### An E-Newsletter Exclusively for Friends of The Danish Immigrant Museum

An International Cultural Center

www.DanishMuseum.org



**JANUARY 2013** 

## **E-News from The Danish Immigrant Museum**

## Family History & Genealogy Center: Danish Roots, American Branches

#### **Church Research News**

Digital and microfilmed images of Danish-American church books from various parts of the country form a growing part of the FHGC collection. Some of our most recent additions to the in-house research collection are digital images from several local area churches. Available for searching are records from the following Lutheran congregations in lowa:

- Audubon, 1909-25
- Bethany, 1891-1950
- Kimballton, 1897-1998
- Oak Hill, 1877-1950
- Poplar, 1907-1926
- St. John's, 1890-1950

Records for many of these churches were kept in Danish until well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The digital and microfilmed records are not presently indexed so an

approximate date for a baptism, confirmation, marriage or burial must be provided for a search to be done. Research request forms (which include a translation of each record) may be found under Library & Genealogy on the museum's website. A more complete listing of our church book holdings will appear shortly.

Also new to the collection are indexes to the records of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Oyens, Iowa (1898-1964), Elk Horn Lutheran Church (1875-2012), and a Danish Baptist congregation in Moody County, South Dakota.

#### New Theme for the 2013 FHGC Photo Exhibit



The theme for the 2013 FHGC photo exhibit will be "Coming of Age in Denmark and the US," featuring confirmation photographs of Danish immigrants and the first generation born in this country and materials relating to confirmation. Submission forms and further information will be found on our website by the end of January.

Remember, through the end of April the Family History & Genealogy Center is on winter hours: Tuesdays-Fridays from 9am to 5pm.

Contact us (712-764-7008) during those hours to make appointments, ask questions, or check on weather conditions.

### Houston and Danevang, Texas to Host Museum's Board of Directors

The Museum's Board of Directors is holding its annual Winter Meeting in Houston, Texas from February 7-9, 2013. We look forward to meeting our members and friends in the Houston area and invite you to join us for dinner on **Saturday, February 9th.** The event will be held at the Embassy Suites Houston Near the Galleria. Cost is \$45 per person. Please call Terri Johnson at the Museum's toll-free number, 1-800-759-9192 or email her at dksec@metc.net by **Monday, January 28**th to make your reservation.

Guest speaker is Walter Hansen, a conservator working with the Holocaust Museum of Houston to restore the *Hanne Frank*, a 1940s-era Danish fishing boat in their permanent collection. Hansen will tell the uplifting and heroic story of a three-week period in 1943 when Danish fishermen risked their lives and freedom to ferry more than 7,200 Jews to safety in Sweden. The *Hanne Frank*, donated by a Danish family who participated in the rescue effort, was acquired by the Holocaust Museum in 2007, and has since begun to deteriorate in the Houston climate. In addition to explaining the history and significance of this rare artifact, Mr. Hansen will discuss the techniques that are being used to restore and preserve it. The *Hanne Frank*, which has received international media attention, is an icon that represents the importance of individual resistance to hate and oppression. The boat has been intentionally presented next to the Museum's Holocaust-era railcar, which was used to transport Jews to concentration camps. This display, which contrasts two modes of transportation – one to fear, misery and death, and the other to freedom – is used by the Holocaust Museum to help teach students and other visitors the continuing importance of each individual's responsibility to act when confronted with injustice.

Friday, February 8, Board committee meetings will be held in the community of Danevang and the Board members and attending Museum staff will be treated to a Texas barbeque luncheon. While in Danevang, Angela Stanford, Curator of Collections and Registrar at The Danish Immigrant Museum, will give a two hour workshop on collections care for board members of the Danish Heritage Museum of Danevang, as well as other invited local museum professionals

## Museum Exhibits on View During "Danes in the Desert" Events in Arizona

This January and February an extraordinary confluence of all things Danish comes together in the Sonoran desert of Arizona. Two national Danish sports teams – in soccer and gymnastics – and a visit by Danish Ambassador Peter Taksoe-Jensen highlights a series of events, exhibits and lectures that is all about Danes! Locals and visitors alike



will celebrate Danish-style while learning about Danish contributions and Danish-Arizona ties.

The museum's exhibit *Victor Borge: A Smile is the Shortest Distance* will be on view from January 22-27 at the Copenhagen Contemporary Furniture in Tucson, also the location of several speakers and public events. Another museum exhibit, *Danish Gymnastics in America*, will be on view at the many appearances by the National Danish Performance Team as they perform in the Tucson and Phoenix areas.

For a complete list of events, locations, and contact information, visit www.DanesInTheDesert.com

### **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.

#### **ZOOM Tour – National Danish Performance Team**

The National Danish Performance Team is proud to present the ZOOM world tour in the USA January-February 2013 in collaboration with Rebild National Park Society. The hugely popular performance team has made an impact on Sacramento and San Francisco, California. Next stop: Solvang, California and then on to Tucson, Phoenix and Sells, Arizona.



www.ndpt.dk/nyheder/USA Tour 2013 [a36573].aspx

## New York & Delaware Valley Chapters Host the 2013 Annual Rebild Membership Meeting

The Rebild National Park Society's US Annual Membership Meeting for 2013 will be hosted by the New York Metro Chapter and the Delaware Valley Chapter, April 23 – 28, 2013, in historic Morristown situated about an hour west of New York City. There will be tours, luncheons, meetings and a "Gala Dinner". Rebild is a Danish-American Friendship Organization. Rebild members and non-members are welcome to participate.

Click **HERE** for event Schedule

### Odense Bys Museer | Odense City Museums Features E-Museum

Perhaps you are fascinated by the life and works of Hans Christian Andersen and you would love to visit his birthplace, Odense, Denmark, but just haven't crossed that off your "bucket list" yet. In the meantime, you can **virtually** visit the Hans Christian Andersen Museum and check out their collection. This E-Museum has twelve sections to choose from – each containing many, many photos and accompanying text – coming alive on your screen just by hovering your mouse over your selection.

Enjoy your E-visit (in Danish or English) to the Odense City Museums ... one museum specializing in various fields. http://museum.odense.dk/e-museum-/hans-christian-andersen-collections.aspx

#### Did You Know . . .

... that The Danish Immigrant Museum's Permanent Collection holds approximately 40,000 pieces? These include ... **Textiles:** almost 2500 pieces including wedding dresses, folk costumes, uniforms, performance outfits worn by Victor Borge, and much more; **Commemorative Plates:** 621 ranging from the annual Christmas plates produced by Royal Copenhagen and Bing & Grøndahl to plates documenting anniversaries of churches, schools, and communities; **Trunks and Suitcases:** almost 70 of many sizes and styles.



You Can Follow Us From Anywhere!





The Danish Immigrant Museum

## **January Museum Shop Special!**

Joni needs to make room for new spring and summer items.....

Take 25% OFF Any "In Stock" Item in Our Catalog!

Call the Museum Shop to place your order. 1.800.759.9192

HURRY - This is a limited time offer!

Excluded are Vessel Amber Jewelry, Billing Boats and Proongily!

## Museum Calendar, January - April

February 7-9	Museum's Board of Directors meets in Houston and Danevang, Texas
March 3	Final day for Jens Jensen: Celebrating the Native Prairie
March 10	Final day for Meeting My Makers: Portraits by Neoma Thomas
March 31	Easter Sunday – Museum closed
April 6	Exhibit opens – Danish Modern: Design for Living
April 20	Museum Shop's Spring Open House
April 21	Piano Recital by winners of the Victor Borge Legacy Award, 2pm

# Other Danish-American and Danish Events Coming Soon:

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	January 16 & 23	Danish Language School held at the Danish Lutheran Church and Cultural Center, Yorba Linda, California. Contact Pastor Anne-Grethe Krogh Nielsen, agkroghn@aol.com
	January 19	Danish American Club in Orange County 2013 Kickoff Meeting and General Election held at the Danish Cultural Center in Yorba Linda, California www.danishamericanclub.org
	January 22 – February	Danes in the Desert events in Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona www.DanesInTheDesert.com
	February 2	Danish Troubadour: Flemming Behrend plays Danish Traditional folk songs at the Lacy Ethnic Festival, Olympia, Washington at 12:30pm at St. Martin University.  www.ci.lacey.wa.us/city-government/city-departments/parks-and-recreation/special-park-events/ethnic-celebration
	February 22-24	28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Farstrup-Mortensen Lecture Series in Solvang, California www.hwy246.net/users/bethania/farstrup.htm
	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, agkroghn@aol.com
	April 23-28	2013 Rebild National Park Society's US Annual Membership Meeting www.danishrebildsociety.com/rebildmeeting.2012.php