

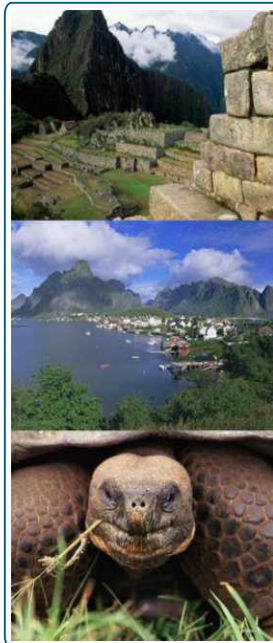


Our monthly dinner will be held on April 9, 2005 at the Des Plaines Elks Club, 495 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL (847-824-1556). Cocktail hour begins at noon; dinner starts promptly at 1:00 P.M. when, according to our tradition, our BOSS, **Robert Alsaker**, rings the bell to seat us for dinner.

What does the Galapagos Islands, Peru and the lost Inca City of Machu Picchu have in common with Norway?

...Answer: the Rev. Robert Furrboe! Our own member, Pastor Bob Furrboe, will share his experiences and that of his wife Edna. They joined a group from Overseas Adventure Travel last October for 18 days in Peru and Ecuador. In 8 days they visited Lima, Cusco, and Machu Picchu, a UNESCO heritage site, in Peru. A long time dream for Bob was to visit the "Lost Kingdom of The Incas" 9000 to 11000 feet high in the Andes. The magnificent architecture and beauty are overwhelming and the cultural experience was a great education.

The second part of his trip was to the Galapagos Islands, part of Ecuador 600 miles west of the mainland in the Pacific Ocean. The Galapagos Islands are where Charles Darwin, in a short visit conceived the "Theory of Evolution." Also a UNESCO heritage site, the whole group of Islands are a nature reserve. Human access is



limited and rigidly controlled.

The yacht "Carima" was their home in the Galapagos. The animals do not consider human beings predators and so they are without fear. The hiking and travel to various islands provided opportunity to see up close 40 different species of birds, Iguanas, Sea Lions, Giant Tortoises, and Sea Turtles in their natural environment. Join us for this interesting day, which will include a slide presentation to accompany his talk. It sounds fascinating.

Last month, we were pleased to have the Normennenes Singing Society and Swedish Glee Club, Waukegan as entertainment for father/son/daughter day. As a correction to last month's month's misinformation, Normennenes is 135 years old now, founded in 1870. Thanks also to our own singing member **Thor Fjell** for his work as Torskemaster.

Special Guests!

The Madison Torske Klubben!

Well, it finally happened. The stars were aligned correctly, we have a new moon, Easter was early and it isn't UW football season. That means that the Madison Torske Klubben was NOT meeting on the same date as our Torske Klub.

As you can read in the News from the Boss in this newsletter, they have graciously accepted our invitation to attend and about 15 members will drive down from Madison that day. This is especially appropriate since Pastor Furrboe is a member of both clubs and always appreciates it when the pews are full. "Velkommen" to our good friends this day, be sure to introduce yourselves.

Make Your November Reservation by TUESDAY Noon, April 5, 2005

The Elks Club needs time to order the fresh fish. Timely reservations insure that an adequate portion and a table space can be reserved for you. Noon means noon. A call at 12:30 Tuesday is no better than a call on Friday evening; the fish order is made.

Call 630-443-6839 at any time day or night to leave a reservation. As usual, please leave your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER, NAME, and the TOTAL number of people in your party. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. It will ring 4 times before answering. If you need to speak to someone urgently, please call Ken's office at 847-781-6820 during weekday business hours.

For those with email, feel free to send a note to secretary@torskeklub.org with the same information and the message title "Torske Klub Reservation". We will reply to that with a confirmation of receipt. We have reservations from member numbers 3, 13C, 18, 22, 37, 43A, 47, 49 (3), 51, 55, 61, 64A, 73C, 85, 98, 100, 114, 126, 142, 171. We also have advanced reservations from 15 Madison members (Mange Takk, Trygve!) Remember that the guests of the members must be called in as well.

****TIP** Don't know or remember your membership number? Check the mailing label. It is the number by your name.

FREE Raffle ticket to each member, who brings one or more guests to the dinner this 2004/2005 season, excluding father/son/daughter and ladies day.

For Reservations Please Call (630) 443-6839



Mark your Calendar - May 14: 45th Anniversary Dinner / Ladies Day

This special day will be a fairly large event. We are planning a very special guest speaker from the Norwegian government, who will speak about the 100th Anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution, plus help us celebrate our own 45th anniversary. ■

Price of Aquavit skyrockets! *

Due to the rising costs of oil, the price of a bottle of our Aquavit is expected to rise dramatically, the Norwegian Aquavit minister, Arne Drikker, informed the world last month. Why is this? "It takes a world tour to properly age the aquavit", says Drikker. "Once across the equator at least, twice for the really good stuff; and that takes oil." ■



Advertising is solicited for the May Anniversary Dinner - Last Chance !

The Chicago Torske Klub is celebrating its 45th Anniversary in May. We are in the process of preparing an anniversary booklet/program for the attendees. To offset some of the cost and to offer the opportunity for well-wishers, we are offering some space for our members to advertise or place a message. We will accept full page ads (8" high x 5" wide) for \$20, ½ page (4" x 5") for \$10, or business card for \$5. At the April dinner, we will circulate a well wisher signup page for \$1. We are not circulating this widely, but you are invited to offer this to those organizations or businesses that you are affiliated with. The Torske Klub Board of Directors has final approval authority on any advertising accepted. All advertising must be received by April 15, 2005 for insertion.

Of the ads received so far, some are prepared; some are just a message, which we will type out for you if you wish. They include personal congratulations to the Torske Klub, Memoriam to past members, and brother/sister organizations of our members. ■

News from the Boss

This month we welcome our most Reverend Robert Furreboe, our long-time Torske Klub member to speak to us about one of his main interests...the Inca civilization. Remember that Pastor Furreboe is a member of both the Chicago and Madison Torske Klubs and we welcome members of the Madison Torske Klub and their Boss, Trygve Lonnebotn, to our April meeting as well. Make your reservations today! ■

Request from our Program Chairman

Dr. Ray Newgard is arranging the program agenda for next year. As in previous years, this is a combination of entertaining speakers, community speakers and talent from inside our own Torske Klub. A number of opportunities exist for speakers. Please consider leveraging your own resources to give Ray a hand with providing the quality of dinner speakers to which we have become accustomed. ■

Birthdays for April

The spring lambs of April include, **Ivar Ranvik, Steinar Stein, David Hardy, Richard Nelson Jr., and Morton Solum.** Oh, we almost forgot*, our board member **Dick Fjeldheim.** Gentlemen, we raise our first skol of spring to you and wish you a Happy Birthday, and many more. ■

Official Website for the Norwegian Centennial Year

Unless you are a Norwegian living in a troll cave, you already know that 2005 represents the 100th anniversary of the dissolution of the union with Sweden. **Lowell Olberg** reminds us that the Official Web Site for activities happening during 2005, the Norwegian Centennial Year is

<http://www.norway.org/1905-2005/2005events/2005.htm>



Special Auction in May

Carl Eglund has been busy painting again and we are the benefactors of his handiwork. He has donated a marvelously decorated jewelry box, rosemaled in the old Norwegian tradition. Per Lysne, the father of modern rosemaling in America, would be envious. The consensus of the board members at the March meeting was that it should be held until the May celebration. It will be auctioned by our own master auctioneer, **Don Hoganson**. There will be one condition to bid, "It must be bid on by a gentleman, who will present it to a lady". Thanks in advance, Carl & Don.



New Members!

We welcome two new members to our fold. Oystein Borsheim, of Park Ridge and Petter Berntzen of Naperville. Both were guests last month. . Velkommen! ■

Enjoy the Day of April Fool, Why do we do it?

The closest point in time that can be identified as the beginning of this tradition was in 1582, in France. Prior to that year, the new year was celebrated for eight days, beginning on March 25. The celebration culminated on April 1. With the reform of the calendar under Charles IX, the Gregorian Calendar was introduced, and New Year's Day was moved to January 1.

However, communications being what they were in the days when news traveled by foot, many people did not receive the news for several years. Others, the more obstinate crowd, refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the new year on April 1. These backward folk were labeled as "fools" by the general populace. They were subject to some ridicule, and were often sent on "fools errands" or were made the butt of other practical jokes.

This harassment evolved, over time, into a tradition of prank-playing on the first day of April. The tradition eventually spread to England and >>

continued...

Scotland in the eighteenth century. It was later introduced to the American colonies of both the English and French. April Fool's Day thus developed into an international fun fest, so to speak, with different nationalities specializing in their own brand of humor at the expense of their friends and families. In Scotland, for example, April Fool's Day is actually celebrated for two days. The second day is devoted to pranks involving the posterior region of the body. It is called Taily Day. The origin of the "kick me" sign can be traced to this observance.

From <http://wilstar.com>

Personally, we prefer to play pranks in the newsletter. Look for the items in this letter marked with the asterisk (*) as our contribution to April Fool's Day.

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

Boss: Rob Alsaker

Assistant Boss: Don Hoganson

Treasurer: Gene Kaczmarek

Secretary: Ken Larson

Program Chairman: Dr. Ray Newgard

Wine Chairman: Garry Grube

Raffle Chairman: Ron Bentsen

Historian: David Cornwell

Membership Chairman: Robert Frost II

Board Member: Dick Fjeldheim

Board Member: Fred Glure

Board Member: Ralph Haug

Director of Photos: Len Scapon *

Airline Seating by: Payne N. Diaz*

Chief Heckler: Obie Quiet*

This newsletter was published by the Chicago Torske Klub.

Editor: Ken Larson Layout and Production: Wolfgang Gruener

© 2004 Chicago Torske Klub