

Serving the  
Danish Sisterhood of America  
Since 1947

# Danish Sisterhood News

July 2024



[File:Victor Borge 1954.JPG - Wikimedia Commons](#)

## In this issue:

- \* Camp Grants
- \* Great Items to Buy!
- \* Learn about AMAZING PEOPLE
- \* A Blossom From The Past
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## President's Corner



Greetings to all of you,

As I write this column this month, I am going on a little "bird walk" of recent happenings to me as part of the Danish Sisterhood. I hope you will bear with me as I talk about connections I have made through the Danish Sisterhood. AND, I hope you will think about reaching out to someone new and finding out about them and maybe, you, too, will find connections.

When in Solvang, I spent some time talking with Secretary Glenda's mother, Marie Jaeger. I knew she had some distant relatives in Minnesota, but not much more than that. I asked more questions this time and found out her grandparents had settled in Lake Benton, MN. That is only 7 miles from my hometown and was my husband, Don's hometown for 16 years. Diamond Lake church was the small Danish church nearby, and looking at their centennial book, we found Marie's mother was confirmed in this church as was my husband. On Memorial Day, Don and I went to the cemetery and found Marie's grandparent's gravestone as well as other relatives and sent pictures to Solvang.

I also sent copies of the Diamond Lake centennial book to Marie as well as the centennial book from Danebod (my home church). I sent this book as I had met a man, Gene Madsen, (his sister is also a Neelna) in Solvang and his grandfather helped build the first building (Stone Hall) at Danebod. I thought he would enjoy reading it. Marie read it, too, and sent a letter saying as a child she had spent time at Danebod, too. She said she has a picture of her with a man sitting in front of the Stone Hall. The man was Mads Bollesen. What??? That is my great grandfather. Oh, the connections we make!!!!

We also have a new member in our lodge with whom I was chatting. In talking, I discovered her cousin was my best friend in high school. I didn't even know that friend was Danish! Connections again!!

**President's Corner continued on page —4—**

# Danish Sisterhood News

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Dear Sisters and Mister Sisters:

# Velkommen



July is upon us! What is special about this month? Fourth of July comes to mind, in America, of course. But, does the 4th of July mean anything special in Denmark? It does! According to BBC, Denmark has held the largest foreign American Independence Day celebration every year at Rebild National Park for over a century.

**Charlene M. Jensen, Editor**

The reason for this is because the park was purchased by a group of Danish Americans in 1911. The park was deeded to the country of Denmark the following year under the conditions that the land would remain a permanent, undeveloped memorial to Danish American heritage. Since then, people are able to gather to celebrate United States holidays; Rebildfesten (the Fourth of July) is the most popular. As you celebrate the 4th of July this year, remember that Denmark is celebrating, also!

**~~Charlene Jensen, Editor | [editor@danishsisterhood.com](mailto:editor@danishsisterhood.com)**

## Autobiography of Josiah Dudenhofer, winner of the Elizabeth Garde Scholarship

My name is Josiah Dudenhofer. I graduated from De La Salle High School in Chicago, IL in 2023. I have completed my first year at Bethel University in St. Paul, MN majoring in Pre-Nursing, earning As or Bs in all my courses. This year, I was involved in community building events, weekly bible studies, and playing drums for our residence hall worship events. I also had the privilege to be a Bethel Royals Men's Baseball Team member, who earned a conference championship for the 3rd consecutive year. Through athletics, I was allowed to work with BeYou Klothng to highlight student-athletes and the Christian faith.

Next year I'm looking forward to entering the Nursing Program officially, serving as a Resident Assistant, playing drums for all-campus united worship events, and serving as the director of Multi (a campus club led by minorities seeking to integrate more diversity into Bethel's campus life).

This year I experienced growth in responsibility, keeping commitments, making the most of my time, and being disciplined to train as an athlete and excel as a student. I enjoyed meeting students from all walks of life and building friendships with professors. I'm thankful for all the opportunities in this last year and excited to grow in this next season of life. Thank you Danish Sisterhood of America for the Elizabeth Garde Scholarship!



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## On the cover:

Photo of Victor Borge playing to his television audience while following the script out of camera range on his early 1950's television show. Date of photo: 9/21/1954. Author: NBC Television

**ABOUT VICTOR BERGE:** Victor Borge was born Børge Rosenbaum on January 3, 1909, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Victor was a remarkable Danish-American pianist and comedian. He had the ability to blend humor and music: This earned him nicknames like "The Clown Prince of Denmark," "The Unmelancholy Dane," and The Great Dane."

## ***President's Corner (continued...)***

A few years ago, at a quilt guild meeting, we were asked to share an important Christmas item with the guild. I shared a picture and talked about the Danish Christmas traditions we practiced at Danebod. After the meeting another member came up to me and told me her paternal grandparents were from Danebod, too. Another member also made connections with this and both women are now active members of the Sisterhood. Connections!

If you are traveling to another part of the country, do you look at the NFDA website and see what Danish events are happening in that area? Do you reach out to new members or members of your community to find out about their history? There may be connections. They are great fun to find.

Thanks for going with me on my "bird walk" of connections. I hope you have some of your own connections.

As always, the National Board is here for you. Please reach out to us for what you need.

Enjoy your summer and connect with your Danish Sisters,

Nealna

**Nealna Gylling**  
**DSS President**

## **DSS Angel Status Members**

**This status belongs to those members that wish to gift their funeral benefit back to the Sisterhood. We believe this is a generous and significant gift and wish to honor them. If you are interested in becoming an Angel member, please request a beneficiary change form from your lodge secretary or the National Secretary.**

Viola Wilson 166 Carol Smith 149  
Joanne Scott 168 Meredith Sorensen 187  
Karin Plagens 188 Marie Jaeger 177  
Sandra Nelson 188 Christina Sallee 81  
Carole Hodges 22 Melissa Sallee 81  
Andrea Welling Leih 15 Marie Fairbanks 165  
Elizabeth Haar 12 Constance Schneider 90  
Dorothy Petersen 126 Susan Fisher 102  
Glenda Madrid 177 Lou Ann Jensen 15  
Nancy Mayland 125 Hanne Skaarup 125  
Johanne Gade 171 Else Lassiter 177  
Diann Weinman 102 Pamela Ruben 15  
Carolyn Sias 166 Ruth Brigden 126  
Kristine Huss 15 Margaret Wetzel 165  
Seena Drapala 142 Verina Farrell 177  
Janelle Willis 102 Lorraine Buchanan 86  
Janice Schneider 15 Debra Spotz 15  
Vicki Bousquet 90 Marianne Larsen 177  
Bente Bob 185 Linda Holz 102  
Martha Nielsen 149 Margaret Schoewe 15  
Ulla Pereira 300 Jacque Wagstaffe 177  
Margaret Omodt 21



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## Youth Birthdays — July 2024

Name	Lodge	Age
Alexandra Galarza	4	12



# A REMARKABLE JOURNEY TO DIGITIZE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

## A Blossom from the Past

By Addison Marsengill, Digital Archives Assistant of  
Museum of Danish America

Expense 1953



Jan 10	Helga Nielsen (stamps)	.90
10	Mrs. C. Jensen (coffee)	.96
10	Lauras Flower Shop (Mrs. Williams)	4.00
10	" " (Mrs. M. Watson)	2.06
Feb 14	Lauras Flower Shop (Mrs. Thayer)	1.55
March 14	Recommend Hansen (coffee)	1.84
April 12	Lauras Flower Shop (Hans Margaret Watson)	3.61
12	Margaret Fredrickson	1.90
May 9	Phillip Christensen	33.00
7	" " (Mrs. C. Jensen)	1.55
9	" " (benefit)	4.50
9	" " (benefit)	6.50
9	" " (benefit)	13.50
9	" " (benefit)	6.00
June 13	" " (benefit)	1.55
13	" " (benefit)	1.03
13	" " (benefit)	17.00
13	" " (benefit)	17.00
13	Lauras Flower Shop (coffee)	1.80
July 11	Myrna Riick (stamps, wages)	3.86
11	Lauras Flower Shop (wages)	1.50
11	Margaret (wages)	1.50
11	Lauras Flower Shop (Christine Christensen)	5.15
Aug 8	Phillip Christensen (coffee)	.93
8	D. L. L. local dues	4.40
Sept 19	Myrna Riick (stationery)	20.14

The Danish Sisterhood of America, with its deep-rooted traditions and unwavering spirit, has embarked on a remarkable journey to digitize its historical archives. Partnering with the Museum of Danish America, we are preserving our records, newsletters, and ledgers to ensure that our legacy endures for generations to come.

Among the many treasures we've uncovered, one item stands out for its delicate beauty and symbolism: a pressed plant, carefully preserved in Enumclaw, Washington's Lodge # 75 (Unity) expense ledger from 1953. This simple yet profound artifact offers a tangible connection to the personal history of the Sisterhood, a glimpse into the lives of our members and their cherished memories.

Pressed plants in historical documents often carry deep personal and cultural significance. They can symbolize cherished memories, mark special occasions, or serve as keepsakes from meaningful places. Within the context of the Danish Sisterhood of America, this pressed plant holds multiple layers of meaning. The member who placed this

plant in her ledger likely did so to preserve a memory of a special moment or person. Plants and flowers often hold sentimental value, symbolizing moments of joy, love, or remembrance.

In Danish culture, plants and flowers play an essential role, from traditional Midsummer celebrations to everyday gardening practices. This pressed plant may reflect the member's connection to her Danish roots and cultural traditions or perhaps a loss in the lodge. Beyond its personal and cultural significance, the pressed plant symbolizes the appreciation of nature's beauty, a value cherished by the members of the Danish Sisterhood.

Our collaboration between the Museum of Danish America and Danish Sisterhood aims to ensure that artifacts like this pressed plant are preserved and accessible to a broader audience. The digitization of our records, newsletters, and ledgers is a critical step in protecting these invaluable documents from deterioration while making them available for research and education. Early membership ledgers provide a detailed account of the early members of the Sisterhood, including their names, dates of membership, and dues paid. Historic newsletters document the activities and achievements of our members over the decades, such as a captivating article from the 1920s describing a cross-country journey by a group of Sisterhood members. The collection of photographs captures moments from early 20th-century gatherings to mid-century cultural events, and the beautifully embroidered badges and ceremonial sashes used in early meetings are emblematic of the pride and heritage cherished by our members.

Artifacts like this pressed plant remind us of the personal stories that make up the broader narrative of the Danish Sisterhood of America. They encourage us to reflect on the everyday lives of our members, their joys or sorrows, and the simple yet profound ways they chose to preserve their memories. As we continue our digitization efforts, we invite members of the Danish Sisterhood of America to share their own stories and artifacts. Every item, no matter how small, adds to our understanding of the past and helps us build a comprehensive and inclusive history of our organization.

For more information and to explore our digital archives, please visit the Danish American Digital Library website at <https://box2.nmtvault.com/DanishIM/>.

# AMBER LODGE #186 CELEBRATES—By Barb Wenschlag



**PHOTO ABOVE:** Newly initiated members: l to r: Don Gylling, Lily Blomer, Dennis Brogger, Mike Stanwood, Tim Ryberg with Marshall Margaret Hill.



**PHOTO ABOVE:** Lodge members and their guests.

## Amber Lodge #186 Celebrates

Amber Lodge #186 in Brainerd, Minnesota, celebrated the 20th anniversary of its installation into the Danish Sisterhood of America. Seventeen members and their guests enjoyed the dinner celebration at "B Merri" restaurant in Brainerd on May 19th. National President Nealna Gylling brought congratulatory messages from the National Board and also spoke as Amber Lodge's current President. Charter member, Judith Andersen, shared recollections of Installation Day 20 years ago. Judy was the only charter member able to attend the anniversary party. We initiated five new members at our dinner celebration. We are happy Amber Lodge continues to grow..

*Respectfully submitted by:*  
**Barb Wenschlag**



**PHOTO ABOVE:** Nealna Gylling, National and Amber Lodge President, and her husband, Don!



**PHOTO LEFT:** Kathee Stanwood with the beautiful anniversary cake she made for our celebration.



**PHOTO ABOVE:** Margaret Hill (daughter of charter member), Jean Miller (daughter of charter member), Ron Mickevicius (guest) and his wife, Judith Andersen (charter member).

# June 2024 Membership Corner—By Susan Hoppough

Hej, Sisters and Mister Sisters:

It is hard to believe that it is already June of 2024! Half the year has gone by, and summer is soon to start. This makes me think about memories of my favorite summer foods and family gatherings. We lived in a small house with plenty of windows but no air conditioning so it was common that my mother would prepare foods that did not need to be cooked. We always had a supply of canned or pickled herring, cheese, crackers, and olives to serve as the main course washed down with iced sun tea. Sometimes after we'd picked strawberries my mother would prepare strawberry shortcake as a main course. Yes, the oven was used to bake biscuits but there is nothing better than hot biscuits with melting butter and strawberries. On those days we did not seem to notice how hot the house was because we loved this special treat. There was always a bowl of cucumber and onion salad in the refrigerator, and we simply replenished the bowl of vinegar, water, sugar, salt, and pepper as the cucumbers disappeared. My grandmother made cucumber salad with sour cream, but my favorite was the vinegar-based version. And when the rhubarb was in season, we always had rhubarb porridge, a rhubarb pie or rhubarb cake. My Those were the days!

One of the reasons I joined the Danish Sisterhood, Dorthea Lodge #65 was because the potlucks reminded me of these bygone days when we'd gather with family and friends and serve these traditional Danish foods. Somehow along the way during my busy career I had forgotten to make these family favorites, so the potluck served at our lodge meetings was and is comforting and fun! I've discovered new favorites including rhubarb pudding, I make my meatballs using a frikadeller recipe and I love Danish caramelized potatoes!

We started a Danish Youth Ambassador (DYA) program at the Danish Cultural Center where Lodge #65 holds their monthly meetings. We are encouraging the DYA members to join the Sisterhood since membership is free before the age of fourteen. The DYA are looking for projects and one that might be great is for the DYA to gather favorite family recipes from their grandparents and parents. What better way to share treasured memories and create new ones? As you meet with your Sisters think about gathering Danish recipes and sharing in the Danish Sisterhood News. Nothing says hygge better than gathering and sharing a meal with loved ones. Until next time...

*Mange Tak,  
Susan Hoppough*

**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 31st**  
**For more information:**  
**[www.danishsisterhood.org](http://www.danishsisterhood.org)**  
**or contact**  
**Nealna Gylling at**  
**[president@danishsisterhood.com](mailto:president@danishsisterhood.com)**

**Thank you to the following for their  
generous donations to the Sisterhood:**

Dagmar Lodge #4 in memory of Irene Jinks

Barbara Hansen in memory of Eleanor Hansen

Pacific Northwest District

MEMBERSHIP EXPANSION for July 2024		
<u>LODGE</u>	<u>NEW MEMBER</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>
75	Timothy Smith	Katherine Steadman
65	Elliot Ryser	Susan Hoppough

## LODGE TREASURER LIST

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CLEVELAND	185	Brandt	Marilyn	cinderb88@gmail.com	216 402-6955
DAVENPORT	3	Johansen	Jerry	johansen17@mac.com	309 235-1946
DENVER	21	Brown	Melinda	mindysbrown@hotmail.com	303 908-9999
DES MOINES	102	Fisher	Susan	susan.fisher48@yahoo.com	515 265-1913
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ENUMCLAW	188	Plagens	Karin	tigger@tx3.net	360 825-7338
FERNDAL	131	Sanborn	Eunice	eunice@suddenlink.com	707 786-4394
FRESNO	149	Nielsen	Martha	MARTHANIELSEN@YAHOO.COM	559 970-0313
GRAND ISLAND	113	Rindone	Christine	rindonechrstine@gmail.com	402 429-0327
GREENVILLE	65	Roy	Martha	jmroy@casair.net	989 328-2973
HARTFORD	153	Smith	Jackie	cor9697@hotmail.com	860 623-0203
HOLIDAY	181	Proper	Janet	tproper@tampabay.rr.com	727 738-9600
LINCOLN	90	Hansen	Donna	djhansen@windstream.net	402 665-2460
LOS ANGELES	68	Sorensen	Lone	lonehsorensen@gmail.com	626 893-7395
LUDINGTON	49	Bentz	Cheryl	rcbentz@t-one.net	231 845-5312
MARLETTE	100	Grabitz	Dawn	dgrabitz@hotmail.com	810 841-8015
MILWAUKEE	15	Hohlen	Susanne	shohlen@uslink.net	763 331-4317
NATL / TIVOLI	300	Smith	Martha	marthasmith32@yahoo.com	650 922-4481
NEGAUNEE	1	Grunwald	Kristine	kristinegrunwald@gmail.com	517 214-4483
NEW HAVEN	12	Edmonds	Barry	bwedmonds@comcast.net	860 873-1214
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PENN YAN	173	Hoffman	Patricia		585 526-5012
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SOLVANG	177	Zigler	Janice	janzigler@outlook.com	559 740-3676
TROY	78	Wheeler	Marjorie	hmwheeler2@aol.com	518 372-3769



**PHOTO RIGHT:** Victor Borge visiting the Diaspora Museum Beit Hatfutz in 1983.

**PHOTO LEFT:** Photo of Victor Borge, Sergio Franchi and Leonid Hambro from the ABC Television special *Victor Borge at Carnegie Hall* in 1963.



## OUR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT—EUNICE SANBORN

This is an excerpt from the nomination submitted from Lodge #131, in Ferndale.

Eunice was raised in the Ferndale Lodge from a very young age. She became a member in 1959. Her grandmother was a charter member of Lodge #131, and her mother was a 50+ year member. Eunice is excited about her connection with the Danish culture and history and loves to share it.

She has inspired all of us in our lodge and community to embrace the vision and mission of the Danish Sisterhood of America. She is very knowledgeable of the constitution and bylaws and does a wonderful job of orienting new members and sharing her wisdom with us.

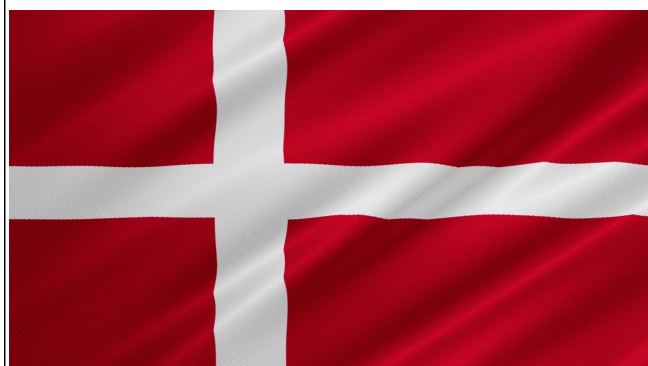
Eunice has sponsored 22 new members for Lodge #131 over the years: 2 daughters, 3 granddaughters, 1 grandson and 4 great-granddaughters, her mother-in-law and nieces. She always encourages members to sponsor family and community members to join. She inspires them to learn about their ancestors and heritage.



Over the years Eunice has chaired æbleskive feeds and Danish pastry sales, teaching us the recipe and correct cooking techniques. She has also been a member of the Danish dance teams.

Eunice has gone through the chairs of our Lodge. She has held the Treasurer position for a total of 53 years. Eunice has also attended the District Conventions since 1974, except when the dates conflicted with her job at the Humboldt County Fair from which she retired in 2000. She went through the chairs at the District level and served as the District President in 1981-82, then in the following years was the Secretary-Treasurer until she resigned this year; she served 23 years. Eunice has also attended numerous National Conventions as a delegate and loved being there.

Lately, especially since Covid-19, our Lodge has struggled with poor attendance. Eunice encourages us all to attend by sending emails and reminders of upcoming meetings. With Eunice's encouragement, we've included a bit of Danish history, culture and food tasting at our meetings. We also share this with the Brotherhood.



Eunice has gone above and beyond in supporting and promoting our organization! She reminds us to Grow!

A very deserving recipient. Congratulations Eunice!!

## CELEBRATING MEMORIES AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

My name is Delaney Deuel, and I am currently a sophomore at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. I am majoring in culinary arts and food & beverage industry management. Currently, I work in the culinary storeroom here on campus as an operations assistant and weekends at a local coffee shop and Parisian inspired eatery. I grew up in Minnesota and my passion for the culinary arts was initially fueled by my involvement in the ProStart culinary program during my last two years in high school. Hospitality MN has also been instrumental in my decision to pursue a career in the foodservice and hospitality industry. This past year I participated in the National ProStart Invitational in Washington D.C. on behalf of MN. This competition was truly incredible. It opened the door for me in ways I never could have imagined. My love for the culinary industry has continued to flourish as I've pursued my dream of becoming a chef and one day managing my own restaurant. ProStart provided memories and experiences that will last a lifetime. My goal is to continue being a part of the program in some way, shape or form. Even if it's as simple as staying in contact and attending the state competitions. I hope to one day be able to give back to the program that did so much for me. I would absolutely love to mentor a team and come back as a judge for the competition in the future.



### HAABETS FREMTID LODGE 78, TROY, NEW YORK—Celebration for Gladys Christensen

During the first week of June 2024, we met at a local restaurant to celebrate the 70 year Anniversary of Sister Gladys Christensen. Gladys joined the lodge when she was 22 years old. She is Armenian by birth but her husband was a Dane, so she wanted to join in the fun of Sisterhood and Brotherhood activities at the Hall in Troy, NY. Fifteen people gathered to honor Gladys on this important occasion, including 3 from the Schenectady Lodge, and some friends. She told us how she had served in all of the officer positions including being President. We then thought of older Sisters who had been a part of our group as well as many fun activities that have taken place over the years. We enjoyed a lot of reminiscing and Gladys remembered a lot of tales. She has become known for baking Danish cakes and cookies, and never an occasion has gone by without dessert from Gladys. This time though, the Danish layer cake was made by our President, Marilyn Dore, complete with the custard filling and whipped cream topping and Danish flags.

We send a special thank you to our President, Marilyn Dore, who worked hard to make this such a special luncheon. Gladys was presented with a bouquet of flowers as well as a gift card to a local grocery store.

In March, some of our ladies and their husbands met for lunch at the home of Judy and Harry Jensen. We were trying out a new butcher who was making Medisterpølse for the first time. We all contributed to the meal with creamed potatoes, red cabbage and dessert. We agreed it was very good and we looked forward to the next time we could enjoy a Danish meal. We discussed plans for the spring with the focus being a surprise luncheon for Gladys. The treasurer noted all bills had been paid and everyone paid their dues for the year.

We plan to meet late summer or early fall. Many of our group travel in the summer, it is difficult to get together. We hope everyone will have an enjoyable summer and take the time to rest and enjoy the beauty of the season.

Sincerely,  
**Marjorie Wheeler**  
**Treasurer and Correspondent**

**PHOTO RIGHT:**  
Gladys Christensen, center, celebrating her 70-year Anniversary as a Sisterhood Member. Around her are Sisters: Judy Jensen, Gerda Neville, Marge Wheeler, Connie Schell and Marilyn Dore.



# HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

**PHOTO TO THE RIGHT:** The writer Hans Christian Andersen, and the painter Carl Bloch, probably photographed in 1868. The date is substantiated by a passage in Andersen's diary from August 9, 1868, describing a meeting with the Bloch family during a visit to *Rolighed* and a subsequent photograph.

## Quick Facts about Hans Christian Andersen:

DIED AT AGE: 70

FATHER: Hans Andersen

MOTHER: Anne Marie Andersdatter

BORN: Denmark

DIED ON: August 4, 1875

PLACE OF DEATH: Rolighed

## Childhood & Early Life

Born to Hans Andersen, a shoemaker, and Anne Marie Andersdatter, a washerwoman, young Hans was introduced to literature by his father, who often read to Hans before his death in 1816. Due to his mother's subsequent poverty, at the tender age of 11, Hans was sent to a school for poor children where he worked as a tailor's apprentice and in a tobacco factory, to support himself. At age 14, desperately unhappy with the circumstances, he convinced his mother to allow him to move to Copenhagen to seek work as an actor. He found a position at the 'Royal Danish Theater', where he met his future patron, Jonas Collin. With a grant from King Frederick VI, Andersen was able to attend schools in Slagelse and Elsinore, where he completed his education in 1827. He described his years there as the most difficult phase of his life.

## Career

His first short story, 'The Ghost at Palnatoke's Grave', was published in 1822. Thereafter, he published a variety of works every year until his death. More of his works continued to be published posthumously.

In 1835, his focus shifted away from poetry and he began writing more travelogues and fairy tales including several that have gone on to become modern classics, including 'Thumbelina', 'The Princess and the Pea' and 'The Tinder Box'. His first novel, a highly acclaimed autobiographical account of his travels to Italy titled 'The Improvisatore' was also published in 1835.

One of his most prolific years was 1836 when he produced works in nearly every literary category, including his first romance novel, titled 'O.T.', which enjoyed considerable success. In 1837 a compilation of his fairy tales was published which included 'The Emperor's New Clothes'. His second novel, 'Only A Fiddler' was also published in 1837 and was reviewed by Soren Kierkegaard.

The huge success of four different translations of a compilation of his fairy tales in 1845 inspired him to continue writing fairy tales and publishing them in installments. Compilation of these stories was later published in two volumes, the second of which included his fairy tale 'The Little Mermaid'. Hans Christian Andersen's final story, 'What Old Johanne Told' was published in 1872. One of his first stories written when he was still a student titled 'The Tallow Candle' was discovered in an archive forty years later. Throughout his illustrious writing career from 1822 to 1874, he produced 212 fairy tales, 6 novels, 51 plays, 1024 poems and 25 travelogues. His work has influenced many writers such as A.A. Milne and Beatrix Potter.

An interesting quote by Hans Christian Andersen: "Where words fail, music speaks."



## CAMP GRANT RECIPIENTS

My name is Aliyah Vallejo. I am honored to be a recipient of the Betty Hansen National Scholarship. My Danish connection is through my Mormor, Birgit Vendelbo Anderson, who was born in Denmark at the beginning of World War II. She immigrated to America when she was just nineteen years old. Mormor was my favorite person. She taught me many lessons from the Danish culture. I learned the value of hard work and the importance of being patient and kind. She made sure that I would always have a deep attachment to Denmark by sharing Danish values and traditions, recipes, and many stories with me. My Mormor was the strongest and most influential person in my life. She instilled in me a passion for helping others. I have a history of volunteering and I love serving others. I graduated 5th in my high school class of 382 students with a 4.46 GPA. I am currently attending Abilene Christian University where I am pursuing a nursing degree. I will graduate with a BSN and will work as a Registered Nurse. My career goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner. I have been to Denmark once and it was the best time I have ever had. It will always be a priority in my life to continue our Danish traditions and keep the culture alive in my family. My Danish heritage drives my dreams. This generous scholarship will help me fulfill these dreams. I am very thankful and appreciative of the Danish Sisterhood.



My name is Jade Chouinard, and I am a sophomore going to St. Petersburg College in Florida. I finished my freshman year with a 3.75 GPA both semesters and got an invite and joined the sorority at my school that accepts the top 10% academically. My major for my associates is Political Science and my bachelor's will be in International Studies. I hope to one day study at either the University of Roskilde or the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. Both of these will provide me with a master's degree in international law or Global Studies. I have always had a tie to Denmark because my Mother's Mother is from Copenhagen and she and my Grandpa (U.S) raised me. I have grown up in a Danish-American household and have experienced a mixture of both Danish and American traditions. I love my Danish heritage and hope to pass it down to my future generations. For the summer term I am studying abroad in Spain for 3 weeks to learn Spanish which will be quite an experience. This summer, after studying abroad, I'll be meeting my Uncle and Grandma in Denmark. It will be my Uncle's first time in Denmark, and my first time in Denmark. It will be

my Grandma's first time back in Denmark after 42 years! I have wanted to go to Denmark for the longest time, and I am so excited that I will get to share such a beautiful experience with my family. I am currently learning Danish, I hope that by going to Denmark I will be able to not only learn more about the culture, but also learn the language better. Thank you to all the donors that have helped make my future academic goals easier to accomplish.

My name is Isabel Plasek. I have been a member of the Danish Sisterhood for around two years and I enjoy reading and spending time with friends. In high school, I have been involved in National Honor Society and the yearbook committee. I have also been a Girl Scout for around 10 years where I have enjoyed learning, camping, and leading younger girls along with earning both the Bronze and Silver awards. I currently work as a PCA (Personal Care Assistant) for a first grader. I am looking forward to graduating from BlueSky Charter School in June and attending the University of Minnesota Morris, where I plan on majoring in Forensic Psychology in the Fall.



### Congratulations to the following 2024 Camp Grant Recipients

**Melody Tatsral** – Lodge #4 – Den Danske Sommerskole

**Brylee Anderson** – Lodge #102 – Drake Basketball Camp

**Phoebe Volious** – Lodge #102 – Drake Basketball Camp

**Cameron Curtis** – Lodge #184 – Active Start Camp

Look for these campers' pictures and paragraphs about camp in an upcoming newsletter.

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Author: Albert **Albert Küchler** (1803—1886) Portrait of Hans Christian Andersen painted by Albert Küchler in Rome in 1834

<http://www2.kb.dk/elib/mss/hcabio/hca1834.jpg>

Photo of Victor Borge playing to his television audience while following the script out of camera range on his early 1950s television show. Photo taken on 21 September 1954. NBC Television Pre-1978, no mark

Victor Borge visiting the diaspora museum Beit Hatfutz in 1983. (FL63281100).jpg

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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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