

Serving the
Danish Sisterhood of America Since 1947

Danish Sisterhood News

August 2025



In This Issue:

- ♦ Solvang Trip is full; Waiting List is available.
- ♦ The August round of Betty Hansen Education Grants are due on August 31st.
- ♦ Christmas Ads are due by October 1st.
- ♦ Perfect Christmas presents can be found at Butikken (page 15 of this newsletter).
- ♦ Various Lodges share their special events and activities.
- ♦ The DSS Garden Flag is still on sale for a limited time!



President's Corner



Greetings to all of you:

As I sit down to write this month's column, I am looking out at a gorgeous view of a Minnesota summer day with the fourth of July just days away, it seems like summer is flying by way too fast. Take time to enjoy each day.

I'm sure you noticed the change in your newsletter; it is folded in half! When we changed printers, the new printer suggested we do this as we can send the newsletter at a "presort rate" rather than a "periodical rate." This should mean faster delivery as well as about thirty cents less postage for each newsletter. A win-win situation. My July newsletter arrived the end of June. We hope this timeliness can continue. Thank you to Editor Charlene and all who helped make this happen.

The Solvang trip is full and has a waiting list. How exciting!!! It sounds like so much fun. Glenda and her Solvang sisters have done a great job planning. Hopefully more USA trips will happen in the future...I can't wait to hear about the trip and see photos.

Forgive me for repeating myself, as I know I mentioned the Christmas ads in the last newsletter. Sisters, create an ad and send it into Charlene soon. October 1st is coming fast. Anna and Charlene sent copies of your last year's ad to someone in your lodge. Use that as a starting point to recreate and change the ad, or use the same one. Ad pricing is found in this newsletter.

Lastly, the August round of Betty Hansen Education Grants are due on August 31st. These grants are for members and their children who are part time students or who want to take a class or workshop to learn something new. These grants (up to \$500) will cover the cost of a class you are taking or have recently taken. Apply NOW. See the ad in this newsletter for more details.

Enjoy your summer and remember we are here for YOU. Let us know how we can help you.

Nealna

Nealna Gylling, National President

Danish Sisterhood News

**Honorary Member Her Majesty
Queen Margrethe II of Denmark**

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Dear Sisters and Mister Sisters:
 With regard to submission of Christmas ads, or photos, it is important to send/submit a photo(s)/image(s) that is/are **attached** to the email so that the photo(s)/image(s) can be saved and loaded into the newsletter. I have to be able to download the image in some way so I can subsequently save it and paste it/load it into the newsletter. Reach out to me with any questions. Thank you so much! — **Charlene Jensen**
Editor of Danish Sisterhood News
(503) 956.4353, editor@danishsisterhood.com

Velkommen



Charlene M. Jensen,
Editor

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Corner.....	P 2
Velkommen from the Editor.....	P 3
News from the Lodges.....	P 4
Important Lodge Information.....	P 5, 6
Amber Lodge #186.....	P 7
Æbleskiver.....	P 8
Mama Rosa.....	P 9
Scholarship Recipients.....	P 9, 10, 11, 12
Unity Lodge #75.....	P 13
Did You Know?.....	P 14
News From Lodge #142.....	P 14
Butikken.....	P 15
Back Cover Page.....	P 16

ON THE COVER: Statue of a standing woman on a grave at the cemetery of Lynæs (Halsnæs) in Denmark.

NEWS FROM DANISH SISTERHOOD LODGE #102 IN DES MOINES, IOWA

Danish Sisterhood Lodge #102 in Des Moines, Iowa: Our sisterhood has had a busy spring planning upcoming activities and events. At the April meeting we were busy planning our Spring May Brunch and Danish Lottery on May 4th starting at noon at Northwest Community Center. The brunch consisted of egg casseroles, fruit, pastries, and punch. We had a great turnout! Half of the proceeds will be donated to the Iowa Food Bank. At our May meeting, Joan Shaffer reported the conversation held with National Trustee, Susan Hoppough, who encouraged us to contact her with any needs. Sue Fisher shared a note from Museum of Danish America thanking our Lodge for past support and asking us to remember them in the future. She also shared positive feedback from a Grand View University professor regarding the bake sale. The professor expressed hope that we would repeat this fundraiser. May also brings Tivoli Fest in Elk Horn, Iowa. Many members enjoyed the Danish dancing, parade, food, Viking demonstrations and arts and crafts. In June, we held our annual Potluck picnic at the Lykke Center at Luther Memorial Church. Members brought a variety of delicious dishes that we all enjoyed sharing with one another. We had a brief meeting to remind members about our upcoming trip next month. In July, our Lodge will attend a brown bag lunch at the Museum of Danish America and tour the Danish Windmill. On June 20th, the Museum of Danish America (MoDA) had their annual board meeting in Des Moines at Grand View University. Museum board members, former board members and members of the Des Moines Brotherhood and Sisterhood were all invited to join Museum of Danish America in an evening of food and entertainment at Luther Memorial Church, Lykke Center. There was a large turnout from local and several states in the United States. A meet and greet cocktail hour began the evening activities. Later a buffet dinner featuring a delicious meal of barbecued beef brisket, chicken, and classic American sides were served. It was prepared by the Grand View University student center staff. Following the meal was a concert featuring Nate Kemperman, Alice McGary, and Rick Exner, students of Dwight Lamb, performing Danish and Swedish music using the fiddle and guitar.



Many of our activities are held at Grand View University, a Danish University, and at Luther Memorial Church, a Danish church on Campus. We will be looking forward to Grand View University, MoDA, and the Sisterhood and Brotherhood sponsoring a Danish vocalist, Anita Lerche in September.



NEWS FROM THE LODGES

IN MEMORIAM—August 2025

NAME	Cert #	Lodge #	Location	Birth Date	Birth Place	Initiated	Died	Benefit
Marvel Linnan	24672	65	Greenville, MI	4.14.30	Fenwick, MI	9.14.90	5.18.25	125.
Elizabeth Ostermeyer	24470	15	Milwaukee, WI	2.23.30	Menominee, MI	5.18.88	3.23.25	1000.

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS—August 2025

Name	Lodge	Age
Emma Rae Fisher	102	8



CREATE A LODGE CHRISTMAS GREETING, PURCHASE A HOLIDAY AD, AND YOUR GREETING CAN BE PRINTED IN THE DANISH SISTERHOOD NEWS

Remember to get your Christmas Ads in by October 1st.

NOTE: Anna and Charlene sent your ads to you last year. If you want to use the same one, YOU need to find it and send it in. They will NOT be finding them for you. Thanks.

Eighth Page, 3.67 in wide x 2.20 in high..... \$20.00

Quarter Page, 3.47 in wide x 4.75 in high.....\$35.00

Half Page, 7.5 in wide x 4.75 in high..... \$60.00

Full Page, 7.5 in wide x 9.69 in high..... \$100.00

D&N Advertising Rates

Use these ad sizes and rates for your Holiday Ads!

Holiday Ads are due to the Editor by October 1, 2025 at the latest!

All checks can be sent to the National Treasurer.

**Mail your Lodge's check for payment of your Holiday Ad to:
Linda Brooks, 8402 Winter Berry
Drive, Castle Rock, CO 80108.**



PHOTO LEFT: Portrait of Sophia Magdalena of Denmark (1746-1813). Born into the House of Oldenburg, the royal family of Denmark-Norway, Sophia Magdalena was the first daughter of King Frederick V of Denmark and Norway and his first consort, Princess Louise of Great Britain. At the age of five she was betrothed to Gustav, the heir apparent to the throne of Sweden. This was an attempt to improve the traditionally tense relationship between the two Scandinavian realms.

PHOTO RIGHT: Sophia Magdalena as a child. The painting photographed at Frederiksborg Castle.



IMPORTANT LODGE INFORMATION

LODGE TREASURERS

NEGAUNEE	1	Grunwald	Kristine	kristinegrunwald@gmail.com	517	214-4483
DAVENPORT	3	Johansen	Jerry	johansen17@mac.com	309	235-1946
CHICAGO	4	Michelsen	Hanne	hanne.rex.michelsen@gmail.com	847	312-0276
OMAHA	6	Cuba	Sheryl	sjensen46@aol.com	402	391-8786
NEW HAVEN	12	Edmonds	Barry	bwedmonds@comcast.net	860	873-1214
MILWAUKEE	15	Dahlman	Claire	clairedahlman721@gmail.com	414	801-2814
KENOSHA	20	Orth	Margaret	margejorth@gmail.com	262	884-0742
DENVER	21	Brown	Melinda	mindysbrown@hotmail.com	303	908-9999
PERTH AMBOY	36	Aagesen	Vibeke	dansker331@verizon.net	908	464-0425
SEATTLE	40	Favero	Karen	karenfavero@hotmail.com	206	963-6049
LUDINGTON	49	Bentz	Cheryl	rcbentz@t-one.net	231	845-5312
GREENVILLE	65	Roy	Martha	jmroy@casair.net	989	328-2973
LOS ANGELES	68	Sorensen	Lone	lonehsorensen@gmail.com	626	893-7395
ENUMCLAW	75	Madsen-Tenney	Jennifer		206	331-6766
TROY	78	Wheeler	Marjorie	hmwheeler2@aol.com	518	372-3769
PORTLAND	81	Wagner	Hanne	huisit221@gmail.com	971	258-5110
PHILADELPHIA	86	Griffin	Susanne	susannevgriffin@gmail.com	503	341-2167
LINCOLN	90	Hansen	Donna	djhansen@windstream.net	402	665-2460
MARLETTE	100	Grabitz	Dawn	dgrabitz@hotmail.com	810	841-8015
DES MOINES	102	Fisher	Susan	susan.fisher48@yahoo.com	515	265-1913
GRAND ISLAND	113	Rindone	Christine	rindonechristine@gmail.com	402	429-0327
PETALUMA	126	Ladd-Larsen	Isabel	isaladd@hotmail.com	707	888-9174
FERNDALE	131	Sanborn	Eunice	eunice@suddenlink.com	707	786-4394
SCHENECTADY	142	Aronson-Hanson	Janice	jgah@aol.com	518	986-4118
FRESNO	149	Nielsen	Martha	MARTHANIELSEN@YAHOO.COM	559	970-0313
HARTFORD	153	Smith	Jackie	cor9697@hotmail.com	860	623-0203
SANTA BARBARA	165	Manuel	Jette	jetteyde1218@gmail.com	805	868-1553
BAKERSFIELD	168	Goodman	Billie	purplewitchie33@gmail.com	661	703-8866
PENN YAN	173	Hoffman	Patricia		585	526-5012
SOLVANG	177	Zigler	Janice	janzigler@outlook.com	559	740-3676
HOLIDAY	181	Proper	Janet	tproper@tampabay.rr.com	727	738-9600
SARNIA	184	Johansen	Johnna	jjohansen1@cogeco.ca	519	331-2289
CLEVELAND	185	Brandt	Marilyn	cinderb88@gmail.com	216	402-6955
BRAINERD	186	Bisted	Dottie	dottie.bisted@gmail.com	218	513-5588
ROCHESTER	187	Sorensen	Meredith		585	586-9237
Enumclaw	188	Plagens	Karin	tigger@tx3.net	360	825-7338
NATIONAL / TIVOLI	300	Smith	Martha	marthasmith32@yahoo.com	650	922-4481

**CHRISTMAS
IN
AUGUST
SALE
25% OFF**

Turn to page -15-
to select items.

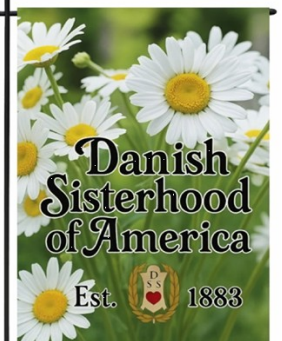


PHOTO ABOVE: This *DSS GARDEN FLAG* is now on sale! Turn to page -15- , Butikken: Purchase several flags if you have family members or friends who would like this flag!

PHOTO RIGHT: Crown of Christian IV (Christian IVs krone 01.jpg)

Many of Rosenberg's main attractions are on display, especially the Crown Jewels, the Crown Regalia, the Crown of the Absolutist Kings and the Queens' Crown.

The collection of Crown Jewels for use by the reigning Queen was established with the will of Queen Sophie Magdalene in 1746 and subsequently enlarged through gifts from later queens and princesses. Christian IV's crown, made 1595-1596 by Dirich Fyring in Odense. Gold with enamel, table-cut stones and pearls; total weight 2895 g.

The figures on the crown's large points illustrate the virtues and powers of a king. Inside are the coats-of-arms of the royal provinces. The crown was used for the last time at Frederik III's coronation in 1648.



IMPORTANT LODGE INFORMATION (continued)

LODGE SECRETARIES

NEGAUNEE	1	Ahola	Amy	amyahola@hotmail.com	906	225-5594
DAVENPORT	3	Fisher	Paulette	pjfish@iowatelecom.net	563	505-4573
CHICAGO	4	Jackson	Jean	jean.m.jackson@att.net	708	267-3664
OMAHA	6	Kattar	Carol	taskshiba2@cox.net	402	250-9821
NEW HAVEN	12	Swirsky	Elaine	ewswirsky@gmail.com	203	795-6809
MILWAUKEE	15	Jensen	Susan	browser51@gmail.com	262	510-6100
KENOSHA	20	Mitchell	Anne	annemitchell1@mac.com	720	271-2097
DENVER	21	Hix	Christine	cjhix86@q.com	303	431-6690
PERTH AMBOY	36	Skouboe	Dawn	dawnskobo@gmail.com	732	951-0890
SEATTLE	40	Favero	Karen	karenfavero@hotmail.com	206	963-6049
LUDINGTON	49	Schneider	Linda		231	845-5074
GREENVILLE	65	Hoppough	Susan	shoppough@gmail.com	616	302-1330
LOS ANGELES	68	Olafsen	Tove	otove@gmail.com	818	943-5385
ENUMCLAW	75	Steadman	Katherine	kirushing56@gmail.com	253	368-9636
TROY	78	Jensen	Judith	HarryJensen424@gmail.com	518	237-1866
PORTLAND	81	Pool	Heather	poolheather01@gmail.com	503	645-3159
PHILADELPHIA	86	Cloud	Bente	bcloud400@gmail.com	717	530-8499
LINCOLN	90	Wissink	Patricia	pdwissink@gmail.com	402	570-7091
MARLETTE	100	Schlaud	Carol	csschlaud@yahoo.com	810	338-2152
DES MOINES	102	Shaffer	Joan	joan.shaffer2068@gmail.com	712	304-0501
GRAND ISLAND	113	Grim	Edith	edrog@nctc.net	308	226-2578
PETALUMA	126	Larsen	Jim	larschiro@sbcglobal.net	707	799-1946
FERNDALE	131	Sanborn	Eunice	eunice@suddenlink.com	707	786-4394
SCHENECTADY	142	Barry	Linda		518	356-3163
FRESNO	149	Nielsen	Martha	MARTHANIELSEN@YAHOO.COM	559	970-0313
HARTFORD	153	Kollar	Karen	kekollar@hotmail.com	860	621-5990
SANTA BARBARA	165	Manuel	Jette	jetteyde1218@gmail.com	805	868-1553
BAKERSFIELD	168	Goodman	Billie	purplewitchie33@gmail.com	661	703-8866
SOLVANG	177	Pedersen	Lisa	davidlisapedersen@gmail.com	805	245-8664
HOLIDAY	181	Frederiksen	Judith		727	403-2111
SARNIA	184	Glen	Rigmor	rigmorglen@sympatico.ca	519	472-8847
CLEVELAND	185	Covell	Laurel	thecovells@gmail.com	440	725-4237
BRAINERD	186	Buck	Linda	lbuck56401@hotmail.com	218	829-0570
ROCHESTER	187	Iversen	Shirley	montana@rochester.rr.com	585	442-5467
Enumclaw	188	Nelson	Sandra	sandenelson@earthlink.net	360	825-6771
NATIONAL / TIVOLI	300	Smith	Martha	marthasmith32@yahoo.com	650	922-4481

Betty Hansen Continuing Education Grant Danish Culture/Heritage Grant

Up to \$500 for a class, workshop or seminar recently completed by a less than full-time student. Applications due August 31, 2025.
For more information: www.danishsisterhood.org
or contact Nealna Gylling at president@danishsisterhood.com



SPRING FUN WITH AMBER LODGE #186

Amber Lodge members celebrated our 21st anniversary at our regular meeting place in May with a High Tea. Barb Wenschlag set the tables with her Royal Copenhagen dinner dishes. Nealna Gylling and Barb made seven kinds of tea sandwiches to serve. Kathee Stanwood provided five fancy desserts. Susanne Hohlen served three kinds of tea and shared her extensive knowledge of teas. Members came dressed in fancy attire and hats for the tea party. Everyone agreed how special and fun it was. Now we are enjoying a lovely Minnesota summer in the Brainerd Lakes area.

—Barb Wenschlag

PHOTO RIGHT: Members gathered at the fancy dessert table with their teacups. *Photography by Nealna Gylling.*



PHOTO ABOVE: Sheila Brogger, Judy Andersen, Dottie Bisted, Amanda Bisted. *Photography by Barb Wenschlag.*

PHOTO RIGHT: Susanne Hohlen explains various teas we tasted. *Photography by Barb Wenschlag.*



PHOTO LEFT: This is a plate of delicious, fancy sandwiches. *Photography by Barb Wenschlag.*



PERHAPS THIS WILL TEACH YOU SOMETHING ABOUT DENMARK



PHOTO LEFT: This photo is amber from Denmark. Amber is found in Denmark, particularly along the West Coast in Jutland, where there are amber shops and museums. The amber found in Denmark is called Baltic amber, which is between 30 and 50 million years old. Some of the top places in Denmark to find amber include AVEjers and Blåvand.

PHOTO RIGHT: Picture taken at the National Museet—The National Museum—Copenhagen, Denmark during the Wikipedia Loves Nationalmuseum. Prehistoric amber bears at the National Museum in Copenhagen, the ones marked with a "d" turned out to be fake.



ÆBLESKIVE RECIPE FROM JONNA EASTERBY

Recipe for æbleskiver:

250 gram (4 dl.) flour
1 dl. milk powder
¼ tsp. salt
1 tsp. sugar
about 4 dl. water
25 gram fresh yeast (1 tablesp. dry yeast)
3-4 egg yolks
3-4 egg whites
Ca. 50 gram Crisco, or lard, or oil, or margarine for baking (fatty substances!)



Pour flour, milk powder, salt, and sugar in a bowl.

Whip water, egg yolks and dissolved yeast together. On the use of yeast, see page 197.

Pour it in the bowl with the dry ingredients and whip until smooth (FYI: translator changed the words slightly for clarity).

Cover the dough and place where it is warm for a couple of hours.

Whip the egg whites until stiff and mix into the dough just before the baking.

Pour a little of the fatty substance (a preference for most people what they use) in each of the holes of the pan and fill them halfway with dough. Turn the æbleskiver, as soon as they are firm in the bottom and turn them periodically during the baking in order to get them completely round. Keep them warm and serve them as/with pancakes. **NOTE ABOUT USE OF YEAST:** ½ tsp. Bakers Ammonia may be used instead of yeast. It is dissolved in cold liquid (water), add 1 tbsp of vinegar and bake the same way.

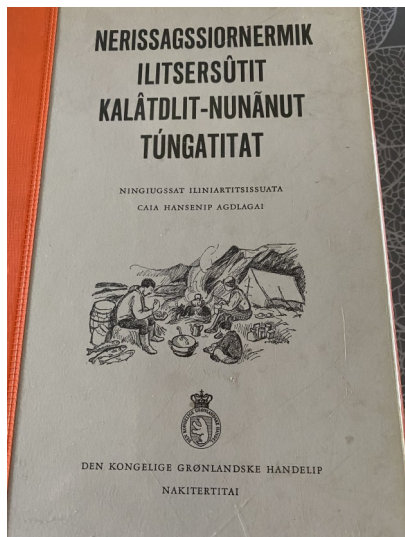


PHOTO LEFT AND PHOTO BELOW: This is the book where the æbleskive recipe was found, and this is what the recipe looks like inside the recipe book.

Æbleskiver
250 g mel (4 dl) - 1 dl mælkepulver - ¼ tsk. salt - 1 tsk. sukker - ca. 4 dl vand
- 25 g frisk gær (1 spsk. tørgær) - 3-4 æggeblommer - 3-4 æggehvider -
ca. 50 g fedtstof til bagning
Hæld mel, mælkepulver, salt og sukker i en skål. Pisk vand, æggeblommer og den udrørte gær sammen. Om behandling af gær, se side 197. Hæld det i skålen med de tørre dele og pisk det til en jævning. Dæk dejen til og stil den lunt til hævnning et par timer. Pisk hviderne stive og bland dem i dejen, lige før den skal bages.
Hæld en smule smeltet fedtstof i hvert af pandens huller og fyld dem halvt med dej. Vend æbleskiverne, så snart de er stivnede i bunden, og drej dem af og til under bagningen for at få dem helt runde. Hold dem varme og server dem som pandekager. ½ teskefuld tveksurts natron kan bruges i stedet for gær, det udrøres i kold væske, dejen tilsættes 1 spsk. eddike og bages med det samme.

PHOTOS FROM LODGE #142



PHOTO LEFT: Dianne Andersen, Seena Drapala from Lodge #142.

PHOTO RIGHT: Linda Barry, Seena Drapala, Jan Aronson-Hanson from Lodge #142.



MEET MAMA ROSA



PHOTO LEFT: Children playing at the feet of Mama Rosa. *Photography by Annette Lind.*

Mama Rosa, the 25-foot, 4,000-pound troll built by Danish artist Thomas Dambo, now stands tall in the new Firefly Grove Park, at 116th and Gilbert in Wauwatosa, and it's a charmer. The sculpture, made mostly of Wauwatosa street trees, is a figure clutching a bouquet of freshly picked flowers and holding one up to her nose to get a whiff. Mama Rosa is not only Wisconsin's first Dambo troll, but it's Dambo's first troll with built-in illumination, according to City of Wauwatosa's communications manager Eva Ennamorato. Those flowers that you see are in fact street lights that are fitted with LEDs, powered by the park's solar panels.

While the sculpture is fun and sweet, it's also a serious statement, says the artist, who has been in town to build the sculpture, along with City of Wauwatosa workers, members of his own team and a cadre of volunteers. "Our world is drowning in trash," Dambo says, "because we are such a successful species. We can create such an overwhelming amount of products for ourselves, and because we do that, we're basically drowning in our own success. But trash is a treasure and that trash is a resource. It's important for us to understand that trash has a really big value so that we can prevent ourselves from drowning in our own success. The mission of all my art is to show the world that our trash is not dirty, disgusting, dangerous and worthless."

Dambo has used discarded materials for all 156 of his trolls, which can be seen in 20 states and in countries around the globe. "Millions of people come and enjoy and look at our trash and (are) not disgusted and in fear of the trash, but have a joyful feeling and smiles on their faces...that's the message of my art."

OLGA CHRISTENSEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



PHOTO LEFT: Jakob Glessner is the recipient of the Olga Christensen Scholarship. Jakob is the son of Tammy Glessner and grandson of Jennifer Thomsen, members of Lodge No. 65. Below is Jakob's autobiography.

I graduated from Greenville High School in Greenville, Michigan with 13 years in the Chinese Immersion Program and I am bilingual. In the fall, I plan to attend Montcalm Community College, but I am undecided on studies. I enjoy creating videos for YouTube, playing video games, traveling, history, learning about different cultures, and spending time with my friends. I am thankful for all the opportunities I've had while attending Greenville public schools and excited for the next chapter of my life. Thank you Danish Sisterhood of America for the Olga Christensen Scholarship!

CONGRATULATIONS BETTY HANSEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Greetings, my name is Delaney Deuel. I am a rising senior at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island where I am majoring in culinary arts and food & beverage industry management. My passion for the culinary industry was initially fueled by my involvement in the ProStart program during my last two years in high school and has continued to flourish as I am living out my dream in culinary school, networking and gaining experiences that will continue throughout my career in the culinary and hospitality industry. This past spring I also had the opportunity to move out to South Lake Tahoe, CA to complete my culinary internship at a local resort. I have just recently completed it and they have offered me a permanent position here over the summer to help with the grand opening of their new restaurant which I am looking forward to. During my time here I have also been exploring and seeing some of the truly amazing sights that the west coast has to offer. Earlier this month I visited the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, for the first time. A few weeks ago I drove out to Redwood National park in northern California. In addition to spending Easter weekend out at Yosemite National Park with some of the most beautiful waterfalls and cliffs that I have ever seen. And just recently I drove down to Arizona and experienced some truly breathtaking views of the Grand Canyon.



My name is Aliyah Vallejo. I am honored to receive the **Elizabeth Garde Scholarship**. I am a senior attending Abilene Christian University where I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. After graduating, I will work as a Registered Nurse. My career goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner. My Danish connection comes from my Mormor, Birgit Vendelbo Anderson. She was born in Denmark and immigrated to America when she was nineteen years old. Mormor was the most influential and strongest person in my life. She taught me how to show compassion and kindness to everyone. Mormor's influence helped me find my passion for helping others, leading to my decision to become a nurse. I can often feel her presence when I am interacting with patients in the clinical setting. Mormor also taught me that hard work is the most rewarding aspect of life. I continue to apply this mindset every day. Mormor also made it a priority to share the Danish culture and traditions. She often shared stories from her childhood and, most importantly, her recipes that I continue to make in her honor. I have visited Denmark once and I loved it. I wish to go again to immerse myself into the incredible Danish culture and feel the connection with Mormor. My Danish heritage will remain within me and be displayed throughout my journey in life. I am very grateful and appreciative of the Danish Sisterhood as this generous scholarship will help me to achieve my dreams.

BETTY HANSEN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



PHOTO ABOVE: This is Danika Stewart, a Betty Hansen Scholarship winner, plus, she also won the Past National Officers Scholarship. Below is Danika's autobiography.

Thank you, Danish Sisterhood of America, for your generous scholarship. Your financial assistance allows me to focus more on my studies and extracurricular involvement on my school's campus. I will attend Carthage College as a sophomore in the fall and continue my studies in nursing. I am also entering my second year of performing with the Carthage Philharmonic Orchestra, playing the cello. This scholarship is especially important to me as I have always been very proud of my Danish heritage, and I grew up attending my lodge's meetings with my mom and mormor. They have always encouraged me to learn Danish and even pushed me to pursue my citizenship by moving to Denmark for 3 months next year. I feel incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to move to Denmark and learn more about my Danish heritage. Once again, thank you, Danish Sisterhood of America, for helping me along my academic journey this year.

—**Danika Stewart**

PHOTO RIGHT: Ada Henderson-Lehto, recipient of the Betty Hansen National Scholarship, shares her autobiography below.

My name is Ada Henderson-Lehto, and I was selected to receive the Betty Hansen National Scholarship. I am a seventh generation member of the Danish Sisterhood. I am a recent graduate of Monroe High School in Monroe, Wisconsin. In high school, I was involved in tennis, basketball, and track for all four years, as well as a musical during my senior year. Additionally, I was in several clubs, including Student Senate, Jr. Optimists, and Costa Rican Exchange. Next fall, I will attend Minnesota State University-Mankato to major in Sports Management.



PHOTO RIGHT: This is Ivy Morison and she is a Betty Hansen Scholarship recipient. Below is her autobiography.

I've been part of the Danish Sisterhood for as long as I can remember, first helping my grandmother with tea parties, Christmas gatherings, and our beloved æbleskive breakfasts at Lodge #126 in Petaluma, CA. Growing up in Santa Rosa, my Danish heritage was a vibrant part of my childhood, thanks to the Sisterhood and the traditions passed down through my family. Over the years, I've had the privilege of attending both district (where I served as a delegate) and national conventions, which deepened my appreciation for the strength and unity of this incredible organization. These experiences shaped my values around community, service, and cultural pride. This fall, I'll be attending UC Santa Cruz to study general medicine, an opportunity made even more meaningful by the support of the Danish Sisterhood through the national scholarship. I'm grateful for the opportunities this organization has given me, from the warmth of lodge gatherings with my grandmother to the broader connections across states and generations. The Danish Sisterhood is more than a tradition in my family, it's a cherished part of who I am.

—**Ivy Morrison**



PHOTO ABOVE: A Scandinavian Nisse is a joy at any season!

BETTY HANSEN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

PHOTO RIGHT: This is a photo of Devin Stewart who is a recipient of the Betty Hansen Scholarship. Below is Devin's autobiography.

My name is Devin Stewart, and I am graduating from Indian Trail High School and Academy. This fall I will start my undergraduate education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and am so excited! I will be majoring in Pre-Chiropractic biomedical sciences, with a specialized interest in radiology. My goal is to be a chiropractor. I currently work as a chiropractic assistant at a local office. I have been a member of the National Honor Society since my sophomore year, and have been on the honor roll all four years of high school. I've played varsity lacrosse all of high school, and have been playing since 5th grade. I was also a part of my school's band. My Danish connection is my mom, she and my mormor and morfar immigrated here in the 1980s. I grew up being spoken to in both Danish and English, as well as celebrating Danish holidays and eating Danish food. I am a dual citizen of Denmark and America. I have been a member of the Danish Sisterhood since I was eight years old. In 2022 and 2023, I was lucky enough to spend my summers at a summer school for Danish citizens living outside of Denmark. I am also lucky enough to be able to temporarily move to Denmark in 2026 to fulfill the requirements to keep my citizenship. Thank you so much to the Danish Sisterhood for providing me with the Betty Hansen National Scholarship which is helping make my dreams come true!



PHOTO LEFT: Gavin Thomsen is a recipient of the Betty Hansen Scholarship. Below is his autobiography.

My name is Gavin Thomsen, and I graduated from Allendale High School, Michigan. Throughout high school, I participated in our school's robotics program where we made it to the world championships. I was also a member of the National Honor Society which helped me volunteer at many things in my community. I finished in the top 4 of my class, and was awarded for being an AP Scholar with Distinction. Some of my favorite hobbies include playing pickleball, metal detecting, and eating æbleskiver at Christmas lunch with my family. With the help of this scholarship, I will be studying computer science at the University of Michigan this fall. Thank you so much Danish Sisterhood of America for awarding me the Betty Hansen National Scholarship!



PHOTOS FROM UNITY LODGE #75—CAROL LINGNER, PRESIDENT



PHOTO ABOVE:

Sherri Lord-Smith teaching æbleskive baking to Spiderman, the local newspaper editor's son who came as a "reporter apprentice" to the Lodge's 125th birthday party.

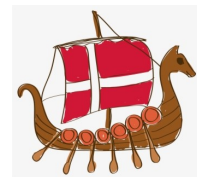
These photos are from Unity Lodge #75 in Enumclaw, Washington. These photos relate to the article submitted by Unity Lodge #75 and printed in the July 2025 issue of *Danish Sisterhood News*. Photography by Pepe Terou.



PHOTO ABOVE: Our Danish Layer Cake with marzipan frosting.



PHOTO ABOVE: Members from left, Sandy Terou, Carol Lingner, Sarah Thomas and Melissa Smith practicing weaving hearts before the birthday party. This was a way for visitors/those present to learn the art of Woven Heart Baskets.



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Susan and I have been writing this column every month for the last year and a half. It has been fun sharing ideas with our membership. It seems like I'm always thinking of what I can put in the next column that will be of some help to the Lodges to attract new members. After a year and a half I am wondering if perhaps we've hit about all that we can without repeating ourselves. Then something happens and I think, well, maybe I could/should mention "this". And that is what happened to me last week. I was at a Danish event sponsored by the Museum of Danish America and their Board. They had their Annual Board Meeting in Des Moines where they had a Friday evening meal and concert open to anyone who wanted to come. I can safely say that about 98% of the attendees were Danish/Danish descent/or staff of the museum. You would think that at an event like that EVERYONE would know about the Danish Sisterhood. I went around mingling with the guests and introduced myself as "Carol Rudisill, one of the National Danish Sisterhood Board Trustees". I was so surprised when two different people looked at me blankly and asked what the Danish Sisterhood is and what we do. It honestly took me by such surprise that I stammered a bit before answering their question. Then I started thinking: if people at an event like this don't know about our Sisterhood, then at a neighborhood event, or community event even fewer would be aware of our organization. To encourage growth in DSS we need to become ambassadors. We need to be proud of our organization and be ready and willing to talk about what we are and what we do, and WHY we do what we do. The mission statement for the Danish Sisterhood of America is to "...Strengthen, maintain, and preserve the Danish heritage, culture, and traditions for future generations." If we have that at the ready, we can share our love of Denmark with others and possibly encourage new members to join.

After telling about the Sisterhood at the event last week, I was able to encourage two women to join the Danish Sisterhood. Once they knew about us and what we do, they were anxious to be a part of our wonderful organization. So, get ready! Talk to people about DSS and hopefully we can watch the membership grow! —By Carol Rudisill

DID YOU KNOW?

As you know, Royal Copenhagen is celebrating their 250th Anniversary this year. I recently watched the YouTube video from the Museum of Danish America about the early history of the porcelain. It is very informative so check it out! This got me curious about what information is contained in our Sisterhood Archives about the porcelain.

Here is what I discovered when I did a simple search in the archives on Royal Copenhagen.

- ◆ There are 1,898 citations in the Sisterhood News, Den Danske Pioneer and Bien Newspapers with a reference to Royal Copenhagen.
- ◆ In 1995 the Milwaukee Public Museum did a story about the 100th anniversary of the first Christmas Plate.



- ◆ For years Danish Plates at 210 5th Avenue in New York placed paid monthly ads in the Sisterhood News and the Danish Newspapers. They are no longer in business but the building remains and is now occupied by a men's clothing store, fitness trainers and Gotham Jiu Jitsu. Sounds like there is no longer any Danish Connection there!
- ◆ In 1984 Danish Plates diversified their advertising. Aside from Christmas plates, they also advertised brass plate hangers, Danish spoons, dolls in Danish National costumes, plates and mugs from Tove Svendsen including horse, cat and dog plates, farming and hunting plates.

I did not have time to go through all 1,898 items but it was fun to check out the riches in our archival collection. Check out the library in the link [Danish Immigrant Museum - Browse Collections](#). A perfect activity for a hot summer day!

Marcia Jante, Lodge 15 Milwaukee | Danish Sisterhood/Museum of Danish America Archival Committee

NEWS FROM LODGE #142

On Friday, June 13, the Danish Sisters of Lodge #142, Troy Lodge, #78, a member of Lodge #300, and a guest gathered for a delightful luncheon. For some, it was the first time seeing each other since the Christmas luncheon hosted by Troy Lodge. We are fortunate that Schenectady and Troy Lodges are located relatively close to one another, allowing for occasional joint gatherings. By happy coincidence, the luncheon also marked the 110th anniversary of the Schenectady Lodge's founding. The Lodge was pleased to welcome its new President, Seena Drapala, who attended the event and presented Dianne Andersen with a certificate in recognition of her remarkable 65 years of membership in Lodge #142. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal and the opportunity to reconnect.

Seena and Jan Aronson-Hanson also visited with Schenectady Lodge Secretary Linda Barry reminiscing fondly of lodge sisters and events from years past. Articles from Danish Sisterhood News featuring the Schenectady Lodge were collected to help preserve the Lodge's rich history. As a special treat, Seena brought Danish pastries from the Copenhagen Bakery and they were absolutely delicious.



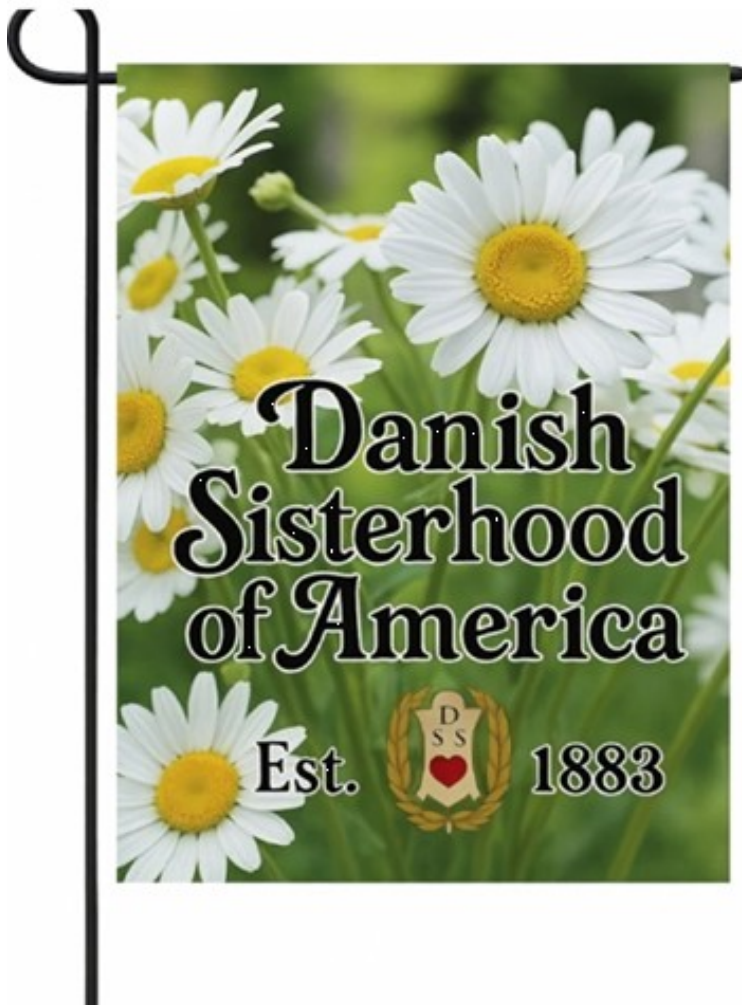
PHOTO ABOVE: Jan Aronson-Hanson, Marge Wheeler, Christine Jacobsen, Christina Friedman, Dianne Andersen, Deb Drapala, Marilyn Dore, Judy Jensen, Seena Drapala .

DANISH SISTERHOOD BUTIKKEN

Visit the DSS Website Marketplace-Butikken to see all items available for purchase.



PuraVida Brand Bracelet — cost \$12.00, **sale \$9.00**
 Plastic æbleskive Pan Ornament — cost \$20.00, **sale \$15.00**
 God Jul earrings — cost \$12.00, **sale \$9.00**
 Basket Weave Earrings — cost \$12.00, **sale \$9.00**
 Danish Prayer tea towel — cost \$15.00, **sale \$11.25**
 DSS Garden Flag — cost \$20.00, **sale \$15.00**
 Sequin Baseball Cap — cost \$20.00, **sale \$15.00**



To order, contact: Karen Vig-Keathley
 Email: trustee3@danishsisterhood.com
 Phone: 708.715.0071
 109 South First St., Itasca, IL 60143
 Note: Prices do not include shipping and handling. All prices subject to change.



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References:

Dansk: Statue af en stående kvinde på en grav på Lynæs kirkegård (Halsnæs) i Danmark.

English: Statue of a standing woman on a grave at the cemetery of Lynæs (Halsnæs) in Denmark.

Deutsch: Statue einer stehenden Frau auf dem Friedhof von Lynæs (Halsnæs) in Dänemark.

Français: Statue d'une femme debout sur une tombe au cimetière de Lynæs (Halsnæs) au Danemark.

Author/User : [RomanDeckert](#)

Date : 3 August 2022, 14:22:18

File:Statue-LynaesKirkegard RomanDeckert03082022.jpg - [Wikimedia Commons](#)

Nederlands: Een gepolijste barnsteen uit Denemarken. A polished amber from Denmark. 8 October 216, Own work, Steven Lek. [File:Amber Denmark.jpg - Wikimedia Commons](#)

English: Many of Rosenborg's main attractions are on display, especially the Crown Jewels, the Crown Regalia, the Crown of the Absolutist Kings and the Queens' Crown. The collection of Crown Jewels for use by the reigning Queen was established with the will of Queen Sophie Magdalene in 1746 and subsequently enlarged through gifts from later queens and princesses.

Date: 9 September 2009. Author: Dennis G. Jarvis.

File:Christian IVs krone 01.jpg - [Wikimedia Commons](#)

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Greetings from Linda, Elsa & Elizabeth Steffensen
Proud Members of the Danish Sisterhood
Dagmar Lodge #4, Chicago, IL

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