



The Danish Soldiers Club

February 2024

www.danishsoldiersclub.com

NEWSLETTER FOR THE DANISH SOLDIERS CLUB OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 41, PETALUMA CA. 94953
MEMBER OF DANSKE SOLDATERFORENINGERS LANDSRÅD. PROTECTOR HIS MAJESTY KING FREDERIK X OF DENMARK

The President's Letter

As I begin to write this letter, I'm reminded that February 11, this year, is Fastelavn! So in recognition of this historic event (and because Fastelavn falls 7 weeks before Easter, the date of which varies from year to year, between February and March) the DSC will celebrate Fastelavn at our March 2nd meeting, with a black cat piñata for the children present.

And in that vein, 2024 is going to be an exciting year! Lots of new things are planned for our meetings. Please watch the DSC newsletter and DSC website for announcements about future events and activities.

Our first meeting this year is on March 2nd and promises to be exciting for many of you. It is being called Danish Craft Beer Day, and we will be providing you the opportunity to taste a limited selection of Danish Craft Beers, which aren't usually available here in America. Please come and bring your friends.

—(Continued on the next page)



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PO Box 41
Petaluma, CA 94953



Address Correction Requested

The Governing Board for 2024

Henrik Ølsgaard President through 2025	Orinda (510) 847-5186 DSCHenrik@hotmail.com
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Volunteers:	
Michael Stecher Newsletter / Website	Mill Valley (415) 624-6215 DSCmichaels@gmail.com

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We will be trying out a new source of Danish sandwiches to serve, from **Kantine Danish Restaurant** in San Francisco, along with the usual beverages, in addition to the **Danish Craft Beers** we have obtained for just this day only. We still need more volunteers to help make lunches this year as well as assistance with other activities planned in future months.

To volunteer, please contact Annalisa Diaz (annalisa0518@yahoo.com, (925) 451-4278).

Our signature event of 2024 promises to be Denmark Day on May 4, 2024. To commemorate Danish Liberation Day, DSC will proudly host the first ever event co-sponsored by every NorCal Danish organization, as well as the Danish Consul General's office. - (Continued on next page)

Editor's Note:

I made a correction this month, that I didn't catch last month. The "header" of the newsletter, on the lower line, was still referencing the Queen, when, in fact, as the back pages of the newsletter referenced, the Queen has abdicated her throne, so we are now "The Protector of His Majesty King Frederik X of Denmark."

And proudly so! 🇩🇰 **Long Live The King!** 🇩🇰

In Memorandum

It is with deep sadness to announce the passing of Adam Therkelsen of Concord on February 10th. Born July 5, 1935, he loved salmon fishing and going to Alaska with his beloved partner of over 20+ year's of Tove Lindberg. You may remember his love of Argentina wine. He also leaves behind his loving cousin of Annalisa Juul Diaz.

Order Form for Kantine Danish Restaurant Lunch, \$25 each

March 2nd * Lunch is served at 1pm

Name _____	Plate _____	Quantity _____
Order Total \$ _____	A) Egg & Cheese _____	
Mail this form to: Vagn Nielsen PO Box 53 Vineburg, CA 95487	B) Cured Trout _____	
NO email	C) Roast Pork _____	



There is no fee if you mail in a check.

If you use PayPal on the website, we add \$1.50 because the bank charges us fees. This is also true if you use your PayPal app, but you have to add it yourself, otherwise the club gets charged.

Drink Tickets are 3 for \$12, or 6 for \$21.
1 ticket for mixed drinks, beer, and wine.
1/2 ticket for soft drinks. Water is free.
Tickets can be purchased at the meeting.

DENMARK DAY PROGRAM

May 4, 2024

Danish Soldiers Club, 4560 Kastania Rd, Petaluma, CA

This will be a 15-and-over event.

The cooperation of attendees in remaining appropriately quiet during the violin performance, consul's remarks and presidents' remarks will be greatly appreciated.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:30am-12pm: Attendees arrive/share drinks and conversation + Great Danes + award-winning Danish-American wine from Flying Suitcase Wines (wine purchase qualifies for Danish gift basket raffle)

12pm: Flag ceremony*/USA + Danish national anthems
(vocalists: Maya Rasmussen Mohan, Amalie Sonne Ricafrente)

i. Consul General: Laying of Liberation Day wreath at Landsoldat Monument

ii. Table candle lighting

iii. Moment of silence

12:15pm: Light meal served (frikadeller and sides catered from Lighthouse Cafe, Mill Valley)

12:35pm: Brief remarks from leadership

- **Danish consul general Jesper Kamp**
- Danish Soldiers Club VP Annalisa Juul-Diaz
- Young Scandinavians Club President Jeanette Flodell
- Tivoli Lodge #300 (Danish Sisterhood of America) President Karin Wasler
- **Scholarship Awards (Consul General + Sponsoring Presidents)**
- Flying Suitcase Wines founder Anders Vinther
- Dania/Dannebrog former Grand Lodge President Tom Martin
- Danish-American Chamber of Commerce President Christian Møller Andersen
- Danish Club of SF President and Aldersly Chairman of the Board Peter Schakow

1:15pm: Vocalists: Maya Rasmussen Mohan, Amalie Sonne Ricafrente

a. Den Tapre Landsoldat (singalong)

b. Vi er Røde, Vi er Hvide (singalong)

c. I Skovens Dybe og Stille Ro

1:25pm: Grammy-award winning violinist **Mads Tolling** performance set 1

2pm: Sacramento Area Nordic Dancers (SAND) set 1

2:35pm: Mads Tolling set 2

3:10pm: Costume Contest

(Traditional Scandinavian folk attire/Viking/Danish Military - all welcome)

- Costume wearers receive free beverage ticket and are eligible to enter contest for prize

3:25pm: "Greatest Dane" Great Dane Contest (Great Dane Club of NorCal Education Committee Lorrie Spencer)

3:35pm: SAND set 2 (audience participation dance)

*Due to the DSC's 85-year history of fostering relations within the Danish-U.S. military alliance, the Danish Armed Forces (Forsvaret) has graciously given DSC written permission to wear, during our ceremonial events, a replica of the signature red parade *pelisse* jacket worn by the Danish Guard Hussar Regiment Mounted Squadron tasked with protecting the Danish Royal Family. Ours will be proudly worn by a former member of that elite unit. To our knowledge, no other U.S. organization has been granted such permission. DSC does not purport to contain *active* Danish military members.

Please also, be sure to send in your membership renewals, if you haven't done so already.

We welcome your thoughts and ideas to help the Danish Soldiers Club grow and prosper, so it can be what we, the members, want it to be.

Stay healthy and safe!

See you March 2nd.

Henrik Olsgaard, President



from Denmark.net

People celebrate **Valentine's Day in Denmark** in a very traditional way. Cards, flowers, and love notes are the three main components of the celebration. There are, however, some ways that are uniquely Danish in practice.

Valentine's Day celebrations started rather late in Denmark. The Danes apparently only warmed up to the idea sometime during the early 1990s. They fashioned it from the American custom, but made modifications. Thus, the resulting Danish Valentine's Day is celebrated with much fanfare and activity.

Denmark has its lover's card. This card traditionally was transparent and showed an image of a lover presenting a gift to his beloved. This image can be seen when the card is placed in front of a light.

The giving of white flowers, called "snowdrops," is another Valentine's Day tradition observed in the country. This tradition is observed with utmost care and love. The white flowers are not only given to lovers but to friends as well.

Another popular tradition of love in Denmark is the writing of "gaekkebrev." This can be a romantic poem or a love note. What is interesting about this is the humorous aspect of its observance. The sender of the gaekkebrev signs the message with dots instead of his/her name. The recipient of the gaekkebrev must guess who the sender is. She/he will be rewarded with an Easter egg on that same year if the guess is right. It should be noted that Valentine's Day in Denmark is celebrated a few weeks before Easter. This tradition of sending these teaser notes is actually considered part of the Danish Easter tradition.

Editor's Note: The great danish footballer Christian Eriksen has a birthday on Feb 14! And on a personal note, my sisters and I will celebrate Inger Gudren Tranberg Stecher, our mother, on her 101st birthday, February 25th, 2024!

Tilykke Med Fødselsdagen, Mor! 🇩🇰❤️