The Little Mermaid

A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHWEST DANISH ASSOCIATION

Jul Aug Sep 2024 Issue #2024/2025 Volume 1

The Life of Dr. Edith E. Christensen

Edith Elizabeth Christensen (Sundsted), 95, of Shoreline, died peacefully on Mothers' Day, May 12, 2024. She was born during a blizzard on March 6, 1929, on the family farm in Antelope, MT, and as a child moved to Seattle with her family.

Edith was an exceptional student and graduated from Garfield High School in only three years. She then continued her education at the University of Washington, earning a Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy. In the first of her three professional careers, Edith worked as a pharmacist in Aberdeen, Indianapolis, and Seattle.

Edith's second, and most notable, career accomplishment was as Founder and first Head of The Evergreen School in Shoreline, which she opened in 1963. With her dedication and vision, Edith created this exemplary school that has shaped the lives of countless students and continues to thrive today. During her 27 years at Evergreen, Edith kept the school going with her sheer tenacity and passion for education, and somehow also found time to earn a Master's degree. After retiring from Evergreen, Edith went on to complete her Doctorate in Education from the UW, later becoming an educational consultant to various schools and a private tutor for many autistic and dyslexic children.

Never one to slow down, in the early 2000s she rediscovered the Northwest Danish Association, where she volunteered and served as president for 17 years until her retirement at age 94. Edith was deeply committed to the work of the Northwest Danish Association (NWDA). At NWDA, Edith enjoyed volunteering side-byside with her beloved husband Frank (also a proud Danish-American). They both brought their love of their Danish heritage to their roles. Among many awards, in 2019 Edith was presented with the Pulakis Memorial



Award from the Ethnic Heritage Council for her significant contributions to the Danish-American community and the community at large.

Edith epitomized the phrase: "Good things come in small packages." She was a brilliant and remarkable woman who had three careers that individually could have been any one person's life-long position, as well as many other passions including being a mom, aunt, grandma, and great -grandma.

Survivors include her daughter Lynn Pattison (John), Arlington, WA; son Alan Christensen Continued on page 11

In this issue	7The Danish Solution	
2Executive Director's Corner	8 Danish Culture on Display	
3Royal Celebrations	9Calendar	
4Generations Coming Together; Impressions of Skagen	10Donations	
5Cobblestones and Japanese Fish	11The Life of Ib Rossen	
6Sjælland Summer	12Backpage	



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

Executive Director's Corner



End of Spring Update

By Preben B. Pedersen, NWDA Executive Director



Image: Edith with the plaque honoring her and Frank in the Meridian Office building lobby

Edith Christensen, 95, died peacefully on Mothers' Day, May 12, 2024.

On May 2, 2024, Edith paid a lunch visit to the NWDA, and we were very happy that we during the visit could make an unofficial presentation of a plaque honoring her and Frank's many years of dedicated service to NWDA. The plaque is placed in the front lobby in the NWDA building.

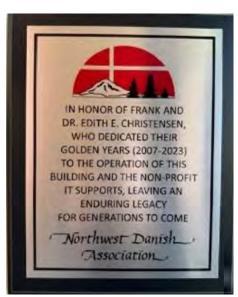
On Jun 8, 2024, NWDA was honored to host a Memorial in Harmony Hall for Edith Christensen where there was a full house of family, friends, previous colleagues, NWDA members and tenants in the NWDA building.

NWDA is grateful for the many donations received in honor of Edith Christensen. On Sunday, May 12, 2024, Matt Danahar made a very informative presentation about Ranum Efterskole in Denmark. Ranum Efterskole is a boarding school where children from 14-17 can spend 1-2 years taking a Danish education. The school is accredited and hence students will receive credits which can be used in US High Schools. We have hand-out material available in the NWDA office.

https://www.ranumefterskole.dk/en/

On the NWDA business side we have been able to secure multiple new leases with tenants and as of today we only have 2 available offices out of a total of 31 rentable offices.

We at the NWDA office wish you all a safe, enjoyable and fun summer and we hope to see you at the events scheduled in the summer period.



Northwest Danish Association Contact Information Email: seattle@nwdanish.org

Phone: (206) 523-3263 Address: 1833 N 105th Street, Suite 101 Seattle, WA 98133

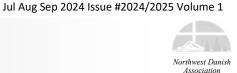
The Seattle Danish Center is in Suite 205



Image: The NWDA Building in Seattle



NWDA News and Programs



Royal Celebrations

By Emily Olsen



Image: The extended McIntosh family with Royal Guards, Sebastian and Mads.

We had two royal birthday celebrations this spring in Harmony Hall! Queen Margrethe turned 84 years old on April 16th, so we celebrated her majesty on April 18th accompanied by two Royal Guards. King Frederik turned 56 years old on May 26th, his first birthday as King of Denmark.

The party for Queen Margrethe was already in the works when she made her announcement of abdicating the throne. So, we thought, "The party must go on!" Kenneth Olsen organized the attendance and performance of two Royal Guards from the drum corp. Sebastian Johannes Friis, who plays fife and trumpet, and Mads Elkjær Jensen, who plays drum and piano, entertained our attendees with many musical selections. Everyone enjoyed it and we thank them for making the trip to Seattle.

We had a lovely spread of food, but the highlight there was the fabulous marzipan birthday cake from Larsen's Bakery. This year we had a fancy hat and tie contest, judged by our visiting Guards, and the winners were Annelise Kromann for her awesome Danish flag fascinator and Corey Blackburn for his snazzy flag tie and ensemble.

Just a little over a month later, we

Image far left: Annelise Kromann with her Danish flag fascinator

Image left: Lisa Svitavsky, Corey Blackburn, and Anne Blackburn in their fancy hats celebrated King Frederik on his birthday. We had a little more subdued celebration, but still had a delicious marzipan cake from Larsen's Bakery. Our attendees watched a documentary together about King Frederik, created as part of his 50th birthday celebrations. It was an intriguing look into his life and his approach to his duty and his family. I recommend anyone interested to view it. There is a version

on YouTube with English subtitles added by a user who wanted the documentary to be accessible to those who do not speak Danish. You can search "My way -



Images: Marzipan Birthday cakes from Larsen's Bakery.



Crown Prince Frederik" to find it.

Thank you to everyone who attended one or both of our spring royal birthday parties. Thank you to Kenneth Olsen for coordinating with the Royal Guards and acting as MC. Tillykke Queen Margrethe and King Frederik!





NWDA News and Programs

Generations Coming Together

By Emily Olsen



Image: Attendees at the April Generations Luncheon, from bottom left and clockwise—Christian Holtz, Annika Dunton, Britt Pfaff-Dunton, Henning Buus, Greta Buus, and Else Farris

A long standing NWDA program has returned, with a twist. The COVID pandemic changed our world and some things have a new normal. One of these is our successor to Onsdagsklubben and Torsdagsklubblen: The Generations Luncheon.

Instead of meeting monthly during the middle of a weekday, we will now be meeting quarterly and on a Sunday. This way more people, of more generations, can come together for a good meal and good company. With NWDA housed in an office building in a growing neighborhood, parking has become harder during the workday. This change will help mitigate that. This also allows family members and friends who still work weekdays to join in.

Our first Generations Luncheon was on Sunday, April 28th. We had about 35 people attend for a fabulous lunch of frikadeller and all the fixings prepared by chef Jørn Mathiasen. We also had rød grød med fløde made with rhubarb, which was delicious, and played a few rounds of bingo to finish our afternoon gathering. Everyone who attended had a great time.

We hope you can join us for the next luncheon on Sunday, July 21st. Doors open at 12:30pm and reservations are open now. This is a program of our Eldercare committee, so we are keeping attendees' costs low – most tickets are only \$5 or \$10! Sign up now to make sure you don't miss our make-your-own smørrebrød event.

Get in touch with Emily to register (emily@nwdanish.org or 206-523-3263) or you can go to www.northwestdanish.org/eldercare to find the form to sign up online. **Impressions of Skagen**

By Emily Olsen



NWDA has hosted its third art exhibit sponsored and organized by the National Foundation for Danish America. This exhibit, Impressions of Skagen, is from artist Marie Drewes who splits her time between two studios on Jutland – one at Voervadsbro and the other at Skagen. She has been a working artist for over 40 years and this travelling exhibit is the first time she is showing her work in North America.

She specializes in abstract landscapes and the pieces showcased here show her impressions of the road to Skagen in summertime and the beauty of northern Jutland. NWDA has been lucky to host the art since May and it will be leaving at the end of July.

All pieces are for sale and a small percentage stays with NWDA.

If you are interested in a special viewing of the art before it continues on its North American journey or have questions about buying a piece, please contact Emily: emily@nwdanish.org or 206-523-3263.

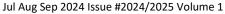
Images: Art exhibit in NWDA Harmony Hall







From Denmark





Cobblestones and Japanese Fish

By Jan Bruun-Petersen



Image: Jan Bruun-Petersen enjoying the sun and swimming Koi Fish at the Zen Garden .

People that have had the pleasure of visiting Copenhagen, learn that Copenhagen used to have four city gates or ports to enter the walled city for each of the cardinal points. These gates were destroyed in the 1850's. However, the streets (gader) that went through these gates still exist as well as the neighborhoods named after these cardinal points. Vesterbrogade went through Vesterport in the area called Vesterbro. Nørrebrogade went through Nørreport in the area called Nørrebro. Østerbrogade went through Østerport in the area called Østerbro. And to the south leading to the island of Amager was Amagerbrogade which went through Amagerport. The word bro here does not mean bridge, but rather refers to brosten or cobblestone. At the time, these four roads were not paved with asphalt but rather the surface was covered by cobblestones. So today a brolægning company lays down cobblestones and flagstones for pathways, garden areas, roads and sidewalks.

This August my daughter is starting a gymnastic boarding school (efterskole) in Sorø. Last week, I felt inspired to drive eight miles north of Sorø to a small town call Vedde to visit a zen garden. The Zen Garden was passionately made over 40 years by Jørgen Nielsen. The garden is run by Jørgen and his daughter, Mette.

Jørgen had no aspirations to become a brolægger, but in 1969, a company needed an extra worker to work with stone and Jørgen signed up. Jørgen became fascinated with the work and the aesthetics of creating beautiful areas of stone. By 1982, Jørgen started his own brolægning company which he ran until 2019.

During his career he had built many beautiful gardens, but starting in 1975 he started to also design a garden for his own family out in the countryside. The Zen Garden grew and grew. He built a grotto, ponds, waterfalls, and bridges, plus room for northern Europe's largest amount of filtered water for large Japanese Koi fish. There is also an enclosure with exotic birds. As part of the garden there are many large stones that Jørgen has assembled, some as large as 28 tons. Some of the plants in the garden are daffodils, tulips, magnolias, rhododendrons, peonies, roses, lilies, dahlias and angel's trumpets.

Jørgen's late wife, Jakobine had a passion for making patchwork. At one point, Jørgen helped open a patchwork store on the grounds called Sten & Stoffer. Sten means stone while stoffer means fabric, so the store name combined both their passions. Also Steen & Stoffer is the Danish name of the American comic strip Calvin & Hobbes. In the strip, Hobbes was a tiger made of fabric. Jacobine's patchwork can be enjoyed in the basement of the Zen Garden's house. The website is zengarden.dk while the entrance fee to the garden is 110 kroner.

Write for The Little Mermaid!

Write about your experience at Danish events in the PNW or other topics related to Denmark or Danish culture.

Contact us at seattle@nwdanish.org if interested in our publication.

Jul Aug Sep 2024 Issue #2024/2025 Volume 1

From Denmark



Sjælland Summer

By Sandra Pedersen



Image: Enjoying home made aperols with friends

As the June days fall like dominos, closer and closer to July, I find myself looking at another summer of change. This sunny season, I won't be going to the cool coasts of Seattle. Instead, my parents are flying over the ocean to stay in Copenhagen.

My mom and dad haven't been to Denmark since I moved in 2022. The last time I was in Copenhagen with my whole family, going near the bike lane seemed like a death wish and I didn't even know there were different regions like Norrebro or Vesterbro. Back then I only knew the city from a tourist's perspective, always just a visitor.

But after living here for almost a year, I've gotten the chance to really discover the city. Like finding pretty shells along the shore, I've slowly collected bits of wisdom and experiences I now get to share with my family.

When I look in the rear-view mirror, I see a version of myself that had just moved to Denmark. She was overwhelmed and missed the familiarity of Seattle. I didn't realize how comforting it was knowing the little things, until I was in a new country and didn't even know which supermarket to go to.

But I'm glad for that challenge. I wanted to understand the city so badly I adventured straight into it. Went to random cafes and bars, picked up a couple recommendations from friends. My discomfort had actually turned into a great friend– it motivated me to take on a city unknown to me and make it known.

Now when my parents come, I can help navigate our way through the maze of metro lines. I know which grocery stores are good for finding the right dinner ingredients. I can recommend lovely restaurants. But beyond all the experiences, I'm excited to be with them. To sit together and eat my mom's

famous curry. To spend soft Sunday evenings watching some silly movie together. To share my second home with the people that were my first home.

This summer also simmers with university tensions. Many of my friends have applied to study in the fall. But the long wait for admission letters seems to have put an anxious overcast over their sunny days. I also applied for the upcoming term— at Roskilde University. So, I sit with my friends under this nervous cloud.

To hopefully relieve some of the waiting tensions, I'm also going to Roskilde Festival in July. Instead of buying a ticket, I opted to volunteer with the campground directed by the Roskilde Festival Hojskole I went to last spring. My hojskole roommate, boyfriend, and many others from the school are doing the same. This year, instead of treating the festival as our goodbye week, we'll be able to enjoy the festivities as a celebration of being together once again– almost like an accidental reunion.

There are many new and old experiences waiting for me this summer. Some familiar and others entirely foreign territory. But that's what makes me so excited for the next few months. I have no clue how July and August will treat me, but I look forward to finding out.

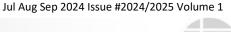
> Images: Left—Exploring the Copenhagen street festival "Distortion" with my roommate Sophie

> Right—Sharing red velvet cake with my boyfriend Thor





NWDA News and Programs—Oregon





The Danish Solution

By Kimbra Kasch



Image: Nils Jensen during his presentation

April 9, 1940, was a dark day in Danish history. That was the day the Nazi forces invaded Norway and Denmark.

April 7, 2024, was an educational experience for Scandinavians who attended *The Danish Solution* film presented by Nordia House, in Portland, Oregon. It was a documentary narrated by Garrison Keilor and introduced by Nils Jensen, that told the tale of the Nazi invasion and occupation of Denmark.

The room was packed with people of all ages who came to hear history retold. A history of the holocaust that still impacts our everyday lives here in the United States because of the wars still being fought

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

around the world. No one needs to be reminded that less than one year ago, Hamas attacked Israel and the conflict continues to this day.

The Jewish nation has been fighting religious and racial wars for thousands of years. And their battles impact the United States in a variety of ways.

But the exciting thing for Danes to focus on today is remembering their nation's impact on Hitler's battle with the Jewish nation during the 1940s. Throughout that dark time in world conflict and the retelling of their history in *The Danish Solution,* is the heroic impact the Danes had when they were able to save 95% of the Danish Jewish population by making what Hitler called "...a nonaggression pact with Denmark."

Tales are still told today including the legendary story from the time of the German occupation, which says the King of Denmark rode his horse through town frequently wearing the yellow star of David in support of the Jews, and how Danish priests hid their church treasures in the catacombs to keep them safe from the Nazis.

But the Danes couldn't

delay the inevitable. Finally, the Bloodhound of Paris demanded that the Danes deliver the Jewish "goods" to Germany. He said, "Now is the time..." and on September 28, 1943, the occupational forces went to the homes of the Danish Jews to arrest them. Fortunately, 7000 Jews escaped to Sweden with help from their Danish neighbors and fishermen who hid them and transported them across the sound in their boats.

This was a heartbreaking documentary that ended with this heartwarming tale of Danish courage and heroism. Perhaps the most import message in this film is the importance of building a strong community.

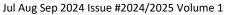
On June 9, 2024 the documentary was screened at NWDA in Seattle. Thank you Nils for loaning your copy.

Also displayed were 35 presentation boards rediscovered from storage that tell the tale of Denmark during WWII from The Danish National Museum—The Museum of Danish Resistance 1940-1945.

If you are interested in viewing or borrowing the boards, please reach out to Emily or Preben to arrange.

seattle@nwdanish.org 206-523-3263

NWDA News and Programs





Danish Culture on Display

By Steve Ellersick



In the past, our church (First Lutheran of Richmond Beach https:// flrb.org/) held a Norwegian lunch and program because so

many have that heritage. This year, our Lutheran church held a cultural fair instead of a Syttende Mai celebration. I hosted a Danish table with another Dane in our church. We brought Larsen's Danish Bakery coffee cakes and Kringles that were enthusiastically enjoyed.

I contacted the Northwest Danish Association for ideas and they lent me their traveling box. I made a tri-fold display of the following key Danish information for me (Lutheran, electrical engineer, physicist).

Here are some of the Danish facts shared at our cultural fair:

- Following the baptism of the Danish King Harald Bluetooth in 965 AD, the Christian clergy became influential in Danish society. Denmark became Lutheran in 1536 by decree of King Christian III.
- In 1219, legend has it, the Danish flag fell from heaven helping the Danish army to an unexpected victory. The name of the Danish flag is Dannebrog, means "the cloth of the Danes".
- In 1996, three industry leaders, Intel, Ericsson, and Nokia, met to plan the standardization of a shortrange radio technology to support connectivity and collaboration between different products and industries. During this meeting, Jim Kardash from Intel suggested Bluetooth as a temporary code name. Kardash

was later quoted as saying, "King Harald Bluetooth ... was famous for uniting Scandinavia just as we intended to unite the PC and cellular industries with a shortrange wireless link."

- In 2017, the Danish term hygge was added to the Oxford English Dictionary. Hygge ("hooga") is cozy, a warm atmosphere. Hygge is about taking time away from the daily rush to be together with people you care about or even by yourself to relax and enjoy life's quieter pleasures.
- Denmark dominates the World Happiness Report rankings year after year.
- LEGO was founded in 1932. The name 'LEGO' is an abbreviation of the two Danish words "leg godt", meaning "play well".
- The world's largest celebration of July 4th outside the USA takes place in Rebild Bakker. Every year, people from near and far gather to celebrate freedom, democracy, and the friendship between the two nations: Denmark and the USA – but also the friendship between people. In Denmark, the Fourth of July is celebrated as Rebildfesten, a holiday that commemorates both American independence and Danish heritage. The main event takes place in the national park's Rebild Hills and includes a parade from the Skørping train station.
- Some Famous Danes
 - Hans Christian Ørsted (1777-1851) discovered that electric currents create magnetic fields and made the first connection found between electricity and magnetism.
 - Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875) was a Danish world-famous fairy tale author.
 - Niels Bohr (1885-1962), physicist, theorized about atomic structure and quantum theory. He won the Nobel Prize in 1922.

NW Danish Calendar



Sign up for our e-bulletin to receive the most recent updates: www.northwestdanish.org/e-bulletin/

July 2024

Søndag	Mandag	Tirsdag	Onsdag	Torsdag	Fredag	Lørdag
Impressions of Skagen Art Exhibit by Marie Drewes available through July	1 New Membership Year Starts!	2 Danish 3B (Online)	3 Danish 1A (Online) Danish 2B (Online)	4	5	6 Beginning Book Club Class (Online) Short Stories in Danish Class (Online)
7	8 Conversation Group (P)	9 Danish 3B (Online)	10 Danish 1A (Online) Danish 2B (Online)	11 Danish 1B (Online)	12	13 DBIA & DSS Meeting (P) Beginning Book Club Class (Online) Short Stories in Danish Class (Online)
14	15	16	17	18 Danish 1B (Online)	19	20
21 Generations Luncheon (S)	22 Conversation Group (P)	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2024

Søndag	Mandag	Tirsdag	Onsdag	Torsdag	Fredag	Lørdag
				1	2	3
4 All Danes Picnic (S)	5	6	7	8	9	10 Portland DBIA/DSS Picnic (P)
11	12 Conversation Group (P)	13	14	15	16	17 Himmelbjerget Alumni Reunion (Menucha)
18 Himmelbjerget Alumni Reunion (Menucha) NWDA 101st Anniversary!	19 Himmelbjerget Alumni Reunion (Menucha)	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Conversation Group (P)	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024

Søndag	Mandag	Tirsdag	Onsdag	Torsdag	Fredag	Lørdag
1	2	3	4 DBIA & DSS Meeting (S)	5 DBIA Meeting (E)	6 Fredagscafe (S)	7
8	9 Conversation Group (P)	10 Work Party (S)	11	12	13	14 DBIA & DSS Meeting (P)
15	16	17	18	19	20 Danish American Cultural Retreat (Menucha)	21 Danish American Cultural Retreat (Menucha)
22 Danish American Cultural Retreat (Menucha)	23 Conversation Group (P)	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					Be ready! Fall Danish Classes start in early October.



Donations: July 2023 to June 2024—Thank you!



Donations and gifts are cumulative from July 2023 to present*.



*Please note any donations made with 2024-25 memberships will be included in the next issue.

Grand Dane

Nils and Kathleen Jensen Thomas Woodbury

Great Dane

Verner Andersen and Anja Bakland Jette Bunch Jim and Birte Falconer Minna Brask Otto Brask

Bold Dane

Nina Pedersen Barbara Smith

Noble Dane

Aase Besson Sandra Boeskov Henning and Greta Buus Edith Christensen Steve and Sylvia Ellersick Gene and Ruth Jensen Ulla Kauffman Audrey Larson **Claus Mercer** Egon Molbak Marvin and Sandra Nelson Peder Nielsen NorthWest Construction Control Hans Olsen Anne Lise Pedersen Linda Pedersen Holt Britt Pfaff-Dunton and Chris Dunton Leah Rei Dan Rovira Ned Schmidtke Bo Schultz-Andersen Inger Seiffert Jean Sparks Marianne Stecher-Hansen Annie and Jan Syberg Lisa Toftemark

Royal Dane

Dianne and Paul Anderson Sonja Brewer Karen-Margrethe Bruun Diane Chapman Joann Derie Kirsten Fischler **Ronald Glaus** Dorrit Gruendell Vivi Hammond Helle Hansen Irene Hansen Donald Haslett Aage and Diane Jensen Dain Jones Kenneth and Annie Kromann Annemarie Lorenzen Birthe and Paul Martin George Nelson **Emily Olsen** Patti Olsen Nicholas Pate **Beatrice Reiss** Nancy Roach **Bjorn Sorensen** Hanne Thiede

Dane Jorgen Bader Bonnie Fisher Sandra Miller Alice Paxton Erik Pfaff

Restricted Contributions

Eldercare Ernst and Linda Jensen

Himmelbjerget Camp

David and Rhonda Frick-Wright Ernst and Linda Jensen Lois and Svend Toftemark PNW District Sisterhood

In Honor of the Stavinshoj Family Ezekial Hale

In Honor of Edith Christensen's Birthday Dianne Anderson

In Honor of Birte Geijsbeek's Birthday Audrey Larson

Nordic Northwest Membership Nils Jensen



In Memory of Georg Pedersen Else Christensen

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has donated to NWDA. We would not be here without your support! Mange tak!

All Donations are Tax-Deductible!

The Northwest Danish Association is a 501(c)(3)

organization registered in the State of Washington (Tax ID: 91-0565541)

In Memory of Birte Geijsbeek Dianne Anderson

In Memory of Nels Peter Koberg and Agnes Jacobsen Jonathon Shepard

In Memory of Margit Pressmann Christensen Linda Christensen

In Memory of Edith E. Christensen

Shelley Bennett Susan Christensen Karla Craig Danish Brotherhood Lodge #29 Jason Dudek Steve and Sylvia Ellersick Tanva Hansen Janet Krall Dina Krofta Sonja Kromann Audrey Larson Helga Markussen Jana Ostlund **Barbara Smith** Lexie Sorensen Annie and Jan Syberg Alfred Yi

Scholarships in Memory of Edith E. Christensen Otto and Minna Brask Charlotte Rasmussen and Jim Holloway



The Life of Ib Rossen

Ib passed away on May 1 at the age of 99-1/2 years. He fully enjoyed life until just a few days before his passing.

Ib was born in 1924 in the small town of Kolding, Denmark. He experienced the hardships of the war in Europe as a young teen, and when the war ended, he served in the Danish Occupation Army. In the early 1950's, Ib emigrated to the U.S. via Canada, where he worked for 6 months on a Canadian farm. Once in the U.S., Ib traveled the country for several years as a traveling salesman, selling magazine subscriptions and pots and pans. He also worked for several years in a lumber camp in Ocean Falls, northern British Columbia.

By 1955, Ib had settled in Seattle and worked with Bar-S meat packing company. He met his wife Ellen, a classical pianist, through a distant relative who advised Ib that she knew the "perfect young Danish woman" living in Seattle. They married in 1957, settled in a small house near Leschi Park (where they lived for 50 years) and raised two children, Christine and Peter. They loved

NEED A SPACE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT?

The Seattle Danish Center is available for special events such as birthdays or anniversaries.

Conveniently located near Northgate between Aurora 99 and I-5, the Center features a full kitchen, dance floor, and can host up to 112 people or can be divided in half.

Call the NWDA at <u>206-523-3263</u> for more information.



classical music, hiking and camping. They were active members at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, and later at St. Clements Episcopal Church. An important part of life was fellowship with a group of recent Danish immigrants in the "Danelag" folk-dancing group. This group became an extended Danish family.

When Ib retired from Bar-S, he started a 2nd career with the Seattle Parks Department doing what he loved most – gardening! He had the good fortune to work in the Japanese Tea Garden and to spend 6 months in Kobe, Japan doing a landscaping internship. Upon his return, Ib gardened many years at Kubota Gardens. In their later years, Ib & Ellen enjoyed a close bond with their grandchildren, Hanna and Carsten.

In 2011, Ib and Ellen moved to the Horizon House senior living community which they enjoyed for the fellowship and cultural activities. Ellen passed away in 2017. Ib always said it was important to learn and try new things. As an example, at age 90 he entered and completed the annual "Base to Space" climb of the Space Needle (winning in his age group!). Ib had a zest for life and a special ability to connect with people. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Memorials may be sent to: Northwest Danish Association, 1833 N. 105th St., Suite 101, Seattle, WA 98133. northwestdanish.org.

The Life of Dr. Edith E. Christensen

Continued from cover

(Roseann), Lincoln, NE; eight grandchildren; and nine greatgrandchildren. Edith was preceded in death by her husband of nearly 72 years, Frank; parents Esther Johansen and Niels Sundsted; sister Elia Smith; and brothers Eigel and Ervin Sundsted.



A celebration of Life open house was held at 1:00 pm on June 8 at NWDA. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to: Northwest Danish Association, 1833 N. 105th St., Suite 101, Seattle, WA 98133. northwestdanish.org.

Northwest Danish Association



1833 N. 105th Street, Suite 101 Seattle, WA 98133 p) (206) 523 -3263 f) (206) 729-6997 e) seattle@nwdanish.org

Portland

tion in Seattle.

o My name is misspelled.

o My address is incorrect.

o I received more than one copy.

Portland Contact: Bodil Muller e) bodilmuller@mac.com

Please note label problems and make

Visit our website: www.northwestdanish.org

corrections next to the label. Mail to the Northwest Danish Associa-

Save the Date:

NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR STARTS—Jul. 1st GENERATIONS LUNCHEON, Seattle—Jul. 21st ALL DANES PICNIC, Seattle—Aug. 4th PORTLAND PICNIC, Portland—Aug. 10th HIMMELBJERGET REUNION, Menucha—Aug. 17th-19th DACR, Menucha—Sept. 20th-22nd

Monthly Events (subject to change)

Work Party — First Tuesday, Seattle
Fredagscafe — First Friday, Seattle
(all events listed above are not held in July & August)

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

Little Mermaid

A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHWEST DANISH ASSOCIATION

o I do not wish to receive Association mailings.

Northwest Danish Association 1833 North 105th Street, Suite 101 Seattle, Washington 98133-8973 www.northwestdanish.org seattle@nwdanish.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

Jul Aug Sep 2024 #2024/2025 Volume 1



