



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

DAC SAMVÆR SILENT AUCTION

March 9-March 19

Our theme this year is samvær, which means “together” in Danish. This is an opportunity for us to come together and do something good to support our wonderful organization! This year the DAC will be donating ten percent of the auction proceeds to the International Rescue Committee to help earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

We have received many wonderful items for our auction and are excited for it to happen! The Online Silent Auction will be open on March 9 and will close on the evening of March 19. To participate, go to the 32Auctions Website: <https://www.32auctions.com/danishamericancenter> (Directions for using the auction site are at the end of this article). You can look at all items and make bids. If you bid on something, make sure to go back and check to see if somebody else has outbid you. You can always raise your bid through March 19. Once the auction is over, we will contact you with details if you won the bid. You can then pay for your items through the auction site, or you can pay at the DAC with cash or check on pick-up day. And if you prefer not to purchase anything, there will be a place where you can simply donate to the DAC as well! On Saturday, March 25 from 10am-2pm, we will hold a pickup event at DAC. We will have coffee and treats for you to enjoy as well.

Directions for Using 32Auctions 1) Go to <https://www.32auctions.com/danishamericancenter> 2) Choose at the right top of the screen LOGIN 3) At the right of the LOGIN button, click create an account 4) At the next screen add your name, email address and create a password. Click all the boxes, that you are legal age, understand the terms of use, understand the privacy policy and that you are not a robot. 5) The site will send you an email to complete your registration. When you get the email, click “ok” and you are registered. 6) You can explore all the items on the 32auctions site. Only add your credit card information when you’re ready to pay. Remember, you may pay in cash when you pick up your item on March 25. If you have registered in past years, you should not have to register again. If you have forgotten your password, follow the instructions at the website to reset it.

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

MARCH 2023

- Music on the Mississippi
- Æbleskive Breakfast
- Hyggeaften

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

We are back! It seemed like the pandemic would never really let go of the DAC operations, as we tried to find new ways to be together, but had to choose safety first.

We had more than two full years where the pandemic affected our budget. During that period, I would reflect back on 2019 as our last full year of operations, as we shut the building down completely in March 2020.

The operations of the DAC have really been good this year and looking at the current numbers, I wondered how we compared to 2019. So, I went back and looked.

It took me a minute. As you may remember we have moved to a new accounting system, Nonprofit QuickBooks, the online version. Cathy Mahowald, Co-Treasurer, and I have really loved being able to do the accounting from home—or anywhere!

I found that in 2019 our income for the year was \$189,201. This year, with seven months reporting, we have brought in \$129,154. We are sure to surpass 2019’s income through regular programming, the online auction, individual contributions, and Danish Day which all happen later in the year.

There are many places where we have seen an increase in income: Danish language classes have exploded in the number of participants

ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 19: 9am and 10:45am

The next æbleskive breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 19 at the Danish American Center. We are offering two scheduled seatings for the breakfast, at 9-10am and 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 March 15.

Upcoming breakfast schedule for Spring 2023, Sundays with reserved seating:

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!

SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Monday, March 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 it differently in the *DANews*. Free and open to all, with a free-will donation.

HYGGEAFTEN

Friday, March 17: 6pm

The last Hyggeaften of the season will be held on Friday, March 17. Social hour is now incorporated into the regular DAC Friday happy hour which is 4-6 pm. We serve soup at 6pm, followed by games and dessert afterward. Please feel free to bring a favorite game. The cost is \$8 per person. Please call the DAC office at 612- 729-3800 by Wednesday, March 15 for reservations.

LOOKING FOR A DANISH TUTOR?

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

BEGINNING DANISH—SPRING CONVERSATION GROUP

Saturday, March 4: 9:30-11am

Interested in working on your Danish language reading and speaking skills? Attend a monthly gathering this spring. This class is geared at those who completed the Beginning Danish series and want to practice a bit more... without too much homework! We will use magazine and newspaper articles, music lyrics, comic books, children's books, etc., as the springboard to improving reading comprehension and conversation skills.

Dates: Saturdays, March 4, April 15, May 6,

Time: 9:30 to 11am

Location: 3rd Floor Classroom at the Danish Center and/or via Zoom

Please register on the DAC website *one week prior* to the class date in order to have time to review the reading material prior to class.

VIRKELYST DONATION DRIVE

Virkelyst continues its collection of feminine products (pads only) for those in need. Due to your generosity, in December Joel and Carla Mortensen delivered a trunk full of feminine products and \$400 to the refugee relief office at MN Council of Churches. The director was very grateful and wanted to pass on her thanks to all those who donated.

You may donate packages of pads themselves or write a check payable to MN Council of Churches Refugee Program. Their mailing address is 122 Franklin Avenue West, Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN 55404.

DAC is also accepting these donations. Virkelyst members are encouraged to bring their donations to our next in-person meeting on March 1. Thank you again for supporting this important initiative, which will alleviate the need for so many women.

MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

A donation in memory of **Jens Høj** from Edwin Andersen

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for the April issue is March 10

DANEBO READING CIRCLE CHOOSES DANISH NOVEL FOR MARCH

Sunday, March 19: 2pm

For their meeting on Sunday, March 19, the DAC's book group will be discussing *The Liar* (*Løgneren*), one of the most popular novels by Martin A. Hansen (1950, translation by John Jepson Egglisshaw in 1995). This will be another hybrid gathering beginning at 2 PM in the North Commons (Third Floor) and on Zoom. Discussion leader Diane Greve shares these thoughts about the book and author:

"Over the course of three days in March, shortly after World War II, the reader follows the innermost longings, thoughts, and ponderings of the parish clerk and schoolmaster, Johannes Vig, on the fictitious two-mile island 'Sandö' in Denmark. This 200-page book is written in the form of a diary to 'Nathanael.'

"Martin A. Hansen wrote *The Liar* as an expanded version of his earlier short story, *The Ice Breaks*. Hansen was a prolific writer in his day and was widely read by Danes. Born in 1909, he joined the resistance movement during the German occupation of Denmark in WWII, wrote an illegal piece, and subsequently went into hiding in a hospital from September 1944 - May 1945, when the German occupation ended. After the war, Danmarks Radio commissioned him to expand his short story into a radio play, broadcast in 1949. Later he turned this into a novel first serialized in *Berlingske* and then published in 1950. A film version appeared in 1970. Hansen died of kidney failure in 1955 at the age of 45. This was his last novel.

"Many scholars have studied his works and focused on the meaning of the title of this one, *The Liar*. Vig's diary is written in poetic prose, telling of strained relationships and untimely death, all while waiting for the ice to break around the island and for the woodcock to return. Is there religious significance in the fact that it takes place in Lent and the protagonist struggles with what to say about the obscure text, Luke 11:14-26, that is the assigned reading for the 3rd Sunday in Lent?

"This book could provoke stimulating conversation. Don't wait too long to read it as there is much to savor in the descriptions of human nature and the wildlife around the island."

Speaking of ice and islands, on Sunday afternoon, April 16, the Danebo Reading Circle will meet to discuss the historical novel *Iceland's Bell*, by Nobel prize-winning

author Halldor Laxness (1943-1946, 406 pages; translated 2003 by Philip Roughton). Discussion leader Carol Sime provides this information: "In the introduction to the novel, Adam Haslett tells us we've 'stumbled upon a beautiful and hilarious novel by a superb writer. This first English translation of *Iceland's Bell* confirms the author's place among the best novelists of the twentieth century.' The story consists of three parts and paints a tragic and ironic picture of the terrible state of the Icelandic populace in the 18th century under Danish rule. As described on the back cover of the paperback: 'Sometimes grim, sometimes uproarious, and always captivating, the novel is at once an updating of the traditional Icelandic saga and a caustic social satire.'"

Don't give up reading for Lent. Instead, grab one or both of these books and join the Reading Circle for thoughtful discussion, treats, and good company. All are welcome! To receive email notifications, please contact suzannej41@me.com.

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.

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.



MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI

Wednesday, March 22: 6pm Social Hour
7pm Concert

DAC presents another evening of inspiring music in our concert series "Music on the Mississippi " with the Jennifer Grimm Trio on Wednesday, March 22. Enjoy the incredible vocals of Jennifer Grimm, Jennifer's husband Joe Cruz on multiple string instruments, and Kenni Holmen, one of the top sax and reedman anywhere.

Jennifer grew up in a musical family and has been playing professionally for many years. Her recent hire as the music director for Crooner's Supper Club in Fridley is an indication of her musical success and knowledge. Some of her credits include performing at Carnegie Hall; Johnny Mercer Songbook Series at the Ordway; Steerage Song at the Fitzgerald Theater; performing on Garrison Keillor's (creator of "A Prairie Home Companion") Rhubarb Show; starring in the Ordway's production of *My Way, A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra*; and being the voice of the World Figure Skating Champions Tour theme song.

Joe Cruz is regarded as one of the most versatile and energetic multi-stringed instrumentalists on the Twin Cities music scene today. Throughout his 30-year career, this passionate musician has been involved with numerous groups and recording projects, developing a vast array of styles. On any given night he can be found playing anything from solo acoustic guitar to screaming electric, swinging with a jazz combo, picking mandolin in a bluegrass band, or exploring Latin music on Cuban tré and Puerto Rican cuatro. He currently performs solo, as well as with his trio, Scenic Roots. He also plays regularly with fiddler Brian Wicklund & The Barley Jacks and with blues piano man Scottie "Bones" Miller.

Rounding out the trio is Kenni Holmen on saxophone and piccolo. Kenni is one of the most active recording and touring musicians from the Twin Cities area. He has performed with Michael Bolton, Celine Dion, Johnny Mathis, Tony Bennett, T.C. Monk, Dizzy Gillespie, Donny Osmond, The Rev. Billy Graham Crusade, The Glen Miller Orchestra,

Doc Severinson, Garrison Keillor, The Minnesota Orchestra and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra just to name a few. Kenni has recorded with Janet Jackson, Rod Stewart, Prince, Gladys Knight, Chaka Khan, Ben Sidran, Baby Face, Mandy Moore, and many others.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Our year-end fundraiser met its goal of \$15,000! I know that's old news, but still good news.

We have two other big fundraisers still happening this fiscal year. Ongoing is the \$15,000 individual contribution goal from the membership generally. We still have four months to meet the goal, and as I have said before, almost all of this comes to us in small amounts. So, please consider donating to help us reach this goal.

The second big fundraiser of the year is our third annual online auction. It begins on March 9 and finishes on March 19. There are instructions in this newsletter telling you how to set up your account and bid on items. I can let you know now that people have been very generous with donations. We have some wonderful items this year. Even if you don't find something you love, or you get outbid, you can make a donation right on the auction website to help us reach our goal of \$7,500.

WINTER BLUES-2 NIGHTS \$100 DACATION SPECIAL

Members, are you and your friends craving a weekend or mid-week getaway but don't want to deal with long lines and flight delays? Consider a "DACation" at the Danish American Center. Through April 2023, we are offering a special rental rate of 2 nights for \$100 for our cozy guestrooms, each with its own separate toilet/sink. There is a common kitchen area for overnight guests' use, the Kaffeetue, to hold your foods and drinks fresh, and lots of other shared spaces in which to relax and unwind, such as the newly renovated Tivoli Lounge. The DAC is ideal for excursions, such as family retreats, girls' weekends, writers' retreats, and romantic getaways, you name it! Take advantage of beautiful Mississippi River trails right outside our front door, and a variety of restaurants, within walking distance on Lake Street. Explore all that Minneapolis/St. Paul has to offer. See a play at the Guthrie or a show at the Ordway. Park your car in our lot for the weekend and take a short Uber ride into the cities. Please contact Tina Paulsen for reservations at dainfo@dac.mn or call 612-729-3800. Your DACation awaits.

ONSDAG FROKOST RECAP

Ever wonder what goes on at our ever popular Wednesday Luncheons? Take a look at some photos from our February 22 frokost where Volunteer cooks Susan Jacobsen, Mary Ellyn Johnson, and Carole Johnson put together a grand meal featuring pork roast with crackling (flæskesteg med svær) imported direct from Denmark topped off with Svea Ernst's delicious Fastelavns Boller.



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. The Steenberg Lounge on Floor 2 has 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.

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

ST. PEDER'S ANNUAL COD FISH DINNER

Friday, March 3: Two Seatings at 5pm and 6:30 pm

The dinner includes boiled potatoes with our famous Danish mustard gravy, peas, and carrots, Havarti cheese on pumpernickel, cupcakes, and beverages. The cost is \$14 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. Call the church office at 612-722-8000 for reservations and pay when you come. (Please provide name or names, how many meatball or cod dinners, seating time preference, and phone number if leaving a message.) St. Peder's is located at 4600 E 42nd Street in Minneapolis. Hope to see you all there!

DANISH GENEALOGY

Monday, March 27: 6:30pm CST

Do you want to research your Danish ancestors but don't know where to start? Hit a roadblock? Looking for new leads? This lecture will provide step-by-step instructions, links to online resources, and ample notes on how to begin and sustain your Danish genealogical research. Whether you are a brand new beginner or have years of experience, you will find valuable tips and information in this lecture.

The speaker is Heather Nelsen, Vice President of the National Danish-American Genealogical Society. The title of the lecture is "Introduction to Danish Genealogy."

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85482073345>

Webinar ID: 854 8207 3345

International numbers available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbEnGyvif6>

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

NEWS FROM DENMARK

DANISH MEN'S HANDBALL TEAM WINS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Thank you Dick Laybourn for sharing

On January 29, 2023, for the third time in a row, the Danish men's handball team won the world championship in team handball held in Stockholm. This time they defeated France by 34-29 in the final.



"Team handball, first invented by Denmark in its contemporary version in 1906, is played by seven players on each team, including a goalie, on a basketball-size court. It is somewhat of a combination of basketball and soccer and played in over 160 countries.

"According to tradition, players were welcomed at Copenhagen's city hall with a pancake breakfast and celebrated from its balcony by Danes on the square."

BEYOND THE LIGHT: IDENTITY AND PLACE IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY DANISH ART

An exhibition of Danish art in New York City this winter has been met with wide critical success. The exhibit examines the period formerly known as the Danish Golden Age, a name that belies the economic and political hardships Denmark experienced in the 19th century with the disastrous fallout of the Napoleonic Wars, the devastating bombardment of Copenhagen, bankruptcy, and mounting antagonism with Germany. Yet this turmoil is what gave rise to a vibrant cultural and philosophical environment with a close-knit community of Danish artists inspired to explore notions of place, identity, and belonging in their work.



"Beyond the Light" tells a powerful story about shifting borders, national identity, and feelings of belonging and displacement—all themes that resonate with contemporary audiences all over the world," said Max Hollein, Marina Kellen French Director of The Met. "By focusing mainly on drawings and oil sketches of the period, the exhibition is the first to offer a history of 19th-century Denmark that is more personal and nuanced than the more official one often represented by finished paintings."

The exhibition features approximately 100 works from The Met collection, SMK – The National Gallery of Denmark, and several American collections, and highlights such artists as Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, Christen Købke, Constantin Hansen, Martinus Rørbye, and Vilhelm Hammershøi as well as lesser-known figures like Anton Melbye, Johan Thomas Lundbye, Peter Christian Skovgaard, and Heinrich Gustav Ferdinand Holm, among others.

The exhibition is organized by The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the J. Paul Getty Museum, in collaboration with SMK – The National Gallery of Denmark.

On view through April 26, 2023, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

More information and objects can be viewed on metmuseum.org.

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday	01	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm	Friday	17	President's Happy Hour 4pm
	01	Office Hours 10am-2pm		17	Hyggeaften 6pm
	01	Virkelyst 6:30pm	Sunday	19	Reading Circle 2pm
Friday	03	President's Happy Hour 4pm		19	Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am
	03	Toseaften 7:30pm	Wednesday	22	Office Hours 10am-2pm
Saturday	04	Conversational Danish 3 9:30-11am		22	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	04	Library Hours 10am-12pm		22	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Monday	06	Sing-along with Dan Chouinard 7pm		22	Music on the Mississippi 6pm Social Hour, 7pm Concert
Wednesday	08	Office Hours 10am-2pm	Friday	24	President's Happy Hour 4pm
	08	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm	Saturday	25	Auction Pick-up Day 10am-2pm
	08	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am	Sunday	26	Danish Folk Dancing 6:15-9pm
Thursday	09	Silent Auction Begins	Monday	27	Danish Genealogy 6:30pm
Friday	10	President's Happy Hour 4pm	Wednesday	29	Office Hours 10am-2pm
Saturday	11	Aquavit Pairing Event 12-3:30pm		29	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Sunday	12	Scandinavian Social Dance 6pm Lessons, 7-8:30pm Dance	Friday	31	President's Happy Hour 4pm
Monday	13	Executive Committee Meeting 7pm		31	Fyraften 6pm
Wednesday	15	Office Hours 10am-2pm			
	15	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm			



**DANISH
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