



# 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.*

## **ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST**

Sunday, February 18: 9:00am and 10:45am

The next æbleskive breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 18 at the Danish American Center. We are offering two scheduled seatings for the breakfast: 9-10am and 10:45-11:45am. Reservations are required and are on a first-come first-served basis. The cost for the all-you-can-eat breakfast is \$13 per adult and \$8



for children ages 5-12. Younger children are free. The menu will include æbleskiver, egg bake, sausage, juice and coffee. Secure your seats via our website registration (see "Registering For Events Online" on page 2 for instructions), or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800 to sign up. Pre-payment is required. Reservations will be accepted through February 14. Note that we will accept a limited number of take-out orders (please book in advance).

Upcoming breakfasts for 2024, Sundays with reserved seating:

March 17, April 21, and May 12.

If you are interested in volunteering for one of our breakfasts or have questions, please contact Carla & Joel Mortensen at email: [carla.s.mortensen@gmail.com](mailto:carla.s.mortensen@gmail.com), or call 612-724-1814.

We hope to see you there!

## **SILENT AUCTION—STILL ACCEPTING DONATIONS**

We are gearing up for our 4th annual silent auction. The last three have been a huge success, and we are hoping this year will be a success as well. We need your help! We are looking for gift cards and themed gift baskets. Get creative! Items can be dropped off at the DAC office during Wednesday office hours. We are asking you to complete a brief form for each donation so we can process your gift.

More information about the auction will be provided in the March *DANews*.

## **FEBRUARY 2024**

- Save the Date: Open Doors
- Volunteer Opportunities

## **NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year! The beginning of the new year gives us a chance to take a look back at where we have been and encourages us to take a look forward to the future. We have much to look forward to at the DAC, and it is exciting to make plans for the coming year. Arrangements are being made for our annual aquavit pairing event, Danish Day, and æbleskive breakfasts—our calendar is rapidly filling with exciting events that we have loved for years.

These exciting events don't go unnoticed. A KSTP-TV photojournalist visited us and put together a very flattering profile of the DAC. The journalist interviewed our own Susan Jacobsen as she shared the story of the DAC and described the wonderful collections we have. The building was photographed very well as our Christmas decor was on full display. As I watched the piece, I could not help but be filled with pride for our Danish culture, and the storied past of the DAC. View the full video on our Facebook page or on our website.

Looking forward, we will strengthen our DAC and continue to build the foundation for the next 100 years. We have hired Tina Paulsen as our guest services manager, and we are actively seeking candidates to be our administrative manager. We continue to work with the City of Minneapolis to establish

clear guidelines for our operations. Our volunteer committees are developing our event plans and working to make the next 100 years of our DAC as wonderful and successful as the first 100.

Like all of you, I am proud of our past and I excitedly look forward to our future.

Peter Gantriis

## REGISTERING FOR EVENTS ONLINE

Here are step-by-step instructions on how to register for an event on the DAC website:

1. Go to [danishamericancenter.org](http://danishamericancenter.org)
2. Login to your account
3. Once you are logged in, click on Go to Event Calendar
4. Select the event for which you wish to register
5. A blue Register Now! button will appear toward the bottom of the page. Click on that button.
6. Fill in all the information and credit card number. (We do not accept American Express.)
7. A blue Register! button will appear. Click on that button.
8. You will receive an email confirmation of registration. Make sure to check your Junk and/or Spam folders.

Please note: Your DAC membership must be current to register for events. If you have any questions, contact the DAC office at (612) 729-3800.

### Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the March issue is February 10

## MONTHLY 'BEGINNER PLUS' DANISH LANGUAGE SESSIONS

Beginners Plus is a four-session mini-course designed for those with a little more experience and/or those who have completed previous Beginning Danish courses at DAC and want more speaking practice to move to a more intermediate level of proficiency.

In a Danish immersion setting, students will work on careful reading for comprehension, pronunciation, writing in Danish, and asking/answering questions aloud regarding a simple text.

If you have not previously completed Beginning Danish at DAC, instructor permission is required. Please contact the DAC office if you need contact information for Michelle Potter-Bacon to discuss your eligibility.

Meeting dates: Saturdays from 11am to noon/12:30pm, on February 10, March 2, March 30, and April 20.

Members: \$50 / Nonmembers: \$70

Register by February 9 via the DAC Calendar site.

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### Welcome New Members:

Eric Platt • Kelsie Schmit

Susan Brust • Trygve Larsen

Chelsea Wingenbach • Marilyn Rushenberg

Elizabeth Watkins • Kathy Blomquist

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](mailto: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

## Danish American Center

3030 West River Parkway South  
Minneapolis MN 55406

612-729-3800

email: [dainfo@dac.mn](mailto:dainfo@dac.mn)

Website: [danishamericancenter.org](http://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](http://www.danishamericancenter.org)

### Executive Board:

Peter Gaantris, President  
EJ Gurley, Vice President  
Anders Wolf, Treasurer  
Susan Jacobsen, Secretary  
Bill Holmquist, at Large  
Scott Thomsen, at Large

### Board of Directors:

Poul Bertelsen, Pippert Berg Madsen, Lisa Jensen,  
Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart, Mari Larsen,  
Susan Loschenkohl, Tom Peterson, Bruce Simpson,  
Karma Walker, and Pernille Whited

### DANews Committee:

Laura Forslev  
Bill Holmquist  
Betina Kohler  
Susan Loschenkohl  
Myra Madsen  
Michelle Potter-Bacon

For submissions, advertising, or any other inquiries, please contact us at [danews@dac.mn](mailto:danews@dac.mn).

## ONSDAG FROKOST – PRICE CHANGE

The Wednesday Lunch is one of the most popular events we hold. It gives our members time to get together and enjoy a wonderful meal prepared by fellow members who love to cook. Many people have expressed what value they get and with costs increasing, it has been decided that beginning in February 2024 the price of a meal for a member will be \$15. Members may invite non-member guests for \$18. These lunches are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Registration can be found on the DAC website and prepayment is required.

We are also looking for more cooks to prepare these wonderful lunches. This new price will make it easier for them to find dishes to serve you without having to worry so much about the costs. We still need cooks for the lunches on March 27, May 8, and May 22 before we break for the summer. Please contact Cathy Mahowald at [cmahowal@hutchtel.net](mailto:cmahowal@hutchtel.net) or 612-845-5562 if you are interested. She can answer any questions and would love to sign up new cooks.

## HAVE YOU LOST SOMETHING? WE FOUND IT!

A newly organized LOST AND FOUND area is waiting for members and friends of the DAC to claim the wonderful items left behind after events or overnights. Just head to the coatroom on the lower level and take a peek. You will find sunglasses and water bottles galore on the hat shelf on the left (north) side of the room, clothing (shirts, jackets, suit coats, a robe) hanging on the back rack on the same side, and assortments of shoes, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves, jewelry, books, tech gadgets, and more in clear plastic bins.

Beginning in 2024, if an item remains unclaimed for 12 months, that item will be donated to charity or sustainably recycled. The clock is ticking, so please check for lost items on your next visit to the Center.

For example, someone could be enjoying this nice, warm jacket during our Minnesota winter. Is it yours?



## DAC MEMBERSHIP AND WEBSITE UPDATES

We have made some changes to our website to make it easier for you to renew your membership at the level that fits you best and we have added a new category of senior household. When you renew your membership on the website after signing into your account, you will have the option of renewing at the current level or choosing a new level. Although we raised our membership rates slightly over a year ago, not everyone understands the new rate structure. The current rates are Household memberships (2 adults and children living at one address) \$75; Senior Households (2 adults over age 65) \$60; Individual memberships \$45 and Senior Individual memberships and students \$35.

Other updates include a more robust calendar. We are adding photos and more descriptions to DAC Member events. When you click on the event on the calendar a photo and description will come up. For member events that do not require registration, you will just see an expanded description. If the event requires registration, you may click through and register for the event online from the event page. All events requiring registration are now handled by online reservation and payment. You may also send a check to the office to register for an event, and no reservations are held without payment. We no longer accept cash or payment at the door at any event. If you are not comfortable using the website, you may ask a family member or friend to help you or call the office on Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm and we can take payment for events over the phone with a credit card.

## SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Monday, February 5: 7pm

The next Monday singalong starts up at 7pm Monday, February 4 at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis. Dan Chouinard hosts from the piano with lyrics on the big screen to help us through. If you have not been to one yet, you should come and experience the joy of singing along with a fun group of people. Free will offering.



## FEBRUARY'S READING CIRCLE TO INVESTIGATE MURDER ON THE NORTH SHORE

Sunday, February 18: 2pm

On Sunday, February 18, the Danebo Reading Circle will discuss Norwegian author Vidar Sundstøl's *The Land of Dreams* (2008, translated 2013 by Tiina Nunnally: University of Minnesota Press, 284 pages), a crime novel that takes place in Northern Minnesota. The first installment of Sundstøl's "Minnesota Trilogy, this book introduces readers to Norwegian-American U.S. Forest Service officer Lance Hansen, who works with FBI agent Bob Lecuver, and Norwegian detective Eirik Nyland to solve the mystery. Lance has a deep passion for local genealogy and history, which play a part in the story. But as an online overview describes the plot: "...his quiet routines are shattered one morning when he comes upon a Norwegian tourist brutally murdered near a stone cross on the shore of Lake Superior. Another Norwegian man is nearby; covered in blood and staring out across the lake, he can only utter the word *kjærlighet*. Love." Summarizing the investigation, the overview continues: "Lance begins to make shocking discoveries--including one that involves the murder of an Ojibwe man on the very same site more than one hundred years ago. As Lance digs into two murders separated by a century, he finds the clues may lead toward someone much closer to home than he could have imagined. *The Land of Dreams* is the opening chapter in a sweeping chronicle from one of Norway's leading crime writers—a portrait of an extraordinary landscape, an exploration of hidden traumas and paths of silence that trouble history, and a haunting study in guilt and the bonds of blood." [Thriftbooks.com]

Come join discussion leader Michelle Potter-Bacon and book group members, either on the third floor of the DAC or via Zoom, to dissect this famous novel. The meeting begins at 2pm and ends no later than 4pm. Treats are usually available on site, but members are encouraged to bring their own beverages and snacks if desired.

Sunday, March 17, will find Reading Circle members gathered at the DAC and on Zoom rather than marching with the Irish in Twin Cities parades. It will be an exciting afternoon as the group welcomes Saint Paul resident Rachel Willson-Broyles, the 2023 translator of that

month's book selection: *Stolen: A Novel* by Swedish indigenous author Ann-Helén Laestadius (2021: Scribner, 389 pages). Before her career in translation, Ms. Willson-Broyles attended Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter and was a student of group member Roger McKnight. This duo will lead the discussion of Laestadius' award-winning novel.

Chosen as Sweden's Book of the Year (2021) and a National Public Radio Best Book of 2023, and soon to be a Netflix film, *Stolen* is a "spellbinding Swedish novel that follows a young indigenous woman as she struggles to defend her family's reindeer herd and culture amidst xenophobia, climate change, and a devious hunter ... a searing depiction of a forgotten part of Sweden." [Thriftbooks.com] The library catalog description expands on the story: "On a winter day north of the Arctic Circle, nine-year-old Elsa—daughter of Sámi reindeer herders—sees a man brutally kill her beloved reindeer calf and threaten her into silence. When her father takes her to report the crime, the local police tell them that there is nothing they can do about these "stolen" animals. Killings like these are classified as theft in the reports that continue to pile up, uninvestigated. But reindeer are not just the Sámi's livelihood, they also hold spiritual significance; attacking a reindeer is an attack on the culture itself. Ten years later, hatred and threats against the Sámi keep escalating, and more reindeer are tortured and killed in Elsa's community. Finally, she's had enough and decides to push back on the apathetic police force. The hunter comes after her this time, leading to a catastrophic final confrontation."

Everyone is welcome to join the discussion. Books are readily available in libraries, bookstores, and/or online. Contact [suzannej41@me.com](mailto:suzannej41@me.com) for more information or a Zoom link.

## 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](mailto: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.

## **DOORS OPEN 2024**

**Sunday, May 19: 10am-5pm**

Mark your calendars for Doors Open! The DAC will be participating in this event once again, on Sunday, May 19 from 10am-5pm.

We will provide more information closer to the date but will need volunteers to give tours of the building and to serve refreshments. It has been very well attended and enjoyable in previous years.

This is a great way for the public to learn more about us, our history, and what goes on at the DAC. A description of the event is found below.

### **WHAT IS DOORS OPEN MINNEAPOLIS?**

Doors Open Minneapolis is your chance to explore the buildings that tell our city's story. From theaters to business hubs, sacred spaces to private clubs, sports complexes to engineering wonders, historical gems to not-even-open-yet buildings, Doors Open Minneapolis will give you a FREE behind-the-scenes look at dozens of exciting venues. Building owners and caretakers will provide unique perspectives that illustrate why these venues, people, and businesses, are central to our city's identity.

### **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](mailto: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.



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Danish American Center needs a Librarian volunteer to chair the library committee and help us catch up with cataloging and reshelving so we can offer more open hours. We are looking for someone with computer and catalog experience. The ability to read Danish would be helpful. If you or someone you know loves books, is interested in Danish culture and has the skills please contact the office. Volunteers must be members of DAC, but we would be happy to welcome a new member who wants to take on this project.

### **100TH ANNIVERSARY**

If you are interested in serving on a committee to help plan celebrations of our 100th anniversary, please contact the office. We are looking for someone to chair the committee and also for committee members willing to plan and implement events.

### **DANISH TUTORS AVAILABLE**

Contact Ingela Haaland for more information at 651-261-3602 or [Ingela\\_eilert@yahoo.com](mailto:Ingela_eilert@yahoo.com) or Niels Billund at [nielsbillund@gmail.com](mailto:nielsbillund@gmail.com)

In lieu of payment, Niels requests his students donate to the Danish American Center.

### **FOOD AND AQUAVIT PAIRING EVENT**

**Saturday, March 9: 12:30pm**

It is time for our 12th annual food and aquavit pairing event. As in years past, we will be featuring a variety of selected food dishes and 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 time 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 opened on January 15th on the DAC website (see "Registering For Events Online" on page 2 for instructions). For questions contact Steen Moeller at [moellersteen@gmail.com](mailto:moellersteen@gmail.com)

## LIBRARY HOURS

The library is now open on the first Saturday of the month from 11am to 1pm or by appointment only.

You may make a 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 them 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

### DANISH GENEALOGY

Monday, February 26: 6:30pm CST

No doubt most people researching their family history have dabbled in using the FamilySearch website. With millions of documents, videos, and research tips, it's an invaluable resource. But there is SO much more to the website than you may even imagine, and many documents aren't easily accessed with a quick name search.

Only 30% of the records at Family Search are indexed. You are missing 70% if you do not know how to find them. This session will demonstrate how to improve your search methods and strategies to take full advantage of the resources at FamilySearch.

Speaker Shirleen Hoffman is a professional genealogical researcher, speaker, and consultant. President of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, Hoffman is a published author in the *Minnesota Genealogist*, and the *Germanic Genealogy Journal*. She has a Post Graduate Certificate in Genealogical and Heraldic studies and has completed several professional genealogy courses.

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85440812733?pwd=UHNIMjdyN3FRcoN4dmkrSHJYWm1oZz09>

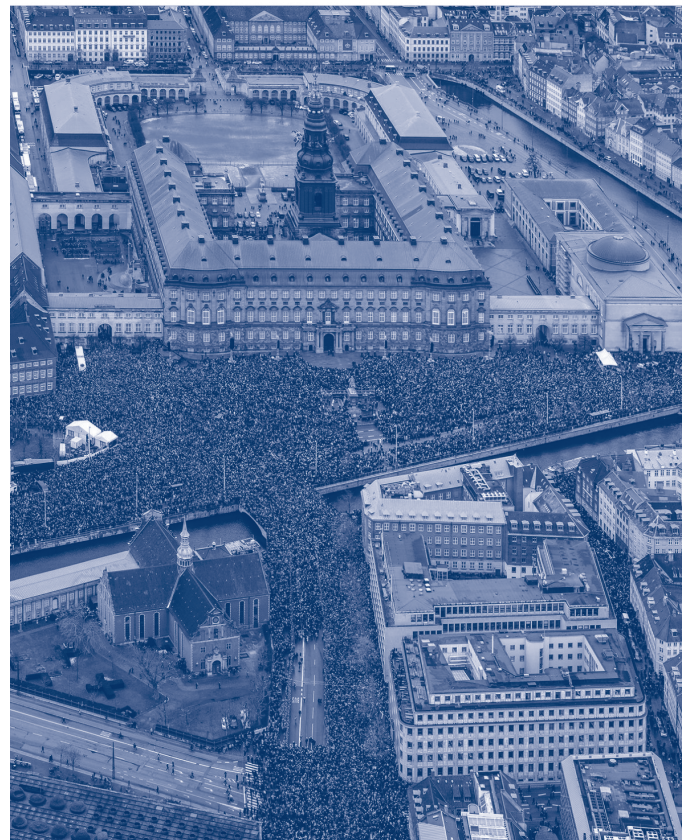
## TRANSLATION COMPETITION – OPEN THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

The American-Scandinavian Foundation is accepting applications for its 44th annual competition for outstanding translations of poetry, fiction, drama, or literary prose written by a 20th- or 21st-century author from the Nordic region (Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, and Sápmi). Among the four prizes to be awarded this year is Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize, supported by Scan Design Foundation, which recognizes the best Danish translation and includes a \$2,000 award. All four prize recipients will also have an excerpt of their translations published in *Scandinavian Review* and will receive a commemorative bronze medallion. The Translation Prize Competition is open through September 1, 2024. To read guidelines and submit an application, please visit: <https://www.amscan.org/fellowships-grants/translation-competition/>

## A SOCIAL MEDIA GLIMPSE OF COPENHAGEN



copenhagenbycosedis  
Christiansborg Slotsplads



copenhagenbycosedis This is what it looked like when the streets of Copenhagen were crowded with more than 300,000 people during the succession of King Frederik X on the 14th of January 2024 ❤️

## NEWS FROM DENMARK



### FREDERIK X PROCLAIMED NEW KING OF DENMARK AFTER HIS MOTHER QUEEN MARGRETHE II ABDICATES

On December 31, 2023, Queen Margrethe stunned the world when she announced her abdication in her annual New Year's Eve speech. On January 14, 2024, the 52nd anniversary of her accession to the throne, she formalized her abdication during a meeting with the Danish Cabinet at Christiansborg Palace. After signing her abdication, Queen Margrethe rose from the table, gestured for her son to take her place at the head of the table, and said "God save the King" before leaving the room.



Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen next proclaimed Frederik X king from the balcony of the palace before thousands of people.

King Frederik X was then joined on the balcony by new Queen Mary and the couple's four children, Princess Isabella, Crown Prince Christian, Princess Josephine, and Prince Vincent.



Photo: Keld Navntoft, Kongehuset ©

Denmark's monarchy traces its origins to 10th-century Viking king Gorm the Old, making it the oldest in Europe and one of the oldest in the world. Queen Margrethe reigned for 52 years and was the second-longest-reigning monarch in Danish history. The last time a Danish monarch voluntarily resigned was in 1146 when King Erik III Lamb (ca 1110-1146) stepped down and entered a monastery.



Photo: Dennis Stenild, Kongehuset ©

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## FEBRUARY 2024

Mondays from 9am-12pm: Watercolor  
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours  
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong  
Friday 02 Tøsegruppen 7-10pm  
Saturday 03 NDAGS Consultation 10am-12pm  
Monday 05 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm  
Wednesday 07 Virkelyst Meeting 7pm  
Saturday 10 Danish Language Class 9:30-11am  
10 Beginners Plus Danish 11am-12:30pm  
Monday 12 Finance Committee Meeting 6-7pm  
12 Board Meeting 7pm  
Wednesday 14 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am  
Saturday 17 Danish Language Class 9:30-11am  
Sunday 18 Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am  
18 Danebo Reading Circle 2pm  
Friday 23 Fyraften 6pm  
Monday 26 Danish Genealogy 6:30pm  
Wednesday 28 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am

## MARCH 2024

Mondays from 9am-12pm: Watercolor  
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours  
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong  
Friday 01 Tøsegruppen 7-10pm  
Saturday 02 NDAGS Consultation 10am-12pm  
02 Danish Language Class 9:30-11am  
02 Beginners Plus Danish 11am-12:30pm  
Monday 04 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm  
Wednesday 06 Virkelyst Meeting 7pm  
Saturday 09 Danish Language Class 9:30-11am  
09 Food and Aquavit Pairing Event 12:30pm  
Monday 11 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm  
Wednesday 13 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am  
Sunday 17 Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am  
17 Danebo Reading Circle 2pm  
Friday 22 Fyraften 6pm  
Monday 25 Danish Genealogy 6:30pm  
Wednesday 27 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am  
Saturday 30 Danish Language Class 9:30-11am  
30 Beginners Plus Danish 11am-12:30pm

February 2024