



The Danish Soldiers Club

February 2018

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 start on the 2018 season. As we know from experience, the February meeting can be a bit cool. Perhaps this was the reason why the turnout was somewhat modest. But due to the exceptionally mild winter we are having, the event was very pleasant, and we all had a great time.

Remember to renew your annual membership and mark your calendars for the 2018 season meetings. See you all in March.

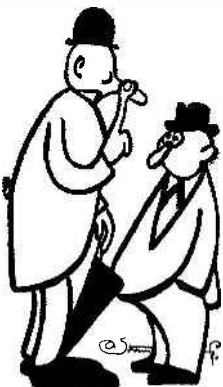
Poul



-I have a lot of experiences.
-But they are all bad

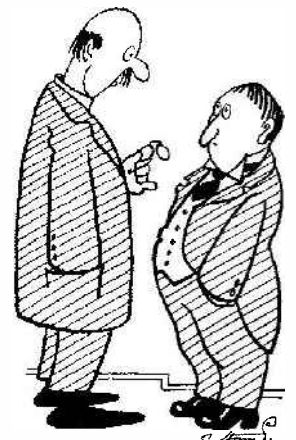
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Post Office Box 41
Petaluma, CA 94953



-Remember "Knowledge is Power"
-Could be—but the opposite is never the case.

Address Correction Requested



-Listen-Now I have explained you in details the whole case!
-What case

The Governing Board for 2018

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
Margrethe Bækgaard Treasurer to 2020	Santa Rosa (707) 575-5779 margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com
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Ken Fultz Director to 2020	American Canyon (415) 362-7509 KFCVA41@comcast.net
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Vagn Nielsen Kasernemester	Sonoma (707) 996-9950 vknielsen@comcast.net
Lilian Rasmussen Membership Coordinator	Roseville (916) 771-4961 mormor@surewest.net 4397 Coach Whip Way Roseville, CA 95747-8623

Thanks to all the donors for the raffle:
Ken Fultz, Poul Poulsen, Birthe Baekgaard, Per Madsen, Tove, Vibeke Jensen, Peter Schakow, Kirsten Pedersen, Signe Vik, Rick & Lisa Santarini.



40 members came to the 2018 season opener at Kastania Park. Vagn Nielsen gave his last performance as Treasurer. He closed the year 2017 with only a \$600 loss on the Christmas Party. It is the best ever, and it finally seems we got everything under control and in line for the future. It is a good start for Margrethe.

The February meeting was a closing of 2017 and a look forward to 2018. Our Web site continues strong, in 2017 we had a total of 6000 visitors. The most popular page was the "Newsletter" followed by "Scheduled events". Number three was surprisingly "The Danish Monarchy". The new page requested by members "Memoriam" & "Memory Lane" is also quite popular. All member inputs to the web site and the Newsletter are always very welcome.

In January we received sad news. Our longtime member Palle B. Larsen from Reno passed away January 13 after a short illness. According to Palle's wish there will be no service. Palle had been member of the Danish Soldiers club since January 1968. Born in 1931 he was 87, when he passed. Palle was born in Denmark, served in the military and came to the USA and served here in the military. I hope at a later date to get the full story about Palle's life. Palle liked to come to Kastania Park. He drove all the way from Reno to attend the meetings.



Our next meeting is Saturday March 3 in Kastania Park.



Order form for Smørrebrød at \$18.00 each

Yes, I wish to order lunch for Kastania Fælled. My check is enclosed

Four pieces of Smørrebrød of which one is **SALMON**
Total plates with **Salmon**

Four pieces of Smørrebrød of which one is **SHRIMP**
Total plates with **Shrimp**

Four pieces of Smørrebrød of which one is **HERRING**
Total plates with **Herring**

Four pieces of "non-seafood" Smørrebrød **REGULAR**
Total plates **Regular**

Email or mail this order no later than Tuesday prior to the lunch to:
ricksantarini@danishsoldiersclub.com

Or:
Rick Santarini
325 La Crosse Avenue
Santa Rosa, Ca 95409

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

Name: _____ Check amount _____

Women, me and equality (and it rhymes)

By Peter Steiness

They say that even those devout macho type males, who can open beer-bottles with their teeth, have a feminine side. I don't fully know what that actually means, but let's run with it anyway. I suspect my feminine side is above average, as I have always felt more satisfied, comfortable and relaxed in the company of women. No, you masculine-fire-breathing dudes, it's not always about sex, football and 'look at me'. It's about relating, communicating, respecting, accepting, trusting and exposing feelings, listening, honesty and thoughts, plus a whole bunch more; and **NO** I do not dress up in mini-skirts and high heels, with a matching purse Tuesday evenings, as many of you still believe I do... (But there's an idea...)

Asking most women how they have been, they will tell you and for the most part in great detail; I like that very much. Asking your macho male friends and they'll respond: "Dude!" while they spit the beer-cap out and readjust their crotch area for the fifth time within the last two minutes, needed or not... Now, don't get mad, as I know that none of the male readers of this article would ever do that, as far as I know; I'm just trying to make a point (lawsuits avoided?)

The reality is that males and females are different on so many levels; that's the thing we still have a hard time accepting and even a harder time adjusting to. My mantra has always been: **When each of us respects diversity, we will all get a lot stronger – together.** I live by that on all levels and it applies especially well to the relationships between males and females.

When our two genders start listening more to each other instead of wasting time trying to fit the other side into molds we genetically do not fit into very well, we will be on the right track. Remember that we are not at war; we are all on

the same team wearing slightly different uniforms, but aiming at the same goal; so why not cooperate? Yes, 'dudes', it involves give and take, and many women do drink beer, already meeting you half way. Both genders are extremely stubborn and very set in what they perceive as being 'the only way', but we really need to discard that notion and work together towards an understanding and respect, starting with our differences – are you still with me?

Dee Dee Myers, former White House press secretary during Clinton's first term, wrote a book I highly recommend you read. The title, **Why Women Should Rule the World**, is of course purposely provocative and to me a bra-burning suggestive; but don't let my interpretation of the title fool you. Dee Dee is telling us as it is, or more so as it **SHOULD** be. I fully agree with her thoughts and I'm there with pom-poms and encouragement for **ALL** of us to move forward and more so hand in hand than in-front or behind each other; let's try that side-by-side thing, huh?

Dee Dee was kind enough to send me a letter (a response to a note I had sent her after I read the book), where she stated: **The road ahead won't be easy; it never is. And if it was, women would already have achieved equal status.** Equal status on equal levels; I couldn't agree more.

Gender-wise we will always have differences, I most certainly hope, so we need to **respect, understand and learn** more about our differences and when we do apply that knowledge, only the sky will be our limit - together. Just imagine what we can accomplish, all of us heading in the same direction at the same time - wow.

Concerning the good old Viking days and equality (since you asked), the images we are fed are of them rough and tough raiding and looting fellows killing everything left and right, front and back, while wearing funny hats (no horns, actually); so utterly macho and chauvinistic. But historians have found that women within the Viking society were the key-holders to the chests (no,

not those things, you silly person; the **family** chests holding the gold and silver and other important stuff...). They were in charge at home, were kept in high regard and were fully respected by the males. I clearly see that in today's Scandinavia and it was also very apparent through my life in Denmark and so many years after the end of the Viking-Age. I always had the greatest respect for the seemingly natural equality I experienced amongst most Danes / Scandinavians. Why not learn at least a little bit from something that took place a thousand years ago and something that seemingly worked? Yes indeed, why not?

Now don't get me wrong, we have certainly come a long way since them rough and tough Vikings did that raiding bit, but we can move even faster towards full equality, by being a lot less stubborn. Are you doing your part already?

So all I suggest is that since each gender have such a massive library of superb and different skills, thoughts, logic, ideas, emotions and

Repeat after me:

**When each of us respects diversity,
We will all get a lot stronger – together**

...and how cool is that...

the list is very long on both sides, is to make a combined effort of team-work for all of us to forge ahead into the future faster than we would ever have imagined. Combining the two seemingly opposing teams into one solid unit, is the deal – it really is.

So let's listen more across gender lines, let's learn more about each other and let's apply some of those many things we learn, with respect and appreciation and we will see a much brighter future a lot faster – hand in hand and side-by-side.

And then perhaps one day, every single one of us will be able to open beer-bottles with our teeth, watch football while breast-feeding our babies and make the same money for the same job – maybe a tad optimistic, but it could happen, duh! I know that we are already getting closer every single day, bit by bit; we are all heading in the right direction. I do hope you agree – really. (Shoot, I think I chipped a tooth on that bottle – I'll have wine next time)...

