January 2012

E-News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

Member Survey Coming Soon via Email

Museum Members, please help us gather information about membership benefits and publications! We want to hear from you!

In a few days, we will email you with a link to an online survey administered by SurveyMonkey. This survey will only take a couple of minutes to complete, and your responses will remain anonymous. If you prefer to respond to a survey on paper, we would be happy to mail you a copy by “snail mail.” Just email us or call the museum at 712-764-7001.

New Artist Exhibition

Mia Furlong of Chicago is the next featured artist in the Danish-American Artist Series, on view January 21 through July 8 of this year.

Mia Furlong is not a typical lawyer – she works four days a week, so that she has time available to pursue her painting. Artistic expression has always been integrated into her life, whether as a dancer, a poet, or a painter. Her mother is a Danish immigrant, and Mia frequently visits family in Denmark. She credits her Danish heritage for the choices and values in her life, such as keeping room in her life for creative arts. Her work reflects a strong interest in color, geometry, and organic forms such as trees, leaves, and flowers.

Interns Make Another Baking Video

The Danish interns' baking videos have been very popular and now they are ready with yet another one. This time Danish intern Maria Beisheim demonstrates how to make the traditional Danish Apple-cake or “Æblekage”. She gets help from the museum’s American intern Anna Mullen, while René works behind the scene as cameraman and editor. You can find the Apple-cake video and the previous baking videos on the museum’s YouTube channel or by visiting the Video Library on the museum’s homepage under Online Media.
Durham Museum’s annual Ethnic Christmas Festival

The Museum was well-represented on December 2 at the Durham Museum’s annual Ethnic Christmas Festival in Omaha, Nebraska. Interns René Rugholm Christiansen, Maria Beisheim, and Anna Mullen joined Curator of Collections/Registrar Angela Stanford at the booth. Almost 650 people stopped to peruse brochures and photos, purchase museum shop merchandise, or to simply say hello.

Family History & Genealogy Center Photographs Now on the Web!

Thanks to the efforts of danish intern Maria Beisheim, many of the images shown in FHGC summer photo displays since 2004 may now be viewed on the museum webpage under Library & Genealogy>Viewed Through the Lens. They are arranged by each year’s theme. An added feature is that any person named in the accompanying text may also be found via Google or other search engines. Also included in this section are sample primary source documents that researchers may find among family papers or encounter when doing genealogical searching. A brief explanation accompanies each example.

Long-term Lovers

The 2012 photo display will feature photographs of Danish immigrants married for 50 years or longer and Danish-American couples married for 60 years or more. Photographs may be sent as jpg files or print copies to Michele McNabb at the FHGC. We are especially looking for stories of how couples met, courted, and married to accompany the pictures and would like to have both marriage and ‘round’ anniversary photographs, if available. A submission form may be found at Library & Genealogy>Photo Gallery or be obtained by emailing Michele at librarian@danishmuseum.org.

Danish Genealogy Workshops in the Bay Area

It’s time to sign up for the genealogy workshops being offered at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City in conjunction with the museum Board’s February meeting in the Bay area. Five different sessions are being offered as well as individual consultations. Topics include US and Danish resources, researching ancestors who lived in Schlesvig/Sønderjylland, and the most useful online websites for researching in Denmark. There is something for everyone, whether you are just beginning to do research or simply unfamiliar with Danish resources. Class size is limited. Further information and a registration form may be found on the museum webpage under Library & Genealogy>Workshops and Talks.