



Torsk Season Launches with Sloopers



Sloopers are the descendants of the first Norwegians who sailed from Norway to the United States in 1825. These early pioneers came to America on a 54-foot sloop in search of opportunity and freedom. They have since been known as "Sloopers"

The 2015-2016 Chicago Torske Klub luncheon season launches in September with a presentation by Wesley Hougsted. Pastor Hougsted is a retired United Methodist minister after serving churches in Northern Illinois for 34 years. He is currently a resident of Arlington Heights with some wintering in Florida. He has been married for 37 years to Judith, with 6 children and 11 grandchildren

He has a Norwegian heritage as both parents were Norwegian with his father having journeyed to America when he was 19 years old. He has been a member of the Slooper Society of America since childhood and is currently their Vice President.

He will be speaking about the heritage and history of the Sloopers, who were the first settlers in America from Norway.

Call now for reservations and bring a friend!

Catching Up on News Since Last May

The Chicago Torske Klub held a board meeting in May. We note a few highlights below:

- ◆ Garry Grube recorded two non-board members with perfect attendance in the Sept.2014 to May 2015 torsk year. As such, the board voted unanimously to offer **Ron Bentsen** and **Ivan Torske** a complimentary dinner on next visit for their loyalty.
- ◆ The price of cod is rising by our observation and that of the Elk's Club. We expect a future raise in our meal price and that will need to be passed to our members. \$25 is likely, but final price will be determined based on cost. Other meal choices were considered, but we *are* the Torske Klub.
- ◆ **DATE CHANGE** for NOVEMBER: Due to the date reservation of the Swedish Woman's dinner on November 14, the Torske Klub will meet on the 1st Saturday of November; that month only.

—See News on p.2

Torske Klub Luncheon - Sept 12, 2015

The 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 the evening of Sept 4, 2015. ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR DINNER. Timely reservations insure that fish and a table space can be reserved for you. The fish order is called in after the deadline. \$5 surcharge for late reservations.

Call **312-233-2887** at any time day or night to leave a reservation. If there is voicemail difficulties, call Garry at 312-497-6407. As usual, please leave your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER, NAME, and the TOTAL number of people in your party, as well as NUMBER OF FISH DINNERS. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. We have reservations from the following members : **3, 38, 40, 42A, 47, 51, 55, 84, 97, 98, 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 reservations@torskeklub.com (not .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 and Coffee Mug** to each member that brings one or more guests to the dinner this 2015/2016 season, excluding father/son/daughter day in March and excluding ladies day in February.

**Reservations
by SEPT 7**

Reservation Phone: (312) 233-2887



- ◆ We have had requests for Torske Klub golf shirts. We will poll members at the luncheon for interest

Thanks to the Board Members for watching over this organization.

Member Birthdays and News

This month we celebrate the birthdays of the summer months:

June: Stuart Bentley, our perfect-attendee-Board-Member emeritus Ron Bentsen, Carl Eglund, Vincent Field, the Hon. Perry Gulbrandsen, Preben Hammer, Jimmy Sorensen, Roy Jensen, Corresponding Secy. Ken Larson.

July: Erik Carlson, Norris Harstad, Paul Johnson, our Boss Lowell Olberg, Bill Scheiderich, Hank Solberg.

August: Newly minted septuagenarian Boss Emeritus Robert Alsaker, Hon. Royyal Norwegian Consul General Paul Anderson, Chris Betz, Dr. Victor Carnelli, Aquavit Chairman Robert Frost, John Hardy, Board Member Emeritus Don Hoganson, Dr. Marshall Pedersen, Clarence Petersen, Bill Sexton. Tom Bendicsen

September: Jerry Andersen, Petter Berntzen, Sam Cory, Board Member Fred Glure, Kurt Gustafsen, Kjell Larsen, John Teppen, and John Van Alstin.

Skål to all!

Since last May, we were saddened to learn of the passing of a number of members and family:

- ◆ **Jostein Bakken** passed away on May 11. Besides his role on the International Director of Sons of Norway, he was a member of our klub for as many decades as most of us remember
- ◆ **Thor Torger** passed away in May after a long illness. He was the nephew of Hank Solberg.
- ◆ **Ken Vesterlie** passed away in June from the complications of his bicycle accident in 2014. A memorial service was held in July.
- ◆ Sally Hoppe, the wife of our good member **Ron Hoppe Sr.**, passed away on July 18. She was an active member of the Danish community.
- ◆ Mildred Alsaker, mother of our Boss Emeritus **Robert Alsaker**, passed away in July as well.

To all these families and friends we offer our prayers and condolences.

Scandinavian Days at Vasa Park

Sept 13, 2015 -10am-6pm

Our group has manned a booth for over a decade at this event, which seems to grow and become more popular each year. If you would like a sample of Scandinavian food, wares and entertainment, this is your event. It is family friendly, with plenty to do with the kids and grandkids, and it is really a nice day at the park. See <http://scandinaviandayil.com/> for photos and details.

ADMISSION:
Adults \$10.00
Children 12 & Under FREE



Remember When?

Erik Fjell (Thor's son) with Tom Thayer of the World Champion Bears as Tom spoke at the Torske Klub in 1986
— Photo by Thor Fjell

Mark your calendar for this year:

Sept. 12— Luncheon— Sloopers

Sept. 13— Vasa Park

Oct. 10— Luncheon

Nov. 7—CHANGED DATE—
Luncheon on 1st Saturday of November

Dec. 12— Christmas Luncheon

Check for updates on our website
<http://www.torskeklub.org>

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

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Assistant Boss: Roger Elmer
Boss Emeritus: Robert Alsaker
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