

Northern California Spelmanslag News

Promoting Scandinavian Folk Music and Dance

August 2008

Southern California Skandia Festival 2008

November 27-30

Johan Einar Bjerkem and

Torunn Hernes Bjerkem

Einar Olav Larsen and

Ingebjørg Larsen

Lena Jonsson

Toby Weinberg

Cedar Glen Camp, California

Johan and Torunn will teach dance.

Torunn and Johan Einar Bjerkem have given many courses in Norwegian folk dance in general, and from the Trøndelag area in particular. They teach all over Europe and the US. They also train people who want to become instructors, or already are instructors and want to develop even further. Torunn has been the co-developer of the instructor's course for teaching children folkdance and theatre for Noregs Ungdomslag (www.ungdomslag.no), and has written the syllabus for the instructor's course for adults in Norwegian folk dance. Torunn and Johan have their own company called Bjerkem Natur og Kultur DA (www.bjerkem.com). Some of the dances that they will be teaching include: Innherredspols (perhaps a different view than we have seen before) and other dances from their area that they have learned in tradition, and some figure dances. They like to tailor their program as the weekend develops.

Johan Einar Bjerkem majored in Norwegian Literature on Fairy Tales in Trøndelag. He has also studied Norse philology, history, Nordic languages and literature, folk dance and pedagogy. He has published four books and written several articles on Norwegian culture. He is on the Board of Riksscenen – The Norwegian Hub for Traditional Music and Dance, www.riksscenen.no, and has been Leader of Noregs

(Continued on page 2)

Scandia Camp Mendocino

June, 2008,

Review

From Norway:

Sissel Rudningen, teaching dance of Hallingdal

Bjørn Lien, teaching dance of Hallingdal

Hilde Kirkebøen, providing music of Hallingdal

From Sweden:

Britt-Marie Olsson and **Sven Olsson**,

teaching dances of Värmland

Ann-Marie Forsberg, playing fiddle

Gert Ohlsson, playing fiddle & nyckelharpa

Ann-Marie Forsberg, fiddle tunes taught, Värmland

“Lars i Kontere”, e. Lars Henriksson,

Fryksdalen polska, SvL 34

Knöl Lars, Klarälvdalen polska

Bonden och Råven, song,

Brännvinslåt, e. Gås Anders, Uppland

Polska e. Johan Skaar fr. Svanskog, , Nr. 46

Polska e. Anders Olsson, Klarälvsdalen, SvL 164

Vals “e. fadern”, e. Carl Johan Björklund,

Norra Råda, SvL 99

Polska “e. fadern” e. Carl Johan Björklund,

SvL 85

Gert Ohlsson, fiddle tunes taught Värmland

Polska e. Anders Olsson, Klarälvsdalen, SvL 165

(Continued on page 6)

Newsletter Inside:

| | |
|---|-------|
| The Dance, by Meredith Bruce | 3 |
| Gert Ohlsson and Ann-Marie Forsberg, Cultural Hour Lecture at Scandia Camp | 4 |
| Scandiadans, Thursdays | 7 |
| Oakland Dance Parties | 7 |
| South Bay Dance Parties | 7 |
| Sacramento Class | 8 |
| Internet Sites | 8 |
| Calendar | 9– 12 |

(Continued from page 1)

Southern California

Ungdomslag (The Norwegian Society for Youths, www.ungdomslag.no). He is a recognized speaker and instructor of miscellaneous aspects of folk culture. He is the director of Hilmarfestivalen—Mid-Norway's biggest folk music Festival (www.hilmarfestivalen.no)

Torunn Hernes Bjerkem, An all-round graduate from the universities in Oslo and Trondheim, and Norges Idrettshøgskole (Norwegian College of Sports), she is a pedagogue and instructor and is well-trained as a communicator. She is currently hired by Steinkjer Kommune (www.steinkjer.kommune.no) to run a project to get land-owners to take good care of their cultural environment and ancient monuments. As managing director of Norges Barne og Ungdomskorforbund (The Norwegian Child and Youth Chorus Organization, www.nobu.no), national team coach in synchronized swimming, and many other activities, she has proven her skills as an organizer.

Einar and Ingebjørg will teach music.

Einar Olav Larsen is a professional musician. He studied music at the Ole Bull Academy and the Grieg Academy. He has won the national prize in fiddle playing several times and has had numerous engagements in Trøndelag and other parts of the world. Einar Olav has been granted the State Art Scholarship for young newly-established artists. He plays both ordinary fiddle and Hardingfele. He is perhaps the best caretaker of the tradition after the great fiddler Hilmar Alexandersen.

Ingebjørg Larsen is Einar Olav's sister, and soon to be a medical doctor (next year). Growing up in a folk-music family, she plays the fiddle with elegance and has great knowledge of the Trøndelag and Norwegian folk-music tradition.

All four of these teachers are greatly influenced by the folk culture of Trøndelag, and together they hope to create a little Trøndelag in California for a few days.

Special Appearances:

Lena Jonsson is a live-wire young Swedish fiddler who delighted and charmed some of us at Scandia Camp Mendocino in 2005. She was just awarded

Rikspellman and is touring the U.S. this Fall. She will be at Julian to share her energy. She is an excellent teacher of Hälsingland and Darlana fiddle tunes.

Toby Weinberg is a well known American musician who plays both flat fiddle and hardangar fiddle. He has worked with the Johan Einar and Torunn and is coming to Julian at their request.

Cedar Glen Camp is located near the small town of Julian. Driving time is approximately 1½ hours inland from Oceanside or 1 hour northeast from San Diego. You may arrive Thursday afternoon or evening to get situated. There is no meal service on Thursday. Workshops begin Friday morning after breakfast and conclude Sunday afternoon after lunch. Please try to make ride arrangements with people from your area. We will attempt to help coordinate transportation from airports but we cannot guarantee rides for any campers.

Dancers: \$295, Musicians: \$295. Make check payable to Southern California Skandia Festival (SCSF).

Send application and one SASE to:

Darlene Martin, 5140 Keynote St.,
Long Beach, CA 90808

Contact: <darmar2@earthlink.net> or

<tedmart@juno.com>, or Darlene: (562)225-8299,

<<http://www.dancin-fool.com/scandia.html>>

**The Northern California Spelmanslag News
is published quarterly.**

The NCS News is also online at:

<members.aol.com/jglittle/ncs.html>

Deadline for next issue: October 20, 2008

Send articles, and calendar information, and comments to:

Marie Kay Hansen, editor NCS News,

(209)836-5494,

<briza1@comcast.net>,

or

15564 Rancho Ramon Dr., TRACY, CA, 95304-9754

To update Web Page Calendar between issues,

send information to: Jim Little, (650)323-2256

560 Kingsley Ave, Palo Alto CA 94301-3224

<james.little@sri.com>

Address all other correspondence to:

Northern California Spelmanslag

560 Kingsley Ave, PALO ALTO CA 94301-3224

The Dance

by Meredith Bruce

Lucy stood at the edge of the dance floor. Her slight smile reflected her hopefulness. She had planned for days to come to this dance party. Her long-sleeved, simply tailored pink blouse, carefully ironed and then as carefully slipped on over her light brown hair, made her cheeks pink too. She smoothed her deep blue rayon skirt. It was full, but not too full. Just right for the Swedish turning dances she was eager to do.

The musicians began. Lucy knew this dance. She looked around. There was Johnny coming her way with his Hollywood cowboy stride. Handsome, with curly dark hair, he smiled.

“Wanna dance?” he asked. His blue eyes took her in.

“Yes,” Lucy said happily. “Thanks.”

They walked side by side, getting the rhythm and count. He put his right arm around her waist and she held it just under his shoulder with her left hand. Their free hands met in front.

“Oh, you feel good, Lucy. Been dancing a lot?”

“As much as I can. We do hold hands while we walk, right?”

“Right, just walking along, until...” He swung in front, facing her and they were off. It was a Boda Polska. She took her two quick steps and settled into the pulse of the dance, her right arm firmly placed around his back. The music carried them.

“How long have we been doing this dance, Lucy?”

“A long time, Johnny.” It felt good, their rhythm was strong. First he stepped, then she stepped, her right foot between his feet, then a powerful step as she reached her left around him to help his rotation.

“I love how we lift and fall in this dance, don’t you,” Lucy asked.

“Yes, and you really do it. I never have to work to get us around.”

“It’s that heart thing, isn’t it.” Lucy said. They had whirled out of the step and were walking again. One...two/one...two/one...

“You mean two hearts beating as one?”

”Yes, remember the story you told me, about pieces of two hearts placed in a Petri dish in a lab, each beating...”

“Oh, right, and they both end up with the same beat.”

Johnny began the turning step and pulled Lucy toward him. Two quick steps and again they were in the music, in the pulse and rhythm of the dance.

“Good, it’s good” Johnny murmured. Lucy smiled. It was good. A three-minute romance of perfect movement, perfect fit. She liked his body and was pleased that he wasn’t afraid to dance close, the way they were told the Swedes do. His chest was firm, his arm strong, holding her close but with the core of space necessary for their balance as they turned.

The music ended. They stopped and grinned at each other and hugged.

“Thanks, Johnny, it was great.”

“Yep, a good one,” he said and walked with her a few steps. Then he was off after another partner, and she smiled around the room and looked for her next one.

Gert Ohlsson and Ann-Marie Forsberg
Cultural Hour Lecture at Scandia Camp Mendocino, 2008
Transcription and editing by Marie Kay Hansen, from video by Fred Bialy

Carl Johan Björklund, Klarälvsdalen

Gert begins the lecture:

In 1971, we played a vals by Carl Johan Björklund's father, Jan Calsa, on a TV program. A man contacted Ann-Marie afterwards, saying that Carl Johan Björklund was his grandfather. He was not a fiddler, but had a big interest in his grand father's music. We had many meetings with him. One day he told us that he had a box. "Would we like to look in it?" In the box was original written music from Carl Johan Björklund. This man was just about to throw it away! There were notes for 78 polskas and vales that were put into the Svenska Låtar for Värmland. When we looked in the box, there were much more. There were also schottises. The schottis is too modern for Svenska Låtar. It takes only polska, vals, and march.

The Svenska Låtar for Värmland, came out in 1930. This was a time when a couple of men were traveling around collecting music from each landskap (except the northern part). This is our " bible", as we say!

Carl Johan Björklund's father was from Dalby, but came to Hagfors because of a big fire in the forest. They needed everyman to help. They worked many days and stayed in the houses there. He met a nice girl there, married, and had 12 children. They say Carl Johan Björklund was the only one who became a fiddler. But we know that one of the girls was also clever to play the fiddle.

Carl Johan Björklund was born in 1862. In Aug, 1950, he died. We never met him. His father played with Lejsme Per who (died in 1907) and learnt a lot of tunes of him. Lejsme Per played in 99 weddings only in Klarälvsdalen. Each wedding was three to five days long.

Carl Johan Björklund liked modern things. He bought an accordion (one row). He was the first to play the accordion in Hagfors. He was then thirteen years old!

Adolf Lång

We will talk about how we found this music. We have not been to any workshops at all. We had to find our own way to get these tunes.

We had heard about a fiddler in Dalby (northern Värmland). He was Adolf Lång (1895-1981). I went to visit him two days after our daughter Karin was born in 1972. I talked to him. Suddenly, he started to play. I understood that here was something interesting!

So both my wife and I visited him. He had had a stroke and had trouble to play. He really wanted to teach these tunes. I sat beside him. Ann-Marie was sitting with paper, writing.

Ann-Marie continues the story:

Mostly, when we come to people, they are always so kind to us. "This is so good!" "You are so good!" Adolf Lång didn't. He said, "Why do you do it that way?" Gert would try to play it after him and do the same thing. Adolf Lång would say, "You are a young person. You should know how to make these triplets!" "You should do it like this!" He was a good teacher. He thought we were doing a parody! He got so angry! He told us what to do. We tried to do what he told until he was happier.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Gert Ohlsson and Ann-Marie Forsberg

Gert continues the story:

He played it over and over again. It was difficult to figure out how he meant it to be! He was more and more angry. He sat up and took some pills for his heart.

(Ann-Marie and Gert play the tune. It is Gret-Eriks polska.)

It took four hours to get that tune--and lots of heart attack pills and angry attacks! Adolf Lång smoked a pipe. He took that pipe and hit on the ash tray. It broke into pieces. Sophia, his wife, came in and said, "What are you doing with my husband?"

When he was 5 years old, he was at the shoemaker. He saw a fiddle on the wall. He asked the shoemaker if he would play for him. The shoemaker played a polska he had learned from an old fiddler when he was young. So, the tune was from the beginning of the 18th century! The shoemaker was named Nökter (sober). That wasn't typical for him! We call this tune Nökterlåten. Adolf Lång played it in E. After the third or fourth time, he changed his mind and played it in D.

Some years later, in January of 1981, they were making a TV program. Adolf Lång was rather sick in bed. Sophia had called us to say that Adolf wants to play today. We called the men making the recording for a TV-programme (Ann-Marie was working with them) and said, "Just drive to Dalby now! Now Adolf can talk and he is sitting up." He played Nökterlåten. But he changed his mind again! He wanted one of the phrases played twice. We had to do it because otherwise he would be so angry!

Adolf Lång died three months later.

Collecting tunes and dances

Ann-Marie continues:

Just a little bit about how it is when you try to find tunes and dances. You make lots of journeys with very little results. You are meeting with people, having lots of coffee, but not always do you get what you had expected.

We heard about a very talented fiddler in the very north of Sweden (Finnkoga) who has played very much at weddings and parties. He was not well, and was living with his daughter near to us. So we met and played together. He couldn't play anything but popular music he had heard recently. All of the old tunes were gone. We were a little disappointed, but didn't show that. So, more talking and talking, coffee and buns.

"Did you play much for dances? What did they dance?" "Oh, let me show you!" He was very frail, but he danced the Finnskoga polska. We thought, "Will he fall down dead?" So we tried to stop him a little. He was the one who told us it is called the Slängpolska because you throw the lady. Otherwise, it is exactly the same as Klarälvsdals polska. But they have a faster movement and more of the jumping.

So we were happy with that. So, more coffee. "Oh, we had halling too!" He held on the sofa and danced the whole halling for us. We wrote and wrote, and had more coffee.

Then, our daughter woke up and started to cry. "Oh, you have a baby! Do you sing lullabies for her? Do you do this one?" He sang 10 or 15 lullabies, and one was in Finnish! In Northern Sweden, the Finns came to burn away the forest to grow things.

I was making living for some years collecting music, songs, and dances. That was a very happy time! We have never seen a woman, a man, and a fiddler at the same time playing and dancing the same tune. We have a

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Gert Ohlsson and Ann-Marie Forsberg

man here, a lady there, and a fiddler here. You have to put it together yourselves. You can never be sure you have the best example. The best thing we can do is to guess. We try it out to see if it goes together. On the details, we don't know. For example, we don't know how to go from the försteg to the bakmes.

Gert continues:

I was a music teacher in the 1970s. When I was traveling around, I could see that all the fiddlers were 50 to 60 years old. I was about 20! I was wondering what will happen in 10 to 20 years. So, that is why I started a workshop for children. The first one was in 1971.

I also started the Ransätersstämman at that time. I was the leader of the Ransätersstämman for 30 years.

The workshop is for ages 11-17. They play only folk music on the violin for one week. That was quite new! To be sure that they would not be a copy of my playing, I invited fiddlers. So no one can hear who is my student.

That workshop is still going. My students from the 1970s are the teachers now.

The Ransätersstämman is going on and developing without me. I had to be the strong boss in the beginning. I thought at that time that I knew everything! I was young!



Artwork by
Margaret Loomis

*(Continued from page 1)***Mendocino Review**

Kniv Anders Polska, e. Adolf Lång, Värmland
Halling fr. Nedre Ullerud, SvL 167
Polska e. Anders Olsson, Klarälvsdalen, SvL 166

Gert Ohlsson Nyckelharpa tunes taught, Värmland
Bergslag Polska e. Eric Sahlström
Brännvinslåten, e. Gås Anders, Uppland
Schottis På Karlshov av Gert Ohlsson
Polska e. August Bohlin
Lusten (hambo) av Gert Ohlsson

Hilde Kirkebøen, Hallingdal tunes taught
Dekkolåtten (DenBlårandutte)
Sølve-Knut e. Sevat Sataøen
Skuslen
Tjedbalen e. Jens Myro
Muraren Halling
Spretten Halling
Den Som Rullar e. Golvet

Sissel Rudningen and Bjørn Lien,
dance taught Hallingspringar

Britt-Marie Olsson and Sven Olsson,
dances taught, Värmland
Rennlender fr. Funäsdalen
Hambo och Bakmes fr. Hede, Härjedalen
Polkettering, Hambo och Bakmes fr. Lillhärdal,
Härjedalen
Byte Schottis fr. Värmland
Slängpolska fr. Svanskog
Bakmes o Slängpolska fr. Övre Klarälvsdalen
Slängpolska fr. Finnskoga
Hambo fr. Nikkala

Songs taught by **Sissel**

Ho Mor Ho Sulla
Timremann (springar)
Her Er Me Grannar (springar)
Lullaby
Vil Du Vera Vennen Min
Røtneimsknut
Kuem Du Tå Grøto (reinlender)

Songs taught by **Ann-Marie**

Binden och Raven
Kersti Du
name ?

South Bay Monthly Dance "1st Saturday Dance" and Teaching Session

Next few dances: Sept. 6th, Oct. 4th, and Nov. 1st.

The dance to be taught on Sept 6th will be halling-springar. Our teachers will be Betsy and Hugh, with Sarah playing. !

The teaching session is the hour before the dance party, from 7:30-8:30. Everyone is welcome! Come learn or review dances for yourself and help others. Let Jeanne know if you have a particular dance you would like taught or reviewed.

It's also an opportunity for teachers, experienced, and otherwise! Teach a favorite dance that doesn't get done often enough, test out how you want to teach a dance you haven't taught before, or venture into the teaching waters for the first time.

All musicians are welcome to play in the allspel or have your own set. Talk to Jeanne to get a time slot.

Our regular place is in Palo Alto at the First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Avenue.

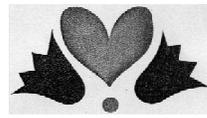
For more information:

Jeanne or Henry, (408)929-5602,
<jsawyer@SawyerPartnership.com>

Linda or Jim (650)323-2256,
<james.little@sri.com>

Sarah, (650)968-3126
<sarah.kirton@sbcglobal.net>

Sponsored by: Nordic Footnotes, and Northern California Spelmanslag, non-profit organizations.



Scandinavian Dance Parties in Oakland

Nature Friends Clubhouse

Next few dances: Sept. 13th, Oct. 11th, Nov. 8th.

Dance teaching: 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Dance with live music, 8:30 -11:00 pm

Musicians encouraged to play in the allspel!

The dances occur every month on the second Saturday. Cost: \$7.00. For less than the price of a movie (~\$7.00) you can enjoy an evening of music and dance amongst new and old friends. Feel free to bring snacks.

Directions to 3115 Butters Dr., Oakland, CA, see "Scandiadans" column on this page.

Contact: Jane Tripi at (510)654-3636,
<fjtripi@juno.com>, or Brooke Babcock (415)334-3455, <forbroke@juno.com>

Scandiadans Thursdays in Oakland

This class starts its new season on September 4th with beginners teaching and open dancing. Frank and Jane are very encouraging and helpful teachers! They have been teaching this class for many years. Come regularly! Each week, one new dance is taught and old ones reviewed. The cost is \$3.00 per class. Thursdays, 7 - 10 pm.

Oakland Nature Friends Center,
3115 Butters Dr., Oakland, CA..

Take Hwy 13 to Joaquin Miller Rd, go east (up the hill)~ 1/2 mile, second right onto Butters Dr., go another 1/2 mile. On the right, look for post with 3115 on it (also "Scandiadans" sign). Take driveway down to a large parking area.

Contact: Jane Tripi or Frank Tripi at (510)654 -3636, <fjtripi@juno.com>.

Scandinavian Dance Class

Sacramento

Fun Exercise & New Friends!

Monday Evenings. The next session runs from September 8, 2008 through October 20, 2008, but no class will meet on October 13. Check the website for further sessions.

Scandinavian Folk Dancing is taught in the Sacramento area in short courses of five to six sessions each, with breaks for holidays.

The class covers basic and some intermediate level dances, as well as good dance technique. Advanced dances may be requested during the last half hour, but generally the class will emphasize more fundamental skills. No previous experience is required. Singles & couples are welcome. Partners are rotated frequently to speed the learning process and give everyone a chance to participate.

Bring Leather Soled Shoes

Class Schedule:

Beginner dances and fundamentals: 7 - 8pm

Intermediate dances & review of beginner dances:
8 - 8:30pm

Request dancing: 8:30 - 9:30pm

Class is held under the auspices of the Arcade Creek Recreation & Park District, 916-482-8377, Brandi Marx, <bmarx@arcadecreekrecreation.com>. Cost is \$36.00 for six classes. On-line registration through the District at:

<<http://www.arcadecreekrecreation.com/>>

Location: Class is held indoors at Hamilton Street Park Community Center: 4855 Hamilton Street, Sacramento, CA 95841. (916) 482-8377

Contact: Marida (916) 358-2807



American Scandinavian Music and Dance Internet Sites

The Northern California Spelmanslag:

<<http://members.aol.com/jglittle/ncs.html>>

Sacramento, California Area

<<http://www.folkdance.com/scandi/>>

Los Angeles area Scandinavian Dance & Music:

<<http://www.dancin-fool.com/scandia.html>>

Portland Scandinavian dancing, Norske Runddansere,
Oregon: <<http://www.norskerunddansere.org/>>

Seattle, The Skandia Folkdance Society

<www.skandia-folkdance.org/>

Vancouver B.C., Scandinavian Dancers of Vancouver

<<http://www.vcn.bc.ca/scandi/upcom.html>>

Austin Scandinavian Dancing.

<www.austinscandi.org>

Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag

<<http://nyckelharpalag.googlepages.com>>

Twin Cities Hardingfelelag

<<http://www.tchardingfelelag.org>>

Chicagoland Scandinavian Dance

<<http://members.aol.com/DancingRoo>>

Scandia D.C.

<<http://users.erols.com/s526>>

Speledans: Boston's Scandinavian Dance Group:

<<http://ecf-guest.mit.edu/~jc/Speledans.html>>

Scandia Camp Mendocino:

<www.ScandiaCampMendocino.org>

Nordic Fiddles & Feet

<<http://www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org>>

The American Nyckelharpa Association:

<www.nyckelharpa.org>

The Hardangar Fiddle Association of America:

<www.hfaa.org>

Blue Rose, Karen Myers's Scandinavian WebSite:

<www.bluerose.KarenLMyers.org>

listserv, Scandinavian "Scand Digest":

<<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scand/>>

Norsk, Ltd., Recorded music for both dancing and listening. <<http://www.norsk.us>>

Calendar Regular Events — Northern California

- Mondays** **Weekly** Scandinavian Dance Class. Six week sessions. 7 - 9:30pm. Hamilton Street Park Community Center, Hamilton Street, Sacramento, CA 95841. Contact Marida Martin: (916)358-2807, or : <<http://www.folkdance.com/scandi/>>.
- Tuesdays** **Weekly** Weekly Scandinavian Session for Fiddlers and Nyckleharper. 8 - 10:30pm at home of Fred Bialy and Toby Blomé, 1925 Hudson Street, El Cerrito. Now on Tuesdays, most of the time. Contact ahead of time for updated schedule of gatherings or to be put on Fred's list . Contact: Fred or Toby, (510)215- 5974, <bialy10@comcast.net>.
- Wednesday** **Weekly** Nordahl Grieg Leikarring Performance Group. Masonic Hall, 980 Church St., Mountain View, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Contact: Anne Huberman or Greg Goodhue: (408)259-9959, <goodhue@hotmail.com>.
- Thursdays** **Weekly** Scandiadans. Teaching and open dancing, 7 - 10 pm, at Oakland Nature Friends, 3115 Butters Dr., Oakland, CA. Hwy 13 to Joaquin Miller Rd, east (up the hill), second right onto Butters Dr., go about 1/2 mile. On the right, look for post with 3115 on it (also "Scandiadans" sign). Take driveway down to a large parking area. Contact: Jane Tripi or Frank Tripi at (510)654-3636, <fjtripi@juno.com>.
- Fridays** **Weekly** Scandinavian Fiddle Class. 7:30 - 9:30 pm, often at Anita Siegel's, but location varies. Ask to be on class email list. Contact: Jeanne Sawyer, (408)929-5602, <jsawyer@SawyerPartnership.com>.
- 1st, 3rd, 5th Mondays** Scandinavian Folk Dance Class. Santa Cruz, 7:30 pm, Viking Hall, 240 Plymouth (at Button), Santa Cruz. Instruction in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Finnish folk dance by Ellen Moilanen. \$5/session. Everyone welcome. Contact: Ellen, (831)336 9972.
- 1st Fridays** **Monthly** Cultural Evenings in Santa Cruz. Usually at Viking Hall, Plymouth, at Button St., Santa Cruz. Contact: Michael Block at (831)336-9972, or: <sigdalkid@pcumail.com>.
- 1st Saturdays** **Monthly** Nordic Footnotes 1st Saturday Scandinavian Dance Party, 7:30 p.m. -12:00. The dance includes a teaching session just before the dance party, from 7:30-8:30. First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto. From Hamilton Ave., hall is in bldg. to right on 2nd floor. Parking behind church, on street, or garage on Webster. Contact: Jeanne or Henry, (408)929-5602, <jsawyer@SawyerPartnership.com>; Sarah Kirton (650)968-3126, <sarah.kirton@sbcglobal.net>, Jim Little or Linda Persson, (650)323-2256, <james.little@sri.com>.
- 1st Sundays** **Monthly** Nordahl Grieg Spelemannslag, 3 to 5pm, 1780 Begun Ave., Mountain View, CA 94040. Interested attendees should call Bill Likens at (650)969-2080 to confirm meeting dates.
- 2nd Saturdays** **Monthly** Open Sessions for Fiddlers, at the home of Fred Bialy ~ 2 - 5 pm. This is a practice

(Continued on page 10)

*(Continued from page 9)**Regular Events — Northern California*

session for the Second Saturday Scandinavian Dance. We meet at the home of Fred Bialy, 1925 Hudson Street, El Cerrito. Contact: Fred: (510)215 - 5974, <bialy10@comcast.net>. Call a few days ahead to confirm date, time and place.

- 2nd Saturdays Monthly Scandia 2nd Saturday Monthly Dance. Nature Friends in Oakland. Cost: \$7. Musicians encouraged to play. Dance teaching: 7:30 - 8:30 pm, Dancing, 8:30 - 11 pm. Directions see Scandiadans above. Contact: Jane Tripi or Frank Tripi at (510)654-3636, <fjtripi@juno.com>.
- 2nd Sundays Monthly Traveling Dance Class. Norwegian dance class meets 2 - 5 pm. Usually at Bjørnson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Blvd. in Oakland. Everyone welcome to attend. Contact: Gudrun Tollefson at (510)638-6454, or Gerd Syrstad at (650)363-2743.
- 2nd Sundays Monthly Barneleikkaring. (Children's Norwegian Dance) classes, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, at Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave., Los Gatos. Both location and day may change, so call ahead! Contact: Ginny Hansen (408)745-1595.
- 4th Sundays Monthly The El Dorado Scandinavian Dancers. Meeting at YLI in Sacramento at 27th & N. The Scandinavian dancing occurs between 3:30 - 5:30pm. The All-Request Party is from 5:30-6:30pm. Contact: Yvonne or Andre (916)632-8807, <yacouvillion@sbcglobal.net>, <<http://www.folkdance.com/scandi/>>.

Calendar, Special Events — Northern California

Keep your calendar open for the Scandia Festival in February in Petaluma and for Scandia Camp Mendocino in June.

Calendar, Special Events — United States

August 23 & 24, 2008 **Midwest Folklife Festival**, August 23 & 24, 2008. Ron Poast - Norwegian Hardanger Fiddle Maker (Both Days). Paul Wilson and Mary Abendroth - Scandinavian Music on Saturday.
Contact: <http://www.folklorevillage.org>

September 19-21,2008 **3rd annual Nyckelharpa Buskspel 2008**, Oregon. The buskspel will be at Marilee and Michael Cowan's house in the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area in Oregon. There is room for camping out in the yard or covered decks. It is 1 hour 20 minutes from Portland International Airport (PDX), and 20 minutes from Hood River, where there are many nice B&B's and other places to stay.
Contact: Marilee Cowan: <marilee.cowan@nyckelharpa.org>.

October 24-26, 2008 **Fall Swedish Dance & Music Weekend**
With special guest Lena Jonsson from Sweden! Not only do we have the wonderful Roo Lester and Larry Harding teaching dance, Paul Dahlin and family and members of the American Swedish Institute Spelmanslag on Fiddle, but we are also proud to present Lena Jonsson from Sweden teaching fiddle! Registration materials available soon.
Contact: <<http://www.folklorevillage.org>>

Nov 27-30, 2008 **Southern California Skandia Festival**. Johan Einar Bjerkem, Torunn Hernes Bjerkem, Einar Olav Larsen, Ingebjørg Larsen, Lena Jonsson, Toby Weinberg.
Contact: Darlene Martin, 5140 Keynote St., Long Beach, CA 90808, <darmar2@earthlink.net> or <tedmart@juno.com>, or Darlene: (562)225-8299, <<http://www.dancin-fool.com/scandia.html>>

June 12, 13, 2009 **10th Annual Nisswa-stämman**, Minnesota. A celebration of Scandinavian and Scandinavian/American folk music in northern Minnesota. Nisswa-stämman is a gathering of fiddlers, nyckelharpers, hardingfele players, accordionists, guitarists, vocalists, dancers, and general aficionados of Scandinavian folk music here in the "new world". A "spelmansstämma" provides the natural canvas for this happy co-mingling of folks.
Contact: <<http://www.nisswastamman.org>>

Calendar, Special Events — Scandinavia

There are **many** events listed at on the website of the Northern California Spelmanslag:
<members.aol.com/jglittle/ncs.html>. Have a look, or ask one of us with a computer to print it out for you.

Northern California Spelmanslag Mailing List Form

Name _____ Home phone _____

Address _____ Other phone _____

_____ email _____

_____ Musician ___ Dancer ___ Audience ___

May we publish your name, address, and phone on a Spelmanslag roster? _____

Do you want to receive information?: ___ music workshops: Swedish ___ Norwegian ___ Danish ___ Finnish ___

___ dance workshops: Swedish ___ Norwegian ___ Danish ___ Finnish ___

___ dance parties; Swedish ___ Norwegian ___ Danish ___ Finnish ___

___ concerts and performances: Swedish ___ Norwegian ___ Danish ___ Finnish ___

How are you able to help? Are you willing to bring potluck snacks and refreshments to Spelmanslag events? Are you willing to house out-of-town participants for Spelmanslag festivals, or entertain overseas visitors before or after a festival or camp?

Are you willing to volunteer for various tasks to help organize or run Spelmanslag events (making punch, set-up, clean-up, collecting admission, loaning/operating sound equipment, designing fliers, photocopying, playing for dances)?

Are you willing to write an article, take photos, or draw illustrations for our newsletter?

Donation: _____ \$15.00 ___ \$25.00 ___ \$50.00 ___ other

Send to: Northern California Spelmanslag, 560 Kingsley Ave, PALO ALTO CA 94301-3224

Donation is not necessary for membership.

Your tax-deductible donation helps the Spelmanslag bring over instructors from Scandinavia, and covers the costs of publishing and mailing fliers and newsletters. Any amount you can contribute is greatly appreciated!

See our web page at: <<http://members.aol.com/jglittle/ncs.html>>

Northern California Spelmanslag
A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation,
560 Kingsley Ave,
PALO ALTO CA 94301-3224



FIRST CLASS MAIL

