



## Spring, 2003 Newsletter

Danish Heritage Preservation Society

P.O. Box 386

Danevang, TX 77432-0386



Danish Singer, Annette O'Driscoll,  
will perform at Grundlovsdag Fest,  
in Danevang, on June 7, 2003

Jette Buhl Smith and our friends in the Danish Club of Houston independently made contact with Danish singer, Annette O'Driscoll, and Jette met with her in Denmark. These efforts produced results: Annette will be appearing at our Grundlovsdag Fest as well as the one in Houston and at FolkLife Festival in San Antonio!

Annette was born in South Jutland, still lives in Denmark, but is married to an Irishman, therefore, she has a "non-Danish" name.

Annette O'Driscoll is first and foremost a singer/songwriter. She has written many songs, both Danish and English, and has played at festivals, in pubs, clubs and concert halls.

She has also been the force behind various musical events. On the Danish Radio she has been a host DJ and has also participated in various live shows. Her latest CD is titled "Så længe mit hjerte har sange" (As long as my heart has songs) There will be an opportunity to purchase her CDs in Danevang.

Annette O'Driscoll says about the latest CD.:

"I have always had a soft spot for poetry, and basically read all I can get my hands on. At one stage, when I was reading a lot of older poetry, I was introduced to Christian **Molbeck**. I liked it so much that I composed music for it in 1992. (*Emphasis added-see page 8 for a "happy coincidence".*)

Later it was the writers Johannes Jørgensen and Kai Hofman who inspired me. I joined their poetry in one song – verses from one and chorus from the other. I hope they will forgive me.

Then came Ellen Heiberg, a writer I have always admired, who was kind enough to let me use her lyrics. (Continued on pg.2)

Music 'colors' the text, so this becomes my interpretation of poems, involving choosing the notes, minor or major. Of course, the way in which the words are sung has a major influence on the overall impression. I love this 'musical game' where I can move between the worlds of poetry and music and join them together.

But I also wanted to share my own experience and experiences with others so I took the plunge and wrote the text to some of the songs myself.

One can ask ones self, what is the relationship between the songs on the CD? The common theme of most of the songs is the experience, and love of, the Danish people and nature, both good or bad.

My music style binds it all together. I love the simple impression. I want people to hear the text and the individual instruments."

Niels Thorlund writes in his music review: "Sing she can, and she knows how to knit a good melody together."

What, Where and When !!!

## June 7, 2003

10:30 Annual Society Meeting – in Church

11:15 Annette O'Driscoll, Danish Singer  
in Meeting House

12:00 Catered Meal—in Meeting House

1:00 **Special Historical Program (see page 3)**—

in Meeting House

Followed by Coffee, etc.

30 Minutes after conclusion of Program, there will be a Board Meeting in the Museum.

**Note: The Museum will be open before and after the Celebration!**

**There's not much time for meal reservations, so if you did not respond with the form in the Winter Newsletter, please do not hesitate---fill in the form on the last page of this newsletter and mail TODAY! Don't Wait! Plan to attend!**

## Newsletter

Published Four Times Annually

By Danish Heritage  
Preservation Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 386  
Danevang TX 77432-0386  
[a non-profit 501(c)(3)entity]

And is available through Annual  
Membership, June to June

Annual Meeting is held in conjunction  
with GrundlovDag Celebration,  
first Saturday in June

## Board of Directors:

### Terms Expiring June, 2005

Ramona Lesak Danevang TX 979-543-6703  
Darleen Miksik Danevang TX 979-543-3003  
Homer Smith (**Chairman**) San Antonio TX  
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### Terms Expiring June 2003

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Gerda Stuart Austin TX 512-280-4719  
Ellis Wind Marble Falls TX 830-693-9353

### Committee Chairs:

Building & Grounds James Petersen  
Events Leo Westerholm  
Finance Kenneth Christensen  
Funding Kermit Westerholm  
Gift Shop Elaine Wind  
Museum Lawrence Petersen  
Newsletter Al Jensen  
Publicity Elsie Christensen

## About the “Special Historical Program”

Recently, one of our grand Senior Citizens, Myrtle Hansen Waldman, started talking about her “Recollections”. Myrtle is not our oldest member in the community, but she’s close. She was born November 6, 1913, and is one of a group of six Senior Citizens (all ladies) who are about the same age. This group also includes Myrtle’s sister-in-law, Zella Hansen

As Myrtle started with her “Recollections”, her talented daughters started writing. The result is an interesting look-back at early life in Danevang. Myrtle’s Family has agreed to read a portion of these “Recollections” as our June 7<sup>th</sup> “**Special Historical Program**”.

In these later years, Myrtle has been very generous in funding Special Museum and Community Projects, including Signage and Historical Markers. One of her upcoming projects she’s “pushing” is a Museum Exhibit featuring the Niels Hansen Family, replacing the Harton Family Exhibit which has been on display for a year. You may recall that it is the goal of the Museum to feature Danevang Pioneer Families, so be thinking ahead to your 2004 Family Exhibit opportunity!



From Cover of “Recollections of Myrtle Hansen Waldman”

## Spreading the “Word” (and Pictures)

The March issue of the magazine “*Texas Highways*” carried a fine article about the Danevang community and featured our Museum. The result: **every** weekend since the magazine came out, there have been visitors to the Museum who state that they learned about the Museum from that article. In fact, at the Queen’s Birthday Celebration one family (non-Danish) came down from north of Dallas, just to learn more. **There are March issues available for purchase in the Museum Gift Shop.**

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, Danevang is featured on page 45 of the wonderful 264 page “*2003 State Travel Guide*”, published by Texas Department of Transportation. Copies of this publication are available **FREE** by calling 1-800-452-9292 (and “punch” Option 4 to speak to a counselor) or by writing to:

*Texas State Travel Guide*  
P.O. Box 149249  
Austin TX 78714-9249

Also, the March issue of *South Texas Traveler Magazine* carried an article about Danevang and the Museum. The author, Mr. Rundberg, has made another recent visit to the Museum just to “look”. He credits Elsie Christensen for providing most of the information for the article. The mailing address for the publisher is:  
P.O. Box 3381  
Alice TX 78333

Or phone (361) 664-0575

Another well-done and informative, recent publication is the *Texas Settlement Region 2003 Visitors Guide*, which covers a 17 County “Region” where “Texas was first settled”. Wharton County (incl. Danevang) is covered on pages 78-81. Irvin Wind and Elsie Christensen were our point persons. The color ad with a picture of the Museum was sponsored by the Danevang Farmers Cooperative. Next time you see Bob Wilkins at the Co-op, say “Thank You”!

## The Celebration of Queen Margrete's Birthday

Queen Margrete of Denmark would be heartened to know that 215 Danes, Danish descendants and friends gathered in Danevng on April 12 to celebrate her upcoming birthday! The celebration began with the Scandinavian Dancers of Houston presenting a lively program! The willing "learners" in the audience joined the



dancers in a few less-difficult dances.

Photo by Lillian Layden

The noon meal was under the great direction of Darleen Miksik, ably assisted by Elsie Christensen, Elaine Wind and others. Tickets and "sign-ins" were well handled by Elsie, Mickey and Kenny Christensen. Elaine Wind provided the tasty Red Cabbage and Bridget Jensen provided Cucumber Salad. Darleen made the delicious Citron Fromage and donated her much-sought-after rye bread. A few fortunate folks were able to buy the extra loaves at the Museum Gift Shop. We know it was "bread", but they "went like hot cakes".

The crowd, as they finished the meal, moved to the Museum where they were able to view the new exhibits. Upon entering the Museum the beautifully displayed Bing and Grøndahl Christmas Plate Collection is prominently featured. (See article on page 7 about the display cabinet.) The new exhibit in the "rotating" center part of the exhibit area deals with Danish Holidays. Through text and pictures the meaning of and the mode of celebrating the Major Holidays are explained. These major

Holidays include Fastelavn, Queen's Birthday, Liberation Day, Easter, Whitsun, Store Bededag, Grundlovsdag, Sankt Hans Aften, Rebild 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and Christmas. The year-around Christmas tree has been moved into this new exhibit area and a Fastelavn's "Cat-in-the-barrel" has been hung there.

Around two o'clock the group joined in singing some of the community's favorite folk songs. Next, the formal program began with Bob Olsen, the Music Director at Grace Lutheran Church, Houston, giving a brief history of Danish hymnody. Bob also brought a portion of his collection of Danish Hymnals. Some of these old and rare books remained on display for the day.

The next highlight of the day was the formal dedication of the Olson/Petersen 1911 piano given to the Museum by the Danevang Lutheran Church. Funds for the renovation of the piano had been given by Myrtle Waldman. It was pointed out that his much-used piano had led a "charmed life" in that it was moved (by Carl Larsen and crew) only a week before the fire in the Sunday School Room where the piano had been! Ralph and Lawrence Petersen represented Mrs. J.P. Olson and Mrs. Louise Petersen, former owners (and users) of this piano.



Photo by Helena Lauritsen

The presentation of the rare, complete Christmas Plate Collection (from 1895 to the present) was made by Jette Buhl Smith on behalf of donors Jette and Major General Homer Smith. Irvin Wind accepted this generous gift on behalf of the Society.

(Continued on pg. 5)

Snaps (Aquavit) and wine were distributed to the “standing room only” crowd who joined in a hearty singing of the Royal Song, “Kong Christian stod ved høgen mast i rog og damp” (King Christian stood by the tall mast in smoke and mist), accompanied by Bob Olsen on the Olson/Petersen Piano. Then followed the traditional “Hurrahs” and Toast to Her Majesty plus the President of the United States. Also, Danish Consul, Ray Daugbjerg shared with the group a statement by the Danish Prime Minister, Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen regarding Denmark’s willing, active support of the United States in the liberating war in Iraq. He stated that, “Denmark is coming forward and is becoming visible on the world scene”. The Prime Minister also pointed out that Denmark is the only Nordic country that is a member of both the European Union and NATO. The remarks had been printed in the Danish newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* on March 26, 2003.

As visitors viewed the exhibits, coffee and authentic Danish Pastries were served. Leo Westerholm arranged for Connie Newman to make the pastries which were picked up in Bellville by Consul Daugbjerg making this a real cooperative effort. June Westerholm also provided one of her special desserts for the group.

Thanks to the efforts of so many hard-working members and eager participants it was a glorious day!

Photo by Helena Lauritsen



## More about “Pictures”

Displayed on the north wall of the Museum are two photographs together with their Blue Ribbons won in the Junior 4-H competition at the recent Wharton County Fair by Clarissa Christensen, daughter of Anita and Kenneth Christensen (and, we must add, the granddaughter of Elsie and Mickey Christensen).

The photo submitted by Clarissa in the “Mechanical” category was an image of the Rice Separator on display at the Museum and the one in “Building” category was of one of the “buildings” on the grounds of our Cultural Center----the Outhouse!

You will note that this issue of the Newsletter contains photographs other than the normal ones from our fine Historian, Helena Lauritsen. And, for that reason, we have shown “credits” under each photo, but it reminds us that we sometimes have “taken for granted” the work done by Helena. The next time you’re in the Museum, take time to look at the “scrapbook” compiled by Helena which is up front just beside the “Velkommen” door.

If you have any photographs which may be candidates for the Newsletter, please give those to one of the docents or send to Kenneth Christensen (at the Society address).

The Grady Allen Wild-Life photos have been moved upstairs to the walls of the Library.

## Tours

Recently, a busload of thirty-eight “Keenagers”, a new name for the Senior Citizens from Salem Lutheran Church, Houston, descended on the Museum. Yes, they were well-behaved!

The week after “press-time” (on May 16) we are expecting thirty-eight visitors from the combined Community Clubs of Pasadena, Deer Park, LaPorte, Baytown and Friends-wood, if the “creeks don’t rise” and we certainly haven’t had that threat lately!



Photo by Helena Lauritsen

## Six *Other* Flags Over Texas

On March 28-29, 2003, a public symposium celebrating the cultural contributions of Danes, Swedes, Czechs, Norwegians, Poles and Germans (the six *other* flags) to the heritage of Texas was held on the University of Texas campus in Austin. The person who made all this happen (including the funding) was Carrin Mauritz Patman (of Swedish extraction) now living in Austin, but whose childhood days were spent in Ganado, Texas (and in First Lutheran Church in El Campo). Her family included a “Danish” aunt, Helen Isaacson Mauritz (an aunt also of Helena Lauritsen) so Carrin’s ethnic roots led her to the vision for recognizing “diversity” of a different sort, rather than the “traditional” Six Flags.

On the morning of Friday, March 28, 360 eager 4<sup>th</sup> Graders arrived at the site for an opportunity to “experience these diverse cultures”. Each ethnic group had an area in which groups of the children could be exposed (in 30 minute increments) to “something from these countries”. Ladies from the Danish Club of Austin, including “our” Gerda Thyssen Stuart, baked a lot of traditional Danish cookies, which were a real “hit” with these “growing youngsters”. The Danevang contribution to this “experience” was allowing the children to “create” with the ever-popular Danish Lego tiles loaned to us by Jette Buhl Smith of San Antonio. Also, we had a “red ink stamp” of the Danish Flag (taken from our Danevang logo). The idea

was to stamp the Denmark location on the maps of Europe which had been furnished to the children upon entrance to the site. Early on, one of the boys asked that his **hand** be “stamped”. It didn’t take long until this became THE popular fad among all the boys and some of the girls. They now know what Dannebrog looks like! Another idea was to provide the children a “craft project” which consisted of red and white bookmark “starter kits” with the “weaving” of the red and white laces to be completed by the children. These starter kits didn’t just happen! Strips of white plastic “grid” were cut to size, white and red laces were cut to length, and six (or sometimes, seven) rows of alternating colors were “started”. **In the photo to the left** we see (l-r) Kermit Westerholm, Bridget Jensen, Mary Jean Nielsen, Elaine Wind and Marilyn Chappell hard at work making the “starter kits”. Elsie Christensen, Paula Chavez and Helena Lauritsen also pitched in to get the **400** kits ready for Austin. These proved to be very popular plus requested kits for “my sister at home” were given out by Gerda, Al Jensen, Kermit and Carolyn Westerholm. The remainder of Friday and Saturday was filled with great speakers dealing with the six ethnic groups. John Davis of the Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio, ably covered the subject of the Danevang Danish-Texans.

Photo by Carrin Patman



## Irvin Wind, a Big Show-Off (well, not exactly)

When Jette and Homer Smith started talking about the potential gift of the valuable B&G Collection, they and we started thinking about the proper means of exhibiting it. Al Jensen came up with some ideas for a display cabinet, but Irvin quickly improved on the “design” and went to work making a fine lighted oak and glass case with a subtle slope to the front face to reduce glare.



Photo by Helena Lauritsen

Although Irvin did all the fabrication by himself, he did call on James Petersen to help with final lifting into place.



Photo by Helena Lauritsen

Mickey Christensen “inspects” the final work.  
**Thank you, Irvin, for your effort!**

## The Fuel for the Engine

The backbone of the operation of the museum is our cadre of dedicated volunteers! They do everything : Sunday & tour docents, work in the Gift Shop, publicity, maintenance of buildings/grounds, mowing, weeding, watering, spraying, cataloging donations and entering the data in the computer, sending out newsletters, working at “celebrations”, erecting exhibits and many other “jobs” that continue to come up. Of course, faithful officers are always at work, especially our Treasurer, Kenny Christensen who keeps the books, membership records, donations, & reservations.

This is an attempt to recognize our volunteers, running the risk that we’ve omitted someone. We apologize, in advance, for any oversights, but, here goes:

Paula Chavez	Helena Lauritsen
Anita Christensen	Ramona Lesak
Clarissa Christensen	Robert Lesak
Elsie Christensen	Darleen Miksik
Kenny Christensen	Wesley Miksik
Mickey Christensen	Mary Jean Nielsen
Marilyn Chappell	James Petersen
Martha Chappell	Lawrence Petersen
Cathy Dybala	Elna Sheetz
Laird Engle	Homer Smith
Winnie Engle	Jette Smith
Sherry Green	Gerda Stuart
Delores Guiden	Carolyn Westerholm
Laverne Harton	June Westerholm
Bridget Howard	Kermit Westerholm
Al Jensen	Leo Westerholm
Bridget Jensen	Carl Wind
Lana Jensen	Elaine Wind
Larry Jensen	Ellis Wind
Merle Jensen	Irvin Wind
Carl Larsen	Mary Ann Wind

Many of the above have traveled great distances to volunteer their services. Those serving as docents meet interesting visitors from “all over”, plus they acquire a better knowledge of Danevang, Danish history, and the Museum, in general.

**Consider volunteering---It’s fun!!!**

## Writings From the Past

*Note: this is a feature we try to include in every issue of the Newsletter. We recognize that sometimes this is the “old” story simply re-told, but we still feel that there is value in reading the “old” story told through efforts of different writers.*

*In this issue we bring you a translation (by the late Verner Petersen) of an article by F.P.J. Lund entitled “The Danish Colony in Danevang, Texas”, printed in Times Weekly paper, published by J.C. Christensen in 3 parts, April 3, 12 and 19, 1912. The entire article is quite lengthy so in this issue we bring you only a portion of the first part, except we must quote from the very last sentence of the article, “With us who went forth from our Fatherland, there is deep within us a never-ending longing for that land where our childhood is relived and we **sing with the poet O.C. Molbech.**” (emphasis added, because we call your attention to Page 1 of this Newsletter where our Danish Singer Guest for June 7, also referred to the influence on her by this same poet Molbech, 91 years later.)*

Lund wrote:

“From time immemorial it has been common that our forefathers went forth on Viking expeditions to conquer gold and honor. Although the bloody struggle has long ended, our people still have the deepest desire within themselves, the same craving to explore by the modern campaign. Then there is the struggle that is conveyed maybe still greater than the one exercised with the sword in hand. Here I am especially thinking of the struggle with nature which the Danish emigrant conducted and is still conducting here in the United states and other places to conquer not only gold and honor, but, first and foremost, a home for him and his family. It is the farmers, not the city labor I must describe, even the last-mentioned struggle can be hard before he reaches economic independence,

it is still so different from the “Colonist’s” struggle where nature itself must be faced in meeting the necessities of life.

When he then has conquered and gotten his land to yield a good production and a cozy home, he supposedly can rest well on his laurels. Oh, yes, certain people do so, but a large group of our Danish Pioneers still have so much of the “Viking nature” living within them that they cannot find peace. They sell their farm and home and again venture to civilization’s outer border (ed. note; probably a reference to Danevang) for another beginning to again conquer nature.

This steady struggle and victory give the Danish Pioneer’s character a great many things different from his countrymen at home. His character “develops”. It often produces something “hard” and “self-assuredness”. He depends mostly on him-self and on his own judgment, and often supports much skepticism over everything that lies outside his own experiences. He is what we call “a self-made man”. Unfortunately, often he has had a common school at home and has learned little English for necessities.

There are many among our Danish-American farmers whose spiritual interest does not restrict itself to the minimum that deprives some of our people at home and abroad, but instead with vigor and interest follow the spiritual flow. That type of people we can have joy associating with.

I have thought it best to introduce these “ordinary” comments before going into my special subject, namely the Danevang Colony that in many respects maintains an eccentric (unique) position.

(Ed. note: Here Lund goes into a long discussion about the Civil War and the devastating effects on the economy of the South, partly due to the high taxes imposed by the North for the benefit of the North.)

*Lund continues his criticism in what today would be branded as “racist” terms and in language not permitted today, but in common use in 1912, and much later.*

“It took many years for those in the south who had taken part in the Rebellion to repair their political right (voting right) while the Negroes who heretofore had never taken part in the political life suddenly, with the right to vote that was given to them by the United States, became masters instead of servants. The consequences of these conditions caused the South to lie fallow while all development took place in the North where the immigrants mainly gathered.

Therefore, it is just in the late years that attention has been given to the rich possibilities in the South and capital and emigration from the northern states have started to come in. This movement now is going towards the South from all the “capital states” which, of course includes a number of Scandinavians.

In the fall of 1887, the Danish Folk Society was organized for the purpose of preserving the Danish culture and language. Of course, this gathering of Danish Settlers will be a very important factor, with an open eye for the growing stream that moved to the South. The Danish Folk Society, in 1893, decided to send a Land Committee to the South to locate a suitable place for a new colony. This committee consisted of J.C. Evers of Clinton, Iowa; R. Buck from Nebraska, and L. Henningsen (the present Chairman of the Danish Folk Society).

In February, 1894, they went to Texas and they first looked at land close to Port Lavaca, next to the Gulf. This land was not chosen, but, instead, they selected a piece of land bordering Matagorda mainly in Wharton County, approximately 50 miles from the Gulf of Mexico, but only about 20 miles from Matagorda Bay. Here the rainfall was more suitable for ordinary crop production and the land consisted, for the most part, of a deep, rich, black soil.

The Society decided in March, 1894, to start a new colony on this tract of land and call it, “Danevang”. They made a contract with the land owner and 24,000 acres were set aside for the new colony. For the first 3 years the land could be sold to Danes only. The price was set at \$9 per acre with 1/8 of the purchase price to be paid when the deal was closed. The next year only the interest was due and thereafter for 7 years, 1/8 of the purchase price plus 7% annual interest was due.

These terms were much more favorable than a single individual could have negotiated. In addition, the D.F.S. was able to stipulate that when 8,000 acres had been sold, the original land owner would give a deed free of charge to 160 acres of land to be used for a church and school. An agent’s fee of a few cents for each acre sold went to the D.F.S. for the same land purpose. Also, D.F.S. received the right to select a man to manage the land sales and that turned out to be J.C. Evers.

Pastor Frederick Lange Grundtvig, who at the time was President of D.F.S. was very skeptical of the thought of a Danish Colony in the south, but after he and his wife visited the colony land and he, himself, had seen the conditions all apprehension disappeared. (*Ed. note: Accounts of his later visits after the first colonists started settling reveal his apprehension returned and turned to “grief”.*)

On October 1, 1894, the contract was closed; 3000 acres were sold, and by the end of that year sales had reached to more than 8,000 acres. As promised, the D.F.S. received a deed to 160 acres in the center of the colony, and out of this gave Danevang’s St. Ansgar Lutheran Church 40 acres.”

(*Ed. note: More of Lund’s remarks will appear in the next Newsletter.*)

## PMemorials

We remind you that we have a program of receiving contributions in honor of, or in memory of someone. Unless the donor has a specific purpose or project, the funds will go into our Endowment Fund and the interest earned by those funds will pay for operational needs. In this way, Honorary and Memorial contributions "live on".

We offer our thanks for the following remembrances:

### In Memory of:

**Harvey**

**Westerholm**

**By:**  
Danish Consulate  
M/M Harry Hall  
Evelyn Holland  
M/M Curtis Reece  
Shannon Shadday  
Mark Watson  
M/M Johnny  
Westerholm

**Max Westerholm**

M/M Johnny  
Westerholm

**Joe Phemister**

Doris Gray  
M/M Harry Hall

**Otto Harton**

M/M Curtis Reece

### In Honor of:

**Ray V. Hansen**

**By:**  
Anonymous

**Bridget and Al**

**Jensen (on the occasion  
of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary)**

M/M Mickey  
Christensen

## Letter from Jetta Westerholm and Family

March 13, 2003

The family of Harvey Westerholm is very grateful for the many, many contributions made in his memory. He would have loved seeing the March issue of *Texas Highways* with the 4 pages on Danevang. He loved helping raise money for the museum and had planned to continue.

(signed) Jetta Westerholm & Family

### Taken from their "Thank You" card:

"The family of Harvey William Westerholm is grateful to God for his life and for your friendship, kindness and prayers."

### Examples of Recent Contributions of Artifacts, etc.

Prior to her move to Dallas, Ragina Engen and family of Conroe contributed 87 books!

When Lillian Layden of Houston was at the Queen's Birthday Celebration she brought several items including a "Table Runner" and a framed print on cloth of a Danish lady in "typical dress".

Jimmy Harton brought in 85 items from Otto and Opal Harton's home.

Elvin Berndt brought in 150 items from Andrew and Emma Berndt's home.

Sherry Larsen Green contributed several "James Petersen" photos (framed by Wesley Miksik) for our sale in the Shop and she arranged for her cousin in Norway to provide a large supply of beautiful color Post Cards with "Scenes from the Museum" (photographed by Sherry).

George Sellnau of Houston brought in an Æbleskiver pan and 4 more Genealogy books.

In the next issue we'll have a full story on the beautifully restored "Wilbeck" Farmall tractor, donated by Geraldine Wilbeck Wuthrich.

## Memberships:

Our Annual Meeting is held during the Grundlovsdag Fest which is usually the first Saturday in June. Grundlovsdag (Danish Constitution Day) is really June 5, but, as you have been told earlier in this newsletter, we celebrate on the Saturday nearest June 5, and since this is the date for our Annual Meeting, our Membership Year is from June to June. This is a little confusing as to your being current in a "membership year", but we have adopted a "rule" that memberships received after February 20, apply to that next June to June Membership Year. This allows people responding with reservations for the Queen's Birthday Celebration in April to join for the next "year". We realize that this "explanation" may not be necessary, but we want you to be able to vote at the Annual Meeting as "current members".

This is not an attempt to list all current members, but we do want to recognize "New Members":

Johnnie Boysen	Vern Mikkelsen	Emma Succar
Birthe Hardin	Jan Mogensen	Jorn Therkildsen
James Hardin	Lisbeth Mogensen	Betty Thyssen
Floyd Jenkins	Lillie Nichols	Otto Thyssen
Clifford Lykke, Jr	Russell Nielsen	Johnny Westerholm
Martha Mieke-Sullivan	Elnora Oglesby	Lynne Westerholm

If you are not already a member, please take the time (and money) to send in your membership **NOW!!** The money is not the important factor here (since our expenses far exceed our income from Memberships), but it is very important that we establish a loyal group interested in preserving our Danish heritage. Of course, if you want to send in money in excess of the \$10 per person, know that we need that, too! And while you're at it, please send in any news you want to see in print! Kenny can handle that, too.

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Detach and Mail to: Kenneth Christensen P.O. Box 386 Danevang TX 77432

**Memberships** in Danish Heritage Preservation Society \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10/person/yr for \_\_\_ years \$  
**(If you want to make it easier, it is possible to cover more than one year. Kenny can keep it straight!)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **Cookbooks** (incl. mailing) @ \$20/ea \$

**Reservations for Meals, June 7, 2003** (Adults \$7.50. Age 12 & younger \$5)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \$  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 12 & younger \$

**Other Donation** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!!**

(Meal Tickets will be held in your name) Name:

Address:



Photo by James Petersen

## Merle Jensen Getting Lawn in Shape for June 7<sup>th</sup>

Danish Heritage Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 386  
Danevang TX 77432