

a letter from the president

Again, it is an honor and a privilege to serve on the board of the Museum of Danish America. It is not often that a board made up of such a large number of people, representing vast geographical areas, can be on the same page 99% of the time. I feel the museum is so successful because of the dedicated staff and the common mission among board members and staff to preserve our Danish culture and heritage. The sign of any stable and successful organization is the ability to show continued improvement year after year. Each new year has brought forth new ideas for exhibits and geographic outreach to display those exhibits.

It is hard to believe that another year has passed. 2015 has come to a close, and now we are well into 2016. We, as a board, will face some challenges as the year progresses. However, I am confident that the board and staff will meet those challenges and forge ahead, just as we have met challenges in the past. A few of the challenges and opportunities are as follows:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RETIREMENT As many of you are aware, Executive Director John Mark Nielsen is scheduled to retire in February of 2017. John Mark has been the “face” of the museum for many years. He began serving as the Executive Director in July of 2003. Prior to his selection as the Executive Director, he served as a board member of The (then-named) Danish Immigrant Museum. It goes without saying that John Mark has established many, many contacts during his tenure as the Executive Director. His Danish background and ability to speak the Danish language has opened many, many doors. However, beyond those attributes, his tireless dedication to the success of the museum has been the hallmark of his tenure. John Mark will be difficult to replace.

SEARCH COMMITTEE As a board, we are in the process of reaching out to various venues in order to generate applicant leads for the Museum of Danish America Executive Director position. We have a search committee composed of past and present board members. The members serving on this committee are as follows: Former board members are Lowell Kramme from Des Moines, Iowa, Marc Petersen from Omaha, Nebraska, and Lynette Rasmussen from Des Moines, Iowa. Current board members are Vice President Tim Burchill from Jamestown, North Dakota, Past President Dagmar Muthamia from Long Beach, California, ex-officio member Dennis Larson from Decorah, Iowa, ex-officio member Kristi Planck Johnson from Bethesda, Maryland, and myself as President. Our goal is to begin candidate interviews during the fall of 2016. On behalf of the Museum of Danish America Board of Directors, I wish John Mark the best as he begins another chapter in his life.

GENEALOGY CENTER MANAGER AND LIBRARIAN RETIREMENT John Mark is also conducting a search to replace Michele McNabb, who will be retiring in June of 2016. Michele has been with the museum and the Genealogy Center for close to 14 years. She has been a critical resource for folks who are museum members and others who are searching their family trees. The center houses many resources that prove to be a real asset for those doing Danish family research. Her ability to speak and read the Danish language has been a real asset for the museum and individuals doing genealogical research. Her dedication to the museum and the center is appreciated. On behalf of the Museum of Danish America Board of Directors, I wish Michele the best in her retirement.



By
Garey
Knudsen

NOTE: A complete job description can be accessed on our website at www.danishmuseum.org/visit/about/employment.



annual report | 2015

NEW BOARD MEMBERS I want to welcome the following new board members: David Esbeck, San Diego, California; Randall Ruggaard, Hudson, Ohio; Ole Sønnichsen, Bjert, Denmark; Carl Steffensen, Houston, Texas; Peter Nielsen, Naples, Florida; and Daniel Warren, Fairmont, Minnesota.

OUT GOING BOARD MEMBERS I want to thank the following board members for their dedication and support of the Museum of Danish America: Dan Christensen, West Des Moines, Iowa; Kristi Planck Johnson, Bethesda, Maryland; Kenneth Larsen, Calistoga, California; Henrik Rasmussen, Springfield, Illinois; Eric Smitsdorff, Germantown, Wisconsin; and Mark Strandskov, Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

HATS OFF TO VOLUNTEERS To those of you who have volunteered, either as board members for the museum or Genealogy Center, I want to extend a huge thanks. It is hard to imagine what the Museum of Danish America would be today if it were not for the help of many volunteers over the years. The expertise of former and current board members, as well as many volunteers is invaluable. The hours of volunteer service would add up to the thousands. According to a recent government study, 62.6 million Americans (25.4 percent of the adult population) volunteered in 2013 providing 7.7 billion hours of service valued at \$173 billion. The study found that the average number of hours Americans volunteered was 32.1. To quantify the financial value of these volunteers is nearly impossible. According to the study, many charities use an industry standard of \$23.07 per hour (2014) to calculate the monetary value of their volunteers. Thus, the median American, who volunteered 32.1 hours in 2014, gave approximately \$740.55 to charity. The Museum of Danish America will certainly need the continued support of volunteers to fulfill the mission and goals established in our strategic plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN The Museum of Danish America Board of Directors has spent the last year in development of a new strategic plan. The new plan covers the years from 2016-2020. The intent of a strategic plan is to provide guidance for staff and volunteers as we move forward from year to year. The plan consists of a statement of our mission, core values and vision for the future. Goals are established along with timelines and benchmarks and needed resources to accomplish our goals. I have emphasized to our board that a strategic plan is a dynamic document. In other words, it is not something that is static that we put on the shelf once it is developed. I will encourage our board committees to take some time at each meeting to review portions of the plan that apply to them. If something needs to be changed in the plan, we can react to it sooner rather than later.

REBILD: THE DANISH AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY It was a real pleasure last spring to be able to “rub shoulders” with fellow Danes at the Rebild Annual Meeting held in Omaha, Nebraska. The attendees were bused to Elk Horn and Kimballton for a tour of the towns and the museum. It was very uplifting to hear the positive comments made by Rebild members about the Museum of Danish America. Sometimes I think we are so close to the activities and services provided by the museum that we can’t see the forest for the trees. What a great facility and staff we have that can generate such positive reviews of something very close to our hearts.

board of directors

The Board of Directors is a special group of men and women who have unselfishly dedicated themselves to the preservation of their Danish American heritage and the mission of the museum. They join an elite group of individuals who, over the past 32 years, have worked to build and maintain a museum of which all Danes, Danish Americans and the American public can be proud.

Participating at their own expense, the board members come together three times a year to share their skills and experience in providing oversight to the administration of the museum and to develop ideas and plans that will contribute to its continuing vitality. It is the practice of the board to meet each February and June in different locations around the

United States so that they may share and celebrate Danish heritage with those Danish Americans who may not otherwise be able to link directly with the museum. In 2015, the board held its February meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, and its June meeting in Portland, Oregon, with election of new board members. The October board meeting was held in Elk Horn, Iowa. The museum's annual meeting was held in Elk Horn with new board members assuming their office; outgoing members present and participating.

Without the dedication, energy, and support of a strong, team-oriented Board of Directors, the museum staff would not be able to work effectively in managing the day-to-day operations of the Museum of Danish America.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SERVING IN 2015

Cynthia Larsen Adams, *Littleton, CO*
Ronald Bro, *Cedar Falls, IA*
Beth Bro-Roof, *Cedar Rapids, IA*
Tim Burchill, *Jamestown, ND*
Dan Christensen, *West Des Moines, IA*
Bente Ellis, *San Jose, CA*
David Esbeck, *San Diego, CA*
Dorothy Stadsvold Feisel, *St. Michaels, MD*
David Hendee, *Omaha, NE*
Glenn Henriksen, *Armstrong, IA*
Consul Anna Thomsen Holliday, *Houston, TX*
William (Bill) Jensen, *Urbandale, IA*
Kristi Planck Johnson, *Bethesda, MD*
Garey Knudsen, *Hutchinson, MN*
Kenneth Larsen, *Calistoga, CA and Harlan, IA*
Carolyn Larson, *St. Paul, MN*
Cynthia McKeen, *St. Paul, MN*
Craig Molgaard, *Missoula, MT*
Dagmar Muthamia, *Long Beach, CA*
Peter Nielsen, *Naples, FL*
Brent Norlem, *Monticello, MN*

Marian (Mittie) Ostergaard, *Mission Viejo, CA*
Henrik Rasmussen, *Springfield, IL*
Randy Ruggaard, *Hudson, OH*
Jerry Schrader, *Elk Horn, IA*
Flemming "Eric" Smitsdorff, *Germantown, WI*
Ole Sønnichsen, *Bjert, Denmark*
Carl Steffensen, *Houston, TX*
Linda Steffensen, *Hoffman Estates, IL*
Mark Strandskov, *Mount Pleasant, MI*
Karen Suchomel, *West Branch, IA*

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Jon Borgman, *Harlan, IA, Endowment*
Nils Jensen, *Portland, OR, Development*
Dennis Larson, *Decorah, IA*
Clark Mathisen, *Omaha, NE, Endowment*
Kai E. Nyby, *LaPorte, IN, Development*
Marc Petersen, *Omaha, NE, Endowment*

John Mark Nielsen, *Blair, NE, Executive Director*

who we are

MISSION STATEMENT

The Museum of Danish America celebrates Danish roots and American dreams.

CORE VALUES

We are:

- ◆ **Inspirational:** We honor the vision, ambition and diligence of Danish-American achievers, and we seek to inspire future generations by telling their stories.
- ◆ **Deeply rooted:** We treasure our Danish heritage, and we are deeply committed to our local American communities.
- ◆ **Focused on the future:** We realize that to keep the past alive, we must always remain part of the future.

VISION

- ◆ To be widely recognized as the world's leading compiler and communicator of the history and inspirational achievements of Danish Americans.
- ◆ To turn the museum and the villages of Elk Horn and Kimballton into one of Iowa's top destinations for tourists, educators and local family excursions - and to support other local communities featuring Danish-American history.
- ◆ To be widely recognized as a thought leader and trendsetter in the international museum industry, constantly featuring new and inspiring experiences for worldwide audiences through innovative exhibits, events, publications and online media tools.

staff & interns

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Mark Nielsen, Ph.D.

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Terri Johnson

ALBERT RAVENHOLT CURATOR OF DANISH-AMERICAN CULTURE

Tova Brandt, M.A.

CURATOR OF COLLECTIONS & REGISTRAR

Angela Stanford, M.A.

GENEALOGY CENTER MANAGER & LIBRARIAN

Michele McNabb, M.A., M.L.I.S.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Deb Christensen Larsen

DEVELOPMENT/SOCIAL MEDIA ASSOCIATE

Nicky Christensen

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Jennifer Winters

BUILDING & GROUNDS MANAGER

Tim Fredericksen

DESIGN STORE BUYER

Joni Soe-Butts

COLLECTIONS ASSISTANT

Chelsea Jacobsen

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Kathy Pellegrini

GENEALOGY & LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Wanda Sornson

WEEKEND STAFF

Terri Amaral

Rochelle Bruns

Beth Rasmussen

Rodger Rasmussen

PLANNED GIVING CONSULTANT

Paul Johnson

BEDSTEMOR'S HOUSE STAFF

Rochelle Bruns

Trudy Juelsgaard

Barbara Larson

Jen Neville

Doug Palmer

Jill Raysby

David Thurston

DANISH INTERNS

Niels-Peter Gade, *Aarhus University, Denmark (Exhibits)*

Ida Jensen, *Copenhagen University in Aalborg, Denmark (Genealogy Library)*

Charlotte Keimig, *Copenhagen University, Denmark (Collections)*

Johannes Svend Brask Kristoffersen, *Copenhagen University, Denmark (Exhibits and Development)*

AMERICAN INTERN

Jennifer Olsson, *Johns Hopkins University (Inventory Assistant)*

a year of SUCCESS

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2015 AT THE MUSEUM OF DANISH AMERICA INCLUDE:

- ◆ *The Simple Gift of Walnut Grove*, a film by John Richard and produced by the museum, has won numerous awards, including “Best Short Documentary” at the Nordic International Film Festival in New York City and “Best Documentary” at the Chicago Reel Shorts Film Fest, one of the nation’s leading film festivals focused solely on short films.
- ◆ *Skål! Scandinavian Spirits* - presented by Aalborg and Linie Aquavits and underwritten by Arcus AS of Norway, representing the first time an exhibit we initiated has received support from an international corporate donor.
- ◆ Reached a population of over 250,000 through visits to the museum, traveling exhibits, social media, and programs and presentations around the country.
- ◆ Along with the Heartland Chapter of the Rebild National Park Society, hosted the Society’s annual meeting in Omaha and Elk Horn, including a special reception at the First National Tower.
- ◆ Participation in numerous festivals and events from the Orange County International Street Fair and *December Nights in Balboa Park* in California across the country to *Grundlovsfest* in Croton-on-Hudson, New York and including the long-running Danish-American festival in Greenville, Michigan.
- ◆ Continued our partnership with the Petersen House Museum in Tempe, Arizona.

EXHIBITS

The museum continued its active exhibits program in 2015.

- ◆ *Skål! Scandinavian Spirits* - Organized by our museum, this exhibit also represents the first cooperative effort by all six of the major Scandinavian-American museums.
- ◆ *Glass and Mosaic by Helle Scharling-Todd*, a Danish immigrant artist from Southern California.
- ◆ *Home: Sculpture by Dennis Andersen*, a sculptor from Atlanta, Georgia, and former board member.

- ◆ *Happy Danes on the Plains* - An English version of an exhibit created by Danish curator Henrik Bredmose Simonsen exploring how Danish immigrant culture has been maintained over several generations.
- ◆ *Sense of Place: Photographs of the Danish Villages by Diana Velasco*, a Danish photographer who created the exhibit as a part of an artist-in-residence project funded by the Iowa Arts Council.
- ◆ *Nude Vases, Cubist Faces: Modernism at Rookwood Pottery* - Following its display in Elk Horn, this exhibit organized by our museum with guest curator Annemarie Sawkins, Ph.D., was open through March 1, 2015 at Iowa’s oldest cultural institution, The Dubuque Museum of Art in downtown Dubuque.
- ◆ *Danish Modern - Design for Living* - Our major exhibit of over 50 items of Danish Modern furniture and household wares and occupying over 1,500 sq. ft. completed its nationwide tour, closing at the Figge Museum in Davenport, Iowa, on June 21, 2015.
- ◆ Eight of the museum’s traveling exhibits were hosted by fifteen different venues in nine states and reached an audience of over 30,000.

COLLECTIONS

Among the many valuable artifact donations in 2015, the museum received the following:

- ◆ Diary of Chris Fredericksen, who describes his passage on the Lusitania; donated by Rick Fredericksen, of Norwalk, Iowa.
- ◆ Meat-counter from T.G. Muller’s grocery store in Kimballton; donated by the Heritage Society of Kimballton, Iowa.
- ◆ Jacket, tie, and hat worn during the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta by a co-host for Danish dignitaries; donated by Klaus Langkilde, Winston, Georgia.
- ◆ Two 8’x4’ panels that include the original pastel study by the Danish-American artist, professor and pastor, F.W. Thomsen, for the *Tower of the Four Winds* located in Black Elk-Neihardt Park in Blair, Nebraska; donated by John Thomsen, Brooklyn, New York.
- ◆ Air tunnel model to determine structural support for the Tower of the Four Winds; donated by James Iversen, Decorah, Iowa.



By
John Mark
Nielsen



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GRANTS

- ◆ Albert Victor Ravenholt Fund
- ◆ Eric and Joan Norgaard Charitable Trust
- ◆ Humanities Iowa
- ◆ Iowa Cultural Affairs
- ◆ Iowa Tourism
- ◆ Iowa West Foundation
- ◆ National Endowment for the Humanities
- ◆ Scan Design Foundation
- ◆ State Historical Society of Iowa

exhibitions

In 2015 the museum's galleries expanded to provide additional space to share art, artifacts, and stories.

Suitably, the first exhibition to fill that newly-enlarged space was *Skål! Scandinavian Spirits*, an exhibition that reached beyond Danish culture to explore the pan-Scandinavian traditions of beer and aquavit. The *Skål!* exhibition is a collaboration between the Museum of Danish America and five other Scandinavian-American museums, all of whom will host the exhibit in turn. So if you missed it in Elk Horn, stay tuned for the chance to see it in other parts of the country.

The *Skål!* exhibition not only marked a milestone in gallery space and partners, but also in attracting international support from Aalborg and Linie Aquavits, and publishing a companion book that is a museum best-seller.

A smaller version of the exhibition is also touring the country, and might be coming to a festival or Danish club near you!

While launching *Skål!* on the road, we also concluded the tour of our previous major traveling exhibition, *Danish Modern: Design for Living*, and rotated through seven other exhibitions in the museum's galleries. Our menu of traveling displays brought Danish-American stories to communities from coast to coast. In total, traveling exhibitions appeared in 18 different locations in 10 states, reaching an audience of 30,000 people.

GRADUATE STUDENT INTERNS

In addition, the museum continues to benefit from the work of graduate student interns. Danish interns were again sponsored through a grant from the Scan Design Foundation, Seattle, Washington, and American interns were funded by grants from the Historical Resource Development Program through the State Historical Society of Iowa.

Whether you visit Elk Horn in person or not, we hope that all members can enjoy the museum's exhibition program through gallery installations, traveling displays, virtual tours, or through the pages of the *America Letter*.

ON-SITE GALLERY EXHIBITIONS IN 2015

Danish Children Growing Up American
September 27, 2014 - April 4, 2015

Exploring Danish Happiness
October 2014 - April 2015

Photography by Diana Velasco: Two Nationalities
November 28, 2014 - March 15, 2015

Curator's Choice: Art from the Permanent Collection
March 28 - May 10, 2015

Skål! Scandinavian Spirits
April 24 - October 25, 2015

Glass and Mosaic by Helle Scharling-Todd
May 23 - September 30, 2015

Home: Sculpture by Dennis Andersen
October 22, 2015 - May 8, 2016

Happy Danes on the Plains
November 27, 2015 - April 10, 2016



By
Tova
Brandt

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS IN 2015

Danish Modern: Design for Living

Figge Art Museum, Davenport, Iowa

Nude Vases, Cubist Faces: Modernism at Rookwood Pottery
Dubuque Museum of Art, Dubuque, Iowa

Happy Danes on the Plains

Danish Lutheran Church and Cultural Center,
Yorba Linda, California

Racine Heritage Museum, Racine, Wisconsin

Luck Historical Society, Luck, Wisconsin

Danish Cultural Center, Greenville, Michigan

Danish Sisterhood Lodge #15, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Danish Sisterhood Lodge #21, Denver, Colorado

Denmark October 1943

Nordia House, Portland, Oregon

Danish Gymnastics in America

Danish Club of Washington, DC

Jens Jensen: Celebrating the Native Prairie

House of Denmark, San Diego, California
Carnegie Library, Perry, Iowa

Schleswig-Holstein: Turmoil on the Danish-German Border

Germanic-American Institute, St. Paul, Minnesota

Danish American Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Danebod Folk School, Tyler, Minnesota

Søren Kierkegaard: The Global Dane

University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa

Exploring Danish Happiness

Danish American Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Skål! Scandinavian Spirits

Nordic Heritage Museum, Seattle, Washington

Danish Home, Edison, New Jersey

Nordia House, Portland, Oregon

collections

The year 2015 brought to the museum's curatorial collections a total of 646 new artifacts. These pieces join the larger permanent and education collections in supporting the museum's mission and in illustrating the many stories of Danish immigrants, their descendants, and the communities, groups, and individuals that make up Danish America.

Thank you to our members and donors for your continued and kind support.

ARTIFACT DONORS

Michael Abildtrup, West Des Moines, IA
Jerry Andersen, Chicago, IL
Nancy Carriel, Northfield, MN
Borge M. Christensen, Rochester, MN
Nyla Christensen, Rapid City, SD
Danish Home for the Aged, Croton-on-Hudson, NY
Danish Windmill Corporation, Elk Horn, IA
Lois Eagleton, Umpqua, OR
Roger Essenburg, Fountain Hills, AZ
First Baptist Church of Elk Horn, IA
Rick Fredericksen, Norwalk, IA
Birte Gerlings, Omaha, NE
Marlene Hansen, Harlan, IA
Glen Hasel Barth, Minden, NE
Mary Hubbard, Albert Lea, MN
Anna Huber, Cary, NC
Tiffany Ikkala, Copenhagen, Denmark

James Iversen, Decorah, IA

Betty Jacobsen, Chicago, IL

Robert Jensen, Apalachin, NY

Kristi Planck Johnson, Bethesda, MD

Estate of Jens Kjær, Kansas City, MO

Lisbeth N. Kohloff, Golden, CO

Loey Mae Lange, Sun City, AZ

Klaus Langkilde, Winston, GA

Jeanette Lillehoj, Kimballton, IA

Inger Lundbaek, Mill Valley, CA

John Vogt Masengarb, West Saint Paul, MN

Birgitte Molvig, Chico, CA

John Mark Nielsen, Blair, NE

Sofie Krøgh Nielsen, Risskov, Denmark

Liv Norderhaug, Brookfield, WI

Rich Patterson, Cedar Rapids, IA

Beth M. Pearson, Eldridge, IA

Adrienne Petersen, Kimballton, IA

Dave Potratz, Spencer, IA

Merle Rasmussen, Huxley, IA

Mary Ann Richmond, Chestertown, MD

Robert Skene, Webster City, IA

Carl Steffensen, Houston, TX

John Thomsen, Brooklyn, NY

Robert Wetzel, Kansas City, KS

Robert Wilson, Kentwood, MI

Claus Windelev, Seattle, WA



By
Angela
Stanford

genealogy center

2015 was certainly a busy and growth-filled year for the Genealogy Center! We added nearly 500 new immigrant information folders to our in-house files, in addition to digital images of and indexes to the church books from several local Danish Lutheran churches.

Digitized newspapers and many of our Special Collections holdings were moved into a new temperature-controlled home in the main museum building, allowing us to expand the library collection into the vacated space.

Over 450 books and other materials were added to the collection, so the rearranged shelves are rapidly filling. Scan Design Foundation intern Ida Jensen assisted by entering newly donated materials and also helped organize our new storage room. Staff and volunteers – who donated over 2,300 hours of their time in 2015 – completed 43 translation projects and 50 paid research projects, in addition to working with walk-in patrons and responding to email research questions.

Our summer photo display, *Golden Danes*, put together by volunteer Donna Thomas, celebrated the lives of over 100 Danish immigrants who lived to the century mark or beyond, and in the process we also gathered information on many Danish-American descendants who also reached this age.

For Julefest Genealogy Center Assistant Wanda Sornson created a very attractive display about traditional Danish Christmas cookies, samples of which and their recipes could be enjoyed during that celebration.

In 2015 we received and/or processed donations from the following individuals and institutions:

John Richard Andersen, Verona, WI
Leonard Andersen, Sioux City, IA
Rosalie Andersen, Harlan, IA
Kasper Andreassen, Copenhagen, Denmark
Anonymous
Karen Friedmann Beall, Santa Fe, NM
Diane B. Beaman, Bath, SD
Anne Birdsall, Floyd, IA
Syletta Zachreis Freeman Birk, et al., Søby - Ærø, Denmark
Michael Jon Bithorn, Tallahassee, FL
Susan Brodersen, Jacksonville, FL
Nancy Hansen Chew, Council Bluffs, IA
Neal Christensen, Highlands Ranch, CO
Nyla Christensen, Rapid City, SD
Rolf Christensen, Gloucester, Ont., Canada
Diana Christiansen, Tucson, AZ

Rosa Clemsen, Exira, IA
Jill K. Crooker, Park Ridge, IL
Milton Crum, Helena, MT
Danish Soldier's Club, Calistoga, CA
Lars Davidsen, Aarhus, Denmark
Richard Denne, Houston, TX
Barry Edmonds, East Hampton, CT
Larry & Janis Fajen, Elk Horn, IA
First Baptist Church of Elk Horn, IA
E. Lee Fitzhugh, Lakeside, AZ
June Haas, Kimballton, IA
Jerome Hagstrom, Olathe, KS
Hamlin Lutheran Church, Exira, IA
Anne-Mette Kobberoe Hansell, Drexel Hill, PA
Glen Haselbarth, Minden, NE
Elaine Hasleton, Salt Lake City, UT
Barbara K. Hein, Prescott, AZ
Judy Hill, Exira, IA
Mary Leeper Hubbard, Albert Lea, MN
Mollie Ingwers, St. Joseph, MI
William P. Jones, District Heights, MD
Svend Jorgensen, Genoa City, WI
David M. Jorgenson, Rochester, MN
Magne Juhl, Viborg, Denmark
Viola Kilworth, Exira, IA
Jeanette Knudsen, Elk Horn, IA
Lisbeth Neergaard Kohloff, Golden, CO
Diane Kratz, Farwell, MN
Neva Langgard, Guthrie Center, IA
Elizabeth L. Larsen, Cupertino, CA
Kenneth Larsen, Calistoga, CA
Luanne Larson, Council Bluffs, IA
Jens Birk Lauridsen, Maarslet, DK
Jeanette Lillehoj, Kimballton, IA
Ellie Ludvigsen, Castle Rock, CO
Inger Lundbaek, Mill Valley, CA
Richard G. Macdonald, Tremont, IL
Jeanette Matteson, Weeping Water, NE
Michele McNabb, Atlantic, IA
Sean & Laurie McNabb, Salt Lake City, UT
Kimberly M. Meurer, Atlantic, IA
John Mark Nielsen, Blair, NE
Stanley Nielsen, Monona, WI
Liv Norderhaug, Brookfield, WI
Robert Ostergaard, Plymouth, MN
Gaetha Pace, Wiser, ID
Judith Page, Madison, WI
Pola Erickson Peters (family of), Omaha, NE



By
Michele
McNabb

Lise Petersen, Frederiksberg, Denmark
Mary Lou Petersen, Bettendorf, IA
Patricia M. Peterson, Council Bluffs, IA
Margit Andersen Pickering, St. Cloud, MN
Rod Quanbeck, Milford, IA
Suzanne Rasmussen, Kirkman, IA
Barbara Roberts, Eugene, OR
Ann S. Rodda, Tuam, Ireland
Erik F. Rønnebech, Fredericia, Denmark
Birgitte Saltorp, Burnaby, BC, Canada
Kenneth Sand, Prairie du Chien, WI
Nancy Sand, Kimballton, IA

Robert Simonsen, Topeka, KS
Diane J. Skov, Lacey, WA
Sonoma County Public Library, Santa Rosa, CA
Charlotte Sorensen, Exira, IA
Marie Louise Sorensen, DeKalb, IL
Hal Sornson, Omaha, NE
Carl Steffensen, Houston, TX
Leo & Gayle Stuart, Walnut, IA
Ron S. Vig, Holdrege, NE
Joan M. Tomlinson White, Lincoln, NE
Phyllis Wittrup, Lakewood, CO
Nina York, Christianstad, Virgin Islands

volunteers

In 2015 volunteers at both the museum and Genealogy Center contributed a total of 2,995 hours, compared with 3,206 in 2014. Individual volunteers logged from 2.5 hours to 644, and though we said "farewell" to a few of our volunteers this past year for a variety of reasons, we gained 3 new ones!

Our volunteers help with a number of tasks including assisting staff with greeting visitors, data entry, indexing, mailings, translations, research, and events such as the Brown Bag Lunch Series and the annual board meeting held in October. We also now have volunteers helping with the Jens Jensen Prairie Landscape Park.

Staff could not do what we do on a daily basis without assistance from our devoted volunteers - every hour of time volunteers give is deeply appreciated.

The following are volunteers for whom we have **documented** hours in 2015.

MUSEUM

Annette Andersen
Rosalie Andersen
Virgil & Joyce Christensen
Rosa Clemsen
Jean (Tina) Hansen
Peggy Hansen
Chet & Marj Holland
Jeanette Lillehoj
Earl Madsen
Steven Olson
Dawn Nielsen
Clara Pedersen
Wava Petersen
Joanne Potts
Karen Rafferty
Elva Rasmussen
Howard Sorensen

GENEALOGY CENTER

Marilyn Andersen
Bent Christensen
June Haas
Ralf & Inga Hoifeldt
Connie Johnson
Jeanette Knudsen
Erik Høgsbro Østergaard
Susanne Rasmussen
Nancy Sand
Lene Sepstrup
Charlotte Sorensen
Karma Sorensen
Gayle Stuart
Donna Thomas
Carolyn Wittrup

We also want to recognize members of the **Atlantic Chapter of the Friends of The Danish Immigrant Museum** who have been long-time supporters and donors. The organization provides us with delicious cookies to serve to museum guests during our annual celebrations of Tivoli Fest, held the weekend preceding Memorial Day, and Julefest, held the weekend following Thanksgiving.

Its members include Norma Andersen, Ramona Andersen, Marty & Connie Boose, Janet Bornholdt, Mary Ann Christensen, Jack & Eileen Denne, Clayton Ellingson, Dean & Verna Esbeck, Gene & Kathleen Eyberg, Ed & Ileen Furne, Marcella Gaines, Calvin & Phyllis Hoegh, Chet & Marj Holland, Doris Jensen, Betty Lillard, Fern Lindvall, Merlin & Sonya Mikkelsen, Beverly Nelson, Delores Nelson, Bob & Frances Nelson, Glenn & Joan Ohms, Helen Petersen, Darrell & Bertha Schroeter, and Nadine Williamson.



By
Terri
Johnson

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Condensed Financial Statements Years Ended August 31, 2015 and 2014

Condensed Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis

2015 2014

Assets

Cash and Investments.....	4,215,242.....	3,803,680
Inventory	101,819.....	72,672
Property and Equipment (Net).....	4,774,678.....	4,681,110
Total Assets	9,091,739.....	8,557,462

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accrued Payroll Taxes.....	13,415.....	76
Lines of Credit	178,500.....	35,000
Contracts Payable.....	0.....	423,359
Note Payable.....	0.....	335
Total Liabilities	191,915.....	458,770

Net Assets.....	8,899,824.....	8,098,692
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	9,091,739.....	8,557,462

Condensed Statement of Revenue and Support, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis for Years ended August 31,

2015 2014

Support and Revenue

Contributions and Support.....	1,748,543.....	1,234,784
Admissions and Program Fees	18,678.....	18,820
Gift Shop Revenue (Net).....	47,476.....	42,188
Investment and Other Income.....	425,661	907,023
Total Support and Revenue.....	2,240,358.....	2,202,815

Expenses

Program Services.....	861,462.....	768,620
Supporting Activities	577,764.....	505,892
Total Expenses	1,439,226.....	1,274,512
Change in Net Assets	801,132.....	928,303

Net Assets - Beginning of Year	8,098,692.....	7,170,389
Net Assets - End of Year	8,899,824.....	8,098,692

endowment

The Museum of Danish America's endowments provide the opportunity for members to perpetuate their contributions and at the same time help guarantee the museum's long-term financial viability. Current market value as of December 31, 2015, was \$3,996,092.08.

bequests

In 2015 the museum received \$67,238.51 in bequests – \$20,713.42 (31%) has been invested in the museum's endowment funds, and the balance \$46,525.09 (69%) has been, or is being used, for special projects and programming. The Museum of Danish America gratefully acknowledges the following estates, trusts and individuals:

Marianne K. Festersen, Omaha, NE
Earl Fries, Des Moines, IA
Rita Neergaard Hansen, Kenosha, WI
Carl Johan Larsen, Owatonna, MN
Norma (Larsen) Wilson, Red Oak, IA

merit of recognition

THE MUSEUM OF DANISH AMERICA PERMANENTLY RECOGNIZES TWO GROUPS OF FRIENDS AND MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES THROUGH OUTSTANDING SUPPORT, BOTH WHILE LIVING AND IN THEIR ESTATE PLANS.

LIFETIME LEGACY GIVING

Five categories reflect all cumulative donations of \$25,000 and greater from individuals or their estates, foundations, trusts, and organizations. These names are inscribed on a large plaque at the museum's entrance.

During the calendar year of 2015, the board of directors was pleased to add the names of

Aalborg and Linie Aquavits, Arcus AS, Hagan, Norway
(Bronze)

First Baptist Church, Elk Horn, IA *(Bronze)*

Irving & Elizabeth Jensen Foundation, Sioux City, IA
(Bronze)

And in addition, we acknowledge the following four donors for having achieved a new level of lifetime giving:

William & Berniece Grewcock, Omaha, NE *(Diamond)*

Peter Kiewit Foundation, Omaha, NE *(Gold)*

Poul Olesen & Benedikte Ehlers Olesen, Eugene, OR
(Silver)

Albert Victor Ravenholt Fund, Seattle, WA *(Platinum)*

DIAMOND \$1,000,000

Wayne Alwill Estate, Manning, IA

Anonymous

William & Berniece Grewcock, Omaha, NE

Bruce R. Lauritzen Family, Omaha, NE

PLATINUM \$500,000

Gunnar Horn, Omaha, NE

Albert Victor Ravenholt Fund, Seattle, WA

Norma (Larsen) Wilson, Red Oak, IA

GOLD \$250,000

Anonymous

Mervin Bro, Scottsdale, AZ

Marianne K. Festersen Estate, Omaha, NE

Peter Kiewit Foundation, Omaha, NE

Roy J. & Rita Neergaard Hansen, Kenosha, WI

Richard Hellman, Oceanside, CA

State Of Iowa

SILVER \$100,000

Dennis J. Andersen, Atlanta, GA

Anonymous (2)

Anton & Gunver M. Berg, Dekalb, IL

Esther "E.J." Carlson Estate, Columbus, OH

Carl Aage Christensen, Denver, CO

Edna M. Christensen, Atlantic, IA

Tom & Jan Christensen, Bettendorf, IA

Elk Horn Lutheran Church, Elk Horn, IA

Asta Forrest, Fountain Hills, AZ

Charles & Joanne Frederiksen, Ames, IA

Stewart & Lenore Hansen, West Des Moines, IA

Roy & Patricia Hougen, Ames, IA

Iowa West Foundation, Council Bluffs, IA

James D. & Margery Iversen, Ames, IA

Clyde & Emma Johnson, Omaha, Ne

Martha Jorgensen, Audubon, IA

John & Audrey Kofoed, West Branch, IA

Lowell & Marilyn Kramme, Des Moines, IA

Reola Lerager, Wichita, KS

Lutheran Brotherhood, Minneapolis, MN

Herbert C. Madison, Washington, DC

Adelaide M. Madsen Estate, Cedar Rapids, IA

A.P. Møller And Chastine Mc-Kinney Møller Foundation, Copenhagen, Denmark

Mark & Lori Nussle, Palos Park, IL

Folmer & Vera Nyby, Michigan City, IN

Poul Olesen & Benedikte Ehlers Olesen, Eugene, Oregon

Olga S. Olsen Estate, Watertown, SD

H. Rand & Mary Louise Petersen, Harlan, IA

John I. Petersen Estate, Kimballton, IA

Scan Design Foundation, Seattle, WA

Harriet Albertsen Spanel, Bellingham, WA

E. Irene Starrett, Audubon, IA

Chrystal Hemmingsen Willis Wagner Estate, Seattle, WA

Wilber Williamson, Des Moines, Ia



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BRONZE \$25,000

Aalborg and Linie Aquavits, Arcus AS, Hagan, Norway
Anonymous (2)
Norman C. Bansen Estate, Blair, NE
Mogens & Cindy Bay, Omaha, Nebraska
Elna N. Bellows, Edina, MN
Harold W. & Lois M. Berg, Ogden, IA
Egon & Diana Bodtker, Salem, OR
Sanna And Victor Borge Memorial Fund, New York, NY
Marie A. Budolfson Estate, Ames, IA
Cedar Valley Danes, Cedar Falls, IA Area
Jack & Barbara Christensen, Yankton, SD
Lamont & Lois Christensen, Elk Horn, IA
Dolores G. Connelly Estate, Atlantic, IA
Country Landscapes, Inc., Ames, IA
R. James & Janet Borge Crowle, Saint Michaels, MD
Danish Brotherhood In America, Highlands Ranch, CO
Danish Mutual Insurance Association, Elk Horn, IA
Ane-Grethe Olesen & Rory A.M. Delaney, Wayzata, MN
Gordon, Mary Lou & Janice Esbeck, Tipton, Iowa
Ramona L. Esbeck, Ames, IA
Sally og Gordon Faber, Urbandale, Iowa
First Baptist Church of Elk Horn, IA
J. Emory & Edna Fredrickson Estate, Elk Horn, IA
Margaret Louise Gee Estate, West Des Moines, IA
Marilyn Andersen Gift & William Gift, Des Moines, Iowa
Alf & Lili Gregerson, Ridgefield, WA
Caroline L. Hansen, Harlan, IA
Walter & Vesta Hansen, West Branch, Iowa
Alma O. Hartvigsen Estate, Harlan, IA
Henningsen Construction, Inc., Atlantic, IA
Stanley & Helen Howe, Muscatine, IA
Humanities Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Vern E. Hunter, Fargo, ND
Al & Bridget Jensen, Houston, TX
Cornelius C.J. Jensen Estate, Edmonds, WA
Irving & Elizabeth Jensen Foundation, Sioux City, IA

Nils & Kathleen Jensen, Portland, Oregon
Roland & Joan Jensen, Ankeny, IA
Iver (Whitey) & Lis Jorgensen, Burnsville, Minnesota
Robert S. Kroman Estate, Elk Horn, IA
Kulturministeriet, Copenhagen, Denmark
Kurt K. & Joy Larsen, Oneonta, AL
Richard Ledet, Des Moines, IA
Leonard K. & Lenora J. Madsen Estate, Kansas City, MO
Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Co., Elk Horn, IA
Carl & Marilyn Mehr, San Diego, California
Inez M. Mortensen Estate, Omaha, NE
Dagmar Muthamia, Long Beach, CA
Einar Schultz Nielsen, Tustin, CA
Hans Thyge & Valborg Nielsen, Denver, CO
John Mark & Dawn Nielsen, Blair, Nebraska
Ruth Herman Nielsen Estate, Omaha, NE
Irene A. Nissen Estate, Cedar Falls, IA
Eric & Joan Norgaard Charitable Trust, Northbrook, IL
Kay Esbeck North, Ames, IA
Kai E. & Melody Starr Nyby, Laporte, IN
Erik & Jackie Olsen, Glenbrook, NV
Glenn & Mary Ellen Olsen, Atlantic, Iowa
Peter & Irma Ørum, Saint Charles, IL
Marc & Carlene Petersen, Omaha, NE
The Rasmussen Family, Des Moines, Iowa
Eugene Robinson, Pensacola, FL
Anelise Sawkins, Minneapolis, MN
Shelby County Community Foundation, Shelby County, IA
Shelby County State Bank, Harlan, IA
Ava Simonsen Estate, Audubon, IA
Harold L. Sorenson Estate, Exira, IA
Wilbur C. Sorenson Estate, Exira, IA
Lemuel & Edith Sprow Estate, Mound, MN
Janet M. Thuesen, Falls Church, VA
Svend & Lois Toftmark, Eugene, OR
Erik & Lissi Vange, Palatine, Illinois
Marion J. Walker Estate, Solvang, CA

For More Information on *Lifetime Legacy Giving or Heritage Builders*, contact John Mark Nielsen, Executive Director; Deb Christensen Larsen, Development Manager; or Paul Johnson, Planned Giving Consultant (402.201.7024). You may also call the museum at 800.759.9192. Your inquiry will be treated confidentially.

THE HERITAGE BUILDERS

Over the past 32 years, the Museum of Danish America has accomplished much because of special friends and members who have provided for the museum in their estate plans. During 2015 six new Heritage Builders were added to the plaque, and they are **indicated in bold**. With their permission while living or through the permission of their estate's executors, the names of *Heritage Builders* are permanently inscribed on a plaque in the museum.

Dennis J. Andersen, Atlanta, GA

Anonymous (5)

Anne Bansen*, Ferndale, CA

Norman C. Bansen*, Blair, NE

Constance Boggild*, Delray Beach, FL

Victor Borge*, Greenwich, CT

Judy Brehm, Blair, NE

Marie Budolfson*, Ames, IA

Borge & Lotte Christensen, Tucson, AZ

Charles R. Christensen*, Omaha, NE

Edna M. Christensen*, Atlantic, IA

Myrvin F. & Anne C. Christopherson, Decorah, IA

Dolores Gregersen Connelly*, Atlantic, IA

Lydia Sorensen Eriksen*, Waterloo, IA

David Esbeck*, Des Moines, IA

Gordon R. & Jan Esbeck, Tipton, IA

Howard Esbeck*, Ames, IA

Ramona Esbeck, Ames, IA

Asta Forrest*, Fountain Hills, AZ

J. Emory* & Edna Frederickson*, Elk Horn, IA

Charles & Joanne Frederiksen, Ames, IA

Earl* & LaVena Fries, Des Moines, IA

Margaret Gee*, West Des Moines, IA

Gertrude Gronbeck*, Washington, D.C.

Caroline Hansen*, Harlan, IA

Hans Hansen*, Des Moines, IA

Laura E. Hansen*, Irwin, IA

Rita Neergaard Hansen*, Kenosha, WI

Rosa Hansen*, Hampton, IA

Alma Hartvigsen*, Harlan, IA

Richard Hellman*, Oceanside, CA

Anna Marie Hjuler*, Audubon, IA

Susanne Hohlen, Monticello, MN

Gunnar Horn*, Omaha, NE

Roy E. & Patricia Hougen, Ames, IA

Joy Ibsen, Trout Creek, MI

James D. & Margery Iversen, Ames, IA

Genevieve Jensen*, Plainview, NE

Ruth Jensen*, Ames, IA

Agnes Johnson*, Garden City, MI

Clyde* & Emma Johnson*, Omaha, NE

Paul & Liz Johnson, Fremont, NE

Martha Jorgensen*, Audubon, IA

Mogens H. Kiehn*, Scottsdale, AZ

Joy S. Larsen, Oneonta, AL

Folmer* & Reola Lerager*, Wichita, KS

Harald Hans Lund*, Higganum, CT

Tom Lund, Harlan, IA

Adelaide Madsen*, Iowa City, IA

Rudolph* & Margaret Madsen*, Racine, WI

Keith N. McFarland*, New Brighton, MN

Helga Mikkelsen*, Waverly, IA

Inez M. Mortensen*, Omaha, NE

Ruth Rasmussen Nelson*, St. Cloud, MN

Einer Schultz Nielsen*, Newport Beach, CA

Jens Nielsen*, Newell, IA

Karen Madsen Nielsen*, Junction City, OR

Margaret A. Nielsen*, King City, OR

Ruth Herman Nielsen*, Omaha, NE

Raymond* & Irene Nissen*, Cedar Falls, IA

Eric* & Joan Norgaard*, Glenview, IL

Folmer & Vera Nyby, Michigan City, IN

Caroline Olsen*, Minneapolis, MN

Olga S. Olsen*, Watertown, SD

Marian E. (Mittie) Ostergaard, Mission Viejo, CA

Dorothy C. Pedersen*, Omaha, NE

Archie Petersen*, Harlan, IA

John I. Petersen*, Waterloo, IA

Lois Petersen*, Atlantic, IA

Peyton* & Lucia Respess*, Omaha, NE

Ava Simonsen*, Audubon, IA

Bodil Sorensen*, Kirkland, WA

Harold L. Sorensen*, Exira, IA

Howard & Karma Sorensen, Elk Horn, IA

Halvor Strandskov, Osterville, MA

Carol Svendsen, Denver, CO

Margaret Syring*, St. Paul, MN

Nancy J. Walden, Omaha, NE

Sandra Wunder, Omaha, NE

*Deceased

special appeals

During the course of each year, the Museum of Danish America invites its supporters to make contributions to special appeals. The individuals, organizations, or foundations listed below contributed to these appeals in 2015 (and reflected in the Honor Roll of Contributors). Donors to the Summer Appeal and End-of-Year Appeal are included in the Honor Roll of Contributors.

VICTOR BORGE LEGACY AWARD

R. James & Janet Borge Crowle, Saint Michaels, MD
Michael & Sanna Feirstein, New York, NY
William & Carol Gordean, Saint Michaels, MD
Mort & Marcia Hoffman, Warrington, PA
Terri Johnson, Manning, IA
Lowell & Marilyn Kramme, Des Moines, IA
Deb Christensen Larsen, Harlan, IA
John Mark & Dawn Nielsen, Blair, NE

CURATORIAL CENTER

Community Heritage Society, Kimballton, IA
Irving & Elizabeth Jensen Foundation, Sioux City, IA
Consul Bruce R. Lauritzen, Lauritzen Corporation,
Omaha, NE

ENDOWED CURATOR POSITION

(Albert Ravenholt Curator of Danish-American Culture)

Albert Victor Ravenholt Fund, Seattle, WA

ELIM CHILDREN'S HOME PROPERTY

Earl Madsen, Elk Horn, IA
Folmer & Vera Nyby, Michigan City, IN
Poul & Benedikte Ehlers Olesen, Eugene, OR
Harriet Albertsen Spanel, Bellingham, WA

ENDOWMENT

Marianne K. Festersen Trust, Omaha, NE
(in special memory of Hans Frederick Festersen)
Earl Fries Estate, Des Moines, IA
Rita Neergaard Hansen Estate, Kenosha, WI
Norma (Larsen) Wilson Estate, Red Oak, IA

EVENTS

Sankt Hans Aften

Shelby County State Bank, Harlan & Elk Horn, IA

EXHIBIT PUBLICATION

Skål! Scandinavian Spirits

Donors to the online campaign through kickstarter.com are recognized with bold print in the Honor Roll of Contributors.

TRAVELING EXHIBITS

Skål! Scandinavian Spirits

Aalborg and Linie Aquavits, Arcus AS, Hagan, Norway
Albert Victor Ravenholt Fund, Seattle, WA
American Swedish Historical Foundation, Philadelphia, PA
Danish Sisterhood Lodge #15, Burlington, WI
Irene Schmidt, Atlantic, IA
The American Scandinavian Foundation's Finnish Fund & Helen Lee & Emil Lassen Fund, New York, NY

GENEALOGY CENTER

Sylletta Freeman Birk, Søby, Ærø, Denmark
Carol Brigandi, Omaha, NE
Larry & Janis Fajen, Elk Horn, IA
Merlyn & Jeanette Knudsen, Elk Horn, IA
Suzanne Gilbert & Brian McNabb, Los Angeles, CA
Michele McNabb, Atlantic, IA
J. Lloyd & Janis Pientok, St. Francis, WI
John & Deborah Powers, Austin, TX
Virgil & Charlotte Sorensen, Exira, IA

GRANTS

Collections Department

National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC

Curatorial Center

Iowa West Foundation, Council Bluffs, IA
State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines, IA

Internships

Danish Interns

Scan Design Foundation, Seattle, WA

MADSEN HYGGEHJØRNE

Jerry & Carolyn Madsen Larson, Saint Paul, MN

MUSEUM PUBLICATION

Iowa Economic Development Authority, Des Moines, IA

STAFF DEVELOPMENT IN DENMARK

Anonymous

Monthly E-News We are looking for individuals, businesses, or organizations to help us cover the costs of our new email system. Contact the Development Department to bring another month of updates to our 5,000+ subscribers for \$200.

wall of honor

The purpose of the Museum of Danish America, among other things, is to tell the continuing story of the Danish immigrant experience and influence in America and the evolving story of Danish-American heritage.

As a way of paying tribute, the Danish Immigrant Wall of Honor was established in 1992 listing the name of an immigrant, their year of entering the United States, and their place of settlement.

The immigrants' stories and family histories, if available, are part of the growing repository at Museum of Danish America's Genealogy Center.

Listed here are the names of the immigrants placed on the Wall in the year 2015:

CONRAD JOHANNES ERIKSEN (1881) Lawrence, Kansas – Conrad Dale Eriksen, Fort Collins, CO

CHRISTIAN JACOBSEN (1906) Britt, Iowa – Patrick & Jill Morelli, Seattle, WA

JOHN (JOHAN) C. KOFOED (1905) West Branch, Iowa – Audrey Kofoed, West Branch, IA; Karen Suchomel, West Branch, IA; and Chris Kofoed, West Branch, IA

LAURITS JACOB KRISTENSEN. CAPTAIN (1941) San Francisco, California – Kaj E. Kristensen, San Francisco, CA

MARTIN JENSEN ODDE (1904) Thermopolis, Wyoming – Virginia Odde, Thermopolis, WY

JOHANNA MATILDA OLESEN (1884) Shelby County, Iowa – Shirley Heilesen Doonan, Alexandria, MN

NIELS OLSEN & KAREN ANDERSEN OLSEN (1881) & (1882) Ruthton, Minnesota – Alvin Barentsen, Powers Lake, ND; Shirley A. (Svendsen) Christiansen, Mill Creek, WA; Kitty L. (Svendsen) Mercie, Marshall, MN; Robert Olsen, Arden Hills, MN; Laura M. (Thomsen) Stransky, Durango, CO; Maren A. Stransky, Durango, CO; Darrel Svendsen; Randy Svendsen, Minneapolis, MN; Steven M. Svendsen, St. Marys, GA; Paul D. Thomsen, Tyler, MN; Anita J. (Thomsen) Young, Eden Prairie, MN

WILLIAM SVENDSEN & MARIE JENSEN

SVENDSEN (1878) & (1869) Tyler, Minnesota – Alvin Barentsen, Powers Lake, ND; Shirley A. (Svendsen) Christiansen, Mill Creek, WA; Kitty L. (Svendsen) Mercie, Marshall, MN; Robert Olsen, Arden Hills, MN; Laura M. (Thomsen) Stransky, Durango, CO; Maren A. Stransky, Durango, CO; Randy Svendsen, Minneapolis, MN; Steven M. Svendsen, St. Marys, GA; Darrel Svendsen; Paul D. Thomsen, Tyler, MN; Anita J. (Thomsen) Young, Eden Prairie, MN

JEPPE THOMSEN & BODIL MARIE PETERSEN

THOMSEN (1893) & (1894) Viborg, South Dakota - Alvin Barentsen, Powers Lake, ND; Jerome C. Jorgenson, Minot, ND; Marty L. Jorgenson, Minot, ND; Eric Thomsen, Plainfield, IL; Leon R. Thomsen, Naperville, IL; Lowell A. Thomsen, Tyler, MN; Marvin L. Thomsen, Pipestone, MN; Paul D. Thomsen, Tyler, MN; Joyce E. (Thomsen) Stransky, Durango, CO; Laura M. (Thomsen) Stransky, Durango, CO; Maren A. Stransky, Durango, CO; Carole A. (Thomsen) Wiese, Worthington, MN; Anita J. (Thomsen) Young, Eden Prairie, MN

THOMAS JEPSEN THOMSEN (1894) Tyler, Minnesota

- Jerome C. Jorgenson, Minot, ND; Marty L. Jorgenson, Minot, ND; Eric Thomsen, Plainfield, IL; Leon R. Thomsen, Naperville, IL; Lowell A. Thomsen, Tyler, MN; Marvin L. Thomsen, Pipestone, MN; Paul D. Thomsen, Tyler, MN; Joyce E. (Thomsen) Stransky, Durango, CO; Laura M. (Thomsen) Stransky, Durango, CO; Maren A. Stransky, Durango, CO; Carole A. (Thomsen) Wiese, Worthington, MN; Anita J. (Thomsen) Young, Eden Prairie, MN



By
Deb
Christensen
Larsen

memorials

The Museum of Danish America is the grateful recipient of gifts made in memory of deceased friends and relatives.

Delbert Andersen
Hakon Andersen
Judy Andersen
Dr. Kenneth N. Andersen
Lillian Feddersen Barnard
Henning Kildahl Bitz
Ruth Hansen Boast
Dan Bonde
Dorothy Pedersen Book
Charles E. R. Boye
Charlie Brehm
Max R. Brodersen
Robert Warren Brown
Bendix & Ida Bruun (Brown)
David Byrd
Byriel Family
Carma Marie
Jens T. Carstensen
C. Clifford Christensen
Clarice Christensen
Cliff Christensen
Karl Christensen
Lloyd Christensen
Max Christensen
Virginia Christensen
C. Arthur Christiansen
Elna Marie Christophersen
Jens & Elna Christophersen
Glen Clemsen
Elna Nelson Crick
Magnus & Esther Cryberg
Jens Jorgensen Danger
Robert Allen Eagen
Edith Eastergard
Augusta Mae Eiermann
Dave Esbeck
Hans & Mathilda Farstrup
Hans Frederick Festersen
Mrs. Hannah Friis
E. W. Frost
Stella Gibson-Flensburg
Bernal Gregersen
Harvey H. Greve
Ila Hagen

Karen Haigh
Andrew Hansen
Clifford K. & A. Veola (Schjodt) Hansen
Ethan L. Hansen
John P. & Annie Hansen
Mads Lauritzen Hansen & Christina Rattenborg Hansen
Stanley Hansen
Thorvald Hansen
Mogens Hempel
Herbert Hjortsvang
Emery Hoegh
Hans & Genevieve Hoiberg
Merlin J. Holland
Sally Hoppe
Valdemar E. Hoppe
Joan Ida Hudziak
Ahlmann "Al" Iversen
Alfred & Asta Iversen
Marion Iversen
Johannes Jaeger
Andrew & Gladys (Rasmussen) Jensen
Arne C. Jensen
Bill Jensen
Craig Jensen
Ellen Jensen
Elmer Jensen
Eugene T. Jensen and father
Harald C. Jensen
Henry & Alma Jensen
James & Dagmar Jensen
Janell A. Jensen
Oluf Jensen
Rhonda Jensen
Russell P. Jensen
Yvonne Jensen
James Jepsen
Hans & Carrie Jersild
Charles Christian Johnson
Donald E. Johnson
Ronald N. Johnson
Iver & Marie Jorgensen
Doc Jim & Minnie Jorgensen
Sylvia Juhl
Karen Margrethe Thomsen-Kadgijn
Jimmie Kelgor
Ranny & Rhoda Kelloway
Evelyn Kjestina Jessen Kelso

Tage Ketelsen
Hans Kiehn
Mogens Kiehn
Kathryn Kline
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Mathias B. Kolding
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Kuhres – Rasmussens of Warren, PA
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Kurt Klarskov Larsen
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Paul M. & Johanne Larsen
Richard Larsen
Donna Lee Larson
Nita Larson
Dorothea Laursen
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Cayman Marie
H.C. Mathison
Mary Julienne Jensen McDonald
Valborg Henriksen McKinzie
Elsie Rasmussen McNabb
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Soren Miller
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Hans Thyge Nielsen
Jim Nielsen
Marie Nielsen
Marilyn & LeVern Nielsen
Maynard Nielsen
Tom Nielsen
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Elinor Olsen
Mary Bethel Olsen
Ole & Marie Olsen
Oluf & Vera (Paulsen) Olson
Raymond Paulsen
Anna M. Pedersen
Gordon Pedersen
LeRoy Pedersen
Lilly Pedersen
Niels M. Pedersen
Hans & Ivy Peitersen
Pola Peters
Adolf & Marie Petersen
Allen & Clara Petersen
Dale Petersen
Darwin Petersen
Harry & Frances Petersen
Mr. & Mrs. James Petersen
Norma I. Petersen
Ruth Petersen
Else Pitcher
Delbert Rasmussen
Junior Marion Rasmussen
Lynn Richmond
Gary Rosenboom
Andrew & Rosa Rosenkild
Winfred M. Ross
Charles E. Routhe
Kevin Ruggaard
Knute Ruggaard
Albert Martin Jensen Schjodt
Egon Simonsen
Catrine Buhl Skow
Christian A. Skow
Harold C. Skow
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Rosemary Soe
Hans Sorensen
Kenneth Sorensen
Oluf Peter Edvard Sorensen
Delbert L. Steen
Neoma Steen
Poul & Elie Steffensen
Eg Sten
C.A. Stub & Anna Juhl Stub
Larry Svendsen
Emma Hansen Swendiman
Christen Moeller Sweningsen
Jan Thiesen
Axel E. Thomsen
Peter Thomsen
Ethel (Larson) Torneten
Al Traaseth
Ardis Tuttle
Svend Waendelin
Walter Westergaard
Norman Wittrup
John & Mary Belle Witzel
Carl Wiuff & Valborg Andersen Wiuff

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in honor

The Museum of Danish America receives many contributions as gifts to honor beloved family members and friends on special occasions. In 2015 the following people were honored:

Dale Andersen
Muriel Bacon
Jens & Elna Christophersen
Jim & Janet Borge Crowle's 50th anniversary
Schleswig-Holstein exhibit at the Danish American Center,
Minneapolis, MN
Danish Club of Tucson
Lillian Eggerss
Esther Frost
Aage & Kamma Grumstrup
Stew & LeNore Hansen
Deborah Jensen Hjortsvang
Chester J. Holland

June Elaine (Jensen) Holman
Miles Jeffry Hommel
Lena Humber
Kenneth & Edie Jensen
LeRoy B. Jensen
Christian & Laura Jepsen
Niels W. & Ingrid H. Jorgensen
Yvonne & Daniel Larsen
Bill & Gloria Layton
Lisa, Lori & Lana
Michele Christine McNabb's birthday
Mettie Miller
Maerete Nieto's birthday
Folmer & Vera Nyby's 65th wedding anniversary
Poul & Benedikte Ehlers Olesen
The Roge and Egeland Families
Angela Stanford's work at the museum
Minna Williams

matching gifts

The Museum of Danish America wishes to thank our members and donors for initiating matching gifts from the following corporations and foundations:

Assured Life Association
Bank of America
The Boeing Company
Dominion Foundation
The GE Foundation
Sprint Foundation
Thrivent Financial
Union Pacific Railroad

in-kind gifts

The following companies and individuals, through their in-kind gifts, supported the Museum of Danish America in the calendar year of 2015:

Den Danske Pioneer (Elsa Steffensen & Linda Steffensen),
Hoffman Estates, IL
Chris Fredericksen, Elk Horn, IA
Harlan Newspapers (Steve Mores and Alan L. Mores),
Harlan, IA
Leman USA (Steen Sanderhoff), Sturtevant, WI
Michele McNabb, Atlantic, IA

new, complimentary, and gift memberships

Throughout 2015 the Museum of Danish America attained 187 new members, awarded complimentary memberships or received contributions directed towards gift memberships for the following organizations or individuals:

Aalborg and Linie Aquavits, Arcus AS, Hagan, Norway
Ronald & Theresa Amaral, Elk Horn, IA
David Andersen, Coralville, IA
Rick Andersen, The Villages, FL
Tracey Anderson, Glenwood, IA
Sanne Bagby, Atlanta, GA
Brandon & Christina Baggett, Elk Horn, IA
Carol Baker, St. Paul, MN
Karen Beall, Santa Fe, NM
Anne Beck, Blue Springs, MO
John & Caryn Behr, Willmar, MN
Kristen Bellur, Bakersfield, CA
Matt Bennett, Carmel, CA
Paul & Barbara Birkeland, Cloquet, MN
Edward & Bente Bladt, Lumberton, NJ
Molly Bogh, Highland, CA
Scott Bonnesen, Omaha, NE
Brenda Boyd, Council Bluffs, IA
Karen Breckan, Morgan Hill, CA
Angela Brewer, Inver Grove Heights, MN
Kent & Annelle Brewer, Tualatin, OR
Andrea Brooks, Wahoo, NE
Louise Bruynseels, River Forest, IL
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Connie Scott, Sidney, IA
Joann Scott, North Hollywood, CA
Dix & Linda Scranton, Norfolk, NE
Daniel Searing, Washington, DC
Preben & Lene Sepstrup, Malling, Denmark
Patricia Severson, Clear Lake, IA
Steven & Cynthia Shove, Gig Harbor, WA
Renee Showalter-Hanson, Minnetonka, MN
Jon & Romona Shramek, Hiawatha, IA
Betty Sievers, Audubon, IA
James & Jane Simon, Ames, IA
Arnold & Helen Skov, Alden, MN
Doris Skow, Santa Clara, CA
Jim Sleister, West Burlington, IA
Shirley Small, Fremont, NE
Edgar & Louella Smith, Moorhead, MN
Edna Smith, South Dayton, NY
Gerald & Diane Smith, Gregory, SD
Randall & Marie Smith, Lincoln, NE
Marc Solondz, Livingston, NJ
Carl & Gloria Sorensen, Glendale, CA
Dale Sorensen, Clear Lake, IA
Jorgen & Gerda Sorensen, Eugene, OR
Margaret Sorensen, Grand Island, NE
Martin & Linda Sorensen, Lombard, IL
Richard & Carol Sorensen, Independence, MO
Robert & Nerita Sorensen, Walnut, IA
Sandra Sothman Tighe, Atlantic, IA
Peter & Karolyn Spirup, Oregon City, OR
Marc & Virginia Sprenger, Ottumwa, IA
John & Martha Squire, Des Moines, IA
Virginia Stafford, Ames, IA
Matthew Schipper & Angela Stanford, Neola, IA
Edward & Caryl Steenberg, Circle Pines, MN
Elsa Steffensen, Hoffman Estates, IL
Ruth Steffensen, Paradise, CA
Kenneth Steiness, Phoenix, AZ
Carol Steinmetz, Muscatine, IA
Jens-Ejnar Stephansen, Aalborg, Denmark
Richard & Dorothy Stilling, Porter Ranch, CA
David & MaryAnn Stokes, Livonia, MI
Arlene Stork, Arlington, NE
Kurt & Susan Stotts, Des Moines, IA
Annalee Strandskov, New Brighton, MN
Sherry Stratton, Portland, OR
Tyler Swanson, Houston, TX
Martin & Hanne Taekker, Eugene, OR
Joe & Jean Talamantes, Paradise, CA
Joan Tange, Cedar Falls, IA
Mabel Terry, Muscatine, IA

Mary Thomas, West Allis, WI
Finn Thomsen, Aalborg, Denmark
Laura Thomsen, Overland Park, KS
Miriam Thomson, Kahoka, MO
Donna Thorne, Abilene, TX
Fritz & Janice Tiarks, Harlan, IA
Brian & Jo Tourtelotte, St. Paul, MN
Michael & Lis Trent, Sun City West, AZ
James & Gerd Tuchscherer, Lino Lakes, MN
Patricia Turner, Brush, CO
Suzanne Ulrich, Cedar City, UT
Eric & Tasha Unkenholz, Rapid City, SD
Molly Van Austen, Wilsonville, OR
Jon & Mary (Bro) Van Gerpen, Moscow, ID
John & Connie Vandercreek, Great Lakes, IL
David & Bente Vinci, Skokie, IL
Erik & Kaja Voldbaek, Lake Oswego, OR
Niels Ole & Esther Volhøj, Bindslev, Denmark
Judith Walden, Des Moines, IA
Merle Walling, Polson, MT
Eric Wallstedt, Sunland, CA
Donald & Peggy Watkins, Omaha, NE
Aleen Weaver, Atlantic, IA
Mark & Amy Werner, Pekin, IL
Dan & Shelia Wertz, Buffalo Grove, IL
Marcia Wessels, Lincoln, NE
Roberta Westergaard, Tucson, AZ
Henrietta Wheeler, Rochester, MN
Rosalie Wiand, Pulaski, WI
Sarah Wiebenson, Portland, OR
Glen & Lola Wiese, River Falls, WI
Carol Wilcox, Atlantic, IA
Jane Wilder, East Flat Rock, NC
Birthe Willis, Goleta, CA
Katherine Wilson, Wheeler, WI
Elaine Winkler, Plymouth, MN
Jennifer Winters, Elk Horn, IA
Phyllis Wittrup, Lakewood, CO
Joseph & Kirsten Wodushek, West Bend, WI
Karen Wolz, Houston, TX
Jennifer Worl Rasmussen, Omaha, NE
Michael & Nancy Christensen Wright, San Carlos, CA
Brian Wu, San Carlos, CA
David Wyker, Central, SC
Todd & Diane Zygmontowicz, Troy, MI

corrections

Every effort has been made to ensure that all information contained in the 2015 Annual Report of Contributions is accurate. We respectfully regret and apologize for any omissions, misspellings, or misplacements. Please contact the Development Department with any questions or corrections.