



# 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.*

## MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, May 14: 9am or 10:45am

Come join us for our 2023 Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 14 at the Danish American Center. There will be two scheduled seatings for the breakfast, at 9-10am and 10:45-11:45am. Reservations are required in advance and must be pre-paid. This event is open to both members and non-members.

The cost for the brunch is \$15 per adult and \$8 for children ages 5-12. Younger children are free. The menu will include æbleskiver, egg bake, sausage, fruit, pastry, rugbrød with meat & cheese (pålæg), juice, and coffee. To sign up, please go to our website, <https://danishamericancenter.org>, then to the Event Calendar and select the Mother's Day Brunch seating time of your choice. Or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800 to sign up and pay. Reservations will be accepted through May 10.

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

## DOORS OPEN MINNEAPOLIS

Saturday, May 13: 10am-5pm

This fun event is back, and the DAC is once again participating on Saturday, May 13. The DAC will be open to the public all day, offering tours and answering questions about the history of Danebo. We are looking for volunteers to greet visitors and give tours of the building. Please contact Tina Paulsen if interested at [dainfo@dac.mn](mailto:dainfo@dac.mn) or 612-729-3800. For information about this event, click here: [www.doorsopenminneapolis.org](http://www.doorsopenminneapolis.org)

## SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Monday, May 1: 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.



## MAY 2023

- Danish Day
- Sankt Hans Aften-Save the Date

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Why are you a member of the Danish American Center? Friendships? Food? Music? Dancing? Art? Danish language learning? Danish language speaking? Kids' fun? Gardening? Reading? Games? Space rental? Room rental? Etc.?

Whatever your reasons, we want you to feel good about being a member of our community. Come to events. Sit in the garden. If you have ideas, please share. If you have time, please volunteer. We are a member-based, member-run nonprofit that will be 100 years old next year, in 2024! This feat—surviving and thriving at 3030 West River Parkway South for a century—will be celebrated. Again, if you have ideas, please share. We are thinking for one of our Centennial events about hosting a Century Celebratory Gala with dinner and dancing. If you want to be on the 100-year committee, please sign up with Tina Paulsen in the office. We will begin meeting monthly starting in October 2023 towards a late summer/early fall 2024 party, given that the contract to build was signed on July 10, 1924. The cornerstone was laid in late summer, and the construction was complete enough for the Board of Trustees to hold a first meeting in the building in December 1924.

And speaking of firsts, the Honorary



## BEGINNING DANISH—SPRING CONVERSATION GROUP

Saturday, May 6: 9:30-11am

Interested in working on your Danish language reading and speaking skills? 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.

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 to have time to review the reading material prior to class.

## MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI

The audience for the Music on the Mississippi concert with the Jennifer Grimm Trio was treated to another top-notch show. Many accolades such as "beautiful voice," "loved how she connected with the crowd," "Joe Cruz and Kenni Holmen were terrific," "have them back again" were heard.

Jennifer on vocals and snare drum, and her husband Joe Cruz on guitar played a mix of jazz and originals, with the bonus of Kenni Holmen on sax and piccolo. Omar Abdul Karim on flugelhorn sat in on one tune.



## MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

A donation in memory of **Jens Høj** from Vagn Jensen

A donation in honor of **Tom Peterson** from Kellie Sundheim

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

## DANISH DAY 2023

Sunday, June 4: 11am-3pm

Danish Day will be held on June 4, 2023, from 11am-3pm. This year's celebration will be similar to last year's. There is no entrance fee, but a goodwill donation is much appreciated. We'll have hot dogs with all the trimmings, æbleskiver, and layer cake. And the popular sandwich auction is back. There'll be singing and activities for the kids too! Please bring chairs with you for seating on the lawn. We hope to see you there.

- 11:00 Danish Day Commences
- 11:30 Smørrebrød Sandwich Live Auction
- 12:00 National Anthem  
President's Welcome  
Lunch
- 12:15 Live music
- 1:00 Children's Activities
- 2:00 Social Free Time
- 3:00 Danish Day Ends

### Vendors & Exhibitors:

If you'd like to rent a table for Danish Day, please contact the office at 612-729-3800 or [dainfo@dac.mn](mailto:dainfo@dac.mn). The price is \$30 for a table and chairs, and the DAC will set up and take them down.

### Volunteers:

We are looking for volunteers for set up, baking æbleskiver and serving food. If interested in helping during this fun day, please send an email to Laura Forslev at [laura083067@hotmail.com](mailto:laura083067@hotmail.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](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.

## 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.

## 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.

## CHILDREN'S HOUR WITH INGELA HAALAND

Saturday, August 12: 10-11am in the Atrium

Come and join us for a children's hour filled with Danish songs, rhymes, and movement. Children age 3 through 5 are welcome, accompanied by an adult. Siblings younger than 3 are welcome with a separate adult in case they need a break. We will have circle time with music, rhymes, and movement for 30 minutes, a break for 15 minutes, then we'll gather again for 15 minutes of review and closure.

The price is \$12 per child and space is limited to 10 kids. You can sign up via the website calendar or by contacting the office at 612-729-3800 or [dainfo@dac.mn](mailto:dainfo@dac.mn)

## CELEBRATE SANKT HANS AFTEN-SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 24: 5-10pm

The Walter-Hansen farm in Rosemount will be hopping with Danes and friends from around the world when we gather to celebrate mid-summer. There's something for every age to enjoy: eating, playing, chatting, dancing, and singing together! New-mown hay bales provide soft seating and an intoxicating herbal fragrance in a cozy red barn where the floorboards have withstood weddings, waltzes, pop/rock bands, and dining events. Children can learn to twist & toast campfire bread (snobrød) over open charcoals. Hayrides transport the brave and curious down winding roads, through forests and thickets, past ponds and lakes, and return them safely to boast tall tales of adventure. If you seek tranquility, sit back with a cool beverage, enjoy catching up with friends you've missed seeing, gaze out to the pond, and breathe in the sweet country air. As the sun sets we'll gather around a grand bonfire. Come rain or shine!

### Remember to bring:

- Meat to grill and a dish to share (appetizer/salad/dessert)
- Your choice of beverages, comfy lawn chairs or blankets, bug spray
- Donations are appreciated but not expected!

### We will provide:

- Gas grills and utensils, tables & chairs,
- Plates, napkins, cups & utensils
- Condiments & Seasonings
- Lemonade, water & coffee

### Farm Address:

12101 Dodd Boulevard Rosemount, MN 55068

For assistance/questions call Kurt or Patricia Walter-Hansen 612-483-3569, 612-483-3101

## LOOKING FOR A DANISH TUTOR?

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 make a donation to the Danish American Center.

## DANEBO READING CIRCLE ANTICIPATES *SUMMER LIGHT AND SUMMER BREAK*

Sunday, May 21: 2pm

This month's hybrid meeting on Sunday, May 21, will bring book lovers together at the DAC and on Zoom for what will undoubtedly be a lively discussion of Jón Kalman Stefánsson's 2006 novel, *Summer Light, and Then Comes the Night*. The meeting begins at 2pm with discussion leader Myra Madsen, who has prepared this introduction.

Jón Kalman Stefánsson (1963- ) is an Icelandic author whose novels have been nominated three times for the Nordic Council Prize for Literature. His novel *Summer Light, and Then Comes the Night* (2005, 2020; 249 pages) received the Icelandic Prize for Literature. In addition to a trilogy—*Heaven and Hell*, *The Sorrow of Angels*, and *The Heart of Man*—he wrote *Fish Have No Feet* (2018), which was longlisted for the Man Booker International Prize. *Summer Light, and Then Comes the Night* was translated into English in 2020 by Philip Roughton, an award-winning translator of Icelandic literature.

*Summer Light, and Then Comes the Night* is set in a fictional, unnamed "village of just four hundred souls, around 500 more in the surrounding countryside." Due to an improved highway, the village is now a mere two-hour drive north of Reykjavik. The village, naturally, has an array of colorful characters, including a first-person, omniscient narrator who speaks for the village itself, functioning as a Greek chorus might in a drama by Sophocles or Euripides. However, Greek choruses tend to be gender-neutral, whereas the voice here is certainly masculine.

This work is a fascinating hybrid of a novel and a series of eight interlinking short stories. Certain plot lines and characters flit through the book, such as the possibility of the Depot being haunted by the ghosts of the people murdered on a farm previously at this location. There is the former business executive, now called the Astronomer, who starts dreaming in Latin; the postmistress, Ágústa, who reads other people's mail; the local beauty and restaurateur, Elísabet, who waits years for her true love to return to Iceland. A farmer, Benedikt, resurfaces in the narrative to star in the final devastating story. These and other storylines pulse with undercurrents of humor, love, and lust.

Stefánsson is very good at characterization and plot, although he gives his narrator space to step aside from those elements to comment on any number of topics: time, technology, animals, music, outer space, travel, and world affairs. He has published three books of poetry and has stated, "I'm writing words as well as music with language." Elements of his poetic focus are evident in *Summer Light and Then Comes the Night*.

The book group will take the summer off from meeting but will surely be exploring many literary and other pursuits. Top of the list might be the three books for the last part of the year: *Ice* by Finnish/Swedish author Ulla-Lena Lundberg (2012, 2016 translation by Thomas Teal; 441 pages) for September; the beginning of *Lucky Per* by Denmark's Henrik Pontoppidan (1904, 2019; 300 pages) in a new English translation by Naomi Lebowitz scheduled for October; and Norwegian author Karl Ove Knausgård's work of criticism and memoir, *So Much Longing in So Little Space: The Art of Edvard Munch* (2017, 2019 translation by Ingvild Burkey; 233 pages) in November. Members will also be working toward the September 1 deadline for submitting suggestions for the 2024 set of titles. Voting in October will winnow the nominations down to eight books.

As always, everyone is welcome to join the Reading Circle at any time. All *DANews* readers are also eligible to submit ideas for the 2024 selections. The main criteria are that books be by a Nordic author, have been translated into English, and are readily available in libraries or for purchase. Books by English-language authors that feature a strong connection to Denmark are also eligible for consideration. A nomination form is available. For information and/or to be added to the email notification list, please contact [suzannej41@me.com](mailto:suzannej41@me.com).

The book group hopes your summer has time for reading and relaxation!



## VIRKELYST

(From the Danish)

VIRKE = WORK + LYST = WILLINGNESS

Virkelyst has played an active role in our Danish-American community since 1938, an evolving social organization whose



aim is to further the goals first set out in 1938 in new, contemporary, and fun ways. Our intergenerational women's club of willing workers supports the DAC and charities that primarily support women and children. We benefit from life-long learning along the way.

Monthly Programs this year have included a wide variety of topics; the nonpartisan League of Women Voters, Fraud/scam protection, Hunger Solutions in MN, gun control in MN, Bridging organization, Books for Africa, personal wellness/fitness, and more! We meet 10 months of the year on Zoom or in person, with our June picnic and December Christmas gathering considered highlights for members. Meetings have often included Virkelyst members offering their ideas and eagerly putting together items for charity. Our meetings also include social time, concluding with coffee and dessert. New members are always welcome and we would love to have you join.

We expect all members to be active members of the Danish American Center and pay annual dues of \$25 for membership into Virkelyst. You can do this on the DAC website through the DONATE tab. Select Virkelyst dues from the dropdown. Or, send your membership to the DAC and let Cathy Mahowald know at [cmahowal@hutchtel.net](mailto:cmahowal@hutchtel.net) or call her at 612-845-5562.

## NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

### SAVE THE DATE—77TH ANNUAL DANEBOD FOLK MEETING

August 16-20

Using the Danish-American Folk School as its model, the Danebod Folk Meeting is held annually in Tyler, Minnesota. Gathering together to live in community for four days, we practice our belief in life-long learning. We listen to

lectures together, we learn from each other, we sing together, we eat together, we visit with old friends and make new ones, all of which fosters a more enriched life for ourselves and others. The meeting will be held August 16-20. Look in the May *DANews* for more information. For more information, you can email [danebod.folk.meeting.123@gmail.com](mailto:danebod.folk.meeting.123@gmail.com) or visit the website at [www.danebodfolkmeeting.org](http://www.danebodfolkmeeting.org).

### DANISH GENEALOGY

Monday, May 22: 6:30pm CST

Storage of your valuable genealogical data should be safely under your control, not left to an online tree. A desktop program has power features not available in online trees. Learn about the many options available and the criteria you should consider in choosing the program that is best for you.

Diana Elder AG is a professional genealogist accredited in the Gulf South region of the United States. Diana authored *Research Like a Pro: A Genealogist's Guide* and co-authored the companion volume, *Research Like a Pro with DNA: A Genealogist's Guide to Finding and Confirming Ancestors with DNA Evidence*. Diana and her daughter, Nicole Dyer, are the hosts of the Research Like a Pro Genealogy Podcast and share research tips on their website, [FamilyLocket.com](http://FamilyLocket.com). For more information on our group and other upcoming events, please visit our website at <http://www.danishgenealogy.org>

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86933205820>

Webinar ID: 869 3320 5820

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdEP7pj0nu>

Please note: This webinar will be live viewing only. No video recording will be made to send to NDAGS members, as per the speaker's request.

### NORDIC REVIEW—MUSIC & FOLK DRESS PARADE: CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

We are reaching out to invite your organization to be included in our "Nordic Review—Music and Folk Dress Parade" program which will be held Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 2:30 pm at First Covenant Church, 2101 W. 2nd St., Duluth, Minnesota.

We are encouraging each Nordic group to be represented with 1-3 musical selections which could be a vocal or instrumental selection (solo or group) or dance. We invite representative dress from your country. The folk dress will be narrated during the parade. Please submit the name of the person and 1-2 sentences describing/history of what each is wearing.

There is no charge to attend this community program and all local participants are asked to volunteer their talents. Because the Danes are located out of our area, we offer a \$100 honorarium to your organization. Our goal is to provide an interesting, informative program that is inclusive of all Nordic countries.

A Silent Auction will precede the program beginning at 1:15 pm. A wonderful free-will fika will be available after the program for participants and the audience to visit.

Please feel free to contact Jenn Conboy with any questions you might have.

Jenn Conboy, President and Swedish Cultural Social Board  
jenniferconboy@hotmail.com (218) 340-8216

## **VIRTUAL FANCIFUL PAPER CUTTING AT AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE**

Sunday, May 21, 2023: 10 – 11:30am

Join Danish paper-cutting artist Torben Jarlstrøm Clausen live from his home in Odense, Denmark to explore the universe of fanciful paper-



cut beings. Working in the tradition of storyteller and paper cut artist Hans Christian Andersen (who was also from Torben's hometown of Odense), students will work alongside Torben to release their own fantastic people from a piece of paper using only a pair of scissors. In just 90 minutes, students will experience the very best moment of cutting paper - when the paper is unfolded, the magic occurs, and your happy paper-cut person emerges! This workshop welcomes paper cutters of all levels who want creative prompts as well as a historic and contemporary look at paper cutting in Denmark and beyond.

Open to ages 16 and up. For information contact the ASI at 612-870-3362 or <https://asimn.org/event/fanciful-paper-cutting/>.

## **SKOVSOEN 2023**

Skovsøen 2023 is around the corner! Come join us this summer for our Danish language and culture immersion programs in Bemidji,



Minnesota. This year, we are offering a special one-week exploratory program for kids 7-11 with a Tivoli theme, as well as all our regular activities. We are also offering two two-week Danish language and culture immersion programs, and of course, our four-week high school credit program. Scholarships are still available, and there is a special scholarship for the one-week exploratory program.

The new dean, Emily Laila Helgerson, and all our staff are excited to welcome your children and grandchildren to Skovsøen.

Concordia Language Villages is all about language, culture, and FUN! In that spirit, we are excited to announce an incredible opportunity for kids wanting to explore Danish with us this summer.

The first week of programs (June 12-17) will have an "Amusement Park" theme. Kids attending Skovsøen, the Danish Language Village, will be enchanted by all the magic and thrills of Tivoli, the famous amusement park in central Copenhagen.

As a bonus, there will be several opportunities for cross-cultural exchanges and experiences between the Danish and Finnish language programs, bringing the fun to a new level!

To top it all off, we are offering families a \$675 scholarship to attend the Danish 1-week Youth Exploration session. That is equal to 50% of the tuition! Plus, additional needs-based scholarships are also available.

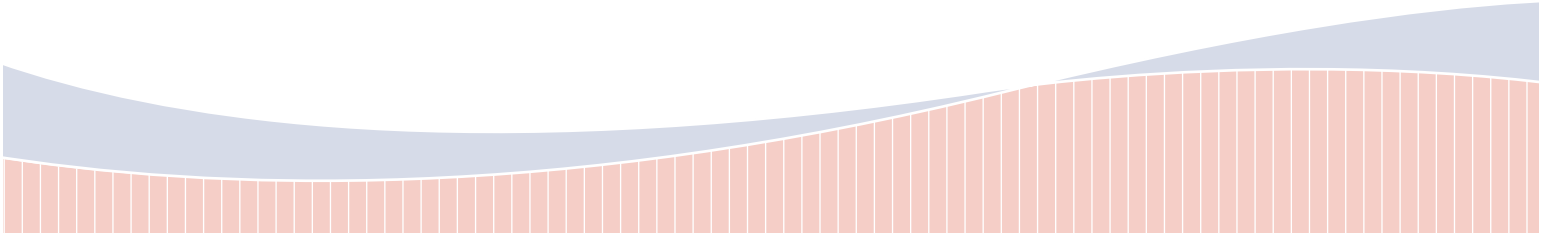
Not quite ready to go overnight yet? We are also offering a special \$100 scholarship to attend the Danish Day Adventure Day Camp Session.

Scholarships will be applied to your account following registration.

Join us this summer! For more information, contact us at <http://www.concordialanguagevillages.org/youth-languages/danish-language-village>.

## MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	01	Sing-along with Dan Chouinard 7pm	Wednesday	17	Office Hours 10am-2pm
Wednesday	03	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm		17	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	03	Office Hours 10am-2pm	Friday	19	President's Happy Hour 4pm
	03	Virkelyst 6:30-9pm	Sunday	21	Reading Circle 2pm
Friday	05	President's Happy Hour 4pm	Monday	22	Danish Genealogy 6:30pm
	05	Toseaften 7:30pm	Wednesday	24	Office Hours 10am-2pm
Saturday	06	Conversational Danish 3 9:30-11am		24	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Monday	08	Executive Committee Meeting 7pm		24	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Wednesday	10	Office Hours 10am-2pm	Friday	26	President's Happy Hour 4pm
	10	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm		26	Fyraften 6pm
	10	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am	Wednesday	31	Office Hours 10am-2pm
Friday	12	President's Happy Hour 4pm		31	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	13	Doors Open 10am-5pm			
Sunday	14	Mother's Day Brunch 9am or 10:45am			



**DANISH  
AMERICAN  
CENTER**

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