



Dear Everybody,

ABOUT OUR FAMILY

- **Dines' day** is wonderfully monotonous:
 - Up before 7 am.
 - Breakfast: toasts of bread, some Emmenthaler cheese and some orange marmalade.
 - Reading a newspaper or two for an hour or so.
 - Checking, reading and sending e-mails – throughout the day.
 - Thinking about and writing up some stuff on “how to describe application domains”.
 - Rewriting that stuff.
 - And rewriting the rewriting.
 - Then throwing it all away and starting afresh: and, low and behold, it is much shorter – etcetera.
 - Reading books: when he is in “serious” writing/thinking mode, then detective stories or spy novels; when not, then more serious novels.
 - Recently Dines read some of Herta Müller’s books (she is the German/Rumanian lady who got Nobel’s literature prize some years ago).
 - In/between a bit of toddling around the garden: it has some large lawns, around a hundred rhododendrons (blooming only in May/June, but then what a sight).
 - Dines records TV programmes and sometimes sees these – during day time.
 - Lunch around 12:30 noon: very light, and dinner around 6:30 pm, also very light. Dines eats little and, alas, drinks little or no alcohol: his (“old age”) diabetes requires him to take insulin twice a day and Victoza once a day and he also takes 6 different pills a day – and result is: basically no appetite, not taste!

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December 2013

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- A 1/2 hour or so late morning nap and an hour or so early afternoon nap.
 - And to bed around 7:30 pm: listening for an hour or two to classical music.
 - How boring – at least for you to read – you may think.
 - **Kari's day** is far more productive:
 - Up at 6pm, doing some calisthenics, in summer collecting “killer snails” in the garden, preparing for later work on P&Q (patchwork and quilts).
 - Then breakfast.
 - Monday mornings Kari goes to a calisthenics class some 8 miles away and Thursdays, sometimes, she goes swimming; in the summer it is in our nearby lake (1 km. away) or in the ocean (that separates Denmark and Sweden, 8 kms. away); in the winter it is in-door.
 - Kari likes to walk, for around an hour. As our garden borders some 8 square kilometers of forest and neighbours onto a large, 900+ hecto acres of lake (L shaped, some 6 by 6 kms.) plus its 80 km² of forests etc., there is enough to explore.
 - Kari's bought a battery driven lawn mower (in addition to our two gasoline driven ones, they were too heavy to move around) this August and is suddenly very keen on gardening: the lawns are now immaculately cut.
 - Etcetera, etcetera.
 - **Kari's main work** is P&Q:
 - She is always at it: finishing now the last of five large *Grandmother's Flower Garden* P&Qs — for our five grand children.
 - In-between she designs new patterns and “executes” them — so the house is full of P&Qs.
 - Many Tuesdays some 10 plus/minus 2-3 ladies are here between 10 and 12:30 noon for the “*Holte Patchwork and Tea Society's*” hours of chit/chatting etc.
 - Kari has three rooms for her P&Q activities:
 - * A large 16 by 18 feet room with a glass wall window to the garden. I call this her “classroom”. She spends most of her time every day in this room.
 - * A half size triangular room is her workshop with sewing machines etc. — used to be Charlotte's room.
 - * And like-wise half-size room: her boutique from which she sells out of her almost 3000 different fabrics from all over the world: Japan, China, South East Asia, USA and most countries in Europe — used to be Charlotte's and Nikolaj's “living” room.

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Grandmother's Flower-garden

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- Every other week she attends evening meetings at two local P&Q clubs (Tuesdays and Wednesday) — meeting there typically 15–20 ladies.
 - She also gives typically 6 hour classes in P&Q clubs in nearby towns across Zealand.
 - Three times in the last three years she has designed patterns that have been published in either of the two Danish P&Q quarterly journals.
 - This year she was selected by the Danish Patchwork Society to be amongst 20 ladies, one or two of whose P&Qs were exhibited in Ste. Marie Aux Mines in Alsace. That was mid Sept.
 - Two weeks ago her part of the house was “open workshop” together with that of 19 other handicrafters and artists of our community for the annual “Culture Snake”. Two days, Sat./Sun., 11-16.
 - Next year she might exhibit another P&Q in Prague (see top next page).
- **Dines'** [corresponding] **main work** is still science:
 - Dines' main occupation, scientifically, has, in the last 8–10 years, been to give and understand possible answers to the question *what can be described?*.
 - * The question and possible answers borders to such philosophical issues as epistemology and ontology — not ontology in the sense of many computer scientists, but ontology in the classical sense of philosophy.
 - * In several papers over the last 5–6 years I cover various aspects of this overall topic.
 - * And, in these years I have given PhD schools and seminars in Europe and Asia: 2007: Nancy; 2008: Graz; 2009: Saarbrücken, Novosibirsk/Moscow, Edinburgh and Tokyo; 2010: Vienna, Kiev/Lviv/Odessa (Ukraine), Budapest and Uppsala; 2012: Bergen, Paris, Peking, Hong Kong and Shanghai (2012).
- Our **travels** are few:
 - In Feb. we spent a week, last week of Feb., in NYC. Saw a play on Broadway (“Cat on a Hot Tin Roof”), an opera (“Don Carlos” at the Met), and had a number of delightful lunches and dinners. <http://www2.imm.dtu.dk/~dibj/nyc13/> gives details.

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- My China travel last fall was without Kari: <http://www2.imm.dtu.dk/~dibj/china2012/>.
- This September we motored some 3000 kms. around Europe:
 - * Mon.9.9: Holte → Lüneburg, Germany, 1 night at www.bergstroem.de
 - * Tue.10.9: Lüneburg → Hanoversch Münden, Germany, 1 night at www.packhof.com
 - * Wed.11.9: Hanoversch Münden → Colmar, Alsace, France, 3 nights at www.la-maison-des-tetes.com
Kari's exhibition was at: www.patchwork-europe.com
 - * Sat.14.9: Colmar → Klosters, Switzerland, 2 nights at www.chesagrischuna.ch
 - * Mon.16.8: Klosters → Hotel Latemar, Oberbozen, Italy, 5 nights at www.hotel-latemar.net
 - * Sat. 21.9: Oberbozen → Kitzingen, Germany, 1 night at <http://www.esbachhof.de>
 - * Sun.22.9: Kitzingen → Kiel, Germany, 1 night at www.kieler-kaufmann.de
 - * Mon.23.9: Kiel → home

Oberbozen is where the whole family spent many summers between 1980 and now.

- Our daughter, **Charlotte** (45), lives nearby, 5 miles away, with her family: Wei Wei who spends half the year or more in China starring in TV series, films and in the stage, Camilla (17) and Caroline (13). We see them quite often, every other week or more often. They are all doing well.
- **Nikolaj** (43) is doing well too: scientifically very busy, travels a lot, Family life is active. Bodil quit work some 18 months ago. The three children goes to three different schools. Rather brainy it seems. I hear from colleagues of Nikolaj's achievements and visits.
- Right now we enjoy the autumn, almost Indian Summer, colours of the trees and bushes of our large garden and its surroundings.
- Kari and I often think of Wien and the wonderful years of which Fritz was an important facilitator.
- Fondly yours



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