



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.

HOLIDAY ART FAIR

Sunday, November 19: 8:30am-12pm

All are welcome to visit the Annual Art Fair in the Atrium to browse and purchase early holiday presents from the many creative vendors. Stop in before or after the Æbleskive Breakfast, or just drop in to shop. Artists this year include Mark Petersen, "The Knotty Dane," with woodcraft; Cynthia McKeen, "Proonglily," Danish paper cutting; Gitte Mohr's original watercolor cards; Anne-Lise Paulsen, Danish Embroidery & Svea Ernst, hand knitting. We have two new culinary artisans, Karen Nestingen with maple syrup and Greta Sebald with Danish delicacies. Coffee will be served for art fair browsers.

ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

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

The next æbleskive breakfast will be held on Sunday, November 19 at the Danish American Center. We are offering two scheduled seatings for 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 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. To sign up, please go to the website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/> and log in to your account, or scroll down to the upcoming events list. On the Event Calendar, select the Æbleskive Breakfast seating of your choice. Or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800 to sign up. Pre-payment is required. Reservations will be accepted through November 15. Note that we will accept a limited number of take-out orders (please book in advance).

Upcoming breakfasts for 2024, Sundays with reserved seating: January 21, February 18, and March 17.

If you are interested in volunteering for one of our breakfasts or have questions, please contact Carla & Joel Mortensen at email: morteo07@umn.edu, or call 612-724-1814. We hope to see you there!

NOVEMBER 2023

- Danish for Beginners
- Annual ASI Holiday Exhibit

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, All! On behalf of myself and the rest of the board, we want to thank you for your participation in the recent annual meeting.



At that meeting, Rikke Dierssen-Morice highlighted our events from the past year, including our successes, challenges, and organizational vision going forward. We also had a review of the Danish American Center (DAC) financial status and an election of new officers to the board. These new officers include Poul Bertelsen, Scott Thomsen, and myself.

After the Annual Meeting concluded, Rikke and Mike Fredrick chose to vacate their positions on the DAC Board of Directors. Rikke and Mike both had two years remaining on their terms for the board. Following the established protocol of the DAC bylaws, the board has appointed two new members to take their seats: Karma Walker and EJ Gurley.

We are grateful to both departing board members for their contributions to the DAC. Mike had not been a member of the board for a long time, but while he was here, he offered a great deal of insight into our financial situation, and he provided analysis and information about how we can strengthen our balance sheets and operate from a position of financial strength.

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued on Page 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued from Page 1

Rikke has contributed a great deal over the years. Before she was President of the Board, she was instrumental in the merger of the DAC with the former DAF, providing advice and legal counsel as the organizations merged. She consulted during the development and construction of the Atrium in 2005, and while President, she championed the Tivoli Lounge project. She also initiated many improvements to our day-to-day administrative function of the DAC; among these was the effort to modernize our bookkeeping systems, move away from cash transactions, and invest in improvements to our online presence.

We are grateful for the contributions of Rikke and Mike, and we thank them for their service to this organization.

There are many challenges ahead of this organization, and the board and executive committee are approaching these challenges thoughtfully. As has been noted in previous newsletters, we are continuing discussions with the City of Minneapolis regarding our licensing and host licensing. We are also reviewing staffing plans for the future and developing a strategic plan for the DAC.

We will soon be celebrating the 100th year of the DAC. There will be some challenges and changes ahead, but change can also bring exciting opportunities. I am grateful for your support of the DAC.

Peter Gantriis

CHILDREN'S HOUR WITH INGELA HAALAND "SYNG MED MIG!"

Saturday, November 18: 10-11am in the Atrium
Come and join us for a children's hour filled with Danish songs, rhymes, and movement. Children ages three through eight 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 a stroll outside in search of things to use for our fall craft, then we'll gather again for 15 minutes of review and closure.

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



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.

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:

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

Board of Directors:

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

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

DANISH FOR BEGINNERS

Instructor Michelle Potter-Bacon with assistance from Ryan Maki and Kate Goodrich is offering courses for beginners.

Each month will offer a theme, and the chance to attend a virtual and/or in-person session to build on that learning



with more hands-on opportunities to practice language in scenarios set up to mimic a real-world setting. One may attend the in-person session without the



prior Zoom class, but it is strongly recommended to attend both theme courses to enhance the experience. Below please find the proposed themes.

Saturdays from 9:30 to 11am

November 11/11 (on Zoom) & 11/18 (at DAC): Holidays & Traditions

December 12/9 (on Zoom) & 12/16 (at DAC): Food.

The in-person session will include following a recipe and a mini julefrokost potluck with a discussion about Danish table customs.

Price per course (individual, up to 3):

\$15 members / \$20 nonmembers

Multi-course discounts:

• Register for 4 or more courses

\$55 members (\$13.50/class)

\$70 nonmembers (\$17.50/class)

You can sign up via the website calendar or by contacting the office at 612-729-3800 or dainfo@dac.mn

LOOKING FOR A DANISH TUTOR?

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

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

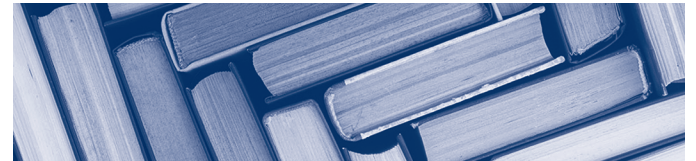
MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

Donations in memory of **Vagn Jensen** from Kristian & Lora Lee Thusholt

Donations in memory of **Otto Gotzsche** from Kristian & Lora Lee Thusholt

Donations in memory of **Mary Jo Thorsheim** from Diane Greve

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.



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 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.

DAC CHEESE SALE PICKUP

Items purchased during the annual cheese sale can be picked up during the following times:

Wednesday, November 8: 11:30am-1pm
(during the Wednesday lunch)

Saturday, November 11: 10am-2pm

DANEBO READING CIRCLE OPTS FOR NON-FICTION IN NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 19: 2pm

On Sunday, November 19, 2023 – an active day at the DAC with the Art Fair and Æbleskive Breakfast – the reading group will hold a hybrid meeting (Third Floor North Commons Classroom and Zoom) beginning at 2pm. Michelle Potter-Bacon will lead the discussion of *So Much Longing in So Little Space: The Art of Edvard Munch* by critically acclaimed Norwegian author Karl Ove Knausgaard (246 pages, including Notes and Paintings –a list and thirteen color reproductions; 2017, English translation by Ingvild Burkey, 2019, Penguin Books).

Michelle offers these insights into the book: “Knausgaard uses insight and psychology to probe the art and life of the solitary-to-the core and difficult-to-know, yet highly regarded Edvard Munch (1863-1944). The author approaches his subject from the perspective of a novice art critic, but his observations ring true. Descriptions of the emotions he felt during his first viewing of Munch’s painting of a snow-covered landscape at the age of nineteen are raw and intense, recalling the emotional teenager in all of us. Importantly, he can pinpoint, in lovely prose, just how the painting evoked those deep feelings of melancholy and the sense of loneliness that are a hallmark of Munch.

“Knausgaard writes about Munch’s fundamental need to lead an artistic life and how he remained true to that aesthetic throughout his lifetime. He illustrates this by detailing the painter’s simple lifestyle and critiquing several of Munch’s striking works. Knausgaard further explores the theme in interviews with fellow artists.

“The author also relays how he came to curate a Munch show, speculating on his inadequacies as a first-time curator in selecting the works he ultimately chose. The insider’s perspective into the vast collection of works in the Munch Museum vault was scintillating reading.”

The group is looking forward to a robust discussion at the November meeting as several members have seen the new and old Munch museums in Oslo, including the exhibit that Knausgaard curated. Everyone is invited to join in, whether they have read the book or not. To join the group’s email list or receive a Zoom link, please message suzannej41@me.com.

At this meeting, members will also finalize the schedule of books for 2024. Look for the final list in the December *DANews*. 2024 bookmarks will be available in December on the table outside of the DAC library. The lineup looks intriguing.

To and from the Danebo Reading Circle: hearty wishes for the coming holidays and a good new year! See you on November 19 and in 2024!

VIRKELYST CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 9: 11am

Registration is now open to Virkelyst members for the annual Julefrokost! The cost is \$29. Check-in and social time begins at 11am, with a multi-course lunch being served starting at 12pm. Once again, our cook is Svea Ernst.

To register online (our preferred method) you must have a username and password and log in to <https://danishamericancenter.org/> Your DAC membership must be current.

Once on the site, go to the Event Calendar, find December 9 and select Virkelyst luncheon. A blue Register option will appear. Fill in your information and credit card number, then a blue Register option will appear again. That’s it! Registration closes on December 4.

If you prefer to pay by check, make it payable to DAC, with Virkelyst Luncheon Dec. 9 in the memo line. Mail the check to the DAC, 3030 W. River Pkwy S., Mpls 55406. Your check needs to arrive at the DAC office no later than November 30.

Call Ginny Leppart 612-532-5750 or email gabby.leppart@gmail.com with any questions.

We hope you can attend the luncheon and it is always a delicious meal and fun day.

Our Virkelyst group will decorate the DAC for Christmas on Monday, November 27 starting at 10am. Help from DAC members is always welcome.

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the December issue is November 10

ONCE UPON A MANSION: ASI'S 73RD HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

November 11, 2023 – January 7, 2024

What festive tales did the Turnblad Family read while cozied up in the Library? What would happen if the creatures carved in the Mansion woodwork wanted to come out and play?

Step into the story at the American Swedish Institute's most enchanting holiday experience ever that brings the magic of winter, traditions, myths, and tales to life for visitors of all ages. Explore the festive rooms of the Turnblad Mansion and immerse yourself in experiences co-created by local community contributors representing Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, and the Sami Cultural Center. Whether it's your first ASI Holiday Experience, or your 73rd, this is one you won't want to miss.

Are you a fan of vintage Danish glass from Holmegaard? When you visit, keep an eye out for a frosty northern lights themed, glass-filled tablescape inspired by HC Andersen's "The Snow Queen" crafted by DAC community curators Susan Loschenkohl and Mari Larsen.

One of Minnesota's top winter traditions, ASI's Nordic-inspired holiday experience brings communities and people of all ages together to celebrate the season. From November to January, the museum and cultural center partners with local organizations designers, artists, makers, and performers, to produce an immersive holiday experience within the historic Turnblad Mansion—Minnesota's only castle—and to present an array of top holiday events, holiday handcraft, food, language classes, and more.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Members:

Mette Nielsen • Greta Sebald

Kim Skalbeck • Margaret Bostelmann

Joe & Marie Haro • Sally Schroeder

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



MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI

Another resounding success featuring Larry Long, Will Kjeer, Cameron LaDiva Wright and Kashif the Revealer. The original Stories, Poems, and Music paid tribute to those who came before us and those who will pick up the baton when we are gone. Beautiful, cohesive, and genuine describe the performance!

NOTARY PUBLIC

The Danish American Center offers notary public 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.

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

DANISH GENEALOGY- THE SCANDINAVIAN AMERICAN LINES

Monday, November 27: 6:30pm

A great many of our Danish (and Swedish and Norwegian) ancestors traveled to America via the Danish owned and operated fleet of ships of the Scandinavian American Line. This is a fascinating and often unfamiliar part of your ancestor's emigration story. Presenter Bill Holmquist will explore the history of the Scandinavian American Line, its impact on Nordic emigration and the experiences our ancestors likely lived.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83628216533>

For more information on our group and other upcoming events, please visit our website at <http://www.danishgenealogy.org>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Wednesday	01	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	01	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	01	Virkelyst (Zoom) 7pm
Friday	03	Tøsegruppen 7-10pm
Saturday	04	Library Open Hours 10am-12pm
Wednesday	08	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	08	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	08	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Saturday	11	Danish for Beginners (Zoom) 9:30-11am
Monday	13	Executive Committee Meeting 7pm
Wednesday	15	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	15	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Saturday	18	Medisterpølse Sausage Making Class 9:30-11am
	18	Danish for Beginners 9:30-11am
	18	Children's Singing Hour 10am
Sunday	19	Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am
	19	Art Fair 8:30am-2pm
	19	Reading Circle 2pm
Wednesday	22	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	22	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Friday	24	Fyraften 6pm
Saturday	25	Danish for Beginners 9:30-11am
Monday	27	Danish Genealogy 6:30pm
Wednesday	29	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	29	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm

DECEMBER

Friday	01	Tøsegruppen 7-10pm
Saturday	02	Library Open Hours 10am-12pm
Wednesday	06	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	06	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Saturday	09	Danish for Beginners 9:30-11am
	09	Virkelyst Julefrokost 11am
Monday	11	Finance Committee Meeting 6pm
	11	Executive Committee Meeting 7pm
Wednesday	13	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	13	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Saturday	16	Danish for Beginners 9:30-11am
	16	Christmas Party
Sunday	17	Children's Christmas Party
	17	Reading Circle 2pm
Wednesday	20	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	20	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
Friday	22	Fyraften 6pm
Wednesday	27	Office Hours 10am-2pm
	27	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm



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