

# *h-town hygge*®

The Danish Club of Houston's Newsletter #49

Winter 2014

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*Julefrokosten*

## RENEWAL

*Renew Your Membership  
For Another Year!*



Happy New Year to y'all!

## NEXT DCH EVENT

FEBRUARY

22

Sunday

FASTELAVN

A Vikingskolen & DCH Event

Stepping Stones School  
11250 Wilcrest Dr.  
Houston, TX 77099

We've had a busy season so far, and the Board is finalizing the dates for another round of entertaining activities for the Spring. So watch for emails coming soon and mark your calendars!

Please remember that it's time to renew your DCH membership. Only \$30 per family gets you access to our Members Only pages on the website, the *h-town hygge* quarterly newsletter, as well as discounted rates for various activities throughout the year.

So log on to [www.danishclubofhouston.org](http://www.danishclubofhouston.org) to renew your membership with a credit card online or use the form at the end of this newsletter to send in with your check.

Hurry, so you don't miss out on any activities!

Danish Club  
of Houston



## DANISH MOVIE NIGHT

A lively group met for dinner at Hungry's on Rice Blvd. before heading over to the Engineering Training Facility on the Rice University campus to watch "*Den skaldede frisør*" (literally "The Bald Hairdresser", but distributed in the US under the name "Love Is All You Need").

This entertaining film was shot mostly in Italy, but many of us recognized the typical Danish homes and other scenes from around Denmark.

It was also interesting to see how the directors blended English and Danish dialogue throughout the film.

Thanks to Hannes Hofer for arranging the use of the Rice facilities.



Cherry Daughbjerg, Anna Thomsen Holliday and Ray J. Daughbjerg



Montana Hermes, Michael Nielsen and Lorrie Madsen

## JULEFROKOST

A capacity crowd filled Kris Bistro at the Culinary Institute Le Nôtre on December 7<sup>th</sup> for the Club's Annual Christmas Party & Fundraiser.

The menu was typical for a Danish julefrokost, but presented with a slightly different flair by the students at the Institute.

Everyone enjoyed socializing before the dinner was served, and the warm *gløgg* took the edge off an otherwise brisk and rainy evening.

In the restaurant, the ambience was beautiful, the service impeccable, and the food delicious. Throughout the dinner, guests were rewarded with a vast assortment of raffle prizes, including numerous gift baskets, assortments of Danish candies, Aalborg Akvavit, and a number of beautiful and practical gifts from the Museum of Danish America and Williams Sonoma. The Club received significant financial contributions from Clipper, Falck Alford, Grundfos, GAC, and Endofa, and we especially want to acknowledge the donations of raffle items from Mary Dolly Bille, the Danish Consulate, Wrist, Henrik & Ghislaine Thomsen, Maritime Logistics and Scandic Foods among others.

Please see the last page of the newsletter for a full listing of all of our sponsors and the Danish Club of Houston's Facebook page to see all the photos of this lovely event.



Linda May Martin, Charlotte Rhodes, Cliff Rhodes and Carsten Westergaard





The beautiful display of Ris à l'amande and cheeses



Marianne Møllergaard Holst and Mogens Holst



Helle Bradsted, Jan Ibso and Mette Thomsen Egholm



Mira Berdien Bush, Cindy Mogensen and new DCH members on the way!



Erik Hansen and Martha Fraga



Patricia Blackwell and Carsten Westergaard



Ron Knafo and Dina Rudaizky





Margit Williams and Pete Van Horn



Andrew & Adda Cuthbert



George & Helle VerHoeven



Lars Johansen and Lone Carlbach Johansen



A merry table!



Julefrokosten





Carl Steffensen and Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard



Helle Kastrup and Mette Spiers Miller



Hannes Hofer and Julie Nguyen Hofer



## JULEGUDSTJENESTE

Pastor Andrés Albertsen joined us from Minnesota on December 15<sup>th</sup> to conduct the Julegudstjeneste at the Norwegian Seaman's Church in Pasadena.

In accordance with Danish custom, the church bell was rung 100 times to announce the beginning of the service.

Most of the 90 adults and children took part in the communion, and thanks to the generosity of those attending we were able to donate over \$300 to both the Norwegian Seaman's Church and the Danish Seaman's Church.

Everyone enjoyed *æbleskiver*, coffee and hot chocolate after the service, along with *klejner* and *syrupskager* that were also served.

The Club would like to thank Ericka Lawson for once again coordinating the *æbleskiver* service and all those who provided the *æbleskiver* and other delectable goodies!





Frances Steffensen and Ericka Lawson



Anna Thomsen Holiday, Andrés Albertsen  
and Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard



Pastor Andrés Albertsen



During the service



The Moyells and their grandsons



Elizabeth Bush



Oliver Moyell Balcázar



The Pedersens and their lovely girls  
Anne-Sofie, Ellen and Karla





Pastor Andrés Albertsen enjoying the æbleskiver



Kari Ødelund Danielsen bringing in the kransekage



Enjoying æbleskiver, småkager, coffee, hot chocolate and juices after the service



Bob & Dorte Equitz family together with an exchange student who is staying with them



Ericka Lawson offering some æbleskiver



Karla Pedersen eyeing the brunekager



## GUITARIST

Mexican composer & classical guitarist Santiago Gutiérrez Bolio performed at Christ the King Lutheran Church on the evening of December 17<sup>th</sup>.

The program included a wide range of musical styles from the music of J.S. Bach, to various Latin American composers, and a few original compositions by Gutiérrez Bolio himself.

Santiago is a Mexican classical guitarist and composer who has been living in Denmark for the past 7 years. He came to Copenhagen originally to study for his Solist Klass (post-graduate advanced studies) at Det Kongelige Danske Musikkonservatorium, where he completed his studies with Danish guitarist Jesper Sivebæk. After graduating in 2009 he has been working there and has established a career as a performer, composer and music educator.







The adult class had fun playing Bingo



Lise Lotte Schmidt and her daughters Caroline, Amelie and Sofia enjoying some juleklip



Children hard at work

# JULETRÆSFEST

Even though it was a little late in the season to have a party, a good crowd of 45 adults and 40 children participated in this year's *Juletræsfest* at the Vikingskolen on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

After classes all the children got to do *juleklip* and decorate their own gingerbread cookies, and then everyone danced around the Christmas tree until the *julemand* appeared and gave all the children goodie bags filled with candy.

A buffet lunch catered by Chef Søren Pedersen included more than enough of everyone's favorites: *marineret sild*, roast beef, ham, *rullepølse*, and *leverpostej* for the cold table; *frikadeller* and *flæskesteg* with red cabbage, pickled beets, and *agurkesalat*; and of course *ris à l'amande* for dessert.

Congratulations to Marcus Thymann Nielsen and Anika Klawikowski, who found the almonds and won the *mandelgaver*! And thanks to all the parents and volunteers who brought the *ris à l'amande* and helped with the event!



Tine Rau Schiøtt and her daughter Ellinor





Mette Gregersen and Tina Fischer



Laura Andersen, Hannah Pedersen and Amalie Andersen



Lise Lotte Schmidt and Sofia Andersen



Time to eat!



August Andreasen



Lovely girls



Singing and dancing around the Christmas tree!





Levi Pedersen



Helene Pedersen



Julemanden



The Klawikowski family



Anne-Sofie Pedersen



Mandelgaver winners Marcus & Anika



Benedicte Thymann Nielsen and some students singing & dancing



Helene and Helle Pedersen



Tajana Surlan Mesic and Peggy Høegh



# BIRTHDAYS

It has come to our attention that several of Houston's prominent Danes are celebrating some significant birthdays in January! Congratulations to Ray J. Daughbjerg, Jan Christiansen and Carl K. Steffensen celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 56<sup>th</sup> birthdays, respectively.

*Stort tillykke med dagen!*



Frances and Carl Steffensen



Ray Daughbjerg and wife Cherry



Jan Christiansen and Kay Vogel





# WELCOME NEW DCH MEMBERS!

The DCH would like to welcome the following new members to our Club:

- Lotte Sloth Andersen
- Jette Lund Hansen
- Søren Møllekaer
- Mads Nørgaard
- Sarah Perkins
- Charlotte & Cliff Rhodes
- Allan & Jody Sommer
- Frank Pedersen



Mai and Søren Møllekaer



Charlotte and Cliff Rhodes

# NEXT EVENTS

JANUARY

29

Wednesday - 11:00 AM

European Economic Outlook 2014 Business Luncheon at the Federal Reserve Bank - A DACCSW Event

1801 Allen Parkway  
Houston, TX 77019

FEBRUARY

20

Thursday - 11:15 AM

Luncheon with speaker Laurie S. Fulton former US Ambassador to Denmark - A DACCSW Event

Hilton Americas, Skyline Ballroom

APRIL

5

Saturday

Danish Heritage Museum 5k Fun Run

153 County Road 426  
Danevang, TX 77432

JUNE

15

Sunday

Nordic Singers - A DCH Event

Christ The King Lutheran Church  
2353 Rice Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77005





# DANES WORLDWIDE

We are very pleased to announce that Niclas Tranum has been appointed by Danes Worldwide to be their representative in Houston.

Being himself a student, he would like to see increased possibilities for students to study abroad.

“Danish students are already learning English from the first grade onwards, thereby giving Danes greater mobility and opportunities in the global arena. Danish students find it easier to apply and access more international choices of education than ever before”.

Among his goals, Niclas will strive to help anyone from Denmark interested in moving, working, or studying in Houston and help them transition as smoothly as possible, by quickly integrating them into the city and help ease their homesickness by incorporating them into some of the many Danish activities that take place throughout the year and are organized by the Danish Club of Houston, the Danish American Chamber of Commerce Southwest (DACCSSW) and the Vikingeskolen.

Please contact Nic by email, skype or phone:

Mobile +1 (832) 382-6881

Email: [Ntranum@live.dk](mailto:Ntranum@live.dk)

Skype: ntranum



## FACTS ABOUT THE DANISH CLUB

### Board of Directors

Carl K. Steffensen, President  
Steen Pedersen, Acting Vice-President  
Frances Steffensen, Treasurer

Neil Olsen, Secretary  
Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard, Activity Coordinator  
Katrine Kofoed Howard, Activity Coordinator  
Lars Kristiansson, Activity Coordinator  
Stephanie Thomsen, Activity Coordinator

### For more information:

[info@danishclubofhouston.org](mailto:info@danishclubofhouston.org)

### Website:

[www.danishclubofhouston.org](http://www.danishclubofhouston.org)

JOIN US ON 

### T-shirts:

The Club is still selling T-shirts with our logo. We now have childrens' T-shirts and baby onesies along with the adult size shirts. Please, visit our website if interested.

**h-town hygge** is a quaterly publication e-mailed to members in good standing and selected friends of the Danish-American community in Houston.





The Danish Club of Houston would like to thank all of the following companies and individuals for their generous donations last month. The monetary donations and the funds raised in our Julefrokost raffle will help support the activities of the Club and allow us to do our part to organize exciting events and to bring visiting Danish artists and performers to Houston. Please favor them with your business.

## Platinum



## Gold



Mary Dolly Bille



SHIP SUPPLY

## Silver

Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard

Anna Thomsen Holliday

Thomas Damsgaard



Maritime Logistics LLC



The Royal Danish Consulate of Houston





# MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION OR RENEWAL

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name:		Middle Name:	
First Name:		Title:	
Company:		Mobile ph.:	
Business ph.:			
Email:			
Spouse:			
Last Name:		Middle Name:	
First Name:		Title:	
Company:		Mobile:	
Business ph.:			
Email:			
Mailing address:			
City/State/Zip:			
Children (Please indicate name & age):			
Areas of interest:			

Please mail form with \$30 to:

Danish Club of Houston  
c/o Frances Steffensen  
14354 Broadgreen Dr.  
Houston, TX 77079

\*\* Membership term is one calendar year, beginning in January & ending in December

