



Danish American Cultural Retreat

June 23 – 25, 2017

Conference Location and General Information

Menucha Retreat and Conference Center
38711 East Historic Columbia River Hwy.
Corbett, Oregon 97019-0008
503-695-2243

Overlooking the scenic Columbia River Gorge, 22 miles east of Portland, the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center boasts panoramic views, lodge accommodations, nature trails, a swimming pool, and other amenities. Directions: From Interstate 84, take Exit 22 and follow Corbett Road to the top of the hill. Turn left (east) at the Y intersection, drive 1.5 miles to the Menucha Retreat entrance which is on the north side of the road.

Daily Schedule

Friday, June 23

Conference check-in begins at 11 a.m.
followed by lunch at Noon,
Friday programs 1:00 -10:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 24:

8:00a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 25:

8:00a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Northwest Danish Association
1833 North 105th Street, Suite 101
Seattle, WA 98133
www.northwestdanish.org

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Corbett, Oregon



Proudly organized and sponsored by the



Northwest Danish Association

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Danish American Cultural

Retreat

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Menucha Retreat & Conference Center Corbett, Oregon



Pool and view of the gorge at Menucha

The Danish American Cultural Retreat is an annual opportunity to learn about Denmark and its links to the US, today and in the past. Cultural, historic and contemporary topics are presented to illustrate how Denmark has played and continues to have a significant role on the global stage.

2017 Scheduled Sessions and Program Highlights

Scheduled Sessions

- Heroes of the Danish Reformation
- Life in Medieval Denmark as Portrayed in Church Murals
- Jacob Ellehammer, Danish Aviation Pioneer
- *The Red Umbrella* – Life in Occupied Denmark as Seen Through the Eyes of a Child
- Women of Vinland
- Icelandic Manuscripts
- Update from the Museum of Danish America and its current exhibit, “The Whimsical World of Bjørn Wiinblad”
- Grundtvig
- Danish film, the 2003 Action Comedy, *Stealing Rembrandt*, directed by Jannik Johansen
- Performance by local Danish folk singer, Flemming Behrend

Program Highlights

- Saturday evening show
- Danish film night
- Danish and English singing
- Nature walks
- Leisure time to visit and enjoy the beautiful scenery

2017 Program and Speakers

- **Dave Christensen** is the head of Christensen Design Management in Bellingham, Washington. He will be speaking about the memoir *The Red Umbrella*, written by his sister Johna Christensen, which he published after her death. *The Red Umbrella* recounts the complex life in German-occupied Copenhagen through the eyes of Johna, who was born in 1937. With a Jewish mother and her father involved in the Resistance, the young Johna had to keep many secrets and eventually was evacuated to Sweden. **Saturday, June 24.**
- **Henry Geijsbeek**, lifelong aviation enthusiast and photographer, will speak on Jacob C. H. Ellehammer, a Danish aviation pioneer responsible for inventing early planes, helicopters, and even a convertible car plane. Mr. Geijsbeek is from Kent, Washington and works for Boeing. **Sunday, June 25.**
- **Kristian Næsby** is serving as a Visiting Danish Lecturer at the University of Washington, Scandinavian Studies Department. Grundtvig will be the topic of his discussion, encompassing the philosophy behind the Danish folk high school tradition with a focus on its contemporary relevance and its importance in the development of democracy. **Friday, June 23.**
- **Pastor Birgitte Saltorp**, from the Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver, Canada, will be giving two presentations looking at the Danish Reformation and life in Medieval Denmark. 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and Pastor Saltorp will look at leaders of this movement in Denmark. Her second presentation looks at life in Medieval Denmark as illustrated by murals in Danish churches. **Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24**

- **Rasmus Thøgersen**, is the new Executive Director, Museum of Danish America in Elk Horn, Iowa. He will discuss current and upcoming exhibits at the Museum of Danish America, focusing on the current exhibit entitled, *The Whimsical World of Bjørn Wiinblad*. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, Mr. Thøgersen was the Director at the Morton-James Public Library in Nebraska. He is from Hellerup, Denmark. **Saturday, June 24.**

- **Dr. Elisabeth Ward**, will give presentations on the Women of Vinland and on the Icelandic manuscripts. Dr. Ward has studied both the language and traditions of Iceland. Prior to completing her Ph.D. in 2012, she served as assistant curator on a Smithsonian exhibit on the Vikings and at a museum in Iceland. Most recently she ran the Scandinavian Cultural Center at Pacific Lutheran University. **Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26.**

Kro Aftens, evening gatherings at the Creevey Commons, include wine, beer, food, and evening entertainment.

Note: The 2017 DACR program schedule is still being finalized; dates and speakers are subject to change. Check the NWDA website for program updates.

To Register for DACR 2017:

Find the link to register and pay online at:

<http://northwestdanish.org/dacr/>

Or

Fill out a hard copy of the 2017 DACR registration form (available to download from the NWDA website) and mail or fax to NWDA office in Seattle with your payment (see registration form for details)



Brochure photos by Sonja Kromann