



Danish House Society

Reports - News

Scandinavian Community Centre



Volume XVIII, Issue 3

Fall 2017

President's Report

August 2017

It has certainly been a hot, dry and smokey summer so far. Fall is of course just around the corner. Midsummer this year seemed to be just about the time when the weather changed, but the two days were neither hot nor smoky, but cloudy and a little damp with occasional sunshine. I guess I am starting to sound like a weatherman.



Nevertheless, Midsummer was as enjoyable as ever and us Danes can take pride in our contribution to another successful Festival. It was well organized and attendance was decent if not spectacular.

With Midsummer now out of the way and kids soon heading back to school some of them will be going off to a post secondary institution with a DHS/DCCC Scholarship to their credit. The scholarships will be awarded at the upcoming September 1st Kroaften and it promises to be a special evening that will start earlier, at 5:00pm.

But before we get around to giving out the scholastic honours we have the Annual DHS Family BBQ on August 20th to attend. You may have noticed that the date changed from August 13th. This was done to avoid a conflict with the Burnaby Danish Church's 80th Anniversary celebrations which many of our members will be attending. So, to keep everyone happy, we will all enjoy our salmon or BBQ steak with corn on the cob, salad, pie/ice cream on August 20th. Let us all hope that the weather has cooled by then so that our team of BBQ masters led by Mik Petersen will not die of heat exhaustion.

Another change you may take notice of, is that we will be hosting a dinner in October instead of the Annual Auction/Fundraiser. The board felt that our financial situation is such that we can forego the fundraising part and it is time to do something different, like a very relaxing traditional dinner. Of course if you have an urgent desire to part with your cash, we will gladly accept your donation and you may still have the opportunity to bid on a few items that we will be offering in a mini auction.

Other changes that you will soon notice include further work that will be done to improve our centre, such as the start on some long overdue renovations to add an elevator and the redecoration of the upstairs mezzanine area. If you have not had the opportunity to go upstairs, take the time to go up there and have a look at the very incredible hand-carved Viking ship model that was donated to the Centre by the spouse of the artist that carved it after he sadly passed on. You will also note on page 2 of the newsletter that Ken Jensen a former DHS Board Member has also passed away. I am now out of space. See you at the Centre, and stay safe in your travels.

Ed Kuhlman, DHS President

Danish House Society

INVITES YOU TO OUR

TRADITIONAL
FALL DINNER
INSTEAD OF THE AUCTION

Saturday, October 21, 2017

Bar Opens- 18:00

Dinner - 19:00

“Suppe, Flæskesteg”
Dessert and Coffee or Tea

THE TIVOLI SINGERS
entertain us with
“50s Theme Songs”

TICKETS - \$25.00

To reserve tickets (by Oct. 17th):
call Solvejg at (604) 549-4923

Please mail your cheque payable to
“Danish House Society” to:
Solvejg Nielsen
#1605 - 1245 Quayside Drive
New Westminster, BC V3M 6J6

A quarterly newsletter from Danish House

Calendar of Events: "What's on at the Centre"



August 2017

August 20 - 4:00pm (DHS)
Annual Family BBQ

September 2017

September 1 - 5:00pm (DHS)

"Kro Aften" Club Night

September 8 - 12:00 Noon (SCCS)

Scandinavian Seniors Lunch 55+

September 13 - 6:00pm (SCCS)

Scandinavian Business Club Dinner

September 15 - 7:30pm (SCCS)

Golf Tournament Fund Raising Dinner

September 16 - 1:00pm (SCCS)

Genealogy Meeting

October 2017

October 6 - 6:30pm (DHS)

"Kro Aften" Club Night

October 11 - 6:00pm (SCCS)

Scandinavian Business Club Dinner

October 13 - 12:00 Noon (SCCS)

Scandinavian Seniors Lunch 55+

October 20 - 5:00pm (DHS)

DHS Annual Dinner/Auction

October 28 - 1:00pm (SCCS)

Genealogy Meeting

November 2017

November 3 - 6:30pm (DHS)

"Kro Aften" Club Night

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

All 2017 DHS MEMBERSHIP dues were due and payable by the deadline of December 31, 2016. If you have not already paid your 2017 dues, please do so ASAP. I will again be in the Danish Room at the September 1st Kroaften and available to process membership renewals for anyone who would like to renew their membership at that time. Any new memberships would also be welcomed.

You can also mail your cheque payable to:

Danish House Society
6540 Thomas Street,
Burnaby, B. C. V5B 4P9

Membership Dues are:
One Year Family \$40.00
One Year Individual \$25.00
Lifetime \$300.00

I am pleased to report that the following new memberships have been approved by the Board of Directors since the last newsletter:

Family Memberships

Greg & Rita Holmes

Mission

Malene & Erin Behncke

Revelstoke

Individual Memberships

Peter Behncke

Burnaby

Ole Syberg

West Vancouver

A Big Welcome to All!

Respectfully submitted by,
Ebba Grey,
Membership Committee



DHS Member:

Ken Jensen
October 18, 1932
June 14, 2017

Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help bring comfort to us tomorrow.

It is with sadness in our hearts that we say goodbye to our friend.

Our sincerest condolences go out to the family of our lost friend!

DONATIONS TO THE DANISH HOUSE SOCIETY

May, June, July 2017

Names of Donors:

General Donations:

Stan & Margaret Chester; Ole Syberg

In Memory:

Pia Christensen: In Memory of Stig Andersen;
Hanne Andersen: In Memory of Stig Andersen;
Erik Nielsen: In Memory of Kristian Helga Nielsen.

Total Donations: \$ 1,760.00



Respectfully submitted by:
Else Rollke, Treasurer

DANISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

New! Danish Language Class for Teens!

Fall session for **teens** will start **Tuesday, Sept 19** and end Nov. 21. This is a multilevel class with curriculum adjusted to the needs and wishes of the students. There is very little homework, typically students will write a sentence or two about their weekend and read it to the class. This vocabulary will be the basis of the lesson for the evening. There are no exams.

Adult: Advanced/Intermediate Danish language lessons will start **Wednesday**, September 20 and end November 22. This class is mostly in Danish, and the content is adjusted to the needs and wishes of the students.

Adult: Beginner's Danish language lessons will start **Thursday, September 21** and end November 23. This class is open to anyone of any level. Depending on interest, we may have a second class meeting in the library upstairs.

The cost for classes is \$100 for ten lessons, payable on the first day of your class. A cheque made out to Danish House Society is preferred. All classes start at 6:30pm and end at 8:30pm in the Danish Room at the Scandinavian Centre. We will take registration in August. Unfortunately, we do not have a teacher for young children's classes at this time. Please register by e-mail indicating your level to Annette Lauridsen: annette.h.lauridsen@gmail.com.

Here is a little information about the teachers:

Beginner's Class and Teens Class Danish Teacher: Mai Rosthof



Mai has a Masters Degree in Media and Film Arts and a Bachelor in Danish (Language & Literature) from Copenhagen University 2013. Before coming to Vancouver she was working for LEGO as a marketing associate launching elementary and preschool products for LEGO Education. Mai wishes to create a relaxed and fun atmosphere in her classroom, where everyone can grow their language skills together and perhaps also get to know the culture of the small country a little better. Mai grew up in Vejle, Denmark. She came to Vancouver in December 2016 with the boyfriend Villads and Bowie the Labrador. This is her first time in Canada, and she thinks Vancouver is incredible. She is looking forward to exploring the surrounding nature even more and so is her dog.

Advanced/Intermediate Class Danish Teacher: Elisabeth Carstensen



Elisabeth has been teaching Danish at the Scandinavian Centre since 2015. She resided Skanderborg until 2014 when she and her husband moved to Vancouver. She looks forward to meeting you in the advanced Danish class. Elisabeth has a Master's degree in logistics and supply chain management from Århus University. She lives with her husband and baby, and both of them love Vancouver. Elisabeth was born in Woodland, California, but she grew up in Alken in Jylland, Denmark. She enjoys the cultural aspect of Vancouver and she also likes to snowboard. She looks forward to sharing more about Danish culture. Elisabeth is looking forward to meeting you all and spending 10 Wednesdays together with you.

To register or inquire: Please contact Annette Lauridsen: annette.h.lauridsen@gmail.com

New Teachers Needed

Our teachers are one of the most valuable resources that we have, and we are always keeping an eye open for new people to join our team. If you know of new people that are coming into town, might be planning to come here, or already living here, and have an interest in teaching, please ask them to get in touch with us. Teaching at the Danish School is a great way to keep teaching activities on your resume, get to know fellow Danes in the area, learn about bilingualism, subsidize your income and have fun.

We offer lessons three times a week (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays), each lesson consisting of two hours plus prep work. Excellent verbal and written proficiency in the Danish language is a requirement.

Please do not contact the Scandinavian Centre Office.



- MEDIA RELEASE _

PREPARE FOR BATTLE...THE VIKINGS ARE COMING!

(Dickson, August 3, 2017) Have you ever seen a Viking? Step into the Saga and Viking Days at the Danish Canadian Museum on August 19-20 (10am - 5pm). Media welcome to attend all events.

This is our biggest event of the year attracting up to a thousand visitors over two days who are interested in Viking lore. Through the cooperation of Viking re-enactment group (Odin's Ravens) from Edmonton, visitors can tour the Viking encampment, showing living accommodations, cooking methods and crafts. You will also see Viking warriors demonstrate the use of swords, shields, axes and archery. A favourite for everyone is the battle with the Vikings, where children are given "swords" to fight it out with the mighty, fearsome warriors. Vendors set up tables around the spectacular 14-acre site and sell their crafts with a Scandinavian flavour. Enjoy Danish cuisine at the Saga Café. Fun for everyone, young and old - admission fees are \$10 Adult, \$5 Child (3-12 years), Free (2 and under).

The Museum is thrilled that this year's event will feature a performance the afternoon of August 19th by the Ollerup Elite Gymnastics Team from Denmark. The Elite Team is recognized among the best and most trendsetting gymnastics team within Danish Gymnastics. The 150th Anniversary of the Canadian Confederation inspired the Academy to revisit Canada, celebrating Canadian-Danish relations and honouring the Canadian students and Canadian teams who have attended and visited Ollerup throughout the years.

Reserve your dinner seat at the special 'Feast of the Vikings' the evening (5:30 - 9:30pm) of August 19, for an even more memorable experience. Includes an authentic Danish meal, tour of the Viking village, experience some Viking history, and see them demonstrate a battle re-enactment. If you ask them nicely, a Viking might even join your table for dinner.

These are exciting times for the Museum as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary and winning the 2017 Wynn McLean Growing Rural Tourism Champion Award and 2016 Heritage Recognition Award for new developments including an authentic Naust 'Ship House' and Freydis Joanna 'Viking Ship'. Come see our newest exhibit Nielsen CPR House, part of 'Ready-Made Farm' packages by Canadian Pacific Railway that historically enticed newcomers to the area in the early 1900s.

The Danish Canadian Museum serves as a cultural center to display and celebrate the story of Danish Canadians both past and present.

For more information:

Brian Desjardins
Executive Director
403-728-0019 Office
403-352-4059 Mobile
exwcutive@stepintothesaga.com
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▶ info@thedanishcanadianmuseum.com ▶ www.thedanishcanadianmuseum.com



"Join us for the Milestone Celebration at the 5th annual" FUND RAISING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Where: Burnaby Mountain Golf Course
When: Friday September 15th, 2017
Why: "To promote youth and sports within and around the community"
Format: Texas Scramble (Best Ball). Limited to the first 32 fully paid registered golfers.
11 am: Registration
12 noon: First tee off. Last tee time about 12:53 (based on 32 players)
7:00 pm: Buffet Dinner prepared by Kate Praegel

Non golfers and patrons who enjoy an excellent buffet are welcome to attend

- Silent Auction
- Cash Bar
- 50/50
- Hole in One



- Kp's / Ld's
- Pitching Contest
- Putting Contest
- Mulligans

**Buffet Dinner at
Scandinavian Centre
6540 Thomas St. Burnaby**

For new hole sponsorship (\$275.00) please contact Robert Oberg at roberg@telus.net or 604-813-4346

Fees:

Golf, ½ power cart and buffet dinner.....	\$ 132.75
Golf and buffet dinner	\$ 117.25
Golf only.....	\$ 82.25
Golf and ½ power cart.....	\$ 97.75
Buffet dinner only.....	\$ 35.00

Make cheques payable to: Scandinavian Community Centre. Attn: Golf Tournament and mail to..... 6540 Thomas St. Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9
 For payment to a credit card please contact the Scandinavian Centre at 604-294-2777

For further information:

email: Robert Oberg at roberg@telus.net
 phone: Robert Oberg at 604-813-4346 (cell) or Scandinavian Centre 604-294-2777

MEMORIES OF THE SCANDINAVIAN FESTIVAL - 1986 HELD AT MIDSUMMER IN VANIER PARK, VANCOUVER

By Susan and Ken Jensen

This special Scandinavian Festival to honour Vancouver's Centennial, was for several years in the planning stages and each of the five Nordic countries was asked to send representatives to the planning organization.

Susan Jensen was nominated by the Danish Sisterhood and at her first meeting accepted the task of setting up a Viking Village. It was a huge and happy task which included the Society for Creative Anachronisms (SCA), and they came with a wealth of information.

Next, Susan contacted the Lutheran college in Camrose, Alberta to borrow their Viking ship. In the end, it was sent to the Alberta Pavilion at Expo 86 from whom we borrowed it. The SCA gave us a contact to their "Royal Navy of An Tir" whose leader, Don Bettger, known as "Stormcrow" lived in Everett, Washington. We met him and organized to have his two Viking ships "Knaars" at the festival. Another huge support was Michael Sjoblom who was the epitome of a young Viking, tall, strong and blond. Michael was a master craftsman and he produced a huge hand-carved longhouse (approximately 10x20 feet) which we roofed with the traditional red and white striped tarp. We made visits to Michael's home in Deep Cove to help carve and work on helmets and visit this amazing young man. Michael also created a series of both metal and fibreglass Viking helmets which we still have today. All of the Viking exhibits were created by or vetted by the SCA Viking group right down to the games played outside the longhouse and the food cooked inside. The costumes were designed after original Viking costumes Susan saw in the Copenhagen Museum and several dozen, male and female costumes, were sewn by the Danish Sisterhood.

Vikings in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden celebrate midsummer with huge bonfires on the beaches. In keeping with the old customs, an effigy of a witch was burned and one of the myths is that she takes the evil spirits back to Hartzel in Germany. In order to have a bonfire in Vanier Park we jumped through many hoops at City Hall and the fire department. We were required to have a metal container on legs for the fire and John Olsen kindly crafted that item for us. I forget who created the witch but she was appropriately ugly and great fun was had around the bonfire singing songs and telling tales on Midsummer Eve.

The Vikings went off on an adventure the day before the festival and visited the Expo grounds with Viking raiding and pillaging in mind. [The stunt was to get free TV News promotion of the festival that weekend.] Ken and his brother Vikings were in full regalia with Susan, using her SCA name "Freya", was dressed in a flowing red cape over her costume. Ken and several others wore real bear skins and helmets. The men had grown beards and looked fierce, and their weapons were actually fully sharpened. Imagine what security would make of that today?

Led by Mike Sjoblom, we wended our way through the Expo grounds to the Norwegian Pavilion where we took possession of their flag. Swords and broad axes drawn as we attacked the Alberta Pavilion, Ken stepped into the reflecting pool that held their flagpole only to discover that the water was up to his thighs. He raised the Norwegian flag and gave a great roar and the fighting commenced. There was bloodshed (phony blood organized by Robert Asgeirsson who arranged the whole raid), bodies lay on the ground and our Vikings carried off two lovely blond girls (who worked at the Alberta Pavilion) slung over the broad shoulders. We went to the Viking ship, borrowed from the Alberta Pavilion, where the organization fell somewhat apart.

The Vikings, never having been in the boat before, sat down facing in two directions. I (Susan) yelled off the dock to them to.... and got them to turn their backs to Ken, who was the Helmsman. The CBC crew filming this debacle from an overhead position yelled down to me to ask if I'd like them to edit out the swearing. Everyone was laughing as they set off across the water to Vanier Park. Unfortunately we weren't allowed to put the ship into the water until a day before, thus the boards were dry and it leaked like a sieve. More bailing than rowing was done on the way across according to Ken. This event ended with Ken driving the captured wenches back to Expo via Stanley Park in the Volvo stretch limo provided by Don Dockstader Motors for use at the Festival. The limo was used to pick up dignitaries, etc., who arrived at the airport and they had no trouble identifying their contact as Ken was waiting for them in full Viking dress including his sharpened sword. Today, he would probably be tasered.

Following the Festival, at the wrap-up meeting, the board decided that this had been an excellent event and that the group worked well together. Al Paquette, who had written the constitution for the new Festival Society, was asked to write a constitution for a society with a wider mandate than just a festival, and with Susan as its first President, the Scandinavian Cultural Society was born.

NOTE: Ken Jensen was one of the founding members of the Scandinavian Cultural Society (SCS). He was actively involved as a Festival planner and as a Viking during the actual ScanFest 1986. He went on to become the 2nd President of our new society. Under his leadership, our society maintained an active schedule of activities and even raised \$35,000 to refurbish the dance floor at the Scandinavian Community Centre. It is now properly spring-loaded, much to the delight of those who dance on it. Rest in peace my good friend.

Robert Asgeirsson

DHS ANNUAL FAMILY BBQ

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017

4:00pm - 9:00pm

**Door prizes and Raffle Prizes
Beef Steak or Salmon Fillet, Corn-on-the-Cob
Green Salad or Potato Salad
Assorted Pies and Ice Cream
Hot Dogs and Pop for Kids**

CASH BAR BEER AND WINE

\$20.00 per Person (Kids Free)



“KRO AFTEN” ! BRING YOUR FRIENDS

This fun-filled Danish House Event is held the **first Friday of every month, except August and December.**

Enjoy a fine selection of open-faced sandwiches (**\$5 each**), dessert and coffee or tea. Wash it down with snaps and Carlsberg beer on tap. Meet at about 6ish to get your meal tickets and table number - **smørrebrød is served at 7 p.m.**

BY RESERVATION ONLY

Put your order in by Monday, the week of the Kro Aften Friday. This very popular event fills up quickly so be sure to book early!

TO RESERVE

Send Ebba an e-mail at ebba@shaw.ca and receive the menu a week in advance. Order must be e-mailed to Ebba by the Monday before the Kro Aften. Phone Ebba at 604-990-3550

Please note that non-members will be charged a \$2.00 per person surcharge to attend.

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL RAFFLE DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize \$3,000 Cash WINNER #6051 Sigrid Felland. Sponsored by Jim Pattison Volvo of Surrey and Nesters Market

2nd Prize \$500 Cash WINNER: #6491 Dan Metzack. Donated by Danish House Society.

3rd Prize \$500 Cash. WINNER # 9964 Jan Brown. Donated by Finland House Society.

4th Prize \$500 Cash. WINNER #9949 Laura Jacobsen. Donated by Iceland House Society.

5th Prize \$500 Cash. #5140 Wendy Chong. Donated by Norwegian House Society.

6th Prize \$500 Cash. #9817 Hilda Andrew. Donated by Sweden House Society.

Winner of Survey Draw, Free admission for 4 to the 2018 Midsummer Festival:

Gail and Mike Koombes of Burnaby

All winners have been notified.

MIDSUMMER DANISH TENT RAFFLE WINNERS

Thank You to everyone who supported the Raffle in the Danish tent at the Midsummer Festival to benefit the Danish Canadian Museum in Dickson, Alberta.

A cheque in the amount of \$325.00 was mailed to the Museum.

The Winners were:

Marie Noel, Ed Kuhlman, Bodil Nielsen,
Borge Nielsen, Lisa Schoenhais & Oluf Folkersen.

Thank you for your support!

Solvejg Nielsen



Danish House Society
6540 Thomas Street
Burnaby, B.C. V5B 4P9

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Phone: 604-294-2777

Website: www.scandinaviancentre.org/denmark

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Newsletter Editor: Ed Kuhlman

Please forward your ads and reports to kuhlman@shaw.ca.

Deadlines for submissions of quarterly ads are February 1, May 15, August 15, and November 15. If you wish to place an ad in the newsletter, payment requested is in the form of a donation to the DHS. **If you would like your newsletter by e-mail instead of print, please let us know** Thank You.

A DANE TO BE INVESTED INTO THE ORDER OF CANADA

On June 30, 2017, the day before Canada Day, Governor General David Johnston announced ninety-nine new appointments to the Order of Canada. The recipients will be invited to accept their insignia at a ceremony to be held at a later date.

Paul Albrechtsen of Winnipeg, Manitoba, was one of the ninety-nine. Paul was born in Ejby on the island of Fyn. After finishing his education, his tour of duty in the Danish Army as well as getting some practical business experience, he immigrated to Canada in 1954, with hardly any money and scant knowledge of English. He eventually established himself in Winnipeg, where he started Paul's Hauling, a company which has grown into an empire of transportation companies and related industries.

In 2015 Paul Albrechtsen donated five million dollars to the St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, which now bears his family name. In 2016 he was invested into the Order of Manitoba.

A biography of Paul Albrechtsen, written by B. Chris Christensen of Winnipeg, appears in the Danish Federation's 1993 Heritage Book.

Congratulations to Paul Albrechtsen!



DOGWOOD LODGE 179

VANCOUVER - CANADA

Join our Lodge.

Danish Sisterhood Canadian Lodge 179 is a non-profit organization with the mission to strengthen, maintain and preserve the Danish heritage and traditions for future generations. If you like to socialize and participate in various events, we welcome not only Danes but all Nationalities as members.

Members meet at **Carl Mortensen Manor, 4035 Norland Avenue, Burnaby, V5G 4T7** (Entrance on Kincaid) every 3rd Thursday of the month at **5:30 p.m.** (except July, Aug. & Dec.) For more details visit: www.danishsisterhood.ca or contact lodge179@danishsisterhood.ca