



FEBRUARY 2013

## E-News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

### What's Up at the Museum?

#### Houston/Danevang Board Meeting

The museum's board of directors held its winter meeting, February 7 – 9, in Houston, Texas. On Thursday, board members and staff were invited to tour the Holocaust Museum Houston and enjoy a traditional Danish dinner prepared by Soren Pedersen, chef and co-owner of Sorrel Urban Bistro. Friday, the group traveled to the Danish Heritage Museum of Danevang where committee meetings were held and members of the Danish Heritage Preservation Society served an authentic Texas BBQ lunch. Meetings resumed and Angela Stanford, our Curator of Collections/Registrar, held a workshop entitled "How to Catalog and Care for Artifact Collections" for members of the DHPS board. The museum's 92<sup>nd</sup> board meeting was held on Saturday morning with a bit of free time following.



We were honored to host nearly 50 guests at the evening banquet with representation from Houston members of The Danish Immigrant Museum, the Danish Club of Houston, Danish American Chamber of Commerce of the Southwest, the Danish Saturday School *Vikingskolen*, Holocaust Museum Houston and Honorary Consul Ray Daugbjerg. The program for the banquet was "Saving the Hanne Frank" presented by Walter Hansen, a conservator working with the Holocaust Museum Houston to restore the 1940s-era Danish fishing boat, now in their permanent collection, that represents the boats that carried Danish Jews to safety in Sweden in 1943. Also in attendance was museum board member and Vice Consul of Houston, Anna Thomsen Holliday, who was instrumental in securing the boat for the Holocaust Museum. *Board members present: front row, L-R: Tim, Dorothy, Linda, Jerry, Kristi, Cindy, Lone. Back row, L-R: John Mark, Ken, Henrik, Dennis, Jon, Dagmar, Mark, Garey, and Ron. Find out who they are and where they are from [here](#).*

### And Beyond



John Mark Nielsen was in Arizona at the end of January and beginning of February to attend the Danish Club of Tucson's Danish Smorgasbord on February 2nd. This marked the culmination of two weeks of activities celebrating "Danes in the Desert" including performances by the National Danish Performance Team and soccer matches between Denmark and Canada and Denmark and Mexico. Danish Ambassador Peter Taksoe-Jensen was also on hand during the festivities. Two of the museum's traveling exhibits made appearances in Arizona – *Victor Borge: A Smile is the Shortest Distance* and *Danish Gymnastics in America*. The Victor Borge exhibit was hosted by Copenhagen Contemporary Furniture in Tucson (pictured above).

John Mark Nielsen will be in Washington, D.C. the last week of February attending the American Alliance of Museums Advocacy Day February 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. Nielsen will not only be representing The Danish Immigrant Museum but also the Iowa Museum Association in his meetings with members of the Iowa congressional delegation.

## Brown Bag Lunch Series

Join us for another season of Brown Bag Lunch programs – monthly public programs exploring topics related to Danish history and culture, museum activities, and the Elk Horn community. All programs begin at 12 noon and are FREE to the public, so grab your lunch and enjoy learning something new!



### Next program is March 14: “Have Statues, Will Travel”

Angela Stanford, curator of collections, will share the story – with pictures! – of over 50 statues by Carl Rohe Smith that came from Denmark to Elk Horn and are now on their way back to Denmark. Why were these statues here? Why did museum staff need mittens and scarves to work on this project? And how do such large pieces travel by boat across the Atlantic Ocean? Join us for a look behind the scenes at what the museum has been working on this winter.

## Photo Submissions Needed

The theme for the 2013 Family History and Genealogy Center TivoliFest photo exhibit will be “Coming of Age in Denmark and the US.” We are primarily looking for individual confirmation photographs of Danish immigrants and the first generation born in this country and materials and narratives relating to their confirmation experiences in both Denmark and the US. A [submission form](#) is available. The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2013. Please contact Michele for further information.

## Are you an Obituary Reader?

The Family History and Genealogy Center is looking for a person who is willing to look for and clip obituaries of Danish-born individuals and those of Danish descent in Racine, Wisconsin area newspapers. No remuneration – just a lot of appreciation from our staff and obituary volunteers! Contact Michele for further information.

Baker \$90



Casserole with Lid \$63



**NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM SHOP**

**KOBENSTYLE**  
by Jens H. Quistgaard



Butter Warmer \$36

**KOBENSTYLE** by Jens H. Quistgaard: truly a classic. A unique blend of exquisite design and superior performance. Moving effortlessly from stove to table, the casserole lid becomes a trivet, making a dramatic presentation. Offered in white and red, the enamel on steel collection is available to complement any decor. Every Kobenstyle design is easy to clean, offers enhanced heat conduction, and the signature stay-cool handles are known and loved the world over. Originally designed in 1956 by Jens H. Quistgaard, one of the founding designers of Dansk, who helped define the Scandinavian Modern style.

*Call the Museum Shop to inquire about these beautiful and timeless pieces. (800) 759-9198.*

## Genealogy Website Update

On February 19<sup>th</sup> genealogists using the website [www.arkivalieronline.dk](http://www.arkivalieronline.dk) to search for and view digital census and church book images will see a new homepage. The basic homepage, which now looks like other pages in the Danish State Archives system, has a brief English-language introduction (top of page), but otherwise navigation is in Danish. Access to church, census and other records is through the drop-down menu right next to the large 'A' in the red box. If you encounter problems using the site don't hesitate to contact FHGC staff at (712) 764-7008.



*Remember, through the end of April the Family History & Genealogy Center is on winter hours: Tuesdays-Fridays from 9am to 5pm. Contact us at (712) 764-7008 during those hours to make appointments, ask questions, or check on weather conditions.*

## Danish Artists in Exhibitions in Washington, D.C. and Milwaukee, WI

*A World Apart: Anna Ancher and the Skagen Art Colony* is the largest exhibition of Anna Ancher's work ever to be held in the United States. A well-known and much-loved figure in Denmark, Anna Ancher is most admired for her paintings of interiors filled with light and color, influenced by Impressionism. Ancher was a talented and versatile artist who created some of the most avant-garde works to come out of the art colony in the remote, northern town of Skagen, Denmark. Including over 40 paintings by Ancher and more than 20 by her Skagen colleagues, this exhibition explores Ancher's role as the only professional female artist within the colony and, in turn, her place in the history of western art.

View the exhibit at the [National Museum of Women in the Arts](http://www.nmwa.org) in Washington, D.C., February 15–May 12.

*Modern Rookwood: 1918-1933* showcases select works from the Rookwood Pottery Company, which opened in Cincinnati in 1880 and survived through the Great Depression. The company, marketed as "an artist's studio, not a factory," was arguably the most celebrated ceramic producer in the country because of their experimental designs and exceptionally fine glazes. A fascinating chapter of Rookwood's history will be presented in this exhibition of 37 porcelain vessels painted by the company's best-known decorators including Jens Jensen, a Danish immigrant artist.



*Modern Rookwood: 1918-1933* is on view at the [Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum](http://www.villa-terrace.org) in Milwaukee, WI, February 8 – April 7, 2013.

### An Invitation For You

**"The Danish Immigrant Museum celebrates Danish roots and American dreams."** Celebrate with us as we pursue our dreams by becoming a member of the museum. Your membership support makes possible the museum's many activities. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about membership [benefits](#).

## Have you Seen It?

The Danish film [A Royal Affair](#) is nominated for an Oscar! Watch the Academy Awards on February 24 to see who takes home the statue.

## Museum Calendar, March – April

- March 3 Final day for exhibition – *Jens Jensen: Celebrating the Native Prairie*
- March 10 Final day for exhibition – *Meeting My Makers: Portraits by Neoma Thomas*
- March 14 Brown Bag Lunch Program, “Have Statues, Will Travel”
- March 31 Easter Sunday – Museum closed
- April 6 Exhibit opens – *Danish Modern: Design for Living*
- April 20 Spring Open House in the Museum Shop
- April 21 Piano Recital by winners of the Victor Borge Legacy Award, 2pm

## Other upcoming Danish-American and Danish events

- February 15 *Smørrebrød* potluck with entertainment by The Larks in Mission Hills, Kansas. Contact [Dean Larsen](#).
- February 22-24 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Farstrup-Mortensen Lecture Series in Solvang, California. [More info.](#)
- February 24 Fastelavn Sunday at the Danish Lutheran Church and Cultural Center, Yorba Linda, California and co-hosted with DAC. Contact [Pastor Anne-Grethe Krogh Nielsen](#). Also: Reception with Peter Taksøe-Jensen, Danish Ambassador to the United States and the Honorary Consul of Denmark in Los Angeles, Torben Aaskov. [RSVP by e-mail.](#)
- February 24 Fastelavn: Danish Children’s Party in Corinth, Texas. Potluck and costume party for both children and adults. Contact [Marianne and Brian Carter](#).
- April 23-28 2013 Rebild National Park Society’s US Annual Membership Meeting. [More info.](#)



The Danish Immigrant Museum

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