



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.



100TH ANNIVERSARY

If you are interested in serving on a committee to help plan celebrations of our 100th anniversary, please contact the office. We are looking for someone to chair the committee and for committee members willing to plan and implement events.

DAC CREATES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Danish American Center is in great financial condition. We have many programs and events that bring in funds that help us take care of the building we are all so very proud of. In addition, our room rentals, both for events as well as for guests who stay in our cozy rooms, bring in important dollars. As important as this income is for the DAC, it is imperative that we diversify our income streams so that we are not so dependent on just these avenues. Should we have to endure another event like a pandemic, additional opportunities will help us maintain our organization and ensure our continued growth.

With that in mind, the Board of Directors has established a new committee focusing on exploring and implementing fundraising strategies. This committee will explore areas such as grants, event sponsorships, small and large donors as well as maintaining the soon-to-be-launched auction, among others. These eventual funding opportunities will help the Danish American Center continue to flourish and weather any disruption that might occur with the existing income we have with our programming and room rentals. Should you like to learn more or take part in the committee, contact EJ Gurley at ejgurley@gmail.com.

MAY 2024

- Danish Day: June 2
- DAC Closed: May 1-3

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings! As the warm weather of summer approaches, we are excited to share some progress on a few of our DAC initiatives.



I am happy to report that we have reached

resolution with the city regarding our Rental Hall permit. Our permit will be reinstated by the time you read this, and this is a very positive step. This will allow us to reinstate some of our programming that we've set aside, and also give us flexibility to rent out our space as we desire. Overall, this is a very positive step for us, and I am very excited to put this chapter behind us.

The planning and preparation for Danish Day continues to go forward. Our committees are gathering volunteers, organizing the food and drink menus, and laying out the site plan for Danish Day. There will be more information to come, but we are excited to see everyone on June 2! Mark your calendars.

There are many other wonderful spring events to look forward to. The annual Mother's Day brunch is scheduled for May 12,

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued on Page 2

and on May 19, we will again participate in Minneapolis' Doors Open event.

Doors Open is a fun, citywide celebration of Minneapolis architecture and history. I would strongly encourage our membership to visit the Doors Open website and find some interesting buildings to see! It's a wonderful opportunity to get a look at sites in Minneapolis that are normally closed or off-limits to the public, including the Minneapolis Federal Reserve building and the observation deck of the Foshay Tower. Our building will be open to the public for Doors Open, and we will be serving æbleskiver to guests who stop by to pay us a visit. This is a wonderful way for us to stay connected to our local community, and invite our neighbors and guests to come into our property to learn about the DAC and have a look around. If you're interested in volunteering to be a host or a tour guide for Doors Open, please contact Ginny Leppart.

As always, I am grateful for the support of our members. I am in awe of the efforts from our volunteers, and I am honored to be part of the DAC.

Peter Gantriis

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
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.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Members:

- William Larson • Gamle Ode, LLC • Gerd Clabaugh
 Randi Markusen • Patrice Johnson • Will Hanson
 Finnish American Cultural Activities, Inc. • Brenda Paulson
 Oslo Lodge No. 2-Sons of Norway • Nicholas Beck

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

DAC CLOSED

- The Danish American Center will be closed from
- May 1 - May 3. The atrium floor is being refinished.
- If you have any questions, please contact the 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
 Bill Holmquist, at Large
 Scott Thomsen, at Large

Board of Directors:

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

DANews Committee:

- Laura Forslev
 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.

DANISH DAY 2024

Sunday, June 2: 12-3pm

Danish Day will be held on June 2, 2024, from noon to 3pm. This year's celebration will be similar to last year's with one new addition, a beer garden brought to us in cooperation with Wooden Ship Brewing Company.

No outside alcohol or beer can be brought but you can plan on getting cold beer in our beer garden! Sodas,

sparkling water, and coffee will be available. We will have a water dispenser outside and are encouraging people to bring their own water bottles for that!

People attending are welcome to bring food. However, we will have hot dogs with all the trimmings, small food sides such as frikadeller, leverpostej, cheese, æbleskiver, layer cake and more for sale as well. There is no entrance fee, but a goodwill donation is much appreciated.

Live demonstrations by the Viking Age group, singing and activities for the kids too! Please bring chairs with you for seating on the lawn. We hope to see you there.

Noon: Danish Day Commences

12:15pm National Anthems - Taylor Ann Grand

President's Welcome - Peter Gantriis

Dane of the Year announcement

Lunch

1pm Linda Peterson live jazz and stories from her life as a Danish American musician in Copenhagen

2pm Children's Activities & Social Free Time

3pm 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. 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 and helping with activities. If interested in helping during this fun day, please contact the office.

If it looks like bad weather, check the website or Facebook page for any changes.



LEAVES FROM THE LIBRARY

We've had a busy few weeks in the library. With the help of Susan Jacobsen, we removed all boxes and bags of donated books and other objects from the floor. Everything is in safe storage, nothing has been thrown away. The long-term vision is to catalog all library and archived items in storage. In the meantime, we are currently busy cataloging and cleaning everything in the library.

In March, we were thrilled to find an excellent online library cataloging system. This is a big leap forward for us and the library. After reviewing several options and discussing some with other librarians, we chose TinyCat for small libraries, created by LibraryThing. TinyCat offers many useful features, including efficient ways to add circulating items to the catalog, great tech support, and affordability. Moreover, the site looks clean and professional, and it's easy for patrons to use. While the public can also search the catalog and view our holdings if they have the link, only DAC members can check out.

We continue to add books to the catalog each week. This link will let you see our progress to date: <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/DanishAmerLibraryMN>. Online lending for members will begin in late summer or fall after more books are added. Updates will be announced in *DANews*.

LIBRARY HOURS

Every Thursday, 9am-1:30pm

Every 4th Wednesday of the month, 10am-1:30pm

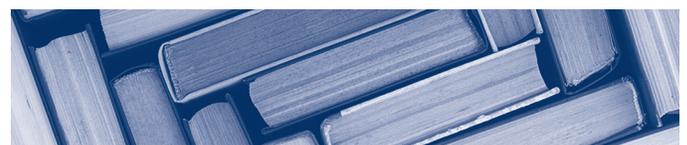
Every 1st Saturday of the month, 9:30am- 12pm

- And by 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.



MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, May 12: 9am or 10:45am

Come join us for our 2024 Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 12, at the Danish American Center. There will be two scheduled seatings for breakfast: 9:00am and 10:45am. Reservations are required in advance. This event is open to both members and non-members. The cost for brunch is \$16 per adult and \$9 for children ages 5-12 (younger children are free). The menu will include æbleskiver, egg bake, sausage, rugbrød with meat & cheese (pålæg), fruit, pastry, juice and coffee. Gluten free æbleskiver will not be available. Please sign up via online registration on our website (<https://danishamericancenter.org/>) or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800. Pre-payment is required. Reservations will be accepted through May 8. Note that we will accept a limited number of take-out orders (please book in advance online).

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

DOORS OPEN 2024

Sunday, May 19: 10am-5pm

We are excited to participate in this city-wide event again this year at the DAC. It goes on for two days, but our building will be participating on Sunday, May 19 only, from 10-5. If you are interested in volunteering or if you'd like more information about the event and the venues involved, see the links below. We have had excellent participation from the public in recent years, and it's a great way for new people to become familiar with all that goes on at the DAC.

The Doors Open Minneapolis website (<https://www.doorsopenminneapolis.org/>) includes a venue list and digital map. Visit the Doors Open Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/dompls>) or Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/doorsopenmpls/> or hashtag #dompls) for more information.

DANISH TUTOR AVAILABLE

Contact Niels Billund at nielsbillund@gmail.com for more information. In lieu of payment, Niels requests his students donate to the Danish American Center.

MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI RETURNS!

Saturday, May 18: 6 pm Social Hour with soft drinks and snacks, 7pm Concert

Featuring:

David Hazeltine – Piano

Lucia Newell – Vocals

Billy Peterson – Bass

David Hazeltine is one of the most sought after pianists today, having worked with some of the world's most respected jazz legends. He is one of a handful of contemporary pianists who has mastered all of the major musical skills, from improvisation and technique to accompaniment, arranging, and composition. Originally hailing from Milwaukee, David has resided in NYC since the early '90s.

Our own Billy Peterson once again makes an appearance at the DAC. One of the world's most noted jazz bassists!

Lucia Newell has been a long-time jazz vocalist on the Twin Cities scene.

In the past, she's lived, studied, and performed in Europe, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City and Los Angeles. She speaks fluent Portuguese and sings beautifully in that language as well as English.

Tickets are \$30 for DAC Members, \$35 for the Public.

Purchase tickets by logging on to the DAC website www.danishamericancenter.org

and clicking on the calendar event. Tickets are nonrefundable.



THE DANEBO READING CIRCLE FOLLOWS THE TRAIL IN MAY

Sunday, May 19: 2pm

The May meeting coincides with Doors Open at the DAC, so the reading group will be "in action" for visitors to see (through glass doors!) as members discuss *The Murder of Halland* by celebrated Danish author Pia Juul (2009, translated 2012 by Martin Aitken; 2015: Coach House Books, 147 pages). As usual, the hybrid meeting begins at 2pm on the third floor of the DAC and Zoom, adjourning no later than 4pm.

Pia Juul, elected in 2005 to the Danish Academy, received that group's Beatrice Prize in 2000. She was born in Korsør in May 1962 and lived in Zealand until age six, when her family moved to the Himmerland area of northeastern Jutland. She began English studies at Aarhus University in 1981 but later dropped out, publishing her first book of poetry in 1985. In addition to poems, she wrote novels, short stories, a children's book, drama, and a biography of Marianne Engberg. She translated American, English, and Swedish novels and was active in literary organizations, including protests. She died after a brief illness in September 2020, at age 58.

The Murder of Halland, which won the prestigious Danske Banks Literaturpris, is the only one of the author's novels that has been translated into English. According to discussion leader Diane Greve, it "provides engaging reading of poetic and thought-provoking storytelling. It is not a murder mystery but uncovers and explores the mystery of relationships and grief. The narrator, Bess, is struggling to know how to grieve the death of her partner of 10 years. She becomes traumatized in the process.

"In this 147-page book, set in a small town in Jutland, the reader meets the neighbors and others who had relationships with Halland. We learn more about Halland as the story unfolds. There is something about the way the story is told that draws the reader in and captivates one. Who killed Halland?"

The back cover of the book quotes Scottish author Ali Smith, whose works Juul translated: "*The Murder of Halland* ... is cooler and more calculated than any old Killing and wrong-foots till it reveals the real mystery." The reading group invites members and newcomers to join in the discussion of this intriguing book on Sunday, May 19.

Spring is also the time of year when the group ramps up the selection process for the next year. Anyone may propose titles for that process by providing 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 September 1 to Mary Beth Lake. Group deliberation and voting take place during the fall meetings.

The Danebo Reading Circle will be breaking for the summer months, maybe for travel, maybe for lazy days at the lake or in the backyard, maybe to read other books on their lists, maybe to get a head-start for the fall season. The choices for September 15, October 20, and November 17 are *The End of Drum-Time: A Novel* by Hanna Pylväinen (USA, 2023: Holt, 349 pages), set above the Arctic Circle in 1850s Sweden; *The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman* by British author Nancy Marie Brown (UK, 2007: Harcourt, 306 pages); and *Olav Audunsson III: Crossroads* by Sigrid Undset (NO, 1925, translated 2022 by Tiina Nunnally: University of Minnesota Press, 242 pages).

The June *DANews* will have a teaser for the September selection. 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 for more information or a Zoom link.

SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Monday, May 6: 7pm



The next singalong will be held at 7pm on Monday, May 6 at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis. Dan Chouinard hosts from the piano with 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.

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

HAVE YOU LOST SOMETHING? WE FOUND IT!

Thirsty and missing your water bottle? There is a nice assortment in the DAC's Lost and Found location in the Lower-Level Coat Room.

Reminder: Beginning in 2024, if an item remains unclaimed for 12 months, that item will be donated to charity or sustainably recycled. The clock is ticking, so please check for lost items on your next visit to the DAC.



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 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.

Newsletter Deadline
Deadline for the June issue is May 10

SILENT AUCTION-COMING SOON

We are gearing up for our 4th annual silent auction. The last three have been a huge success, and we are hoping this year will be a success as well. We are no longer accepting donations. Thank you to all who have donated. Look for more information in the June *DANews*.

MEMORIALS

MEMORIALS

Donation in memory of **Greta Gantriis** from Renee Showalter-Hanson

Donations in memory of **Agnete Temali** from Olivia & Silas Ford, Nick Temali, Susan Nelson & Jim Rue, and Tina Paulsen

Donation in memory of **Elinor Colebank** from Valeria Christensen

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.

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

GENETIC GENEALOGY: WHAT'S NEW IN DNA?

Monday, May 20: 6:30pm CST

Whether you're experienced with using DNA in your genealogical research or still just curious about what it's all about, this program is sure to interest genealogists of all levels. This high-level review of "What's New in DNA?" will focus on several of the major testing companies, 3rd party tools, and resources to learn more.

Speaker Danielle has been an avid amateur genealogist for over twenty years and developed a passion for Genetic Genealogy. In addition to reading books, articles & blogs, and attending related lectures & webinars, she has twice attended Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) intensive course "Advanced Genetic Genealogy." She enjoys working with DNA testers to understand their results & the use of DNA as an additional tool in family research, as well as supporting the Minnesota Genealogical Society's DNA Interest Group. For more information, please consult our website, www.danishgenealogy.org.

Link to join Webinar

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/88919909012>



SKOVSOEN 2024

Skovsøen has a variety of opportunities this summer. They have spaces for villagers with scholarship money available for day campers ages six through high school. They have one, two, and four-week sessions. They also have staff positions open. If you are interested in Danish but not fluent, consider working in the kitchen. There is downtime in the schedule, and you would be welcome to participate in the program.

If you or someone you know speaks Danish well and is looking for a fun way to spend the first half of the summer (June 10-July 17) visit the website at <https://www.concordialanguagevillages.org/languages/danish>

ASF TRANSLATION COMPETITION – OPEN THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) is accepting applications for its 44th annual competition for outstanding translations of poetry, fiction, drama, or literary prose written by a 20th- or 21st-century author from the Nordic region (Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, and Sápmi). Among the four prizes to be awarded this year is Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize, supported by Scan Design Foundation, which recognizes the best Danish translation and includes a \$2,000 award. All four prize recipients will also have an excerpt of their translations published in *Scandinavian Review* and will receive a commemorative bronze medallion. The Translation Prize Competition is open through September 1, 2024. To read guidelines and submit an application, please visit: <https://www.amscan.org/fellowships-grants/translation-competition/>

DANEBOD FOLK MEETING

August 21 - 25, 2024

In 2023 with Covid finally receding, the Danebod Folk Meeting Planning Committee spent significant time discussing our future and how we might engage participants in new and exciting ways after two years of Zoom.

Reflecting on Grundtvig's goals for life-long learning, we decided to experiment with one afternoon of "experiential" workshops that offered hands-on activity for small groups. The positive feedback we received in 2023 convinced us to offer another array of workshops in 2024:

- A culinary opportunity will include making kranssekage with Marilyn Gift and apple pie with Joel Mortensen
- Write a masterpiece in Henrik Strandskov's play-writing workshop
- Explore the world of art with Susan Jacobsen and learn how to create your own personal art gallery
- Tom Melville will help us discover why cricket is the world's second most popular team sport and the oldest team sport in America
- Try your hand at the ancient art of stone balancing with Peter Juhl
- Erik Hansen will engage our livestream participants in connecting with each other through a history of the people who created and have sustained the Folk School and the Folk Meeting for 78 years

Join us on the Danebod campus in Tyler for three days of lively discussions and experiential learning! Or join us via live stream to get a taste of what we're all about. Learn more at danebodfolkmeeting.org.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR WEST DENMARK'S FAMILY CAMP 2024

This year's Camp will be held June 30 and July 1,2,3 at 2478 170 th Street, Luck, Wisconsin, on the shores of Big Butternut Lake. Festivities begin on Sunday evening at 6pm, June 30, with a Pre-Camp Root Beer Ice Cream Social followed by singing, crafts, activities, orientation and sign-up for events to be held during Camp. We have organized three full days of fun and learning in a beautiful outdoor setting. There will be singing, speakers, crafts, dancing, talent and skit presentations, a cribbage tournament, time for relaxing and invigorating conversations, lots of excellent food and plenty of coffee and sweet treats.

You can learn more about the Camp and register to attend by going to the Camp's website at wdfamilycamp@gmail.com We hope you will consider joining us for the 47th annual West Denmark Family Camp, a great opportunity to make new friends and reconnect with old ones!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2024

Mondays from 9am-12pm: Watercolor
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong
Thursdays from 9am-1:30pm: Library Hours
Friday 03 Tøsegruppen 7-10pm
Saturday 04 Library Hours/NDAGS Consultation 10am-12pm
Monday 06 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm
Wednesday 08 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Sunday 12 Mother's Day Æbleskive Breakfast
9am and 10:45am
Monday 13 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm
Saturday 18 Music on the Mississippi
David Hazeltine 6-8:30pm
Sunday 19 Doors Open 10am-5pm
19 Danebo Reading Circle 2-4pm
Monday 20 Danish Genealogy 6:30pm
Wednesday 22 Onsdag frokost 11:30am
22 Library Hours: 10am-1:30pm
Friday 31 Fyraften 6pm

JUNE 2024

Mondays from 9am-12pm: Watercolor
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong
Thursdays from 9am-1:30pm: Library Hours
Sunday 02 Danish Day
Wednesday 05 Virkelyst Picnic 6pm
Friday 07 Tøsegruppen 7-10pm
Saturday 08 Library Hours/NDAGS Consultation 10am-12pm
Monday 10 Finance Committee Meeting 6pm
10 Board Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 12 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Wednesday 26 Onsdag Frokost 11:30am
Friday 28 Fyraften 6pm
Sunday 30 Outdoor Æbleskive Breakfast 9:30-11:30am

NOTE: The Danish American Center building will be closed April 28 through May 3 while the floors in the Atrium are refurbished.

May 2024