



SKANDIA

# NEWSLETTER

Seattle, Washington

The Voice of SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY

August 2009

## NW Spelmansstämma

Join fellow musicians and dancers for a terrific weekend of music and dance! The NW Spelmansstämma is Friday, 21 August, and Saturday, 22 August. Start off with the regular Third Friday Dance at the Cedar Valley Grange at 7:30 p.m., featuring workshops on slängpolska for both musicians and dancers. Milt and Bev Anderson will teach Slängpolska fran Småland upstairs at 7:30 p.m., while musicians gather at 7:30 p.m. in the basement for a slängpolska music workshop led by Peter Michaelson. Music for open dancing will start at 8:30 p.m., as usual. Featured bands are Sammenspiel from Vancouver, B.C., First Class, and there is an allspel to practice those new slängpolskor!

On Saturday, workshops are at the lovely home of Jim and Margaret Noyes. In addition to music workshops on Orsa Polska, Springleik, Boda, a kids/slower fiddles workshop, and workshops for recorder and nyckelharpa, there will be a Boda Polska workshop for dancers at 4 p.m., taught by Jerry Walsh and Judy Patterson. Plan to stay for a potluck supper and open dancing with live music in the evening. Remember, there is no registration fee, but contributions to help defray expenses are welcomed. The new dance floor is in, and the space is fantastic!

Are you willing to volunteer? Help is needed in the kitchen before the potluck, before workshops start for set up, and afterwards for clean up. If you'd like to volunteer, or if you have questions about the Spelmansstämma, please contact Martha Levenson at scanfiddles@gmail.com. The complete schedule for Saturday and directions follow.

### 1-2:15 p.m.

Block 1: *Springleik*, taught by Peter Michaelson. All musicians welcome

*Recorder*, taught by Philip and Birgit Ages

### 2:15-2:30 p.m.

Coffee pause

### 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Block 2: *Singing*, taught by Bart Brashers.

*Orsa Polska*, all musicians welcome, taught by Carol Olson.

*Fiddling for Kids of All Ages*, all musicians welcome, taught by Martha Levenson

### 3:45-4 p.m.

Coffee Pause

### 4-5:15 p.m.

Block 3: *Boda Polska* for all musicians, teacher TBA

*Boda Polska* (dance), taught by Jerry Walsh and Judy Patterson

*Nyckelharpa*, taught by Anna Abraham

### 5:45p.m. Potluck supper; open dancing to follow

#### **Directions:**

Jim and Margaret's place is located at 6618 196th St. SE in Clearview (Woodinville/Snohomish/Maltby area). Their phone number is (425) 482-9848.

From I-405:

Get off on Highway 522 going EAST toward Woodinville/Monroe. Take the 3rd exit (Hwy. 9) going north. Pass Maltby Rd. and turn left on 188th SE. Next, go left on 67th and then right on 196th. It is the first driveway on the left.

Coming south on I-5:

Get onto Hwy. 9 headed south. Pass Snohomish and Clearview. Turn right on 188th SE, then turn left on 67th, then turn right on 196th and it is the first driveway on the left.

—Martha Levenson

## Did you lose something at Midsommarfest?

If you lost something at Midsommarfest, call the Skandia Hotline (206) 784-7470 and let us know. We may have it!

### August Skandia events

**Basics class**, Wednesdays, **15 July through 12 August**.

**First Friday, 7 August** at Cedar Valley Grange. Class at 7:30; dance, 8:30-11 p.m.

**Third Friday, 21 August** at Cedar Valley Grange. Class at 7:30; dance, 8:30-11 p.m.

**NW Spelmansstämma, 22 August** at the home of Jim and Margaret Noyes, Workshops, 1-5:5 p.m.; potluck and dance follow.

See p 5 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, 7 August

The 7 August dance will bring some great dance music to the Cedar Valley Grange for the enjoyment of Skandia dancers. The dance class will start at 7:30 p.m., with Jerry Walsh and Judy Patterson teaching the highly approachable Polska from Åmot. This stately Swedish dance has a gliding feeling and easy-to-master footwork. You'll find that it lends itself to many of the tunes in Skandia musicians' vast repertoires." If time permits, you'll also learn a schottis variation or two. Beginning with Träsko at 8:30, the dancers will be warmed up by a great mix of tunes. Träsko will be followed by our incomparable Bill Boyd on the hardanger fiddle with music for Norwegian dances. And then, playing music until the dance ends, will be MC not Square.

### Third Friday Dance, 21 August

The dance on 21 August is a great start to the annual musicians weekend, NW Spelmansstämma (musicians gathering). Musicians are invited to learn a slängpolska tune or two downstairs at the CVG during the teaching hour (7:30–8:30), while Bev and Milt Anderson teach dancers the southern Swedish slängpolska upstairs. Then the dancing starts at 8:30 with a set of music played by First Class (who just happened to have added some slängpolskor tunes to their repertoire during Peter's last teaching sessions). Next will be a short musicians Allspel, which will include the tune(s) learned earlier in the evening as well as some old favorites. Last on the program will be one of our favorite Vancouver bands, Sammenspil. So this dance is a must for everyone. See also related news about the Stämman weekend elsewhere in this newsletter.

—Dave Mullens

## Scandia Camp Mendocino

It is Friday evening of my first week ever at Scandia Camp Mendocino. As I write, in the background I hear Anders Wedlund playing music and hear the gentle footsteps of dancers on the floor. In the wee hours tomorrow morning I will head back to Seattle, taking with me memories of tunes, teachers, friends, dances and an incredibly rich experience.

When I decided to come to Scandia Camp Mendocino this year, it was because I knew Kjell-Erik Eriksson would be teaching, and I had studied with him before. I had a growing interest in Finnskogs Pols, and I looked forward to kicking my knowledge up a notch. This was an opportunity, for just one week, to walk away from the business of my life, and just do what I love—play the fiddle.

In preparation for camp, I asked Seattleites who had been to the Woodlands many times all sorts of questions. I learned it was beautiful—and that was no lie. I learned that the

drive was long, and that I can confirm. I brought all the items people suggested and felt well prepared...except for understanding the quality of the community and learning that I would find. That is something hard to describe to someone who has not been here. I think that if it were mine to tell, I would say to someone in my shoes to be prepared for quality connections, meaningful conversations, and of course, deepening knowledge of the music and dance that this community shares.

There were, however, some surprises along the road. While I had been told about the creatures that share our cabins, it did not really register until I came in to nap mid-week and found a skittering creature dashing for the safety of a crack leading out of the cabin. I also did not realize that flashlights really *are* essential, even for reading inside before an afternoon nap! And, that afternoon snooze is not to be taken lightly—it is the secret to success if you want to stay up until the wee hours fiddling, which I happily did.

But the greatest surprise was the total blending of teachers and students. I have not experienced a learning setting that was quite like this. Instructors were incredibly accessible at meals and between class times, having real life conversations, not just about the craft of music or dance, but about all manner of other subjects. I take away with me new tunes, but those are easy to get. What is more valuable is the newfound understanding of why my teachers do what they do, how they view teaching, what is important to them about playing music, how they structure their lives to be able to do it. I learned tricks to make me a better teacher, tools to make my music more danceable, new ways to understand rhythm and the shaping of tunes, and I explored new ways of learning. I watched every instructor attend other teachers' classes, dance, play and take part in the life of camp, leading by example not by discussion. This is something that I think makes Scandia Camp Mendocino special—a small cosmos where people do what they love together, regardless of skill level or length of time involved in the community.

I hear Josefins Dopvals coming from the nyckelharpas, and while I want to contribute to the community by writing this article, I want to dance more. It's time. Would I come back? Yes, yes, yes! I am exhausted, but very happy and very grateful to have been here. I am thinking about Kjell-Erik Eriksson and his expression of unity and joy in sharing Scandinavian music. So, raise a hand, touch your ring finger to your thumb, leave the other fingers up, and shout out "Folk On!"

—Martha Levenson

## Early newsletter deadline in August

All items for the *September* issue of the newsletter must arrive by 8 August. Earlier submissions are always welcome. Thanks for your cooperation.

—Kathy Bruni



## Kathi's corner



### Polska från Boda

Försteg: M: (1) R toe flip, (2) L, (3) R  
L: (1) L, (3) R

Polska: M: (1) R toe flip, (2) L, (3) R  
W: (1) L, (2) R touch, (3) R

Character: M's leg swings forward while turning on R heel. Distinct rise and falls follows movement of the music.

*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

## Skandia to perform at Grange 100-year anniversary

Cedar Valley Grange will be celebrating its 100th anniversary throughout the afternoon on Sunday, 9 August, 2009.

Skandia has the opportunity to provide a fifteen-minute demonstration of a typical Friday night dance as part of the Grange's afternoon program.

Musicians and dancers: If you would like to participate in the vignette of a Friday night dance party, contact Pat Pi by Friday, 7 August. (patp@skandia-folkdance.org or (206) 367-6488). Dances will include a mixer or two and perhaps a schottis and hambo.

The Grange's expected schedule of events is:

- 1:30 Flag presentation
- 2-4 Program: Presentations by users of the Grange\* (upstairs)
- 4 Downstairs: Refreshments and displays by organizations connected to the Grange. (Skandia will have a table with information.)
- 5 Upstairs: Dancing continues (Sno-King/Dudes and Dolls / Skandia share the time).

\* The exact time of Skandia's portion of the program is unknown at the time of the newsletter deadline.

Support the Cedar Valley Grange. Plan to attend!

—Pat Pi

## Thought for the day...

I've spent most of my life dancing; the rest I've just wasted.

—Anonymous

## Skandia dance series continues through 12 August

The five-week Basics series continues through 12 August. Skandia members who have attended a year of Basics classes may attend Basics class on a single-session fee basis. Members are requested to contact teachers beforehand, so that teachers can plan accordingly. Contacts for summer series are Kathi Ploeger and Don Meyers, (206) 789-2678 or kpdm@svikt.com.

## Dance party, Wednesday, 19 August

Celebrate summer with the participants of Skandia's summer series on Wednesday, 19 August. This dance party will include favorite mixers and couple dances, sure to keep your summer energy flowing. Bring your friend and family; dances will be walked or talked through as needed.

**When:** 7:30–9 p.m., Wednesday, 19 August

**Where:** Rm 2, Blue Bldg, Phinney Neighborhood Center

**Cost:** \$6; free to those who paid for the full summer series

**Bring:** Friend, family, dance shoes, goodies to share

## Mark your calendar for new Skandia series in September!

Teachers are busy planning the upcoming series of dance classes. The first fall Basics class series will be Wednesdays, 9 September through 7 October, with focus on schottis and waltz. Beyond Basics on Thursdays, 10 September through 8 October, will include such popular dances such as Bingsjö polska and Gothenburg Mazurka. Watch your September newsletter for further details.

—Kathi Ploeger

## For Sale:

Östlind & Almqvist upright pump organ, made in Sweden. Light antique brown in color. Played by well-known Swedish group, Forsmark Tre, in the 70's. It has 4+ octaves and 6 stops. It is portable in that it can be transported in a large SUV with two people to load it. We need to downsize! Info: (206) 232-1912, mullensd@clearwire.net, or trella@clearwire.net. More info and picture emailed by request. Asking \$200.

## Found:

A black Eddie Bauer backpack. If you lost it, contact Pat Pi at (206) 367-6488.

August 2009						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 <b>(Port Angeles)</b> Dance, 7–9 p.m.	3 <b>(Poulsbo)</b> Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	4	5 <b>(Seattle)</b> Skandia Basics. 7:30–9 p.m. <b>(Bellingham)</b> Dance, 6:45–9:15	6	7 <b>(CVG, Lynnwood)</b> Skandia 1st Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30–11 p.m.	8
9 <b>(Port Angeles)</b> Dance, 7–9 p.m.	10 <b>(Poulsbo)</b> Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	11	12 <b>(Seattle)</b> Skandia Basics. 7:30–9 p.m. <b>(Bellingham)</b> Dance, 6:45–9:15	13	14	15
16 <b>(Port Angeles)</b> Dance, 7–9 p.m.	17 <b>(Poulsbo)</b> Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	18	19 <b>(Seattle)</b> Skandia Mixer Dance 7:30–9 p.m. <b>(Bellingham)</b> Dance, 6:45–9:15	20	21 <b>(CVG, Lynnwood)</b> Skandia 3rd Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30–11 p.m.	22 <b>(Clearview, WA)</b> Skandia NW Spelmansstämma. Workshops, 1– 5:15; potluck & dance following
23 <b>(Port Angeles)</b> Dance, 7–9 p.m.	24 <b>(Poulsbo)</b> Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## August 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 email Paul at penga@olympen.com.

**Mondays (Poulsbo) Nordic dancing** with instruction, 7 p.m., Sons of Norway, 18891 Front St. Partners not required. \$2. Info: Fred at (206) 780-8036 or Stan at (360) 779-2450.

**Wednesdays (Bellingham) Scandinavian dancing, Sons of Norway.** Norway Hall, 1419 N. Forest St. Easy

dances, 6:45–7:55 p.m. Couple turning dances, 8:05–9:15 p.m. \$2 donation. All welcome; partners not required. Smooth-soled shoes recommended. Bob & Carol Olson instructing. Info: tayolson@earthlink.net.

**8/3–7**

**(Seattle) Dane Camp**, Harmony Hall at the Meridian Office Building, Seattle. Camp is from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. On Friday afternoon, camp will continue until 4:30 with a program for parents (and other family members) beginning at 3:30. The theme this year is Copenhagen Exploration. Info: Seattle office, (206) 523-3263; Jessica at (425)

- 773-9690; Gloria at (425) 357-3421; or email seattle@nwdanish.org or jessicaleigh86@mac.com to reserve a place.
- 8/7 (Ridgefield, WA) Leikarringen BUL Kongsberg performs at Clark County Fair, 2 p.m.** Info: www.clarkcofair.com.
- 8/8 (Portland, OR) Leikarringen BUL Kongsberg performs at Grieg Lodge 2-015, Sons of Norway, 111 NE 11th Ave, Portland OR 97232.** Includes workshops, dinner, performance, and dance! Info: (503) 236-3401 or (503) 231-5199
- 8/10 (Poulsbo, WA) Leikarringen BUL Kongsberg performs at Poulsbo Lodge 2-044, Sons of Norway, 18891 Front St. NE, Poulsbo, WA.** Includes workshops, dinner, performance, and dance. Info: (360) 7790-5209 or (360) 779-2460.
- 8/11 (Seattle) Wild Salmon dinner and Norwegian folk dancing performance with Leikarringen BUL Kongsberg.** Dinner, 6 p.m.; performance and dance, 7:30 p.m. \$20; \$10 for children 12 and under until August 9. Starting August 10, tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for children 12 and under. Leif Erikson Hall, 2245 NW 57th, Seattle, WA.
- 8/14-16 (Mt. Vernon, WA) Norsk Folkedans Stemme, Camp Brotherhood, near Mt. Vernon, WA.** Info: Larry Reinert at (206) 937-5211 or reinertl@mindspring.com, or Christine Anderson at cmadance@earthlink.net.
- 8/16 (Woodinville) Annual All Danish Community Picnic at Jens Landrup's, 12-4 p.m., 15411 206th Avenue NE, Woodinville, WA.** Hotdogs, buns, condiments, wienerbrød, coffee, and cold drinks provided. Bring anything else to enjoy with your hotdogs. Bring a blanket to sit on or folding table and folding chairs. The picnic committee will ask for a donation per person to help cover costs. Check www.northwestdanishfoundation.org and click on picnic on the calendar for alternate driving instructions in case road construction on 212th Ave. is not complete. Info: (206) 523-3263 or seattle@nwdanish.org.

## Future events

- 10/9-11 (Puyallup, WA) Scandinavian Heritage Festival, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.** Pavilion Hall, Puyallup Fair & Event Center, (Puyallup Fairgrounds). Friday 11-3, *free*; Friday 3-7, \$8; Saturday \$8; Sunday \$4; children 12 and under, free. Free parking in Gold and Blue lots. Overnight RV parking for a fee in the RV parking lot. Entrance: Gold or Blue gate of fairgrounds at 9th and Meridian. Info: desireeomdal@hotmail.com or (425) 881-1544, or www.oktoberfestnw.com. (Click on Activities.)
- 10/24 (Bothell, WA) Skandia Ball, Northshore Senior Center, 10201 E. Riverside Drive, 7-11 p.m.**
- 4/16-19 Springdans NW 2010.**

### Skandia Newsletter

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**P.O. Box 17123**

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**Editor:** Kathy D. Bruni; **Subscriptions:** Don Meyers & Kathi Ploeger; **Distribution:** Toni Randall, Yolanda Gordon, Hank Pettit

#### Address newsletter items to:

Kathy D. Bruni, Editor

14805 NE 177<sup>th</sup> St

Woodinville, WA 98072-6223

(425) 485-1638

Email: **editor@csedl.org**

#### Address member information and requests to:

Skandia Membership Committee

P.O. Box 17123

Seattle, WA 98127-0823

Email: **membership@svikt.com**

**Skandia Folkdance Society Board of Trustees:** President, Jim Peterson; Vice President, Brita Butler-Wall; Treasurer, Karen Michaelsen; Secretary, Pat Pi; trustees Judy Patterson, Kathi Ploeger, 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 177<sup>th</sup> St., Woodinville, WA 98072-6223**. Items for the **September** issue must arrive by **8 August**. 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.