



Our October Torske Klub meeting for this 2004-2005 Torske Klub dinner season will be held on October 9, 2004 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, or BOSS, **Robert Alsaker**, rings the bell. Our Torskemaster is our own long-time member and past Norwegian Consul General, **Per Bye Ohrstrom**.

Dinner Invitation for the Celebration of Leif Erikson Day with our Honorary Royal Norwegian Consul General, Paul Andersen

October is the right time of the year for Torsk, isn't it? Other than May, when we celebrate Syttende Mai and December when we celebrate Christmas traditions, October is a good



Paul Andersen

Norwegian month to celebrate Leif Erikson day. Who better to do this than Chicago's own Honorary Royal Norwegian Consul General, **Paul Anderson**. Paul is also partner in the law firm of Sonnenberg and Anderson in Chicago, specializing in international trade. Paul will talk about Leif Eriksen.

Many still regard Christopher Columbus as the discoverer of the New World. In spite of this Leif

Ericson (also spelled Eiriksson in the saga) has a right to this claim. He received the official recognition in the US in 1964 when President Lyndon B. Johnson, backed by a unanimous Congress, proclaimed October 9th "Leif Ericson Day" in

commemoration of the first arrival of a European on North American soil. Since that time, evidence of a small viking settlement or winter camp has been uncovered in Newfoundland, substantiating this fact.

If you were at last month's dinner, you were treated to an excellent torske dinner, in addition to a klub special appetizer of sliced smoked salmon and a serving of lefse with dinner. Our speaker was Robert Lahey, Director of the Northeastern Illinois Public Service Training Academy (NIPSTA), located on a part of the old Glenview Naval Air Station in Glenview, Illinois. The raffle was well stocked and manned by **Ron Bentsen** that month.



A wreath is laid on the statue of Leif Ericson in 2003 by the Norwegian National League- photo courtesy of the NNL web site

New Members!

The Torske Klub received membership from two new members this last month. We welcome **Thor Torger** of Chicago as well as **George Wade** of Elk Grove Village as our newest members. **Velkommen!**

Happy Birthday!

The members with October birthdays include **William Kronberg**, **Kaare Nevdal** (who joins us frequently from Rockford), **Eivind Torske** (who tells people the klub is named after him), **Kristian Ronning**, **Sam Smith**, and **Thorkil Winther**.

Make Your September Reservation by TUESDAY Noon, October 5, 2004

The Elks Club needs time to order the fresh fish. Timely reservations ensure that an adequate portion can be reserved for you. Call [630-443-6839](tel: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 men in your party. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. As we did last year, this reservation phone is unattended since it is an answering system only. It will ring 4 times before answering. If you need to speak to someone urgently, please call Ken Larson's office at 847-781-6820 during

weekday business hours. In case of absence, leave a message at either phone, and we'll get back to you. Ken is frequently out of town during the reservation period, so please be patient with his response. For those with email, feel free to send Ken a note to secretary@torskeklub.org with "RESERVATION" in the subject line. You will receive a confirmation reply. Currently we have reservations from members 3, 4, 6, 7B, 13C, 22, 47, 64A, 73C, 78, 85, 98, 119, and 179. Please remember that guests of the members must be called in as well.

**** TIP **** *Your member number is on the left side of your name on the mailing envelope.*

For Reservations Please Call (630) 443-6839



Cod is labeled "air traffic hazard"

Norway's Civil Aviation Administration Avinor has accused Lofoten cod of threatening flight safety in Svolvær, newspaper Dabladet reports. Avinor, which owns Svolvær Airport, wants no part of plans to have live cod in enclosures in the vicinity of the runway.

"The probability of a collision between planes and sea birds will increase dramatically," Avinor said at a hearing. Avinor's airport chief at Svolvær, Bjørn Opsahl, believes the cod will be a temptation for birds, and that feeding the fish would also attract the birds in numbers.

Local businesses had hoped to cooperate by putting live Lofoten cod in enclosures in order to increase profitability by being able to deliver fresh cod all year round.

"It sounds a bit strange that gulls and other sea birds are going eat such big fish," said Ole Osland at L. Berg Sønner. *Thanks to the Boss for this note.* ■

Aquavit is not just for sipping anymore



According to the Chicago Tribune, if you find someone naked in the snow on the near north side, they may have just visited the Wave restaurant Ice Bar at 644 N. Lake Shore Drive. There they have invented a mixed drink made with aquavit, Syrian honey, orange blossom, and black pepper, shaken up with ice and served in a proper glass.

When making his selection, he tasted many aquavits and chose Linie. "Health experts will tell you that alcohol is the last thing to drink when venturing out, but this stuff feels like liquid goose-down. You could still die of hypothermia, but would die happy." Syrian honey? Uff da. ■

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News from the Boss

For those that don't know, the boss, **Rob Alsaker**, noted by email last week that his sister, Nora had died on September 20 at age 55 from cancer as a complication from a series of serious medical problems and the treatments.

Our condolences to Rob and his family, particularly his mother and father, **Allan Alsaker**, who is also a Torske Klub Member.

We Get Letters and Pictures...



...and we remember to print many of them, as appropriate, but we don't always remember who gave it to us. Especially when we receive something at the dinner during the chaos of the front table, it would help if you add your name to the item so we can thank you publicly. Mange Takk to all contributors.



Best Regards to...

► **Marv Meyer** who missed our last meeting due to a recovery from a brief hospitalization

► **George Tarnow** who has been homebound recently. George has offered the Torske Klub a number of items for the raffle, but we have been unable to get up to Fox River Grove to receive them.

► **Gene Kaczmarek** who was recovering nicely from a minor surgery last month

► **Garry Grube** who was out to dinner in September after a minor surgery in August and not only poured our aquavit, but filled in for Gene as Treasurer.

If you know of a member who has been infirmed, tell us on the reservation phone and we'll make note.