



# 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.*

**We request that anyone attending indoor events at the Danish American Center who is eligible to receive the Covid-19 vaccine, be vaccinated. Masks are highly encouraged while in the building.**

## VALENTINE'S BRUNCH

Sunday, February 13: 9am or 10:30am

Come join us at the Danish American Center for our 2022 Valentine's Day Brunch on Sunday, February 13. This year, we are doing two scheduled seatings for the brunch, at 9-10am and at 10:30-11:30am. Reservations are required, with a maximum of 40 persons at each seating. This event is for DAC members and guests. Masks are required inside the building, when not dining. Cost for 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, juice, coffee – and perhaps another treat.

To sign-up for this event, please go to the website <https://danishamericancenter.org/> and log-in to your account. Go to Event Calendar and select the Æbleskive Breakfast seating of your choice. Or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800. You must specify the number in your party.

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

## AQUAVIT FOOD AND PAIRING EVENT-SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the 10th Food and Aquavit Pairing Event on Saturday, February 26th. Registration will open on the Danish American Center website on Monday January 17th and you can also register by contacting the DAC office at 612-729-3800. In March 2020 we hosted our 9th event, just weeks before the country went into lock down. For those wanting a reminder for what pre-covid was, here is a summary of what happened at our last event.

On March 1, 2020, the atrium of the DAC was the venue for the 9th annual Food and Aquavit Pairing Event. That year, 59 people were able to enjoy an afternoon of food, aquavit, and hygge. There were two educational discussions from Haakon Nelson (from Vikre Distillery in Duluth, Minnesota) and Mike McCarron (founder of Gamle Ode).

AQUAVIT continued on Page 3

## JANUARY 2022

- Introducing the Tivoli Lounge
- Mads Tolling Concert
- Call for Volunteers: Resource Center

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we turn the corner into 2022, the Danish American Center has much to be grateful for. Gathering and enjoying renewed social interaction are top of that list. Financial stability and engaged volunteers are major pluses. Yes, we have turned a corner, but we also know that in this new year, challenges beyond our control continue. Let us keep our spirits up and our wits about us. Please keep bringing us your ideas and good energy.

Up, up, up!

Rikke

## PRESIDENT'S HAPPY HOUR AT THE DAC

Fridays 4-6pm

Members and their guests are invited to join us Friday afternoons starting

**January 14, 2022**, for some hygge time in the Tivoli Lounge. Appetizers will be provided and BYOB. No agenda, just time to chat, share ideas and kick off the weekend. Whether two people or twenty, various DAC leadership will be there with bells on.

***Donations accepted but not required.***



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### Welcome New Members:

MChere Bergeron  
Elaine Phillips  
Harlan Paulson  
Lauri Kenyon  
Pat Delaney  
Delynn Mulligan

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 solicitations that are deemed necessary for the operation of the DAC.

## MEMORIALS

### *Gifts in memory of...*

**Barbara Holmquist** from Julianne Haahr

**Iver "Whitey" Jorgensen** from Ruth Palm, Karen Jorgensen-Royce, Otto Gotzsch, Julianne Haahr, Paul & Susan Bertlesen and Kristin Thusholt

**Bent Paulsen** from Paul & Cheryl Juhl, Mrs. Maurice McCollar, Otto Gotzsch, Kristian Thusholt, Kirsten Peterson, Julianne Haahr and Ron Grand

**Sigurd and Ruth Stovring** from Leslie Stovring

Thank you to all who have made memorial contributions to DAC. These generous gifts are much appreciated. All donations to DAC are tax deductible. Please contact the DAC Office for more information.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for the February issue is January 10

## RESOURCE CENTER

Our library, located on the first floor, is open on Wednesdays and other times when the building is open. Julianne Haahr and Jytte Svarre have been our library committee for several years and are ready to step back and let others take this role. Julianne has been working to get our library in great shape. If you have library skills or related interest, you may want to join the library committee. To volunteer, contact the DAC office. We need people to make sure books are returned and properly shelved. We also may want to promote the books we have from time to time. We have fiction, non-fiction, history, genealogy, travel, children's books, movies and more. Some books are in Danish and others are in English, but all have a Danish theme or author. We have a unique resource for members to engage.

## 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 to [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.

### 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:

Rikke Dierssen-Morice, President  
Laura Forslev, Vice President  
Janet Ogden-Bracket, Treasurer  
Susan Jacobsen, Secretary  
Steen Moeller, at Large  
Ron Grand, at Large  
Catherine Mahowald, at Large

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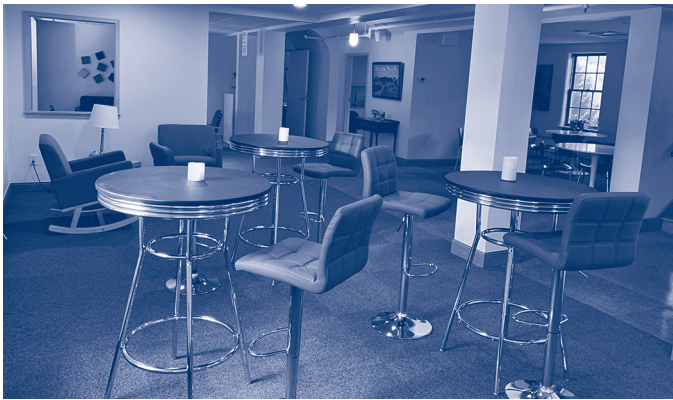
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Michelle Potter-Bacon  
Robert Rasmussen  
Becky Wifstrand

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



## TIVOLI LOUNGE

The newly updated space at the Danish American Center has a name. Tivoli Lounge. Next time you're in the building stop in and see this beautiful new space. Many thanks to all who worked on this project.



## ONSDAG FROKOST

Onsdag Frokost (Wednesday Lunch) is one of our most popular events at the DAC. Originally created to benefit our senior members, it has become a cozy gathering for everyone. If you have a favorite dish you'd like to share, consider signing up to cook for a lunch in 2022. You can choose the number of people you'd like to serve (the average is 40) and the menu is entirely up to you! Last week's lunch was prepared by Joel Mortensen, who started us off with delicious open-faced shrimp sandwiches. Sonja Walker-Hansen cooked a hearty kale and ham soup, perfect for a chilly fall day. Cathy Mahowald finished with sweet and crunchy apple crisp and a generous topping of whipped cream! Every lunch ends with recognition and a thank you song for the cooks. If you're interested in cooking, please email the office at [dainfo@dac.mn](mailto:dainfo@dac.mn).

Members without computer access can call Cathy Mahowald at 612-845-5562 to register manually and pay on the day of the event.

Haakon discussed how to age aquavit with an ocean voyage when based in Duluth, and Mike shared his experience with Minnesotans trying his aquavit aged in whiskey barrels products – including possibly the world's longest whiskey aged aquavit.

The afternoon began with a vegetable starter built with a Gamle Ode Dill Akvavit Bloody Mary paired with raw vegetables and a remoulade dip. For the three herring options (plain, curry and gin and juniper), the attendees had the opportunity to try a 2017 Aalborg Taffel Jule Aquavit (Denmark), Vikre Ovrevann (Duluth, MN) and Ida Graves (Alexandria, MN). The second course was a beet/horseradish/dill gravid lax (sockeye, Alaska) served with a mustard sauce (from the DAC cook book), and paired with the popular Aalborg Grill on Sherry cask (Denmark). For the third course, a thyme seasoned sous vide pork tenderloin was served along with potatoes and a pea puree (<https://www.gastrofun.dk/opskrift/svinemoerbrad-sous-vide-med-krydderurterasp>), and Aalborg Fad (Denmark) and the long boat (made by Gary Peterson) were the accompanying choices. For the dessert courses, Minnesota Blue, Nuworld and a Pesto Havarti from the University of Minnesota were paired with a cocktail made with the Celebration on Rye from Gamle Ode (MN), and followed with a Taffel aquavit (Denmark) infused vanilla ice-cream with a chocolate Ganache.

## MADS TOLLING CONCERT

Saturday, February 5: 2pm

A concert at Mindekirken with two-time Grammy Award winning violinist Mads Tolling will be held on Saturday, February 5 at 2pm. There will be a reception after the concert at Norway House, on the other side of the church parking lot.

Mads Tolling, an internationally renowned Danish-American violinist and composer, is a two-time Grammy Award-Winner and the 2016 DownBeat Critics Poll Rising Star Violinist. As a former nine-year member of both Turtle Island Quartet and Stanley Clarke's band, Mads has spent most of his professional life touring internationally. Mads has been featured on NPR's Morning Edition, and his recordings have received rave reviews in *Downbeat Magazine*, *Strings Magazine*, *The Washington Post* and *The San Francisco Chronicle*. He has performed live with Chick Corea, Ramsey Lewis, Kenny Barron, Leo Kottke, Sergio & Odair Assad and Paquito D'Rivera. Admission is \$20 per person. Mindekirken 924 East 21st St, Minneapolis. (612) 874-0716

## DANEBO READING CIRCLE BEGINS 2022 IN THE FAROE ISLANDS

Sunday, January 23: 2pm

The Danebo Reading Circle DAC's meets at 2pm on Sunday, January 23, either in a hybrid or all-Zoom format to discuss Jóanes Nielsen's *The Brahmaddells* (2011, 347pp). Translated by Kerri A. Pierce in 2017, it is one of the first Faroese-language novels to appear in English. The book was nominated for the Nordic Council's 2013 Literature Prize, one of six such nominations for the author's work (1988, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2013, and 2018). It was the recipient of the 2012 Faroese Literature Prize. The title of the Danish translation is *Brahmadellerne – en nordatlantisk krønike*.

The publisher describes Nielsen's fourth novel as "Filled with colorful characters and various family intrigues, the novel incorporates a number of genres and styles as it shifts from individual stories to larger world issues. There are historical documents, including nineteenth-century medical journals, documents detailing the lives of real historical figures, digressions about religion, a measles outbreak, and many other travails, large and small." One Goodreads reviewer commented on the book's structure as "interesting. There is no linear plotline, rather each chapter presents a glimpse into the life of one of the islanders. The reader travels back and forth in time and in and out of various homes and cities." Some readers have suggested making a family tree to chart the various characters!

Born in 1953, Jóanes Nielsen is, according to Wikipedia, a "poet of the 1980s generation...mainly associated with a political and often existential message." In addition to poetry and novels, he has written short stories and plays. His works have been translated also into Danish, Norwegian, and German. His 2012 contract with Random House was seen as an historic event for a Faroese author, bringing his work to a wider international audience.

January's discussion leader Marie Thorsten shares these insights: "So far I am loving it and can tell it is a great work of literature. I'm guessing the Faroe Islands are terra incognita for most of us (especially me?) and the multi-generational family story opening with a measles outbreak in the 19th century instantly introduces readers to vast historical and local details. I'm intrigued by the

clever addition of faux-historians (along with real history) and unexpected linkages to remote parts of the world (which is hinted at in the title!)."

In February, the group will be traveling west in the Atlantic to discover *How Iceland Changed the World*, written in English by Icelandic journalist Egill Bjarnason (2021, 288pp). His book provides a tour of the history of Iceland from the time a Viking captain ran aground there 1,200 years ago to the pivotal role the country played during the French Revolution, the foundation of Israel, and the moon landings. *Publishers Weekly* described it as "an insightful and fawning history...rich with entertaining anecdotes and helpful pronunciation guides, this is a winning introduction to a unique and fascinating culture.

The Rev. Sighvatur Karlsson, a friend of February's discussion leader Diane Greve, has arranged for the author, Egill Bjarnason, to join the book group via Zoom on Sunday, February 20, 2pm-8pm Iceland Time! The Danebo Reading Circle is thrilled that both men will be adding their voices to the discussion. Thanks, Diane!

## YOU SHOP, AMAZON GIVES (TO THE DAC!)

*A free opportunity to support the Danish American Center.*

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible

AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know.

Same products, same prices, same service. Whenever you shop Amazon, remember you can support us by starting your shopping at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). First time you log on you will be asked to provide your charity of choice. Enter "Danebo" in the search field and choose Danebo, Inc. from the list provided. Remember you have to use the [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) site in order for Amazon to donate. Bookmark the page!





## 2021 CHRISTMAS GALA

After a long break, members were happy to gather once again for our Christmas Gala. Guests socialized in the new Tivoli Lounge for drinks and appetizers, followed by a traditional Christmas dinner catered by Anna-Lena Skold. The night concluded with singing and dancing around the tree with piano accompaniment by Lisa Jensen. It was a very cozy event.

Glædelig jul og godt nytår!



## NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

### DANISH GENEALOGY

Saturday, January 22: 12pm CST

The January NDAGS meeting will be held on Saturday, January 22nd at 12pm.

Searching for living relatives in Denmark is challenging because the parish registers and the censuses from later decades are not available online and far from all records have information about addresses. However, other sources are useful when tracing living relatives. Christian Rubæk of My Danish Roots will present which sources to lean on, share tips and talk about what information you'll need to be able to track down relatives in Denmark. Christian has been working with genealogy tasks for several years at My Danish Roots. Link to My Danish Roots <http://www.mydanishroots.dk>

## JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday	05	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	05	Library Hours 10am-2pm
Thursday	06	Finance Committee Meeting 6pm
Saturday	08	Beginning Danish 2 9:30-11am
Monday	10	Executive Committee Meeting 7pm
Wednesday	12	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	12	Library Hours 10am-2pm
	12	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Friday	14	President's Happy Hour 4-6pm
Saturday	15	Beginning Danish 2 9:30-11am
Wednesday	19	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	19	Library Hours 10am-3pm
Friday	21	President's Happy Hour 4-6pm
Saturday	22	Beginning Danish 2 9:30-11am
	22	Genealogy 12pm
Sunday	23	Reading Circle 2pm
Wednesday	26	Mah-jongg 10am-3pm
	26	Library Hours 10am-2pm
	26	Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Friday	28	President's Happy Hour 4-6pm



**DANISH  
AMERICAN  
CENTER**

3030 W RIVER PARKWAY S  
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55406