



SKANDIA

NEWSLETTER

Seattle, Washington

The Voice of SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY

January 2010

Skandia Board musings New Year's Resolutions

One New Year's custom in Finland and parts of Sweden is to foresee the future by pouring melted lead into water and interpreting the hardened shapes as a symbol for upcoming fortune, relationships, and events. Unfortunately, I can't foresee what might happen to me this year, but I can definitely influence some things I can do!

Resolved—to bring newbies into Skandia Basics classes. I've found five colleagues and old friends who want five weeks of more fun and exercise in their lives....

Resolved—to ask someone to dance at each Friday dance party. When I grew up, this was a no-no and is still a hard barrier to overcome. But I enjoy dancing with different partners and it greatly improves my dancing....

Resolved—to learn Telespringar! Watching from the sidelines, it looks like so much fun and I suspect those Norwegians are basically walking...so maybe I could take the Vinterdansen workshop in February?

Resolved—to talk to someone I haven't met yet at each Friday dance. It's silly to be embracing people to music when you have never spoken to them....

Resolved—to remember to thank those who make Skandia work so well—the kitchen crew, the cashiers, the dance teachers and musicians and event volunteers....

Resolved—to concentrate less and laugh more, to let my partners lead, to relax and enjoy the fabulous fiddle tunes...

With our by-laws revisions, financial audit, great slate of new board members, and small changes in policy, the board is working to strengthen and grow the organization. But in the long run, what we do as members will make more of a difference than anything the board can do. Skandia's future lies in all our hands.

Happy New Year!

—Brita Butler-Wall

Skandia Web site appeals to students

The Skandia board is seeking ways to bring more young people into Skandia activities. As part of that effort, student discounts—for individuals 12 years and older with valid student ID—are available for most Skandia dances and

classes. The board will also be advertising in the UW Daily newspaper, with an ad in the "Distractions" section that points students to the Skandia Web site.

Since the board hopes that students will be visiting the Web site in greater numbers, Skandia Webmaster Dale Abraham, with the help of Judy Patterson, has included a welcome to students on Skandia's Web site. Check it out at www.skandia-folkdance.org. Click on the box that says, "Welcome Students! Your discounts are waiting." That will take you to text about the January basics class, Vinterdansen events, and Midsommarfest. There are links for the class and Vinterdansen to flyers with details about the activities, student rates, etc. The last paragraph calls out the not-to-be-missed Midsommarfest in June, and includes a link to the Midsommarfest page.

—Kathy Bruni

Grange member wanted

Skandia, along with several other dance organizations, is fortunate to be able to hold its dances at the Cedar Valley Grange. Its wonderful dance floor and spacious party space downstairs make it an ideal venue for dancers.

The Grange hall is run by its members, and the membership has been aging, and dwindling. They are looking for younger, active members, who can keep the building in good condition and help contribute to their community service projects. Each of the dance groups that rent space in the building has been asked if they could get their members to join the Grange and help support it so that the building can be kept available.

(Continued on page 2)

January Skandia events

Basics Class: 6 Jan–3 Feb, Phinney Ctr., 7:30–9 p.m.

Beyond Basics Class: 7 Jan–4 Feb Phinney Ctr., 7:30–9 p.m.

First Friday, 1 January, Cedar Valley Grange. Class at 7:30; dance, 8:30–11 p.m.

Third Friday, 15 January, Cedar Valley Grange. Class at 7:30; dance, 8:30–11 p.m.

Fifth Friday, 29 January, Epiphany Chapel. Dance, 8–11 p.m. Driving directions on p5.

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, 1 January

Start the year with Skandia! The first Friday dance is 1 January at the Cedar Valley Grange. Welcome the new year with Jane Johnson and Jeff Anderson playing a variety of gammaldans and mixers with some polskor thrown in, and later the Scandijewvians (Ingrid Hamberg, David Rönnlund, Vicki Watt Warshaw, Martha Levenson) play powerful polskor and more! Dance class at 7:30 p.m. features Larry Reinert and Elaine Mathies teaching some nifty gammaldans variations with open dancing at 8:30 p.m.

Third Friday Dance, 15 January

Join us for Spelmanslag Night at the third Friday dance! This intergenerational extravaganza features the Lilla Spelmanslag and the Seattle Skandia Spelmanslag. Both groups will play individually, and there will be a short combined set. This dance has something for everyone—gammaldans, mixers, and even some great polskor. The 7:30 p.m. dance class features Bingsjö polska taught by Tom Berglund and Bonnie Cook; open dancing starts at 8:30 p.m. See you there!

—Martha Levenson

Fifth Friday Dance, 29 January Warmth & light for a cold, dark season

Just when you think mid-winter has reached its bleakest...

Come join your friends for Skandia's bygdedans (at the Epiphany church), on 29 January! As usual, the fifth Friday features village dances played by Skandia's best musicians; this is the dance where the smaller ensembles really shine. Måd Fiddlu will be there with power to spare for sailing dancers around the floor; Bill Boyd will entrance with his hardanger fiddle (and springars from Norway); and Peter and Anita will combine vocals, fiddle, and piano in their polished, danceable style. Starts at 8; don't be late!

—Peter Michaelsen

Nordiska open house

Nordiska Folkdancers cordially invites you to join us on Monday, 25 January, for an evening of instruction and fun participatory dancing beginning promptly at 7 p.m. at the Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave N, Seattle.

Our featured guest instructors are Beverly and Milt Anderson. They will be sharing their expertise on Smålands Slangpolska during the first half of the evening. The evening will also include instruction and participation in the Swedish weaving dance Väva Vadmal and possibly some other Nordiska favorites, as time allows. Coffee, tea, and goodies will be provided. Please come early, since parking can be a problem.

—Vicki Nelson



Kathi's corner



A favorite of many Skandia members, this dance will be the focus of the Beyond Basics series that begins Thursday, 7 January.

Rørospols (Norway)

Forward figure with M crossing over in front of W.

Step: 1 and 3, starting with L

Bakmes: M: (1) L, (3) R, (4) L, (6) R

W: (1) L behind, (2) R, (3) L, (4) R,
(5) L, (6) R

W's turn out: (1) L touch, (2) L, (3) R

Pols: M: (1) L, (2) touch, (3) R

W: (1) both (2) R, (3) L

Character: Flat but light; transitions at beginning of phrase

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 goes to Jämtland on Saturday, 13 March

Mark your calendar and plan to attend an all-day Saturday workshop at the Cedar Valley Grange, on 13 March. Skandia instructors will teach several dances, including the stately Gammalvånster från Oviken. If you are comfortable with turning dances such as polska, hambo, and pols, this workshop is for you!

—Kathi Ploeger

Grange (Continued from page 1)

The Skandia Board is seeking a Skandia volunteer that would join the Grange and represent Skandia's interests. Skandia would pay the Grange membership for that person (an application fee of \$10, plus \$36/year). The Skandia Grange representative would be expected to attend a majority of Grange meetings (held once a month, on the second Thursday, at 7:30 p.m., at the Grange hall), support Skandia's interests, and report back to the Board.

According to the Grange Web site at www.wa-grange.org, the Washington Grange is "a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of Washington's residents through the spirit of community service and legislative action."

The Cedar Valley Grange is a community Grange that supports local needs in Lynnwood with food drives and school-related projects.

If you are interested in being Skandia's Grange representative, please contact one of the board members.

—Kathy Bruni

Springdans Northwest registration and scholarship update

Bjørn Sverre Hol Haugen and Veslemøy Nordset will teach Polsdans from Finnskoga, and music instructors Eva Karlsson and Bruce Sagan will teach fiddle and nyckelharpa classes at Springdans Northwest, 16–19 April. Completed applications and payment must be received by 15 January. For an application, visit www.skandia-folkdance.org.

Skandia members living in Western Washington may apply for a scholarship that covers tuition (including room and board), DVD, and Friday dinner. Selection will be based on financial need, so this is a great opportunity if you've been thinking about Springdans but are concerned about finances.

The scholarship donor has requested anonymity. To maintain the confidentiality of all parties, applicants should not discuss their application—or their intent to apply—with anyone outside the Springdans committee.

Scholarship requests must be received by 15 January. Direct your request via email to springdans2010@svikt.com or by surface mail to: Springdans Scholarship c/o Ploeger-Meyers, 7016 17th Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98117-5550.

If you plan to register for camp but haven't yet, please hurry. Applications have poured in since late November, and we have an abundance of dancers registered as "follows." Leads, we know you're out there! The sooner you apply, the sooner we can take eager registrants off the waiting list.

—Judy Patterson

Telespringar workshop set for 20 February



Beverly and Richard Smaby will teach the lovely Norwegian dance Telespringar on Saturday, 20 February from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Cedar Valley Grange. You'll dance to mesmerizing tunes played by Loretta Kelley, Grammy-nominated hardingfele (hardanger fiddle) player.

When I first saw the Smaby's dance over a decade ago in Norway, I was struck by their

graceful dancing and feel for the music. Since then, they've studied dance with many renowned Telemark teachers, and taught classes and workshops. Their enthusiasm for the dance is infectious, so be prepared to have a great learning experience.

If you've never seen the dance, check it out on the Web. Just type "Telespringar," in your search engine, and you'll find links to great video footage.

This workshop is just one of the many activities happening Vinterdansen weekend, 19–21 February. The flyer in this newsletter includes a detailed schedule of activities. We hope you can join us for all of them!

—Judy Patterson for the Events Committee

Board revisits Basics class drop-in policy

Confusion around who may attend the Basics Class on a drop-in basis recently prompted the Board to clarify the verbiage. Please familiarize yourself with the newly revised policy.

Skandia Basics class attendance policy:

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. The following exceptions may be made:

- 1) A new dancer may attend the first session of a five-week series on a trial basis, paying the appropriate fee. This person will not be included in the minimum class count of 8 unless converted to a series participant.
- 2) Experienced dancers from out of the area may attend a Basics class on a per-session basis, paying the appropriate fee, with instructor's approval.

(Approved by the Board 10-20-09)

We thank the many people who show up to lend assistance by partnering beginning dancers and look forward to your continued participation.

—Jim Peterson, President

"Destination: Finnskog" airs 9 January

Listen online to Multe Music on Saturday, 9 January, at 12 p.m. for "Destination Finnskog" and a sample of the great music coming to Springdans NW. Hosted by producer Ruth Marie Sylte, the show will feature the music traditions shared by borderland Norwegians and Swedes. Chances are great that you'll hear music you've never heard before.

Multe Music is a "blog and weekly audio show/podcast exploring the roots, shoots and fruits of Scandinavian and Nordic traditions." The show is broadcast online at KYMNRAdio.net on Saturdays at noon and Mondays at 5 p.m. You can also listen to any of the shows any time by going to MulteMusic.com, where you can listen or download individual shows or connect the podcast feeds.

—Judy Patterson

Welcome to new member:

Brett Carroll

January 2010						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 1st Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30–11 p.m.	2 NO Bainbridge Island dance
3 (Seattle) Pancake Breakfast, SCC, 8 a.m.–1:30 p.m. (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	4 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7–9 p.m.	5	6(Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30–9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7–9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30–10 p.m.	7 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30–9 p.m.	8	9 (Bellingham) Nordic Dancers NW 2nd Saturday Scan- dinavian Dance, 2–5 p.m.
10 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	11 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7–9 p.m.	12	13(Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30–9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7–9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30–10 p.m.	14 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30–9 p.m.	15 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 3rd Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30–11 p.m.	16
17 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	18 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7–9 p.m.	19	20(Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30–9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7–9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30–10 p.m.	21 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30–9 p.m.	22	23
24 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m. 31 (Port Ange- les) Dance, 7 –9 p.m.	25 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m. (Burlington) Nordic Dancers NW, 7–9 p.m.	26	27(Seattle) Skandia Basics. 7:30–9 p.m. (Bellingham) Dance, 7–9:30 p.m. (Burnaby) Dance, 7:30–10 p.m.	28 (Seattle) Skandia Beyond Basics. 7:30–9 p.m.	29 (Epiphany Chapel, Seattle) Skandia 5th Friday dance, 8–11 p.m.	30

January 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.

1/2 (Bainbridge Island) NO Bainbridge First Saturday Scandinavian dance this month, since the first Saturday falls so close to the Christmas/New Years holiday.

1/9 (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.

1/22 (Seattle) Scandinavian Folkdance, 7:30–11 p.m. Free lesson, 7:30–8, then dance to the live and lively music of Skandia Kapell. Polkas, waltzes, hambos,

- and more. No partner or experience required. \$10; less for SCC members. Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave N. Info: pat@folk dancing.com or www.folkdancing.com/Pages/DancSch.htm.
- 1/23 (Portland) Slängpolska fr. Smålands workshop and dance** with Seattle teachers Bev and Milt Anderson and fiddler Peter Michaelson. 1–5 p.m.; registration, 12:45 p.m. Workshop & dance, \$30; workshop only, \$25; dance only, \$10. Friendship Masonic Center, 5626 N.E. Alameda St. (corner of 57th & N.E. Sandy Blvd.), Portland, Oregon. Info: (503) 230-0999 or allen_paulson@yahoo.com.
- 1/24 (Seattle) Mostly Nordic Chamber Music Series.** “Nordic Elegance,” featuring Knut Erik Jensen, virtuoso pianist from Norway. 4 p.m., Nordic Heritage Museum. \$45 (includes Smörgåsbord); NHM members; concert only: \$25/\$20. Info: (206) 789-5707, ext. 25 or karenh@nordicmuseum.org.
- 1/29 (Seattle) Zwiefacher Folkdance, 7:30–11 p.m.** Free Zwiefacher lesson, 7:30–8, then dance to the music of Chris Barnes on accordion and Kris Johansson on fiddle. Zwiefacher, waltz, schottische, and more. No partner or experience required. \$10; less for SCC members. Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave N. Info: pat@folk dancing.com or www.folkdancing.com/Pages/DancSch.htm.

Future events

- 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, Seattle.
- 4/16–19 Springdans NW 2010,** Seabeck, WA.
- 8/13–15 Norsk Folkedans Stemne** with Folkemusikkprosjektet i Setesdal, Camp Brotherhood, WA.

Directions to Epiphany Chapel

From Highway 520, take the Montlake exit, cross 24th Street to Lake Washington Blvd, and drive through the Arboretum. Cross Madison at the light and continue to 32nd Ave (marked by a yellow fire light). Turn right on 32nd; go down the hill past Martin Luther King, Jr. School, and up the other side. At the “Do Not Enter” sign, take a sharp left turn uphill onto East Denny Way. At the top of the hill (34th Ave), bear left. The church is on the right side of Denny between 37th and 38th Avenues; the address is 1805 38th Ave. The dance hall is on the second floor. Take the walkway past the church parking lot, and go to the second building on your left.

Skandia Newsletter

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Skandia Folkdance Society Board of Trustees: President, Jim Peterson; Vice President, Brita Butler-Wall; Treasurer, Karen Michaelson; 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 177th St., Woodinville, WA 98072-6223**. Items for the **February** issue must arrive by **10 January**. 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.