

# NEWSLETTER

## CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT

*Thank you all for a wonderful evening!*



The Danish Club's annual Christmas party was held on a cold December 4th evening at the Nottingham Forest Club in west Houston, with approximately 70 members and guests attending. As has become the tradition, guests began their evening socializing and warming up with gløgg made by the Scandinavian Folkdancers of Houston. Danish Chef Søren Pedersen provided a delicious starter of pickled herring and his own special homemade gravet laks. The buffet dinner was a wonderful collection of frikadeller, andesteg, potatoes, red cabbage, pork, and finally ris a la mande with warm cherry sauce for dessert. Guests purchased raffle

tickets and many happily collected their winnings provided by our generous sponsors listed last in the news letter.

Anna Thomsen Holliday of the Royal Danish Consulate MC'd the evening once again and was joined by numerous enthusiastic guests to help lead the group in songs throughout the night. Many stayed and danced before heading home for the night. The Danish Club would like to thank the Christmas Party Committee, Ghislaine and Henrik Thomsen and Flemming Mengel, as well as the helpers Carl and Frances Steffensen.

### Upcoming Events:

**February 16th, Susanne Thea**

Nordic Women's Culture Club hosts Danish artist Susanne Thea.

**February 19th, Mie Olise**

Danish artist Mie Olise at the Barbara Davis Gallery.

**February 20th, Fastelavn**

Fastelavn fun at Vikingskolen.

**February 27th, Movie Night**

Danish movie Flammen & Citroen will be shown at Rice University & also in Austin, TX at Nordic Film Fest that same weekend.

**March 11th, Ello Sports Bar**

New sports bar opens!

**March 14th, Henrik Saxgren**

Reception for Danish photographer Henrik Saxgren who will show at Fotofest 2010.

**March 27th, Spring BBQ at Danish Consul Ray Daugbjerg's Ranch in Brenham**

Fun spring gathering and party with our Consul!

**March 27th & 28th, Viking Invasion in San Antonio**

Viking battles and life recreated at San Antonio Highland Games.

**April 17th, Soccer Match**

Danish, Norwegian and Swedish clubs of Houston square off!

**April 24th, Graduation**

Student graduation at Vikingskolen

\*Also Queen's Birthday celebration in Danevang, TX



**CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

In December we had our annual christmas service, where Pastor Andres did a great job. The more than 90 people attending the services had a good time, and enjoyed some æbleskiver in good company with special thanks to Erica and Steen Lawson for their efforts in the kitchen.



Sadly, miscommunication leading up to the service resulted in misplaced 'godteposer' that was meant for Santa Claus to hand out to the children, and we would like to apologize to the many disappointed children.

**VIKINGESKOLEN'S COCKTAIL PARTY**

The Danish community came together to support Vikingskolen at a very successful fundraiser and party in January at Anna Holliday's home.

The school raised more than \$2600 from a silent auction as well as personal and corporate donations. A wonderful time was had by all.

Thank you to those who attended. Also thank you to those who contributed their time and funds to help make the auction a success.

Please see the list of our wonderful underwriters and sponsors at:

<http://sites.google.com/site/vikingskolen/home8>

**UPCOMING EVENTS!**

**DANISH ARTIST SUSANNE THEA**

Tuesday, February 16th:

The Nordic Women's Culture Club of Texas will have the honor of welcoming Danish artist, Susanne Thea.



Susanne Thea is printmaker and painter who has shown all over the world. She is known for versatility and color and drawing inspiration from a variety of influences- including Old Masters to modern, colorful Orient and Middle East.

Her most recent work, Paraphrases of the Bayeux Tapestry, was recently displayed at the National Printmaking museum in Ireland and the Rundetårnet (Round Tower) in Copenhagen - a National Library, Observatory and Museum.

Susanne Thea will give a lecture on Paraphrases of the Bayeux Tapestry on February 16th.

A link to her work is here: [www.susannethea.com](http://www.susannethea.com)

**Where:** Britt Siem's home  
105 Sage Road  
Houston, TX 77056

**When:** 7:00 p.m.  
Guest Fee: \$6.00

Please RSVP to: [ymcanor@gmail.com](mailto:ymcanor@gmail.com)

Looking forward to seeing you!

**DANISH ARTIST MIE OLISE**

Friday, February 19:

The Barbara Davis Gallery is lucky to be able to host the opening of Mie Olise: A Fugitive Crosses His Tracks - Departure an exhibition of new paintings, installation, and video.

The exhibition is the culmination of a two-year long journey and is based upon the idea of 'departure,' leaving behind all that you know to propel yourself into a free fall of unexpected possibilities in search of a world better than the one you left.



Mie Olise's heroic paintings of flying ships, houses that travel over land, and falling suitcases speak of the experience of the voyage and call to mind the distance of a journey, the feeling of traveling over land or sea, your body moving through a landscape.

**Where:**

Barbara Davis Gallery  
4411 Montrose Blvd  
713.520.9200  
Houston, Texas 77006

**When:** Friday, February 19, 2010 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**FASTELAVN  
AT  
VIKINGESKOLEN**

Saturday, February 20:

Fastelavn is fast approaching! On February 20th the Danish Club of Houston and Vikingskolen join together to invite everyone to Fastelavns festivities from 10-12 at the school.



Please bring your friends and family!

In addition to 'Slå Katten af Tønden' with announcement of the 'Kattedronning' and 'Kattekongen', the children will be making masks and other crafts. A clown will make balloons and face painting, and we will be serving coffee and pastries.

Come dressed up, as we will be awarding a prize for best costume!

Bring a raincoat in case of cold/rainy weather.

**Where:**

Vikingskolen,  
Stepping Stones School  
11250 S. Wilcrest Drive  
(Beltway 8 @ 59)  
Houston, TX 77099

**When:** Saturday, February 20, 2010 from 10AM - 12PM

**DANISH MOVIE NIGHT  
AT  
RICE UNIVERSITY**

Saturday, February 27:

On Saturday, the 27th at 7:30 pm we will have a Danish movie night generously hosted by Hannes Hofer at Rice University.

The movie will be 'Flammen og Citronen' an award-winning movie from Ole Christen Madsen that tells the true story of 2 members of the Holger Danske resistance during WWII.



We hope that this will be the first of many Danish movie nights to come!

Details regarding parking and directions to the facilities are posted on our website and on facebook, but please take notice:

**Where:**

Rice University  
6100 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77005

Facilities Engineering & Planning Building Training Room  
(Entrance #22 off Rice Boulevard)

**When:** 2/27 - 7:30PM

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

**AUSTIN NORDIC  
FILM FEST**

Saturday, February 27:

Also on Saturday, in Austin, the American-Scandinavian Foundation Texas Associates (ASFTA) will have the seventh annual Nordic Film Fest.

The schedule and more of the festival can be read about here:

<http://nordicfilmfest.com/austin/>

The event will be held on Saturday, February 27th at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum's Spirit of Texas Theater.

The films will show from 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

This year, they feature mostly short films from Iceland,

but they will show Flammen & Citroen at 3:45PM and another Danish short film that evening.

An after-party will follow featuring the House of Songs, an innovative collaboration between leading Danish and Austin songwriters and musicians.

**ELLO SPORTS BAR  
OPENING**

Thursday, March 11:

ELLO sports bar is a new upscale sports bar in the Galleria area of Houston.

Two of the owners, Michael Skov and Shein Armaan are Danes!

They will be having a “soft opening” on Thursday, March 11, and all are invited to come have a beer.

**Where:**

ELLO Sports Bar  
5175 Westheimer  
Houston TX 77056  
[www.ellogalleria.com](http://www.ellogalleria.com)

**When:** Thursday, March 11 evening

**DANISH ARTIST HENRIK SAXGREN AT HOUSTON FOTOFEST**

Sunday March 14th:

Henrik Saxgren is an internationally acclaimed documentary and landscape photographer from Copenhagen.



His most recent work, Unintended Sculptures was on exhibit at the National Museum of Photography in Copenhagen in December.



On March 13th and 14th, he will be in Houston to participate in the Fotofest 2010 Biennial:

[www.fotofest.org](http://www.fotofest.org)  
[www.saxgren.dk](http://www.saxgren.dk)

Fotofest 2010 Biennial is an exhibition of photography that will be shown at different places all over the city.

Mr. Saxgren’s work will be shown at Defrog Gallery at 218 Westcott, Houston, Texas 77007.

A reception will be held for the Danish Club and any friends who would like to come on Sunday, March 14, where the artist will talk about his work. Wine and snacks will be provided

Please join us!

**Where:**

De Frog Gallery  
218 Westcott  
Houston, TX 77007

**When:** 4PM, March 14, 2010

**RSVP:** Michael Jensen @ (832) 607-4892 or [mjensen@prospricing.com](mailto:mjensen@prospricing.com)

**SPRINGTIME BBQ AT CONSUL RAY DAUGBJERG’S RANCH IN BRENHAM, TX**

Saturday, March 27:

Come take a spring time road trip to see the beautiful Texas wildflowers and enjoy some BBQ in Brenham, Texas with our Consul Ray Daugbjerg!

Mr. Daugbjerg’s ranch is located in beautiful Brenham, Texas, home of Texas blue bonnets and Blue Bell ice cream creamery!

More about the event will be posted on our website and facebook, but please save the date!

We need 4 guys to help set up and tear down.

**Where:** Ray & Cherry Daugbjert’s Ranch in Brenham, TX at:

8251 Cottontail Lane  
Brenham, Texas 77833

**When:** Saturday, March 27 in the early afternoon...

**RSVP:** Michael Jensen @ (832) 607-4892 or [mjensen@prospricing.com](mailto:mjensen@prospricing.com)



### VIKING INVASION AT SAN ANTONIO HIGHLAND GAMES

Saturday & Sunday March 27th  
and 28th:

The San Antonio Highland Games will be held near San Antonio, Texas at the Helotes Fairgrounds on Saturday and Sunday March 27th and 28th.

This is a spring festival to celebrate Scottish and Celtic traditions and dance, but there is a special group, the Viking Invasion, that is dedicated to recreating Viking battle and ways of life.



The festival sounds like good fun for adults and kids! Drive on over to Consul Ray's for the BBQ and keep going to San Antonio!

<http://www.sahga.org/>

**Where:**

Helotes Fair Grounds  
12210 Leslie Road  
Helotes, TX 78023

**When:** 3/27 and 3/28



### SOCCER TOURNAMENT WITH THE NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH CLUBS OF HOUSTON

Saturday, April 17th:

The Danish Club of Houston will be playing an afternoon soccer match with the Norwegian and Swedish Clubs of Houston!!



We will have this event at the Norwegian Seaman's Church. Most likely it will be in the mid-afternoon - around 2PM.

We'd like to have a light picnic lunch beforehand and maybe a BBQ afterwards with beer.

We've spoken with folks from the Norwegian Club and Swedish Club, and they are interested and the date is good. So, we hope to try to play 2-3 short half matches with either 5-7 man sides or full 11 sides.

We need players and a ref, so please RSVP to us as soon as possible if you are interested.

**Where:** Norwegian Seaman's Church

**When:** Saturday April 17.  
Match will start at 2PM; lunch at 1PM.

**RSVP:** Michael Jensen @  
(832) 607-4892 or  
[mjensen@prospricing.com](mailto:mjensen@prospricing.com)

### GRADUATION AT VIKINGESKOLEN

Saturday, April 24th:

Vikingskolen will celebrate graduation for its 2009/10 student on April 24!

Danish classes are taught Saturday mornings at 9:30AM for adults and children.

A teacher for the adult class is currently being sought. If interested, please contact Christina Brinch Clark at 832-660-6496 or via:

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

Graduation is an open invitation to all Danes!

Vikingskolen, at the Stepping Stones School, is a great benefit to the Danish community in Houston, so please come join us for a social gathering and celebrate our students who will make a short presentation and receive their diplomas. And of course, we will also enjoy some Danish special treats.



**Where:** Vikingskolen @  
The Stepping Stones School  
**When:** April 24, 2010

**QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY FEST IN DANEVANG, TX**

April 24:

In honor of Queen Margrethe the second's Birthday, a celebration will be taking place in the historic town of Danevang, TX.

The Scandinavian folk dancers will perform and a good time is sure to be had. More details will follow!!

**HOUSTON DYNAMO SOCCER GAMES**

The Houston Dynamo soccer team contacted us and have generously offered to arrange for us to watch some of the games at discounted rates, and perhaps with some barbecue before the games.

If you are interested please let us know which games you are interested in attending and we will work on arranging some games.

The schedule for the Houston Dynamo games can be seen at:

<http://web.mlsnet.com/t200/schedule/2010/>

**Danish Club Officers**

**President - Michael Jensen**

[mjensen@prospricing.com](mailto:mjensen@prospricing.com)

**Vice President - Carl Steffensen**

[csteff@comcast.net](mailto:csteff@comcast.net)

**Treasurer- Ghislaine Thomsen**

[gthomsen@cbunited.com](mailto:gthomsen@cbunited.com)

**Secretary - Flemming Mengel**

[campmengel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:campmengel@sbcglobal.net)

**Activity Coordinators -**

**Ole Sorensen - [olesorensenmail@gmail.com](mailto:olesorensenmail@gmail.com)**

**Jasper Juhl - [jasper.juhl@gmail.com](mailto:jasper.juhl@gmail.com)**

**THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:**



**DSV Air and Sea, Inc.**



**Vikingskole**

*ANNA THOMSEN HOLLIDAY*



**Ocean Projects**

**Ghislaine & Henrik Thomsen  
Coldwell Banker United,  
Realtors**



**ANNE E. KENNEDY  
ATTORNEY AT LAW**



**CHEF SØREN PEDERSEN OF  
RAY'S GRILL**



*Bridget Jensen*

**CONNIE RÆVMANN**