



The Danish Soldiers Club

July 2019

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

Our meeting on July 6th had great Kastania Faelled picnic weather. Though attendance continues to be an issue with only 39 guests for our meeting. The good news is that as usual everyone appeared to have had a great time. The problem with low attendance is that we are obligated to have a minimum order of 40 lunches with our caterer. We understand that there are many reasons for members not attending, including increased traffic but if you are free on the 1st Saturday of the month please considering visiting with us and connecting with old and new friends.

Our annual membership renewal routine is still moving along, but hopefully we can wind this process up by the end of July. Final Email and US Mail reminders are being sent. If you are one of those who have yet to send in your renewal, pls. do so soonest, so we can move on.

Best Wishes - Hope to see you all in August

Rick



The Danish Soldiers Club

Post Office Box 41
Petaluma, CA 94953



Address Correction Requested

The Governing Board for 2019

| | |
|---|--|
| Rick Santarini President/Newsletter to 2019 | Santa Rosa (707) 477-6669 ricksantarini@danishsoldiersclub.com |
| Keith Brians Vice President to 2020 | Petaluma (707) 789-9953 kastaniakeith@gmail.com |
| Margrethe Bækgaard Treasurer to 2020 | Santa Rosa (707) 293-7972 margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com |
| Jill Brians Secretary to 2019 | Petaluma (707) 227-8404 jcbrians@yahoo.com |
| Michael Stecher Web Master Director to 2021 | Mill Valley (415) 624-6215 mstecher@me.com |
| Ken Fultz Director to 2020 | American Canyon (415) 362-7509 KFCVA41@comcast.net |
| Leo Pedersen Director to 2021 | Danville (925) 820-2150 Leo.pedersen@gmail.com |
| Adam Byer Director to 2021 | Oakland (510) 332 6932 adam@cherrystreetgames.com |
| Peg Saragina Director to 2021 | Petaluma (707) 481-3039 msaragina@gmail.com |
| Dennis Wimple Director to 2021 | El Cerrito (510) 525-4120 denniswimple@yahoo.com |
| Lilian Rasmussen Membership Coordinator | Roseville (916) 771-4961 mormor@surewest.net 4397 Coach Whip Way Roseville, CA 95747-8623 |

If there are any suggestions for items to put in the newsletter please feel free to send them to me at ricksantarini@danishsoldiersclub.com

July 6th came with beautiful weather, and 39 members and guests enjoyed the Kastania Park and the Danish Smørrebrøds lunch.

We are now down to a handful members owing 2019 dues, and hopefully that will be taken care by the end of July with final notices being sent to those members.

It appears that the gravel road leading to Kastania Fælled has been graded with the potholes filled by the property owner. Therefore the ride in for the rest of the season should be smoother.

Plans are already being formulated for our September BBQ, so mark September 6th on your calendar. Guaranteed good food and good times for all so please plan on attending.

The rest of the meetings will without any doubt have great Kastania Fælled picnic weather and temperatures so hopefully attendance will climb. **Again share this with your family and friends as a way to encourage new members to join, participate and help us celebrate our Danish Heritage. Though this the club will continue to remain vibrant**

Thanks to the many donations for the raffle that help support this club from Margrethe & Birthe Bækgaard, Vibeke Jensen, Rick & Lisa Santarini, Carsten Johansen, Per Madsen, Adam Byer and Kristen Pedersen. Thanks also to Tove Linberg for the Princess Cake for Adam's Birthday and Birthe who brought her famous Tuscan cake.

Next Meeting/Luncheon Saturday August 3rd: Flag Ceremony at noon followed by the Membership meeting with Lunch around 1:00.



Email or mail this order no later than Tuesday prior to the lunch to:

Margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com

Or:

Margrethe Bækgaard

1740 Brandee Lane

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Or PayPal thru the DSC Web Site

www.danishsoldiersclub.com

Order form for Smørrebrød at \$20.00 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

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 _____

Celebrating US Independence Day in Demark

When Lisa and I were making our plans to go to Denmark in July of 2010 we were asked if we wanted to attend a 4th of July celebration at Rebuild in Jutland. We jumped at the chance to experience this event especially after my mother Inger (who was going to Denmark with us) told me that she went to the celebration as a 14-year-old in 1948.

So, on July 4th Lisa & I along with my mom and Uncle Monty drove from Odense where we were staying with my cousin's family to Rebild where we met friends Thor and Ann-Margit. We had purchased luncheon tickets for the big tent where the lunch



seemed endless along with the Danish beer and ak-

vavit. Afterwards we headed to the celebration, finding a location on the hillside amongst the heather with a view of the



proceedings. We made friends with the Danish group next to us enjoying the beautiful weather. Our new friends even shared some homemade schnapps with their new American Danish friends.

The celebration included musical performances and



speeches from dignitaries including the US Ambassador to Denmark Laurie S. Fulton. Later touring the site, we saw groups doing Danish traditional dances in traditional dress along with historical exhibits.



Some Background on Rebild's Unique History!

In 1912 a group of Danish Americans purchased a 200-acre heather covered land in Rebild, Denmark in order to have a place to annually celebrate July 4th, America's Independence Day, with their Danish families and fellow immigrants. Later the Rebild organization, donated the property to the State of Denmark, and it became Denmark's first National Park.

By 1912 around 300,000 workers had left Denmark for better opportunities in America. They soon formed Danish clubs and societies where Danish culture was maintained. There were Danish settlements, Danish churches, Danish schools, lodges, newspapers and organizations but no unifying "umbrella organization" that could organize and maintain the contact with Denmark. Rebild National Park Society Inc. became that umbrella and fulfilled this need.



Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II is the protector of the Rebild organization, and the celebration still attracts thousands of people and dignitaries from countries, as well as

U.S. military representatives and prominent main speakers and entertainers. The post war 1948 festival broke all records with 50,000 participants.

Through the years highly esteemed individuals have participated on the festival program, including such notables as: Walt Disney, Chief Justice Earl Warren, President Richard Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, Walter Cronkite, actor Raymond Burr, Danny Kaye, Vice President George Bush, Victor Borge, Ronald Reagan and wife Nancy Reagan, Art Buchwald, George Romney, Agriculture Minister Ezra Taft Benson, Judge Earl Warren, plus many Danish dignitaries.

The celebration tradition continues to this day, and



Danes in America still make the trip back to the old country, sometimes with their children (as in my case) and grandchildren, to participate in the festival and the many social gatherings that unite the



two countries and their people. In year 2012 Rebild celebrated it's 100th birthday!



Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable US Independence Day both here and in Denmark!!

