



Chicago Sons of Norway *Torske Klub*

Organized 1960



Torske Klub Meeting Notice December 14, 2002

Dear Torske Klub Member,

Our November Torske Klub meeting will be held on December 14, 2002 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 tradition, the bell is rung by our BOSS, Robert Alsaker. We will be serving an appetizer during the cocktail hour this month, compliments of your Klub board. Be sure to give yourself enough time to enjoy it before dinner.

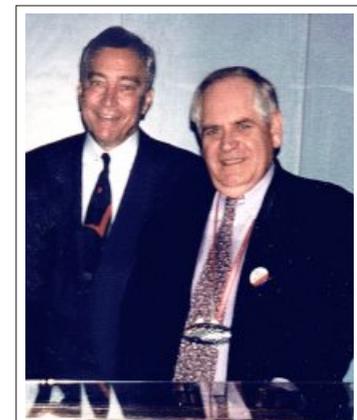
Our Torskemaster is a relatively new member to the Klub, Julian Ronning. Julian will lead our proceedings for the day. Remember to bring a "clean" story or joke.

We do not have a specific speaker for December, as has been our custom in recent years. We will be serenaded by some of the finest voices in the Chicago area as our valued member, Pastor David Langseth, leads the ad-hoc Torske Klub Chorus in the singing of Christmas Carols after dinner. Bring your Christmas spirit and we will provide the cheer! (Or is it the other way around?)

Passing of Ralph Egeland

We mourn the loss of our Boss Emeritus, Ralph Egeland. Ralph was the 4th boss of the Torske Klub, succeeding Chris Johansen who died the month before. Ralph's obituary from the Chicago Tribune:

Ralph L. Egeland of Aurora, died November 2, 2002, at Rush-Copley Medical Center after a long and arduous fight against cancer. He was born on Chicago's West Side neighborhood of Austin on May 29, 1935, to Norwegian immigrant parents. Ralph grew up in Edison Park, graduating from Taft High School. Survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Martha of Aurora; dear father to Erik John (Krista) of Aurora and David Strand of Chicago; beloved grandfather of Sara and Matthew; fond brother of Ruth Witthoeft of Unionville, CT. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, November 5, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 27 S. Edgelawn Dr., Aurora. A memorial visitation will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday, November 4, at the Healy Chapel, 332 W. Downer Place, Aurora. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed to Waubensee Community College Foundation-Scholarship Fund, State Rt. 47 at Waubensee Dr., Sugar Grove, IL 60554.



Torske Klub Speaker Alderman Ed Vrdolyak and Klub "Boss" Ralph Egeland, taken ca. 1996.



continued other side

For Reservations Please Call (630) 443-6839

Ken Larson, Interim Secretary 3710 King George Lane St. Charles, IL 60174 Email: larsonk@hp.com



Subsequently, the November 4th edition of the Tribune published an extended obituary, highlighting his service with the Army, the Federal Reserve, Aurora National Bank (where he became chairman, president and CEO), president of Marseilles National Bank, director of Benchmark Bank, chairman of the Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce, president of the Aurora and Marseilles Rotary Club, president of the Aurora Downtown Redevelopment Commission, PADS homeless shelter and of course, our Torske Klub. He was very involved in the Norwegian American community, highlighted by his serving as the toastmaster at the reception for King Olav V when he came to Chicago in 1975. This Klub will miss his community service, Klub service, generosity and companionship.

Reservation Phone Number

Call 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 people in your party. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. Note that this new reservation phone is unattended since it is an answering system only. In the event of a failure of technology or the need to talk to a human, please call my office at 847-781-6820 during weekday business hours. If I am not there, leave a message at either phone and I'll get back to you.

For those with email, feel free to send me a note to larsonk@hp.com with the same information and the message title "Torske Klub Reservation". I will reply to that with a confirmation of receipt. Two or three members have done this each month. It seems to work well.

Currently, we have reservations from member numbers 3, 6, 43, 43A, 47, 51, 55, 73C, 85, 97, 98, 103, 126, 167, 171, 174A, 179A.

Reservations must be in by Wednesday Noon, December 11, 2002.

Call 847-781-6820 if we need to discuss this further.

Other Klub News

If you were not at the meeting last month, we remembered and eulogized Ralph at the beginning of the meeting with remembrances by Rob Alsaker, Don HogansenRalph Haug and Dave Cornwell, among others.

We were treated to the excellent talk titled "Ole Goes to War", by our speaker, Jerry Rosholt who is associated with the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, IA. Also attending were a number of Directors and Staff of the Vesterheim. We met in the Fireside room upstairs in the Elk's Club for the first time due to their previous booking of the Swedish Women's Group downstairs. I suppose the Elk's wanted to keep the Norwegian men and Swedish women as far apart as possible....uff da.

We are pleased to welcome new members to our august group. We received membership from Stuart Bentley. Velkommen!

You may have noticed that we have been ordering a bit more torske than we need for our dinner. By recent arrangement with the Elk's Club, they are willing to wrap the fresh, unfrozen, uncooked codfish steaks and sell them to us for their cost, \$10 for 2 large or 3 small portions. We pass this charge to the buyer. We have been selling them after dinner on a first come, first serve basis, based on the quantity available. If you are interested in purchasing this, indicate this at the time of the reservation or at the dinner. No guarantees of availability, we had 5 packs in October and 2 packs last month.

2003 Dues

You received your dues notice by the mail in September, along with an envelope addressed back to me. Remember to send it back OR drop it off at the table when you pay for dinner. If you misplaced it, send me a check for the \$35 or drop it in an envelope at the table at dinner registration. I'll get the membership cards distributed next month. Thanks to those that paid for dues so far. As of November 22, we have received dues from everyone **EXCEPT:** 2, 6, 7A, 7C, 8, 13A, 13B, 13D, 38, 50C, 51, 55, 72, 75, 78, 93, 97, 99, 100, 106, 114, 143, 152, 153, 160, 161, 165, 170.

News from the "Boss" Rob Alsaker

Ten members of Torske Klub recently joined the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce for their annual trip to Norway. While in Stavanger the group had a boat trip on the Lysefjord up to Preikestolen (Pulpit Rock).

Later, we were the guests of Lodve Solholm (fifth from left in the photo on the right), President of the Lagting, the Upper Chamber of the Norwegian Parliament, for a wonderful lunch of Norwegian Salmon (with the best sauce many of us had ever tasted!) at the SAS Atlantic Hotel in Stavanger. A rousing good time was had by all!

God Jul!

The Torske Klub would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you on the 14th of December.

Beste Hilsen,



Ken Larson



Dockside at the boat trip (left to right): Bill Scheiderich, Hank Solberg, Dick Fjeldheim, Rob Alsaker, Hugo Lanesskog, Sam Smith, Ron Bentsen, Marshall Pedersen, Thor Torger (new member), and Don Hogansen.



Same group at the dinner in Stavanger with Lodve Solholm.

