



# The Danish Soldiers Club

April 2019

[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

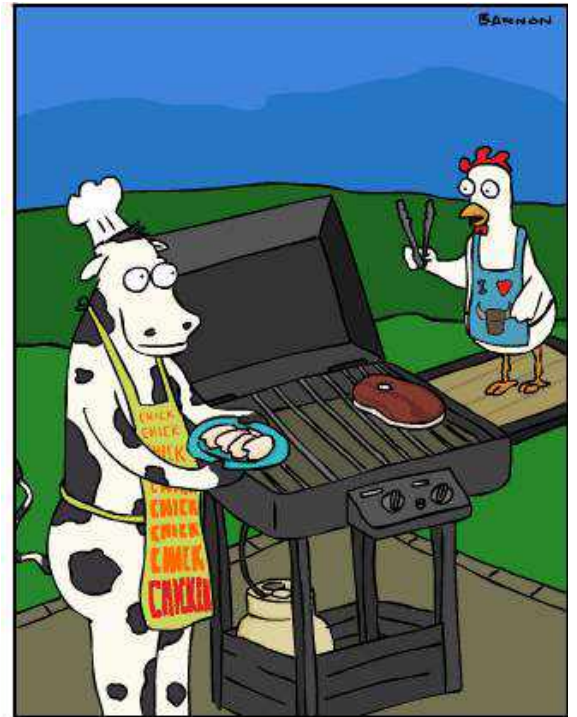
The weather started out a little wet on Saturday the 6th but when people started to gather the rain disappeared where we had a nice dry meeting and luncheon. Hopefully the rainy season has ended and our May BBQ will have beautiful spring weather.

This month's newsletter includes an email (on page 3) from member MAJ Sloane E. Struse, it deals with his interaction with Danish forces in Afghanistan.

May is our annual Spring BBQ please plan on attending, it will feature good food, good company and good times.

**Best Wishes and enjoy the May BBQ**

**Rick**



AN AWKWARD MOMENT AT THE PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNAL BARBECUE

The Danish Soldiers Club

Post Office Box 41  
Petaluma, CA 94953



**Address Correction Requested**

## The Governing Board for 2019

Rick Santarini President/Newsletter to 2019	Santa Rosa (707) 477-6669 ricksantarini@danishsoldiersclub.com
Keith Brians Vice President to 2020	Petaluma (707) 789-9953 kastaniakeith@gmail.com
Margrethe Bækgaard Treasurer to 2020	Santa Rosa (707) 575-5779 margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com
Jill Brians Secretary to 2019	Petaluma (707) 227-8404 jcbrians@yahoo.com
Michael Stecher Web Master Director to 2021	Mill Valley (415) 380-9276 mstecher@me.com
Ken Fultz Director to 2020	American Canyon (415) 362-7509 KFCVA41@comcast.net
Leo Pedersen Director to 2021	Danville (925) 820-2150 Leo.pedersen@gmail.com
Adam Byer Director to 2021	Oakland (510) 332 6932 adam@cherrystreetgames.com
Peg Saragina Director to 2021	Petaluma (707) 481-3039 msaragina@gmail.com
Dennis Wimple Director to 2021	El Cerrito (510) 525-4120 denniswimple@yahoo.com
Lilian Rasmussen Membership Coordinator	Roseville (916) 771-4961 mormor@surewest.net 4397 Coach Whip Way Roseville, CA 95747-8623

In spite of the Danish type weather 45 members and guests attended the April 6th meeting.

One of the subjects for the member meeting was the idea of sending a care package to Danish Forces as mentioned in MAJ Sloane E. Struse email on the next page. If you would like to donate towards a care package we as a Danish Soldiers Club will put something to together.

Hopefully the wet weather will be behind us and we can move on to great Kastania Faelled picnic weather and temperatures. Remember the first BBQ is happening at next meeting in May, this is always a great popular event. Again share this with your family and friends as a way to encourage new members to join and help us celebrate our Danish Heritage. Participation is what will help this club to continue and to remain vibrant.

Thanks to the many donations for the raffle that help support this club from Rick & Lisa Santarini, Ken Fultz, Birthe Bækgaard, Tove Lindberg, Poul Poulsen, Carsten Johansen, Vibeke Jensen and Per Madsen. Sorry I misplaced the donation list so if I forgot anyone I apologize. Thanks again to Birthe who brought her famous Tuscan cake.

If you already have paid your dues for 2019 you can relax. If not, please send a check for \$30 to:

**Margrethe Bækgaard**

**1740 Brandee Lane**

**Santa Rosa, CA 95403-8676— Email: [margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com](mailto:margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com)**

**Also remember that you can pay online thru**

**PayPal at [www.danishsoldiersclub.com](http://www.danishsoldiersclub.com)**

## Order form for BBQ lunch at \$20.00 each serving



Yes, I wish to order lunch for the BBQ. 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 salads, beans and dinner rolls. Coffee and pastry are included.



Email or mail this order no later than Tuesday prior to the lunch to:

[Margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com](mailto:Margrethebaekgaard@danishsoldiersclub.com)

Or:

**Margrethe Bækgaard**

**1740 Brandee Lane**

**Santa Rosa, CA 95403**

**Or PayPal thru the DSC Web Site**

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

For just \$1 there will be Hot Dogs, Ice Cream and

Soft Drinks to all children.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_ # of Adults \_\_\_\_\_  
# of children \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Check amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**The Board recently received this email from Sloane Struse DSC Member serving in Afghanistan**

Aloha Brothers & Sisters:

*I trust this email will find you all well. I wanted to share a wonderful opportunity I had to engage with some young Danish Soldiers here in Kabul, Afghanistan. These troops provided some of my guys a security escort out to one of our bulk fuel suppliers facilities in the greater Kabul area.*

*When I mentioned that I am part Danish and a member (absentee due to military service) of the Danish Soldiers Club of Northern California they were shocked. I shared with them our newsletter and some other Danish information that I had on my desk here at the U.S. Embassy. I also mentioned that our Club is member of "Danske Soldaterforningers Landsråd". They were highly impressed with what you are all doing to enhance and preserve the Danish community in the United States.*

*I had the honor of taking the attached pictures with them at the Resolute Support Mission Headquarters Compound (next to the U.S. Embassy) here in Kabul with their MaxxPro MRAP vehicles. Then I had the pleasure of giving them a personal tour of the U.S. Embassy. Before our second mission together, they presented me a Danish Flag. We are hoping to be able to take a few photos at the Embassy with the flag.*

*These guys are from The Jutland Dragoon Regiment, 1st Armored Battalion, 2nd Tank Squadron, C/S Viking 2.4. I am on bubba on the left and the Danish Soldiers were (in no particular order): SGT. M. Thorsager, SGT. J. Kofod, CPL. A. Knight, LCP. B. Glistrup, LCP. M. Friis, PFC. L. Lidegaard, LCP. N. Møllenberg, PVT. N. Miller, PVT. A. Tage.*

*These Danish Soldiers are living a little rough in Kabul. If you are interested in sending them a care package their address is:*

*Name: Mads Thorsager*

*Address 1: DANCON*

*Address 2: NEW KABUL COMPOUND*

*City: APO*

*State: AE / Armed Forces Europe*

*Zip code: 09354*

*This unit will redeploy at the end of May and another rotation will be incoming. As for me, I am wrapping up my 2nd trip here over the last 3 year this summer. I have volunteered to head back to Iraq for another year down-range.*

*All the best!*

*V/R,*

*MAJ Sloane E. Struse, USA*

*DLA Energy Middle East LNO*

*DOD Customs Office*

*U.S. Embassy, Kabul, Afghanistan*



# Easter in Denmark

With spring knocking at the door and the Easter weekend upon us, we take a look at how the Danes choose to celebrate the occasion with its own unique culture and traditions.

During Easter, Danes celebrate mostly the arrival of springtime and with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday being national holidays, they find Easter as a good opportunity for a short escape to their summer houses. It's not very common for Danes to attend church during Easter and there aren't any special religious events taking place during the holy week.

Easter is warmly welcomed after the long, dark winter, and shops and homes are adorned with cheerful decorations in yellows and greens, along with budding branches and daffodils. Most celebrate Easter in their homes or their summerhouses and embrace the concept of *hygge*, which involves spending time together relaxing and having fun.

Easter lunch, or *påskefrokost*, lasts for most of the day and is a blend of lunch and dinner. Chicken, lamb and vegetables usually feature, along with herring, a selection of small hot dishes, and sliced meats and cheese. Egg dishes also play a key role, and could arrive boiled, fried or, in the southern tradition, as *solæg* ('sun egg'), where the eggs are boiled with onions until the yolk turns dark green, then left in a salty mixture for a week, before being eaten with mustard and chili. Beer – includ-

ing stronger, specially brewed Easter varieties – and snaps (aquavit) are the favorite accompaniments to these meals.

Fun activities include making a *gækkebrev*, a paper snowflake containing a 'teaser poem',



or a rhyming riddle, and signed with dots instead of a name; one to represent each letter. This is presented along with a *vintergækker* (snowdrop), which is the first flower of the year. The game dates back to the



1600s and a chocolate egg is at stake: if the recipient guesses the sender, then the sender has to present them with an egg; if the recipient fails to guess correctly, then they must present the sender with an egg. Other games include Easter egg hunts organized in gardens or parks and competitions to see who can throw a hardboiled egg the furthest. Children also receive substantially-sized chocolate eggs filled with



sweet treats.

