



# The Danish Soldiers Club

March 2017

[www.danishsoldiersclub.com](http://www.danishsoldiersclub.com)

NEWSLETTER FOR THE DANISH SOLDIERS CLUB OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 41, PETALUMA CA. 94953  
MEMBER OF DANSKE SOLDATERFORENINGERS LANDSRÅD PROTECTOR HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARGRETHE II OF DENMARK

## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

### Greetings -

The March meeting was a bit chilly, but as usual we had a great time in good company. But there is a tough crowd in our club who is willing to take a chance on the weather. They are probably descendants from the Vikings. Who ever heard the old Vikings complaining about the weather? Crossing the North Sea in glorified rowboats.

Local Vikings are gradually joining us, and they will probably expand our knowledge of our ancestors. Not the silly characters we see at the moment in popular TV programs. Imagine a Viking with coiffured hair and make up!

See you all in April.  
Poul



- The light is so expensive, that I have to stay up, and work all night in order to pay for it

## The Danish Soldiers Club

Post Office Box 41  
Petaluma, CA 94953



- It is an incredible long winter.  
- Yes, if we didn't have a calendar, you could believe, that the next has started.

**Address Correction Requested**

- I hear you have become an Art collector?  
- Yes, the frames are good for the fireplace.



## The Governing Board for 2017

Poul Poulsen President to 2018	San Rafael (415) 459-7727 poulsenpo@danishsoldiersclub.com
Per Madsen Vice Pres. to 2018	San Francisco (415) 928-4509 permads@danishsoldiersclub.com
Vagn Nielsen Treasurer to 2017	Sonoma (707) 996-9950 vkn Nielsen@danishsoldiersclub.com
Rick Santarini Secretary to 2019	Santa Rosa (707) 479-6575 ricksantarini@sbcglobal.net
John Johansen Newsletter/Web Director to 2019	Modesto (209) 545-8992 admin@danishsoldiersclub.com
Ken Fultz Director to 2017	American Canyon (415) 362-7509 KFCVA41@comcast.net
Leo Pedersen Director to 2018	Danville (925) 820-2150 Leo.pedersen@gmail.com
Keith Brians Director to 2017	Petaluma (707) 789-9953 kastaniakeith@gmail.com
Jill Brians Director to 2019	Petaluma (707) 227-8404 jcbrians@yahoo.com

## Volunteer

Lilian Rasmussen Membership Coordinator	Roseville (916) 771-4961 mormor@surewest.net 4397 Coach Whip Way Roseville, CA 95747-8623
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Thanks to all the donors for the raffle: Gudrun Solomon, Keith Brians, Gudrun, Vibeke Jensen, Kirsten Pedersen, Rick & Lisa Santarini, Ken Fultz, Poul Poulsen.

Again this month the prizes were extraordinary. Thank you so much to all donors.

Birthe Baekgaard brought her delicious Tuscan cake. Thank you Birthe.

The DSC wine is starting to create interest. The traffic on the web site puts the DSC wine in the top ten categories, visitors are searching for.

According to Vagn Nielsen we know, that two members have bought 1/2 case each.



45 members and guests came to the March meeting. One new member Jack Garrett from the Vikings of Bjornstad was initiated. Below is a picture of Jack in his Viking outfit. As Poul mentioned more Vikings might join the club.



The warm season is approaching, so we are starting preparing for our next BBQ in May.

One issue has come up concerning arranging the Christmas Party: The Veterans Hall has changed ownership. The County has taken it over, and with that more regulation comes in. One is the requirement for security guards when serving alcohol. We are trying

to solve this issue. Poul Poulsen is heading this effort, and hopefully he will be successful, otherwise it will be quite a lot of extra cost to be added.

Our membership payments are coming in slowly. Several people who have promised to pay still haven't mailed their check or used PayPal. This is something, which needs to be accomplished soon.

In our member-meeting we discussed the need to keep our membership-roster confidential. It has just been updated (as it does continuously during the year) and is accurate with names, address, phone's, email, the date each member joined, birthday and military service if any. According to our constitution this membership record shall be kept in accordance with the provisions in section 600 of the civil code of the state of California. In these times with all the social media, it is very important to keep peoples identity secret.

## Order form for Smørrebrød at \$18.00 each

Yes, I wish to order lunch for Kastania Fælled. My check is enclosed



Four pieces of smørrebrød of which one is **SALMON**  
Total plates with Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

Four pieces of smørrebrød of which one is **SHRIMP**  
Total plates with Shrimp \_\_\_\_\_

Four pieces of smørrebrød of which one is **HERRING**  
Total plates with Herring \_\_\_\_\_

Four pieces of "non-seafood" Smørrebrød **REGULAR**  
Total plates Regular \_\_\_\_\_

Email or mail this order no later than Tuesday prior to the lunch to: [vkn Nielsen@danishsoldiersclub.com](mailto:vkn Nielsen@danishsoldiersclub.com)

Or: **Vagn Nielsen**  
**DSC Treasurer**  
**20650 Burndale Rd.**  
**Sonoma, CA 95476**

Drink Tickets are 3 for \$12.00, or 6 for \$20.00. Please specify quantity \_\_\_\_\_  
1 ticket for any mixed drink, wine or beer. Soft drinks 1/2 ticket. Bottled water free.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Check amount \_\_\_\_\_

# MORON

## - a flexible term indeed

By Peter Steiness

Back in 1910, it was good old psychologist Henry H. Goddard (I called him 'Hank') who came up with the psychological term **moron** – way to go, Hank. He used this term to describe mild intellectual disabilities. But for some unknown reason, **moron** quickly became a common and very popular term used by the rest of us. It has ever since worked well as an insult, a description of ignorance as in lack of knowledge, and/or to describe an unwitting person or persons. **Moron** is a flexible term indeed...

Hank's **moron** originated from the Ancient Greek word 'moros', meaning 'dull'. He used it to describe an adult person with a mental capacity of an 8 to 12 year old child. To me, that's a bit disrespectful towards a vast majority of today's children between 8 and 12 years old – seriously. As we all know, the opposite of **moron** is 'oxy', which means 'sharp'. And then you ask: 'oxy-moron' – means what precisely?' Compare it with: 'It's raining – outside' (duh) or 'He's pretty ugly' (double duh)...

Used in the correct psychological sense, the term **moron** was applied to individuals with IQ's of 51-70. It was above 'imbecile' (IQ's of 26-50) and 'idiot' (IQ's of 0-25). But enough of this clinical stuff, because here is what I'm really getting at - and thanks for your patience...

In my later years, perhaps the last 50 of the 70 I have survived thus far, I found that using the terms 'imbecile' and 'idiot' in my younger days, were utterly disrespectful, as they are serious clinical terms for unfortunate individual's mental and/or medical conditions. Sure, back in the days of frolicking and not knowing much better, I did not hold back on using either of these ignorant labels. In hindsight, and how clever we are, it only made **me** utterly ignorant and disgustingly disrespectful – back then, I was surely **Peter the Moron**, huh?

But since those ignorant days, I have found myself very comfortable using **moron** or **moronic** to describe and comment on some of the world around

me; lately I have used it a lot. Remember that the term was removed from the world of psychology many years ago, so in my book of references, it doesn't have any guilt applications, absolutely none. So when do I use **moron** or **moronic**?

In spite the many times my mother called me a 'genius' (it was only later on I acknowledged the true meaning of sarcasm), I have never considered myself such. But in the **Small World of Peter**, I see myself as fairly logical, rational, understanding and respectful, besides being an overall nice guy; you get the idea. I read and learn a lot, non-fiction as well as fiction and though I am fully aware that not much of the info we pull from the Internet is truly fully true, or that from TV and newspapers, I have always trusted, that as long as I keep soaking myself in a lot of information, I have a much better chance to evaluate and sort out the true world around me, the world according to Peter. So please, do understand that this is how I see it and from where I sit, that works pretty okay for me; well of course...

I see a **moronic** person (aka: **moron**) as a person who is blatantly egocentric, as in self-serving, self-absorbed and fully believing and behaving like he or she is some kind of god or goddess. That type of person is an unashamed liar, openly self-contradicting, but not at all aware of, or just simply ignorant about his or her lack of any consistency related to truths, realities and facts. Their opinions and views about life in any form, defy common logic and proven certainties. These are dangerous and ignorant people and they have no place in my life – they never had and they never will. In my book of references, these are the hardcore morons – watch out.

I find the use of **moron** convenient, but I try not to use it as a generalization, though it is a lot faster. To me a **moron** can be anybody I choose it to be, based on that person's behavior, logic, respect, ignorance, compassion or lack of. To me, homophobes and racists, just to name a few, are big time moronic, due to their absence of respect and acceptance of diversity.

It angers me that we can't all grasp how rich diversity is, and fully understand that when each of us respect and accept diversity, we will all become a lot stronger – together. Our differences should be embraced, instead of rejected and ignored.

No, Dear Reader, this is not Peter Almighty labeling his surroundings, judging and sentencing in a banal and ignorant manner, but we all have opinions based on life lived and experiences had, so I am seriously fine with that. You probably have opinions I do not agree with, but I will still respect those opinions, if I like them, understand them or not – that is my choice and then my choice to react accordingly; but I quickly dispose of anything I deem **moronic**. Also, if you at any point try to persuade me that you are right and I'm wrong, I stop listening; remember that 'respect of opinions' thing?

I find people who blindly trust and believe liars and egocentrics, being grouped under **moronic**. And it worries me to find perfectly intelligent and educated people in that bunch as well. I'm puzzled why they (we?) cannot see through the crap and the deceit, especially when it's utterly blatant. What's wrong with us, seriously?

I'm not only labeling my surroundings with (**moronic!**) judgments, at times I label myself a **moron** due to stuff I have said or did, say or do – but not often, of course, ha ha, as I have learned a few things down the road of life. There are a couple of incidents in my past that I would like to go back and 'fix' if possible. In one case I was utterly rude and insensitive (outright lied) to a smart and sweet girl (young woman, actually). That incident and the utter shame from that, has followed me till this day. I think about it often and the shame stays the same. Though it was nothing huge, certainly not criminal, it still reminds me to stay on track, trying not to act like a **moron** again, in my definition of **moron**. But this is the soft-core **moron**, and not dangerous at all – just a silly and in the above case, an utterly ignorant one.

I notice fewer **morons** on my way, as time is ticking by. Embracing, respecting and accepting diversity is certainly one of the reasons why. And I like it that way – I'm maturing. Sure I occasionally scream **MORON**, when somebody cuts in front of me on the road, but today I'm more willing to ask myself in those instances: 'now, who's the real **moron**?'

Of course this would never happen, but let's just pretend for a brief second, that somebody actually calls me a **moron**. First I would try to assume their reasoning, wrap it around my understanding of it and eventually comfort myself that (luckily)

it is only **their** opinion (phew, that was a close call) ... But full-time **morons** don't even acknowledge being

called morons, as they are too busy being full-time and hardcore **moronic**; know of any?

I like the softer kind of morons a lot better – a whole lot better, as they are not dangerous, but more so laughable in a sweet kind of way... And I've been there a few times (sigh)... Haven't you?

