

What happened... About 50 NCC members and their guests gathered at Leif Erikson

Lodge for our monthly meeting. It was festive as we celebrated our own autumn Høstfest.

The evening began with a lively social hour featuring a variety of beverages including craft beers. We then were seated at nicely decorated tables and dug into a fine meal of “pølser med lompe, ertestuing og grillet poteter” (sausages with bread, peas and fried potatoes) with “tilslørte bondepiker” (apple crisp) for dessert. A delicious and very Norwegian menu, mange thanks to our new caterer, Ms. Malin Johnson.

Guests for the evening included: Our speaker-Melissa Lucas & Hardanger fiddler-Bill Boyd Lynn (Harestad) and Bob Kern, Arline Christensen and son Kolben Christensen, Jon Jacobson, John Skaar (son of Erling Skaar) and Marybeth Wressell.

Vice President Ivan Svasand then introduced the evening’s speaker, Ms. Melissa Lucas, incoming Director of Seattle’s long-established Scandinavian Language Institute. Ms. Lucas, who describes herself as an “infiltrating” Dane, is stepping into the shoes of the Institute’s current Director and legendary Norwegian language teacher, Ed Egerdahl. Lucas began her talk by playing a video recording of Ed sending greetings to the NCC and thanking us for many years of support of the Institute.



Lucas brings to her role years of life experience and studies in Scandinavia, including Denmark, Sweden and Norway, and said she treasured most the time she has spent in Seattle’s Sister City, Bergen. We were then brought up to date on the Institute, which has struggled a bit during COVID times, when it had to suspend all live teaching, and rely on online instruction exclusively. While this seemed to be a concern to start with, it later became a new opportunity to gain a further reach with online learning.

Norwegian classes will be taught online by Ms. Tanya Eie, who grew up with bilingual proficiency in Norwegian and English, having spent her early years in both the United States and Norway. Ms. Eie has additional expertise in helping language students find

placements and positions in Scandinavia to further hone their language and cultural skills and talents and will be making those skills part of the Institute's programs.

Lucas concluded her talk; advising members that as part of the revitalization program, the Scandinavian Language Institute will be polling NCC Members, and other potential students, on what kinds of instruction and other services these students would like to see in the future from the Institute. Lucas encouraged NCC members to participate in the survey.

Provided a link here. <https://www.letsdansk.com/norwegian-survey>

We encourage you to give your input and keep the Norwegian language active in the Northwest.

Vice President Ivan Svasand then thanked Lucas for her lively talk and presented her with the NCC's traditional Tusen Takk Troll, which Lucas was clearly delighted to receive! Thanks, all, for this fine and information program.

President Katrina Svasand opened our business meeting:

With regret, we just learned of the passing of Mrs. Margareth Kaldestad. She was a long time member of NCC. Margareth passed away on Oct. 2, 2023. Moment of Silence was observed.

The club has remembered Erling Skaar, who passed away unexpectedly this past summer, with a donation in his name to the Fisherman's Memorial Fund. Katrina then welcomed John Skaar, son of, Erling Skaar. Good to see you amongst us, John, velkommen.

President Katrina Svasand then brought members up to date on efforts underway to continue to promote NCC and increase attendance, including improvements to the website. As part of the effort, each table was provided with NCC business cards for members to take with and hand to friends and other contacts to introduce them to NCC and its activities. The cards feature QR Codes on the reverse that can be clicked on by cell phone to direct folks to our website. Also available are magnetic fridge calendars that also feature the QR code and conveniently show our meetings for the entire year! Be sure to get yours at the next meeting if you haven't already.

President Katrina Svasand and past President Anne-Lise Berger then presented a thank you to Tim Hunter for all of his help over the years behind the scenes at NCC.

Announcements:

- Kaffestua on the first floor of the lodge, open Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am-2pm. Enjoy coffee, delicious Norwegian sandwiches and treats, and lively conversation!

- The popular “Table Pot” tradition will be returning to NCC beginning at our next meeting on November 9th, so bring your dollar bills.
- Plans are also in the works to revive the tradition of learning more about the businesses and professions of selected (and willing members) by means of brief, friendly, personal interviews as part of our gatherings.
- NCC also now offers a \$10 option for attending Club meetings, for those who may want to hear the speaker and to socialize, but forego the meal. This option is available when making your reservation.



General Meeting November 9th, 2023

5:30-6:30 Social hour

6:30 Dinner (drinks included with dinner price)

Grapefruit and Fennel Salad

Kumla, rutabaga mash, pork hock/ bacon bits.

Flan with berries for dessert.

Program & Business Meeting to follow

Special guest speakers:

Gary and Heidi Isaksen

Hear about his career making Museum-quality scale model yachts built by artist

Gary Isaksen for manufactures, designers and yacht-owners all over the world.

October raffle drawing winners

Anne-Lise Berger won a bottle of alcohol.

Jennifer Ingham won a free dinner.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who bought tickets to support the club.



It's Time To Renew Your Membership.