



Nordøst

Danish Archive North East
December 2016

Hello!

In addition to the President's Letter, we have articles on the Harvest Festival and a Pearl Harbor participant. We have a number of photos that maybe you can help us identify. Our annual fund raising effort is starting and there is a form in this newsletter.

If you are in the New Jersey area, please join us for one of the DANE programs (schedule at the end of this newsletter). Please visit our website (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njdane/index.html>) to see what we are up to.

Enjoy!

DANE President's Message

Kære All,

2016 is now winding down. As we review the year, the Archive has accomplished many things. With its' goal to research, record and preserve Danish heritage both past and present, much was done. All these good things happened by the efforts of the Archive's Board and volunteers. Members have given their hard work and time to keep DANE ever growing. It needs to be noted that all of their involvement and help is done on a volunteer basis. They must be congratulated for a job very well done!

DANE has been involved in presenting several programs which are geared to Danish Culture, Heritage and History. In February there was Fastelavn, September was Harvest Fest and coming up in the month of December will be our annual Jul Fest. In between, there were workdays and programs with Danish themes. We welcomed many visitors to tour our museum and gave help to those

searching for family information. Our files are now overflowing with biographies and details of Danish immigrants and their descendants.

So what will 2017 bring?? We hope more of the same good things. A highlight we are truly anticipating is a visit and meetings of the Board Members of the Museum of Danish America, Elk Horn, Iowa. This should be a very mutual gathering to exchange ideas and meet with folks who have the same goals of preserving Danish history. The Museum Board members will be holding their meetings June 7-10 at the Danish Home, Edison.

As this year comes to a close, we would like to say Tusind tak to all those who worked, generously donated, shared information and visited our events. We send our best wishes and hope that we hear from and see you in the New Year.



GLÆDELIG JUL OG ET GODT NYTÅR

With good health, joy and peace throughout 2017

Med Venlig Hilsen,

Agnes M Hagmueller
DANE President



HARVEST FESTIVAL

September 18, 2016

Despite a cloudy start to the day, the Harvest Festival at the Danish Home, Edison was a great success. The event started at 10AM and lasted till 5PM. There were Danish themes throughout the day. The Festival is sponsored by DANE, Danish Archive North East, and the Danish Home Board.



It was a place to treat your taste buds to some really good Danish foods. An array of scrumptious delights was served up to our many visitors. Æbleshivers, Danish hot dogs, a variety of drinks and wonderful Danish Weinerbrød.



Delicious Smørrebrød sandwiches were made on site by the Danish Café of Red Bank NJ. Then for dessert you had your choice of all kinds of Danish pastries. The Brotherhood & Sisterhood Lodges, which make up the Danish Home Board, prepared and served their individual specialties. Sales proceeds help each Lodge support their activities and meetings for the year.

Vendors were on hand with a variety of items for sale. Danish wearables, foods, cakes, jewelry and more. Our visitors enjoyed buying some interesting things for themselves or for gift giving.



Archive members provided on site genealogy help for those who wanted to research their Stramtrae (family tree). DANE also offered traditional straw ornaments, nisses, Viking information and gifts.



A crowd pleaser was Jeanne Eriksson Widman Andersen and her Smorgasbandet group who entertained with Scandinavian music and songs. Especially fun was Jeanne's involvement with the kiddies. She had them playing games and dancing. Prizes were handed out to all the participants who joined in on the merriment.



A new feature this year was a face painting booth manned by Fran Cameron and Skylar Thoren. We had several cats, villains and pretty faces roaming around the grounds.

By afternoon the sun came out and it was a beautiful Fall day. All of our visitors had an enjoyable time and we hope they went home with some good memories. Besides the happenings in the picnic grove, they were invited to tour the House and Museum. Included was a visit to the Mindehoyen (mausoleum) at the rear of the grove.



With all good things said about an eventful Fest, we are scheduled to do it again in 2017 on Sunday September 17th 10-5 PM at the Danish Home picnic grounds. We invite you to join us for a pleasant day filled with Danish traditional fare and fun.

A Pearl Harbor Participant

by Wendy Hansen Hudson

This past week, I was watching a number of documentaries on TV about the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. One story caught my attention. It was on Philip M. Rasmussen.

According to Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phil_Rasmussen), Lt. Rasmussen was awakened in his barracks by the attack on Pearl Harbor. He strapped a pistol to the outside of his pajamas and ran to get an airplane. He managed to find a P-36 Hawk airplane and took off. He engaged the Japanese planes and managed to shoot one down. He was one of only a few US pilots to engage the Japanese planes that day. He came under heavy fire, but managed to get back to Wheeler Field with no brakes, rudder, or tailwheel. He is often referred to as the "Pajama Pilot".

The "Rasmussen" name intrigued me. I started to research where he came from and who were his parents. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts on May 11, 1918 and died April 30, 2005 in Fort Myers, Florida. His parents were Danish! They were Alfred Emil Isidoro Rasmussen and Ane Sorensen. Alfred was born in Odense, Denmark on Jun 22, 1882 and baptized in Sankt Knud in Odense. Ane was born January 3, 1882 in Østrup, Odense, Denmark. Alfred arrived in Boston on March 11, 1904 on the ship Ivernia from Liverpool, England and Ane arrived on June 2, 1904 on the same ship. Alfred and Ane married in Boston in 1906. They had 4 children. Alfred died in 1975 and Ane died in 1957.

It was interesting to find this Danish northeast connection to such a historic event!

A fond farewell to Bob Thompson...

We were all saddened to hear that Bob Thompson passed away on October 15, 2016. Bob was a dedicated member of the DANE Board of Trustees and was always supportive whenever we needed him.

He was a retired Deputy Police Chief from Woodbridge Township. He served in the US Coast Guard during WWII. He was a lifelong member of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

Bob will be missed by all of us.

Can you help identify any of these photos?

We have a number of wonderful photos in our collection where we do not know who is in the picture! Can you help identify anyone in these photos? (Many thanks to Janice Grace for managing our photo collection!)







December 2016

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Dear Friend of DANE,

DANE is dedicated to preserving the great history and culture of those Danes and their descendants.

Our recording and archiving information is done by volunteers who spend many hours gathering data. Our databases contain over 30,000 names. These come from inquiries, digitized church and cemetery records as well as many records of Danish organizations. DANE celebrates traditional Holidays and Customs. We have meetings dealing with Danish history and culture. We also help people with their Danish genealogical research both in the US and Denmark.

Money is needed to support our events and work. We are asking you to support DANE by making a donation so the Archive can continue our progress in adding to our collections and making the public know how much the Danes have done for this country.

Tours are available by appointment. If you are in the neighborhood give us a call at 732-287-6445. Need help with family research? E-mail us at danenj@aol.com

Tusind Tak for your generous past support. With that help, the Archive has grown and with your on-going support it will continue to grow.

We wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season and a great New Year!

*Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår
DANE Board of Trustees*

Donations can also be made by visiting the website and clicking on “Donations”

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ **Email address:** _____

Amount enclosed: _____

**Please include this form with your donation and send to:
DANE—Nordøst
855 New Durham Road
Edison, New Jersey 08817**

DANE is a 501 c 3 non-profit organization

DANE meetings:

- December 18, 2016 – Julefest/Christmas party
 - January 2017 – no meeting
 - February 19, 2017 – Fastelavn
 - March 2017 – no meeting
 - April 2017 – no meeting
 - May 21, 2017 – Archive work day
 - June 2017 – no meeting
 - July 2017 – no meeting
 - August 26, 2017 – Harvest Festival planning meeting
 - September 17, 2017 – Harvest Festival
 - October 15, 2017 – Archive work day
 - November 2017 – no meeting
 - December 17, 2017 – Julefest/Christmas party
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Web page: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~njdane/index.html>

(29,825 visitors since 2002!)

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DANE has membership in:

- Museum of Danish America, Elk Horn Iowa
- Danish American Heritage Society
- New Jersey League of Historical Societies