

Dansk Amerikansk Klub

www.dansk-amerikansk-klub.dk

Jule- & nytårshilsen fra præsidenten

Kære medlemmer i Dansk Amerikansk Klub.

Når jeg kigger tilbage på klub-året 2024, er det med positive briller. Vi har haft en mindre fremgang i vores medlemstal og klubbens økonomi er solid. Jeg hæfter mig specielt ved nogle rigtig gode arrangementer i årets løb.

Her vil jeg gerne nævne et par af dem som jeg syntes var specielt gode:

Sommerudflugt til Haven i Hune den 26. mai:

Denne smukke have overraskede mig personligt meget positivt. Jeg havde ikke før besøgt haven og den har meget at byde på. Anne Justs have som den også hedder er en smuk oase af forskellige sammenhængende haver og flere bygninger som også kan besøges. Vores besøg var inklusiv frokost samt eftermiddagskaffe og kringle. Vi var 35 deltagere.

Garden Party den 2. juli:

Her havde vi igen over 300 deltagere på trods af vejret, som ikke var helt som ønsket. Men vores Garden Party er blevet den mere eller mindre officielle start på 4. juli dagene i Aalborg.

Arrangementet besøges af mange af de hjemvendte amerikanere og af mange af vores medlemmer og Rebild Selskabets medlemmer.

Derudover kommer der hvert år flere og flere unge familier med børn som finder arrangementet på facebook og kommer og udforsker dette event samt muligheden for at se Garesonsmuseet gratis.

Borgmesterfrokosten den 3. juli:

Borgmesterfrokosten blev igen i år afholdt på 15 etage på Hotel Comwell, Hvide Hus i Aalborg. Vi havde 125 gæster som inkluderede den amerikanske ambassadør i



Danmark Allan Leventhal og Aalborgs Borgmester Lasse Frimand Jensen.

Frokosten bød på nogle spændende taler ikke mindst fra vores Borgmester for en dag Lisa Briggs fra Elkhorn, Iowa.

I starten af frokosten præsenterede Dansk Amerikansk Klub en speciel overrækkelse af "The Peter Ørum Lifetime Achivement Award". Denne blev præsenteret til vores æresmedlem Peter Ørum. Desværre viste det sig at denne Borgmesterfrokost blev den sidste for Peter Ørum som gik bort i oktober.

Amerikansk Valgaften den 24 oktober:

Dette arrangement blev afhold på vores nye "tilholdssted" GASSEN på Gasværksvej 46-48, 9000 Aalborg.

Fortsætter næste side

Vi havde en dygtig foredragsholder Morten Wendelbo som kom og forklarede det amerikanske valgsystem.

Der var en super god dialog omkring det amerikanske valg og det blev krydret med vin, øl, sodavand og et stort bord med snacks. Vi var 45 deltagere.

Thanksgiving middag den 28. November:Som altid en super hyggelig aften med lækker mad og godt selskab.

Karina Stevenson stod for fællessang, hvor hun havde udvalgt nogle gode og relevante sange. Karina og Howard spillede klaver til og det skabet en rigtig god Thanksgiving stemning. Der var også flere korte indslag omkring det med at være taknemlig for noget eller nogen. Vi var 54 deltagere.

Som de fleste foreninger i Danmark har vi også vores udfordringer med at øge vores medlemstal og få flere medlemmer og gæster med til vores arrangementer.

Derfor er det bestyrelsens mål og opgave at sørge for at fortsætte vores arbejde med at skabe spændende arrangementer til en fair pris, således at så mange så muligt har både løst og råd til at være med.

Derudover skal vores klub fortsætte med at være relevant. Vi skal fortsætte vores arbejde med at styrke venskab mellem danskere og amerikanere/canadiere. Vi skal også i større grad være en forening som rækker ud til en voksende gruppe af amerikanere som bosætter sig i Nordjylland.

Jeg ser frem til et nyt år med Dansk Amerikansk Klub og glæder mig til sammen med vores bestyrelse at arbejde på at gøre vores klub et populært samlingssted for alle os som støtter det dansk-amerikanske venskab.

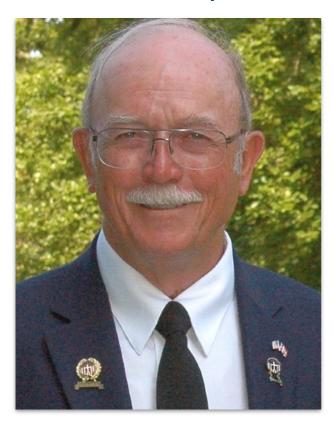
Jeg vil gerne ønske alle medlemmer og jeres familier en rigtig god Jul og et godt Nytår. Tak for jeres opbakning til klubben og til klubbens bestyrelse. Jeg ser frem til at se jer alle igen i 2025.

Niels V. Guldbjerg President



Byggefirmaet Staun & STAUN STA

In Memory of Peter Ørum



Peter Orum, 82, passed away on Thursday, October 17, at his home in St. Charles, Illinois, after a four-month battle with a complex and rare form of lymphoma. Peter entered into hospice care on September 23rd and was surrounded by family and friends from that time until his passing.

Peter was born on December 4, 1941, in Søborg, a suburb of Copenhagen, Denmark. He spent his early days doing chores in his father's small nursery, working for a neighboring farm, and bicycling around Northern Denmark with his favorite cousins. He was a strong academic student in his eight years of compulsory formal education in Denmark, but he also enjoyed the challenge of woodworking and other practical trade skills which served him well throughout his life, especially in finding solutions to the challenges of growing plants in containers.

In 1961, he enlisted in the Danish Army and worked to become a Lieutenant in one of the Engineer regiments; he was also a military driving instructor. His appreciation of military vehicles later led him to assemble a collection of

vintage military vehicles, which he enjoyed driving in local parades and on tours of the nursery properties. As an Army Engineer, he was assigned to build the famous British "Bailey" bridges in Denmark; he used that experience to erect several bridges of this type on the Midwest properties in the United States many years later.

In 1965, Peter boarded a ship and sailed across the rugged North Atlantic Ocean to the United States to gain work experience at the D. Hill Nursery in Dundee, Illinois; there he honed his growing and construction skills. He soon met his future wife, Irma, and on February 4, 1967, Peter married Irma Bodil Hertzmann at St. James Episcopal Church in West Dundee, Illinois. They celebrated 52 years of marriage together. As a team, they founded and built the Midwest Companies in the horticulture industry, including Midwest Groundcovers LLC and Midwest Trading Inc.

As the companies grew, so did Peter's involvement in community, civic, cultural, and professional organizations, both local and international. He served in leadership roles for horticultural organizations, including the Illinois Green Industry Association (now joined with the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association), the American Nursery & Landscape Association (now AmericanHort), the International Plant Propagators Society, and the Horticultural Research Institute, among others. Awards, recognition, and commendations from these groups in his honor are numerous. He continued to foster collaborative horticulture relations between Denmark and the United States through his leadership and commitment to APlant with the Norðîc® brand. Peter truly was an icon in the nursery industry both at home and abroad

Peter held dual citizenship in Denmark and the United States, and celebrated both countries and cultures. He was instrumental in the Rebild Society, which holds an annual Fourth of July celebration in Denmark; was a board member of the Danish American Language Foundation; co-founder of the Scandinavian Club; and was also a long-time supporter and contributor to the Danish Home in Chicago, and the Museum of Danish America in lowa.

Peter was named Major for day in Aalborg in 1999 and was also an honorary member of the Danish American Club in Aalborg. He was for many years the President of the Majors Club in Aalborg. On July 3. Of 2024 The Danish American Club presented Peter with a special recognition as they named an award "The Peter Oerum Life Time Achievement Award" and Peter of course became its first recipient.

He was an esteemed and active community member, serving on numerous committees over the decades. Since 1965, he has been a devout member of St. James Episcopal Church in West Dundee, where he contributed through vestry service, finance leadership, buildings and grounds committee leadership, and served as usher and greeter most Sundays when he was in town.

He was a voracious reader, an outstanding student of history and geography, and was highly informed about, and engaged in, politics. He was a lifelong Republican and tireless supporter of Immigration Reform; he visited Washington DC often to meet with government representatives to campaign for small business, agriculture, and most especially immigration reform countless times.

When asked once how he got everything done, and still had time for more meetings and conferences and board memberships, family and business, Peter answered, "I do not watch television."

He was a respected employer who expected the best efforts and continuous growth of his employees - and always found ways to appreciate and celebrate their work and the company's milestones. His wisdom was vast, and he was a natural teacher, and was always coaching and training those around him on anything from plant propagation to how to speak and communicate effectively, in order to be understood.

Peter was a beloved husband, parent, grand-father and uncle. He is survived by his daughter, Christa (Craig) Orum-Keller, and grand-children Christian Keller and Lydia Orum-Keller; his sister, Elisabeth Dam; niece Karen Dam and nephew Anders Dam. He was preceded in death by his parents Lydia & Palle Ørum; son, Stig Peter Orum; and wife, Irma Bodil Orum.







Julegaveide

Måske en Julegave ide til dine børn eller børnebørn?



Jeg modtog i sidste måned en besked fra en forfatter som har skrevet en børnebog om rejsen til USA:

Jeg hedder Catrine og bor i USA og er forfatter til "Rejsen til New York – dengang og nu", en billedbog for børn om den danske udvandring og om at rejse til USA nu om dage.

Bogen udkom på Gads Forlag her i sommer. Bogen er den første danske billedbog om dansk udvandring i mange år, og jeg har selv været bosat i USA siden 2004. Jeg ville gerne høre, om I kunne være interesserede i at modtage et anmeldereksemplar, eller jeg kunne måske skrive en lille artikel om bogen til jeres medlemsblad?

Du kan læse mere om bogen her:

https://www.catrinekyster.com/rejsentil-new-york.html

Rejsen til New York - dengang og nu

"Rejsen til New York – dengang og nu" fortæller historien om to piger, der begge skal rejse fra Danmark til New York – med over 120 års mellemrum. Nora, i 2024, glæder sig til at rejse med sin mor på ferie til den spændende amerikanske storby. Anna, omkring år 1900, skal udvandre til Amerika med sin familie og skal bl.a. sige farvel til sit hus og sine bedsteforældre.

Bogen er til børn cirka 4-10 år og er oplagt både til børnefamilier, der planlægger en rejse til USA, og til dem, der gerne vil fortælle børnene om et vigtigt kapitel i Danmarkshistorien – og i mange familiers egen historie. Da udvandringen til Amerika var på sit højeste, købte cirka hver tiende dansker en envejsbillet til udlandet, hvor de især håbede på bedre økonomiske vilkår.

Bagest i bogen er der to sider med fakta omkring de danske udvandrere, der både søgte mod landbruget på prærierne og mod storbyer som bl.a. New York, Chicago og San Francisco.

Hilsen fra en legatmodtager

Kære Bestyrelsen i Dansk Amerikansk Klubs jubilæumsfond af 1982,

Jeg vil gerne give en opdatering fra mit semester her i Victoria, BC. Det har været en utrolig spændende og lærerig oplevelse indtil videre, og jeg har allerede fået mange nye oplevelser både fagligt og personligt.

Studielivet her:

På universitetet er der meget fokus på gruppearbejde, hvilket er meget anderledes end hvad jeg plejer. Det er dog fantastisk, da vi er elever fra mange forskellige lande, og jeg får mulighed for at lære fra de mange forskellige kulturperspektiver. Det har virkelig udvidet min forståelse af tværkulturelt samarbejde.

En af de fedeste timer hidtil var en Zoom-session med Jeff Mallett, manden bag Yahoo!. Det var vildt inspirerende at høre et oplæg fra en så stor forretningsmand.

Jeg har også sluttet mig til et "buddy-program" her på universitetet, og det har været en fantastisk oplevelse. Jeg har fået tildelt to rigtig søde piger som buddies, og vi har allerede haft mange gode stunder sammen (jeg har vedhæftet et billede af os tre på fodboldbanen). Det er virkelig rart at have nogen, man kan stille spørgsmål til og få anbefalinger fra, og jeg er helt sikker på, at jeg vil melde mig som buddy, når jeg kommer hjem til mit eget universitet.

Danmark bliver ofte nævnt i undervisningen, hvilket er lidt sjovt. Det sker i mine timer, men har også hørt det fra andre elever her. Det giver mig mulighed for at dele indsigter om vores kultur, hvilket er super fedt - det er også super sjovt at høre andres opfattelse af den.

Oplevelser:

Ud over studierne har jeg også haft tid til at opleve nogle af de obligatoriske seværdigheder her. Jeg har set parlamentet, været på The Willows Beach - hvor man kan se Mount Baker (måske i kan se det store bjerg på mit billede fra stranden), besøgt Butchart Gardens, og jeg har endda været på hvalsafari, hvor vi så pukkelhvaler, spækhuggere, sæler og søløver – en helt fantastisk oplevelse!

Jeg har også sluttet mig til flere løbeklubber for at møde nogle lokale canadiere og skabe sociale relationer uden for skolen. Det har været en stor succes, og jeg løber nu flere gange om ugen. Jeg har også tilmeldt mig Royal Victoria Marathon, hvor jeg skal løbe 8 km. Jeg glæder mig meget til at opleve den fantastiske stemning, som de er kendt for at skabe omkring sportsevents her og som jeg allerede har oplevet til både fodbold og ishockey.

Sjove observationer:

Jeg er også blevet opmærksom på nogle sjove forskelle i hverdagen. For eksempel siger folk her altid "thank you", når de står af bussen, og de spørger hele tiden "how are you doing". Jeg ved aldrig helt, hvad jeg skal svare på det :)

Alt i alt har det været en utrolig oplevelse, og jeg ser frem til de kommende måneder.

Tak igen for jeres støtte igen.



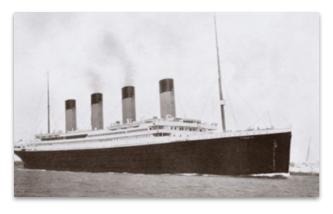


Rikke Qvist Muldbjerg.

Danes Aboard the Titanic

I recently read the book Danskerne på Titanic: Skibskatastrofens Skæbne by Michael Møller (2011) and was interested to learn more about the Danes who were on the Titanic bound for America. In this article, I would like to highlight some of the stories from the book.

Monday 15 April 1912 was the sad day that the Titanic sank in the North Atlantic after hitting an iceberg, dashing the hopes and dreams of the 1,517 passengers and crew who didn't survive the tragic event. On its maiden voyage, the ship was touted to be "unsinkable" and sprits were high until the fateful night of April 14-15.



The list of 2,223 passengers and crew included 13 Danes The second class Danish passengers consisted of:

- Hans Kristensen Givard (Jutland)
- Jakob Christian Milling (Funen)
- Martin Poulsen (England?)

The third-class Danish passengers included:

- Carla Nelson Christine Andersen (Funen)
- Hans Peder Jensen (Funen)
- Svend Laurids Jensen (Funen)
- Niels Rasmus Jensen (Oregon)
- Henry Damsgaard Hansen (Jutland)
- Henrik Juul Hansen (Lolland)
- Claus Peter Hansen (Wisconsin)
- Jennie Louise Howard Hansen (Wisconsin)
- Einar Windeløv (South Africa)

And there was also one crew member named:

• Charles Valdemar Jensen (Copenhagen)

Like so many others on board, most of the Danish passengers were hopeful immigrants fulfilling dreams of starting a new life in the new world. However, the second class passenger Jakob Milling was an engineer on a business trip. The most well-to-do of the Danish passengers, he was employed by a leading Danish railway company and sought to review design of locomotives in the US. Very much a family man, Milling wrote daily love letters to his wife. He had previously worked ten years in California

With background in agriculture, another second class passenger Hans Kristensen Givard was interested in farming and was very ambitious. He had saved to buy property outside of Denmark, and had made an earlier trip to the US but didn't relate well to the local Mormon farmers. Givard later made a trip to Argentina thinking to settle there. But, by 1912, he had made up his mind to return to the US. Givard and the other second class passenger Martin Poulsen, presumably because of their shared language, first met each other in Southhampton before purchasing their tickets to travel together on the Titanic.

Carla Andersen and the four Jensens in the third-class were travelling together as a group. Nineteen-year-old Carla had grown up under poor working-class conditions, and she was travelling with Hans Peder to whom she was engaged to be married. They were also travelling with Svend Laurids, who was Hans Peder's little brother, and Niels Rasmus, who was Svend and Hans Peder's uncle who was returning to his US home of Portland, Oregon.

Carla wasn't the only Danish passenger who had family members on board. Claus Peter Hansen and Henrik Jul Hansen were working-class brothers from Lolland. Claus Peter had traveled to America in the early 1890's, ending up in Racine, Wisconsin where he opened a barbershop. It was in Racine that he first met and married Jennie Louise. From a poor family, Jennie became a naturalised Danish citizen by marrying Claus Peter. They had just spent six weeks visiting Claus' younger brother Henrik in Lolland, during which time Claus had convinced Henrik to return to Wisconsin with them.

The crew member Charles Valdemar Jensen served as waiter and steward in the Titanic's a la carte restaurant.

To keep their tight schedule, the Titanic travelled at 20 to 22 knots for most of the voyage. Just before midnight on April 15th, after most of the passengers had gone to bed, the posted lookout spotted the legendary giant iceberg looming through the darkness and fog on the starboard side. The command "full speed astern" was issued but it was unfortunately too late to avoid the fateful collision with the iceberg. Five watertight compartments were damaged and quickly filled with seawater. Even so, few passengers noticed the impact of the collision. And those who did were assured all was OK.

Captain Smith immediately did an inspection with the ship's builder who was on board for its maiden voyage. Their unfortunate conclusion was that, with five compartments filled, the ship couldn't remain afloat. The captain ordered the available lifeboats readied and filled with women and children. Stewards knocked on cabin doors, telling passengers to don their life vests and come up on deck. Some followed their instructions, but others didn't, convinced that the stewards were overreacting.

Half an hour after the collision, Captain Smith instructed his radio operators to issue an urgent distress call. Several ships responded, unfortunately, not the closest one whose radio operator was asleep. The orchestra began playing music on deck to keep the passengers from panicking. Watertight bulkheads were closed but before long the water was flowing over the bulkheads.

The third-class cabins were deeper in the ship. Though she awoke briefly during the collision, Carla fell asleep again until there came an urgent knock on her cabin door. It was her uncle telling her she must get dressed and come up on deck immediately. Hans Peter told his fiancé Carla to stay strong as she entered the lifeboat. But she couldn't hold back the tears of their parting. The Danes' dream to travel to America and establish a new and less impoverished life ended here.

The passengers were mostly calm up until about 1:30 am. After that, some started to panic. Passengers initially hesitated to board

the lifeboats. The water temperature was so cold (minus 2 degrees C) that the passengers could only survive in it for a matter of minutes. Some couples remained on the ship, refusing to be separated. Many of the lifeboats were only half filled when they were launched. Jennie was told to take her family on one of the lifeboats, but Claus Peter wasn't allowed. Many tears were shed over their last kiss and forced separation but an officer pushed her into the boat. Claus Peter tossed his overcoat down to her. She used it to wrap a shivering, parentless child. The 20 lifeboats had a total capacity of 1,178 passengers, but more than 450 seats remained unoccupied. Despite the Captain's orders, these could have perhaps been offered to male passengers whose families were on board. The last-minute chaos apparently precluded this. Despite the unoccupied seats, some of the boats were overloaded and desperate passengers were pushed away. One of the last pieces the orchestra played was "Nearer My God to Thee."

The Titanic sank to the sea bottom 3,800 m deep at 2:30 am. 1,517 passengers and crew had died. Some of these never made it up from their staterooms. Signals were seen from approaching rescue ships an hour later. And surviving Titanic passengers, all in lifeboats, were rescued by the freighter Carpathia around 4 am. The few men who survived were preassigned lifeboat crews. The survivors were all taken to New York City. The only Danish survivors were Carla and Jennie. Jennie returned



to Racine, Wisconsin, but suffered from nightmares and occasional regrets that she didn't go down with her husband Claus Howe-Peter. ver. Jennie eventually decided she needed get on with her life, opened a lo-

cal boarding house, and remarried. Her second husband was a young American postman. After 37 years of marriage, Jennie died at age 85 on 15 December 1952.

Carla proved to be a strong person, and once commented that, if a person could survive the Titanic, they should be able to survive most anything. She returned to Funen and married Frederik Petersen in 1915. They had three children, never became wealthy, but did develop a small farm near Årslev. Later came a second tragedy in Carla's life. After 46 years of marriage, Frederik fell from a neighbour's hayloft while helping to stack hav, broke his neck and died. After Frederik's death, Carla moved closer to her daughters, into the local nursing home in the mid-70's, and looked forward to regular visits from her grandson Carlo. Carla seldom spoke about the Titanic but, before her passing on 14 March 1980, did grant interviews Before Titanic, it was common to have fewer lifeboat seats than there were passengers and crew onboard. Perhaps the thinking was that life preservers would keep people afloat until they were rescued. In the mid-1800s a chivalric tradition started in order to give women and children special consideration. Nothing was said about this in maritime law.

After issuing the distress call, Captain Smith ordered to start readying the lifeboats for the women and children. The Second Mate interpreted this to mean that the only men to go into the lifeboats were the lifeboat crews. This required the gut-wrenching splitting up of families. However, the First Mate understood the



in her later years. In one of these, she told about a vivid and prescient dream she had in January of 1959. It was about the Titanic but the following morning she heard about the disappearance of the Hans Hedtoff ship which is believed to have struck an iceberg on its maiden voyage on the west side of Greenland.

Givard had boarded the Titanic without telling anyone in his family because he couldn't get himself to say goodbye to his mother.

Captain to mean that the women and children would board the lifeboats first. If men had been allowed to board after the women, they could have saved hundreds of passengers - including perhaps more of the intrepid Danes bound for America.

Additional Reference: Titanic - de danske fortællinger Af: Jesper Hjermind & Mette Hjermind McCall Forlaget Viborg, 2012

Howard Thomas 2024



Indkaldelse til ordinær generalforsamling i Dansk Amerikansk Klub, Aalborg

Generalforsamlingen afholdes torsdag, den 6. marts 2025, kl. 20.00 på GASSEN, Gasværksvej 46, 9000 Aalborg



<u>Dagsorden ifølge vedtægterne</u>

- 1: Valg af dirigent
- 2: Præsidenten aflægger beretning for det forløbne år
- 3: Kasseren fremlægger det reviderede regnskab til godkendelse
- 4: Behandling af indkomne forslag
- 5: Valg af præsident (på ulige år)
- 6: Valg af 3 bestyrelsesmedlemmer for 2 år
- 7: Valg af 2 revisorer for 1 år
- 8: Valg af 2 suppleanter til bestyrelsen for 2 år
- 9: Eventuelt

Forslag, der ønskes behandlet på den ordinære generalforsamling, skal skriftligt være bestyrelsen i hænde på præsidentens adresse senest den 28. februar 2025. Send forslag til:

Niels V. Guldbjerg Tidselbakken 16, 9310 Vodskov aab.1958@live.com

Inden generalsamlingen, kl. 19.00 vil der være spisning incl. øl, vin eller vand til en pris af kr. 145,-.

Tilmelding til spisningen nødvendig. Tilmeld dig:

- Online dak.nemtilmeld.dk eller
- Jane Schultz: jaka@mail.dk eller 4094 2626 eller
- Jette Severinsen: severinsenjette@gmail.com eller 2673 4101

Medlemmer på valg/genvalg samt evt. indkomne forslag bliver offentliggjort på klubbens hjemmeside - www.dansk-amerikansk-klub.dk inden generalforsamlingen.

Aktivitetskalender

Fiskespisning med indlæg

Februar 2025
Restaurant Orkideen
Ølgodvej 1
9220 Aalborg Øst
Pris og dato offentliggøres
på hjemmesiden

Generalforsamling

Torsdag, d. 6. marts 2025, kl. 20.00 Spisning fra kl. 19.00 Gassen, Gasværksvej 46 9000 Aalborg Pris kr. 150,-

Sommerudflugt

Maj 2025 Pris og dato offentliggøres på hjemmesiden

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OBS!! Husk tilmelding til alle arrangementer

Jette Severinsen 2673 4101 severinsenjette@gmail.com

Jane Schultz 4094 2626 jaka@mail.dk

Senest 8 dage før arrangementer og meget gerne pr. mail

D.A.K. Dansk Amerikansk Klub

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Husk at melde adresseændring (også email) til flemmingviking@yahoo..dk så du fortsat kan få vores blad!

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