$ 159,058
Matured Endowments and Surrender Benefits	—0—	80,320	80,320
Annuity Benefits	—0—	25,436	25,436
Retirement Benefits under Group Annuity Contract (Note 3)	—0—	57,300	57,300
Increase in Aggregate Reserve for Life Policies and Certificates	—0—	96,870	96,870
Commissions	—0—	12,937	12,937
General Expenses, per Accompanying statement	20,737	316,325	337,062
Taxes, Licenses and Fees	—0—	14,883	14,883
Other	—0—	11,136	11,136
TOTAL BENEFITS & EXPENSES	\$ 20,737	\$ 774,265	\$ 795,002
Gain From Operations, before refunds to Members	\$ 5,834	\$ 122,580	\$ 128,414
Refunds to Members	—0—	73,532	73,532
Gain from Operations	\$ 5,834	\$ 49,048	\$ 54,882
Fund Balances, beginning of year	274,441	1,416,084	1,690,525
Changes in non-admitted assets	—0—	(1,981)	(1,981)
Change in Mandatory Securities Valuation Reserve	—0—	(3,753)	(3,753)
FUND BALANCES, end of year (Note 2)	\$ 280,275	\$1,459,398	\$1,739,673

Statement of General Expenses For Year Ending December 31, 1984

	Fraternal Fund	General Fund	Total
Salaries and Wages	\$ 0—	\$ 138,208	\$ 138,208
Official Publication	0—	36,011	36,011
Rent	0—	10,500	10,500
Insured Benefit Plan for Employees ..	0—	7,675	7,675
Contribution to Retirement Plan	0—	0—	0—
Medical Examination Fees	0—	649	649
Travel Expense	0—	27,584	27,584
Advertising	0—	6,422	6,422
Postage, Express, Telephone and Telegraph	0—	11,123	11,123
Printing and Stationery	0—	18,022	18,022
Depreciation and Furniture Equipment	0—	4,212	4,212
Fraternal Products/Lodge Supplies, net	0—	1,994	1,994
Books and Periodicals	0—	917	917
Bureau and Association Fees	0—	1,603	1,603
Insurance Expense	0—	1,010	1,010
Actuarial Audit & Statistical Fees	0—	12,522	12,522
Agency Development Expense	0—	14,939	14,939
Expense of Supreme Lodge Meeting ..	0—	18,000	18,000
Membership Awards	0—	2,263	2,263
Scholarship Grants and Prizes	11,667	0—	11,667
Fraternal Aid Payments	4,070	0—	4,070
Fraternal Donations	5,000	0—	5,000
Miscellaneous	0—	2,671	2,671
GENERAL EXPENSES INCURRED ..	\$ 20,737	\$ 316,325	\$ 337,062

Statement of Changes in Financial Position For the Year Ending December 31, 1984 (Note 1)

	Fraternal Fund	General Fund	Total
SOURCES OF FUNDS:			
Operations:			
Gain from operations, per accom- panying statement	\$ 5,834	\$ 49,048	\$ 54,882
Non-cash items:			
Increase in cert. & claims reserves	0—	166,830	166,830
Amortization of bonds, net	(12)	(9,940)	(9,952)
Depreciation (straight-line method)	0—	4,750	4,750
Increase in accrued general expenses and taxes	0—	28,001	28,001
Increase in interest income due and accrued	(11)	(7,764)	(7,775)
Other, net	0—	(3,009)	(3,009)
Total Funds Provided by Operations ..	\$ 5,811	\$ 227,916	\$ 233,727
Proceeds from investments sold, redeemed or matured:			
Bonds (total investments sold, redeemed or sold)	0—	294,000	294,000
Other funds provided	0—	0—	0—
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS	\$ 5,811	\$ 521,916	\$ 527,727
APPLICATIONS OF FUNDS:			
Bonds purchased	0—	\$ 400,192	\$ 400,192
Increase in short-term investments ..	0—	126,630	126,630
Increase in certificate loans & liens ..	0—	15,575	15,575
Other, net	0—	1,982	1,982
TOTAL APPLICATION OF FUNDS	\$ 0—	\$ 544,379	\$ 544,379
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	5,811	(22,463)	(16,652)
Cash Balance, beginning of year	51,879	147,769	199,648
Cash Balance, end of year	\$ 57,690	\$ 125,306	\$ 182,996

Notes to Financial Statements

(1) The Danish Brotherhood in America is incorporated in the State of Nebraska as a nonprofit fraternal benefit society. The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Insurance Department of the State of Nebraska. These financial statements are unaudited. The applicability of general accepted accounting principles to financial statements of fraternal benefit societies has not been determined. The principal accounting practices followed by the Society are as follows:

- A. Commissions and other costs of acquiring new business are charged to current operations as incurred. Premiums are reflected in income in the periods in which they are earned.
- B. Policy reserves are based on statutory mortality and interest requirements without consideration of withdrawals.
- C. Investments in bonds are carried at amortized cost, preferred stocks are carried at cost and common stocks are carried at market value.
- D. The mandatory securities valuation reserve is reported as a liability.
- E. Certain assets designated as "non-admitted" assets (principally furniture and equipment) are charged to surplus.

(2) The fund balances at December 31, 1984, consist of the following:

Fund	Contingency Reserve	Unassigned Funds	Total
Fraternal	\$ 0—	\$ 280,275	\$ 280,275
General	655,762	803,636	1,459,398
	\$655,762	\$1,083,911	\$1,739,673

The contingency reserve is maintained in accordance with the bylaws of the Society for the following purposes:

- A. to provide for fluctuations of assets, mortality, interest earnings, expenses, etc.
- B. to provide for the continuation and future expansion of the membership and charitable and educational activities.

(3) The Society has a retirement plan for employees meeting certain minimum eligibility requirements. The plan is funded through a group annuity contract with the Society. Contributions for 1984 were zero.

(4) The Society reinsures certain of its life insurance business with other insurance companies. The retention limit on any one life is \$10,000. Under the primary reinsurance agreement, the reinsuring company has agreed to accept automatically all amounts on any one life in excess of the retention limit not exceeding 400% of that retention. Amounts in excess of 400% of the Society's retention may be applied for facultatively.

The amount of insurance in force ceded under the agreement was \$2,912,976 at December 31, 1984. To the extent that the reinsuring companies are later unable to meet their obligations under the reinsurance agreements, the Society would remain liable.

(5) The Society is exempt from Federal income taxes under Section 501(c)8 of the Internal Revenue Code.

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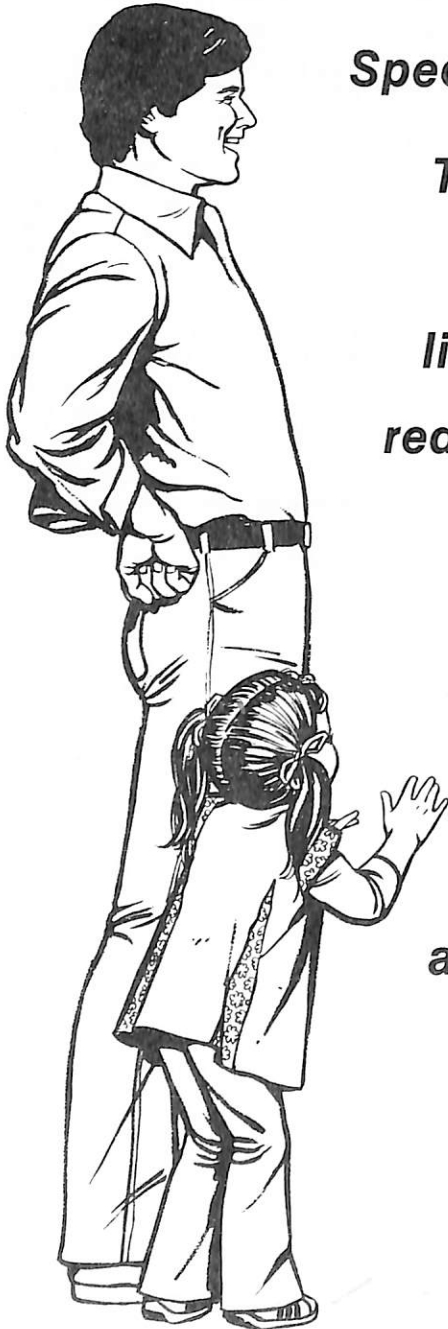
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MADISON	845	730	890	775
MILWAUKEE	855	720	905	765
MINNEAPOLIS	795	690	845	735
NEW YORK	730	605	775	655
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March 21, 1985

Jerome L. Christensen, Acting Secretary
The Danish Brotherhood in America
3717 Harney Street
Omaha, NE 68131

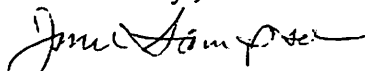
Dear Mr. Christensen:

The Danish Immigrant Museum was recently honored to accept a contribution in memory of Howard Christensen given by the National Officers of the Danish Sisterhood of America.

National President Gladys Nordine expressed the feelings of the officers when she said: "We could think of no better place to put this Memorial in his memory."

Mr. Christensen and the Danish Brotherhood were key elements in the formation of the first Museum Committee and in the organization of the Museum. This memorial is a very appropriate "thank you" for all that Howard Christensen has done.

Sincerely,



June Sampson
Director

Root Tracing Part V

by Inge Mardal and Steen B. Hougs



Jim's great grand-uncle and wife in Russia. Photos unveiled at 2nd reunion in Denmark.



Jim's great grand-uncle and family in Russia.

Jim's Case:

This article discusses an actual case which shows how root-tracing activities carried out locally in the U.S. by past generations of a family were continued by the present generation.

The results obtained and problems encountered through the previous research activities are dealt with first.

Then follows how the present generation took over the root-tracing and how a major breakthrough was achieved regarding the unveiling of the Danish roots.

Finally we'll give you samples of the discovered Danish family history and share with you significant additional results in the form of family-reunions and discovery of new sources of information.

Results from root-tracing done for our clients are kept strictly confidential. Hence, it was only possible for us to use this very suitable case with the permission of its "principle character" Jim Petersen, Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

The Beginning:

Jim's grandfather, Jens Peter Petersen, compiled in 1931 his memoirs which tell that he was born in 1854 in the little village of Haring 10 miles south of the town of Thisted in northwestern Jutland.

The memoirs detail how he emigrated to the U.S. and settled in Kearney County, Nebraska. This is most valuable for the family-history, but left very little information regarding the family that stayed in Denmark and nothing about past generations.

Jim's father, Jesse Petersen, had an interest in root-tracing. He collected all the evidence he could get his hands on, like:

- documents regarding homesteading, and naturalization . . .
- his fathers memoirs, which Jens Peter himself compiled in 1931, at the age of 77
- stories elder family members had been telling
- letters from his family in the USA, Denmark and Russia
- recordings of past and now living family members in a Circular Diagram

Root-tracing became Jesse's hobby.

He became so interested he decided to go to Denmark and see the family's places of origin and try to meet living Danish family members.

Though he located towns his father and mother lived in, he could not locate any family members. We later discovered, that Jesse had driven within a distance of less than a mile of several cousins, but ran out of time, and returned to the U.S.

The Continuation:

Four years ago, when Jesse passed away Jim felt an obligation to carry on the recording and expansion of his family's history.

Where should he start?

He, himself, had settled in Scottsbluff, a pleasant town with many qualities, situated in western Nebraska. However, with respect to the sources he needed to continue, it might as well have been a town in the middle of nowhere.

He started by scrutinizing the material left by his father. He found that he knew virtually nothing about the family before his grandfather, except his great grandfather's name and town. Nothing was known about the family that stayed in Denmark or who emigrated somewhere else. As with his father, Jim wanted to find out if there was a modern Danish family.

So he decided to seek professional assistance in Denmark.

Lacking contacts to professional root-tracers, he smartly enough wrote the various Regional Archives, government bodies, and tourist offices . finally in 1982 he established contact.

This contact started the series of activities described in the article "Root-Tracing - II" in which we dealt with the research-work itself. Specifically in this case we:

- Exactly determined what Jim was searching for.
- Scrutinized the family-data available to find hints and hard facts regarding the Danish roots.
- Identified the archives which were most likely to hold information about Jim's family.
- Used rectangular diagrams to record the family-data as it became available. Old letters were translated and every clue was explored.
- Approximately 50 members of the modern Danish family were discovered. This caused an interest on both sides of the Atlantic in the establishment of a family-reunion.
- A tour was planned which led Jim to the places of interest for the Petersen family (i.e. farms, houses, castles, towns, etc.).

Samples of the Results:

The results obtained during the research activities in Denmark are (in short summaries) listed below:

—Jim got his family traced back to Gorm the Old, the famous viking-chief. This was possible due to a connection with the nobleman, Christoffer Lunov, in 1609.

Another "celebrity" was king (later, Saint) Knud (the Holy), who was murdered by angry peasants in the cathedral of Odense, 1086.

The number of family members between Jens Peter Petersen and Gorm the Old, discovered during these tracing activities amounts to approximately 400.

They were, of course, not all celebrities. Most of them were farmers-blacksmiths, artists, clerks, drivers, copyholders, carpenters. . . .

It was especially thrilling to relate the family to ancient history. The ancestors were of noble and/or royal family-lines and they often participated in or made the historical events. With respect to the more recent family, the political and economical climates in Denmark were the factors primarily influencing their fate.

—A family-reunion was established in Denmark in 1982. Approximately 50 members of the now living family were found. Adding spouses, the reunion was a success with 97 participants sharing family knowledge and establishing new connections. The reunion included speeches by Americans and Danes, presentation of family trees and other diagrams. Discussions emerged on the history of the county and parishes where the family lived in the past and still lives. All of this helped to link the various events together.

Way to Go, Jens!

Nebraska Fraternal Congress of America's President, Peter Daly, has signed a Proclamation designating May as FIC (Fraternal Insurance Counselor) Month. In the March issue of the **Fraternal Monitor** Jens Jensen was recognized as receiving his FIC designation.



Our congratulations to Jens Jensen from Lodge No. 167 in Portland, Oregon for being the first Danish Brotherhood representative to have been awarded the Fraternal Insurance Counselor designation.

In order to earn this prestigious award Jens studied for two years, successfully passing Part I - Basic, Part II - Intermediate, and Part III - Advanced.

Jens also received the Representative of the Year Award for 1984.

representative to have been awarded the Fraternal Insurance Counselor designation.

A Tribute to Richard Christensen

It is my sad duty to announce that Richard Christensen from Wood Dale Lodge No. 340 passed away on April 10th from cancer at the age of 50.

Richard was appointed by the Board of Directors as Chairman of the Alternate Funding Committee and had been working diligently to complete his assignment.

He was instrumental in the forming of Lodge No. 340 in Wood Dale which recently celebrated their 10th anniversary. Richard was their first President and was very active in the Midwest District serving as President in 1980. He was a member of the National Law Committee for the convention in Philadelphia.

—Believe it or not, only 3 months later some members of Jim's Danish family visited Minden, Nebraska — and a new family reunion was established. Fifty good people had a great time listening to presentations — this time given by Jim — of related places and people in Denmark. The Danes participating saw the homesteads, churches, farms and other places of interest and most important, met family!

—June 30, 1984 Jim and his wife participated in the 2nd Danish reunion. They visited many of the historical places identified as being part of the family history (as a result of ongoing research). They met with descendants of Jens Peter Petersen's brother, who emigrated to Russia 1885. They were traced via an old letter, an ad in a Danish newspaper and follow up correspondence — very exciting, indeed!

Remarks:

You may consider Jim as being extremely lucky, since he had a lot of basic information to start out with. This is true to a certain extent, but with respect to the Danish portion of the Petersen family, he actually had only the name of his great grandfather and letters written by his grandfather's sister, leaving a name and an address.

So, as you see, more than luck was needed to trace Jim's Danish roots.

Preview:

The next article focuses on family reunions. We will tell you which ingredients are essential for a successful family reunion. The article provides you with a checklist which will be helpful should you do the arrangements yourself or have the cooperation of professional root-tracers.

American Dane Classified

I, Lars Bjengard Nielsen, traveled across the United States in 1966-67 with a photographer, Jorgen Petersen. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who remembers me or can furnish Jorgen's address. My address is Villavej 1A, 8200 Horsens, Denmark.

Richard was a Product Manager for Miles Laboratories and had helped in the development and improvement of the firm's S.O.S. Soap Pads and Cutter Insect Repellent line. Dr. Thomas Welsh from Miles stated: "More than these technical contributions which were important for our firm, we appreciated that he was a very nice man. He was warm, witty, very cooperative and easy to be with." We who knew him wholeheartedly agree. He was a person who had a deep concern for the well being of his lodge, district and national activities and will be deeply missed by all of us. We send our sincerest sympathy to his wife Shirley, son Matthew, and daughters Karen and Eileen.

Bob Ibsen

Horseshoes, Four-Leaf Clovers and Twin Hazel Nuts

by Gayle Sondergard Kasper

Deep in the folklore of any country, superstitions abound. Denmark, too, is rich with these wonderful old beliefs which have been passed from generation to generation, superstitions about evil spirits, good luck, bad luck, birth, death, the weather, the arrival of a stranger. Many are amusing, some ridiculous and others sound strangely logical. They all stem from ancient times and many are faintly reminiscent of those of other countries, for people all over the world shared the same basic fears and hopes.

The following Danish superstitions tell us our ancestors left little to chance and, after all, they did seem to possess a great deal of luck.

If a stork builds a nest on your roof, good luck will reign over the house. To disturb it will bring bad luck to those within.

Finding a four-leaf clover or twin hazel nuts brings good luck to the finder.

If your left ear itches, someone speaks ill of you. Should your right ear itch someone speaks well of you.

When you sleep with your head to the north and your feet to the south, you will have pleasant dreams.

A horseshoe nailed to the door protects your home. (Evil spirits were believed to be afraid of iron and therefore would not cross the threshold.) The points of the horseshoe must point up, however, or all the luck will spill out.

From Christmas until New Year's nothing that runs in a circle must be set in motion. (Did this mean that the women of the past got a respite from the spinning wheel?)

A howling dog forbodes a death.

Always place your slippers by the bedside with the heels toward the bed to ward off evil spirits.

A bride should dance with money in her slipper to bring good luck to the marriage.

If a diaper is left in the house by a visiting mother, the new bride will soon become pregnant.

Place a book under the head of a newborn child so that he will be intelligent.

Never name a baby after a dead child in the family or this will bring death to the baby.

If a child gets his teeth early, expect another baby soon.

When you fish tell no one how many fish you caught or bad luck will follow.

Place an acorn at the window to keep lightning out. (In ancient times Scandinavians believed lightning entered through the window. Today, acorns are often used as ornaments on the end of window shade cords.)

When you finish planting a garden, walk around it three times to protect it from worms and other crawling beasties.

Night air is harmful to your health. (The dark was thought to hold evil spirits. If you breathed in the air you might also breathe in a spirit which could bring you a sickness.)

If a magpie lands on your roof, a stranger is coming.

The dead walk about on the third night after their burial.

When baking bread make a cross on the dough to protect it from trolls. (In Danish folklore trolls were afraid of crosses.)

Drop a fork and someone will come to your door.

Misery comes in threes.

Should thirteen people sit at your table one of them will die within a year.

A falling star is a child coming to earth to be born.

So remember. . . keep your horseshoes pointing up, the stork's nest on your roof and an acorn at your window.

Held og lykke!
Good luck!

DAF Flight to Denmark

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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.

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST

Lodge #29, Seattle, WA — Our March 6 meeting was fairly well attended with our new president, Frank Poulsen, presiding. We had as a guest, Bob Wiegand, our District Manager from Oregon. Also a new man, Mr. Madsen, who will soon be a member of our lodge. Sharon Kinder is always a guest and we are happy to have her. Also, at our March 6 meeting, it was voted that we will finance the trip to Skovsøen in Minnesota for one lucky applicant between the ages of 8 to 17 years.

Once again congratulations to Andrew Henricksen upon "graduating" from the Danish Brotherhood on his 96th birthday. The other evening, Clyde Langsted, Kristin Jorgensen, and our lodge president, Frank Poulsen, went to see "Andy" and presented him with a paid-up certificate, signed by our National President of the Brotherhood. Flowers and coffee cake were brought along and a cozy evening was had.

Seattle soccer players be alert! According to the Vancouver, B.C., Danish Brotherhood's newsletter, the next soccer match with Canada will be on May 11. In the evening, the same day, the Vancouver Lodge will have its anniversary party.

Ted Kofoed, Cor.

Lodge #33, Tacoma, WA — We met at the Executive Inn on March 16 for the officer's installation and banquet. There were 33 present. Our officers for the ensuing year are: James Dess, President; Sven Rasmussen, Vice President; William Wenness, Treasurer; and Signe Wenness, Secretary. Carsten Rasmussen, Past President, installed the new officers.

James Dess announced that there will be a newsletter sent to all the members shortly giving dates and time for our upcoming meetings and events.

Ann Williams led us in the singing of many peppy Danish and American songs which were enjoyed by all.

We had many young folks at this gathering. They are most welcome at all times as they add so much merriment to our functions.

Carsten and Peter Rasmussen have been

**The best idea
award for April
goes to Lodge No.
35, Chicago, Illi-
nois. See page 18.**

elected delegates to the Danish Convention in May at Beaverton, Oregon.

Signe Wenness, Sec.

Lodge #42, Spokane, WA — We enjoyed a potluck dinner on April 4 with plenty of fellowship. Upcoming events include a public pinochle party on Saturday, May 18 and a business meeting on June 6.

Lawrence Charneski, Sec.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST NEWSLETTER

Lodge #167, Portland, OR — At the March 6 meeting a letter was read from Norman Dahle, pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, thanking us for the \$225 for the Lillejule-aften service.

Jens Gimbel announced he has raffle tickets for sale with the proceeds to benefit the Northwest Danish Home. First is two round trip tickets to Denmark, plus one week car rental. Second prize is \$500. Tickets costs \$1.00 each or \$5.00 per book.

Mel Pihl discussed that perhaps in exchange for a tape of all Danish activities, we should support the Scan-TV program by donating \$200. Besides our own activities, we could get any Scandinavian activities which are involved.

Stig Hansen introduced guest Mel Blumgren of the Scandinavian Club. He came with greetings and offered a compliment to Mel Pihl for his excellent job in leading Folkfest this past year.

Stig Hansen then thanked all those who attended Danish Week at Nendels. He said it was probably the most successful one ever.

Congratulations to Lorentz A. Lorenzen for receiving his 60-year member pin.

Lodge #328, Vancouver, B.C. — There were 58 present at our March meeting. Our first alternate, Julius Nicolaisen has

taken over the position of conductor since Hans Jørgen Vestegaard has left the board due to job commitments. Welcome to the post, Julius. Your newsletter editor requested that another brother take over the position as editor and Per Caspersen has stepped forward and is willing to take over after he learns what is involved. Welcome aboard and thank you for taking on this responsibility, Per. We wish you good luck as the coming editor.

A casino night including a Danish smorgasbord dinner was held March 30 at the Dania Home. Entertainment consisted of blackjack, roulette, and wheel games.

Jarl Christensen, Cor.

Lodge #348, Eugene, OR — We met on February 3. Ed Andersen and Oscar from the Sons of Norway Lodge were our guests. Ed spoke to us regarding the use of the building. We will now have our own key for opening and closing of the hall. We were asked to be aware of making sure everything is securely locked before leaving.

Welcome to Scott and Mary Stefansen, new members, and Christa Christensen, who reinstated her membership. Brandon Ranch's initiation will be at our next meeting.

At our March 14 meeting we accepted applications from Thomas Woods, and Inger and Vic Davidson. Coffee and visiting were enjoyed by all followed by an interesting film about the Viking ships of Roskilde.

On March 30 we held our smørrebrød fest. We started with the no-host social hour and then enjoyed the next three to four hours eating, drinking and singing. The smørrebrød included pickled herring, herring salad, medisterpølser, fried sole fillet, shrimp salad, pork roast, beef roast, rullepølse, liverpaste, salami, Italian salad, ham and various cheeses.

Lois Toffemark, Sec.

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

Lodge #126, Los Angeles, CA — We had a very good turnout for the fish dinner on the 15th of February, with 64 attending. Thank you Jim Nelson for another great dinner.

We were happy to see Michael Mikkelsen there and a thank you for the lovely painting he donated for a prize. It was also nice to welcome Russell Westerskov and his new bride, Terry, to the dinner. Congratulations! It is always nice to see the group from Alhambra.

Anne Kofod has announced the entertainment committee. They are as follows: Anne Kofod (chairperson), Harold Mathiasen, Betty Seale, Dixie Sorensen, Gurl Breum, Bill Christensen, Sofie Christoffersen, Paul Andersen, and Fred Frederiksen.

On April 19 the Sisters of Princess Marie 68 brought homemade open face sandwiches for sale and bingo followed.

Jonas Joensen, President of the Danish National Committee advises us there is a Miss Denmark contest. The finals will be in New York and the winner will go to the Rebild Fest the 4th of July. There will also be a cash prize of \$1,000 and other gifts from Denmark.

On May 17 we will have a memorial service for our Brothers who have passed away during the year. Afterwards we will have coffee, cake, and cookies and bingo will follow.

Lodge No. 126 and Alhambra will be working the gate for the Grunlunds Fest picnic on June 2 at White Rock Lake. We will also be working the hot dog stand. We need volunteers for these jobs. If we have enough people we can take turns and a good time will be had by all.

Peter Breum announced there will be Flag Day in the Danish Church on June 9.

Harold Mathiasen would like to get a bowling team together for the Brotherhood. We will need 7-9 people and our scores will be sent to the finals for prizes.

Erik Kofod displayed the lovely certificate we received from the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Restoration fund for donating \$100. It will be shown at the meetings, so come and see.

Betty Seale, Sec.

Lodge #143, Petaluma, CA — On February 23 we held our installation of officers in joint ceremonies with Danish Sisterhood's Golden Star Lodge 126. This installation was especially meaningful because the California-Nevada District President is our own Walter Miller, and his wife Lillie holds the corresponding office in the Sisterhood's California General Committee.

The ceremonies were preceded by an attitude adjustment hour and a dinner of Rock Cornish game hens. The tables were beautifully decorated by committee members who deserve a special "tak" for their time and efforts.

A nostalgic touch to the evening was the rendition of "There Is Nothing Like A Dane"

sung by some of the young people who performed the same number at our state convention in Petaluma last August. The words of this song were composed by Sister Joan Cameron O'Keeffe who is a niece of Walt and Lil Miller. Accompanying the group at the piano was Terry Jensen, son of Sister Cay Jensen.

An escort team of six, always a welcome addition, assisted in the installation ceremonies, and the accompanist was Sister Lillian Bostrom. The conductor for the evening was California-Nevada District Past President Dan Mogensen of Fresno. Newly installed officers of Lodge No. 143 are: Past President, Dr. Jim Larsen; President, Harvey Rasmussen; Vice President, Dick Hansen; Secretary, Henry Brown; Treasurer, Walt Miller (substitute for evening, Bob MacKinnon); Trustees, Jim P. Larsen, Iven Iversen, and Harvey Rasmussen; Conductor, "Buster" Forney; and Inner Guard, Jack Cameron.



Lillie and Walt Miller install officers Iven Iversen and Anna Christensen.



Iven Iversen is being escorted by daughters, Lillie Miller and Nancy Cameron and great grandchildren, Kelly and Megan O'Keeffe, Benjamin Brook and Jason Cameron to receive his 60-year pin.

A very special part of the evening was the presentation of a 60-year membership pin to Brother Iven Iversen who is Walt Miller's father-in-law, making this event a very personal honor for both Iven and Walt. Iven's family has been involved in local lodge activities for many years, his parents being Chris and Karen Iversen, both charter members of the Petaluma Brotherhood and Sisterhood, and he is a very willing and devoted Brother.

Dancing followed the ceremonies, and during the evening coffee and homemade cookies were served. We were honored to have a large attendance on the agenda for Walt and Lillie, and those of us who have been fortunate enough to follow them in their travels have seen their excellent work

and are very proud of them. Our sincere congratulations on a job well done! We now look forward to their conducting the meetings at the state convention in August.

On Sunday morning a "send-off" no-host breakfast was held at the Adobe Room Restaurant for any out-of-town and local members wishing to attend. There were approximately 25 present, and it was a pleasant way of ending this year's installation festivities.

We have a busy calendar of events planned and look forward to a good year of good fellowship and accomplishments. We continue in our efforts to involve the youth.

Alice Rasmussen, Cor.

Lodge #230, Arcata, CA — We hosted the annual joint installation ceremonies in Ferndale on February 9. It was a joint installation with the Danish Brotherhood Ferndale Lodge No. 95 and the Danish Sisterhood Fjeldronning Lodge No. 131 of Ferndale. Out of town guests included: District Presidents, Walter and Lillie Miller of Petaluma; Past Presidents Aage and Tova Lindquist of Alameda; Supreme Trustee Dorothy Petersen and husband, Kenneth, of Petaluma; Past President, Harvey Rasmussen and wife, Alice; Lillian Bostrum, and Kay Jensen, all of Petaluma. About 55 members attended a dinner preceding the ceremonies.

Much appreciation was expressed to Lillian Bostrom for providing such good music, which enabled the escorts to do their work and to add to the impressiveness of the messages that our District Presidents instilled upon the newly elected officers. President Miller had the honor of presenting 25-year member pins to Frank Latham and Niels Lorenzen of Gimle Lodge and a 60-year member pin to Gunnar Ladefoged of Humboldt Lodge. Brother Gunnar is widely known throughout the nation as having attended many conventions as a delegate and a guest both nationally and statewide during his membership in the lodge.



District President Walter Miller presents 60-year member pin to Gunnar Ladefoged.

Following the ceremonies, many messages of interest were reported. Harvey Rasmussen gave us an update of Aldersly, our Danish Retirement Home in San Rafael.

Harvey is the president of the Board of Directors. Aage Lindquist reported the sad news of the death of Howard Christensen and the resignation of Diane Doyle. He also reported of the great time they had in traveling throughout the state attending the various installation and visitations with the many friends they have made. Lillie and Walt were most gracious in their performances and invited everyone to attend their installation in their home lodge in Petaluma on February 23. **Laura L. Schuler, Sec.**

Lodge #306, San Diego, CA — On March 13, the Danish Sisterhood Silvergate Lodge No. 136 and the Danish Brotherhood Silvergate Lodge No. 306 celebrated their seventy-first anniversary with a potluck dinner in the Sons of Norway Hall.

The regular May 15 meeting of our lodge will be an important one in that plans will be presented for several important functions of the near future. Members will be interested to learn of the Salute to Tivoli, Seaport Village observance of May 18-19. We will play an important part in this event.

The annual Food Fair in Balboa Park has been tentatively planned for May 26.

Future important dates include the Grundlov's Day party on June 1, and the Grundlov's Day lawn program on June 2.

May 25 has been set as the date of the annual lodges Bowling Awards Banquet. It will be held at the Ox Bow Inn. Ray Beard is in charge and has promised a fun-filled evening of good food and an interesting program. **Art Norgaard, Cor.**

Lodge #323, Alhambra, CA — Many thanks and much appreciation to Viggo Bech Nielsen for presenting the Disney film entitled "Almost Angels." It was based on the Vienna Boy's Choir and was full of beautiful songs and scenery. The music brought back memories for some members. Those of you who missed this fine entertainment sure missed a lot.

Since it was enjoyed so much by the members, in the future another film could be shown, popcorn served, and the children could be invited to partake in the fun.

The regular meeting scheduled for April was canceled because of Good Friday.

The Grundlovsfest will be held on June 2 at White Rock Lake. This location is approximately two miles beyond the former location on the same road. From what has been gathered, this is a better site.

As for the California-Nevada District Convention, it is to be held August 8-10 at the Emerald Hotel in Anaheim. This convention is in our "own backyard" this year. It would be nice to have the membership try to attend. I know from my experience in at-

tending last year's convention that it is much more fun to have many members from your lodge in attendance. Let's try and attend at least one function in the upcoming convention.

Frank Jepsen received his 25-year member pin in May and Carl Christensen, Sr. will receive his 30-year member pin in September. Congratulations to these two members on their achievement.

Phillis Davis, Cor.

Lodge #345, Orange Co., CA — The March 9 meeting started with the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and the Danish national anthem.

Several members introduced their guests for the evening. We were pleased to approve applications for membership to the following: the Klein family, Phillip and Joan,

and children Katrina, Kari Leah and Calvin; the Gosset family, Gary and Toni and their children Bryce, Jamey and DaNeil; the Kjellsen family, Norman and Lynn and their children, Sarah, Rochelle, Christine Snapp Randal and Chad Snapp. Kristin Braken was also approved for membership.

Committee reports were given from bowling chairman Cal Christensen, convention chairman Howard Kjellsen, and membership chairman Ken Olsen.

Riverside Kodan Lodge has invited Lodge No. 345 to have a joint installation with them for 1986. It was decided to comply with this. Holger Lodge will be the host.

Howard Kjellsen suggested that we give an award for the person selling the most raffle tickets for the convention prizes and the award to be a free banquet dinner.

Kaj Bjorn encouraged the lodge to donate



New Members

Name	Lodge No.	Location	Sponsor
Chris M. Hansen	4	Racine, WI	Kenneth Janssen
Steven H. Borggren	14	Kenosha, WI	Roger D. Borggren
Randall Sorensen	14	Kenosha, WI	John Gellert
Stanley A. Linkus	14	Kenosha, WI	Ken Learmont
Hjollund M. Madsen	29	Seattle, WA	Flemming Sorensen
Brian L. Bennington	34	Dwight, IL	Kenneth Jensen
Richard E. Foersterling	34	Dwight, IL	Metha Jensen
Raymond H. Sondergaard	46	Perth Amboy, NJ	Jens Jessen
Victor A. Samuels	51	Ludington, MI	Charles Peterson
Norman C. Stewart	51	Ludington, MI	Michael Bray
Herman F. Bentz	51	Ludington, MI	Arnold Koegler
Albert E. Johnson	92	St. Charles, IL	Einar Danielsen
Kenneth K. Balling	126	Los Angeles, CA	Erik M. Kofod
Karlene Thorkildsen	167	Portland, OR	Don Thorkildsen
Elaine V. Jensen	167	Portland, OR	Don Bogh
Josephine A. Romanelli	172	Philadelphia, PA	Flemming Hinrichsen
Harry Andersen	172	Philadelphia, PA	Knud O. Koefoed
Larry D. Barthel	227	Detroit, MI	Ken Christensen
Scott C. Larsen	227	Detroit, MI	Paul Carlsen
Gregory S. Larsen	227	Detroit, MI	Paul Carlsen
Evelyn J. Hansen	257	St. Petersburg, FL	Howard Hansen
Gisela E. Hildreth	273	Dillon, MT	Hansine Hansen
Ethel C. Martinell	273	Dillon, MT	Hansine Hansen
Helen B. Lunde	294	Barre, VT	Harry Mikkelsen
Einar Petersen	299	Solvang, CA	Carl Hansen
Chris Larsen	325	Nassau Co., NY	Niels B. Hansen
Annette Larsen	325	Nassau Co., NY	Niels B. Hansen
Soren Helbo Christensen	325	Nassau Co., NY	Niels B. Hansen
John F. Rasmussen	325	Nassau Co., NY	Niels B. Hansen
Sussanne K. Larsen	342	Bucks Co., PA	Ulla Pedersen
Victor G. Davidson	348	Eugene, OR	Lois Toftemark
Inger Toftemark Davidson	348	Eugene, OR	Lois Toftemark
Donald L. Paulsen	349	Atlantic, IA	Richard Knudsen
Evadine Jurgensen Eichinger	600	Omaha, NE	Jacob Ravn
Henning Kock	600	Omaha, NE	Charles Robinson
Matthew James Beisler	600	Omaha, NE	Lenora Madsen
Kristin Anne Beisler	600	Omaha, NE	Lenora Madsen

**A Steak in Our Future . . . And a Byte More
New Members Can Participate, Too!**

blood to the American Red Cross in the name of the Danish Brotherhood.

Evelyn Andersen gave a wonderful presentation on Easter in Denmark. Thank you, Evelyn. Thanks to Glenn and Carol Braken for a great evening of bingo. Thanks also to Soren and Betty Christensen for helping with the refreshments, which were delicious. Thanks also to all those who brought those great bingo gifts. We really did have a wonderful evening and if you missed being with us — try us again next month.

On May 11, we will have our annual Mors Dag Dinner. We will enjoy a catered dinner at the Moble Park Recreation Room. Chairman Jim Dwyer says — "This is the night that the women will do nothing." (We'll hold you to that Jim.) We have been promised a wonderful evening, with special attention to the Mothers, door prizes, entertainment, and very likely a short business meeting.

Gerry Olsen, Sec.

Lodge #346, Riverside, CA — What fun we had at our last meeting, celebrating Fastelavn! This year's Cat Queen Naomi scattered the "Cat in the Barrel" and everyone scrambled for the candy goodies that spilled out. Afterwards, Puppeteer Doris Thompson entertained all of us with her lovable puppet friends. Thanks, Doris for this and for organizing the Pee-Wee Cleaning Crew. Also thanks to Vikki for sculpturing the cat in the barrel; Sue Patterson for the hot chocolate, aebleskiver, and Irish coffee; and Nancy Nielsen for the hot dogs.

Future events include a barbecue, folk dancers, and barn dance at Jim and Sue Patterson's on May 11; City Fair at Perris Hill Park on May 18; on June 2 Grundlovsfest in Soledad Canyon; and on June 21-23 our St. Hans campout. We have the campground reserved.

Nancy Nielsen, Sec.

IOWA-MINNESOTA

Lodge #15, Des Moines, IA — Our newest members, Robert and Dolores Andersen, were initiated into our lodge at the February 11th meeting. We are looking for more good



Lodge No. 15's newest members, Robert and Dolores Andersen.

Danes like them to enhance our membership.

The Fastelavns party on February 24 was a lot of fun. Barbara and Ray (Junior) Bartlett did a good job of purchasing the prizes and the children and grownups enjoyed the event.

On March 23 we had a potluck dinner to welcome possible new members and to encourage our membership to come for an evening of fellowship and fun. We hope to have more of this type of gathering as it was enjoyed by everyone.

Mary Riber, Cor.

Lodge #217, Humboldt, IA — We held a potluck supper on March 11 followed by a business meeting at the Senior Citizen's Center.

Plans for a Dane's Day at the Historical Museum for July were discussed. Chairman is Marilyn Hansen with Edna Johnson assisting.

A 50-year member pin was presented to Jens Andersen and a corsage was presented to Mrs. Andersen.

Peggy Hansen, Sec.

Lodge #349, Atlantic, IA — The regular meeting was held in the fellowship hall of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Eighteen members and five guests attended the potluck dinner.

The next meeting will be held May 13 with the following committee in charge: Richard and Harriet Becker, Harvey and Priscilla Hansen, Ken and Mary Lou Hoegh, and Mark Johnson.

Paul Williamson introduced and welcomed the Danish dancers from Blair, Nebraska. The dancers were also guests at our potluck dinner. They were dressed in authentic Danish costumes and entertained us with their dancing and dialogue. It was a fun evening. We thank the following committee for an enjoyable evening: Wayne and Phyllis Olsen, Clifford and Mary Ann Christensen, Paul and Nadine Williamson, and Marvin Ohms.

Mary Lou Hoegh, Sec.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST DISTRICT MIDWEST

Lodge #4, Racine, WI — Saturday, March 16 we celebrated our 103rd anniversary with dinner and dancing at Dania Hall.

On March 27, Lodge No. 5 of the Sisterhood had a corn beef and cabbage dinner together with members of the Brotherhood. Everyone had a good time at both of these functions.

Concerning future events please remember the trapshoot in Dwight, Illinois on June 22 sponsored by Lodge 34 in Dwight, and

the Midwest District Golf tournament on July 13.

Erik Raahauge, Cor.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD ANNUAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Lodge #14, Kenosha, WI — Another very successful Venetian Night was held on February 23rd with 130 people in attendance for a delicious Italian meal featuring lasagne and chicken. A nice dance band played for our enjoyment and fun was had by all. Thanks to chairpersons Frank and Chris Riccio and their committee — Ed and Ruth Yankus, Vince and Shirley Roders, Bill and Justine Kastman, Leroy and Marian Willem, Bill and Crystal Rozzoni, Harry and LaVerne Brookhouse, Jerry and Rose Matteucci and Rich and Marie Walker.

Next up was the Midwest District Target Shoot sponsored by our lodge here in Kenosha. Fifty-three shooters came to Lincoln Park shooting range for coffee and kringle and then tried their luck at the targets. Lunch was served at the hall afterwards with free beer and soda available all day. Six lodges were represented — No. 14, Kenosha, WI; No. 34, Dwight, IL; No. 17, Chicago, IL; No. 35, Chicago, IL; No. 92, St. Charles, IL; and No. 340, Wood Dale, IL. Thanks to the hard working committee — Chairman Bob O'Neal with assistance from Dan Ervin, Dan Ervin, Jr., Mat Fosbinder, Erik Hansen, Dick Walker, Phil Sander, Kenneth G. Hansen, Ron Jensen, and Gordy Andersen. Special thanks to Margaret Fosbinder who helped Dan (the cook) Ervin in the kitchen. Volunteer bartenders for the day were Bob Ibsen and Rudy Bernhardt, Jr. Ken Jensen, Midwest District President from Lodge No. 34 in Dwight presented the trophies and money and also thanked the lodge for the fine tournament.

March 16th found 160 people attending our annual corned beef and cabbage dinner and dance. The hall was decked out befitting St. Patrick's Day. The food was excellent and plentiful and everyone had a great time. The hard working committee on this one was co-chairpersons John Hosmanek and Rudy Bernhardt, Sr., with help from Mike Burditt, Bob Bernhardt and their wives plus Peggy Starr and the Hosmanek daughters and son-in-law.

We are happy to welcome new members Kenneth Gillmore, Leland McDonald and Craig Ferraro.

Lodge #34, Dwight, IL — On March 9th 13 of our members were entered in the Rifle Shoot. One of our teams got 3rd place. Jim Wilkey tied for first, Fuzzy Andersen and Mark Riber tied for 5th, and Steve Dorsett got 6th. Another fun event and remarks were that the food was excellent.

At our March 11th meeting we welcomed new members Brian Bennington and Richard Foersterling. A contribution was sent to the Women's Club to put up a memorial monument for Veterans of Foreign Wars at the Keeley Park downtown. We will be sending \$250 to the Midwest District Scholarship fund to be designated for one or more scholarship awards.

Debbie and Kelly Mortensen have been declared winners of the Skovsøen essay contest. They have been awarded full tuition to attend the Skovsøen Danish Language Camp in August.

Many thanks to Jackie Hahn for all her hard work making the annual aebleskiver breakfast and kringle sale another success. Over 500 attended and 350 kringle sold. Also, thanks to Ferrell Christensen's and Oscar Seerup's for going after the kringle and getting them sacked. Of course, thanks to the many workers and all the people who donated. **Margaret A. Goodwin**, Reporter

Lodge #35, Chicago, IL — During our March 15 meeting Al Iversen stated that Young Viking John Erick Jorgensen took top prize in his category of the target shoot.

Henry Jepsen encouraged the lodge to sponsor entrance fees to the various Midwest District events in hopes that this might encourage more participation. It was decided that our lodge pay the entrance fees for all Midwest District functions for members of our lodge.

Woody suggested that our Scholarship Fund be raised to \$500 for a 4-year degree and \$250 for a technical or associate degree.

Everyone signed letters brought by Woody asking that our lodge be kept a tax-

exempt organization, as well as other fraternal organizations. These will be forwarded to the President and Treasury-Secretary Baker.

John Jorgensen presented the lodge with a huge Danish flag that had flown over his home in Denmark. He presented it in his father's name, Carl Ingvard Jorgensen. The flag is very large and beautiful and was received with thanks by Ray Nielsen on behalf of the lodge.

After the meeting, the entries made for the sandwich contest were judged by members present. Vicky Christensen won first place and \$10, Anna Nussle won second and \$5, and Felix Nussle won third and \$1. It surely must have been a close race because all of the entries were beautiful and lip-smacking good. The sandwiches were then auctioned off by Woody and a profit of about \$44 was realized which will go to the Scholarship Fund. Thanks to all who made the lovely entries and those who bought. It was fun.

Elsa Petersen, Cor.

Lodge #36, Milwaukee, WI — Our business meeting was held on Tuesday, March 19, at the International Institute. Prior to the meeting that night, we served a "Saturday Night" supper of barbecue on buns, salads, relishes, dessert, coffee, and tea. After supper, we viewed the movie "The Immigrants: The Long, Long Journey." The business meeting followed.

Our lodge contribution for the restoration and preservation of The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island resulted in our recent receipt of an officially registered certificate of appreciation. **Albert L. Larsen, Sec.**

Lodge #92, St. Charles, IL — The March meeting was our annual Torsk Dinner. Everyone enjoyed good food and a great evening.

The meeting for April presented a lady from Chandler Flower Shop who showed us flower arranging.

Our May meeting really sounds interesting. We will have Richard Kromer, an officer at the Kane County Detention Home, familiarize us with his duties there.

Of course, everyone knows that for our June meeting we will have our aebleskiver night. All the women get a chance to make aebleskiver and all the men get a chance to eat them.

We are really lucky to have such a good group of officers and such great lunches and entertainment. It sure would be nice to fill the meeting hall. **Lois Skrably, Cor.**

Lodge #340, Wood Dale, IL — The March meeting was well attended and those that stayed enjoyed an action-packed game of charades. We had some expert charade players and some novices. Everyone tried their best and we all had a good laugh.

Raffle donations are coming in slowly but what we have look like winners. Frank and Inga Rasmussen donated two handmade pillows and a lovely handmade doll. I'm sure these will draw a lot of attention. Homemade gifts are so very welcome and appreciated because of all the time, effort, and expertise which is needed to complete these items. Many thanks.

Janet Villacci, Cor.

Lodge #343, Waupaca, WI — Our group was entertained by two high school students who are exchange students from

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
2-27-85	Harry P. Ostergaard	70	Kenosha, WI	14	Kenosha, WI	1955
2-11-85	John L. Rieck	80	Shannon Co., MO	113	Enumclaw, WA	1950
2-17-85	Jay C. Larson	74	Kellog, IA	167	Portland, OR	1938
2-20-85	Jens Aage Caspersen	78	Tranebjerg, DK	45	Minneapolis, MN	1930
2-23-85	Anders C. Gregersen	88	Denmark	4	Racine, WI	1922
3-10-85	Christian T. Madsen	90	Odder, DK	36	Milwaukee, WI	1913
3-12-85	Herbert L. Hansen	56	Des Moines, IA	15	Des Moines, IA	1965
2-19-85	Neal Wendell Hansen	67	Fresno, CA	67	Fresno, CA	1942
3-5-85	Anker M. Hemmingsen	85	Naestved, DK	227	Detroit, MI	1928
2-23-85	Jerry R. Nelson	56	Detroit, MI	227	Detroit, MI	1946
3-13-85	Andrew B. Mortensen	82	Dwight, IL	34	Dwight, IL	1937
2-4-85	Hans Viggo Sorensen	88	Geneva, MN	600	Omaha, NE	1916
3-6-85	Hans M. Nielsen	78	Sergeant Bluffs, IA	263	Askov, MN	1945
2-15-85	Donald C. Petersen	59	Hardy, NE	161	Ruskin, NE	1981
1-2-85	Henry Jorgensen	92	St. Paul, NE	211	Grand Island, NE	1975
3-16-85	Emma Andresen	83	Denmark	321	West Palm Beach, FL	1980
12-11-84	Edith Damgaard	77	Superior, WI	89	Superior, WI	1967
3-8-85	Reynold Christensen	76	Perth Amboy, NJ	46	Perth Amboy, NJ	1973
3-19-85	George E. Larsen	82	Horsens, DK	46	Perth Amboy, NJ	1974
3-19-85	Robert C. Hostrup	67	Perth Amboy, NJ	46	Perth Amboy, NJ	1981

NEBRASKA

Lodge #1, Omaha, NE — On Tuesday evening, March 19, about 50 people gathered at Vennelyst Park for our monthly social. Six students from Lewis & Clark Junior High School, accompanied by their teacher, Ellen Olson, entertained us with a number of Irish songs.

Following the music, we enjoyed watching two films, while eating "green" popcorn. We saw the films "Danish Weather" and "Denmark, You'll Love it." The latter was narrated by Victor Borge, showing various points of interest, such as the Little Mermaid, Amalienborg, and Tivoli Gardens. Did you know Tivoli spelled backwards is "I Lov It?"

To close the evening we sat at tables decorated in Irish colors with little leprechauns perched atop potatoes. We enjoyed open-faced sandwiches, coffee and "green cake." Our committee deserves a special thank you for showing how two cultures can be intermingled.

Sunday, July 21 is the date of our state picnic to be held in Superior, Nebraska. Don't forget to make your bus reservations for the trip to Superior. This will be a fun time and a chance to meet fellow Danes from across Nebraska.

James Christiansen, Sec.

Lodge #56, Kansas City, MO — We have initiated our new officers for 1985 and are



New officers shown left to right: Ejlif Schmidt, Norman Danielsen, Otto Larsen, Jean Prinds, Gerda Wallace, Esther Schmidt, Hans Prinds, and Carolyn Baker.

looking forward to an exciting year of activities. Last month the lodge was treated to a trip around the world through a film shown by Virginia and Ken Gause. On August 16-18, the lodge will join 38 other ethnic groups in the annual Kansas City Ethnic Enrichment Commission Festival at Swope Park in Kansas City, Missouri. Ethnic arts and crafts, food and entertainment will be provided. Last year more than 50,000 attended. Scandinavian genealogy, history and costumes were demonstrated. Danish aebleskiver was served and visitors were shown how to make aebleskiver.

The lodge has donated proceeds of previous festival sales to the Danish Immigrant Museum and local charities like the

Children's School for the Blind.

Bob Wallace, Cor.

Lodge #84, Lincoln, NE — For the March 10 meeting, thirteen members and five invited guests, Robert Scott of Seward, Raymond and Wilma Jensen of Lincoln, and Ottis and Evelyn Evans of Lincoln, were present to enjoy the fish dinner sponsored by Quentin and Marie Johnson. The casseroles, salad, coffee and tea were brought by members of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood.

While dinner was served, we were entertained by the Dawes Junior High Swing Chorus.

Autobiographies were presented by Elaine Muggy and Gunnar Overgaard. Evelyn Evans presented several selected readings.

After the dinner and program, the Brotherhood and Sisterhood retired for their business meeting.

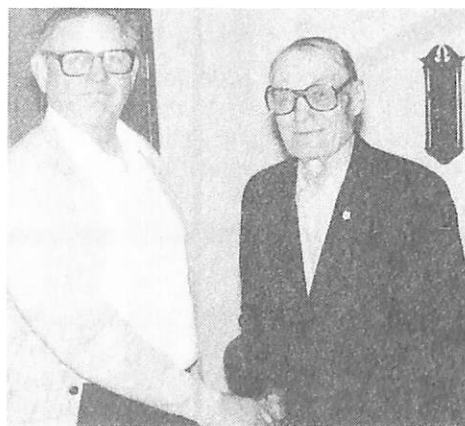
Thank you Quentin and Marie for catching the fish and sharing them for our dinner.

Don Lehn, Pres.

Lodge #177, Cordova, NE — We had the honor and pleasure of presenting two of our members with 60-year member pins this year from the Danish Brotherhood.

At our January meeting, Brother Engvert Jensen received his belated pin. Engvert became a member in 1923.

At our March meeting, Brother Iner Olsen



President Maynard Petersen congratulating Engvert Jensen after receiving his 60-year pin.



President Petersen presenting Iner Olsen with his 60-year pin.

was presented with his 60-year pin. Iner joined in 1925.

Both have served various offices in our lodge over the years. Brother Olsen also served as secretary for the Nebraska District for several years.

We are honored to have both of these as members of our lodge. **Faye Petersen, Sec.**

MICHIGAN-OHIO

Lodge #30, Muskegon, MI — This winter we had an ice fishing tournament on Muskegon Lake. Art Sweet, our lodge president, won \$50 for the largest fish when he caught a 9-inch perch. Scott Burkall had the largest catch of fish which netted him \$25. We had fun, but it was the worst Saturday for fishing all winter. We'll look forward to better luck next winter. **Harold Neiser, Sec.**

Lodge #51, Ludington, MI — Our regular meeting was held on Wednesday, March 6 with 17 members attending.

On February 16, we held our first Setback Tournament of the year. Twenty players participated with Butch Blanford having high score and winning first place, Ron Snow second place, Clarence Petersen third place, and Chuck Peterson fourth place. It was a fun four hours for everyone and a job well done by the committee of Don Bentz, Keith Koegler, and Lars Christofersen.

We also held a hamburger fry and party at the Danish Hall. It was attended by 77 members and guests, who were treated to all the burgers, french fries and cole slaw they could eat. After the dinner the evening was spent socializing and dancing to a wide variety of records on a sound system. This burger fry and party was put on by the committee of Randy and Linda Ray, Jack and Sue Smith, Mike and Karla Bray. We thank the committee and everyone else who put in the extra time and hard work to make this a very successful and enjoyable activity.

At our meeting on April 3 we discussed the Michigan-Ohio District Convention which is May 18 and the District Fishing Derby which is going to be held in Ludington on June 8th.

Saturday, March 16, Lodge No. 51 hosted another Setback Tournament at the Danish Hall. Twenty-eight members and guests spent the afternoon socializing and playing setback. **Keith Koegler, Past Pres.**

Lodge #227, Detroit, MI — On March 13 we initiated five new members, including Larry Barthel, Gerry Hemmingsen, Carl Larsen, Greg Larsen, and Scott Larsen. We hope to see our new Brothers often.

The Brotherhood's National Bowling Tournament was held March 24th at Drake-

shire Lanes. Jens Buckhave had a good game rolling eight strikes in a row. It was a fun afternoon for all.

Vice President Jack Jensen and Past President Howard Olsen chaired our annual Blood Drive on March 27th. We had a very good turnout this year. Thanks to all who donated.

President Ken Rehan would like to extend an invitation to the general membership of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood lodges to come and enjoy the festivities of the Michigan-Ohio Convention. Friday night, May 17, will start with a welcome reception for our Michigan and Ohio guests, then an evening of bingo and poker with a bar being available. Saturday morning is reserved for registration of the delegates and the convention meeting will begin in the afternoon. Saturday evening there will be a dinner and dance with cocktails. **Ken Christensen, Cor**

GCEL

Lodge #32, New Haven, CT — March 8 turned out to be a good evening for Haabet Lodge. As usual, in March we celebrated our anniversary with a Torskegild. Approximately 50 people were in attendance to enjoy the good cooking of Gerda Sorensen. Special thanks to Gerda and those who assisted: Gladys Edmonds, Jetta Hansen, Barbara Larsen, Vera Holmes, Rigmor Pedersen, Berit Mann, and Winnie Edmonds. Let's not forget to thank the fish preparers: Chris Simonsen, Don Geissler, Norman Edmonds, and Barry Edmonds.

This meeting was the first meeting chaired by our new president, Winnie Edmonds. Winnie welcomed visitors from Derby and Hartford lodges. Also present



President Winnie Edmonds presents 25-year member pins to Kristian Larsen and John Bruch.

MAY ASSESSMENT NUMBER 1031

is Due and Payable to the
Lodge Treasurer
May 1, 1985
and Must Be Paid Before
June 1, 1985

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

was Jim Elliott, Secretary of the GCEL District. Winnie's first official duty was to present 25-year member pins to Kristian Larsen and John Bruch. Another 25-year member, Arne Bjarno, was unable to attend. Eight new applications for membership were received and accepted with enthusiasm.

Coming up activities include a clam bake, theater trip to New York City, GCEL District Convention in Barre, Vermont, and more.

Barry Edmonds, Treas.

Lodge #71, Penn Yan, NY — We are busy helping the Yates County Arts Council on a project called "The Danish Heritage Celebration," which takes place this summer starting in June and ending in September.

Among the highlights taking place are folk dancing, exhibits of old Danish photographs, documents, family heirlooms, and a book written about the Danish people in Yates County. A permanent record will be placed in the local Historical Museum.

The Sisterhood and the St. Paul Lutheran Church have been a big help in providing information about the Danish people.

The annual picnic will be held at the Marvin and Norman Koek's farm. Date to be announced later. Our annual Brotherhood banquet will be in November and, of course, our annual Christmas tree and dance in December.

Clarence Jensen, Sec.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD CIVIC ACTIVITY

Lodge #325, Nassau Co., NY — About 60 people attended our meeting on March 8. We accepted three new applications for membership and initiated our newest mem-

ber, Leo R. Jensen. Welcome to our lodge, Leo.

Leif Pedersen reported on the big event, which is to take place June 2 at the Danish Home at Croton on Hudson, celebrating Grundlovsdagen. There will be Danish entertainers, and the Danish television will be there to record the event so it can be shown in Denmark.

This year the contest "Miss Denmark U.S.A." will go national, with participants from other states. The winner will get \$1,000 plus a trip to Denmark.

After our business meeting we had a nice dinner prepared by Ilse Sullivan and Elizabeth Pedersen assisted by their husbands.

We also "Slaa Katten af Tønden." Elna Jamison became the Queen.

The April 12 meeting was held at the Veterans Hall and a potluck dinner was enjoyed by all attending. Money collected that evening was donated to the scholarship fund.

Marquerite and Eluf Holgren, Mariane Andersen, and Victor Sorensen were in charge of the kitchen receiving the dishes, assisted by June and Joseph McGuire.

The Scandinavian Festival in Eisenhower Park will be held on Saturday, July 20. Mark the day on your calendar and don't miss it! This year something big will take place.

Niels B. Hansen, Sec.

District Scholarships Available

The deadline for GCEL District scholarships is July 31, 1985. For information contact Erling Braumann, 115 White Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886. Applicants must be a member in good standing of the GCEL District Danish Brotherhood in America.

Puzzle It Out

Fre-lance writer John K. Young has created a series of word puzzles for use in our American Dane over the next few months. A "Viking Power" T-shirt will be awarded to the first four people who send the correct answer to the puzzle to The Danish Brotherhood in America, P. O. Box 31748, Omaha, NE 68131. Specify adult size: small, medium, large, extra large, or extra, extra large. Write clearly and include your street address and zip code. Correct answer will appear in next month's issue.

Congratulations to April's winner, Esther A. Madsen!

How a Copenhagen train passenger sneezes:

DEOCHALKO



THROTLERABONG



GHORK



Ans: _____!

Answer to April's puzzle: WALLPAPER

Udmarket!



Grete tells Spot "Congratulations" (Udmarket) on his target shooting.

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 prize. Include: 1. your name, 2. your return address, 3. your date of birth, 4. our colored picture.

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

April winners: Jacob Christensen, Kimberly Thuesen, Karen A. Walby, and Ingrid Christensen.

Grandma's Kitchen



by Dagmar Jensen

Forår Røraeg Springtime Scrambled Eggs

- 6 eggs
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 6 tablespoons milk or cream
 - 1 tablespoon chopped parsley or chives
- To the beaten eggs, add the other ingredients. Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a skillet, pour the egg mixture and stir over a slow fire until firm.

A cracked egg can still be boiled if you rub the cracked spot with moistened salt before placing the egg into boiling water.

Always wet eggshells before placing the eggs in water to boil to prevent cracking, add a little salt to the water when boiling.

An easy way to make bread or cake crumbs is to place them in a clean bag and roll them with your rolling pin.

Danish plates No customs or duty fees



1985 Collectibles from Denmark

BING & GRØNDAHL	ROYAL COPENHAGEN
Christmas Plate \$ 33.00	Christmas Plate \$ 33.00
Children's Plate 1st Ed. 20.00	Christmas Cup & Saucer 54.00
Mother's Day Plate . . . 24.00	Christmas Ornament . 19.50
Christmas Jub. 1895-1985 55.00	Motherhood Plate —
Christmas Bell 30.00	Rabbit 24.50
Year Bell 75.00	Elk Horn Windmill
Trine 1985 Annual Doll 220.00	3" Plaquette 5.75
Annual Thimble 20.00	SVEND JENSEN
Ann. Thimble Pendant 25.50	Christmas Plate 33.00
Elk Horn Windmill Plate 25.00	Mother's Day Plate . . . 33.00
(Only 2000 made)	

Postage \$1.75 first item; 75¢ each additional item
Send check or money order to:

Danish Windmill Corporation
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Better yet, come visit us!

Viking Adventures

Coming Together — A Beginning

Keeping Together — Progress

Working Together — Success

The Milwaukee Lodge Remembers the Lady

We salute Lodge No. 36 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for their contribution to the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission. The following is a certificate they received in appreciation for their contribution so this symbol of Freedom will be seen for years to come. This is an example of fraternalism at its best. Members of Lodge No. 36 can take pride in belonging to an organization which not only helps its members but other worthy projects as well.

In the minds of people everywhere, no idea is more powerful than freedom.

And in the hearts and souls of everyone, no symbol of freedom is more compelling or more treasured than the Statue of Liberty.

On behalf of all those who decades past have forsaken their homes, their possessions, and their native land to seek freedom, your contribution is deeply appreciated.

Therefore, in recognition of your selfless sacrifice to protect and preserve the world's symbol of freedom, your personal contribution, given in the year nineteen hundred and eighty-five, has been officially recorded and your name entered on a permanent Register of Contributors to be displayed at the museum of the rebuilt Statue of Liberty, Port of New York, United States of America.

STATUE OF LIBERTY

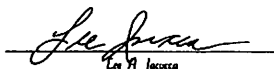
ELLIS ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



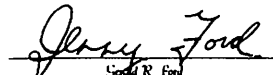
Be it known to all who see this document that
through the personal contribution of

DANISH BROTHERHOOD

*The Statue of Liberty will be saved, restored and preserved
so that future generations throughout the world
will see the symbol of Liberty's light burning brightly.*


Leo A. Iacocca

Chairman
The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island
Centennial Commission


Gerald R. Ford

Honorary Chairman
The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island
Foundation

1985 Danish Heritage Tour June 27 - July 5

Eight wonder-filled days in Denmark enjoying the delights of traditional Denmark including stays in Copenhagen, Odense and Aalborg PLUS the exciting activities at Rebild Park on July 4!

Pre- and Post-Tour individual travel arrangements welcome.

Charming country inns — Delicious traditional meals — Fellowship of Danish Brotherhood and Sisterhood travel companions — Special features unavailable on any other tour.

**For free brochure write:
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Attention: Travel Office
3717 Harney Street
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*Brochures and flight information may also be requested via toll-free, 24-hour message center: 1-800-227-3800 extension "ICTS"
For specific information and reservations, please telephone 691-299-4217.*

Just in Time For Father's Day



Don't get Dad just any old tie. Surprise him with a Danish Brotherhood tie. He'll be proud to wear this royal blue tie which boasts small red and white Danish flags.

\$14.75 Postpaid

Order now by completing the following:

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Member: Send your address change, before moving for continued service.

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

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

Name _____

New Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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
Omaha, NE 68131

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OMAHA NEBR 68134