

## DAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The DAHS Board of Directors consists of twelve members from throughout the United States. Each member serves a 3-year term with the option of a second 3-year term. There are two representatives from the Danish American Archive and Library (DAAL), two from Grand View University (GVU), and two from the Museum of Danish America (MoDA) along with six at-large members. The current Board members, their place of residence, and those representing specific organizations follows: President - John Mark Nielsen, (MoDA) Blair, NE; Vice-President - David Johnson, (DAAL) Council Bluffs, IA; Secretary - Sheri Muller, (GVU) Des Moines, IA; Treasurer - Joel Mortensen, Minneapolis, MN; Julie Allen, Orem, UT; Ed Bladt, Lumberton, NJ; Christie Jensen Gehringer, (DAAL) Omaha, NE; Julianne Haahr, Madison, WI; Dan Mikel, (GVU) West Saint Paul, MN; Lynette Rasmussen, Des Moines, IA; Linda Steffensen, Hoffman Estates, IL; and Rasmus Thøgersen, (MoDA) Elk Horn, IA.

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## THE BRIDGE

In December members of the DAHS received the recent issue of The Bridge. The issue, number 41:1, contained stories and articles about family immigration. Future issues will be dedicated to Conference Proceedings (41:2), Translation Articles (42:1), and ways in which Danish American culture interacts with itself and other groups (42:2).

Editor of The Bridge, Julie Allen, recently hired a student to help with editing thanks to Brigham Young University where she teaches.



## DAHS BOARD MEETS IN DES MOINES

In October the Danish American Heritage Society Board met in Des Moines at Grand View University. Some of the important topics and the results of the discussions are listed below.

**The Website ([www.danishheritage.org](http://www.danishheritage.org))** – Jennifer Thoegersen continues to manage the DAHS website. New software continues to make the website more secure, especially for submissions to the site. It is hoped that a “Donate” button (via PayPal) can be placed on the Bodker Grant Page, and that a Community Partnership section be added at the “Danish Links” page. Items at the site are continually updated and changed. If you haven’t looked at the site lately, now might be a good time.

**Community Partnerships** – Three organizations—Danish American Archive and Library, Grand View University, and the Museum of Danish America—have been partners and members of DAHS almost since its beginnings. Now the Rebuild Society will also be a Community Partner. The Rebuild Society has already proposed adding the Bodker Grant to its webpage and in its newsletter in conjunction with its scholarship opportunities.

**Conference in Seattle** – The next DAHS Conference will take place in early May 2021 in Seattle, Washington. It will be held in conjunction with the SASS (Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies) conference taking place at the same time. Though the date is more than three years away, we hope you will “Save the Date” and consider attending. As usual, it will be filled with many things Danish American.

The next DAHS Board meeting will be held in Madison, Wisconsin, at the University of Wisconsin on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.



## DAHS RECEIVES MAJOR BEQUEST

Just before the holidays began, the DAHS received a bequest from the estate of Helena M. Jensen (1922-2017). She was a retired educator from Scarborough, Maine. Born in Scarborough, she learned to speak Danish before she learned English; she could read, write, and speak both English and Danish when she started school.

Helena M. Jensen graduated from Scarborough High School and continued her education at the University of Maine. She received a master’s degree at Pennsylvania State University. With a major in home economics and a minor in history, she taught first in Caribou, Maine, where she instituted a school lunch program and coached basketball. She then taught in Bath where she supervised student teachers; eventually, she taught nutrition and foods, was a faculty advisor at Connecticut College for Women, and returned to Maine to complete her teaching career.

She enjoyed many trips to Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, discovering more about her family and immigrant heritage. She expanded her travel horizons, becoming a wider traveler, touring the Dolomites, Yugoslavia, China, Australia, New Zealand, and Germany.

The Danish American Heritage Society has been elated to learn more about this benefactor. We are grateful for her planned gift which will help DAHS continue its work on behalf of Danish Americans everywhere and telling their immigrant stories. Helena M. Jensen was herself a blessing. What a remarkable lady!

## NORDIC MASTER IN SOCIAL WORK AND WELFARE

Karina Danielsen Tallman recently announced that The Nordic Master in Social Work and Welfare welcomes applicants for the Fall 2019 semester. The University of Stavanger in Norway, Umeaa University in Sweden, and Aalborg University in Denmark combine academic strengths to provide state-of-the-art education, taught in English, with a Nordic equality and diversity context. The application process closes on January 31, 2019, so quick action is required.

Throughout the 2-year master program, students engage in the following:

- Monitoring innovation processes and comparing innovation in welfare services
- Identifying ways to develop policies that promote equality and diversity
- Exploring power issues from theoretical and experiences based perspectives
- Identifying empowerment strategies for increased user participation in welfare services
- Comparing social work in different contexts and countries and adapting best practices
- Developing new research approaches focusing on close collaboration between research, special work practice, and service users

Make sure to check out the student testimonials including the NOSWEL video and receive further information at their site: <http://www.us.no/noswel>