



# 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.*

## MEMBER SOCIAL GATHERINGS

### FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE TIVOLI LOUNGE

Friday, November 1: 4-6pm

Join your member friends for an informal social gathering and enjoy soft drinks and non-alcoholic beer. No reservations needed; come join us!

## ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

Sunday, November 17: 9:00am and 10:45am

We are offering two scheduled seatings for our November breakfast, 9-10am and 10:45-11:45am. Reservations are required and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost for the all you can eat breakfast is \$13 per adult and \$8 per child, ages 5-12. Younger children are free. The menu includes æbleskiver, egg bake, sausage, juice and coffee. To sign up, please go to the website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/> and 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.

Upcoming breakfasts in 2025 (no breakfast in December): January 19 & February 16.

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

## JULEMARKED - HOLIDAY ART FAIR

Sunday, November 17: 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 two wood workers, Flemming Petersen and Mark Petersen, "The Knotty Dane;" Gitte Mohr with original watercolor cards and bookmarks; Anne-Lise Paulsen, Danish embroidery & Svea Ernst, hand knitting. Or pick up treats from culinary artisan, Greta Sebald with Danish delicacies and ornaments. DAC stickers and paper cuts also for sale.

Coffee will be served for art fair browsers.

## NOVEMBER 2024

- ♥ DAC Julefrokost - Save the Date!
- ♥ Give to the Max Day
- ♥ Crafting Workshops

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings! As we watch our seasons change, we have much to look forward to at the DAC.

At our most recent board meeting, we were joined by Paul and Lisa Jensen. They presented



plans for landscape improvements to our property, focusing on improvements to the front of the building that faces West River Parkway. Paul and Lisa hired a professional landscape architect to draw up the plans, and they will be breaking ground on the new landscaping this fall. They are doing it in honor of their father, Vagn Jensen, who was a very active DAC member for many years. The plans look terrific, and this will bring welcome improvements to the appearance of our property facing the parkway. Above all, this is a wonderful way to honor their father, and we are grateful for the donation.

In addition, the board took care of some new business. We received a proposal by the Viking Guild to form a new activity group at DAC. The board reviewed and approved the application, and we will be excited to see some new activities and welcome new members. We also welcomed two new board

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued from Page 1

members—Ryan Maki and Dana Bacon. Dana and Ryan were elected at the Annual Meeting and we are very pleased to have them join the board.

On the organizational side of things, I am actively seeking partnerships for the DAC for liquor licensing. As you know, we have retained our Rental Hall permit for this year, but we have many events where we would like to serve alcohol and we need to have better options. To that end, I'm exploring partnership opportunities with other establishments and organizations like ours. Hopefully, we can find a long-term arrangement that will give us the flexibility we desire to have alcohol available

at more events during the year. This has been a hot topic for a while now, and I have received a lot of feedback indicating that we need to have more social events where alcohol is available as an option. Rest assured that we are doing everything we can to facilitate the types of gatherings that we all want to have at the DAC, but it is essential that we abide by all applicable City and State regulations.

I have listened to your feedback, and I am working diligently to meet your requests. As always, I am grateful for your support.

Pete Gantriis



## LANDSCAPING DONATION

Many thanks to Paul and Lisa Jensen for this generous gift in honor of their father, Vagn Jensen. If you've driven by DAC on the parkway recently, you'll see this vision is already beginning to come to life. Full size version of the color renderings of the landscape plans for the West River Parkway side of the Danish American Center building (left) are on display on the DAC's first floor just outside the living room.

### 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

### Executive Board:

Peter Gantriis, President  
EJ Gurley, Vice President  
Anders Wolf, Treasurer  
Susan Jacobsen, Secretary

### Board of Directors:

Dana Bacon, Pippert Berg Madsen, Bill Holmquist,  
Lisa Jensen, Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart, Susan Loschenkohl,  
Ryan Maki, Tom Peterson, Bruce Simpson,  
Scott Thomsen, Karma Walker, and Pernille Whited

### DANews Committee:

Pippert Berg Madsen  
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).





## MEDISTERPØLSE CLASS

Saturday, November 16: 9:30am

For many Danes, the juleaften meal is not complete without a serving of medisterpølse. The DAC is sponsoring a class for members and their guests on Saturday, November 16 in the DAC dining room, so you can make your own. We'll meet from 9:30am until we're all stuffed (the casings, not us). We normally finish by noon.

This class fills quickly and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Cooking instructions along with recipes for traditional Danish side dishes will be provided. Deadline for ordering is November 3 to give the butcher sufficient time to grind the pork. As the recipes are written for 5 pounds of meat, you will order in increments of 5 pounds. Bring a bowl(s) large enough to hold all your raw meat and still add spices and broth and get it all mixed together without spilling over the edge. Also bring a knife for mincing onions, and your own cutting board if you don't want to share. Bringing an apron is also a good idea.

Cost is \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members, and the price for the pork is \$3.50 per pound. Spices, casings, onions and broth are provided.

Register via Zeffy: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/d32e2ff3-053f-4f63-8a9e-a525ec35d422>

## SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Monday, November 4: 7pm

The next singalong will be held on Monday, November 4 at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis. Dan Chouinard



hosts from the piano, 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.

## SAVE THE DATE...

### JULEFROKOST / CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Saturday, December 14: 12pm

As we celebrate the season, enjoy a traditional Danish Julefrokost with several courses of delicious food and good company. We do our best to make this luncheon as authentic as possible with traditional foods including herring, gravlox, leverpostej, medisterpølse and more. Check the website for more details and to register beginning November 15.



## DANISH DELICACIES FUNDRAISER 2024

Thanks to everyone participating in this year's record breaking Danish Delicacies fundraiser! By the time you read this, we will have placed our cheese order and Svea Ernst will be hard at work preparing the asier, leverpostej and mahjonger cookies you all ordered. At this time, we are still on track for the pick up dates originally published (see below), but we are still at the mercy of potential international shipping delays as the cheese is coming to us direct from Denmark. In the event of any pick up date changes, we will let participants know via the email address provided during ordering.

### Danish Delicacies Pick Up Dates:

**Wednesday, November 20\*** 10 am to 2 pm. Pick up date #1 (DAC Dining room on the lower level)

**Saturday, November 23\*** 10 am to 2 pm. Pick up date #2 (DAC Dining room on the lower level)

We so appreciate your support! This annual fundraiser not only gives DAC friends and members a good deal on a selection of Danish food specialties, it also provides a way for you to help support the activities and programs of the Danish American Center.

## LEAVES FROM THE LIBRARY

By Felicity Hanson

Our recent Danish adventures included climbing various church and other towers, rowing a replica Viking boat, and getting stuck when our Copenhagen sightseeing boat's engine died. Less extreme were our visits to new and used bookstores, local libraries, and the Royal Danish Library.

We brought back a few Danish books and magazines for the DAC library. Magazines are available on the table outside the library. Kindly consider dropping off your fairly recent ones to share with members. Tak!

Shout-out to Bill Holmquist for genealogy assistance. We visited Sæby, where Will's morfar was born, and the church that he would have attended. It was a wonderful experience.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS IN NORTH COMMONS CLASSROOM WITH DAC LIBRARIAN FELICITY HANSON

To register for DAC workshops, go to [danishamericancenter.org](http://danishamericancenter.org) and click on Classes and Events at the top. DAC members \$15; non-members \$25.

### MAKE A BOOK SNAKE

Sunday, November 10, 1-3pm

The Problem of the Closing Book

**WHY:** Do you know readers who don't want to always be holding their book while reading? They lay the book down, and then it closes! I know readers who will use whatever is at hand to keep their book open—a stapler, a phone, salt & pepper pots (messy), a banana, another book, or even a small dog (hairy)!

If only that reader had a **Book Snake!**

You could solve the problem of the closing book for someone you love (maybe yourself?) by coming to this workshop and making a book snake, or even two if you are skilled. Plus, book snakes make unusual and cute holiday gifts!

**WHAT:** A book snake is a fabric tube that is weighted. You can spread the weight along the snake's body or slide it all down to one end, wherever it is needed to prevent a book from closing while it's being read.

**HOW:** You will hand-sew or machine sew the fabric tube to make the body, then fill and decorate it with button



eyes and a V-tongue if you wish. I will have a variety of fabrics, felt, button eyes, and other decorative options.

Basic sewing skills, such as backstitch, needed.

## TEENY TINY BOOKS OR TEENY TINY BOOK EARRINGS

Sunday, December 8, 1-3:30pm

What's better than your favorite book? A teeny tiny sized version of it! These little books are super cute and quite amazing!



In this workshop, you will cut out the boards and covers for your book, make some tiny pages to glue inside, and put the whole thing together. This work does require a degree of skill, so the workshop is suitable for teens through adults.

Optional—make a pair of teeny tiny books and turn them into earrings. Fishhook earring findings an additional \$2.50 per pair. They are sterling silver and include latex backs.

\*After registering, please email titles for 2-4 books that you love to [daclibrarymn@gmail.com](mailto:daclibrarymn@gmail.com) (by Wednesday, December 4 at noon), and I will endeavor to provide those covers at the workshop. I will also have a selection of English children's and adult's book covers, and Danish children's covers to choose from.

## SANGAFTEN

Sunday, December 1: 7pm

Join us to sing many of our favorite Danish and English Christmas songs together with friends and family. The evening will be led by Lisa Jensen on our grand piano beside our beautiful Christmas tree in the atrium! We will sing for about an hour, followed by coffee and kringle. Hope to see you at this hyggelig holiday event!

## 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.



## **GIVE TO THE MAX DAY**

November 21

Give to the Max Day, this November 21st, is an annual event in which Minnesotans can donate to the causes they hold dear. If you are reading this we know the DAC is one of those causes. Give to the Max is one easy way to show your support to the Danish American Center. Visit <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Danebo> to donate on November 21st. Mange tak!

## **DANISH LANGUAGE FOR BEGINNERS**

In person classes at DAC: Saturdays 9:30 -11am

January 4, 11, 25; February 1, 15; March 1, 8, 15; April 5, 12.

Zoom office hours: Saturdays 9:30-10am, January 25, February 8, February 22.

More information and registration available on the DAC website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/membership/event-calendar/#!event/2024/9/7/beginning-danish-language-class-9-30-11-am>

## **BEGINNER PLUS DANISH**

In person monthly sessions at DAC designed for those with a little more experience and/or who have completed previous Beginning Danish courses at DAC.

Register for any or all sessions, held 11:15am-12:30pm Saturdays, January 11, February 15, March 15, April 12.

More information and registration available on the DAC website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/membership/event-calendar/#!event/2025/4/12/danish-plus>

## **ONSDAGS FROKOST**

We have one lunch left for this year on November 13 and we will break for the holidays. But it is not too soon to sign up to be a cook for next year! We need cooks for 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, January through May. If you have a favorite dish you would like to share or if you just love cooking, this is your opportunity to be a star! Contact Cathy Mahowald at [cmahowal@hutchtel.net](mailto:cmahowal@hutchtel.net) or 612-845-5562. She will answer any questions you have, and she would love to set you up.

## **SUPPORTING THE DAC INTO THE FUTURE**

*By Karma Hansen Walker*

As Thanksgiving nears, I ask you to consider the joy that the Danish American Center community contributes to your life and how you plan to nurture and reciprocate that rich sense of community.

I am a bicentennial baby. Although the vast majority of my childhood memories are of the 1980s (spiral perms, neon and VHS tapes), the late 1970s play out in my mind as a warm haze of happy, comfortable memories of our Danish American Community. Cherished recollections of Danish greetings, endearments and songs; herring, strong cheese and cardamom; whirling polkas and the way the ribbons on my folk dancing bonnet felt tied under my chin. Memories of our familiar, familial community that helped shape the woman I have become.

As I approach 50, I often ponder memories of the happy Danes that influenced me, their jovial Danish words and/or accents, kind and dear. Many of these loving individuals have passed in the last few years. May their memory be a blessing. How do I honor their legacy? Pass the torch of caring for our Danish American community? How do I ensure it endures? Grows? Flourishes?

Donate. Donations of time and money are how we grow forward. Membership dues alone will not sustain our community. We need more. Boilers fail, roofs leak, and paint peels. The regular wear and tear of our beautiful community space at Danebo is as inevitable as our own aging. We need volunteer hours and undesignated monetary donations.

With November upon us, and Give to the Max just a few weeks away, please remember the Danish American Center in your holiday giving. As you plan for the future, please consider including the DAC organization in your estate planning or will. For more information, please visit the "Support DAC" page on our website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/support-dac/>

Together we sustain the Danish American immigrant legacy for future generations to come.

På forhånd tak!





## DAC MEMBER BENEFITS: SPACE RENTAL

*A short occasional feature detailing the perks of your DAC membership*

Did you know that if you are a member of good standing at the Danish American Center for at least one year, you can rent space at DAC to hold a range of private events on the property? Past events include bridal showers, weddings, reunions, board retreats, and large family gatherings. The DAC has gathering spaces that can accommodate groups indoors and out, and the guest rooms are available for overnight accommodations. It's important to note that the DAC is able to offer these spaces for rent because we maintain a number of licenses with the City of Minneapolis. If you attended the DAC Annual Meeting in September, you may remember DAC President Pete Gantriis mentioning the updated 'good standing' status of our "Rental Hall" license. That license in particular is especially relevant for rental events that utilize our gathering spaces (Atrium, Dining Room, South Porch, etc). It may help to know that the City of Minneapolis defines a "Rental Hall" as a "building, facility, room, or portion thereof, which is rented, leased or otherwise made available to any person or group for a private event or function, that is not open to the general public" (Chapter 266 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances). This definition is the reason we are only able to rent space for private events. In the spirit of transparency, we are sharing the City of Minneapolis "Rental Hall Operating Requirements" we need to live by as spelled out in our Hall License application:

1. You must have a signed lease for every event at your rental hall. This must remain on file for one year with the client's name, telephone, address, nature of event, number of attendees, hours of use, hours of event, and the type and amount of entertainment.
2. You must have a designated manager.
3. You must provide adequate security. One security person is recommended for 50 guests if alcohol is served or dancing occurs.
4. No subletting of your rental hall.
5. You must notify the police five days in advance of any event with dancing, live music and/or recorded music.
6. No pre-purchased tickets or ticket sales at the door unless the event is a political or charitable fund raiser.

7. Alcohol must be provided by the host. It may not be sold during the event.

When it comes time for you to plan your event at DAC, rest assured DAC staff and board will work with you to ensure the event you wish to hold meets your needs AND stays in compliance with the our Hall License Operating Requirements.

If you have questions or concerns about our space rental policy in general, please direct them to the DAC Office.

To start a rental inquiry, please visit the "Event Space Rental" page on the DAC website (<https://danishamericancenter.org/event-space-rental/>) where you'll find a pdf copy of our "Event Rental Request Form." Download, complete and email that form to the office ([dainfo@dac.com](mailto:dainfo@dac.com)) to begin a space rental conversation with us.

*Please Note: These requirements are specific to individual rentals only. Official DAC activities utilize different licenses and thus have different requirements.*

## JULENISSE MAKING WORKSHOP

December 1: 1-3pm

Join us for a cosy needlefelting workshop where you'll learn to create your very own julenisse. A beloved part of Danish Christmas traditions, julenisser bring a bit of magic to your holiday decor. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced crafter, this hands-on workshop suitable for teens through adults will guide you through the steps to create your very own julenisse. Workshop led by Skovbo Creative's Susan Loschenkohl.



To register for DAC workshops, go to [danishamericancenter.org](https://danishamericancenter.org) and click on Classes and Events  
Cost: DAC members \$15; non-members \$25.

### Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the December issue is November 10

## THE DANEBO READING CIRCLE ENDS YEAR WITH NORWEGIAN CLASSIC

Sunday, November 17: 2pm

At its final meeting for 2024, DAC's book group will discuss a new translation of a century-old favorite by Nobel Prize winner Sigrid Undset: *Olav Audunsson. III, Crossroads* (NO, 1925, translated 2022 by Tiina Nunnally: University of Minnesota Press, 242 pages). This is the third volume of Undset's acclaimed medieval tetralogy. The hybrid meeting (North Commons Classroom and Zoom) will begin at 2 PM and end no later than 4 PM on Sunday, November 17, which is also the date of an Æbleskive Breakfast and the annual Art Fair – a trifecta!

Mary Beth Lake will lead the discussion of the grieving title character's life and times. In this third installment, the story "finds Olav heartbroken by loss and further estranged from his son. Set in a time and place where royalty and religion vie for power, and bloodlines and loyalties are law, *Crossroads* summons a powerful picture of Northern life in medieval times – a moving re-creation of a vanished world tainted by bloodshed and haunted by sin and retribution." [from library description]. Even those who have not read the first two parts may find this discussion stimulating and a good introduction to the dramatic tale.

At the October meeting and via email, members finalized the list of books for 2025. Dates and leaders for the eight titles will be on bookmarks and other calendar items by the November meeting and then on the table outside the DAC Library.

The Danebo Reading Circle welcomes everyone to join the discussions. All books are readily available in libraries, bookstores, and/or online. Contact [suzannej41@me.com](mailto:suzannej41@me.com) for more information or a Zoom meeting link.

### MEMORIALS

**Donations** in memory of **Louise Bakken** from Tina Paulsen

**Donations** in memory of **Raymond Frandsen** from Tina Paulsen

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.

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Member:

Susan Weisman • North House Folk School

Garey & Sherry Sue Knudsen • Cindy Moeller

Kathryn Rian • Samara Koshiol • Solveg Peterson

Sonja Sogge Almgren • Ethan Forsgren & Nicole Novak

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

## 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.

## NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

### DANISH GENEALOGY

Researching Danish Adoption Records

Monday, November 25: 6:30pm (via Zoom)

Adoptions have occurred for centuries, and there may very well be an adoption in your Danish family history. If you want to research an adoption, how would you go about it? To learn more about this interesting topic, please attend the Danish genealogy group's next meeting on Monday, November 25 at 6:30pm via Zoom: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87943912640>Program

For more information, visit [danishgenealogy.org/events](http://danishgenealogy.org/events)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## NOVEMBER 2024

Monday at 9:30am: Watercolor Group  
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours  
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong  
Thursdays from 9am-1pm: Library Hours

Friday 01 Member Social Hour 4-6pm  
01 Tøseften 7-11pm

Saturday 02 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm

Monday 04 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm

Wednesday 06 Virkelyst 7-9pm

Sunday 10 Make a Book Snake Workshop 1-3pm

Monday 11 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm

Wednesday 13 Onsdags Frokost 11:30am

Saturday 16 Medisterpølse Class

Sunday 17 Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am  
17 Art Fair 8:30am-12pm  
17 Danebo Reading Circle 2-4pm

Wednesday 20 Danish Delicacies Pickup 10am-2pm

Saturday 23 Danish Delicacies Pickup 10am-2pm

Wednesday 27 Library Open 10am-1pm

## DECEMBER 2024

Mondays at 9:30am: Watercolor Group  
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours  
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong  
Thursdays from 9am-1pm: Library Hours

Sunday 01 Julenisse Workshop 1pm  
01 Sangaften 7pm

Monday 02 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm

Friday 06 Tøseften 7-11pm  
06 Fyraften 6pm  
06 Member Social Hour 4-6pm

Saturday 07 Library Open 10am-12pm  
07 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm  
07 Virkelyst Luncheon 12pm

Sunday 08 Teeny Tiny Book Workshop 1-3:30pm

Monday 09 Board Meeting 7pm

Saturday 14 Julefrokost 12pm

Sunday 15 Julefrokost Children's Party 12pm  
15 Tøseften Julefrokost 1pm

Friday 27 Fyraften 6pm

November 2024