



Torske, Madison & Library of Congress October 4 & October 11, 2003

Dear Torske Klub Member,

What do these three things have in common? Read on... We have much news this month. The letter is coming out early, you'll notice, because of the early date of the Madison Dinner. Don't forget to register for the regular dinner, too.

► **Madison Torske Klub Bus Trip - Oct. 4, 2003**

The time is here for our Madison Torske Klub road trip. The bus is rented, the time is here. The schedule for event is in the box at the right.. Our critical time to note for this is 8:45 am. Owing to road construction, a stop in Rockford and the start of the dinner at 11:30 in Madison, we *MUST leave at 8:45*: with or without you. No exceptions. We suggest that you schedule to arrive early to buffer any potential delay and also facilitate loading the bus. Do not enter the Elks Club for this event. Also we suggest parking in the lot across the street and south of the Elks building. If you have schedule issues that day and need to talk, my cell phone is (630) 336-6723.

The Boss has already confirmed reservations for a 55-passenger coach limousine bus (large bus, comfortable seats, toilet, A/C) from Robinson Coaches to provide transportation to the dinner from the Elk's Club parking lot in Des Plaines. We also announced that we would make a stop at the Clock Tower Inn in Rockford to pick up members there. Some members have opted to meet us at the Madison facility. This trip will be a BYOB event for the bus; each member pays his own costs: dinner/drinks in Madison. **THE BUS RIDE IS COURTESY OF YOUR TORSKE KLUB AND IS FREE!** You must call the reservation line at (630) 443-6839 and identify this as a Madison reservation. We have already received reservations from members 3(2), 6, 12A(2 for dinner, no bus ride), 13C, 14, 19, 22, 35C, 50B, 51, 55, 62, 73C, 78, 84, 85, 95, 98, 112B(meet at Rockford), 114(2), 115, 118, 132 143,149(2 for dinner only, no bus), 163, 167, 168, 171, 177(1 + 1 dinner only, no bus). We will cut off the bus reservations at 55, so reserve immediately. Guests are allowed on this trip, noting that this is a men's dinner in Madison, as with our dinner.

Timetable for the Madison Dinner Saturday, October 4, 2003

8:15 am	Meet at the Des Plaines Elks Club parking lot
8:45 am SHARP	Bus leaves Des Plaines
9:45 am	Bus stops at Rockford Clock Tower Inn
11:30 am	Start of Madison Dinner at Madison Club, 5 E. Wilson Ave, Madison WI
1:30 - 2:00 pm	Approximate departure from Madison, stop in Rockford
3:30 - 4:00 pm	Approximate return to Des Plaines

Club pays for bus. Member pays own costs in Madison, expected to be \$19 for dinner, excluding drinks.

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For Reservations Please Call (630) 443-6839

Ken Larson, Secretary • 3710 King George Lane St. Charles, IL 60174 • Email: larsonk@hp.com



We will be going to the Madison Club, 5 East Wilson Ave, Madison WI , phone: (608)255-4861. It's near the Civic Center. Meal cost is \$19.00 and cocktails start at \$3.00. Cocktails start at 11:30 and the meal starts at 12 Noon. Rob does need a final count by the Tuesday before since he has to call Trygve Lonnebotn, their Boss for final counts. Dress code is coat and tie.

We owe our appreciation and gratitude to our good member Bill Scheiderich for arranging this bus and to our boss, Rob Alsaker for the Madison arrangements.

Regular Torske Klub Dinner - Oct. 11, 2003

Our regular Torske Klub meeting will be held on October 11, 2003 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.

Our Torskemaster will be our own Rich Wielock. Rich joined the Torske Klub last spring, and as a new member it seemed appropriate to initiate him properly as Torskemaster.

Our speaker is yours truly. As many of you may know, I have spent a large part of the last year in Washington DC, designing and implementing a computer system to preserve "the institutional memory of Congress" for the Congressional Research Service, part of the Library of Congress. In this role, I have had a rare opportunity to learn about the Library, the workings of Capitol Hill and the real impact that 9/11 had. This work was contracted to Compaq Computer Corp, which was acquired by Hewlett-Packard during this period. I'll discuss the merger a bit as well. I think you'll find the talk interesting....but admittedly; I'm partial to the speaker



The Library of Congress was a legacy of Thomas Jefferson.



Bio-Chemical Escape Respirator issued to workers on Capitol Hill.
Photos: Ken Larson

► Make Your Oct. 11 Dinner Reservation by Tuesday Noon, Oct. 7, 2003

The Elks Club needs time to order the fresh fish. Timely reservations insure that an adequate portion can be reserved for you. Last month we had 32 reservations by the deadline, I called in an order for 37 at noon (expecting that we could sell the extra or handle a few late calls). *42 people showed up.* Randy, the manager at the Elks facility, came to me the day of the dinner with another problem...he received too much fish. We were very lucky that day. Without such luck in the future, someone will not be eating fish for dinner.

Call [630-443-6839](tel: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. As we did last year, this reservation phone is unattended since it is an answering system only. It will ring 4 times before answering. If you need to speak to me urgently, please call my office at 847-781-6820 during weekday business hours. If I am not there, leave a message at either phone and I'll get back to you. I am frequently out of town during the reservation period, so please be patient with my response.

For those with email, feel free to send me a note to larsenk@hp.com with the same information and the message title "Torske Klub Reservation". I will reply to that with a confirmation of receipt. I believe that I have an email for everyone that wants an email notice. If not, send me a note and I'll add you. I have October 11 reservations from 3, 6, 13C, 17B, 22, 43A, 47, 55, 64A, 78, 85, 98, 114.

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There has been some confusion about the fact that there are two dinners in October: the October 4 Madison Trip PLUS our regular meeting on the second Saturday of the Month, October 11. Owing to conflicts that day with Leif Ericcson activities, the three day weekend for some and the concurrent weekend commitments for Torske, some have suggested that we cancel this dinner. Our commitment of schedule to the Elks club and the reservation of the basement meeting room was in jeopardy and it was decided to meet anyway.

News from the Boss Rob Alsaker

I have enclosed a separate letter from Rob. He intended it to be distributed last month but our signals were crossed.

The September Meeting

As I noted above, we had an unexpected attendance and a lot of men eager for their taste of the torske. I don't know about yours, but mine was excellent. The raffle table was full of the usual suspects (and the unusual, such as a "six-pack" of Norwegian sardines) and almost ½ of the members walked away with a prize. Our own Dr. Ray Newgard provided a heartwarming review of our own Torske Klub history, his ties to the community and anecdotes to match. Thanks again Ray.

Passing of Robert Erickson and Peder Larsen

A memorial service was held on the same day of our September meeting for Robert Erickson. His good friend and fellow member, Einar Cannelin, called the week before and said that he had passed away. We offer our condolences to his family, especially his wife Marylou. He was buried in Red Wing, MN.

I was also personally surprised to learn of the death of our good member, Peder Larsen, who apparently passed away this last summer as announced at the last dinner. One of the reasons that I order extra fish for our club is for the days that Peder attended; he enjoyed his codfish.

We will miss both of these fellows; both enjoyed the klub and we enjoyed having them with us.

Membership and Dues

This is the month that we send out the membership and dues notices. I have enclosed your membership data, please make changes and return the slip in the envelope with a check or drop it by when you come to dinner. A number of you have paid your dues already and that is noted on the invoice slip. I will send out membership cards in the January mailing.

Remember that the \$35 yearly dues cover the cost of mailing and the aquavit for your birthday. Our raffle provides us with funds for speakers and extras for the special meetings. The cost of the dinner is passed directly to the members.

Norwegian National League

We have enclosed a copy of the activities for Leif Eriksson day/weekend. Some of this coincides with the Torske Klub meeting noted above, but consider stopping by before the dinner.

I hope to see you all at both of the dinners.

Beste Hilsen,

Ken

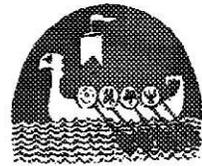


***Remember to
bring a Guest!***

Any male guest to the Torske Klub this season, who is 21 - 50 years old, will have his first dinner paid for by the Klub, if he joins the Torske Klub.

I heard an excellent suggestion last month: Why not give a Torske Klub Membership as a gift? A son, son-in-law, nephew or grandson may appreciate the gesture.

Leif Eriksson Festival

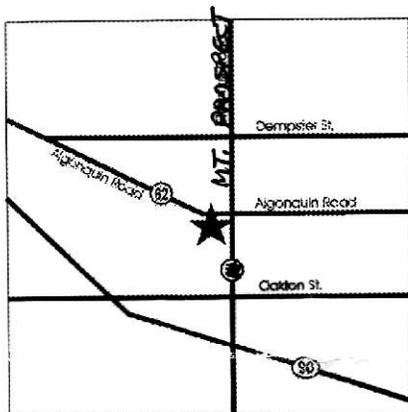


A two-day celebration of the 1000th Anniversary of Leif Eriksson's landing in North America

Saturday, October 11, 2003

FREE ADMISSION **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** FREE PARKING

Friendship Park Conservatory, 395 Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, IL



VIKING SAGAS

FOOD available for purchase

MUSIC & FOLK DANCING

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Crafts, Stories, Games

plus displays and entertainment from the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish countries
For information call: 847-676-1237.

Sunday, October 12, 2003

11:00 a.m. at Minnekirken – The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church



11:00 a.m. Norwegian Church Service

Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church
2614 N. Kedzie Boulevard, Chicago, IL, 773/252-7335

12:30 a.m. Wreath Laying

at the statue of Leif Eriksson in Humboldt Park

Reception following

at Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church
2614 N. Kedzie Boulevard, Chicago, IL

Sponsored by the Norwegian National League www.NNLeague.org