



Danish Brotherhood in America Lodges September 1995

American Dane

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD AND/OR ASSURED LIFE ASSOCIATION

A fraternal benefit society whose mission is: "To provide family financial services and fraternal benefits which will be responsive to our members, their families, and camps."

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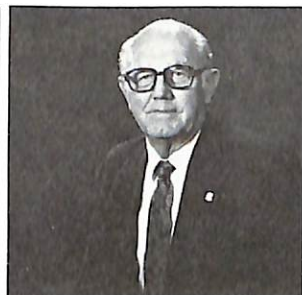
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Woodrow T. Petersen
National President

Message from the President

I am writing this particular article for the *American Dane* in a different capacity than in the past. Effective August 3, 1995, the merger of the Danish Brotherhood in America with and into Woodmen of the World and/or Assured Life Association became a reality. Congratulations to all of you!! The Danish Brotherhood in America is now officially a part of a tremendous Society in Woodmen of the World and/or Assured Life Association (ALA).

At the time of this writing, the staffs of ALA and DBIA will be meeting to plan the details for transferring the administration and services of DBIA's Home Office to that of ALA's in Littleton, Colorado. They are working closely together to make the transition smooth for everyone involved. The DBIA staff will provide the ALA staff with all the information necessary for you, the members of the DBIA, to keep informed with respect to this transition, and to ensure proper billing in the future. Very soon, all insured members of the DBIA will receive a letter from ALA with respect to the merger. This letter will include a "certificate of assumption," indicating that ALA is now responsible for your DBIA certificate. Certainly, we anticipate sharing with you details of transition issues in this letter as well. DBIA social members will not receive further notice of the merger, except for this final edition of *American Dane*.

As my role as your National President has now concluded, I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to serve you in this capacity. Your support and encouragement has made this a tremendous experience for me. And, of course, I would be remiss if I did not thank the DBIA Board of Directors for their unwavering support during my tenure as President. I owe a large debt of gratitude to this group of individuals, who led the Danish Brotherhood through one of the most trying times in our history: First Vice President Erling Braumann, Second Vice President Paul Carlsen, and Directors, Ebba Norby, Barry Edmonds, Ed Madsen and Asbjorn Fisker. And thank you to Robert Ibsen, Past President, for assuming this position on the Board upon the untimely death of Clyde Langsted.

A special thanks to our Home Office staff which stood by their employer in spite of the difficulties we experienced this past year. Thank you to Lori Mitera, Lynne Swingen, Deloris Hansen, Pam Mainelli and Jerry Christensen.

And now the Danish Brotherhood embarks on a new beginning, with individual DBIA districts as our building blocks for the future. While we recognize the positive aspects of a unified Society in this merger, maintaining the distinctive DBIA traditions, heritage and culture is vitally important to everyone involved. Remember, we are still the Danish Brotherhood in America. All DBIA lodges and districts will retain this identity as DBIA lodges and districts of ALA. Further, our representation within ALA continues in ALA Board representatives Edward Madsen and Barry Edmonds, with the balance of the current DBIA Board serving as DBIA's Advisory Committee of ALA. We have to move forward together in a positive manner with unity and strength. Doing so, we can accomplish much.

Elsa and I, again, extend our thanks for all the courtesies extended to us as we traveled the country visiting lodges and districts. This is not "farewell," but rather "see you soon." Tak for alt.

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Our Lodges in Action

Lodge news should be sent to American Dane, PO Box 31748, Omaha, Nebraska 68131 by the 10th of the month.

Pacific

Northwest

Lodge No. 33, Tacoma, WA--We will have a picnic on September 9 at 11:00 a.m. at Tidlow Park. A short business meeting will also be held. Come out and say thank you to Signe Wenness, who has retired as lodge secretary after ten years. Due to an editorial error, she was incorrectly listed as Signe Madsen in the July issue of *American Dane*.

Egon Calundann, Sec.

California

Lodge No. 126, Los Angeles, CA--The last meeting was called to order by President David Seale. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call revealed 26 members present. Secretary Betty Seale read the minutes from the previous meeting as well as the correspondence. A letter was received from Gary Gossett, District President, regarding the youth raffle to which the lodge made a donation. It was also decided to donate two convention youth packages to the district.

Sofie Christoffersen read the treasurer's report which was accepted as read. It was decided to add \$3,000 to our C.D. and reinvest it when it matures.

The swim party/barbecue fundraiser held at Doris Christensen's on July 8 was a great success with 34 members present. Richard Rowse, John Kristensen and David Seale were in charge of the barbecue. Thank you Doris for opening up your home.

Due to poor attendance we have decided this year to forego the big anniversary party with catered food and an orchestra. Instead we will have a potluck dinner and game night on September 15. A no-host cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Kate Krake Nielsen, Editor
Inger Dix, Assoc. Editor

Lodge No. 345, Orange Co., CA--We had delicious chili and hot dogs prior to our July 8 meeting. Toni Olsen Gossett called the meeting to order. The secretary and treasurer's

reports were read. Several members had given special contributions to the lodge and they were thanked.

Correspondence included a thank you from Ronald McDonald house for our contributions. An updated letter was received from the 1995 convention committee.

Toni Olsen Gossett has started a new photo album for the lodge so if you have any pictures of lodge functions or members that you would like in the album, please bring them to Toni. The album will be on display at the meetings.

We then played walking poker. "Best Poker" was won by DaNeil Gossett's friend, Heather, and "Best Skill" was won by Ken Olsen. Each winner took home \$26. Congratulations to all winners and participants.

Gerry Olsen, Cor.

Nebraska

Lodge No. 1, Omaha, NE--We will have a grandparents/grandchildren's night on September 5. A hot dog supper will be served starting at 6:30 p.m. followed by activities for children and adults. Please bring two margarine tub lids, one tub and a 6-egg carton for each child who participates. Other Danish surprises will be present. Please bring table service for all in your party.

Ruth Nielsen, Pres.

Lodge No. 16, Minden, NE--We were host to the state picnic on June 11 with 52 members present. Dan Villers had slides and spoke of his trip with the LEAD program to Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and

Thailand. Everyone enjoyed the program and picnic.

On June 15 we had our annual picnic with 30 members present. The meeting was opened by Wisthi Thomsen. The treasurer's report and minutes of the last meeting were accepted. Delegates and alternates were selected for the district convention. Delegates include Bill Jorgensen, Charmaine and Wisthi Thomsen and Marie Nelson. Alternates are Merribelle Jorgensen, Shirley Nielsen, Ruth Burchell and Dale Space.

Marie Nelson, Cor.

South

Dakota

Lodge No. 139, Viborg, SD--The Danish Festival in Viborg was held July 13-15. The Denmark Dancers in their costumes came from Viborg, Denmark. Our lodge sponsored an old-time dance with the proceeds going to a new fire hall.

Ruth Peterson, Sec.

Midwest

Lodge No. 14, Kenosha, WI--Welcome new members John Allen, Jonathan Masi, David Burrow and Dennis Giles.

A new smoke eater and air conditioner will be installed in the Rathskellar. We thank Warren Piehl for installing new wallpaper in the big hall.

Delegates to the district convention were Rick Wade and Jeff Bernhardt with Ben Peterson and Bob Ibsen as alternates.

Velkommen

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

Member	Lodge No.	Location	Sponsor
Nick A. Mele	14	Kenosha, Wisconsin	Al Aceto
David K. Johnson	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	Einer Sorensen

We had six foursomes participating in the district golf outing. A good time was had by all. Thanks to Dick McGinnis who was chairman for our lodge.

We received letters from the Girl Scouts for the use of our hall for their annual dance and from Kenosha Special Olympics for our donation to buy uniforms for the athletes.

From September to November, Danish culture and heritage will be featured at the Kenosha Historical Society & Museum. We need your help in providing items for the exhibits. All items will be given the utmost security at the museum. Please call Bob Ibsen, John Hosmanek, Lillian Andersen or Ardis Peterson for further information.

Robert Ibsen, Cor.

Lodge No. 34, Dwight, IL--Due to our annual picnic on July 10, we only conducted a short meeting. We had a nice crowd and the weather was perfect. A raffle was held and bingo was played with prizes awarded. Ten children and eight adults went swimming at the lodge's expense. Guessing games were played. Ice cream cones were served and a good time was had by all.

Marge Lauritsen, Sec.

Lodge No. 35, Chicago, IL--The July 14 meeting opened with 58 present. The treasurer and financial secretary's reports were

read and approved.

Scholarship Chairman, Grethe Jepsen, presented scholarship checks to Kristin Connery, and Mark and David Johanson. Charles Pedersen, Vice President, reported that the newly disbanded Lodge No. 92 in St. Charles, Illinois, has donated over \$13,000 to the district's Scholarship Fund.

The district golf outing in July was a success. Sixty golfers made it through 18 holes and then retired to the clubhouse for a chicken dinner and prizes. We had a good turnout from Dwight and Kenosha. There were lots of wonderful sporting items from Wilson Sporting Goods. Curt and Kate Petersen were responsible for obtaining these great items for the occasion. It helped keep the event "in the black".

Sandwiches and ice cream sundaes were served. **Elsa Petersen, Cor.**

Payment to Board Members

July

Woodrow T. Petersen, allowance, \$186.25

Delegates Unanimously Approve Merger

The balloting of the DBIA delegates of record for the merger between Danish Brotherhood and Woodmen of the World/ Assured Life Association has been completed. We are happy to report that it was a unanimous favorable vote, with one vote still outstanding.

There were 66 delegates eligible to vote with seven of these receiving two votes for a total of 73 votes, 72 of which were cast in favor of the merger. Please read the the front cover of this issue for more details regarding the merger.

DBIA Advisory Committee of ALA

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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
3-25-95	Henry Borg	83	Denmark	126	Los Angeles, California	1937
12-13-94	Walter R. M. Hansen	84	Copenhagen, Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1969
6-29-95	Thomas J. Banski	63	Kenosha, Wisconsin	14	Kenosha, Wisconsin	1986
7-9-95	Donald Fellows	73	Clinton, Indiana	263	Askov, Minnesota	1972
7-7-95	Albert Pecnick	57	Kenosha, Wisconsin	14	Kenosha, Wisconsin	1983
4-23-95	Harold E. Jensen	86	West Jordan, Utah	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1941
7-19-95	Louis R. Olsen, Jr.	60	Omaha, Nebraska	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1980
7-11-95	Herbert L. Anthony	82	Denver, Colorado	39	San Leandro, California	1948
6-2-95	Jack Gordon	73	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	600	Omaha, Nebraska	1967
7-20-95	Herman A. Christensen	89	Lakeview, Michigan	70	Greenville, Michigan	1940
8-5-95	Paul F. Festersen	55	Omaha, Nebraska	1	Omaha, Nebraska	1969
7-30-95	Marius Andersen	90	Denmark	227	Detroit, Michigan	1928
7-17-95	Niels C. Larsen	79	Fowler, Colorado	261	Fowler, Colorado	1942
7-21-95	Glen E. Sorensen	41	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	46	Perth Amboy, New Jersey	1991
7-29-95	Marius Beier	100	Dwight, Illinois	34	Dwight, Illinois	1916
8-9-95	Irvin W. Edling	83	Luck, Wisconsin	186	Luck, Wisconsin	1943
8-11-95	Svend O. Greve	81	Denmark	1	Omaha, Nebraska	1954
6-2-95	Frederik Madsen	90	Unknown	33	Tacoma, Washington	1971

