



NYHEDER

February/March 2018

DANISH SOCIAL CLUB OF VICTORIA



VICE-PRESIDENT
FINN SANDER

Our club's activities went out on a high note in 2017 with our hugely successful Christmas dinner on December 15. "Det Store Julebord" offered a feast of culinary delights, including herring dishes, pate, roast pork, frikadeller, red cabbage, Swedish meatballs, smoked salmon, gravlax, assorted meats, shrimps on eggs, salads, to-die-for ris a la mande with cherry sauce, etc., etc. Need I say more other than special thanks to Annemari and all the other dedicated ladies who helped make this event so special. Atmospheric Christmas decorations, music, and sing-songs capped this joyful event.

We brought in the new year with a "Membership Appreciation Luncheon" on January 26, 2018. On the menu were medister poelser, small potatoes, pickled beets, salad, red cabbage, and coffee with kringle. The event also included our 2018 Andespil-Bingo, silent auction, and the usual 50/50 draw. A good time was had by all – especially by the winners.

This was quickly followed by our customary Fastelavn "Slaa Katten af Toenden" event on the afternoon of February 17. It was a "hoot", and the children descended on the many sweets bursting from the barrel with each swing of the bat once it began to break up. Bent Anderson is to be thanked for his usual, polished MC performance, and Willie Klausen for his expert workmanship in making the barrel. Not least, Birgit Larsen excelled in producing festively coloured table decorations and conducting Danish games for the youngsters. And, of course, Annemari and the ladies addressed our collective craving for potato salad, European wieners, meat and vegetarian chili, buns, cake and cookie dessert, and fastelavn boller. And it doesn't get better than that, eh?

2018 EVENT CALENDAR

Saturday	March 17/18	1:30 PM	Smørrebrød
Friday	April 13/18	7:00 PM	AGM
Friday	May 25/18	7:00 PM	Kro-Aften
Friday	September 7/18	7:00 PM	Scandinavian Potluck
Friday	October 19/18	7:00 PM	Smørrebrød
Friday	December 14/18	7:00 PM	Christmas Dinner

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On the historic Jelling Stones in Jutland it is written how Harald Bluetooth conquered and united all of Denmark in the 900s. Until now, the ruins

have offered the earliest mention of the Danes as a people.

But perhaps not anymore.

A new discovery in Italy could very well indicate that the Danes as a people had existed 400 years before Harald Bluetooth.

READ MORE: Immortalised on stone forever, the founding rock of the nation

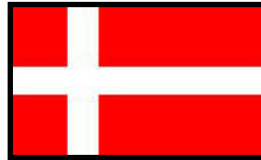
Speedy, but thick

Kasper H Andersen, a historian and postdoc at Aarhus University, has examined gothic texts from Italy and found that the Danes as a people are already described in writings dating back to the court of the Ostrogoth king, Theoderic the Great, in the 700s.

"The Danes are characterised as being a very fast people ... but they are not quite as intelligent as their neighbours to the south," is written in a text, according to Kristeligt Dagblad newspaper.

Moreover, the source of the stories in the text is 200 years older and hails from the years between about 470 and 526.

"I evaluate Denmark to already have consisted of a larger territorial frame already around the year 500," Andersen told Kristeligt Dagblad.



**IMPORTANT NEWS FROM
YOUR BOARD OF
DIRECTORS.**

Other news items: Our club is again donating a cheque for \$500 for the Victorian Children's Foundation (Lise Huus Memorial Fund). Also, be advised that we are still hoping to find someone to represent our club at the Federation of Danish Associations' conference in Halifax, N.S., May 24-27 this spring. Last, but not least, we are delighted to inform you all that the same federation has accepted a lengthy article by Tara Zerbe, our recent club bursary recipient, about her interesting experiences as an exchange student in Denmark last year. It will be published in the Federation's next "Heritage Book".

.....
• *When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to avoid attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."*
•



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News and a bit of history from Danmark

<http://cphpost.dk/>



By 2030 the Jutlandica is expected to be completely battery-powered.

Emission reductions has become an important issue for shipping companies. The Danish company Stena Lines has plans to convert one of its ferries so that it will eventually be able to sail on battery power alone.

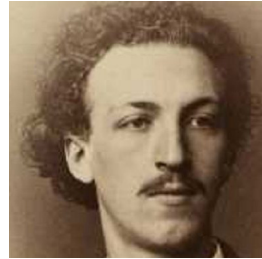
However, although the ferry is going in for a refit in the summer of 2018, it will only be a hybrid to start with, having both battery and diesel power, reports Ingeniøren.



Snakes on a boat! Norwegian customs officials find boa constrictor on ferry arriving from Denmark. Its purchase was legal, but its importation illegal, say the authorities.

Norwegian customs officers on Sunday night found a snake in a car on a ferry that had just arrived from Denmark.

The boa constrictor was discovered in a clothing bag during a routine inspection at the port of Kristiansand. The three young men in the car all hailed from Rogaland, a province in south-western Norway, according to the Norwegian newspaper Agderposten.



The greatest Danish composer America ever had Interest in Denmark's Golden Age has sparked a revival in the fortunes of Asger Hamerik,

the long-neglected late romantic composer who was in his lifetime one of the best known Danish composers outside of his own country

Asger Hamerik left Copenhagen in 1863 after receiving encouragement from Hans Christian Andersen (photo: Royal Library)

Asger Hamerik (1843-1923) studied music under such luminaries as Niels Gade, the most important Danish composer of the 19th century, the famed German pianist and conductor Hans von Bülow and the great French romantic composer Hector Berlioz, before travelling to the United States to become the head of the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, a post he held for almost 30 years.

Alcohol good for the brain

According to new research from the University of Copenhagen, consuming small amounts of alcohol could help clean the brain. The study, just published in the scientific journal *Scientific Reports*, revealed that limited alcohol can actually benefit the brain because it increases its ability to remove waste matter, including substances connected to Alzheimer's Disease.

Denmark's Prince Henrik, who wanted to be king, dies at 83



Prince Henrik of Denmark, the husband of Queen Margrethe who was famous for his public unhappiness at never being named king, has died at the age of 83.

The controversial French-born prince had been diagnosed with dementia last year and was admitted to hospital in January with a lung infection.

His flamboyant style was both loved and criticised by Danes.

Frustrated with his royal title, he announced in 2017 that he did not want to be buried next to his wife.

The 77-year-old queen accepted her husband's decision, the Royal House said at the time, breaking a 459-year-old tradition of burying royal spouses together.

The prince died "peacefully in his sleep" at the Fredensborg Castle, north of Copenhagen, with Queen Margrethe and their two sons - Crown Prince Frederick and Prince Joachim - at his side.

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My First Summer in Canada – on a Danish Farm Part 3

By: Finn Sander

Mrs. Kloeve, who was on hand, was beside herself, but agreed that the intended procedure was probably the only means by which the calf would see daylight. As such, she agreed to mount the tractor and ever so slowly drive and thus pull the calf into this world. I was positioned next to the cow to be able to catch the poor calf and scream "Stop!" at the appropriate moment. All proceeded according to plan, as the legs made a quick appearance, but just as quickly the noose slipped off – but it was not alone. To my horror, I realized why the rope had disengaged, for with it came off both the cow's hoofs. Ugh! END PART 2.

I'll be frank, I almost vomited right there and then, and Mrs. Kloeve's reaction – crying – added little to assuage emotions. When we had gained our collective composure and reasoned that the calf was partly decomposed, had clearly been dead for some time, and would have been stillborn regardless, we wasted little time reattaching the rope behind the dead calf's knees, restarting the tractor, and relieving the poor cow of its ugly burden by firmly pulling the calf free. As expected, the cow was exhausted and had collapsed on the floor, and it was not until the next day that it managed to stand up, as I recall. Prior to this, it had been one of Pop's most productive cows, but, regrettably, it never regained its former productivity and gave very little milk thereafter. Consequently, it was eventually sold to the

slaughter house. Survival of the fittest in the wild had its operative counterpart in the domestic animal world. In hindsight, I've often wondered why a veterinarian was not immediately called on, but perhaps that was not the custom in those days. There was certainly never any mention of this possibility.

Finally, I experienced one more nasty piece of work before the summer was over, and I escaped back to school. Did I really say that? Anyhow, when I first arrived on the farm, I was given a bed in Pop's youngest son's former bedroom. His name was Alfred, and he resided in Montreal where he worked for the same company as my father. However, during the summer, he would often drive down to the farm Friday night and lend a hand in the fields Saturday morning. He would also party Saturday nights with his old school friends in the area and return back to the farm after midnight, mostly after having a few beers too many, and crash into a fold-out bed next to his old, more comfortable bed, which I had occupied all summer. To his credit, he never complained about this new arrangement and was considerate enough not to turn on the light when he hit the sack, albeit after much noise and belching.

On my last night at the farm, a Saturday night and the day before my parents would come to take me back home again, Alfred arrived home long after midnight

– after consuming even more than his usual number of Molsons, I would guess. It was also a night



when I was peacefully lying in bed probably dreaming of Doris Day or Esther Williams,



when my dream turned marish, for I felt that I was crushed and

night-suddenly being

couldn't breathe. This was more than a dream, I realized, for I was now fully awake struggling in the dark with a heavy weight on top of me and gagging on a putrid, vile liquid. I finally managed to extricate myself from underneath and roll onto the floor and make it to the light switch – to discover a drunken Alfred still retching in my bed. I, in turn, was covered with his vomit in my face and all, which prompted my own involuntary bout of retching and evacuation of my own innards. Apparently, in his advanced state of inebriation, Alfred had by force of habit this time chosen to crash in his old bed. Ach!

It was definitely time for me to return to the city.....for good!

PS I returned to work for Pop for two more summers. However, he had since fired mean-spirited Brian, and I persuaded him to hire Rein, my best school friend back in Montreal. Now, Mack was the pariah, being outnumbered two to one, and peace reigned on the farm.

Great Story, Many thanks Finn.

Fastelavn 2018 - February 17/18



**Fastelavn 2018
KING
&
QUEEN**

Fastelavn is probably the most fun event of the year. The enthusiasm of the kids dreaming, that maybe next hit, could be a cache of candies. It's kind of sad to see a magnificent built A sincere thanks to years built the barrel. any candies if was Shirley's generosity. kids I say "Million not for Bent and On behalf of the Thanks". Unfortunately your Editor is down names. My apologies to the parents who I captured and are nameless, especially the King & Queen. jeh





Event Calendar - 2018

Swedish Club of Victoria

April 29	Valborgsmässan
May 16	TBA
June 25	Midsummer, Island View Beach
September 15	Scandinavian Potluck
October 17	Viking Night & Pea Soup
November 21	Membership Night
December	TBA



I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"

Sign on the back of another Septic Tank Truck:

"Caution - This Truck is full of Political Promises."



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HALIFAX IS CALLING!

Dear Members of the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada: Are you ready for something different?

The Federation of Danish Associations in Canada is hosting the 2018 Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia! May 24th to 27th, 2018. The Theme of this year's conference is: Pier 21 – Where We Met Canada.

Halifax is, of course, the home of Pier 21 – the former immigration shed, now a Museum, where many of you, your parents, or your grandparents first set foot in this wonderful country. Holding the Conference in Halifax presents a unique opportunity for many of us to explore our Danish Canadian roots up close. We have set aside time for individual and group exploration of all that the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 has to offer – perhaps you can find a copy of original immigration documents for your family?

The Conference has never been held in Halifax, so this will be your chance to explore the magnificent scenery and hospitality of Canada's east coast. The conference includes a tour to Peggy's Cove, a city tour, a harbour tour with dinner on a ship, a day at Pier 21, and a lunch at the beautiful Austenville Owls' Club on Sunday.

Mark your calendar now for May 24 – 27, 2018 and get your registration in today to avoid disappointment. Many of our scheduled tours have limited availability so we must enforce a ceiling of 55 participants for the Conference.

The Conference Hotel is the Delta Barrington in Halifax. To receive the special guestroom rate of \$159.00 per night, delegates can call the toll-free reservations number at 1-800-268-1133 and ask for "The Federation of Danish Associations of Canada". Alternatively, you may book your accommodation online by checking the Federation website (www.danishfederation.ca) and clicking on the link provided there. Please note that we have reserved a block of only 30 rooms and once these are filled, the rate may increase. The deadline for reservations to receive the group rate is April 24, 2018.



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SMØRREBRØD LUNCHEON

Saturday March 17, 2018



As expected and hoped for, Annemari and her industrious kitchen clan produced yet another delightful offering of Danish open-face sandwiches for our March 17 Smørrebrød Luncheon event. "Yummy" says it all, and the many bulging midribs were testament to the satisfaction of all participants. And, from all accounts, everyone got what they ordered and were seated amongst compatible table mates – requested or not. Jan deserves much credit for that juggling act. It's safe to say then, A good time was had by all. Cheers Finn









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Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year.
- Victor Borge

Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister, and now wish to withdraw that statement. - Mark wain

Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty, but everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out.
- Phyllis Diller


Donald is walking out of the White House and heading towards his limo, when a possible assassin steps forward and aims a gun.

A Secret Service Agent, new on the job, shouts, "Micky Mouse!"

This startles the would be assassin and he is captured.

Later, the Secret Service Agent's supervisor takes him aside and asks, "What in the hell made you shout Mickey Mouse?"

Blushing, the agent replies, I got nervous. I meant to shout, "Donald, duck!"





Laughter is the best medicine



A young doctor had moved out to a small community to replace a doctor who was retiring.
The older doctor suggested that the young one accompany him on his rounds so the community could become used to the new doctor.

At the first house a woman complains, "I've been a little sick to my stomach".

The older doctor says, "Well, you've probably been overdoing the fresh fruit. Cut back on the amount you're eating and see if that does the trick".

As they left, the younger man said, "You didn't even examine that woman. How'd you come to the diagnosis so quickly?"

"I didn't have to. You noticed I dropped my stethoscope on the floor in there?
When I bent over to pick it up I noticed a half dozen banana peels in the trash. That was what probably was making her sick."

The younger doctor said "Pretty clever. If you don't mind I think I'll try that at the next house".

Arriving at the next house, they spent several minutes talking with a younger woman. She said that she just didn't have the energy she once did and said "I'm feeling terribly run down lately".

"You've probably been doing too much for the Church," the younger doctor told her.
"Perhaps you should cut back a bit and see if that helps".

As they left, the elder doctor said, "I know that woman well. Your diagnosis is almost certainly correct, she's very active in the church, but how did you arrive at it?"

"I did what you did at the last house. I dropped my stethoscope and, when I bent down to retrieve it, I noticed the priest under the bed.