



Almost all of "Himmerland" initiated into C4's Guild

This title means that on Friday the 23rd of June a great number of staff members from the building society "Himmerland" were initiated into the Guild.

Because of the great number of persons – 98 in all – wanting to be initiated, it was necessary to go through the ceremony twice in the same morning, and it was necessary to make the guests in Duus' Vinkjælder stay seated while the ceremonies took place.

The initiations were at first held secret. The building society "Himmerland", which is perhaps the biggest one in Aalborg, held a company-day, but in the agenda nothing was mentioned about initiations into the Guild, so it was a surprise for all the participants.

The guests were welcomed in the usual way, and there were many staring eyes when it was shouted: "Our thirst first!" In spite of the crowded room – or maybe because of the crowded room - there was a really nice and warm atmosphere, while the popular chief bencher went through the rituals - a good atmosphere that lasted through both the initiations. The traditional walk went

well with our fine musicians in front, only there were some small difficulties with the singing at the end of the "crocodile", because the music was too far away and because the old song was unknown to many.

Back in Duus' Vinkjælder the new members of C4 were met with red sausages, potato juice and drinks. There were lots of loud talking and laughter among the tables, and undoubtedly the object of the talk was the initiation ceremony.

When the brethren made their exit they were accompanied by merry farewells, and when the C4-pins were handed out and the "treasurer" made his round with his collecting box, he was well received.

New Year Greetings from the Chief-Bencher



The general assembly in the Guild was held on the 22nd of February in the wine-cellar, which this evening was crowded. The evening went according to plan with donation of prizes, presentation of accounts etc. and our new bencher, Palle Bjørnstrup, donned the cloak and took his seat among the “old” benchers. Our year 2017 started well, when we on the 22nd of January were able to donate our triplet grant to Alma, Liva and Agnes from Stovorde, while the parents received flowers and a bottle of Laugsbitter. We have over the years held a lot of initiations with a lot of people present. All initiations have gone well, and it has always been a great pleasure to greet the new members-to-be, but from there the initiations can be very different. This year the initiation of the staff from “Boligforeningen Himmerland” stood out: 98 persons were initiated in two groups of 49 persons each with half an hours interval. It all went well and in a very fine atmosphere. Again this year we have had initiations of personnel from Unmilpoc, and again this year we have participated in the 4th of July Festivities, where the chief-bencher at the tent-lunch in Rebild Bakker – true to tradition – donated scarves and ties to the main -speakers. The Guild’s branch in Oslo visited us on the 22nd of May, about 100 persons whereof 14

were initiated. It was as usual a very fine day.

And then 2017 brought a death in our Board: Bencher Tom Thylkjær died on the 6th of June after a short period of illness. He was a well-liked and decent person, and he will be deeply missed.

For many years we had very few replacements in the board, but in the last couple of years we have had several new benchers. In 2017 we have welcomed Kjeld Trudslev, Andreas Rasmussen, Palle Bjørnstrup and Peter Reinau. We have in 2017 been engaged in creating a new layout for our website. When this is being read it should - hopefully - be functioning. The modern times have also hit the Guild, and we have experienced when we are selling our pins, that few persons carry cash anymore. We have now solved – successfully - that problem by offering mobile-pay. The foundation of Christian The Fourth’s Guild has again this year donated legacies, but not as big sums as earlier years, because we also have been hit by the low interest rates. We have this year been planning our 75th anniversary, which is on the 16th of December 2017. We have chosen to move the celebration to the 4th of May 2018, when an anniversary-reception will take place in Duus’ Vinkjælder, and we are preparing an anniversary publication as a follow-up on our publication from the 50th anniversary, “A Bright Idea in a Dark Time”. All in all – it has been a busy year with many challenges, but with a great effort from everyone on the board, we have had a fine year. I want to thank the board for their cooperation. And I want to thank our “samarbejdspartnere” too for an - as usually – fine cooperation

With the hope of seeing you all at the anniversary reception on the 4th of May 2018.

Niels Voss Hansen

Niels Voss Hansen
Oldermand

Christian The Fourth’s Guild – 75 years

The Guild was founded on the 16th of December 1942 and could have celebrated its 75 years anniversary in 2017.

However the board of the Guild has decided to postpone the celebration until the 4th of May 2018, which is also the date in 1945 for the end of the occupation and the liberation of Denmark.

Several events are planned for this day, Friday the 4th of May. There will be held an official reception in the Guild’s usual surroundings, Duus’ Vinkjælder, which is booked for this occasion. Here will be presented a 75 years jubilee publication – and the Guild will donate Christian The Fourth’s “Prize of Light” to emphasize that the Guild was a “bright idea in a dark time”.

The statutes for the “Prize of Light” say that it may be given to persons, organizations, institutions or businesses, which through “a bright idea” brings joy and development for everybody. The “Prize of Light” consists of a statuette, a diploma and an amount of money.

The celebration will also include a cannon-salute, named “Et dansk løsen”. The canon-salute will be fired by “Aalborg Kanonlaug” and it is the Kanonlaug’s birthday gift. Further on there will be some entertainment, music and singing. In order to finance the celebration the Guild has received support from Spar Nord Fonden, Aalborg Kommune, Varelotteriet and Nordjyske Bank.

Christian The Fourth’s Guild hopes to see really many members, co-operators, official representatives and other interested persons on the day of the jubilee: Friday the 4th of May 2018.

Honors of the year from Christian the Fourth's Guild



It has for decades been a tradition that at the beginning of the annual general meeting in Christian the Fourth's Guild a greeting is sent by telegram to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II and the royal family and nearly every year an answer from the Majesty is received before the annual meeting is over.

But traditions can be broken and even the 75-years old Guild must realize the arrival of modern technology – so this year's greeting was sent, not by email or SMS, but by telefax. The answer – which was sent by email – was signed by His Royal Highness Crown-prince Frederik, who in his mother's absence were regent. Both the Queen and the Crown-prince and several other members of the royal family are honorary members of the Guild. In the past year 2016 the Guild has initiated 326 new members from 31 different countries. All are initiated into the Guild in Duus' Vinkjælder in Jens Bang's Stenhus in Aalborg. The many new members are good PR for tourism in Aalborg, but as there are a small fee to be paid for the initiation it also creates an income for the Guild. The money is all spent to benefit, to please and to enjoy, and the guild's Foundation donates every year about 100,000 DKK to social, humanitarian and cultural purposes. Furthermore the Guild every year hands out "Grants of good spirit" to students

from Aalborg's educational institutions (these grants - the Guild hopes - are mostly used for enjoyment). This year – for the first time since 2011 – the Guild has given out the "Triplet grant", which is a start for the newborn triplet's saving accounts. At the meeting airport CEO Søren Svendsen received the year's "Prize of initiative" for really having placed Aalborg on the international maps with new destinations and a growing number of flight passengers.

Keld Mathiesen received the "Prize of honor". He is primus motor in Aalborg Fimklub, which he started in 1987. The club shows films for children and has 8,800 members. The club is run by voluntary helpers only.

The receivers of these two lastmentioned prizes are chosen by the Guild, but the third prize – "Soldier of the year" - is selected by the Aalborg Garrison. This year it was senior-sergeant Sebastian Misfeldt Beck.

Furthermore the Guild each year gives a donation to the two students who are living in the two college rooms in The 4th of May College, that are sponsored by the Guild.

After the annual meeting – which is like other organization's general assembly – about 20 new members were initiated into the Guild.



Obituary

Tom Thylkjær, aged 83, suddenly died on the 6th of June after a short period of illness.

Tom was the Archivist in the Guild, and he was also the "Provider": he arranged almost everything in the Guild's room, such as pins, keys, papers, food and drink and whatever was needed for the Guild to function, and then he did a lot of other things, which we only notice now, when he is gone.

Tom was also the "godfather" of our triplets in so far that he kept the contact to the hospital/family.

Tom was initiated into the Guild on the 19th of September 1991 and became a bencher in 2001, and since then we in the Board have enjoyed his good spirits an once in a while his principled opinions about things.

Tom was a well-liked and decent person, and he will be deeply missed by us all.

Christian the Fourth's Guild donates "Good-Spirit prizes"



The prizes – which are given to young people who are being educated in Aalborg's "gymnasier" (upper secondary schools) and Tech College – are given out as an extraordinary Christmas and New Year gesture to the young people, and it consists of a diploma and a modest amount of money, so that the receivers should be able to create some Christmas-festivities around them.

It is for the 28th time that the Guild donates the "Good Spirit-prizes" to about twenty young students or apprentices. The prizes can't be applied for, but the Guild gets help to the nomination from the "gymnasier" and education-places, which are choosing the receivers according to the Guild's rules, which states: "that the receivers should be a student or an apprentice, who with her/his friendly disposition, good humor and positive attitude has contributed to create a good atmosphere and good comradeship and thereby inspired teachers and fellow-students to function in a pleasant and positive way."

One of this year's receivers of the "Good-Spirit prize" was delicatessen-butcher apprentice Laura Maj Petersen from the "Butcher in Hasseris". She was given the prize when several benchers from the Guild appeared at the shop in Hasseris. Another recipient was student Mads Aaby Gaunby from Aalborghus Gymnasium, who got the Good-Spirit prize in the gymnasium's assembly hall, where the students were gathered on the occasion of the gymnasium's birthday. From the giant applause it was obvious that Mads was a popular choice to receive the Good-Spirit prize. In his speech to both the receivers chief-bencher Niels Voss Hansen said that the criteria for the prize – besides the above mentioned – was not that you ought to be either diligent or clever, but of course it would do no harm to be so.

The other recipients of the Good-Spirit prize were given their donations in their education institutions, and everywhere they had been told that the money was meant to be spent in the spirit it was given: to make happiness bloom in the joyful city of Aalborg.

Initiation into the C4 Guild on the Fourth of July

We have in Aalborg and Rebild many traditions in connection with the Fourth of July, the national holiday of USA. One of them is the initiation into the Guild of guests to the festivities in Rebild Hills. Of course again this year such a ceremonial initiation took place.

Chief bencher Niels Voss Hansen led the new members expertly through the initiation rituals, according to which they have to take a walk around Jens Bang's Stenus in order to reach the secret back passage to Duus' Vinkjælder and try their newly received keys in the lock, to make sure that they – as all other members of the Guild – may get into the cellar on their own. Afterwards they got the traditional menu: Danish red sausages, bread and the absolutely necessary "potato juice"

Among the initiated were the keypersons from the festivities in Rebild Hills: Chargé d' Affaires Laura Lochman, who is acting USA-ambassador to Denmark, the American head speaker Rene Gross Kær-

skov, the adventurer and rector etc dr. Lyle Loelofs from Berea College, who was also a speaker at the Rebild festivities. The Danish head speaker was former Danish prime minister, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, who was initiated into the Guild on a former occasion.

Then everyone went to Rebild Hills to the traditional "tent- luncheon" on the parking area in front of Rebildhus. Here the Guild again had a role to play, and the benchers entered the tribune accompanied by the grand and forceful tones from the Guild's music-director, solo trumpeter Per Iversen's "lure" - and then the chief bencher donated scarves to the ladies and ties to the gentlemen.

After the luncheon people went out to find themselves seats on the hillsides surrounding the open air scene, and it was soon obvious that – presumably thanks to the fine weather - the number of guests were greater than last year - and that is a fine thing for the 105 years old tradition.

25 donations from Christian The Fourth's Guild's Foundation



The annual presentation of donations from the foundation took place - as usual - on the first Wednesday in December in Duus' Vinkælder. The presentation was carried out by the Board of the Foundation: Former mayor Kaj Kjær, former CEO of Aalborg Kongres & Kultur Center, Ernst Trillingsgaard, member of the County Council, cand.jur. Vibeke Gamst, chief bencher Niels Voss Hansen and the administrator of the foundation, bencher Per Svensson.

Kaj Kjær said in his welcome-speech, that he had to bore the audience with some economical facts about the historically low interest rates that prevail presently: While it appears to be a good thing if you are owing money, it is a bad thing if you - as Chr.4.'s foundation - need the money to reach your purpose, such as this presentations of donations to good causes. Luckily he had the good news that the Guild again this year had helped out with a handsome amount of cash, and thereby had made the situation less hopeless - but the Board had found it necessary to cut down on the number of donations and the size of the donations. Kaj Kjær also mentioned that the foundation in May 2017 had reached its 20 years anniversary. It was established in 1997 by the former chief-bencher Peter Tage.

Triplets got Grant plus Money

Three small girls had their pension schemes started when they got the Triplet Grant from Christian the Fourth's Guild.

The Grant was founded in 1943 and all triplets born in Aalborg has since then received the Grant which time and inflation has raised to 1,500 DKK to each.

The small girls in Storvorde - now 5 months old - are Alma, Liva and Agnes, and they are daughters of Nana Kanstrup and Kasper Knuth Hansen. Four Guild benchers visited the family and presented the Grant and the money (and at the same occasion put a little something in the piggy bank of the triplet's 5-year old sister).

Christian the Fourth's Guild was founded in Duus' Vinkælder in December 1942 and the Triplet Grant

The Purpose of the foundation is to support: "social, humanitarian and cultural activities in Aalborg community" especially the "voluntary, unpaid work for the good of the society's less privileged groups". The foundation doesn't support travels, celebrations or persons.

The 25 receivers got donations of DKK 1,000 - 5,000 to help the work they are doing in groups or organizations. Another thing which has made changes in our society is that it is not possible anymore to present the receivers with a check, now they have to be presented with cash (in an envelope).

Among this year's recipients was: Colitis-Chrohn Foreningen, Ventilen in Aalborg, Centerrådet in Hasseris, Foreningen "De positive", "Ældre hjælper Ældre", De frivillige på Aalborg Universitetshospital, "De Sangglade" og "Børns Voksenvenner". Two orchestras, which both received donations, Pensionistorketret and Aalborg Jagtklubs Blæsergruppe contributed to the good atmosphere by playing samples of their music.

There was a good spread among the receivers, and from their comments it seemed that the money - regardless of the size of the amount - may be of help everywhere it went, and it is this response that is the idea behind the donation, to give a little appreciation to the voluntary work that is going on in many different places.

While the donations were distributed, "gløgg" and "æbleskiver" were served, and the "Christmas-hygge" was immediately arriving.



Ib Regnarsson, Niels Voss Hansen and Tom Thylkjær with the small girls, left Svend Aage Suhr. The parents seem remarkably relaxed.

was founded a few months later. Of natural causes this Grant is seldom used - the latest occasion before this was in 2011.

Time passes along and brings changes!



Front: Jens-Christian Schmidt, Karl Salling Møller, Niels Voss Hansen, Per Svensson.

Behind: Palle Bjørnstrup, Andreas Rasmussen, Peter Reinau, Kjeld M. Trudslev, Henrik Jensen, Jens Aa. Schulz, Vagn Thomsen, Per Iversen og Svend Aage Suhr.

This is also true for the Board of Christian The Fourth's Guild. In the course of the last two years the Board has got 5 new faces among the now 13 members of the Board.

The Board sadly had to say goodbye to Tom Thykjær, who passed away in June. Furthermore Ib Regnarsson, Børge Clausen, Kaj Handberg and Rudi Lykkegaard have - due to different causes - chosen to leave the Board. All have served Christian The Fourth's Guild through many years and done a tremendous job.

In their stead the Board has appointed Svend Aage Suhr to master of ceremonies, Kjeld Trudslev to guild-troubadour, Peter Reinau to guild-provider, Andreas Rasmussen to forest-supervisor and Palle Bjørnstrup to thirst-master and responsible for PR.

In order to maintain the continuity are the following - besides the above mentioned - members of the Board today: Niels Voss Hansen, chief-bencher, Per Svensson, administrator of the foundation, Henrik Jensen, 1. vice chief-bencher and guild-clerk, Jens-Christian Schmidt, 2. vice chief-bencher, Per Iversen, guild-troubadour, Karl Salling Møller, bencher, Jens Schulz, history expert, and Vagn Thomsen, guild-troubadour.

These 13 members of the Board are all humble in face of the task which is to bring the Guild's traditions and many different jobs further so that the Guild's ideas and objectives can be spread out - both the traditions and the renewal - with respect and in order to provide the Guild with a continued good development and a satisfactory daily function.

Guild Meeting 2018

Wednesday, February 28 2018 at 19.00 in Duus' Vinkjælder in Jens Bangs Stenhus. (Booking of table directly to Duus' Vinkjælder, telephone +45 98 12 50 56) After the Guild's annual assembly an initiation is carried out.

Subscription for 2018:

Annual subscription: 100 DKK, 130 NOK, 130 SEK, 12 GBP, 16 USD or 15 EUR.

Payment for lifelong membership is unaltered: 600 DKK, 750 NOK, 750 SEK, 90 USD, 70 GBP or 90 EUR.



New lifelong members will receive a special Guild letter signed by the Chief Bencher and the Treasurer, and the names of the members are entered in the list of lifelong members.

Change of address: Directly to the Guild or via the website.

Newsletter: Members who have not yet signed up for our electronic newsletter are kindly requested to do so via the website.

Bank: 9280-1940028473
IBAN: DK 1692801940028473
SWIFT: SPNO DK 22

Christian Den Fjerdtes Laug · Jens Bangs Stenhus · Postboks 1644 · DK 9100 Aalborg
Tlf. +45 98 13 16 48 · chr4laug@chr4laug.dk · www.chr4laug.dk