



Chicago Sons of Norway
Torske Klub
Organized 1960

50 Years!

Newsletter



www.torskeklub.org • secretary@torskeklub.org

November 2010

November Features Forensic Scientist Marc Pomerance

The Chicago Torske Klub is pleased to welcome our featured speaker for November 13th, Mr. Marc Pomerance. Since starting his career as a forensic scientist with the Illinois State Police in April 1999, Mr. Pomerance has been trained in firearms & toolmark identification. Through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, he has received training in serial number restoration, sound suppressors and full auto conversions. Gunshot residue analysis/range determination and footwear/tire impression training was received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He is a regular member of the Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners. While working full time at the Forensic Science Center at Chicago, Mr. Pomerance earned a Masters Degree in the Forensic Sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

In the laboratory's daily operations, Mr. Pomerance conducts examinations on firearms related items of physical evidence collected at crime scenes in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. Mr. Pomerance has testified as an expert witness in both Federal and Circuit Courts. He has also given lectures and tours of the Illinois State Police Forensic Science Center at Chicago to officials of Cook County and law enforcement community. Tusen Takk to Bill Scheiderich for arranging this program.

Make your reservations early for this regular luncheon on the 2nd Saturday of November.

Gala 50th Anniversary Dinner Enjoyed by 200 People

The black tie optional dinner was a resounding success. The evening was filled with dignitaries and greetings from around the nation and the world. The Boss, Robert Alsaker commanded the event. NBC Anchorman and Reporter Dick Johnson was our Torskemaster, renamed as Master of Ceremonies for the elegant evening. Dick's linguistic experiences



Torske Klub cap and honorary membership is presented to Master of Ceremonies Dick Johnson of NBC by the Boss

as a student in Trondheim, and his collection of Ole and Lena jokes served him well for this crowd.

Greetings were received from the head table including Hon. Consul General Gary Gandrud of Minneapolis also representing the Minneapolis Torske Klubben, Wisconsin Hon. Consul Anne Veslemøy Lindblom, our own Illinois Hon. Consul General Paul Anderson, retired Hon. Consul General Per Bye Ohrstrom, Madison Torske Klubben Boss Paul Larson, retired Wisconsin Hon. Consul General Trygve Lonnebotn, Naeseth Library Exec. Director Blaine Hedberg, Vesterheim Director of Development Steve Grinna, Norwe-



Norwegian Governor of Troms Fylke, Svein Ludvigsen receives a commemorative crystal from us

Continued in 'Anniversary' on p.2

Torske Klub September Luncheon - November 13

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, Robert Alsaker, rings the bell to seat us for dinner. Make your regular dinner reservation by TUESDAY Noon, November 9, 2010.

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 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 Ken L. at 630-336-6723. 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, 13C, 40, 47, 51, 55, 73C, 98, 103, 114, 115** . 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 2010/2011 season, excluding father/son/ daughter day in March and excluding ladies day in February.

Reservations Required by 12:00 Noon on November 9

Dinner Reservation Phone: (630) 445-1263

Anniversary from p. 1

gian-American Chamber of Commerce (NACC) President Mette Bowen and Asst. Boss Don Hoganson. Greetings were read from Norwegian Ambassador Wegger Chr. Strommen, whose duties in Washington prevented his attendance. He was there in spirit. The King of Norway and the U.S. President were honored with a toast. Gary Ganrud, on behalf of the Minneapolis Torske Klubben, presented a \$500 donation to Vesterheim in honor of our 50th. Aquavit and an excellent "Porske" dinner was topped off by an elegant Torske Klub logo cake from the Swedish Bakery. Our keynote speaker for the evening was the Fylkesmann (Governor) of Troms in Norway, Svein Ludvigsen.



Madison Torske Klubben Boss Paul Larson presents a commemorative plaque in honor of our 50th to Robert Alsaker. Master of Ceremonies. Dick Johnson and Hon. Consul General Gary Gandrud are seated foreground, Fylkesmann Svein Ludvigsen seated left.

Svein has been a frequent and popular visitor from Norway, initially as the Minister of Fisheries. His talk of the Norwegian-American bonds of economy, oil, fish, climate, culture and family was entertaining and inspiring. Finally, our remaining charter member, Dr. Ray Newgard, was acknowledged and presented with a token of esteem.

Congratulations to Fred Gilbertsen, who won the Carl Eglund 50th anniversary plate. This dinner involved the year long planning of a dedicated group of people, for whom we owe a great debt of thanks for the event.

The anniversary planning committee was chaired by our Boss Robert Alsaker, and his boss, Evy Alsaker. The Assistant Boss Don Hoganson, Aquavit Chairman Garry Grube and wife Miriam, Raffle Chairman Ron Bentsen and wife Carol, and Treasurer Ken Nordan and his wife Julie. Ken and Julie are owed a special recognition for preparing the outstanding remembrance book which attendees received as a table gift. Tusen takk to all the committee for a memorable evening and for the sacrifices that each of you made to the effort and especially to Robert Alsaker who led this successful program.



June, July, August, September Birthdays and Member News

This month, we toast the monthly birthdays for November: Vernon Bengtson, Seth Howard, Jorgen Laursen, Richard Nelson of Chicago, Robert Olberg, and Ronald Betz. In anticipation of Thanksgiving this month, let us be the first to wish you all a Happy Bird-day.

We are also pleased to welcome a new member, Hokan Haraldsson of Mundelein, who signed up at Vasa Park. Please give him a warm welcome when he joins us for dinner and sports his official Torske Klub name badge.

From our Program Chairman:

My family and I wish to thank the Board & membership of Torske Klub for their thoughtful gift. The 50th Anniversary party was a big success. Having been part of the leadership for 50 yrs, and being honored now with a beautiful Sons of Norway ring is terrific. I except it humbly, in the memory of all those who are gone from the original founders; and the vision we had back in May 1960.

Thank you, Dr. Ray Newgard

- Advertisement -

The last surviving Norwegian American newspaper, *Norwegian American Weekly* was born a few years ago on the merger of the Western Viking and Norway Times. This newspaper format provides a variety of news articles focused on Norway and the Norwegian-American communities across the US and Canada. See enclosed card for a special Torske Klub subscription offer.

Future Programs

- **Dec. 11, 2010** –Annual Christmas party led by Rev. David Langseth and pianist.
- **Jan. 8, 2011**—Norwegian Sweater Day—Merrill Lynch Financial Advisor
- **Feb. 12, 2011**—Ladies Day—Dr. Martin Marty— Internationally known theologian and author.
- **March 12, 2011**—Father, Son, Daughter Day—Melissa Hulting discussing the EPA— Greenhouse Gas & Climate Change
- April, May speakers are to be announced
- **July 5-11, 2011**—Lofoten Norway trip

Watch <http://www.torskeklub.org> for additional news and links to topics of interest to the Chicago Torske Klub membership and Norwegian Americans in general.

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

Boss: Robert Alsaker
 Assistant Boss: Don Hoganson
 Treasurer: Ken Nordan
 Secretary: Ken Larson
 Program Chair: Dr. Ray Newgard
 Aquavit Chair: Garry Grube
 Raffle Chair: Ron Bentsen
 Membership Chair: Robert Frost II
 Board Member: Larry Ekstrom
 Board Member: Roger Elmer
 Board Member: Fred Glure
 Board Member: Kristian Ronning



Published by the Chicago Torske Klub. Editor, Layout and Print:-Ken Larson. ©2010 Chicago Torske Klub