



## April Luncheon - The Marshall Plan for Norway

It was only 64 years ago that the world experienced a total war. Many of our members lived through it, and certainly we all have been affected by it directly or indirectly.

One decision that was made in those post war days was to make a major investment in rebuilding the infrastructure of Europe. By the time it was completed, the economies of the participating countries had grown well past the prewar levels. Norway was no exception. An estimated \$250 million in grants and loans was given to Norway alone between 1947 and 1952; the highest per capita aid given in the plan. That is almost \$2.5 billion is today's dollars.



Poster Promoting the Marshall Plan

For this meeting, the Chicago Torske Klub is pleased to present a video describing the Marshall Plan for Norway. We had previously announced the speaker as John Lund, CEO of the Sons of Norway. John had to send his regrets for this meeting, owing to a long term illness.

## March saw Adolph "Bud" Herseth, the CSO, Father/Son/Daughter Day

Our program for March was Adolph "Bud" Herseth, a Norwegian American who was the lead trumpet in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra from 1948—2004. He spoke of his world wide experiences at the CSO at a well attended Father/Son/Daughter day. Thanks to the Hon. Perry Gulbrandsen who placed the winning bid on the rosemaling plaque auction, and to Carl Eglund for his creation and donation.



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



### April 11

Our monthly dinner meeting will be held on April 11, 2009 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 to seat us for dinner.

Make Your Regular Dinner Reservation by

**Reservations due by:**

**Tuesday April 7**

**NOON**

TUESDAY Noon, April 7, 2009

**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 means noon. We have been fortunate with our orders when late reservations are received, can that luck continue? Call early and minimize the risk.

Call **630-445-1263** at any time day or night to leave a reservation. If there is voicemail difficulties, call Ken at 630-406-0148. 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. The phone usually will ring 4 times before answering.

We have reservations from the following members: 3, 13C, 22, 47, 51, 55, 73C, 85, 98, 114, 115, 126, 141. Board members note that they have a reservation automatically and must call cancellations.

If you prefer email reservations, please send to secretary@torskeklub.org with your number of reservations, including 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 2008/2009 season, excluding father/son/daughter day in March and ladies day in February.

## New Cod Benefits Found

We have known the health benefits of eating torsk for years: low cholesterol, omega 3 fatty acids, vitamins A and D and such. Scientists have just uncovered other facts about a cod rich diet:

- Golf scores declined an average of three strokes when golfers ate cod. Lutefisk, however, raised scores by 3 strokes.
- Put away your Viagra, cod may be a better treatment. How to apply the cod is unclear however.
- People who ate cod tended to have a better disposition in cold weather. That explains Minnesota.
- If you enjoy cod, you are statistically more likely to enjoy aquavit. And have a Happy April Fools Day.

**SAVE THIS DATE:**  
*Saturday, April 10, 2010*  
*Park Ridge Country Club*  
*Chicago Torske Klub's*  
*50th Anniversary*  
*Celebration*  
*Next Year is our 50th!*  
*-Details later -*

## April Birthdays

April Birthdays include Peter Nielsen, Jim Severson, Richard Fjeldheim, David Hardy, and Douglas Conte, Richard Nelson Jr., our new member Carl Graf Jr., Morten Solum (who is half way to 100) and Wally Ellertson, who will be a nonagenarian on the day of the Torske Luncheon. Congratulations and skål.

## We do get Letters...

While the last newsletter was published with the story of Fridtjof Nansen, we received a couple of letters. One was from our own member Thor Torger, who noticed the misspelling of Fridtjof's name (thanks). One from Roger Elmer Jr. who offered his Nansen book for a read (double thanks). A third was from the great grand niece of Fridtjof Nansen; Kari Nansen, who lives in San Diego. She wrote "I am sending you [a] photo of FN, Alex [her grandfather], and another man, identified as Mr. Ancker on the same hunting trip [with King



Three men on the right are "Mr. Ancker", King Haakon and Alex Nansen, Fridtjof's brother. Photo believed taken by Fridtjof Nansen during the same hunting trip. Other men are unknown.



Alex Nansen, Fridtjof Nansen and "Mr. Ancker" on a hunting trip at Nansen's hunting lodge "Valhal" in Norway almost 100 years ago.

Haakon]. You can see the difference between FN, a world champion

athlete, and Alex, a lawyer, in the photos as older men. They were very close throughout their lives. My [great grandfather] did a lot of fund raising and lobbying for FN."

It's not surprising that Fridtjof Nansen was a close friend of King Haakon, since he was influential in convincing him to take the post of Norway's king in the new Norwegian monarchy in 1905.

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## New Torske Klub Member !

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Carl Graf Jr. from Morton Grove as a new member of the Chicago Torske Klub for April. Carl is a long time friend and law colleague of the Hon. Perry Gulbrandsen. Welcome Carl!