

# Northern California Spelmanslag News

ANNUAL REPORT

November xx2009

## The Northern California Spelmanslag

The Northern California Spelmanslag is a non-profit public benefit corporation which aims to promote Scandinavian music, dance and culture through special workshops, regular meetings, concerts and performances. The organization consists of a central organization and three member groups: Nordic Footnotes, Nordahl Grieg Leikarring (and Nordahl Grieg Spelemanslag), and Scandiadans Scandinavian dance class. The Spelmanslag also contains many individual members who are active in dancing or in playing Scandinavian music, loosely organized in groups by locality.

The Northern California Spelmanslag organizes and presents festivals which include extensive instruction in both folk dance and folk music, dance parties, and concerts, often including dance demonstrations. We also play host to visiting musicians, and organize musicians' workshops, concerts, and/or dances in conjunction with their visits.

The Spelmanslag has worked with other Scandinavian organizations in promoting Scandinavian culture. We have maintained contacts with various Scandinavian organizations and agencies, promoting communication, and informing them of our activities. We have also sought to promote communication and cooperation between various groups across the country which promote Scandinavian culture. We mail copies of our newsletter to individuals and groups across the United States who are involved in organizing events which promote Scandinavian folk music and dance. The newsletter keeps them informed regarding Scandinavian folk dance and music activities in Northern California, and provides an outlet for them to inform others of their local special events. We have cooperated with several groups around the country in organizing tours of Scandinavian guest instructors.

The Spelmanslag publishes the Northern California Spelmanslag News quarterly. The first volume was issued in September of 1990, and this year completes our Nineteenth volume. The newsletter keeps musicians, dancers, and members of the Scandinavian community informed regarding our activities. The newsletter includes a calendar of Scandinavian folk music and

dance activities, as well as related cultural events in northern California and elsewhere, news about the Spelmanslag organization, and articles of general interest.

The Northern California Spelmanslag maintains an internet web page at: <[www.norcalspelmanslag.org](http://www.norcalspelmanslag.org)>. (This address is new.) Besides basic information about the spelmanslag organization, this page includes a regularly updated calendar of Scandinavian events in northern California, and the US. It also includes an online version of the Northern California Spelmanslag Newsletter, links to other web sites, and, to some extent, events in Scandinavia, a list of members of the board with email addresses, and tips for planning events and for submitting event ideas to the board for approval. This Annual Report appears only in the online version of the newsletter.

In future years, we intend to continue striving towards our goals of promoting Scandinavian folk culture and cultural exchange. We will remain active in bringing instructors from Scandinavia to teach folk dance and music, and will continue to hold regular meetings for musicians and dancers. We hope to further develop the sense of community among local musicians and dancers, and will continue to work together with the larger Scandinavian community both locally and across the country.

## The Board and Board Meetings

The Northern California Spelmanslag has a board of 12 members. Current members are:

- Jeanne Sawyer, President,  
jsawyer@SawyerPartnership.com
- Betsy McKone, Vice President,  
recbetsy@aol.com
- Jim Little, Treasurer,  
jglittle64@alummi.rice.edu
- Frank Tripi, Secretary,  
fjtripi@juno.com
- Fred Bialy, Director ,  
bialy10@attbi.com
- Zena Corcoran, Director  
zmcocoran@aol.com
- Marie Kay Hansen, Director

- brizal@comcast.net
- Sarah Kirton, Director,  
sarah.kirton@sbcglobal.net
  - Linda Persson, Director,  
PerssonLK@aol.com
  - Henry Sawyer, Director,  
hsawyer@SawyerPartnership.com
  - Tom Sears, Director,  
tomsears.pols@gmail.com
  - Jane Tripi, Director,  
fjtripi@juno.com

If you would like to offer input regarding Spelmanslag activities or would like to become actively involved, please contact one of the directors with your ideas and suggestions. You are welcome to attend board meetings. If you are interested in being a board member, please let one of our current directors know. Normally, elections for the board take place on the first Saturday of October. Contact Jeanne Sawyer for the time and place of board meetings.

### The Year in Review: 2008 -2009

During the 2008/2009 fiscal year, the Northern California Spelmanslag (NCS) has held regular meetings for musicians in three Northern California locations where Scandinavian folk music has been taught and shared. The Spelmanslag also sponsors regular Scandinavian dance classes via the Scandiadans, and via the Nordahl Grieg Leikarring. There is also dance teaching most months before the Nordic Footnotes monthly dance in the South San Francisco Bay Area (Palo Alto or San Jose).

The Nordahl Grieg Leikarring and Spelemannslag (NGLS) hosted two weekend workshops at the Sons of Norway Camp near Alta, California in November 2008, and in March 2009.

The Nordahl Grieg Leikarring continues to be a busy performing group with 21 appearances this year.

NCS has sponsored a special event this year. This was a weekend of musician workshops, a dance with a concert, and a house concert. The musicians were Lena Jonsson and Erlend Viken.

NCS has provided Scandiadans, Nordahl Grieg Leikarring and Spelemannslag, and Nordic Footnotes with non-profit status and insurance coverage.

Through these regular activities, we have been successful in introducing newcomers to Scandinavian music and dance.

See the table of activities and performances included in this report.

### Financial Policies

All activities of the Northern California Spelmanslag are organized and provided by volunteer services. Board members receive no compensation for their services. Volunteers do not typically receive free admission to events.

The Spelmanslag does pay guest instructors to cover their expenses; typically we are able to cover airfare and provide a stipend which should cover their ground travel and per diem expenses while in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Admission costs to special event workshops are based at cost divided by expected attendance. Admission to concerts and dances is based at or slightly above cost. Any profit above expenses is deposited in Spelmanslag accounts for use in future special events. There is no admission charge for the regularly occurring musicians' gatherings.

Financial policies may vary somewhat for member groups.

### Financial Goals

Our financial goal as an organization is to develop and maintain a reserve fund equivalent to the total budget for a special event festival (typically \$8,000 to \$12,000), plus the annual budget for the newsletter (approximately \$2,500). This brings our goal to about \$15,000 for the central NCS account. Having this amount in our account would allow us more leverage in organizing special festivals, and would allow us to take risks such as sponsoring a festival of music and dance from less-known regions of Scandinavia. Our financial reserve allows us to pay for up-front expenses (airfare, hall deposits, publicity) as they occur.

The central NCS account has continued to obtain contributions from members and individuals who wish to promote Scandinavian folk music and dance. However, these contributions do not yet cover the annual cost of producing the NCS news. We hope in future years to increase contributions in order to fully support the newsletter and to increase our reserve fund.

### Financial Report

The Northern California Spelmanslag operates on a fiscal year which runs from October 1 through September 30.

The treasurer, Jim Little, has prepared the financial

statement for the Northern California Spelmanslag. This report is a consolidated report reflecting the activities of the central NCS organization, Nordic Footnotes, Scandiadans, and the Nordahl Grieg Leikarring and Spelemanslag. Please note that only the income and expenses which fall in the fiscal year of 10/1/2008 - 9/30/2009 are reported.

**Organizational Affiliations**

The Northern California Spelmanslag is a club under the Folk Dance Federation of California. The Spelmanslag obtains its liability insurance through the Folk Dance Federation.

The Northern California Spelmanslag cooperates with other Scandinavian organizations including the

Swedish and Norwegian consulates, The Norway Day Festival, local Sons of Norway and VASA lodges, the American Scandinavian Foundation, the American Nyckelharpa Association, and the American Hardingfele Association.

**NCS Member Group Abbreviations:**

- BL: Nordahl Grieg Barneleikarring
- NGL: Nordahl Grieg Leikarring
- NGS: Nordahl Grieg Spelemanslag
- NF: Nordic Footnotes
- NCS: Northern California Spelmanslag
- SCD: Scandiadans

**Regular Events:**

<u>Frequency:</u>	<u>Event type:</u>	<u>Sponsoring Group:</u>	<u>Location.</u>
Weekly;	Fiddling/nyckleharping with Fred;	NCS;	El Cerrito
Weekly;	Performing group meetings/rehearsals;	NGL;	Mountain View
Weekly (except summer);	Dance class & open dancing;	SCD;	Oakland
Weekly;	Fiddle class/jamming;	NF,	South Bay Area
Monthly	Nordahl Grieg Spelemanslag meetings	NGS;	Mountain View
Monthly;	Barneleikarring	NGL/BL;	Los Gatos
Monthly	1st. Saturday Dance Class/Party;	NF;	Palo Alto

**Special Events, 2008—2009**

<u>Group</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Guests</u>	<u>Location</u>
NCS	10/6+7	Workshops/Concerts	Lena Jonsson, Erlend Viken	Oakland, Mountain View, Kensington, PaloAlto
NGLS	10/31-11/2	Stevne	Corcoran, Lee, Thompson, Weinberg, Thym	Camp Norge, Alta, CA
NGLS	3/27-29	Stevne	Laycock, Johansen, Sears	Camp Norge, Alta, CA

**Donations 2008-2009 Total, \$4,063**

**Super Sponsors (\$1,000 and up)**

- Estate of Liberty Elyash via Cameron Flanders
- Estate of Liberty Elyash via Darlene Martin
- Estate of Liberty Elyash via Diane Gruber

**Sponsors (\$100 to \$999)**

- Jim Little & Linda Persson
- Fred Bialy
- Carolyn Hunt
- Ann Tennis

**Patrons (\$25 to \$99)**

- Bill Likens (United Way)
- Marie Kay Hansen
- Jeanne & Henry Sawyer
- Betsy McKone
- Alan Haskins

- Keith Eric Grant
- Vince Taylor
- Rosemarie Delahaye
- Margaret & Walker Fillius
- Kenneth Seeman
- Kathi Ploeger
- Bank of America (K. Ploeger match)
- Dorothy Lieber
- Carol Harrison & Don Tanner
- Carol Goller

**Supporters (\$5 to \$24)**

- John Hennings
- Bob Palasek
- Karin Arneson
- John Parish
- Donna Tripp
- Francine Ryan

**NGL&S Spring 2009 Interim Business Director Report**

Group(s)	Date	Event	Requesting Group	Location
L	10/12/08	Nordmanns Forbundet meeting	Nordmanns Forbundet	Retzlaff Winery, 1356 So. Livermore Ave, Livermore
L	11/15/08	Entertainment	Carlton Plaza	Carlton Plaza, 1000 E. 14th St., San Leandro
B	12/06/08	Lutefisk Dinner	Nordhal Greig Lodge	Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos
L	12/14/08	December Feast	Grace Lutheran Church	Grace Lutheran Church, 3149 Waverley Street, Palo Alto
B	12/?/08	Christmas Party	Nordhal Greig Lodge	Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos
L	01/24/09	Entertainment	Bay Area Travel Show	Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara
L	01/25/09	Cultural Program	Norwegian Seamen's Church	Norwegian Seaman's Church, 2454 Hyde St., San Francisco
S	03/20/09	Torsk Dinner	Vigeland Lodge	Vigeland Lodge, Highlands Community Club, 1665 Fernside, Redwood City
L	04/04/09	Annual Smorgasbord	Olav Lodge	Lucas Valley Home Owners Assoc. Center, 1201 Idylberry Rd, San Rafael
L	04/09/09	Branham High School	Branham High School	1570 Branham Lane, San Jose
L	04/18/09	SpringFest	International House	International House, 2299 Piedmont Ave, UC Berkeley
L	04/24/09	Heritage Night	Nordahl Grieg Lodge	Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos
LS	05/02/09	Norway Day	Norway Day Committee	Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason, San Francisco
LSB	05/03/09	Norway Day	Norway Day Committee	Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason, San Francisco
L	05/15/09	Cultural Night	Snorre Lodge	Hill & Valley Clubhouse, 1808 B Street, Hayward
L	05/16/09	Syttende Mai	Calvary Lutheran Church	Calvary Lutheran Church, 401 Santa Lucia Ave, Millbrae
L	05/17/09	Syttende Mai	Sunnyview retirement community	Sunny View Retirement Community, 22445 Cupertino Rd., Cupertino
L	06/06/09	Ibsen Park Opening	Henrik Ibsen Park	Henrik Ibsen Park, Woodside
L	06/07/09	Pfingsten	Faith Lutheran Church	Faith Lutheran Church, 16548 Ferris Ave, Los Gatos
L	06/13/09	Entertainment	Paradise Valley Estates	Paradise Valley Estates Retirement Center, 2600 Estates Dr., Fairfield
L	08/09/09	Entertainment	Aegis Living	4756 Clayton Road, Concord

Key: L – Leikarring; B – Barneleikarring; S – Spelemannslag.

Northern California Spelmanslag Annual Financial Statement		Page 1 of 2 October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008	
<b>Income</b>			
Income from Activities			Subtotals
NCS			
	Insurance Reimbursments	\$651.60	
	Bo Larsson/Cajsa Ekstav wkshp/concert/dance 10/6/07	\$1035.00	
		\$0.00	\$1686.60
Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag			
	NGLS Dues	\$875.00	
	NG Spelemanslag CDs	\$60.00	
	NG Spelemanslag Music books	\$10.00	
	Performances	\$2425.00	
	Camp Norge Stevne Fees	\$4840.00	
	Camp Norge Teacher Training Fees	\$0.00	
	Returned/void checks & bank fee refund	\$91.06	\$8301.06
Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance		\$0.00	\$0.00
Scandiadans	Weekly Dances	\$2516.00	\$2516.00
Nordic Footnotes	Monthly Dances	\$1529.00	\$1529.00
Total Income from Activities			\$14032.66
Income from Contributions and Grants			
NCS			\$1,340.92
Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag			\$1,367.10
Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance			\$0.00
Scandiadans			\$0.00
Nordic Footnotes			\$240.00
Total Income from Contributions and Grants			\$2948.02
Interest Income			
NCS			\$274.44
Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag			\$144.15
Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance			\$0.04
Scandiadans			\$7.40
Nordic Footnotes			\$0.00
Total Interest Income			\$426.03
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>\$17,406.71</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			Subtotals
NCS			
	Newsletter Printing	\$792.64	
	Postage	\$526.82	
	Hall Rental	\$175.00	
	Fliers - printing	\$0.00	
	Refreshments/Food	\$110.00	
	Insurance	\$625.80	
	Dance and Music Teacher Fees	\$300.00	
	Airfares	\$600.00	
	Filing Fees, Memberships, Supplies	\$45.00	\$3,175.26

Northern California Spelmanslag Annual Financial Statement		Page 2 of 2 October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008	
<b>Expenses (Continued)</b>			
Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag			
Bank Charges		\$0.00	
Rent		\$3000.00	
Insurance		\$401.67	
Admin & Misc		\$146.72	
Music & Dance Teacher Fees		\$0.00	
Supplies		\$436.04	
NG Spelemanslag Printing		\$100.00	
CA state sales tax		\$28.00	
Camp Norge Rent		\$1514.00	
Camp Norge Refreshments		\$1060.30	
Camp Norge Reservation Deposit		\$200.00	
Camp Norge Music & Dance Teacher Travel		\$900.00	
Camp Norge Music & Dance Teacher Fees		\$0.00	
Camp Norge Aministration& Misc		\$330.41	
CN Teacher Training Rent		\$0.00	
CN Teacher Training Teacher Fees		\$0.00	
CN Teacher Training Teacher Travel		\$0.00	\$8117.14
Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance		\$0.00	\$0.00
Scandiadans			
Rent		\$2425.00	
Insurance		\$162.70	
Refreshments		\$74.91	
Subscription		\$15.00	
Dance CDs&Videos		\$227.00	\$2904.61
Nordic Footnotes			
Rent		\$1825.00	
Insurance		\$86.43	
Supplies		\$0.00	\$1911.43
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$16,108.44</b>
<b>Net Income</b>			<b>\$1,298.27</b>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>			<b>\$40,840.72</b>
<b>Beginning Balance + Net Income</b>			<b>\$42,138.99</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>			
NCS			\$17,448.97
Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag			\$17,853.33
Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance			\$1,161.97
Scandiadans			\$2,916.59
Nordic Footnotes			\$2,758.13
<b>Total Ending Balance</b>			<b>\$42,138.99</b>