



## Veterans Administration and Norwegian Sweater Day

The Torske Klub will welcome Mr. Robert Iverson, the Veterans Administration Regional Manager. He will join us and talk about the VA, changes, functions and the GI benefits today. February is also Norwegian Sweater day by mandate of the Board. On this day, we drop our normal coat and tie requirements and encourage our membership to wear their Norwegian (or other favorite) sweater for dinner. Sam Cory will be our Torskemaster

## Last Month: The Tuskegee Airmen

The Torske Klub was privileged to have as our guest Lt. Col. David James (ret.), one of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen. The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African Americans to be trained as WWII Military pilots in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He related his memories of those times, including his training, deployment to Europe and the realities of the war. Thanks to Gene Kaszmarek for his participation in arranging this program with his classmate from Lane Tech. As a remembrance of the day, the veterans of World War II were photographed together with Mr. James. We also took a similar photo of the Lane Tech alumni that day, including our guest, which we will send to the Alumni News or will provide to those members requesting.



Dinner Reservation Phone: ☎ (630) 443 6839



Our February luncheon will be held on February 10, 2007 at the Des Plaines Elks Club, 495 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL. 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, Feb 6**  
**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 Timely reservations insure that an adequate portion and a table space can be reserved for you. ANY reservation made after noon on Tuesday will have a \$5.00 late fee imposed, making your dinner charge \$25.

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.

We have reservations from the following members: 3, 13C, 22, 47, 51, 55, 73C, 85, 98, 114, 115, 126, 141. Board members note that they have a reservation automatically and must call cancellations.

We are reactivating the email reservations if you choose. Please send to secretary@torskeklub.org with your number of reservations, including 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 2006/2007 season, excluding father/son/daughter in March and ladies day in May.

## News from the Board of Directors

The Board met in January at the house of the Boss, Robert Alsaker, to review the Torske Klub functions and make decisions critical to our operations. From this meeting, the board has the following significant announcements to the Torske Klub:

- *Financial* - The Torske Klub is in good financial shape, much thanks to the contributions of the raffle and the participation of the members.
- *Late Reservations* - The Torske Klub will impose a \$5.00 late fee for any reservation made after the deadline of 12 noon on the Tuesday before any dinner. This should encourage a majority of the reservations to enable a proper fish order, but still allows those who choose to call late. This is not an exoneration to call late, but a further encouragement to call early. This fee will be re-evaluated periodically.
- *Ladies Day 2008* - To separate the Ladies Day from the traditional Torske Klub Anniversary month, the Board has elected to move Ladies day to the month of February starting in 2008. Ladies day in 2007 will be next May as previously announced. Father/Son/Daughter day will continue to be held in March.
- *Lefse* - The Lefse from Countryside Lefse has been a very successful addition to the dinner. One box (12 packs of 8 pieces) is typically ordered for dinner. Last month, we experimented by ordering two boxes and selling the remainder for \$5 per pack. We will continue to do this first come, first serve at the dinner. IF you wish to order lefse in quantity of 96 pieces for yourself call Countryside at 1-800-584-6789 for UPS delivery.

## Frequently Asked Questions

On the website <http://www.torskeklub.org>, we have published our Torske Klub to the world. By this, we get a number of questions from the world and people with an interest in what we do here. We have a page called frequently asked questions (FAQ) which just answers questions that we are asked typically. Many of our regular members have questions also, so here are a few items that may be of interest to you.

- *What is my membership member?* - It is on your membership card issued in January and is the number on your mailing label for this letter. It is assigned generally from 1 to 200 somewhat by alphabetical order. As new members arrive, we run out of interim numbers and a letter is attached. That is why Ray Newgard has number 114 and Ray Nielsen is 114A, Peter Nielsen is 114B, Sigurd Nielsen is 114C and Ken Nordan got 115. As members depart, their numbers are recycled. Simple, kinda. sorta...
- *How do I get a Torske Klub Pin?* - Most of you have one, we gave them away to all in February 2005 or perhaps when you subsequently joined. But there was a gap when we ran out. See the boss (Rob Alsaker) if you did not get one, joined since 2005, or want to buy another. By the way, there is a handsome Torske Klub pocket knife that was given out in May 2006. If any member did not receive one (we kept a list), see Ken Larson.
- *What do I wear to Dinner?* - Most would call it "business formal"; sport coat and tie is adequate, except for sweater month.
- *What do the dues pay for?* - Our \$35 dues pay for this handsome letter each month, the mailing, and it is your donation for the aquavit. Years ago we paid for the aquavit on the month of our birthday. Bundling it into the dues is much easier to collect. In spite of that, we still recognize your birthday each month, since it is the traditional time that you "bought" the aquavit. Raffle money and special auctions supplement our funds for special events.

## Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

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Published by the Chicago Torske Klub  
Editor: Ken Larson  
Layout and Production: Wolfgang Gruener  
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## Birthdays & New Member

Happy Birthday to: Paul Amundsen, Gregg LeDuc, Ed Grendahl, Neil Andersen, Thor Jondahl, George Tarnow, Cedric Syrdahl, David Svendsen, David Grevstad, Edward Ekstrom and our fine Program Chairman and charter member Dr. Ray Newgard. We are welcome Tom Maxton as a new member to the Torske Klub.