

**Across Oceans, Across Time® ...**  
**Stories from the Family History & Genealogy Center**



This year's summer photo exhibit at the Family History & Genealogy Center will be "Long-term Lovers," a collection of photographs and stories about Danish immigrants who were married for more than 50 years or their descendants married for at least 60 years. One such couple was John Vithen and Jessie Roberts, who met at a dance in the small town of Poplar, Iowa. They courted for several years by horse and buggy before deciding to get married. However, there was one not-insignificant stumbling block: Jessie was a school teacher, and in the 1920s female teachers could not be married. The couple decided to tie the knot but keep their marriage a secret. In August of 1928 they traveled up to Windom, Minnesota, where they were married by Rev. Olson. The marriage was kept a secret for several months before Jessie made an announcement at a school program, but she was allowed to continue to teach through the 1929/30 school year. Later she and John farmed in rural Iowa; they were married for 67 years.

Who will be our longest-term lovers? If you have immigrant ancestors in your Danish family who were married for a half century or more or descendants married even longer we'd love to include your photographs and stories in the exhibit. Photographs may be sent as print copies or .jpg files. A photograph submission form may be found at [www.danishmuseum.org](http://www.danishmuseum.org) under Library & Genealogy>Photo Gallery. The deadline for submissions is May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

**The Danish Immigrant Museum**

*Your Museum in the Heart of the Continent*  
2212 Washington St., Elk Horn, Iowa 51531  
Become a member

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