



# Smilin' Scandinavians

Toby Hanson, Bandleader

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"Just about everyone I talked with commented on the professionalism, showmanship and just great dancing music they provided at each of their four performances. What a fine group of accomplished professional musicians!!"

-Al Aman, Entertainment Director of 2001 Rocky Mountain Accordion Celebration

"The Smilin' Scandinavians are a tour-de-force group. They mix comedy with very professional musicianship. They rocked the place. We're having them back again."

-Shawn Sarringar, Too Many Cooks Productions

"...the [Smilin'] Scandinavians convinced me. These guys and gals know their tunes and they trust themselves enough to play them for real."

-Wm. Steve Humphrey, *the Stranger*

"Thank you very much for a wonderful performance as part of the Kent Summer Concert Series. It was a delight to work with you and our audience truly enjoyed the performance."

"The concert was a great success with an enthusiastic crowd. The Smilin' Scandinavians were well received and your performance added to the quality and diversity of Kent's cultural activities. I am proud to have your band as a part of our program."

-Rhonda Billerbeck, Cultural Programs Manager, Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services

The Smilin' Scandinavians polka band plays for stage shows and dances. The band, which started at Cornish College in May 1995, has built a solid reputation as the Northwest's most fun polka band. They have toured the Midwest twice and released three recordings on the Lutefisk Records label which receive airplay regularly on polka stations across the country.

The band brings a fresh, lively approach to polka music blending Midwestern polka, Scandinavian folk, traditional country western and big band swing, all with a dash of folksy, homespun humor and sterling musicianship. One of their lively, spirited shows has the unique ability to break down an audience's inhibitions and show almost anyone a rollicking good time. This is NOT your father's polka band.

Band members include Toby Hanson (bandleader, accordion, vocals); Danna Hanson (vocals); Mike Woolf (tuba); Erick Cohn (drums); Glenn Dudley (banjo/guitar); and Eric Likkel (sax/clarinet).

Performance credits include the Leavenworth Maifest, 2002-03, 2006; Kimberley Int'l Old-Time Accordion Championships, 2003 (Canada); Red Lodge Festival of Nations (Montana), 2006; Septoberfest Montana, 2003; Uncle Otto's Oktoberfest, 2003; Issaquah Salmon Days, 2002-04 (2x); University District Street Fair, 2001-02, 2005; SeaTac International Festival, 2001-02; Ballard Seafoodfest, 2002-03; Cowlitz County Fair, 1997-2000; Northwest Folklife, 1997-06; Yakima Folklife Festival, 2001; Des Moines Waterland Festival 1998-2002 (5x); Puyallup Fair, 1998; Seaside, OR Parks Concert, 1999; Edmonds City Parks Concert, 1999-01, 2005; Lynnwood Fantastic Friday Concert, 2001; Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival, 2000; Portland Grand Scandinavian Ball, 2001-03 (2x); Portland Scandinavian Midsommarfest, 2001; Elliott Bay Brewpub Oktoberfest, 1999-06; Hugo Helmer Oktoberfest, 1999-2001; McCormick Woods Oktoberfest, 1999-03 (4x); Snowbird Oktoberfest (Utah), 2001-02; Rocky Mountain Accordion Celebration, 2001-06; Irrigon, OR Watermelon Festival, 2001; Benton County Fair (Oregon), 2000; Ironworld Polkafest (Minnesota), 2000-05; Big Sky Polka Club (Montana), 2000; New Leipzig Oktoberfest (North Dakota), 2000; and many private engagements.