

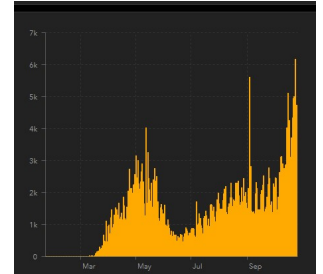


## Update: Holiday Luncheons Canceled

A quorum of the Chicago Torske Klub Board met on October 15 and once again made some decisions suspending our meetings and dues for the next couple months.

**Luncheons**—The COVID concerns remain, and it seems like we are in the same boat as we were in April. Therefore, it was agreed to cancel November and December. We have discussed canceling the season, but will revisit the situation in December.

**Dues** - In October, the Torske Klub suspended dues collection. Since we have not met since March, this decision was extended to cancel the dues collection for this 2020-2021 season. We will go through the dues cycle at the end of next year. All members of record in May 2020 will continue as members in 2021.



COVID Cases in Illinois 10/27/20  
—Johns Hopkins University

## Happy Thanksgiving & God Jul

We are getting that first dusting of snow already, and if you are like me, the memories of holidays past come flooding in. I recall the days of the Norske Klub on Fullerton Ave in Chicago, when Al Newgard and Barney Jacobsen prepared a roaring fire in the *peis* (fireplace) before preparing the *torsk* and warming the *erttesuppe* (pea soup). It appears that these memories will need to be prepared at home this year. The recipe for *erttesuppe* is on the website; we'll leave it to you for your favorite fish recipe. By the way, lefse is still available at [www.lefse.com](http://www.lefse.com) if you are not making your own. Torsk and lefse recipes are on the internet, if you are game to prepare it.

Home cooking traditions reminds me fondly of my old boss at Sargent & Lundy Engineers, the late Carl Nordstrom. He attended the Torske Klub once, and decided afterward that he was going to share the nostalgia of a real Scandinavian Christmas, like he had as a youth. He searched and found *lutefisk* to prepare, and as it cooked, his extended family arrived: sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren. The kids were first to grimace with "what's that smell?". A daughter-in-law excused herself for some fresh air. After some family debate, the consensus was to go out for dinner that year. *Uffda*.

May your family gatherings this year be safe and memorable in a good way.

*From your friends in the Chicago Torske Klub— Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.*  
—K.Larson

***Torske Klub Luncheon - Nov.14, 2020 / Dec.12,2020 \*\*\*CANCELED\*\*\****

Your Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors has elected to **cancel the next two scheduled luncheons** for Nov.14, 2020 and Dec.12, 2020 in respect for the virus situation .

Our health and safety will always precede our urge for torsk and fellowship. We will look forward to seeing you at future events. Watch the website or Facebook for updates also.

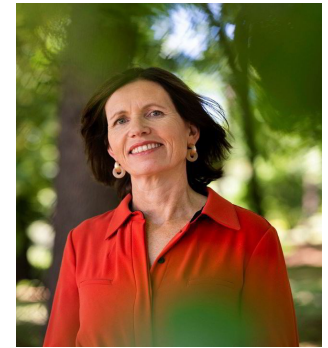
It seems like a lot of the news these days is focused on local and national issues. The jets to Europe are relatively empty. Yet life goes on. Here are some items of recent interest.

**The King:** According to ABC news, Norway’s 83-year-old King Harald V was admitted to the main hospital in Oslo on Friday with breathing difficulties, the Norwegian palace said. It added that he tested negative for COVID-19.

The palace said his son, Crown Prince Haakon, has stepped in and taken over his father’s duties, including a scheduled meeting with the Norwegian government.

**New Norwegian Ambassador to the US:** Anniken Ramberg Krutnes is Norway’s new Ambassador to the United States. She presented credentials to US President Trump in September 2020.

An expert in security policy, law of the sea and Arctic issues, Amb. Krutnes has served with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs since beginning as a trainee in 1994. In her previous position with the Ministry, she served as Deputy Director General of the Department of Security Policy. Before that, she was Norway’s Ambassador for Arctic and Antarctic Affairs.

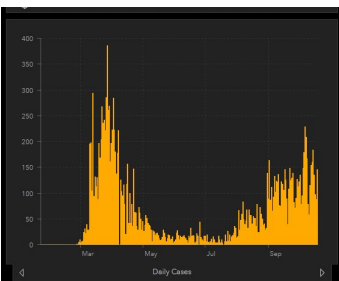


H.E. Anniken Krutnes  
Photo:Skjalg Bøhmer Vold (dn.no)

She replaces our friend Kare Aas, who has been assigned as Ambassador delegate in Israel.

Best wishes to the both ambassadors on their new assignments.

**Covid-19:** If you look at the chart below, it looks similar to the case counts in Illinois, but the Illinois numbers are divided by 10. Illinois has a population of 12.67 million in 2019, Norway has a population of 5.3 million in 2019; about 42% of Illinois population, but only 10% of the COVID cases.



COVID Cases in Norway—Oct '20  
—Johns Hopkins University

So what is Norway doing differently? We can only guess, but it may involve sardines and aquavit and a good cabin to quarantine. We are not entirely sure, but have some suspicions.



## Member Birthdays and News

We celebrate remotely the birthdays of November and December:

**November:** Jorgen Laursen, Bruce Carlson, Chuck “Coach” Enge, Robert Olberg, Ed Waters and Ronald Betz

**December:** Ragnar Lund, past Secretary David Cornwell, Dr. Egil Fosslien, Garry Grube, Michael Mogil, and Harold Bendicson and our Treasurer Milt Gustafson.

We noted last letter of the 100th birthday of Kaare Neval. His family organized a drive-by hello, socially distanced lunch and golf. Thanks to all for cards, and to Don Hoganson for soliciting letters from the Ambassador and Norway King Harald. It looks like he had a memorable day.



Kaare Neval and family

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