

# The Voice:



*Sharing the story of historic Danevang— past, present, and future.*

W I N T E R / S P R I N G 2 0 1 8

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ◆ March 22  
Coffee only tour at the Museum
- March 28  
Lunch tour at the Museum
- ◆ April 13  
Fun Run Set-Up: 1 PM at the Community House
- ◆ April 14  
Danish Capital of Texas Fun Run: All morning at the Community House
- ◆ April 17  
Lunch tour at the Museum
- ◆ May 15  
Coffee only tour at the Museum
- ◆ May 24  
Lunch tour at the Museum
- June 2  
Board meeting at the Museum

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## 6th Annual 5K Fun Run

Have you kept in shape this winter? If not, you have six weeks to prepare for the Annual Danish Capital of Texas Fun Run. The funds raised by the Run assist in maintaining the Museum and this year will be used to sponsor educational activities. Plans are being made to hold a Hans Christian Andersen Day in June and encourage museum involvement through our National Museum Day activities in May. The Fun Run is a full day of enjoyment that includes music, food, door prizes, trophies and medals. As always, we will toast the Queen of Denmark with special

Aquavit. We hope to have a representative of the Danish Consulate present the trophies. We always look forward to their participation.

Participants in the family/kids mile walk/run will receive completion medals while 5K participants are eligible for trophies in their age group. Of course, there will be fun for all whether running or walking, individually or as a family. This year, the goal is to increase our participation by at least 15%. Are you ready to help reach the goal? We are certain that there are more runners in our membership

Friends and family are encouraged to challenge themselves to run.

The Ramirez family will once again open their ranch for bar-b-que after the awards and a very special Blue Grass band will entertain.

To register go to [www.signmeup.com](http://www.signmeup.com) or on site between 6:30 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. Race start times are:

**8:30 AM** — Family and kids mile run/walk

**9:15 AM** — 5K Run for all ages who have registered

**Awards ceremony** — Following end of 5K race Bar-b-que at Ramirez Ranch

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# This and That



**The Danish Heritage Museum**

Project for Spring – Sprucing up around the museum with some new plants and possibly a few trees. If you would like to donate a tree or help plant things, just let us know. Our bluebonnets are already beginning to bloom. They are fantastic.

Helper needed– We have lost our handyman who saw to changing our lightbulbs, installing new filters for AC/heaters and occasionally helped with some heavy lifting. The job is really easy, but Suzan and

most of the Board members aren't able to tackle the jobs or live far away which makes helping out diffi-

cult. If you have an afternoon twice a month or know someone willing to do these types of jobs, please let Suzan know.

Lunch and Coffee Tours– Tours have been booked for March, April and May. Calls are coming in for future dates. These tours are a major contributor to our bottom line so we intend to carry on as long as we can. You have been asked many times to help, but please do consider it. Each cookie tour takes about 3 hours of your day and a lunch

tour takes about 4 hours. A very big thank you to Irvin, Elaine, Jay and Bridget for helping make 575 meatballs last week. These will keep us going for a few months. Call Suzan if you can help.

Docents Still Needed— Saturday afternoons from 1 PM to 4 PM. A love for history and a willingness to tell our story are the only requirements. Help the first time is always available. Contact Suzan at the Museum.

Raffle tickets—Another of our fundraising events. You should have received your packet already but if you need more call Suzan at the Museum. The prizes are new and a little different. Awards Apr. 14 at the Fun Run.

**Raffle tickets are available! Great prizes.**

## Annual Meeting and Board Meeting

The annual meeting was held on February 11 at 10 A.M. at the Museum. A large group gathered to hear reports concerning the health of the organization. Board members were elected. One new member was added, Harold Christensen, to replace Sherry Green who has given many years of service to the organization. We hope she will continue working on revising and updating

the “Red Book”. The Board supports her work, so you may receive a request for information to be included in that tome filled with a wealth of history.

The director and president reported on the various challenges we had in 2017, especially in the wake of Hurricane Harvey and our ongoing efforts to keep the Pioneer House in good condition. It was reported that

we are still searching for a bid to renovate the vault and storage areas but so far, we have not had any responses.

Our tours continue to be a good income source but they would not be possible without the help of so many volunteers. Our other major income sources are the Run and the Raffle. Each year the raffle prizes that have been donated provide an impressive variety of items.

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## Danish 5K Fun Run Continued



Shirt Design 2018

All in all it will be a terrific day.

A large contingent of Houston area volunteers/runners have and will be out to help us but more are needed. We are

seeking trainees – new folks who are willing to learn a job for the future. No position requires any special talent other than willingness and the ability to follow a leader. If you are able to volunteer, a list of jobs includes:

**Food** — aebelskever will be made on site but other Danish breakfast breads may be frozen and

brought the morning of the race.

**Set-up** — Friday afternoon to help with decorations, sorting t-shirts, handing out packets, general set-up.

**Race day** — kitchen helpers to keep the platters full, water station assistants, and general workers to run back and forth to keep things organized.

**Clean-up** — Clean up the area after the race, help restore the Community House to its regular Sunday set-up.

More sponsors and donors are needed. The deadline for sponsors is

March 22 for full benefits, giving you ample time to find a sponsor or donor.

The deadline for having your company's logo or your name printed on the Run shirts is **March 22 but pledges may be made by that date with funds to be received no later than March 31. For details contact Sandra Petersen at [sfpetersen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sfpetersen@sbcglobal.net)**

We look forward to seeing many of you in Danevang on April 14. We pray we will have good weather, but the race will go on regardless. See you there!

## St. Lucia Once Again a Success



Anna Marie Kight

Although St. Lucia Day is officially December 13, DHPS has been celebrating it on the first weekend of December for several years. St. Lucia Day is recognized throughout the Scandinavian countries as a celebration of the coming

light bringing longer days after the dark of winter. Our celebration was

held this year on December 2 with storytelling, music, crafts, and food. Under the leadership of Patty Jensen, the party began at 2 PM with the traditional parade of St. Lucia and her court. This year's St. Lucia was Anna Marie Kight, daughter of Dale and Jennifer Kight and granddaughter of George and Margie Genzer, Patrick and Gloria Henrich and the late Nell Marie and Harold Kight.

Anna attends El Campo High School where she is a junior. Her school activities include FFA, National Horon Society, Outdoor 4-H Club and she exhibits her animals at various fairs. According to the *Leader-News*, she has recently begun her own on-line business.

Our Lucia, dressed in a gown of white with a crown of light, read the

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## St. Lucia Continued

story of Lucia for the gathering, followed by the group singing songs, including old favorite Danish songs and Christmas carols. Anna then led the children in dancing around the Christmas tree. With music provided by Patty Jensen, young and old joined in dancing around the tree. Following the musical portion of the afternoon's program the children prepared crafts, guided by Stephanie Jensen and her helpers, Sherry Green, and Suzan Berndt. There was much laughter as the children engaged in making

crafts. Finally, Santa, played by Bubba Baker, arrived to meet each child, take a picture and hear special wishes. Each received a small gift and rushed to the dining area for refreshments provided by Cynthia Priesmeyer. All-in-all it was a wonderful beginning of the Christmas season for the over 60 attendees. Thanks to Patty and her helpers for all their hard work. If you haven't attended a St. Lucia celebration, put it on your calendar for the first weekend in December 2018.



**Jaxon Schumann with Santa and St. Lucia**

## Museum Upgrades



**Paul Jensen hard at work  
Not pictured - Irvin Wind**

We have been fortunate to have gifts of money and expertise to enhance our museum exterior. Last year we had the entire Muse-

um painted and the Pioneer House renewed again. This year we have focused on our exterior presentation to the community. We thank Paul Jensen and Irvin Wind, Board members, who took time out of their busy schedules to paint the farm equipment under the ag display area. It was rusting badly but now it is coated with a special rust resistant paint, thanks to these two men.

We also thank Jeff & Kim Petersen for funding the resurfacing of our parking lot. Many have endured the pot holes and slush

of parking in the past three years. This gift was in memory of Jeff's dad, Elwin Petersen. Our thanks to the Petersens for making the Museum area look beautiful. Now all we need are the beautiful bluebonnets

**Newly Resurfaced Parking**



*The creation of  
an Acquisition  
and Accessioning  
Committee.....*

## Annual Meeting Continued

This year we have been very frugal and hope we have funds for air conditioners if needed.

After a light lunch of chicken spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert, the Board met. Officers elected were: President – Sandra Petersen, Vice-President – Ralph Petersen, Secretary – Pam Pope and Treasurer – Sharon Mayhall. The Board discussed the upcoming Fun Run and possi-

ble revenue projects. Raffle prizes will be awarded during the Fun Run Awards ceremony. Members have been mailed tickets as we have done in the past.

One of the major new items for the Board is the creation of an Acquisition and Accessioning Committee. This committee is charged with setting out rules for what the Museum will accept into our collections; what will be the parameters of the various collections; how they

will be identified and recorded in our system and also how our collections will be handled. This is a huge job and I thank Bridget Jensen Howard for taking it on as Chairperson. The entire process will take years, but it is definitely needed.

Your Board only meets three times a year but are in frequent contact by email and telephone. We serve you to keep our history alive.

## Obituaries

### **Luella Andersen Wright**

was born to Arthur and Henrietta Hansen Andersen on June 5, 1935 in Houston TX. She passed away in Newport Beach, Calif. On Dec. 4, 2017. She is survived by her son, Paul Pecht (Robin), daughters, Paula Jasso (Trinidad) and Carolyn Pecht (Ileana), five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren..

Graveside services were held at the Danevang Lutheran Cemetery on Dec. 12.

### **Isabel Lorene Berthold**

was born June 16, 1929 in Wharton County, to Walter and Anna C (Lykke) Nielsen. She passed away on March 3, 2018 in Berclair, Texas. She married Elton Julius Berthold in 1949. She was a homemaker and helped on the

farm.

She is survived by her sons, Larry (Kay), Troy (Jamie) and daughter, Lauri Leigh Jones. She had eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by a sister, Ella Halamicke of El Campo.

Funeral services were held on March 6 with interment at Beeville Memorial Park.



*The first blooms of spring remind us that life continues and is blessed each and every day by our God. May your spring be blessed.*

# Donations - October 2, 2017 - March 1, 2018 Not including Fun Run or Raffle

## Donations to the General Fund

Ernest & Mary Lou Fleer	Ana Strarup
Stephen Schmelling	Kim & Gary Gardell
Dorothy S. Jahger	Kirby & Patsy Waldrop
Sherry & Gary Green (in-kind)	
Bridget L. Jensen	
Lupe & Mary Ramirez	Sarah & Mark Hajovsky
Denise Flagg	Curtis & Frances Reece
Elisabeth & Kai G. Nirell	Gary Petersen
Finn & Bente Rasmussen	Lis & Ronald Grout
Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee	Pamela & Paul Pope
Hans Clinton & Marie Jensen	
Alan & Karen Hall-Harton	
Scott Howard & Bridget L. Jensen	
Irvin & Elaine Wind	Wharton County Electric Coop

## In Remembrance—to the Endowment Funds

Laurance Jensen	In memory of Lana Jo Clark Jensen
Ronald Petersen	In memory of Eddie & Hilda Petersen
Kristine Lewis	In memory of Doris Andersen Gray
Bertha Birkman	In memory of Bessie "Mama J" Jensen
Dr. Carl & Linda Andersen	In memory of Carl Madsinius Andersen
Delores Key	In memory of Gilbert Nelsen
Kenneth & Anita Christensen	In memory of O.V. & Elsie Christensen
Brent & Wala Ocker	In memory of Al Jensen
Beverly Burmeier	In memory of Myrtle Waldman

## Donations to the Endowment Fund

Gary Petersen	Charles & Marie C. Poage
Fnn & Bente Rasmussen	Alan & Karen Hall-Harton
	Finn & Bente Rasmussen

## In Honor Of

Douglas & Glenell Wenglar	In honor of Sandra Petersen
Elna (Jensen) Sheetz	In honor of Bridget Jensen
Donna Simmer	in honor of Delores Jespersen
Diana Melanson	in honor of Patty Jensen

*Incorrectly reported  
in the Fall edition*

## In Remembrance—to General Fund

Valerie Leger	in memory of Ingeborg Stchetee
Carolyn Westerholm	in memory of Kermit Westerholm
Ed Trapp	in memory of Pearl Juhl Capello
Krisine Lewis	in memory of Hans T. & Anna Andersen
Brendan & Martha Gau	in memory of Al Jensen
Elna (Jensen) Sheetz	in memory of Al Jensen
Harold Christensen	in memory of Ast Nygaard
Blayne & Pamela Hensen-Henton	in memory of Lyle L. Hansen
Michael R. Hansen	in memory of Johannes & Agnes Hansen
Kirby & Patsy Waldrop	in memory of Marie Longwood
Amanda & Steven Scales	In memory of Al Jensen
Paul & Bobbie Brodsgaard	In memory of Judy Ludvigsen
Carolyn Mitchell	In memory of Judy Ludvigsen
Irene Flagg	In memory of Neal Flagg
Dorothy S. Jahger	In memory of Frans Jahger
Caren & Larry Cobb	In memory of Anna ,Elsie, Carrie, and Laura Larsen
Harry & Marcia Westerholm	In memory of the Westerholm Brothers
Dennis Hansen	In memory of Melvin, Otto & Agnes Hansen
Paul & Kathi Jensen	In memory of Alfred & Ruby Earle Jensen
Lawrence Harton	In memory of Bonnie Harton
Marilyn & Phill Richman	In memory of Carol, Marie Erling Thaysen & Patrick Richman
Barbara Trotter	In memory of Harold E. Wolf & family
Laurance Jensen	In memory of Lana Jo Clark Jensen
Myrna Hansen	In memory of Michael Brodsgaard
Norman Thaysen	In memory of Carol, Marie and Earling Thaysen
Bowen David Rose	In memory of Lura Larsen Rose
Ronald Petersen	In memory of Eddie & Hilda Petersen
Dale Atchetee	In memory of Michael Brodsgaard
Bertha Birkman	In memory of Dorothy Nicholson

# Donations - October 2, 2017 - March 1, 2018 - continued

In Remembrance-to General Fund

Roger & Betty Andersen	In memory of Hans, Anna Andersen	Beverly Burmeier Laurie Martin Donna Simmer	In memory of Annette Waldman In memory of Lawrence Petersen In memory of Rev. Ronald Jespersen
Chris & Carol Barbee	In memory of Jack & Lois Hansen	Delores Jespersen	In memory of Rev. Ronald Jespersen
Kenneth & Karyl Andersen	In memory of Hans & Anna Andersen and Doris Gray	William Valigura	In memory of Virginia Longwood Valigura
Patricia Bruecher	In memory of Pauline & Andrew Berthelsen	Jeff & Kim Petersen Gerald & Myrna Christensen	In memory of Elwin Petersen In memory of Marieane Berndt Christensen & Andy Christensen
Karen & Nicolaas Nelsen	In memory of Gil, Suzy, Hans & Emelia Nelsen	Dennis & Linda Harton	In memory of Johana Andersen Thyssen
Sharon Mayhall	In memory of D'Anne & Tim Holt and Lillian & Henry Roberts	Whaon County Electric Coop	

## Raffle - Just Days Away

In just a few weeks, April 14, raffle tickets will be drawn to see who our big winners are. You should have received your 2 sets of tickets to buy or sell. The prizes are outstanding and a little different.

In addition to gift cards of \$100 and \$50, we also have a vintage set of wine glasses, a stainless steel barbecue pit, a one-of-a kind ice cooler (complete with our logo), a power air fryer, an vintage afghan, a wall mirror, a one-of-a kind photo of an American bald eagle, a cross wall hanging, a painting of the Danevang Church, a book about the history of cowboy boots and last but not least, an NRA woman's watch. All for the price of one lucky ticket.....\$5.

Join the fun and buy a few for your family and friends.



Where Else Will You Find an Ice Chest Emblazoned with Our Danish Capital of Texas Logo? Only at the Danish Capital of Texas Raffle - April 14 prizes awarded.

Generously donated by Jimmy & Molly Ramirez.

The Danish Heritage Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 368  
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979-578-0808

**The Danish Heritage Preservation Society  
Board of Directors**

**Sandra Petersen .....President**  
**Ralph Petersen ..... Vice President**  
**Pamela Petersen Pope..... Secretary**  
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**Lydia Petersen Dicks..... Member**  
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**Harold Christensen ..... Member**  
**Michael Hansen.....Member**  
**Natalie Hansen ..... Member**  
**Paul A. Jensen ..... Member**  
**Jay Kristiansen ..... Member**  
**Irvin Wind..... Member**  
**Bridget L. Jensen ..... Member**  
**Cynthia Thyssen Priesmeyer ..... Member**

Museum Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Closed Sundays, Mondays and Holidays

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