



SKANDIA

# NEWSLETTER

Seattle, Washington

The Voice of SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY

August 2008

## Fabulous 50th Midsommarfest

Thank you, volunteers! Thank you, contributors! Thank you, vendors! Thank you all for coming! What a great day—in spite of the heat! While there are always things to improve on next year, there's a lot to celebrate about this 50th Midsommarfest. In fact, there's so much to celebrate, it's hard to list everything because I'm sure I'll miss something. A few quick highlights include:

- Volunteers getting the setup done early enough on Saturday to enjoy a comfortable break before coming back to dance in the evening.
- A well-attended dance Saturday evening to wonderful live music provided by Måd Fiddlu and Einar Eimhjellen with Nordic Spirit—with fewer mosquitoes than in the past.
- A delightful review of past Midsommarfests put together by Pat Pi.
- Kids enjoying crafts, stories, dancing, making their own buttons, and, of course, raising their own pole!
- The Kukka Kioski buzzing with people making and buying flower crowns—in spite of the challenge of limited floral variety due to the slow growing season.
- Watching the Grand Midsommar Procession and the pole going up.
- More vendors than in the past—welcome Daughters of Norway (Everett), Finlandia Foundation, Folk Voice Band, Northwest Danish Foundation!
- Lots of dancers enjoying the afternoon dancing—again, in spite of the heat. My personal favorite was seeing one of my cousins teaching/dancing with my youngest son on the grass.
- Singing Happy Birthday to Aunt Lil as she celebrated her 100th.

What's missing from this list? Please send your favorites to the [guru@skandia-folkdance.org](mailto:guru@skandia-folkdance.org) and we'll publish them in the next newsletter along with more thank you's to volunteers and the final numbers—which should be available by then.

Initially, the crowd appeared to be smaller than last year. Yet when it came time for the main event, it was amazing to see all the people emerge from their shady retreats to watch and/or help raise the pole and then join in the ringlekar. What fun to have four rings of dancers around the pole!

The extra effort to keep the event free—continuing to increase publicity, as well as bringing in new vendors and other Nordic organizations—paid off. The preliminary attendance estimate based on car count is somewhere just over 3,000. For those keeping track of the numbers, that's 1,000 more than last year. Yea!

Speaking of keeping it free, we're still awaiting the rest of the bills before we know if we broke even. At this point, it's a close call, although leaning a bit toward the red. If you were considering making a contribution, it's not too late. Given our goal of increasing attendance and the results to date, it appears free admission is making a difference. However, staying in the black is key to being able to keep it free in the future.

—Elaine Everitt

## Thank you from Nancy

I want to thank everyone in Skandia who has helped me through this most trying time. As most of you know, Ed died suddenly on 30 November of a heart attack. I want to thank everyone for their wonderful hugs, visits, meals, cards, and well wishes. Each hug from you has repaired my broken heart just a little more. One of the things I miss most about Ed was that beautiful smile he would get while out on the dance floor, and each hug from you has helped me to keep that memory alive. Thank you for your support, and keep those hugs coming.

—Nancy Morrison

### August Skandia events

**Summer Series Classes:** Thursdays, 10 July–7 August, 7:30–9 p.m. at Phinney Neighborhood Ctr. (Rm 2, upper bldg, on 10, 17, and 24 July; Rm 36, lower bldg, on 31 July and 7 August).

**First Friday** dance, **1 August** at Cedar Valley Grange. No class; Dance, 8–11 p.m.

**Summer Mixer** dance, **14 August** at Phinney Neighborhood Center, 7:30–9 p.m.

**Third Friday** dance, **15 August** at Cedar Valley Grange. No class; dance, 8–11 p.m.

**Fifth Friday** dance, **29 August** at Epiphany Chapel, 8–11 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. West, Lynnwood, WA. Skandia members, \$7; nonmembers, \$10. Class, 7:30–8:30; dance 8:30–11 p.m.

### First Friday Dance, 1 August

The dance on this 1st day of August starts at 8 p.m. (no 7:30 class). Larry Reinert will teach dances in two 15-minute sessions during the evening. Music will be provided courtesy of long-time Skandia member and musician David Lamb. David will be spinning a choice selection of tunes from CDs and he will likely take requests, so be prepared for some wonderful dance music that you won't normally hear from local musicians!

### Third Friday Dance, 15 August

The Third Friday Dance starts at 8 p.m. (no 7:30 p.m. class). Skandia dance instructors will teach in two 15-minute sessions during the evening. Music will be provided by Northwest Peli-mannit, playing their eclectic mix of gammaldans tunes from Finland and beyond. Bring a friend and come enjoy some great Scandinavian dance music.

—Dave Mullens

### Fifth Friday Bygdedans, 29 August

Extend your summer with a whole evening of Scandinavian village dances: polskor, pols, springleik, and springar! We have two duos lined up—Martha and Carol, and Peter and Vicki—plus some springars on the hardanger fiddle, and a surprise or two. The dance starts at 8 p.m. (no class beforehand) at the Epiphany Episcopal church (directions on p5). The intimate, informal relationship between musicians and dancers makes this one of our favorite dance parties!

—Peter Michaelsen

## NW Spelmanstämman 2008

The plans for NW Spelmanstämman 2008 have been moving right along. As previously announced, it will be held the afternoon of 6 September, again at the spacious home of Jim and Margaret Noyes in Clearview for the second year.

Their address is 6618 196th St. SE, Clearview (Snohomish/Woodinville/Maltby area). The schedule hasn't been set yet, but many of the classes have been decided with most of the instructors confirmed.

There will be the usual first Friday dance at Skandia the night before, 5 September. If any musicians are interested in playing at this dance, please contact Peter Michaelsen at [spelman@u.washington.edu](mailto:spelman@u.washington.edu).

Fiddle classes will include Peter Michaelsen teaching tunes in AEAE tuning, something new for many fiddlers. (This class is best for just fiddles because of the tuning.) Martha Levenson will teach tunes she learned in Malung last year. Bart Brashers will teach gammaldans styling for all acoustic instruments. Instructors for the nyckelharpa and singing

classes are unconfirmed as of this writing. We hope to have a class on backup accompaniment as well as another class, TBA. We will fill your day and evening with music and dance.

Recording devices are encouraged so you can practice the tunes you take away from the classes. Other acoustic instruments are welcome to most classes. Please bring some goodies to share and/or a dish for the potluck. You can come as early as 12 p.m. Classes will start at 1 p.m. and end at 5:15 to prepare for the potluck at 6 p.m., followed by dancing and jamming.

This event is funded entirely by the music committee, so donations will be gratefully accepted.

There will be a final update soon on Skandia's Web site with directions to the Noyes and a schedule, as well as in the September newsletter, so stay tuned! Pun intended!

And oh, we do need a few volunteers to help keep things running smoothly, such as in the kitchen and other small duties. Please contact Trella, Martha, or Peter if you would like to play a part in this. And many thanks!

—Trella Hastings

## Skandia's Summer Mixer!

Celebrate summer at the August mixer! Art Hare and Larry Reinert MC this program of favorite couple, set, and mixer dances to cap off the Summer Series. Dances will be reviewed or walked through. No partner required.

When: Thursday, 14 August

Where: Phinney Neighborhood Ctr, Rm 36, lower bldg

Cost: \$6; free for those who paid for the full Summer Series

Bring: Dance shoes, friends, family, and goodies to share

## Advance notice: First Friday Dance on 3 October

Andrea Hoag, Loretta Kelly, and Charlie Pilzer travel from the Washington, DC region to play for Skandia's First Friday Dance on 3 October at the Cedar Valley Grange, and the Bainbridge Island dance on 4 October. They received enthusiastic receptions from dancers when they last played in Seattle in October 2006. They will play a great mix of gammaldans, bygdedans, and springar. They have played on *All Things Considered*, *Performance Today*, and *Prairie Home Companion*.

Andrea led the Seattle Skandia Spelmanslag in the late 1980s and early 1990s and has several traditional music recordings. Loretta is America's foremost player of the Norwegian hardingfele (Hardanger fiddle). Charlie plays bass for the group, is an award-winning producer of traditional music, and is a member of Spaelimennir, a Scandinavian folk band based in the Faroe Islands.

If you've enjoyed their CDs—"Hambo in the Snow" (2006) and "Hambo in the Barn" (1996), you'll love hearing them in person and dancing to their music.

—Frank Brown

## Skandia Basics Class Series

Elaine Murakami and Frank Brown will exercise their teaching skills and Scandinavian dance experience by teaching the basics class: snoa (pivot), schottis/reinlender, waltz. The joy of these couple turning dances is to establish a “common balance” within the couple. Frank and Elaine will work on developing that balance and having fun dancing! No dance experience is required; beginners welcome.

When: Wednesdays, 10 September–8 October, 7:30–9 p.m.

Where: Room 32, lower building (upstairs), Phinney Neighborhood Center.

Cost: Members, \$25 per series; nonmembers, \$35 per series

The series includes free admission to the Mixer on 15 October.



### Kathi's corner



#### Bondpolska från Viksta, Uppland, Sweden

*Tunes for this dance are often played at Skandia functions, especially where nyckelharpas are gathered. An alternative dance for this music is Bondpolska från Överhärde, which was July's Kathi's Corner.*

Hold: Shoulder-waist

Försteg: Stepping on 1 and 3, woman starting on R, man on l, woman with back to LOD.

Polska: M: (1&) L forward, (2) pivot L, lift R, (just before 3) R back, (3) lift L, pivot on R heel  
W: (1) both, (just before 3) R, (3) leap to both, L arriving slightly earlier than R

Character: Motion is linear. Dance is ‘earthy and vigorous’ but controlled. W should try to bring both feet together before coming down on (1) both.

*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

## Jump in and hang on

As I sit here thinking about what I want to tell you, a number of things come to mind. Springdansen has come and gone and preparations are being made for next year's Springdansen. Each year I attend Springdansen, one of my goals is to have fun. This seems to be an easy goal for me to achieve. This year, I set another goal for myself. I decided I was going to dance with all the men who attended the dance classes. Good goals are always achievable and I was able to achieve my goal. Boy, did I have fun doing it too! Sometimes I got asked to dance and other times I asked for the dance. No problem. In fact, by the end of Springdansen, I had fun going up to the men and saying “I don't think I've danced with you this weekend.”

The next time you are at a dance, try asking someone you haven't danced with to dance. Don't be shy. On some level, most of us are afraid of being turned down. Maybe you're afraid of asking someone for a dance they don't know or

being asked for a dance you don't know. Don't worry about it. My dad always says “Just jump in and hang on.” Instead of being turned down, you'll probably get an enthusiastic “yes” and you may even brighten someone's day by asking them for a dance. Just jump in and hang on.

Midsommarfest is over and before you know it, the Ball will be here. The theme for Skandia's 50th Midsommar was Generations. It was great to see people of all ages attending and participating in all the activities throughout the day. One of the activities that makes Midsommar so special is the prep work done the day before the festival. For the past few years, I've helped build the rings that go on the majstång. The time we spend working on the rings is not just time to help Skandia; it's also time to get to know your fellow Skandia members. This year, I helped with the garland. I had so much fun working with the garland crew. I always enjoy the camaraderie of the work crews. If you've never helped prepare for Midsommar before, please consider volunteering next year. There are plenty of opportunities to contribute.

As I think about Skandia and all the events that happen throughout the year, I am amazed at the dedication and hard work that a relatively small group of people put into Skandia. As a member of the Board, I am honored to work with these dedicated volunteers. There will be many opportunities in the upcoming months to volunteer to help. If you are interested in volunteering and want to know what you can do to help, ask a member of the Board. Just jump in and hang on. You'll do just fine.

—Karlyn Tomta

## Lost at Midsommar?

Has something you brought to Midsommar gone missing? We might have it in Lost and Found. The following items were found on the Midsommar grounds:

- 3.5 pound sledge hammer
- Camera
- Toy (probably purchased at Midsommar)
- Pewter button
- Headband
- Clip-on sunglasses
- Tuner
- Brown paper bag containing a book, plate and other items

We also have a collection from prior years:

- Blanket
- 1 pair black shoes
- Rubber duck
- Child's jacket, size L
- Child's sweater, size 2T
- Sippy cup
- Sunglasses, 2 pair
- Foam microphone cover
- 1 pair silver earrings
- Lady's watch

If one of these items belongs to you, call Don and Kathi at (206) 789 2678, or send email to membership at svikt.com.

August 2008						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 1st Friday dance; 8–11 p.m.	2
3 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	4	5	6 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15 p.m.	7 (Phinney Ctr, Seattle) Summer Series class, 7:30–9 p.m.	8	9
10 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	11 (Poulsbo) Concert & dance, Sons of Norway, 7 p.m.	12	13 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15 p.m.	14 (Phinney Ctr. Seattle) Summer Mixer, 7:30–9 p.m.	15 (CVG, Lynnwood) Skandia 3rd Friday dance; 8–11 p.m.	16
17 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	18	19	20 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15 p.m.	21	22	23
24 (Port Angeles) Dance, 7–9 p.m.	25	26	27 (Bellingham) Dance, 6:45–9:15 p.m.	28	29 (Epiphany Chapel, Seattle) Skandia 5th Friday dance; 8–11 p.m.	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@olypen.com.

**Wednesdays (Bellingham) Scandinavian dancing, Sons of Norway.** Norway Hall, 1419 N. Forest St, Bellingham. 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. Contact: tayolson@earthlink.net. First session starts 6 August.

**8/7–10 New Mexico August Folk Dance Camp.** New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM. Instructors: Tommy and Ewa

8/9

8/10

8/11

Englund from Sweden teaching Swedish couple dances with Sandra Wong, Scandinavian fiddler, and Lee Otterholt teaching Albanian, Balkan, and Greek line dances. Info: [www.unm.edu/~lpetri/swifdi/](http://www.unm.edu/~lpetri/swifdi/).

**(Junction City, OR) Symra**, Norwegian folk-dance group, **performs during the Scandinavian Festival**. Information: Debbie Lemhouse at (541) 255-5559 or [www.scandinavianfestival.com](http://www.scandinavianfestival.com).

**(Portland, OR) Potluck dinner, concert, dance with Symra** at Friendship Masonic Center, 5626 NE Alameda St, Portland. Donation at the door. Potluck at 5:30 p.m. Short performance by Symra at 7 p.m. Open Scandinavian dancing, 7:30–10 p.m. Info: Jim and Yonnie Tonder at [jimtonder@comcast.net](mailto:jimtonder@comcast.net).

**(Poulsbo) Workshop with Symra** at Poulsbo Sons of Norway at 18891 Front Street NE, Poulsbo, WA.

3–5 p.m. Potluck open to folk dancers, S/N members and guests, 5:30 p.m. Symra performance at 7 p.m. \$5; school-age children free. Performance is followed by a gammeldans. Info: (360) 779-5209.

- 8/12 (Seattle) Wild salmon dinner and Norwegian folk dancing performance with Symra.** Dinner, 6 p.m.; performance and dance, 7:30 p.m. Leif Erikson Lodge, 2245 NW 57th St. Adults, \$20; kids, \$10 until August 9, then \$25/\$15. Send a check with a SASE to Norsk Folkedans Stemne, PO Box 17099, Seattle WA 98127 or call Karlyn Tomta, (206) 772-4545. Seating is limited; make reservations early.
- 8/15–17 (Mt. Vernon) Norsk Folkedans Stemne,** at Camp Brotherhood, near Mt. Vernon, WA. Teaching by the folk dance group Symra from Oslo. Info: [www.seattlestemne.org](http://www.seattlestemne.org) or [www.folkedans.com/symra/](http://www.folkedans.com/symra/).

## Upcoming events

- 9/6 (Maltby) Skandia's annual Spelmansstämma.** Starts at noon at the home of Jim and Margaret Noyes in Maltby, WA.
- 9/19 (Portland) Vasa Orchestra** from Finland performs. Sponsored by the Scandinavian Heritage Foundation. Info: (503) 977-0275 or [shf@mindspring.com](mailto:shf@mindspring.com).
- 9/27 (Portland) Workshop,** 1–5 p.m.; dance, 8–11 p.m. Friendship Masonic Center, 5626 N.E. Alameda St. (corner of 57th & N.E. Sandy Blvd.), Portland, OR.
- 10/3 (Lynnwood) First Friday Dance.** Andrea Hoag, Loretta Kelly, and Charlie Pilzer play for Skandia's First Friday Dance.
- 10/4 (Bainbridge Island) 1st Saturday Dance.** Andrea Hoag, Loretta Kelly, and Charlie Pilzer play.
- 10/18 (Bothell) Skandia Ball,** Northshore Senior Ctr.
- 11/8 (Portland) Workshop,** 1–5 p.m.; dance, 8–11 p.m. Friendship Masonic Center, 5626 N.E. Alameda St. (corner of 57th & N.E. Sandy Blvd.), Portland, OR.
- 3/13–15, 2009 (Seattle) Second annual Nordic Knitting Conference** at the Nordic Heritage Museum. Info: [www.ingenkonst.se/exhibit.htm](http://www.ingenkonst.se/exhibit.htm). Registration begins Monday, 1 December 2008.

## 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

Published by Skandia Folkdance Society

**P.O. Box 17123**

**Seattle, WA 98127-0823**

**(206) 784-7470**

**[www.skandia-folkdance.org](http://www.skandia-folkdance.org)**

**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](mailto:editor@csedl.org)

### Address member information and requests to:

Skandia Membership Committee

P.O. Box 17123

Seattle, WA 98127-0823

Email: [membership@svikt.com](mailto:membership@svikt.com)

**Skandia Folkdance Society Board of Trustees:** President: Jim Peterson; Vice President, Pat Pi; Secretary, Don Meyers; Treasurer, Paul Everitt; Trustees: Bev Anderson, Ingrid Hamberg, Judy Patterson, Kathi Ploeger, and Karlyn Tomta.

Send items for the *Other events* column to: [editor@csedl.org](mailto: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 **10 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. Room 32 is in the lower (brick) building on the top floor.

**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 rates

Ads should be related to Skandia or Scandinavian music, dance, or culture. Line items by members are free on a space-available basis. Ad rates for display ads (members and nonmembers):

- Full page: \$50
- Half page: \$25
- Quarter page: \$12.50

Please submit all display ads electronically, or in camera-ready format. Preferred electronic format is MS Publisher. Other acceptable formats include PDF, Word, or any graphics format (JPG or TIF preferred).

Newsletter publication  
**SKANDIA FOLKDANCE SOCIETY**  
Post Office Box 17123  
Seattle, WA 98127-0823

Non-profit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
Seattle WA  
Permit #3013

Address Service Requested

### Check your ZIP!

Please check the ZIP code on your address label. If it has changed, please email membership@svikt.com or call Don or Kathi at (206) 789-2678. This will help Skandia comply with postal regulations.

## 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](http://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.