



SEPTEMBER 2011

E-News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

Brown Bag Lunch Program!

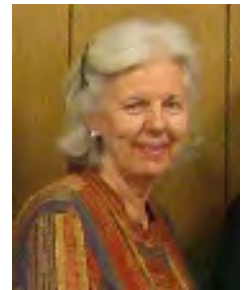


September 8: “The Journey Continues: Remembering the Past and Looking to the Future at the Danish American Archive and Library” with Tim Jensen of the DAAL board in Blair, Nebraska.

The Danish American Archive and Library (DAAL) began as a collection within the Dana College library, but grew to become an institution in its own right. After the closing of Dana, DAAL has had a busy year of finding a new home and new independence. Hear the latest news about the archive’s activities, past, present and future.

Future Brown Bag Lunch Program:

October 13: “Secrets of Hans Christian Andersen”, shared by Dr. Kristi Planck Johnson, professor emeritus of education at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia.



End of the Summer Season at Bedstemor’s House

Bedstemor’s House is open daily 1 to 4pm for a step back in time to 1908. Labor Day, September 5, will be the last day for the regular summer season – but look for Bedstemor’s House to be open during *Julefest* and for special tours!

Admission is FREE to museum members and will a fully-paid museum admission; or, pay just \$1 to visit Bedstemor’s House.

An Invitation For You



Our new mission statement is “**The Danish Immigrant Museum celebrates Danish roots and American dreams**”. Support our celebration and dream when you become an active member. Your support makes possible all of the activities described in this e-newsletter. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about membership [benefits](#).

Presentation and Open House



The public is invited to attend a presentation by Burt Olsson, son of our current featured Danish-American Artist, Yngve Olsson, Sunday, September 11th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Burt Olsson will present the art of silverwork, as learned from his father. Using tools and finished silver pieces, Burt Olsson will illustrate how a master craftsman would design, build, and decorate an heirloom piece of silver.

Program begins at 2:00 p.m., with refreshments to follow.

Museum's Mystery Acquisition

As part of the Museum's ongoing inventory and cataloging project, an artifact has surfaced in the textile collection that is not documented in our files. We would like to know more about the piece.

All we know is that the donor was female and born in New York State in 1913, but spent most of her life in Windsor, Colorado. Many questions percolate as we consider just how this piece came to be donated to The Danish Immigrant Museum. What organization or group does this patch represent? During what time period was it used? How does this piece contribute to the Danish American story, or does it?



If you have any information about what this armband may be, please contact Curator of Collections and Registrar Angela Stanford at the Museum at registrar@danishmuseum.org or 712-764-7001.

Family History & Genealogy Center: Danish Roots, American Branches

Maps for Sale



The FHGC has foldable large-scale (1:50,000) maps for many parts of Denmark. These modern maps show details such as roads and rail lines, geographical features and the location of structures such as farms. The maps sell for \$10 each, plus \$2 postage. Contact Michele McNabb (librarian@danishmuseum.org) with the name of your ancestral village or parish to see if we have a map for an area you are interested in.

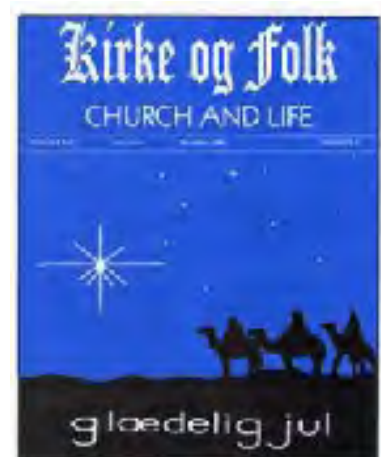


Lost Books!!

Have you sent a box of books to the FHGC? In early August we received from the Des Moines dead-letter office the address label for a package that had been mailed to us from North Baltimore, Ohio, on June 6th, 2011, but which had gotten separated from its package. All we know is that the parcel weighed 24 lbs., so presumably consisted of books, but we haven't a clue who sent it or exactly what the parcel contained, making tracking, identification and recovery difficult. If this package sounds familiar, please call 712.764.7008 and talk to Michele, so we can try to recover your donation.

Kirke og Folk/Church and Life

Do you have old issues of this publication lying around that you would like to see find a new home? The FHGC is trying to fill in gaps in our collection. Our largest holes are from 1960 to 1970, but we are missing many later issues as well. (We have complete holdings for 1973-1975, 1979, 1984, 1986, 1989, and 1999-2003, so don't need these years.) If you have back issues that you would like to donate, please contact Michele with the year and issue number(s) in question.



Keeping a Sharp Eye Out



The FHGC collects and compiles a database of obituaries, funeral cards and memorial booklets for Danish-born individuals and those active in the Danish-American community. Thanks to those members of the DIM family who have offered their services as obituary spotters and clippers in response to last month's newsletter. We still have a number of states and cities that are not covered, however, so if you are a habitual obituary reader, can wield a pair of scissors, and would be interested in volunteering in this way, please contact Michele at the FHGC (librarian@danishmuseum.org) with the name of the newspaper(s) you would be willing to peruse and clip.

It's a Little Known Fact

that the FHGC is an affiliate library of the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Anyone interested in viewing FHL materials on microfilm or fiche can now order them online from any computer and designate which LDS Family History Center or affiliate library they should be sent to for viewing. If you live in southwest Iowa, the Family History & Genealogy Center may be your choice of viewing library, since we are open more hours than nearby LDS Family History Centers.



Museum Shop – Ready For Your Christmas Orders!



2011 Christmas Card
\$10.00/pkg of 10
individual card/envelope \$1.25

To purchase this year's museum collector's Keepsake Ornament and Christmas Card, contact
Museum Shop Manager
Joni Soe-Butts
712.764.7001



2011 Porcelain Keepsake Ornament - \$13.25

Recently Arrived From Denmark – Meet the Museum's Scan/Design by Inger & Jens Bruun Foundation Interns



My name is **Maria Beisheim**, born in Charlottenlund outside Copenhagen, by the seaside overlooking the coast of Sweden. While studying for my degree in archeology at the University of Copenhagen, I lived in a small town outside Rome for many years, working at an archaeological excavation. After returning to Copenhagen, I completed a degree in museum studies. I have never been to America before I stepped off the plane in August, and I am looking forward to seeing as much as I can before going home in January.



I am **René Christiansen**, born and raised in Hjørring, in the northern part of Jutland. I'm taking my Master in History degree with specialization in museum work at Aalborg University. As part of the course work, a semester as an intern is required. I have always wanted to experience America, so when I heard about The Danish Immigrant Museum I was hooked. Here I will get the opportunity to learn about museum work, to experience a whole new world at the same time, and to watch *Monday Night Football* live – earlier than I could in Denmark.

The Danish Immigrant Museum Now on Wikipedia!

As one of the largest reference websites, Wikipedia attracts over 400 million visitors each month. Collections Assistant Intern Brittany Deeds, who had created Wikipedia articles previously for her museum studies program at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, decided that The Danish Immigrant Museum needed a presence on this far-reaching, free-content encyclopedia.

The [article](#), now published on Wikipedia, offers an overview of the museum's history and main building, and describes the museum's off-site properties, such as the Family History and Genealogy Center, Bedstemor's House and the Jens Dixen House. The article also discusses the upcoming Jens Jensen Prairie Landscape Park. [The Danish Immigrant Museum Wikipedia article](#) was deliberately designed so that it would not compete with the museum's webpage, and makes every effort to direct all readers to the museum's official [webpage](#).

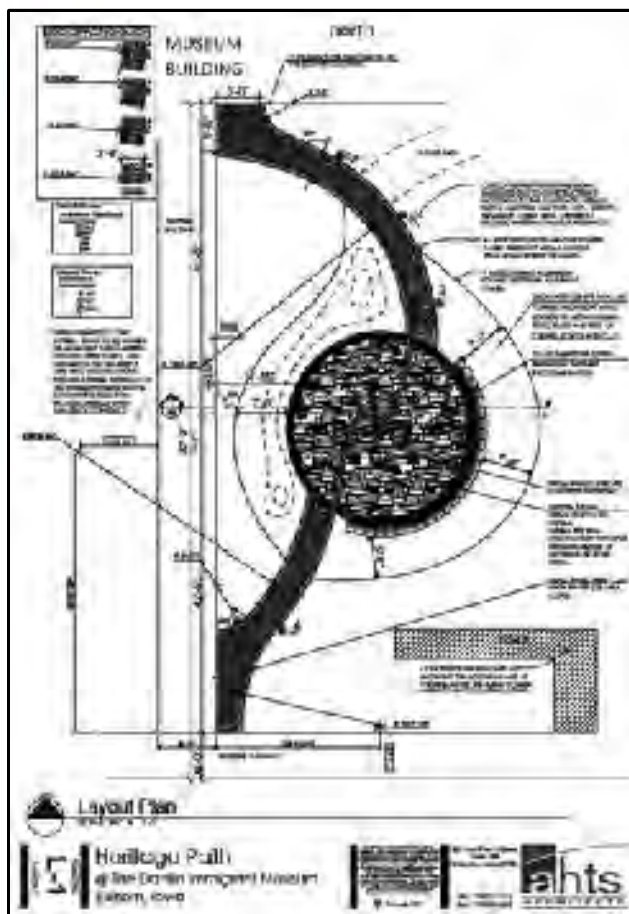
“Heritage Path” Begins Construction

Country Landscapes, Inc. of Ames, Iowa is to begin work this month on Phase I of the Jens Jensen “Heritage Path.” Designed by AHTS Architects of Waterloo, Iowa, the first phase features a brick walk way leading up to the museum, a flag plaza surrounded by stone seating and native prairie plantings. Pavers used in the walk way and plaza are inscribed with the names of individuals being honored or remembered. The scheduled completion date is October 15th, in time for the annual October meeting of the Board of Directors.

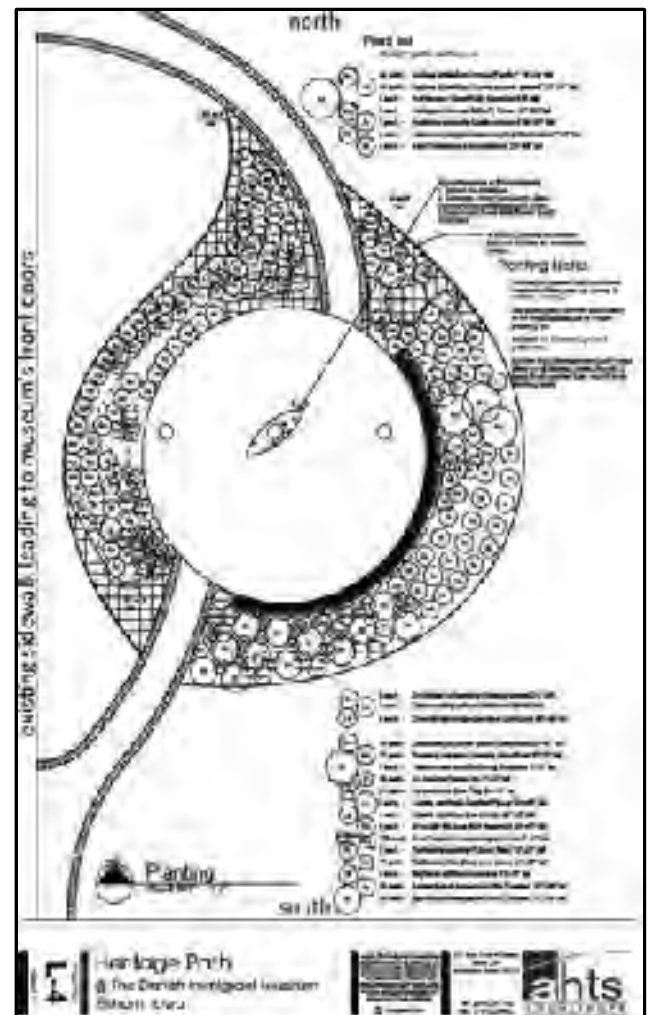
The Jens Jensen “Heritage Path” offers an ongoing opportunity for you to honor or remember individuals, celebrate an occasion or give a special gift. New names will be added to the “Heritage Path” through out the year, weather permitting.

[Information and order form](#) for making a commemorative brick donation may be found at the museum’s website.

Path Layout



Path Plantings



You Can Follow Us From Anywhere!



The Danish Immigrant Museum



Like us on
Facebook

Tune in to



DanishMuseum's channel

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.

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



September 2-4, Orange International Street Fair (OISF), downtown Orange, California. The OISF has been the place where friends, families and neighbors get together to experience a wide variety of food, music and dance from cultures and ethnicities throughout the world, including Denmark! Museum board member Mittie Ostergaard of Mission Viejo, CA and the Museum's Bruce Bro will assist the Danish Club of Orange County, the Southern CA Rebild Society and the Danish Church of Yorba Linda in making an estimated 50,000!



September 11, Scandinavian Day Festival, Vasa Park, South Elgin, Illinois. Enjoyed by thousands who return each year to this late summer tradition of a great day of traditional food, crafts, gifts and entertainment representing the five Nordic Cultures. **The Museum will once again participate in this event. Come out and meet our new interns from Denmark and visit with John Mark Nielsen, museum executive director.**



September 16-17, Heartland District Convention Brotherhood & Sisterhood Lodges, Elk Horn, Iowa. Hosted by Kimballton-Elk Horn Lodge #341. Friday evening includes Danish open-faced sandwiches being served at the museum, followed by exhibit tours. Business meetings will be held Saturday morning at Elk Horn Town Hall with a banquet in the evening.



September 16-18, 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.



October 13-15, Board of Directors 28th Annual Meeting and 89th Regular Meeting, The Danish Immigrant Museum, Elk Horn, Iowa. Museum members are invited to attend the annual meeting being held at the Elk Horn Town Hall on Saturday, October 15 from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.



October 16, Heartland Chapter Rebild Society luncheon, Elk Horn, Iowa. In preparation for the 100 year Rebild celebration in 2012, a luncheon will be held at the Museum at noon. Museum's Bruce Bro (also Heartland Chapter President) will conduct this informative meeting about the celebration in the Rebild Hills near Aalborg, Denmark on July 4, 2012. There will also be planning for the National Convention on Chicago in April 2012. All Heartland Rebild members, and any other area Danes interested in this wonderful celebration of Danish/American friendship are encouraged to attend. Please call the museum to RSVP.