



Dear Friends

This midsummer letter is mostly about Dines' world. The letter will be updated¹. from time-to-time! over the summer and fall, and will, eventually, become our Seasons Greetings:

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



I read the newspapers every morning, before and after breakfast: *Berlingske* [B] and *Kristeligt Dagblad* [KD]. Fridays also *Weekend Avisen*. KD is, in my mind, the

¹<https://www.imm.dtu.dk/~dibj/2025/year-letter/letter.pdf>

best. Many of the books I buy stems from references in KD. Once a month the morning post also brings me Tidehverv², a debate monthly. 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, upstairs, scientifically & engineeringly, on reports, see below. A few hours, then I read books, see below, or “watch” streaming films, mostly crimes [mostly British, Irish].

- **Noon:** For $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before lunch I rest, in my living room Chinese 4-poster bed; 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, or other.

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

At around 5:30 pm the local community home care comes around to get my sup-

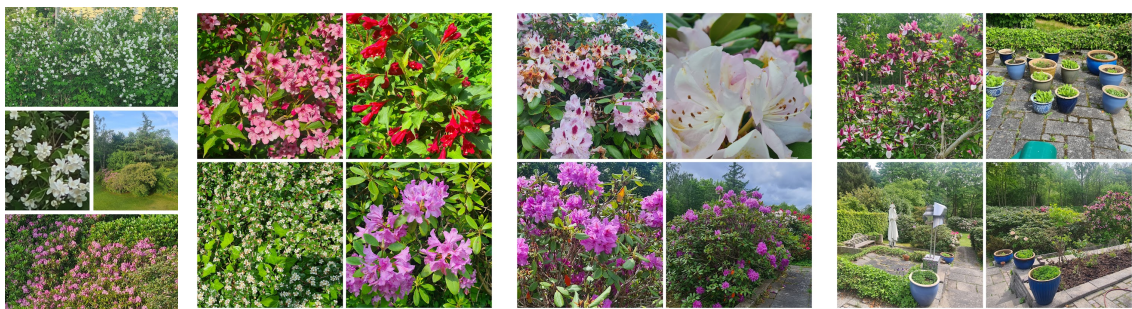
²<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tidehverv>

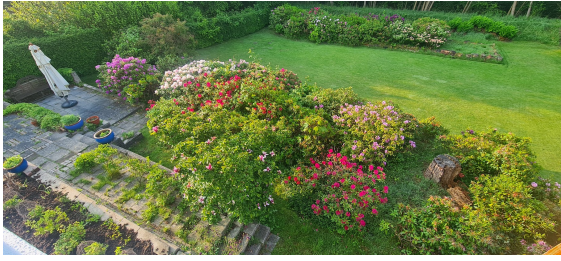
port stocks off! These care people hail from Denmark, Eastern Europe, Middle East, Africa and South East Asia: Poland, Romania, Turkey, Iran, Thailand, The Philippines; they are all very devoted. I enjoy their comings and goings. They also help sort out the “zillion” different kinds of medical doctors-prescribed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

- **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.

During the 24 hour day & night I visit the toilet 10 times or so!

- **Our Garden:** We have Ole keep our garden in order: plant, weed, etc.:





- **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 hundreds of years!

So as a kind of motivation I am “ap-

plying” 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**³. Now I am working on a domain model of **Banking**⁴, 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 **Wholesaling/Retailing, Health Care, and Manufacturing**.

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

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

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.
 - **Moby Dick:** This book by Herman Melville fascinates me. The tome is lying on our coffee table book from where 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 Dostovjeskij's* chapter in *Brothers Karamasov* on Jesus' visit to Sevilla and meeting there with The Grand Inquisitor⁵.
 - **The West Seen from Russia:** This book was published last month. It is written by 13 academics from Danish universities. In 18 chapters they cover *Russian Orthodox Christianity: historically and today, Slavophilism*⁶, *19th Century Radicals and the West-oriented Intelligentsia, Russian Anarchism: Bakunin and Kropotkin, Fjodor Dostojevskij: extreme realism and*

⁵https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Grand_Inquisitor

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

freedom of speech, Lev Tolstoj: open-minded realism and Christian anarchism, ..., Marxism and Leninism, Mikhail Bakhtin: Art and Responsibility, Alexander Solz-jenitzyn: system-critical national-conservative, Alexander Zinovjev: from "homo sapiens" to putinist, etc. ! Fascinating reading.

I am 1/3rd way through.

It is obvious, to me, and has been for many, many years, that we, in the west, do not understand Russia ! I fear we are making many political mistakes.

- **The Gospel of St.John**⁷ 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 Fragments⁸: *The question involves how knowledge can be known, and Climacus discusses how the theories of Socratic recollection and Christian divinity can in-*

⁷<https://www.eksistensen.dk/johannesevangeliet.html>

⁸https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophical_Fragments

form the learner of truth [Wikipedia].
Delightful.

- I continue reading crime novels !
- And lots of other “stuff” !
- **Kari's Day:** Kari's day, in my words, is 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 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 !
She, however, must speak for herself – so I keep it with just this.
- **60 Years: A Diamond Anniversary:** On Thursday December 11 this year we shall celebrate our 60 years as a married couple. We met on Wednesday October 7 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 o Saturday, December 11 that same year. Kari continues to “thrill” – and a lot of may 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.

- **A Book Translation:** On February 25th my translation of *Kai Sørlander's* book **The Structure of Pure Reason**⁹ was published by Springer Nature, Dordrecht, The Netherlands.

⁹<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: two from Iran, one from The Philippines, one from Denmark.

- **A Skin Cancer Operation:** In May I had, finally, a small skin cancer operation. Now it looks OK:



- **Restaurants:** We have had some good meals in town: in February at the now one Michelin star Japanese-style Sushi Anaba¹⁰ – where I got seated next to *René Redzepi* of the Noma¹¹ restaurant. We have lunch 2-3 times a year at the Sletten Inn¹². Kari's sister “Lillan” [Anne-Dagny] came by late

¹⁰<https://www.sushianaba.com/>

¹¹<https://noma.dk/>

¹²<https://formelfamily.dk/sletten/en/>

April and we had lunch at Søllerød Kro¹³.



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. Just these days we are having lunch with dear friends since 1973: Peggy & Peter Stark [Saratago, CA] at restaurant Le Grand Rouge¹⁴, and with Charlotte and Caroline for early dinner at “Red Karl’s” SK12¹⁵. Read about “Red” Karl¹⁶. We have enjoyed his food at two former places.



us with Peggy and Peter Stark, Sat. 28 June, 2025, lunching a

¹³<https://www.soelleroed-kro.dk/en/kroen>

¹⁴<https://legrandrouge.dk/en/frontpage/>

¹⁵<https://sovinobrandts.dk/restaurant/sk12/>

¹⁶<https://denroede.com/2024/04/10/farvel-og-goddag/>

- **Friends:**¹⁷ “*Friendship, like setting sun, casts gentle light on evening.*”¹⁸ was a favourite quote of my father. My mother then made a cross stitch for him. It hang in our entry. It is lying somewhere, in a drawer here. Kari and I have been and are blessed with many friends. Some of the longest lasting one are *Hanne & Klavs Hendil* [K; Dines’ cousin], *Anne & Morten Bjørner* [M: Dines’ cousin], *Peter & Peggy Stark* [since 1969, Calif.], *Kirsten and Klaus Hyllested* [since 1964, Calif.], *Jytte & Peter Johansen* [since 1965], *Olav & Grete Lilleør* [since 1978], *Elsa & Kaj Møller Jensen* [since 1992, HK], *Janne Tolstrup* [since 1998], etc. Several others have passed away. We have treasured and are treasuring their friendships.
- **Great People:** And Kari & I have been blessed also with meeting, many times such wonderful people as *Alice & Kai Kinberg* [my “boss” at IBM Nordic Labs., and in Calif.], *Fay and Lotfi Zadeh*¹⁹ [UC Berkeley],

¹⁷At our “advanced age” it may be permitted to bring this paragraph. My age may excuse that I have missed some friends in the list.

¹⁸<https://www.etsy.com/listing/1077027941/vintage-70s-warm-friendship-like-the>

¹⁹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lotfi_A._Zadeh

Florence & Ernest Baerwald [SF], and *Grace & Harvey Pope* [Atherton, CA]. They were there, in our years in the SF Bay Area. They “stood in”, so-to-speak”, as a kind of substitute elders. Their wisdom, their kindness, have left us deeply grateful. To this day we often reminisce about one or the other of these people when we, at breakfast, *count our blessings!*

- **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!?

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

I am invited to present a tutorial at the IC-TAC Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco²⁰ 24-28 November – but Kari says, so far, she will not go with me, and then I cannot go.

²⁰<https://ictac2025.digital-hub.sh/>

Will anyone “step into” Kari’s shoes?
For Greece, Italy, Spain, Malta, Morocco?

Fondly Yours

John Björnel



My upstairs *study* ↑, and our “downstairs” *Living Room* ↓ with the Chinese four-poster bed:



Our House & Garden:



Dines Bjørner

Fredsvej 11
DK-2840 Holte
Danmark

Prof. Emeritus, PhD, Dr.h.c., MAE, MRANS [AB], ACM Fellow, IEEE Fellow, ATV Fellow

bjorner@gmail.com

+45-45 42 21 41

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