

museum of danish america

E-NEWS | JANUARY 2015



gallery expansion underway

Pardon the mess! We have begun the process of renovating our mezzanine-level exhibit and office spaces after a generous end-of-year gift by Bill & Berniece Grewcock of Omaha, NE. The work will nearly double the size of the Kramme Gallery and make the mezzanine office and supply areas more efficient. The gallery expansion is hoped to be finished before the opening of the main 2015 exhibit, *Skål! Scandinavian Spirits* (April 24 – October 25). All parts of the museum are expected to remain open to the public during the project.

We have also added new drinking fountains and have other projects in the works. We're staying plenty busy in the "off-season," so plan your summer vacation today!



february board meeting in atlanta

On February 5-7, the Board of Directors of the Museum of Danish America will hold its annual February board meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Following each board meeting, members, supporters and donors from the area are invited to a luncheon. This is an opportunity for museum supporters to learn what's happening at the museum. It also gives our twenty-five board members from around the country an opportunity to learn about the activities of local Danish and Danish-American organizations.

This year's luncheon will be held from 12:30 to 3:00 on **Saturday, February 7** at Maggiano's Little Italy in Buckhead. The address is 3368 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30326. The price of the three-course luncheon served family style and featuring three different entrées and two different desserts is \$30 per person. This includes non-alcoholic beverages and gratuity; wine, beer and spirits are available. Vegetarian meals are available by request.

The program will include a presentation by Lars and Hanne Andersen of *Maileg North America*. *Maileg* (pronounced my'lye) is an innovative Danish toy company whose mission is "to give kids a reason to smile and to inspire the playful imagination of children of all ages." In 2012 *Maileg North America* won a prestigious award from the Danish Export Association for remarkable efforts in promoting and marketing Danish products and services abroad.

Should you be in the Atlanta area on Saturday, February 7, we'd love to have you join us. To make your reservation, please contact Terri Johnson at 800.759.9192 or info@danishmuseum.org. Your reservation with payment is requested by no later than **Tuesday, February 3**. Payment may be made by credit card (VISA or MasterCard) or by personal check made payable to the Museum of Danish America.



brown bag lunch programs on hiatus

The museum's Brown Bag Lunch Series will take a break for the winter months and will return on March 19. Videos from a few past presentations can be found on YouTube at www.youtube.com/danishmuseum.

intern and genealogy blogs

Interns at the Museum of Danish America and its Genealogy Center keep a blog about their experiences at danishmuseuminterns.tumblr.com. There is also a Genealogy Center blog for genealogy and family history-related tidbits: danishmuseumgenealogy.tumblr.com.



golden sneakers

PHOTOGRAPHS NEEDED

The 2015 Genealogy Center photo exhibit will celebrate Danish immigrants who reached 100 years of age or more (and there seem to be a lot of them!). We are looking for photographs – youthful as well as old -- and stories. Submission/permission forms may be obtained from the Reference Desk and online under Library & Genealogy > [Photo Gallery](#) starting next week. Please search your ancestral trees and keep your eyes open for possible candidates!

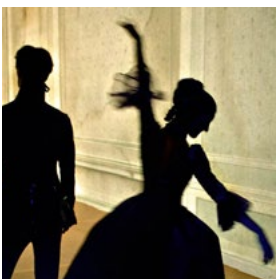


danish pipe collection

The Sweet Vale of Avoca Museum in Avoca, IA is hosting a free program with Lonnn Nelsen about his collection of Danish tobacco pipes on **Sunday, January 18** at 2 p.m. The pipes will be on display from 1-4 p.m. The address of the Sweet Vale of Avoca Museum is 504 North Elm Street.

important 2015 danish dates

Curious about the dates of Danish holidays for 2015? Scandinavian lifestyle blog Scandinavia Standard has compiled a list of the happenings and even denoted which days are appropriate to fly the Danish flag. [Find it here.](#)



dancers from the royal danish ballet in nyc

Sixty years after The Royal Danish Ballet's U.S. debut, principals and soloists from this internationally renowned company will perform an ambitious program featuring excerpts from choreographer August Bournonville's most famous works, including A Folktale, La Sylphide and Napoli.

From **January 13-18**, the principal dancers of the Royal Danish Ballet will perform seven consecutive shows at The Joyce Theatre, 175 Eighth Avenue in New York City. The principle dancers are: Amy Watson, Diana Cuni, Gudrun Bojesen, Susanne Grinder, Femke Slot, Kizzy Matiakis, Marcin Kupinski, Gregory Dean, Ulrik Birkkjaer, Andreas Kaas, Sebastian Haynes.

INTERESTED IN BALLET? Erik Aschengreen's brand new book, *Dancing Across the Atlantic, USA - Denmark 1900-2014*, tells the rich history of the Royal Danish Ballet at home and in the U.S. The book contains hundreds of beautiful and sometimes rarely-seen photos of the company's early and current dancers, and ballets performed at home and on tour.



150th anniversary of the birth of Carl Nielsen

2015 marks the 150th anniversary of Denmark's national composer Carl Nielsen. On **January 13**, Alan Gilbert will conduct Nielsen's Clarinet Concerto & Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City.

Nielsen will also be celebrated at Carnegie Hall with concerts featuring The Danish National Symphony Orchestra on February 11 and violinist Niklas Walentin & pianist Ulrich Stærk on June 3. Nielsen's birthday (June 9) will be marked with a grand-scale birthday and record-release party as well as a series of chamber concerts in August. Read more about the events at [The Nielsen Project](#).



smørrebrød fest

The Danish Club of Phoenix's annual Smørrebrøds Fest will be held on Friday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m. at The Homestead at DC Ranch, 18600 N. 98th Street in Scottsdale, AZ. The menu will feature smørrebrød such as sild, medisterpølse, frikadeller, æbleflæsk, liverpostej, ostefad, and more. Desserts include æblekage and citronfromage. Contact [Consul John Larsen](#) for information about reservations and pricing.



design store

The Museum of Danish America's gift shop, formerly known as the "Museum Shop" will henceforth be referred to as the "Museum of Danish America Design Store" in line with the organization's branding initiatives. The change is expected to clear confusion with other shops in the area and effectively convey the store's mission of providing the highest-quality, contemporary Scandinavian and American design items to its customers.

There is no fee to shop in the Design Store, and new items arrive weekly. The store's selection of items (including housewares and décor, jewelry, books, and more) are curated by the museum's professional buyer. The 2014 catalog can be viewed by clicking the "Shop" tab at danishmuseum.org.

STAFF TRAVELS AND CHANGES

Due to a change of location for her husband's job, Design Store Manager Joni Soe Butts will be relocating to Seattle. As manager, Joni has played a critical role in our Design Store's development since she was hired in 2008. We will be keeping Joni on as part-time buyer for the Design Store. This month Joni traveled to The Atlanta International Gift & Home Furnishings Market to scout for new items for the Design Store and to be ready for the annual Spring Open House, to be held on April 25 this year. Joni reports that she has purchased many fun as well as upscale items for the store!

Since we will need additional staff to cover Joni's responsibilities in the store, Chelsea Jacobsen has been hired full-time. She is from Kimballton, is a recent graduate from the University of Iowa with a degree in Museum Studies and History, and has served in an internship position at the museum since June. Her duties will be divided between collections and administration. Kathy Pellegrini will continue to cover the front desk and the store in the mornings and Chelsea in the afternoons. Terri Johnson, Administrative Manager, will oversee the Design Store and coordinate the work of Joni, Kathy and Chelsea.

CLIP & SAVE

exhibitions calendar 2015

The Museum of Danish America's permanent exhibition, across oceans, across time, shares the history and stories of Danish immigrants to the U.S.

Visit in 2015 for these special exhibits*

photography by diana velasco: two nationalities

Now through March 15

Photos exploring individuals who grew up with parents of two different nationalities

danish children growing up american

Now through April 4

Photos of Danish immigrant children in all facets of early 20th century life, accompanied by toys, clothing, and furniture from our collection

exploring danish happiness

Now through April 30

Reasons for the high levels of happiness in Denmark

curator's choice: art from the permanent collection

March 28 – May 10

The best and favorite works from our vaults, as selected by our professional curators

skål! scandinavian spirits

April 24 – October 25

An exploration of the history of beer and aquavit in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden and the drinking traditions of Scandinavian-American communities

sense of place

May – December

Photography of Danish Villages public spaces by Danish artist Diana Velasco

helle scharling-todd

May 23 – September 30

Contemporary stained glass and mosaics by this Danish immigrant artist

dennis andersen

October 22, 2015 – April 2016

Modern sculpture by this local native Danish-American artist

happy danes on the plains

November 27, 2015 – April 2016

Tales of communities across the U.S. that were organized to preserve Danish heritage in America, inspired by Danish theologian N.F.S. Grundtvig

*Subject to change.



museum of
danish america

DANISHMUSEUM.ORG | 712.764.7001

2212 WASHINGTON STREET, ELK HORN, IA 51531

HOURS M-F 9am-5pm | SAT 10am-5pm | SUN Noon-5pm

ADMISSION Non-member adults \$5 | Children (ages 8-17) \$2

Don't miss the Design Store,
Genealogy Center, Jens
Jensen Prairie Landscape
Park, or Bedstemor's House!