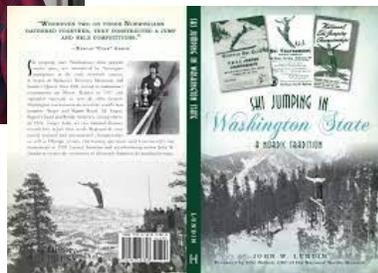




NCC Newsletter

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

Notes from our February 25th, 2021 meeting



Our February speaker was

John Lundin

Author of *Ski Jumping in Washington State: A Nordic Tradition*

Minutes of the Norwegian Commercial Club

February 25th, 2021

Submitted by Daniel Nye, Co-Secretary

President Debbi Larson convened the Second Virtual Meeting of the New Year 2021 on line and “live” from the Norwegian Commercial Club “Studio” at Leif Erikson Lodge in Ballard. Prior to the start of the meeting, a lively on-line Happy Hour occurred on line, as participating members were able to interact and chat and “skål” with each other on line before the meeting began.

Debbi began the meeting by updating members with the news that NCC will need to continue meeting on line only until COVID-19 restrictions are eased. Further updates will follow as things develop this spring. She reminded members that they can view all our 2020-2021 meetings at any time through the link on the Club website (www.norwegiancommercialclub.org). She asked that if you enjoyed the online “happy hour” please let folks know about it. She thanked Tim Hunter for hosting, and encouraged others to volunteer to host future “happy hours” on line. Contact Debbi or Tim for details how to host.

Debbi next asked members to mark the passing of long time Club member John Kelly. John who was also a lifelong member of the team behind the Sea Scout Ship YANKEE CLIPPER, which has a long history with NCC. A moment of silence to honor John followed, along with the ringing of the NCC Ship’s Bell. Our condolences to John’s family.

Debbi then proceeded to Announcements. She started with the news that the 17th of May Committee has determined that although it appears there will not be a live community celebration of 17th of May this year, sadly, due to Covid. Happily, there will be an online Luncheon, which is now in planning stages. This special event will allow celebrants to view a traditional 17th of May Program at home, with special box lunches available to order and enjoy while watching the on-line celebration. Details will follow soon. Debbi also reminded members of the good news announced at our last meeting that the popular NCC Scholarship Program will operate at full tilt in 2021. Scholarship applications are available now on the NCC website and all members are encouraged to share this good news within your circle of family, friends and neighbors. Please urge all interested higher education students at trade schools, colleges and universities to apply. You can also show your support for this program by making a generous donation to the NCC Scholarship Fund, see the NCC Website for details, including how to donate directly via the Website.

Because continuing COVID restrictions have foreclosed hopes of a Fisherman’s’ Night and its proceeds so far this year, the Board has determined that without those proceeds it lacks sufficient funds this year to give in support of our affiliated organizations and causes as generously as in years past. To address this situation the Board has authorized matching funds of up to \$2500 from our general funds to match any donations from NCC members made to NCC for the purpose to continue our traditional giving. The Board now encourages all those members who have enjoyed Fisherman’s’ Night over the years and the generosity that flowed from it, to take the money that they would have spent attending the Fisherman’s’ Night, and, for those who can, top it up with some dollars in addition, and make a donation to the Club for this purpose. Knowing that the Club will match whatever we give, up to \$2500, and the goodwill and aid that will provide our community, should be a great motivator to give generously: Tusen takk!

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Club Treasurer Cory Nelson then stepped forward to explain how to make donations: Members can either mailing a check to NCC care of Leif Erikson Lodge, or by using the “Donate” button on the NCC Website and donating by credit or debit. See the NCC Website for full details and “Tusen hjertelig takk, alle sammen!”

Debbi next introduced Vice President Erik Pihl, who, in turn, introduced our speaker for the evening, lawyer, historian and award-winning writer John Lundin. John was here to share with us a lively history of ski jumping in the Pacific Northwest as chronicled by his latest book, *SKI JUMPING IN WASHINGTON STATE: A NORDIC TRADITION*, published last month, and now available at the National Nordic Museum Gift Shop, through local and national bookstores, including Powells.com and Amazon.

Lundin’s book and the fascinating ski jumping history contained therein also form the focal point of a major exhibit at the National Nordic Museum that opens April 17 this year. The book includes 120 historic photos scoured by Lundin from both public and private sources, and many of the photos having never been published till now.

Early on, as Lundin described, the jumpers were largely made up of recent immigrants from Norway, mostly Norwegian men, but also Norwegian women, we learned. Lundin related how in 1917, a recent Norwegian immigrant woman, 23 year-old Olga Bolstad won a major ski jump event, besting all of the men! When Olga was then out jumped for the same title by a male competitor the following year, the remarkable headline “MAN DEFEATS WOMAN IN SKI TOURNAMENT” was seen in a local newspaper! See Lundin’s book for full details of this remarkable story.

And then it was time for the traditional Monkey Business, when Debbi and Cory drew three names out of the Membership Barrel: Katrina Svasand, John Fetting and Dr. Nina Svino and the race was on to be the first to call 425 892 0679 to claim the \$20 cash prize! Meeting adjourned, but always available to view at www.norwegiancommercialclub.org.



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Don't miss our next virtual meeting March 25th, 2021!

With former NCC scholarship recipient **Allison Cutting** as our guest speaker!

Debbi Larson ◇ President

Erik Pihl ◇ Vice-President

