



museum of danish america

E-NEWS | APRIL 2014

in the galleries



Søren Kierkegaard: The Global Dane is open on the main floor gallery until April 13.

Schleswig-Holstein: Turmoil on the Danish-German Border is open in the Kramme Gallery (mezzanine level) until September 1. Parallels can be drawn to recent events in the Ukraine.

Across Oceans, Across Time, our permanent exhibition, shares the story of early Danish immigrants to the United States.

open house | SATURDAY, APRIL 26

10 AM-5PM FREE ADMISSION
1-4PM REFRESHMENTS
2PM GALLERY TALK with Mark Latta, Rookwood Pottery Collector

SPRING FLING IN THE MUSEUM SHOP

See the fun new jewelry, handbags, kitchenware and ceramics in the Museum Shop. Get your gift shopping done early for the upcoming graduation, Mother's Day, and wedding seasons! *Menu's "Dropp!" bowl pictured at left.*

EXHIBIT OPENING: *Nude Vases, Cubist Faces: Modernism at Rookwood Pottery*

Join us for the opening of this art exhibit featuring the works of Jens Jensen*--a Danish immigrant, modernist and pottery decorator for Cincinnati, Ohio's Rookwood Pottery Company in the 1930s and 40s.

Whether working as a decorator of art pottery or as a painter, Jensen's unique style not only influenced his colleagues but left a legacy clearly influenced by his European roots and modern sensibilities. This exhibit was funded in part with a grant from the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

*No, not THAT Jens Jensen. Although an influential and creative man, this Jens Jensen (1898-1978) is not the same Jens Jensen (1860-1951) that our Prairie Landscape Park is named after.

help us find a library intern

After the Curatorial Center is finished this summer, we will need some help moving the Genealogy Center's special collections to a new area at the museum. We are seeking a skilled individual to help us with this task. Find the [details about this paid internship](#) on our website in the Internships section. Application deadline is May 1, 2014.



brown bag lunch program

When Danish immigrants left Denmark in the 19th century, what kind of lives were they leaving behind? Sofie Krogh Nielsen, a Danish graduate student intern at the museum, will share stories from Aarhus Old Town (*Den Gamle By*) on **Thursday, April 10 at noon**. Bring a lunch—we'll provide the coffee!

Coming up next:

May 15 Julie Allen is an associate professor of Danish, Danish-American and German culture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She will be here presenting "Remembering the Schleswig War of 1864: A Turning Point in German and Danish National Identity." She will also present at the Hausbarn in Manning, Iowa, at 7 p.m.



victor borge legacy award recital

The Museum of Danish America is honored to announce this year's winners of the Victor Borge Legacy Award in Omaha and southwest Iowa. Named in honor of the beloved comedian and musician, the Victor Borge Legacy Award is designed to encourage young pianists in the Omaha and Southwest Iowa regions. Four talented piano students have earned cash prizes of \$1,000 and \$500 dollars and will perform in public recitals at the Museum of Danish America. This is the third year of the Victor Borge Legacy Award, a program organized by the museum and funded by R. James and Janet Borge Crowle of Saint Michaels, Maryland, with additional support from the Eric and Joan Norgaard Trust.

The first-place winners, each receiving a \$1,000 cash prize, are Emily Zhang of Omaha and Emily Umphreys of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Second-place winners, each receiving a \$500 cash prize, are Katherine Payne of Woodbine, Iowa, and Moriah Hellstrom of Omaha.

The winners were selected in piano competitions organized by the Southwest Iowa Music Teachers Association and the Omaha Music Teachers Association. Each competitor performed multiple piano solo works in front of a judge, and winners have also prepared a written essay about the legacy of Victor Borge.

All four winners will perform at the Museum of Danish America in public recitals. Emily Zhang and Emily Umphreys will perform on April 26 and Katherine Payne and Moriah Hellstrom on June 1. The public is invited to enjoy these talented musicians as they perform on Victor Borge's own piano, part of the museum's collection. Each recital will begin at 2:00 pm and will be followed by a reception.



danish brotherhood + sisterhood collection inventory

With the object collection inventory initiative nearing the final phase, the curatorial staff has begun assessing the Danish Brotherhood and Sisterhood object collection. This portion of the museum's holdings will be inventoried and cataloged by American intern Madeline Mongar. Since the museum began taking donations in 1985, Brotherhood and Sisterhood artifacts have been gifted by several individual donors as well as specific lodges. The object portion of this specific collection includes medals, ribbons, pins, gavels, trophies, flags, banners, ballot and voting boxes, and other miscellaneous objects. The archival materials such as books, photographs, ledgers, letters, and certificates will be inventoried at a later date.

LEFT This membership ribbon was originally used by Danish Brotherhood Lodge #16 of Minden, Nebraska. Collection of the Museum of Danish America, gift of William Jones, 1999.031.003. **RIGHT** This ribbon was originally used by Danish Sisterhood Lodge #151 of Luverne, North Dakota. Collection of the Museum of Danish America, gift of Red River Danes, 2008.035.014.

curatorial center construction progresses

Since the last update in January, much work has taken place on the new addition. The



rebuild annual meeting in solvang, ca

Rebild National Park Society is the Danish-American Friendship Organization founded in 1912. Much has transpired since then, when a group of Danish Americans purchased a 200 acre heather covered land in Rebild, Denmark in order to have a place to annually celebrate July 4th, America's Independence Day, with their Danish families and fellow immigrants. Later the Rebild organization, donated the property to the State of Denmark, and it became Denmark's first National Park.

The 2014 Rebild Annual Membership Meeting will be hosted by the Solvang Chapter on April 2-5. There will be tours, luncheons, numerous meetings and a gala ball. Most of the 16 chapters located across the United States and the 3 chapters in Denmark will be represented. Museum of Danish America will have a presence with Dr. John Mark Nielsen attending and Debra Christensen Larsen, Heartland Chapter President. Rebild promotes collaborative synergistic efforts with other Danish and Danish-American organizations.

The 2015 Annual Meeting will occur in Omaha, Nebraska including trips to the Danish Villages and Museum of Danish America.

scholarship for study in denmark

The Upper Midwest Rebild Scholarship Corporation 501(c)3 is pleased to announce that applications for the 2014 scholarship award are now being accepted through June 15, 2014. The award will help support a semester of study (Fall 2014 or Spring 2015) at a Danish university or college by a student of Danish background or who has demonstrated a strong interest and commitment to Denmark and Danish related matters. The application and instructions are available online at www.umrsc.org or dansklegat.org. The Upper Midwest Chapter of the Rebild National Park Society is a primary supporter of the corporation. If you would like to learn more about the scholarship corporation please send an email to info@umrsc.org or contact Carla Sorensen at 850.994.2414/952.215.2931.



tivoli fest | MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

A Prince and Princess have been crowned and will greet attendees of the Better Elk Horn Club Banquet (where the King and Queen are revealed) on Monday, April 14, and ride in the [Tivoli Fest](#) parade on Saturday, May 24. Prince Kolten Christensen of Audubon and Princess Anna Potts of Elk Horn were selected at the contest on March 24 at the museum.

Also for kids is a new event on the east lawn of the museum: **ringriding**. A traditional competition that is most alive in Southern Jutland, *ringriding* is typically performed on horseback. The rider who lances the smallest ring wins the competition. Our kid-friendly version will be performed on bicycles and prizes awarded in two different age categories and for the Overall Best Decorated Bicycle. Registration is noon-1:30 p.m. on May 24.

dinnerware to set your heart aflutter



Inspired by modern Scandinavian design, the Classic Fjord "Tweet" dinnerware collection by Dansk is now available in the Museum Shop. Dansk serves up unconventional shapes in sleek white stoneware that are part round, part square and, with a simple nature motif, totally fresh.

- 4 Piece Place Setting \$58. Coming soon: all-purpose bowl, serving bowl, and platter!
- Stoneware - Dishwasher and microwave safe
- Makes a great Graduation or Mothers Day gift!
- Place your order by calling 800.759.9192 or e-mailing giftshop@danishmuseum.org.

[Psst...museum members get a discount on purchases from the Museum Shop. [Are you a member?](#)]



photos and stories needed

May 1 is the deadline for submissions of photographs and stories for this year's Genealogy Center photo exhibit, *Veterans of '64*. We are interested in both immigrant military veterans of the 1864 conflict and of individuals and families who were affected by the war and its aftermath, leading many to emigrate.

A **Permission to Display** form should accompany submissions. The form is available on our website by navigating to Library & Genealogy > [Photo Gallery](#).

The reverse side of the service medal issued by the Danish government to those who fought for Denmark in the 1864 Dano-Prussian War. Photo supplied by museum board member Brent Norlem.

photo exhibit now online

Photographs and stories from last year's summer Photo Exhibit, "Confirmation: Coming of Age in Denmark and the US," may now be seen on [the museum webpage here](#).

visit the genealogy center

The Danish Pioneer [traveling exhibit](#) will be in the Genealogy Center lobby through the end of April. If you're in Elk Horn, drop in during our open hours (Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5pm) to learn about the early days of Danish-American publishing. And while you're there, pick up a copy of our [Immigrant Information Sheet](#) and latest update of useful genealogical webpages, and chat with our friendly volunteers.

fond of obituaries, are you??

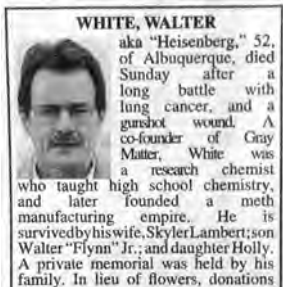
The Genealogy Center has volunteers throughout the U.S. who clip obituaries of Danish immigrants or descendants from their local newspapers for our files. However, we need input from the states of **Washington** and **Oregon** as well as **northern California** and the **San Diego** and **metro Washington DC** areas. If you are one of those individuals who turn to this part of your newspaper first, we need you! Online newspaper citations, funeral announcements and obituary cards are also desired. For further information contact Michele (librarian@danishmuseum.org).

local volunteer needed

The Genealogy Center is also looking for a local volunteer to assist with organizing incoming obituaries one or two half-days a week. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Genealogy Center family, please drop by or call Michele at 712.764.7008. Training and coffee will be provided.

brick engraving deadline approaching

Place your name on a brick in the Jens Jensen Heritage Path – a unique opportunity to leave a lasting impression at the Museum of Danish America! Honor the memory of loved ones, celebrate an occasion, or give a special gift. The next engraving deadline is April 30, 2014 for placement by Tivoli Fest. [Online ordering is available](#).





digging for danes and some germans as well

“IGS has been trying to hold a workshop with Michele McNabb from the Museum of Danish America Genealogy Center for the last few years. Michele’s busy schedule and IGS never seemed to match up until now. IGS is proud to present “Digging for Danes and Some Germans As Well”. If you have Danish ancestry or like me, Germans from Schleswig-Holstein (I know, mine were really Danish) this is the workshop for you.”

--the Iowa Genealogical Society's Debi Chase, Administrative Assistant/Librarian

Join IGS and our special guest Michele McNabb April 26, 2014 for this one-day workshop. IGS members \$45.00 includes lunch. Non IGS members \$50.00 includes lunch. No refunds after April 20th. [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Sessions will include:

From Denmark to America: the Emigration Experience

An overview of the process our ancestors went through, from leaving one’s home parish to arriving at new homes in North America, with emphasis on the Danish experience.

Were they Danish or German? Danish Ancestors from Slesvig-Holsten

The transfer of the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein to Germany after the Dano-Prussian War of 1864 gave rise to problems of national identity; this presentation will look at the history of the area, special problems that genealogists encounter, and resources that can help identify and find ancestors who came from this area.

Cyber Genealogy--Danish Style

A closer look at the most useful online genealogical resources and how they can be searched most efficiently, even with a minimal knowledge of Danish.

other april genealogy workshops



*A Conference
For Rural Women*

In addition to the three presentations above, Genealogy Center staff will be speaking in two other locations in Iowa in April. Librarian Michele McNabb will hold two workshops at the [Cedar Falls Public Library](#) on April 11 .

Genealogy Center assistant Wanda Sornson and volunteer Gayle Stuart will be presenting a session on basic genealogy at this year’s [Boots to Heels Conference for Rural Women](#) in Atlantic on April 12.

upcoming museum events

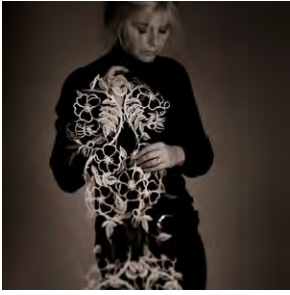
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| April 10 | Brown Bag Lunch: “Daily Life in Denmark in 1864” |
| April 13 | Exhibit Final Day – <i>Søren Kierkegaard: The Global Dane</i> |
| April 20 | Easter – Museum Closed |
| April 26 | Spring Open House Exhibit Opening – <i>Nude Vases, Cubist Faces: Modernism at Rookwood Pottery</i> |
| April 27 | Victor Borge Legacy Award Piano Recital, 2 p.m. in the Bro Dining Room |
| May 5 | Volunteer Banquet at the Danish Inn |



queen of denmark to celebrate 74th birthday

Queen Margrethe II has the reputation of being Europe's most intellectual monarch; a reflection, perhaps, of the fact that the Danish queen attended no fewer than five universities, including Cambridge. The arrival of Margrethe Alexandrine Thorhildur Ingrid Oldenburg on **April 16, 1940**, at Copenhagen's Amalienborg Palace, a week after the country had been invaded by German forces, was interpreted as a ray of hope by the Danish people. As well as being a hands-on queen, she attends weekly meetings with the government and writes her own speeches. Margrethe is a talented artist, skilled in illustration, embroidery, Christmas seals, church textiles and painting.

--Profile from Hello! Daily News



other upcoming danish-american & danish events

- Until April 12 *IN BETWEEN SPACES*, featuring Danish artist E.B. Itso with more than 40 self-published booklets, zines, posters, books, and pamphlets. At Printed Matter, Inc., 195 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY.
- Until April 26 Exhibition of Contemporary Nordic Photography at Scandinavia House, New York, NY.
- Until April 27 *Danish Modern: Design for Living* at the Goldstein Museum of Design, St. Paul, MN. Exhibit developed by the Museum of Danish America.
- Until May 25 *Papercut! Psaligraphy* (papercutting) of Danish-Norwegian artist Karen Bit Vejle at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, MN.
- April 2-6 [Rebild National Park Society, Inc.](#) Annual Meeting hosted by the Solvang, CA Rebild Chapter.
- April 5 Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Danish Church, Yorba Linda, CA. Reservations required to reservations@danishchurchsocal.com.
- April 6 Danish Film Showing: *Oldboys*, 4 pm at ENERVEX, 1685 Bluegrass Lakes Parkway, Alpharetta, GA.
- April 6 Nordic Dance at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis, MN. 6:30 p.m.
- April 9 [Nordic Aquavit Tasting](#) Event at The Copenhagen in TriBeCa – New York.
- April 12 Rebild Upper Midwest Chapter's annual Queen's Ball at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis. Contact TinaRolin@mac.com.
- April 12 Women's Auxiliary of The Danish Home's 56th annual Spring Luncheon at Old Orchard Country Club, Mount Prospect, IL.
- April 13 Æbleskive breakfast at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis, MN, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- April 13 Celebration of the Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark by the Danish American Society in Dallas-Fort Worth, 3-5 p.m. RSVP to regitze333@sbcglobal.net.
- April 26 Danish American Athletic Club's Spring Luncheon, Elgin, IL.
- April 28 Danish Genealogy Group potluck supper at the Danish American Center in Minneapolis, MN. 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.