



May Luncheon Honors the Boss and the Klub Founding

The May luncheon is our last before summer break, and it was scheduled a week before the numerous *Syttende Mai* events of the following weekends. On this day we plan to dress down; a golf, polo or Torske Klub shirt will suffice.

Our luncheon is a celebration of the anniversary of the Torske Klub. 63 years if our math is correct. It is appropriate that our last remaining charter member, Dr. Ray Newgard, suggested we should use this also as a day to honor our Boss, Lowell Olberg, since he is stepping out of that role this month (See page 2).

Our torskmaster is scheduled to be Sam Smith, who will lead the festivities of *gravlax*, cocktails, raffle and stories or various genre told after dinner.

Make your reservations early, bring a friend and enjoy the day. It is certain to be memorable.



The Chicago Torske Klub Boss, Lowell Olberg, inspects the waterfall on a boat at Trollfjord Norway in 2011, before drifting over to fill the coffee pot.

April Luncheon

Our speaker was the legendary Steve Larson, who flew in to talk about the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Thanks to him and the torskmaster, his brother Ken and to all the board who make these luncheons work well.

Torske Klub Luncheon - May 6, 2023 (1st Saturday in MAY)—Reserve today!

The 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 Sunday April 30** for the luncheon. Timely reservations insure that fish and a table space can be reserved for you. The fish order is called in after the deadline. There is \$5 surcharge for late reservations. **Please indicate Fish or Beef for each person**

Call **(847)886-4841** 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. We have reservations from the following members: **38, 51, 55, 58, 97, 98, 120, 124, 135, 149**. Board members note that they have a reservation automatically and must call or prearrange to cancel *or add guest to the count*. 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 **reservations@torskeklub.com** (not .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 2022/2023 season, excluding December, father/son/daughter day in March and excluding ladies day in February.

Reservation Line: 847-886-4841

At the January board meeting Lowell Olberg discussed the option of stepping down as the boss this year, having served that post for 11 years. Ken Larson was asked to consider that role and it was decided that the summer of 2023 would be a good time to transition. In this last month, a 3-way swap of duties was agreed between Lowell, Garry Grube (Assistant Boss), and Ken. Lowell would serve as Assistant Boss, Garry as Corresponding Secretary and Ken as Boss starting in September 2023. The remaining board continue with their tasks, for which we all owe them a round of thanks and a *skål* for their service.

“Bosses” of the Chicago Torske Klub

Andrew Highland	1960-1962
Irving Highland	1962-1980
Chris Johansen	1980-1990
Ralph Egeland	1990-1998
Robert Alsaker	1998- 2012
Lowell Olberg	2012–2023

Why do we have a Boss?

The word "boss" originated in the Dutch language as "baas" which means "master" or "owner". It was later adopted in English during the 17th century and took on the meaning of a person who is in charge or a supervisor. The English used "master" but that has a slavery connotation. Norwegian immigrants adopted the word in their new home as a title of honor, and so we use it that way, but it also is a wink to our roots in Chicago where Boss took on a whole different connotation in political circles.

Upcoming Events

May is very busy month for the Scandinavian and Norwegian community. As we noted earlier, we moved the luncheon for Torsk to the 1st Saturday to not interfere. See their website for details/costs:

- ◇ May 12 –NACC Norwegian Constitution Day Luncheon—Rolling Green CC— naccchicago.org
- ◇ May 20—Viking Ship Tour—Geneva Good Templar Park— see naccchicago.org events
- ◇ May 20—NNL Norwegian Constitution Day Luncheon—Park Ridge CC—nonleague.org
- ◇ May 21– NNL Norwegian Constitution Day Parade—Park Ridge—nnleague.org
The Chicago Torske Klub is marching. Bring your family and walk with us!
- ◇ May 27—Paint / Rake / Dig Day—Vasa Park—vasaparkil.com
- ◇ June 3—Taste of Norway Breakfast –Norway IL—www.norskmuseum.org
- ◇ June 21 - 25- Geneva Swedish Days—Geneva IL

Member Birthdays and News

This month we recognize the May birthdays of our good members: Nels Nelson, Board member David Langseth, Joseph Arnold, and our past Treasurer Ken Nordan, now in Arizona. Gratulerer med dagen og Skål !

On a personal note, I write this as my last newsletter for now; passing the pen to Garry Grube, who has a better eye for grammar. I started writing these in Oct. 2002, and it's been fun. Thanks for for kind notes over time. - Ken

Chicago Torske Klub Board of Directors

Boss: Lowell Olberg
Asst. Boss: Garry Grube
Boss Emeritus: Robert Alsaker
Treasurer: Milt Gustafson
Program Chair: Ray Newgard
Recording Secretary: Tom Peterson
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