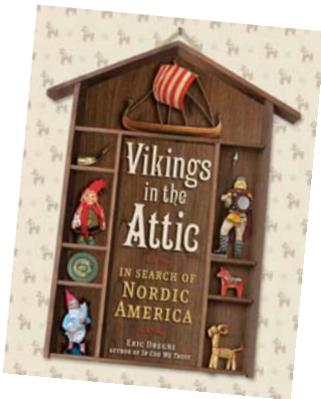


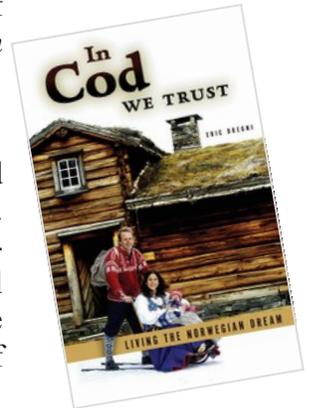


Watch for “Vikings in the Attic” at February Luncheon Ladies Day

The Chicago Torske Klub is pleased to welcome the popular author Eric Dregni for our annual ladies day luncheon. Eric Dregni lives in Minneapolis, is dean of the Italian Concordia Language Village, and is assistant professor of English and journalism at Concordia University. He is the author of sixteen books, including four titles from the University of Minnesota Press: *Vikings in the Attic*, *Never Trust a Thin Cook and Other Lessons from Italy’s Culinary Capital*, *Midwest Marvels*, and *Minnesota Marvels*.



This is our annual Ladies Day luncheon. The ladies are invited to this event, and our meal options will change on this day. On this day, we have a choice of strip steak, or fish. By selection of the board of directors this month, the Torske Klub will offer a boneless cod fillet instead of the bone-in steak that we have traditionally offered. Make your selection at the time of your reservations, else the code dinner will be assumed.



The table of ten rule applies this month. All parties of ten can send a representative to reserve a table before 12 noon. All other seat reservations can be made after noon. The Klub officers are not reserving tables on your behalf.

January “Free Day” was a Success

We were pleased to welcome David Nordin of the “Friends of the Viking Ship” (FOVS) as our featured speaker for the January luncheon, led by Ken Nordan as torskemaster. This was sweater day, and the members of the Torske Klub enjoyed a meal that month at no charge, which inflated our attendance to over 80 people. The meal this month was excellent by consensus, and we welcomed 4 new members that day. Thanks to all who participated. For more info about the Viking ship, see the web site <http://www.vikingship.us/>

Torske Klub Luncheon - February 11, 2012

The next 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 TUESDAY Noon, February 7, 2012. 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. Noon deadline means noon. The fish order is called in directly after noon.

Call **630-445-1263** 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. The same information is required when you reserve for other members. We have reservations from the following members: **3(2), 13C, 40, 47, 51(2), 55, 84, 98(1+1S), 114, 115, 120, 149, 179A**. 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 **secretary@torskeklub.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** to each member that brings one or more guests to the dinner this 2011/2012 season, excluding father/son/ daughter day in March and *excluding ladies day in February*.

**Reservations
Required by
12:00 Noon on
February 7**

Luncheon Reservation Phone: ☎(630) 445-1263

State of the Union

After the meal in December, the board of directors received a number of suggestions, complaints and took a number of actions, including the gratis meal of January. A quick board meeting after the January luncheon resulted in the following changes & decisions:

- **Quality of fish**— The January meal provided by “Fish Merchants” to the Elks Club was rated between excellent & satisfactory.
 - ◊ **Boneless Fillets**- We will experiment with serving a boneless fillet for the February meal and poll the members for preferences and options. Many have asked for this; many prefer the traditional fish. Each will be prepared the same way. Steak will be an option for February also.
- **Location**—Norwood Park Home was suggested as a new location. They have no liquor license and can only seat 60. Rejected.
- **Aquavit Supply**— Change in US Linie distributors are believed to have caused a burp in the supply chain. We are good for now and expect no further issues, but will watch.
- **Board Positions**—A number of changes will take place:
 - ◊ Secretary—Divided into two jobs. Garry Grube will act as recording secretary, taking reservations and manning the check-in after February. Ken Larson will continue to write this letter and website as corresponding secretary.
 - ◊ Aquavit Chairman—Garry Grube will step down as aquavit chairman
 - ◊ Raffle Chairman—Ron Bentsen stepped down as chairman and replaced by Sam Smith.

All remain on the board.

Thanks to all members for their comments and recommendations.

February Birthdays and New Members

This month, we toast the monthly birthdays: Ed Grendahl, Neil Andersen, George Tarnow, Phil Waters, David Svendsen, Ed Ekstrom, Cedric Syrdahl, Rev. Sigurd Grindheim of Minnekirken, charter member and board member Dr. Ray Newgard, and Program Chairman Thor Jondahl. Happy Birthday to all our good members, and a valentine to each.

We also welcomed four new members last month:

- Dr. Egil Fosslie of Glen Ellen— Professor Emeritus of UIC Medicine
- Palmer Larsen of Wauconda
- Bill Sexton of Delevan WI
- Per André Rykhuis of Stavanger Norway—Per visited us as he was passing through Chicago for his company Altibox AS

Welcome to all!

Vesterheim Spring Luncheon

Please mark you calendar for the Chicago Area Friends of Vesterheim Nordic Marketplace & Luncheon. This will be Saturday March 31, 2012, 9:30am-3pm at the Park Ridge Country Club, Park Ridge. Proceeds benefit the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah IA.

Future Dates

- ◊ **Feb. 11, 2012**—Ladies Day- Eric Dregni—Author of “Vikings in the Attic” and “In Cod We Trust”
- ◊ **Mar. 2012**—Father/Son/Daughter Day- Bob Lew—Pop Culture
- ◊ **April 2012**—Fred Glure on Trains
- ◊ **May 2012**—Anniversary of Torske Klub

Also see <http://www.torskeklub.org> for more and updated information.



Trollfjord in Lofoten Islands Norway

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

Boss: Robert Alsaker
 Assistant Boss: Lowell Olberg
 Treasurer: Ken Nordan
 Program Chair: Thor Jondahl
 Recording Secretary: Garry Grube
 Corresponding Secretary: Ken Larson
 Aquavit Chair: tbd
 Raffle Chair: Sam Smith
 Membership Chair: Robert Frost II
 Board Member: Larry Ekstrom
 Board Member: Roger Elmer
 Board Member: Dr. Ray Newgard
 Board Member: Fred Glure
 Board Member: Ron Bentsen



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