

# American Dane

January 1987



The official publication of the Danish Brotherhood In America, National Headquarters located at 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131.



## **Society Loses Long-time Friend and Colleague**



**Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus  
Axel Skelbeck  
1904 - 1986**

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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

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VOLUME LXXI

JANUARY 1987

NUMBER 1

**Cover photo: Axel Skelbeck, Past National Secretary-Treasurer of the Danish Brotherhood in America, died at the age of 82 on December 13, 1986.**



# President's Page

**Robert E. Ibesen  
National President**

"We aim to strengthen the ties of friendship and mutual understanding between our members and the people of America. . . ." This statement should sound familiar. It was a part of your initiation ceremony as you became a member of the Danish Brotherhood in America. In an effort to fulfill this purpose and to encourage all lodges to increase their benevolent activities, the Danish Brotherhood is joining forces with a broad spectrum of federal government agencies, national voluntary organizations, other fraternal, trade associations, labor unions, and corporations to participate in Operation Care and Share. Through this collaborative effort, Operation Care and Share hopes to increase public awareness and understanding of how private citizens can respond to the problem of hunger in the United States, and to mobilize greater human, financial and in-kind resources in support of local food programs.

Recently your Lodge President has received a packet of information concerning Operation Care and Share. This packet contained flyers, posters and a booklet which describes this project in detail, gives suggestions for implementation, and contains a reporting form. Ask your President to share this information with your lodge and then become involved. You can encourage your lodge to conduct a food drive at a major ethnic festival, organize a food collection in your community, volunteer to cook and serve meals at a soup kitchen, provide assistance for fundraising events, urge family and friends to join forces with you, deliver food to those in need who have no transportation, publicize your events to encourage even more support, etc. If a food program already exists in your community, you can also lend your support. The vast majority of food programs rely almost entirely on donations and contributions from the private sector and greatly need your assistance. Basically, these programs need five things: (1) Food. The supply is almost always inadequate and especially needs meat and other protein products; (2) Money. Rent, utility bills, and salaries of limited paid staff must be met each month; (3) In-kind Contributions. Items such as refrigeration units, forklifts, small trucks, cooking equipment, office supplies, copying machines and utensils are always in great need; (4) Volunteers. Time, talent, and an endless amount of energy are needed for everything from public relations to cooking; (5) Technical Assistance. Experienced volunteers with special skills are needed to provide legal services, accounting, office management, etc.

To begin your involvement, your lodge may want to elect an Operation Care and Share Chairperson. This person should get in touch with a local food program to find out what type of assistance is most urgently needed and figure out ways in which your lodge can meet the deficiencies. The chairperson should also make sure that a reporting form for each and every Operation Care and Share activity is completed and returned to the National Headquarters. This will allow our home office staff to further assess the accomplishments of the Danish Brotherhood and to let those accomplishments be known to others.

If each member of the Danish Brotherhood participates in Operation Care and Share, we can significantly address the problems of hunger in our individual communities and all across the United States. To reach that goal, though, time and energy of all DBIA members is needed. You need to take the time to care and share.

My home Lodge No. 14 in Kenosha, WI kicked off this new program at our Christmas party. All who attended were asked to bring non-perishable food items which were delivered to needy families through a local organization.

As we enter 1987, I would like to urge all members to work together to become involved in our communities so we may let others know that the DBIA exists and how much we really care for our fellow man. We must show others just exactly what the DBIA is all about and invite them to join with us. Together, we can make 1987 one of the most successful years in the history of our society.

Best wishes for a very happy and sharing new year!

# **Society Loses Long-time Friend and Colleague**

**by Robert E. Ibsen, National President**

It is my unfortunate duty to inform you of the death of one of the most influential members of the Danish Brotherhood — Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus Axel Skelbeck. Axel passed away on Saturday, December 13, 1986, after a long illness.

Axel Theodor Skelbeck was born August 22, 1904, to Jorgen and Annine Skelbeck in Horne, Fyn, Denmark. He immigrated to the United States in 1923 where he first worked on a dairy farm. Soon afterward, he began his extensive career with the Danish Brotherhood in America.

During his years as Secretary-Treasurer of the Society, Axel established an outstanding record for handling the financial affairs of the Society. His attention to this important function helped the Danish Brotherhood achieve its excellent present-day financial health. Axel was also honored by being Knighted by His Majesty, the King of Denmark in 1959. A long-time dream was realized for Axel when the National Headquarters Building of the Danish Brotherhood was dedicated in 1967. Axel retired as Secretary-Treasurer on January 1, 1970, after nearly half a century serving the Danish Brotherhood. Following his retirement, Axel continued to support the Danish Brotherhood as Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus. In addition, his family has requested that memorials be given to the Danish Brotherhood in America Scholarship Fund.

It was my honor to attend the memorial service on behalf of the National Board of Directors, the Home Office Staff, and the entire DBIA membership. National Director Kenneth Pedersen was also in attendance.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his loving wife, Rose; daughters, Norma Sauter and Evelyn Warner; grandchildren, Pamela Mahar and Bradly Sauter; great grandchildren, Lucas and Sarah Rose Mahar; twin brothers, Alfred and Kaj; other family members and friends.

At my request, a long-time friend of Axel and Past National Director, Norbert E. Grove, offered the following:

## **AXEL SKELBECK — A Tribute**

**by Norbert E. Grove, Past National Director**

On the thirteenth of December, 1986, the Danish Brotherhood lost one of its finest. Past National Secretary-Treasurer Axel Skelbeck died, leaving a void in the lives of all who knew him — and a legacy of selfless, inspired service. Even though he had retired and was replaced by the late Howard Christensen and subsequently by Jerome Christensen, his valuable knowledge was a constant asset to the Omaha Headquarters and to the Board of Directors.

Brother Skelbeck never failed to invite the Directors to either his home or to a Danish restaurant and seldom missed a National Convention even without portfolio. He was an understudy of the late Frank Lawson and both were long-time friends of my father, Carl N. Grove of Colman, South Dakota and later of Enumclaw, Washington.

Dedicated to serving others in all avenues, Axel loved the Danish Brotherhood and was truly "an ambassador of goodwill." It may be said, without reservation, that he made all of us who clung to him, cling to his memory still, feel larger than we really were. Practically everyone who knew him sincerely felt that he was one of the best of friends. He was a philosopher — in every person he knew he found a quality which made him like that person.

Establishing an outstanding record for handling the financial affairs of the Society, the Danish Brotherhood today enjoys an excellent status among fraternal insurance companies. A long-time dream of Axel was the National Headquarters Building, dedicated in 1967.

His loving wife, Rose, understood him like few others and encouraged him which brought him the most rewarding happiness he ever knew. Together, they truly loved their wonderful children who appreciated him, not only as a husband and a father, but as their "best friend." On behalf of the National Organization, to all of his family and friends, we extend our understanding sympathies.

# Commemorative Membership Awards for 1987

## 60 Year Pins

### Lodge

No.	Name
1	—Chris Jorgensen
4	—Wallace Sorensen
4	—Rudolf Madsen
14	—Jens A. Emanuelsen
17	—Harold Madsen
17	—Carl C. Larsen
29	—Fredrik J. Nielsen
33	—Ogie Enwall
37	—Carl F. O. Fiedelius
39	—Edgar Nelson
39	—Jens C. Jensen
49	—Carl F. A. Johnson
64	—Louis Petersen
89	—Ingvard Paulsen
95	—Henry Olesen
95	—Niels Soundal
111	—Johannes K. Graves
121	—Albert C. Nielsen
134	—Christ J. Dahl
134	—Hans C. Jensen
164	—Hans Lorentzen
164	—Martin G. N. Olsen
177	—Bernhard Raasmussen
227	—John Groot
227	—Walter K. Eriksen
314	—John Christiansen
314	—Christian Karstensen
600	—Hans C. Andersen
600	—Jens Buhelt
600	—Hilmar Thorup
600	—John Hansen
600	—Carl Hansen

## 50 Year Pins

### Lodge

No.	Name
10	—Hans Nielsen
10	—Ervin A. Grunberg
17	—Nels Petersen
35	—Marius Pedersen
37	—George W. Iverson
37	—George R. Hansen
39	—Henry Langeberg
39	—Edwin N. Kerr
39	—Jack J. Riis
41	—Henry Anderson
43	—Fred Andersen
70	—Milo M. Mason
73	—Arnold J. Petersen
73	—Nels I. Sorensen
73	—Edwin T. Sorensen
73	—Aage L. Mickelsen
73	—Morris T. Pedersen
73	—A. Evald Jorgensen
75	—Fred Paulsen

75	—Carl P. Hansen
92	—Raymond Christensen
92	—Karl C. Madsen
126	—Paul A. Kann
126	—Henry Borg
143	—George A. Riis
144	—Fredrik Pedersen
167	—Harry Fromong
172	—Theodore S. Hasle, II
183	—Andrew J. Smith, Jr.
184	—Jens H. Mahler
190	—Ejnar A. Larsen
227	—Edwin Pedersen
227	—Martinus Agerskov
227	—Carl J. Hansen
240	—Fred Nielsen
241	—Harry Farver
241	—Frank R. Hansen
255	—Albert O. Hoegh
283	—Harold E. Rasmussen
283	—Arnie Rasmussen
283	—Alvin K. Petersen
294	—Ejnar A. Thygesen
300	—Ivan N. Kollgaard
318	—Gerhard Henrichsen
322	—Harold Hansen
325	—Lauritz T. Petersen
325	—John K. Petersen
600	—Kai Thorup
600	—George Christiansen
600	—John P. Hansen
600	—George C. Termansen
600	—Walter H. Petersen, Jr.

## 25 Year Pins

### Lodge

No.	Name
1	—Eivind Petersen
1	—Kaj Laursen
1	—Henry R. Roose
1	—Dorothy Pedersen
4	—Peter Sommers
10	—Donald Sweetman
15	—Kurt H. Christensen
15	—Richard Andersen
16	—Stanley Johnson
16	—Virginia Madsen
16	—Goldie Johnson
16	—Rosa Nielsen
16	—John G. Oder
16	—William Gammill
16	—Richard E. Jensen
16	—John S. Garrett
16	—William DeCamp
16	—Evelyn R. Olsen
16	—Wilbur Nelson
16	—Willard Talbert
16	—Harold Christ
16	—Dale W. Johnson

16	—Jean K. Liebers
16	—James McBride
16	—Warren Eckloff
16	—Maurine Eckloff
16	—Mark Johnson
16	—Warren Eckloff, Jr.
17	—James Jepsen
29	—Otto Brask
29	—Svend Thomsen
29	—Hans Nielsen
30	—George W. Williamsen
30	—Thomas Stafford, Jr.
30	—Carl W. Jensen, Jr.
32	—Frank Zaccarelli
33	—Martin N. Rasmussen
35	—Norman C. Christensen
35	—Richard Jesse
37	—Paul A. Olsen
43	—Samuel Schmidt
43	—Arlo Hilmer
46	—Arne Kjems, Jr.
49	—Erik B. Mikkelsen
49	—Mogens K. Pedersen
49	—Jens Kannegaard
67	—Sydney Jacobsen
67	—Harry Mathiasen
67	—Einar Cook
67	—Sydney Jacobsen, Jr.
67	—Jens C. Jensen
67	—Peter Mogensen
67	—Alan D. Jacobsen
71	—Charles Havens
71	—C. E. Laursen
71	—Karen J. Hallings
75	—Ralph Reindal
75	—George E. Nelson
75	—Edmond F. Conn
75	—Jens Kirk
78	—Arnold Andersen
84	—Albert Pedersen
84	—Ingrid Hansen
84	—Arla Mae Hansen
84	—William Ross
84	—Vicki R. Hatfield
84	—Polly A. Hansen
84	—Michael Hansen
89	—Raymond C. Paulsen
89	—Esther E. Paulsen
92	—Robert A. Hansen
92	—Mary E. Danielsen
92	—Carol A. Hunecke
92	—Karen Deller,
92	—Eric Danielsen
95	—Fred W. Elliott
106	—James N. Wilson
107	—Harold A. Petersen
110	—Orville D. Lage
110	—Thomas Iversen
116	—Erik Bodholt
116	—Joan Madsen
117	—Myron B. Kuhl
117	—Gordon H. Kuhl
117	—Gerald G. Holmes
125	—Francis Pedersen
125	—Lyle Thomassen
125	—Lloyd H. Thomassen
125	—Eugene Domingo
125	—Kenneth P. Lauritzen
126	—Henry Hansen
126	—Henry C. Olesen
126	—Alfred Munck
126	—Erik M. Kofod
126	—Otto Brandt
126	—Denise Zabkiewicz
126	—Cheryl Jean Rogers
143	—Henry C. Brown
144	—John Koch
144	—Vernon T. Johnson
144	—Paul E. Thuesen
144	—Harlan R. Thuesen
144	—John D. Craig
144	—Charles P. Thuesen
144	—Russell E. Mommer
144	—Robert E. Pedersen
144	—Thomas Dietrick
144	—John A. Paige
144	—Harold Madsen
144	—Kenneth Andersen
155	—Karen Bruun
155	—Gerda Grimlund
155	—Dorothy Colpitts
155	—Carol Colpitts
155	—Harald E. Pfeil
155	—Jesper Pfeil
161	—Eugene Schultz
161	—Geraldine Schultz
161	—Wayne O. Schultz
161	—Alice V. Schultz
161	—Kenneth Pedersen
161	—Loetta M. Pedersen
161	—Helen Shaw
161	—Nels Sorensen
161	—Hilda J. Jensen
167	—Daniel L. Johnson, Sr.
167	—Egon R. Larsen
167	—Julie K. Rouk
167	—Carol J. Littler
167	—Diane Burns
172	—Knud E. Koefoed
172	—Grete Hempel
177	—Faye M. Petersen
177	—Carla Mae Moore
177	—Bergitte Petersen
177	—Helge Jensen
177	—Marie Thompsen
177	—Richard H. Thomsen
177	—Dean R. Beecher
177	—Jerrie Spichal

177—Jinger Eberspacher  
 177—James Moore  
 190—Erik W. Fynboe  
 190—Roy C. Fynboe  
 190—Stuart G. Fynboe  
 195—Edward Terkelsen  
 195—Edward C. Krause  
 202—Harry E. C. Svensen  
 225—Gary Galligher  
 227—C. I. Fabricius  
 242—Gregory J. Lampe  
 245—Glenn A. Robinson  
 261—Lewis C. Gottbehuet  
 263—Albert R. Clegg  
 263—Robert S. Madsen  
 273—Judy A. Brown  
 273—Charles Stauffer  
 288—Leonard Coufal  
 288—Harriette Leth  
 288—Francis I. Leth  
 288—Ethel Moravec  
 288—Wilbur Leth  
 288—Evelyn Rasmussen  
 288—Dean J. Rasmussen  
 288—Ellora J. Rasmussen  
 288—Doris M. Simpson  
 288—Homer A. Simpson  
 294—Charles T. Thygesen

299—Nels Nelson  
 299—Arne Larsen  
 299—Stephen Nelson  
 299—Donald Nielsen  
 299—Jorgen Roug  
 300—Niels J. Norberg  
 301—Terri Lynn Bean  
 301—Cynthia Herholz  
 301—Catherine Herholz  
 306—Willy Harloff  
 306—Leo Kruse  
 306—Charles Fitzgerald  
 318—Kristian Heisterberg  
 318—Peter V. Danielsen  
 321—Ole B. Nissen  
 322—William Lindwall  
 323—Beatrice A. Jepsen  
 323—Henry Hansen  
 323—Kathryn Hansen  
 323—Linda Frith  
 323—Susan M. Macintosh  
 323—Julie J. Grant  
 323—Valerie L. Hopkins  
 332—Harry Mathisen  
 600—Carla Zackman  
 600—Helen J. Andersen  
 600—Helga Mikkelsen  
 600—Evelyn C. Gutterman

600—Christine E. Satak  
 600—Betty J. Krause  
 600—Carol Griffith  
 600—Susan M. May  
 600—Kirsten A. Leochell  
 600—Kathleen A. Korff  
 600—Raymond Henningsen  
 600—Robbin Chapman  
 600—Janice Mathiasen  
 600—Michael Ifversen  
 600—Mary P. Fillmore  
 600—Thomas L. Wolff  
 600—Steven Petersen  
 600—Keith T. Schultz  
 600—Heral R. Schultz  
 600—Eric Haugaard  
 600—Andrea Jonassen  
 600—Pamela Leonard  
 600—Carl Nielsen  
 600—Pamela Whiteman  
 600—Jorgen Olsen  
 600—John O. Bonsoe  
 600—Donald E. Jablonicky  
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 600—Lance E. Jablonicky  
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 600—Lorraine H. C. Edwards  
 600—Ervie Laursen

600—Clara N. Topping  
 600—Timothy McCarthy  
 600—Esther A. Hansen  
 600—Lawrence J. Jensby  
 600—Teresa Jensby  
 600—Erik Sindhoj  
 600—Agnes Hansen  
 675—H. C. Petersen  
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 675—A. Larsen  
 675—D. E. Petersen  
 675—L. C. Christensen  
 675—C. H. Jespersen  
 675—D. C. Aasted  
 675—Kim Chapman  
 675—M. D. Larsen  
 675—J. E. Hansen

## Meet One of our Newest DBIA 100% Families



Frank, Linda, Lisa, Eric, Kristin and Marc Connery.

The Connery family, Frank, Linda, Eric, Marc, Kristin and Lisa, are now members of the Chicago, Illinois Danish Brotherhood Lodge No. 35.

Frank is a systems engineer with IBM. Most of his free time is spent working or playing with a personal computer.

Linda is a housewife, Brownie leader, co-superintendent of Sunday School, and belongs to church women organizations.

Eric is a full-time college student and holds a job at a local

shopping mall. He is also engaged to Rhonda Perotta.

Marc is a student at the University of Illinois and enjoys playing the tuba.

Kristin takes piano lessons, sings in the children's choir at church and is in the school band.

Lisa is a Brownie and sings in the church children's choir.

Welcome the Connery family to the Danish Brotherhood.

### May We Meet You, Too?

We would like to give all our members the opportunity to meet the new DBIA 100% insured families. If your family has just joined, please forward a picture and a short article describing your family and why you joined the Danish Brotherhood in America to 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131.

Remember, new DBIA 100% insured families will receive an attractive plate produced by Bing and Grøndahl to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Danish Brotherhood while supplies last.

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Sign Gift Card as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

**The deadline for local lodge law committees to send motions for changes in the bylaws is February 24, 1987. Please refer to Section 32, Article III of our National Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for the specific rules regarding submissions.**

# Radio Denmark: Link with Home

## by Gerry L. Dexter

A few bars by Danish composer Carl Nielsen are repeated several times before the announcer tells you that you are listening to Radio Denmark. And you're not in Copenhagen, you are in your own home.

Like most of the world's countries Denmark broadcasts to an overseas audience via international shortwave radio. But unlike most Radio Denmark's external service has had more than its share of problems and setbacks.

Amateur radio enthusiasts were producing occasional radio programs in Denmark as early as 1922. But a legislative end to those experiments came in 1925 when the government made all broadcasting in the country a state monopoly, as it is in most of Europe. Danish radio and television remain so today, financed through annual license fees on radio and TV sets — 478 kroner twice a year for color TV, 68 kroner twice per year for radio receivers.

Although broadcasting is a monopoly, radio and television must still adhere to rules and guidelines which charge the services with the dissemination of news, entertainment, information and art. Broadcasts are also obligated to provide freedom of expression and information and to offer the widest possible variety of programming. A 26 member Radio Council, its members appointed by various government departments and political parties, oversees programming and budgets and makes major policy decisions.

A total staff of some 1,600 operate three domestic radio and one TV network as well as several regionalized programs carried as part of the second radio network. Most local broadcasting is on the FM band.

A multi-year debate continues over the question of allowing a competing radio service to go into operation but disagreements over how the service should be financed have prevented development. Some suggest it should be a commercial network, an idea not well received by the public.

Radio Denmark's shortwave broadcasts run about 13 hours per day, beamed at different times of the day to such areas as Australia, South Asia, Greenland, the Pacific, Africa, South America, the Caribbean and North America. Some of the programs are created specifically for the shortwave broadcasts, others are relays of local programs.

Most international broadcasters are on the air for reasons

which involve prestige, getting the country's views out to the rest of the world, promoting the country as well as providing a touch of home for expatriots. Radio Denmark's stated reason is solely the latter. Danes in all corners of the world make the Radio Denmark broadcasts a part of their lives. One Dane in Australia, unable to listen at the normal broadcast time, has an automatic timer which turns on a tape recorder when the program comes on.

Up until 1970 shortwave from Denmark was in English and Spanish, as well as Danish. But budget restrictions forced cancellation of the two foreign languages. The shortwave department complained then and continues to make appeals to have English restored but without success.

That is not Radio Denmark's only problem. The service has long had to rely upon a transmitter of 50,000 watts — equal to the power of the strongest U.S. AM band station. But the international shortwave power race long ago reached levels which make 50,000 watts look like the proverbial peanut whistle. In 1982 a new 100,000 watt transmitter went on the air but an inadequate antenna and environmental problems have kept the new unit at a level no stronger than the old one. A 1970 proposal for a half million watt transmitter was granted in 1982. But no environmentally suitable location could be found for the huge transmitting complex and the project was withdrawn. Radio Denmark must thus make do with a transmitter only one-fifth as strong as Finland's, but one-tenth the strength of some of those used by Norway and Sweden.

The unfortunate result of all of this is that the station is not as well-heard on shortwave as many other countries are. It is not impossible, simply chancier, a little more patience is required from the listener.

Shortwave is a medium vastly different from ordinary AM and FM. Natural factors and interference can reduce a signal to a weak level or wipe it out entirely at times.

There is some compensation in the new crop of high tech shortwave radios. Their introduction into this country a few years ago has brought a resurgence of interest in shortwave to the United States. Radios from such names as Sony, Sharp, Panasonic, Radio Shack, Toshiba, Grundig, General Electric and others are lighter, more portable, more powerful and far easier to

Continued on page 13.

## Directors Announce 31st Consecutive Refund

The National Board of Directors announces the 31st consecutive refund of gains and savings to insured members of The Danish Brotherhood.

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

Members have four options for receiving or applying the refunds.

IF A MEMBER EXERCISES NO CHOICE, HIS DIVIDEND WILL BUY ADDITIONAL "PAID-UP" INSURANCE.

1. May be used to buy additional paid-up insurance. There are no premiums on this additional insurance. Additional insurance will be payable at the same time and under the same conditions as the original certificate.
2. May be left on deposit with the Brotherhood to accumulate at

interest, compounded at a rate to be determined by the Board.

3. May be withdrawn at their cash value on the anniversary date of the certificate.
4. May use refund to reduce life insurance premiums, if on direct bill from the National Headquarters.

Any member can receive payment of the cash value of paid-up additions or payment of dividends, on deposit whenever he wishes to do so.

Your directors believe DBIA members welcome the opportunity to use the refund to purchase additional insurance, fully paid-up, without the necessity of giving evidence of insurability, and regardless of age and state of health.

While the amount of insurance purchased by one dividend payment is relatively small, if the payments are used in this fashion repeatedly, the total amount of additional insurance will be substantial in time.

# Flexible Premium Retirement Annuity

**Annuities allow you to continue providing for yourself and your family after retiring from full-time employment. Annuity benefits supplement your Social Security benefits, making your retirement years more enjoyable. You can have this extra income by starting a Danish Brotherhood Flexible Premium Retirement Annuity.**

**1. What does the Flexible Premium Retirement Annuity (FPRA) do?**

The flexible premium retirement annuity is a way to accumulate a fund for cash or income at retirement.

**2. Am I eligible for a Danish Brotherhood annuity?**

Yes. No medical examination is required. The sooner you start your plan, the greater your retirement benefits.

**3. What would my annual contribution be?**

You can vary the contribution from year to year. However, an initial contribution of \$250.00 is required.

**4. Is my FPRA a tax-favored retirement plan?**

The FPRA may be issued as a funding instrument for your IRA.

**5. What are the benefits at retirement?**

You may elect a lump-sum settlement or a lifetime income.

**6. When do my benefits start?**

Anytime, although we usually assume you will retire at age 65. The benefit you receive is based on the amount you deposit and the number of years your FPRA has been in force. If issued as an IRA, benefits received before age 59½ are subject to a special income tax penalty.

**7. How do I start my FPRA?**

Your Danish Brotherhood representative or the Agency Department of the National Headquarters can help you.

**8. Am I an insured Danish Brotherhood member with an FPRA?**

Yes. Even though you may not be eligible for our life insurance products, you may purchase an annuity and become entitled to all the benefits of insured membership.

Based on an annual contribution of \$2,000 and at the current rate of return of 8½% (4½% guaranteed and 4% excess interest), the projected cash available at age 65 or a monthly income for the life of the annuitant but for not less than 10 years to the annuitant and his or her beneficiary is as illustrated below:

After "x" Years	Cash Available	Monthly Income For Life (Male)	Monthly Income For Life (Female)
5	\$ 12,858	\$ 118.00	\$ 110.00
10	32,192	296.00	275.00
15	61,264	563.00	524.00
20	104,978	965.00	898.00
25	170,710	1,570.00	1,460.00
30	269,546	2,479.00	2,305.00
35	641,632	5,900.00	5,486.00

\*Current interest rate of 8½% is guaranteed for one year from date of issue of the certificate.

**Mail this coupon to the Danish Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68131.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to learn more about the FPRA

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# The Danish Impact in Des Moines

by Wilber Williamson

*(Information in the following article has been taken from two books, namely, "Reflections," and "We Laid Foundation Here," written by Thorvald Hansen, archivist and historian at Grand View College.*



The Luther Memorial Church in Des Moines, Iowa, as it stands today. Photo courtesy of Svend Christensen.

There is no record of any Danish-born persons living in Des Moines prior to the end of the Civil War. In the fall of 1865 three men of Danish birth came, and in February of 1866 five more arrived. These latter had been employed on the construction of the Rock Island Railroad. That winter the railroad reached only as far as Kellogg some forty miles to the east. From there the young men had walked to Des Moines. Among the five was Mikkel Lauritsen, who with his half-brother, Niels Lauritsen, had fled Schleswig when that territory was taken by the Prussians after the war with Denmark in 1864. The first Danish girls to come to Des Moines were the sisters Christine and Marie Jorgensen. They had come from Sjaelland, in Denmark, and lived for a time in Story City, Iowa. In 1870 they migrated to Des Moines. During the early seventies, Christine became the wife of Mikkel Lauritsen.

Though the Danes did not come to Des Moines in any great

numbers during the succeeding years, there was a slow but steady growth in the size of the Danish community. The Danish residents were representative of the various professions, trades, and occupations. In addition to pastors and teachers, there was a bacteriologist, at least one butcher, several carpenters and other craftsmen, at least two foremen, some laborers, a number of domestics, and many housewives.

One cannot begin to probe the story of the Danish community in Des Moines as it existed before the turn of the century with out, again and again, coming upon the name of Mikkel Lauritsen. He seems to have been extremely active on behalf of Danish causes in early Des Moines. He was far from wealthy. To call him a poor man who was at times plagued by debt would be to come much closer to the truth. He had little formal education and could hardly be called a learned man. In fact, at the time of his death the editor of the Danish weekly, *Dannevirke*, wrote of

Lauritsen, "He was not a man who distinguished himself by his clarity of thought. He had difficulty expressing his thoughts and his feelings." He and his wife had no children. For a time they were proprietors of the "Farmer's Home," a hotel and boarding house on the east side of Des Moines. Later, during the 1880s, they operated the "Iowa House," a similar establishment. Still later, Lauritsen's occupation is listed as "real estate" or "laborer." He was also an agent for Thingvalla, a Danish steamship company catering to immigrants. If Lauritsen was not distinguished by reason of wealth, learning, a large family, or social status of any kind, he made up for this lack by a commitment to Danish religious and cultural causes that is not often matched. In the previously cited article, the editor of Dannevirke went on to say that Lauritsen left no doubt that his thoughts and feelings centered on Danish life and culture. "He was Danish in heart and soul," the editor wrote. It was this devotion and dedication that led Lauritsen to play an important and often a leading role in setting up Danish organizations in the capital city. He was especially active, even up to the time of his death in 1914, in organizations whose purpose was to struggle for the rights of Danes in those areas taken over by Prussia in 1864.

Concerning early Danish secular organizations, it was an uphill struggle to establish and maintain any kind of social, fraternal, political, or religious group among the Danish immigrants in Des Moines. One obvious reason is that the number of Danes in the city was small. Added to this was the fact that there were basic philosophic, political, and religious differences among them. This naturally meant that those who could be counted on to share in any one group were few. The consequence was that during the last quarter of the nineteenth century a succession of Danish organizations rose and fell in Des Moines. In 1875, a social group, "Dania," was organized. Then, in 1883, "Hans Kruger's Minde" was founded at a

meeting in the Lauritsen home. The purpose of this group was to aid in the struggle for the continuity of the Danish language and culture in the German occupied territory of Schleswig. Still later a secret society called "Druiterne" was born. All of these either died or gave away to other groups with national affiliations. So, for example, "Druiterne" was succeeded by the Danish Brotherhood. For a time there was also a local chapter of "Dansk Folkesamfund" (Danish People's Society). So, too, it caused Lauritsen to take a leading role in founding a Danish congregation, not just once but three times.

What seems to have been the first Danish congregation in Des Moines was founded in the Lauritsen home, probably about 1875. After several reorganizations, the Bethesda Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church emerged and became a member of the United Danish, or Blair, synod. Today, this congregation is in the Highland Park area of Des Moines and has changed its name to the Highland Park Lutheran Church. It remains as one of the two active congregations in Des Moines with a Danish tradition and foundation. The other congregation is Luther Memorial which has strong ties with Grand View College. This congregation was established in 1899 and was known as St. Johannes for many years. Luther Memorial, which was the new name adopted by the St. Johannes congregation in 1942, exists today as one of the few enduring monuments to Danish political, cultural, and religious activity in Des Moines.

Jens Christian Bay, a Dane who came to Des Moines in 1894, had also an impact upon the Danish community. A bacteriologist at the Iowa State Department of Health he was a learned man, who had received a medal for distinguished service in his field. Like Lauritsen, he had a great interest in and zeal for Danish causes. During his stay in Des Moines, Bay was a tireless promoter of Danish cultural life.

Another aspect of the Danish community in Des Moines can be

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seen with the existence of "Holger Danske," a Danish youth group which was very active in the early decades of the twentieth century. With the advice of Mr. J. L. Jensen, a builder in the Danish community, "Holger Danske" was able to erect its first home in 1912. In 1920 a larger home was built and continued as a young people's home into the 1950s when it was purchased by Grand View College. The home now serves as a residence hall for some of the college students.

The concept of Danish young people's homes should be examined briefly. Such homes were built and operated by Danish young people in Minneapolis, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Seattle as well as Des Moines. They were intended, first, to provide a place where young unmarried people of Danish background could make their home in an environment which would be both wholesome and familiar. Room and board were provided at a nominal cost; the home was managed by a matron who was responsible for the cooking and cleaning. Both men and women might live in the home. A second purpose of such a place was to provide a center around which young people of common cultural and religious background could rally. For years, for example, the home in Des Moines became a mecca on Thursday afternoons for many young Danish women who served as domestics.

## **The Gold Cow**

A Danish Folk Tale by Beverly Swerdlow Brown

*Once upon a time an old man wandered into a small village. He had a broken-down cow with him. He went from door to door asking, "Have you a place for me to sleep?"*

*Everyone turned him away. The old man had no place to rest and not knowing where to go, he tied his old cow to a tree near the road and he lay down close by and went to sleep.*

*The old man carried his only savings of six gold coins in his pocket. But the pocket had holes in it and the coins dropped out and rolled near the cow.*

*While the old man was asleep, a woman walked by. "My, Oh, My," she gasped, seeing the gold coins.*

*A man strolled by and said, "What a fortune. Gold!"*

*And still another woman came by and said, "A cow and gold coins. A treasure!"*

*A crowd gathered and everyone tried to figure out where the coins came from. They looked at the ground carefully. They knew that it couldn't possibly have come from the man. He wore tattered clothing.*

*Finally, one man, the Mayor who said, "It is very clear. This cow is different from all other cows. Look how thin she is. She is an unusual cow. She gives out gold coins instead of milk!"*

*Everyone cheered. "A gold-giving cow," they said.*

*News spread throughout the village and before you knew it everyone was talking about the cow.*

*The woman who first saw the gold coins, said to the crowd "I saw 100 gold pieces lying in the road.*

The establishing of a home for the aged was also part of the Danish community in Des Moines. With a substantial financial donation a layman from Racine, Wisconsin, C. Larsen advanced the idea of an old people's home. The building was finished in 1914, and the home, "Valborgsminde," was named to honor the memory of Larsen's deceased daughter, Valborg. It has continued to serve the needs of the elderly throughout the years and is now an important part of the Luther Park Health Care Center and Apartments. The health care center has 120 beds; the apartments number 106 units; Valborgsminde has room for 50 residents. The Luther Park complex is now supported by 32 Lutheran Churches in the Des Moines metropolitan area.

Probably the most important contribution of the Danish heritage upon the city of Des Moines was the establishment of Grand View College. From a very small beginning in 1896, the college has grown into an educational institution of considerable stature and influence. The college will be the subject of a subsequent article in the "American Dane." In the meantime keep in mind the convention of the Danish Brotherhood and Sisterhood in September, 1987. To all the members a most hearty invitation from the Danish community in Des Moines.

*I couldn't believe my eyes!"*

*"That's true," said a man. "The cow does not bother with less than 100 gold coins. I saw 200 gold coins when I walked by."*

*Suddenly, the old man woke up. He was startled to see so many people standing near him. Everyone was anxious to buy his cow.*

*"I'll give you one hundred krone for your cow," said a woman, holding out some money.*

*"I'll give you two hundred krone," said a merchant, taking out his life savings from his pocket.*

*"Wait," said a farmer. "I'll give you three hundred krone and my cow. She doesn't give milk, either."*

*The old man did not understand how anyone could be so foolish as to want to give him all this money for his broken-down cow. He kept shaking his head from side to side because he was so bewildered, and the people thought he was saying "NO!"*

*"I'll give you five hundred krone," said another person.*

*And this made the old man more dazed than ever and he kept shaking his head in disbelief.*

*The people gathered together. "This must be some cow," said a man, "if this old man refuses great sums of money for her. None of us can buy such a cow alone. Let us get all of our gold and jewelry and buy the cow together."*

*The people piled up their fortune in a heap in front of the still dazed old man and said, "Now will you take this for your cow?"*

The old man couldn't believe his eyes. He rubbed them to see if he was asleep, but he realized that he was fully awake.

The people waited patiently.

Finally, the old man said, "The cow is yours!"

The old man loaded up the huge fortune, as best as he could, and left town.

The people rejoiced. They sang and danced. "Soon we will all be rich," declared the Mayor.

The cow, in the meantime, just stood there, swishing her tail at the flies. For a minute, the people thought she would give more gold coins, so they quietly backed away and watched.

Nothing happened.

Nothing happened that day, that night, the next day or the next night.

The people were getting worried. They had given their fortune away for a gold cow who did not give them gold coins.

"We have been cheated!" said the Mayor.

"We have been ruined," said the people. "What should we do now?"

The Mayor thought and thought. "We must find the old man who sold us the cow. Perhaps we do not know how to get the gold coins from her. He will tell

us what to do!"

Everyone suggested to the Mayor that he go and find the old man as they had their own work to do; and so, the Mayor set out to find the stranger who sold them the cow.

Finally, the Mayor found the old man living in a huge house with many servants. He told the stranger the problem.

The old man did not understand.

"Not one ounce of gold came out," said the Mayor.

"Gold?" repeated the old man. Suddenly, he realized why his cow was so valuable. He tried to keep from laughing.

"Please," begged the Mayor. "Tell us what to do so that we can get gold coins, too."

The old man stepped forward and put his hand on the Mayor's shoulder. "The cow you bought from me does not produce gold coins," he said, honestly. "It never did. Those coins you found fell from my pocket. But if you feed the cow well, which I couldn't, she will give rich milk which is better than gold."

The Mayor shrugged and left. He went back and told the people what he had learned, and that was the last time the town thought about ever buying any more gold cows.

### Radio Denmark Continued from page 8

use than the radios of old. Prices range from under \$100 up to several hundred dollars but generally an expenditure of \$200 to \$300 will buy a good quality set.

Once you have the shortwave receiver you can check for Radio Denmark's daily broadcasts. The station beams to the East Coast of North America from 8 to 8:52 AM EST on 15.165 Megahertz (1,000 on your AM dial equals 1 Megahertz) and at 6 to 6:52 PM EST on 6.140 Megahertz (alternate: 9.715). Broadcasts beamed to the West Coast are on at 10 to 10:52 AM EST on 15.165. If you live in the midwest, try both.

Frequencies and times of the broadcasts may change occasionally to compensate for seasonal differences which effect shortwave reception. The station will supply a copy of their current broadcast schedule on request. Write to: Radio Denmark, Shortwave Department, Radiohouse DK-1999, Copenhagen V.

Back in the mid 1950s I had the only shortwave radio in the dorm at college. The school was a small one, as was the town in which it was located. There wasn't a lot to do on Saturday nights if you didn't have a date. A number of us became fans of "The Saturday Night Club" on Radio Denmark. The hostess, a California girl named Mariane Linard, had the most delightful voice any of us had ever heard on the radio.

Mariane went back to California and later Radio Denmark lost its English voice entirely. High power projects which would have put the station on an equal footing with the big broadcasters have been shelved. But the shortwave service clings to the hope that one day their fortunes will change; that one day English programs over a higher power transmitter will bring back the following they once had. Meantime, shortwave from Denmark continues to provide a link with a spiritual, if not a physical home, for those who speak Danish, no matter where they live.

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# Our Lodges in Action

*Material for publication must be received at the Danish Brotherhood in America National Headquarters, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131 by the tenth of the month preceding month of issue.*

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

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

## PACIFIC-NORTHWEST

**Lodge #29, Seattle, WA** — At our November 5 meeting, we enjoyed having as guests Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wallace from Lodge No. 56 in Kansas City, Missouri. Bob is a member of the Board of Directors of the Danish Immigrant Museum, scheduled to be built in Elk Horn, Iowa. Bob gave a very comprehensive talk about the future museum.

Congratulations to the "Danes," our Danish Soccer club, who observed their 10th anniversary of the formation of their club during the month of November.

Our lodge along with the Danish Sisterhood Lodge No. 40 will have a joint installation of officers for 1987 at Sand Point Officers Club on Saturday, January 24, 1987. A dinner and dance will be held. Plan to attend.

**Ted Kofoed, Cor.**

**Lodge #167, Portland, OR** — The November 5 meeting was called to order by President Stig Hansen with 23 members present. Stig Hansen shared pictures from the long-time members' meeting. It was a great party and 15 long-time members were present.

Stig Hansen presented Mel Pihl with his "Recommender of the Month" award. Congratulations, Mel!

Jan Christensen stated that she had received a letter from the Fort Vancouver Seamen's Center thanking the lodge for the donation of the proceeds from our booth at the festival. It was noted that our contribution was one of the largest gifts they had received.

Ed Hirsch reported that Don Bogh has been elected President of Folkfest for the upcoming year. A congratulatory hand was given to Don. Don said a few words about some of the events he would like to get going to promote interest and more involvement of the ethnic group.

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST NEWSLETTER

**Lodge #328, Vancouver, B.C.** — In the beginning of November, the Brotherhood sponsored the visit of a Danish Gymnastic Team from Vejstrup. We would like to say

**The best idea for January goes to Lodge No. 51, Ludington, MI. See page 19 for details.**

thank you to all of the Brothers who accommodated the gymnasts.

They arrived on Tuesday, November 4. The following Wednesday was a free day for the gymnasts to relax and do what they wanted to do. On Thursday, the Brotherhood arranged for a tour of Vancouver. Herluf Pedersen and Peter Praegel took the gymnasts in two buses throughout Vancouver, touring Lynn Valley Suspension Bridge, Salmon Hatchery, and down through Stanley Park and finishing at the Aquarium. They then went back to Dania Home where the Ladies Auxiliary had made Canadian sandwiches for them. Later on that evening they performed at Hillside High School in West Vancouver.

Friday afternoon, they gave a performance at Dania Home for the residents. Then early Saturday afternoon, they performed at the Plaza of Nations in Expo Complex. They were then given a tour of B.C. Stadium. They left Vancouver for Denmark on Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

The gymnasts would like to give their warmest thanks to all of you for their accommodations and tours of the beautiful city.

At our last meeting, there were 51 members present. We initiated five new members into our lodge. They include Claus Larsen, Bent Jensen, Peder Englund, Douglas Bendsen, and Kevin Johnson. Welcome! Three new applications were accepted: Erik Hansen, Kaj Jensen, and Kalle Moser. At the meeting, Villy Andersen resigned as the Brotherhood representative to the Community Centre as he was elected to their Board as Vice President. We elected Jens Peter Vestergaard as our new representative for the Community Centre's Board.

**Lodge #348, Eugene, OR** — We approved a request at the October meeting by Dorene Simonsen, the Danish Conversation Class instructor at the University of Oregon, that

the lodge subscribe to *Bien* for the class to use.

On November 12, at the Sons of Norway Hall, the Friends of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Oregon's annual meeting featured an illustrated talk on Niels Bohr, one of Denmark's most prominent scientists. The influence of his life, work and personal adventures was of international significance.

During the November 13 regular meeting, the October brunch co-chairmen, Kris Sand and Otto Jensen, reported a profit of \$67.25 and thanked all those who had helped.

Installation of officers and our anniversary party will be held on January 23 with a potluck dinner.

The meeting adjourned for coffee, cookies and delicious pastries. Peter Jensen, Chairman, had a very interesting program of Danish songs and poems. His guest, Henric Havrehede, a teacher and author from Denmark, read Danish poems and gave some history about the influence on Denmark by the life of Grundtvig. Eve Nielsen, Birgit Sand and Peter Jensen had translated all the poems and songs into English and everyone received a booklet of the entire program in both languages.

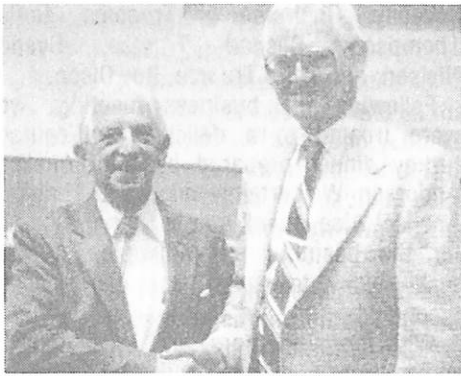
**Berna Lynge, Cor.**

## CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

**Lodge #39, Oakland, CA** — The Law Committee that was elected at a recent meeting has chosen our President, Cecil Hedrick, to represent our lodge at the National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, in September, 1987.



President Cecil Hedrick awards Fred Jensen his 50-year pin.



25-year member, John Holmdahl, is congratulated by President Hedrick.

At one of our earlier meetings, President Cecil Hedrick presented a 50-year membership pin to Fred Jensen and a 25-year pin to John Holmdahl.

We had our yearly "Italian Dinner" on October 24, which was cooked and served by John Mottoros and his helpers. There was a nice turnout with guests from neighboring lodges attending.

The following members have been nominated and elected as officers for 1987: President, Cecil Hedrick; Vice President, Martin Nordendahl; Secretary, Aage Lundquist; Financial Secretary, John Mottoros; Trustee, Ralph N. Kerr; Conductor, Fred Jensen; and Guard, Melvin Oredsen. The installation will take place on January 23 at Odd Fellows Temple. The evening will start with a cocktail hour and then installation at 8 p.m.

Pacific Lodge No. 39 wishes everyone a Happy New Year! **Aage Lundquist, Sec.**

**Lodge #126, Los Angeles, CA** — A very nice Fish Dinner made by Jim Nelson was held on October 17. We had 105 people and a good time was had by all. A big thank you to all the people who made this such a good evening and we would like to see just as many people at our next social or, better yet, to our next meeting.

A date to keep in mind will be the Installation Dinner on Saturday, January 17, at the Alamo. **Betty Seale, Sec.**

**Lodge #299, Solvang, CA** — Kogt Torsk med Sennepsovs (boiled cod-fish with mustard gravy) is always a winner, especially when it is Jorgen Hansen's Sennepsovs, which he makes from the real Dansk fiskesennep imported from Denmark. The result was that 64 members and friends were there to enjoy his creation. The following meeting, presided by Johannes Jaeger, was attended by 26 members.

Peter Weber explained a travel brochure about a S.A.S. flight from Oakland to Billund in 1987, at a very attractive price if enough will sign up. Johannes Jaeger read a letter from Stella Jensen concerning the performance of a Danish boys choir in May of 1987. They are looking for sponsors and Mark Bates and Bent Petersen were delegated to look into the possibilities.

The following officers were elected for 1987: Past President, Johannes Jaeger; President, Bent Petersen; Vice President, Bent Olsen; Conductor, Glen Jacobsen; Secretary, Bill Rasmussen; Treasurer, Arnold Detmer; Trustees, Gary Unterseher, Ken Fitzgerald, and Max Hanberg; Inner Guard, Mark Bates; and Outer Guard, Bob Voorhis. It was also made known that the new installation date is January 16.

Ken Fitzgerald was elected to be in charge of the repair of the present flag pole at the veteran wing entrance and furnishing of a second pole, symmetrically placed, for a Danish flag.

Our sympathies go out to Fred Sorensen on the passing of his wife, Goody. In addition to her husband, Goody leaves a son, Rikard of Walnut Creek, and a grandson, David of Solvang. A beautiful memorial service took place Friday, November 21, at Bethania Lutheran Church.

One of the oldest and most popular figures in preparation for Christmas is Santa and his helpers (Nisse). They have also played an important role here in Solvang and have for many years been part of the decoration of stores all over town. Our lodge's secretary, Bill Rasmussen,



Secretary Bill Rasmussen is the creator of the beautiful Nimb facade.

who for long will be remembered for his creation of the beautiful Nimb facade for our convention, is very active in the process of rehabilitating the older versions of the lively little fellows and creating new ones. **Jacob Ravn, Cor.**

**Lodge #306, San Diego, CA** — Installation of officers for 1987 will be held on January 9, at the Red Fox on El Cajon Boulevard. We are very excited about the installation of officers this year. It looks like we are going to have quite a few out-of-town guests. We are also going to hire a DJ to entertain us throughout the evening, so do plan on staying after installation for dancing and lots of fun.

At our November meeting it was voted to increase the Brotherhood lodge dues to \$2.00 per month.

Congratulations to Gaston Lokvig for receiving his 25-year pin. This is a well-earned honor. Congratulations, Gaston!

**Lodge #323, Alhambra, CA** — If you missed the October meeting, you missed a good time. Forty people attended the Philippine Festival which was hosted by Pat and Rex Christensen. They explained about the people and their customs, and they also presented a very interesting film about the Philippines. Both Pat and Rex were garbed in Philippine clothing. Aebleskiver was served as per Rex's request, although this is not a Philippine dish. Thank you so much, Pat and Rex!

We, along with Los Angeles Lodge No.

## 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
10-30-86	Lillian M. Scott	67	Dwight, Illinois	34	Dwight, Illinois	1975
11-9-86	Niels A. Lodahl	86	Hurup, Denmark	283	Dagmar, Montana	1945
10-14-86	Holger Christiansen	88	Vissenbjerg, Denmark	143	Petaluma, California	1947
3-31-86	John Petersen	51	Copenhagen, Denmark	227	Detroit, Michigan	1972
11-23-86	Fred Korborg	90	Grenaa, Denmark	49	San Francisco, California	1934
11-24-86	Lynus G. Thompson	74	Bloomdale, Michigan	30	Muskegon, Michigan	1956
11-25-86	Arthur L. Pedersen	73	Hardy, Nebraska	161	Ruskin, Nebraska	1966
9-21-86	Helga H. Pedersen	81	Denmark	306	San Diego, California	1965
10-13-86	Roy T. Sorensen	61	Perth Amboy, New York	164	New York, New York	1986
2-8-86	Harry Lenox, Jr.	70	Detroit, Michigan	227	Detroit, Michigan	1968
6-30-86	G. Peter Jensen	76	Aalborg, Denmark	227	Detroit, Michigan	1972

126 and Princess Marie Lodge No. 68, will hold a joint installation of officers on January 17, 1987, at the Alamo, with Lodge No. 126 as host.

The Octoberfest, hosted by Kodan Lodge No. 346, was a great success. Approximately 40 people attended this splendid affair and we always have a good time visiting the Kodan Lodge. After we gorged ourselves with wursts, krauts, potato salad, and apple struedel, we started playing games. Thanks, Kodan Lodge, for a wonderful time!

Clarice Christensen received special attention at our October meeting for being Member No. 323 in the Alhambra Lodge No. 323. She was presented with a flower arrangement made by our clever Inger Dix. Congratulations! **Kate Krake, Pres.**

**Lodge #332, Modesto, CA** — About 50 members and guests joined together at the Westley Hotel to celebrate our 40th year. Happy hour was filled with joyous conversations of the many pleasant memories that members have shared over the years. We were also pleased to have friends from the Petaluma, Oakland, and Solvang lodges joining us for this happy occasion. Ed Madsen, President of the California-Nevada District, and his wife were also there to help us celebrate.



California-Nevada District President, Ed Madsen, congratulates President John Craig.



Members congratulate Vernon Olsen for his 40 years of service.

After a delicious steak dinner, members were treated to a step back in time as Ebba Norby gave a brief history of our lodge. She introduced our first president, Bill Rasmussen. Many others who have contributed to the success of the lodge were introduced. A special award was presented

by John Craig, President, to Vernon Olsen for his 40 years of service to the lodge as secretary/treasurer.

Special thanks to Bessie Olsen and her committee for the lovely table decorations of red and white carnations and the colorful Danish and American flags to remind us of our special heritage. In the center of the head table was a white and navy blue cake with the words "Over the Hill... Happy 40th Anniversary."

Many members danced the night away to the good old tunes of days gone by played for us by Emil Knapp on his accordion. All seemed to have a great time.

**Marge Scheuber, Cor.**

#### PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST NEWSLETTER

**Lodge #345, Orange County, CA** — The November lodge meeting was filled with lots of friends, colorfully garbed in our Hawaiian best. The tables were beautifully arranged with miniature palm trees for center pieces with flowers cascading on the tables. The main event of the evening was of course the Hawaiian dinner and the fellowship we have in our lodge.

We all agreed that a big thank you belongs to those responsible for the dinner, especially Gary and Toni Gossett, Chairpersons, for the evening. Gary and Toni planned the meal, bought the food, cooked it, decorated, bought the awards and did all it takes to put on a delightful evening. It is great to have young adults in our lodge that help out so much. Thank you again!

President Ken Olsen called the business meeting together after the dinner. We were able to have our dessert during the meeting to conserve time. We had in attendance approximately 65 people.

The main business of the evening was the election of the 1987 officers. Results are as follows: President, Jim Dwyer; Vice President, Gary Gossett; Secretary, Gerry Olsen; Treasurer, Betty Christensen; Conductor, Soren Christensen; Inner Guard, Helga Bjorn; Outer Guard, J. Wiegandt; Trustees, R. Allison, Crystal Nelson and Clarence Motz. Congratulations. We will hold a joint installation of officers with Kodan Lodge No. 346 on January 10, 1987. Kodan will be the host.

**Gerry Olsen, Sec.**

**Lodge #346, Riverside, CA** — At our November meeting, we held nomination and election of Kodan's 1987 officers. Congratulations to the following officers-elect: Past President, Knud Andersen; President, Nancy Nielsen; Treasurer, Kaja Del Grippo; Conductor, Vikki Garrison; Inner Guard, Jim Patterson; Outer Guard, Norma

Loveday; Chairman of Trustees, Doris Thompson; Second Trustee, Svend Nielsen; and Third Trustee, Roy Olson.

Following the business meeting, we were treated to a delicious full-course turkey dinner prepared by Chef Anelise Andersen. We certainly enjoyed it! Thanks, Anelise! Also, thank you to Betty Forgrave for the beautiful pumpkin pies. We're really lucky to have these good cooks among us.

With profound regret and in thoughtful remembrance, it is my sad duty to report that Lilly Thompson passed away on November 15, 1986. Lilly was a charter member of Kodan, having joined in 1978. We extend to Lilly's daughter, Mrs. Deborah Blizzard, and other family members our most deep-felt sympathy and consolation.

Because we have a really special event coming up, we will not have a regular meeting in January. Our joint installation dinner/dance will be held on January 10, 1987, with Lodge No. 345 of Orange County, California.

Don't forget to save your junk for our garage sale, tentatively scheduled for some time in May. Also, please remember to save your newspapers, cardboard, and aluminum cans. Turn them in to either Kaja Del Grippo or Sue Patterson.

**Nancy Nielsen, Sec.**

## NEBRASKA

**Lodge #1, Omaha, NE** — Our November 18th Arts and Crafts Show was attended by about 75 people, including four Danish exchange students. These students also agreed to come to our Christmas party and they helped us with the carol singing. A special thanks to the committee — Bernice Eckley, Armand and Eloise Thomsen, and Mary Ann Sorenson — for making it a successful event. Also, thank you to anyone who brought and demonstrated their crafts.

Plans are under way for a class in the Danish language. Hopefully, the classes will start soon. More details will follow once everything is finalized as to the time and place of the classes.

**Jim Christiansen, Sec.**

**Lodge #206, Blair, NE** — At our last meeting the charter was draped to honor Myrtle Rasmussen. We express our condolences to her family.

We are deeply saddened at the loss of our dear sister, Rose Krogh. She will be greatly missed by each and every one of us. We extend our sincerest sympathies to Jens and his family.

Congratulations to Frank Korshoj on his

successful effort in being elected as our District State Legislator.

Thanks to our October committee for a fun evening. Among our contestants on the "Newlywed Game," Tage and Louella Christensen were the winners. After the game we were served a beautiful cake decorated to represent the Newlywed Game and ice cream.

Also, thanks to our November committee for the delicious lunch and entertainment. We all enjoyed the slides from your travel.

Our next meeting will be January 26 at which time officers for 1987 will be installed.

Harriet Palle, Cor.

## IOWA-MINNESOTA

**Lodge #15, Des Moines, IA** — At our meeting on November 10, we accepted the application of a new member, Jane Gillaspay. Welcome Jane!

Wilbur Williamson, Clark Rasmussen and Carl Nielsen reported their committee plans to include a monthly update and information about the upcoming National Convention in each edition of the American Dane up until convention time.

As of this writing, we are still holding our monthly meetings in the Dania building.

It was suggested that we start our meetings half an hour earlier so there will be time for some activities, programs or just socializing. Roland Jensen (who has been very ill but is now home recuperating), Wilbur Williamson and Arne Sorensen are the committee members to plan these programs.

Willy Christensen, chairman of the 1987 convention committee, announced his marriage on November 1, to Inge Nielsen of Denmark. They were married in West Des Moines.

Mary Riber, Cor.

**Lodge #341, Kimballton-Elk Horn, IA** — We held our meeting on October 27 at the Kimballton Town Hall with 80 people attending the aebleskiver supper.



Many of our members enjoyed the aebleskiver supper.

President Folmer Bonneson initiated Elmer and Frances Jensen, Dan Steen and Andrew and Karen Korsgaard into the lodge. The Iowa-Minnesota District Con-



Welcome new members, Mr. and Mrs. Korsgaard, Dan Steen, and Mr. and Mrs. Jensen.

vention report was given and we were told that we received the activity award for our Tivoli Fest activity.

John Jensen was selected as our National Convention delegate to represent our lodge in Des Moines, Iowa, in September, 1987.

Bingo was the entertainment for the meeting. Verdie Christensen, Sec.

# VELKOMMEN!

We have added more links to our chain — a chain of people who have joined hands promising to stand by each other.



Name	Lodge	No. Location	Sponsor
Julian G. Nelson	14	Kenosha, WI	William Kastman
Robert E. Krause	14	Kenosha, WI	Rudolph Bernhardt, Jr.
Keith A. Colby	14	Kenosha, WI	Tom Nielsen
Paul V. Nielsen	16	Minden, NE	Herbert Nielsen
Aeota M. Nielsen	16	Minden, NE	Herbert Nielsen
Robert W. Smith	34	Dwight, IL	Ernest Perschnick
Jane M. Smith	34	Dwight, IL	Ernest Perschnick
Bertil T. Torkelson	35	Chicago, IL	Marie Johansson
Gladys J. Torkelson	35	Chicago, IL	Marie Johansson
Eric R. Jensen	35	Chicago, IL	Pauline K. Jensen
Joyce D. Jensen	35	Chicago, IL	Pauline K. Jensen
Kaleb C. S. Garde	37	Bridgeport, CT	Erik Garde
Adam Brian Garde	37	Bridgeport, CT	Erik Garde
Jarred David Garde	37	Bridgeport, CT	Erik Garde
Elmer F. Petersen	67	Fresno, CA	L. S. DeLaurant
Ralph E. Cripe	95	Ferndale, CA	Francis Sweet
John G. Parker	113	Enumclaw, WA	Howard Abbott
Bente Pedersen	155	Bellingham, WA	Karen Bruun
Carl G. Santesson	167	Portland, OR	Jens N. Jensen
Jan E. Sorensen	167	Portland, OR	Jens N. Jensen
Barbara J. Sanchez	167	Portland, OR	Alice Hazlet
Marion Louise Gibson	167	Portland, OR	Mel Pihl
Myrvin F. Christopherson	206	Blair, NE	Jerome Christensen
Harry A. Fedde	261	Fowler, CO	Warren Switser
Bent S. Jensen	328	Vancouver, B.C.	Peter Praegel
Frede H. Laursen	328	Vancouver, B.C.	Harry Vestergaard
Carsten C. Mide	328	Vancouver, B.C.	Chris Mide
Mark A. Svensson	328	Vancouver, B.C.	Chris I. Bendsen
Kevin Johnson	328	Vancouver, B.C.	Chris I. Bendsen
Wallace L. Nelson, Jr.	343	Waupaca, WI	Aleine Miller
Nancy A. Sorensen	600	Omaha, NE	Carl W. Sorensen, Jr.
Eugene S. Brink	600	Omaha, NE	Andy Andersen
Shirley A. Brink	600	Omaha, NE	Andy Andersen
Kurt W. Brink	600	Omaha, NE	Andy Andersen
Wayne D. Hansen	600	Omaha, NE	Howard Sorensen
Janell Jo Hansen	600	Omaha, NE	Howard Sorensen

It's Better To Give Than To Receive  
New members can add to our chain, too!

## Congratulations!

Erik Garde of Lodge No. 37 in Bridgeport, Connecticut, has been declared "Recommender of the Month" for November. He sponsored 3 new members.

We salute Erik for enlarging our chain of members and for truly believing that "It's Better To Give Than To Receive!"

In keeping with the true spirit of fraternalism, a \$50 donation will be given to a charity of his choice. Watch for details in future issues of the American Dane.

**PRESIDENT'S AWARD  
BEST DISTRICT  
MIDWEST**

**Lodge #4, Racine, WI** — At our November 12th meeting the following members were elected for positions on our board: Past President, Wayne Kavaliauskas; President, John Schroeder; Vice President, Glenn Nyboe; Secretary, Daniel Christensen; Treasurer, John Mollerskov; Conductor, Marty Andersen; and Guard, John Jensen.

We have been planning ahead and we will be hosting the July 19, 1987 Midwest District Golf Outing. Plan to attend. We hosted the Midwest District Convention last September and are happy to say it was a success financially and otherwise. We received many good comments on it.

**Doug Larsen, Cor.**

**PRESIDENT'S AWARD  
ANNUAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE**

**Lodge #14, Kenosha, WI** — At the November 18 meeting the membership, by majority vote of those present, voted to change our bylaws in respect to annual dues. Dues have been changed from \$24.00 to \$36.00 per year effective immediately. This change was unfortunately due to increased operating expenses and a very large increase in insurance costs which went up 300%. We hope that all of you as loyal Brothers will understand this and continue to support the lodge as you have done in the past. Please remit your dues to Ron Jensen no later than January 31, 1987.

At the Midwest District Convention, we won the District President's Award for the Best Activity Schedule and Best Single Social Activity; Dwight Lodge No. 34 won the Best Single Civic Activity Award; and Chicago Lodge No. 35 won the Best Newsletter Award. It has just been announced that we went on to win the National President's Award for the Best Activity Schedule and that the Midwest District was selected as the best district. Congratulations!

One hundred twenty people came to our annual Halloween party which is always a lot of fun. We want to thank the committee — Chairman Todd and Jeff Bernhardt, Rudy and Glori Bernhardt, Brian and Chris O'Neal and Wes and Marcie Bernhardt. Thanks to Larry and Dolores Sorensen for the pumpkins.

Our big fund raiser for the year, the Christmas Jule Fest, is now history and once again was highly successful with our biggest crowd ever. Rudy Bernhardt, Jr. and the Board of Officers were in charge this year with a lot of help from many Brothers and their wives and we sincerely

thank all of them. It is estimated that about 2,000 people came through the doors and we fed about 750, which is 250 more than last year. We thank those who came to the fair and those who rented booths. The raffle was very successful this year and thanks to all who sold and purchased tickets for the benefit of the building fund. A big thank you to the Sisterhood, widows and other lodges around the country who purchased tickets.

About 200 people attended the Danish Accordion Ensemble Concert held at the hall. These young people were just tremendous and if you were not there, you missed a wonderful evening. A good will donation was accepted and we thank you all for that — the young people were very appreciative — and to those who took them into your homes for three days we thank you also. Thanks to Axel Hermansen from Racine and Tom Nielsen from our lodge for making the arrangements for their appearance.

The annual Torsk party found 160 people enjoying the excellent food, akvavit, beer and dancing along with good fellowship. It is always a fun night and we thank the very hard working committee — Chairpersons Gene and Phyllis Keck and Berger and Jo Rasmussen along with Al and Lorraine Pecnick, Bill and Janet Kuessow, Harry and Doris Krogh, Al and Elga Rohrer and Pete and LeAnn Wildenberg. The table decorations given away as door prizes were homemade and very nice.

**PRESIDENT'S AWARD  
CIVIC ACTIVITY**

**Lodge #34, Dwight, IL** — Our link is growing as we welcome Bob and Jane Smith to our chain of members.

Our 97th anniversary dance was held Saturday, November 22. The crowd was fair, but I know all had a good time. Nine cakes and pies were given away and a money tree was won by Bev Weller. Thanks to the ladies who donated the cakes and pies and thanks to Debbie and Kelly Mortensen for making the posters and putting them up around town.

Congratulations to our lodge! We have received a \$100 check for winning the National President's Award for Best Single Civic Activity for the instigation of and the outstanding fraternal efforts toward the Brian Perschnick Fund.

**Margaret Goodwin, Sec.**

**Lodge #35, Chicago, IL** — Our dinner-dance was a great party! Lots of wonderful food was served and the music and dancing were enjoyed by all. Other Midwest District lodges were represented and the

National Board of Directors were represented by Bob Ibsen, President, and his wife, Elaine. Bob spoke briefly and then presented a Certificate of Merit to Lodge No. 35 for the assistance given to our Danish visitors last summer. President Iversen received the certificate on behalf of the lodge. Nancy Nyholm, Secretary of the Danish Sisterhood, brought greetings from the Sisterhood's Home Office.

The table flowers were donated by Charles Olander. Thanks so much!

Carl Meyer of Florida was to receive his 60-year pin in person that evening, but unfortunately became ill at the last minute and could not attend. Woody Petersen will deliver the pin and life membership card on a future trip to Florida. A big hand was given for Carl, a very dedicated worker for our lodge.

The raffle table was groaning under its heavy load of nice prizes that were donated by friends and members. Arlene Hasler donated two lovely bell-pulls. Thanks, Arlene! The tapestry rug had chances sold on it for the Scholarship Committee and Norm Christensen was the lucky winner. Thanks to all who bought tickets and donated the prizes. The evening was a financial success due to you!

There were seven initiations taking place at the November 21 meeting. Welcomed into membership were Sandra and Steven Sorensen, Kristin and Eric; Bertil Torkelson; Gladys Torkelson; and Curtis Christiansen. Grandmother Evelyn Sorensen stood in for the Sorensen children. Mr. and Mrs. Eric Jensen will be initiated at our meeting. All these new members were welcomed by the members present.

The following officers were unanimously elected to serve in 1987: President, Ahlman Iversen; Vice President, Paul Sloth; Secretary, Charles Jespersen; Treasurer, Henry Jepsen; 1st Trustee, Wanda Nielsen; 2nd Trustee, John Jorgensen; 3rd Trustee, Doris Peterson; and Conductor, Alfred Steffensen.

John Jorgensen reported on the anniversary dinner-dance and stated there was a profit of \$596.07. The profit from the Statue of Liberty rug that was raffled off that evening went to the Scholarship Fund which earned \$83.

Woody Petersen thanked everyone who donated food for the needy. Our lodge has donated over \$500 in food and cash to Lutheran Family Mission this past year.

Al Iversen presented a home office plate to the Connery family for having all members of their family join the lodge and becoming a 100% DBIA family.

When all the business was taken care of, Al Iversen announced that it would be

Charlie Jespersen's Night! Charlie was very surprised. He was presented with a framed certificate and \$100 in appreciation for all his hard work over the last years. Charlie gave a short "thank you" and stated he was nothing special and that he does it because he enjoys the work. Everyone sang "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" to the still surprised Charlie. He was then made Dane for the Night for the second time.  
**Elsa Petersen, Cor.**

**Lodge #36, Milwaukee, WI** — On November 17, our members decorated the Christmas tree and Danish house at the Milwaukee Public Museum in preparation for the November 28, 1986 - January 11, 1987 "Fairytale Christmas" — the scene for the 1986 season. It is based on the 150th anniversary of Hans Christian Andersen and the 200th anniversary of the Brothers Grimm. Included in the display are four three-foot manikins dressed in proportioned, old-style costumes, sent to our member Binga M. Hermansen by Kamma Judmand-Høyer from Brønshøj, Denmark. For 20 years, Mrs. Hoyer has studied folk costumes and their associated materials on exhibit in museums across Denmark. For 10 years, in her town studio, she has spun woolen yarn, dyed it, and woven it into authentic original patterns and colors for folk costumes. Her sister is a silversmith and makes copies of the original buckles, buttons, pins, etc. A seamstress sews the materials into exact copies of the original costumes, most of which date back to the period of 1750 through 1850. Binga is the representative in the United States.

Three of our members demonstrated the art of Danish counted cross stitch and the making of Danish heart baskets at the museum on November 29-30 in support of our Danish heritage. And, on December 7, a most interesting lecture on Hans Christian Andersen was presented by Dr. Niels Ingwersen, Professor of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.  
**Al Larsen, Sec.**

**Lodge #64, Rockford, IL** — At our meeting on October 15 we had a visit from the Midwest District President, Ray Nielsen, and his wife, Wanda; and Henry and Grete Jeppesen. We also had a visit of two girls, Annemarie and Eliza Larsen. They attended Skovsøen this summer and talked about their camp stay. It sounded like they really had a lot of fun and learned a lot about Denmark. They would like to go back, so if you have children or grandchildren, think about letting them go to Skovsøen and having fun while learning about Denmark.  
**Maybritt Nielsen, Cor.**

**Lodge #92, St. Charles, IL** — We will have installation of our new officers at our meeting on January 9. At our November, 1986, meeting we unanimously elected our 1986 officers to serve another year. We are grateful to all our officers who are willing to serve another year.

In December we had our usual Christmas party and a good time was had by all who attended. We were pleased to have as entertainment a magician who charmed and thrilled us all.

Well, we are beginning another new year, 1987, and we are always hopeful for greater meetings and more attendance. We would surely like to bring in some new members. If you have someone in mind, please bring them along to a meeting.  
**Lois Skraboly, Cor.**

**Lodge #343, Waupaca, WI** — Seventy-two members and guests enjoyed the annual Mortensaften Goose Dinner on November 8 at the Waupaca Country Club. The traditional menu consisted of fruit cup, roast goose with apple-prune stuffing, baked chicken with bread stuffing, gravy, parsley buttered potatoes, creamed peas and carrots, sweet-sour red cabbage, dinner rolls, sherbet and coffee. President Evelyn Doerr served as mistress of ceremonies. The Danish prayer was given by Ella Gudmandsen. 1987 President-elect Harold

Rasmussen read the Mortensaften story. Two humorous readings and a veteran's day tribute were read by Melda Mortensen. Helen Petersen furnished the piano accompaniment for the singing of the Star Spangled Banner and the English table prayer. Vice President Loyal Lundorf made the Viking ship table decorations and the many Danish flags which decorated the walls of the dining room. Door prizes were selected and wrapped by Florence Johnson. Thanks, also, to Fred and Debbie Rasmussen for their donation of several additional prizes. Music for dancing and just listening while reminiscing concluded the evening's festivities. Thanks to everyone who helped make the evening a success by their presence.  
**Evelyn Doerr, Pres.**

## MICHIGAN-OHIO

**Lodge #51, Ludington, MI** — Our regular meeting was held on December 3 with 16 members attending. At this meeting we had the election of officers with the following results: Jack Smith, President; Keith Kogler, Vice President; Erv Kissell, Treasurer; Mike Bray, Secretary; Ralph Christensen, Trustee; Carl Soneral, Conductor; and Lars Christoffersen, Guard. We also had the initiation of one new member. We wish to welcome Lloyd Hulett into our lodge.

On Saturday, December 6, we held our Christmas parties, with the children's party in the afternoon. About 45 young boys and girls enjoyed playing games and just having fun. **Many of them also painted their own ideals of Christmas on a 35-foot mural that was later used as a decoration for the adult Christmas party.** There was a long visit from Santa Claus where just about all of the children enjoyed sitting on his lap and talking to him. Santa gave them all a big bag of candy. The afternoon was capped off with all of the children getting a swing or two at the pinata and gathering up the candy after it was broken. Everyone had a dish of ice cream and some cookies

## 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, 1987, will be considered beginning February 15, 1987. Eligible members wishing to apply should write to: The Danish Brotherhood in America, Scholarship Committee, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131. No applications received after February 15, 1987 will be considered by the Committee for the 1987 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.

**Remember: Eight scholarships may now be awarded annually, two of which must be awarded to applicants planning to attend a vocational or trade school.**

and the children's party was over. Then it was back to work to get ready for the adult's Christmas party. We thank Bob and Sue Jensen and their committee members for making these Christmas parties a great activity to come to.

Lodge No. 51 wishes everyone a prosperous and Happy New Year!

**Keith Koegler**, Past Pres.

## **GCEL**

### **G.C.E.L. District**

The annual convention opened on August 30 by Clarence Jensen, Chairman of the Convention, who welcomed the delegates, officers and guests to Penn Yan. He then introduced the Honorable Bruce LeClair, Mayor of Penn Yan, who welcomed us to Penn Yan and extended his wishes for a successful convention and an enjoyable stay in his city. The meeting was then turned over to G.C.E.L.'s President, Carl Spencer, who welcomed all delegates, officers and guests. He then introduced the officers of the G.C.E.L. and the following National Officers who were present: Clyde Langsted, National Vice President; George Jacobsen, National Past President; and Erling Braumann, National Director.

The delegate from Lodge No. 314 then presented a \$1,000 check to the Scholarship Fund. The president thanked the Hartford Lodge for their generous donation.

A motion was made to pay the expenses of the officers and the delegates. The motion was approved.

President Spencer gave a report on the Geneva Lodge No. 334's problems. The secretary who was the backbone of the lodge had died. The president, Andrew Christensen, is now keeping the lodge together but Carl has much doubt that the lodge will survive.

Secretary Georg Olesen reported that he received a letter from Lodge No. 90 stating that no delegate will be sent to this year's convention because there was no activity in their lodge and that the lodge was about to fold. Director Langsted pointed out that one member can't dissolve a lodge. Anytime such a request is received in Omaha, the Secretary-Treasurer sends a letter to all members of the lodge asking for their opinion; so it is not that simple to dissolve a lodge. The question was raised if several lodges had requested to be dissolved. The answer was no, but if it should happen in a district, Omaha would be very concerned about it and would also try to do something about it. A lengthy discussion took place about lodges in trouble and what the G.C.E.L. District can do to help. No solution to the problem was found.

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The secretary read two letters; one from the National Board of Directors signed by Robert Ibsen and one from the Home Office staff signed by Jerome Christensen, Secretary-Treasurer. Both letters expressed greetings and wishes for a successful convention.

The question of whether or not to have a Hospitality Room at the National Convention was brought on the floor. All agreed that it was important to have one but some expressed concern about the financial aspect of it. Georg Olesen reported that the expenses for the Hospitality Room at the 1983 National Convention was approximately \$500. However, this expense was shared with the host Lodge No. 172 and no suits involved. This year the expenses will probably be much less for snacks and refreshments, but overall more because of the room we will need. Motions were made and approved to have a Hospitality Room and each lodge was asked for a donation toward the expenses.

Brother Harry Jensen expressed concern about not enough activity for the younger members. Brother Clay said the California-Nevada District has some good programs and we also have the Young Vikings. Any help we will need is available from our Fraternal Director, Pam Dorau, who has many excellent youth programs for both lodges and districts. He also said that "talk is not enough, you must do something about it." Several good ideas were expressed by the delegates. Harry Jensen was asked if he would accept the job as Youth Director, reporting to the incoming President. He accepted and assured us that he will do his best. The President thanked him and a big applause was given to him.

The President asked for an invitation for the 1987 convention. John Christiansen, the delegate from Lodge No. 314, Hartford, invited us on behalf of his lodge to have the next convention in Hartford, which was accepted.

Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, Erling Braumann, announced that Linda Malmquist was the winner of the 1986-87 scholarship.

The election of officers then took place with the following results: Past President, Carl Spencer; President, Waldo J. Elliott; Vice President, Norman O. Hanson; Secretary, Georg T. Olesen; Treasurer, Robert Phoenix; Trustee, Chris Simonsen; Alternate Secretary, Sharon Lunde; and Alternate Treasurer, Al Miner.

A special tribute was made to Aage Jespersen who had only missed one G.C.E.L. meeting since its start in 1925. Also, a special tribute was made to the late

Harry Jensen, Sr., a regular at the G.C.E.L. conventions. We shall all miss him.  
**Georg T. Olesen**, Sec.

**Lodge #116, Newark, NJ** — A Law Committee was elected on September 12, 1986, at our regular meeting. The six members are as follows: John Jensen, Carl Ingeholm, Paul Iversen, Viggo Nielsen, John Madsen, and Oluf Olsen.

At our October meeting, a slate of officers was presented for 1987. They are as follows: President, Oluf Olsen and Carl Wilhjelm; Vice President, Paul Iversen; Secretary, Don Heckmann; Treasurer, Viggo Nielsen; Trustees, Carl Ingeholm, Chris Mogensen, and Ib Olsen; and Conductor, John Jensen.

**Donald Heckmann**, Sec.

**Lodge #172, Philadelphia, PA** — We would like to thank Harley Larsen for sharing with us the bottle of Akvavit at our last meeting which he received from the people aboard a Danish ship.

We've had very good member turnouts so far this winter season. Let's see even more of you this month!

**Niels Malmquist**, Cor.

**Lodge #190, Schenectady, NY** — At our August 20th combined business and birthday meeting it was great to have birthday brothers Roy Fynboe from Binghamton, New York, Doug Yauchler and Arnold Anderson present.

Guests at this meeting were Bob Nelson and Irv Jensen from Troy Lodge No. 183.

At our September 3rd meeting, a Law Committee was elected consisting of the following members: Lawrence L. Barry, Olin Yauchler, Norman Hanson, Willy Willendrup, Harold Hansen, Peter Nielsen, and Carl Christiansen. The Law Committee selected Olin Yauchler as our delegate to the National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, beginning September 24, 1987. Norman Hansen is first alternate, Carl Christiansen is second alternate and Peter Nielsen is the third alternate.

Our lodge was deeply saddened at the death of our Secretary, George E. Severson, on August 22, 1986. Brother George was a member of the DBIA for over 32 years. George was a past president as well as current secretary. We shall miss George's wise counseling and insight at lodge affairs but most of all, we shall miss a true friend.

At the October 15th birthday meeting, our waitress Laurie was absent. Since this left chef Dick Seib shorthanded, Brothers Capt. Kaye Sorenson, Glen Nissen, Pete Nielsen and Jim Anderson pitched right in

and helped serve the dinner. Our thanks to these brothers.

Brother Carl Christiansen donated a poker table to the brothers who enjoy this activity. Thanks Carl.

Visiting Brother Bob Nelson of Troy Lodge No. 183, who is a member of the N.Y. Telephone Employees Pioneer Club, presented President Larry Barry with the Chapter President's Certificate of Appreciation. This was for helping in their fund raising program for the Statue of Liberty Centennial Restoration. Thank you Bob.

President Larry Barry appointed a nominating committee for 1987 officers of Norm Hanson and Pete Nielsen.

**Lawrence Barry, Pres.**

**Lodge #294, Barre, VT** — Our lodge was saddened by the death of our member, Gregg A. Thygesen, who died in an automobile accident on August 30, 1986, at the age of 24.

Gregg graduated from Spaulding High School in 1980, the year the hockey team won the state championship. He also played on the baseball and soccer teams. In 1981, he graduated from the Vermont Academy at Saxtons River. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont in 1985.

An athletic scholarship fund in his memory has been established at Spaulding High School.

#### **PRESIDENT'S AWARD SINGLE SOCIAL ACTIVITY**

**Lodge #325, Nassau County, NY** — November was an active month in our lodge history. At our regular meeting on November 14, Evelyn Jensen was initiated into our lodge. Welcome Evelyn. We had a great exhibit of arts and crafts by our talented members. Also, we had a pleasant time making Christmas decorations. The instructor was Carol Rasmussen. Thank you, Carol. Elna Jamison and Vivi Hansen, with the help from the Rohls and volunteers, put on a two course smorgasbord. Seventy members and guests attended our meeting.

A similar number of people attended Lodge No. 325's 60th anniversary. Special guests were National Director, Erling Braumann, and Waldo J. Elliott, President of the G.C.E.L. District. After a welcome speech by our President, Raymond Andreasen, Carol Rasmussen led us in singing the American and Danish anthems. Waldo Elliott brought greetings from the G.C.E.L. District and Erling Braumann delivered a 10-foot long speech with the words "Happy 60th Anniversary." In some well chosen words, he added the

congratulations from the Home Office.

During the evening, a song written in 1926 by Jakob Enemark for our lodge's first dinner dance, was performed. The highlight of the evening was the presentation to Birgit Jacobsen of an award thanking her for 20 years of devotion and service to our lodge.

The lodge was not the only one to celebrate. One of our oldest members and former president, Hans Juergensen, was presented with grandchild number 31. Steven Carsten was born to Arthur and Elsa Juergensen on November 16. Not only does Hans have 31 grandchildren, he also has 21 great grandchildren.

**Niels B. Hansen, Sec.**

**Lodge #342, Bucks County, PA** — Thanks to Ulla Pedersen and her helpers for a delicious smørrebrød in October.

Our Danish phrase for the evening was "Den Lille Havfrue," very appropriate because that was the fairy tale told to us by Hans Christian Andersen (Bente Ferguson). Bente, we heard people remark that you missed your calling, and we have to agree with them. You truly held us spellbound and we'd like to hear some more!

At our October meeting, a nominating committee to recommend a slate of officers for 1987 was chosen. Members include Tage Kvist, Bob Lindeman and Niels Malmquist.

Our new historian, Jules Jensen, is doing a fantastic job presenting photo albums and scrapbooks depicting our 11 years of existence. If you have any pictures, written notes, etc., that are applicable, please submit them to Jules complete with names and dates.

**Niels Malmquist, Cor.**

### **Charity is Declared**

In the December, 1986 issue of the **American Dane**, Harry Mikkelsen of Lodge No. 294 in Barre, Vermont, was declared "Recommender of the Month" for October, 1986. Keeping with the membership campaign of "It's Better To Give Than To Receive," Mr. Mikkelsen has donated his award of \$50 to the Gregg Thygesen Athletic Scholarship Fund.

This athletic scholarship fund was established in memory of Gregg Thygesen who passed away at the age of 24 as a result of a tragic automobile accident. Gregg was a star hockey player at Spaulding High School and the University of Vermont. Mr. Thygesen was also a member of the Danish Brotherhood in America.

Harry is to be saluted for enlarging our chain of Danish Brotherhood in America members!

## **1987 National DBIA Bowling Tournament**

All lodge presidents and secretaries have been forwarded rules and entry forms regarding the 1987 National DBIA Handicap Bowling Tournament. The dates for bowling are between March 1, 1987 and June 1, 1987.

Prize money will be awarded for the 20 highest teams, high men's individual game, high men's individual series, high women's team, high women's individual game, and high women's individual series.

The winning Young Viking team will be awarded a certificate to avoid conflict with eligibility requirements for school athletics.

All teams may be mixed, but all participants must be members of the Danish Brotherhood. A lodge may enter one or more teams. No entry fee or expense is connected with this tournament other than the fee charged by the bowling establishment.

## **Get To Know Denmark**

Here is an idea how to get to know a little more about Denmark, Scandinavia, and Europe, to mix with interesting and informed people from all over the world and to get a unique insight into one of Denmark's most attractive areas.

Just opened in the beautiful medieval town of Svendborg, on the island of Fyn, is IUC - the International Education Centre. Built to high standards throughout, the Centre can accommodate up to 300. The aim of the Centre is to provide the opportunity for all forms of international understanding and co-operation, by giving people from all over the world the chance to meet each other, to discuss the issues of the day, to try to put meaning to the notion of an increasingly interdependent world.

Details of this exciting new development in Svendborg are available from the Director, IUC, Vestegarde 45, 5700 Svendborg, Denmark. Telephone from USA - 01145 9 21 66 99.

## **Payment to Board Members**

DECEMBER 1986

Robert E. Ibsen, salary, \$257.00.

#### **JANUARY ASSESSMENT**

##### **NUMBER 1051**

is Due and Payable to the  
Lodge Treasurer

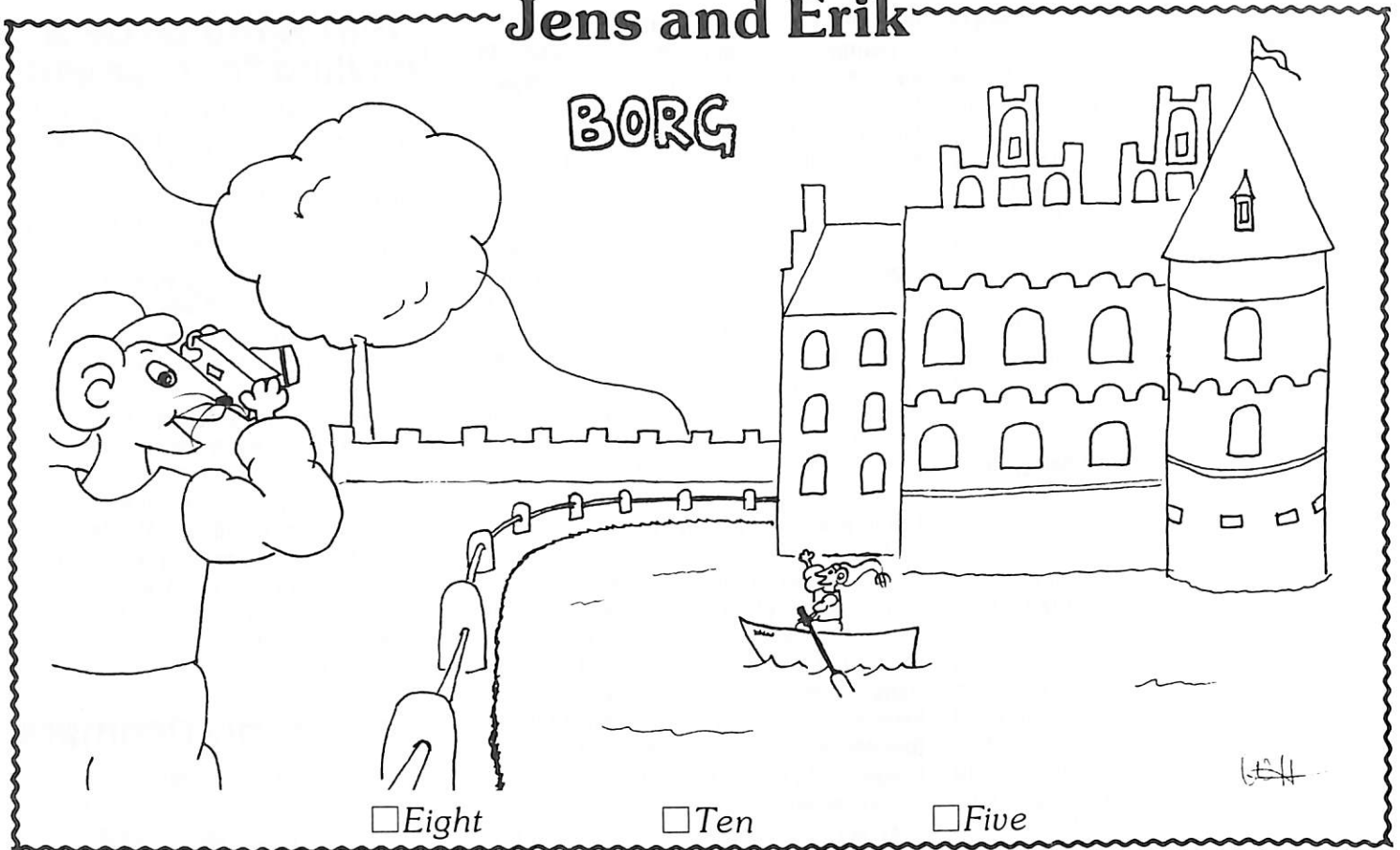
**January 1, 1987**

and Must Be Paid Before

**February 1, 1987**

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

# Jens and Erik



Jens takes a picture of Erik in front of one of the many castles in Denmark. This one is called "Egeskov on Funen." It is built right in the water! Can you say castle (BORG) in Danish? Next month is Erik's first "Round Birthday." These are big birthday celebrations in Denmark. Can you guess how old Erik will be? Check one of the boxes above if you think you know the correct answer.

Then send your entry to the Danish Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131. Be sure to include your name, address and date of birth. You do not have to be a member of the DBIA to win. Four prizes are awarded every month, one for each of the following age groups: 2-4, 5-7, 8-9, and 10-12.

**December winners: Andrew Hartman, Vanessa Grimston, and Lorie Jacobsen.**

## Grandma's Kitchen



by Dagmar Jensen

### Sigtebrød (Rye Bread)

1 yeast cake	2½ cups milk
4 cups rye flour	2 tsp. salt
4 cups white flour	

Dissolve yeast in a small amount of the milk. Combine flours, salt and milk and beat in dissolved yeast. Let rise overnight. In the morning, knead in a little more flour, form into loaves. Let rise again, brush with milk and bake in a 400° oven for about one hour.

\*2 tsp. caraway seeds may be kneaded into dough if desired.

## The Howard E. Christensen Award

The Howard E. Christensen Award will again be presented by the Danish Brotherhood in 1987 to an individual in recognition of dedication, outstanding service and accomplishment to our society. To qualify, the award winner must be a member in good standing of the Danish Brotherhood in America.

Nomination forms, along with guidelines and procedures have been forwarded to your Lodge President and Secretary. The National Headquarters is looking forward to securing at least one nomination form from every lodge by the new deadline of **February 15, 1987.**

The award winner will receive an engraved plaque and will be recognized in the **American Dane**. An additional plaque will reside at the National Headquarters to which the winner's name will be added each year. Also, the award winner will automatically be nominated for the National Fraternal Congress of America's "Fraternalist of the Year" Award.

For further information, contact your local Lodge President or Secretary or the Danish Brotherhood in America, National Headquarters, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68131.

# Viking Adventures

Coming Together — A Beginning      Keeping Together — Progress  
Working Together — Success

## Help the Danish Brotherhood Help the Hungry



**Bring canned goods and other food to:**

**The Danish Brotherhood in America**

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
3717 HARNEY STREET  
OMAHA, NE 68131

To learn how your lodge can become involved in our newest fraternal endeavor please refer to the "President's Page" by National President Robert E. Ibsen on page 4.

# Having a Party, Membership Dinner or Banquet?

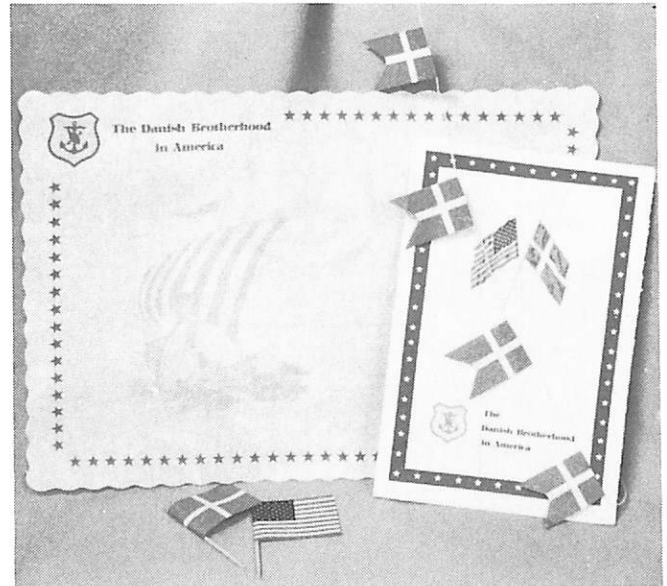
If so, don't forget the supplies the Danish Brotherhood has to offer. Besides Danish flag garlands, Danish and American toothpick flags, DBIA placemats, and DBIA menu covers; other items are available such as DBIA nylon name tags and 4x6" Danish and American nylon flags with stands.

**For a price list contact:**

The Danish Brotherhood in America



3717 Harney Street  
Omaha, NE 68131



**Ask about ordering supplies on consignment!**

USPS 148-180

**POSTMASTER: IF UNDELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED, NOTIFY US PROMPTLY ON FORM 3579.**

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 _____
Mail To: <b>The Danish Brotherhood in America</b> <b>P.O. Box 31748, 3717 Harney Street</b> <b>Omaha, NE 68131</b>	_____ name _____ age _____

**Dated Material  
Do Not Delay**

MOLLERSKOV JOHN 4-3076  
1407 OAKDALE AVE  
RACINE WI 53406