

2007 Scandia Camp Mendocino

Several dozen Scandinavian dancers and musicians gathered at the historic Mendocino Woodlands, a State Park in the Redwoods near the ocean last week.

We all stayed in rustic cabins, and shared wonderful dances, beautiful music and marvelous food. In addition there were talks given on arts, crafts, and instruments in the daily culture presentations.

There was singing, costumes and a wonderful feeling of camaraderie. We had teachers for fiddle and dance from Norway and Sweden. The nyckelharpa sessions were led by Becky Weis, who taught us all to improve our playing and inspired us to continue to grow our repertoires and refine our skills. We performed for dances on several occasions, and the feeling of standing in the center of the dance floor and being surrounded by dancers who are moving to the sounds of our 112 collective strings is exhilarating!

Plan to join us next June and be a part of this international diplomacy...building links between Scandinavia and America.

Scandia camp was the next best thing to actually taking a trip to Scandinavia, as some of the best Scandinavian dancers and musicians come to us at the Mendocino Woodlands. The experience is enhanced by the videos which each camper can acquire as a reminder of the wonderful sights and sounds of camp.

-- Laurel Paulson-Pierce, Butte County, California