



## Speaking Event in December

### History of Relations between the U.S. and Iraq



Toufic El Rassi

The Torske Klub is pleased to have a distinguished speaker for our December meeting. Toufic El Rassi is a Professor in the History Department at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines, IL.

He will discuss the history of United States & Iraq relations; from British, and later U.S. involvement in Iraq following World War I, to the present time. He will describe the ethnic and religious differences and the country's suppression under Saddam Hussein, the challenges to the nation of Iraq, and our future there.



The monthly Torske Klub dinner will be held on December 10, 2005 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 to seat us for dinner.

**Reservations due by:**  
**Tuesday, December 6**  
**NOON**

### November 2005: DCFS Meeting

We were pleased to have as our featured speaker, Ms. Womazette Jones. She is a supervisor of DCFS (Illinois Dept. of Children & Family services), Cook Count Division.

Thanks to our good member Harold Bendisen for assisting with the arrangement of the speaker with our program chairman

Dr. Ray Newgard. Special thanks also to Assistant Boss, Don Hoganson for his masterful lead of the meeting while our boss Rob Alsaker attended a family wedding.

Thanks also to our good member Ken Nordand who stepped in as secretary while Ken Larson recovered from his eye surgery.

### Dues and Membership Info for 2006

The \$35 dues for the Torske Klub are due annually. We have received many receipts by mail and by payment at the dinner.

We would like to put this task behind us, so please submit your dues if you have not done so.

### New members at the Torske Klub!




The Torske Klub is pleased to receive an application for membership from Neil Andersen from Elk Grove Village

and also Jerry Andersen of Chicago. Welcome Neil and Jerry!

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 ensure that an adequate portion and a table space can be reserved for you. Noon means noon. A call at 12:30 Tuesday is no better than a call on Friday evening; the fish order is made. 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. For those with email, feel free to send a note to secretary@torskeklub.org with the same information and the message title "Torske Klub Reservation". We have reservations from 3, 13C, 43A, 47, 51, 55, 64A, 73C, 85, 98, 114 (2), 126. Remember that the guests of all members must be called in as well.

*\*\*TIP - Your membership number is the number next to your name on the mailing label.*

**FREE Raffle Ticket to each member that brings one or more guests to the dinner this 2005/2006 season, excluding father/son/daughter and ladies day in May.**

Dinner Reservation Phone:  (630) 443 6839

## Upcoming Events...

Our program chairman, Dr. Ray Newgard, has announced the following coming events for this year:

- ▶ **January 14, 2006** – tbd
- ▶ **February 11** - tbd
- ▶ **March 11, 2006** – Father, son, daughter day- Sinclair and the Rovers – Irish Music from Norway.
- ▶ **April 8** - tbd
- ▶ **May 13, 46th Anniversary/Ladies Day** - Sven & Ole – Comedy and Music from Madison WI.

## Remembering the Reason for the Season

After hearing the Christmas story, and singing “Silent Night” a Sunday School Class in Sao Paulo was asked to draw what they thought the Nativity Scene might have looked like. One boy did a good likeness of Joseph, Mary and the infant, but off to the side was a plump roly-poly figure.

The teacher, afraid that he had somehow worked Santa Claus into the scene asked him who that was. She wasn't sure whether she was relieved or even more worried when the boy responded, “Oh, that's Round John Virgin.”

– From “The Nativity Scene” by Carrigan



## Birthdays for December

Our birthday list for December includes Milt Gustafson, Oystein Borsheim, Harold Bendicsen, Hal Oates, Art Fitzgerald (still enjoying Florida), our treasurer emeritus Dick Biehl (still enjoying Iowa), our historian and board member Dave Cornwell, our Aquavit Chairman Garry Grube, and our treasurer Gene Kaczmarek. Gentlemen, we raise our glasses of Christmas Gløgg and wish you all a Happy Birthday, and many more.

## Thanks from the Secretary...

...for the cards and calls last month. As many of you are aware, I underwent cataract surgery on my left eye the Wednesday before the November dinner.

That would not have been very traumatic normally, but I am blind in the right eye due to a similar procedure. It all went well however, and I plan to see and greet you all in December.

*Ken Larson*

### Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

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