



The Danish Soldiers Club

March 2021

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

As Sonoma County moves into the Covid Red zone and more people have completed their vaccinations we hope you will join us again on April 3, for a picnic at Kastania Field. We had about 15 people last month and enjoyed a delightful day in the sun despite predicted rain. Members do not need to RSVP, but you will have to bring your own food, beverages and tableware.

There is plenty of space to provide appropriate social distancing. In compliance with regional Covid guidelines, no indoor activities are planned at this time. We look forward to seeing you then.

Keith Brians
President



The Danish Soldiers Club
Post Office Box 41
Petaluma, CA 94953



Address Correction Requested

The Governing Board

Keith Brians President to 2020	Petaluma (707) 789-9953 kastaniakeith@gmail.com
Dennis Wimple Vice President to 2021	El Cerrito (510) 525-4120 denniswimple@yahoo.com
Margrethe Bækgaard Treasurer to 2020	Santa Rosa (707) 293-7972 margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com
Jill Brians Secretary to 2022	Petaluma (707) 227-8404 jcbrians@yahoo.com
Michael Stecher Web Master Director to 2022	Mill Valley (415) 624-6215 mstecher@me.com
Ken Fultz Director to 2020	American Canyon (415) 362-7509 KFCVA41@comcast.net
Adam Byer Director to 2021	Oakland (510) 332 6932 adam@cherrystreetgames.com
Vagn Nielsen Director to 2021	Sonoma (707) 996-9950 nielsen.vk@gmail.com
Henrik Olsgaard Director to 2022	Orinda (510) 847-5186 holsgaard@hotmail.com

Volunteers:

Lilian Rasmussen Membership Coordinator	Roseville (916) 771-4961 mormor@surewest.net
Rick Santarini Newsletter Editor	Santa Rosa (707) 477-6669 santarinirick@gmail.com

Club News

With Sonoma County moving into the Covid Red Tier and more people having completed their vaccinations we hope you will please join us again on Saturday April 3, for a "bring your own picnic lunch" at Kastania Field. About 15 people attended the picnic on



on March 6th and enjoyed a delightful day in the sun despite predicted rain.



Members do not need to RSVP, but you will have to bring your own food, beverages and tableware.

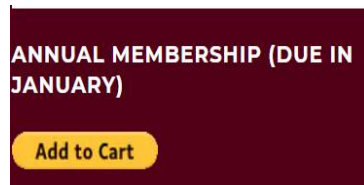
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Reminder: Elections for 2021 Board

Due to the COVID 19 situation the Board decided in 2020 to delay the election of a new board until the early 2021 schedule. We have three board members with expiring terms; Keith Brians, Margrethe Bækgaard and Ken Fultz. As always, this is a volunteer run organization and your participation in the board and other activities is appreciated and necessary for the club's success. So this is the time for Members to consider (especially new members) joining the board to help continue to keep this club strong and vibrant.

Dues for 2021

If you have not already done so it is time to renew your membership with the Danish Soldiers Club. The price is \$40 for 2021. The easiest way is Via **PayPal** on our website www.danishsoldiersclub.com. Just click on the member renewal button on top of the home page, and you are done.



If you do not have computer access you can also send a \$40 check to :

Margrethe Bækgaard our Treasurer. Her address is:

1740 Brandee Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Email: margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com

Email addresses

Please remember if you receive our newsletter by email and you change your email address, please send that update to santarinirick@gmail.com so I can update my contact list and ensure you continue to receive our newsletter.

Important Notice for the April Luncheon and Meeting and COVID-19

Saturday, April 3rd will again be a "Bring your own food and beverages" picnic, no reservations necessary.

To comply with the County guidance's the following requirements would be in place.

- *All buildings except restrooms would be closed.*
- *Members would provide their own lunch and beverages. and the bar would be closed.*
- *Groups of ten or fewer could sit together.*
- *Picnic tables would be spaced such that greater than six feet of space separate them.*
- *Face coverings would be required except when sitting at the table with your group.*

Fellow Members,

As you know the dues in 2020 were raised to \$40. The website was updated so that new accounts are \$40, but we cannot control people's **OLD recurring charges** from our end. The account holder has to do that by logging in to [PayPal.com](https://www.paypal.com).

If your 2021 dues will be automatically paid this way and you have not already changed your account please to log into your PayPal account and cancel the \$30 recurring payment, and then go to our website and use the new link to approve a new \$40 recurring payment, which works just fine.

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But I'm afraid we're going to have to ask every "recurring payment" member to do the same, for security reasons; it's PayPal, not us.

When Is Easter 2021? Here's Why Its Date Changes Every Year

- Easter Sunday changes dates year-to-year. This year, **Easter is on Sunday, April 4, 2021.**
- The holiday coincides with the vernal equinox, which welcomes spring in the northern hemisphere.
- All of the celebrations leading up to Easter also change dates.

Springtime is a welcomed sign after the long days of winter: warmer weather, freshly sprung flowers, and, for those who celebrate, the arrival of Easter Sunday. Unlike Christmas, which falls on the same date each year, Easter and the celebrations leading up to it change dates every year. So you may find yourself wondering how the date of Easter is determined. So here's the answers to your burning questions about [why Easter changes dates](#).

Of course, to know when Easter is this year, you can figure it out by taking a step back and figuring out Ash Wednesday's date. The main event occurs six and a half weeks after Ash Wednesday, encompassing the 40 days of Lent. But to discover what causes all these dates to fluctuate year after year instead of staying in one place like many other annual holidays including Christmas, Valentine's Day, and St. Patrick's Day, you might want to look to the sky for your answer. Here are the reasons behind the ever-changing date, which includes the phases of the moon, the vernal equinox, and the Gregorian calendar. You might not have realized just how much goes into how Easter Sunday is determined each year!

How is the Easter date determined every year?

First off, it's important to know that though the exact date of Easter changes each year, there's a definite period in which the day occurs, and that's

March 22 through April 25 (in the Gregorian calendar, not the Julian calendar). Easter always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon (the first full moon that occurs after the vernal equinox, which signifies the beginning of spring in the northern hemisphere), according to [The Old Farmer's Almanac](#).

In 2021, the vernal equinox falls on March 20, 2021, making the first full moon after that date March 28 and the following Sunday—April 4—Easter 2021.

Here's What You Need to Know About Danish Easter Traditions

Easter is celebrated in different ways in countries all over the globe and so, Denmark has its own traditions.

Celebrating springtime

During Easter, Danes celebrate mostly the arrival of springtime and with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday being national holidays, they find Easter as a good opportunity for a short escape to their summer houses. It's not very common for Danes to attend church during Easter and there aren't any special religious events taking place during the holy week. So, don't expect to see grandiose celebrations.

Gækkebreve

The weeks before Easter every child in Denmark that wants to get an extra Easter chocolate egg writes and sends *gækkebrev*. The senders of *Gækkebreve* must write a 'teaser poem' on a paper and then sign it with a number of dots equal to their names' letters. Children are called to use their imagination and cut the paper into different shapes, include a snowdrop (*vintergække*), which is the first flower of the year, and make sure that their poem rhymes. If the recipient of the letter guesses who sent him the *gækkebrev* then the sender must give him an Easter chocolate egg and if not, then the other way around. Since usually the senders are children and the recipients are adults, it's an unwritten rule and almost part of the tradition that the receivers never manage to guess the person behind the 'fool's letter'.

Eggs, eggs and eggs

Eggs are part of Easter traditions in many countries and Denmark is no exception. Many houses are decorated with fake yellow or green eggs while chocolate eggs and boiled chicken's eggs dyed in different colors never miss from the Easter lunch table. Many Danes hide chocolate eggs in



their gardens for children to find on Easter Sunday, keeping a tradition that dates back to the early 20th century alive.



Easter lunch

Celebrating without a big table filled with delicacies, beer and snaps it's not a proper celebration for Danes regardless the time of the year. For the Sunday Easter lunch, locals prepare lamb, boiled eggs, herring and other kinds of fish such as salmon. The special Easter beer, which is brewed only this time of the year, is, according to beer specialists, heavier and tastier than common beers so it's a must to have it on the festive table. Finally, even though Easter lunch starts from early afternoon, all guests have to drink at least one traditional Danish snap. The high-levelled alcohol spirits must be drunk in one gulp after everyone has raised their glasses, yelling, "Skål" and Easter wishes.

It's Spring Cleaning Month!

It's **March** and that means it's Spring Cleaning Month! Even if you aren't quite ready to get started

you can follow along, start mid-way, or complete the challenge when you are ready.

What is spring cleaning?

Spring cleaning is the practice of thoroughly cleaning a house in the springtime. The practice of spring cleaning is especially prevalent in climates with a cold winter. In North America and Northern Europe, the custom found an especially practical value due to those regions' continental and wet climates. During the 19th century in America, prior to the advent of the vacuum cleaner, March was often the best time for dusting because it was getting warm enough to open windows and doors (but not warm enough for insects to be a problem), and the high winds could carry the dust out of the house. This time of year is also when coal furnaces would not run and one could wash the soot from the walls and furniture left by the furnace. For the same reason, modern rural households often use the month of March for cleaning projects involving the use of chemical products which generate fumes.

Most people never begin to spring clean their home because they truly don't know where to start. But spring cleaning is actually pretty simple. The process of decluttering and then cleaning each space in your home is easy. Each task is quick. The tough part? Knowing where to begin. Here's a link to this 30-day checklist. [30-Day Spring Cleaning Checklist \(thespruce.com\)](http://thespruce.com)

