



"Music and Song; Stories and Carols"

Our December Luncheon will feature a Christmas program led by the Rev. Dave Langseth as he has done so masterfully in the past years. This will feature solo's by our good member Julian Ronning, and music by Melissa Grant & her husband Brook. We will join in singing carols, and hear stories of the Christmas Season. Join us for this annual program which promises to be as moving and delightful as in previous years.

Make your reservations early for the December 12th luncheon as noted at the bottom of this page.

December Birthdays, New Member and Other Congratulations

The last month of this year is arguably the most celebratory. Birthdays include Charles Norton, past treasurers Dick Biehl & Gene Kaczmarek, Board Member & Historian David Cornwell, Oystein Borsheim, Milt Gustafson, Aquavit Chairman Garry Grube, Emil Ulstrup, Harold Bendicsen, Roger Elmer Sr., and Art Carlson. Skål with the Christmas gløgg to vou all.

We also welcome to our ranks of membership, Tore Bakk-Hansen of Crystal Lake. Gentlemen, give Tore a warm welcome as he dines with us.

Congratulations also to Harold Bendicsen as the book he has co-authored is published this year, "Guide to Psychoanalytic Developmental Theories"



December 2009

November Beekeeping

Our November Luncheon featured a talk and demonstration of the tools of the trade by a local beekeeper, Harry Patterson of Batavia, Illinois. We were entertained to his hobby, which has become somewhat rare in this area. His donation of a couple jars of honey to our raffle table was also very appreciated. Thanks also to Carl Eglund as he was the Torskemaster for the day.

We also heard the story and background of Don Hoganson's Norwegian Order of Merit decoration from the Hon. Consul General Paul Anderson and from Don himself.

Final Dues Reminder

This is the last month for collection of dues; December 31, 2009 is the deadline for the 2010 year. Please provide your dues by mail or in-person at the luncheon. Membership cards will be sent with next month's letter for all members of good standing as of the end of December. Join up for our 50th year!



Norwood Life Care Announces Norwegian Heritage Hall

The Board of Directors of Norwood Life Society is constructing a room to honor the Norwegian heritage of Norwood Crossing.

This space will serve as an impressive multi-media theater, chapel, meeting room and activity room for residents. It will also be a center of Norwegian pride in Chicagoland. Normennenes Singing Society has donated the wood panels that used to hang above their bar in the clubhouse in Logan Square and subsequently were on display in the Scandinavian Club in Arlington Heights until it closed. Their beautiful mural that was painted by the same artist (John Cadel), is being digitally reproduced and will be the focal point of the room. The Illinois Rosemalers Association is moving their private collection of Norwegian rosemaling from a museum in Norway, Illinois to Norwood Crossing, and some of their pieces will be included in the Heritage Hall. Other pieces include Norwood's own treasured possession, a painting by renowned artist Karl Peter Andreas Ouren, the large snow scene that was displayed for many years in the Norwood Crossing dining room.



The venue will welcome our traditional Syttende Mai celebrations and will be available to Norwegian organizations that may need a place to host events. We are pleased to be able to announce that the official name of this hall is:

The Honorable Per Bye Ohrstrom and Mrs. Liv Ohstrom Norwegian Heritage Hall and Pedersen Chapel

These friends have done much to champion the mission of Norwood Crossing. It is fitting to honor them in a manner that recognizes not only their generosity towards the seniors in our care, but also the preservation of our Norwegian heritage. To make our vision a reality, we have set a fundraising goal of \$300,000. We are halfway there. Each donation of \$1,000 or more will be listed on the Heritage plaque inside the room and receive a complimentary ticket to our opening dinner, scheduled for January 16. You may donate cash or securities, or you may make arrangements for a gift annuity by contacting Laura Curley in the foundation office

(lcurley@norwoodlifecare.org, 773-577-5367).

Again, the official opening of the room will be held on Saturday, January 16. To be added to the list of invitees, please email lcurley@norwoodlifecare.org with your mailing address.

- Emil Ulstrup

Editors Note: Emil Ulstrup is a member of the Torske Klub and also Norwood Life Society Board Chairman. Per Bye Ohrstrom is the past Norwegian Consul General and honorary member of the Chicago Torske Klub for his years of service to the Chicago Norwegian American Community.

Torske Klub Newsletter Dec. 2009

Notice: Save-the-Date!

The Chicago Friends of Vesterheim Committee is pleased to announce that our next event will take place on Saturday, March 20, 2010 at the Park Ridge Country Club in Park Ridge, IL. Our Nordic Marketplace will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. when our Luncheon and Program will begin.

Invitations will be in the mail early February 2010. Please plan to join us and we look forward to seeing you there! For more information, please contact Evy Alsaker at 847.446.0714 or at evy alsaker@hotmail.com. Tusen Takk! - Rob Alsaker

Programs for the Upcoming Months

The following programs are in place for the coming months:

- Jan. 9, 2010 - A slide presentation by Rudy Valbunker, admissions director of Manor Health Care Services, serving all of Illinois with 25 locations for short-term Rehab, stroke recovery, & Hospice services. This is Norwegian Sweater Day.
- Feb. 13, 2010 Ladies Day A program of Music and Song featuring the combined singing of Normennenes and Bjornson Male Choruses.
- March 13, 2010 A slide presentation by Douglas Meyer, who is the son of our member Marv Meyer; and National Director of the Alliance Defense Fund. This is father/son/daughter day.
- April and May programs will be announced in the near future.
- October 9, 2010 is the Chicago Torske Klub 50th Anniversary Black Tie Optional Dinner.
- -Dr. Ray Newgard, Program Chairman

Merry

Christmas

and Happy

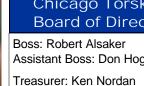
New Year

from your

friends at the

Chicago

Torske Klub



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