

NYHEDER

April, May & June 2021

DANISH SOCIAL CLUB OF VICTORIA



Dear Members and Friends of the Danish Social Club of Victoria:

It is now into the second year of the covid pandemic and I am sure we all wish some normalcy in our lives. The directors of your club hope that you are all faring well. Normally we would have had our annual general meeting this month to lay out plans for the coming year. Unfortunately everything is still unknown and we cannot plan ahead. This past year we missed a couple of Kro Aften, a couple of men's dinners and, everyone's favourite, den store kolde julebord (Christmas dinner). Rosemary and I have also missed having our annual back garden barbecue.

No matter how difficult it may be we must remember to follow all the covid protocols. Stay in your own bubble and don't travel out of your Health Region (Capital Regional District). Also, practice safe social interaction by using your electronic devices to communicate with friends, wear your face mask to make sure you practice proper respiratory hygiene, wash/sanitize your hands and refrain from touching your eyes, nose and mouth. If you feel unwell, stay home. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing call your health provider or 811 for direction. You can keep current with the latest covid regulations by googling BC Covid-19 and there are also federal and provincial updates daily on CFA 1070 and your local TV channel. If we follow these protocols and get our vaccines when able, maybe we will be able to have a little more physical interaction with one another this summer. We can only hope.

Wondering what to do with your time? Perhaps consider writing your memoirs. Everyone has a story. What is your story? You don't have to be a professional writer or an academician to tell about how you and/or your family came to Canada. Your family and friends will be interested in what you have to say and family members will cherish your efforts which can be passed to the younger generation.

Tired of cleaning out cupboards and drawers that are already clean and tidy? Maybe it is time to consider doing a little gardening. If you don't have a yard to work in, maybe you can start some herbs or salad plants indoors on your window sill or on your deck. Spring is here and summer is just around the corner. The days are getting longer.

When we get the "all clear" to have an event, what would you enjoy the most? Once we are in a place to start up club activities, we will move swiftly to organize a celebration with hygge and some special food from Annemari and the ladies. It is unfortunate that we can't do "take-out" right now.

Remember now, the only way to move ahead is to follow all the directions we are given by our health experts. Perhaps then we can get to where Australia is today with 78,000 people at an arena for a game! Is this too large a crowd for you?!! Do you like the idea of being able to mingle freely but not keen on being in such a large crowd? Yes, let's aim for a smaller gathering at Norway House in the near future. Keep positive, thinking of all the good things that life has brought us and will bring us!

Wishing you all the best,

Venlig hilsen Hans
On behalf of the Board of Directors



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President*

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Ære være deres minde to all that we have lost in 2019 - 2021

Former president of the Danish Social Club of Victoria and former treasurer of the Danish Federation, Bendix Andersen, has passed away. Below is the email I received from his son Jørgen.

Ære være hans minde!

Greetings Rolf,

As the eldest son of Ben Andersen, I wanted to pass on to you and members of the Danish Federation that last Friday, April 30th Ben past away peaceful in a Long term care home in Tsawwassen, BC at the age of 91.

He was with all his Canadian family in the past few weeks and was appreciative of that fact. I know that he was very proud of his Danish heritage as well as being a Canadian. He mentioned many times to me how much he enjoyed the members of the Canadian/Danish Federation and was pleased to be involved with the writing projects and the Viking long ship replica that is now at the Danish museum in Alberta. I know he will be missed by us all!

Regards,

Jørgen



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Next to Cordova Bay Golf Course

Denmark's first ever banknote sold for 170,000 kroner

It took at least 308 years to turn a 1-rigsdaler note into an extremely valuable collectable item.

People say keep the small change, until pennies are worth the money.

In the case of Denmark, it took at least 308 years to turn a 1-rigsdaler to an extremely valuable collectable item.



The first banknote in Danish history was sold for 170,000 kroner, on Monday evening according to a statement released by the auction house Bruuns Rasmussen in Copenhagen.

The figure came as a surprise as the banknote was previously estimated to be worth between 60,000-80,000 kroner.

"It was the first time in Denmark that money no longer needed to be silver or gold, but could also be made in paper," said Michael Fornitz, chief numismatist at Bruuns Rasmusen.



News and a bit of history from Danmark

Ambitious museum project dedicated to the life of Denmark's most famous author set for 'soft opening' on June 30. With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to impact life, there will be an exciting new attraction available to all those spending the summer in Denmark.

The ambitious HC Andersen's House museum project in Odense, the famous author's birthplace, is set to open its doors for the first time on June 30.

The HC Andersen's House is among the most high-profile museum projects in recent years. It was made possible thanks to generous donations from, among others, the AP Møller Foundation and Odense Municipality.

"HC Andersen has to be our greatest poet. He captivates children and adults alike with his magical stories, which people all over the world can see themselves in – to this day," said Ane Mærsk Mc-Kinney Uggle, the head of the AP Møller Foundation.

"It is our hope that we, with the new museum, are approaching the core of HC Andersen's universe."



The dark Danish winter has come to an early halt. The birds and the bees are busy, the buds are blossoming and, in and around the city, a furious frenzy of activity is unfolding, including both children and adults.

Granted, this year's spring-time activities may not be as numerous as in previous years due to the continued restrictions brought on by corona, but there are still many wonders waiting to be discovered for the whole family.

No limit to the fun

Thanks to the lifting of limits on outdoor gatherings, which has seen the permissible number raised from five to 50 this month, there's nothing stopping the whole family – and their neighbours, providing they're not in the same vehicle! – from going out for an afternoon, or even a day-trip. (by Lauren Beauchamp)



Back in 2016, the former government attracted heavy criticism for selling its vaccine capabilities to a Saudi firm.

Now, in the midst of a global pandemic, the Mette Frederiksen-led government wants to rectify that.

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>> **Going Home** <<

Part 5

Story by Finn Sander

This is how Part 3 of "Going Home" published in the Apr, May June 2020 story ended , not quite actually. Now it does.

End of Part 4

Of course, it was only in the last year before Carl's family re-emigrated to Germany that the hormones kicked in and the two teenagers, fourteen and sixteen, capitulated to their mutual, genuine love and affection for each other. As such, both had been totally devastated when the Schwerdtfeger family departed for Europe.

Conclusion.

Be Calm, Be Kind, Be Safe.

Part 5

But Carl had been a minor at the time and thus was forced to follow his parents back to the Hamburg in 1936. Here, he was swallowed up finishing his high school education, fulfilling his Hitler Youth obligations, and finally being inducted into the army Loretta and he had faithfully kept in touch for the first two years, but, eventually, Germany became the enemy, and their tenuous connection was finally severed along with that of their families. "But that was then, and this is now", Carl reflected, when, suddenly, the small curtain behind the front door window was discreetly pulled aside, and

a young woman's face emerged. It was an angelic face framed in red hair cascading over her shoulders and adorned with full lips, a nose with a slight upturn, and upper cheeks speckled with light freckles imparted by the summer sun. Her alluring green eyes peered into his, and a spark of recognition suddenly transformed her cautious expression to one signaling extreme delight, and in an instant the door was opened wide, and this beautiful, red-haired woman, also blessed with provocative curves, he noticed, threw herself into his arms. Here, she shed copious tears of happiness, and smothering him with kisses, which he returned with passion. "You're alive and you've come back, she uttered again and again.

Eventually, they disengaged and settled onto the living room sofa with a view to reflect on their missing years. However, Loretta was quick to explain that her brother was in the army and was currently fighting on the front in Normandy, and, conveniently, her parents had left just a few days ago for a two-week vacation in their newly purchased cottage in the Laurentian Mountains north of Montreal. As such, she pointed out, they had the house to themselves. It was no subtle hint, and soon their loins were on fire and they hastily retired to Loretta's bedroom upstairs, where they discarded all inhibitions and tasted the sweet fruits of their passion.

Epilogue

Carl and Loretta had finally been reunited, but large parts of their present and past lives still remained untold. The task of unfolding the complete saga began the very next morning after a hearty breakfast. Carl explained the extent of his military career and how it had finally led him to see her again, albeit as an escaped POW with a potential liability to her reputation and legal status if she willingly afforded him long-term refuge. As an afterthought, he also admitted to having been involved with two other girls/women of no consequence. Loretta, too, apprised him of her "lost years" - those without Carl - which included graduating from high school and recently graduating as a nurse from the Royal Victoria Hospital. Naturally, she had dated young men, but admitted that she had found them all wanting and had not been intimate with any of them. Carl could not disguise his satisfaction with this revelation.

The black cloud hanging over their future relationship clearly was the matter of whether Carl's status as a Canadian-born expatriate, who had fought for the enemy, would deserve the right to maintain his Canadian citizenship and re-enter Canadian society with a clean slate. Carl had come to the conclusion that the best way to avoid incarceration in a POW camp for the duration of the war would be to seek

the opportunity to plead his case in front of a military tribunal. His argument for deserving freedom would be that;

1) he was Canadian-born and a full resident of Canada when he was forced, as a legal minor, to accompany his parents back to Germany, their country of origin;

2) once there, he was forced into the Hitler Youth and, subsequently, inducted into the army and, eventually, into the air force;

3) he never committed any atrocities and was unaware of the full extent of heinous crimes committed by the brutal SS troops against Jews, especially;

4) although he was, indeed, guilty of shooting down Allied bombers over Europe, it was in the knowledge that such bombers were waging full-scale, indiscriminate carpet-bombing against all major cities in Germany, specifically aimed to kill thousands of civilians to demoralize the general population. He informed that he personally witnessed from his own Messerschmitt the July, 1942, Allied bombing of Hamburg causing firestorms killing over 42,000 civilians, including his own parents, and injuring another 37,000. Such actions clearly breached international law, he had been informed; and,

5) he would be happy to be involved as a fighter pilot instructor at any air force base in the country, not least at the Royal Canadian Air Force training camp in nearby St. Hubert (his long-term aspirations involved peace time employment as a pilot for a commercial airline);

and

6) God willing, he intended to marry his Canadian, childhood sweetheart at the earliest opportunity.

For the record, Carl was, in fact, given the opportunity to appear in front of such a tribunal, was acquitted of any deliberate wrong-doing and was reinstated as a Canadian resident and citizen. He was also promptly employed as a civilian, fighter plane, flying instructor at St. Hubert; married Loretta shortly thereafter and became a father to a little redheaded girl 7 months after the wedding. As for Sergeant Snodgrass, he later claimed that he had tripped and fallen on one of the flatbed wagons, causing a rearrangement of his aquiline nose. And, no, he had never heard of Carl Schwerdtfeger. As such, his much cherished, nasty reputation remained intact.

Editor needs a word.

OK Finn, what really happened to Carl in his after life. Surely the truth of his missions, his deadly engagements cannot be forgotten. Can it?

Dear Finn,

On behalf of the Directors and all of our club members we thank you for the outstanding stories you have written. So, you see, there is a bit of hunger for more text for the Nyheder.

Jan-Evert



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A photograph of a modern living room interior. It features a blue tufted sofa, two blue armchairs, and a round coffee table. The room has large windows and a light-colored rug.

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Pictures from Past Events



Dear Members, for the past 6 years I have the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful Danes. The fact that I like to take pictures have helped to captivate many memorable moments. As I was selecting pictures for this page, I realized we have missed many members, **“Ære være deres minder”**.
 Jan-Evert

Lieutenant Colonel Claus Peter Andersen

Dear Friends,

Below is a link to a seven-minute video about Pete Anderson and his brickyard in Edmonton.


Pete Anderson was born Claus Peter Andersen in Havndrup on the island of Fyn on April 24, 1868.

When he was twenty years old he left Denmark and immigrated to Canada.

He arrived in Canada in May 1888 and by 1891 he had settled in Edmonton, where he soon started a brickyard which quickly flourished due to the building boom. This is the focus of the video. See link below.

However, there is much more to the Pete Anderson story. He joined the militia and in the First World War he participated as an officer. He came a Lieutenant Colonel, and he became a hero. On the battlefield in France he was taken prisoner by the Germans. He escaped and in fact he was the only Canadian officer to successfully escape during the First World War.

Kurt Jensen has written a captivating book entitled *Escape from Germany*, about Pete Anderson, which is available from the Danish Canadian National Museum in Dickson, the Markerville Creamery and the Provincial Archives in Edmonton. At the two museums the cost of the 248-page book is \$15.




Lieutenant Colonel Pete Anderson was a genuine Canadian hero. His achievements were extraordinary. In typical Canadian fashion, he didn't view himself as a hero.

Before going to war in 1914, Anderson had been an early pioneer in Edmonton, Alberta, where he had been a successful, rich, and respected businessman. He was a middle-aged man when he fought in the First World War. Shortly after arriving in France, he was captured by the enemy, on his birthday. In a daring escape, he was able to breach the defences of the prisoner of war camp in which he was held and to return to Britain, after an eventful transit through much of Germany. Anderson was not only the first Canadian officer to successfully escape, he was also the only Canadian officer to escape during the First World War. In 1919, Anderson volunteered to fight in northern Russia, first against the Germans and then as part of an Allied attempt to overthrow the Bolshevik revolution of 1917. When he returned from his wars, he had earned two Distinguished Service Orders (DSO Bar), a senior honour awarded for exemplary service under enemy fire.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kurt F. Jensen spent 33 years in the Canadian diplomatic service and is the author of books and articles primarily on Canadian international affairs and foreign intelligence. He has taught foreign intelligence courses at Carleton University, where he also completed his Ph.D. He currently lives in Ottawa.



Canada History & Heroes
WWI Canadian Military
Canadian Siberian Expeditionary
Force

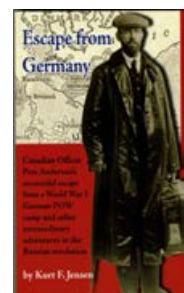
Enjoy the video! And learn about Pete Anderson and Gallagher Park!

A sincere thank you to everyone who created this video, and especially to Shela Amulaku who tells the story.

<https://vimeo.com/513660979/70fedf688c> Time: 07.42 minutes

Regards and best wishes,
Rolf

Rolf Buschardt Christensen
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ON THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE



A Swedish airplane was getting ready to land in Copenhagen's airport. The control tower contacted the pilot and asked for his position. The Swedish pilot was surprised and didn't do anything. Again the control tower contacted the pilot. "Please tell us your position." Then the pilot understood and answered: "Here I am in the front seat, as always..."

Belated Happy Easter!

Hello everybody! Hope this note finds you all in good health and that you have already had your "shot" or will be soon getting it. Finn and I did get our injection last week and so far so good. Finn had no problems and I felt a little dizzy for a few hours the next day. Funnily enough, I have never had the flu in my whole life... A few friends of mine, however, have experienced flu-like symptoms with fever and vomiting. We got the Pfizer vaccine and our clinic was located in the auditorium at UVic. Things moved rather too slowly for my liking.. My daughter Kristina who lives in Essex UK is volunteering at her near-by clinic and she says that they put through 180 people in 3 hrs – that's a person per minute!

The reason for this email is to let you know that I heard from Ernie Nielsen that Aase Pedersen has just lost her THIRD daughter to ?cancer last week. She has one healthy daughter left who lives in Denmark. I will therefore be sending her a sympathy card from the Club. How much heartbreak can a person endure?

Look forward to when we will all see each other again!

Gloria



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Dear God, please send clothes for all those poor ladies on grandpa's computer. Amen