



Celebrate the Rails at the April Luncheon

The 2nd Saturday of April comes late in the month this year, and that means a long stretch of 5 weeks between meals. We'll reconvene in April for this first luncheon of Spring with our own long-time board member Fred Glure presenting on the subject of Trains. Fred is a past chairman of the 20th Century Railroad Club, served as an on-board tour guide for Amtrak, and has been an avid fan of the rails for years.



Our speaker, Fred Glure, at last year's Syttende Mai Parade

Fred is a retiree of the Chicago Public Schools, most recently having served as the Head of the Guidance Department at Lane Tech College Prep High School.



Four Burlington Northern/Santa Fe (BNDP) GE C44-9W diesel locomotives hauling a mixed freight train along the Columbia river, between Kennewick and Wishram, Washington State, USA. - from <http://www.wikipedia.com>

Join us with Fred Glure and our good member Fred Olk as torskemas-ter this month. Fred Olk is also a board member of the 20th Century Railroad Club. The reservation line is open now for 24 hours, 7 days a week. Note starting this month that we need reservations by Monday evening, not Tuesday as in previous times.

March F/S/D Luncheon

We enjoyed the presentation of Mr. Bob Levi (apologies for the misspelling in the last letter) concerning the use of opera in the pop culture. This was F/S/D day, a.k.a. father/son/daughter day at the Chicago Torske Klub, enjoyed by scores of members and guests. Thanks to Rich Wielock, who performed the duties as torskemaster admirably.

Torske Klub Luncheon - April 14 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 the evening of April 9, 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 (and guests): **3, 13C, 38, 40, 47, 51, 55, 59(8) 84, 98, 114, 115, 120, 149, 153(2)**. 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.



Luncheon Reservation Phone: ☎(630) 445-1263

Stave Churches

One of the fascinating aspects of Norway are the collections of ancient churches that are scattered across the country. They are a reminder of the basis and transformation of the Christian faith of our ancestors. The origin of these buildings trace to the Viking age, even though many are still in use a millennium later. The structures combines those Viking elements & those of the early catholic church of Norway. It binds them with the transformation of the protestant reformation.



Lomen Stavkyrkje in Veste Slidre Norway dates from 1192

They are called stave churches (stavkyrkje in Norse) because of the timber posts in the central support of the building. This was covered with planks. The Lomen building has Norse gods carved at the top of the posts as their punishment to support the ceiling for eternity because of their role as false gods.

These ancient churches have survived 1000 years, but are more at risk today than ever. Although their value as cultural icons have granted them status as worthy to preserve, threads of vandalism and fire still loom to destroy them.

I wrote a more extended article about the Lomen church for the Valdres Budstikken a few years ago. Feel free to download a copy from our website at <http://www.torskeklub.com/Letters/2011Season/LomenStaveKyrke.pdf>

—Ken Larson



The Gol Stave Church (from Buskerud) was saved and moved to the Norwegian Museum of Cultural History near Oslo.



Lomen Church Interior [to left]- The original nave had parishioners standing in the dark on a dirt floor. The windows lit the chancel room by the altar only, symbolically separating man from the light of God. Pews and a wooden floor were added after the Reformation. One of the four "stave" posts supporting the structure can be seen behind the pulpit.

Future Dates

- ◇ **May 12, 2012**—Anniversary of Torske Klub. Presentation on Hawaii.
- ◇ **May 20, 2012**—Syttende Mai Parade in Park Ridge. 1pm
- ◇ June, July and August we golf, fish and rest; not necessarily in that order.

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

April Birthdays and Member News

This month, we toast the monthly birthdays: Per Rykhus, Peter Nielsen, Jim Severson, Richard Elmer, Dick Fjeldheim, Wollert Ellertson, David Hardy, Carl Graf, Jr., Doug Conte, Richard Nelson, Jr., Tore Bakk-Hansen, Fredrick Olk, and Morten Solum. Happy Birthday to all our good members, and skol.

We are pleased to welcome our latest new member to the Chicago Torske Klub, Tom Field of Park Ridge. Be sure to greet him and introduce yourself as he dines with us in the future.



Robert Mullen married Ali Langseth (daughter of our member David Langseth) on Thanksgiving Day Nov.24,2011

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: Robert Frost II
 Raffle Chair: Sam Smith
 Board Member: Larry Ekstrom
 Board Member: Roger Elmer
 Board Member: Dr. Ray Newgard
 Board Member: Fred Glure
 Board Member: Ron Bentsen



Published by the Chicago Torske Klub. Editor, Layout and Print:-Ken Larson. ©2012 Chicago Torske Klub