



JUNE 2013

E-News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

We're Celebrating 30 Years on June 22

Music, dancing, exhibit tours, banquet, and bonfire!

Join us on Saturday, June 22: Special tours of the new exhibition *Danish Modern: Design for Living* will be given starting at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Glenn Henriksen, a pianist from Armstrong, Iowa, will begin playing on Victor Borge's grand piano at 2:30 p.m. Flemming Behrend, the "Danish Troubadour" of Olympia, Washington, will perform Danish folk tunes outdoors at 3:45 p.m.



A casual tent banquet is planned for the east lawn of the museum at 5 p.m. A casual summer meal will be served. Dignitaries on the program include Ambassador Peter Taksøe-Jensen and Governor Terry Branstad. Cost is \$30 per person.

Those wishing to partake in the tent banquet should **RSVP to (712) 764-7001 or [e-mail](#) by Friday, June 14.** Payment must be received by that date, and tickets will be mailed to attendees. Tickets will not be available for purchase or pick-up on the day of the event.

Immediately following the banquet around 7 p.m. will be the annual Sankt Hans Aften celebration, open to the public, with cake and ice cream, more entertainment including a performance by the Kimballton Folk Dancers, and a bonfire in the Jens Jensen Prairie Landscape Park council ring. With the exception of the banquet, museum admission and activities will be free will donation on June 22.

Staff Travels

The travel schedule for museum staff has picked up in the warmer months. Curator of Collections Angela Stanford and American Intern Natalie Smith were in Baltimore May 18-22 for the American Alliance of Museum's annual meeting. Executive Director John Mark Nielsen traveled to La Habra Heights, California to attend Gundlovsfest and to meet with members and donors. On May 28 Librarian Michele McNabb and Danish Intern Jesper Jacobsen visited the Danish American Archive and Library in Blair, Nebraska. McNabb, Jacobsen and Development Manager Deb Larsen traveled to Minneapolis, Minnesota on June 2 for Danish Day at the Danish American Center. The trio was hosted by the DAC and board member Cynthia McKeen and husband John.

New Policy

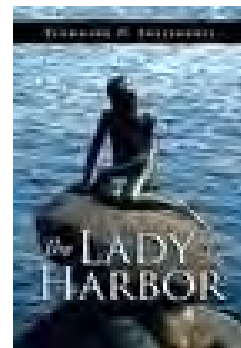
Nielsen, McNabb, Stanford and Tova Brandt, Albert Ravenholt Curator of Danish-American Culture, finalized a "[Reproductions and Use Policy](#)" and have posted it to the website. It provides guidelines for requests for photocopies and scans of photographic, archival, and other material, and a fee schedule for reproduction or publication.

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Join us for 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, June 20: “Writer’s Inc. – Facts & Fiction”

How can a fictional story relate to real historic events? What liberties can an author take in making facts and fiction work together? Flemming “Eric” Smitsdorff, author of *The Lady in the Harbor*, set his story against the backdrop of Denmark during World War II. He will discuss his research into the history of that period, and his creation of a fictional story, the process of melding the two, and what he learned along the way.



Upcoming programs:

- July 11 Jesper Jacobsen, intern from Denmark at the Family History & Genealogy Center:
“Compassion in the Criminal Code: Denmark’s Treatment of Mental Disability”
- August 15 Christina Roelofs, Shelby County Naturalist:
“Summer in the prairie – What is growing out there?”

Jens Jensen exhibition on view in Twin Cities and Quad Cities



Jens Jensen: Celebrating the Native Prairie is currently on view at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis during the month of June. Visit www.danebo.org for more details.

The exhibit is also at the German American Heritage Center in Davenport, Iowa, as part the exhibition “Land and Water / Land und Wasser.” The installation celebrates Jens Jensen (the “Land” man) using the interpretive materials developed by The Danish Immigrant Museum.

The other half of the installation celebrates Ernest Oberholtzer, a Davenport native who was instrumental in advocating the creation of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Minnesota and Canada (the “Water” man). This installation will be on view June 2 through October 27. Visit www.gahc.org for more details.

The Danish Immigrant Museum celebrates Danish roots and American dreams. Your membership support makes possible the museum's many activities. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about membership [benefits](#). Join for as little as \$30/year!

Family History and Genealogy Center Notes

Now on summer hours at our location on 4210 Main Street! Tuesday-Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm; Saturday, 10:00am – 5:00pm. Admission is free for museum members, \$5 non-members. Visitors are always welcome, but if you wish individualized research assistance we strongly urge you to make an appointment via genealogy@danishmuseum.org or call 712.764.7008.

Long-term Lovers

Images and narratives from last year's photo display, *Long-term Lovers*, are now viewable on the [webpage](#).



Confirmation: Coming of Age in Denmark and the U. S.

This year's photo exhibit, *Confirmation: Coming of Age in Denmark and the U. S.*, features over a century of confirmation photos and memories and will be on display in the FHGC lobby through the end of October.



Principia Bicycle Headed our way

We are honored to be receiving a very special bicycle from Denmark! Below is a segment from a Danish [news article](#):

According to the museum director John Mark Nielsen, who is American with Danish roots, the Museum wants the bike for two reasons:

- 1) It is a distinguished Danish piece of craftsmanship--featuring both Dannebrog and a "Made in Denmark" sign on its frame--and will fit nicely into the exhibition among a B&O sound system, a Nimbus motorcycle and even Victor Borge's old grand piano.
- 2) This particular bike has a unique history as it has been driven all the way across the United States. Along the way, TV2-reporter Lars Toft Rasmussen visited the museum in the small Midwestern town where a number of Danish immigrants ended up settling down. His reporting trip in autumn 2012 led him across the United States from San Francisco in the west to Washington in the east. It is a trip of 5000 km, which was conducted in almost 40 days.

Skandinavisk Hygge

Begin and end your day with *hygge*. *Hygge*: they say there is no direct translation, but Google Translate says it's coziness. One thing that goes hand-in-hand with *hygge* is candles, and Scandinavians use more candles than any other nation in the world.

Social media buzz led us to these fine specimens, and we liked them so much that we had them shipped from Denmark. Only one other place in the U.S. carries them.

The recipe was created over 50 years ago, near the Royal Palace in Copenhagen, to supply the churches of Denmark and has been in production by the same small family firm ever since. The special combination of ingredients and traditional method of production create a candle that burns very slowly, without dripping, and with a very deep glow through the candle body.

Unscented and the perfect shade of white, you will never grow tired of this household staple. The candles come in three sizes noted by their burn time: 70 hours, 100 hours and 110 hours. *Call us (712)764-7001 to get your hands on these--don't forget your membership discount!*



Conference Registration Open

The Danish-American Heritage Society's upcoming conference, *Innovation: The Danish Way* will take place at the downtown Des Moines Embassy Suites October 10-12 featuring international presenters, a variety of session topics and fun activities around the area! [Register now!](#)

Museum Calendar, June - July

- June 20 Brown Bag Lunch, "Writer's Inc. – Facts & Fiction"
- June 22 Tent banquet for the museum's 30th Anniversary at 5 p.m.--*payment required by June 14*
- June 22 Sankt Hans Aften celebration open to the public
- July 4 Independence Day – Museum open holiday hours, 12 noon to 5 pm
- July 11 Brown Bag Lunch, "Compassion in the Criminal Code: Denmark's Treatment of Mental Disability" by Jesper Jacobsen

Other Upcoming Danish-American and Danish Events, June - August

- June 9 Danish Sisterhood Birdshoot, St. Charles, IL. [More information e-mail Bente Rasmussen](#)
- June 21-23 [Danish Culture Conference](#) at the Menucha Conference Center in Corbett, OR
- June 22 Sankt Hans Aften by the [Danish American Club](#) in Orange County, CA
- June 22 Sankt Hans Aften by the Danish Society of Massachusetts near Berlin, MA
- June 22 Scandinavian Park's [Midsommar](#) Celebration, Vasa Park, South Elgin, IL
- June 23 Summerfest Picnic at [The Danish Home](#), Chicago
- June 23-29 [Himmelbjerget 2013](#) 5-day overnight camp in Corbett, OR for kids ages 10-18
- June 28-19 [Scandinavian Hjemkomst](#) and Midwest Viking Festival in Moorhead, MN
- July 21 The Ringsted Boys performance at [The Danish Lutheran Church](#), Yorba Linda CA
- August 5-9 [Danish day camp](#) for 5-10 year olds in Seattle at Harmony Hall
- August 21-25 Danebod Folk Meeting, Tyler, Minnesota. Registration information [here](#).
- August 25-31 "A Taste of Denmark" at [Danebo Folk School](#)



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