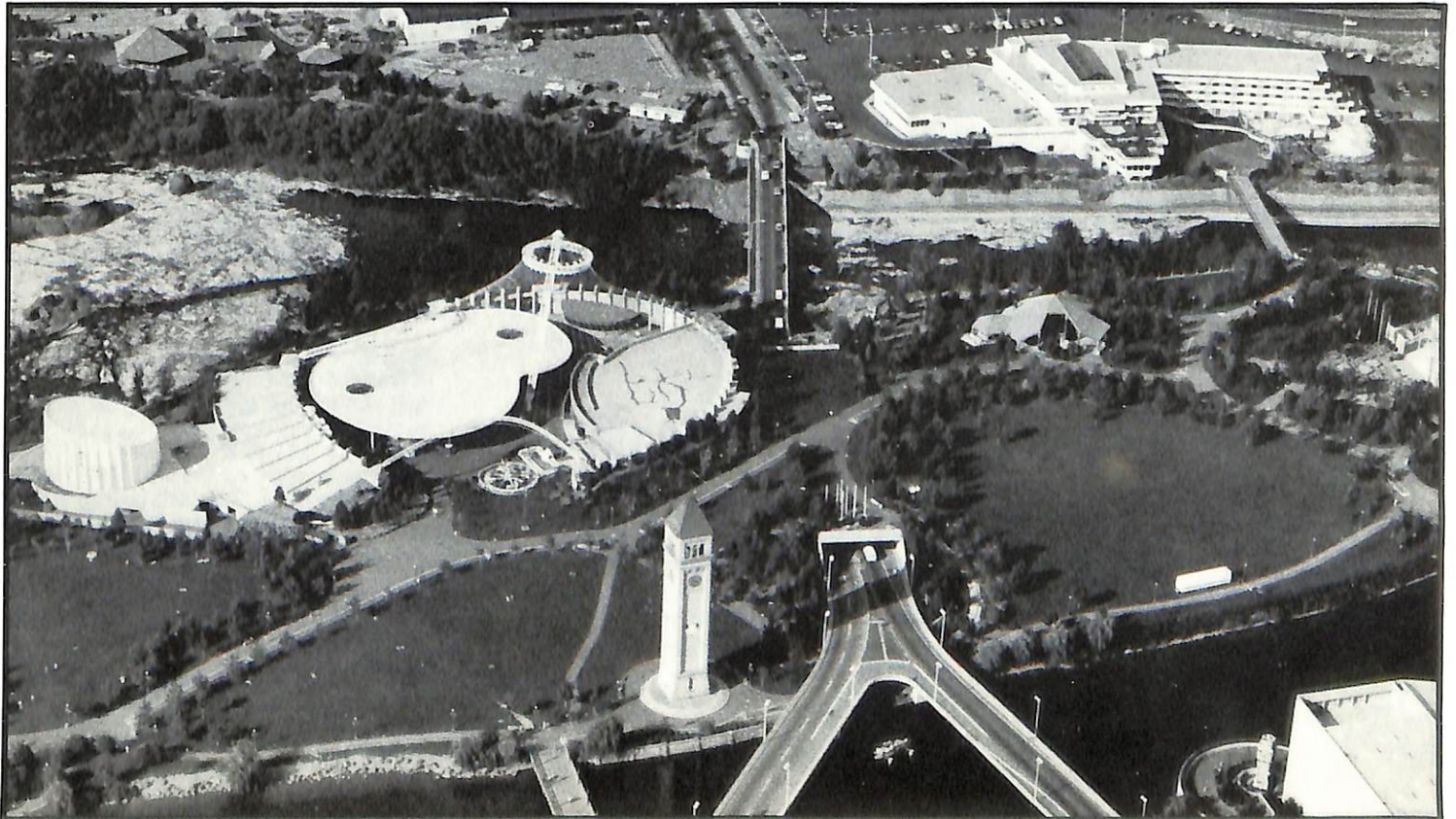


American Dane

August 1989



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



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American Dane

magazine



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Denmark Our Heritage - America Our Home

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VOLUME LXXIII

AUGUST 1989

NUMBER 8

Cover photo: Thanks to Lodge No. 42 in Spokane, Washington, for supplying the photographs of their fine city. Sites include: the lovely tranquil calm of the Japanese Gardens found in Manito Park enjoyed by three ladies on the city's south side; and beautiful Riverfront Park, the legacy of the 1974 World's Fair, located in the heart of Spokane.



President's Page

Clyde R. Langsted
National President

An important event occurred recently at the home office in Omaha which I will briefly review for your information. Jerry Christensen, our Secretary-Treasurer in collaboration with Pamela Dorau and Andy Andersen have collectively put their heads together and developed what we will commonly call a "Five Year Plan" for the Danish Brotherhood in America. Each department within the home office will contribute to the overall goals that have been established. A timetable and affirmative action plans will be an integral part. The plan, in itself, is very comprehensive and has been completely reviewed by the Board of Directors who have given it their unanimous support.

A synopsis of the plan has been presented to the Pacific Northwest and Michigan-Ohio district conventions with both groups going on record as supporting the concept. All other district conventions will have an opportunity to hear about the plan and I urge all of you who did not attend your district meeting to ask your delegate representatives for a report. In any event the plan will be covered in a later edition of the American Dane.

I don't mind telling you that it is important that all of us as members of the oldest Scandinavian fraternal benefit society in the United States (our Danish Brotherhood) make a decision now for our future and decide that it is high time to improve our society and do whatever it takes to ensure the continuance of our organization. As we initiate members we advise them that ours is an organization "steeped in a proud legacy of friendship, customs, service and heritage" and we ask them to continue in that tradition. Fine, but it is also up to us. "We aim to strengthen the ties of friendship and understanding. . ." yet we still have factions within lodges that will not support another part of lodge membership! Why? We still have lodges that simply refuse to consider becoming a family oriented unit! Why? We still have lodges that do not want new membership! Why? We still have senior members who continue to drive new, energetic younger members from the lodge system! Not even giving them a chance! Why? We still have many individuals who have perceptions of what is wrong and who are eager to criticize yet cannot come up with constructive ideas upon which to build or improve! Why? We have many lodges within close proximity of one another who will not extend their support and say, "let's go beyond our differences and work together for the betterment of both our lodges!" Why? Our very future, yes our survival, depends upon an attitude change, not only by those of us whom you have elected as your leadership but by the general membership as a whole and in particular, those I have previously mentioned. I feel that our new Five Year Plan is an opportunity to do just that but it is more than mere words. It will require deeds by the membership to commit to our future and show others that we do care.

So, we are in the process of building, some may call it rebuilding. We have a tremendous foundation, the timbers are strong and the architects have drawn us a magnificent set of plans. We'll need a lot of nails and good mortar to put it all together. All we need now is a good contract and right builders and the job should be done. With that I am asking all of you to enter into a contract with us to see that the job does get done in a first rate way and that our ultimate building project is something we can stand back and look upon with collective pride. How about it, members?

I have mentioned several times of using a soap-box from time to time and you guessed it! I just climbed down off of it again! We are entering a new era for the Danish Brotherhood and I hope you will march along side with the rest of us.

In August of 1988 I mentioned about stimulating membership but at the same time did not necessarily wanting to make a forum of either this page or the American Dane magazine. Well, a year has past and some things have changed. Supposing you were President of the Danish Brotherhood? It is becoming an awesome but rewarding responsibility. Do you have any thoughts about your organization, good or bad, pro or con (and with that I refer to constructive) or things you would like to see done differently? I would truly like to hear from you in this regard. Don't be bashful. Send me a note or letter as I would like to use some of your comments in a future edition. Naturally I would appreciate knowing who you are but for the purpose of publication, anonymity is the word should you wish it that way. I think that once in a while we could use a national forum for our organization, beyond the convention(s). I realize that our lodges in action columns give many of the high points of lodge activities but I would like to go beyond that. I would like to know what the individual member thinks and this just might be the opportunity to learn that and, perhaps, have a chance to hear both sides of an issue for a change. It should prove interesting. Then, again, it might be the last time!

As we get full swing into summer please remember Operation Care and Share. I continue to read of the many good things that lodges are doing in this endeavor. Remember, also, travel and play carefully for the rest of the summer as I want you to be able to read future American Dane magazines.

I would like to compliment Lodge No. 268, Junction City, Oregon, who recently voted to expand their membership requirements and begin to process toward building a family lodge. Congratulations, brothers!

It is with deepest regrets that I must close this column by offering our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Elizabeth Garde, National Vice President of the Danish Sisterhood of America. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband, Erik, and her children and grandchildren. Honor to her memory.

1989 DBIA Bowling Tournament Results

Lodge	Team	Score	Handicap	Total	Award
45	Minneapolis Vikings	2513	561	3074	\$100 1
51	A-Team	2657	396	3053	75 2
34	Go Nads	2531	510	3041	60 3
283	Lowell Valley Raiders	2579	459	3038	45 4
51	Rich's Rockets	2706	330	3036	40 5
51	Old Timers	2596	384	2980	35 6
95	Hot Shot Danes	2208	771	2979	33 7
341	Men's Team	2421	549	2970	30 8*
34	Pin Busters	2457	513	2970	30 8*
51	Tuna's Thompers	2591	357	2948	27 9*
14	Wisconsin Gas	2483	465	2948	27 9*
95	Swing Mixers	2147	801	2948	27 9*
227	Team #1	2394	549	2943	25 10
34	Dis-N-Dat	2354	561	2915	24 11
34	Herman's Hermits	2294	585	2879	23 12
34	Bad News Strikers	2426	432	2858	22 13
14	Accurate Printing	2314	543	2857	21 14
227	Team #5	2282	549	2831	20 15
14	Ipsen's Service	2311	519	2830	19 16
51	Genia Rollers	2258	570	2828	18 17
186	Lucky Danes	2089	729	2818	17 18
283	North Dagmar King Pins	2351	456	2807	16 19
34	Pony Express Riders	2372	432	2804	15 20
341	Mixed #1	2194	609	2803	21
227	Team #3	2065	735	2800	22
143	Petaluma #2	2345	417	2762	23
219	Inner Guards	1789	957	2746	24
227	Team #4	2090	654	2744	25*
227	Team #2	2102	642	2744	25*
143	Petaluma #3	2045	693	2738	26
345	Danish Dolls	1938	792	2730	27
143	Petaluma #1	2356	369	2725	28
341	Mixed #2	2172	552	2724	29
34	The Great Danes	2060	639	2699	30
14	Duke's Hot Shots	2144	507	2651	31
14	Town & Country Liquor	2160	483	2643	32
14	Kenosha Metal Products	2220	420	2640	33
143	Petaluma Gals	1820	819	2639	34
345	Great Danes	2114	510	2624	35
34	Handy Five	1953	651	2604	36
14	Hager's	2026	546	2572	37
219	Outer Guards	1217	1170	2387	38

Women

Top Women's Team

345—Danish Dolls 1938 792 2730 \$100

Women's Individual High Game

34—Donna Hoegger 216 28 244 25

Women's Individual High Series

95—Sharon McClendon 496 144 640 25

Men

Men's Individual High Game

51—Dave Wikarejczak 262 26 288 \$ 25

Men's Individual High Series

51—Mike Bray 612 66 678 25

Young Vikings

Young Vikings Top Team

95—Ferndale Young Vikings 1440


Young Vikings Individual High Game

95—Tony DeNune 130

Young Vikings Individual High Series

95—Tony DeNune 364

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2. The Graduate Fraternal Benefit — protects the graduating son or daughter of any insured member of the Danish Brotherhood in America with a \$1,000 death benefit, if death occurs within 120 days of graduation from High School, College, University, Vocational or Technical School. At the end of 120 days, the graduate is guaranteed the issuance of a \$5,000 permanent life insurance certificate, without evidence of insurability, at standard rates.



3. The Newlywed Fraternal Benefit — protects the recently married son or daughter of any insured member of the Danish Brotherhood in America with a \$1,000 death benefit, if death occurs within 120 days of marriage. At the end of 120 days, the newlywed is guaranteed the issuance of a \$5,000 permanent life insurance certificate, without evidence of insurability, at standard rates.

The Family Fraternal Benefit Series are noncontractual benefits and may be modified or eliminated at any time by the DBIA National Board of Directors, without notice.

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A Foreigner in Denmark

by Dan Whitman

It came as good news when they told me in Washington that I was to be sent to Denmark. Not that I knew much about the place at the time. Handsome women, Kierkegaard, cheese (or was that Holland?), the welfare state, long winter nights, suicide and prosperity. That was about all.

After living here for two years, I see that Denmark has been good to me. At times I have even contemplated taking up the Dannebrog as my own. But this cannot be. Denmark is not my country, and I know I will remain a foreigner as long as I am here.

When I arrived I found much here to admire — the people's good health and generally good disposition, their good teeth, their persistence as readers. Unsurpassed in my travels and lives elsewhere, is the beauty of the Danish coast on a brightly lit October afternoon.

The weather, well, that is another matter. It is no one's fault, really. The summer of 1988 may go down in history as Denmark's finest, but no one lives in the illusion that it will go on that way. My theory is that the weather has a lot to do with Danes' even tempers. Watch the faces of the bicycle riders: in the gloom of winter they go stolid and courageous, knowing that in time things will get better. On the brightest summer or fall afternoons they stare blankly at the horizon, apparently blind to the glorious light around them — knowing that in time things will get worse.

If the weather was always like summer, 1988, then it wouldn't be Denmark.

The even keel, the flat horizon. It is what so much of Denmark

is about. For the outsider, becoming conditioned is like adjusting the eyes to the dark: nuances crop up, distinctions one had never perceived before. The subtle color changes in autumn, the power of the beautiful Danish sky, noticed only after giving up on the unrelenting horizon; the soft irony of the Danish humor; the shades of grey that begin to seem like color once one gets used to them — these become pleasures to the connoisseur.

Turning confusion to pleasure is what it is all about, finding one's bearings in a new place. I invite you to walk with me as I reflect over how Denmark strikes the newcomer.

Do Danes Have An Inferiority Complex?

We sat around tables set up outdoors and roasted our own fish and meat over an open fire. A man seated across from me at my table spotted my accent as I spoke Danish and asked contemptuously, "Are you Swedish, or what?"

"American," I said.

"That's one of the worst things one can be," he responded, leaving little ground for retreat, either for me or himself.

"Oh, you know, it's not as bad as all that," I said. But he only frowned. We had little to say to each other after that but fortunately it did not matter, as there were others to talk to at my table.

What was the man's problem? I imagine he wanted to remember and somehow defend who he was, fearing he might forget or lose track otherwise.

Like all civilized people, Danes have a good dose of self

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criticism. Self criticism is the only way a society can improve itself. But sometimes Danes overdo it. It can come out as the defensiveness of my table-mate. Or it can appear more directly, as expressions of a humble image of Denmark's place in the world. When I have gymnasium students to the Embassy, the same terms always seem to come up: "superpower," "east-west conflict," "it doesn't matter." They seem bashful, as if somehow they were not entitled to have opinions of their own.

And yet, think of how the outside world respects and envies this sturdy realm! "Like a Dane in Denmark," goes the line in the poem, because everyone (except Danes) seems to know how secure and enviable Danes are in their identity and culture.

Denmark is the oldest politically intact country in Europe, and the wealthiest in the EC; it has an internationally respected cinema; it is educated and speaks many languages; it attracts scholars from distant lands to study and interpret its writers; the architects are sought after in Australia, France and Saudi Arabia; the development projects often succeed where the larger donor countries' fail.

Does the Danish nation need growth hormones? Should Danish culture spend some time on the psychiatrist's couch for inferiority counseling? Nonsense. Think of how big the planet Jupiter is, and think whether you would want to live there.

The Danish Language

It took awhile in studying the Danish language before I realized that Danish is not only a language, but also a country's defense against invaders. Maybe in fact it ought to be figured in as part of the burden-sharing on NATO payments.

Lacking unapproachable coastlines, inhibiting mountains, impassable rivers or searing deserts, the Viking ancestors designed a language to confuse, discourage and repel any enemy stepping onto the hallowed Danish soil.

At first I thought it would be simple. I found out that Danish nouns had no gender, but only something called "impersonal" and "personal." It was going to be as logical and reasonable as putting herring on rye bread.

Then as I studied, I found I was constantly hitting my nose against the Danish language wall. The wall wasn't exactly solid — more like a hazy smoke screen. I came to understand how those well-meaning invaders must have felt over the centuries, and sympathized with those who decided to give up and go back home.

For example, there is this thing in Danish called the *stød*. I learned about it from the start, but found that no person or book could explain it; in fact I never even heard it during the first six months of my struggle with the language.

The *stød* makes altos of all 15-year-old girls, baritones of all 45-year-olds, and Russian basses of the 60-year-olds. By closing the throat it violates principles of *bel canto*, and prevents singers from being heard even in a shower without the water running.

The advantage of the *stød* is that if you vow blood revenge or declare love in Danish and then later you regret it, you can always claim you never said it.

One thing is clear as you overhear conversations on the buses, in the cafes, at the stores and movie houses: no one understands anyone else. As a foreigner I took encouragement in learning the rich vocabulary of incomprehension, the "hvad behager," "hvad siger du," "beklager," "undskyld," "hvad for noget," or just "hva. . ." of exasperation. I thought, there is justice after all: the language meant to confuse newcomers has turned against its creators' descendants as well.

It is small consolation. I met another foreigner once who

swears that the Danish language once saved him from suicide: better to stick it out, he decided one sleepless night, than live under the threat of ever having to learn Danish all over again in a future reincarnation.

Danish Hospitality

All nations consider hospitality important. Without exception, every Dane I have discussed the matter with has told me that Danes are inhospitable and cold to the outsider. Also without exception, every Dane who has told me this did so while engaging in a gesture of hospitality or warmth towards me. The Danish hospitality, thank God, is unlike other types which require instant intimacy on the part of the guest. Danes do not claim to be a person's best friend after only ten minutes — hurrah! — a feature which inspires me to wave the Dannebrog high.

Long after I have left Denmark, I will remember the eloquent toasts on dark winter evenings, the good-natured children with their thoughtful questions, the candle light evoking former, simpler eras. I will always protest against those who claim that other nations offer better hospitality than Danes.

There is the other side to it, which is the "hospitality" one pays for at a restaurant. It doesn't always work.

Only once did I ever make a scene. It was a sunny day, and I sat at a sidewalk table. I asked for a *salade nicoise*, thinking it would be the easiest and quickest item. After a quarter of an hour I was still waiting, and I asked for bread. The waitress told me, "It will come with your meal."

But the meal did not come. A half hour later I walked to the waitress again and asked for bread a second time. Maybe I had back luck in restaurants: still no meal, still no bread. After another quarter of an hour I went wearily to cancel my order and go back to work hungry.

When the owner overheard my cancellation he asked why, and the waitress interrupted, "It wasn't my fault, it was the kitchen. . ." The owner screamed at the waitress, the waitress at the cook. (The absent ones are always wrong.) I am afraid I caused a noisy scandal, and tried to back out of the place before food and plates began flying back and forth.

As I walked back to work, resigned to fast that day because I had run out of lunch time, the restaurant owner followed me down the street with a *salade nicoise* in his hand, offered gratis.

I did not mean to awaken any inner shame in him but perhaps that was the effect. As I guess it would be with any true Dane when it comes to hospitality. Because I maintain that Danish hospitality always lies just below the surface to awaken, like Holger Danske, when it really matters.

The Royal Family

I was talking with a Danish journalist, remarking that in America we have film and sports stars, singers, miscellaneous cultural types like the late Andy Warhol, who figure prominently in the news. How do Danish journalists manage, I asked, without such subjects to write about?

"We have the Royal Family," my colleague answered without hesitating.

Danish politicians argue themselves to exhaustion on a host of subjects, but let up when it comes to the Royal Family. Despite the egalitarianism which in Denmark goes deeper in some ways than in America, everyone here seems to agree that one family ought to enjoy more privileges than all others.

How is it that there is only one person and institution in the realm no one ever criticizes?

I can tell you: it is because of the present Queen, Her Majesty

Margrethe. She is charming, she is gracious, she speaks my native language better than most of my compatriots, and French, to boot. She is accessible, she helps the arts and even is an artist, herself. If it is possible to be enamored of a nation by falling for a single person within that nation, then Margrethe makes this happen.

With me it was love at first sight. I joined a chorus called Lille Muko a couple of autumns ago. We were to sing Danish religious songs at Fredensborg in a private audience for Her Majesty and a few others.

In rehearsal, the other singers talked ironically about their task of singing for their Queen. They joked, as if doing this concert had no special importance to them. But I could tell they were excited by the prospect. Maybe some of their irony was directed at me, as they figured I might "see through" some empty cultural value.

On the contrary, I became the most committed monarchist as Margrethe walked in that evening and opened her program to follow the words as we sang them. The music was repetitive and a little boring, I think. But Her Majesty sat absorbed, with the notes in hand, scanning them intelligently and, at points, forming the words with her lips. She was elegant, she was dignified. She seemed, somehow, the cleverest possible guardian of the national character, as she is every January 1.

The problem with Margrethe is that Danes have her as their own, while the rest of us only get to admire her from afar.

Danish Tai Chi

We have all been through it: you are double parked outside a florist shop, on your way to dinner. You need a green plant to present to the hostess when you arrive, because in Denmark you might as well arrive to a dinner naked, as empty-handed.

The florist is engaged in conversation with the only other customer in the shop, and it seems as if the two are intent on reviewing every aspect of their lives before the florist gets to you. They compare schools they've been to, neighbors they might possibly know in common. They find they are like-minded on subjects such as the weather and recent election. It would be a pleasure to listen to them, if only you weren't in a hurry yourself.

You wait patiently at first, but in vain. You imagine that your dry mouth and the 100-kroner bill in your hand would turn the attention of the florist in your direction, but no. He wraps the other customer's bouquet slowly, artfully, dressing the paper with original flourishes and ribbons and bows. Nothing, not the changes in seasons nor the drifting of global power shifts, could wake him from his reverie or speed him along in the process. Perhaps he is brain dead, you say to yourself as your despair increases.

It is Danish Tai Chi, the pace of life in the capital. No other Western city can match it. Don't bother commenting on it to people, you will only get a condescending reminder of the Danish national slogan: **bare rolig**.

Americans, Frenchmen, Italians are driven to distraction by it. They look at one another in disbelief as they hear Danes talk of stress in their lives. "Stress? I'll show you stress," they say.

For me, time is a precious and disappearing resource. Danes seem to see it differently, displacing arms, legs, heads with exquisite slowness, as do the Chinese when performing the ancient art of Tai Chi.

It goes against my grain, makes me want to stomp and scream. I have to admit, though: the florist will probably live a lot longer than I will.

Maybe if I stay on long enough in this country, I'll come across a nervous visitor some day and have the wisdom to say, "Easy,

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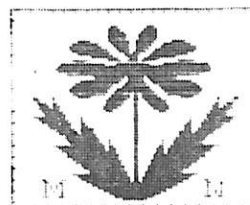
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easy. What isn't done today will be done the next day. Behave like a Dane, and avoid egg yolks, and you'll never get heart disease. Believe me, you'll thank yourself for it later.'

When My Friends Visit

When I get visitors from home, it is not easy deciding what to show here. Many of Denmark's buildings, streets, museums, and people are decorative enough, but they do not really reveal themselves at first sight. Perhaps it is not the things one sees, but the way of seeing, which makes Denmark what it is.

"Show me the policeman taking ducks across the street," my visitors seem to want to say, but of course they know better. I take them to Langelinie and watch their disappointment as they realize the melancholic girl with the bronze head transplant is actually the Little Mermaid. "Is that all?" they say incredulously. "What did you expect, Lenin's Tomb?" I ask.

Yes, there are the wonderful places to see. Tivoli, Frilandsmuseet, Louisiana (particularly that room overlooking the water, where visitors are always inspired to silence), Kunstindustrimuseet and my favorite of all, a little one called Teatermuseet at Christiansborg.

But I always feel a little sorry for my visitors who get to see only those sites. The really important things I fear they miss, like for example the way Sortedamssossering looked one December

morning as I walked across Dronning Louises Bro and saw the early morning sunlight reflected in the double windows across the water. Or the way the sky broods over my friend Palle's farm in Northern Sjælland when a rainstorm is gathering in late spring.

Only in Copenhagen can you see a lone pedestrian stop obediently for a red light on an abandoned street at 2:00 in the morning during a snowstorm. And they say New Yorkers get used to seeing everything! A few of my visitors have caught such a sight, and have never recovered.

One section of Copenhagen where most Americans feel at home is Vesterbro — if they are ever lucky enough to find it. Why? Heterogeneity. Other folks, mixed populations, life in the street. It may not always seem so, but in fact Americans generally like newcomers. Maybe because they know they all were newcomers themselves, once.

But, of all secrets of Danish culture, the one best kept is the bread. It is the finest in the world, even though the world has not yet recognized it. I am normally opposed to the death penalty, but I would make an exception in the case of whoever packed some sugar and chemicals into a cellophane wrapper in the U.S. and called it "Danish."

(The writer is Press Attache at the U.S. Embassy in Copenhagen)

Three Friends

A Danish Folk Tale by Beverly Swerdlow Brown

ONCE UPON A TIME in a forest lived a deer, a woodpecker in a tree and in the mud near a lake, a turtle.

They were all friends.

One day, a hunter came by. He saw the footprints of the deer and went to set a trap of strong leather thongs.

At dusk, when the deer went down to the lake to drink he got caught in the trap. The leather thongs held his foot and he cried out: "FRIENDS! HELP ME! I'M CAUGHT IN A TRAP!"

The woodpecker flew down from her branch.

The turtle came out of his mud bath as fast as he could.

They both were there to help their friend, the deer.

"My teeth are sharp," said the turtle. "I will bite through the leather thongs."

All night long he continued to bite with his sharp teeth, but he still had a long way to go.

When daylight came, he said to the deer, "I have cut through one of the thongs. I have two more to bite through. The hunter will be here soon. I need more time."

The woodpecker thought about that. "I will go and try to keep the hunter from coming back."

Soon, she saw the hunter's front door open. He walked out holding a knife in his hand.

The woodpecker saw this and flew into the hunter's face and struck him with her beak and wings.

"I must go back home," said the hunter. "I shall have bad luck if I go on now."

Later, he got up and took his knife.

"This time, I will go out the back door," he said, "so that I will not have bad luck again."

But the woodpecker was waiting for him and swooped down and flew into his face and struck him with her beak and wings.

"I must go back home," said the hunter. "I shall have bad luck if I go on now."

So he went back into his house and fell asleep.

When he awoke, he took his bow and arrow as well as his knife.

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"If I meet bad luck this time," he said, "I will be ready."

When the woodpecker saw the bow and arrow she flew quickly to her friends.

"The hunter is on his way!" she cried to them.

The turtle had cut the deer's foot free from all the thongs but one. Blood was on the turtle's mouth. He grew weak from fatigue, but he still bit at the last thong of leather.

The deer saw the hunter coming out of the woods with his knife and bow and arrow. In his fear, the deer burst the last thong of the trap and ran into the forest.

The woodpecker flew to her high branch for safety, but the turtle was so weak he just lay still on the grass.

"I lost the deer," said the hunter, "but I do have the turtle!"

And he picked him up, threw him into a bag and tied the bag tight.

The deer peeked out from behind a tree and saw all of this.

"Now," he said, "I must do for the turtle what he did for me!"

So he let the hunter see him, then took slow steps as if he were lame and weak. The hunter hung the bag with the turtle in it on the woodpecker's tree and went after the deer. He held tightly onto his bow and arrow and knife.

The deer led him deep into the woods.

Then down flew the woodpecker to peck a hole in the hunter's bag.

"Get out of there," said the woodpecker to the turtle. "Jump down to the ground! Quickly!"

The turtle poked his head out from the bag. "I can't," he cried. "It's too far! I'll break my shell!"

The deer, after leading the hunter as far as he could into the forest, returned and saw the dilemma of the turtle. He ran to his friend and plucked up the bag with his antlers.

The deer, running with the turtle in the bag and the woodpecker flying above all went to the far side of the lake where they began a new life: the deer, the woodpecker and the turtle — three good friends forever.

Letters From Denmark

Denmark by Bicycle

by Abby Arthur Johnson

Geography is destiny, some people like to say. Living in the mountains, Norwegians developed a culture based on skiing, particularly cross-country skiing. The Danes, dwellers of the low lands, have established a way of life centered on the bicycle.

Statistics provide a quick measure of bicycling in Denmark. According to the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** (Danish Cyclist Federation), approximately one half of the population, or about 2.5 million people, own and use bicycles. At least 1.5 million Danes ride them daily, and the numbers are rising. From 1987 to 1988, bicycle traffic increased a whopping 22 percent. In 1988, Danes cycled 5 million kilometers, surpassing the approximately 4.5 million kilometers they covered by train.

Bicycling, long popular in Denmark, has looked increasingly attractive as the cost of gasoline has soared. During spring 1989, the Danish prices have been the highest in western Europe. On June 20, when this "letter" was completed, a standard rate for 1 gallon of lead-free gasoline was \$3.17. Premium cost \$3.50. The numbers come home to us every time we pump 10 gallons of the lead-free fuel into our Plymouth Colt, which we brought with us from the United States.

While we use the car for trips across Odense and longer excursions, we depend on our bicycles as much as possible. We bought them during our first week in Denmark, in late January 1989. Our initial attempts at making the purchase were baffling, however. The telephone directory lists some 35 bicycle dealerships in the Odense area alone. In addition, the larger stores, such as Bilka and Magasin, carry a selection of cycles. At the

suggestion of a new friend, we ultimately decided on Victor's. With the possible exception of the bakery next door, the shop seemed the busiest establishment on the block.

The actual purchase of bicycles was a novel experience for us. We needed only to decide on a price, which was settled at a bargain \$110 per used cycle, and be measured for fit. Shop employees selected the actual bicycles, which were outfitted during the next couple of days and then brought to our home in the nearby village of Draeby. All brand names, the bikes were sturdy and presentable, good for many more kilometers than we could log during our 6-month stay in Denmark. Our sons Alex and Karl were particularly delighted with the delivery, for they could "finally" pedal with the other children through the morning darkness to **Mølkaer Skolen**, the local school.

Danish cyclists come in all ages. We were not surprised to learn that virtually all children in this area cycle to school. We did pause, and still do, over the number of elderly bicyclists. It is not uncommon to see a woman in her 70s cycle smoothly around town, all the time maintaining a dignified demeanor in her everyday dress and low heels. Her composure clearly comes from long decades and countless kilometers on the bicycle.

The cycling commuters are as diversified by profession as they are by age. Many workers at the nearby Lindø shipyard commute by bicycle, frequently traveling in a pack to maintain a pace and to blunt the wind. The mayor of Odense, Verner Dalskov, often cycles the 14 kilometers from his home to city hall. The other day a friend of mine singled out yet another intriguing commuter:

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It is easy to stop for a chat when bicycling through town.

“Look, there goes the judge!”

The daily **Fyens Stiftstidende** occasionally spotlights outstanding cyclists. On May 28, 1989, it featured a piece on 47-year-old Hans Børge Larsen, an insurance executive who sometimes bicycles 150 kilometers a day. He cycles to his offices in Odense and Svendborg and then works out in the afternoons, when possible, at one of the local bicycling clubs. With his lengthy commutes and participation in races for the “old-boys” class, he cycles about 12,000 kilometers annually.

Used for everyday transportation, bicycles are also a standard vehicle for special excursions. Until the age of 18, when they can obtain licenses to drive automobiles, Danish youth conduct their social lives by bicycle. During one Friday evening in early April, I was standing on a dock reaching into the Kerteminde Fjord. A group of teenager girls suddenly cycled by along the road, singing a song as they passed. On several occasions, I have observed young couples bicycling in Odense, all the while holding hands across the **cykel stier** (bicycle paths).

The weekends offer many cycling possibilities for all ages. Various organizations sponsor Sunday tours, usually of 15-20 kilometers, for families. Others conduct training exercises. On June 4, the Odense **Cykel Klub** sponsored excursions of 230 km and 150 km, with lead cyclists maintaining speeds of 30 km per hour and 25 km per hour, respectively. Cycling on our own during some of these Sundays, we have seen the family groups cruising along at speeds comfortable for conversation. We have had only glimpses of the marathon cyclists.

While many Danes cycle the entire year, the best months are from April to October, especially from June to August. Even the best times may pose challenges, however. In a map identifying cycling routes in Denmark, the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** warns the uninitiated about the variable weather, providing a list of useful

expressions in Danish, German, and English: “What lovely weather it is today,” “What rotten weather,” “The sun is shining,” “It’s blowing/raining/snowing/hailing/thundering.” “Look, there is a rainbow.”

The real problem for bicyclists is the wind. Our friend Ingeborg Steendahl, a stewardess with Scandinavian Airlines, explained that the Danish wind can come from all directions — “Toward you, behind you, up from below, and down from above.” The West wind, whipping across the Atlantic and over the level terrain, is usually the worst. Having cycled into this wind on many occasions, I have gained new appreciation of the old blessing, “May the wind be at your back. . . .”

The **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** can do little about the wind. It has a string of successes, however, in its dealings with government and local authorities. Established in 1905 to represent the interests of bicyclists nationwide, the organization has a current membership of approximately 23,000. Its central office, accessible to the public, is in Copenhagen. In addition, the group has about 50 local chapters, all initiated in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when there were sharp escalations in the price of oil. The Odense chapter was one of the first, beginning in 1977. Its membership quickly expanded to 1400, leveling later to 800-900.

As a primary emphasis, the cycling federation promotes safe bicycling opportunities. Bicycling can be dangerous in Denmark, as elsewhere. According to the latest statistics circulated by the national organization, bicycling deaths account for 12.46 percent of all traffic fatalities in the nation annually. The **Fyens Stiftstidende** has provided some additional figures, reporting this past May that 4,000 cyclists are injured so seriously each year in collisions with cars that they require hospital care.

In its campaign for safe cycling conditions, the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** works for the development of additional **cykel stier**, the special bicycling paths that stretch alongside about 10 percent of the roads in Denmark. The group is currently agitating for construction of **cykel stier** on the bridge that will reach over the **Store Bælt** (Great Belt) and connect the islands of Funen and Zealand. The largest engineering project now underway in Denmark, the bridge is scheduled for completion in 1996. The cycling federation is eyeing the effort with determination. Gretter Aggernaes, president of the organization’s executive committee, recently declared: “We will cycle over the Great Belt.”

Danes generally recognize the safety and other advantages of the **cykel stier**. As reported in regional newspapers, the various municipalities provide funding in their annual budgets for the construction and upkeep of the bicycle paths. Odense has allotted about 3 million kroner for new cycle paths during this fiscal year. Using the June 20 exchange rate of 7.66 Danish kroner per 1 American dollar, the figure sounds impressive. The funding does not, however, reach far. As reported by the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund**, the average expense per kilometer for a two-way **sti** is 2-3 million kroner in the city and 1-1.5 million kroner in the country. The usual width of these paths is 2.2 meters for one-way and 2.5 meters for two-way traffic. The costs for their development include funds to secure necessary land, as well as to incorporate special features, such as overhead lights and traffic signals in some areas.

In its attempts to establish coherent bicycling routes through urban areas, the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** helped develop traffic plans for the centers of four selected cities: Odense, Aarhus, Herning, and Helsingør. The effort was funded in each case by a 10-million kroner State grant matched by the municipality. In Odense, the project brought bicyclists and bus drivers to loggerheads over Vestergade, now a delightful **gaagade** (pedestrian

street) in the central shopping district.

As part of the overall traffic plan in Odense, a section of Vestergade is also open to bicycles and city buses. It was not always so, as explained to me by Ole Jepsen, long-time member of the Odense chapter of the Danish cycling federation. The bus drivers originally thought the redesigned street too narrow for both buses and bicycles. During the first week of October 1986, they threatened to go on strike if cyclists were not banned from the area. Local authorities acceded to their demands, even though the Odense cycling chapter had provided statistics indicating that at least 4,000 people cycled through the street every 24 hours. The situation climaxed on October 6, when traffic minister Frode Nor Christensen came from Copenhagen to dedicate the new cycling path, then denied to cyclists. A photograph in the December 1986 issue of *Cyklister*, bimonthly magazine of the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund**, shows Christensen, the Odense mayor, and guests walking their bicycles along the disputed area. In the following days, the local authorities reconsidered the matter, including the continuing protests of the bicycle lobby, and opened the route to cyclists. The ending demonstrated the increasing political clout of Danish bicyclists when organized around a specific issue.

Among other efforts, which tell still more about bicycling in Denmark, the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** continues to work against cycle theft, a significant problem in the nation. Last year, Danish insurance companies paid 145 million kroner in compensation for stolen bicycles. A group involving representatives of the

cycling federation, police, cycling trade, and insurance companies is campaigning for the use of more effective bicycle locks, bicycle stands, and registration procedures.

In addition, the **Dansk Cyklist Forbund** provides maps, advice, and tours for recreational cycling. The tours, advertised in the *Cyklister* and periodicals issued by the local chapters, are open to everyone, including visiting Americans. The Odense chapter alone is sponsoring 14 tantalizing excursions at distances of about 20-70 kilometers from April through October 1989. The destinations are regional attractions, such as the windmill in the old village of Viby and the cherry orchard at the manor house of Selleberg.

Using the detailed cycling map for Funen, our family has sampled the routes, bicycling to the ancient burial mound at Snave and the towering sand cliffs of Fyns Hoved, for example. We would need much more time to explore the many other routes in this area.

Bicycling affords an excellent way to see Denmark, a perspective unavailable from the windows of a car or train. Perched on my trusty Montane bike, I have really felt the West wind, a true presence in Danish life. I have gauged the landscape, which is mostly flat, as the guidebooks say, but has lovely undulations and some surprisingly steep hills. Most memorably, I have seen a large cross-section of the population on two wheels, traveling in good spirits and at some impressive speeds. To an American on leave from the congested traffic of Washington, D.C., Denmark and the cycling Danes look good.

Danish Canadians Discuss Their Future

What does the future hold for Danish Canadian organizations in Canada? That question constituted the theme of the 8th Danish Canadian Conference, held by The Federation of Danish Associations in Canada on May 26-28, 1989, in Ottawa, Canada's capital.

A record 85 registered delegates from across Canada attended the Ottawa conference, including Poul B. Christensen, Vancouver, B.C., who represented Danish Brotherhood Lodge No. 328.

One day was devoted to five workshops on 'Our Future,' which generated a lively discussion and brought forth many good ideas about action for the future.

The Danish Federation, the national umbrella organization of the Danes in Canada, consists of 28 member organizations across Canada. Most of the people, who are active in these 28 local organizations, are Danes who came to Canada as immigrants in the 1950s. That is nearly forty years ago. Consequently, many of the leaders within these organizations are now becoming senior citizens. Younger members and leaders will eventually replace the older active Danes, or that is at least the hope. Otherwise, the various associations will not remain viable and survive. It is essential that the younger generation become involved and carry on the work or the current organizations will only have a limited future and existence.

In connection with the conference, the

Danish Federation had put together and published a 175-page book, which contained biographies, histories, articles and reports pertaining to the Danes in Canada. The book costs \$10 and it is available from Danish Federation Treasurer, Esther Machacynski, 16 Campbell Crescent, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7M 1Z5.

One of the reasons for publishing this book is to document the history of the Danes in Canada and to inform others about the activities and the contributions of

the Danes in Canada.

The delegates were also given a progress report on the plans to establish a National Danish Canadian Museum in Dickson, Alberta, the oldest Danish settlement on the Canadian Prairies. It is foreseen that the proposed National Museum would be built next to the old General Store, which is in the process of being renovated and restored as a pioneer museum. As one delegate said, if we don't preserve our past, then we will not have a future.

25th Annual Danish Festival

During the weekend of August 18-20, Greenville, Michigan, will host its 25th annual Danish Festival. The event, held the third weekend in August since 1964, celebrates Danish heritage.

The festival annually draws approximately 50,000 visitors to this city of 9,000 located 35 miles northeast of Grand Rapids. The event is highlighted by the Grand Dansk Parade scheduled for Saturday afternoon. More than 150 units parade along a two mile route and includes clowns, horses, floats, antique cars and musical entertainment. In celebration of the 25th anniversary, all past Danish Festival Queens will be present and honored.

Festival participants will enjoy a myriad of Danish food, costumes, folk music, children's games and the huge Arts and Crafts Fair. Various sporting events will take place including a Road Run, Slo-ball Tour-

ament, Canoe Races and the Danish Dribble-n-Dunk, and a three on three basketball competition. Also popular is the Antique Car Show, Hans Christian Andersen Fairy Tale Parade, flea market, square dance and giant fireworks display.

The festival is planned and executed by a community based Board of Directors who volunteer hours of their time preparing for the annual three day event. Area residents also get involved in the festivities by displaying a unique and extensive collection of their Danish heritage in the windows of area businesses.

There are plenty of motels in the area and campsites are available at the nearby fairgrounds. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the 25th Annual Danish Festival, 202 S. Lafayette Street, Greenville, Michigan 48838.

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 #42, Spokane, WA — This year's edition of the Annual Danish Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 13, at Emil and Mary's "park." The Larsens live at N. 2806 Center Road and the festival begins at 1:00 p.m. Spokane's Scandinavian and Swedish lodges have been invited to join us for an afternoon of fun. Plan to join us and bring a food dish to share and a big appetite.

Our representatives to this year's Pacific-Northwest District Convention in Seattle were Merle Kinder and Fred Matheny. Brother Iver Hansen's number was drawn awarding him two round-trip tickets to Denmark. He and his wife, Lucille, will be heading to the land of his ancestors sometime in the future. Congratulations and our best wishes for a safe trip.

Brother Lance Charneski pitched a complete seven inning baseball game to win one of the three games needed for his team, Kimmel Athletic, to take first place at this year's Dave Machtolf Memorial Tournament at Gonzaga University's Pecarvoich Field a few weeks ago. Lance plays for Ferris High School during school and during the summer he plays for Kimmel. The Kirkland Pepsis, runner-up at the State American Legion Baseball Tournament last year and winners of the Dave Machtolf Memorial Tournament last year, was one of the teams Kimmel beat this year to claim the championship. Hurrah!

Lawrence Charneski, Sec.

Lodge #167, Portland, OR — At our last meeting, President Fred Batchelor con-



President Batchelor congratulates DBIA scholarship recipient Abby M. Larsen.

The best idea for August goes to Lodge No. 326, West Branch, IA. See page 16.



Welcome to DBIA Lodge No. 167.

gratulated Abby M. Larsen, a recipient of a Danish Brotherhood scholarship. Our members enjoyed hearing about her interest in her Danish American heritage. We are very proud of Abby and her Danish background.

President Batchelor was also busy initiating the following into our lodge: Abby Larsen, Catherine Braden, Betty Jane Kellas and Frank Dally. **Jens Jensen, Rep.**

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

Lodge #67, Fresno, CA — At our regular meeting night on Thursday, June 8, the men played host to the auxiliary Sisterhood Lodge No. 149, families and friends, by preparing and cooking a "frikadeller" dinner, complete with salad and dessert. The purpose of the dinner, in addition to showing what the men could do, and to socialize and have a good time, was to raise money for a scholarship fund. Contributions for the dinner, amounting to nearly \$800, will provide a large part to help start the ball rolling.

Heading up the cook and serve crew were Paul Morrison and Henry Jacobsen who did a fantastic job in getting hot food to the tables in record time. After the hearty meal enjoyed by the 115 in attendance, a skit was presented featuring Robert Lind and a cast of Laurice DeLaurant and Ove Eskelsen, who gave a reminiscent portrayal of two gentlemen friends from the 'old country,' one of



Members Ove Eskelsen and Laurice DeLaurant presented the humorous skit enjoyed by all.

whom was married and had moved to California, and the other a single person on his first visit to the United States. He was invited to a Brotherhood lodge dinner/dance by his friend where he met the beautiful Helga. After a hilarious comparison of notes between the two friends in stealthy conversation, you could guess that romance was in bloom. The skit was written and directed by Ellen Morrison, a talented member of the Sisterhood.

Later, a sing-along was conducted by President Dan Mogensen accompanied on the piano by Esther Petersen. Among our guests for the evening was a distinguished group from Modesto headed by Ebba Norby, a member of our National Board of Directors. **Elmer Petersen, Cor.**

Lodge #95, Ferndale, CA — The 39th annual Scandinavian Festival is history and our members are taking a deep breath after all their work in food booths, dance teams and general setting up for the two-day activity.

President Fred Elliott was honored by having his name added to our perpetual trophy by the Festival Association. Erla Chance, and Francis and Lorana Sweet have been previously honored.

Erla Chance was presented flowers for 38 years as dance team instructor for the Danish junior teams. Former members of those teams came forward to congratulate her. Mange tak, Erla.

Dorothy Petersen of Petaluma and National Trustee of the Sisterhood was present and was introduced.

At our last meeting, eight new members were approved for membership.

Francis Sweet, Sec.

Lodge #126, Los Angeles, CA — Our annual memorial service in May was well attended and friends and relatives joined in to remember our five members who passed away in the last year. Once again, Harold Mathiasen, who officiated, did a splendid job of it. He even gave us a little background on each of the departed members. Thank you, Hal, for a very nice service.

After the memorial service, we took a little break with a short sing-along with Brother Winstrup Olesen at the piano. Thanks, Winstrup! We proceeded to our auction and what a lot of fun this turned out to be. Something like \$400 was raised for the convention fund. That is very good for starters and I'm sure the committee will be having another one of these auctions in the very near future.

The Grundlovsfesten picnic was a success as usual. Six members helped at the picnic. These hard workers were Karl Duus, Doris Christensen, Sofie and Roy Christoffersen, Larry Westerskov and Arne Andersen. The winners of the "Best Decorated Table" were the members of Orange County Lodge. Congratulations!

At our last meeting four more applications for membership were received and acted upon. We are quickly getting our membership up to 200 where it was about five years ago. It is very gratifying to know that so many want to belong to the Danish Brotherhood.

A letter was received from Andy Andersen of Omaha congratulating us for a well run and most interesting meeting. We are always glad to visit with Andy and his wife.

Our June meeting was undoubtedly the busiest meeting on record with the initiation of twelve new members as well as the other business that has to be attended to. We welcome each and every one of our new members and we thank the sponsors of these and all new members.

As you may already have heard, the trip to Las Vegas is scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend so mark your calendar and I'll have more information for you later on.

Anne Kofod, Cor.

Lodge #143, Petaluma, CA — Preceding our meeting in May, we honored the Sisterhood members with a medisterpølse dinner. Jack Cameron and Walt Miller were the chefs, Jim P. Larsen brought the medisterpølse from Solvang, Harvey Rasmussen and Cliff Yarian set up the tables, and Dick Hansen furnished the beautiful roses decorating the tables. After dinner, we had a special treat when seven Sisterhood members, under the direction of Dorothy MacKinnon, did a California Raisin dance which was enjoyed by all!



The California Raisins show their stuff.

In June we were honored for Father's Day when the ladies furnished a delicious potluck dinner for us. The delicious meal was followed by slides of a recent trip on a Mississippi steamboat and the Bellingrath Gardens. Many thanks to Brother Bob Larsen for showing the slides and narrating.

Some of our members will be making the annual trek to South Shore, Lake Tahoe to spend the weekend at the homes of Vernon and Bessie Olsen and Alvin and Gunver Olsen of the Modesto, California lodge. This will be the third year that the lodge has held its installation of officers during this event and this attracts many guests and onlookers from the neighborhood! Following the installation, there is a steak barbecue at Vernon and Bessie's home and on Sunday an aebleskiver breakfast at Alvin and Gunver Olsen's home.

The August meeting will be preceded with a very special event. There will be an ice cream social followed by our annual "Make It, Bake It, Grow It, Sew It" money-making auction. This promises to be a rewarding evening, and we hope to see many members and guests present.

Brotherly greetings to all!

Alice Rasmussen, Cor.

Lodge #323, Alhambra, CA — After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call, the June meeting was called to order by President Richard Rowse.

Our delegate, Millie Bech Nielsen, spoke of a meeting the previous week where it was decided that the profit from the Grundlovsfest was to be donated to the fund for relocation of the Danish Church. A profit of \$2,000 was realized.

Kate Krake Nielsen, Past Pres.

Lodge #345, Orange County, CA — The weather is sunny and warm and we look forward to having a leisure and relaxed summer. Holger Danske lodge members started the summer off a bit early with our annual picnic. We say a bit early because we just about froze at the park during the

morning hours. At least it did not rain as it had the day before.

The afternoon warmed up a lot and we enjoyed the sunshine, good fellowship, friends, food, games, laughter and camaraderie.

The young people played a great game of free-football and with no injuries reported. They all took part in the lawn games along with the adult brothers energetic enough to join the youth.

We'd like to thank the committee and especially Bill and Kandy Chappell who planned and executed the picnic expertly. It takes a lot of people getting together to make a picnic, and we had a good group. We had several guests with us and we hope they will continue to join our group. We welcomed back into our midst Richard and Rhoda Rasmussen, who have moved back into our area. They have been members of our lodge for the past nine years but have lived out of town for several years.

The aebleskiver breakfast was delicious as usual and thanks to Gary and Toni Gossett and Helga Bjorn, we all had our fill.

We'd like to thank all the ladies who added to the hamburger lunch by bringing salads, beans, chips, desserts, etc. No one went away hungry, unless they were dieting.

On August 12 we will have our barbecue. This will be our anniversary celebration. Several things are planned to make this a very special meeting. We will be presenting the Sherman Nielsen Award and plan a fund raiser evening. The fund raiser will be for the Operation Care and Share program. It will be a wrapped auction. Each family will be asked to bring a new, wrapped gift (\$5.00 minimum) to be auctioned off. This way we all get something. We can bid for a goodie and Operation Care and Share gains.

We'd like to encourage each member of our lodge to bring in one new member this year. The year is half over now, so we've got to get going. We'd like to pull our membership up a few digits on the national chart. If we want to keep our lodge growing, we've got to make the effort now. Share with your family and friends the benefits of membership in the Danish Brotherhood in America. **Gerry Olsen, Sec.**

Payment to Board Members

JUNE 1989

Woodrow T. Petersen, Pacific-Northwest District Convention, \$430.00; Ebba L. Norby, Michigan-Ohio District Convention, \$558.00; Clyde R. Langsted, 100th Anniversary of Lodge No. 36, \$488.00.

JULY 1989

Clyde R. Langsted, salary, \$240.60.

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD
BEST DISTRICT**

NEBRASKA

Nebraska District

We will be having our Nebraska District Convention for both the Brotherhood and Sisterhood in Lincoln, Nebraska, on September 22-24, 1989. Although no official word has come out concerning the Monarch King and Queen to be crowned at the convention, each lodge should be thinking about who they would like to nominate for the honor. Official rules will be coming out soon from the committee.

Jim Christiansen, Cor.

Lodge #1, Omaha, NE — At Vennelyst Park one of the best ever celebrations, complete with fireworks, was held on June 6. Sparklers and screamers were in the branches so when the fire was lit, sparklers went off as did the screams of the witch. Jim and Shirley Rosse were chairpersons for the memorable event and we thank them and their entire committee for all their hard work.



Jim and Shirley Rosse present the witch prior to her demise.

Bernice Eckley presented the lodge with a check for \$200 as our share from the Ethnic Festival. She indicated this would probably be the last Ethnic Festival.

One of our members, Molly Dorau, was presented with a \$58 camp grant from the National Headquarters to attend Girl Scout camp.

Ruth Nielsen, Cor.

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD
BEST SINGLE CIVIC ACTIVITY**

Lodge #16, Minden, NE — We met at the swimming pool park on Thursday, June 15 for a potluck supper. Coffee and tea were provided by the lodge.

It was a beautiful evening with 30 members enjoying the supper and fellowship. Everyone signed a card for Andrew Madsen who was in the Veterans Hospital in Grand Island. The committee, Charles and Dorothy Petersen and Roland and Delores Christensen, served ice cream with toppings for dessert.

Lillie Hansen, Cor.

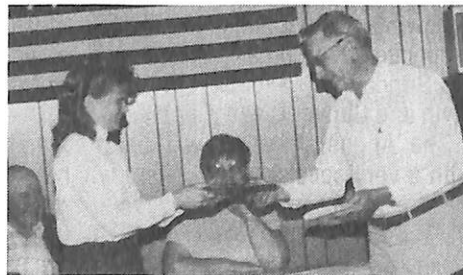
Lodge #84, Lincoln, NE — After our business meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the I.O.O.F. Hall, we were favored with slides and a narration by Dr. Erik Bitterbaum of Wesleyan University on "Birds of America."

We were happy to have two visitors, Florence Borgen and Helen Shaw from the Ruskin Lodge No. 161, with us for our Saturday, June 10 meeting and fellowship. We always welcome visitors to our lodge meetings.

Naomie Wilson was our Program Chairman and Viola and Orville Jensen were Food Chairmen. Also assisting on the food committee were Margaret Standley, Edy Montgomery, Alice Wenzl, Doris and Lennie Kincheloe, Donald and Eudean Lehn and Gladys Sorensen. Everyone brought cookies, bars, and cake to go along with homemade ice cream to serve about 48 members and guests present.

Don Lehn, Cor.

Lodge #161, Ruskin, NE — Nebraska District President, Soren Thomsen, presented the 1989 Axel Skelbeck award to his great-niece Dawn Russell. Dawn plans to attend the University of Chicago and pursue a career in the medical field.



Nebraska District President presents the 1989 Axel Skelbeck Scholarship Award for Excellence to Dawn Russell.

Also at our May meeting, Kenny and Loetta Pedersen showed pictures and told about their 1988 trip to Alaska.

Grace Thomsen, Cor.

Lodge #206, Blair, NE — At our May meeting we had a slide presentation by a DeSoto Bend Wildlife Refuge Park ranger telling us about the development of the refuge to its present day status. You missed an excellent program if you were not present.

Bob Johnson, Sec.

IOWA-MINNESOTA

Iowa-Minnesota District

Just a reminder to all Danish Brotherhood members to be selecting their delegates and alternates and sending in their registrations for the upcoming district con-

vention to be held at the Westfield-Best Western Motel at Coralville, Iowa, on September 8-10, 1989.

Plans are progressing nicely for the convention. The menu has been chosen, the music hired for the dance, the speaker arranged, and the buses arranged for the tour to the Hoover Museum, Birthplace and Blacksmith Shop.

So, all West Branch Lodge No. 326 needs is the registrations. The deadline is August 15. Send registrations to Deloris Ross, Secretary, Lodge No. 326, 806 Mill Ave., Box 232, Springville, Iowa 52336.

Kiddies, don't forget the Poster Contest. Be working on them and bring them along to the convention.

Looking forward to hearing from everyone and hoping for a good attendance at the "Great Family Outing" on September 8-10, 1989.

David Nealson, Pres. #326

Deloris Ross, Sec. #326

Lodge #15, Des Moines, IA — With two important items on the agenda for the June meeting, more than 50 members were in attendance. After some discussion a motion was approved to donate \$1,000 to the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa. An additional \$280 was collected for the museum from various members at the meeting.

With the threat that the building that houses the Dania Lodge will be sold, a special committee reported on the possibility of locating a new headquarters for the lodge. Following some discussion a motion was made and approved to hold the July meeting at the American Legion Hall, 69th and Douglas in Urbandale. Whether this or some other site will become the new headquarters will be decided at a later meeting.

A couple representing the Iowa-Minnesota District and the West Branch, Iowa Lodge No. 326 gave a presentation that included the plans for the district convention in September.

Following the meeting and the refreshments, free blood pressure tests were given by Rae Ann Lary. She was happy to report that blood pressure levels were quite normal after the extended business meeting.

Wilber Williamson, Cor.

**AUGUST ASSESSMENT
NUMBER 1082**

is Due and Payable to the
Lodge Treasurer

August 1, 1989

and Must Be Paid Before

September 1, 1989

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

Lodge #75, Albert Lea, MN — We celebrated St. Hans Aften, Midsummer Eve, at the lovely park home of Val and Leona Severtsen on June 21 with a picnic supper shared by 32 members and family. After visiting, walking and enjoying the country air, the traditional burning of the witch was held. The statuesque witch was dressed and erected by Marge and Alton Neve.

Our senior member, Soren Sorensen, recalls as a small boy in Denmark he was told of the bad luck that could be bestowed by the trolls and witches. The witch was burned on the longest day of the year to keep their bad influence away from the crops and upcoming harvest. He recalls that on this longest day of the year, they could see many witch burning fires throughout the flat countryside carrying out this tradition. **Grace Thomson, Sec.**

Lodge #121, Tyler, MN — At our June meeting, a card and letter was read from the National Board of Directors congratulating us on our 90th birthday and commending us for promoting and perpetuating Danish culture and traditions.

The main order of business revolved around the plans for the Tyler organization to celebrate this auspicious occasion.

Leona Jensen of Clear Lake, South Dakota, presented the program. She showed slides and gave an excellent narration of their trip to the Eastern states. This was a fifteen-day historical tour.

Lunch was served by the hostesses, Orval and Hilda Hansen, Leona and Russell Jensen and Ramona Engelbrecht.

Lodge #144, Dike, IA — We, along with Sisterhood Lodge No. 176, held a family picnic at Road Park on June 18. It was an evening event and there were just over 50 people in attendance.

There was just plenty to eat and then everyone present enjoyed either playing cards or conversing. As soon as it was



The children roasted marshmallows as all joined in for a sing-along.

dark the bonfire afforded a place for roasting of marshmallows by the young ones. We also enjoyed singing songs and as the campfire died out, so did our singing! **Lyle Refshauge, Sec.**

Lodge #219, Clear Lake, IA — Nineteen members and two guests were in attendance at our May meeting. Edith Skene gave a report on a visit to Albert Lea, Minnesota. Six members attended the 95th anniversary banquet. President Thorvald Sorensen sat at the head table and gave a greeting from our lodge along with congratulations to the Albert Lea lodge. Those attending were Thorvald and Bev Sorensen, Verner and Alta Sorensen, Edith Skene, and Kathy Sonsalla.

Tig Johnson was again visiting with us. He attends college at William Penn.

President Sorensen asked Conductor Todd Sonsalla to escort Alta Sorensen to him. Alta was then installed as a new member of our lodge. National Director Jerry Sonsalla had Conductor Sonsalla escort Kristen Sorensen to him. Kristen was then presented with the Fred K. Holm National Scholarship. This is a very special award for his outstanding interest in the Danish Brotherhood. Next, Conductor Sonsalla

was asked to escort Tammi Sonsalla and Kristen Sorensen to District Conductor Steven Sorensen. He presented each with the Iowa-Minnesota District Scholarship. Each will be attending William Penn College in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Conductor Sonsalla then presented each mother present with a red silk rose. The lunch was in honor of Mother's Day and Kris Sorensen's graduation. Edith Skene reported that she had put an article in the Clear Lake paper about the "Lady of the Lake" being the front cover of the April issue of the American Dane. Our bylaws need to be rewritten with the guidelines from the National Headquarters.

The district convention will be held at the Westfield-Best Western Motel at Coralville, Iowa, on September 8-10. The convention is being hosted by Lodge No. 326 in West Branch, Iowa, and is called the "Great Family Outing" and the whole family is invited to participate.

The lodge will meet at Central Park for a potluck picnic on August 12. Meet at 6:30 p.m. and bring your own table service and something for the potluck.

Kathy Sonsalla, Sec.

Lodge #326, West Branch, IA — Our regular May 7 meeting was held at the Wilton, Iowa Community Room with Victor and Ruth Kephart hosting. Items discussed included the upcoming district convention information such as menu chosen, music hired, speaker and buses arranged for the tour to the Hoover Museum, Birthplace and Blacksmith Shop.

Our regular June 4 meeting was held at the country estate of Gunnar Krogh, Jr., with Gunnar, Sr. and Betty Krogh, hosting. Our delegate and alternate were selected for the upcoming district convention.

Our annual July 4 picnic was held on July 2 at the rural farm home of Ernest and Charlotte Krogh in West Branch, Iowa. Plans are progressing nicely for hosting the

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
4-24-89	Kai S. Larsen	85	Copenhagen, Denmark	126	Los Angeles, California	1956
5-29-89	Kathleen G. Andersen	55	Dwight, Illinois	34	Dwight, Illinois	1975
5-29-89	Axel M. Pedersen	91	Hvidbjerg, Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1925
6-10-89	Martin Jorgensen	88	Munkebo, Denmark	143	Petaluma, California	1947
6-19-89	Alfred H. Krogh	82	Denmark	43	Denver, Colorado	1931
6-13-89	Emil E. Johansen	80	Coulter, Iowa	263	Askov, Minnesota	1944
8-30-88	Normann Dyremose	63	Denmark	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	1980
4-28-89	Thorsten Karlsson	64	Sweden	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	1981
4-27-89	Nels B. Petersen	83	Woodbridge, New Jersey	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	1982
6-3-89	Zella M. Meedom	86	Santa Fe Springs, California	332	Ripon, California	1968
5-17-89	Charles C. Kreuser	73	Racine, Wisconsin	14	Kenosha, Wisconsin	1982
6-11-89	Jens Kirk	86	Hurup, Denmark	75	Albert Lea, Minnesota	1962
5-23-89	William Larsen	82	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	1981



Ernest and Charlotte Krogh offered a toast at the July picnic.

upcoming district convention. We're looking forward to seeing many good Danes at this convention. Get those reservations in!

Theron Neelson, son of President Dave and Treasurer Judy, gave a report on his recent six-day 4-H camp held near Madrid, Iowa. Theron applied and was accepted for one of the Danish Brotherhood camp grants awarded every summer. Theron's projects in 4-H are his dog, sheep, photography, and gardening. Thanks, Theron, for your report and thanks to the National Headquarters for awarding Theron one of their grants.

Deloris Ross, Sec.

Lodge #341, Kimballton-Elk Horn, IA — We met June 26 at the Elk Horn Creek Park. This meeting was the celebration of Saint Hans Aften (Midsummers Eve). About 65 members and two guests enjoyed a potluck picnic supper that evening. A business meeting was held. The float we entered in the Tivoli Fest parade won second prize. Riding the float was President Signe Madsen, Vice President Gary Christensen, Amy Block, Wendy and Annette Sorensen. Good job, committee.



Congratulations to the winning float!

Also the men's bowling team from our lodge won eighth place in the 1989 DBIA National Handicap Bowling Tournament. Way to go guys!

Scholarships for the graduating class of 1989 were presented to Mark Hansen, Dennis Haas, Staci Sorensen, Chad Mardesen all of Elk Horn and Sondra Dinke of Audubon.

Mrs. Cecil Camery of Harlan joined the lodge.

At the close of the meeting, the witch

was burned and group singing was led by Karma Sorensen accompanied by Doris Christensen playing the accordion. A good time was had by all.

JoAnn Sorensen, Cor.

Lodge #347, Cedar Rapids, IA — We had a most successful St. Hans Aften Fest. The weather was perfect, the spirit was great. But the mosquitoes were certainly uninvited guests. The fest was held at Paul and Karen Nielsen's farm, a lovely place in the country. Thank you so much Paul and Karen for your hospitality. We were served grilled hot dogs with all the trimmings plus an array of delicious side dishes and desserts, which were brought by members and guests. We had a very good attendance.

After we all had downed the good food and cleaned up, we were given a most unusual and interesting speech and demonstration by Harold Jorgensen. The subject was buttons, the making of them, where and how it started. A button is something we all take for granted and yet button-making has so much history behind it.

Later in the afternoon the bonfire was started and what a beautiful sight that was. Anker Severinsen, true to the tradition, had made the old witch before he and Katherine left for Denmark. So we got the whole treatment.

It was truly a wonderful "Midsummer Night's Dream." Thanks to everyone who made this a lovely event.

Has it ever occurred to the readers how lucky we are to have the Danish Brotherhood? This way we all have a chance to keep up our Danish traditions and holidays which are so very important to one's upbringing.

Alice Gorsch, Cor.

Lodge #349, Atlantic, IA — Abby Sothman, age 3, rode with her grandparents,



Abby was the hit of our float.

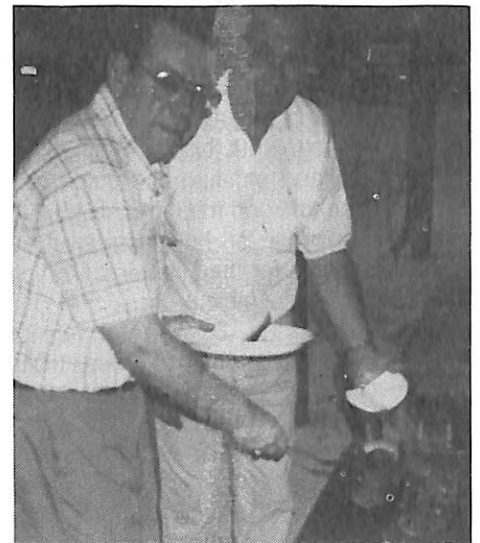
Robert and Frances Nelson, on our float at the Tivoli Fest in Elk Horn, Iowa. Elk Horn will be the home of the soon-to-be Danish Immigrant Museum.

Abby is a great, great granddaughter of Danish immigrants, Andreas and Nicoline Juel Karstensen and Kristen and Johann Christensen Nielsen.

Mary Ann Christensen, Sec.

MISSOURI

Lodge #56, Kansas City, MO — We enjoyed a fine picnic dinner in Lenexa, Kansas. Norman Danielsen did his usual fine job of cooking the burgers and hot dogs while the ladies provided all of the side dishes.



Some are busy cooking.



While others are busy enjoying.

Norm and Lola Danielsen are off on a trip to Denmark. Mike Olsen has now left the Kansas City area and settled at 5501 Swift Road, Sarasota, Florida 34231. He would certainly enjoy hearing from fellow Brotherhood members.

The Kansas City Ethnic Enrichment Festival will be in August at Swope Park.

The lodge will offer its traditional aebleskiver and favorite cookies.

Bob Wallace, Cor.

MIDWEST

Lodge #4, Racine, WI — On Monday, May 8, friends of August and Dagmar Christensen visited them in their home. President Glenn Nyboe presented August with a plaque which read as follows: "Be it Resolved; That we the members of Racine Lodge No. 4 Danish Brotherhood bestow upon you August C. Christensen an honorary lifetime membership to Lodge No. 4 of Racine for your loyal and dedicated service to our lodge. Presented this date: May 8, 1989, your 85th Birthday."



An Honorary Lifetime Membership Award was given to August C. Christensen.



President Nyboe welcomes new members.



Happy 90th Birthday, Francis Wendt.

We had an interesting meeting on March 10, 1989. Four more new members were welcomed into our lodge. Betty May Han-

sen, Ruth Janssen, Jeanette E. Lenart and Juanita Lenart joined our lodge.

On March 7, 1989, President Glenn Nyboe, Dan Christensen and John Mollerskov visited the home of Brother Francis H. Wendt and his wife to present to him a certificate from the home office and a plaque from Lodge No. 4 commemorating his 90th birthday. He was born on March 8, 1899, and joined Lodge No. 4 in February, 1944. He served as Mayor of Racine for three terms from 1943 through April of 1949. Brother Wendt also served as Circuit Judge here in Racine from 1956 until his retirement on January 6, 1969.

Since retiring, he and his wife have traveled to Europe to see their son who lives in Belgium. They have also visited Denmark. We had a most enjoyable visit with the Wendts. **John Mollerskov, Cor.**

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST ANNUAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Lodge #14, Kenosha, WI — Our 97th anniversary party brought 250 members, guests and widows for a night of fellowship. Roger Nelson was our toastmaster and did his usual great job. President Wade brought greetings and introduced his 1989 officers. Joan Jackson, President of the Danish Sisterhood Lodge No. 20, Woody Petersen, National First Vice President, and Reverend Robert Kompelien from St. Mary's Lutheran Church brought greetings. Secretary Roger Nelson gave his annual report to the lodge and introduced the widows who were present as our guests. Awards were given as follows: Irving Paulsen, 25-year pin; Tom Nelson, Ed Zydowsky and Jack Sorensen received Brother of the Year awards; Rudy Bern-

VELKOMMEN!

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



Member	Lodge No.	Location	Sponsor
Robert D. Pringle	14	Kenosha, WI	Rick Walker, Sr.
Gerald J. Mlynarek	14	Kenosha, WI	Kenneth Rusecki
James J. Johnson	14	Kenosha, WI	Lloyd Tritt
Douglas G. Spencer	14	Kenosha, WI	James L. Nolen
Karen R. Madsen	29	Seattle, WA	H. Martin Rasmussen
Charles A. Garvey	35	Chicago, IL	Linda Connery
Jane O. Garvey	35	Chicago, IL	Linda Connery
Jeremy P. Haberman	36	Milwaukee, WI	Albert Larsen
David M. McCarthy	51	Ludington, MI	Carl Loftis
Lawrence R. Lyewski	51	Ludington, MI	Bill Kraus
David A. Schulte	62	Sioux City, IA	Viggo Lauritsen
Clara Larsen Schulte	62	Sioux City, IA	Viggo Lauritsen
Borge Christensen	126	Los Angeles, CA	Karl Duus
Millie Christensen	126	Los Angeles, CA	Karl Duus
Bent A. Christensen	126	Los Angeles, CA	Karl Duus
Helen K. Peterson	139	Viborg, SD	Arnie Sorensen
Inga K. Yarian	143	Petaluma, CA	Harvey Rasmussen
Alice D. Rasmussen	143	Petaluma, CA	Harvey Rasmussen
Thorben Larsen	167	Portland, OR	Egon Larsen
Audrey Herrmann	170	Rocky River, OH	Verner Pedersen
Edis C. Calder	186	Luck, WI	Edna Lawson
Ronald R. Kane	242	Erie, PA	Joseph Dascanio
Alex W. Petersen	263	Askov, MN	Byron Petersen
Gracielle C. Nissen	314	Hartford, CT	Waldo J. Elliott
Helene J. Besso	325	Nassau Co., NY	George Jacobsen
			Elizabeth Pedersen
Mary C. Linton	342	Bucks Co., PA	Maren Novotnie
Lisa Agesen Piehl	346	Riverside, CA	Jim Patterson
Helene M. Piehl	346	Riverside, CA	Jim Patterson
Andrew S. Piehl	346	Riverside, CA	Jim Patterson
James E. Larsen	348	Eugene, OR	Homer Hansen
Ada H. Larsen	348	Eugene, OR	Homer Hansen
Ed W. Hake	348	Eugene, OR	Kristian Sand
Karl G. Bentzen	600	Omaha, NE	Andy Andersen
James C. Larsen	600	Omaha, NE	Christian E. Larsen

hardt, Jr., Roger Nelson and Bob Ibsen received Lifetime Achievement awards; Lloyd Nelson and Martin Petersen, Jr. received special Viking Ship awards for dedicated service; Martin M. Petersen, Sr. was honored with a plaque placed in the honor corner of the lodge. A beautiful plaque with Jens Emanuelson's picture was also placed in the lodge and the bar area/ trophy room will be named in his honor. The food was great as usual and the evening ended up with dancing and fun. Thanks to the Sisterhood lodge for the table flowers.

Barb Ervin is now at home and doing great. Our love to her and her family. The "Odd Couple" play will be performed as a benefit for Barb. Watch the Kenosha News for details as they develop.

Your Midwest District Convention Committee is working hard. We need your help. Please bring to the lodge items we can use for the raffle. This is how we help pay for the convention. Those of you from Kenosha who want to come to the banquet will be able to purchase tickets after September 3 as that is when we close our reservations.

You are invited to Racine Lodge No. 4 and Dania's picnic on August 9 at Pierce Woods, Racine. See Bob Ibsen for details.

Join us for the Annual Corn Roast and Brats. Dance to Betty Jean and Country Express on Saturday, August 12.

The Arlington Horse Race Bus Trip will be held Saturday, August 19th. Call Ed Zydowsky for reservations.

Lodge #34, Dwight, IL — Five teams competed in the trap shoot on June 24 at the Farm Bureau Gun Club in Pontiac. First place went to the team consisting of Steve Dorsett, Matt Dillon, Rick Sullivan, Virgil Holzhauser, and Dick Perschnick. The individual first place went to Rick Sullivan, second place went to Steve Dorsett, and third place went to Virgil Holzhauser. There was only one woman shooter, Shirley Holzhauser, and no Vikings. Cy Dunlap prepared his famous deep fried chicken with baked beans, slaw, relishes and bread. Approximately 30 people enjoyed the meal at the Dick Perschnick farm. A raffle was held with almost everyone a winner. It was a beautiful day. Thanks to Chicago Lodge No. 35 for joining us.

We will be attending the Cubs ball game on Sunday, August 13. Our lodge is paying for the bus. Let Don Wheatley know as soon as possible if you plan to go. We only have 40 tickets.

Welcome Ken Smith as an adult member.

At our recent meeting, \$100 was donated to Dwight July 4th Fireworks. Delegates elected for the Midwest District

Convention on September 22-24 in Kenosha are Shirley Holzhauser and Dick Perschnick. Alternates are Bob Weller and Leo Pedersen.

We will enter our Viking Float in the Harvest Days parade in September and also we will be selling Harvest Days buttons. We will be going to Conklin Theater in October.

Margaret Goodwin, Sec.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST NEWSLETTER

Lodge #35, Chicago, IL — It's time for the Midwest District Picnic to be held August 13 at the Isaak Walton Park in Homewood. Come early for coffee and kringle. A picnic lunch will be served between 1 and 2 p.m. Please bring a salad or casserole to serve ten. The committee will supply hot dogs, hamburgers, beer, pop, ice cream, coffee and kringle. There will be games for the children and adults. We promise you a great day!

Paul Sloth, President, opened the June meeting in the usual way and then welcomed visitors. Laura Meldal, son Gustaf and his wife Margrete and daughter Kristine, all visitors from Denmark, were made welcome along with Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Jepsen and son, Carole Baily and Andy Andersen.

Two applications for membership were received — Charles and Jane Garvey. Ivar Olafson was initiated into our lodge and was made welcome by members present.

Ray Nielsen told us that the District Fraternal Coordinators have visited two lodges since the last meeting, No. 340 in Wood Dale and No. 92 in St. Charles. He also urged more participation in the trap shoot in Dwight.

Ed Larsen stated the ads for the ad-book for our 100th anniversary are going slow and asked for more participation from members. We were reminded of the boat cruise on Lake Michigan on August 27.

The National Board of the DBIA awarded Carl Christensen III a cash award of \$108 and certificate of merit to be applied to a golf camp of his choice. Kristin Connery also received a certificate of merit and a check for \$118 for a band camp of her choice. Woody Petersen explained that the national camp grants come out to different amounts depending on the demand. Paul Erik Sloth also received a camp grant to Skovsøen, his fourth time!

Andy Andersen from the National Headquarters is the National Sales Director and made a presentation about a new Five-Year Plan that the Brotherhood has in mind. Andy told us that everyone must make a concentrated effort to increase member-

ship in the DBIA. He stated that our lodge is one of the few who are adding to its membership and he wishes all the lodges across the country would do the same.

Everyone enjoyed the good food brought by members at the potluck supper that preceded the meeting.

Please remember your Operation Care and Share items for the Lutheran Family Mission. They need canned goods, non-perishable items and especially baby food. This is an on-going need so bring your items to each meeting.

Elsa Petersen, Cor.

Lodge #36, Milwaukee, WI — We had an event-packed early summer! On June 3 our members went to Genoa City, Wisconsin, and participated in the Second Annual Friman Historical Marker Fest, celebrating the 151st year of the first Swedish family settling in Wisconsin!

We manned two different booths during the Nordic Council of Wisconsin's First Annual Scandinavian Festival, June 10, in Menomonee Falls. At one we sold Danish kringle and completely sold out! At the other we furnished information and handed out literature about the Danish Brotherhood in America, the Danish Windmill and Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa, and Den Danske Pioneer.

On June 17, Inga Hermansen demonstrated Danish counted cross stitch at Boerner Botanical Garden's Rose Festival in Whitnall Park. On June 18 we sold Danish kringle in the garden and furnished information about the Danish Brotherhood, the Danish Windmill and Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa, and Den Danske Pioneer.

June 24 was the date of our Centennial Brunch with DBIA Past President Bob Ibsen as Toastmaster. Programmed speakers were: Invocation - Rev. Ernest O. Norquist, Lodge No. 36; Inga M. Hermansen, President, Lodge No. 36; Mayor John O. Norquist, Milwaukee; Honorary Danish Consul Barry N. James, Milwaukee; Rudy Bern-



National President Clyde Langsted, Past President Robert Ibsen, and First Vice President Woody Petersen congratulate Inga and Axel Hermansen for their hard work in making the Glad-saxe Pigegarde available.

hardt, Jr., President of the Midwest District; Albert L. Larsen, President of Nordic Council of Wisconsin; Clyde Langsted, National DBIA President; State Senator Joseph F. Andrea, Kenosha; Vice Consul Hugo Petersen, Danish Consulate-Chicago; Woodrow Petersen, First Vice President of the DBIA; Rick Wade, President of Lodge No. 14, Kenosha; Jytte Kilzer, President of the Danish American Club, Milwaukee; and Christ Steffensen, Publisher, Den Danske Pioneer.

Axel and Inga Hermansen were lauded for their success in getting the Gladsaxe Pige garde to come from Denmark to help us celebrate our centennial.

Following the brunch, charter bus transportation was made available to take people to the City of Festivals Parade in downtown Milwaukee to watch the Gladsaxe Pige garde perform.

On June 25, many of our members were on hand at the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival at Old World Wisconsin, Eagle. Entertainment included decorating and erection of the Maypole, singing by the Scandinavian Chorus and performances by the Gladsaxe Pige garde as well as dancing on the green by the Nordic Senior Dancers, the Norwegian Lykkeringen Dancers and the Finnish Kipakat Dancers.

We attended a band concert by the Gladsaxe Pige garde at Reuther High School in Kenosha on June 28. On July 2 we saw the Pige garde march and perform in Kenosha's Civic-Veterans Parade. We also enjoyed a reception for the girls following the parade at Lodge No. 14's Hall.

Finally, we served a turkey dinner to the Pige garde troupe on our July 5 meeting night at the International Institute, Milwaukee. The group left O'Hare International Airport for Denmark on July 6.

Al Larsen, Sec.

Lodge #343, Waupaca, WI — Our lodge met on June 22 and made plans to secure a wagon and team of horses for our participation in the local Waupaca parade with the theme of "The seventy-fifth year of our library."

Our program was presented by Rev. Perry Bell of the Waupaca Methodist Church on his trip to India. He urged donations to missions through one's church since all donations reach the needy in foreign nations. More is always needed.

Evelyn Doerr, Cor.

Classified Advertisement

HARALD BLUETOOTH: Danish European. World Federation of Europeans (by birth or descent), P.O. Box 14262, North Palm Beach, FL 33408.

MICHIGAN-OHIO

Lodge #227, Detroit, MI — June 14th saw 60 people present for the pre-meeting dinner after which 38 Brothers attended the business meeting.

At this meeting, we had six Brothers receive pins for 25 years of membership. They are as follows: Hans G. Nielsen, Willy Jensen, Erhard Sorensen, Harvey Jensen, Walter Mayland and Hans Hansen. Congratulations to all of you and thanks for your efforts and participation over the years.

The election of officers for the Old People's Home Board was put off until the September meeting because the letter naming the candidates was not available. Please be there in September to vote on this important board.

The district baseball outing was on June 18 hosted by Detroit and a good time was had by all despite a little problem on the return trip from the stadium caused by the bus company.

Please remember the anniversary party is scheduled for the last part of September.

Bob Sorensen, Cor.

GCEL

Lodge #325, Nassau Co., NY — On June 9 Vice President Niels B. Hansen chaired our monthly meeting in the absence of President Elizabeth Pedersen and he also supplied Danish background music throughout the evening.

Helen Kofod, our delegate to the Danish Home in Metuchen, informed us that all is well at the home. Marianne Andersen, our Care and Share representative, reported that our lodge had donated a generous amount of money and food at last month's meeting.

Niels B. Hansen was the Master of Ceremonies for a very enjoyable night of bingo. He was assisted by Financial Secretary Ib Andersen. Birgit Jacobsen supplied some very delicious prizes and Evelyn Jensen donated a bottle of Harvey's Bristol Cream for the grand finale prize.

On the Kitchen Committee serving coffee and cake were Soffy and Ib Andersen, Nette and Niels B. Hansen and Ellen Hansen. Jørgen Lutje took care of the refreshments.

Karen Witt, Sec.

Himmelbjerget Receives Gift

A generous grant has been received from the Northwest Danish Foundation to provide financial assistance for the first

year of a Danish language camp in the Pacific Northwest. In addition, gifts to underwrite the project have been provided by the Portland, Eugene, and Junction City, Oregon Danish Brotherhood lodges, the Enumclaw, Washington Sisterhood, and the Danish American Heritage Society.

Himmelbjerget, the name given this camp, was held July 16-21 at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center.

Annual Folk Meeting Scheduled

Danebod Folk School invites you again to its annual fall Folk Meeting in Tyler, MN. It will begin with supper Wednesday evening, August 30, and end with dinner Sunday noon, September 3.

The first evening we will have a review of past Folk Meetings, seeing slides Thyra Nussle has taken over the years.

Thursday our speakers will be Mark Jacobs of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency who will speak on "Breaking the Landfill Habit;" Peter Sorensen, who is Director of the Graduate School of Administration and Organizational Behavior at Illinois Benedictine College and who was in Denmark in 1986 working with organizations in Scandinavia; and Herluf M. Jensen, bishop of the New Jersey Synod of the ELCA.

Friday Reuben T. Swanson, former secretary of the LCA, will speak on "Religion in American Life." Harald R. Jensen, professor at the University of Minnesota for many years, will speak on "Hardline Fundamentalism." The evening program will be a discussion on some of the issues brought out in those two lectures.

Saturday morning we will hear Paul Sorensen of the Department of Biological Sciences at Northern Illinois University. In the afternoon Karma Ibsen of the Department of Theater and Communications at the University of North Carolina will present a drama, "Nine Women." She is the author and she portrays all nine women herself.

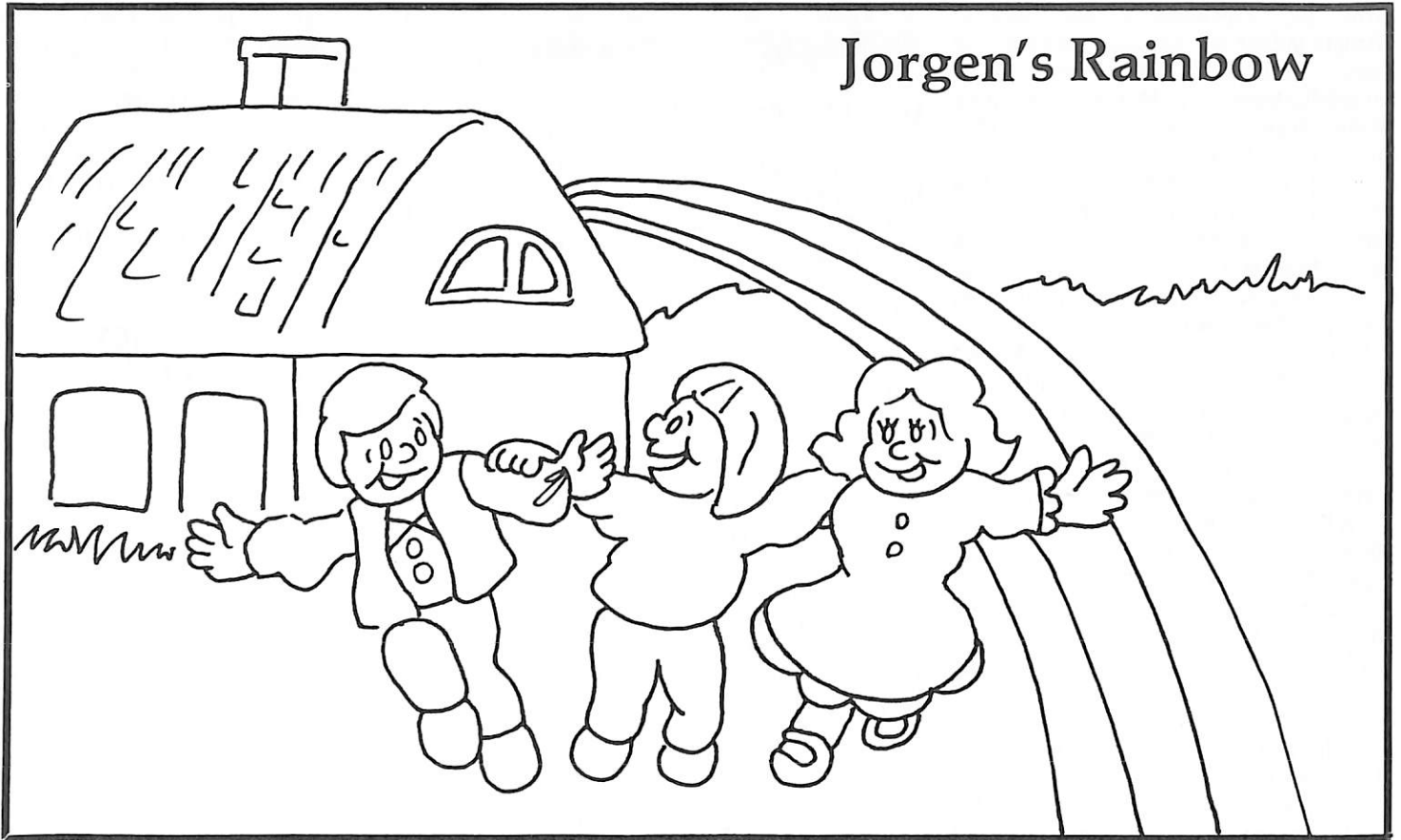
Saturday evening will feature the usual variety program.

Fylla Kildegaard and Svend Koch will be our story tellers on Thursday and Friday, respectively. W. Clayton Nielsen will again direct folk dancing, and Asta Ibsen will be in charge of the song periods as last year.

Karl B. Lunder, Herluf M. Jensen, and Paul R. Petersen are in charge of the morning devotions. Herluf Jensen will preach at the English service and Ronald Jespersen at the Danish service on Sunday.

The cost for all this is \$80, which includes meals and lodging at the folk school.

Jorgen's Rainbow



In the summer, many Danes spend some time at a summer cottage. More than half of the Danish population own one and enjoy their time there. Jorgen likes to visit Sigrid and Stephen when they are playing at their "sommerhus." Let's tell them to "Ha'en god ferie!" (Have a good vacation!)

Please color this picture and send it to the Danish Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska 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 the following age groups: 2-4, 5-7, 8-9, and 10-12.

July winners: Jeni C. Lind, Mandy Zeager, and Sonja Simonsen.

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Grandma's Kitchen



by Dagmar Jensen

Finsk Brød (Finnish Shortbread)

2 cups butter pinch of salt
1 cup sugar chopped almonds
4 cups flour

Sift flour, add salt, sugar and butter. Knead together. Roll out in long slender rolls from 1/2 to 1 inch in diameter. Cut these rolls in 2 inch lengths. Press down slightly with the back of your finger. Sprinkle with sugar and chopped almonds. (Chopped walnuts may be substituted.) Beaten egg may be brushed on first if desired, then dip in sugar and nuts. Bake in 375 to 400 degree oven until light brown.

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Jerome B. Sonsalla National Director

Jerome B. Sonsalla, or Jerry as he is more commonly known, became a member of Lodge No. 219 in Clear Lake, Iowa, in 1967. Jerry has served his lodge in the capacity of Conductor, Vice-President and is the current Entertainment Chairman. He has been very active in the Iowa-Minnesota District, serving as Conductor, Trustee, Vice-President, President and Past President, and was instrumental during the merge of the Iowa and Minnesota Districts. He has also served on several committees to plan District Conventions. Jerry was elected to the National Board of Directors at the 1987 National Convention held in Des Moines, Iowa.

Jerry served three years in the United States Army, teaching Avionics Electronics in Fort Gordon, Georgia, prior to being transferred to Vietnam. His current occupation is that of a truck driver.

Much of his spare time is spent working with young people. He has been a Cub Scout leader for six years, a Boy Scout leader for two years, a sponsor for a youth Bible Quiz Bowl Team, and has chaperoned many youth outings through the Church of Christ, where he also serves as a Deacon. For the past four years, he has assisted a group of youngsters with a trip to Colorado.

Jerry, along with his wife, Kathy, have two children, Tammi Kaye and Todd Jerome and are proud to be a 100% DBIA insured family. The family resides in Webster City, Iowa.

When asked for any advice Jerry would like to offer to members of the Danish Brotherhood, he stated that in order for our Society to stay strong, we **must** do so from within, and start with our most valuable asset, the children — our future. When Jerry first joined the Danish Brotherhood he found a society that believes in a close, strong family by keeping alive its heritage. One of his goals, as a member of the National Board of Directors, is to strengthen this idea. He hopes for an increase in pride of our country, our heritage, and most of all, the family.

Although Jerry is a relatively "newcomer" to the National Board of Directors, he has quickly become very involved. He serves on the Auditing & Securities Committee, the Scholarship/Camp Grants Committee and is Chairman of the Building Committee.

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Proud To Be A Dane?

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

Name _____		Age _____		Other Family Members:	
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