



# The Danish Soldiers Club

July 2017

[www.danishsoldiersclub.com](http://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,

We had a great July meeting. As expected, a number of our members were on vacation etc., but the attendance was respectable and enjoyable.

As a reminder of the fact, that we are a Soldiers Club, we will approach the Danish military services to obtain facts and perhaps memorabilia about the Danish participation in the Middle East NATO actions. We are already honoring our American activities in our club house, and it would be nice if we could do likewise for the Danish efforts.

The August meeting will be quite interesting. As announced, every participant is expected to bring his/her own lunch. This is a one off event, but it will be interesting to watch how this event turns out.

See you all in August.

Poul



-May I ask what is there to laugh of in this world?  
-Have you never tried to laugh of yourself?

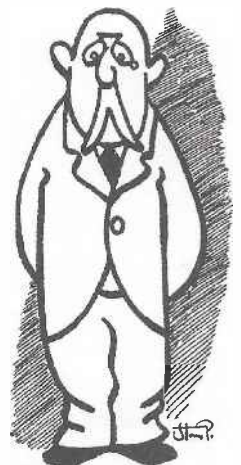
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Post Office Box 41  
Petaluma, CA 94953



-There is one good thing about missing a train  
—You are early for the next train

**Address Correction Requested**



-In order to have an argument you only need two word in the language  
—Yes and No

## 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 vknelsen@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
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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 all the donors for the raffle: Erik Larsen, Kirsten Pedersen, Tove, Vibeke Jensen, Leo Pedersen, Per Madsen, Ken Fultz, Poul Poulsen.

This steady income for the club is invaluable. In June the raffle was 12% of the total income, so it means a lot. Thanks again to all members for participating. The donation of coffee and cakes for meetings means just as much.

**Donations  
are Greatly  
Appreciated!**

## Reminder:

***For August there is no need to sign up. PayPal will not be active.  
All drink tickets must be purchased at Kastania Park: 6 tickets for \$20  
Just show up with your favorite food in your picnic basket and  
expectations of having a great day.***

***The Soldiers Club will purchase the usual Kringle for desert.  
Vibeke Jensen & Inger Marie Andersen will provide Danish Apple Pie.***

Picnic is always a family event, so please bring the whole family including children and grandchildren. We have plenty of space. If you have a picnic game like frisbee you want to share, please bring it.

On June 3, 58 Soldiers and guests enjoyed beautiful weather in the Kastania Park. Two new members were initiated Michael D. Fox & Robert D. Fox. Yes you guessed right, they are brothers. Welcome Michael & Robert.

A new sound system was brought up in the member meeting. It will be able to reach all of the park with music at different volumes and can convert to a microphone for announcements, raffle and singing of the anthems. It can be a little costly, but the board believes we need it.

In August we will have a real picnic where members & guests bring their own lunches, and buy drinks from the bar. Kringle will also be available, plus Vibeke Jensen & Inger Marie will provide Danish Apple Pie.

In September at our BBQ the Vikings of Bjornstad are invited to give us an insight of the Viking culture.

The Vikings of Bjornstad is a living history and educational group, concentrating on the Viking age - from 793 through 1066 AD.

They are planning on setting up encampment in the grassy area nearest the buildings. We are asking our members & guests kindly not to park in this area.



# WHAT IN THE WORLD

## and other good stuff to know

*By Peter Steiness*

Back in 1820 we had about 1 billion people here on this globe. Today that is approximately how many personal friends Mark Zuckerberg has on Facebook. 97 years later we are beyond 7 billion. That's a lot of bodies and that was fast; just some stuff I didn't know, but now I do and you do too...

The following is some odd sox info about where we live. For the most part we fiddle about, exist and survive on this planet, not really knowing where and what, when and why. We take way too much stuff for granted and some with a tad of ignorance, actually a lot of ignorance (as in 'not knowing'). So we might appear oblivious, but of course, we know that is not true, huh?

We are busy with a lot of stuff in our daily lives and that's one of the reasons we forget Greenland is the largest island on earth and that it spans 2 million square miles of snow-balls and ice-cubes. We also forget that Greenland is melting, and I'm not sure if I like that, but it's a good thing to know anyway; don't you think? Running out of ice-cubes is serious business, so we should be worried.

Other stimulating "what in the world" stuff to know: We have 238 nations with China feeding the most at 1,3 billion, USA with a grand mix of 313 million, Germany with 81,3 million, the UK 63 million, Sweden with 9,1 million and Hans Christian Andersen's Denmark weighs in at 5,5 million - just to name a few. Another fascinating fact is that the blog I write (Life as it Really Is), now has readers from over 124 of those 238 nations and counting; to me, that is such an awesome statistic.

The smallest country is located in the South Pacific Ocean, east of Australia. It's the Pitcairn Islands. They listed the peak of their population at 233 in 1937. Today that number is 48, with only one phone, but 17 party-lines (bring out the hats & balloons). Total land-mass is slightly bigger than our living-room at 50 square miles, seriously. Pitcairn Islands is a leftover speck of the British Empire and has a zero growth rate (birth-control working at its very best).

The world is about 4,55 billion years old, so why on earth was I whining about my 71st birthday? The highest point is Mount Everest at 8,598 meters or 5.4 miles. Greatest ocean depth is 10,924 meters or 7 miles and called the Mariana Trench located somewhere in the Pacific Ocean.

Did you know that 95 countries are islands with no borders to other nations? See, we don't know stuff like this, but in a perverse kind of way, isn't it fascinating? I mean we live here, but how much do we really know about where we live? Not a heck of a lot – so I'm here to fill you in; service at its best.

Though known as **The Magic Kingdom**, Disneyland is not represented in the United Nations – where's the fairness in that? When did the UN become anti-rodent? Racism, at its lowest level, huh?

We live around 1,500 potentially active volcanoes, where 500 (nice even number) have erupted in historical time; that would be from the day I was born, but a bit longer. Approximately 500 million brave (stupid?) people live within these volcanoes striking distance; I can only assume they all have at least two Lava Lamps each; I mean, it's right there...

12% of the world's population speaks Mandarin Chinese. 4.85% hablar Española or something close. Only 4.83% have English as their main tongue, and I found only six individuals who still speak Pig-Latin; a language that has nothing to do with communication between swine, or does it? Foul language is not even on the list – and I checked several \*&^%\$# times.

33.35% are Christians, Catholics, etc., 22.43% Muslims, 13.78% are Hindu and .21% is of the Jewish faith – just to name a few. Can we assume that the rest are atheists and Buddhists and that Hara Krishna finally got tired of the airport thing or ran out of tambourines?

Worldwide 252 babies are born **every minute** – that’s a lot and a bit scary, when compared to only 107 deaths **every minute**. Seems like one has to slow down and the other has to speed up. I mean, aren’t we running out of room soon? Not including transvestites and cross-dressers, there are more women than men, and I’m fine with that. It really surprised me that the median age worldwide is 28.4. Life expectancy is 69.73 years for women and 65.59 for men. So with that in mind, this might be the last article from me, as I am so beyond my expected lifespan. It has been nice, it really has - stupid stat.

I really don’t know why Jytte Knudsen turned my advances down six times before she finally agreed to be my girl-friend. Then I found out that she was only after my lunch money, so I ended it 3 days later, sad and financially broke. Very confusing and devastating; something a 7 year old shouldn’t have to go through. Yeah, I know, not a **world** thing, but still weighing heavy on my mind, even after all these years. But now I feel much better.

We have a known oil-reserve of about 1,468 trillion barrels of crude. We use about 85 million barrels daily, so you figure that one out yourself. 1,2 billion land-line phones are still in use, and some of them are always busy. Cell or mobile phones, as some calls them, are reaching 6 billion and Internet users are above 2.5 billion. See, this is all really cool stuff to bring up in any decent bar. You tell me if this is not the most original pick-up line: “Hello babe, did you know that worldwide we have 43,983 airports? And even more fascinating: Atlanta, in the USA, is the busiest airport ever, with over 89 million passengers sifting through annually – hey where are you going? I got a bunch more fascinating stuff to tell you – hey, stop, don’t leave so soon! Dang it...” Besides that, we have approximately 64 million miles of roadway (for fans of metric, that’s about

100 million kilometers, which is still a lot of way); there is so much about the world we live in that we do not pay attention to. But after a few hours with the nose in the monitor and checking out CIA’s World Factbook on-line, it’s amazing how refreshing that really is; “**perspective**” comes to mind.

And that is just about the world around us. Not to make you uncomfortable, but how well do we really know our own bodies? Do you know how they function, what some of all those thousands of organs are called, what they do and why we should take good care of them? If fairly normal, we really don’t know and isn’t that weird in a giggling kind of way? Maybe someday I’ll write an article about stuff I don’t know about the body; not my body, of course - somebody else’s body. Perhaps Jytte’s body? She sure had a terrific one. Any volunteers? Raise your hands, either one of them – or both if you can...

