

# Northern California Spelmanslag News

ANNUAL REPORT

November, 2013

## 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 Spelemannslag), and Scandiadans Scandinavian dance class. The Northern California 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 twenty first 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.norcalspelmslag.org](http://www.norcalspelmslag.org)>. Besides basic information about the spelmslag 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](mailto:jsawyer@SawyerPartnership.com)
- Betsy McKone, Vice President,  
[recbetsy@aol.com](mailto:recbetsy@aol.com)
- Jim Little, Treasurer,  
[jglittle64@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:jglittle64@alumni.rice.edu)
- Frank Tripi, Secretary,  
[fjtripi@juno.com](mailto:fjtripi@juno.com)

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- Fred Bialy, Director ,  
bialy10@comcast.net
- Zena Corcoran, Director  
zmcorcoran@aol.com
- 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: 2012 -2013

During the 2012/2013 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 Spelemanslag (NGLS) hosted two weekend workshops at the Sons of Norway Camp near Alta, California in November 2012, and in April 2013.

The Nordahl Grieg Leikarring continues to be a busy performing group with 15 appearances this year.

NCS has provided Scandiadans, Nordahl Grieg Leikarring and Spelemanslag, 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

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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 Spelemannslag. Please note that only the income and expenses which fall in the fiscal year of 10/1/2012- 9/30/2013 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 Spelemannslag  
 NF: Nordic Footnotes  
 NCS: Northern California Spelmanslag  
 SCD: Scandiadans

## Regular Events:

Frequency;	Event type;	Sponsoring Group;	Location.
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 Spelemannslag meetings	NGS;	Mountain View
Monthly;	Barneleikarring	NGL/BL;	Los Gatos
Monthly	1st. Saturday Dance Class/Party;	NF;	Palo Alto

## Special Events, 2012—2013

Group	Date	Event	Guests	Location
NGLS	11/02 — 11/04	Stevne	Lee, Thompson, Weinberg, Likens	Camp Norge, Alta, CA
NGLS	4/12 — 4/14	Stevne	Sears, Laycock, Likens	Camp Norge, Alta, CA

NGL&S FY2013 Business Director's Report

October 4, 2013

Group(s)	Date	Event	Requesting Group	Location
B	12/1/2012	Lutefisk dinner	Nordahl Grieg Lodge	Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos, CA
B	12/16/2012	Xmas party	Nordahl Grieg Lodge	Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos, CA
S	1/12/2013	Leif Syrstad memorial service	Gerd Syrstad	Redwood City, CA
L	1/27/2013	Cultural Program	Norwegian Seamen's Church	Norwegian Seamen's Church, 2454 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA
L	4/6/2013	Smorgasbord	Olav Lodge	Lucas Valley Home Owners Assoc. Center, 1201 Idylberry Rd, San Rafael, CA
LS	5/4/2013	Norway Day	Norway Day Committee	Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA
LSB	5/5/2013	Norway Day	Norway Day Committee	Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA
L	5/17/2013	Syttende Mai	Nordahl Grieg Lodge	Nordahl Hall, 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos, CA
S	5/17/2013	Syttende Mai	Vigeland Lodge	Highlands Community Club, 1665 Fenside, Redwood City, CA
L	5/23/2013	School cultural program	Mayvid Maclay	Mission San Jose Elementary, 43545 Bryant St. Fremont, CA
L	6/1/2013	Park opening	Henrik Ibsen Lodge	Henrik Ibsen Park, Woodside, CA
L	9/15/2013	Tivoli Festival	Aldersly	Aldersly Retirement Community, 326 Mission Ave, San Rafael, CA

**Donations 2012-2013**

**Projected performances for the 2013 fiscal year:**

NGL	8
NGS	4
NGB	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

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

Zena Corcoran  
 Jim Little & Linda Persson  
 Carolyn Hunt  
 Fred Bialy

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

Jeanne & Henry Sawyer  
 Tom Fischer  
 Tom Smithberger  
 Al & Arla Bonnet  
 Bev Mann  
 Linda Mattson  
 Keith Eric Grant  
 Ted & Carol Martin

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

John Hennings  
 Karin Arneson  
 Jane Marx  
 Karen Armstrong  
 David Schwartz & Andrea Veltman

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Annual Financial Statement		October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013	
Income			
Income from Activities			Subtotals
NCS			
	Insurance Reimbursments	\$190.05	
			\$190.05
	Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag		
	NGLS Dues	\$650.00	
	NG Spelemanslag CDs	\$0.00	
	NG Spelemanslag Music books	\$0.00	
	Performances	\$750.00	
	Camp Norge Stevne Fees	\$4801.56	
	Camp Norge Teacher Training Fees	\$0.00	
			\$6201.56
	Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance - inactive		\$0.00
	Scandiadans - Thursday dance classes in Oakland		\$2549.00
	Nordic Footnotes- 1st Saturday Dances in Palo Alto& Menlo Park		\$1,344.00
Total Income from Activities			\$10284.61
Income from Contributions and Grants			
NCS			\$723.00
	Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag		\$1674.26
	Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance		
	Scandiadans		
	Nordic Footnotes		
Total Income from Contributions and Grants			\$2397.26
Interest Income			
NCS			\$1.82
	Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag		\$29.38
	Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance		\$0.00
	Scandiadans		\$0.00
	Nordic Footnotes		\$0.00
Total Interest Income			\$31.20
Total Income			\$12713.07
Expenses			
			Subtotals
NCS			
	Newsletter Printing	\$790.97	
	Postage	\$548.80	
	Hall Rental	\$0.00	
	Fliers - printing	\$0.00	
	Refreshments/Food	\$0.00	
	Insurance	\$190.00	
	Dance and Music Teacher Fees	\$0.00	
	Airfares	\$0.00	
	Filing Fees, Memberships, Supplies	\$40.00	\$1569.77

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Annual Financial Statement		October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013	
Expenses (Continued)			
Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag			
	Bank Charges	\$15.00	
	Rent	\$3640.00	
	Insurance	\$93.02	
	Admin & Misc	\$127.10	
	Music & Dance Teacher Fees	\$0.00	
	Supplies	\$0.00	
	NG Spelemanslag Printing&Postage	\$79.58	
	NG Spelemanslag CD production cost	\$0.00	
	CA state sales tax on CD & Music Book sales	\$0.00	
	Camp Norge Rent	\$1854.80	
	Camp Norge Food/Catering	\$1928.22	
	CA Sales tax on Camp Norge Food/Catering	\$152.75	
	Camp Norge Reservation Deposit	\$453.60	
	Camp Norge Music & Dance Teacher Travel	\$856.80	
	Camp Norge Music & Dance Teacher Fees	\$0.00	
	Camp Norge Administration& Misc	\$37.51	
	CN Teacher Training Rent	\$0.00	
	CN Teacher Training Teacher Fees	\$0.00	
	CN Teacher Training Teacher Travel	\$0.00	\$9238.38
	Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scandiadans			
	Rent	\$2500.00	
	Insurance	\$53.49	
	Refreshments	\$114.00	
	Subscription	\$0.00	
	Federation dues	\$40.00	\$2707.49
Nordic Footnotes			
	Rent	\$800.00	
	Insurance	\$43.54	
	Supplies	\$14.14	
	Hall Deposit	\$0.00	
	Federation dues	\$0.00	\$857.68
Total Expenses			\$14373.32
Net Income (Total Income-Total Expenses)			-\$1660.25
Beginning Balance			\$44510.03
Beginning Balance + Net Income			\$42849.78
Ending Balances			
	NCS		\$17973.87
	Nordahl Grieg Leikkarring og Spelemanslag		\$17017.89
	Mid-Peninsula Scandinavian Dance		\$1161.97
	Scandiadans		\$3414.49
	Nordic Footnotes		\$3281.56
Total Ending Balance			\$42849.78