



Dear Friends

This year-end Hanukkah/Christmas/Year-end season's letter is mostly about Dines' world.

- **Kari's Days:** Kari's day, in Dines' words, are fantastic – considering her age! Brews coffee for me, serves lunch, washes linen and clothes, and makes patchworks & quilts. In 3 quarters of the year she has had, up till this summer, her twice monthly hours with *The Holte Patchwork & Quilt "Tea" Club*, Tuesday noons, and *The Green Quilters*, alternating Tuesdays, afternoon. Then she enjoys doing gymnastics at the local community center *Rønnebærhus* – having lunch there, afterwards, with me then having lunch at local places within 4-5 miles!

Kari is now having difficulties: she falls, around the house – so we must call the community service to help her up. She does have a mobile phone. But she does not carry it around with her. And if she does, she rarely, if ever, responds to calls! Life is getting a bit too complicated!

Late August / early September [2025] she was, first in hospital, then in a convalescence home, *Hegnsgården*, some 7 kms. from our home. She fell, at 10pm, Sat. 23rd of August, in our upstairs bedroom, and broke, it was subsequently, the next day, observed, a bone in her left shoulder. Taken to *Hegnsgården* Tuesday August 26. I visited her regularly. It is cumbersome: must park the car some distance from the main, only, entry – and then some 300 steps, two sticks!, from her room, # 33. She was there three weeks. Been home since October.

Now, mid December, she is almost OK.

- **Dines' Day:** Here is an absolutely boring account of his "exciting" day – everyday!
  - **Morning:** We wake up early – around 5:30–6:00am. I measure my blood-sugar and take my insulin. We have breakfast at around 8:00am. Kari brews coffee; I/we toast my bread, *Ginger marmalade* from *Tiptree, Wilkin & Son*, Kent, UK; 5 candlesticks lighted – now 7!



Our dining room.

I read newspapers every morning, before and after breakfast: *Berlingske* [B] and *Kristeligt Dagblad* [KD]. Fridays also *Weekend Avisen*. KD is, in my mind, the best. Many of the books I buy stems from references in KD. Once a month the morning post also brings me *Tidehverv*<sup>1</sup>, a monthly journal. I devour most of its essays that and the next few days!

Around 8:30 am–9:00 am the local community home care comes around to get my support stocks on.

I then work scientifically & engineeringly, on reports, see below. A few hours, then I read books, see below, or "watch" streaming films, mostly crimes [mostly British].

- **Noon:** For  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour before lunch I rest, in our living room Chinese 4-poster bed<sup>2</sup>; reflecting on what I am trying to write/writing.

We usually eat a simple lunch: Herring with Danish aquavit and strong beer, or a micro-oven warmed quiche, penne, or other.

- **Afternoon:** After yet another rest,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ –2 hours, and then to "my work".

At around 5:30 pm the local community home care comes around to get my support stocks off! These care people hail from Denmark, Eastern Europe, Middle East, Africa and South East Asia: Poland, Romania, Turkey, Iran, Thailand, The Philippines; they are all very devoted. I enjoy their comings and goings. They also help sort out the "zillion" different kinds of medical doctors-prescribed pills: have the local pharmacy deliver them, and put them in small, plastic weekday-labeled boxes!

<sup>1</sup><https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tidehverv>

<sup>2</sup>See photo on page 6

- **Evening:** I go to bed, early, slightly varying, between 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm. I spend some time streaming a TV movie, then reflecting on what I am [trying to] write/writing.
- **Night:** I sleep then from around 8:00 pm.
- **Our Garden:** We have Ole keep our garden in order: plant, weed, etc.:



There were 26 trees in the garden when we first moved in, 50 years ago, August 7, 1975. Now one!

- **Dines' Techn./Sci. Work: Background/Motivation:** In primary and middle school we learn *physics, chemistry, geography, zoology/botany*. All based on studying material/books based on scientific work. But we do **not** learn about banking, transport/logistics, economics, our *health care* (from *family doctor, via hospitals and clinics, insurance, etc.*), nor about our *judicial system: how laws are made and enforced, the police structures, the law court structure, prisons, etc.*! That is: the whole human, man-made infrastructure that our societies have built over millennia!

**So as a kind of motivation** I am "applying" my *theories of domain modeling* to, first the domain of *Transport*: customers (participating in or sending and receiving transport), transporters (buses, trains, ships, aircraft), [logistics] companies providing such multi-mode, composite transport, etc. I spent 3 months working out a domain model of **Transport**<sup>3</sup>. Now I am working on a domain model of **Banking**<sup>4</sup>, from Your "mortar & brick, neighbourhood" bank, the national bank, to the regional banks (e.g. the *European Central Bank* and the *US Federal Reserve*), to the *The World Bank* and the *International Monetary Fund*. If proper, non-sociological, but really well-founded, politically un-biased school courses are to, not train but educate young people in how our man-made infrastructure works, then such classes must be based on deeper texts on (each of) these infrastructure components. Next I shall try tackle such domains as **Health Care** and **Manufacturing**.

This keeps me busy, 4 hours a day at my computer, 2-3 hours thinking.

- **Dines' Reading:** I have great fun, satisfaction and challenge in reading.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.imm.dtu.dk/dibj/2025/transport/main.pdf>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.imm.dtu.dk/dibj/2025/banking/main.pdf>



- **Moby Dick:** This book by Herman Melville fascinates me. The tome is lying on our coffee table book from where I read a chapter at a time. There are 135 chapters! Most are small: 2-3-4 pages. Chapter 9, on Job, is larger. It is fantastic! Akin to *Fjodor Dostojevskij's* chapter in *Brothers Karamasov* on Jesus' visit to Sevilla and meeting there with The Grand Inquisitor<sup>5</sup>.
- **The West Seen from Russia:** This book was published in April 2025. It is written by 13 academics from Danish universities. In 18 chapters they cover *Russian Orthodox Christianity: historically and today*, *Slavophilism*<sup>6</sup>, *19th Century Radicals and the West-oriented Intelligentsia*, *Russian Anarchism: Bakunin and Kropotkin*, *Fjodor Dostojevskij: extreme realism and freedom of speech*, *Lev Tolstoj: open-minded realism and Christian anarchism*, ..., *Marxism and Leninism*, *Mikhail Bakhtin: Art and Responsibility*, *Alexander Solzhenitzyn: system-critical national-conservative*, *Alexander Zinovjev: from "homo sapiens" to putinist*, etc.! Fascinating reading.

I am 1/3rd way through.

[Over the years, since I was 18, I have read, in Danish or English, Russian literature: *Bulgakov* [he is Ukrainian], *Bunin*, *Dostojevskij* [some dozen of his works], *Lermontov*, *Gogol*, *Pasternak*, *Solzhenitzyn*, *Turgenev*, *Tolstoj* and many others.]

It is obvious, to me, and has been for many, many years, that we, in *The West*, do not understand Russia at all! I fear we are making many political mistakes. Putin started the war.

- **The Gospel of St. John**<sup>7</sup> A delightful essay, 96 pages. Kasper Bro Larsen presents a crisp reading of the poetic and the elegance of the gospel in the New Testament.
- **Søren Kierkegaard:** Philosophical Fragments<sup>8</sup>: *The question involves how knowledge can be known, and Climacus discusses how the theories of Socratic recollection and Christian divinity can inform the learner of truth* [Wikipedia]. Delightful.
- **Bertel Haarder:** *Sjælespark*<sup>9</sup>. I served as chairman of Bertel Haarder's Informatics Commission, 1992–1994. Haarder has had 10 govt. ministries in his long life. Fascinating book. I am thinking of sending him my maternal grandfathers book: *Dagværk*, from 1939!
- I continue reading crime novels!
- And lots of other "stuff" !
- **60 Years: A Diamond Anniversary:** On Thursday December 11, this year, we celebrated our 60 years as a married couple. We met on Wednesday October 7, 1964, at the pedestrian walk on 5th Ave., New York, the one between St. Patricks' Cathedral and the Rockefeller Center. Kari was en route to San Francisco for a job, with a wealthy Pacific Heights family, as an *au pair*. We "dated" as from November 1964, "I proposed" on a rainy, stormy Friday evening April 9. She said "yes, thanks". Got our rings from *Lindemann* on *Union Square*, and married in *Røa Church, Oslo, Norway* at 5 pm on Saturday, December 11 that same year.  
Kari continues to "thrill" me – and a lot of many other good things – to this day! I find it amazing that I still thrive in her company, that I still want to be with her all 24 hours a day, that I wake up in the early morning saying, "You are Lovely", and repeat that some 20-30 times a day, every day! And she is.  
We were 38 in all for lunch at the one Michelin star *Søllerød Kro*<sup>10</sup>, 12:00–17:00. Nikolaj came over from Seattle. Charlotte was in hospital, appendicitis. No grandchildren, alas! Exams, etc.
- **A Book Translation:** On February 25th my translation of *Kai Sørlander's* book **The Structure of Pure Reason**<sup>11</sup> was published by Springer Nature, Dordrecht, The Netherlands. Read it!

<sup>5</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Grand\\_Inquisitor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Grand_Inquisitor)

<sup>6</sup><https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavophilia>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.eksistensen.dk/johannesevangeliets.html>

<sup>8</sup>[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophical\\_Fragments](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophical_Fragments)

<sup>9</sup><https://www.gyldendal.dk/produkter/sjaelespark-9788702442984>

<sup>10</sup><https://guide.michelin.com/en/capital-region/copenhagen/restaurant/sollerod-kro>

<sup>11</sup><https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-83301-4>



The photos show me reading the book! Kari at work, and four of the home care ladies: Denmark, two from Iran, and one from The Philippines.

- **A Skin Cancer Operation:**



Now OK

- **Restaurants:** February at the now one Michelin star Japanese-style Sushi Anaba<sup>12</sup> – where I got seated next to René Redzepi of the Noma<sup>13</sup> restaurant. We have lunch 2-3 times a year at the Sletten Inn<sup>14</sup>. Kari's sister "Lillian" [Anne-Dagny] came by late April and we had lunch at Søllerød Kro<sup>15</sup>.



The 1st photo shows Mrs. and Mr. Rezepi, Mads Battefeld [standing, the owner chef of Sushi Anaba], me and Kari. 2nd photo: us at Sletten. Lillian and Kari. Midsummer we had lunch with dear friends since 1969: Peggy & Peter Stark [Saratago, CA] at restaurant Le Grand Rouge<sup>16</sup>, and with Charlotte and Caroline for early dinner at "Red Claus" SK12<sup>17</sup>. Read about "Red' Claus"<sup>18</sup>. We have enjoyed his food at two former places.



With Peggy and Peter Stark, Sat. 28 June, 2025, at *Le Grand Rouge*. Right: SK12

<sup>12</sup><https://www.sushianaba.com/>

<sup>13</sup><https://noma.dk/>

<sup>14</sup><https://formelfamily.dk/sletten/en/>

<sup>15</sup><https://www.soellerod-kro.dk/en/kroen>

<sup>16</sup><https://legrandrouge.dk/en/frontpage/>

<sup>17</sup><https://sovinobrandts.dk/restaurant/sk12/>

<sup>18</sup><https://denroede.com/2024/04/10/farvel-og-goddag/>



- **Hurraaaaaah !** Kathrine and Nikolaj were here July 6-11, resp. 6-8 ! We had Sunday Lunch at Søllerød Kro<sup>19</sup> with Charlotte ! Nikolaj was en route to an advisory board meeting of the Saarbrücken Max Planck Institute, Katrine having just become a B.Sc. in Mathematics at Nantes Université!<sup>20</sup>. After us she went to Sweden, to bicycle with her lady-friend in Sälen, etc. ! She is going on to study for her masters degree at Université Paul Sabatier<sup>21</sup>, in Toulouse.

- **Travels: Oh, I miss travelling !** Kari steadfastly says *she will not travel*. I “dream” of sitting on a street café. Perhaps on a harbour quay in Greece or Italy. Of slowly walking, two sticks, in a quaint French village or in Madrid. How about a trip to Malta ! ?

Dines' main dream is 2 weeks at the **Mandarin Oriental**<sup>22</sup> in Bangkok. 10 restaurants, a tea room and a bar. No need to leave the hotel !

Kari, though, says yes to visit Marianne in *Madison, Wisconsin* and Jakob in *Atlanta, Georgia*, and, of course, Kathrine in *Toulouse, France*.

I was invited to present a 1+1 hour tutorial at the ICTAC Conference in Marrakech, Morocco<sup>23</sup> 22–29 November. It went well. Thanks to Mrs. Hong and her husband, the ICTAC mastermind, Prof. Liu ZhiMing, I saw several of Marrakech's sights.

Kim Guldstrand Larsen gave a 1 + 1½ fascinating tutorial, on UppAal, and both he and Klaus Havelund gave likewise fascinating talks. Three Danes !



Rest. Le Jardin, hotel Royal Mansour, Marrakech

- **Correction:** Most of this letter was written in July. Things have changed since then. We are indeed getting older. As for me: I have basically stopped my technical/scientific writing. I sleep longer in the morning. I do some writing, but only occasionally.
- Thanks for satisfying my incessant need for communication by reading till the end:



Have a Blessed Hanukkah<sup>24</sup>, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Fondly Yours,

Kari ♥

<sup>19</sup><https://www.soellerod-kro.dk/>

<sup>20</sup><https://www.univ-nantes.fr/>

<sup>21</sup><https://www.univ-tlse3.fr/>

<sup>22</sup><https://www.mandarinoriental.com/en/bangkok/chao-phraya-river?src=loc.yext.mobkk.ggl>

<sup>23</sup><https://ictac2025.digital-hub.sh/>

<sup>24</sup>Dines' maternal grandfather spent Hanukkahs with the (Lubavitcher, Rebbe Shmariyahu Noach) Schneerson family in Bobruisk [Belorussia] in Decembers 1905-1913 – buying up birch-wood – as You see it in the photo on page 6



Dines' upstairs *study* <sup>↑</sup><sup>25</sup>, and our “downstairs” *Living Room* <sup>↓</sup> with the Chinese four-poster bed:



**Postscript:** I have in the last 10 years “struggled” with conceiving, formulating, and revising my thoughts on **Domain Modeling**. Several versions have been published in various forms.

It reminds me of the French author *Anatole France*’s [“reductionist”] story of the history of mankind:

*On acceding to the throne of Persia, a young king assembled all the academicians of his realm and charged them with writing a detailed history of mankind, that he may learn from it to become a wise ruler.*

*The wise men deliberated and returned after twenty years with twelve camels, each carrying five hundred volumes. But the king could not find the time to read so many volumes, and tasked them with reducing the number of volumes “to the brevity of human existence”.*

*The academicians worked for another twenty years and returned with fifteen hundred volumes. But the king said, “I am getting old and cannot read all these volumes”.*

*The academicians returned after ten years with five hundred volumes but the king asked them to shorten it further so that he could learn, before dying, human history.*

*After five years, a lone academician carrying a single volume arrived at the palace. “Hurry up” an officer told him, “the king is dying”. The king looked at the academician and said, “So I shall die without knowing human history”.*

*“Sir”, replied the academician, I can summarize it for you in three words: they are born, they suffer, they die.”*

<http://profzeki.blogspot.com/2012/05/anatole-france-and-reductionism.html>

<https://www.imm.dtu.dk/~dibj/2025/year-letter/Anatole.pdf>

**Dines Bjørner**

Fredsvej 11  
DK-2840 Holte  
Danmark

Prof. Em., PhD, Dr.techn., Dr.h.c., MAE, MRANS [AB], ACM+IEEE+FME+IFIP+ATV Fellow

[bjorner@gmail.com](mailto:bjorner@gmail.com)

+45-45 12 38 04

<http://www.imm.dtu.dk/~dibj>

<sup>25</sup>The Belorussian birch-wood 1920s furniture are [from] my maternal grandfather’s office: 8 pieces, the desk almost invisible.