



Special Entertainment for March

Direct from Norway! Sinclair and the Rovers

The Chicago Torske Klub is pleased and honored to have the noted Norwegian musical group Sinclair and the Rovers entertaining our group for the annual father/son/daughter day. Bring your fathers, sons, daughters, and grandchildren to this event; age is no barrier this day, all will enjoy the music. We have a reservation for a 4 year old guest already.

The Norwegian folk pop band "Sinclair & the Rovers" specialize in Irish traditional music. Over the last three years they have gained ever increasing popularity. The very eventful year 2001 was wrapped up by two successful international tours. In October 2001, the band called on her musical roots by touring Ireland. Their music proved popular with the Irish, on stage as well as in small acoustic settings. Naturally, the Rovers also picked up a fair amount of musical input as well as other impressions and expressions from the Emerald Isle. Towards the close of the year, Sinclair & the Rovers toured Macedonia and Kosovo to entertain the international KFOR forces stationed there. Soldiers of all nations, including Ireland, evidently cherished the



The band (not in order): Sigve Ellingsen, Vocals; Mariann Espedal Ericson, vocals; Jonny Engelsvoll, Accordion, piano, vocals; Gunnar Tønnesen, Fiddle, flutes, vocals; Ole Ellingsen, mandolin, banjo, vocals; Kenneth Andersen, guitar, harmonica, vocals; Knut Helge Bjørnsen, tuba, bass guitar; Arne Andersen, drums, bodhrán

opportunity to unwind with Irish music. In September 2002 the band played in Prague and Most in the Czech Republic, March 2003 Dundee, St. Andrews and Blairgowrie in Scotland were visited and March 2004 St.

Patrick's Day where celebrated in Chicago. Sinclair & the Rovers started as a one-off in the spring of 1998, but the band members enjoyed the music and each others's company to a degree that made them continue. Over the years there have been numerous gigs throughout the South of Norway, and Sinclair & the Rovers has gradually built up a reputation as a really good live band, who can keep an audience "warm" the entire evening. A festive mood and plenty of singalong is guaranteed when Sinclair & the Rovers put their hearts and souls into performing their Irish music: A mixture of traditional Dubliners' type oldies, newer Irish music, a dash of well-known pop songs with a few songs from elsewhere in the world thrown in for good measure. If anyone heads for home in a downcast mood, it is not likely to be because of Sinclair & the Rovers. For more info see the web site <http://rovers.no>



Our annual father/son/daughter lunch will be held on March 11, 2006 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, March 7
NOON

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 on 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. It will ring 4 times before answering. 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 will reply to that with a confirmation of receipt. We have reservations from 3, 13C, 22, 43A 47, 51, 54(3), 55, 64A, 73C, 78, 85, 98, 114, 126, 171.

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.*

Irish Music from Norway?

What is the connection? If you have read the newsletters from years past [March 2003, March 2004], you'll see why it is appropriate for Norwegians to celebrate Irish culture and St. Patrick's day. We have a common close heritage to the Vikings as settlers and founders of Waterford and Dublin. What better way to celebrate our common heritage?

Dinner Reservation Phone: ☎ (630) 443 6839

Upcoming Events...

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

April 8 - Regional O'Hare Airport FAA manager – George Bloomingbird

April 22 - Bus trip to Madison Wisconsin Torske Klubben. As in previous years, the Torske Klub will pick up the cost of the bus. Members attending will pay for their own dinner and cocktails.

May 13, 46th Anniversary/Ladies Day - Sven & Ole – Comedy and Music from Madison, WI.

February was Norwegian Sweater Month with Chicago Bears QB Bobby Douglass

If you missed the February dinner, you missed a super event. The featured speaker was none other than the great Chicago Bears quarterback, Bobby Douglass.



He spoke amid a sea of men in Norwegian sweaters, intermixed with the blue and orange of the Bears apparel. The fish was exceptionally good, and the event was highlighted by door prizes of autographed caps, Super Bowl XL apparel and the auction of two autographed footballs. Ed Veth and our Assistant Boss, Don Hogansen won the ball auction. Bobby Douglass challenged Ed Veth, a guest of John Lund with a forward pass as he received the ball.

We get Emails ...

Believe it or not, the Torske Klub responds to many emails from all over the world. It seems that a majority of them are focused on where one can purchase Linnie Aquavit (our answer has been Binny's in Lombard or Teddy's in Palatine). Second most quantity of letters involve the name "Torske". As with our own good member, Eivind Torske, the family name of Torske has been widely used in Norway and elsewhere.

Many of the letters to us involve genealogy inquiries of the Torske family. Most are answered by a kindly, "I don't know". Two emails, however, were notable. One was from a family of irate Torske's who were demanding that we stop making fun of their name. The other was from a young German who was interested in the entomology of the name "Torske" for his own family records. "What does it mean?" "Is there a coat of arms for the Torske's?". We broke to the news to him gently.

More New Members!

We continue our streak of new memberships. This month, we welcome new memberships from Peter Hastings of Glenview and Paul Johnson of Chicago. Please welcome these men to our group!

Birthdays for March

Our birthday list for February includes **Scott Solberg, Thor Torger, Hugo Lanesskog, Roald Harr, Richard Peterson, Richard Nelson Sr. and David Bentsen**. Although never a member of our group, we note the birthday of football great, **Knut Rockne**. He would have been 128 this year. Gentlemen, we propose a toast of green tinted aquavit decorated with a shamrock for your special day this month.

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