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Contributors

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Contributors to this Issue

Kara McKeever is the Genealogy Center manager at the Museum of Danish America. She studied English and international relations and has a master of fine arts in creative writing. She has previously taught research and writing and managed a small business, and has long been interested in family history and Danish culture.

John Bertel Schou (Bert) has operated a research station for thirty-eight years on an Iowa farm purchased from his Uncle Bertel. Bert received a PhD in agronomy from Michigan State University, where he met his wife Diane, who has a PhD in industrial technology. They were married in 1974 and have one son. Bert took Danish for a foreign language requirement and now serves on the national board of the Rebild National Park Society, Inc. He has visited Uncle Niel's two daughters and their children's seven families in Denmark a number of times. He has been a member of Danish organizations in America and has spoken at the Danebod folk school in Tyler, Minnesota.

Mary Ann Hansen is a first-generation Danish American. She is the daughter of parents who immigrated to the United States from Denmark after World War II, seeking better economic opportunities. Most of her relatives still live in Denmark, and she maintains strong ties with her cousins, aunts, and uncles. She has her master's degree in plant pathology from the University of Wisconsin and manages a plant diagnostic lab at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. She learned to speak Danish while working for the Danish Farm Advisory Service in 1980.

Inga Borre Kromann was born in Tyler, Minnesota in 1926 to Danish parents. She attended Tyler High School and went on to earn a PhD in literary education, education, and psychology from the University of Minnesota. She has served on the faculty of the University of Rochester in New York, the University of Illinois, and Washington State University, in Pullman, Washington, where she was also an administrator. She retired in 2001 and is currently living in Seattle, Washington.

Otto Brask was born and raised in Denmark. He came to the United States in 1953. He has lived in the Seattle area since 1959. He retired from the University of Washington aeronautics department in 1992. He has a keen interest in Danish immigration to the Pacific North-

west, especially Washington. He has been a member of DAHS and the Danish Brotherhood for many years, in addition to being active in the Northwest Danish Association and the Nordic Museum. He is married to Minna Brask, correspondent to *Bien*, now retired.

Lars Handesten is a professor at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense and a literary critic for *Kristeligt Dagblad* (and formerly *Berlingske Tidende*). He has published extensively on Danish literature, including works by Jens Christian Grøndahl, Klaus Rifbjerg, and Johannes V. Jensen. His most recent book is *Litteraturen rundt – aktører i det litterære felt* [All about literature—agents in the literary field] (2018). He has traveled widely in the US but does not, to his knowledge, have any living relatives here.

Jorgen Jorgensen grew up on “Hedegaarden,” a small farm in Kildebrønne a few miles southwest of Copenhagen. As a chemical engineer he gained experience in hardwood pulping for stiff corrugated boards before he was hired by Proctor & Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1957 to help make their new brands Charmin, Puffs, and Bounty soft and preferred by consumers. Jorgen is proud that he succeeded. It took only twenty-five years. In the first ten years they lived in the US, their little family drove through practically all of the states, camping all the way, looking for family members and family heritage sites.

Kai Aage Jensen is a retired small businessman living near Silkeborg in central Jutland. Born in 1933, he’s the great-grandson of the blacksmith from Tjele, Søren Nielsen. Of his family history he writes: “My dear grandmother Kathrine and her offspring gave me the urge to research and write the story of the family that was so much a part of my childhood. It’s been an honor and a pleasure to bring to life and put faces on earlier generations, whose drive, determination, and frugality deserve our deepest respect.”

Erik S. Hansen is a retired teacher living in Stowe, Vermont. He writes frequently on topics related to Denmark and the other Nordic countries. A current project is “a novel of integrated time,” with the working title *Harvest of Spring*, in which he is attempting to weave together tales from his Danish family past with his own American story.