



Chicago Sons of Norway
Torske Klub
Organized 1960



Newsletter



www.torskeklub.org • secretary@torskeklub.org

April 2010

April Features Northwestern University Athletics



The Chicago Torske Klub is pleased to announce the scheduled program for April; Mr. Shon Morris of Northwestern University. Mr. Morris is in his 13th year as director of development at Northwestern. He is a 1988 graduate of Northwestern's School of Education and four-year letter winner in basketball where he was a 1,000-point scorer, the 1987-88 Playboy Magazine Anson Mount Scholar-Athlete of the Year and a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-American. Shon continues to serve as a basketball analyst for Northwestern games on WGN Radio, and also does game analysis and studio work for



Big Ten Network games. Shon will present on the Northwestern U. and Big Ten Athletic programs. The NU football team played a New Years Day Bowl game in 2010, men's basketball team won 20 games this year, and women's lacrosse team are 5 times National Champions. The golf team are Big Ten champs annually.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR STUDENTS: The Chicago Torske Klub will offer a free meal to any GUEST of a member who is IN HIGH SCHOOL for this month only. This is being offered through the *Alfred Newgard Memorial Fund* to inform and encourage future students of college programs. We will limit this offer to the first ten reservations of this type, but all are welcome.

85 Attend Father/Son/ Daughter Day Luncheon with ADF in March

March saw an outstanding turnout as Mr. Doug Meyer, Director of Foundations for the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF) presented his organization. Although the luncheon was a moved to the upstairs restaurant facility, the turnout of 85 members and guests enjoyed the day. This was father/son/daughter day. Our Torskemaster for the day was Doug's father and our good member Marv Meyer, who masterfully led this robust group of Scandihoovians through the meal and entertainment.

Norwegian Ambassador Presents Order of Merit to Don Hoganson



Photo by Ken Nordan

A special dinner reception was held on March 16, 2010 at the Norwood Crossing Ohrstrom Norwegian Heritage Hall to witness the award of the Norwegian Order of Merit to the man who is our Assistant Boss, Mr. Don Hoganson. Recall that Don was notified of this award last

Continued on Page 2—Hoganson Order of Merit

Reservations
Required by
12:00 Noon on
April 6

Torske Klub Luncheon April 10

Our monthly dinner meeting will be held on April 10, 2010 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 TUESDAY Noon, April 6, 2010.

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 reservation is called in directly after noon and the fish is ordered.

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. Identify High School students, if they are attending. 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, 40, 47, 51, 55, 73C, 98, 114, 115**. 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 by our principle "Once a guest, twice a friend, three times a member!" 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 2009/2010 season, excluding father/son/ daughter day in March and excluding ladies day in February.

Dinner Reservation Phone: (630) 445-1263

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year by the Norwegian King Harald, noting his work in fostering Norwegian-American relationships.

The award was witnessed by about 50 friends and relatives of Don's as the Norwegian Ambassador, H.E. Wegger Chr. Strommen presented the award in a short but solemn ceremony. Leading the event was our own member, the Honorary Norwegian Consul General, Paul Anderson. The master of ceremonies was Orion Samuelson, Radio Broadcasting Hall of Fame recipient known for his farm reporting for WGN radio. Orion had also acknowledged Don in his early morning broadcast that day.

After an excellent dinner, the speeches were given by all, including Don himself. Don's contributions to fostering Norwegian American relations was made known, including those which many of us at the Torske Klub have witnessed. We already know about his contributions to the Chicago Torske Klub as Assistant Boss and as Program Chairman in years past. He grew the membership of the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce (NACC) exponentially under his leadership and in that same group he formed multiple tours to Norway. These trips were not just random wandering, but they hosted specific leaders in various fylke (counties) and cities of Norway. Those leaders have become regular visitors and friends of the Chicago Norwegian American community. He is a regular host to dignitaries from Norway. Not bad for a Norwegian – American farmer who rose to become the managing director of Marsh & McClellan Insurance.

By the way, Don hasn't rested since receiving the award (and we're not talking about his avid golfing hobby). It was announced last month that he is developing a Chicago Torske Klub sponsored trip to the Lofoten Islands in Norway for touring and torsk fishing for sometime in the summer 2010 timeframe. Stay tuned.

Once again, on behalf of the Chicago Torske Klub, we congratulate Don for the well-deserved honor.

About the Medal: The Royal Norwegian Order of Merit was founded by King Olav V in 1985. It is conferred on foreign and Norwegian nationals as a reward for their outstanding service in the interest of Norway. His Majesty The King is the Grand Master of the Order.

April Birthdays and New Member!

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April birthdays include Peter Nielsen, Jim Severson, Richard (Dick) Fjeldheim, Wollert (Wally) Ellertson, Carl Graf, Jr., David Hardy, Richard Nelson Jr., Tore Bakk-Hansen, and Morten Solum. We'll raise a glass to you at dinner!

A special welcome to Christopher P. Betz of Chicago, son of our good member Ron Betz. Christopher joined us as a new member. He also qualifies as a recipient of a dinner through the Al Newgard Memorial Fund, which offers the same to those who join us and are between 21 and 50 years old.

Commemorative Plate Raffle

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A special multi-month raffle started last month to raffle off the 50th anniversary plate created by Carl Eglund for the Chicago Torske Klub. Special Raffle Tickets will be \$5 a piece, and 2 for \$10! The drawing for the plate will be at the October dinner. Winner need not be present to win. See Ken Larson and Ken Nordan at the check-in table as you arrive for the luncheon; look for the ticket jar.



Our 50th Year Anniversary To Be Celebrated in May

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From our Program Chairman & last charter member Dr. Ray Newgard:

- **April 10, 2010** - Mr. Shon Morris, Director of Athletic Development at Northwestern University
 - *After dinner, speakers for the May event are asked to stay a few minutes to talk to Ray Newgard about next month.*
- **May 8, 2010—50th Anniversary of the Chicago Torske Klub—Fond memories and photos of the Torske Klub over the last 50 years presented by various members.**
- **Sunday, May 16—** Syttende Mai Parade in Park Ridge. March with Torske Klub for the 50th! Ride vs. walking available.
- June, July, August—Rest, golf and fish
- **Sept. 11, 2010—** Sara Drower, Author & World Traveler –“**The Story of Salt**”
- **October 16, 2010—**6pm -50th Anniversary black tie optional Dinner. Note that we will not have a noon Torske Dinner at the Elks that 2nd Saturday of October. MC is Dick Johnson of NBC. Speaker is Norwegian Governor Svein Ludvigsen.
- **Nov. 13** - Marc G. Pomerance, Forensic Firearm specialist

Watch the website, <http://www.torskeklub.org> and future letters for announcements of upcoming programs.

Chicago Torske Klub

Boss: Robert Alsaker
Assistant Boss: Don Hoganson
Treasurer: Ken Nordan
Secretary: Ken Larson
Program Chair: Dr. Ray Newgard
Aquavit Chair: Garry Grube
Raffle Chair: Ron Bentsen
Membership Chair: Robert Frost II
Board Member: Larry Ekstrom
Board Member: Roger Elmer, Jr.
Board Member: Fred Glure
Board Member: Kristian Ronning



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