Conference & Visitors Bureau

N E W S

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SOLVANG ñCENTENNIAL FESTò KICKS-OFF 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011

~Public invited to attend event at Hotel Corque

Solvang, California USA—At the turn of the 20th century, three Danish-Americans had a vision—to find a place in California where land was fertile and their heritage could prosper under the year-round golden sun. In 1911, that vision became reality with the founding of Solvang *(sunny field in Danish),* a 9000+ acre enclave in the verdant Santa Ynez Valley just 125 miles north of Los Angeles. Throughout 2011, Solvang, known as the "Danish Capital of America" and recognized as a "Preserve America" city is celebrating its 100th anniversary with a series of special events and activities.

The inaugural kick-off event-- "Centennial Fest" –will be held on Friday, January 7, 2011, at the Hotel Corque, 400 Alisal Road in Solvang. The public is invited to join with civic leaders, residents and visitors starting at 6:00pm for a complimentary wine reception offered by Lucas& Lewellen Vineyards, Rideau Vineyard and Wandering Dog Wine Bar with live entertainment provided by Danish and Samala dancers. At 7:00pm, guests may join an escorted walk to nearby Old Mission Santa Ines to experience the annual tree-burning ceremony hosted by the Santa Barbara County Fire Department or enjoy no-host social time at the hotel. At 7:45pm, guests will be seated for blessings, dinner and program followed by dessert from Olsen's Danish Village Bakery and traditional akvavit toasting and singing (commemorative akvavit glass included).

According to event co-chair Linda Johansen, "With joyous pride for our ancestors, we celebrate 100 years of wonderful history here in Solvang. You don't want to miss the kick-off Centennial Fest!" Co-chair Mary Harris remarked, "We express our deep appreciation for the generosity of our event sponsors—the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Foundation and Montecito Bank & Trust along with area businesses who are partnering with the volunteer Solvang Centennial Committee to make this event possible." Reservations are requested by December 22, 2010; and tickets are available in person or by mail for $50.00 each at the City of Solvang, 1644 Oak Street, Solvang, California 93463.

For additional Centennial Fest information call: Linda Johansen at 805-686-1644 or Mary Harris at 805-245-5128.
For more information on all Solvang Centennial events, visit www.Solvang100.com or www.SolvangUSA.com

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