

## Boulder Spelemannslag

### Assistance with Costumes

*\$500 Grant from the Alex "Tink" Wilson Legacy Fund - April 2016*

The Boulder Spelemannslag is an ensemble of young musicians who play music for Scandinavian dancing, under the direction of Sharon Gillespie.

This Alex "Tink" Wilson grant was a follow-on to the Spelemannslag's 2013-2014 grant, which supported a fund-raising event with a workshop, family dance and silent auction, as well as several Scandinavian costumes for the players.

The current grant was used for eight more handmade Norwegian shirts, which were sewn by Sheila Morris. The remaining funds were used to buy the cuff links necessary for the new shirts.



The group has been in existence for more than 30 years and has performed in Lindsborg, Kansas, as well as several venues in Colorado.

Children can join the group around 4th or 5th grade and "graduate" at the end of high school, but remain members for life, many of them gathering annually to play together after graduation.

The group rehearses weekly, learning the tunes by ear. As of April 2016 there were 17 members playing numerous instruments—guitar, violin, nyckelharpa (keyed fiddle, a Swedish folk instrument), and Hardanger fiddle/hardingfele (an 8-string Norwegian fiddle), with occasional guests on accordion and bass.

