



What's Inside

Scandinavian Folkdancers . . .	2
Club Brunch	2
Calendar	2
2005 Sommerfest	3
New Members	4
Young Danes Network	4
Facts About The Danish Club .	4

SIGs

Several members have suggested that the Danish Club support Special Interest Groups, or SIGs within the Club. We think this is a great idea, and we offer the following way in which these SIGs could work:

Members send suggested topics for groups to the Danish Club (me!). I will then create a SIG web page that contains the topics and the name and e-mail addresses of the SIG leaders, probably the persons who made the suggestions. (The page will be password protected so e-mail addresses are not exposed to mass mailers). Members interested in the topics will then contact the SIG leader by phone or e-mail. How the individual SIGs will work, will probably depend on the topic: Some may require that members meet in person, while other can communicate via e-mail.

-continued p. 2



A New Season

We are getting ready once again for a new year in the Danish Club of Houston after a long and hot Summer. Hopefully, everybody had a great time.

Last year saw the resignation of our President, Niels Kastrop. He served at the post for five years, and had been on the board for several years prior to that. Niels has started a new job that will take him out of town for extended periods of time. We wish him good luck in his new endeavor and hope to see him at our future events when he is in town.

Since the election in June at our Summer Party and annual meeting, Sten Svendsen has resigned due to the workload at his day job. Linda Martin has stepped in to take his position as Activity Coordinator. We welcome Linda and thank Sten for his time on the board. Hope to see him at future events as well.

The new Board of Directors has had its first board meeting. Several things were discussed - both practical matters and future events. We will start of with

a camping trip to Quintana Beach County Park outside Freeport, Texas. In October it is time for the annual BBQ Cookoff and Soccer Tournament at the Norwegian Seaman's Church in Pasadena with our Scandinavian friends. This year we should be able to put a soccer team together and also hope to be represented at the cookoff.

November has been chosen for a new event - an informal brunch to meet some of the other members. We hope this will become an ongoing item on our calendar. On December 10 we will once again host our annual Christmas Party at the Nottingham Country Club. We are working on more things so keep an eye on your inbox.

Suggestions, questions, complaints or praise is welcome at any time. Feel free to call or email me or come up and introduce yourself at any of the events. I am looking forward to seeing y'all soon.

Lillian Jensen



Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston

The Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston will be kicking off their 2005-06 season as practices resume on September 12th at 7:00 p.m. The group spent a week in Norway this summer performing and attending workshops in Oslo and Bergen, and brought back a number of new dances which will be incorporated into our repertoire this year. We know that there are a lot of "closet folkdancers" among the Danes in Houston, so if you've ever had a desire to dance (or are

just curious!), please join us every Monday night during the school year, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Rice Village (2353 Rice Blvd., 77005). We practice and perform for our own enjoyment and desire to share our culture with others and the atmosphere is relaxed and fun, so don't be shy! Our performance schedule for this season includes the Texas State Fair in Dallas (October), the Norwegian Seaman's Church (November),

the Swedish Club (December), The Houston International Festival (April '06), and the Texas Folklife Festival in San Antonio (June '06) - requests for performances seems to grow each year! The co-directors are the Danish Club's own Carl and Frances Steffensen, and you can contact them at 281-493-4801 or steff@houston.rr.com for more information. Skal vi ikke danse?

SIGs

- from p. 1

Here are some suggested topics:

- Danish Movies
- Danish Books
- Women' issues
- Danish Mothers
- Danish Language
- Travel
- Story Telling
- DVD and/or book exchange
- Art
- Music

If you have some ideas, both in regard to the to the concept and/or to topics, and want to take a lead, please send an e-mail to hofer@mac.com.

Hannes Hofer

Club Brunch

The Danish Club is gearing up for a new club activity called Club Brunch. Our first Fall Brunch will be on Sunday, November 6th at 10:00 - 1:00 at a location inside the loop yet to be confirmed. We will be organizing this event at a venue that is central and casual, giving our members an opportunity to meet each other over brunch then perhaps head off to other downtown/gallery shopping or museum activities. This invitations reaches out to families, couples and singles. We will be looking to know approx. number of attendees so we can book ahead, so please look out for our email reminder on our first Fall Club Brunch. See you there...

Organizers: Linda Martin 832-289-3773, Christina Clark 832-660-6496

CALENDAR

September 24-25:
Family Camping Trip to Quintana Beach County Park outside Freeport, Texas.

October 2:
Soccer Tournament & BBQ Cookoff at the Norwegian Seaman's Church

November 6, 10am - 1pm:
Club Brunch, location TBA

December 10:
Christmas Party @ Nottingham Country Club

December 18:
Church Service & Juletroesfest, details TBA



2005 Danish Club of Houston Sommerfest

About 65 new and current members attended the Club's annual Mid-Summer Party and Annual Meeting which was held at the Nottingham Forest Club on Saturday, June 25. The party was on the club, and with Avram acting as MC the business meeting was short - the highlight without a doubt was the number of new faces among the attendees! The previous Board of Directors was re-elected by the membership, with the bittersweet exception of former President Niels Kastrup who had removed himself from the slate of candidates due to his

relocation to Algeria. However, Lillian Jensen was welcomed with great applause by all as she accepted election to the position of President by unanimous vote! Niels received a nicely engraved crystal momento for his 10 years of service to the Danish community in Houston including 5 years as President of the Danish Club. The meeting was followed by a dinner buffet which included free Danish-style hotdogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings and a keg of beer graciously donated by Finn Rasmussen. A big "thank you" to our chefs from the Miller

family! To round out the evening, music played while everyone had a chance to get "hyggeligt" while the kids (and a few adults who were acting like kids!) enjoyed the pool. Thanks to all who attended, and many thanks to all the volunteers who helped put this very successful event together!





From left: Carl Steffensen, Lillian S. Jensen, Hannes Hofer, Mette Miller, Christina B. Clark and Linda M. Martin

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Danish Club of Houston. We are looking forward to meeting you at events.

John Hopper & Maia Fallesen
Liselotte & Bernd Ruehlicke
Vicki Henrichs & Robert Kingshill
Kristian & Kendra Kamph
Chris Dragsbæk
Jørgen & Cherry Gertz
Vibeke Tranum
Bo Thomsen & Stephanie Weiss
Michel Gloor
Thomas Melgaard & Rie Sørensen

Young Danes Network

The Young Danish Network (YDN) usually meet on the third Friday of each month for Happy Hour at a centrally located water hole. You do not need to be young to show up, just don't try to keep up with the young crowd!

If you are not on the mailing list, contact ring leader Sten Svendsen at sten.svendsen@todbulk.com
YDN operates as a separate group under the Danish Club with own mailing list and own activities.

Facts About The Danish Club

Board of Directors:

Lillian S. Jensen, President	713-784-5721
Carl Steffensen, Vice President	281-493-4801
Hannes Hofer, Treasurer	713-664-7784
Mette Miller, Secretary	281-859-3140
Christina B. Clark, Activity Coordinator	713-862-0739
Linda M. Martin, Activity Coordinator	713-529-0302

www.dkhouston.org

Have you read our web site lately? We have plenty of interesting links, and you can view the Club's impressive Photo Archive. Updated member address list is also available for members private use. The address list may not be used as a commercial mailing list. E-mail Hannes or ask a friend if you do not know the password.

Hannes is always thankful for ideas or suggestions for further improvements of the site.

Address & E-mail Changes:

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

Newsletter:

This volume is edited by Lillian S. Jensen, and mailed to members in good standing and selected friends of the Danish-American community in Houston.
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Mailing courtesy of



Our thanks to Ebbe H. Christensen and Rakul Davis for the help.