



JUNE 2011

## News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

### Brown Bag Lunch Series



Thursday, May 12 at 12 noon: **"A Common Thread"**

Collections Assistant Brittany Deeds will share stories from the museum's textile collection, which she has been working with for the past year. Even a little scrap of cloth may reveal a fascinating story! Come and get this behind-the-scenes look at the museum's textiles, and then visit the storage area in person with Brittany.

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!

### Museum Exhibitions on the Road!

The museum's traveling display *Victor Borge: A Smile is the Shortest Distance* will be traveling the country in June. First it goes to the Danish Home in Croton-on-Hudson, New York, for their annual Grundlovsdag Festival on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Then back to the Midwest for the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival in Moorhead, Minnesota – where the museum's Michele McNabb will also be sharing research tips for Danish genealogy.



In the Twin Cities, there are TWO opportunities to enjoy The Danish Immigrant Museum exhibits. Through the month of June, the Danish American Center in Minneapolis will host *Danish Gymnastics in America* – and you might want to see it on June 5<sup>th</sup>, their Danish Day event! The Bloomington Civic Plaza is hosting *Denmark October 1943 – Rescue of the Danish Jews* through June 8, another opportunity to learn about this remarkable chapter in Danish history.

Visit the museum's website or contact Tova Brandt, curator of exhibitions, to learn more about how the museum can travel to YOUR community. (curator@danishmuseum.org)



## Free Preview of *View Our Collection*

During the month of June, the museum is offering a free preview of its searchable “online collection database” - **View Our Collection**. It includes more than 34,000 artifact records and there are now more than 52,000 viewable images. A \$100 annual membership is the minimum level required to allow you access to View Our Collection.

**But during June, it will be made available to you FREE.**

To explore the museum's many treasures, go to [www.danishmuseum.org](http://www.danishmuseum.org), click on the Collection tab. The access code is: Innovation2011  
(This access works best using Internet Explorer as your browser.)

## Bedstemor's House Open for the Summer



Museum visitors this summer can once again step back in time to 1908, when Bedstemor's House was first built in Elk Horn. This historic home is open daily from 1 to 4pm through Labor Day. Watch for special activities on the museum's calendar of events.

## Celebrate Midsummer at the Museum!



As we approach the longest day of the year, The Danish Immigrant Museum is preparing to celebrate Midsummer – Danish-style! Everyone is invited to enjoy the traditional bonfire on *Sankt Hans Aften* (Midsummer's Eve).

On Saturday, June 25, come to the museum grounds for an evening of food, games, singing, and the *Sankt Hans Aften* bonfire. Try the traditional *snobrød*, which is bread twisted on a stick and baked over the fire.

The activities begin at 7pm, the bonfire will be lit at 9pm. Bring your own chairs and blankets to enjoy the full evening. All activities are available for a free-will donation. *Sankt Hans Aften* events are sponsored by the Kimballton-Elk Horn Danish Brotherhood Lodge No. 341, The Danish Immigrant Museum, and the Rebild Society – Heartland Chapter.



## Notable New Acquisition



This 1979 Royal Copenhagen commemorative cup and saucer, titled “Juletræet Vælges” or “Choosing the Christmas Tree,” was donated by Anton Berg, Jr. Both he and his wife are first generation Americans, children of Danish immigrants. Anton and his wife represent those descendants who feel a connection to the land of their ancestors and want to preserve that heritage within their own homes and families. This cup and saucer were purchased during their trip to Denmark in the late 1980s. It was long on display at their home here in the United States, and recently donated to the Museum, complete with its original packaging.

## FHGC: Danish Roots, American Branches

### Genealogy on the Road: in Denver!

June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the very last day to sign up for any of five workshops on topics relating to Danish genealogy to be held at the Sheraton Denver West hotel in Lakewood on June 9, 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the upcoming Museum Board meeting.

Workshop details and registration information may be found on the museum webpage under Library & Genealogy / Workshops & Talks or may be obtained by emailing Michele McNabb at [librarian@danishmuseum.org](mailto:librarian@danishmuseum.org). A limited number of private research consultations are still available.



1765 Copenhagen County deed

### A Note About FHGC Mailing Address:



The Family History & Genealogy Center is located on Main Street in Elk Horn, about a mile away from the museum proper. Because we have a different location (and are only 2 doors down from the post office) the FHGC has a PO Box mailing address (POB 249), whereas mail to all other museum departments should be addressed to 2212 Washington Street in Elk Horn.

### “Heady Stuff / Hatte og Huer”

This is the theme of this year’s FHGC summer photo exhibit. Nearly 60 photographs of Danish immigrants and family members with *something* on their heads will be on display in the FHGC lobby through the end of October. Stop by if you are in the area and vote on your favorite hat!



Local Elk Horn girls Ida Boose, Esther Larsen, Nora Krogstad and Sena Carlsen show off their Easter bonnets



## Mark Your Calendar: Live and Learn in Scenic Environs

The Danish Immigrant Museum invites and encourages you to attend one or all of these cultural enrichment opportunities in the coming year. Each offers opportunities for intellectual, cultural and spiritual growth in the best tradition of the Danish folk high schools.



**June 5, 2011** *Danish Day* The Danish American Center, Minneapolis, MN is excited to announce the completion of their new addition just in time to celebrate Danish Day on June 5th at the Center. Join us at 10:30 on Sunday morning and stay for the day as we enjoy social times, music and a picnic lunch. Your Danish heritage is calling you to be here!



**June 24-26, 2011** *Danish Cultural Conference* at the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center overlooking the beautiful Columbia River Gorge near Corbett, Oregon. A full conference schedule for 2011 is available on the website of the Northwest Danish Association:

[www.northwestdanishfoundation.org](http://www.northwestdanishfoundation.org) Click on the DCC logo.

Registration deadline is May 31, 2011.



**June 20-July 16, 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)



**August 17-21, 2011** *Fall Folk Meeting at Danebod* in Tyler, Minnesota. Program and registration information is available online at [www.danebodlutheran.org](http://www.danebodlutheran.org). Click on the "Fall Folk Meeting" under the banner.

**In mid-June the museum will email the 2011 registration form with an August 1 deadline.**