



DANEWS

a publication of the danish american center

The Danish American Center supports and fosters Danish culture through education and the celebration of traditions, customs and history.

MAY DAY ÆBLESKIVE EVENT

Saturday, May 1: 10am -12pm

Please join us on Saturday, May 1, outside the DAC entrance for a May Day æbleskive treat! Come anytime between 10am-12pm to enjoy a few æbleskiver, and a cup of coffee or juice. You must wear a mask in order to attend. Bring your own chairs or blankets if you wish to socially distance on the lawn. This is a free outdoor event. Donations are appreciated, but not required. If the weather does not permit us to be outside, the event will be postponed to Sunday, May 2 (again, dependent on the weather). If you have questions, please call Carla & Joel Mortensen at (612) 724-1814. Hope to see you there!

SAMFUNDSSIND: DAC'S FIRST ONLINE AUCTION BUILT COMMUNITY

As members of DAC, we love to spend time together. Many of our traditions are about time together



from playing games at hygge night to gathering around the table at the holidays. The Samfundssind online auction brought DAC members together in community while safely navigating the pandemic.

The auction brought out the best in our community. Through the month of February, members stopped by the center on Wednesdays to drop-off donations and to chat and share a laugh. Organizers received 171 items for posting to the auction site. There was a wide range of beautiful and interesting donations, including original works of art, furniture, gift cards, jewelry, homemade pies, books, toys, and dishes just to name a few. A number of the gift cards were paying it forward to local businesses and to organizations working on social justice issues. This too was building community with our neighbors.

SAMFUNDSSIND continued on Page 2

APRIL 2021

- Danish Day

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the president of the DAC for the past two and a half years, I have come to see this organization is about people, programs and place. Each supports the other in this three-legged stool. We need a welcoming building for the programs that allow people to enjoy gathering. Some members focus on one aspect or the other and we clearly need all three.

As we bid farewell to Christina Zettel and Lars Olsen, we welcome Tina Paulsen and her brother, René, who have been selected to be our new caretakers beginning in April. Some of you know them from their involvement in this Danish community over the years.

Mange tak for the participation of those who were supporting the Samfundssind Silent Auction through your donations of items, bidding, purchases and financial support. It has been a success well beyond our imagination. While this event was online, the pick-up time allowed for some much-desired opportunity for conversation at the DAC. I especially want to thank Janet Ogden-Brackett, Jane Carlson, and Lisa Jensen for their organizational skills in putting this together.

As the CDC and Governor Walz are beginning to offer options to those who have been fully vaccinated to begin gathering in small groups, I am increasingly hopeful that

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The auction started on March 5th and ended the evening of March 14th. Watching the bidding online was fun and interesting. Some items went right away with the "buy now" price. A few items were in last minute bidding competitions at the end. Amazingly, most everything sold and \$6,154.12 was raised for the DAC. This was well over the committee's goal of \$5,000. The online vendor site, 32Auctions was easy to use and to navigate.



On Saturday, March 20, a beautiful sunny, but cool spring day, members stopped by the DAC to pick-up their items and to enjoy some time together outside. Again Samfundssind. Coffee and treats were served and being together, being in community, was enjoyed by all.



A very big heartfelt tak to everyone who participated to make the auction a success.

we will be back in our building soon. I also know that I am reminded of the drama playing out between the variants that are spreading and our desire to reopen fully. However, the Executive Committee has agreed to begin slowly to allow limited use of the DAC grounds and atrium. The board will again review the situation in April and decide how to move ahead.

Watch for more about a modified æbleskiver breakfast for our members on May 1, and a simplified Danish Day on June 6. Both events are planned to take place outdoors. And thanks for your patience. We are hoping for some of our usual events to begin again this fall.

Diane Greve

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Members:

Alice Lingen

Mary Wierschem

Michael Fredrick

India Nelson

Patti Wojahn

DAC Directory Information - For further contact information on new and current members, please visit the Members Only portion of the DAC website. Use the email you would have associated with the DAC and create your own password in this new system. If you have trouble, contact the DAC office at dainfo@dac.mn or phone 612-729-3800.

Please note that membership information may be used ONLY by members of DAC for personal, non-business networking purposes. **Use of this information for sales or business solicitations or the like, by or for commercial entities or interests is strictly prohibited.** The DAC Board reserves the right to telephone, mail or e-mail solicitations that are deemed necessary for the operation of the DAC.

Danish American Center

3030 West River Parkway South
Minneapolis MN 55406

612-729-3800

email: dainfo@dac.mn

Website: www.dac.mn

Office Hours: Wednesdays: 10am-2pm

Affiliate Organizations

Contact information for all of our affiliate organizations can be found on our website:

www.dac.mn

Executive Board:

Diane Greve, President

Rikke Dierssen-Morice, Vice President

Janet Ogden-Bracket, Treasurer

Laura Forslev, Secretary

Ron Grand, at Large

Catherine Mahowald, at Large

Board of Directors:

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Lars Hesbjerg, Lisa Jensen, Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart,

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Michelle Potter-Bacon

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For submissions, advertising, or any other inquiries, please contact us at danews@dac.mn.

SAVE THE DATE FOR DANISH DAY!

Sunday, June 6: 11am - 3pm

Planning has begun for a modified Danish Day this summer. Please join us on Sunday, June 6, from 11am-3pm. This year's Danish Day will be limited to members only and their guests. Please bring your own food and drink, but save room for goodies from our bakery, hot dogs and of course æbleskiver! There will be music, vendor booths and fun activities for the kids. Please bring your masks and safely enjoy the company of friends and members, including some new ones. We look forward to seeing you all this summer! Stay tuned for more details.

DANEBO READING CIRCLE TOURS WITH *MISS ICELAND* IN APRIL

Sunday, April 18: 2pm

Miss Iceland, the most recent best-seller by Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir, follows Hekla from her rural home to Reykjavik in 1963 and later to Copenhagen, ever in pursuit of freedom—and of being a writer. The novel was published in 2018 in Iceland and translated into English in 2020 by Brian FitzGibbon. It is also the story of Hekla, named for the volcano, and Jon, her gay friend who is likewise searching for new life in the arts. The publisher describes the book as “a novel of extraordinary poise and masterful acuity from one of our most celebrated Icelandic writers.” Join the reading group via Zoom—or outside at the DAC if factors permit—on Sunday, April 18. Katy Lindblad will lead the discussion beginning at 2 PM.

Many of the characters in *Miss Iceland*, especially the females, find life constraining and their choices limited, from work options to their inclusion in literary and artistic culture. Expectations are tradition-bound and seem stifling. But as the world of the 1960s is changing, Hekla and Jon wonder how it will affect them and their homeland. Will role expectations change? Does acceptance become broader? Is a beauty pageant a celebration of femininity or a scam? Are sex and love between men and women mutually exclusive? Whose artistic work is visible—or invisible—and who decides? Do victims of discrimination suffer equally? And what is in a name? Author Ólafsdóttir, her characters, and the readers of *Miss Iceland* explore these questions and more.

In May the Reading Circle follows another artist, this time aspiring Norwegian painter Alberta, now in Paris. *Alberta and Freedom* (1931, 237 pages) is the middle book in The Alberta Trilogy by Norwegian author Cora Sandel and translated into English in 1963 by Elizabeth Rokkan. Over the course of the three books, Alberta grows from a stifled, rebellious girl in far northern Tromsø to an impoverished young woman following her muse in Paris to a middle-aged divorcée back in her homeland bound to achieve self-sufficiency as an author. A Library Journal review characterized the trilogy as “a magnificent work of introspection” and “a moving story, a familiar classic of Norwegian literature, and a prize to be translated for the American people.” Come discuss the story of this intriguing woman on Sunday, May 16, at 2pm.

TIPS FROM TINA

Want to be more Danish? Go green! Denmark was environmentally conscious long before the term “Going Green” was coined. You can follow their example, but you don't need to install solar panels on your house or give up your car for a bike. If you're currently reading this article on a paper version when you could just click on an email, now's your chance to go green. Please consider saving a little paper by removing your name from the DANews hardcopy list. If you don't have an email address, no worries. But if you do, getting your news by email only is a great way to go green (and red & white).

NOTARY PUBLIC

If you are in need of a Notary Public, the Danish American Center offers this service for members in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Please contact DAC member Ardis Wexler at judgeardis@aol.com to make arrangements to meet at a mutually agreed upon time and location. Rates are \$10 per document and all proceeds go to the Danish American Center. This service is a convenient way to get your documents notarized and support the Danish American Center at the same time.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for the May issue is April 10

I KØKKENET

Shrimp and Leek Quiche

Crust (18 cm/7 in pan)

150 grams flour

50 grams margarine/butter

Mix flour and margarine with a little cold water. Prebake for 10 minutes at 220°C /425°F

Filling

200 g salad shrimp and chopped leeks

(can substitute or any other meat and vegetables)

2 deciliters cream

200 grams shredded cheese

3 eggs

Pinch of nutmeg

Put shrimp and leeks in the crust. Whip cream, eggs, and nutmeg. Pour over ingredients in the crust. Add cheese on top. Bake at 200°C /400°F for 35-45 minutes.

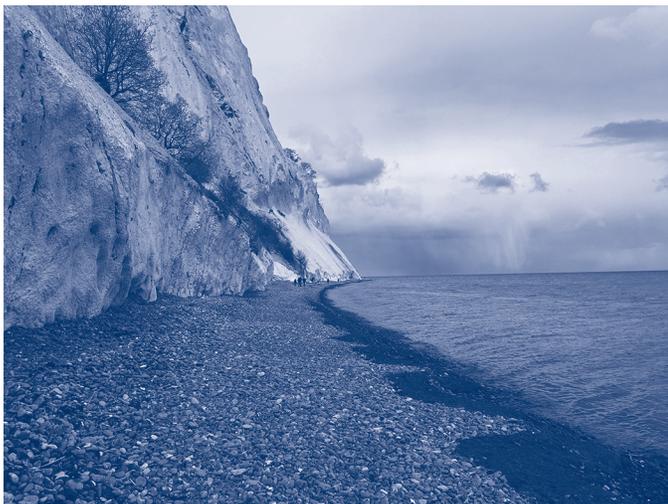
Personal Danish family recipe submitted by Becky Wifstrand

Do you have a Danish recipe you'd like to share? Please send to danews@dac.mn

DANISH TRIVIA

One of the major attractions in Copenhagen is Tivoli Gardens. The original name when they opened included another name, based on an area of London. What was it? Check the May *DANews* for the answer to this month's trivia question!

Last month's trivia question: *The island of Møn is well known for its cliffs, which are made from what substance?* **Chalk**



NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

DANISH GENEALOGY

WEBINAR: Monday, April 26: 6:30pm CDT

Even if we can't meet in person, that won't stop us from having a potluck...a virtual one that is! Join us on Zoom to share your favorite Danish and Danish-American recipes, food memories, show off pictures of your Danish culinary skills or simply listen in and enjoy! Reminisce about food your ancestors made and learn about some new dishes as well. The format will be informal with guests able to share with each other.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88102026679?pwd=cjFKTDVGVEZCcGN3ZVBKUnFXMkRoQT09>

Meeting ID: 881 0202 6679 / Passcode: 397683

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Holmquist at (651) 748-5017.

DANEOD FOLK MEETING: SAVE THE DATE

August 18-20, 2021

Join us for the 75th jubilee celebration of the founding of the Danebod Folk Meeting!

This year's meeting will be a virtual event, including speakers, singing, stories, and community.

Tentative Speaker Topics:

- Current Events of 1946;
- History of the Danebod Folk Meeting;
- Climate Change;
- Danish Literature;
- Racism: How to Diminish the Gap;
- Politics of Healing

Registration materials available at:

danebodfolkmeeting.org

For further information, email or call:

Danebod.Folk.Meeting123@gmail.com

(507) 247-3000

THE BEST OF DANISH CINEMA IS ONLINE

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema is proud to announce the next series in a year-long partnership between the Alamo On Demand VOD platform and the Danish Film Institute with the support of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

The Best of Danish Cinema series features 36 films in total, rolled out in thematic “six packs” the last Thursday of every other month. In addition to the 36 featured films, Alamo is also curating one of the largest collections of Danish films on the planet, many exclusive to Alamo on Demand. For more details: <https://ondemand.drafthouse.com/bundle/danish-classics-six-pack/>

The “six-pack” just released celebrates the distinctly Danish film movement/manifesto Dogme 95 that burst forth from Danish auteurs Thomas Vinterberg and Lars Von Trier in 1995. Their idea was a “purification” of cinema, stripping away the artifice, technology, and, very pointedly, big studio influence. With no gimmicks, no post-production, no special effects, no sets, no soundtrack, and no artificial lighting, Dogme 95 films were intended to be a pure expression of the art of storytelling. Only a scant 31 films from 1998 to 2005 are officially recognized Dogme 95 films; the movement “disbanded” in 2005. But the influence, ideas and philosophy influenced countless filmmakers in the movement’s wake and helped to reshape the aesthetic of modern independent cinema.

The two centerpiece films are the first two films of the movement, directed by the founders of the movement: Thomas Vinterberg’s THE CELEBRATION and Lars Von Trier’s THE IDIOTS. THE IDIOTS, THE CELEBRATION and Dogme 95 #18 TRULY HUMAN are exclusively available on Alamo on Demand.

Anyone who watches all 36 films in the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema “Best of Danish Cinema” series will be invited to a “Meet the Danes” party in Los Angeles or New York. Dates and details will be announced later, when gathering and parties don’t sound like alien concepts. Huge thanks to our partners at the Danish Film Institute for making this celebration possible.

NEWS FROM DENMARK



DENMARK’S QUEEN MARGRETHE TO SKIP BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS FOR SECOND YEAR

Once again this year, Her Majesty The Queen’s birthday on 16 April will be marked differently than usual. Like last year, The Queen will spend the day at Fredensborg Palace, where the birthday will be celebrated privately.

When Her Majesty The Queen turned 80 years old almost a year ago, the day turned out to be different than planned. In light of the situation with COVID-19 in the Danish society, the round birthday was celebrated at Fredensborg Palace with digital congratulations from inside Denmark and abroad, joint singing and Her Majesty’s address to the Danish people in the evening. One year later, the situation with COVID-19 continues to mean that The Queen’s birthday must be celebrated differently than the traditional way. Her Majesty and the royal family will therefore not come out on the balcony during the changing of the guard at Amalienborg at 12:00 noon this year. Instead, The Queen will celebrate the day privately at Fredensborg Palace.

However, it will still be possible to send The Queen a birthday greeting via the Royal Danish House’s digital platforms. On the morning of 16 April, a congratulations list will be set up on the Royal Danish House’s website (kongehuset.dk), where it will be possible to send personal felicitations to The Queen. Due to the continued spread of COVID-19, it will not be possible to show up physically at Det Gule Palæ at Amalienborg to handwrite a greeting for Her Majesty. The birthday will be marked throughout the day on the Royal Danish House’s social media and website.

DANISH AUTHOR LOUIS JENSEN DIES

If you've ever been in the dining room at the Danish American Center, you've most likely seen and read the panels on the walls which contain the short stories of Louis Jensen. Sadly, he recently died suddenly at the age of 77. When he last communicated in January with his translator Lisa Kildegaard, he was full of news about new books he was writing and new adventures. They were planning to meet and collaborate in the fall. Here is a translation of the 334th story from his 1001 square story project—a small sample of his lyricism and his wild imagination.

The Elkhorn Museum is planning an exhibit on his work.

A three hundred and thirty fourth time, the tongue has stars. Their uncles are the heart's stars. Their aunts are the ankle's stars. And the stars of the right side of the nose are in the family. And when the tongue speaks, the tongue's stars fly right out into the air, and when they first get into an ear, they stand up and shine, for ears are the best place in the whole world. And the ears love the tongue's stars.



**DANISH
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CENTER**

3030 W RIVER PARKWAY S
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55406