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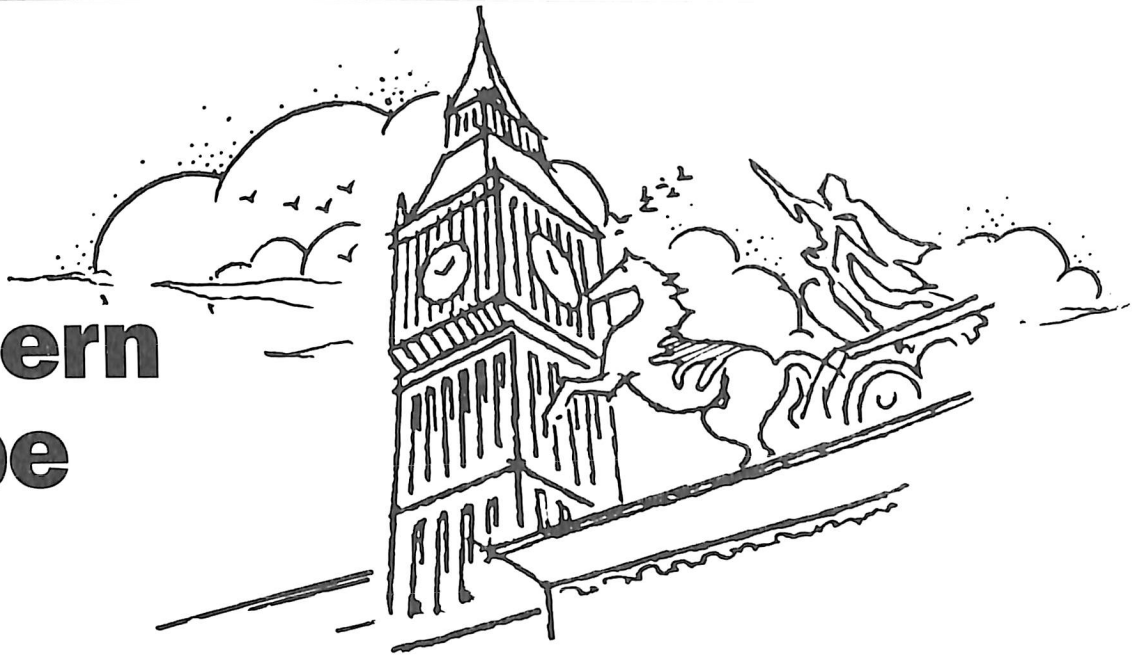
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# American Dane

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**Denmark our Heritage - America our Home**

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- JORGEN'S RAINBOW** ..... page 14  
*Jorgen learns something about Danish stamps.*
- GRANDMA'S KITCHEN** ..... page 14  
*Fresh raspberries and currants make a tasty pudding.*
- VIKING ADVENTURES** ..... page 15  
*Happy Birthday Little Mermaid!*

## Feature Articles:

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*As harvest season approaches, Ruth Nielsen shares an appropriate song with us.*
- LITTLE SCHOOL IN THE WOODS** ..... page 5  
*Buz Swerkstrom explains important Danish history that took place in a rural Wisconsin town.*
- DANISH IMMIGRANT MUSEUM OPENS** ..... page 7  
*The Museum near Elk Horn-Kimballton, Iowa prepares for "Open House."*

VOLUME LXXVII

SEPTEMBER 1993

NUMBER 9

**Cover Photo:** As Phase I-a of The Danish Immigrant Museum nears completion, plans for an Open House are under way. See related article on page 7.

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# Oats

by Ruth Nielsen

Jeppe Aakjaer, whom we met first in the Rebild Song, *Heart; Be Still*, wrote the words to another lyrical and poetic verse which lent itself to music. He perhaps displays some humor in this poem.

He wrote novels, plays and songs, many in the dialect of his native community on the peninsula of Jutler. He lived there on a farm named "Lonely."

As a young man he expressed social indignation but it was more emotional than political. His poems and songs, especially those in dialect, remind one of Robert Burns whose influence he gratefully acknowledged. In his 1903-1904 work on the tragic life of Steen Steensen Blicher, Jutland's first great lyric poet, Aakjaer's own life is revealed: his failed marriage, his attraction to outsiders, and a sense of history in which characters find their place and meaning. His military career lasted only six weeks because of a sight problem. He became anti-military in his works. His excellent knowledge of foreign languages led to many translations from English, German and Swedish.

*The Oats* is a lively song about the grain as it stands in the field. The melody was written by Aksel Agerby, a more modern composer (1889-1942). His efforts actually make the oats sing. As a composer he wrote music for men's chorus, violin and piano. Agerby served as organist at Brønshøj Church as well as president of the Young Musicians Company. Under his leadership it made tremendous growth.

*Oats* was translated by Pastor S. D. Rodholm who again shows his ability to be sensitive to the Danish language as he keeps the meaning and lyricism of the words.

Appreciate this blend of verse and melody as they compliment each other in this, another gem of song.

## THE OATS

Jeppe Aakjær  
Trans. by S. D. Rodholm

Lightly

Aksel Agerby

Here I stand with tink-ling bells ga-lore,  
I was sown while hap-py birds in spring  
Grow-ing up in sun and morn-ing dew  
Cold un-feel-ing hearts can nev-er see

Twen-ty on each straw I think, or more.  
Made with joy-ful songs the wel-kin ring.  
That sweet sym-pho-ny with-in me grew.  
An-y-thing but cat-tle feed in me.

But the farm-er, bless his hon-est soul,  
Bum-ble-bees in wild and tum-bling race,  
He who lis-tens hum-bly while I ring,  
I am more than food for hun-gry jaws,

Calls me oats and speaks of twen-ty fold.  
In the mel-low sun-shine droned the bass.  
Hears the ech-o of the songs of spring.  
I am song of birds on gold-en straws.

I am friends with everything that grows,  
Friends with every gentle wind that blows,  
Friends with waving trees and summer skies,  
Friends with daisies and with butterflies.

When the sun goes down, its parting smile  
Lingers on my golden head awhile,  
And when evening bells ring out, I, too,  
Tinkle, standing tip-toe in the dew.

I am ringing children to their beds,  
Ringing up the mist that slowly spreads.  
Ringing peace, as busy day departs,  
Into humble homes, and pious hearts.

Words and Music Copyright © 1941.  
Danish American Young Peoples League

# Little School in the Woods

by Buz Swerkstrom

The place reminded the first Danish immigrant settlers so much of home that they called it West Denmark. Located in the rolling woodlands one mile west of Luck, Wisconsin, on the western shore of Little Butternut Lake, West Denmark was—and still is—a truly pleasant setting. In *Fra De Stille Skove*, or *From the Silent Woods*, a novel published in 1896, Emil Ferdinand Madsen had the main character say of West Denmark: “The Lord must have created this area one day when he had just come from Denmark and was in high spirits.”

Today West Denmark is merely a cluster of seven or eight houses, a Lutheran church, and a parish hall. The post office was closed when the railroad bypassed West Denmark in 1901. It was routed through Luck instead. An old general store has long since disappeared, as has the area’s first creamery, one of the first cooperative creameries in Wisconsin.

The only clue to a religious drama played out there over one hundred years ago is a historical marker erected by the Polk County Historical Society in 1972.

The historical marker reads: **On February 13, 1887, The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America established its first seminary on this site with Pastor Thorvald Helveg as president, assisted by Pastor Jens Pedersen and a layman, J.P. Petersen. In 1888 Pastor P.S. Vig Succeeded Pastor Pedersen. Eleven to fifteen students attended each year of its operation. Factional strife within the synod forced the closing of the seminary in 1892.**

The story behind this synopsis is an interesting sidebar to both the history of Scandinavian immigration and the history of the Lutheran Church in America.

According to a centennial history of the West Denmark Lutheran Church, written by Edwin Pedersen, the first Danish settler came to West Denmark in the fall of 1868. “Fifty dollars would buy forty acres,” wrote Pedersen, “and the new settler could pay as little as thirteen dollars down.”

The rich farmland and bargain prices soon attracted enough Danish immigrants so that by 1873 they could organize a congregation and call for a pastor.

By the mid-1880s the church at West Denmark had one of the strongest congregations of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Even so, this tiny hamlet in northwestern Wisconsin seemed like an unlikely location for a theological seminary. The nearest railroad station was 17 miles away in St. Croix Falls—a half day’s journey, in good weather. When West Denmark was suggested as a possible seminary site at the annual convention of the Danish Church in America in 1886, one lay delegate quipped that it would be “a good place to train hermits if we needed such.”

West Denmark had its champions as well, though. One of those who was particularly enamored of West Denmark was



**West Denmark Seminary  
classroom building and dormitory.**

A. S. Nielsen, synod president at the time. While others worried about how isolated the seminary would be—both geographically and intellectually—Nielsen considered that detachment an asset. He had visited West Denmark and felt it would be the perfect place for young men to “find an opportunity to let their thoughts rise to God.” Thorvald Hansen noted in a book about the West Denmark Seminary, *School In The Woods*.

West Denmark also had some practical advantages as a seminary site. West Denmark’s former pastor, K. S. Noregaard, had built a folk high school there in 1884 that had been used for only one year. Noregaard, who had recently moved to Chicago to operate a children’s home, was willing to sell the school building, his house, and 18 acres of land for \$2,000. Since Noregaard’s departure also left the West Denmark congregation without a pastor, Thorvald Helveg, who had already been chosen as seminary president, would also be able to fill that vacancy. In addition, the North Luck church was only a little more than two miles away, so the pastor there would be able to assist Helveg at the seminary. All in all, a seminary at West Denmark would cost less to operate than one at other sites considered.

Instead of buying buildings, the Danish Church initially rented the school building and the parsonage for \$200 a year. The West Denmark congregation was supposed to pay one-fourth of that amount as well as supply all the firewood needed for the school.

The church purchased the buildings and the land from Noregaard’s widow in 1889 for \$1,200.

“The physical facilities at West Denmark were spartan but adequate,” wrote Hansen. There were two frame buildings standing close together. The larger one, about 28 by 36 feet, was used as the classroom building. The Helveg family most likely lived on the second floor. The other building, the old parsonage, was converted into a dormitory. It had room for 12 students, with one room reserved for guests. This building was later moved to Luck. The other building was destroyed by fire in 1943.

Student fees were \$4 per month for tuition and \$8 per month

for room and board, for an eight month school term.

Thorvald Helveg was only 31 years old when he was asked to serve as seminary president. As one of the few pastors in the church with a university degree (from the University of Copenhagen), he was considered something of a scholar.

Jens Pedersen, pastor of the North Luck congregation, which had split from West Denmark several years earlier, also taught at the seminary the first year of its operation, before moving to Michigan.

Also during the first year, a layman, J. P. Petersen who later served in the Wisconsin legislature, taught an English course and a literature course.

Peter Sorensen Vig replaced Jens Pedersen, both at the seminary and at the North Luck church.

The school library contained between 400 and 500 books. Most dealt with religion and theology. Helveg also subscribed to several Danish and religious periodicals.

Sixteen pastors were trained at the West Denmark seminary



North Luck pastor Peter Sorensen Vig taught at the West Denmark Seminary for four years. Vig and Helveg were on opposite sides of the theological controversy that eventually split the Danish Church in America.

during its short existence. Two others who received most of their training there were tutored by Helveg after the seminary was closed. At least 10 other young men studied at the West Denmark Seminary for various lengths of time.

"The theological education which the men received was certainly lacking by modern standards, but there is no reason to assume it was not satisfactory," Hansen wrote. ". . . While it is not unfair to suggest that the biblical and theological education given there was rather elementary, it cannot be said that those who went forth from West Denmark were poorly educated."

While their students kept the seminary students busy most of the week, on weekends they often ventured out to visit the local settlers. Local farmers also paid frequent visits to the seminary.

The church schism that forced the closing of the seminary in 1892 was created by a controversy over theological issues. Attempts at reconciliation failed and the two factions of the Danish Church formally split in 1894.

Today only one resident of West Denmark proper has a threadlike tie to Danish ancestry. While the West Denmark Lutheran Church has become more generic, you might say, over the years, several Danish customs still survive.

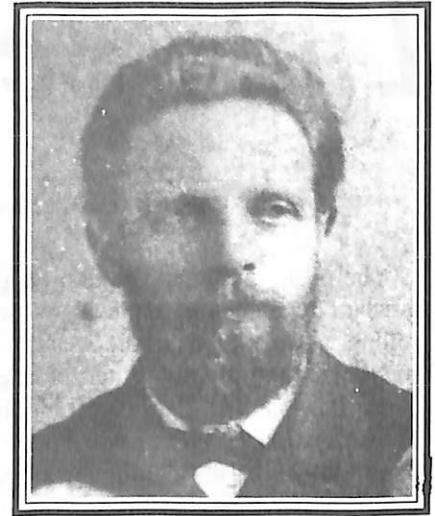
One of the most popular traditions is the annual æbelskiver dinner the first Tuesday of May. It began as a congregation-only affair, with a play part of the festivities. The play was discontinued at some point and the dinner opened to the general public. The dinner now attracts 600 or more people some years.

Fastelavns, a Mardi Gras-like pre-Lent event, is still held as well, to a limited extent. Today the Monday evening before Ash Wednesday is devoted to fastelavns games. Originally fastelavns festivities lasted two or three days.

At Christmastime there is still dancing around the tree following a Christmas program in the church hall.

The church building itself, built in 1987 to replace one that burned in 1985, is patterned after the typical design of rural Danish churches.


"There is a nice, very Danish looking outside, with a wide open, semi-contemporary look to the interior, while still maintaining some traditional aspects of worship," former West Denmark Pastor Mark Behrendt said shortly before moving from West Denmark. "I think that works out real well."



Pastor Thorvald Helveg studied at the University of Copenhagen and was the president of the seminary at West Denmark which was established by the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on February 13, 1887.

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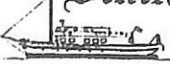


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# Museum Plans Open House



Construction continues on the interior of the Museum.

The Danish Immigrant Museum, An International Cultural Center, near Elk Horn-Kimballton, Iowa will open its doors to the public on October 10, 1993. Five years after the first shovel of dirt was removed on Labor Day, 1988, Phase 1-a is completed.

The Open House has tentatively been scheduled from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. There will not be an admission charge during the Open House, but donations will be accepted. Although no exhibits will be displayed during the Open House, visitors will be able to view the building and tour guides will point out exhibit areas and sites for future construction. In addition, visitors will learn the philosophy behind the building structure and materials used.

Activities are already in the planning stages for the Museum. Some exhibits should be on display in time for Julefest on November 26, 27 and 28 and a Dedication and Grand Opening ceremony is being planned for June, 1994. Dignitaries will be on hand to participate in the Dedication and Grand Opening.

The Museum is tucked amid rolling hills of pastures and corn and soy bean fields. The Museum is barely visible from the road. There is a reason for that. "When visitors drive to the site and see the Museum, they will think they're in another world," explained

June Sampson, Museum Executive Director.

The idea for a museum came about in the fall of 1980 at a gathering in Decorah, Iowa. Two Dana College faculty members called upon the Danish-American Heritage Society to appoint a committee to consider the feasibility of establishing a Danish-American Archival and Museum. The committee determined there were two possible sites for such a museum. One was Elk-Horn-Kimballton, Iowa and the other was Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Iowa location won out based upon the support for the idea by the local residents, state residents, state officials and the concentration of Danish descendants. According to a report prepared by one of the first committees, Minneapolis-St. Paul was not the location of choice because, "... there was no ground

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**Site supervisor, Richard Reysack discusses plans with June Sampson, Executive Director.**

swell of support from the local people themselves, from the elected officials - city councils, state representatives, Congressmen, and governor; from state promotional and state public agencies nor from educational institutions. This kind of support emanated from Iowa, and such in-depth and widespread support is essential to the daily operation and longer term growth of the museum." It was also noted, a museum in Elk Horn-Kimballton would not have to compete with as many area attractions, as it would in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. The Elk Horn site is centrally located in the United States. It is about one hour west of Des Moines, Iowa and approximately two hours east of Omaha, Nebraska on Interstate 80.

Many individuals, families, business and organizations have aided in the construction and funding of the Danish Immigrant Museum, through monetary and artifact contributions, and through participation in the Wall of Honor for family members who immigrated to this country. The Wall of Honor will be a permanent display at the Museum. Family members may be honored on the Wall with a \$200 tax-deductible donation.

Mrs. Sampson explained other services will be available at the museum. A library and other reference and research materials will also be available for use at the Museum. Although genealogy information is available from the Wall of Honor files, Mrs. Sampson stressed their capabilities are limited at this time. When funds provide, she said perhaps the Museum will "come on-line" with The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah and Danes Worldwide Archives in Aalborg, Denmark via computer hook up. The Museum will also have a gift shop and information center. Admission to the Museum will be \$2.00 per person, effective October 11.

The next phase to be completed is the multi-purpose room. This room will be designed to accommodate 250 people theater-

style. It will be used for conferences, lectures, programs and special exhibits. It will also function as a dining room to seat about 150 people. The Museum will have its own kitchen facility for dinners, banquets and parties. There is not a target date set for completion of this phase of the project. Like Phase 1-a, work will be completed as the funds are available.

"The Danish Immigrant Museum will tell the story of the Danish American experience and is organized to collect, preserve, study and interpret artifacts and traditions which express the experience of Danes in America."

## Annual Board Meeting

The annual meeting of the National Board of Directors of the Danish Brotherhood in America will begin on October 22, 1993, at the National Headquarters Building, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

## *Danish Immigrant Museum Christmas Cards Available*



To celebrate the first year in the new facility, The Danish Immigrant Museum proudly presents a special card with a version of the architect's conceptual drawing of the Museum on a Danish blue Christmas plate. The price per card is fifty cents.

To order, please call 1-800-553-1937 or write to The Danish Immigrant Museum, PO Box 178, Elk Horn, Iowa, 51531.

Orders should be received by Wednesday, December 1 to insure delivery in time for your holiday mailing.

All contributions are tax deductible to the extent and manner prescribed by law.

## NFCA Placed on Honor Roll

The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA), a trade association of 97 fraternal benefit societies, has been elected to the Associations Advance America Honor Roll for its outstanding community service.

NFCA member-societies from across the United States and Canada provided volunteers and over \$5 million in disaster relief funds to assist the victims of Hurricane Andrew. The NFCA volunteer relief effort included shipments of food and clothing, pediatric supplies, bottled water, and over 10 tons of building materials.

The Associations Advance America Awards, sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives, recognize significant contributions to society by associations in the areas of research, standard setting, education, international activities and community service.

NFCA member societies provide insurance products to approximately 9.5 million members in the United States and Canada, as well as volunteer service opportunities to help individuals, institutions and communities. NFCA members contributed over 60 million hours of volunteer service during 1992.

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**DOES ANYONE KNOW?** In our family research we are looking for locksmith Carl Gustav Vilhelm Setterberg, born circa 1793 and his sons Vilhelm Setterberg, born 1831 and Edvard Setterberg, born 1836, both in Brønshøj, Sjælland. All three known to have emigrated from Denmark to America August 1853. Please contact Claus Juhl, Syrenvej 5, Blovstrød, 3450 Allerød, Denmark.

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# Our Lodges in Action

Material for this publication must be received at the Danish Brotherhood in America National Headquarters, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, NE 68131-3844 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.

**\* Bronze Lodge Award \*\* Silver Lodge Award \*\*\* Gold Lodge Award.**

## Pacific

## Northwest

**Lodge No. 33, Tacoma, WA**—The Pacific-Northwest District Convention was held on May 21-23 at the Executive Inn in Fife, Washington. This was a joint effort co-sponsored by Tacoma Brotherhood Lodge No. 33, Tacoma-Olympia Sisterhood Lodge No. 19, Enumclaw Brotherhood Lodge No. 113, and Enumclaw Sisterhood Lodge No. 75. The co-chairpersons were Myra Brochner, President of Brotherhood Lodge No. 33, and Niels Nedergard, President of Brotherhood Lodge No. 113. The secretary was Signe Wenness of Brotherhood Lodge No. 33 and the treasurer was Leo Madsen of Brotherhood Lodge No. 33.

Our lodge will hold their annual rummage sale in September. The proceeds help subsidize the Christmas dinner party for the children.

Our regular monthly meetings are held at the Turning Point Restaurant, 3025 Pacific Highway E, at noon on the second Saturday of each month.

**Jeannette Madsen, Cor.**

**Lodge No. 167, Portland, OR**—The July meeting was called to order by President Thorkildsen with 32 members and guests present. The minutes of the June meeting were approved as written. Bills were approved to be paid and the treasurer's report was read and approved.

Kris Roley reported that the Young Vikings had a great time in Menucha and at the Astoria Festival.

Buck Jensen requested a \$200 advance to Norm Powell for expenses relating to the Seaman's Fair which was held in Vancouver on July 25. Norman reported that he would sell the usual aebelskiver and also frikadellar on a stick which could be called "frikasticks." A sign up sheet

was circulated for people willing to help Norm.

President Thorkildsen read a letter from Frederick Mosher in which was enclosed a check for \$50 to be used for promotion and getting new members and to build the attendance at our meetings. Don thanked him for his thoughtfulness and hoped that it would serve as an impetus for others to do likewise.

Kris Roley has agreed to update our lodge directory.

President Thorkildsen presented Norm Powell with his Past President's pin.

Ed Hirsch and Norm Powell will represent our lodge at the Danish Foundation in

Seattle.

We had three guests from the Scandinavian Cultural Center. They told us about property that was donated for the Scandinavian Cultural Center and that it is all becoming a reality. They hope to have architect's drawings by the time of Scan Fair in December and hope for completion in 1996. Several members received certificates for their contributions to the Scandinavian Cultural Center Founders Club. A 20 minute film was shown in which the representatives of the various Scandinavian countries told of their dreams and visions for this center and that it will serve as a magnet for all

## Velkommen!

*In recognition of DBIA members who are participating in the growth of the Danish Brotherhood in America by recommending their family and friends.*

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Scandinavians.

Remember to mark your calendars for the Sunday, September 12 picnic at Oaks Park. This will be fun for the whole family and the kids will have free rides. Debbie Turner will reserve the space for our group.

A big thank you was given to Pete Christensen for the delicious hot dogs served before the meeting.

The meeting closed with the singing of "Der Er Et Yndigt Land."

**Ruth Dally, Sec.**

**California**

**Nevada**

**Lodge No. 306, San Diego, CA**—On September 18-19, we will have a booth at the International Friendship Fair in El Cajon. **Bess Jacobsen, Cor.**

**Lodge No. 345, Orange County, CA**—

We wish to thank Andy Andersen for allowing our lodge to use his lovely facility for our Country Western Barbecue Fundraiser Dinner. His clubhouse was perfect and his yard was blooming and beautiful.

We had around 50 people in attendance. The barbecue beef and chicken dinner was delicious and the dancing that followed was a lot of fun.

Many thanks to all the hard workers that helped make this fundraiser an enjoyable evening: Gary, Toni, Jamey and DaNeil Gossett, Ken and Gerry Olsen, Soren Christensen and Helga and Kaj Bjorn.

The lodge made a profit of \$360 from this event. A very special thank you goes to Ken and Gerry Olsen who invited many friends and sold an extra 14 tickets to area

businesses.

Letters of nomination for the Spencer Nielsen Award will be accepted at our September meeting. All letters will be read when each of us will vote for a winner. The award presentation will be made at our October meeting.

Plans are already being made for our installation of officer banquet to be held on Saturday, January 8, 1994.

**Toni Olsen Gossett, Cor.**

**Nebraska**

**Lodge No. 1, Omaha, NE**—Omaha's own Rebild Fest sponsored by the Danish American Club, Danish Brotherhood Lodge No. 1, Danish Sisterhood Lodge No. 6, Omaha Chapter Rebild National Park Society, and Vennelyst was a big

# 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	Birthplace	Lodge No.	Location	Year Joined
7-3-93	Thomas E. Jensen	76	Highland Park, Michigan	675	Omaha, Nebraska	1964
7-4-93	Phillip L. Achton	92	Hillerod, Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1923
6-20-93	V. Christian Casperson	86	Gamer, Iowa	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1943
7-11-93	Wilh (William) Rasmussen	92	Denmark	43	Denver, Colorado	1923
7-14-93	John W. Petersen	72	Omaha, Nebraska	700	Omaha, Nebraska	1949
5-21-93	Elmer K. Homo	74	Chicago, Illinois	213	Hartford, Connecticut	1960
7-7-93	Henry Pedersen	82	Alameda, California	39	San Leandro, California	1938
7-20-93	Ejlif H. Kjems	80	Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1963
4-1-93	Carl W. Petersen	78	Schenectady, New York	190	Schenectady, New York	1945
6-1-93	Christian Johansen	79	Antelope, Montana	283	Dagmar, Montana	1934
6-27-93	Dolores B. Andersen	64	Audubon County, Iowa	15	Des Moines, Iowa	1929
4-28-93	Henry Christensen	77	Humboldt, Iowa	217	Humboldt, Iowa	1976
12-9-92	Howard E. Sorensen	89	Chicago, Illinois	217	Humboldt, Iowa	1979
1-12-93	Ronald N. Hansen	74	Humboldt, Iowa	217	Humboldt, Iowa	1983
6-21-93	Lillian Nielsen	77	Independence, Missouri	56	Kansas City, Missouri	1981
6-28-93	Donald L. Jacobsen	72	Shelby County, Iowa	349	Atlantic, Iowa	1989
9-11-92	Svend Ronvold	94	Denmark	17	Chicago, Illinois	1963
6-9-93	Julia L. Anderson	75	Lexington, Illinois	34	Dwight, Illinois	1978
8-1-93	Harold Kubart	64	Kenosha, Wisconsin	14	Kenosha, Wisconsin	1929
1992	James E. Hansen	85	Unknown	51	Ludington, Michigan	1959
5-28-93	Einar C.E. Christensen	65	Cleveland, Ohio	170	Rocky River, Ohio	1991

success. Many thanks to those who worked so hard on the committees. You missed a great sight if you did not see the cake.

Dr. Bansen from Dana College gave an extremely interesting talk on the Danish colonies he had visited around the world, especially in India and the Virgin Islands.

The folk songs of Denmark were sung heartily and were well accompanied by Bruce Nissen at the piano.

**Ruth Nielsen, Cor.**

**Lodge No. 16, Minden, NE**—We met July 15 at the Community Center with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited in unison led by Leonard Anderson, President.

Mange tak to the volunteers who made and served homemade ice cream around the square.

Motion was made and seconded to donate \$25 to the Nebraska District Scholarship Fund in memory of Ginny Schultz who served the Brotherhood so faithfully.

Poems and readings about the "good ole days" and homemade ice cream socials were read. Afterwards, homemade ice cream and cake was served by Hazel Bronson, Lois Nelson, and Roma and Leonard Anderson.

**Minna Newbold, Sec.**

**Lodge No. 206, Blair, NE**—Our June meeting was attended by 26 persons. Jerry Christensen encouraged us to read the letter in American Dane from the National Board in regard to the future of the Danish Brotherhood. He answered many questions about activities thus far in finding a society who might be interested in a merger with our organization.

Delegates to the Nebraska District Convention were elected as follows: Janice Johnson, and Jennifer and Jerry Christensen. The convention will be held at the Villager Inn in Lincoln on September 17-19. All members interested may attend.

**Helen McNichols, Sec.**

## Heartland

**\*\* Lodge No. 15, Des Moines, IA**—Our lodge helped sponsor the Scandinavian Midsommarfest '93 held June 20 on the Grand View College campus. Our Danish food offerings proved very popular. Marilyn Gift demonstrated Scandi-

navian wheat weaving and sold house blessings and Christmas tree ornaments made of wheat. Several women participated in the Scandinavian costume style show.

Congratulations to our lodge scholarship winners! They are Laura Meldrum, who will be entering Dana College this fall, and Alan Gift, who will be a sophomore at University of Northern Iowa.

Thirty-five members and guests enjoyed dinner at the Viking Restaurant and Lounge for our regular meeting night on July 12. It was a welcome break from the flood problems which left most of our members without any running water in our homes. Some were without electric power for a few days. Our Dike, Iowa Danish friends were unable to join us due to flooded roads.

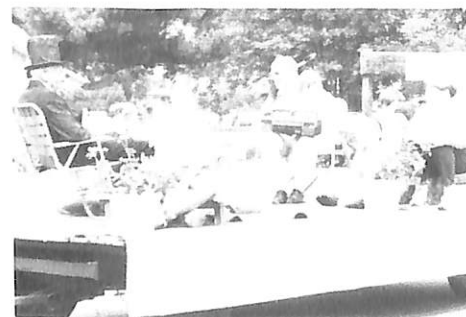
Fortunately, none of our members are believed to have sustained flood damage. We are grateful to the DBIA National Headquarters and to lodges around the country who thought about us and offered assistance if needed.

The program for our September 13 meeting will feature Lou Bredesky presenting slides of Lou and Elaine's 1990 trip to Norway and Copenhagen and information about Friendship Force.

**Harvey Andersen, Cor.**

**Lodge No. 121, Tyler, MN**—We met for our July meeting at the home of Andrea and Marjorie Paulsen in Clear Lake, South Dakota. Andy Jacobsen of Brookings, South Dakota, was also on the committee. A short business meeting was held and a delicious lunch was served.

Marjorie played the piano for a sing-along. Much time was spent just visiting. The 17 in attendance had a very enjoyable afternoon.



**Lodge No. 186's Luck-E Day float.**  
**Lodge No. 186, Luck WI**--The Luck-E

Day parade in July was a time to tell onlookers about the upcoming Danish Brotherhood Convention to be hosted in Luck.

Thanks to Irvan Christensen portraying Hans Christian Andersen, Lauritz Jensen, Pres. of Lodge #186, the children and all who had a part with the float.

Convention goes, we will see you in Luck on September 10, 11 and 12.

**Lodge No. 217, Humboldt, IA**—At our July 12 meeting, delegates and alternates were elected to attend the Heartland District Convention to be held in Luck, Wisconsin.

Marvin and Lucille Christensen showed a film of Ellis Island which was most interesting, as most of us had ancestors who arrived from Europe and a stop at Ellis Island.

Carl Hansen is to select a book or tape to be placed in the Humboldt Library in memory of our deceased members.

**Violet Bergeson, Sec.**

**Lodge No. 263, Askov, MN**—We had our annual picnic on Sunday, August 1, in the city park. Members, relatives and friends gathered for a delicious potluck. Ed Melzark took care of grilling the brats and wieners.

Later a lawn darts tournament was held. Bob Kenowski and Mag Sebald took first place, Gilbert Clausen and Shorty Hoyle took second place and Margaret Clausen and Maurice Espointour took third place. Thanks to chairman, Pat Galvin, and others who helped for a job well done.

**Edna Petersen, Sec.**

**Lodge No. 347, Cedar Rapids, IA**—On July 18 we had our annual ice cream social at Don and Ruth Rosdail's lovely farm. Everyone had a great time. The kids were playing baseball while the rest of us participated in several discussions, primarily the flooding.

Thanks to Ruth Rosdail, Sharon Nielsen and Norma Nietert, we enjoyed delicious homemade ice cream. Lots of goodies were brought by other members. It was a successful evening. No business was conducted this time.

**Alice Gorsch, Cor.**

**Lodge No. 349, Atlantic, IA**—Thirty-six

members and two guests attended a picnic supper held at Sunnyside Park in Atlantic on Monday, July 12. President John Nelson called our business meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A report on the liability insurance was given by Trustee Paul Williamson. Members are to present their views at the September meeting.

At the close of the evening, everyone enjoyed homemade ice cream and bars served by the July committee.

**Evelyn Rechtenbach, Sec.**

## Midwest

### Midwest District

The Midwest District Convention will be at Countryside Holiday Inn on September 11-12. Join us for meetings, a banquet, dance and installation of officers.

**Lodge No. 14, Kenosha, WI**—On July 18 we held our annual picnic at Kennedy Park with 250 people in attendance. Due to a downpour, we moved everything to the hall and had the kid's games, string pulls, raffles and beer and soda and completed our picnic. All who came had a good time. This is a lot of work and we sincerely thank Todd and Annette Bernhardt and their committee, Jeff and Chris Bernhardt, Todd Barnett, Jim Bohn, Dan Greenwald, Don Tredup, Rick Wade, Tim Wermeling, Kevin and Ione Gleason, Jim Gleason, Joy Chase, Jeff Niemi, Mark Pecha, Mark Sadowski, Russ and Laurie Hackbarth and girls.

A big thank you to Ken Learmont and Ken Learmont II for the great job on the new tables in the Rathskellar.

**Robert Ibsen, Cor.**

\* **Lodge No. 34, Dwight, IL**—Congratulations to our bowlers! Eight of our teams placed in the top 25 teams in the tournament sponsored by the National Headquarters. Also, Ron Colebank won the Men's Individual High Game Award and Marlene Perschnick won the Women's Individual High Series Award. Great bowling gang!

We donated \$100 to the Dwight Fireworks. We are looking forward to the Cubs game on September 5.

Ray Holzhauser and Leo Pedersen will be representing us as delegates to the Midwest District Convention. The alternates are Shirley Holzhauser and Ethel Perschnick.

Discussion was held on having another aebleskiver breakfast in the fall.

**Margaret Goodwin, Sec.**

\* **Lodge No. 36, Milwaukee, WI**—We thank Elsie Hein for the refreshments served following the business meeting on July 26. Secretary Carol Larsen informed the attendees of Danish Brotherhood Midwest District events.

**Albert Larsen, Cor.**

**Lodge No. 343, Waupaca, WI**—We held our annual picnic on July 22 with Leonard and Vera Yorkson as hosts. Twenty members enjoyed the potluck dinner. The remainder of the evening was spent socializing. A number of the group went to Dennis Yorkson's nearby Fur Farm and had a tour of his fox ranch.

**Vera Yorkson, Cor.**

## Michigan

## Ohio

**Lodge No. 227, Detroit, MI**—In the month of September we have a new meeting place, the Farmington Elks, located at 23666 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

On September 8, dinner will be at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

On September 22, Barbara Facer will show us her slides from Africa.

Our annual Bird Shoot will be held on September 26 at Middle Straits Lake Conservation Club. Breakfast will be at 9:00 a.m. and the Bird Shoot at 10:00 a.m.

Our 88th anniversary is October 24. An anniversary party is planned for October 23 at Machus Sly Fox Restaurant. Make reservations early. Again this year, Machus Pastry Shop is donating an 18 layer kranskekage. Sly Fox Restaurant is donating evening coffee with finger sandwiches. Mange tak for their offer.

**Ken Christensen, Cor.**

## Thanks to Denmark

"Thanks to Denmark," an ecumenical program, will be held at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 5, 1993 at Temple Emanu-El, Edison, New Jersey.

The program will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the rescue of 7,500 Jews from being sent to the concentration camps of World War II by the spontaneous and heroic actions of the citizens of Denmark. Danish Consul General Leif Donde, who made the perilous journey to Sweden, will be an integral part of the program.

The program is a response to an invitation issued by the Secretary of Defense. All military and civilian communities were asked to commemorate the 50th anniversary of World War II by holding appropriate ceremonies during 1991-1995. A member of DBIA Thor Lodge #46 was appointed to coordinate the Edison program.

October 5 will mark the 12th anniversary of the day President Reagan signed the Congressional bill which made Swedish diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg, an "Honorary Citizen of the United States." Wallenberg is credited with saving 100,000 Jews in Budapest from deportation during the waning days of World War II.

## Museum Seeks Those Involved in '43 Rescue

The Danish Immigrant Museum is seeking Danes involved in the 1943 rescue of the Danish Jews to be a part of its traveling exhibit "Escape from Extermination."

In October of 1943 when the Nazi occupiers of Denmark tried to round up Danish Jews, people from all walks of life hid their Jewish neighbors and then ferried them to Sweden. Denmark saved nearly all of its Jewish fellow countrymen from the Nazis.

Now the Museum is seeking to locate as many of the rescuers and rescued as possible in different parts of the country so that they may be recognized and tell their stories as part of the traveling exhibit. The Danish Immigrant Museum is sponsoring the traveling of this exhibit around the country with the first stop at the Jewish Community Center in Omaha, Nebraska, October 12 through November 12, 1993.

If you or someone you know were involved in this historic event, please call the Museum office with the name and address at 1-800-759-9192 or write The Danish Immigrant Museum, Box 178, Elk Horn, Iowa 51531.



## Jorgen's Rainbow

When mailing letters, people the world over use stamps or "frimaerker," as it's written in Danish, to pay their postage. In Denmark, stamps are used for regular letters, parcels or "pakker," and airmail, or "pr, luftpost." Many people also collect stamps as a hobby -- simply for fun. So do some rainbows!

Please color this picture and send it to the Danish

Brotherhood in America, 3717 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68131-3844. 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.

**August winner: Taylor Pedersen.**

## Grandma's Kitchen

### RED PUDDING (RØDGRØD)

- 1 quart fresh red currants**
- 1 pint fresh raspberries**
- 5 cups water**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 1/2 cup cornstarch**
- 1/4 Tsp. salt**
- 1 Tsp. vanilla extract**



**Gunild Ostergaard**

Wash currants carefully. Wash raspberries. Combine berries, add water and bring to a boil. Lower heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Strain, mix sugar with cornstarch and salt, gradually stir in strained juice, cook over low heat stirring constantly until thickened. Taste, add more sugar if desired, stir in vanilla. Pour mixture into a bowl and chill. Decorate with blanched almond halves if you wish and serve with plain or whipped cream. When cream is served, the dish is called Rødgrød med flode.

# Viking Adventures

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

## *The Little Mermaid Turns 80*

The Little Mermaid, probably the most famous little lady in the world - the most often photographed at any rate - will celebrate her 80th birthday on August 23, 1993.

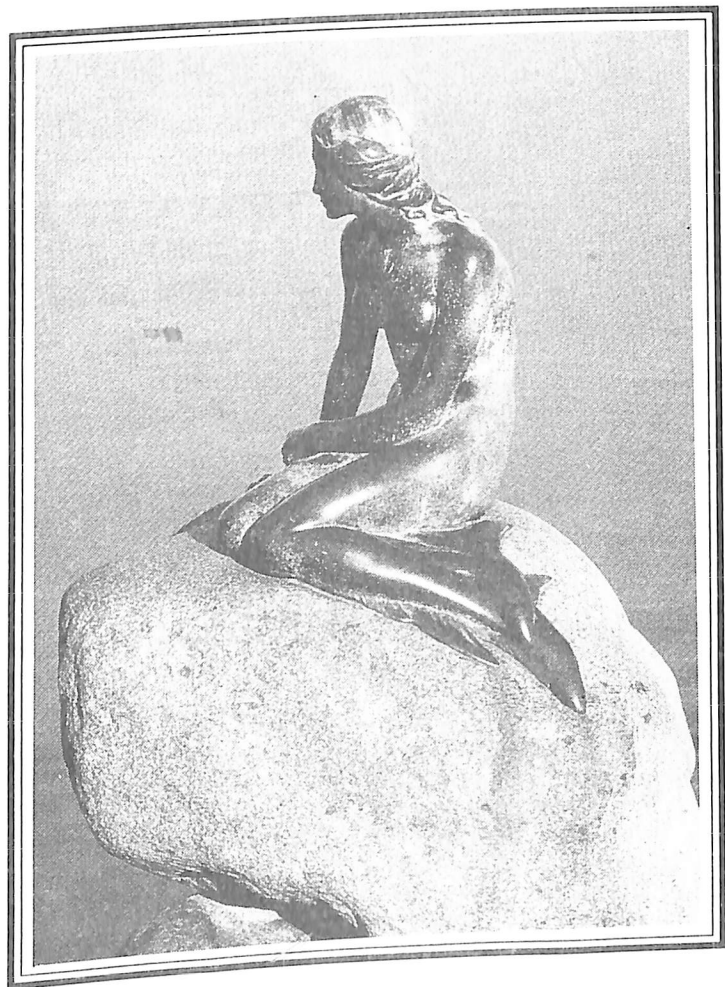
Still full of charm and grace. Eternally young, even though she has been sitting at the water's edge in the Copenhagen Harbor since 1913.

Even a statue can lead a dangerous life, though. On a couple of occasions The Little Mermaid has - literally - lost her head at the hands of over zealous "admirers." But she has always recovered herself, as surviving original molds meant that a new head could be cast and the statue restored. In 1964 when pranksters decapitated The Little Mermaid, she appeared on the front pages of almost every newspaper in the world, and Life Magazine featured her in an article with a cover photograph.

The elegant bronze statue is undoubtedly Denmark's best known and attracts millions of camera clad tourists each year.

And so there she sits. Always ready with a smile to all passers-by. And her gaze out to sea, to the ships that come from all over the world to anchor in her city - Copenhagen, capital of Denmark.

The Little Mermaid statue, inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's wistful fairy tale, was created by sculptor Edward Eriksen and donated to the City of Copenhagen by brewer Carl Jacobsen of the Carlsberg dynasty on August 23, 1913.  
— courtesy Danish Consulate



# What Time is it?

It's time for you to get your Dannebrog watches. These watches feature a unique rectangular shape displaying the red and white flag of Denmark in a gold-tone case, a genuine black leather band and a quartz movement. This is the perfect gift for the Dane who has everything. Order today.

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I belong to Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_

My number in the lodge is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 **American Dane** each month as members and be eligible to apply for other membership benefits. Please send information to:

Name _____	Age _____	Other Family Members:
Street Address _____	Name _____	Age _____
City, State, Zip _____	Name _____	Age _____
( ) _____	Name _____	Age _____
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