



# DACC NEWS BULLETIN

DACC NO. 3

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2000

## Danes Reject the Euro

On September 28, 2000, the Danish voters firmly rejected the European single currency with 53.1 per cent votes against the Euro and 46.9 in favor. It was a record turn-out of more than 85 per cent of 4 million eligible voters.

It is expected that this decision will have a substantial impact on the two other EU nations outside Emu, especially Sweden. Denmark's rejection of the euro will probably reinforce already negative euro sentiment in Sweden and make the Swedish referendum on the single currency more uncertain.

There is great uncertainty as to the date when the UK will enter Emu, and after the result of the referendum in Denmark, it is expected that the "no" camp will maintain their lead.

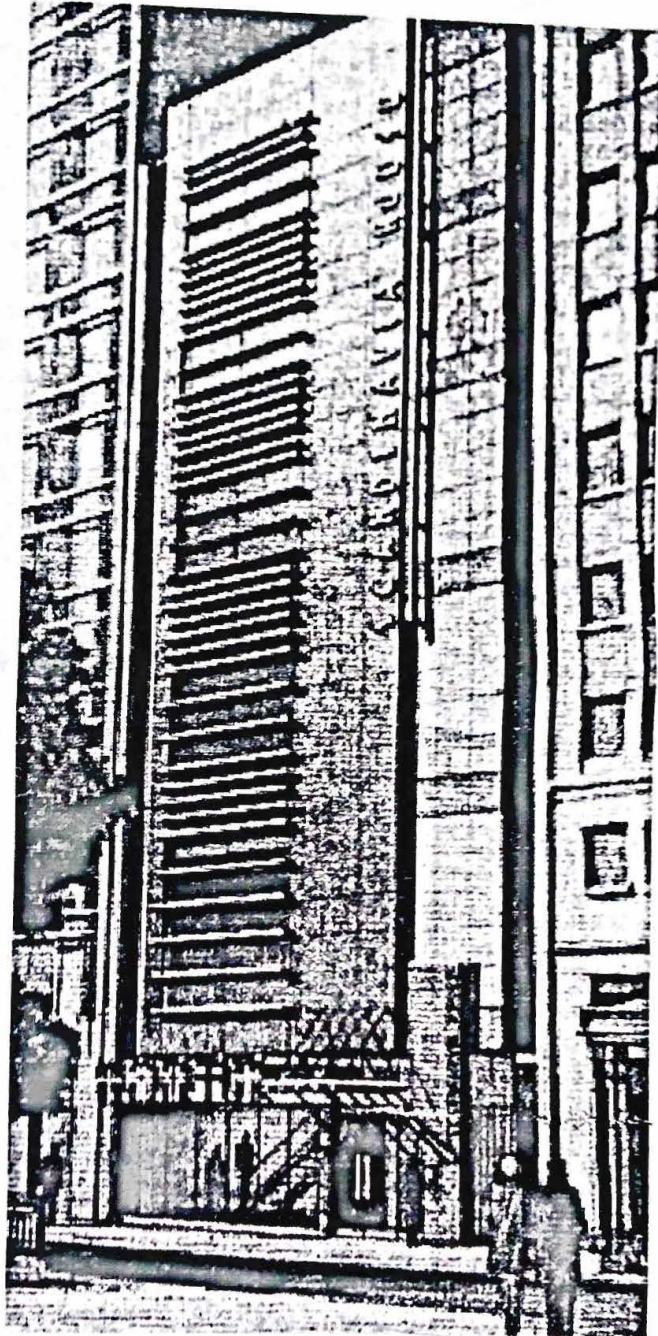
It will probably also mean the pro-EU side in Norway will have a harder time to schedule a new EU referendum.

## Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America

On October 17, 2000, The Scandinavia House opened in New York. An elegant and distinctly modern 28,000 square foot building, designed by internationally renowned architect James Stewart Polshek, the house is intended to serve as a link between the U.S. and the Nordic countries, representing nearly every aspect of Scandinavian culture, from visual arts, music and literature to business, finance and technology. It will also serve as a permanent home to its founder, the American-Scandinavian Foundation.

Attending the opening were Her Royal Highness Princess Benedikte, Norwegian Princess Märtha Louise, King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden, as well as ministers from the governments of Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Iceland.

The Scandinavia House is located at 58 Park Avenue between 37<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> Streets.  
Tel: 212-879-9779. Scandinavia House will be open to the public from November 3, 2000.



*Facade of Scandinavia House*

**PUBLISHER:**

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**Changes to the DACC Membership Directory:**

We encourage all our members to inform us of *any* changes to your entry in the DACC Directory. This way we will hopefully be able to keep our directory constantly updated and useful.

Unibank A/S has merged with Merita Bank. Their new address and name is:

**Merita Bank PLC**  
New York Branch  
Mr. Kevin Foran, Vice President  
437 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
Tel: (212) 318-9317  
Fax: (212) 318-9318

J. Lauritzen (USA), Inc. has relocated:  
**J. Lauritzen (USA), Inc.**  
4 Landmark Square, Suite 150  
Stamford, CT 06901-2502  
Tel: (203) 961-8661

**Tele Danmark:**  
New *President* in Tele Danmark is: Mr. Palle Tolstrup Nielsen

**SAS:**  
New *Director of Passengers Sales of North America* is: Mr. Lennart Johansson

**DACC Christmas Raffle donations**



Last year 's DACC Christmas Luncheon was a very successful event due in part to the generosity of our members who donated gifts for the DACC raffle.

This year we again hope that many of you will donate a gift from your company for the Christmas Luncheon on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. In return of products valued at wholesale prize \$300.00 or more, the Danish American Chamber of Commerce is offering a one year individual membership subscription, and a one half page ad in the DACC News Bulletin #4, 2000. In order to take advantage of the free advertisement offer in the News Bulletin your donation and ad *must* be received by Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2000 in the DACC office.

For more information regarding Christmas Raffle donations please contact Jeanette Hemstad at (212) 980-6240.

**Welcome to New DACC Member Showroom of Scandinavia Inc.**

Lars Sylvester Larsen, Contact  
515 Broadway, Suite 3 B-F  
New York, NY 10012  
Tel: (212) 965-1585  
Fax: (212) 226-1527  
E-mail: [info@showroomofscandinavia.com](mailto:info@showroomofscandinavia.com)  
Web: [www.showroomofscandinavia.com](http://www.showroomofscandinavia.com)  
Showroom for Scandinavian furniture & designs.  
Representing - Eva Rosendahl, B&O, Fenger, Jacob Jensen, Trip Trap, Noergaard Design, Clausen Urc, Hastens Senge, Jesper Holm Furniture etc.



**Hold the dates!**

**Thursday, November 16th :**  
Business Card Exchange at Manhattan Business Center at 5:30 PM.

**Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>:**  
DACC Christmas Luncheon at the Harvard Club

### DACC Members Visit Maersk

October 12th Maersk, Inc., New Jersey, extended its hospitality to the members of the DACCNY with a tour of the 266-acre Maersk Sealand Container Port Terminal Facility at Port Elizabeth, New Jersey. The members were advised of plans to expand the facilities to 350 acres (including an expanded 70-acre on-dock rail terminal), with 6000 linear feet of berth. It is anticipated that the facilities will handle 1.2 million 20-foot container volumes, and employ, directly or indirectly, over 38,000 people in the New York-New Jersey area.

The tour of the terminal was followed by lunch at the facilities dining room overlooking the terminal and continuation of the excursion to the handsomely designed Maersk, Inc. headquarters at Giralda Farms, NJ. At Maersk headquarters, over coffee and cake, Tommy Thomsen, President of Maersk, Inc, gave the members an informative overview of Maersk Inc., its growth, current activities and future plans. Our thanks to Tommy Thomsen for his hospitality and to Tom Boyd and Tony LaForgia for squiring us around the terminal facility and explaining its workings.

The story of Maersk in the U.S. is one of how a company with Danish roots grew into a major American commercial enterprise. We at the DACCNY hope that this will be the case with all of our members. Below is a picture of DACC members at Maersk Headquarters at Giralda Farms. PHJ

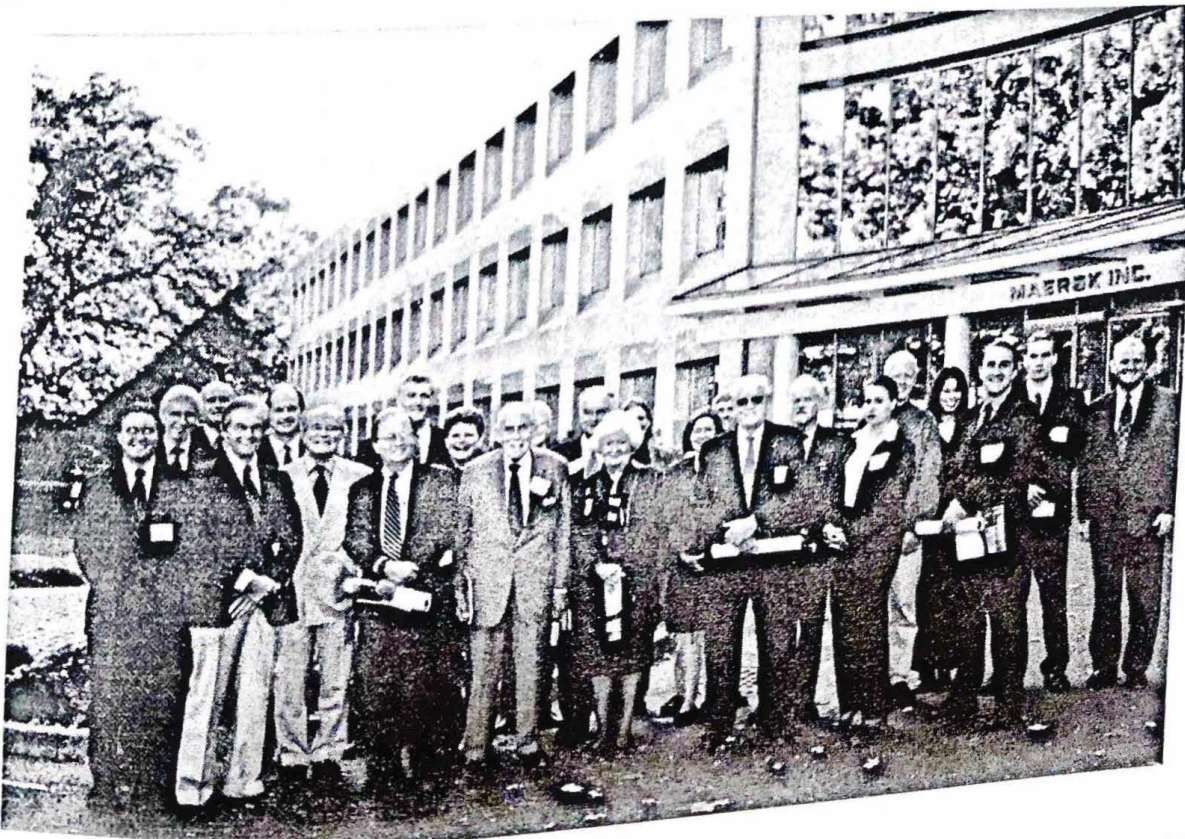
### Danske Bank A/S and RealDanmark A/S to Merge

The Boards of Directors of Danske Bank and RealDanmark unanimously recommend that the two companies merge. The merger is recommended by the directors of Foreningen RealDanmark and BG Bank Aktiefonden as well as Topdanmark, which together represent 70% of the share capital of RealDanmark.

The new group, which will go under the name of Danske Bank, will be one of the largest banks in the Nordic region.

Poul J. Svanholm is expected to continue as the Chairman of the bank's Board of Directors with Jorgen Nue Moller as Vice Chairman. Peter Staarup will continue as Chief Executive. Kjeld Jorgensen, Chief Executive of RealDanmark, states: "Together we will create a very strong financial group. The merger establishes a sound basis for both banking and mortgage-finance operations in the intensified competitive environment of the future. The group will have a staff that is well qualified in all aspects of mortgage finance, banking and pensions."

Press Release (october 2000)



### Unibank – Member of the Nordic Baltic Holding Group

Unibank is part of Nordic Baltic Holding AB (NBH), and represents the Group's retail banking business in Denmark. Created through the merger of Unidanmark and MeritaNordbanken, NBH is the largest financial services group in the Nordic region.

Unibank's position as a member of the largest financial services group in the Nordic region enables their customers to gain access to products and services previously only available to customers of MeritaNordbanken. As a result, Unibank can develop even better products and services in less time – to the advantage of both personal and corporate customers. Given Unibank's affiliation with NBH, customers with business activities outside Denmark now have a banker with a leading position in the nordic markets and a strong presence in the Baltics. Unibank is represented in the leading European countries, North America and Asia.

Press Release

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On September 28th DACC had a seminar on *Business Immigration Law*.

The following is an excerpt from that event:

#### Work Authorization in the U.S.

By Careen B. Shannon\*

There are a number of visa options available to foreign workers who wish to obtain temporary or permanent employment in the United States. At a recent talk at the Danish American Chamber of Commerce, I provided an overview of the various nonimmigrant (temporary) and immigrant (permanent) visa categories that are of most interest to Danish citizens.

Nonimmigrant work visas permit foreign nationals to enter the United States for a limited period of time in order to work for a U.S. employer, or a U.S. affiliate or subsidiary of a foreign corporation. There are several work visa categories that are relevant for Danish citizens, including the H-1B visa (for professional workers holding at least a U.S. Bachelor's degree or equivalent), the E-1 visa (for international treaty traders), the L-1 visa (for intracompany transferees), and the O-1 visa (for persons of extraordinary ability in their field). In addition, the B-1 (business visitor) visa is available for persons seeking to enter the United States to attend business meetings or conferences; Danes

may enter the United States as business visitors on the visa waiver program without a visa for periods of up to 90 days.

There are also work opportunities in the United States available to certain students, researchers and trainees who come to the U.S. on F-1 (student) visas, or J-1 visas (for certain trainees and researchers). Foreign nationals entering the United States to study must generally demonstrate that they possess the funds available to pursue their studies without the need to work in the United States. Nonetheless, there are possibilities for foreign students to work in the United States under certain circumstances. In many cases, foreign students in the U.S. may work while they study (under certain conditions) and obtain work authorization for a period after graduation in their area of study. Work authorization depends on the visa type and the education they are pursuing. I would recommend that students and exchange visitors speak with their school's international student/scholar adviser regarding opportunities for work authorization, as each person's situation is different. I do not recommend following "good advice" from friends and professors.

Immigrant visas permit foreign nationals to obtain permanent residence in the United States, sometimes referred to as the "green card." (The card was actually green some years ago, but is no longer, however, the term has stuck, and the latest version of the permanent resident card incorporates a green stripe on the back.) As a general rule, you can obtain permanent residence based on family ties, based on employment, or on the basis of having been granted asylum or refugee status. Danes marrying U.S. citizens should be certain to obtain legal advice before their marriage, as the timing and place of the marriage can determine whether or not the Danish spouse can easily come to the U.S. and live with his or her spouse as a permanent resident.

The information contained in this article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Individuals requiring specific legal advice are encouraged to seek legal counsel from a qualified immigration attorney. A more detailed article about work authorization in the U.S. can be found on the internet at this site: <http://www.dansk-oss.com>.

- Careen B. Shannon is a senior associate attorney in the New York office of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, P.C., the largest law firm in the United States specializing in immigration and nationality law.

**New Deputy Consulate General**  
At the Consulate General, Anne Hedensted Steffensen, has been replaced by Lars Christiansen as of September 1, 2000. Anne, who was posted here for 2 years, has been promoted to a senior position in the Admin. Dept. of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Copenhagen. We all wish her the best of luck. Her position has been taken over by Lars Christiansen, who comes from The Danish Trade Council, where he headed the Quality Management Unit and was part of the DTC management team. Prior to working for DTC, he worked as commercial counselor at the Danish Embassy in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), as commercial attaché at the Consulate General in Los Angeles and as a commercial officer at the Embassy in London. Lars has a commercial background (MBA), is 48 years old and is joined by his wife Rikke and daughters Louise, Julie and Amalie.

**New President at Tele Danmark USA, Inc.**

There is a new President in Tele Danmark USA, Inc. After 23 years in varying positions in the corporation in Denmark, most recently as a

**Senior Vice President in Tele Danmark International.** Palle Tolstrup Nielsen is now in charge of the North American operations, headquartered in White Plains, New York. From its switch location in Jersey City, the company handles telephone, data, and Internet traffic for wholesale customers in the USA. Palle Tolstrup Nielsen lives in Rye, NY with his wife, Lis.



**Christmas at the Danish Church**

The Julebazaar in the Danish Seamen's Church will take place on December 2 from 11-4 PM. The church is located at 102 Willow Street in Brooklyn. For further information call (718) 875-0042. Please join in the festivities!



It makes a world of difference when you fly SAS to Scandinavia.

No one offers more flights to more destinations throughout Scandinavia than SAS. From New York we offer daily nonstop service to Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm. If our Chicago gateway is more convenient, our daily nonstop service to Stockholm and Copenhagen gives you great connections to the rest of Scandinavia, as does our daily Seattle to Copenhagen flight, and our new Toronto to Copenhagen flight.\* And whether you fly Business Class or Economy Class, our world-class service means you'll arrive relaxed and refreshed. Find out what a world of difference SAS can make for your next trip to Scandinavia. Just call your Travel Agent, or SAS at 1-800-221-2350. Or visit us on the web at [www.scandinavian.net](http://www.scandinavian.net).

\*Operated by Air Canada.



Scandinavian Airlines