



THE SCANDINAVIAN CLUB of TOLEDO

OLAV GJESDAL, founder

MAY, 2011

ERIC SLAWSON, editor

Come on out and Vote!

May is election time in our Scandinavian Club of Toledo. Last month, a Nominating Committee was created by President Eva Slawson, consisting of club members Mary Peterson, Willard Misfeldt and Ralph Johnson, whose task it has been to put together a slate of candidates which would stand for election for next year's Board of Directors. We will be voting at the general meeting this month on the individual positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. As our Constitution dictates, officers must have been a club member for at least one year, and the President should be of Scandinavian heritage, or be the spouse of a Scandinavian. Additional nominations may be made from the floor when the time comes, and as you know, our fiscal year runs from July through June. Thank you very much to Mary, Willard and Ralph for taking on this important task !!!

2010-2011 Board of Directors

President: **Eva Slawson**

Vice President: **Ruth Alteneder**

Treasurer: **Kristin Johnson**

Secretary: **Nathalie Givens**

Historian: *vacant*

Members-at-Large: **Jan Wahl, Marie & Wayne Johnson**

Newsletter Editor: **Eric Slawson**

May Brunch

Sunday, May 15, 2011

Gather at Noon.

at the Inverness Club

Reservations :: Please mail reservations with checks to our treasurer, Kris Johnson. Cost is \$23 per person. Reservation forms are on the back page, and are due by Thursday, May 12th.

Program :: To be announced

Menu :: We will be having Salmon with the Chef's choice of vegetable and "starch." Rolls are included, as are coffee and tea service. Soda and other drinks are extra.

Location :: **The Inverness Club** is located on Dorr St. between Byne Rd. and Renolds Rd. There is valet parking, or feel free to park in either parking lot.

Syttende Mai

Norway's Constitution Day is May 17. In 1814, Norwegians declared themselves independent after the end of the Napoleonic Wars.

JetBlue and Icelandair

Icelandair is JetBlue's latest international partner. The carriers announced a new interline partnership today, saying the deal "opens up new travel opportunities for customers connecting between JetBlue's network in the United States and the Caribbean and Icelandair destinations throughout Scandinavia, the United Kingdom, and Continental Europe."

—USA Today, 5-2-2011.

Contribute!

If you come across interesting Scandinavian information, and would like to share it with the rest of us, send it in and we'll try to fit it into the newsletter.

Finland's Turn to Right Sends Shivers Through Euro Zone

*Published: April 21, 2011
The New York Times.*

HELSINKI, Finland — There is hardly a country on the continent that has been a more steadfast supporter of the European Union than Finland. But in the general election in mid-April, the nationalist and populist True Finn Party emerged from political obscurity after largely campaigning on the evils of the European Union and its bailouts of Greece and Ireland. It claimed 39 seats in Finland's Parliament —

almost eight times the number it won in the 2007 election. The elections drove the governing Center Party from power and left this small and prosperous country reeling.

Largely unchanged for the last 20 years, the new government is expected to include the right-of-center National Coalition Party, the left-leaning Social Democratic Party and the True Finns. The parties disagree on issues like the bailout, tax reform and increasing the retirement age.

Anti-European Union and anti-immigration parties have been on the rise in Sweden, Italy, Hungary and the Netherlands in the past year, and more may follow. The two issues — the European Union and Immigration — are increasingly being linked across Europe. "The overwhelming draw of parties like the True Finns is the feeling among some Europeans that they are losing control of their destiny and that their nations are losing their identity," said Magali Balent, an expert on European

politics at the Robert Schuman Foundation in Paris.

Financial bailouts in the EU require unanimous approval of all the euro zone members, and at a time when Europe is considering yet another rescue package — this time for Portugal — there are fears that if Finland balks, others may follow.

—by Suzanne Daley from Helsinki, and James Kanter from Brussels for the *New York Times*.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/22/world/europe/22finland.html?_r=1