Finnish Center Association

FCA News



FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

June/July 2012

NOVI COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND

JUNE 1st 7:00 pm

Dinner 5-8 pm

Call FCA for reservations.



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Member Application

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CANCELS RE-VOTE OF ANNUAL MEETING

In a special board meeting requested by three of the newly elected trustees, a motion was passed to rescind the previously passed motion to re-vote the election of trustees and committee chairs that were elected by proxy voting at the FCA annual meeting of February 19, 2012.

In support of their motion, the newly elected trustees stated that they had accepted their individual positions on the board and had begun to function in these respective positions. It was their position and interpretation of Roberts Rules of Order, that at this point in time, the election could not properly be re-voted.

The contention caused by the proxy votes brought into the annual meeting by approximately four members and the resulting control of the events at the annual meeting, has been very stressful for the entire FCA board, both the new trustees and the trustees already serving on the board. It is your Chairman's opinion that the use of proxy voting without the board's knowledge and without being administered by the board of trustees, was an unfair act perpetrated against the whole membership of the FCA.

I want to make it clear and emphasize that the issue is not about the individuals that were elected, but rather about the manner in which the election was conducted. The secret use of proxy votes by a very few individual members, in my opinion, and in the opinion of many members I have conversed with, disenfranchises the total membership. It is my hope and challenge to the FCA trustees, that they would strive to put in place by board motion and approval, a clear delineation of how the annual meeting voting will be conducted. If proxy votes are to be allowed, they should be sent out to the total membership by the board of trustees prior to the annual election, and returned to the board of trustees. The proxy votes should also be accompanied by brief information on each candidate for elected office.

This whole issue has used up a tremendous amount of time and energy. This represents time and energy that could have been better spent on developing the financial health and future of the FCA. The Finnish Center is a stellar organization, one that I am very honored to serve as Chairman of the Board. I am going to exhort the board of trustees to take what action is necessary to prevent a repetition of this unfortunate situation.

Cortland R. Book, Chairman

WEEKLY EVENTS

Finnish American Singers

Mondays 7 pm to 9 pm (no rehearsal in Summer)

Library

Open Mondays 9 am to 2 pm

NikkarinTalo Mondays 9 am

Finlandia Garden Club

Mondays 9 am

MONTHLY EVENTS

Gift Shop—Meeting 2nd Monday 1 pm Card and Game Party 1st Wednesday 11 am-4 pm Finnish Conversation 1st Friday of the month 10 am Book Club Last Monday of month, 1 pm

MAY

12 Mother's Day Potluck 1-4 pm

16 101st Luncheon 11 am

19 Rental

19 Finnish Language Class 10:30 am

20 Suomi Koulu 11:30 am

20 Scholarship Reception 2:30 pm

20 FASM Spring Concert 3 pm

21 Scholarship Committee 11:30 am

23 Rental 6:30 pm

Open House 1-4 pm

28 Memorial Day—Closed

JUNE

1 Novi Community Concert Band 7 pm- Dinner 5-8 pm

2 Rental

6 Rental 6:30 pm

7 Board Meeting 6:30 pm

10 Rental 1-5:30 pm

10 NO BRUNCH

13 101st Luncheon 11:00 am

17 Father's Day

20 Rental

Open House 1-4 pm

JULY

4 Independence Day-Closed

14 Rental 6 pm

Open House 1-4 pm

Neil J. Lehto

Attorney and Counselor At Law

nlehto@sbcglobal.net

4051 Wakefield Road Berkley, Michigan 48072



FLEA MARKET THANKS

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who helped make the April Flea Market the success it was.

Norbert & Luise Leppanen, Bruce Mikko, Carl Aebersold and Cortland Book did a great job with hall set up, break down and clean up. Nancy Rajala, chair for concession area, helper Molly Macaulay and Luise Leppanen, chair for the bake sale, did a superb job of organization, presentation and sales.

Thank you also to the bakers: Lila Ball, Lil Heikkinen, Maria Hill, Hilkka Ketola, Linda Klenczar, Margaret Laurila, Luise Leppanen, Jeannette Sharpe, Nancy Rajala, Marlene Ruuskanen and Kay Simo, the FCA Bakers for pulla and the FCA Pasty Makers for the pasties. Thanks also goes to those who helped cashier at the bake sale: Lila Ball, Shirley Belttari, Hannah Carlson, Luise Leppanen, Marlene Ruuskanen and Jeannette Sharpe. Concession cashiers: Cheri Lehto, Kay Simo and Molly Macaulay. Last but not least, Alice Manley who worked the FCA tables

Great job everyone! Denise Book, Chair

Maynes Insurance

2450 Old Novi Rd, Novi, MI (248) 668-5800, FAX (248)-668-5803

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AUTO - HOMEOWNERS -PROPERTY - CASUALTY -WORKERS COMPENSATION - 35200 W. Eight Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108 Tel: (248) 478-6939 Fax: (248) 478-5671 fcacenter@sbcglobal.net www.finnishcenter.org

Officers

Cortland Book, Chairman Lois Makee, Vice Chairman Marlene Ruuskanen, Secretary

Board of Trustees

l Year Gerald Malstrom, Roger Wanttaja, Lois Makee

2 Year

Frank Gottberg, Cortland Book, David Sharpe

3 Year

Carl Aebersold, Olli Lamminen, Marlene Ruuskanen

Alternates

#1 Ruben Nayback #2 Francis Fadie #3 Gayle Gullen

Financial Review

Neil Manley, Jr., Dagmar Malstrom Marlene Ruuskanen

Treasurer

Christine Johnson

Committee Chairpersons

Building & Grounds

Frank Gottberg

<u>Cultural</u>

Carl Aebersold & Hilka Ketola

Education Hanna Hall

Finance

Mia Lanmminen

Gift Shop

Margaret Laurila

Mailing

George Koskimaki

Membership

Mia Lamminen

Publicity & Publications

Nancy Sannar

Social

Ilene Yanke

Sunshine Lady

Eunice Potti Gould

Garden Club

David Sharpe

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Paul C. Hendrickson, Chairman

Tapiola Village Laura Fultz, Manager 248 471-3802

Freedom Square Mary O'Brien, Manager 248 442-7250 Tapiola@ameritech.net

GARDEN CLUB

June is busting out all over as it has been for the last number of months in one way or another. Vegetable gardens are planted and annuals of all sorts from our greenhouse are beginning to bloom throughout Finlandia Gardens.

What a great time to come and purchase some perennials dug from our gardens. We have dozens of choices: hostas, iris, and many other great bloomers. How nice it is to have sunny as well as shady locations in our landscape.

We have wild flowers, cultivars, wetland species, and the plants you remember from the past like hollyhocks and Queen Anne's Lace.

Wouldn't it be nice to come and take a few pictures and submit them for the FCA newsletter. If yours is accepted you will be awarded a garden gift. You may wish to share your artistic talents by painting a picture on an old saw or on another structure we have waiting for you.

We are looking for garden and wood shop donations of all kinds. Those leftover boards, screws, nails, tools, etc. can be put to use at the Finnish Center. We can use almost anything and we do have a table at the Flea Market in the fall.

If you come to view the gardens don't just drive around the building but walk a bit, then sit in one of our many seating areas. There is a self-guided walking guide available for your use. Finlandia Gardens are your gardens, so you should use them.

We do desperately need volunteers in order to continue to maintain our gardens. Come spend some time to help us beautify the Finnish Center. If that is not possible, make a donation to the gardens so we can continue the maintenance of our landscape and provide some employment for those in need.

Thanks to all who support Finlandia Gardens of the Finnish Center.

David Sharpe

GIFT SHOP

Fazer candy on sale while supplies last.







Marianne \$5.00

Geisha \$5.00

Dumle \$5.50



Presidentti Coffee on sale Now \$15.75



Hours of Operation Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10 am to 4 pm and during all FCA functions

FCA LUNCHEON

In April everyone enjoyed our meal of pork roast, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, Jello and various desserts.

Gene Belttari led us in singing songs projected on the screen – karaoke style. Then our usual raffle drawing began with almost twenty donated prizes.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Dagmar Malstrom. Other winners were Dagmar Malstrom, Elna Heliste, Alice Stickel, Fritz Putkela, Vi Hakala, Millie Harju, Margaret Laurila, Lil Heikkinen, Alice Manley, Betty Taipalus, Marge Salo, Shirley Belttari, Ruth Ojala.

This was our last luncheon for the season, but we will be starting again in September. We are also planning various other functions.

It has been a pleasure and much fun - see you in September!

Lila and Terry Ball



FINNISH AMERICAN CLUB AT WALNUT LAKE

By Louise Hartung

So you've ordered their delicious pasties, but how much do you know about this sauna club? The Finnish Businessmen's Club of Detroit (later changed to Finnish American Club of Detroit) was established in 1928, and built a simple sauna cabin in the mid-1940's. Originally composed of twelve members, there are now ten members in the club. One member to host each 3rd-Saturday-of-the-month sauna night at the cabin. Instead of monthly sauna nights in March and October, the men rent the Finnish Center kitchen to make and sell pasties as a fund-raiser for the cabin's property taxes. Member Markku Ketola says that even with the two pasty fund-raisers, each member each also pays yearly dues that go toward the tax bill. Make sure to call the Finnish Center to place your order in advance of the sales because they sell out every time.

According to sauna club member Norbert Leppanen, "This is not a ladies' cabin—it is very Spartan. We have a meeting room that includes a kitchen area, a changing room, a bathroom, and the sauna. When a woman reporter from the *Detroit Free Press* came to do a story about the cabin, she interviewed us and took a picture of three of us in the sauna, but didn't take sauna herself. We have invited visitors from Finland to enjoy the sauna with us." In addition to the monthly sauna nights for the whole group, members can go there any other time they want to.

How do they heat the sauna? With a wood stove, which needs to be fed. They make wood from trees on the two lots owned by the club, but members also bring additional wood as needed. And how do men become members? They must meet the qualifications: being of Finnish heritage, being an upright individual, and having unanimous agreement from the current club members.

Want to know more about this club? Consult Armas K. E. Holmio's 2001 book, *History of the Finns in Michigan*, or ask club President Jim Kehus or any of the other members.



Finnish American Club at Walnut Lake

E & G Heating Heating and Cooling

Service and Installation Mostly Residential (734) 812-6318 Greg Makila

CORRECTION

The winner of the big red raffle basket was Kathy Hill, not Kathy Hall.

NOVI COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND

The Novi Community Concert Band will present their 27th annual concert at the FCA Friday, June 1 at 7 pm. Dinner will be served from 5 to 8 pm. Call the FCA at (248) 478-6939 for dinner reservations. (see menu choices below) Concert only is \$5.00. Walk-ins are welcome. We hope to see you for this highly enjoyable program.

Baked or Fried Fish French Fries or Baked Potato Cole Slaw Dessert \$10.00



Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Vegetable Dessert \$10.00



Chef Salad Dessert \$7.00

Children 5-12 Meals \$5



SUNSHINE LADY

Sending get-well cards, thinking-of-you cards and words-of-encouragement cards to FCA members

This little known function has been around for many years, and can only be accomplished when I am notified that someone needs a card. Send or call your card requests to the attention of the "Sunshine Lady" at the FCA.

Thank you, Eunice Potti Gould

FINNISH FILM FESTIVAL



Yvonne Lockwood is planning a Finnish Film Festival for mid October to be held at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It will consist of a small group of people who are interested in film who will begin to select the films that will be streamed digitally from the Finnish Film Institute in Helsinki, Finland.

If you are interested in participating in this selection process please contact Yvonne Lockwood at poppana 123@gamail.com.

PERSONAL STORIES

We need to create the history of the Finnish Center and are looking for members to share their stories of why they moved to this area. We would like your memories of coming to the Detroit area and around Woodrow Wilson in the early days. If you can write these stories it would be most appreciated. If not, call the Finnish Center and someone will make arrangements to meet with you and write your story. This can also be done on a tape recorder. Our history is only as good as the people who have lived it.

CHAIR EXERCISES

If you are interested in doing chair exercises at the Finnish Center, we need to know what day and time is best for you. Also would like to know what amount you would be willing to pay. We have someone that is willing to teach us. Call also with any questions you may have (248) 474-6096.



MEMORIALS

When making a memorial donation, you may direct it toward a specific fund.

The funds available are: FCA General Fund, Library, Scholarship, Hoijakat Folk Dancers, Drama Club, Finn Weavers, Garden Club, Soittoniekat/FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers.

If a donation is undesignated, it goes to the General Fund for expenses of the Center.

The family of the deceased may direct undesignated donations toward a specific fund (up to one year after date of death).

Please make your check out to the Finnish Center Association and send donations to: <u>FCA</u>, <u>35200</u> West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

Donations received by the 5th of each month will be published in the next month's newsletter.

You may also direct your donation toward the Elders' Housing, but then your check <u>must</u> be made out to FCA Senior Housing Corp.

Please include full name (with middle initial), address, dates of death and birth of the deceased; also the name and address of the next of kin to whom the acknowledgement card is to be mailed.

If you know of a member, parent or child of a member who has passed away, please call the FCA at (248) 478-6939.



In memory of FCA life member <u>Robert "Bob"</u> <u>Turunen</u> (3/28/12) a donation has been made by Pearl and Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member <u>Eva Tossava Suo-kas (4/7/12)</u> a donation was made by Maria Hill.

In memory of FCA life member Rev. Frederick "Fred" Vanhala (4/28/12) a donation has been made by Pearl and Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member Shirley L. Erickson (4/30/12) donations have been made by Dagmar and Jerry Malstrom, Pearl and Ray Wanttaja and Kay Simo.

In memory of FCA life member Robert "Bob" Erickson (9/22/11) a donation has been made by Dagmar and Jerry Malstrom.

The FCA also wishes to extend condolences to the families and friends of these FCA members:

FCA Life Members: Mayme Liuska Joki (2/29/12) Robert Turunen (3/28/12) Eva Tossava Suokas (4/7/12) Rev. Frederick Vanhala (4/28/12) Shirley Erickson (4/30/12)



FINNISH PROVERBS

Silmät ovat sielun peili.

The eyes are the mirror of the soul.

Jos et löydä rauhaa itsestämme on turhaa etsiä sita muualta.

If you cannot find peace within yourself it is useless to look elsewhere.

Rakkauden tunne on kuin aurinko molemmin puolen.

To be love is to feel the sun from both sides.

Vasta alkaja vaikka pieni voi oppia hyvinkin tekeen.

From small beginnings could come great things.

GOING PLACES

"Country Sunshine" at Petrolia Playhouse in Petrolia, Ontario, Saturday, July 28, \$89. This is a wonderful foot stompin' country music show with lunch included, of course. Combo with Nardineers, pick up at 9:30 am at Nardin Park Church on 11 Mile Road and return about 6:30 pm. This is filling up fast so call A.S.A.P!

For border crossing you will need proof of citizenship in one of the following forms: Valid passport, passport card or new enhanced driver's license or certificate of naturalization accompanied by a valid passport and valid U.S. re-entry permit.

Detroit Tiger Baseball versus Toronto Blue Jays, Thursday, August 23, \$55. Includes free hot dog and soft drink. Seats are at lower base line box, Section 143. Depart from Nardin Park Church at 11:30 am with return about 5:15 pm.

"Doubletake" at Courthouse Grille in Plymouth, Sunday, September 23, \$71. Dinner and the show of "Celebrity Impersonators" will be right there at the Grille. Pick up will be at Botsford Cancer Center, 27900 Grand River (west corner near Botsford Inn). Departs at 3:15 pm with return about 8:00 pm.

Please be sure to get your deposits in! We need 30-36 deposits at least 30 days prior to the trip or we lose the bus. If you leave your car at the FCA while on a trip, please park at the north end of the property. If you park near the main or lounge entrances you are using spaces needed for other functions.

Pearl Wanttaja (248) 541-0054

FCA DONATION DRIVE

FEBRUARY 1, 2012 TO APRIL 30, 2012

Platinum (\$2,500 - \$4,999)Charles Kountze

Gold (\$1,000 - \$2,4999)

Elma Hansen, Lillian Haveri,

Lillian & Paul Lehto

Norbert & Loise Leppanen

Waino Turovaara, Anonymous Donor

Silver (\$500 - \$999)

Carole Hardy Ernest & Marlene Johnson Dolores & Wilbert Rajala Allan & Linda Tuomaala Anonymous Donor

Copper (\$250 - \$499)

Leo Hakola, Viona Hakala,
Louise Hartung, John Keskinen,
Victor & Janet Hsu in memory of Norman &
Irene Koponen, Annikki Kurvi,
Fern Malila, Elenor Manley,
Eve Mouilso, John Nivala,
Thomas & Mirja Przybylski,
Carolyn Rowland in memory of Wayne Jackola,
Marlene Ruuskanen, Two Anonymous Donors

Bronze (\$100 - \$249)

David Aho, Tem & Virginia Ahonen, Elsie Ahonen, Howard Alan, Charles & Sandra Blackwell, Hannah Carlson, Joan Daley, Jonene Eliasson & Roger Hewlett, Janet Foster, John & Carolyn Gambotto, Eunice Gould in appreciation of Dale Hietanen, *Gayle Gullen, Rosemary Hartung, Kurt Haveri, Doris Heikkinen, Donaldson Jacobson, Christine Johnson, Sylvia Kannisto, Marian Karvonen, Susan Kerrigan (Harkonen). Rob & Colleen Kowalski, James Kumpula, Geraldine Lageroos, Earl Lanyon, James Lee, Albert Lehikoinen, George & Mary Leviska, Richard Lindgren, Gerald Lustila, Paul & Cheri Lytikainen *Gerald & Dagmar Malstrom Francis & Eleanor Martin, Melvin & Barbara Orchard, Rudolph & Victoria Perttunen, Robert Reini, Frank Ruohonen, Gladys Saari, Raymond Salo, Malla Sandberg, *David & Jeannette Sharpe, Tim Strauss, Jackie Szczepaniak, Donald & Mary Takala. Dennis Usitalo. Kirsti Virjo, Richard & Dawn Wallin, James Welland, Eight Anonymous Donors

*Indicates additional donations prior to February 1

The September newsletter will contain names of those making donations between May 1 and July 15. Due to the generosity of our members and supporters funds in excess of \$25,000 have been raised to support the Finnish Center since December 1, 2011. With your continued support of both time and money we hope to be able to sustain this momentum.

Thank You



FROM THE FCA LIBRARY



Every year over 200,000 people visit the Iittala Glass Center, 20 km north of Hameenlinna, Finland, on Route 3. Located there are the factory, store, museum and a restaurant.

The Iittala Glassworks was established in 1881 by Swedish-born Petter Magnus Abrahamsson. The first glass manufactured was conventional pressed and cut glass, but a new era began in the 1930s. Production was modernized and leading Finnish industrial designers, known for their creation of functional objects of exquisite refinement, were employed by Iittala as designers. Among them were Aino and Alvar Aalto, Finland's most famous architects. Aalto's designs were first displayed at the Paris World's Fair in 1937. His most famous design is the "Savoy" vase; it remains one of Iittala's best-selling items.

Tapio Wirkkala came to Iittala in 1946 knowing almost nothing about glass. However, he was a willing pupil and painstakingly learned how to engrave molds, how glass behaves in a molten state, and in time became a master designer of glass. He died in 1985, leaving behind a rich collection of design. The northern landscape and ice were two themes to which he returned again and again. His "Ultima Thule" items, which look as though they were formed of whipped ice, remain a favorite.

Timo Sarpaneva joined the Iittala team of designers in the 1950s. His "Arkipelago" pieces appear to have been carved out of glittering blocks of ice. His "Festivo" candleholders are probably the most well-known candleholders in the Iittala collection.

In the '60s and '70s Iittala took on Valto Kokko and Jorma Vennola. Although the Iittala designers have managed to create a classic purity of line which actually defies time, Kokko and Vennola are definitely contemporary designers. Kokko's works can be found in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Vennola likes to combine glass with other materials, as in his "Kaveri" goblets, which have become a very popular item.

Iittala glass meets the highest standards for crystal; in fact, during the 1960's the company introduced new composition for its glass, exceeding EEC norms set for crystal glass. Iittala glass will never darken under sunlight, but retains its shining clarity. It can be washed in a dishwasher because the hard and durable glass can tolerate strong detergents and will not scratch as easily as ordinary lead crystal.

The glass is made from pure quartz sand, to which are added some 20 other raw materials in small amounts. This mixture is fed into tank furnaces and melted at 1500 degrees. Newest members of the glass-blowing team take globs of molten glass at the end of a pipe, and the more experienced members are in charge of final shaping. Glass with a patterned surface is blown while in the mold. Plates and bowls are cast by using centrifugal force while in the mold. After the items are formed, they enter a cooling belt; they are inspected at the end. Those with no flaws receive the red Iittala logo. Those with imperfections, imperceptible to the untrained eye, are sold at a discounted price in the factory outlet store on the premises. Glassware by Iittala has consistently taken top honors in international competition.

Sometimes one will observe a small air bubble in iglass; this is a beauty spot. It is the symbol of hand-crafted glass, a "message from the glass blower, who carries on Iittala's over 100-year glazier's tradition."

You can find illustrations of littala glass in our library in the annual Design in Finland books (Dewey number 745). You can find littala items for sale in our gift shop. Do stop in to see them. They make excellent wedding gifts.

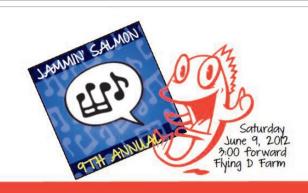
Lillian Lehto, Librarian

Iittala Festivo Candle Holders



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Hosted by Don Reinholm \$ Diane Kangas

Open mic and all music lovers invited B.Y.O.B / casual potluck

525 W. Buell, Oakland MI, 248-651-9252

Email Don to get on "the list" Bigdonaccordion@yahoo.com

SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING MIDSUMMER

This is to let you and the FCA know that we will have our traditional midsummer fest on Saturday, June 16, 2:00 to 4:30 pm, at Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 South Waverly Road., Lansing. There will be about an hour of fellowship and dancing around our modest-sized but well-decorated maypole, to the accordion of Leo Balcer. Then we will enjoy a potluck dinner. Any interested persons in the FCA are welcome, and we are especially extending the invitation to members of the Finnish-American Singers, whose performances we have loved and enjoyed in the past.

Göran Blomberg Ruotsalainen poikka and President of SSGL



******************* POKER ROOM ALL STARS

The following are recognized for many hours of volunteering at the April poker hours of volunteering at the April poker inights. Profit from these nights went into the Finnish Center general fund. We will be having three more nights on June 15th through 17th. More volunteers are needed. However, and in Canton at the "Trip ker Kings Poker Room". Call Gene Belttari at the (734) 416-8644, if you are able to volunteer. Email ebelttari@wowway.com.

ALL STARS

Nancy Sannar, Frank Gottberg, Neil A
Manley, Jr., Neil Lehto, Rudy Pertunen, A
Marlene Ruuskanen, Lois Makee, Gary A
Prevo, Bruce Mikko, Cortland Book, Mia

Nancy Sannar, Frank Gottberg, Neil A
Marlene Ruuskanen, Lois Makee, Gary A
Nancy Sannar, Frank Gottberg, Neil A
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Many thanks to the ALL STARS



FINNISH AMERICAN SINGERS

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The Finnish American Singers are looking forward to their Annual Spring Concert which will be presented on Sunday, May 20th at 3 pm at the Finnish Center. Tickets are \$10.00 which includes a nice array of tasty sandwiches and desserts.

Summer is around the corner now and what a great way to welcome the new season.

We welcome three new singers who have joined our chorus. They are Rita Honka, Emme Honka-Koivunen and Phoenix Honka.

The chorus will be resting their vocal cords this summer. Rehearsals will begin again in early September.

Gerald Malstrom, Publicity



Finland Today



First, a record number of people immigrated to Finland last year. Statistics Finland shows that 29,500 people moved to Finland last year, this is the highest amount since Finland became independent in 1917. Most of the new arrivals came from Estonia, Russia, Sweden, Briton, and the U.S. The number of people emigrating from Finland was also up last year, to 12,650.

At the Visions du Reel film festival held in Switzerland, the Finnish film, "Kovasikajuttu", won the award for the most innovative documentary. Kovasikajuttu tells the story of the punk band, Pertti Kurikan Nimipaivat, the members of which are all mentally handicapped. The film follows the band on its journey from obscurity to cult success.

Finland shares the top spot with Norway and Sweden in the global press freedom index published annually by Freedom House, a non government organization based in the U.S. The keys to Finland's top spot is linked to an impressive newspaper readership, open and unrestricted internet access, and the fact that freedom of expression and access to information is guaranteed by the constitution.

The world's worst rated countries were Belarus, Cuba, Iran, and North Korea.

The Opera News, published by Metropolitan Opera Guild, has given Finnish opera singer, soprano Karita Mattila, one of its top awards. The magazine describes her as one of the four best singers in the world.

The icebreaker, Nordica, owned by the Finnish Arctica Shipping, has been leased to Shell Oil for three years in aid to its oil and gas production off the coast of Alaska.

"The Angry Birds", produced by the Finnish, Rovio Entertainment, set a new record by being downloaded into mobile devices 50 million times in 35 days. Angry Birds games have been downloaded 700 million times since first published in 2009.

And finally, the four buddies, Heikki, Eino, Toivo, and Matti were at the hospital, all expecting their wives to deliver babies. The first one to deliver a baby was Heikki's wife, who delivered a healthy pair of babies. Heikki: "What a coincidence, I work for the Minnesota Twins baseball team!" Next, the nurse came out and told Eino that he is the father of triplets. Eino: "What a coincidence that is, I work for the 3M Corp." Than the nurse came out and announced that Toivo's wife has delivered quadruplets. Toivo: "Now that's a coincidence, I work for the Four Seasons Hotel!" Upon hearing this, Matti passes out. After Matti comes to, the other guys ask him what had happened? Matti: "I work for Seven Up."

Markku Ketola marketola@yahoo.com



GOT PIIRAKKA?

Charlotte Lytikainen, Betty Taipalus, Barb Witte, Lorraine Hannah, Tobie Line, Ilene Yanke, Ruth Ojala, Hannah Carlson, and Dee Aebersold just starting to roll out the Piirakka dough for the April Finnish breakfast.

ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR AUGUST 2012 ISSUE IS JULY 5TH

EDITOR CONTACT INFO: PAUL RAJALA
LAYOUT AND DESIGN: NANCY RAJALA
E-MAIL: njrajala@comcast.net

FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS

FCA News is published 11 times annually (June-July issue is combined) by and for members of the Finnish Center Association. Circulation is about 1,000 of your fellow FCA members, and others, per issue.

Deadline/payment for ad is the 5th of the month preceding publication.

Column (ad) width is 2-1/4" for rates quoted below. Other sizes quoted on request.

Rates for a camera-ready, black & white ad, per three month period:

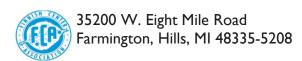
READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

Note: There is a subscription fee of \$30/year to continue receiving the FCA newsletter by mail. See form below to order your subscription.

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