



Annual Meeting

Fall is rolling around again and we are getting ready to gear up in the Danish Club after our Summer break.

Due to the weather not cooperating, our break got a little longer than planned, when we had to cancel our Summerfest and Annual meeting. We have rescheduled for October 6th and renamed it to Barbeque and Annual meeting. I hope everybody can make it.

Our other events this Fall are listed in our Calendar and include another Brunch - this time at Baba Yega. They have an absolutely wonderful buffet with tons of different food items, so I encourage everybody to come out and join us.

Our Christmas Party is being planned as I am writing this. The Committee is busy at work and I am sure they will put together a great event once again. It will take place at Nottingham Forest Club on December 1.

Our Christmas Service will be on December 16th at the Norwegian Seaman's Church. We have gotten word from Kristian Hein that he will be here for the third year in a row. We are definitely looking forward to his visit.

We have had to cancel or re-schedule several events during the last year or so, and that has been unfortunate. I would like to hear from our members if anybody has any good ideas for any types of events that the Club could be hosting. Any suggestions are more than welcome.

Hope to see you on October 6th for our Barbeque and Annual meeting, where we will be electing officers for the Board.

Sincerely,

Lillian Jensen

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Vikingskolen Update

Vikingskolen started its second school year in September of this year. More than 35 students, adults and children, were signed up for another year of “sjov med dansk.” This year we continue our four class levels, three child classes and one for adults.

Mimi Rydahl teaches our large 2-4s class supported by Lene Kiersted, Elise Pedersen and Christina Clark. Conny Raevmann leads our 5-8s, supported by Anine Pedersen. Michael Jensen leads our 9+ class supported by Christina Linderholm. And finally, Loa McNeese, bravely leads our adult class supported by Pernille Thomsen and helpful spouses and significant others. Meanwhile Karoline Mortensen heads up our playground break, making sure the kids have some outside fun while playing it safe. We could not do it without them and our many other volunteers. Thanks.

We have a wonderful and strong curriculum planned for this year. Our school materials include Aktivt Dansk from Akademisk Forlag for the adults, Laes & Forstaa from Alinea for the 9+ and Alletiders Dansk from Alinea for the 5-8s. These are supplemented by terrific work books from Forlaget Delta and age-appropriate reading books from Dansk Laererforening and Gyldendahl.

All of our materials reflect the most popular and best materials currently used in the Danish schools.

And with a year behind us, we have been able to refine and understand our needs as a second language Saturday school.

But where there is LEARNING, there has to be FUN, so we focus on incorporating weekly hands-on activities that correspond with our weekly themes. This is particularly important for our youngest class, the 2-4s who learn the language through play. Activities and reading aloud focus on themes such as summer memories from Denmark, shopping day, Fall day, fairy tale day, baking day, Zoo day, the royal family day, Fastelavn and Christmas and much more. This allows us to incorporate Danish traditions and culture into our language learning and makes it more fun and memorable to go to Saturday school. In addition, we start off the morning with traditional, informal breakfast so it is not like going to regular school or pre-school.

We look forward to a new year with great expectation and invite the whole Danish community to come visit us some time at 11250 S Wilcrest by 59 and Beltway 8. We start optional breakfast at 9AM and start classes promptly at 9:30AM with a break at 10:30AM.

Alternatively, visit us online at www.vikingskolen.com. For more information or to sponsor your Danish school, call Christina Clark at 832-660-6496.

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 6:
Club BBQ & Annual Meeting
Time: 5 - 9 pm
Location: Nottingham Forest Club

Sunday, November 11:
Club Brunch
Time: 10 am - noon
Location: Baba Yega

Saturday, December 1:
Christmas Party
Time: 6:30 pm - midnight
Location: Nottingham Forest Club

Sunday, December 16:
Christmas Service
Location: Norwegian Seaman's Church



Scandinavian Folkdancers

The Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston have begun their practices for the Fall/Spring season! We are a fun group of various ages and heritages, and we perform dances from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, and Finland (and even Estonia!). Every year we perform at the Houston International Festival, the Texas Folklife Festival, the Texas State Fair, the Norwegian Seaman's Church, Danevang, and many other ethnic festivals around the state.

It's a great opportunity to share our culture and love of dance with people from all over Texas. In December we will continue our 30+ year tradition of selling gløgg at Dickens on the Strand in Galveston; we use the proceeds from our sales to help fund trips to Scandinavia where we meet

other folkdance groups and learn new dances.

We invite you to join us at our weekly practices, held every Monday evening from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. You can find us in the basement of Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2353 Rice Blvd. centrally located near Rice University. For more details, please contact co-Directors Frances & Carl Steffensen at 281-493-4801 / cfsteff@comcast.net.

Young Danes Meet Again

After a long period without party and beer, the young Danes in Houston meet again. This time at Pub Fiction, 2303 Smith Street, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77006, September 28th at 7 pm.

The network has not been networking for some time, but a new and recently-arrived Dane has taken the job of coordinating the Young Danes Network. Pernille Thomsen is 22 years old, from Lolland and has moved to Houston to work in the marketing department of the German company MAN Diesel.

"When you move this far from friends and family, you need a network. I contacted Young Danes Network and hoped that this would be the beginning of my new life here in Houston. Unfortunately,

there was no coordinator, and therefore I volunteered. I am looking forward to hosting some great events and to meeting other young Danes," Pernille says.

Young or not so young, everybody is welcome to join the Young Danes Network at Pub Fiction on September 28th at 7 pm

Brunch @ Baba Yega

The club moved the venue of the Brunch to Baba Yega. We had a reserved space on the balcony overlooking the lush patio downstairs. Around 20 members showed up and enjoyed the delicious buffet and the great company. The buffet had about any breakfast item you could think of. The next Brunch will also be held at Baba Yega, so come on out and get to know your fellow members and have some fun.





The Board 2007-2008.
From left: Hannes Hofer, Carl Steffensen, Linda M. Martin, Flemming Mengel, Christina B. Clark and Lillian S. Jensen (Hannes Hofer will be retiring at our Annual meeting)

New Members

Michelle Winkel

Mack Kraycirik

John & Jette Henneberg

AG Noergaard & Gregers Johansen

Pernille Thomsen

Young Danes Network

The Young Danish Network (YDN) usually meet on the third Friday of each month for Happy Hour at a centrally located watering 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 the ring leader Pernille Thomsen at youngdanes@dkhouston.org. YDN operates as a separate group under the Danish Club with own mailing list and 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
Flemming Mengel, Secretary	281-920-2878
Christina B. Clark, Activity Coordinator	713-862-0739
Linda M. Martin, Activity Coordinator	713-529-0302

www.dkhouston.org

Have you visited our web site lately? We have plenty of interesting links, and you can view the Club's impressive Photo Archive. An 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: info@dkhouston.org

T-shirts and Hats:

The Club is still selling T-shirts and hats with our logo. We now have children's T-shirts and baby onesies along with the adult size shirts. Please, contact Lillian Jensen if interested (stuff@dkhouston.org).



Newsletter:

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