



SKANDIA

NEWSLETTER

Seattle, Washington

The Voice of SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY

February 2010

Skandia Board musings

The 2009 Skandia election resulted in an updated edition of our bylaws and five new trustees.

Thank you to Judy Patterson, Brita Butler-Wall, and Paul Everitt for your hard work on the bylaws. Congratulations are due to our new board members: Bev Anderson, Paul Everitt, Bob Olson, Larry Reinert, and Silje Sodal, and thank you to Don Meyers and Jerry Walsh for your help with the Elections Committee. The following officers were nominated following the annual meeting on 18 December: Silje Sodal, Secretary; Paul Everitt, Treasurer, Brita Butler-Wall, Vice-president; and Karen Michaelsen, President. These officers will be confirmed at our first board meeting of the new year.

Many thanks to the outgoing trustees: Jim Peterson, Judy Patterson, Pat Pi, and Kathi Ploeger.

The Board moved the annual Skandia meeting back to our December Julekstuga, and I'm glad we did, because we had greater attendance and more active involvement by membership. Over the last year the Board has made some important changes, but there is more work to do. We have heard from you through personal conversations and through the survey conducted in Fall 2008, and we want to focus on two initiatives:

1. We need to strengthen our membership, especially among the younger generations. We see promising young musicians getting involved (Emma, Ingrid, Anna—and thank you Martha, for your work with the Lille Spelmanslag), and they may help us bring in younger dancers. We also hope to attract young members by offering a student discount through the Skandia Web site, and with ads in the UW Daily. (Check it out: www.skandia-folkdance.org/student_info.html—and thank you Judy Patterson, Dale Abraham, and Kathy Bruni for this effort). We established a Membership Committee to help all new members connect with others, to develop volunteer opportunities, and provide follow-up on lapsed members. Are you willing to serve? Let us know.
2. We can do a better job of coordinating the efforts of standing committees (Music, Dance, Events, and Membership) and our special events committees (like Skandia Ball, Springdans, and Midsommarfest). I will call a summit of these committees to forge stronger

working relationships among them, and to explore ways to engage more members in our already successful events.

Do you have ideas and suggestions? Contact me or any other Board member through the Skandia Web site: www.skandia-folkdance.org/trustees.html.

—Karen Michaelsen



Bev Anderson



Bob Olson



Larry Reinert



Paul Everitt



Silje Sodal

February Skandia events

Basics Class: 17 Feb.–17 Mar., Phinney Ctr., 7:30–9 p.m.

Beyond Basics Class: 18 Feb.–18 Mar., Phinney Ctr., 7:30–9 p.m.

First Friday, 5 Feb., Cedar Valley Grange. Class at 7:30; dance, 8:30–11 p.m.

Mixer Dance, 10 Feb., Phinney Ctr, 7:30–9 p.m.

Third Friday/Vinterdansen, 19 Feb., Cedar Valley Grange. Class at 7:30; dance, 8:30–11 p.m.

Vinterdansen: 20 Feb.—Workshops, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Cedar Valley Grange. *Concert/dance*, 7–11 p.m., University Unitarian Church, Seattle. *21 Feb.*—fiddle workshops, 4650 89th Ave. S.E., Mercer Island., WA.

See p5 for **driving directions** to regular events.

Dances:

Unless otherwise noted, all dances take place at **Cedar Valley Grange**, 20526 - 52nd Ave. W, Lynnwood, WA. Skandia members, \$7; nonmembers, \$10. Class, 7:30–8:30; dance 8:30–11 p.m.

First Friday Dance, 5 February

The featured pre-dance instruction is Mellparing, a schottis variation from Jämtland, to be taught by Karlyn Tomta and Larry Reinert from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Plan to attend this session if you'd like to learn or review this graceful-looking dance.

Then, at 8:30, you can experience something similar to what happens regularly at dance halls all over Scandinavia. Live dance music will start with MC Not Square, featuring Carol & Martha and, perhaps, a dash of Dansaspel from Bellingham. At around 9:30, Beth Kollé will entice us to dance to a different sound of music for about a half hour. Then Dansaspel, along with a dash of MC Not Square, will continue playing more of your favorite gammaldans and polska tunes until 11 p.m. It promises to be a very enjoyable evening of instruction, music, and dance.

—Dave Mullens

Third Friday Dance, 19 February, and Vinterdansen

See following article about all Vinterdansen events.

—Judy Patterson

Outstanding events planned for Vinterdansen weekend

From 19–21 February, Skandia presents two fabulous live music dances, a Telespringar dance workshop, Norwegian folk music concert, and three music workshops!

Loretta Kelley, renowned hardanger fiddle player and America's foremost expert on the instrument, will showcase Norway's unique music traditions throughout the weekend. The intricately decorated fiddle, also called a *hardingfele*, is native to Norway and has sympathetic strings, a nearly flat bridge, and a 300-year unbroken aural tradition.

In nearly twenty trips to Scandinavia spanning three decades, Loretta has honed her skills with the best hardingfele players in Norway. She spent nearly a year in Western Telemark, studying and performing with local fiddlers.

Loretta specializes in *slått* music—dance tunes rooted in the 18th century with sometimes unique asymmetrical rhythms, modal scales with “floating” intervals, and haunting tonalities. The CD *Hambo in the Snow*, on which Loretta collaborated with Andrea Hoag and Charlie Pilzer,

was nominated for a 2007 GRAMMY Award as Best Traditional World Music Album.

Here's a quick rundown of the weekend's activities:

Friday night (8–11 pm): Skandia's gala **Vinterdansen**—with three hours of live music—features Loretta Kelley, Träsko (followed by a fabulous allspel), and the driving rhythms of Peter Michaelsen, David Lamb, and Vicki Watt Warshaw. Skandia will supplement the lovely desserts that members graciously provide with tasty hot offerings to take off the winter chill. Location: Lynnwood's Cedar Valley Grange. Admission: Skandia members, \$10; nonmembers, \$13; students 12+ with valid ID, \$8.

Saturday (10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; please bring your lunch!): Telespringar dance workshop taught by Beverly and Richard Smaby, fine dancers who've studied this springar extensively in Norway and the U.S. Loretta will play for teaching. Please tell your friends about this workshop. You needn't be an advanced dancer to enjoy learning this lilting, rhythmic Norwegian dance. Location: Lynnwood's Cedar Valley Grange. Admission: Skandia members, \$35; nonmembers, \$40; students 12+ with valid ID, \$10.

Saturday night (7–11 p.m.): Loretta Kelley will give an informative concert of wonderful Norwegian folk music. You'll learn about hardingfele traditions and the society that gave rise to the instrument's popularity. Come soak up the music and experience the beauty of Norwegian dancing, and bring relatives (especially folks who hanker for a taste of “back home”). But wait, there's more! Your concert admission also pays for the dance that follows. Don't miss Hale Bill and the Bopps and First Class. Of course, there will be more music from Loretta, so students who take the dance workshop can practice what they learned. Bakers, we will welcome your donations. Thanks in advance for bringing treats! Location: University Unitarian Church, 6556 – 35th N.E., Seattle, WA 98115. Admission: Skandia members, \$15; nonmembers, \$18; students 12+ with valid ID, \$10.

Sunday (morning, afternoon & evening): Musicians, Loretta will teach hardingfele and flat fiddle traditions in three workshops. Prepare to learn from a marvelous instructor. The per-person fee for each of the following workshops is \$15.

Hardingfele workshop, 10 a.m. to noon (potluck lunch, noon to 1 p.m.), followed by a flat fiddle workshop, 1–3 p.m. Location of both workshops: 4650 89th Ave. S.E., Mercer Island., WA 98040.

Evening flat fiddle workshop (sponsored by the Skandia Spelmanslag), 7–9 p.m., at the Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109.

We look forward to seeing you at the many Vinterdansen weekend events!

—Judy Patterson
For the Events Committee

New Basics series starts 17 February!

Keep your New Year's dancing resolution! Instructors Larry Reinert and partner will focus on snoa, polka, mazurka, and waltz, while working on partnering skills and learning some fun mixers. Bring a friend and show them how much fun Scandinavian dancing can be. No partner required.

When: Wednesdays, 17 February–17 March, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Where: Rm 2, upper bldg, Phinney Neighborhood Center

Cost: Members \$25/series; nonmembers \$35/series

Minimum: 8 participants

Skandia members who have attended a year of Basics classes, or have obtained instructor's permission, may attend Basics class on a single-session fee basis. Members should contact teachers beforehand, so that teachers can plan accordingly.

Contact for this series: Larry Reinert (206) 937 5211 or reinertl@mindspring.com.

—Kathi Ploeger

Beyond Basics visits Sweden

Judy Patterson and Jerry Walsh will teach *Polska from Orsa* and *Schottis from Ovanmyra*, along with other nifty schottis variations. Dancers, if you've mastered the turning dances taught in Skandia's basics series, please join us for some new challenges.

When: Thursdays, 18 February–18 March, 7:30–9 p.m.

Where: Phinney Neighborhood Ctr., 6532 Phinney Ave. N., Seattle

Cost: Skandia members, \$6/session; nonmembers, \$8/session
\$25/series for members; \$35 for nonmembers

If you're not familiar with Orsapolska, it's a smooth, graceful dance (especially intriguing for follows, who have unique turning footwork). The turn has a gentle surge and slightly elliptical feel, and once it "clicks" with a partner, you'll want to turn forever. This great dance is unlike any we've seen. We hope you'll add it to your list of favorites.

The schottis variation is a recent creation with elements that improve your dance skills and balance. We'll introduce you to one-legged turns, switching leads, and perhaps unbridled laughter during the dance (all without falling over!).



—Jerry Walsh

Welcome to new members:

Emma Anderson

And returning member:

Senga Barlow

 **Kathi's corner** 

Telespringar (Norway)

Bev and Richard Smaby will teach this lively dance at Vinterdansen 2010.

Step	1	2	3
Rhythm	medium	long	short
Texture	heavy	heavier	light
Step size	normal	normal	shorter
Part of foot	heel to whole	heel to whole	ball
Svikt	level	down	up

Figures free-style within tradition, including lausdans and couple dance. Can begin on either foot.

Weight carried forward. Power in step, dance moves.

Couples dance in defined space, occasionally moving to different area on floor.

Excerpted from the publication Kathi's Cues, © 1998. Please note that these cues are intended to be a reminder to those who have learned the dance, not a complete description of the dance.

—Kathi Ploeger

Vinterdansen "Varmup"!

Skandia wraps up the first five-week series of the year with a Wednesday night mixer on 10 February. The program will include dances taught in the Basics Series as well as a number of figure and mixer dances. So, get your friends together, grab your shoes and come mix it up!

When: Wednesday, 10 February, 7:30–9 p.m.

Where: Rm 2, upper bldg, Phinney Neighborhood Center

Cost: \$6; free for those who have purchased a five-week Basics or Beyond Basics series.

Bring: Dance shoes, goodies, friends and family

—Kathi Ploeger

Skandia is on Facebook

Skandia now has a Facebook account! Become a fan, add photos, add comments, and help promote the site!

Dale Abraham and Kathy Bruni are admins for the Facebook page; let us know if existing content needs to be changed or updated.

—Kathy Bruni

February 2010						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7-9	2	3 (Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30-9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7-9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance,	4 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30-9 p.m.	5 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 1st Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30-11 p.m.	6 (Bainbridge) Bain- bridge Island dance, 7 p.m.
7 (Seattle) Pancake Breakfast, SCC, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Port Angeles) Dance, 7-9 p.m.	8 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7-9 p.m.	9	10 (Seattle) Skandia Mixer Dance, 7:30-9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7-9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30-10 p.m.	11	12	13 (Bellingham) Nordic Dancers NW 2nd Saturday Scan- dinavian Dance, 2-5 p.m.
14 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7-9 p.m.	15 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7-9 p.m.	16	17 (Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30-9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7-9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30-10 p.m.	18 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30-9 p.m.	19 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia Vinterdans; 8 -11 p.m.	20 (CVG, Lynnwood) Vinterdans workshops, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Seattle) Vinterdans concert & dance, University Unitarian Church
21 (Mercer Island) Vinterdans work- shops, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (SCC, Seattle) Vinterdans work- shop, 7-9 p.m. (Port Angeles) Dance, 7-9 p.m.	22 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7-9 p.m.	23	24 (Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30-9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7-9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30-10 p.m.	25 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30-9 p.m.	26	27
28 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7-9 p.m.						

February events

Sundays (Port Angeles) Regular Sunday dance.

Scandinavian and ballroom dancing Sundays, 7-9 p.m. Scandia Hall at 131 W 5th St., Port Angeles, WA. Donations taken at the door. Info: Sandy or Paul, (360) 457-7035 or penga@olyphen.com.

Mondays (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW. Scandinavian dancing. Burlington Lutheran Church, 134 E Victoria Ave, Burlington. 7-9 p.m. \$2 donation. Web site: www.nordicdancersnw.org. Contact: Bob/Carol Olson, (360) 734-2516.

Mondays (Poulsbo) Scandinavian dance instruction at the Sons of Norway hall, 18891 Front Street, Poulsbo, starting at 7 p.m. All are welcome; partners not required. Requested donation: \$2 (\$3 on third Monday live-music party nights). Information: Fred at (206) 780-8036 or Stan at (360) 779-2460.

Wednesdays (Bellingham) Nordic Dancers NW. Scandinavian dancing, Sons of Norway Hall, 1419 N. Forest St, Bellingham. Easy dances, 7-8:10 p.m.; couple turning dances, 8:20-9:30 p.m. \$2 donation. Web

site: www.nordicdancersnw.org. Contact: Bob/Carol Olson, (360) 734-2516.

Wednesdays (Burnaby, B.C.) Weekly teaching and request dancing to recorded music at the Scandinavian Community Centre, 6540 Thomas St., Burnaby. 7:30-10 p.m., \$5. Second Wednesdays are Live Music Nights at Victoria Drive Community Hall, 2026 E 43rd Ave., Vancouver, just east of Victoria Dr. Updates: www.vcn.bc.ca/scandi. Info: Wendy Cutler, (604) 685-7405 or wcutler@telus.net.

2/6 (Bainbridge Island) Scandinavian dance, Island Center Hall, 8395 Fletcher Bay Road, Bainbridge Island. Music by that wonderful hybrid band, the Rolling Bopps. Optional potluck supper, 6 p.m.; dance at 7 p.m. \$7; half price for teenagers. Info: Fred or Linda at (206) 780-8036.

2/7 (Seattle) Swedish Pancakes Breakfast. Music by Skolkis, NW Pelimannit, and Skandia Kapelle. Swedish pancakes, ham, lingonberries, and all the fixins. Guests, \$8; SCC members, \$6; children 5-12, \$4. 8 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave N.

- 2/13 (Bellingham) Nordic Dancers NW** Second Saturday Scandinavian Dance, 2–5 p.m., Norway Hall, 1419 N Forest St. Live music by Takk for Dansen and Dansaspel. \$8; 18 & under and Wergeland Lodge members, free. Web site: www.nordicdancersnw.org. Contact: Bob/Carol Olson, (360) 734-2516.
- 2/19-21 (Lynnwood, Seattle, Mercer Island) Vinterdansen**, a weekend of music and dance events with internationally renowned hardingfele player Loretta Kelley and Telespringar teachers Beverly and Richard Smaby.
- 2/21 (Seattle) Leikarringen of Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001 celebrates 50 years of dancing.** Leif Erikson Hall, 2245 NW 57th St. RSVP to Christine Anderson at cmadance@earthlink.net.
- 2/26 (Seattle) Scandinavian Folkdance**, 7:30–10:30 p.m. Free lesson, 7:30–8, then live music by the band “Sprida Ut.” Expect the old time standards: polkas, waltzes, hambos, and more, especially the slängpolska. No partner or experience required. \$10; less for SCC members. Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave N. Info: pat@folkdancing.com or www.folkdancing.com/Pages/DancSch.htm.
- 2/27 (Tacoma) Tacoma Mountaineers Folk Dance**, with the Nordic Exposure Band playing our favorite waltzes, schottisches, polkas, mazurkas, hambos, and more. Other dances can be requested. Suggested donation: \$10. Normanna Hall at 1106 S. 15th St., Tacoma. Parking is available on the street or the gravel lot across the street. Directions: From I-5, take Exit 132. Follow Highway 16, then take the Sprague St. exit. Follow Sprague to 15th and turn right until you come to the hall at 15th and Martin Luther King St.

Future events

- 3/13 (Lynnwood) Skandia’s Swedish Dance Workshop**, 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m., Cedar Valley Grange. Discounted registration until 5 March.
- 3/13 (Lynnwood) NFDI Fundraiser for NW Folklife**, featuring Folk Voice Band, Allspice, and third band TBA. 7–11 p.m., Cedar Valley Grange, \$10 suggested donation.
- 3/20 (Vancouver, B.C.) Spring Equinox Ball**, 5:30 p.m. to midnight, Kinsmen’s Recreation Centre, 5410-10th Ave., Tsawwassen, BC. Catered dinner, followed by dancing to music by Sammenspil and Gammel Dansk, and featuring guest musicians Mad Fiddlu from Seattle. Cost \$42 (or \$20 for just the dance). Phone Stig at (604) 536-6429 for information and billeting. Pre-registration for dinner is required by March 17. Registration form at www.vcn.bc.ca/scandi/upcom.html.
- 4/16–19 Springdans NW 2010**, Seabeck, WA.
- 8/13–15 Norsk Folkedans Stemne** with Folkemusikkprosjektet i Setesdal, Camp Brotherhood, WA.

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Skandia Folkdance Society Board of Trustees: President, Karen Michaelsen; Vice President, Brita Butler-Wall; Treasurer, Paul Everitt; Secretary, Silje Sodal; Trustees, Bev Anderson, Bob Olson, Larry Reinert, Virginia Stout, Karlyn Tomta.

Send items for the *Other events* column to: editor@csedl.org, or mail (typed only) to **Kathy D. Bruni, Skandia Newsletter, 14805 NE 177th St., Woodinville, WA 98072-6223**. Items for the **March** issue must arrive by **10 February**. Please include date, time, cost, location, contact phone number, and/or email address. Priority is given to local Scandinavian dance and music events.

Directions to regular Skandia events

Phinney Neighborhood Center, 6532 Phinney Ave N, Seattle:

from I-5 northbound or southbound, take exit 172 (N 85th St/Aurora Ave); drive west on N 85th about a mile; turn south onto Greenwood and go south 1 mile; turn left at 67th (where Greenwood doglegs east and becomes Phinney); go half a block downhill to the lower parking lot. Room 2 is in the main building, next to the upper parking lot.

Cedar Valley Grange, 20526 52nd Ave W, Lynnwood: from I-5 north- or southbound, take exit 179; turn east on 220th St. Go half a mile to the stop sign at 52nd St.; turn left and go a short mile to the hall (on your left). *Dances on first and third Fridays of every month.*

Newsletter advertising policy

1. Skandia will not accept paid advertisements for the newsletter.
2. Announcements of activities and events congruent with Skandia’s educational and cultural foci will be accepted on a space-available basis, unless they conflict with scheduled Skandia events. Exceptions can be made for the inclusion in the monthly calendar listing.
3. Classified advertisements from Skandia Folkdance Society members for non-commercial purposes will be accepted for free on a space-available basis. An example of “non-commercial” would be a member trying to sell a pair of dance shoes that no longer fits.
4. Any exceptions to these policies have to be approved by the Board of Trustees.

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SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY

Membership registration and change form

Today's date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

- To report a membership problem, check here and describe problem on back of this form or on separate page.
- New member(s) (first time only).
- Renew membership(s) (including expired or inactive memberships).
 - There have been NO CHANGES in my ADDRESS or PHONE NUMBER since my last renewal.
 - Shown below are CHANGES that have occurred in my ADDRESS or PHONE NUMBER since my last renewal.
- I do NOT want a newsletter mailed to me. **Check this box if you view the newsletter at Skandia-folkdance.org.**

Number, Street, Unit: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: Area code, Home, Work: _____
Email address: _____

Mail, with your check or money order for \$25 per person (\$15 for high school or college students, ages 13–25) made out to SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY, to:

Skandia Membership Committee
Post Office Box 17123
Seattle, WA 98127-0823

- Please mail me my membership card in the ENCLOSED SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE.
- I will request my card from a cashier at a Skandia class or event.