



NCC Newsletter

*What you missed at our last meeting
and what's coming up!*

Minutes of the Norwegian Commercial Club Meeting
February 13, 2020

Submitted by Co-Secretary Linda Nye



Tim Hunter introduced guests.

Backup Vice President (filling in for Debbi Larson) introduced our speaker, Peter Schrappen. Peter is the Vice President and Director of Government

Affairs for the Northwest Marine Trade Association (“NMTA” the “chamber of commerce” for the pleasure boat industry). NMTA has a nine person staff. Eight of the nine work all year long on the boat show.

Peter presented several interesting facts about pleasure boating in the northwest: only 2% are sailboats; only 4% are in marinas; only 13% of boaters live in urban areas; half of all pleasure boats are used for recreational fishing.

For the last ten years, Peter has worked with legislators/the legislature to promote the interests of recreational boaters. He shared with us several principles of effecting change that apply not only to the boating industry but to any desired change in government policy or law. First of all, think of the legislative process like a campaign, assigning different people to different roles in the campaign. Build relationships with legislators and their staff. Much of the work of persuasion begins when the legislature is NOT in session. Sell your proposal as something that will enhance the legislator’s status or reputation. Emotion rather than information drives most legislative decisions so appeal to the personal values of the legislator/staff person. Focus on the “influencers;” a successful legislative lobbying campaign doesn’t require large numbers of supporters; it requires a few of the right ones. Finally, join an association that shares your interests and values as that magnifies your persuasive voice.

At the conclusion of Peter’s presentation Deane Motis presented him with the Tusen Tak troll.

Announcements:

Andrea Torland announced Sons of Norway Heritage Day will be Saturday, March 21, from 9:30am to 2:30 pm. There will be food, demos, music, and a bunad parade. Heritage Day will be preceded by a 5k run at 9am (registration at 8:30am). Half the donations from the event will go to the Senior Center.

Julie Albright announced that all the Kaffestua proceeds goes to help with building maintenance (the Lodge is looking at a very expensive elevator repair/replacement – more to come). Kaffestua continues to be the best deal in town: Seven bucks for all you can eat sandwiches. (Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 10am to 2:30pm)

Member Happy Hour: The second Saturday of the month, from 5-8pm. \$5 gets you two beverages and snacks!

OUR NEXT MEETING, February 27th

Get an update on what's going on around town from the Executive Director of Ballard Alliance, **Mike Stewart!**

ON THE MENU Stuffed chicken breast, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, salad, black forest cake.

- Members \$27 (if you pre-register)
- \$30 for drop-in members
- \$30 for guests or non-paid members
- \$10 for students (with valid ID)

Please call the office by the Wednesday before the meeting and leave a message to guarantee your spot: (206) 783-1274.

See you then! **Debbi Larson Vice-President**



2245 NW 57th St

Seattle, WA 98107

WINNERS FROM THE MEETING

Free dinner: Ernie Templin

Cash (30 bucks): No one won. So, the pot increases to 40 bucks next meeting.

Booze: Bjorn Gjolmesli

