



SKANDIA

NEWSLETTER

Seattle, Washington

The Voice of SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY

June 2009

Board's eye view

There's plenty to do in June, with Skandia's first- and third-Friday dances and a special dance workshop on Saturday, 6 June. The workshop features live music and dances from Jämtland, including Gammalvånster from Oviken. Dance Committee members, musicians, and teachers, we appreciate your making this workshop possible.

On behalf of the Board and the Springdans Northwest Committee, an enormous "thank you" to camp participants for such a memorable four days. While myriad factors made this a great event, I'd like to personally acknowledge:

- The kindness of friends and strangers. Your willingness to dance with many partners, both experienced and new to camp, set the tone for the weekend from the start. The dances were an ever-changing landscape of whirling couples and smiling faces.
- The evening programs and fine musicians. Peter Michaelsen, music director, deserves credit for organizing such varied and interesting dance evenings. Our thanks and appreciation also go to the talented musicians whose tunes and energy drew us to the floor like filings to a magnet.
- Sound, sound, sound! Frank Brown's expertise and equipment elevated the sound quality closer to that of Carnegie Hall—no small feat. I was surprised to hear him say "that's weird," when we danced one evening, fearing that it might be my dancing. Ever vigilant, he'd just noted a sound anomaly as we circled the floor.
- Lounge wizardry. Thanks to the hospitality and good work of Paul Jordan-Smith and Martha Levenson, the lounge kept evening revelers happy, hydrated, and refueled with snacks. Great job, folks!
- The eye-opening costume presentation. While we still may not know "what's worn under the kilt," we now know what's under some Swedish costumes, thanks to costume historian and expert Kicki Kirvall-Hanses. Linda Gross, Don Meyers, and Börje Hanses, we applaud your true grit in peeling off your costume layers onstage for our enlightenment!
- Singing instruction and dance review. Attendance was high at Ingrid Hamberg's Norwegian singing workshop and at the Røros Pols review session taught by Kathi Ploeger and Don Meyers. Teachers, we thank you, and to Peter Michaelsen, Chris Gruber, Martha Levenson, Vicki Watt Warshaw, and Ingrid Hamberg, the musical

tour of Røros during the dance review session was a hoot. (If I missed any musicians, my sincere apology!)

- Swedish dance instructors Margareta and Leif Virtanen did a masterful job of teaching dances from Hälsingland. Music teachers Hanna Tibell and Bengt Jonsson delighted students with their pedagogical expertise and extensive Hälsingland repertoire.

A final "thank you" to all who came from near and far. We hope you can join us for Springdans 2010, 16–19 April.

—Judy Patterson

Basic class curriculum updated

At its May meeting, the dance committee agreed on a change to the Basic dance class curriculum. Waltz was moved to the 1st Fall session and snoa to the 2nd Fall session. Listed dances will be the focus of the series. In addition, teachers may review and/or teach other basic dances, as well as set, figure, and mixer dances.

<u>Session</u>	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Focus Dances</u>
Fall – 1	September	Schottis Waltz
Fall – 2	October	Snoa Hambo
Winter – 1	January	Polska Schottis
Winter – 2	February	Snoa Polka Mazurka Waltz
Spring	April	Hambo Schottis

Updated May 2009

June Skandia events

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

Jämtland Workshop, 6 June, Cedar Valley Grange, 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m.

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

Midsommarfest, 28 June at St. Edward State Park, Kenmore, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

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, 5 June

You won't want to miss the first Friday dance on 5 June. We have a special treat for those of you who attended the Springleik workshops in Boulder and for those of you who wish you had. Judy and Jerry Patterson will teach Springleik fra Vågå for the 7:30 dance instruction. In addition, Irene Myers has selected several Springleik melodies to play for your dancing pleasure throughout the evening. We're lucky to have Mad Fiddlu, the popular nyckelharpa/vocal group as our first group, with Bart Brashers, John Peekstock, and Anna Abraham playing mostly traditional tunes with a smattering of recently composed ones. Then, to complete the evening, Hale Bill & the Bopps will play their fabulous variety of gammal and bygdedans.

Be sure to bring a little extra money because Hale Bill and the Bopps promised they would have copies of their newly released CD with them for the dance.

Third Friday Dance, 19 June

Come for an evening of your favorite gammal dances for the third Friday in June. Instruction will start at 7:30 with Tom Berglund and Elaine Mathies teaching Snoa til Valsmelodi. At 8:30, Seattle Skandia Spelmanslag, under Anna Abraham's leadership, will play a wide variety of schottis/reinlenders, polkas, hambos, waltzes, and much more. Continuing with the gammal dance theme, Sprida Ut with Kris Johansson, Brian Nelson, and Nola Nelson will add a special touch with their combination of fiddles, nyckelharpas, and guitar to keep you dancing for the rest of the evening.

—Donna Luce

Celebrate summer with a Skandia class

Mark your calendar, invite your friends, and plan to join in Skandia's summer Basics class. Kathi Ploeger and Don Meyers will teach this five-week series on Wednesdays, 15 July through 12 August. So celebrate those long light-filled summer evenings like a Scandinavian!

—Kathi Ploeger

Welcome to new members:

Penny and Harland Curtis



Kathi's corner

Åtabakspolska

Föllinge, Jämtland, Sweden



This dance was taught by Bev and Milt Anderson in one of the Beyond Basics series taught this past winter.

Order: 3 Försteg, 5 Polska, 7 Polkettering, 1 Transition, 8 Bakmes

Försteg: Outer hands forward, M's hand on top.
(1) Outer, (2) inner slides pointing towards partner, (3) inner.

Polska: M: (1) L, (3) R
W: (1) R, (3) L

Polkettering: Clockwise, first measure toward middle.

Transition:

M: Change to reverse polska hold, (1) R, (2) L, (3) slap R heel.

L: (1) L, (2), (3), place L next to R.

Bakmes: M: (1) R, (2) L, (3) R, (4) L behind R, (5&) pivot both heels, (6) full feet on floor.

W: Same, except starting with (4); i.e., L behind R.

Character: Elegant or graceful. Flat footed polkettering.

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

Help wanted on 30 May

Help wanted at a work party on Saturday, 30 May, to move Midsommarfest stage materials back to the park. We're renting a 17-foot truck to haul everything in two loads.

- Moving posts, beams, support structure from Paul & Elaine Everitt's (1 load)
- Moving plywood from storage shed at Jim & Jane Peterson's (1 load)

We pick up the truck in Kenmore at 8:30 a.m. and plan to start loading immediately as soon as we get back to our place. We expect to finish by 2:30—much earlier if we have enough help.

A crew of 8-10 people has worked well in the past, with some folks only able to help with one load or unload and others arriving for the next load/unload.

Please contact Paul or Elaine Everitt if you're willing to help for all or any part of this project—talk to them at an event, email volunteer@skandia-folkdance.org, or call (425) 482-1121. Thanks!

—Elaine Everitt

Glad Midsommar Guru

Hey Guru!

Where have you been? Are we going to have Midsommarfest this year?

—*Worried Nordic*

Dear *Worried*,

No need to worry anymore, Midsommarfest is happening! Mark your calendar for the last Sunday in June, the 28th this year, and be sure to tell your friends. In fact, plan to join the crew working and socializing as they set things up on Saturday, the 27th.

Your Midsommarfest chair, Elaine Everitt, had advised the Guru to “tread softly” to make sure the park would be open given the state’s budget problems before going full steam ahead with publicity. Now, that’s settled and the committee is in high gear working on preparations.

Dear Glad Midsommar Guru,

I know that Linda Lacy moved to Albuquerque and I’ve heard that Don Meyers is going to Fiddles & Feet. So, my big question is—who’s going to be the Pole Master?

—*Anxious*

Dear *Anxious*,

Relax! Linda is coming back for Midsommarfest. She arrives Wednesday evening to help with the preparations and leaves on Monday afterward. She’s also going to be working on the garland and would love to have someone else volunteer to head up the garland crew in the future. Please let her know of your availability to work on the garland by email llacy123@yahoo.com or contact Elaine Everitt.

You raise an important issue. We should have more people ready and trained to serve as Pole Masters for times when Linda and Don are unavailable. If you’re interested or know someone who would be a good candidate, please contact Elaine so she can arrange for training with Don and Linda.

Dear Guru,

I’m relatively new to Skandia and know that it takes lots of volunteers to run Midsommarfest. However, I don’t know what kinds of jobs need to be done. Could I get some kind of a list?

—*Wants to Help*

Dear *Wants to Help*,

Here’s a list of jobs that can always use more volunteers:

- **Pre-festival publicity:** distributing posters and fliers, selling buttons
- **Stage moving:** labor to load/unload stage materials going to and from the park
- **Friday:** cutting salal, small-leaf ivy, cedar, and other greens
- **Saturday:** moving Midsommarfest supplies to the park; putting up signs; preparing the garland and rings; setting up and preparing the Kukka Kioski (flower crown booth); carrying the pole from the roof to the grounds;

setting up canopies; setting up the pole base; setting up the children’s area

- **Sunday:** working at the booths (Skandia, flower crowns, children’s); emceeing; greeting attendees, handing out programs and selling buttons; taking the pole down and putting it back on the roof and CLEAN UP at the end of the day—loading everything up and returning it to storage

Do keep in mind that this is only a partial list, there are lots more small miscellaneous tasks that contribute to a memorable Midsommarfest.

Got a question for the Guru? Send it by 6 June to guru@skandia-folkdance.org and watch for a response in the next newsletter.

Have a question you think might have been asked before? Check out the Web site: www.skandia-folkdance.org/Midsommarfest/Midsommar_Guru/midsommar_guru.html.

Jämtland dance workshop

Participants at Skandia’s March dance workshop had an opportunity to weigh in on dances to be taught in future workshops. On Saturday, 6 June, Skandia hosts an all-day workshop with focus on dances from Jämtland, including one of the top vote getters, Gammalvånster från Oviken. If you are comfortable with such turning dances as polska, hambo, and pols, this class is for you.

A team of Skandia teachers will be teaching, with one couple teaching each dance and other teachers dancing with the class.

The workshop will be at the Cedar Valley Grange. It starts at 10 a.m. and runs to 4:45 p.m., with a break for lunch.

Please bring your lunch, as there are few local dining options.

The fee for the workshop is \$25 if you register by 31 May, or \$30 at the door. Registration forms can be found at Skandia events or at Skandia’s Web site: www.skandia-folkdance.org.

Questions can be addressed to Kathi Ploeger at (206) 789 2678 or kathi@svikt.com.

6 June Skandia Workshop Pre-registration Form (Save \$5! Pre-register prior to 31 May.)

Hand-deliver this form with your payment to Kathi Ploeger at any May Skandia event, or mail forms to: Kathi Ploeger, 7016 17th Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98117-5550. Only registrations received by 31 May are eligible for the discount.

Registrant #1 _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Registrant #2 _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Total enclosed with form: (# registering x \$25) _____

Make checks payable to Skandia Folkdance Society.

June 2009						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	2	3 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15	4	5 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 1st Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30–11 p.m.	6 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia Jämtland workshop 10 a.m.– 4:45 p.m. (Bainbridge Island) Dance, 7–10 p.m.
7 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m. (Bellingham) Scandinavian dance, 2–5 p.m.	8 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	9	10 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15	11	12	13
14 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	15 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	16	17 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15	18	19 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 3rd Friday dance; 7:30 (class); dance, 8:30–11 p.m.	20
21 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	22 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	23	24 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15	25	26	27
28 (Kenmore) Skandia Midsommarfest (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	29 (Poulsbo) Dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	30				

June 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@olypen.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.

6/5 (Seattle) Nordic Night at Safeco Field. Minnesota Twins vs. Seattle Mariners, 7:10 p.m. Reserved

view seats, \$11 (normally, \$20). Tickets at www.mariners.com/nordic. Deadline for ordering: 3 June at 5 p.m.

6/6

(Bainbridge Island) First Saturday Dance. The last dance of the Bainbridge season will feature the recently “alloyed” Hale Bill and the Bopps and Rolling Bay Fiddlers into one mighty amalgam: The Rolling Bopps. Their musicianship will include styles from whimsical to serious, and from easy mixers to bygdedans. Potluck, 6 p.m.; dance, 7–10 p.m. Island Center Hall on Bainbridge Island. Not only is this the last dance of our season, it is the last event that will be sponsored by Oldtime Nordic Dancers, so do come to help us celebrate 25+ years of great dances on the island and show support for continuation of this dance. Info: Jessie, (206) 842-4055 or Art, (206) 706-9780. Carpool.

6/7

(Bellingham) Scandinavian Dance, 2–5 p.m., Norway Hall, 1419 N Forest St, Bellingham. Live music by Takk for Dansen & North Star Fiddlers.

Fun & easy dances will be included. Info: tayolson@earthlink.net or (360) 734-2516.

- 6/7 (Seattle) Mostly Nordic Chamber Music Series** (Finland): Finally Finnish! 4 p.m. Janne Mertanen, international award-winning pianist from Finland. The program will include virtuosic works of Sibelius, Chopin, and Schubert. Tickets: (206) 789-5707 x10. Concert with Smörgåsbord: NHM members, \$40; nonmembers, \$45. Concert only, \$25. Info: www.nordicmuseum.org.
- 6/7 (Seattle) Local Norwegians open time capsule.** A time capsule possibly containing mementos and unknown treasures from decades ago will be opened at 3pm at the Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway, Leif Erikson Hall, Ballard. Info: Russ Oberg, (206) 362-5913.
- 6/12–13 (Nisswa, MN) The 10th annual Nisswa-stämman Scandinavian Folk Music Festival.** Features 150 folk musicians performing on 3 stages, day-long participatory dancing on two dance floors, dance instruction, a cultural children's activity tent, and great Scandinavian food. Nisswa Pioneer Village in Nisswa, Minnesota. A line-up of award-winning musicians from Scandinavia will be there. Fiddling workshops June 12. Info: Paul Wilson, (218) 764 2994, pwilson@brainerd.net, or www.nisswastamman.org.
- 6/26 (Seattle) Scandinavian Folk Dance**, featuring the Nordleik Duo from Poulsbo. Dance starts at 8 p.m. Join us in the fun that put the sparkle in great-great grandpa's eyes and the tap in his toes: waltz, polka, pols, hambo, etc. \$9; less for SCC members. Free dance lesson 7:30–8 by Pat McMonagle. Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave. North. Info: pat@folkdancing.com.
- 6/26–28 (Corbett, OR) 2009 Danish Cultural Conference.** Info: www.northwestdanishfoundation.org/about-our-foundation/programs/danish-cultural-conference/dcc or Erik Laursen: edl6@ix.netcom.com or (206) 816-4579.

Future events

- 7/15–19 (Spain) 23rd World Congress on Dance Research** and 18th General Assembly of the CID, Malaga, Spain. Info: Tel. (30) 210 324 4395 & 210 324 6188; www.cid-unesco.org; president@cid-unesco.org
- 7/16–19 (Wisconsin) Annual Workshop of the The Hardanger Fiddle Association of America**, Folklore Village, Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Teachers: Hardanger fiddle—Hauk Buen, Kenneth de Gala, Andrea Een, Rachel Nesvig; dance—Olav Sem; Seljeflôte—Toby Weinberg. Info: www.hfaa.org/workshops/2009/index.html.

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

Skandia Newsletter

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Skandia Folkdance Society Board of Trustees: President, Jim Peterson; Vice President, Brita Butler-Wall; Treasurer, Karen Michaelsen; Secretary, Pat Pi; trustees Judy Patteson, 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 **July** issue must arrive by **10 June**. 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.