



## Celebrate Our Anniversary at the May Luncheon

The Chicago Torske Klub is pleased to celebrate our organization's anniversary and the start of our next 50 years. It was in this month in 1960 that we were founded by Claus Nicoll, Andrew Highland, and Aasmund Rosseland after a trip to the Minneapolis Torske Klubben. Join us for that celebration and for Norwegian Constitution Day. You are invited to dress business casual this month, a Torske Klub shirt or golf shirt.



Our entertainment this month is a video of touring in Norway, an appropriate program preceding the trip to Norway in July. For this who ordered caps, they will be available for pickup. Join us for this final meeting of the season, before the break for the summer.

## April Luncheon with the Chaplain

Thanks to all who attended the April luncheon. We were greeted by Torskemaster Fred Glure and entertained and enlightened by Father Mike Zaniolo, the head of the chaplaincy at O'Hare and Midway Airports. As noted at the meeting, all are invited to the multi-denominational chapel in Terminal 2 mezzanine, next to the USO and outside the

## Norwegian Constitution Day Events

May 13, 2011 is the NACC Norwegian Constitution Day Luncheon at the Aon Center. 11:30am Wine Reception, 12:15 lunch with Henrik Width, Royal Norwegian Deputy Consul and wife Terhi Width. \$75 Members, \$80 non-Members. Call J. Nordan at 630-406-8155

On the evening of May 14, 2011, the Norwegian National League hosts the Norwegian Constitution Day Banquet at the Chevy Chase CC, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling IL. Guest Speaker is Henrik Width, Royal Norwegian Deputy Consul General. Cocktails at 6pm, Dinner at 7. \$45/ person. Call C. Hoildahl at 847-358-1527 for reservations before May 10.

May 15 is the Norwegian Constitution Day Parade. All Torske Klub members are invited to march with our group starting at 1pm from Talcott and Cumberland in Park Ridge. At 12pm, the pre-parade festivities, food, vendors and entertainment at Hodges Park including folk singer Kyle Elsbernd. Entrance is free.

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### **Torske Klub Luncheon - May 14, 2011**

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 TUESDAY Noon, May 10, 2011.

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: **13C, 47, 51, 55, 98, 114, 115, 149, 153**. 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.



**Dinner Reservation Phone: ☎(630) 445-1263**

## Syttende Mai

The Constitution of Norway was signed at Eidsvoll on May 17 in the year 1814. The constitution declared Norway to be an independent nation.

The celebration of this day began spontaneously among students and others from early on. However, Norway was at that time under Swedish rule (following the Convention of Moss in August 1814) and for some years the King of Sweden was reluctant to allow the celebrations. For a couple of years in the 1820s, king Karl Johan actually forbade it, as he thought the celebrations a kind of protest and disregard—even revolt—against Swedish sovereignty. The king's attitude changed slightly after the Battle of the Square in 1829, an incident which resulted in such a commotion that the King had to allow it. It was, however, not until 1833, that anyone ventured to hold a public address on behalf of the day. That year, official celebration was initiated by the monument of the late politician Christian Krogh, known to have stopped the King from gaining too much personal power. The address was held by Henrik Wergeland, thoroughly witnessed and accounted for by a Swedish spy, sent by the King himself.

After 1864, the day became more established, and the first children's promenade was launched in Christiania, in a parade consisting only of boys. This initiative was taken by Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, although Wergeland made the first known children's promenade at Eidsvoll around 1820. It was only in 1899 that girls were allowed to join in the parade for the first time.

By historical coincidence, the Second World War ended in Norway just nine days before that year's Constitution Day, on May 8, 1945, when the occupying German forces surrendered. Even if The Liberation Day is an official flag day in Norway, the day is not an official holiday and is not broadly celebrated. Instead a new and broader meaning has been added to the celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day on May 17.

The day focused originally on the Norwegian constitution, but after 1905, the focus has been directed also towards the royal family.—*from Wikipedia*

## Events

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On May 17, 2011 there will be a Syttende Mai Concert. A number of groups will perform, featuring the Church Choir, the Grieg Ladies Singing Society, the Bjornson Male Chorus, the Chicago Nordic Voices and Chicago Spelman-slag at the Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church 2614 N. Kedzie Boulevard, Chicago, IL. Information: 773-252-7335. Free will offering will be taken and refreshments following the concert. Street parking is available with use of yellow card provided by church.

## May Birthdays & Member News

This last month before the summer break, we honor the birthdays of these members: Scott Solberg, Ray Syverson, Rodney Lee, John Halversen, Thor Torger, Hugo Lanesskog, Roald Harr, Richard Peterson, and David Bentsen Sr. Happy Birthday gentlemen!

Our Boss, Robert Alsaker, had a stroke on April 23. He is recovering nicely and getting stronger each day. Our hopes and prayers for a speedy recovery are with Rob. Please send any cards to his home in Winnetka. Evy tells us that Rob is enjoying receiving humorous cards. They ask for no calls, visits or flowers to the hospital at this time.

## Come to the Parade!

The Chicago Torske Klub has been marching in the Syttende Mai Parade for many years.

We invite all members of the Chicago Torske Klub to walk with us in Park Ridge. We will meet on the street outside Nelson Funeral Home in Park Ridge near Cumberland and on Talcott Ave. at 12:30pm for a 1pm parade on May 15. Men to carry a flag and banner holders are needed. A ride is possible also.

## Future Dates

- **May 15, 2011**—Syttende Mai Parade in Park Ridge. March with us!
- **July 5-11, 2011**—Lofoten trip
- June, July, August—No Torske Klub meetings.
- **Sept. 10, 2011**—Sara Drower
- **Oct. 8, 2011**—Rev. Sigurd Grindheim
- **Nov. 12, 2011**—Steve Goreham, Climate Coalition of America
- **Dec. 10, 2011**—Christmas Program by Pastor David Langseth
- Future dates to be announced

Watch <http://www.torskeklub.org> for additional news and links.

## Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

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