

Welcome to The 2001-2002 Season

Dear Members,

Summer's gone – time to kick-off the fifth season in The Danish Club of Houston. Mostly the same old stuff, in average one event per month – with the Holiday party and Christmas Service normally being the crowd-pleasers.

Unfortunately our Annual Meeting 2001 coincided with Allison the Storm. She did not really bother the event, both we and the ground stayed mostly dry, but the attendance was severely impacted – to such a degree that the meeting did not represent a quorum. Or in other words, we were too few to (re) elect the Board and let the Treasurer off the hook.

Therefore the 2000-2001 Board continues as an interim Board until we can arrange a brief meeting with enough members present to confirm the elections and approve the cook (ed) books for the year. We will do that as soon as possible.

Member statistics still hover around the 100 families, make sure your friends and relatives support the Danes in Houston. Membership is still only \$ 15 for the whole family, and new members enrolled after October are covered for the following year, too.

We hope to attract some more members for this season's events. It was somewhat disappointing to see the turn-out to last year's events, we look forward to seeing y'all more often this year.

Constitution Day Party & Annual Meeting

Allison the Storm destroyed a lot of homes in Houston in June, but the West side of the city stayed mostly dry. We decided therefore to have the Constitution Day picnic and Annual Meeting as planned, and notified all members by e-mail.

The weather stayed mostly dry and we had a good time, but Allison apparently scared away some members. We were only some 20-25 people including guests, too few to be a quorum, but we did go through the Agenda and elected an interim Board, which will act until re-confirmed by members.

No new candidates showed up, so the following members were re-elected:

President: Niels Kastrup

Vice President: Carl Steffensen
Treasurer: Hannes Hofer
Secretary: Mette Miller
Activity Coord.: Lisbeth Mogensen
Activity Coord.: Henrik Roende

Hannes informed us that the net result for the year was \$ 1,364, and that the Club's equity on March 31, 2001 was \$ 5,811. As usual the Christmas Party auction and raffle were the main contributors to the surplus.

Key note speaker was Dirk Van Tuerenhout, Curator of Anthropology with the HMN, who gave us an interesting insight into the exhibition and some of the artifacts being exhibited. Dirk also answered questions and debated the perception and reality of the Vikings with the interested crowd.

Thanks to all who showed up, and thanks to Samson Control for being Keg Sponsor. We worked hard on the keg, but were way too few to float it.

Shirts and Caps with New Logo

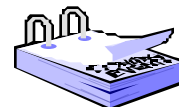
Do not forget our new logo merchandise:



White Polo-Shirts: \$ 20
Blue Caps: \$ 15
White T-Shirts: \$ 10

You can buy your new shirt at our events or call Mette Miller to order. Go to our web-site www.dkhouston.org to see a picture of the nice stuff.

Season Calendar 2001- 2002



Further events will be added, and changes will happen...

September 21-23:

Family Camping Trip to Brazos Bend National Park.

September 22, 3 pm.:

Brazos Bend tour and BBQ for one-day visitors

October 13, tba:

"Super Brian" vs. Mike Tyson. Sports Bar meet with some beer and snacks. More to follow by e-mail

October 28, 11 am.:

Annual Cook-Out and Viking Soccer Cup,
Norwegian Seamen's Church in Pasadena

December 1:

Holiday Party at The Old Fire Station at The Heights,
Danish Style Food & Dance.

December 16:

Holiday Church Service in Pasadena with Pastor
Torben Poulsen & Children's Christmas Tree

January 20:

Pep-Rally for Danish Club Runners in Houston
Marathon

February 10:

Fastelavns Party, Location not decided

April 21-22:

MS 150 Bike Ride to Austin, Practice every Sunday
Morning from Mid-November

April TBA:

Danevang - Queen's Birthday Celebration

April TBA:

Five-a-Side Soccer, Norwegian Seamen's Church

June 2, 2 pm.:

Danish Constitution Day Party & Annual Meeting

Danes Show Their Support to America

This note is written in Copenhagen, while awaiting
a chance to get a flight back home to Houston,
which is not likely to happen until Sept. 18..

Already a few hours after news about the terrible
attack to the WTC reached Denmark, a large
support demonstration gathered at the Town Hall
Square. At the same time Danes started placing
flowers and candles outside the US Embassy on
Dag Hammerskjolds Alle in Copenhagen.

I was there with flowers from the club on
Wednesday afternoon, and the sight was very
moving. Hundreds of bouquets, candles, children's
drawings, letters, teddies and other small gifts fill up
the whole area in front on the Embassy, and
hundreds of people are quietly surrounding the
area to show their sympathy and support to the
American people.

The Danish Club of Houston share the support and
sympathy with families and relatives, who have lost
or are missing loved ones in the terrible and
intolerable attack against The United States and
the freedom of the American people.

The Heritage Museum Inaugurated...

The Danish Heritage Culture Center and Museum
was officially inaugurated in June, after a year's
hard work by the committee in Danevang.

Some 300-400 people attended the inauguration,
including a number of our members, members from
the San Antonio Danes and the Danish Consulate.

The Scandinavian Folkdancers participated in the
celebration and lured some of the guests to
participate in "Den toppede hoene" and other old
folk dances, and we all had great fun under the
warm canopy.

The Danish Club of Houston presented the Center
with a gift being two Georg Jensen wall clocks,
showing "Denmark Time" and "Danevang Time".
The clocks were nicely mounted on a board with
plaques.

Well, the true story is that the clocks did not make it
in time, because Jan Mogensen lost his luggage
bringing the clocks from Denmark. Hannes found
pictures on the Internet which were enlarged,
printed, cut and temporarily mounted on the
wooden plate, until we could present the "real stuff"
at our Annual Meeting.

The clocks can be seen at the Museum, you can
also see a picture on our web site.

***Scandinavian Roots Exhibit Opening in
Danevang***

Approximately 40 members of the Danish Club
responded to the invitation by the Houston's Nordic
Consulates and went to Danevang for the August
18 opening of the exhibit "Scandinavian Roots -
American Lives" about Scandinavian immigrants in
the US.

About half the Danes who attended rode on a bus, which generously had been provided by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The Danish Club and the Danish Consulate donated liquid refreshments on the bus. The ride was so comfortable that Ray Daugbjerg jokingly suggested that we took an extra couple of laps around the 610 loop until all the Aquavit had been consumed.

The opening itself was a great event. Many visitors saw "The Danish Heritage Culture Center" for the first time, so this was a great opportunity to see, not just the new traveling exhibit, but the permanent exhibits as well. It was also a great opportunity to socialize with fellow Scandinavians and to dig into the very generous variety of mostly Danish style food which was catered by Danish Club member Susy Ibsen. Pictures from the event can be seen on the the Danish Club's Website.

Thanks to Ray Daugbjerg and Anna Thomsen from the Danish Consulate for organizing this great event.

Hannes Hofer

Yellow Star Exhibition in Danevang...

Award-winning author and storyteller Carmen Agra Deedy, with Danish (Aarhus) illustrator Henri Sorensen, has recreated the enduring legend of the yellow star inspired by the bravery of the Danes and their beloved King Christian X.

Deedy's lyrical prose and Sorensen's arresting portraits unite to create a powerful and dignified story of heroic justice, a story for all people and all times.

The exhibit at the Danish Heritage Museum in Danevang consists of 10 of the original oil paintings which served to illustrate The Yellow Star together with panels containing the entire text of the book.

The exhibit will remain in Danevang until the end of December, 2001. Books will be available for purchase (\$16.95) at the Museum or by calling 713-524-2328.

Opening Hours..

The museum in Danevang is open from 1 pm to 4 pm on Sundays and any day by special arrangement for groups of 8 or more. For special arrangements, call Bridget and Al Jensen at 713-524-2328.

Viking Cup & Cook-Out..

The Annual Viking Cup Soccer tournament between the Scandinavian countries' full size teams is scheduled for Sunday, October 28. The Cooking teams start their preparations already Saturday night, and the soccer teams go in action at noon time after the open air Family Service.

We were very close to beating Norway I in the final game last year. The Danes were up 2-0, before Norway got their game going, and won 3-2 in the last seconds.

We need all soccer players to "book" that Sunday afternoon and be ready to fight for the red and white colors. We need approx. 14 players, so e-mail Niels K. as soon as possible at nhk@flsmiljo.com, so we can get the roster put together. We may even get together for a training session before the game.

If you would like to help the cooking team "The Danish Deep Friars", headed by Jan Mogensen and Mike Miller, then call Jan at 281-992-1136.

Our Wedding Present..

It is old news by now, that Anna Thomsen and Hal Holliday were married in May in North Carolina. The Danish Club congratulated Anna and Hal by donating an amount to the Lesec Children's Foundation in name of Anna & Hal.

Here is a portion of the Thank You note received from the newly weds.:

... thank you for the most thoughtful wedding present you gave us. As all of you know Lise's two boys are very dear to me, and to be able to contribute to their continued welfare is a wonderful gift. ... Both Jacques and Nicolas are doing well, they are delighted, of course, with the present... Thank you again to the Danish Club.

The Danish Club wishes Anna & Hal a long and happy life together.

At the End of the Rainbow..

This new book by journalist and writer Bo Ostlund will be published in October. Ostlund has gathered 150 stories of an equal number of lives under one cover. They are all Danish-Americans.

The book tells the fascinating story of people and their lives: Dean Martin's nanny, the private chef doe the Kennedy's, the nuclear scientist from Nevada's desert, and many other interesting

Danes. Also one or more of our members are pictured in the book.

The book is written in Danish, it is not known if a translation is planned. This article is based on input from our member Jens Christoffersen, who is suggesting you check <http://1klik.dk/boeger> for more details. We believe that Jens is one of the Danes being portrayed in the book and look forward to read the book.

Holiday Party 2001

The Holiday Party committee has held their first planning meeting for the big event to take place December 1 in The Heights. Evidently all details are still secret, however we can reveal that the food this year will be real Danish style, catered by Susie Ipsen. So mark your calendar already now, more to follow in due time.

Danes Worldwide – Dansk Samvirke

Have you thought about joining Dansk Samvirke / Danes Worldwide, with their Summer school, Remote School Program, and special membership offers and events in Denmark. Please call or e-mail Niels Kastrup, if you want more information or a brochure.

Gulf Coast Scandinavian Folkdancers

The Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston have resumed practices in September. The group meets every Monday night from 7:15 -9:00 pm in Room 208 at the Westbury Methodist Church, located near West Belfort and Loop 610 .

We have an exciting year of performances ahead, including scheduled appearances at the Houston International Festival, Texas State Fair, and Texas Folklife Festival. If you are interested in folk dancing or learning more about the group, please come by or contact Carl Steffensen (steff@flash.net / 281-493-4801) or Allan Abedor (aabedor7@pdq.net / 936-449-4721).

Carl S.

Facts About The Danish Club...

Board of Directors:

Niels H. Kastrup, President	281-855-9299
Carl Steffensen Vice President	281-493-4801
Hannes Hofer, Treasurer	713-664-7784
Mette Miller, Secretary	281-859-3140
Lisbeth Mogensen, Activ. Coord.	281-992-1136
Henrik Roende, Activ. Coord.	281-679-6886

www.dkhouston.org

Wanna read or print this Newsletter in flying colors ? Hannes has been busy all summer revamping our famous web site, which is now even easier to surf. We have plenty of interesting links, and you can see the Club's Photo Archive. Hannes is also thankful for ideas or suggestions for further improvements of the site.

New Members / Address / E-mail Changes:

Hannes Hofer
4042 Silverwood, Houston, TX 77025
e-mail: hofer@mac.com

Newsletter:

This volume is edited by Niels H. Kastrup, and mailed to members in good standing and selected friends of the Danish-American community in Houston. Copying and mailing courtesy of *FLS miljø Inc. – Clean Air To The World...*

Almost all our members do now have access to e-mail and Internet. We will therefore soon stop mailing the newsletters to everybody, and just ask you to print or read from the web site. Hard copy will then only be mailed to members without internet access or other members who specifically ask for hard copy.

Nordic Women's Cultural Club:

For more information, call Bente Rawson at 713-782-4108

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