



Chicago Sons of Norway
Torske Klub
Organized 1960



Newsletter



www.torskeklub.org • secretary@torskeklub.org

March 2010

Father/Son/Daughter Day Luncheon with Alliance Defense Fund

This month, we are pleased to welcome Douglas Meyer, the son of our good member Marv Meyer. We will see a slide presentation



by Mr. Meyer, who is National Director of Foundations for the Alliance Defense Fund. His topic will be "Tomorrow in America". The ADF was launched in 1994 by the sacrificial, generous efforts of 35 evangelical Christian leaders, including several from America's most respected ministries such as Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family, the late Dr. Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ, the late Larry Burkett of Crown Financial Ministries, the late Dr. D. James Kennedy of Coral Ridge Ministries and the late Marlin Maddoux of Point of View Radio Talk Show. The founders in the alliance believed that America was in need of a unique legal alliance dedicated to dramatically elevating the legal efforts for the preservation of religious liberty and the ability of people of faith to hear and speak the Truth of the Gospel.

This month is the day we invite our fathers, sons, daughters of all ages (and grandsons, granddaughters, great grandsons, etc.). Join us for a interesting family day and a nod to our Irish cousins on St. Patrick's day. Make your reservations early.

Ladies Day in February Hosts 140 Diners for Music

We were please to welcome the combined men's chorus of the Bjornson Male Chorus and the Normennenes Singing Society as well as the ladies and other guests for a well attended and spectacular day of torsk and Norwegian/American music. This event is the most well attended of the year and it was host to the individual and combined choruses of the male singers, who were outstanding. Thanks to each music group for their contribution to a wonderful day.

On this day, we also honored Gene Kaczmarek, who stepped down from the Board of Directors after decades of service. Thanks you again Gene. The climax for the day was the raffle, which included a \$100 gift certificate to the Mario Tricoci Salon and Day Spa. Thanks to Ron Bentsen for his raffle acquisition, and to all members who contributed.

Special thanks also to Evind Torske, who created and donated the beautiful centerpieces for the day and to Julian Rønning for the special Greig song for the occasion.

Torske Klub Luncheon March 13

Our monthly dinner meeting will be held on March 13, 2010 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 and chief leprechaun, Robert O'Alsaker, rings the bell to seat us for dinner. No Irish stew, just torsk. Make your regular dinner reservation by TUESDAY Noon, March 9, 2010.

ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR DINNER.

The Elks Club needs time to order the fresh fish. Timely reservations insure that fish and a table space can be reserved for you. Noon deadline means noon. The reservation is called in directly after noon and the fish is ordered.

Call **630-445-1263** at any time day or night to leave a reservation. If there is voicemail difficulties, call Ken L. at 630-336-6723. As usual, please leave your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER, NAME, and the TOTAL number of people in your party as well as meal choice: COD or STEAK. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. The phone usually will ring 4 times before answering.

We have reservations from the following members: **3, 13C, 40, 47, 51, 55, 73C, 98, 103(3), 114, 115**. () are total incl. guests. Board members note that they have a reservation automatically and must call or prearrange to cancel. If you are not a member and wish to attend, call the same number and leave your name by our principle "Once a guest, twice a friend, three times a member!" If you prefer email reservations, please send to secretary@torskeklub.org with your number of reservations, including guests. We will respond with a confirmation email.

****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 that brings one or more guests to the dinner this 2009/2010 season, excluding *father/son/ daughter day in March* and excluding ladies day in February.

Reservations
Required by
12:00 Noon on
March 9

Dinner Reservation Phone: (630) 445-1263

This month, the Boss accepted the resignation of two of our board members, Gene Kaczmarek and David Cornwell. Both Gene and Dave served our organization for years as treasurer and secretary respectively and we thank them for their years of valued service.

At the board meeting on Feb. 27th, we welcomed Roger (Rusty) Elmer, Jr. and Larry Eckstrom as our newest board members. Rusty is no stranger to the board, having served for years as member and secretary before taking a hiatus to raise his family. Larry has been a member for many years.

In other board news:

- Division of the Secretary duties to two people was discussed; a Recording Secretary (reservations and check-in) and Corresponding Secretary (letters and web site).
- Treasury is well funded, which is good for the upcoming 50th anniversary events.
- Dr. Ray Newgard presented the upcoming programs and plans for future speakers. Ray is like a fine wine, he only gets better at arranging some outstanding programs.
- The boss and also Bob Frost have acquired additional Torske Klub pins for new members and will sell replacements for existing members for \$5.

The 50th Anniversary event on October 9 is evolving nicely. The Boss, Robert Alsaker, and Assistant Boss, Don Hoganson, have initiated discussions with some world class attendees as Torskmaster, key note speaker and other significant attendees. Come to the March luncheon to hear details.

Commemorative Plate Raffle

A special multi-month raffle will start this month to raffle off the 50th anniversary plate created by Carl Eglund for the Chicago Torske Klub. Special Raffle Tickets will be \$5 a piece, and 2 for \$10! The drawing for the plate will be at the October dinner. Winner need not be present to win.



Passing of Carl Hansen

We were saddened this last month to hear of the passing of our good member and long time Cook County Commissioner **Carl Hansen**. From the Chicago Tribune:

Carl Hansen, with his towering stature and booming voice and laugh to match, Commissioner Carl Hansen used his commanding presence to serve the best interests of his constituents for the 33 years, he served on the Cook County Board of Commissioners. Retiring at the age of 80 to care for his beloved wife Christi, Mr. Hansen was the second longest serving member of the Cook County Board. Carl met his beautiful wife, Christi, while serving as a resident officer on the U.S. High Commission for Germany. As an army officer in the U.S. Military Government for Germany, Carl was involved with the Nuremberg trials while stationed in Bavaria. Returning to Chicago in 1952, he, Christi and their son eventually settled in their home in Mount Prospect in 1958. Having grown up in Chicago, the first born to Danish immigrants, Carl was as proud of being a natural born U.S. citizen as he was of his Danish roots. One of the causes he dedicated himself to was the Viking Ship Restoration Committee and the Danish Home, where he was an active board member. He is survived by his son, Lothar and granddaughter, Christina who live in Germany; and his sister, Marilyn Jackson. Visitation [was] held at Friedrichs Funeral Home, 320 West Central Road at Northwest Hwy., Mt. Prospect on Feb. 19 from 3 to 9 p.m. and the funeral service [was] held at St. Marks Lutheran Church, 200 S. Wille St., in Mount Prospect on Saturday, Feb. 20 at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, www.vfw.org or the Friends of the Viking Ship, www.vikingship.us.

This Month!

The **Chicago Friends of Vesterheim Committee** is pleased to announce that our next event will take place on **Saturday, March 20, 2010** at the Park Ridge Country Club in Park Ridge, IL. Our Nordic Marketplace will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. when our Luncheon and Program will begin.

Invitations will be in the mail early February 2010. Please plan to join us and we look forward to seeing you there!

For more information, please contact Evy Alsaker at 847.446.0714 or at evy_alsaker@hotmail.com. Tusen Takk!

— Rob Alsaker

Future Programs

The programs for the season have been announced:

- **April 10, 2010** - Mr. Shon Morris, Director of Athletic Development at Northwestern University will give us a presentation of the NU sports programs.
- **May 8**—50th Anniversary of the Torske Klub—Fond memories of the Torske Klub over the last 50 years presented by various members.
- **Sunday, May 16**— Syttende Mai Parade in Park Ridge. March with Torske Klub for the 50th!
- **October 9, 2010**—50th Anniversary Dinner. Note that we will not have a noon Torske Dinner at the Elks that month.

Watch the website, <http://www.torskeklub.org> and future letters for announcements of upcoming programs.

March B'days & Members

March birthdays include Scott Solberg, our new member Rodney Lee, John Halversen. Thor Torger, Hugo Lanesskog, Roald Harr, Richard Peterson, and David Bentsen Sr. Another year older, eh? A wee bit o' Irish Whiskey in an aquavit glass will cure that.

We also welcome our new member Richard Nelson of Chicago, not to be confused with our good members Richard Nelson Jr. and Richard (Rick) Nelson, nor our late member Richard Nelson, Sr. Quadruple Welcome!

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

Boss: Robert Alsaker

Assistant Boss: Don Hoganson

Treasurer: Ken Nordan

Secretary: Ken Larson

Program Chair: Dr. Ray Newgard

Aquavit Chair: Garry Grube

Raffle Chair: Ron Bentsen

Membership Chair: Robert Frost II

Board Member: Larry Eckstrom

Board Member: Roger Elmer, Jr.

Board Member: Fred Glure

Board Member: Kristian Ronning

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