



JULY 2011

## News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

### Fourth of July

Museum open Noon – 5; Bedstemor’s open 1 – 4; FHGC closed

### Brown Bag Lunch: Saving a 1000-Year-Old Boat



Thursday, July 7 at 12 noon: Julie Andersen, one of the museum’s interns from Denmark, explains how Denmark’s Viking Ship Museum preserves 1000-year-old wooden ships.

The program begins at 12 noon in the Bro Dining Room and is FREE to the public. Bring your own lunch, we’ll provide the coffee!

### Special Saturdays at Bedstemor’s House

Bedstemor’s House is open daily 1 to 4pm for a step back in time to 1908. On Saturdays this summer, you can also enjoy crafts, demonstrations, or other activities from a century ago. Admission is FREE to museum members or a fully-paid museum admission; or, pay just \$1 to visit Bedstemor’s House.

#### Upcoming Special Saturdays:

- July 2           **Hardanger Embroidery** demonstration by Melissa Dinesen
- July 9           **Woven Paper Stars** created by Bev Mendenhall
- July 16          **Holiday Papercutting** with Cynthia McKeen  
Learn holiday gifts you can make yourself!
- July 23          **Home-made, Hand-cranked Ice Cream** – The Christensen Family  
Beat the summer heat with an old-fashioned treat.
- July 30          TBA



Hardanger



Woven Paper Stars



Papercutting

## Danish-American Artist Series Presents: Silverwork of Yngve Olsson

Exhibit opens July 23. On view through January 8, 2012

Yngve Olsson (1896-1970) was a Danish immigrant silversmith who spent his career with the Kalo Shop in Chicago. Like other Kalo Shop craftsmen, he was a master of hand-wrought silver and copper wares, especially jewelry and hollowware. Examples of his works will be on display, as well as the tools and design drawings that were part of the process of transforming metal into works of art.



Grethe Schioler's textile art will remain on view through July 10, 2011. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a beautiful collection of color, texture, and fiber art.

## FHGC: Danish Roots, American Branches

### Danish Baptists Arrive!

The museum has amassed quite a lot of material about Danes who had converted to the Baptist faith in Denmark and immigrated to the US, often settling in predominantly Baptist communities. Now, through the research and hard work of Danish intern Julie Andersen, an exciting new body of material on this subject may be found on the museum webpage. On the drop-down menu under Library & Genealogy you will find a section headed 'Danish Baptists.' The section includes a brief overview of the denomination in Denmark, the early history of Danish Baptist immigration to the US, a listing and map of Danish Baptist congregations, and photographs of many of the early churches and church leaders. Material has also been translated into Danish for non-English readers.



Alden. Founded in 1885.

Danish Baptist Church in Alden, MN



Rev. P. H. Dam

## Genealogy on the Road . . . to Moorhead, Minnesota!

In late June, librarian Michele McNabb spent two days at the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival sponsored by the Nordic Culture Clubs of Fargo-Moorhead. In addition to holding two talks on Cyber Genealogy—Danish Style, Michele visited with members of the Red River Danes, viewed the Victor Borge traveling exhibit, and acted as Danish research specialist for festival visitors wanting information about their Danish roots. The next road stop will be in Yorba Linda, California, from September 29 to October 1. See the Workshops & Talks menu under Library & Genealogy for further information.



The museum's Victor Borge traveling exhibit in Moorhead

## Wanted: Letters Written by Danish Immigrant Women



University of Copenhagen history student Pernille Buchholtz is looking for collections of letters written back home by Danish immigrant women or between female Danish immigrants to America between 1860 and 1914 as part of the research for her master's thesis. She is particularly interested in correspondence by the same woman/women over a longer period of time, anywhere from 5 to 20 years and more. If you have or know of any collections of letters fitting this description Pernille may be contacted at [Pernille\\_Buchholtz@hotmail.com](mailto:Pernille_Buchholtz@hotmail.com) or [pernillebu@hum.ku.dk](mailto:pernillebu@hum.ku.dk).



Two good friends

## Hat of the Month



Carrie Christensen Holm

The FHGC summer photo exhibit, "Heady Stuff / Hatte og Huer," is on display in the FHGC lobby through the end of October. Stop by to look at what our ancestors wore on their heads and to vote for your favorite photos!



Dennis Petersen in his Royal Guard helmet

## “Greetings” From Our First Danish Intern

In late 2003, The Danish Immigrant Museum established an internship program for students at universities in Denmark. The purpose was to provide Danish interns with a working knowledge of how a non-profit, private museum operates in the United States and give them an opportunity to gain experience in collections management, exhibit design, fund-raising, marketing and tourism.



**Freja Børsting**, our **first** intern, arrived in the spring of 2004. Her internship centered on an upcoming Danish and Danish-American folk costume exhibit, with primary responsibilities of research, writing the draft for the exhibition’s script, and arranging the artifacts’ placement in the exhibit space. Her work was invaluable and our first experience with a Danish intern is one we will never forget. Many of the staff members still have a close relationship with Freja. Since 2004, the Museum has hosted 16 Danish interns and 7 American. Each one of them has made valuable contributions to the museum.

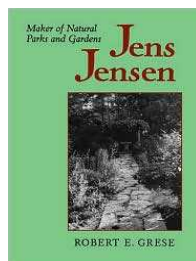
It was a recent email from Freja to Debra Christensen Larsen, Membership Coordinator/ Development Associate that prompted this article. On July 1<sup>st</sup> Børsting begins her new career as curator of exhibits at the **Danish Immigration Museum (Immigrantmuseet)** in Farum, a suburb of Copenhagen.

“Hi Deb, Can I ask you to pass the word to everybody about how happy I am that I got the chance to intern at The Danish Immigrant Museum? I could have ended up spending my internship in a Danish museum making coffee or answering simple e-mails, but instead I got to do a whole variety of things that had to do with all aspects of museum work: curating, public relations, fundraising etc., and for that I am VERY grateful!! I learned a lot and I also made great friends :-) I can’t wait to start my new job and I can only hope that it will be as good as my internship in Elk Horn! I can never thank all of you guys enough!

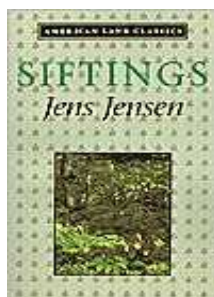
Big hugs,  
Freja”.



## Museum Shop's New Arrivals



\$30.00



\$29.00



Call the Gift Shop to place your order 800.759.9192

# The Danish Immigrant Museum

## Danish Doings - *Kyst til Kyst*

The Danish Immigrant Museum is happy to share information about Danish- American events across the country - "coast to coast"

To include your organization's event, send complete information – including a contact phone or email – to Deb Christensen Larsen [development@danishmuseum.org](mailto:development@danishmuseum.org) .

The Museum reserves the right to edit or condense the information at our discretion.



**July 4-9, July 4-16** *Concordia Language Villages*, Moorhead, Minnesota. Celebrating thirty years this summer, *Skovsøen* has helped hundreds of American youth understand their Danish heritage and the bright future of the Danish people in the current global arena. Please contact Alissa Maier at [amaier@cord.edu](mailto:amaier@cord.edu) If you would like further information or brochures. Online Registration for Summer 2011: [www.ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org](http://www.ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org) .



**4 July** *Rebild Festival*, Rebild and Aalborg, Denmark. Where does the largest 4th of July celebration outside of the US take place? In Denmark! Each year, thousands of people gather in Rebild Bakker - a hilly national park south of Aalborg in Jutland – to celebrate the USA's Independence Day, meet other Danish-Americans, and remember those who left Denmark to seek a new life in America.



**July 15-17**, *Danish Viking Days*, Viborg, South Dakota. Danish Days in Viborg has a long and rich history dating back to Viborg's earliest days. Danish Days was originally celebrated on June 5th to coincide with Denmark's independence day. Although the dates have changed, the spirit has remained the same. We still host many of the same events that our founding fathers did such as a parade, community worship services, ball tournaments and dances, to name a few.



**July 20 – 22**, *Æbleskiver Days*, Tyler, Minnesota. Every year for at least 50 years, this Danish community celebrates Æbleskiver Days in honor of the round Danish pancake baked in special pans. Æbleskivers are served all day, along with other Danish treats, combined with fun and activities, including a parade, street dance, kid's activities, etc.



**August 17-21**, *Fall Folk Meeting at Danebod*, Tyler, Minnesota. Program and registration (August 1 deadline) information is available online at [www.danebodlutheran.org](http://www.danebodlutheran.org). Click on the "Fall Folk Meeting" under the banner.



**August 18-21**, *Danish Festival*, Greenville, Michigan. The entire Greenville community comes together to celebrate its Danish heritage. The Danish Festival draws more than 75,000 visitors to Greenville. This 47th annual event includes Hot Air Balloon Rally, Dirt, Diggin' Danes Truck & Tractor Pull, fairytale parade, and so much more.



**September 15-18**, *Danish Days*, Solvang, California. Plan to visit Solvang for the 2011 Danish Days Celebration, sponsored by the Solvang Danish Days Foundation. We welcome visitors from around the world to join our celebration, as we reflect on our Danish culture in the 100 years of Solvang's existence. Danish Days is an open invitation for guests and locals to celebrate the history of our beautiful town, enjoy our Danish hospitality, and recognize our strong ties to our Danish heritage.