

NCC Members Newsletter

January 2023 Issue



What happened... President Katrina Svasand opened the meeting and noted that despite the inclement weather, there was a nice turnout for the first NCC Membership Meeting of 2024. Members enjoyed a terrific supper that was prepared and served solely by our intrepid caterer Ms. Malin Johnson, assisted by her husband, their staff unable to attend due to icy road conditions. A highlight of the delicious dinner were “riktige norske fiskekaker” (real Norwegian fishcakes) made from scratch by NCC Members Lisa Sjong, Nina Svino, Katrina Svasand and Ingrid Haugland. Tusen takk alle sammen!

Guests were introduced by cousins Ian and Kaare Svasand. Guests included: Even Hogberget, Charlotte Hegeberg, Jon Sharpe, Kyle Trader, John Hatley and Karen Pedersen. Velkommen alle sammen/ Welcome new friends. Please come join us again any time.



Speaker: Dr. David King

Vice President Ivan Svasand then introduced the evening's speaker, Dr. David King, leader of the Technology Division at SpaceX, the well-known world wide satellite communications company owned by Elon Musk. Dr. King's talk was of keen interest to many NCC Members involved in the fishing industry, because access to ubiquitous, reliable, economical telecommunications is critical for the fishing industry and the vessels it deploys to some of the world's most remote areas, including Alaska's Bering Sea.

Space X, based in Redmond, Washington, began launching its fleet of sophisticated telecommunications satellites in 2019, which now provide access to telecommunications almost everywhere on the planet. During that time, Space X and its team of workers (110 employees originally) have also built up a world wide network of subscribing customers who, through gateway antennas and other devices provide by Space X , are able to access the Space X satellite network and all of its capabilities, to send and receive great quantities of electronic data at greatly reduced cost and better reliability than was possible before. Dr. King recounted the complex history of how Space X developed the technology that underlies this boon to world communications. This technology includes rockets and propulsion systems capable of placing in individual earth orbits up to 60 stacked satellites, each of which is 8 inches high, folded. Each of these satellites include requisite telecommunications connecting the satellites to the ground and to each other, along with solar batteries and flat panel antenna. Signing on as a customer involves acquiring certain equipment, including a ground antenna, and paying a monthly subscription for a total investment of some thousands of dollars, not for everyone, but not out of reach for well-established companies and individuals.

A lively question and answer session followed this terrific program, and Ivan Svasand thanked Dr. King by awarding him the traditional NCC Tusen Takk Troll and hearty applause from the audience.

Membership Meeting:

President Katrina Svasand opened our business meeting.

A moment of silence and ringing of the Ship's Bell was observed for the recent passing of long time NCC Member Einar Johansen.

The Fisheries Committee reported on Fishermen's Night in December, which saw over 400 attendees and raised over \$30,000 for the NCC Scholarship Program and other charitable community giving.

The Scholarship Committee reported that applications for the NCC Scholarship Awards this spring have begun arriving and members are encouraged to let family members, friends and other likely candidates know of the availability of these generous scholarships for higher education. President Svasand has moved the

application to be all online for submission.

<https://www.norwegiancommercialclub.org/scholarships>

Upcoming meetings:

The next NCC Meeting will be our traditional Valentine's soiree/social night/hyggestund February 8th.

March Meeting will include honoring our Life Members, those who have been NCC members for 40 years and more.

See you then!

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!

2023 District 2 Youth Camp Program, Scholarships are available for Sons of Norway members. Encourage anyone you know to help keep them going. Website

Valentine Soirée

General Meeting February 8th, 2024

5:30-6:30 Social hour

6:30 Dinner (drinks included with dinner price)
signature cocktails for the evening will be served along with the usual selections.

Starter fresh crab cakes

Rolls with butter chips.

Steak with polenta, gravy and French beans.

Chocolate cake with cherry compote and whipped cream for dessert.



Delight in an evening of exquisite dining, signature cocktails and the enchanting melodies of a live musical quartet. We look forward in sharing this special experience with you.

www.norwegiancommercialclub.org/events

We prefer you reserve your spot online with the link above.

However, if you are unable to register online please call the Ballard Branch of Mountain Pacific Bank, who so kindly offered to take over reservations: (206) 397-3110