

G-Day Picnic & Annual Meeting

The weather was beautiful for the Annual Meeting and Danish Constitution Day picnic in June. We all remember last year, when the tropical storm Allison hit Houston the days before our picnic, causing widespread flooding and damages for billions of dollars, however this year was so dry that the Scandinavian Folkdancers whirled lots of dust and sand on their glossy boots and shoes.

Attendance was pretty good, some 60 members and guests showed up with their picnic basket and enjoyed the Folkdancers, the keg and the speech by our most senior member Jens C. Christoffersen.

Jens told us about his early years as an immigrant in New York, right after the conclusion of WW II, and he also showed pictures and samples from his scrapbook, The audience enjoyed his comments and thoughts on how it used to be for new immigrants coming to the States.

The Annual Meeting was conducted during the picnic, and we are pleased to welcome our new board member Christina Clark, who is replacing Lisbeth Mogensen. The new Board looks as follows: Niels H. Kastrop, President, Carl Steffensen, Vice President, Hannes Hofer, Treasurer & Webmaster, Mette Miller, Secretary, Henrik Roende & Christina Clark, Activity Coordinators.

The President's Report and the Treasurers Financial Statement were well received by the members, and no changes to the by-laws or business order were proposed, so Meeting Chair Asger Lund had an easy job. Thanks to consul Ray Daugbjerg for being this year's keg sponsor and thanks to all who attended the meeting.

Lisbeth Mogensen Named Life Member of The Danish Club...

Lisbeth Mogensen decided to take a break from the Board after being a hard working member since the very beginning in December 1996, when she called one night and suggested we should start a Danish Club in Houston.

The Board decided to name Lisbeth a Life Member of the Club. Our By-laws state that a Life member shall be "a person who has made a special

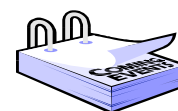
contribution to the welfare of the club or who has advanced the objects for which it was organized." That is to us a perfect description of Lisbeth's work through the years.

Lisbeth becomes the second Life Member of the Club. The other being our first President John Moyell. Lisbeth received a plaque with inscription at the Annual Meeting as our token of appreciation.

Frikadelle Contest...

Who makes the best Frikadeller (Danish Meat Balls) in Houston? Well, according to the three Judges at the frikadelle contest held at the Picnic, the honors go to Benthe Rasmussen. Competition among the five contestants was close, and the judges had a hard time selecting the final winner. Congrat's to Benthe.

Season Calendar 2002- 2003



October 11-13:

Family Camping at Stephen F. Austin National Park.
One day visitors welcome for Saturday BBQ

October 27:

Viking Soccer Cup & Cook-Out Competition,
Norwegian Seamen's Church in Pasadena.

December 7:

Holiday Party for Adults, Nottingham Forest Club

December (TBD):

Christmas Church Service & Kids Christmas Tree Party. With pastor Torben Poulsen, New York.
Norwegian Seamen's Church, Pasadena.

February (TBD):

Fastelavns Party

March (TBD):

Family Camping

June 1:

Grundlovsdag Picnic & Annual Meeting
Nottingham Forest Club

More events will be added as we get them organized..

Family Camping October 11-13

First camping trip of the season goes to Stephen F. Austin National Park, west of Houston. We have reserved space for six families on a first come-first served basis, so please call Lisbeth Mogensen at 281-992-1136 if you have not yet e-mailed.

One-day visitors are also welcome. Bring your own stuff for the barbie and hang out with the campers. Please call Lisbeth, also if you just show up for the day.

“Ordrupgaardsamlingen” in Houston

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, presents selected items of European Impressionism from the Ordrupgaard Collection in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The exhibition includes more than 80 paintings by Degas, Gauguin, Monet a.o., as well as some of the most famous Danish impressionists.

The exhibition is touring the USA and has been on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York through September 8.

The exhibition in Houston is open from October 6 until January 5, and we hope to be able to arrange a guided tour in October / November together with the Royal Danish Consulate. More to follow by e-mail Newsflash and on our web-site.

Viking Cup and Cook-Out

The annual soccer tournament between the Scandinavian countries is taking place Sunday October 27 from noon. At the same time the giant Cook-Out at the Norwegian Seamen’s Church will give you a great opportunity to sample some delicious food – and also support the church.

We need all capable soccer players to join the Danish team. Last year’s team was very strong, and we beat Norway 4-1 in the final, but unfortunately some of the players have since returned to Denmark. If you are a soccer player and want to play on the Danish team, then e-mail Niels Kastrup at nhk@flsairtech.com no later than Sept. 14.

Please do not wait for us to call you – we have a lot of fun and need support from all the decent players we can find.

The current captain of the cooking team, Jan Mogensen, is stepping down this year. We may

have a position open on the team, please contact Niels Kastrup, if you are interested. Rules are tough, no pre-cooking allowed, so the teams normally show up Saturday night to start smoking the meet and preparing the briskets.

Cooking categories are normally: Chicken, Brisket, Seafood and Ribs – and the seafood team often cooks a good Gumbo, too.

Outdoor Family church service starts at 11 am, Cook-Out sampling and Soccer right after noon.

Welcome to new members...

It is so great to see all the new names. We welcome the following new members to the club:

Jan Kauffeldt, Houston	May
Erik D. Andersen, Crane, TX	
June	
Maria L. Steenberg Janhyala, Houston	
June	
Ulrikka Kornerup & Lars L. Jorgensen	
June	
Katherine & Torben Pedersen	
June	
Jody and Allan Sommer	
June	
Alette & Willem Sorensen	
June	
Helle Blackwell, Kingwood	Aug.
Maj Britt Klemp, Houston	Aug.
Lotte Andersen & Kim Nielsen, Pearland	Aug.
Heidi K. Nielsen, Houston	Sep.

What brings them all to Houston / Texas? Well, two newcomers are engineers with Shell, One family works for Bonus Vindmoeller in Mid-Texas. We have a corrosion exec. with Intecorr, a pharmacist, a professor in pharmacology at UH, a supervisor at Aalborg Industries, a J.P. Morgan exec., a Legal trainee and a new office trainee with FLS Airtech.

Great to see that families and individuals are still moving to Houston, even in times when business is slowing down and the traditional “biggies” in the shipping business have been reducing their Scandinavian presence.

We wish you all welcome to Houston and to The Danish Club of Houston. Look forward to meet you all!

The Svendsens are leaving town..

We have cut the following from Shell’s internal newsletter:

Effective September 1, 2002, Jahn Svendsen has accepted a new assignment with Shell Norway E&P located in Stavanger, Norway. Jahn will be the Technical Team Leader for a new offshore LNG project.

Jahn has been working in the US since 1994 in several assignments... Jahn and his wife Karin, have enjoyed their time in the US and are going to miss all of their friends and colleagues here. However, they look forward to the new assignment, which brings them closer to their family in Europe. Please join us in wishing Jahn and Karin success in their new assignment!

- Also the Danish Club wishes the Svendsens all the best in Norway. Thanks for your active participation in the Danish-American community. Also our member family Karin and Roy Leadholm are on assignment in Stavanger, so maybe we should start a local chapter of the Danish Club over there.

Annual Report 2002

Cuts from the President's Annual Report 2002. Check our web site for the rest of the story..

..Our Club was officially started in October 1997, so we will soon be celebrating our five years anniversary. We grew to the current approx.100 member families already in the first year or two, and that seems still to be the limit of interest in Houston. We would prefer that all Danes and Danish-interested people in Houston joined the club, and we would also settle for just a little more attendance from the existing membership.

...I may be repeating myself year after year, but it is the same faces showing up time after time. And believe me, there is nothing we rather would see than new faces and new people with new ideas.

...Before looking back at the many events of the year I would like to mention a very special visit I paid to the US Embassy in Copenhagen on September 12 last year. I brought some flowers from our club and was overwhelmed by the flowers, drawings, letters, candles and gifts filling the large area in front of the Embassy. Also the many people gathered in silence expressed their sympathy with the American people and their disgust for what had happened the day before.

Being a Dane living in the US I felt grateful and maybe also a little proud of the immediate and spontaneous support from the Danish people.

...We have during the year continued our close cooperation and friendship with The Danish Heritage Society of Danevang, and it is still amazing to see the activity level and enthusiasm surrounding the Museum and Society in Danevang. We are also cooperating with the Scandinavian Club of Houston, which is primarily servicing the Norwegian contingent, by including their events on our web-site, and we were invited to some of their events during the year. Finally we supported the Vikingfest Group in Georgetown, TX,

...I would like also to mention our cooperation with The Danish Seamen's Church in New York and the Norwegian Seamen's Church in Houston. We always look forward to Torben Poulsen's visits to Houston, and we appreciate the hospitality and friendship with the Norwegian Church in Pasadena.

...I would like to thank our members for their support and to thank my fellow board members for volunteering their time and effort.

Financials in Good Shape...

Our treasurer Hannes Hofer could present a decent set of financials for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2002. The Profit & Loss account showed a break-even with a net loss of \$ 356 for the year.

Our equity is \$ 5,454, including some significant assets: A Barbeque Grill, Gazebo, A Club Banner and a Santa Suit!! Our auditor Mike Miller had issued a clean audit report, and the Annual meeting approved Hannes' books with acclamation.

Norwegian Pastor Leaving Houston...

Jan Stellef Roenningen from the Norwegian Seamen's Church is returning to Norway after four years in Houston. Fare-well Service is September 22 at 11 am. According to the church's Newsletter "Texas Nytt". His predecessor Audun Haga will return to Houston as temporary replacement.

All the best to Jan and his family with thanks for support and cooperation over the years. Also a warm "welcome back" to Audun Haga.

Danish Club Logo Merchandise..

Logo merchandise is always available:

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

You can buy your shirt or cap 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.

Updated Member List

Attached with this Newsletter is our updated member List with addresses, home phone numbers and e-mail addresses for members in good standing. Plus a few who have not paid yet, but are good supporters, just a little sloppy..

This list is provided for members private use, and must not be used for commercial mailing lists or any other commercial use without specific approval by The Danish Club of Houston.

The list is also available on our web site. E-mail Hannes Hofer if you have forgotten the Password, which is "close to the railway station..".

Danish Heritage Preservation Society

Our friends in Danevang, TX, are doing a fantastic job keeping the Danish roots alive and arranging interesting exhibitions at the new Heritage Museum.

Annual membership is only \$ 10, which includes free admission to the Museum any time.

Support DHPS by sending \$ 10 with your name / address / phone/ e-mail to: Mickey Christensen, P.O. Box 386, Danevang, TX 77432

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, for more information or check www.danes.dk

Nordic Women's Cultural Club:

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

Gulf Coast Scandinavian Folkdancers

The Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston meet every Monday night from 7:15 -9:00 pm in Room 208 at the Westbury Methodist Church, located near West Belfort and Loop 610 . Contact Carl Steffensen (steff@flash.net / 281-493-4801) for further information.

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
Christina B. Clark, Activ. Coord.	713-862-0739
Henrik Roende, Activ. Coord.	281-679-6886

www.dkhouston.org

Wanna read or print this Newsletter in flying colors or buy an air ticket from one of our sponsors? Check our web site, we have plenty of interesting links, and you can view the Club's impressive Photo Archive. Hannes is always 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. Next issue: Nov. 2002. Copying and mailing courtesy of **FLSmidth Airtech Inc. (Previously known as FLS miljø Inc.) – Clean Air To The World...**

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