



# 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.”

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

**What makes a polka band so special?** Memories of a Midwestern childhood? Stories about the Old Country? Whatever it is, the Smilin' Scandinavians have it and they've been sharing it with audiences all around the Northwest and beyond for nearly twenty-five years. Since that time they've traveled around the US and Canada playing everywhere from small ethnic enclaves to Las Vegas casinos. When you want a lively, energetic band, you want the Smilin' Scandinavians!

**What makes this polka band so special?** A performance of the Smilin' Scandinavians draws from a collection of lively polkas (Scandinavian, German, Czech, Slovenian), old-time country and big band swing with folksy humor and superb musicianship. They have the ability to capture an audience's attention and break down their inhibitions, showing everyone a rollicking good time. They're equally at home everywhere from the largest Oktoberfests to the most intimate concert venues.

**Who are the Smilin' Scandinavians?** Bandleader, accordionist, and singer Toby Hanson; two-time Washington State Tuba Champion Mike Woolf; drummer Erick Cohn; banjo and guitar player Glenn Dudley; and clarinet/saxophone virtuoso Eric Likkel.

**Where have we played?** Southwest Polka Party at the Orleans Casino in Las Vegas, Leavenworth Oktoberfest; Oktoberfest NW; Snowbird Oktoberfest (UT); PLU Oktoberfest; Tulalip Casino Oktoberfest; Taste of Tacoma; Washington State Fair; Evergreen State Fair; King Co. Fair; Mason County Fair; Jefferson Co. Fair; Cowlitz Co. Fair; Benton Co. (OR) Fair; RFD-TV Polkafest in Branson, MO; International Polkafest in Chisholm, MN; Kimberley, BC Accordion Championships; Red Lodge, MT Festival of Nations; Astoria Scandinavian Festival; Finnfest; SeaTac International Festival; Skagit Valley Tulip Festival; Pierce County Ethnic Fest; Ballard Seafood Fest; Bremerton Blackberry Festival; Capital Lakefair; Tri-Cities Nordic Fest and many private engagements.