Serving the
Danish Sisterhood of America
since 1947

Danish \ews

December 2023



In this issue:

- Latest Lodge Updates
- NFDA & Museum Updates
- Christmas ads
- 2024 Denmark Tour





Nealna Gylling, National President

Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår.

This is my favorite time of year. It is the time when my family practices the most Danish traditions and I love those traditions. I hope you can share some traditions – Danish or otherwise- with your family and friends.

Since the last newsletter, the board has had their first virtual update. After a little difficulty we were all able to get into the TEAMS meeting and get an update of what is happening. It was good to begin our duties as your Board. Remember to reach out to us if you have questions, concerns, or ideas for us. We are here to help you!!!

One of the things the board talked about at the virtual update, was the Newsletter. Lauren, our editor, needs more information from you, our lodges. Sharing what you are doing with everyone, helps give other members ideas on programs and things they could do in their lodge. Many of you have local newsletters or district newsletters. Maybe you could send an interesting article from your newsletter to Lauren so she could share it with everyone. The newsletter is YOURS. It is only as good as what you, the lodges, send to the editor. Please help by contributing to the newsletter. The email is editor@ danishsisterhood.com. This is always found on the first page of each newsletter.

We have also finalized plans with Sune Frederiksen for the Danish Sisterhood trip to East Jutland on September 10-21, 2024. You will find the complete itinerary and pricing information for the trip in this newsletter. Sisterhood members will have the first chance to book this trip. We will open the trip to the public on February 1, 2024.

Also, congratulations to Editor Lauren. She was married on October 27. She has been very busy

www.danishsisterhood.com

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Continued on page 4



Velkommen



Lauren C. Nielsen, Editor

Dear Sisters.

This is a bittersweet moment. After eight years of being the Editor of the Danish Sisterhood News, it's time for me to move on. I have loved being your editor for these many years and getting to know so many of you. The job comes with a lot of work, but also is very rewarding as you get to meet so many people and learn so very much about our heritage and our beloved Denmark.

At the end of October, I got married! We had a wonderful celebration and it turned out to be the perfect day. My husband, Anders, is not Danish--he's of Swedish and Norwegian descent--but he can drink akvavit and eat herring like the rest of us!

Soon after becoming the DSN editor, I met Anders, and so reminiscing about those early days brings me much joy! I remember going to Solvang to meet the new Board and telling them that I just started dating someone--who knew that all these years later we'd be married! Now our lives are so busy with house projects and work and keeping up with our friends and family.

I hope that one of you reading this may consider stepping up into the position of Editor. Please take a look at our ad for a new editor and feel free to email the Board with any questions. I'll still be staying on as Editor for a little while longer and hope to hear from many of you before I depart. And not to worry, I'll still stay involved with the Sisterhood, but now more as a regular member.

With this, I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and new, exciting beginnings in the new year!

Until next time, Lauren C. Nielsen, Editor editor@danishsisterhood.com

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In Search Of a DSN Editor

The DSN Editor is responsible for creating and publishing a 16-page newsletter each month, totaling 12 each year. The Editor should have the following qualifications:

- Ability to maintain deadlines
- Experience in Adobe Creative Suite or a similar publishing software
- Commitment to maintaining and updating DSN and DSS branding
- Ability to work with a National Board
- Communicate with members on submissions
- Work with a printer and mailing house to ensure each issue gets printed and mailed out
- Create and ideate content for future issues

To apply, please send your resume and a short letter of interest to the Danish Sisterhood Board President by January 10 at president@danishsisterhood.com.

On the Cover

Title: Ebeltoft

Location: Ebeltoft, Denmark

Ebeltoft will be one of the stops on the 2024 Denmark Tour. Pictured is the old town hall, built in 1789.

this fall with the extra work for convention, the newsletter, preparing for her wedding and working full time. Thanks, Lauren, for all you do.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Nealna Gylling, National DSS President

P.S. Since writing this column, Lauren has submitted

her letter of resignation. We will be looking for a new editor. If you have ideas PLEASE contact the board. This new person will also need your help with articles and what your lodge is doing. Also, A BIG THANK YOU to Lauren for all the work she has done in the last 8 years as editor of the Danish Sisterhood Newsletter. You have done a great job, Lauren!!! Thanks

Christmas Chimes

While looking through items that had belonged to her sister, our member Debbie Henke discovered two books entitled Christmas Chimes. They were from the 1920's. Debbie was kind enough to share them with me.

I had never heard of this publication, and I could find very little online that even mentioned them, other than a few copies that were for sale. Back home I decided to contact the Danish American Archives in Blair, Nebras-ka. I had found that these archives held a complete set. Michael Hennick a librarian for the archives helped me out. Although he was unable to find a "succinct" article about the history of this publication, he was able to provide some basic information.

There were actually three Christmas publications that were put out by the Young People's Luther League of the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and printed by the Danish Lutheran Publishing House in Blair, Nebraska.

The Christmas Chimes was published from 1920 through 1960. Another publication call Child's Christmas Chimes was published between 1942 and 1959. And a third publication called the Dansk Almanak (later Dansk Nytaar) published 1953 through 1960.

The Danish Lutheran Publishing House has been gone for over 60 years, but for 67 years it held a major role in the world of Danish Lutherans. It was founded in 1893 at a convention of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Association held in Racine Wisconsin. Efforts to create some kind of Danish Lutheran publishing organization had already begun in 1872.

Eventually the Danish Lutheran Publishing House was centered in Blair, Nebraska. It struggled financially

Child's Christmas Chimes until in 1917 a subscription campaign wiped out the debt. The word "Danish" was removed from the organization name in 1943. In 1953 a fire destroyed all the historical records and much of the equipment of the business. However they continued to publish until a merger with Augsburg Press of Minnesota occurred in 1960. Initially all publications were in Dan-

ish. As children of immigrants became more involved, the publications gradually changed to Danish and English and then only English, but not without some controversy. While in business they published a large variety of publications from hymn



books to novels, memoirs, periodicals, synod yearbooks and devotional materials. Most of the publications are housed at the Danish American Archives Library in Blair.

In the first years of publication Christmas Chimes periodicals were over 150 pages long and mostly text, but by the final years they were under 60 pages, larger in size and with may more illustrations. The most copies ever sold was in 1944 with 9,903 copies purchased, many of which were sent overseas.

In talking with Mr. Hennick, he told me special Christmas publications were, and probably may still be, very popular in Denmark.

In 1925 it was decided that the contributors each have a brief word of introduction. This information was published in a section call Our Carillonneurs. In the 1927 edition which Debbie had, the publishers wrote, "Most of us are equipped with a wholesome desire to know something about the person whose story, picture, poem or song we are enjoying. To satisfy this curiosity we continue the custom established with the 1925 Christmas Chimes of giving a brief word of introduction to every contributor.

Looking through the listing of Carillonneurs it appears many pastors contributed as well as wives of pastors, missionaries, teachers, artists and students., From the lists of contributors, I believe at one time students at Dana College could enter a story contest to have something they wrote appear in Christmas Chimes.

Do any of our members have other copies of the Christmas Chimes or perhaps the Child's Christmas Chimes or Dansk Nytaar? If so, to be be great to hear about what you have.

Annette Lind

Membership Corner

Hello to all Sisters! We hope you will begin looking regularly in your Danish Sisterhood News for all things membership.

Did you know that the National Sisterhood has items for you to borrow?

One item is a banner that stands approximately six feet tall and comes with a stand for presentation. The banner tells about Danish Sisterhood, their mission, and some things the Sisterhood does. The other item available to borrow is a red table cover with the Danish Sisterhood symbol and the words "Danish Sisterhood of America". The table cover is 8' x 3'. Both items are available free of charge. They will be mailed to you and we ask that your lodge mail them back when your occasion is complete.

There are free items you can use while fundraising, volunteering, or to set out in the community.

- 1. Bookmarks with pictures from around Denmark on one side and the Sisterhood symbol and a QR code that direct the user to the national website and a brief history of Danish Sisterhood and their mission.
- 2. Nail files with Danish Sisterhood written on them.

- 3. Danish heart paper clips
- 4. Danish Sisterhood brochures
- 5. Danish Sisterhood sticky note pads
- 6. Pens

Any of these items are a wonderful way to get the Danish Sisterhood name out in the community.

I'd like to add a some more information about phone calls and personal contacts. At times you may have a prospective member join you for a meeting. A call letting them know they were seen and you would like to have them come again, and possibly join, is important. A phone call is also a great time to ask if they have questions about your lodge.

It might also be beneficial to contact members who come sporadically or come but don't participate. Finding out what that person needs to become a participating member of your lodge can open a frank dialogue. What is she/he looking for in a Danish Sisterhood lodge? Membership should be ongoing and not just a once-a-year push.

Til next time! Carol and Susan

Assessment Notice

Members: Assessment #1418 for the month of January is due and payable to your local Treasurers before January 31, 2024.

Lodge Treasurers: Assessment #1418 for the month of January 2024, is due and payable to the Supreme Lodge of the Danish Sisterhood immediately following your January meeting. Assessments for the year 2024 will follow in order with December 2024 assessment # being #1429. Lodges can pay either monthly, quarterly or all at once.

Membership Expansion

Welcome New Members!	Lodge #	New Member	Sponsor
	20	Anne Mitchell	Majbritt Stewart
	12	Kirsten Petersen	Carol Faruolo
	15	Beth Bro-Roof	Marcia Jante
	12	Patricia Breen	Carol Faruolo

Visit Beautiful East Jutland with your Sisterhood friends.

Meet our tour guide:

Excuse me, but may I knock on your door. In cooperation with the remarkable Danish Sisterhood of America, I have planned an exciting 12-day tour of East Jutland, including Djursland in September 2024.

Let me briefly introduce myself. I am Sune Frederiksen, born in Skanderborg, grew up in Brønderslev and came to America on a permanent basis in 1995. I have a colorful background that includes education, restaurant and gallery ownership, real estate, coaching and lots of non-profit organizational involvement.

Apart from my own journeys over the years, I have worked for Tjaereborg Studio, taken dancers and musicians from Denmark to the US via DGI (Danish Gymnastics and Sports Association), arranged numerous tours to DK for American dancers, musicians, educators, and since 2001 been a main contact and liaison for DGI's World Tour Performance Team and facilitated several performances, workshops and training camps for them. In addition, I have been on the Rebild board for nine years, including two years as VP and a three-time convention chair. I also serve on the Danish American Heritage Society's board of directors. In general, I have supported many Danish American activities over the years.

It is an honor for me to be involved with the Danish Sisterhood of America, and I have enjoyed the many conversations I have had the past few months.

When planning a trip to Denmark, especially for people, who have been there before, it can be a challenge not to offer one or two locations, people haven't visited before due to the size of the Old Land. It is my hope that new angles and a twist here and there, will make it exciting and worthwhile nevertheless.

The Itinerary:

Aarhus – The City of Smiles. (3 nights)

This year the tour will begin in Aarhus, the second largest city in Denmark, also known as "The City of Smiles." We'll spend the first three nights at Scandic Aarhus City, a four-star hotel right in the center of town, close to the shopping street, the cathedral, The Old Town, AROS Museum, the harbor, and Salling Roof Top.

The Old Town (Den Gamle By) is an open air town museum. It's newest exhibition includes "welfare and open-mindedness from 1950-1974, a time characterized by feminism, free thinking and experiments with new ways of living.

AROS Museum is one of the largest art museum in northern Europe and is the most frequented art museum in Scandinavia. It has been awarded two Michelin stars in its tourism guide.

In addition, we'll meet pop/rock icon Poul Krebs, who has twenty-five albums in his bag, at Aarhus Sports Academy in Risskov, where we'll get a short tour and a meal.

Also on the Aarhus program is the magnificent Moesgaard Museum that stands out as one of Denmark's finest museums dedicated to archaeology and ethnography. Well known is the Grauballe Man, whose body dates back to the third century BC.



Inviting shopping opportunities are just around the corner of the hotel.

On our way from Aarhus to Silkeborg we'll swing by the HQ of one of the biggest retail successes in modern Danish history, namely "JYSK", formerly known as Jysk Sengetøjslager and meet the current CEO, Jan Bøgh.

Read more here: www.moesgaardmuseum.dk www.aros.dk www.dengamleby.dk www.scandichotels.com/hotels/denmark/aarhus www.ihaarhus.dk

Silkeborg - located in the Highlands of Lakes (2 nights)

The first stop before arriving in Silkeborg will be the, for Danes, famous Himmelbjerget (Sky Mountain), a hilltop of 482 ft, one of the highest natural points in Denmark. It has beautiful nature, panoramic views and an old watch tower. By the way, according to Nordic mythology the god Heimdal lives on top of

Himmelbjerget. Lunch on your own here.

The bus will take us down to the lake and Hjejlen, the oldest operative steamer in the world. It will sail us through beautiful nature to Silkeborg.

There will be time to visit the Asger Jorn Museum, which is the home of the most comprehensive collection of his works, but also thousands of other paintings, and sculptures of other artists. Jorn's "Stalingrad" will make an impact on most people.



A visit to Grauballe Brewery is a nice little touch to acknowledge the vast number of local craft breweries that pop up all over Denmark. The brew master will take us on a tour of the small

company and we'll taste up to eight samples.

We'll stay at Scandic Hotel Silkeborg for two nights. It is located near pastoral nature and Long Lake. The breakfast is outstanding and we'll have two delicious dinners there as well. The lobby has a nice bar, a pool is close by and feel free to work-out. Shopping options.



www.himmelbjerget.dk www.hjejleselskabet.com

www.museumjorn.dkwww.grauballe-bryghus.dk www.scandichotels.com/hotels/denmark/silkeborg

Randers Rain Forest

On our way from Silkeborg to Hotel Amerika outside Hobro, we'll swing by Randers Rain Forest. It is a tropical zoo located in three big domes for kids of all ages, and we'll meet lemurs, snakes and other wildlife from three continents in this unique living ecosystem undergoing constant change.

On a rainy and gray day we'll pay Memphis Mansion a visit. A place for Elvis and Johnny Cash fans. If it doesn't rain the bus will take us to the outdoor Fyrkat Viking Fortress, dating back to 980 AD. The fortress was built by King Harald Bluetooth.

Hvidsten Kro (Inn) is from 1634, a Privileged Royal Inn that has now been in the same family for almost 150 years. It has a long history and in modern times it is mainly know for the Hvidsten Group that during the Nazi occupation of Denmark consisted of bold and brave freedom fighters, who made life very difficult for the invaders. Historian Poul S. Andersen will guide us through the museum and put some of the gruesome history of the famous inn into perspective. Lunch will be served.

Hotel Amerika (2 nights)

We'll enjoy a mini vacation at Hotel Amerika near Hobro located in beautiful and scenic surroundings and inhale the fresh air that nature provides. Two delicious dinners will satisfy anyone. Walkable distance to the fjord and wood, if you want a little extra exercise.

www.regnskoven.dk www.memphismansion.com www.nordjyskemuseer.dk/u/vikingemuseet-fyrkat/ www.hvidstenkro.dk www.nordjyskemuseer.dk/vikingemuseet-fyrkat www.hotelamerika.dk

Sostrup Slot – castle and convent (2 nights)

This castle has a colorful history with many contrasts. It has been owned by counts and dukes, by cool ladies and quiet nuns. At Sostrup, you will feel it all, from extravaganza to quietness. The innkeeper has promised to give us a tour of the old castle and tell stories about the ghosts that you may meet if you decide to walk around on your own after midnight.

Two wonderful dinners are already waiting for us. Today, the castle is owned by a Danish American woman, living in California.

We'll make a day trip to Mols National Park, Kalø Slotsruin (a 700-year old ruined castle), and Slettehage Lighthouse from 1872 and appreciate the beauty that nature can bring. If time allows to, we'll visit Kalø Language Folk School as well.

www.sostrup.org

Ebeltoft (2 nights)

Last, but not least. The final stop on the tour is the absolutely quaint and lovely town of Ebeltoft, where several streets have cobbled stone and very old houses.

A visit to the old city hall from 1789 is a must,

and so is a visit to the old warship Fregatten Jylland. Ebeltoft Glass Museum is outstanding and here we will meet world class glass artist Janusz Walentynowicz, formerly Clinton, IL, now Skagen.

An interesting visit to the European Film College is in the works and shopping in this fabulous town is a must, including a visit to the old malt factory.

Tremendous dinners are planned at Strandkroen (Beach Tavern) on Egsmark Strand and at Karen's Kitchen on the harbor.

Accommodation and nice breakfasts at Ebeltoft Park Hotel.

www.ebeltoftpark.dk www.europeanfilmcollege.com www.jw.studio.com www.fregatten-jylland.dk www.karen-koekken.dk www.strandkroen-ebeltoft.dk

Notes:

City

All breakfasts are included in the price and so are all evening meals. Some of the evening meals will include your choice of one glass of wine, soda or beer. Lunches on your own, but the Hvidsten lunch is included.

All admission fees are included.

How do I get to Scandic Aarhus City?

- 1) If you fly into Billund, take the bus to Aarhus and then a cab/uber to the hotel.
- 2) If you fly into Aarhus, take the bus to Aarhus and a cab/uber to the hotel.
- 3) If you fly into Copenhagen, I recommend you take the train (go first class) to Aarhus. Enjoy the beautiful ride across Sjælland (Zealand), the tunnel and the magnificent bridge. Take a cab/uber to the hotel.

Stay an additional night at Scandic Aarhus

If you want to stay an additional night in Aarhus on 9/9 and/or 9/21, you can get a room at Scandic Arhus City for 1475 kroner (dbl), 1275 kroner (single), including breakfast. Reservation must be made 30 days before arrival. The booking code is BDAN090924, or call the hotel directly at 01145 8931 8100.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Prosperous

2024, Sune Frederiksen 859-248-0690

Pricing and Refund Policy

Price for the 12 day guided Beautiful East Jutland tour with a minimum of 40 participants is \$3,000 (per person – member price).

Maximum of 50 participants

Prices are based on double occupancy. There will be an additional charge of \$250 for non-members and an additional charge of \$600 for a single room.

Please note price DOES NOT include airfare portion of the trip.

Deposit of \$1,000.00 per person is due at the time of booking.

Deadline for booking is April 1, 2024.

All final payments and additional fees (for non-members and single room) are due by June 1, 2024.

Refund policy:

Refund cancellation prior to April 1, 2024: \$750.00 Between April 1 and May 31: \$500.00 After June 1, 2024, NO Refund

*If your place can be filled from the waiting list, \$500 will be refunded to you.

Price is subject to change at the time of the final payment date. The Denmark Tour is based on the exchange rate of 7 Dkk.

To book your tour or for more information please contact:

Karen Vig-Keathly, National Trustee Trustee3@danishsisterhood.com 708-715-0071



HO HO HO Sisters and Mr. Sisters of the Danish Sisterhood!!

This holiday season is a perfect time to THANK YOU for your support of our Sisterhood, the Museum of Danish America, and our Archival Project! We are so grateful for the lodges, districts and individual members that have invested with us to achieve our first goal and raise a total of \$18,600. We are already 62% of the way towards our goal of \$30,000!!

Our Sisterhood began in 1883 and is 140 years old THIS YEAR! We have such a proud rich

history that we will preserve through this archival project. THANK you for being an important part of our team.

All the best of good health and happiness to you and your family this holiday season.



NFDA x DSS

During convention, the first of our breakout sessions was a presentation from Katrina
Riggs, the social media specialist and contributor
for the National Foundation for Danish America.
The NFDA was started as a way to foster collaboration and networking among Danish organizations to help preserve and promote the Danish
culture in America. They have created an online
database that allows different community organizations, including The Danish Sisterhood, to post
all their local meetings, events, and fundraisers.
Katrina walked us through how to sign up for
their free weekly newsletter (it's the only email
you get from them once per week!) and how we
can upload our lodge events to their website.

To sign up for their weekly newsletter: What's Happening in Danish America, you can visit www.danishamerica.org and click on "Become a Subscriber" on the right side of the home page. Simply fill in the form that appears and click "Yes! Send me updates..."

To add your events or lodge meetings you can simply go to www.danishamerica.org, select Contact Us at the top of the home page and fill

out the "Send a message" form. Or you can click on "Submit Event" on the home page and fill out the form that populates for your event. Once you have filled in the information you can select "Check and Submit" to add your events to the database.

We strongly encourage all our lodges to add their different gatherings and meetings so they can not only create a wider awareness of their lodge activities for the local communities, but also to help others with ideas for their own events and meetings across the entire nation. If you don't feel comfortable filling out the form online, any one of us on the National Board is more than happy to help you get your information out there! This is a great tool to help you meet potential new members and find great social events happening close to you!

Glædlig Jul

















Glædlig Jul



Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår

Wishing you a Hyggelig Holiday Season!

DSS #188 Hygge, Enumclaw, WA



Ønsker dig og dine kære en velsignet jul



Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas From Freja Lodge #36 Perth Amboy, NJ





Princess Marie Lodge 68 Los Angeles, CA



Glædlig Jul

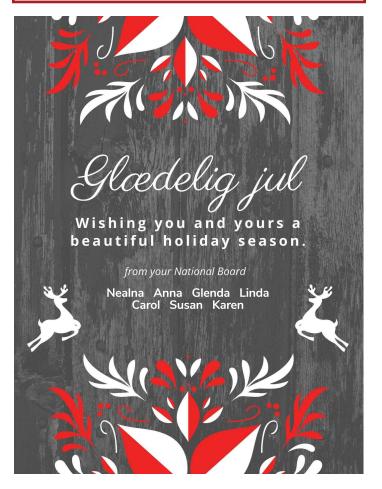












Danish Sisterhood Butikken

DanishSisterhood.com

For holiday shopping, please visit the DSS website at danishsisterhood.com













- 1. Hygge T-Shirt Red with white print Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL Price: \$20
- 2. Black Baseball Cap with Logo in Sequins Price: \$20
- 3. Wine Bottle Opener Black & red Price: \$5
- **4. Danish Car Magnets** 4.5" W x 4" H Price: \$10
- 5. Aebleskiver Apron Red Price: \$20
- 6. Puffy Vest Cobalt or Navy with Sisterhood Logo Sizes M-2X Price: \$50

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.

Danish Sisterhood Butikken

DanishSisterhood.com

For holiday shopping, please visit the DSS website at danishsisterhood.com

















- 10. Sisterhood Heart Makeup Compact Magnifying & regular mirrors Price: \$5
- 11. Daisy Earrings Price: \$12
- 12. Coral Pendant with Silver Filigree Red and silver necklace pendant Price: \$45
- **13. DSS Fleece Jacket** Available in red & black Price: \$37.50
- **14. Denmark Flag Enamel Earrings** Pierced Price: \$12/pair
- **15. Onesie** Red with white print Sizes: 6 mo, 12 mo, 18 mo Price: \$15
- **16. Set of 5 Notecards** Includes envelopes \$12/set
- 17. Heart Scarf Available in red & white Price: \$15

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.



Apply NOW for a College Scholarship

The Danish Sisterhood of America offers 10 scholarships, some which are \$2,500 each to Danish Sisterhood Members and their children.

Information about these scholarships and an application can be found on the website Danishsisterhood.org under the drop down menu "What We Do" or by contacting Nealna Gylling at president@danishsisterhood.com or 612-390-1374.

The due date for applications:

March 1, 2024.

Start applying NOW.

Address Changes

If you have moved please use this form to notify the Danish Sisterhood of America.

Clip and mail to:

Danish Sisterhood News National Secretary: Glenda Madrid 1557 Oak St. Solvang, CA 93463

I belong to Lodge #:		
Name:		
New Address:		
City:	State:	

Submissions Guidelines

- Submissions should be received by the Editor by the 1st of the month previous to the month published.
- Please submit captions for pictures, including names of people in the picture.
- Text for submissions should be less than 600 words (one typed page).
- Mail or electronic submissions are welcomed
- Please proofread for clarity, spelling and grammar before sending in your submissions.



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POSTMASTER PLEASE RUSH TIME DATED MATERIAL!



Annual Meeting in Cincinnati

REBILD NATIONAL PARK SOCIETY

April 3-10, 2024

Tours, dinners, dance, joy, followship. Schedule at www.rebildfesten.dk Non-members welcome.

Convention chair: Sune Frederiksen, 859-248-0690 Corporate secretary: Linda Steffensen, 847-882-2552

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Call: 847-882-2552, Fax: 847-882-7082 or Email: dpioneer@aol.com

Visit our Colorful Website:

www.thedanishpioneer.com

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

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