

The Little Mermaid

A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHWEST DANISH ASSOCIATION

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Summer 2017: Jul Comes to the Pacific Northwest

Kids in the Danish community in the Pacific Northwest get to celebrate Jul (Christmas) twice this year. Jul is the theme of both summer Danish camps, Dane Camp for Little Vikings in Seattle and Himmelbjerget Danish Camp in Oregon.

Dane Camp 2017: From Little Vikings to Little Elves

At the end of July, the Seattle Danish Center will open its doors to Jul and little helpers who will help prepare for a Danish Christmas!

The theme of Dane Camp for Little Vikings this year is JUL. Come celebrate with us as we transform The Seattle Danish Center (Harmony Hall) with kravlenisser, orange clove pomanders, and kalenderlys at the center of the table. Then there is the tree that will need decorating as we get busy making krammerhuse, julehjerter, and flettede julestjerner.

Last but not least, we will put on our aprons and fill the room each day with the aroma of fresh baked jødekager, brunkager, havregrynskugler, and pebernødder. Sign your little Vikings up for Dane Camp 2017, and help us celebrate a "god gamle jul" filled with Danish traditions, songs, and many surprises.

Dane Camp is for children ages 5-10, and will be held from July 31st to August 4th 2017. For more information and to register, visit:
www.northwestdanish.org/danecamp/

Himmelbjerget's Danish Christmas Wonderland

Campers arrived at Himmelbjerget Danish Camp on June 25th 2017, exactly six months after Christmas. The heat and the calendar didn't quite add up to 'julestemning' (Christmas spirit), but the huge decorated Christmas tree that greeted campers set the tone for the week. Jul (Danish Christmas) was the



Image: Camp Counselor, Michael, from Denmark and Himmelbjerget Camper, Maija, at Himmelbjerget 2017



Photo: Himmelbjerget campers dressed up for Santa Lucia at camp this year

theme of this year's Himmelbjerget Danish Camp. Campers were immersed in a week of Danish Christmas festivities, learning about the many traditions in Denmark. The week ended just as the last week of the year ends in Denmark, with 'Dronningens Nytårstale' (the Queen's New Year's speech). The speech was written by Himmelbjerget camp counselor Annelise Kromann:

"Dronningens nytårstale - 2017" *Written by Annelise Kromann*

"Good evening and godt nytår citizens of Himmelbjerget Danish Camp. Again, it is that time of year where we reflect on the year behind us, and look forward to the New Year upon us.

We started amidst one of the hottest days of our history. Sweat dripped from our brows and under arms as we took relief in the frigid waters of the pool of our low lands. Night fell giving little relief in the shelters stocked with bunk beds and inadequate electrical breezes. We can thank our god Thor for rolling in clouds that rumbled during the early half day of Monday and provided cooling relief from the heat of the day behind us.

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Northwest Danish Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing with others our Danish culture, traditions, and values

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President's Corner



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Visit our website for more information about events and programs! Via our website you can also sign up for our e-bulletin to receive updates on all these activities.

www.northwestdanish.org

**Donate your time:
Volunteer with
NWDA!**

Support the Danish Community

By Dr. Edith E. Christensen

We have had a good year. The mortgage on the building in Seattle was paid down so it is more manageable, new programs have been added, and the great regular programs have been continued. Have you missed out on some of these events? Watch the e-bulletins for announcements of events in Seattle and Oregon.

Book Club and Sang Aften continue in Portland with good attendance. They are planning new programs so be sure to watch the emails from NWDA.

The Danish American Cultural Retreat has just been completed at Menucha in Corbett, Oregon where there were excellent speakers with interesting presentations. Did you miss it? Nordic Ventures will begin in February in Seattle highlighting some of the past presenters and new ones. If you missed DACR, here is your opportunity to hear about historical, or current events of a Scandinavian nature.

Himmelbjerget Camp has just ended for 10 to 18 year olds, also held at Menucha. Save the date for next year when it begins on June 24 for a week, right after DACR. You will find information and articles in this issue of The Little Mermaid. Check the website.

Dane Camp for Little Vikings, ages 5 to 10 will begin on July 31, and last for one week here at the Center in Seattle. If

you haven't signed up yet, hurry and get that reservation sent in. Pia, the teacher, continues to speak both Danish and English so the children are exposed to the language and helped to understand it, a process of immersion. You would be surprised at how much those little minds can comprehend in a short time.

How can you facilitate these vital programs for the Danes in the Northwest? We cannot provide programs without donations of time and money from you, our friends and members. Memberships help to continue and support the ongoing projects carried out by staff and volunteers. Your donations help to underwrite the difference between actual costs and expenses of the programs and also strengthen a secure future for NWDA in this area.

If you truly want to encourage the Danish traditions and culture, you can join as a member, donate to support ongoing programs, and volunteer your time at events and activities which we sponsor. Last but not least, please remember to put a contribution for NWDA in your will. This is an important step, for you to leave a legacy for continuing Danish culture and traditions in this area.

To the many who have donated this year and those who are volunteering at various programs, thank you for your support.

MAKE A DONATION TO NWDA—Gift is Tax Deductible for the year donation is received!

Yes, I want to make a donation to the Northwest Danish Association as my Gift to continuing the programs and benefits offered.

I am giving now: _____ \$1,000 _____ \$250 _____ \$50 (For monthly planned giving
 _____ \$500 _____ \$100 \$ _____ other arrange on DONATE NOW on our website)

____ My check is enclosed. ____ Charge my credit card: For Programs \$ _____ For the General Fund \$ _____

____ Visa ____ Master Card Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name (please print) _____ Signature _____

Address _____

The Northwest Danish Association is a 501(c)(3) organization registered in the State of Washington (91-0565541)
 Mail to Northwest Danish Association, 1833 N. 105th St. Suite 101, Seattle, WA 98133-8973

NWDA News and More



"The Year of Being Nordic"

We are excited to announce that we are stewing over an idea with other Nordic organizations and clubs in the Seattle area. Introducing, "The Year of Being Nordic":



You're invited to a brainstorming session about how we can take just a relatively short period of time, say 6 to 9 months, and promote Nordic clubs in the Northwest. This is still in the idea phase, but if you represent a Nordic club or a business that caters to the Nordic community, let's come together to discuss how to make ourselves known to the greater local community.

Our goal is to support our respective clubs and the opening of the New Nordic Museum. We have discussed the idea with the Museum and as their staff is exceptionally busy getting prepared to move into their new building, we won't see them at our meeting(s), but our goal is complete support for *all* the Nordic clubs, organizations, businesses, etc., in the greater Northwest.

The gathering will be
Saturday, July 22 at 12 noon
at the Swedish Club
 (1920 Dexter Ave N, Seattle, 98109)
 We'll have some lunch fare available.

If you're interested, please e-mail kristine@swedishclubnw.org to say you'll be there. Anyone who wants to come is welcome, so we appreciate your helping to spread the word. Let's get together to discuss how to shine the spotlight on our wonderful Nordic community.

Thank you Volunteers!

During the 2016-2017 membership year, NWDA volunteers in Seattle worked over
4,000 hours!

Thank you for your help and for keeping up the pulse of the organization! We couldn't do it without you!

Welcome to our 2017- 2018 Community Members!

The Swedish Club
 Danish Brotherhood #29
 Danish Sisterhood #40

Danish Community Picnic

Sunday, August 13th
 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Don't miss the Danish Community Picnic this year! One of the few events a year where all the Danish groups in Seattle come together for a day to celebrate our vast Danish community!

Join in for games, hotdogs, beer, and other fun in the sun!



Vasa Park Resort

3560 West Lake Sammamish Parkway S.E., Bellevue, WA 98008
Vasa Park is open from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm. Free parking available.

For more information, visit www.northwestdanish.org/danish-picnic/

Scholarships Available! Dane Camp for Little Vikings

Summer Day Camp at the Seattle Danish Center

Ages 5-10

July 31st to August 4th

To register visit www.northwestdanish.org/danecamp/



Scholarships sponsored by the Danish American Language Foundation

Thanks to funding by the Danish American Language Foundation, this year we are able to provide scholarships for Dane Camp! The first ten campers to sign up for the 2017 Dane Camp will receive a scholarship. We already have campers signed up and only have a few scholarships left. Register now for a chance to win a scholarship!

"Dawn of the Viking Age"



"Codes of Honor and Warrior Trainings"

Viking Series: Part 10

Summarized based on Hudson Publications Event Bookazines 2013, "Vikings: Their Myths and Legends."

For Part 9 of this article, see Issue #2016/2017 Volume 4 of The Little Mermaid

Vikings created their own distinctive code of honor marked with courage. Viking warriors were not afraid of death, only of dying in bed. A glorious death by battle was the honorable and preferred way to end one's life.

The worst crime a Viking could commit was disloyalty to any members of one's 'felag' or fellowship. If a Viking was not loyal to his group, he would be named a 'Nithing', one who is not considered to be a man because of a lack of honor (Nithing is the origin of the word "Nothing").

All free Viking men were obliged to bear arms, which was in contrast to most feudal societies. The "Havamal" states, "Don't leave your weapons lying about behind your back in a field; you never know when you may need all of sudden your spear." The "Havamal" contained advice allegedly originating from Odin.

Amongst Vikings, weapons were also an indication of social status. Skillfully finished weapons were a common way to show one's wealth and status. Wealthy Vikings were likely to have a spear, a few javelins, a wooden shield, and a battle-axe or a sword. Even richer Vikings might own a helmet, but it is thought that most other armor was exclusively for nobles and their trained warriors. Common farmers likely only had a spear, a shield, and maybe a common axe or a big knife. In battle some used their hunting bows.

The most widespread weapon was a broad leaf shaped spear with longer

spiked iron blades on a 2 to 3 meter long wooden shaft. Vikings used spears for thrusting and also for throwing.

Because the production of swords was costly, they were an indication of higher status. The blades on swords were commonly double-edged. Single-edged sabers were also used in earlier times. Vikings carried swords in leather bound wooden scabbards. A technique called pattern-welding was used to twist and fuse strips of iron and steel into swords. Many even named their swords, such as "Leg-biter."

Battle-axes with long handles were sometimes used instead of swords, especially in open combat. However, double-headed axes were not commonly used, as is often portrayed in Hollywood films.

Viking sagas give evidence of qualities that were considered to be valued by Vikings, although there is no formal, written Viking Code of Honor.

"The Sagas tell stories about the swords, how powerful they were. Many of the swords had personal names, sometimes, that are connected to, for instance, a bear or a wolf. By giving it a name, you could also incorporate the power of your ancestor or somebody very strong into the sword." (Johan Gunnar Andersson, National Historical Museum, Sweden)

One trait deemed important by Vikings was that an ideal Viking Warrior should come from a good family and should represent his family well. The Viking should also be well-trained as well as educated. Common sense, eloquence, and an understanding of the complexities



Image: Decorated battle axe



New Membership Year!

July marks the start of a new membership year at NWDA. Now is a great time to become a member or to renew memberships, to take advantage of a full year of benefits!

Become a member today!

Visit
www.northwestdanish.org/membership/

Or call us at (206) 523-3263

We also have membership options for organizations and businesses.

of Viking laws and customs were also considered important characteristics. A strong mind and body and the ability to suffer without complaining were also highly valuable in the Viking era. A Viking also had to be a man of his word, as oaths were a very serious affair during the Viking age. He also had to be a competent leader as well as a generous one. The dead should be treated well by a good Viking, and he should be able to embrace his own (likely violent) death capably.

Spotlight: The Dane Axe

Description: An early axe used in battle. The blade was wide and thin with a cutting surface between 8 and 12 inches. This blade was mounted on a haft, a wooden handle made of oak or ash, that was usually 3 to 4 feet long. The very thin blade was light and had a hard, sharp edge that could be as little as 2 millimeters thin. This kind of axe weighed an average of 2 to 4 pounds, making the weapon quick with a destructive cutting capability. As a symbol of status, some axes were five feet or longer.

In Memory of



The Danish community in the Pacific Northwest has suffered a number of deaths in the last few months. Our sincere condolences to all friends and family affected.

In Memory of Tom Paulsen

Tom Paulsen passed away on May 24th, a significant loss for the Danish community in the Pacific Northwest. Born on November 26th 1922, Tom grew up on a farm near Lemvig in West Jylland. Following in his father's steps, he joined the Royal Danish Guards in 1943. Active duty as a Danish guard during the German occupation of Denmark filled Tom's young years with stories and experiences of a time of war and resistance. After Denmark was liberated in May of 1945, he continued to serve during the aftermath of the occupation.

In 1950, Tom decided to switch directions and move to the United States. His first job was in construction in California, which eventually led him to start his own company building custom homes on the West coast, including in Seattle. Tom married his wife, Nadine Bloomquist, in 1958, and they established their life together in the Pacific Northwest with their four children, Chris, Lisa, Eric, and Kirsten.

Tom has been an integral part of the Danish community in the Pacific Northwest as an active member in the Royal Danish Guards Association. He also contributed to the Danish community as a member of the Board of Directors for Rebild National Park and through visits to the annual Rebild 4th of July festivities in Denmark.

A service to commemorate the life of Tom Paulsen will be held on July 16th at 3:00 pm at Bellevue First Presbyterian Church (1717 Bellevue Way NE).

In Memory of Lola Pitzner

Lola Pitzner, another familiar face in the Danish community, passed away on June 10th at the age of 88. The Danish bakery in Burien owned by Lola was well-known, and after she sold the bakery, her baked goods continued to make a name for themselves in the Danish community.

Lola was born on Christmas, and grew up in Dronninglund in Denmark.

Amongst friends and family she was known for her loyalty. She was very active in both the Danish Sisterhood and in the Northwest Danish Association. Lola was an important asset to various functions at the Northwest Danish Association's Seattle Danish Center. As a member of the Eastside Danish Circle, she played a role in the Onsdagsklubben luncheons where she was known for her elegant desserts as well as at the Danish Christmas Bazaars, where she helped to make delicious smørrebrød sandwiches.

Lola was married to Johannes Pitzner, who was a real Danish baker. They immigrated to the Seattle area and moved to Burien, where they took over June Whittman's parents bakery and kept up with their Danish baking traditions. When Johannes passed away, Lola continued running the bakery with her son, Mark. Her bakery was known for being well-kept and welcoming, with flowers in front during the Spring. Lola will be missed by many.

In Memory of June & Elmer Wittman

June Wittman passed away June 5th 2017. She and her husband, Elmer Wittman, attended Onsdagsklubben up through the Spring of this year at the Seattle Danish Center when their son was able to drive them to the luncheon.

June was an only child. Her parents started a Danish bakery in Burien when they immigrated from Denmark. When she was old enough, June helped out at the bakery. It was the time of the depression, so the whole family pitched in. The bakery was known for their good rugbrød.

June eventually became a nurse and worked at Harborview Hospital. One Christmas Eve, she met her husband, Elmer Wittman, and they were married June 17th 1951. They moved to West Seattle and had 3 children, whereafter June decided to put nursing aside and instead involve herself in her children's lives and extracurricular activities. Elmer built a bigger home for the family, where they lived 56 years, and hosted many

events. June and Elmer were also active in the Danish Brotherhood and the Danish Sisterhood.

June and Elmer lived a long life together, and only two days after June's death, Elmer also passed away.

Elmer grew up in Bazine, Kansas with seven siblings. It was a hard childhood of duststorms and the depression. To get to school, he walked five miles each day, but completed his High School exam in 1942. He was a carpenter for many years and constructed homes with his father. When he decided to enlist, he fought in WWII, on USS Connelly, and survived both kamikaze attacks and a typhoon.

In 1948 he moved to Seattle, where he again decided to pick up working as a carpenter. He then got a job as a police detective, investigating robberies, accidents, and murder. In 1978 he stopped working for the police force and started building houses occasionally. Elmer was known for his positive attitude, and his smile that lit up a room. Elmer and June moved to Providence Mount St. Vincent to receive the care they needed as their health began to challenge them.

A beautiful memorial service was held in West Seattle on June 17th, on what would have been June's birthday and their wedding anniversary. The impact they had on the lives of many and on the community was apparent, with an overflowing church.

NEED A SPACE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT?

The Seattle Danish Center, also known as Harmony Hall, is available for special events.

Call the NWDA at 206-523-3263 or e-mail seattle@nwdanish.org for more information.

From Denmark



Romanesque baptism in Vester Egede

By Jan Bruun-Petersen



Photo: Jan Bruun-Petersen standing in the public park containing graves just outside Vester Egede's churchyard.

The little country village of Vester Egede is the location of the Vester Egede church. Vester Egede parish is in Faxe municipality. There is also an Øster Egede church in the eastern part of the municipality. The word egede means oak forest. In Denmark, there are 11 dioceses each led by a bishop. There are no archbishops, but the bishop of Copenhagen is considered the senior bishop. The queen is the head of the church, while administration is run by the Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs (since the state church is part of the government). These dioceses are then divided up into 111 deaneries and then 2200 parishes. The Vester Egede Church has been drastically renovated. Most of the church is from 1867.

Some of the periods of construction or renovation of the church go back as far as the Romanesque and Gothic periods. It was first mentioned in the bishop's tax book in 1370. There was an example from the church book written in 1650. Christen Udrider was banned then from the church for mishandling pigs. This type of banning in Danish churches stopped in 1688.

The most visible sign of Romanesque remnants in the church is the baptismal font. It was typical during the Romanesque period, while the Danish churches were catholic, to depict Luxuria as a

naked women with breasts being bitten by snakes. Luxuria is the latin word for extravagance and in this context it means lust. In Catholicism, sex is good, but not when it is separated from God. On Vester Egede's font, there is depicted a woman placed upside down (implying descent to hell and the punishment of rich and lustful women), with a lion and dragon being breastfed by her. There is a painting with a similar motif in Birkerød Church.

In the little town of Vester Egede, there is also a former school building, now used as a residence. It was built as a school in 1858 and closed as a school in 1968. There are about ten farms, a governmental building called Tinghuset, and an old watermill building on the Brødebæk. Inside the churchyard there are graves and over the churchyard fence there are more graves in an area designated as a little public park.

Some of the towns nearby Vester Egede are Rønnede, Sørup, Holmegaard, Kongsted, while some of the other churches nearby are Kongsted, Ulse, and Bråby. Part of a local road had collapsed into the stream, Brødebæk, in May of this year.

NEED OFFICE or MEETING SPACE?

OFFICE SPACES available at Northwest Danish Association.

VIRTUAL TENANCY available for use of conference rooms, mailboxes, and/or other services.

Easy access
(between I-5 & Hwy 99).
Services available. Fair rates.

Contact us at 206.523.3263
or seattle@nwdanish.org

Scandinavian Specialties

Located in Ballard, Scandinavian Specialties provides Seattle with a local supply of Nordic goods.

Visit the store and café at
6719 15th Ave NW,
Seattle, WA 98117

Summer Exhibit

"Denmark 1943:

The Danish Rescue of the Jews during WWII"

If you missed the display earlier this year, you have a chance to see it this summer at the Seattle Danish Center!

July 6th to July 21st

Viewing is by appointment. Guests must check in and check out at the NWDA office located in Suite 101.

Call (206) 523-3263 or e-mail seattle@nwdanish.org
to arrange a time.

The 2017 Danish American Cultural Retreat



DACR 2017: A Weekend Getaway with a Spotlight on Denmark

By Line Larsen

The tradition lives on. For the 39th year in a row, NWDA set up the Danish American Cultural Retreat (DACR) on the green and serene grounds of the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Oregon. The cultural conference delivered another social and educational experience as promised. A little over 30 attendees were welcomed by blue skies and temperatures in the 90s for a beautiful weekend getaway from June 23rd to June 25th. The full program, which covered a wide range of topics related to Denmark, was arranged largely at the hands of Sonja Kromann, volunteer DACR coordinator.

The Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett, Oregon sits on 102 acres of land nestled on a mountain side overlooking the Columbia River Gorge. The location of the event has remained the same for over 30 years, a testament to the magnificent grounds offered by Menucha.

Guests trickled in before noon on Friday to check in and settle into their rooms. This year speakers and guests came in from across the country and even outside the country, with attendees from Iowa, California, Washington, Oregon, and Canada.

After everyone gathered for lunch on the first day of the conference, a Danish flag-raising ceremony marked the commencement of DACR. This year NWDA member and board member, Claus Windelev, and his granddaughter, Sofia, raised the flag high against the backdrop of a blue sky. Meanwhile, "Der er et yndigt land" (the Danish national anthem) sounded from the crowd.



Photo: The Danish flag flying high at Menucha

The 2017 Speakers

As promised, the 2017 program delivered another series of rich presentations from qualified speakers in their respective fields, each with unique perspectives on their topics. Pastor Birgitte Saltorp from the Danish Church of Vancouver started off the conference with a talk on Medieval Life in Denmark, which encompassed a close look at traditional Danish church fresco paintings and the stories and symbolism behind them. As this year was the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Europe, she fittingly also gave a presentation on the heroes of the Danish Reformation.

Rasmus Thøgersen, the new executive director at the Museum of Danish America, joined the conference for the first time. The Museum has typically sent interns to DACR in the past to share updates on the Museum's work. Rasmus and his wife, Jennifer, travelled all the way to Oregon from Elk Horn, Iowa to experience DACR first hand. Rasmus shared stories of Danish American immigrants from around the 20th century through a short film and recounting stories collected through the work of the museum. Guests were also updated on the museum's recent work, including one

of the featured exhibits this year entitled, "The Whimsical World of Bjørn Wiinblad". To the delight of those in the Pacific Northwest, this is an exhibit that is making its way to the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle this summer.

Rasmus also explained the ways in which the Museum of Danish America is working to find the best way to actively apply modern technology to reach a wider audience. One of the challenges in having a museum in rural Iowa is finding ways to defy distance to share their work. This innovative thinking, along with a number of other high standards achieved by the museum and its staff, recently earned them one of the highest forms of recognition in the museum world. This year the Museum of Danish America was accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, a feat accomplished by less than 3% of museums in the U.S.

A new speaker for DACR, the current visiting Danish lecturer from the University of Washington Scandinavian Studies Department, Kristian Næsby, gave a lively presentation on Grundtvig and the Danish tradition of lifelong learning. Kristian shared his first hand experiences through his work as a teacher at Nørgaards Højskole in Denmark. Other speakers included David Christensen who shared the incredible

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Photo: Kristian Næsby, visiting Danish lecturer from the University of Washington Scandinavian Studies Department

The 2017 Danish American Cultural Retreat



DACR 2017: A Weekend Getaway with a Spotlight on Denmark

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Photo: Flemming Behrend (local Danish musician), Kim Nielsen (DACR guest) and Rasmus Thøgersen (Executive Director of the Museum of Danish America), and his wife, Jennifer Thøgersen, winding down in the 'Kro' on Saturday evening

story of his sister, Johna Christensen, and her escape from Denmark as a Danish Jewish girl during WWII, as recounted in her memoir, "The Red Umbrella".

Dr. Elisabeth Ward presented on sagas from Iceland, stories of fierce women during the Viking Age, and the complexities of the role of women in these stories. The program this year also included a talk by Henry Geijsbeek on the progression of flight in Denmark with focus on Danish Aviation pioneer, Jacob Ellehammer.

The Balance between Learning and Socializing

As one guest this year commented, DACR is one of those rare events that harmoniously mixes education with a social experience, which is often a difficult balance to achieve. Between presentations, guests interacted over Danish trivia and mingled in the coffee breaks complete with Danish pastries from Larsen's bakery in Seattle. All the meals throughout the weekend are enjoyed

together. The chefs at Menucha even made a Danish favorite for dinner Saturday night, frikadeller med rødkål og agurkesalat, Danish meatballs with red cabbage and cucumber salad.

In celebration of Sankt Hans on Friday, everyone gathered by the fire pit to make traditional Danish snobrød and American style s'mores. As the sun went down, guests enjoyed a breathtaking view of the Columbia River under the changing colors of the sky. Following Danish cultural tradition for Sankt Hans, everyone sang songs together by the fire, beginning with Midsommervisen, a Danish classic for Sankt Hans.

Saturday came and went with a full day of presentations and meals, as well as field trips to view points and waterfalls for those who wanted to explore the area. On Saturday evening, Flemming Behrend, local Danish folk musician, entertained guests with songs that fused Danish and American cultural features as well as Danish songs encouraging participation. On both Friday and Saturday night, guests gathered to wind down and socialize in the 'Kro' while enjoying wine, beer, and snacks.

The Last Day and Planning for Next Year's Retreat

DACR came to an end on Sunday after-



Photo: The view of the Columbia River Gorge from the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center around sunset on Friday evening, Sankt Hans Aften.

noon. After breakfast, a few final presentations, and lunch, the weekend ended with a flag lowering ceremony. As the conference wrapped up, guests began brainstorming ideas for next year's conference, requesting certain speakers and planning for their return.

Excitement already began to stir for next year's conference, which will mark the **40th anniversary of DACR**. The date has already been set for **June 22nd to June 24th 2018**, all are encouraged to mark their calendars, as next year's retreat won't be one to miss!

See the pictures from this year's DACR online at:

www.northwestdanish.org/dacr2017/



Photo: DACR attendees on Sunday afternoon after a social and educational weekend in Oregon

Calendar



Juli 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Summer Exhibit Opens (S)	7 Fredagscafe (S)	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Summer Exhibit Closes (S)	22 "The Year of Being Nordic" Meeting (S)
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Dane Camp Starts!					

August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	31 Dane Camp (S)	1 Dane Camp (S)	2 Dane Camp (S)	3 Dane Camp (S)	4 Dane Camp (S) Fredagscafe (S)	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Oregon Picnic (P)
13 Danish Community Picnic (S)	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Fredagscafe (S)	2
3	4	5 Work Party (S)	6 DBIA/DSS (S)	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Onsdagsklubben (S) Bogklub (P)	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

(P)= Portland Events, (S) = Seattle Events

For more information on these events, programs, and activities, please visit our website: www.northwestdanish.org

Events are subject to change. Join our e-bulletin via our website for notification of any changes.

You can also find us on **Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram!**

Donations July '16 to June '17: Thank you!



Grand Dane (\$1000 and up)

Anonymous through Benevity
Community Impact
Anonymous through YourCause
Jette Bunch
EastSide Combined Circles
Edith & Frank Christensen
Georg & Nina Pedersen
Ray Carlsen & Dorothy Young

Great Dane (\$500-\$999)

Dannevirke
Egon & Laina Molbak
Erik Muller & Susan Trapnell
Vagn Noeddelund
Larry & Carol West
Owen Winter

Bold Dane (\$250-\$499)

Otto & Minna Brask
Birte & Jim Falconer
Sonja Kromann
Audrey Haugaard Larson
Joe Matsen
Victor Nielsen
Patxi's Pizza
Anne Lise Pedersen
Gloria Steberl
Thomas Woodbury

Noble Dane (\$100-\$249)

Dianne Anderson
Sally & Sune Beck
Sandra Boeskov
Anna & Louis Christensen
Doris & Edward Cole
Danish Brotherhood Lodge #29
Danish Brotherhood Lodge #33
Teeda Gengo
Hellan Goodhope
Lene Hajek
Janet Huff
Gene & Ruth Jensen
Lotte Meyer
Marvin & Sandra Nelson
Erik Pfaff
Britt Pfaff-Dunton & Chris Dunton
Lynn Rasmussen
Carl Remming
Elaine & John Richards
Bo Schultz-Andersen
Inger Seiffert
Barbara Smith
Anker & Ruth Sorensen

South End Circle
Annie & Jan Syberg
Birgitte Williams

Royal Dane (\$50-\$99)

Rob Born
Madeleine Bowerman
Joan Cavin
Diane Chapman
Karla Craig
Anna Lou Falck
Birte Geijsbeek
Kai Hansen
Michael Hansen
Jette & Don Haslett
Ellen Juhl
Robert & Judith Kiteley
Joan Konstad
Greta Larsen
Janne & Ivan Larsen
Lene Leslie
Phillip & Rachael Levine
Jorn & Karin Mathiasen
Jane Middleton & Lara McSherry
Marilyn Northrup
Ib Odderson & Ingrid Salmon
Hans Rasmussen
Ronnie & Jill Schmidt
Casper & Soomie Sorensen
Marianne Stecher
Karna Town
Claus Windelev

Danes (up to \$49)

Jorgen Bader
Flemming Behrend
Christian Brodersen
Charles Eriksen
Lili Gregerson
Hans & Jean Hoffmann
David Johnson
Line Larsen
John Martinson Jr
Greg McCall
Preben & Somkul Pedersen
Paul & Beatrice Reiss



In Honor of Erik Muller's Birthday
Susan Trapnell

In Honor of Joe Matsen's 90th Birthday
Edith & Frank Christensen

In Memory of Lola Pitzner
Helga Markussen

Himmelbjerget

Assured Life Association
Diana & Egon Bodtker
Otto & Minna Brask
Danish Brotherhood #167
Danish Brotherhood #29
Danish Sisterhood #19
Danish Sisterhood PNW District
Lodge
Bonnie & Don Fisher
David & Rhonda Frick-Wright
Ernst & Linda Jensen
Gene & Ruth Jensen
Joan Konstad
Lotte Meyer
PNW District Lodges DBIA
Paul & Beatrice Reiss
Ingrid Salmon & Ib Odderson
ScanFair
Bo Schultz-Andersen
Erik & Kaja Voldbaek
Larry & Carol West

In Memory of Marvin L. Johnson
Christine & John Masterson
Danish Brotherhood Lodge #167
Carol Hult

In Memory of Anna L. Lindahl
Danish Sisterhood of America Unity
Lodge
Danish Sisterhood PNW District
Lodge

In Memory of Grete Kasch
Danish Sisterhood PNW District
Lodge

Eldercare

Catherine Askildsrud
Dannevirke
Ernst & Linda Jensen
Anonymous through Benevity
In Memory of June & Elmer Wittman
Otto & Minna Brask

(continued on page 11)

Other



Northwest Danish
Association

“Dronningensnytårstale” by Annelise Kromann from Himmelbjerget

Continued from Page 1



Photo: Campers at Himmelbjerget 2017

Our brains have been challenged with words of another language. We practiced our en – to – tre and our fire – fem – seks; our tak for mads and Det er et yndigt lands.

We have kept our fine physical forms in the green fields of athletic greatness with games of rundbold and håndbold; fodbold and stopball and chieftain ball, too. The traditions of our camp continues in the ballroom of the courts of tennis, with waltzes and grand right and lefts; buzz steps and happy circles.

Like the fantastic designers and artists of our home country, strips of paper have become shining stars, warm hearts and mouse staircases. Colorful tape becomes a safe place to keep our hard earned bills of currency, and fashion forward designers marked cotton tops with sodium hypochlorite, or also known as bleach.

We give thanks for the bountiful meals that have been upon our tables and rejoice in the return of edible sustenance. Frikadeller and rødkål, flæsketeg and kartoffler. Snacks of pebbernødder, kringle, and æbleskiver. Plenty of water for hydration and maybe a pat of butter or two for entertainment. Plenty of sugar was consumed after the singing of great songs. Butik is a welcome change from the salads and veggies of meals just

consumed.

Our evenings have been full of Christmasy tales of Gunther and Hansi and Fritz, as well as Gertrud, Oluf and Benny. Special tonight shows from Nik and Nak, with sound effects by Paddy Wack. Their sponsors of man buns and smør and Carlsberg; and Derek-yoga and hose-down polar bear swims, definitely cannot be forgotten. We lit the advent candles each night and the procession of Santa Lucia brides were quite nice. Dancing Nu er det jul igen around the tree and up the balcony together on Christmas Eve gave such a rush, while packages of gifts were exchanged with great joy. Delicious candies in cones of red and white were found on the tree for all the little girls and little boys.

So many wonderful occasions we can be thankful for, but we cannot forget the times of light warfare among the Ballard dorm rooms and homes of family groups. Ammunition of fresh scents, silly string and streamers brought frustration and even anger. But alas, we remember that deep down, the love for each other is bound by the passion we hold for this Danish land and we are more like brothers and sisters than we are with many of our friends.

As this year closes behind us, we send greetings to the families of purple and green; and yellow and red. We remember the campers and counselors who graced these spiritual grounds before us. We thank the founders and contributors of the establishment of Himmelbjerget and congratulate those who will continue the meaning of this Danish love into generations past us.

Enjoy this final evening of togetherness. Applaud our camp brothers and sisters in the acts on our stage. Remember these good times and these faces as we set off into the lands beyond these cherished borders of this beloved Himmelbjerget Danish Camp.

Gud bevar Danmark – og Himmelbjerget Danish Camp.”

-Annelise Kromann



*Photo: Himmelbjerget's Danish “Queen”
reading her New Year's Speech*

Donations

Continued from Page 10

Danish American Cultural Retreat

Assured Life Association

Nils & Kathleen Jensen

UW Center for West European Studies

Dane Camp

Danish American Language
Foundation

Scholarships

Wil & Suzanne Anderson

Randy & Lori Barber

Jette Bunch

Greta & Henning Buus

Edith Christensen

Frank Christensen

Paul & Kirsten Fischler

Henry Geijsbeek

Gary Korsgaard

Kenneth & Annie Kromann

Kirsten & Robert Kromann

Sonja Kromann

Audrey Larson

Erik Muller & Susan Trapnell

Kirsten Pack

John Pattison

Lynn Pattison

Lynn Rasmussen

Jennifer Remming

Sheila Richards

Barbara Smith

Joan Steberl

Pamela Steberl

Northwest Danish Association



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4330 NE 37th Ave
Portland, OR 97211

Portland Contact: Bodil Muller
p) 503.547.0161

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Save the Date

WASHINGTON

July 1: *New Membership Year*
July 7: *Fredagscafe*
July 6-21: *Summer Exhibit "Denmark 1943: The Danish Rescue of the Jews during WWII"*
July 22: *"The Year of Being Nordic" Meeting*
July 31 to August 4: *Dane Camp for Little Vikings*
August 4: *Fredagscafe*
August 13: *Danish Community Picnic*
September 1: *Fredagscafe*
September 4: *Work Party*
September 20: *Onsdagsklubben*

OREGON

July 22: *Nisse-making (DSS)*
August 12: *Danish Picnic*
September 20: *Bogklub*

Monthly Events

- Work Party — First Tuesday, Seattle
- DBIA & DSS Seattle — First Wednesday of each month
- Fredagscafe— First Friday, Seattle
- Onsdagsklubben — Third Wednesday, Seattle

Watch our e-bulletins each week for specific times and dates of programs. Note: Some programs do not run in the summer.



The Little Mermaid

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