



Danish House Society



Reports - News

Volume XXI, Issue 1

Summer 2020

SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER



Queen Margrethe II celebrated her 80th birthday.....

AND

Our Annual Constitution Day Picnic fell victim to the Coronavirus.....



Denmark celebrated the 75th Anniversary of Liberation on May 4th, 1945.....

AND



A quarterly newsletter from Danish House

Calendar of Events: "What's on at the Centre"



The Scandinavian Centre is Closed until Further Notice

Based on the guidance of public health authorities, we have made the decision to close the Scandinavian Centre to the public as of March 20, 2020. The Centre is a community gathering place where we share Scandinavian culture with people of all ages and backgrounds. However, we must do our part in social distancing.

While the Scandinavian Centre is closed, the Office is still open for administration. You can contact us either by phone or e-mail info@scancentre.org. If you wish to come to the Centre please contact us first.

Maintaining the health, the safety, and the well-being of those visiting and working at the Centre is our goal. Any further updates will be posted on our websites.

DHS ANNUAL FAMILY BBQ

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020
4:00pm - 9:00pm

Door prizes and Raffle Prizes
Beef Steak or Salmon Fillet, Corn-on-the-Cob
Green Salad or Potato Salad
Assorted Pies and Ice Cream
Hot Dogs and Pop for Kids

CASH BAR BEER AND WINE



\$20.00 per Person (Kids Free)

This event is subject to the provincial government lifting current restrictions on mass gatherings as stated on page 5 of this newsletter.

The Danish House Board of Directors reserves the right to cancel this event if deemed necessary.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

All 2020 DHS MEMBERSHIP dues were due and payable by the deadline of December 31, 2019. If you have not already paid your 2020 dues, please do so ASAP. New memberships are also always welcome.

You can also mail your cheque payable to:

Danish House Society
6540 Thomas Street,
Burnaby, B. C. V5B 4P9

Membership Dues are:

One Year Family \$40.00 and One Year Individual \$25.00
Lifetime \$300.00

A Big Welcome to the following new members that have been approved by the Board of Directors since the last newsletter:

Family Memberships

Brian and Suzi Petersen

Richmond

Individual Memberships

Karen Elmberg
Zeny Nielsen
Alex Watkins

Coquitlam
Port Coquitlam
Maple Ridge

Respectfully submitted by,
Ebba Grey, Membership Committee

DONATIONS TO THE DANISH HOUSE SOCIETY

February, March, & April 2020

Names of Donors:

General Donations:

Jaquie Janum; Dan and Debbie Kristensen; Tina Taylor

Midsummer Raffle Ticket Refunds Donated to DHS:

Eric Brogaard; Ben Champion; Kjeld Christensen; Poul Christiansen; George Ellis; Jørgen Gronfeldt; Margit Hansson; Henny Hummelshøj; E. Jensen; Keld Jensen; Kris Johnsen; Ann Larsen; Steen Larsen; Svend Larsen; Lisbeth Madsen; Mary Madsen; Børge Magelund; Clayton McEvoy; Arne Møller; Tove Markussen; Bodil Nielsen; Leo Pedersen; Peter Praegel; Jørgen Rohweder; Gunhild Royston; Ritta Sigvardsen; Vivi Twellmann; Andriana Wilson-Busby; Craig Wood

Total Donations: \$ 940.00



Respectfully submitted by:
Else Rollke, Treasurer

President's Report

June 2020



In contrast to the rapidly developing daily news, not much is going on at Danish House as our activities have essentially come to a halt due to the corona-virus. The last event of note was the Annual General Meeting held in March at the Centre during which strict social distancing was fully embraced and put into practice. The members in attendance re-elected those board members up for election and elected Dexada Jorgensen to replace longtime board member Paul Christensen who chose not stand for another 2 year term. We thank Paul for his excellent service over the years and I ask everyone to join me in welcoming Dexada to our board. Now we can only wait for restrictions on public gatherings to be lifted otherwise our Annual Family BBQ in August will also be cancelled. Currently gatherings must be limited to less than 50 people and the selling of food and beverages is verboten under provincially mandated rules with regards to mass gatherings.

The other very noteworthy development that must be mentioned is the sad news that one of the major pillars in the past history of Danish House and the Scandinavian Centre itself, Solvejg Nielsen, passed away in her sleep on Sunday, June 7th. Solvejg was a wonderful, friendly, dedicated, warm lady that I had the privilege and honour of getting to know and work with. Solvejg was a force to be reckoned with when Midsummer Raffle tickets had to be sold and would often sell more tickets than anyone else at the Centre. Her friendly powers of persuasion made her the ideal choice to be in charge of Danish House event tickets and was a master at persuading people to attend our functions, to pay their annual membership dues, or to buy a Heritage Book.. In many ways she was also the first lady of Kroaften greeting everyone as they entered the lounge. Solvejg you will be very much missed.

Hopefully, things will soon get back to a semblance of normality and we will be able to take the first baby steps of resuming our many activities such as Language Classes, and in one form or another, an initially smaller Kroaften than what we have enjoyed up until recently, as without doubt we will have to make some changes to ensure everyone's safety and well-being.

Is there any good things to say about all of this? Yes, we can all be thankful that the virus has not claimed any victims at Dania Home or among our Danish House membership as far as we know and our aim is to keep it that way. We are still welcoming new members to our club, Scandinavian Centre Board meetings over Zoom have been productive, and the break from the hosting of events, public and private, have allowed for some much needed repairs to be completed with minimal disruption. With no festival taking place this year, everyone has had the opportunity to recharge their batteries and think about how we can best move forward.

Hopefully, I will see you soon at a Kroaften club night where we can raise a glass of beer in celebration that we have put the virus to bed knowing that we will be better prepared and able to deal with it if by some misfortune another unexpected virus arrives.

**Submitted by Ed Kuhlman,
President of Danish House**

DANISH HOUSE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Thank you for your interest in joining and supporting DHS. Please make your cheques payable to:
"Danish House Society, 6540 Thomas St., Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

I prefer to receive my newsletter by: Email Canada Post New Membership or Renewal

- Membership Dues: \$25.00 Individual Membership Due enclosed
 \$40.00 Family Membership Due enclosed
 \$100.00 Corporate/Organization Membership Due enclosed
 \$300.00 Lifetime (individual) Membership Due enclosed

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____



**DANISH HOUSE SOCIETY
& THE DANISH-CANADIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE OF BC
AND
THE ESTATE OF RUTH & JOHANNES PEDERSEN
SCHOLARSHIPS**

ATTENTION! STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

To qualify for any of the ten \$1,200 scholarships offered by DHS/DCCC and two scholarships from the estate of Ruth and Johannes Pedersen (\$2400 paid to each of the two top students), you must meet the following criteria:

- a) Be of Danish heritage *and/or* family member of a past or present member (*name please for verification*) of the Danish House Society or the Danish-Canadian Community Centre of B.C. If you are *not* of Danish heritage you may still qualify if you are a member or connected through family to a member of the Danish House Society. **Please note: The membership in the Danish House Society must have taken effect at least one year prior to your scholarship application.**
- b) Be a resident of British Columbia working towards a degree or diploma in an accredited post-secondary institution. Evidence of registration in such an institution is required along with a **transcript of latest marks** and studies.
- c) Be of good character and provide written references from a high school or college administrator, and at least **two current references** including an employer, if applicable.

Application should be made by a **hand-written letter** giving your reasons for requesting the scholarship and describing your personal interests, hobbies, goals, dreams, financial need, and volunteer experience. Participation as a volunteer in Danish House Society activities should be noted. All of the Scholarships will be awarded at the September 4, 2020 kroaften at the Scandinavian Centre.

To be considered for a 2020 DHS/DCCC scholarships or Estate of Ruth and Johannes Pedersen Scholarships, your application and relevant information (**including your phone number, postal and e-mail addresses**) must be submitted by **June 30th, 2020** to:

Danish House Society, DHS/DCCC - Scholarship
6540 Thomas Street
Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9

Please note that each applicant is limited to receiving no more than three DHS/DCCC scholarships.
For further information please contact any of the DHS/DCCC scholarship committee members:

Dave Buchmann	(604) 760-7705
Ella Wolder	(604) 530-5083
Annette Lauridsen	(604) 533-5719
Margit Hansson	(604) 574-8833



DOGWOOD LODGE 179

VANCOUVER - CANADA

Join our Lodge.

Danish Sisterhood Canadian Lodge 179 is a non-profit organization with the mission to strengthen, maintain and preserve the Danish heritage and traditions for future generations. If you like to socialize and participate in various events, we welcome not only Danes but all Nationalities as members.

Members meet at **Carl Mortensen Manor, 4035 Norland Avenue, Burnaby, V5G 4T7** (Entrance on Kincaid) every 3rd Thursday of the month at **5:30 p.m.** (except July, Aug. & Dec.)
For more details visit: www.danishsisterhood.ca or contact lodge179@danishsisterhood.ca



GRUNDLOVSDAG GREETING FROM THE AMBASSADOR

Dear Danes and friends of Denmark,

June 5 is Denmark's Constitution Day - in Danish *Grundlovsdag*. The day marks Denmark's first democratic constitution, signed by King Frederik VII in 1849, making Denmark a constitutional monarchy with a representative parliamentary system. The Constitution applies in the entire realm: Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. The Constitution has been amended a few times since it was enacted. On June 5, 1915, an amendment of the Constitution gave women the right to vote.

The Danish embassy would have liked nothing more than to celebrate this day of democracy. And you might had planned a day spent with family and friends at Constitution meetings - "*grundlovs møder*," enjoying the early summer day and evening listening to political speeches on the state of government. However, this year will be different due to the unusual times we live in. COVID-19 has spread across borders and affected us all. It has profoundly changed our everyday life. But when borders closed around the world, the world also opened up to the exchange of innovation and collaboration to find a cure on a scale that we have never seen before. Denmark and Canada are joined in this quest and committed to promoting democratic principles globally through protecting human rights for all citizens, equality for all, transparency, and good governance. We will get through this crisis if we stand together, though physically apart.

2020 also marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II and the liberation of Denmark from German occupation. Every year on May 4, we light candles in our windows to celebrate the evening when light returned to Denmark after five years of darkness. Canadians played a vital role in the Allied liberation of Europe and a special thanks goes out to our friend and ally for the freedom we enjoy today.

Virtual arts and culture have lifted our spirits the past couple of months. Danes have enjoyed daily communal sing-alongs of old familiar Danish tunes while staying home. In addition, social distancing did not stop the Danes from celebrating the 80th birthday of Queen Margrethe II on April 16. Although all official events were cancelled, Danes celebrated the occasion by singing the Danish birthday song together from their living rooms to H.M. the Queen, who watched the celebration on her television and later in a televised speech thanked all Danes for making the birthday one of the most memorable.

In these difficult times we take care of each other by checking in, by helping with the groceries, by sharing baking recipes or a virtual cup of coffee or tea. The well-known Danish *hygge* has taken on a whole new meaning. So enjoy this time of mindfulness with your families and keep staying together by staying apart.

I send you my warmest greetings and wish you and your families a Happy Constitution Day.

Hanne Fugl Eskjær

Ambassador



ALL "KRO AFTENS" AND DANISH LANGUAGE CLASSES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Provincial Government Order With Respect To Mass Gatherings

1. "A person who is the owner, occupier or operator of, or is otherwise responsible for, an indoor or outdoor place hosting an event, other than a drive in event, must not permit the gathering of more than 50 patrons for the purpose of the event."

2e: "must not sell food or drink or permit the sale of food or drink at the event."

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL DURING THE LOCKDOWN? A NEW VIRTUAL TRAVEL EXPERIENCE TAKES YOU TO THE FAROE ISLANDS

By Lee Lipton

Since we cannot go out and travel for ourselves at the moment, one Scandinavian destination decided to bring the trip to us.

A lock-down friendly visit to the Faroe Islands is now possible thanks to live online guided tours around the country hosted by the local tourism agency. One day you enjoy a stroll around the capital Tórshavn, on another you take a scenic cliff-side walk along the rugged coast, or perhaps a tour of the national art museum is more your speed. Each is hosted by a local guide offering commentary on the people, culture, history, and nature of the area.

Guðrið Højgaard, Director of Visit Faroe Islands, says that the nation is proud to welcome virtual tourists to its remote North Atlantic location. “When the travel bans began to escalate, we sat and wondered how we could recreate a Faroe Islands’ experience for those who had to cancel or postpone their trip to the Faroe Islands, and for everyone else stuck at home. The result is this new platform that enables those in isolation to take a walk across our wild landscapes and to explore beyond their own four walls.

“We believe that our remote islands are the perfect place to inspire people in lock-down - and, naturally, we hope to welcome them in person once everyone is free to travel again.”

To make the experience more personal, Visit Faroe Islands allows tour participants to explore using an innovative interactive tool that allows them to control the movements of the guide for one minute each using on-screen commands. Besides determining the guide’s direction, participants can tell the guides to jump or run, which has led to some humorous moments.

If you would like to pay a visit to the Faroe Islands from the comfort of your own computer, tablet, or mobile phone, go to remote-tourism.com on Wednesdays at 10:00 am Pacific time for the live tour. Prior tours can be seen on Visit Faroe Island’s Facebook page (facebook.com/VisitFaroeIslands).

When you are captivated by the videos and ready to plan that trip for yourself, check out Visit Faroe Islands website (visitfaroeislands.com).



Photo Credit: Kristin Vang / Visit Faroe Islands

About the Faroe Islands

Population: 52,199
Number of Sheep: 80,000
Number of Islands: 18
Total Area: 1,399 sq. km
Estimated number of overseas visitors in 2019: 130,000



Friends of DHS:

Solvejg Nielsen: October 23, 1932 - June 7, 2020

It is with a profound sense of loss and sadness that we announce the passing of Solvejg Nielsen on Sunday, June 7th, 2020 at the age of 87 years due to natural causes. Solvejg (nee Thygesen) was born on the island of Fyn and grew up on her family farm in the Parish of Agedrup, Denmark. Solvejg is predeceased by her husband of 59 years, Borge Nielsen (April 15, 2018), her oldest brother Vagn in 2006 and Jens her older brother in 2004. Solvejg met Borge in Toronto, Ontario. They had immigrated from Denmark separately, fell in love with each other and their new home in Canada. Together they moved to Vancouver in 1959 where they were married and raised their family. Solvejg worked for 38 years as a Registered Nurse with most of her career part-time at Vancouver General Hospital. She was a loving mother to Tina Nielsen (Richard Pangrass), Erik Nielsen (Rebecca Rankin) and Anne Nielsen (Daniel Wood). She is also survived by her adored grandchildren and great grandchildren, Michael (Corinn, parents to Leo), Cloe, Graham, Emilia, Alyssa (Corey, parents to Henrik and Diana), Britte, Nicole, Mackenzie and Kirsten. She will be forever loved and deeply missed by her family.

Solvejg was very proud of her nursing career. She was also a huge support and benefactor to the Danish Lutheran Church in Burnaby, BC where she served as the President of the Church board from 1987 to 1991 and also from 1998 to 2002. Solvejg was also on the board of Dania Society from 1991 to 1995 and Danish House Society at the Scandinavian Centre as the Vice President in 2005. Solvejg was on the board of the Danish Museum in Dickson, AB and she was also involved with the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada. She attended and actively participated in these conferences every year from 1987 to 2015.

Solvejg will also be missed by her family in Denmark, her sister Kirsten Thygesen, brother Thyge Thygesen, her sister-in-law Karen Thygesen and their families and spouses, her sister-in-law Corrine Thygesen and her family in Ontario, her cousins and friends in Denmark as well as her many friends in Vancouver and around the globe.

Thank you to the staff at Dania Home for the excellent care they provided to our mother during the last few months of her life. Funeral services will be announced later.

In lieu of flowers please send a donation in Solvejg's memory to the Danish Lutheran Church, Burnaby, BC.
www.danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca



Solvejg and Borge Nielsen

Svend Pedersen: April 10, 1928 - April 16, 2020

Life Member since 2003, Svend Pedersen of North Vancouver, passed away on April 16th, 2020 at the age of 92 years old. Svend was born in Manna, Tise, Jutland on April 10, 1928. He leaves to mourn him, a daughter Kirsten Pedersen, and a son, Mike Willesen in Australia. He was a keen folk dancer in the 1960s with a group of young people.

**Our sincerest condolences go out to their families and with sadness in our hearts
 we say goodbye to our friends.**



Danish House Society
6540 Thomas Street
Burnaby, B.C. V5B 4P9

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Phone: 604-294-2777

Website: www.scancentre.org/denmark/

EXECUTIVE:

President	Ed Kuhlman	SCCS Board, Midsummer & Newsletter	604 942-8499	kuhlman@shaw.ca
Vice-President	Peter Praegel	SCCS Board & Building Committee	604 520-7078	praegel@shaw.ca
Secretary	Ebba Grey	Membership & Kro Aften	604 990-3550	ebba@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Else Rollke	SCCS Board & Cultural Events	604 620-1632	rrollke@shaw.ca

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:

Director	Dave Buchmann	Cultural Events & Scholarships	604 760-7705	davebuchmann@hotmail.com
Director	Keith Colby		604 614-5446	kcolby@shaw.ca
Director	Gunnar Jensen		604 291-7439	
Director	Dexada Jorgensen		604 314-8978	dexada.jorgensen@telus.net
Director	Annette Lauridsen	Language Classes & Scholarships	604 533-5719	annette.h.lauridsen@gmail.com
Director	Inge Lyth Nielsen	Scan Sports & Volunteer Co-ordinator	604 524-3004	elsinore@telus.net
Director	Ingelise Nielsen		778 294-7284	inganielsen1940@gmail.com
Director	Lisa Terrillon		604 838-3695	annvendatter@gmail.com

Please send Newsletter Submissions to the Editor: Ed Kuhlman - kuhlman@shaw.ca

Deadlines for submissions of quarterly ads are February 1, May 15, August 15, and November 15. If you wish to place an ad in the newsletter, payment requested is in the form of a donated gift item to Danish House Kroaften or a cash donation to DHS. **If you would like your newsletter by e-mail instead of print, please let us know Thank You.**

FOR SALE: ROYAL COPENHAGEN



Royal Copenhagen porcelain vase with factory and painter's marks and signed by Dahl Jensen. Has light wear consistent with age and use. Measures: 4.5 inches width & 5 inches height Asking \$40



Royal Copenhagen glazed stoneware large figurine, (Lying Foal) by Knud Khyn. In overall very good estate condition with no chips, cracks or repairs. Measures: 8.25 inches width & 5 inches height Asking \$75

Call/text Suzi at (604) 274-5104 or e-mail suzi.petersen@gmail.com for more photos.