

SUNSET VILLA ASSOCIATION



BULLETIN



JUL | AUG | 2020



Photo credit: Kristine Mathers, The Danish Place

**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWALS**

**DANNEBROG
800 YEARS**

**RESTAURANT
FUNDRAISER**



**SUNSET VILLA
ASSOCIATION
KEEP IN TOUCH**

#11-7150
Concession 1
Puslinch, Ontario
NOB 2J0

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villa@outlook.com*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LIAISON**
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ARLENE LANGE- PAST PRESIDENT
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SEP

SUN SEPT 6 | BAKER DAY 10:00-1 PM

Hansens Bakery onsite and smorrebrod from The Danish Place! (no buffet)

For exact details check The Danish Place website or Facebook. Prepare to eat outdoors (limited inside)

OCT

SUN OCT 4 | TENTATIVE: BAKER DAY 10:00-1 PM

We need to see how the first Baker Day goes before we can promise more! Stay tuned via our website or Facebook.

NOV

SUN NOV 1 | TENTATIVE: BAKER DAY 10:00-1 PM

Due to Covid-19 we cannot plan too far in advance. Stay tuned via Facebook or our website

DEC

SUN DEC 6 | TENTATIVE: NORDIC XMAS MARKET

We are keeping our schedule open for this in case we can do it! (in a modified way)

SUNSETVILLA.ORG/EVENTS

*For more information on events, please contact
communications.sunsetvilla@outlook.com*



MONICA JENSEN
VICE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone!

As you are all aware, we had a fundraiser to keep the only Danish restaurant in Ontario going. The Board is so pleased that Kristine, Jacob, and Joanne have stayed on!

Our message to you, our members, is that we all must come and eat there now.

Raising money to stay open was only half of the story: the other half is that it takes customers to truly "save the restaurant"!

Please make a trip to The Danish Place whether to dine in or take out. The restaurant is open (reduced hours and by reservation) or you can picnic in the park like we all did in the 70's! While here, go for a "forest bath" walk in the beautiful woods, see the pond and visit your loved ones in Mindepark. A perfect day!

BOARD MESSAGE

Events: We have no events planned due to Covid-19, but it does look like some kind of Nordic Market may be possible (depending on how Stage 3 goes!). Stay tuned.

Memberships: We have seen a significant drop in memberships this year due to Covid-19 and no restaurant. If you can afford it, we would love if you could renew. You will be shocked to learn how much we pay in taxes, insurance, water and sewage just to "keep the lights on". If you can possibly renew, we would be so grateful!

AGM: The Emergency Order is not over. While yes, we can gather there are many restrictions and the possibility of a second wave. And would people show up? We also need someone to show interest in three key positions: President, Treasurer and Secretary. Please step forward to help the club out!

**We miss seeing you at
Sunset Villa!**

Monica Jensen

RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER: WE CAN SKÅL ONCE AGAIN!

On Monday May 18th, we went live with an ambitious fundraising campaign to ensure that Sunset Villa will continue to have a Danish restaurant - which is such an important part of the culture that we share, and the reason we have so many members. Without it, would the Association survive? Many people wondered what the future would look like, and something had to be done. Member Lee Hansen suggested a GoFundMe and so we launched one and called it "**Until We Skål Again, we need your help!**". There were many skeptics that money could be raised, and

understandably so, as this was a large target at a time when people were losing jobs and businesses were shutting down. Nonetheless, we pushed forward. Many of our daily Go Fund Me updates made reference to our Viking heritage, defeat was not an option, we would conquer and conquer we did!

Word spread through the power of Social Media. It started with postings on the Sunset Villa Facebook page and was boosted by the large number of followers on **The Danish Place** page. All totalled, 3,000 followers between the two sites.

Suddenly, our friend in Alberta, Sonja R Vikiing, the Administrator for a Facebook group called **My Danish Heritage & Hygge**, agreed to share our campaign. They have over 9,800 members. Then Pastor Simon mentioned us on **The Danish Lutheran Church of Toronto** page. Following that, more groups agreed to share our post, including: **The Danish Canadian Museum, The Danish Canadian Club of Calgary, The Danish Club of Ottawa, Danish Brotherhood Lodge #14** in

\$141,422



**THANKS TO
YOU
WE DID IT!**



Roscommon Michigan, and even member's relatives in Danmark were posting!

Next, e-mails and letters were sent to all of our valued Members, and the cheques poured in and they too spread the word!.

Soon we were receiving donations from **The Danish Guards, Danish Sisterhoods**, and many others (apologies for anyone left out here). It seems our little Association is very well respected in a very wide circle.

All total, our Facebook Campaign was shared over 2,500 times and received 841 donations online for a gross total of \$136,445.

Additionally, 44 cheques were mailed to us, raising an additional \$4,977. **After GoFundMe fees, our NET total raised was \$137,174!**

This was a very moving experience for me personally, as I was privileged to receive so many testimonials from donors about how special Sunset Villa is to them with many celebrations held at the restaurant, memories of loved ones passed and family gatherings in our parkland. It was truly my honour to represent Sunset Villa.

With the campaign complete, it is now time to say thank you! You have all helped to make sure this facility will survive, and now let's all get here as often as we can and enjoy some smorrebrod and a beer on a picnic table in the park or on the patio to ensure that Sunset Villa AND The Danish Place continue to survive this pandemic as we always have, together, in support of one another!

Skål

Eric Skovsgaard, Fundraising Director



*Photo credit: Kristine Mathers,
The Danish Place*

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

All members have passworded access to Board meeting minutes at:
<http://www.sunsetvilla.org/members-page.html>

AFTER THE CAMPAIGN....THANK YOU!

With COVID-19 hitting the restaurant industry very hard, likely closing thousands of doors for good, we were sure The Danish Place would join that statistic. With the GoFundMe campaign done, we had the delicate task of working out the details with The Danish Place, to best structure an arrangement to save the restaurant and distribute the funds. We are proud to say we worked out a fair agreement that made both sides happy and allows our relationship to continue and the restaurant to reopen.

Our great thanks go to donors from across the country and to The Danish Place for remaining committed to our partnership.

It should also be mentioned that the acceptance of these funds by the restaurant was both overwhelming and not without tremendous risk and responsibility. These are difficult and unpredictable times for a new, small business in the food & beverage industry hit the hardest by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Board appreciates and respects the brave reopening; at

first for takeout on June 20th and then with changing government legislation, gradually building the menu and hours. What was normal for The Danish Place, or expected prior to Covid-19, simply cannot be today. Every day is an experiment, and they find themselves trying to find a balance between providing their beloved patrons with the food and experience they expect (and love!) and keeping staff, customers and families safe and healthy during the process.

The Board of Sunset Villa and the owners of The Danish Place would like to thank each and every one of you for your love, support and continued desire to keep the restaurant alive and our local Danish community strong and united.

We are truly grateful and we hope you'll come visit us soon!

Sincerely, The Danish Place and
The Board at Sunset Villa



VACANCY

WE NEED A PRESIDENT! NO PRESIDENT = NO SUNSET VILLA

We have an important vacancy on the Board - the President. The Corporation cannot operate without one. This means that someone will need to become President at the next AGM or Sunset Villa will need to shut down. While we do not know when we will have an AGM, it would be best if someone came forward for the role in advance so that we have at least one option!



WHAT'S INVOLVED:

- Oversee Operations, lead meetings, assist where needed, attend events (optional). Time needed: 15-20 hrs per week

OTHER ROLES WE REALLY NEED:

Treasurer: 4 hrs/wk. Pay bills, deposits, spreadsheets. All accounting entries are done by our paid accountant..

Secretary: 3 hrs/week. Take Minutes or hire it done. Answer emails. Keep track of motions. Document prep for AGM.

Entertainment: 10-15 hrs/wk in May/June and Oct/Nov. Other months 3 hrs/wk. Recruit volunteers and lead events.

Bulletin: 20 hrs every 2 months. Gather content and layout.

Social Media: 2 hrs/wk. Facebook/Instagram content.

Website: 4 hrs/wk. Update and redesign.

Financial Reviewer: 4 hrs in Feb 2021

Did you know? Har du hørt?

1974

FIRST BULLETIN

Our members sure love the Bulletin! Before 1974, members received random letters. Then bi-monthly Bulletins (sometimes monthly) and now 5 times a year, Did you know it takes 25-30 hours to create it? Thank you volunteers!

1977

CONSTITUTION DAY

In 1977 admission was \$2. For a very long time it was \$5, and last year it increased to to \$10. This year was the first year we did not have a Constitution Day.

1986

THE BIFFY

The campground toilets and shower building (affectionately called The Biffy) was created in 1986.

LIQUOR LICENSE

It was not until 1974 that Sunset Villa Restaurant had a liquor license. Good times were had by all at the many parties!

1974

APARTMENTS 1-6

The cost to build these apartments was \$55,000. Rent was \$100.

1972

THE GUN CLUB

For many years the Guards and others used the back field for shooting. This came to an end in 2005 due to insurance problems!

2005



DANISH CHURCH TORONTO

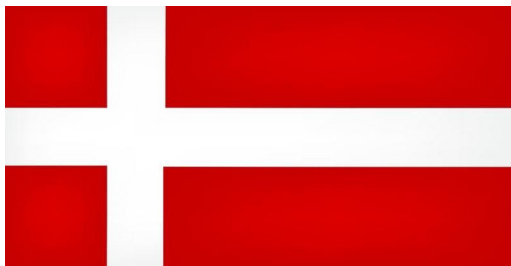
LET'S SHARE SOME JOYFUL NOISE

In the days around Skt. Hans, I went to Sunset Mindepark to do an interment ceremony at the Danish cemetery. As usual, the Sunset Mindepark and the rest of Sunset Villa were beautifully covered with green summer leaves, flowers and birds singing in the air.

But something was different: there was a strange quiet at the cemetery and in the park, of course because of the pandemic. Normally, it is quiet at a graveyard, but this summer day, it was a different kind of quietness. There can be something beautiful in the silence, but I think it is because we know that someday the noise, joy and celebration will be back. We are longing for fellowship and company because Danes want to be together - and the fellowship will be back! The strong support shown this spring to the Danish Restaurant during the pandemic is one visible proof of that. We have the same feeling of support in and around the Danish Church in Toronto. Here we have reached out to many Danes via different media and made Video-Worships from the church and presented an online Skt. Hans Celebration with the other Danish pastors all over North America. The bears go into hibernation in the winter. I feel we have done the same this summer, and I am so much looking forward to coming out of the cave and exploring life and community again when the Danish Church, Sunset Villa and all the other places we love will open again.

As far as the Danish church is concerned, we hope to invite you all to worships from September 13th - I guess still with some restrictions. You can read more on the website www.danishchurchtoronto.ca and newsletter about the actual plans. Until we open, we will continue to make short video worships in Danish and English every Sunday from the Church in Toronto - find them via our website. Stay tuned! Stay safe! - and have a beautiful summer! - hopefully with some joyful noise.

Pastor Simon, The Danish Church in Toronto



800 YEARS OF DANNEBROG!

On June 15, 2019, the Danish flag celebrated its 800th anniversary. It is thus the oldest continuous-used flag in the world. According to the legend which every Dane knows, the flag fell from the sky during the Battle of Lyndanisse outside Tallinn, Estonia, rousing the Danish warriors and granting King Valdemar the Victorious and his men victory.

The anniversary of Dannebrog was celebrated all over Denmark. In Copenhagen there was a solemn Church Service at the Cathedral, followed by a street party in front of City Hall. In Vordingborg there was a big public celebration attended by Crown Prince Frederik, Vordingborg

being King Valdemar's favourite fortress.

In the southern town of Aabenraa Kongehøjskolen, a youth college, had arranged for paratroopers from the Skydive 2000 Parachute Club in Vamdrup to land with three flags in the stadium in front of the students. From a height of 1,500 metres the skydivers jumped out, each with a flag. The largest of the flags was almost 100 square metres, making it Denmark's largest Dannebrog. Yes, these large unfurled red and white flags did come from the sky! The nearly 900 students cheered as the flags swooped down from above.





Flags representing the Danish Lutheran Church in Calgary, the Calgary Danish Canadian Club, the Naver Club and the Royal Danish Guards' Association.

To celebrate the anniversary Queen Margrethe II of Denmark sailed to Estonia on the royal yacht Dannebrog and participated in celebrations in Tallinn, marking the 800th anniversary of Dannebrog, the 135th anniversary of the Estonian flag, Estonia's centennial as an independent country as well as Danish-Estonian relations. Estonian Prime Minister Jüri Ratas pointed out that "our national flags originate from the same land." He also pointed out that Denmark is one of the countries which contributes to the NATO Battlegroup Estonia on a rotating basis.

The Queen opened a new rose garden in Tallinn's medieval Old Town, which will be known as the Danish Queen's Garden. The queen also laid a wreath at the foot of the War of Independence Victory Column. In Canada there was a flag raising ceremony outside Winnipeg City Hall, attended by among others Danish Ambassador Thomas Winkler and Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman. This ceremony was held in conjunction with the annual Conference and AGM of the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada. Once Dannebrog had been raised the participants sang the Danish and Canadian National Anthems. The flags had been drooping as there was no wind. Fittingly, as the Danish National Anthem was sung the wind

picked up and all the flags fluttered beautifully in all their glory.

Danish Clubs and Churches across Canada also commemorated the 800th anniversary. In Calgary the anniversary was celebrated at the Danish Lutheran Church, with both Danish and Canadian flags being carried in and representing the Church, the Calgary Danish Canadian Club, the Naver Club and the Royal Danish Guards' Association, Western Canada.

The anniversary was truly an occasion to celebrate. And once again it confirmed how Danes love Dannebrog.

*By Rolf Buschardt Christensen,
President of the Danish Federation*



L to R: A Commissioner, Ambassador Thomas Winkler, Consul Helle Wilson, Karl Sorensen, Councillor Jason Schreyer and Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman.



DANISH PLACE

THURSDAY—SUNDAY
11AM ONWARD

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THANK-YOU TO TORP INC!

As we all know, the Geritol Gang maintenance members are getting older and the hand rakes are getting heavier by the year. So last year leader of the Geritol Gang, Mogens Jensen was visiting Denmark and saw a Church yard rake (Kirkegaard Rive) in use there, powered by a Garden mower tractor. He brought back a brochure and we found that it was made in Bolderslev near Aabenraa in Denmark. It was bought by Sunset Mindepark for a reasonable price, but the freight for the 50 Kg shipment was quite high.

When The Honorary Danish Consul in Toronto, Arne Nordtorp, owner of Torp Inc, (importers of fine Danish Furniture in Toronto) heard about it, he graciously took care of the freight. The rake arrived in time for the summer season and with Tage Friis as the operator, has been a great help in keeping the walk ways and the grassy areas at the Mindepark looking good. It is so encouraging when Danish Canadian businesses help out our organizations in order to keep us going. **And we at Sunset Mindepark, extend to Mr. Nordtorp a great Thank You!**



VISIT TORP IN TORONTO!

Torp is Toronto's best Scandinavian design store. From iconic Danish furniture to modern lighting and classic jewellery, they have it all! Located at 245 Davenport Rd or online at www.torpinc.com

APPRECIATION GIFT NOW AVAILABLE!



As our way of saying Thank You, all those who donated to our GoFundMe Campaign are welcome to pick up a 70th Anniversary Sunset Villa coffee mug next time you visit the Sunset Villa Gift Shop! Simply check your name in the 'Donor's Book of Thanks' and help yourself to up to 2 mugs per household, for free!

**If you did not get a chance to support,
you can purchase this souvenir item for \$10**

SUNSET MINDEPARK



Cemetery Board President & Internment Director

Soren Sondergaard

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Treasurer

Jannie Decoste

jjdecoste@rogers.com

519-303-0512

Mindepark Urn Cemetery, #11-7150 Concession 1
Puslinch, Ontario N0B 2J0

CAMPING

The campground is open now, including the Biffy washrooms.

We are also able to offer nightly camping at these rates:

Trailers & RV's: \$40 members, \$50 non members

Tents: \$20 members, \$30 non members



TENT CAMPERS AT SUNSET VILLA IN THE 1960'S

THANK YOU TO THE SERRE FAMILY

This summer camper Adam Serre has taken on the job of pumping out the septic in the trailer park. With some of the proceeds, he was kind enough to buy the campground a trampoline for the kids! Thank you so much Adam and Jessica for the donation!



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

by Herman Glemser, membership.sunsetvilla@outlook.com

2020 has been a particularly challenging year for all of us. Covid19 has turned the world as we knew it upside down. Health issues and economic hardships have been the two main topics on our daily news feeds for months now. Like everyone else I'm looking for some good news.

From a Sunset Villa perspective that means having a successful membership renewal campaign. At this time members who haven't yet renewed are being reminded to consider doing so by one of email or regular mail. A lack of regular events such as Constitution Day, Sankt Hans fireworks and Baker's Sundays has no doubt contributed to membership renewals lagging compared to past years. At the moment we are roughly 150 renewals behind where I am estimating we would be if this was a normal year.

HOW TO RENEW: A membership renewal form can be found in this bulletin, online, or you can send an e-transfer to finances.sunsetvilla@outlook.com. Remember to send us the password by email!

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:

GUELPH C. Rosairus, E. Glemser

BURLINGTON M. Molgaard

OAKVILLE A&B Jorgensen

KITCHENER L&J Skovsgaard,
MM&F Petersen-
Schwartzentruber

EAST YORK K Pedersen

LONDON H. Delanghe, T&R
Ternoey-Lockhart

ST CATHERINES T&D Larsen
-Eales

ACTON T. Nedhazi

STRATFORD MA&K Jensen

PORT DOVER L&A Lodberg

BOLTON L&M Bailey

CALEDON A&J Schweighofer

CAMBRIDGE A Colette

BURNABY BC L&D Petersen-
Freeman

PASO ROBLES, CA M&J Koreska

STOUFFVILLE A Seebach

STEEPED IN HISTORY,
SUNSET VILLA MEANS SO MUCH TO SO MANY!



SUNSET VILLA
LET'S KEEP IT GOING!

PLEASE RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER.
WE CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!

<http://www.sunsetvilla.org/join-us.html>



Membership Form

Membership Type	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
Name			
Spouse's Name			
Street Address			
City		Province	
Postal Code		Email	
Home Phone		Cell Phone	
Birth Date (primary member)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	I agree to receive the bulletin online and permit Sunset Villa to send me periodic emails about Association events and information, from which I can unsubscribe at anytime		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I wish to have the Bulletin mailed to me		
Membership Fee Type:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family (including children less than 19yrs.)	\$80.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single (including children less than 19yrs.)	\$70.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Family (65 years or older)	\$65.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Single (65 years or older)	\$55.00	
Select activities for which you would be interested in volunteering:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Constitution Day and/or Nordic Market	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long term planning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gardening and/or property maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Becoming a board member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graphic design
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/>	Promoting the Association

Your membership card will be mailed to you upon receipt of payment for your membership fee. Membership fees are renewable every year on April 1st.

Membership Fee Payment Options:

E-transfer: to finances.sunsetvilla@outlook.com. Please also send an email to finances.sunsetvilla@outlook.com with your e-transfer password and membership number or mailing address.

Cheque or money order: payable to Sunset Villa Association. Fill out the form and mail it to : Sunset Villa Association, Membership Chairperson, #11 - 7150 Concession 1, Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0

Visa/Mastercard: \$3 fee. Send us your credit card number, expiry date and CVS code to finances.sunsetvilla@outlook.com or mail it with this form.

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