



Resolutions for the New Year

The Chicago Torske Klub celebrated our Christmas event as we have done for many years with a good program from our friends and members Pastor David Langseth and Julian Ronning (Tusen Takk!). We were embarrassed for the meal served however, and our Christmas celebration almost turned into a Christmas riot as meals were returned as inedible. We all agreed that this was outrageous, and many solutions were proposed. Your board met with the Elks Club food service manager and we were reimbursed for the bad meal.

See New Year—p.2

January Luncheon Features the “Raven” - The Gokstad Viking Ship for Norwegian Sweater Day

We are pleased to have David Nordin of the “Friends of the Viking Ship” (FOVS) as our featured speaker for this first meeting of the new year. David will discuss the history of the ship, it’s significance in the history of Chicago and America and what is being done to save what has been identified as one of the top ten endangered landmarks in Illinois since it sailed to Chicago during the Columbian Exposition in 1892. There is background to this at <http://www.vikingship.us>



Ken and Julie Nordan pose in the Gokstad sister Viking ship in operation on a lake at the Lofoten Island’s Viking Museum

Our torskemaster is our own member and treasurer, Ken Nordan, who is no rookie on the topic of viking ships himself.

This is also the day for sweaters. Wear your favorite Norwegian sweater that day, or any sweater you may choose. As we noted above, the board has voted to provide this luncheon at no charge to our members that attend. Guests will be charged the usual \$20.

Join us for this first luncheon of the year.



The Viking Ship sat in an open shed in Lincoln Park for many years

Torske Klub Luncheon - January 14, 2012

The next luncheon will be held at the Des Plaines Elks Club, 495 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL (847-824-1556 for directions that day). Cocktail hour begins at noon; dinner starts promptly at 1:00 P.M. when, according to our tradition, our BOSS rings the bell to seat us for dinner. Make your regular dinner reservation by TUESDAY Noon, January 10, 2012.

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 fish order is called in directly after noon.

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. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. We have reservations from the following members: **3, 13C, 40, 47, 51, 55, 98, 114, 115, 120, 149.** 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 according to the principle “Once a guest, twice a friend, three times a member!” If you prefer email reservations, please send to **secretary@torskeklub.org** with your total number of reservations, including yourself and 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 2011/2012 season, excluding father/son/daughter day in March and excluding ladies day in February.

Luncheon Reservation Phone: ☎(630) 445-1263

**Reservations
Required by
12:00 Noon on
January 10**

So, here is what has been decided. The supplier of fish to the Elks has failed, and we introduced the Elks to Roy Axelson of the Fish Merchants; a trusted supplier to other Norwegian community events. We will likely be eating his boneless filets in the future. It is unclear what the cost implications of this change will be in the future, but all that have been polled agree that a bad fish, albeit low cost, is unacceptable.

To reimburse and apologize to the members for the past poor meal, we are providing the January meal at no charge to those members attending. Cocktails and raffle charges remain yours to pay, of course. Guests will be \$20. On behalf of the board of directors and on behalf of the Elks Club restaurant, we apologize for last month and hope you agree that our New Year's Resolutions are adequate for the future.

A Sign of the Apocalypse?

Besides the fish problem, we have taken inventory of the Linne Aquavit. After a lot of emails and pursuit by interested board members, we are finding a shortage of Linne Aquavit in the Chicago area. We are told that Arcus, the Linne owner in Norway, has a new U.S. supplier and hope that situation resolves while we search the usual vendors of our "water of life".

January 28-29 Ski Jumping

We are collectively invited to attend the huge 107th ski jump international gala at the Fox River Grove based Norge Ski Club. Now through Jan. 23rd buttons are \$5 (under 12 free) to members of the Torske Klub. Mailing is \$5 more, if requested. Others it is \$10. Access to the VIP area on the 29th is available for you, if you preregister. Call or email Tricia Fisk 815-455-6061 or tfisk59@yahoo.com

January Birthdays and Member News

This month, we toast the monthly birthdays: Ralph Gilbertsen, John Rose, Greg LeDuc, Ron Hoppe, Rich Wielock, Mats Stenander, Tom Maxson, Jon Knudsen, Norman Roland, Howard Skoien,, Gary Skoien, Rick Nelson(110A),and board member Larry Ekstrom. Happy Birthday to all our good members, and a new years' toast to you all!

We were shocked to learn of the sudden illness and death of our longtime member Bob Cornwell. The luncheon will not be the same without him. He frequently volunteered for the aquavit committee, and as chaplain for the day leading our meal prayer. Our sympathies are with Bob's family and friends during this time of mourning.



Bob Cornwell
1926-2011

To Members for 2012

We have received our dues for 2012 and to those in good standing, we enclose a membership card for 2012. If you have forgotten (again!?) we have enclosed a reminder of how much we will miss you, and how you will miss the (good) fish, fellowship, and news.

Future Dates

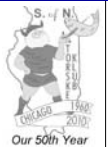
- ◇ **Jan.14, 2012**—David Nordin—Gokstad Ship—Sweater Day.
- ◇ \$\$ Luncheon is no charge to members this day. \$\$
- ◇ **Feb. 11, 2012**—Ladies Day- Eric Dregni—Author of "Vikings in the Attic" and "In Cod We Trust"
- ◇ **Mar. 2012**—Father/Son/Daughter Day- Bob Lew—Pop Culture
- ◇ **April 2012**—Fred Glure on Trains
- ◇ **May 2012**—Anniversary of Torske Klub

Also see <http://www.torskeklub.org> for more and updated information.



Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

- Boss: Robert Alsaker
- Assistant Boss: Lowell Olberg
- Treasurer: Ken Nordan
- Secretary: Ken Larson
- Program Chair: Thor Jondahl
- Aquavit Chair: Garry Grube
- Raffle Chair: Ron Bentsen
- Membership Chair: Robert Frost II
- Board Member: Larry Ekstrom
- Board Member: Roger Elmer
- Board Member: Dr. Ray Newgard
- Board Member: Fred Glure
- Board Member: Sam Smith



Published by the Chicago Torske Klub. Editor, Layout and Print:-Ken Larson. ©2012 Chicago Torske Klub