



museum of danish america

E-NEWS | MARCH 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. Find more information about this exhibit in our [February E-News](#).

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

wall of honor tells the story



Within the past four months, museum donors have placed 15 family members on the [Danish Immigrant Wall of Honor](#). Here is one young donor's inspiration to be sure his family's story is told:

"My Iowa grandmother made me aware of our Danish ancestry - in grade school she even taught me how to count to 10 in Danish. At Christmas she would always make kringla and other Scandinavian desserts, though by the time I was a kid it had been mixed with Norwegian so you might find lefse and æbleskiver on the smorgasbord.

While I was studying history at university, she gave me some books about Iowa counties that featured biographies of our ancestors - farmers and business people who immigrated from Sjælland and Lolland to north-central Iowa.

After she passed away, my sister and I went on a 'family history' tour of Denmark. That trip inspired me to start looking online for an organization that supported Danish heritage in the US - which is how I found the Museum in Elk Horn.

Memorializing six of my Danish ancestors on the museum's Wall of Honor was an inspiring experience that brought together relatives from California, Iowa, Oregon and as far away as Santiago, Chile.

Even after generations, the descendants of those Danish pioneers still celebrate their heritage with family reunions - as they've done continuously for the past 89 years.

I feel honored to be associated with the museum and appreciate its dedication to recognizing and memorializing the contributions of Danes in America."

--Jason Swalve | California

pictured at left with museum board member Henrik Fogh Rasmussen at the February meeting in San Diego

NEW AMERICA LETTER + ANNUAL REPORT COMING SOON!

The museum's print publication, *America Letter*, is distributed three times per year to our members. This issue is packed with great reading about the wars of 1848 and 1864, upcoming events, and more! [Become a member today](#) to ensure that you don't miss an issue.

museums advocacy day

Angela Stanford, Curator of Collections and Registrar, traveled to Washington D.C. on February 24-25 to participate in Museums Advocacy Day. This event, organized for the past six years by the American Alliance of Museums, gathers museum professionals to Capitol Hill to speak with legislators about issues and funding needs facing museums, libraries, zoos, gardens, and other non-profits. Angela, who also serves as the president of the Iowa Museum Association, was one of almost 350 delegates from across the United States, and spent the day meeting with Representatives and Senators from Iowa. Museums Advocacy Day is an opportunity to present a united statement to legislators, and to share with them both hard numbers and personal stories about how museums and other non-profits are positively impacting education, economies, and the general health of our communities and culture.

welcome new danish interns

Sofie Krøgh Nielsen and Helle Skovsgaard Christensen have joined the museum team for the spring/summer! Both ladies are looking forward to learning about Danish immigration and experiencing Danish American culture.

Sofie is from Strandby and is studying at Aarhus University working toward her Masters in Experience Economy. She will be working on developing new school resources, installing the exhibition, *Nude Vases, Cubist Faces: Modernism at Rookwood Pottery* and doing research for future exhibitions. In addition, she will be presenting the April Brown Bag Lunch Program on Daily Life in Denmark in 1864, based on her experiences working in the open-air museum "Den Gamle By" (The Old Town) in Aarhus, Denmark.

Helle is originally from Silkeborg and is studying at the University of Copenhagen and working toward attaining her Masters in Information Science and Cultural Dissemination. Her bachelor's degree is from Aarhus University in English and Visual Culture. She will be working at the Genealogy Center, processing incoming and Special Collections materials.

new 'must-have' spring jewelry looks in the shop



Stylish and socially conscious, Smart Glass Jewelry is made completely from recycled glass bottles in the Atlanta studio of Scandinavian artist Kathleen Plate using a method of transforming bottles so innovative she even has a patent on the process!

Smart Glass necklaces and earrings vary in color depending on the type of bottle used in its creation; for example, amber comes from beer bottles, cobalt from vodka, pine from red wines, antique clear from Coca-Cola bottles, and more!



New pieces from John Wind Maximal Art have arrived in the shop and feature a variety of today's trendiest looks including the Classic Universal Monogram motif, proclaimed by *Accessories Magazine* as a brilliant take on the monogram trend. The Universal Monogram gives the look of a custom piece without the wait and is an abstract design that is perfectly 'one size fits all'!

John Wind emigrated to the U.S. from Israel in the 1960s – en route, his family detoured to Copenhagen and bought a house full of Danish Modern furniture and a wardrobe of Georg Jensen jewelry for his mom. This inspired a lifelong appreciation for Danish design, and in the time since that trip, Wind has returned to Copenhagen to attend seminars and create ongoing connections.

Place your order by calling 800.759.9192 or e-mailing giftshop@danishmuseum.org.

SAVE THE DATE: The Museum Shop's Spring Open House is Saturday, April 26!



textile inventory completed

Spring of 2010 marked the beginning of the textile inventory process with former American intern Brittany Deeds reorganizing the box labeling system and inventorying approximately 2,000 pieces over 15 months. The project was put on hold until July and August 2013 when former American intern Natalie Smith and current American intern Madeline Mongar worked together to complete 400 pieces. Madeline continued the project on her own, finishing the remaining articles of clothing and household textiles in February. Data including measurements, descriptions, conditions reports, and photographs were attained for each individual object in the 3,000 piece textile collection and entered into computer software. In addition, each piece was put into a proper storage box with acid-free tissue.

The textile collection features a wide variety of pieces including folk costumes, aprons, military uniforms, hats, wedding apparel, baptismal gowns, needlework, and much more. Having each unique piece accurately documented allows the curatorial staff to properly care for each object as well as know what can be used for exhibition. The completion of this project is also important and timely, as the textile collection in its entirety will be relocated to the new curatorial center addition that will be completed this summer.



tivoli fest 2014 prince and princess contest

Monday evening, March 24, the museum's Bro Dining Room will be filled to capacity with excited children accompanied by their encouraging parents, siblings and grandparents. Each candidate will be interviewed in true pageant fashion. The K-3 grade school contestants' entry forms are placed in Viking hats with a Prince and Princess chosen in a random drawing.

This year's Tivoli theme is "Denmark on the Prairie". Each entry form includes a coloring page for the child to draw what the theme means to them.

The Prince and Princess will ride along with the King and Queen in the Tivoli Fest parade, to be held on Saturday, May 24.

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.

photos and stories needed

Veterans of '64 is the title of the 2014 Genealogy Center photo exhibit. Linking to this year's major museum exhibition, *Schleswig-Holstein: Turmoil on the Danish-German Border*, we are looking for photographs and stories of both immigrant military veterans of the 2nd Dano-Prussian War and of individuals (male and female) who lived through the war and its aftermath--when Denmark lost over a third of its land mass after the Danish government had to cede the duchies of Slesvig and Holsten to Germany.

A **Permission to Display** form should accompany submissions. The form is attached to this E-Newsletter, may be requested by mail (by emailing librarian@danishmuseum.org), and are available on our website by navigating to Library & Genealogy > [Photo Gallery](#).

upcoming museum events

- March 20 Brown Bag Lunch: "Preserving the Natural and Human History in Pioneer Cemeteries" Noon, FREE
- March 24 Tivoli Fest Prince & Princess contest, 6 p.m. in the Bro Dining Room

other upcoming danish-american & danish events

Until March 6 Nordic Lights Film Festival at the St. Anthony Main Theatre in Minneapolis



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.

March 5 Happy Hour with the Atlanta, GA Danish-American Chamber of Commerce at Fado Irish Pub, 6 p.m. 273 Buckhead Ave.

March 6 Designing the Beautifully Useful: A panel discussion on Scandinavian Modern design, 6 p.m. At 33 McNeal Hall, St. Paul, MN. Reception following with Museum of Danish America staff.

March 9 Fastelavn at the Danish American Center, Minneapolis, MN. 3-5 p.m. RSVP to 952-953-3849.

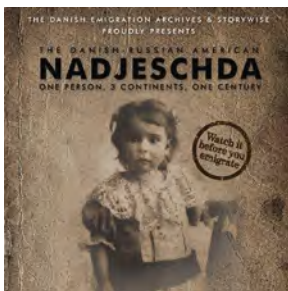
March 9 Fastelavn with the Danish Club of Tucson at the Streams in the Desert Church. 5 p.m.

March 11 Business event from the Danish American Chamber of Commerce in Southern California featuring Keld Jensen, founder and CEO of the Center for Negotiation. 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. at BoConcept, 328 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA.

March 12 Danish Sisterhood Lodge #149 Columbia State Historic Park Bus Tour. Contact Martha Nielsen, 60 South Cornelia, Fresno, CA 93705.

March 14 Danish American Historical Society of California Frikadelle Dinner. Contact dahscfresno@gmail.com.

March 16 Film showing of "Nadjeschda" - Anton Gammelgaard's movie about a Danish-Russian girl's immigration history produced for the Danish Emigration Archives. Free coffee and refreshments. 1:30 p.m. At the Danish Lutheran Church in Yorba Linda, CA



March 29 A Royal Wine Affair – tasting of HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark's wine from his Chateaus de Cayx in Cahors, France. Rene Gross Kaerskov, from *BIEN*, will present the wines and pairings. Payment due no later than March 25 to the Danish Lutheran Church in Yorba Linda, CA.

April 2-6 [Rebild National Park Society, Inc.](#) Annual Meeting hosted by the Solvang, CA Rebild Chapter



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GENEALOGY CENTER

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Permission to Display Pictures - "Veterans of 1864" - TivoliFest 2014

As the legal owner of the photographs described below, I agree to allow the Genealogy Center and/or the Museum of Danish America to display the listed pictures on their premises, website, and/or in news articles, related electronic media and promotional materials. No remuneration will be received for granting said permission.

Name of immigrant: _____

Place settled: _____ **Immigration Year:** _____

Details of military service: _____

Picture Description/s: Minimum information to be included: name of individual, parents (if known), and when and where born. Background information or stories about the persons, particularly about their military service and or experiences during the 1864 war and its aftermath are also of interest (continue on back or on separate sheet):

Signature

Date

Donor Name

Address

phone or email

Received by (staff): _____ (photocopy & attach front & back of each original image) _____
jan2014