



# HEJ HEJ

AUGUST 2018

## RAIN STAYED AWAY, MAKING ST. HANS AFTEN AT GENTLE WINDS A DELIGHTFUL EXPERIENCE

In this Issue:

- St. Hans Aften at Gentle Winds
- UVI Students Earn Denmark Scholarships
- Nina York Becomes Honorary Member of DWIS
- Christmas Party Plans
- Call for Members to Help Plan Next Year's Festival
- \* Call for 2019 Festival Hosts

Photo Credit:  
Susan Wall



While the few days of rain in the latter half of June had been welcomed because of the drought, the expected bonfire was at risk. But a well-planned event for which we can thank not only Board member R.R. Evans, owner of a condo at Gentle Winds, but unable to get here in time, but also appreciate a great effort by Board member Bob Boyton and wife Gail who smoothed the way. A clever bonfire configuration created magic at the end of the evening, and everyone had a good time. A special element of the evening included the introduction of two students from UVI that will be heading for Denmark this fall on scholarships offered by the Danish Government. Our Society added a contribution of \$500 to each of them to help defray their expenses during the semester they will be spending in Denmark. Nina gave a brief history of St. Hans Aften. The cookout grills were ably managed by Bob and Gail, and hamburgers, hot dogs, as well as pates, coleslaw and chips helped fill most stomachs, leaving room for the cake dessert that had survived the March 31 birthday party in a frozen state and retained all its goodness. The picture on left shows President Hans with female celebrants Vice President Nina, Kristina Olsen and her guest enjoying the bonfire. All was cleaned up and we ended the evening in a happy mood.

HEJ HEJ is the quarterly newsletter of St. Croix Friends of Denmark Society, a non-profit Virgin Islands corporation promoting friendship and exchange between the U.S. Virgin Islands and Denmark. We welcome your relevant contributions.

Editor: Nina York Please submit material for publication to [Ninayork@gmail.com](mailto:Ninayork@gmail.com) or by mail to: St. Croix Friends of Denmark, P. O. Box 682, Christiansted, VI 00821.

## TWO PROMISING UVI STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS FROM DENMARK TO STUDY THERE

On the occasion of the commemoration of the Transfer Centennial in Christiansted last year, we learned from the Danish Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen that as a conciliatory gesture for the injustices inflicted on the ancestors of our citizens the Danish Government would provide scholarships for island students to study in Denmark.

We are happy to announce that two current students at St. Croix's Albert A. Sheen Campus of the University of the Virgin Islands have selected to avail themselves of that opportunity starting this fall semester. Their names are Marc-Anthony Colon and Tione Grant, and the scholarships are at the University of Aalborg, Denmark's city of Esbjerg campus. Their fields of study are highly technical and impressive. Both will take Chemistry classes in Denmark; Tione to eventually pursue a career in chemical engineering; Marc-Anthony is aeronautical engineering. We wish them all the best and will hear from them on their return in January.

## We Need You to Host 2019 Festival Guests

Dear St. Croix Friends of Denmark Members, All who had the great experience of being a guest of Danish hosts for the 2017 Danish West Indies Festival know that your time has come to reciprocate. If you enjoyed your hosts, ask them if they plan to come for 2019 and let us know. Hosting is not necessarily for the same peoples that hosted you (most of us had two sets) and new members are also encouraged to host. Our 2019 Festival will take place in St. Croix the last week of March 2019, ending with a grand finale on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the day that used to be called Transfer Day but which we are re-naming the birthday of the U.S. Virgin Islands; 2019 will be the 102<sup>nd</sup>! The week after, the festival will continue in St. Thomas. At this time we don't know how many participants to expect, but we have agreed with DWIS that around 30 persons is a likely number.

Shown here from left are Marc-Anthony Colon and Tione Grant with their study plan presentations for their fund-raising efforts,



# NINA YORK GETS A SURPRISE HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN DANISH WEST INDIAN SOCIETY

Your Hej Hej editor received a pleasant surprise when she was told by Anne Walbom, President of the Danish West Indian Society, that their Board of Directors had decided to bestow an honorary membership on her and that she was invited, travel cost paid, to attend a June 10 luncheon that would also include awarding prizes to two winners of an academic papers contest relating to the Danish West Indies. Arriving in Denmark enjoying almost tropical temperatures was a delight, and Nina took the opportunity to visit the *I Am Queen Mary* statue and connect with friends, many of whom attended the lunch. Receiving the award was quite an emotional moment, but even more so for her was the totally unexpected appearance of 22 members of the Copenhagen Royal Chapel Choir, boys and men, with the conductor and soloist, the wonderful choir that entertained us in St. Croix last year, singing a patriotic song and the National Anthem of Denmark. A perfect day for which she is so grateful!



## HERE IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM FOR 2019

You will note a small increase in dues voted by the Board at a recent meeting.

### 2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

- I/We wish to join the St. Croix Friends of Denmark Society.  
 I/We wish to renew membership.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (home)     Individual \$40

\_\_\_\_\_ (office)     Couple \$60     Life \$500 pp

\_\_\_\_\_ (cell)     Youth \$15     Corporate \$100

Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

### ST. CROIX FRIENDS OF DENMARK

All checks made  
payable to:

St. Croix  
Friends of Denmark  
PO Box 682  
Christiansted VI  
00821-0682

## PLANS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

### SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 9!

This year, we are not going to skip our traditional happy Christmas Party; we are counting on the weather behaving itself so all can enjoy a peaceful holy season. Since we who attended the 2016 party at Carambola Golf Club had such a great time, and the site is available for the date we have chosen, Sunday afternoon December 9, we will have a festive brunch event from 12:00 to 3:00 pm at that site with lovely views of the golf course. Lori at Blue Water Terrace is our favorite caterer, so we plan on asking her to provide something very similar to the previous menu. Nina will prepare glögg, and Hans will bring a real tree if he can't locate an inkberry!

It is too early to take reservations, but **MARK THE DATE IN YOUR CALENDAR** and think of guests you may want to ask. Last time the charge was \$40 for members and \$45 for guests. A cash bar for alcoholic drinks (except the glögg) is planned. We will be sending a reminder as the date approaches. Danish and other Christmas carols will be on the program, so keep your voices in shape!

## HELP US PLAN THE 2019 FESTIVAL!

March 2019 may seem a long time in the future, but we all know how time has a way of slipping away. We realize that a team effort is needed to create a successful event, and this fall is when we need the groundwork to be laid for a week of experiences that will be new – and some of them familiar – for the Danish West Indian Society members. We need many hands for planning transportation, tour sites, beach trips, meals, Government House reception, air transfer to St. Thomas, hosting arrangements, creating the Festival Program, soliciting ads for the program, soliciting other donations. Call Nina at 340-332-4451 or Susan 340-277-9642 to let us know what is your favorite activity of the above list to plan.

ST. CROIX FRIENDS OF DENMARK  
P. O. BOX 682  
CHRISTIANSTED, VI 00821