



# 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.*

## DANISH DAY 2026

Sunday, June 7: 11am to 3pm

We are looking forward to seeing you for an afternoon of good food and great fellowship as we celebrate Grundlovsdag! There will be food and drink to purchase including Danish style hot dogs with all the trimmings, frikadeller, shrimp salad, Havarti on rugbrød, herring, æbleskiver, layer cake, cookie bags and ice cream. We will also have beer, wine, akvavit and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages including coffee, soda, and sparkling water available for sale as well. The City of Minneapolis is providing us with an outdoor water dispenser so we are encouraging people to bring their own water bottles for that. You are welcome to bring your own food if you wish. However, no outside alcohol or beer is allowed. To avoid long lines on the day of the event, you can purchase tickets online ten days before the event and pick them up when you arrive.

### DANISH DAY SCHEDULE

- 11am – 3pm:** Food booths, Vendors & Loppemarked open, Viking Guild Demonstrations
- 12:15pm:** National Anthems - Taylor Ann Grand  
President's Welcome & Dane of the Year announcement - Peter Gantriis
- 1-3pm:** Musical performances on the outdoor stage
- 2pm:** Children's Nisse hunt
- 3pm:** Danish Day Ends

## CONTINUE TO EXPLORE OUR DAC COLLECTIONS ONLINE

We have appreciated the comments and feedback about our online collections site after it was featured in the last newsletter. It is gratifying that people can enjoy seeing for themselves the treasures of art and photos stored in our building, along with historical documents.

## JUNE 2026

- ♥ New Heritage Exhibit Now Open
- ♥ Outdoor Æbleskive Event
- ♥ DAC Collections Online

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is here!

In many ways, the start of summer signals something of an end to the year of programming at DAC. The summer celebration that occurs in June is always so much fun, and I'm sure this year will be no different. But as the summer begins, we turn to the necessary task tasks of budgeting for the next year and prioritizing projects and activities for the next 12 months.



It has been a busy past year at the DAC. We have made a number of notable improvements to our property. The first level bathroom project and suite renovation is now complete. I'm pleased with these changes that will improve the usability of our space and make our DAC more welcoming to guests. Our landscaping is in full bloom now, and we are grateful to the Jensen family for their generous donations to help plan and fund the project, and especially to Paul Jensen who donated a LOT of labor to get the project completed. We have also acquired new chairs to be used throughout the building. This is a

significant investment, and I'm very pleased with the decision made by the design committee. Our chairs look wonderful and update our space. They will be in use for many years to come, and I'm glad we chose such an attractive and functional design.

Looking forward, we have begun the task of budgeting for the coming year. We are mapping out the activity calendar, and planning what types of permits we will need for our various events. There are currently no plans for major Improvements to the property, but there will be ongoing maintenance and minor updates to some spaces. We are evaluating updates like new carpet, paint, PA/sound system installation, security system improvements, and new kitchen equipment to make our facility more welcoming and safe for our guests and members.

If you have suggestions or ideas about projects or have an interest in contributing time and talent to help us complete these projects, please feel free to reach out. We are always looking for new ideas to make our facilities better and to improve our programming for the next year. We have a public forum at the annual meeting, but that's a few months away. If you have ideas that you'd like to suggest for the next year, now is a good time to let us know!

As always, I am grateful to our volunteers, staff, and members for making this such a wonderful, thriving organization. I am humbled by your kindness and generosity.

Pete Gantriis

## TIPS ON USING OUR WEBSITE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR REGISTER FOR MEMBER EVENTS

### • RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

1. Log in to your member account at [danishamericancenter.org](http://danishamericancenter.org)
2. Click on Go to Account Management.
3. Check your contact info for accuracy. Under that, click on Renew, Upgrade or Update Billing.
4. Membership and payment options will appear. Check that they're accurate, or change to what you want.
5. Complete payment process with credit card.
6. Recurring payment option now available, and American Express now accepted.

### • REGISTERING FOR MEMBER EVENTS ONLINE

*Your DAC membership must be current to register for member events.*

1. Log in to your member account at [danishamericancenter.org](http://danishamericancenter.org)
2. Click on **Go to Event Calendar**
4. Select the event for which you wish to register
5. Click on the blue "Register Now!" button that will appear toward the bottom of the page.
6. Fill in all the information and credit card number.
7. Click the blue "Register!" button.
8. You will receive an email confirmation of registration.  
Make sure to check your Junk and/or Spam folders.

If you have any questions on renewing your membership, or registering for member events on our website, contact the DAC office at 612-729-3800 or [dainfo@dac.mn](mailto:dainfo@dac.mn).

## DANISH TUTOR AVAILABLE

Contact Niels Billund at [nielsbillund@gmail.com](mailto:nielsbillund@gmail.com). In lieu of payment, Niels requests his students donate to the Danish American Center.



### 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, Charli Donchetz,  
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Myra Madsen  
Michelle Potter-Bacon

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

When you visit the DAC online Collections site, there is a brief description of each item. Here are two more examples:



Young Girl, Skovsboved- F.C. Lund Lithograph  
-Duplicate (En Skovsbovedpige)



Photo from Danish Day 1966

Start by logging in to the DAC website, scroll down and click "Collections". Then scroll down and click [mncollections.org](http://mncollections.org) where you will see everything we have catalogued so far. Once again, we appreciate your feedback and hope you enjoy viewing the collection.

## ONSDAGFROKOST

We will have our normal summer hiatus but for those whose wish to come, please bring your own lunch on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of June, July and August. We will have non-alcoholic beverages for a donation and the Mahjong group will provide dessert.

We will be looking for cooks for the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in September and October and the 2nd Wednesday in November. Pick your date now and get it on the calendar by contacting Cathy Mahowald at [cmahowal@hutchtel.net](mailto:cmahowal@hutchtel.net) or calling 612-845-5562.

Thanks again to all who attend and especially to those who cook for this wonderful DAC event.

## OUTDOOR ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 27: 9:30-11:30 am

Join us at an outdoor summer æbleskive event on the grounds of the Danish American Center. Æbleskiver, juice, and coffee will be served. No reservations are needed—drop in anytime between 9:30 - 11:30am. This is a free event, but goodwill donations are greatly appreciated and will support the DAC! Come and enjoy yummy æbleskiver while mingling on the lawn, rain or shine (if inclement weather, seating will be inside). The next regular breakfast will be in September.

If you are interested in volunteering at one of our breakfasts or have questions, please contact Carla & Joel Mortensen at [carla.s.mortensen@gmail.com](mailto:carla.s.mortensen@gmail.com) or 612-594-4925. We hope to see you there!

## LEAVES FROM THE LIBRARY

by DAC Librarian Felicity Hanson

I love summer! The sunshine and the heat! I love to catch up on my reading, too. I hope many of you will stop by the DAC and check out some books this summer for yourself. We also have lots of wonderful Danish and English translations of children's books, so if you have visiting family with youngsters, keep our library in mind. Note: Books with a green dot on the spine are English translations, so you have lots of options to choose from.

I will be in the library on Wednesdays through June 17, then off for the summer; however, I will be available by appointment - email me at [daclibrarymn@gmail.com](mailto:daclibrarymn@gmail.com) to schedule. Use this email address to ask any library questions you may have.

View our online library catalog: [bit.ly/412hLDz](http://bit.ly/412hLDz). You can also find this link by going to the DAC Welcome page, then Library, and from there to the catalog link.

Have a fantastic summer!

## IN HONOR OF

Donations in honor of **Svend and Grethe Petersen's 60th Anniversary** from Lis Jorgensen and Sue & Alan Nielsen, Kris Peterson, Carl & Anna Lise Dyrbye, Gunner Petersen & Karen Mjorud, Susan M Jacobsen, Tina Paulsen, and Pippa Berg Madsen & Jeff Hardwick

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.

## DANEBO READING CIRCLE PLANS FOR SUMMER AND FALL

Sunday, June 14 and Autumn 2026

Following their May meeting and Danish Day, the book group usually breaks for the summer, but this year is different. Reading Circle members are set to gather for a hybrid event on June 14 to continue the discussion begun in March. Attendance that day was small due to weather, the book had been a challenging length, and many people needed more time to finish the saga-style tale. So, at 1 PM in the lower-level Danebo Lounge and on Zoom, Jane Smiley's *The Greenlanders* (Knopf: 1988, 558 pages) will be the focus, led by Michelle Potter-Bacon. No snow is in the forecast this time!

The schedule for the remaining Sundays is:

September 20: *The Sisters (Systrarna)*, a novel by Jonas Hassen Khemiri (SE); 2023, 638 pages; translated by the author for publication in English in 2025 (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux). Discussion leader: Marie Thorsten

October 18: *Wolf Hour (Minnesota)*, a mystery novel by Jo Nesbø (NO); 2025, 400 pages; translated by Robert Ferguson for publication in English in February 2026: (New York: Knopf). Discussion leader: Carol Sime

November 15: *The Keeper of Lost Causes (Kvinden i Buret)*, the first Department Q mystery by Jussi Adler-Olsen (DK); 2007, 417 pages; translated into English by Lisa Hartford for publication in the UK (Mercy) in 2011; current paperback edition, 2012 (New York: Dutton). Discussion leader: Mary Beth Lake

Summer also finds members submitting final nominations for the 2027 calendar. All interested readers are welcome to suggest books for the ballot. They may be left in the Reading Circle mailbox at the DAC or emailed to [suzannej41@me.com](mailto:suzannej41@me.com). Propose titles for consideration by providing as much information as possible: genre, title, author, country of origin, translator, publication and translation dates, publisher, page count, a short description, and format and availability information (print, eBook, audiobook; libraries, bookstores, online, etc.). The deadline for submitting nominations is Wednesday, September 9. Group deliberations and voting take place during the fall meetings.

The Danebo Reading Circle wishes everyone a summer filled with sunshine, rain as needed, wonderful times with family and friends, and maybe a few good books!

## "THE DANISH EASEL"

Save the Date - Saturday, October 17: 2-4pm

Join us for a program of three art songs composed by Jim Reilly and sung by tenor Ben Cooper, with piano accompaniment by Jim Reilly. Susan Jacobsen will follow and talk about the three



artists who inspired the music: Vilhelm Hammershøi, Wilhelm Marstrand and Anna Ancher.

The theme for this year's festival is Immigration/Assimilation, what we keep and what we lose. The Leif Eriksson International Festival takes place at various Twin Cities locations from October 4 to 18.

## TRANSLATION SERVICE AT DAC

To request a translation, 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 email. If you have any questions, please contact the DAC office at 612-729-3800.

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### Welcome New Members:

Daniel Palm • Lars Smeenk  
Martha & John Hove • Donald Meisel  
Adrian Cumming • Rikke & Steve Olsen  
Patricia Robinette

DAC Directory Information - For further contact information on new and current members, please visit the Members Only portion of the DAC website by visiting [danishamericancenter.org](http://danishamericancenter.org) and logging into your account. For questions, or assistance accessing your account please 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 email.

## GIFTS THAT SHAPE US: FROM PRIVATE HANDS TO PUBLIC VIEW

A new art exhibition is open in the Heritage Gallery. Every gift carries intention. A choice to preserve, to share, to connect. The works in this exhibition were once held in private spaces—homes, studios, personal collections. Through generosity, they now belong to a wider community. In that transition, their meaning expands. These are not only objects of art. They are expressions of heritage, identity, and lived experience. Each one reflects a story—of where we come from, what we value, and what we choose to pass forward. Together, these gifts do more than build a collection. They shape it. And in doing so, they shape us.

A selection of gifts to the Danish American Center over the last six months shows the breadth of our collecting interests. Many thanks to donors: Charlotte Breivik and Mindekirken, Mary A. Davis, the family of Vagn Jensen, Betina Kohler, Alis Olsen, and Linda Stewart in honor of Edith Perren.

More information about each object can be found at [mncollections.org](http://mncollections.org).



## NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

### DANISH GENEALOGY

#### USING SPREADSHEETS FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Monday, June 22: 6:30pm via Zoom

Census research shows movement and change in individuals and families over time and provides pointers to other types of records. Spreadsheets are a wonderful way to summarize your census research, both for individuals and for whole families. Learn how to use them to track migrations and other transitions shown in federal, state, and international census records. We'll also look at more ways to use this handy tool!

The speaker is Lois Abromitis Mackin, PhD. Lois has been writing, speaking, and researching professionally since 2010, with a focus on Midwest, Pennsylvania, and English research; DNA; and methodology. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and was a founding member of APG's Northland Chapter as well as taking active leadership roles with the Minnesota Genealogical Society, among many other organizations.

The National Danish-American Genealogical Society is sponsoring this event, which is free and open to the public. No need to register, simply click on the Zoom link below at the start of the program. To see other engaging events by NDAGS, to learn about our world-class newsletter/journal, or for more information on our organization, please visit our website at <https://danishgenealogy.org/>

Zoom link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/88263064641>

### DANews Takes a Summer Break in July and August.

Deadline for the September issue is August 10



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## JUNE

Wednesdays 10am-12pm Library-Members Only, excluding June 24<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesdays 10am-2pm: DAC Office Hours  
Wednesdays 10am-3pm: Mah-Jongg

Monday 01 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7-8:30pm  
Wednesday 03 Virkelyst 6pm  
Friday 05 Tøseften 7pm  
Saturday 06 Library Open Hours for members only 10am-Noon  
06 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm

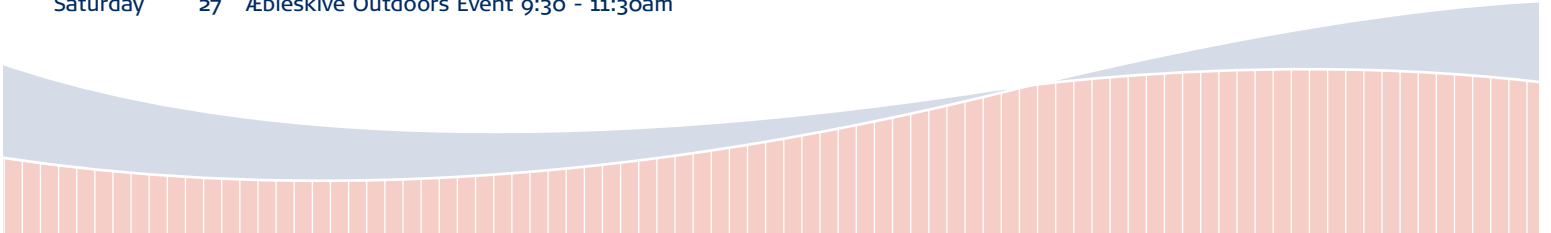
**Sunday 07 Danish Day 11am-3pm**

Monday 08 Board Meeting 7-9pm  
Wednesday 10 Onsdagsfrokost - bring your own lunch  
11:30am-1pm  
Thursday 11 Connie Evingson with BluLuna -  
Music on the Mississippi  
Doors open 6:30pm. Concert 7pm  
Sunday 14 Danebo Reading Circle 1-3pm  
Wednesday 24 Onsdagsfrokost - bring your own lunch  
11:30am-1pm  
Saturday 27 Æbleskive Outdoors Event 9:30 - 11:30am

## JULY

Wednesdays 10am-2pm: DAC office Hours  
Wednesdays 10am-3pm: Mah Jongg

Sunday 05 The Saga Writers 1:30-3:30pm  
Monday 06 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7-8:30pm  
Wednesday 08 Onsdagsfrokost - bring your own lunch  
11:30am-1pm  
Monday 13 DAC Board Executive Committee Meeting 7-9pm  
Wednesday 22 Onsdagsfrokost - bring your own lunch  
11:30am-1pm



June 2020