



The Danish Soldiers Club

April 2017

www.danishsoldiersclub.com

NEWSLETTER FOR THE DANISH SOLDIERS CLUB OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 41, PETALUMA CA. 94953
MEMBER OF DANSKE SOLDATERFORENINGERS LANDSRÅD PROTECTOR HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARGRETHE II OF DENMARK

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings -

They say that this winter has been the wettest on record. I am beginning to believe them. Thank goodness for strong sump pumps, at least in my neck of the woods. But as far as our April meeting was concerned, it could simply not be a better day, just one of those days where Kastania is at its best and most enjoyable. But 2017 is moving right along, and May is just a few weeks away. Consequently our first great BBQ is coming up and I am confident that it will be a great success as usual. Per is reporting that all the plans and arrangements are on the rails, and as usual, our tremendous volunteers have signed up for the many tasks to be performed. Indeed we are lucky to have a great and competent group of members, who are willing to participate.

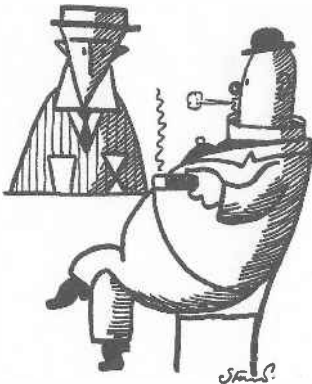
Hope you will all join us and do not forget to bring the family and especially the children.
Poul



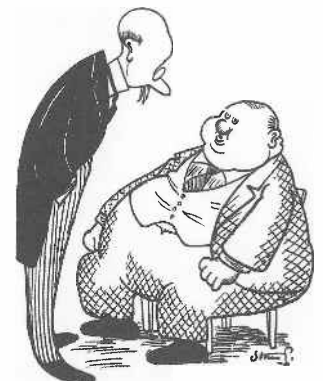
- Is here an elevator?
- No, but we have a garbage chute.

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Post Office Box 41
Petaluma, CA 94953



- Man, It is amazing how much you drink.
- I collect labels for a dress to my wife.



- You should do aerobics
- But how?

Address Correction Requested

The Governing Board for 2017

Poul Poulsen President to 2018	San Rafael (415) 459-7727 poulsenpo@danishsoldiersclub.com
Per Madsen Vice Pres. to 2018	San Francisco (415) 928-4509 permads@danishsoldiersclub.com
Vagn Nielsen Treasurer to 2017	Sonoma (707) 996-9950 vkn Nielsen@danishsoldiersclub.com
Rick Santarini Secretary to 2019	Santa Rosa (707) 479-6575 ricksantarini@sbcglobal.net
John Johansen Newsletter/Web Director to 2019	Modesto (209) 545-8992 admin@danishsoldiersclub.com
Ken Fultz Director to 2017	American Canyon (415) 362-7509 KFCVA41@comcast.net
Leo Pedersen Director to 2018	Danville (925) 820-2150 Leo.pedersen@gmail.com
Keith Brians Director to 2017	Petaluma (707) 789-9953 kastaniakeith@gmail.com
Jill Brians Director to 2019	Petaluma (707) 227-8404 jcbrians@yahoo.com

Volunteer

Lilian Rasmussen Membership Coordinator	Roseville (916) 771-4961 mormor@surewest.net 4397 Coach Whip Way Roseville, CA 95747-8623
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Thanks to this month donors for our raffle. Poul Poulsen, Ken Fultz, Per Madsen, Tove, Birgit Jacobsen, Carsten Johansen & Kirsten Pedersen.

Take a look at an interesting video on the web site www.danishsoldiersclub.com.



CBS news visited the winemaker for our DSC wine, Ned Hill. He has a very interesting way of protecting theft of his grapes from birds. He uses falcons.

April 1 or April Fools day came with perfect weather for a lunch in Kastania Park. 49 members and guests participated including two new members Dennis Wimple and Kim Aronson. They were properly installed with the old Danish Soldier song: "Dengang jeg drog afsted..."

We are now down to 32 non paid members, and hopefully that will be taken care of at the May Barbeque

Poul reported that everything concerning rent of the Hall for the Christmas party is in place, except the final approval of our own security guards.

Per Madsen went through the details of the BBQ and the lining up of volunteers. We are on track for another successful event.

During our member meetings at Kastania Park we discuss all subjects and issues that are of common interest for all members like the content of the web site, and newsletter.

Realizing that there are a large portion of our members who never comes to these meeting, I hereby invite all readers of this newsletter to respond to our mailbox :

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Please let us hear from as many members as possible.

Does the newsletter fulfill your expectations?

Are the articles interesting?

Are Storm P jokes still relevant?

Is the format OK, with a two page article, and a one page summary from the latest meeting?

The intention is to have a fun and interesting Newsletter the members are looking forward to read, and never have any political, racial or religious issues.

Let us collect your honest opinions in May and June. I will publish the results in the July Newsletter.

Thank you all in advance.

Order form for BBQ lunch at \$20.00 each serving

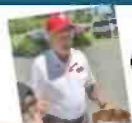
Yes, I wish to order lunch for Kastania Fællø. A check with member number is enclosed

NEW YORK STRIP STEAK

We will prepare the finest, most tender and well seasoned beef available with three kinds of salad and dinner rolls. Coffee and pastry are included.

There will be free Hot Dogs, ice cream and soft drinks to all children.

Number of children _____



Mail or email this order no later than Tuesday prior to the lunch to:

vkn Nielsen@danishsoldiersclub.com

Or: Vagn Nielsen
DSC Treasurer
20650 Burndale Rd.
Sonoma, CA 95476

Name: _____ Number of Adults _____ Check amount _____ \$

Drink Tickets are 3 tickets for \$12.00 or 6 tickets for \$20.00. Please specify quantity _____
1 ticket for any mixed drink, wine or beer. Soft drinks 1/2 ticket. Bottled water free.

FAN – but rarely really fanatical, huh?

By Peter Steiness

Most of the time, we use the term 'fan' in a kind and soft way. We are fans of this and that and nobody questions us. But when we dissect the term 'fan' it becomes another story, perhaps a story we don't want to be part of or be related to what-so-ever. The truth is that 'fan' is the abbreviation of 'fanatical' and 'fanatical' by itself, is for the most part a rather nasty emotion, when we fully understand what it is. So we cringe by association, because we are not really fanatical, are we?

In daily chit-chat we use the term 'fan' loosely. We might state that 'I'm a big fan of...' and life goes on. But if we say that we are 'fanatical' about such and such, the listener might flinch, because most of us do understand the difference between being a fan and being fanatical – and not just because one is abbreviated and the other one isn't.

I have seriously never ever tagged myself a fan (and never fanatical) about anything, any person or persons; true story. From I was 5 or 6 years old, I started playing football (soccer, as they call it here) and it seemed all my older teammates were 'fans' of Manchester United – so I joined their interest. This is an 'attentiveness' that has been going strong ever since; so far for over 64 years. I watch all their matches live on TV, yes, very early in the morning and I follow most of the player and club news that are published. Our younger son has been 'involved' ever since I coached him soccer from he was 5, on teams I called Manchester United. But I have never called myself a fan – only a supporter.

Our son talks about Manchester United in terms of '...we won yesterday', '...we didn't play well', etc.

using terms as if he was part of the club, knows the players on a buddy-buddy level. I have never done that – ever. Don't get me wrong, it's not that I feel I'm better, more refined or whatever, it's just something I have never called myself or looked at in that way. I have simply considered myself a supporter, more so than a 'true' fan – though to me, it sounds the same, doesn't it?

Anyway, when we talk about the softer everyday use of 'fan' it's more so understood as a supporter of and interested in, as an enthusiastic person with specific attention to this and that; I'm of course perfectly fine with this. It's a big part of life that we find interests outside our everyday routines, interests that broadens our views and for the most part enrich and entertain us accordingly – it's great to have outside interests (as long as they are legal) if we call ourselves fans or if we are simply supporters of – either works, really. Do you consider yourself a fan of anything or anybody? I think that for the most part we resign to 'I like or follow...' rather than stating that we are fans of...

But it's a totally different world when we look at 'fanatical' or at 'fanaticism'. If we become fanatical and dive into fanaticism, it becomes very scary and out of control in too many cases, no matter the direction this 'fanaticism' is pointed.

'Fanaticism' is from the Latin adverb 'fanatic' which covers emotions like: enthusiastic, ecstatic, raging, fanatical (duh), furious and passionate (but not in a good way). This can be utterly frightening, as hard-headed fanaticism is related to unrealistic and fake realities, as used in propaganda, with the simple aim of misleading. As an example, religious fanaticism is referred to, as 'blind faith'. This type of fanatical misleading is most certainly and unfortunately abused a lot not just religiously, but politically as well, all around the world.

So you see, we should be fine with the 'fan' thing, as long as we don't slide into the fanatical side of it, because that is a nasty equation. But of course we also meet the more obsessive fans, I'm sure you know some, the ones who are so into their team that this obsessiveness leaves no room for toler-

ance, for contrary ideas or opinions. Most of them are harmless, but some do suffer from self-inflicted brainwashing. Sure, some can be cute and fun in their beliefs and support, but it can turn rather nasty when opposite fan-groups lock heads – big time.

Fortunately, it is not often we hear about the destruction opposite fan-groups can create, but unfortunately it happens; in some horrific confrontations, even fatalities occur, and for what? I follow and support Manchester United and if you tell me that you like Liverpool, makes no difference to me (besides me thinking: why would you follow such a stupid club – ha ha). But if you try to convince me that I should follow your club, I'm out of here. I respect your choice (no matter how stupid it is – ha ha) as I expect you will respect my choices (no matter how stupid you might think they are – ha ha). You see, light and fun and harmless, really...

I followed the Beatles since 1962; Love Me Do and forward. I still play their music and still enjoy it all tremendously, as I always have. I was even fortunate to see them in concert twice, once in London and once in Copenhagen (without Ringo). I have read a trillion (more or less) books about them as the Beatles and individually and so forth. Beatlemania was a term that popped up rather quickly, but I never ever found myself on that level – if there was actually a 'level' to be on. But I was always a supporter (in this case 'a very enthusiastic supporter'), and never saw myself as a fan or manic (ha ha) – for some weird reason, really.

I truly embrace people who have great interests in stuff, entertainment and sports or whatever (as long as it's legal). I'm even fascinated, though I don't fully understand why, with people who are big fans of baseball. Some weeks back I watched a friend of mine play rugby. A muddy field filled with a bunch of women tackling and stacking themselves on top of each other, while trying to run an odd-shaped ball to the other end – or something like that. Sure my description ooze ignorance and arrogance, but that's not what I'm aiming at, because when I watched all those women doing that thing and watched the sidelines with the team's fans, because that's what they were, how can I not so totally appreciate and embrace what they are doing?

How darn cool is it when so many people get together about this one thing – as an example?

Fair-weather fan? I have to totally swing with that, because at times I get on the fair-weather-fan-wagon, when a local team is doing well. The Golden State Warriors (basketball) has done well the last few years, so I kind of follow them and their success. They won a lot and then they lost a bit, so I activate my supporter motto: Team wins – I fan / Team loses - I don't. Yeah, a tad shallow, but remember the deal about its only entertainment and if I'm not entertained, whatever my prerogatives, I have options and a whole lot of other things to do.

Like everything else in life, for the most part, moderation is important. If your team lost, God forbid, please don't let that ruin any moments or any parts of your day – remember, that professional sports of whatever kind, is ONLY entertainment, nothing more and nothing less; let's keep things in perspective.

Does it bother me when Manchester United loses a match? It does if they played well, but couldn't find the net. If they played like crap, obviously they didn't deserve to win – so what's for dinner? And life goes on... fan or not.

PS. Shit hitting the fan is not at all associated with the above – but perhaps in some cases it should be, huh? (ha ha)...

