



Bulletin

Issue 1, November 2015
(prepared by Bob
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New DAHS Bulletin

Welcome to the first issue of the Danish American Heritage Society (DAHS) *Bulletin*. The *Bulletin* contains recent news from our organization. It is especially meant to complement our website by providing timely information to our members who lack Internet access. We plan to mail our bulletin after the fall and spring meetings of the DAHS Board. Thus, the bulletin will include some items from the Board minutes.

The DAHS Board is trying out this mode of communication for a limited time - please let us know whether or not you find it useful.

New DAHS Website

This summer the DAHS web coordinator, Bob Christiansen, developed a new site for the DAHS, located at danishheritage.org. Please visit our site if you have Internet access; your feedback would be helpful.

Staying in Touch

Our website includes a number of contact forms for your use in reaching us via E-Mail. If you lack Internet access, you will find a US postal address you can use at the end of this bulletin.

Recent Issue of *The Bridge*

We mailed DAHS members Volume 38, Number 1 of the DAHS journal *The Bridge* in September 2015. Members should contact us if they did not receive a copy.

Digitizing Older DAHS Publications

Plans are underway to digitize older issues of

The Bridge, as well as the *DAHS Newsletter*, which was discontinued in 2012.

Eighteen issues of *The Bridge* are already on-line at danishheritage.org.

The Bodtker Family

The DAHS owes much to the Bodtker family of Oregon. The late Arnold Bodtker spearheaded the formation of the DAHS back in 1977, serving as its first President. Later Arnold's cousin Gerald Rasmussen was President. Arnold's son Egon served as DAHS President from 2008 to 2015.

The DAHS regrets that Egon Bodtker had to resign his presidency in January due to health issues.

Planned DAHS Conference

The DAHS will sponsor its fifth conference on October 5-7 in 2017 in Schaumburg, Illinois, near Chicago. The Conference theme is ***Danish American Fusion: A Blending of Cultures***.

The conference planning committee consists of the following three DAHS board members:

- **Julie Allen**, Professor of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Wisconsin.
- **Linda Steffensen**, Editor of *Den Danske Pioneer*.
- **Lynette Rasmussen**, Honorary Danish Consul for Iowa.

Our 2017 conference will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the DAHS. We will keep you informed of conference developments via the ***What We Do > Conferences > 2017 Conference*** page at danishheritage.org, as well as announcements in the *DAHS Bulletin*.

DAHS Membership Reminder

DAHS membership is by fiscal year, ending on June 30. We sent out our renewal reminder this summer later than usual. Subsequently, we have revised our membership form.

If you find a membership form enclosed with this *Bulletin*, this means our Treasurer had not received your renewal for the year 2015-2016 at the time the *Bulletin* was printed. Your support is vital to continuing the mission of the Danish American Heritage Society. We hope that you will renew soon.



Brief Summary of the October 17, 2015 DAHS Board Minutes

The Danish American Heritage Society Board met in Englewood Colorado in conjunction with the 2015 meeting of the *Danish Sisterhood*.

Present: John Mark Nielsen, Tim Jensen, Sheri Muller, Joel Mortensen, Jim Iversen, Julie Allen, Bob Christiansen, Christie Gehringer, Dan Mikel, Lynette Rasmussen, Linda Steffensen.

Absent: Julianne Haahr.

New DAHS Officers (for three-year terms)

- **John Mark Nielsen**, Executive Director of the Museum of Danish America, replaced Tim Jensen as DAHS President. (Tim had temporarily replaced Egon Bodtker in January.)
- **Tim Jensen**, President Emeritus of the Danish American Archive and Library Board, returned to his old position as DAHS Vice President.
- **Sheri Muller**, Archivist and Librarian at Grand View University, replaced John Mark Nielsen as DAHS Secretary.
- **Joel Mortensen** remained as DAHS Treasurer.

DAHS Financial Report

DAHS funds have been kept in three accounts, with respective balances as of October 17, 2015:

General Fund	\$80,500
Conference Fund	\$17,360
Bodtker Fund	\$65,910

The DAHS Investments Committee plans to invest the majority of DAHS assets under the same investment umbrella as the Museum of Danish America.

The Bridge Editor's Report

The DAHS plans to mail volume 38, number 2 (2015) to our membership around the end of the year, putting *The Bridge* back on a regular schedule. *The Bridge* editors will strive for a regular publication schedule of April and November in the future.

Bodtker Grants Awarded

The Board awarded Bodtker Grants to Zachary Rom-Jensen and Lynge Stegger Gemzøe, both graduate students at Aarhus University. Rom-Jensen plans to explore the evolution of the American image of Scandinavia, especially regarding the welfare state. Stegger Gemzøe would study the adaptations of Danish television programs in the United States.

Bodtker Grants help support trans-Atlantic study related to our Danish American heritage.



DAHS Bulletin #1 - Final Notes

- The *DAHS Bulletin* is also viewable from the **What We Do** page at our new website, danishheritage.org.
- If you lack Internet access, you can contact the DAHS via US mail at 10354 E. Saltillo Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85255.