



Chicago Sons of Norway
Torske Klub
Organized 1960



44th Anniversary / Normennenes / Ladies Day May 8, 2004

Dear Torske Klub Member and friends of the Torske Klub,

Dur celebration of the **Torske Klub's 44th anniversary** will be held on May 8, 2004 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, Robert Alsaker, rings the bell.

This is also the day which we have selected in recent years for **Ladies Day**. We have also coincided this with the appearance of the **Normennenes Singing Society**, along with the **Swedish Glee Club, Waukegan** who all have entertained the Klub men in past years; now the women will get to enjoy them as well. Any Normennenes/Swedish singer will enjoy a discounted meal as thanks for the entertainment. All other guests and members pay the full price for the meal. Our Torskemaster for the day is our talented, long-time member and singer Thor Fjell, who also happens to be the Grand Marshall of the Annual Norwegian Constitution Day Parade in Park Ridge this month. Busy man.



In addition to the regular meal and in honor of our anniversary, the Klub will sponsor the **smoked salmon appetizer**, which we have enjoyed for many special occasions. **Also, the raffle** will offer a number of very special giveaways as a *thank you* to all those members and supporters of the Torske Klub and as a way to close this season of Torske Klub with a bang.

Speaking of bangs, the Torske Klub announced a couple months ago at the meeting that the Elks bar would offer an extra pour of our own Norwegian rocket fuel, also known as Linie Aquavit, for a nominal charge during dinner. "*Han hellar inte halvan fär*".

► **Make Your February Dinner Reservation before TUESDAY NOON, May 4, 2004**

...to insure that you receive a fresh fish dinner. Late reservations have the risk of being served the fish of the day rather than the fresh cod portions. We will offer an alternative meal to those who desire it this month, as we have traditionally done for the women's day. It will be a steak. Please indicate your preference for fish or steak when you make reservations. We expect well over 100 attendees at this meal, so prompt reservations are *highly* recommended. All you late callers have been lucky so far this year (you know who you are); this month may be unwise to test it further.

Also note that the tables of 10 will have a preference for reserving a table until 12:15, after which all tables are open for reservation. See Ken at the sign-in table for "reserved" placards.

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 [and MEAL PREFERENCE]. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. This reservation phone is usually unattended since it is an answering system only. It will ring 4 times before answering. Optionally, call my office at 847-781-6820 during weekday business hours. If I am not there, leave a message at either of the phones and I'll get back to you. I'll be traveling for business during the reservation period and may take a day to respond.

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For Reservations Please Call (630) 443-6839

Ken Larson, Secretary • 3710 King George Lane St. Charles, IL 60174 • Email: secretary@torskeklub.org
Web Site: <http://www.torskeklub.org>





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For those with email, feel free to send me a note to secretary@torskekclub.org with the same information and the message title "Torske Klub Reservation". I will reply to that with a confirmation of receipt. If you get no response, please write again, we have discovered some transmission errors. As always, if you wish to be included or excluded from this list, please contact me.

We have May dinner reservations from 3(2), 12B(2), 13C, 22, 43A, 44, 47(2), 53(2) 55, 58(2), 64A, 69A(2), 73C, 78(2), 85, 114, 116, 126(2). Remember to call in for your dinner companions, gentlemen.

April Torske Klub Meeting

We had a delightful meeting in April, *very* well attended by the membership and by the sons/daughters and fathers of the klub. Our double thanks to Kurt Gustafson for his helmsman duties as the Torskemaster and for assisting Ray Newgard with the program. Our speakers were representatives of the Chicago Fire soccer organization. Director of Community Relations, Don Ortalle and Executive Paul "Caddy" Cadwell spoke about soccer in Chicago and worldwide and also about the youth programs they sponsor. The Torske Klub provided this group with a donation as well as the proceeds of the auction for the Fire soccer ball, signed by their championship team. Thanks again to Don Hogansen, by the way, for his entertaining handling of the auction this time and for many previous meetings.

News from the Boss

We announced last month that the Torske Klub will be participating and marching in the Syttende Mai parade , also known as the Annual Norwegian Constitution Day Parade, sponsored by the Norwegian National League in Park Ridge. Our good member, Hank Solberg, has offered the use of his 1956 Pontiac for us to march behind. The banner of years past was located and Hank's Pontiac will be identified with Torske Klub signs. Fred Glure has offered the bed of his little red pickup truck for members that need the ride. Someone was bringing the Aquavit, in case the weather is chilly...or warm. We want as many members as we can gather to make a strong showing in this year's parade so mark the date...Sunday May 16th. [Yes, we will be celebrating the 17th of May on the 16th of May. I bet the Swedes are laughing]. The parade starts by Roosevelt Elementary School in Park Ridge (east of Cumberland on Talcott). Meet for setup no later than 12:30. Parade is at 1 pm.



There are many other events and dinners for that weekend, including a dinner at the Norwood Park Home on May 14th at noon. For that, please call Trish Hinkes direct at 773-577-5367.



A meeting at the Madison Torske Klub was once again proposed for January, with the Klub picking up the bus cost. Watch for news of the announcement for this very enjoyable day. I believe this will be the 3rd Saturday of January.

The boss can be also contacted by email at boss@torskekclub.org for questions and comments.

New member: Robert Peterson

We are delighted to welcome Robert Peterson, from Skokie, Illinois as a new member for April 2004.

Birthdays in May

As we did last month, we recognize our many members with a birthday this month of May: Andy Andersen, Thor Fjell, Rev. Robert Furreboe, Fred Gilbertsen, Carl Hansen, Henry Hansen, Robert Jaeger (92 years young), Steve Klos, Rev. David Langseth, Marv Meyer, Ken Nordan, Don Nowicki, Per Ohrstrom, and Leonard Zielinski (of Nelson Funeral Home). We skål to you this month, gentlemen. If you are missing from this list, call the Klub; there are a few members whose birthday month is not listed in our records.

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Mixed Greetings from Sherman, Texas

Our transplanted member, David Bentsen, sent an email last month extending his greetings to the klub members. This month, his email was not as pleasant. We were notified of the death of David's wife, Lillie Ann Bentsen, age 62 of ovarian cancer. We also extend our condolences to their children Barbara (Kent) DeCesare and David Jr. (Julie) Bentsen and to the grandchildren, Joshua & Jessica Dreymann; Danielle Sundberg; Hannah & Blaise Bentsen and to the family of our board member and David's brother Ron Bentsen. There is a memorial service on May 1, 2004 at 1:00PM at Shepard of the Lakes Lutheran Church, 285 E. Washington Street, Grayslake, IL 60030. David's email is bestepa@aol.com if you want to say hello.

Passing of Finn Braathen's Wife, Romona

We received word of the passing of Finn Braathen's partner in life, Romona on April 22. She had been battling pulmonary fibrosis and has had hospitalizations in the past. We know that Finn has gone through a lot in recent months and our hearts and prayers are with you, buddy. We also extend our thoughts to the children of Finn and Romona, Christine (and husband Edward Purmann) and Lloyd (and wife Kate) as well as their 4 grandchildren, Scott, Karen, Michael and Kimberly. She is laid to rest at Mount Auburn in Stickney.

Remember to Bring a Guest Next Time

Any male guest to the Torske Klub this season, who is 21 - 50 years old, will have his first dinner paid for by the Klub if he joins the Torske Klub.

Beste Hilsen,

Ken Larson, Secretary