



November Speaker of the Carpetbaggers

We welcome Mr. David Furholmen to speak to our group about the activities of the "Carpetbaggers", a World War II operation to provide the aerial supply of weapons and other materiel to covert operations and resistance fighters across Europe.

In the picture at the right is the late Major George T. Johnson, carpetbagger, B-24 pilot over Norway and France. He is the one who inspired our speaker to make a program on "Clandestine Operations in WW2".

He will be accompanied by Ms. Brigitte Winkler, who has a story of her own as she and her family suffered greatly under the invasion from Nazi Germany, then followed by Stalin's conquest of Eastern Europe.



Maj. George T. Johnson—B-24
Carpetbagger



Black B-24 Modified for Carpetbagger Missions

We look forward to your attendance for a good program, good food and good fellowship. The reservation line is open now. Our scheduled Torskemaster is Ken Nordan.

Our October in Reform School

Our thanks to Prof. Ken Sawyer who manned our podium to talk about the events and history surrounding the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, which was October 31, 2017. We were sheperded through the event by our own torskemaster and Board Member, Pastor David Langseth. Thanks to all that worked to make the luncheon a success.

Torske Klub Luncheon - November 11, 2017

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 November 6, 2017. 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. No fish dinner can be promised for late reservations; an alternative meal is likely.

Call (847) 886-4841 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. We have reservations from the following members: **3, 38, 40, 42A, 47, 54, 55, 84, 97, 98, 115, 120, 135, 149**. Board members note that they have a reservation automatically and must call for additional guests 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. Tom Peterson will respond with a confirmation email.



FREE Raffle Ticket to each member that brings one or more guests to the dinner this 2017/2018 season excluding ladies day and father/son/daughter day.

NEW Luncheon Reservation Phone: ☎(847) 886-4841

Thanksgiving 2017

The Halloween "Holiday" has past by the time you get this letter. Although the ubiquitous countdown to Christmas has started, whether we want it to or not, our focus this month should be on Thanksgiving (other than those temporarily excused for the annual deer hunt and the seasonal football activities).

Thanksgiving Day, of course, is a public holiday celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States. It originated as a harvest festival, but Thanksgiving has been celebrated nationally on and off since 1789, after Congress requested a proclamation by George Washington. It has been celebrated as a federal holiday every year since 1864, when, during the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens," to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November. Together with Christmas and the New Year, Thanksgiving is the opening act of the broader fall/winter holiday season.

In most of our memories, the holiday has transitioned from one of family gathering and thanks to the start of a race for commodities as the day after Thanksgiving has as much or more recognition as the day itself. It make me wonder if we are off the track.

For me and others, it is a good time to renew and return to those traditions. Joy Fisher, a Baptist Christian writer, states that "this holiday takes on a spiritual emphasis and includes recognition of the source of the blessings they enjoy year round — a loving God."

I agree. And thanks to you for reading this.

- Ken

The celebration of Thanksgiving in Norway differs. In name, it's nearly the same: Høsttakkefest translates directly to "Harvest Thanksgiving Feast." But its roots are older and reflect both religious and secular tradition.

The religious roots of Høsttakkefest predate the adoption of Christianity in Norway. In the ancient city of Chonae, on September 29, 380 AD, according to the western liturgical calendar, a church was consecrated to the Archangel Michael. With time, that date was celebrated in the Catholic Church as Michaelmas, spelled Mikkelsmess in the Nordic countries. In medieval Europe, it became associated with the harvest at the end of the farming year. So in Norway, the annual Høsttakkefest was held along with Mikkelsmess or on a Sunday before or after it. In 1770, Mikkelsmess was abolished as a public church holiday in Denmark and Norway. In 1918 Mikkelsmess was reinstated in the Norwegian liturgical calendar, and from 1999 on, its celebration is optional in the Church of Norway. Today Norwegian calendars annotate September 29 as Mikkelsmess.

—M. Michael Brady—*The Norwegian American* Nov. 11, 2016

Remember that the
cost of meal is now
\$25 per plate

Member Birthdays and News

This month we celebrate the birthdays of November:

Jorgen Laursen, Bruce Carlson, Coach Chuck Enge, Robert Olberg, and Ron Betz.

Happy Birthday and a tip of the cornucopia to all!

You should have received your dues notice and a return envelope to mail or drop off at the check in table. Please return promptly if you have not done so.

**Remember
your
Dues!**



COCKPIT OF B24 BOMBER WWII

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