

DAHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBER TOVA K. BRANDT

Tova K. Brandt has been appointed to the DAHS Board as one of the Museum of Danish America representatives. She is already actively participating in the program committee for the upcoming virtual DAHS events in June 2021. Tova is currently the Executive Director of MoDA and has been with the museum since October of 2009; she previously served as Curator of Exhibitions.

Tova has said that as a museum professional, she finds it fascinating to study the ways in which a culture expresses itself. She enjoys telling diverse stories of Danish history and culture through the exhibits and programs at the museum. She adds, "In the process, I sometimes feel that I am a 'Danish convert' myself, incorporating Danish touches into my own personal life; for example, even my 8-year-old son refers to the 'hygge candle' that we light at supper time."

DAHS SELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The Danish American Heritage Society is made up of two representatives each from the Danish American Archive and Library, Grand View University, the Museum of Danish America, and 6 more members at large. This board elects its officers from its own membership. In accordance with the policy of the DAHS, new officers have been elected. We are pleased to announce these officers: President - Lynette Rasmussen, Vice-President - Dave Johnson, Secretary - Sheri Muller, and Treasurer - Joel Mortensen. These new officers are already busy carrying out their specific duties. Both Lynette and Joel are at-large committee members; Dave represents the Danish American Archive and Library, and Sheri represents Grand View University.

The nominating committee is always looking for potential members. If you are interested or want more information about the Danish American Heritage Society by-laws or constitution, contact Lynette Rasmussen at: lrasmussen@rasmussengroup.com.



JANUARY 2021



DAHS NEWSLETTER

danish american heritage society



DAHS BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

During the bi-annual meeting held via Zoom on October 12, 2020, the board was able to touch base with the website designer, Jennifer Thoergesen in Oslo, Norway. Jennifer does an excellent job of keeping the DAHS website up-to-date. It is hoped that our membership takes advantage of the website. One Bodtger Grant was discussed; it was determined that some more information and discussion with the candidate was needed; however, the application looks

promising. The DAHS Endowment is doing well and is handled by First National Bank-Omaha, and the treasurer's report included membership records and renewals. The board also learned that after 21 years of service to the DAHS, John Mark Nielsen will no longer be a member of the board. John Mark has said he hopes to return sometime in the future and is always available to the board for ideas and inspiration. The board will miss his organization, enthusiasm, and knowledge.

THE BRIDGE – JOURNAL OF THE DANISH AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Vol. 43-1 of The Bridge, which introduced our conference topic of "Traditions and Transitions," came out in mid-2020, and seems to have been well-received, in particular Karoline Kuhl's article "Language Shift and Maintenance among Danish Immigrants." Julie Allen, with the assistance of Julianne Haahr, has worked diligently to bring to DAHS members an exceptional publication. The next issue of The Bridge, Vol. 43-2, is being mailed out in early February 2021. It focuses on notable Danes, from Tycho Brahe to Danish doughboys in the US armed services during World War I.

A big thank you goes out to Brigham Young University who not only employs Julie Allen, but has created a searchable database of older issues of The Bridge. Anyone interested in older issues of The Bridge can find them in the Scholars' Archive at Brigham Young University: <http://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/thebridge>. In addition, hard copies of many older issues are available through for purchase from Grand View University. Contact Sheri Muller at smuller@grandview.edu.

COOPERATIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

Working with board members from the Danish American Archive and Library, the Danish Immigrant Archive at Grand View University, and the Museum of Danish America, the Strategic Planning Workshop was established to determine a common cataloging platform. Though some initial work was done prior to COVID-19, no resolutions have yet been reached; however, the group is working toward good communications and a research platform. DAHS thanks John Mark Nielsen for helping to create cooperation between its members.

DAHS CONFERENCE IN SEATTLE MOVED TO VIRTUAL FORMAT

Due to COVID-19, the planned conference, Traditions and Transitions: Way of Being Danish which was scheduled to be held in Seattle Washington on **May 5-9, 2021**, has been reformatted to an on-line conference to be held on **June 5, 2021** (Danish Constitution Day: Grundlovsdag). Please check www.danishheritage.org for up-to-date information.