

Dear Members,

Spring is here, it is already hot and steamy in Houston, and we are nearing the end of the school year. It is also time to wrap up the season for the Danish Club and get ready for the long, hot summer.

The annual Membership drive ended in April. We had as usual a lot of members who forgot to renew their membership, and only after personal reminders from the Treasurer did we get close to the membership totals from previous year.

It still takes a great effort every year to reach 100 member families. We still see new faces at various events, who just forgot to cough up the 15 \$ in annual membership. We will reach the 100 again this year – but it does not happen without a little help from y'all..

We are nearing the end of the season, and our Annual Meeting and Picnic on June 2 will wrap it up, although we hope to get together several times in June to watch the Danish soccer team make it to the finals in the World Cup.

The Scandinavian Folkdancers will perform at the Annual Meeting, which again this year will be held in the park at Nottingham Forest Club, with access to pool and playgrounds for the kids.

Key note speaker is our member Jens C. Christoffersen, whom we have asked to share his experience with emigration from Denmark to USA during the early post-WW II years.

We hope to see a better turn-out this year than last year, where Allison the Storm drowned Houston during the days before our meeting.

Lisbeth Mogensen has decided to take a break and will be stepping down from the Board. It was Lisbeth's idea to start the Danish Club back in December of 1996, and she has ever since been a very energetic activity coordinator, who always had a helping hand ready. Lisbeth has promised to continue baking her famous "fastelavnsboller" and to stay involved with the Family Camping trips.

Thanks for all your hard work, Lisbeth. We hope you just can not stay away from all the activities..

See you at the Picnic and Annual Meeting!

Danish Club Logo Merchandise:

Logo merchandise is still available:

White Polo-Shirts:	\$ 20
Blue Caps:	\$ 15
White T-Shirts:	\$ 10

You can buy your shirt or cap at our events or call Mette Miller to order. Go to our web-site www.dkhouston.org. to see a picture of the nice stuff.

Season Calendar 2001- 2002



May 31, 7.30 pm:

Rice University, Media Center: Showing of "Blinkende Lygter", Danish Movie.

June 1, 11.30 am.:

Danish Constitution Day Party in Danevang. Speaker is Sybil Duus Needham, Tucson, Az., who will talk about Danevang in the early years and the influence of F.L. Grundtvig. Lunch and games.

June 2, 2 pm.:

Danish Constitution Day Party & Annual Meeting. Scandinavian Folk Dancers will perform. Key note speaker Jens C. Christoffersen.

June:

World Cup Soccer from Korea and Japan. Arrangements pending TV-transmission schedule. Denmark is playing as follows:

June 1: Uruguay
June 6: Senegal
June 11: France

Here are the first appetizers for next season...

October 27:

Viking Soccer Cup & Cook-Out Competition, Norwegian Seamen's Church in Pasadena.

December 7:

Holiday Party, Nottingham Forest Club

Danish Constitution Day Party & Annual Meeting

Welcome to the 6th Danish Constitution Day Picnic and the 5th Regular Annual Meeting on

**Sunday, June 2 at 2 pm.
Nottingham Forest Club, 325 Kickerillo Drive**

Bring your Picnic Basket, Admission is free for members in good standing, and this year's keg sponsor is Ray Daugbjerg, Royal Danish Consulate. Please bring your own soft drinks and wine.

Please remember swimsuit, sun lotion and towels for the kids, we will as usual have access to the nice pool and play area at the Nottingham Forest Club.

Program:

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| 2.00 pm. | Picnic Starts |
| 3.00 pm | Frikadelle Contest
Pinata for the Kids |
| 3.30 pm. | Scandinavian Folk Dancers perform |
| 4.15 pm. | Key note Speech by Jens C. Christoffersen |
| 4.30 pm. | Annual Meeting |
| 5.30 pm. | Prices – Delle Contest |
| 8 pm. | Party ends |

Call for Annual Meeting

Regular Annual Meeting will in accordance with the By-Laws include the following Agenda:

1. Election of Chair of Meeting
2. President's Report for the Year
3. Treasurer's Financial Report for the Year
4. Approvals, and Discharge of Board of Directors.
5. Elections:
 - a) President
 - b) Vice-President
 - c) Treasurer

- d) Secretary
- e) Committee Coordinators
- f) Two Substitutes
- g) Two Auditors

6. New Activities
7. Sundry

There are no suggestions for change of by-laws this year. The By-Laws are available on our web site.

Board Roster:

The Board is pleased to nominate Christina Brinch Clark for the vacant position as Activity Coordinator, so the following slate of Board Members is suggested:

President:	Niels Kastrup
Vice President:	Carl Steffensen
Treasurer:	Hannes Hofer
Secretary:	Mette Miller
Activity Coord.:	Henrik Roende
Activity Coord.:	Christina Clark

Christina headed our Holiday Party committee in 2001, and did a great job. She and husband William, who is teaching math, moved to Houston two years ago, and she works for a Scottish company in Clear Lake as an Internet Marketing Specialist. Before moving to Houston, the Clarks lived for five years in Copenhagen. Christina holds a Masters in English and Business, and is a certified translator.

Frikadelle Contest...

Who makes the best Frikadeller (Danish Meat Balls) in Houston? Bring 10 small frikadeller for the contest, which will be judged by blind-tasting. Chair of committee is Ray Daugbjerg, who by the way came up with the great idea.

- First price is a Danish Club Cap,
- 2nd and 3rd price is Danish Club T-Shirts.

Lisbeth M. also innocently suggested at the latest Board meeting, that we could follow up with a "bolle-contest".

Well, after five minutes of laughing we quietly reminded Lisbeth about Danish language slang, and suggested to table her suggestion until the adult holiday party.. Would certainly boost attendance...

How to find Nottingham Forest Club..

Kickerillo Drive is off Memorial Drive, close to Dairy-Ashford. The Club is located at the “bottom” of the Nottingham Forest Subdivision. (Key map 488/489) Look for the Danish flags, if you can not find it.. Tables and park benches are available, but stick your folding chairs in the trunk, just in case that everybody shows up.

A Busy Spring Program is almost behind us...

Fastelavn was celebrated in February at Hermann park with a wooden barrel, Moonwalk and Lisbeth’s home-made Fastelavnsboller. Weather was rather cool, and attendance not impressing. The young kids were all great looking in their costumes, see our website for pictures of them all..

Family Camping at Stephen F. Austin State Park close to Bellville in the last weekend of March was very successful. Approx. 25 members attended, and some also showed up for barbeque Saturday night.

Next family camping will be in October, suggestions for good Camp sites would be very welcome. Please contact Lisbeth Mogensen.

Easter Church Service at Christ The King Lutheran Church with pastor Kirsten Drigsdahl from Vaerloose, Denmark, attracted more than seventy members from our club and the church congregation.

Following the Danish language service we all met for an outside reception with sandwiches and cake, catered by Susie Ipsen, and sponsored by The Danish Club and The Royal Danish Consulate. Weather was great, and we all enjoyed Pastor Drigsdahl’s service and the get-together.

Only problem was the selection of hymns. Most of us “far-away Danes’ did not know the songs selected, and we would have loved to sing some of the more traditional Danish hymns. Next time we will ask Kirsten Drigsdahl to select some of Grundtvig, Brorson and Kingo’s top ten “hits”.

Five-a-side Soccer.. The Norwegian Seamen’s Church hosted the Scandinavian Spring Day with Family Service, followed by a Five-a-side soccer tournament with eight teams. Three Danish teams participated, and one of the teams made it to the final, where they lost to a Norwegian team. The other

two somewhat Danish teams got beaten in all their three games. We all had a good time as usual. Next soccer event is on October 27, where the full-size Danish Team shall defend the Viking soccer cup. Hopefully we still have some of the younger players in town by then, unfortunately our fast exchange student forward Jeppe is returning to school in Denmark, and also the strong midfielder Thomas Woidemann has left Houston for good.

Ambassador Reception .. The Royal Danish Consulate together with the Danish business community and The Danish Club hosted a formal reception for Danish ambassador Ulrik Federspiel and Mrs. Birgitte Federspiel during their visit to Houston. The reception at River Oaks Garden Club drew a big crowd, who listened to speeches by Mr. Federspiel and consul Ray Daugbjerg and were treated to Susie Ipsen’s delicious hors d’ouvres.

Queens Birthday in Danevang, hosted by the Danish Heritage Society of Danevang, attracted more than 150 attendees, who enjoyed The Scandinavian Folkdancers and a program about Hans Christian Andersen. Anna Thomsen Holliday, Vice-Consul, brought the toast to the Queen.

MS 150 Bike Ride.. Danish Club Board Members Hannes Hofer and Henrik Roende participated in the tough bike ride to Austin. They both completed to long ride in great shape, and raised an impressive combined \$ 1,700 for the MS Society. Good job, guys, we are proud of you..



Hannes Hofer in full speed towards Austin...

Nordic Ballet.. Your editor has no feed back on this event. Hopefully a good time was had with the Gothenburg Ballet and the Norwegian Ballet Corps.

“Blinkende Lygter” coming to Houston...

The Danish Consulate is arranging a showing of the Danish Blockbuster (in Denmark) "Blinkende Lygter" at the Media Center at Rice University on May 31 at 7:30 pm. Parental warning: The movie contains a fair amount of violence, so you may want to leave the youngsters at home.

Danish Heritage Preservation Society

Our friends in Danevang, TX, are doing a fantastic job keeping the Danish roots alive and arranging interesting exhibitions at the new Heritage Museum.

Membership drive for June 2002 – 2003 is going on right now, annual membership is only \$ 10, which includes free admission to the Museum any time.

Support DHPS by sending \$ 10 with your name / address / phone/ e-mail to:

Mickey Christensen, P.O. Box 386, Danevang, TX 77432

Danes Worldwide – Dansk Samvirke

Have you thought about joining Dansk Samvirke / Danes Worldwide, with their Summer school, Remote School Program, and special membership offers and events in Denmark. Please call or e-mail Niels Kastrup, if you want more information or a brochure.

Nordic Women’s Cultural Club:

For more information, call Bente Rawson at 713-782-4108

Gulf Coast Scandinavian Folkdancers

The Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston meet every Monday night from 7:15 -9:00 pm in Room 208 at the Westbury Methodist Church, located near West Bellfort and Loop 610 .

Summer break is coming up, so contact Carl Steffensen (steff@flash.net / 281-493-4801) for up-to-date information.

Facts About The Danish Club...

Board of Directors:

Niels H. Kastrup, President	281-855-9299
Carl Steffensen Vice President	281-493-4801
Hannes Hofer, Treasurer	713-664-7784
Mette Miller, Secretary	281-859-3140
Lisbeth Mogensen, Activ. Coord.	281-992-1136
Henrik Roende, Activ. Coord.	281-679-6886

www.dkhouston.org

Wanna read or print this Newsletter in flying colors or buy an air ticket from one of our sponsors? Check our web site, which is now even easier to surf. We have plenty of interesting links, and you can view the Club’s impressive Photo Archive. Hannes is always thankful for ideas or suggestions for further improvements of the site.

New Members / Address / E-mail Changes:

Hannes Hofer
4042 Silverwood, Houston, TX 77025
e-mail: hofer@mac.com

Newsletter:

This volume is edited by Niels H. Kastrup, and mailed to members in good standing and selected friends of the Danish-American community in Houston. Next issue: September / October 2002. Copying and mailing courtesy of *FLS miljø Inc. – Clean Air To The World...*

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