



DANEWS

a publication of the danish american center

The Danish American Center supports and fosters Danish culture through education and the celebration of traditions, customs and history.

DAC SAMVÆR SILENT AUCTION

We are excited to announce plans for the third annual Virtual Silent Auction! The auction will be held from March 9-March 19, with pick-up at DAC on March 25. There are three parts to this event: collecting donated items, bidding online for items received, and finally picking up the items. We will explain the details of the March online Auction in the next newsletter as well as on our DAC website. In this issue, we will focus on how and what to donate.

Our theme this year is samvær, which means “together” in Danish. This is an opportunity for us to come together in a different way and do something good to support our wonderful organization!

We will be collecting donations throughout February. If you have something that you would like to donate, you can drop off items at the DAC any Wednesday from 10am-2pm. We will have you fill out a form asking for a description of the item, estimated value and, if you choose, state a minimum bid. You can also donate by filling out a donation form on the DAC website at danishamericancenter.org. If you are not able to drop off your items at the DAC during this time you can contact the DAC office to make other arrangements. Wondering about possible items to donate? Some ideas might be putting together a fun gift basket, artwork, craftwork, gift cards, desirable gently used items (especially if they are Danish!), and memberships....just to name a few. This year we are also looking for items appropriate for children. Be creative! Donation Collecting: February 1, 8, 15, 22 from 10am-2pm at DAC.

Janet Ogden-Brackett, Susan Loschenkohl, Tina Paulsen and Laura Forslev (Auction Committee 2023)

SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Monday, February 6: 7-8:30pm

The monthly sing-along with Dan Chouinard is back! If you have not been to one yet, you should come and experience the joy of singing along with a fun group of people. It is on the first Monday of every month unless you see differently in the *DANews*. Free and open to all, with a free will donation



FEBRUARY 2023

- Music on the Mississippi
- Æbleskive Breakfast
- Year-End Fundraiser Update

NOTES FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Snow, and so much of it. I hope you are all enjoying winter. I don't know about you all, but I am looking forward to spring when we



can all gather outside for happy hour again. We are very excited about the third annual silent auction. This has become one of our biggest fundraisers and having volunteered on the committee last year and again this year, it is also a lot of fun. There is more information in this issue and look in the March *DANews* for information as well.

Things are hopping here at the DAC. On January 27, Linda Peterson, Billy Peterson, and Jason DeLaire played to a sold-out crowd in our very successful Music on the Mississippi series. We are so blessed to have these world-class musicians playing at DAC.

The Friday happy hour continues to be a huge success. I have seen familiar faces and also new members. All are welcome.

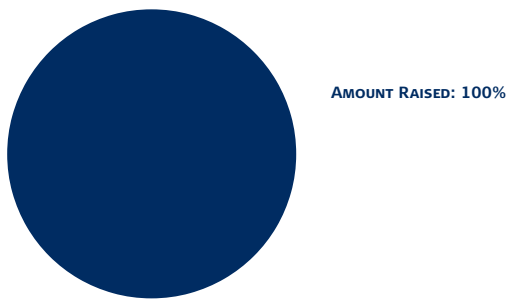
When I am at DAC, I am reminded that we have an amazing organization and that is due to the support we receive from our members. Thank you for all you do to keep our center running strong.

Laura Forslev

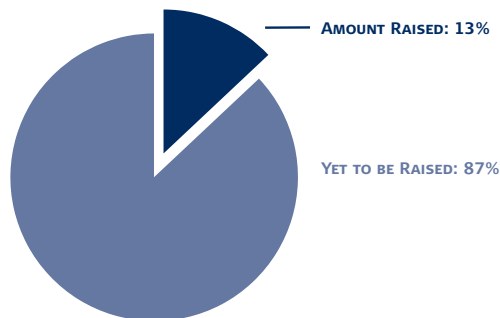
**PRESIDENT'S HAPPY HOUR
NEW MEMBERS INVITED**

There are so many ways to participate at the Danish American Center, and we know it can be a little tricky to figure out what to do and when. The President's Happy Hour has turned out to be a great gathering place for all members. We are now dedicating the third Friday of every month to new members. You'll always find Board members, and Executive Committee members, so ask all the questions you want to ask. Meet interesting people and have great conversations! We want to meet you and learn all about you. You are welcome every Friday from 4-6pm. We will dedicate February 17 to all new members. Please join us.

YEAR END FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS



YEAR-END FUNDRAISER HAS MET THE GOAL OF \$15,000!

We could not be happier to announce that our very first Year-End Fundraiser has met its goal of \$15,000! We asked and you gave—54 members of the Danish American Center gave to meet this goal. All contributions were quite generous and yet most of the money was raised from people giving small amounts.

That brings me to our second fundraising goal for the year. We included in the annual budget a line for \$15,000 to come from Individual Contributions. These contributions come in all year long, for lots and lots of reasons. We see people donate during the annual online auction when they don't win a bid, people have given gifts remembering loved ones, and some people round up when they pay their membership fee, for a concert ticket and Wednesday lunch. You name it, we have seen it. These are gifts that come from you, our membership as you help us keep the building in great condition, put on fantastic programming, and open our doors for events and classes. I mentioned with the Year End fundraiser we were successful, by many people giving small amounts of money. We have already raised \$2,195 from individuals. That leaves just \$12,805 to raise. That means that if each of our 800 members of the Danish American Center gave \$16.00, we would meet this goal.

So, I'll ask, can you please give as much as you can to meet our goal for individual contributions? If we each do our part, all I need you to give is sixteen dollars, \$16.00.

Thanks a million,
Janet Ogden-Brackett, Treasurer

Danish American Center

3030 West River Parkway South
Minneapolis MN 55406

612-729-3800

email: dainfo@dac.mn

Website: danishamericancenter.org

Office Hours: Wednesdays: 10am-2pm

Affiliate Organizations

Contact information for all of our affiliate organizations can be found on our website:

www.danishamericancenter.org

Executive Board:

Rikke Dierssen-Morice, President

Laura Forslev, Vice President

Janet Ogden-Brackett, Treasurer

Susan Jacobsen, Secretary

Steen Moeller, at Large

Ron Grand, at Large

Catherine Mahowald, at Large

Board of Directors:

Pipper Berg Madsen, Michael Fredrick, Bill Holmquist,

Lisa Jensen, Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart, Mari Larsen,

Susan Loschenkohl, Mette Pedersen, Tom Peterson,

Julie Robbins, Bruce Simpson, and Scott Thomsen

DANews Committee:

Laura Forslev

Bill Holmquist

Betina Kohler

Susan Loschenkohl

Myra Madsen

Michelle Potter-Bacon

Robert Rasmussen

Becky Wifstrand

For submissions, advertising, or any other inquiries, please contact us at danews@dac.mn.

Office Manager: Tina Paulsen

ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 19: 9:00am and 10:45am

The next æbleskive breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 19 at the Danish American Center. We are offering two scheduled seatings for the breakfast, at 9-10am and at 10:45-11:45am. Reservations are required and are on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost for the breakfast is \$12 per adult and \$7 for children ages 5-12. Younger children are free. The menu will include æbleskiver, egg bake, sausage, juice, and coffee. This month we will once again be offering gluten-free æbleskiver for those who are interested!

To sign-up, please go to the website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/> and log in to your account. Go to Event Calendar and select the Æbleskive Breakfast seating of your choice. Or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800 to sign up. Reservations will be accepted through February 15.

Upcoming breakfast schedule for 2023

Sundays with reserved seating:

March 19 / April 16 / May 14 (Mother's Day Brunch)

If you are interested in volunteering for this event or have questions, please contact Carla & Joel Mortensen at email: morte007@umn.edu, or call 612-724-1814. We hope to see you there!

TRANSLATION SERVICE AT DAC

The DAC frequently receives requests for translators of documents. We are now offering a translation service. To request a translation, you can mail the materials to the DAC, or email dainfo@dac.mn. Please send a clear copy. Do not send any original documents. DAC cannot be responsible for original documents. Documents can be sent via a picture file, a scanned document, or a word file. The documents will be reviewed, and the translators will determine if it is material that can be translated. Work will be returned by email. The rate is \$30 per hour for members and \$40 per hour for non-members. Payments can be made by check to the Danish American Center. Translated documents will be returned to you by mail. Postage and handling will be added. If you have any questions, please contact the DAC office at 612-729-3800.

LOOKING FOR A DANISH TUTOR?

Contact Ingela Haaland for more information at 651-261-3602 or Ingela_eilert@yahoo.com

MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI

Thursday, February 23: 6pm Social Hour



7pm Concert

This February 23 at the DAC, the acclaimed music series "Music on the Mississippi" heads south on the mighty river to New Orleans to celebrate Mardi Gras! Join us in a wonderful evening of music, beads, hurricanes and king cake!



Keeping in the festive spirit of Mardi Gras, our entertainment will be The Mardi Gras Steamers, playing mostly traditional New Orleans jazz.

Local bass player Steve Pikal will lead the group, along with Debbie Schreyer on banjo and Tom Owens on washboard. Steve is one of the most active jazz bass players in the twin

cities and beyond, playing with a variety of groups and genres of jazz. One year he was honored at the annual Bix Beiderbecke Jazz Festival in Davenport, Iowa.

Debbie hails from Mankato, born into a musical family of many banjo players. Her playing has taken her around the world, on Mississippi riverboats and for seven years at the Showboat casino in Atlantic City. In 2014 she was elected to the Banjo Hall of Fame. She and her husband Tom, a former singing riverboat captain, met on one of the riverboat excursions. They now reside in St. Paul. They promise a fun and entertaining evening!

NOTARY PUBLIC

If you need a Notary Public, the Danish American Center offers this service for members in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Please contact DAC member Ardis Wexler at judgeardis@aol.com to make arrangements to meet at a mutually agreed-upon time and location. Rates are \$10 per document, and all proceeds go to the Danish American Center. This service is a convenient way to get your documents notarized and support the Danish American Center at the same time.

GRANT FUNDING RECEIVED AT DAC

The Danish American Center has received a grant of \$5,458 provided by the State of Minnesota from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society to establish a Collection Management System and Pilot Inventory. What does this mean for DAC? We will be able to control the intellectual content of our collection by creating a Collection Management System (CMS), and we will pilot an inventory with the goal of making the collection accessible for the public.

The grant allows us to purchase software and laptops to create the inventory and the pilot project will determine how long it takes to enter objects into the system so we can make future plans for inventory and cataloging of all of the objects and archival documents at DAC. Earlier this fall the board approved a collection policy. If you wish to donate objects to DAC you will soon become familiar with a new form we are using to gather the information we need on all objects donated so we can enter them in the system. Combined with another grant we received to digitize photos and documents from the Heritage Collection in the MnDigital Library, the DAC will be able to tell our story visually and make it easier for a wider public to learn about us and our history.

The goals of the project include our wish to advance institutional goals in public service, accountability, and efficiency; increase accessibility for all users to broaden meaningful use of the collections; improve collections management and care; provide greater efficiency and functionality for intellectual control; and improve legal accountability with properly recorded, managed, and accessible records. When our new web pages are up and running, we will publish the links so you can follow our progress. This winter is just the beginning of a process that will take several years but is essential to the professionalization of the organization.

This project has been financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for the March issue is February 10

FASTELAVN PARTY FOR THE KIDS!

Sunday, February 26: 2-6pm

Fastelavn is the traditional Danish celebration of Lent/Carnivale in which kids dress up in costumes and go from door to door 'trick-or-treating' except in Denmark you would ask for pastries (what else?) rather than candy. Other traditions tied to Fastelavn is 'hitting the cat out of the barrel' and making 'Fastelavnsris'. There is no longer a cat in the barrel. Instead, kids hit at a barrel full of candy until it cracks open like a pinata. Fastelavnsris are twigs decorated with streamers, carnival symbols and candy signaling the beginning of Lent and spring.

This is a great chance for kids, parents and grandparents alike to gather at the Danish Center and spend a 'hyggelig' afternoon together across generations. Partake in hitting the barrel, making Fastelavnsris and last but not least, enjoying some delicious Fastelavnsboller (special pastry made for the event).

Please RSVP by February 20 to anders.wolf@gmail.com or by calling (612) 747-3285.

Cost is \$5 per person and payments will be accepted at the event.

If you would like to buy extra Fastelavnsboller, please let us know when you sign up.



MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

Donations in memory of **Jens Høj** from Al Kvaal, Kathryn Jensen, Svend & Grethe Petersen and Burton & Joan Benson

Donations in memory of **Inge Russell** from Svend & Grethe Petersen, Svea Ernst, Eric & Diana Lomen, and Joe & Gitte Mohr

A donation in honor of **Lenora Austin** from Jessica Austin.

Thank you to all who have made contributions to DAC. These generous gifts are much appreciated. All donations to DAC are tax deductible. Please contact the DAC Office for more information.

DANEBO READING CIRCLE FEATURES DANISH SHORT STORIES IN THE SHORTEST MONTH

Sunday, February 19: 2pm

On Sunday afternoon, February 19, discussion leader Katy Lindblad will guide the book group through the six stories in Danish author Ida Jessen's collection, *A Postcard for Annie* (2013, translated into English and published in 2022 by Martin Aitken; 208 pages). The meeting will be in hybrid form with some participants gathered on the third floor of the DAC and others joining via ZOOM. Everyone is welcome in either space, beginning at 2pm.

Katy shares these thoughts in preparation for the meeting: "Ida Jessen introduces us to characters attempting to navigate life with more or less success. We witness fragile relationships between lovers, between parents and children, and between friends. Conflict surfaces and is dealt with, or not.

"Jessen has been called a master of psychological realism. She shows us that ordinary lives are more complex than they appear on the surface. Will Tove leave Max? Will Eiler and Ruth tell the police what they suspect their son may have done? While much is discussed, much is left unsaid.

"Jessen grew up in southern Jutland, attended the University in Aarhus, and made her literary debut in 1989 with a different collection of short stories, *Under sten* (*Under Stones*). She has written several novels and short story collections for both adults and children.

"Nominated for the prestigious Nordic Council's Literature Prize twice, Ida Jessen has won numerous other grants and prizes, including the Lifetime Award from the Danish Arts Foundation. In addition to creating her own work, Jessen has also translated many authors from Norwegian and English into Danish."

On Sunday, March 19, the Danebo Reading Circle will discuss *The Liar* by Martin A. Hansen (1950, 1995 English translation by John Jeppson Egglisshaw; 199 pages). Discussion leader Diane Greve offers these questions and comments for pondering: "We might wonder why Martin A. Hansen, who died at the age of 45, is a highly regarded Danish author. Why is his last book, *The Liar*, so highly regarded that it is being reissued in April 2023? At about 200 pages, it is readable and worthy of engaging conversation. The story, full of symbolism,

begins on Friday, March 13, and covers three days on Sand Island in Denmark. The main character, Vig, is a liar trying to tell the truth. Used copies are available as well as copies in local libraries."

What better way to spend winter days than with a good book? And then joining other readers in a lively discussion. No one needs a reservation for these stimulating afternoons. A place is always open in the circle at the DAC or on the ZOOM link. To add your contact information for email updates, send a message to suzannej41@me.com. Happy reading!



LIBRARY HOURS

The library is now open on the first Saturday of the month from 10 am to 12 pm or by appointment only.

You may make an advance reservation for appointments offered on Wednesdays and Sundays by calling 612-296-5193. We will do our best to accommodate your needs, but please allow a week or so notice so we can find a volunteer to staff the library for your appointment.

Saturday open hours are staffed by a volunteer from the National Danish-American Genealogy Society, and they can help with genealogy research as well as the DAC library collection.

On Floor 2, the Steenberg Lounge, there are free Danish books for members to read/retain. The Lounge is open every day.

Please remember that any borrowed books can be returned at any time to the library by placing in the box outside the library. If the book has been signed out, it can be returned by appointment, or during library office hours so that we can check it back in.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for Hans Christian Andersen's birthday celebration on April 2 from 2-5pm. There will be activities for the whole family. Details to follow.

FOOD & AQUAVIT PAIRING EVENT AT THE DAC

Saturday, March 11: 12:30 pm

It is time for the 11th annual food and aquavit pairing event. As in years past, we will feature a variety of selected food dishes, pairing them with aquavits to enhance the experience. Some of the dishes will be new and some will be old favorites. Each year we try to learn a little more about both locally produced and celebrated Danish aquavits and discuss cocktail options with them. Last year we had both Gamle Ode (<http://www.gamleode.com/>) and Vikre Distillery (<http://www.vikredistillery.com/>) in attendance. We are working with them again, and also with local representatives from Carver Distillery (<https://www.jcarverdistillery.com/>).

Registration for this event begins on February 1 on the DAC website. This event sells out quickly, so register early. For questions contact Steen Moeller at moellersteen@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASING

Beginning January 2023 yearly membership dues are increasing to the following: Individual \$45, Household \$75, Student and Senior \$35 and Organizational Membership \$125. You should receive an email reminder a few weeks before your renewal date. If you don't receive this email, it's most likely in your spam folder, along with a bunch of other emails from the Danish American Center. If you release the emails and mark them "not spam" you should receive emails from us going forward. This reminder email will lead you to the page where you can pay your membership dues and make changes to your account if needed, such as a change of address, new family members, etc. We have also added the auto-renewal option, so your membership will always be up to date. If your membership lapses, you will no longer be able to register for members-only events and your fellow members will not be able to look you up! So, keep your membership current and stay in the loop! If you need assistance, please call the office on Wednesdays between 10am-2pm. Thanks for being a member. We appreciate the support from each and every one of you!



SIGN UP TO COOK ONSDAG FROKOST IN 2023!

If you have a favorite dish you would like to share, please consider signing up to cook for one or more Wednesday Lunches this year. We hold these lunches on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The cooks decide the menu, how many people they would like to feed (normally it is around 40), do the shopping, and cooking. All costs are reimbursed. The cooks use the DAC's well-supplied kitchen and are honored at the end of the meal with a thank you song. Please contact Cathy Mahowald at cmahowald@hutchtel.net or 612-845-5562 if you are interested.

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

DANISH GENEALOGY

Monday, February 27: 6:30pm

The loss of the 1890 Federal census is a source of great frustration for American genealogists. For those of us with Danish ancestors who emigrated in the late 1880s and made their way around the U.S., the loss of the 1890 census can be particularly vexing. But all hope is not lost! Learn strategies and gather tips for success in locating your family in other records between the 1880 and 1900 Federal censuses.

Speaker Sara Cochran is a full-time professional genealogist with over 28 years of research experience. Sara holds a Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate, a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science, is an alumni of the ProGen Study Group and is a member of multiple lineage societies, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. She also volunteers at the National Archives Riverside office. You can find her online at TheSkeletonWhisperer.com.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84792759061>

Webinar ID: 847 9275 9061

International numbers available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84792759061>

For more information, please go to our website at www.danishgenealogy.org

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Members:

Amanda Dalola

Anne Redalen Fraser & family

Ellie Berglund & family • Lauren Morel & family

Benjamin Carlson & family • Mark Petersen & family

Gregory Madsen • Laurie Lindblad

Leah Sand & family • Kirstine Sand & family

Kathleen Sanjabi • Michael Dewberry

Ron Eikaas • Kristin King Stapleton

Kris Nourse • Jane Dahlgren & family

Donna Rogers • Dale Alexander

Andrea & Eric Nelson • Nancy Yodsing

Kathleen Thomssen

DAC Directory Information - For further contact information on new and current members, please visit the Members Only portion of the DAC website. Use the email you would have associated with the DAC and create your own password in this new system. If you have trouble, contact the DAC office at dainfo@dac.mn or phone 612-729-3800.

Please note that membership information may be used ONLY by members of DAC for personal, non-business networking purposes. Use of this information for sales or business solicitations or the like, by or for commercial entities or interests is strictly prohibited. The DAC Board reserves the right to telephone, mail or e-mail

LAST CHANCE TO SUPPORT DAC THROUGH YOUR AMAZON PURCHASES

Amazon recently announced that they will be discontinuing the AmazonSmile program on February 20. Until that time, you still have a free opportunity to support the Danish American Center.

Amazon will still donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice through February 20, 2023.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Whenever you shop Amazon in February, remember you can support us by starting your shopping at www.smile.amazon.com. If this is the first time you are logging in, you will be asked to provide your charity of choice. Enter "Danebo" in the search field and choose Danebo, Inc. from the list provided.

Remember you have to use the smile.amazon.com site in order for Amazon to donate.



Intrigued by Viking History?

Join us on a tour of exploration
as we walk the path of the Vikings

September 7-17, 2023
Denmark and Iceland

DAC members
receive a 5%
discount on most
travel packages to
any of our
destinations!

www.bortonoverseas.com/vikingexploration

AFRICA

ANTARCTICA

ASIA

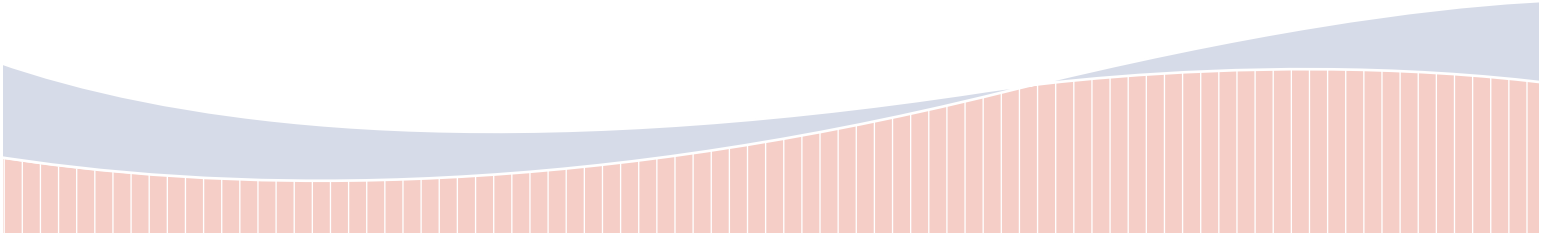
LATIN AMERICA

SCANDINAVIA

www.bortonoverseas.com | 1-800-843-0602 | info@bortonoverseas.com

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday	01	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm	Wednesday	15	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	01	Office Hours 10am-2pm		15	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Friday	03	President's Happy Hour 4pm	Friday	17	President's Happy Hour 4pm
	03	Toseaften 7:30pm		17	Hyggeaften 6pm
Saturday	04	Beginning Danish 3 9:30-11am	Sunday	19	Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am
	04	Library Hours 10am-12pm		19	Reading Circle 2pm
Monday	06	Sing-along with Dan Chouinard 7pm	Wednesday	22	Office Hours 10am-2pm
Wednesday	08	Office Hours 10am-2pm		22	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	08	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm		22	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
	08	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am	Thursday	23	Music on the Mississippi 6pm Social Hour 7pm Concert
Friday	10	President's Happy Hour 4pm	Friday	24	President's Happy Hour 4pm
Saturday	11	Beginning Danish 3 9:30-11am		24	Fyraften 6pm
Sunday	12	Scandinavian Social Dance 7-8:30pm	Sunday	26	Fastelavn 2-6pm
Monday	13	Finance Committee 6-7pm		26	Danish Folk Dancing 6:30-8:30pm
	13	Board Meeting 7pm			



**DANISH
AMERICAN
CENTER**

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