



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

Sunday, June 1: 11am to 3pm

Constitution Day (Grundlovsdag) is observed in Denmark on 5 June and in Minneapolis, our tradition is to celebrate the first Sunday in June. Danish Day will be held on June 1, 2025, from 11am to 3pm. Join us again for an afternoon of fellowship and great food. Please bring chairs with you for sitting on the lawn and enjoy the music, food and program (See page 2 for a full run-down on this year's program).



You are welcome to bring food. However, we will have a repeat of last year's popular Danish style hot dogs with all the trimmings, small food baskets such as frikadeller, vegetable salad with optional shrimp, cheese, æbleskiver, layer cake, and ice cream for sale as well. To avoid queues to buy tickets, you can purchase tickets online and pick up when you arrive. Visit the online Danish Day shop here: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/danish-day-shop-version--2>. Of course you will also be able to buy tickets at Danish Day!

No outside alcohol or beer can be brought, but plan on purchasing cold beer in our beer garden! Sodas, sparkling water, and coffee will also be available for purchase. We will have a water dispenser outside and are encouraging people to bring their own water bottles for that!

Vendors include Ingebretsen's Nordic Marketplace, The Hygge Maker, artist Roger Nielsen, Craig Thompson, and Danish Woodworking by Flemming Petersen. Craft and music demonstrations by the DAC's Viking Guild, and activities for the kids too! Art exhibits include Ships at Sea in the Heritage room and a preview of the August Tapestry exhibition based on Njál's Saga. New this year is our Loppemarked (Fleamarket) located on the south porch.



This is also a great time to renew your membership. There is no entrance fee, but a goodwill donation is much appreciated.

We hope to see you here!

JUNE 2025

- ♥ Music on the Mississippi
- ♥ Summer Happy Hours at Herbst
- ♥ Sankt Hans Aften Celebration

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Once again I'm writing my president's letter while traveling. This time, I'm on a family trip to Iowa. Our son, Rasmus, has graduated from the University of Minnesota and we are helping him relocate to the site of his first 'real job.' We are on a mission to find him a safe and comfortable place to live as he begins this new chapter in his life.

In an effort to improve the safety and comfort at the DAC, we've had an ongoing focus on upgrading our DAC property, and we have several projects underway or in the planning stages. Our new building entry system has been installed and is now active. This system was installed in an effort to make our premises more secure, yet still enable access for our guests and members. The new system will allow our regular groups to have unique keypad codes for building access. The system also allows our on-site staff the ability to unlock the doors remotely. Another welcome improvement will be repaving the parking lot on the west side of our building. The existing surface had aged beyond repair and was long overdue for resurfacing. Prior to resurfacing, the boundaries will be modestly increased to add additional parking spaces on that side of our building.

Our property's landscaping is getting rejuvenated, thanks to a generous gift of labor and materials from the Jensen family. The landscape plan was approved last fall, and the work commenced in September of 2024. Most of the focus of the new plan is on the east side of our property, facing the river parkway. New edging, plants, and landscape features will greatly improve the appearance of our property. As the landscaping project nears completion, a new irrigation system will be installed to help us maintain the health and appearance of our lovely new landscaping and yard.

We are in the planning stages for our first floor improvements. The addition of new restrooms adjacent to the Kaffestue will make our property more comfortable and accessible for all of our guests. The plans are being drawn and the early bids are coming in now for our subcontracting work.

These are good, long term investments in the safety, comfort and utility of our DAC property. I am grateful to everyone who has contributed their time and effort to these projects!

Pete Gantriis

MEMORIALS

Donation in memory of **Dick Juhl** from Ruth Aaskov, Nancy Petersen, Svend and Grethe Petersen, and Steven Simmons

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.

DANISH DAY PROGRAM

11am Vendor sales begin
11:30am Food sales begin
12:15pm National Anthems: Taylor Ann Grand
President's Welcome: Peter Gantriis
Dane of the Year announcement
1-3pm Musical performances on the outdoor stage: Jazz trio & Niels Billund with Taylor Ann Grand & Milana Reiche of Trio Sorelli
2pm Children's Nisse hunt
2:30pm Group Photo
3pm Danish Day Ends
Handicapped parking in north DAC lot & general parking at Minnehaha Academy. If it looks like bad weather, check the [DAC website](#) or [Facebook page](#) for any changes.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Members:

Clementina Serna
Serena Andreasen
Lasse Knudsen and Olivia Hui Andersen
Jan Anderson
Kimberly Jensen
Patricia Cordano
Stan and Jodi Harpstead

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

Danish American Center

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Website: danishamericancenter.org

Office Hours: Wednesdays: 10am-2pm

Executive Board:

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

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Lisa Jensen, Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart, Susan Loschenkohl,
Ryan Maki, Tom Peterson, Bruce Simpson,
Scott Thomsen, Karma Walker, and Pernille Whited

DANews Committee:

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Bill Holmquist
Betina Kohler
Susan Loschenkohl
Myra Madsen
Michelle Potter-Bacon

For submissions, advertising, or any other inquiries, please contact us at dainfo@dac.mn.

HAPPY HOUR AT HERBST FOR DAC MEMBERS

Fridays, June 20, July 18 & August 15: 4-6 pm

at **Herbst Eatery & Farm Stand**

779 Raymond Avenue St. Paul 55114

Executive Chef Benjamin Moenster in collaboration with the Danish American Center invites you to join him for a series of special member events, 4-6 pm on the third Friday of the month through August.

Moenster, 33, is a native of Denmark, which is where his culinary career began After culinary school, Moenster jumped into the kitchen at a small restaurant in his hometown of Aarhus. There he learned all aspects of the industry and gained the confidence to move to America and continue his culinary career in the Twin Cities. He has been the Executive Chef at Herbst Eatery & Farm Stand since fall of 2024.

\$35 per person (2 drink tickets and light hors d'oeuvres) includes tax and gratuity. Limited tickets available – log in to your member account to register, or call the DAC office at 612-729-3800.

Parking - Metered street parking is available on Raymond Avenue. Unmetered street parking is available on Charles Avenue & Territorial Road.



Herbst
EATERY & FARM STAND
SOUTH ST. ANTHONY PARK



Glimpses from our May Herbst Happy Hour



MEMBER SOCIAL GATHERINGS ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE DAC!

Fridays, June 6 and August 1 from 4-6pm

NOTE: No Member Social Gathering in July

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

THANK YOU TO GERD AND JIM TUCHSCHERER FOR THEIR GENEROSITY

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Gerd and Jim Tuchscherer for their generous donation. Their support makes a meaningful difference in our mission and the lives we touch every day. With their contribution, the Danish American Center can better serve our members and the programs and events we all look so forward to.

So as to maximize this donation, the Board, Executive Committee and the Fundraising Committee have conducted a needs assessment for the DAC. The focus has been on physical improvements to our beloved building as well as for the comfort and safety of our members. What has also become clear during this process are the costs associated with these improvements. A portion of the Tuchscherers' gift has been pledged as a part of a larger matching campaign. We are excited for this enhanced fundraising opportunity. Details, including how you can get involved in this unique opportunity, will be announced in the coming weeks.

We are deeply grateful for the Tuchscherers' commitment and belief in our work. Thank you, Gerd and Jim, for your generosity and support on behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Danish American Center.

SAGA WRITERS

Sundays, July 6 & August 3: 1:30-3:30pm

North Commons Classroom

Want to do something with those memories and stories you've been carrying around in your head for years? Come join our friendly and supportive group of writers to share your goals, aspirations and accomplishments. Visit our table at Danish Day on June 1 to learn more!

SINGALONG WITH DAN CHOUINARD

Mondays, June 9, July 7 and August 4: 7pm

Monthly community singalongs are arranged around a month's birthdays or the season, with lyrics projected on a screen. Always a Scandinavian tune or two and plenty of time for requests. Free and open to all.

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

Deadline for the September issue is August 10

THE DANEBO READING CIRCLE PLANS AHEAD FOR FALL

With five interesting books and good discussions behind them, members of the Danebo Reading Circle will be using June, July, and August to enjoy some summer activities that just might include books, especially those with which they will finish off the year. They will also be submitting final nominations for the 2026 calendar.

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 8. Group deliberations and voting take place during the fall meetings. It really is a democratic process!

The choices for the remaining three Sunday meetings in 2025 (September 21, October 19, and November 16) are *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson (NO, Oslo: Forlaget Oktober, 2003, 258 pages; translated by Anne Born, New York: Picador, 2005); *The Old Man and His Sons* by Heðin Brú (Faroes: Vardín, 1940, and Sprotin, 2012; translated by John F. West, New York: Paul S. Eriksson, 1970, and London: Telegram, 2011, 166 pages); and *Animal Life* by Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir (IS: Benedikt, 2020, 192 pages; translated by Brian FitzGibbon, New York: Black Cat [Grove Atlantic], 2022). Bookmarks with the 2025 schedule are available on the table outside the DAC Library on the first floor.

The September meeting will begin at 1 pm and end by 3pm, in time for the DAC Annual Meeting (3-6 pm) that day. It will follow the usual hybrid format with members meeting on the third floor of the DAC and also on Zoom. October and November hybrid meetings will run 2-4pm.

The Danebo Reading Circle welcomes everyone to join their activities. The first visit is "no strings attached;" further participation assumes DAC membership (<https://danishamericancenter.org/about-us/membership/>). Contact suzannej41@me.com for more information, a Zoom link, or a book nomination form.



MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI MILANA REICHE AND TRIO SORELLI

Tuesday, June 17: 6pm SOCIAL HOUR

7pm CONCERT IN THE ATRIUM

Trio Sorelli is a string trio made up of sisters Milana Reiche, Johanna Torbenson, and Mahjinka Stebbins. They have performed and recorded together works from the classical, folk, and tango traditions.

Milana Reiche is a first violinist in the Minnesota Orchestra. She received performance degrees from the University of Minnesota and Yale University School of Music. She participates in the Sun Valley Music Festival each year.

Johanna Torbenson is a prizewinning violist and has a music performance degree from the University of Minnesota. As a chamber musician she has performed locally with among others The Schubert Trio. Johanna is also a successful visual artist.

Mahjinka Stebbins received her degrees in violin performance at Eastman School of Music and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She was associate concertmaster of the Rogue Valley Symphony and now lives on Kauai.

These sisters are passionate about music and love playing together. They will be performing music of Kodaly, Dvořák, as well as Danish folk tunes.

Ticket sales are final; no refunds or exchanges.

DAC Members \$30, Non-Members \$35.

Visit this DAC public calendar and select concert's performance date (6/17/2025) for more information and to purchase tickets: <http://bit.ly/3S5ysK6>



CELEBRATE SANKT HANS AFTEN

Saturday, June 21: 5-10 pm
12101 Dodd Blvd in Rosemount
The Walter-Hansen farm in
Rosemount will be hopping with
Danes and friends from around
the world when we gather to
celebrate mid-summer. There's
something for every age to enjoy:



eating, playing, chatting, dancing,
and singing together! New-mown hay bales provide soft
seating and an intoxicating herbal fragrance in a cozy red
barn where the floorboards have withstood weddings,
waltzes, pop/rock bands, and dining events. Children can
learn to twist & toast campfire bread (snobrød) over open
charcoals. Hayrides transport the brave and curious down
winding roads, through forests and thickets, past ponds
and lakes, and return them safely to boast tall tales of
adventure. If you seek tranquility, sit back with a cool
beverage, enjoy catching up with friends you've missed
seeing, gaze out to the pond, and breathe in the sweet
country air. As the sun sets, we'll gather around a grand
bonfire. Come rain or shine!

Remember to bring:

- Meat to grill and a dish to share (appetizer/salad/dessert)
- Your choice of beverages, comfy lawn chairs or blankets,
and bug spray
- Donations are appreciated but not expected!

We will provide:

- Gas grills and utensils, tables & chairs
- Plates, napkins, cups & utensils
- Condiments & Seasonings
- Lemonade, water & coffee

For assistance/questions, call Kurt or Patricia Walter-
Hansen at 612-483-3569 or 612-483-3101.

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.

BOUND FOR A DISTANT SHORE

HERITAGE GALLERY ART EXHIBITION

Open through October 2025

The DAC was thrilled to
receive a very special work
of art from member Ruth
Palm and the Palm family.
The "Amy of Copenhagen,"
a brigantine, or two masted
sailing ship model, serves
as the centerpiece of a new
exhibition featuring ships
from the collection of the
DAC, now on view in
the Heritage Gallery.



This intricately detailed
ship was carved with a
doctor's scalpel by Ruth's
grandfather, Captain
Frederik Ernst Funder
(1857-1910). Beginning



in 1885, Captain Funder carved the model during his free
time while serving on a sailing ship. Life as a captain took
Captain Funder all over the world, and in Lebanon he
conceived the idea and procured a limb of a tree to begin
carving the model ship. Named after his daughter Amy
who was born in 1881, the model saw completion in 1888.
The rigging is made of homespun linen.

The "Amy of Copenhagen" is accompanied by paintings
and decorative arts that show how important the sea
and ships are to Danish culture. From Viking ships
to fishing, from contemporary recreational sailing
vessels to container ships for world trade, the sea
is central to Danish culture and identity. Denmark's
geographic position gives it control of the Danish
straits (Skagerrak and Kattegat), linking the Baltic and
North Seas.

The 19th century painting "Danish Ship off the Coast of
Helsingør" illustrates how this geography gave Denmark
historical international stature. Another favorite work
of art in the collection is the Tin Advertising Sign for
Thingvalla, Scandinavian Lines of the Ocean Liner Fredrik
VIII. This steamer, built in 1913, ferried many Scandinavian
immigrants to the US. Our exhibit will remain on view
through October, so visit the next time you are at DAC.

PREVIEW OF UPCOMING FALL PROGRAMS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Stig and Marie Jacobsen will present a talk, *Greenland Past Present and Future* on Monday, September 15
- Annual Member Meeting, Sunday, September 21
- Book launch by Pernille Ipsen for *My Seven Mothers* published by UMN Press, Tuesday October 28

LEAVES FROM THE LIBRARY

by DAC Librarian Felicity Hanson

Sign up NOW for a DAC Library Account!

Did you know ... the DAC library has a great selection of titles across many genres? Members, come in and see for yourself! But sign up ahead of your visit for an online account so you can check something out:



1. To complete the Library Account Request form, click here: bit.ly/3CNtRs3
2. Library staff will set up your account and email your Patron ID and password along with basic instructions.
3. Visit the library during open hours (see below) or make an appointment.
4. Or view the catalog here: bit.ly/41zhLDz

Hope to see you soon!

SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS – MEMBERS ONLY

1st Saturdays of the month, 10 am – 12 pm

Every Wednesday, 9 am - 1:30 pm

Or by appointment

To ask questions about the library or make an appointment, email daclibrarymn@gmail.com.



OUTDOOR ÆBLESKIVE BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 28: 9:30-11:30 am

We are hosting an outdoor summer æbleskive event on Saturday, June 28.

Join us on the grounds of the Danish American Center for æbleskiver, juice and coffee. No reservations are needed.



This is a FREE event, but goodwill donations are greatly appreciated! Come and enjoy yummy æbleskiver while mingling on the lawn and supporting the DAC—rain or shine (if inclement weather, seating will be inside). The next regular breakfast will be in September.

If you are interested in volunteering for one of our breakfasts or have questions, please contact Carla & Joel Mortensen at carla.s.mortensen@gmail.com or 612-724-1814.

100 YEARS OF OUR HISTORY!

Members and friends of the DAC are encouraged to see it for yourself with MN Collections online: <https://mncollections.org/> Once on the site, click on Danish American Center.

This site is part of the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums. Susan Jacobsen, Ginny Leppart and others have added scans and photos with descriptions of historical and current photographs, paintings, sculptures and documents that are found in our DAC building. We will keep adding items so check periodically and you will be amazed at all the objects and archival information that can be found. You may even recognize some of the girls in this photograph, taken in the early 1940s:



NJÁL'S SAGA TAPESTRY EXHIBITION

August 15-19

DAC and Icelandic
Hekla Club will
be exhibiting a
traveling version
of The Njál
Saga Tapestry
modeled after



the Bayeux Tapestry, a Viking-themed tapestry from Northern France that tells the story of the Norman Invasion of Britain in 1066. Like the Bayeux "Tapestry," the Njál's Saga Tapestry is not truly a tapestry, since tapestries are woven on looms. The Njál's Saga Tapestry is a long embroidery, entirely hand-stitched in the Bayeux-style on pure woven linen, using Icelandic wool, hand dyed with local plants. The Njál's Saga Tapestry recounts a local story of 10th and 11th century embattled Vikings, created and embroidered in the heart of Njál's Saga country, on the Rang River plain, in the town of Hvolsvöllur, South Iceland. Njál's Saga, or more accurately, The Saga of the Burning of Njál, is considered Iceland's mightiest saga. Its story and characters are woven into the fabric of Icelandic culture and the saga is read every year, on the same day, from start to finish in the schools and libraries of Iceland. Programs include two talks by curator Claudia Petursson, on Friday night August 15 and Sunday, August 17 and an embroidery workshop Saturday, August 16. Details will be announced on the DAC website as they develop this summer.

TRANSLATION SERVICE AT DAC

To request a translation, 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.

REGISTERING FOR MEMBER EVENTS ONLINE

Here are step-by-step instructions on how to register for member events on the DAC website. Please note:
Your DAC membership must be current to register for member events.

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.

If you have any questions, contact the DAC office at 612-729-3800 or dainfo@dac.mn.

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

PLANNING A RESEARCH TRIP TO DENMARK

Monday June 23 at 6:30 pm CST

Most genealogists dream of one day visiting the "homeland," but it is not an endeavor to take up without a good amount of planning. The amount of preparation you do can make or break this potentially once-in-a-lifetime experience. Speaker Diana Crisman Smith is very knowledgeable on Danish genealogy and will provide us with many useful tips and pointers on having a successful research trip to Denmark. Diana has been giving genealogy lectures since the 1980's, has written for numerous genealogical publications, and has both written a book and contributed to several others.

This event is provided free of charge by the National Danish-American Genealogical Society. No need to register, simply join us via Zoom shortly before the event starts:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84701758161>

For more information on our group, membership, to see other upcoming events, and see a copy of *The Beech Tree*, our unique genealogy newsletter, visit <https://danishgenealogy.org/> or email us: ndagsmembers@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

Wednesdays 9am-1:30pm: Library - members only
 Wednesdays 10am-2pm: DAC Office Hours
 Wednesdays 10am-3pm: Mah Jongg

Sunday 01 DANISH DAY 11am-3pm
 Wednesday 04 Virkelyst 6pm
 Friday 06 Member Social Hour 4-6pm
 06 Tøseften 7pm
 Saturday 07 Library - members only 10am-noon
 07 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm
 Monday 09 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7-8:30pm
 09 Board Meeting 7pm
 Tuesday 17 Concert: Milana Reiche and Trio Sorelli
 6pm social hour, 7pm concert
 Friday 20 DAC Member Happy Hour at Herbst 4-6pm
 Saturday 21 Sankt Hans Aften 5-10pm Rosemount, MN
 Saturday 28 Outdoor Æbleskive Breakfast 9:30-11:30am

JULY

Wednesdays 9am-1:30pm: Library - members only
 Wednesdays 10am-2pm: DAC Office Hours
 Wednesdays 10am-3pm: Mah Jongg

Saturday 05 Library - members only 10am-noon
 05 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm
 Sunday 06 Saga Writers 1:30-3:30pm
 Monday 07 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7-8:30pm
 Monday 14 Executive Committee 7pm
 Friday 18 DAC Member Happy Hour at Herbst 4-6pm

AUGUST

Wednesdays 9am-1:30pm: Library - members only
 Wednesdays 10am-2pm: DAC Office Hours
 Wednesdays 10am-3pm: Mah Jongg

Friday 01 Member Social Hour 4-6pm
 Saturday 02 Library - members only 10am-noon
 02 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm
 Sunday 03 Saga Writers 1:30-3:30pm
 Monday 04 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7-8:30pm
 Monday 11 Board Meeting 7pm
 Friday 15 DAC Member Happy Hour at Herbst 4-6pm
 Friday 15 Njál's Saga tapestry exhibit through
 Tuesday, August 19

June 2025