



## Job Openings

Vikingskolen has the following job openings for the 08/09 school year. The application deadline is July 1. This is a great opportunity to make friends, have fun, work for a good cause while making a little extra money.

- Principal/Primary Teacher
- Primary Teacher - Child Class
- Primary Teacher - Adult Class
- Assistant Teachers – Child Classes

Please find job description at [www.vikingskolen.com](http://www.vikingskolen.com). Be sure to send along to anyone you think might be interested.



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## Membership Value

The following is from our bylaws:

- The Danish Club of Houston, Texas, is organized for cultural, social, educational, charitable and fraternal purposes;*
- To preserve and foster Danish traditions and culture among its members;*
- To promote fellowship with Danes, persons of Danish ancestry and anyone interested in Danish culture, history, subjects and events.*
- To provide a meeting place for its members;*
- To assist Danes who have recently relocated or immigrated to the United States of America.*
- To foster and promote cultural exchanges between the United States of America and Denmark;*
- To receive gifts and grants of money and property of every kind and to administer the same for charitable, educational, social and philanthropic uses and to do everything necessary and proper for the accomplishment of these purposes.*

The reason I am reprinting the above is a question that comes up from time to time. "Why should I be a member of the Danish Club

of Houston?" I definitely think there are some worthwhile causes on the list.

I must admit that I knew about the Club about two years before I actually became a member myself. My main reason was to keep my Danish up to par.

There can be many reasons for a membership, but we gladly welcome everybody who wants to "hang out" with us.

Our next opportunity to hang out together will be our Summer Party and Annual Meeting in June. I hope you all can join us.

Also, see the invitation on page four for the Three Nordic Tenors a few days before our Summer Party.

Sincerely,



## Danish Graduation & Outreach Party

On May 3, Vikingskolen, Houston's Danish Saturday School, held a end-of-year party celebrating another successful year with friends from the Danish community in Houston. This was a great opportunity to meet other Danish-Danish and Danish-American families in a unique and social setting.

The kids enjoyed the moon walk, balloon clown and goodie bags, and the adults enjoyed the Danish food organized by Kathy Hansen, one of the school's adult students. Anna Thomsen-Holiday, Vice-consul, Royal Danish Consulate, joined us for a Q&A on maintaining

dual-citizenship beyond 21. The students received their certificates and made presentations to the guests.

The school confirmed over 20 students for next year, and if you have only thought about joining, now is the time. Vikingskolen is accepting registrations for the 2008/09 school year online. The school year starts on September 13.

The school thanks its sponsors Loa & Bill McNeese (BPI Consulting), Christina Linderholm, Joyce & Lars Kristiansson, Anna

Thomsen-Holiday, Danish Inspirations, Clipper, MAN Diesel, Danish American Language Foundation, and the Danish Club of Houston.



## CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 17:  
"An Evening of Song" with  
The Three Nordic Tenors  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Location: Christ the King Lutheran  
Church, 2353 Rice Blvd.

Saturday, June 21:  
Summer Party & Annual Meeting  
Time: 4:00 - 8:00 PM  
Location: Nottingham Forest Club

Saturday, December 6:  
Annual Christmas Party  
Time: TBA  
Location: Nottingham Forest Club

Sunday, December 14:  
Christmas Service  
Time: TBA  
Location: Norwegian Seamen's Church



## Queen's Birthday Celebration in Danevang

More than 130 people from across central Texas spent a gorgeous spring day at the annual Queen's Birthday celebration in Danevang on April 19th.

The day began with the annual meeting of the Danish Heritage Preservation Society of Danevang in the forsamlinghus. When business had been concluded, the Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston took to the floor with an energetic program, including several audience participation dances with many enthusiastic participants of all ages. Near the conclusion of the performance, Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston President Kathy Bjork presented an Honorary membership and a group shirt to Bridget and Lisa Jensen in recognition of the Jensen family's ongoing and much-appreciated support of the dancers.

The activities then moved to the church where the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission offered a few comments and a representative for State Senator Glenn Hegar extended greetings. More than thirty members of the "Coastalaires" mens singing group then performed a very entertaining assortment of songs, which was followed by a traditional Danish dinner of frikadeller, kartoffelsalat, rødkål, agurksalat, rugbrød, and a tasty assortment of Danish desserts in the hall.

After everyone had a chance to enjoy some lunch and socializing, Honorary Consul Ray Daughbjerg gave a brief speech and led the

crowd in toasting the Queen's birthday. Throughout the day, vintage Studebakers and other classic automobiles were parked in the area in front of the forsamlingshus for viewing, courtesy of the Studebaker Club of Texas.





## Fastelavn

On February 16, 2008, the Danish Club of Houston held its Fastelavnsfest. The Vikingskolen again hosted this traditional event. Despite the uncertain weather forecast, a lot of people showed up to “slå katten af tønden”. The event had almost 100 participants, including about 35 kids, many of whom were in excellent costumes.

The first event was a very good puppet-show put on by Jane Kuecher’s Marionette Playhouse. She was very good about explaining and showing to the kids (and adults), that these were just puppets and that she was pulling the strings, but through the combined magic of her skill and the kids’ imagination, we were all transported to far-away lands with princes and princesses - for a while at least.

Next up was the much-anticipated “slå katten af tønden” event. In preparation for promised rain, the barrels were hung under a large tree, but luckily, the rain didn’t start until just after the party was over.

This year we used new barrels (unlike last year’s recycled ones). That meant that the poor kids were whacking and whacking without making any dents in the very solid barrels. After a bit of grown-up intervention, the barrels were sufficiently weakened so that the “kattkonger” and “-dronning” could finally release all the goodies hidden inside.

(PS - next year we will re-use the barrels, and the kids should be able to get to the candy much quicker).

Finally, it was time for coffee and fastelavnsboller - and there were lots of them!

Thanks to Vikingskolen for hosting this very successful event, and thanks to everybody who helped with the planning and execution of this year’s Fastelavnsfest..




*The Royal Danish Consulate  
together with  
The Danish Business Community in Houston  
cordially invite you to  
“An Evening of Song”  
featuring the Three Nordic Tenors from  
the Royal Danish Opera in Copenhagen  
Tuesday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m.  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
2353 Rice Blvd. (at Greenbriar)  
Houston, Texas  
Reception with the artists following immediately after  
Rsvp (713) 622-9018  
The evening is generously underwritten by:  
Grundfos CBS, Inc., Scan Trans, Ocean Projects, Danish Inspirations,  
Vikingskolen, Danish Club of Houston, Anna and Hal Holiday,  
Bridget Jensen, Consul Ray Daughbjerg*



The Board 2007-2008.  
From left: Carl Steffensen, Linda M. Martin, Flemming Mengel, Christina B. Clark and Lillian S. Jensen (Ghislaine Thomsen not pictured)

## Vikingskolen

A Danish Saturday School for Children & Adults in the Houston Area

For more information, visit [www.vikingskolen.com](http://www.vikingskolen.com) or call 832.660.6496

## Young Danes Network

The Young Danish Network (YDN) usually meet on the third Friday of each month for Happy Hour at a centrally located watering hole. You do not need to be young to show up, just don't try to keep up with the young crowd!

If you are not on the mailing list, contact the ring leader Pernille Thomsen at [youngdanes@dkhouston.org](mailto:youngdanes@dkhouston.org). YDN operates as a separate group under the Danish Club with own mailing list and activities.

## Facts About The Danish Club

### Board of Directors:

Lillian S. Jensen, President	713-784-5721
Carl Steffensen, Vice President	281-493-4801
Ghislaine Thomsen, Treasurer	713-557-6637
Flemming Mengel, Secretary	281-920-2878
Christina B. Clark, Activity Coordinator	832-660-6496
Linda M. Martin, Activity Coordinator	713-529-0302

### [www.dkhouston.org](http://www.dkhouston.org)

Have you visited our web site lately? We have plenty of interesting links, and you can view the Club's impressive Photo Archive. An updated member address list is also available for members' private use. The address list may not be used as a commercial mailing list. E-mail Hannes or ask a friend if you do not know the password.

Hannes is always thankful for ideas or suggestions for further improvements of the site.

### Address & E-mail Changes:

Hannes Hofer  
4042 Silverwood, Houston, Texas 77025  
e-mail: [info@dkhouston.org](mailto:info@dkhouston.org)

### T-shirts and Hats:

The Club is still selling T-shirts and hats with our logo. We now have childrens' T-shirts and baby onesies along with the adult size shirts. Please, contact Lillian Jensen if interested ([stuff@dkhouston.org](mailto:stuff@dkhouston.org)).



### Newsletter:

This volume is edited by Lillian S. Jensen, and e-mailed to members in good standing and selected friends of the Danish-American community in Houston. Next issue: September 2008