



FCA News

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

November 2012

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Greetings Members: I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to two FCA volunteers who are starting retirement. Two years ago Marion Lewis was the first resident of Garden Court Manor Apartments to come forward and volunteer to help out in the Finnish Center gardens. I was told that Marion has been of extraordinary importance in the development and maintenance of Finlandia Gardens, and was willing to do any tasks the gardens required. Marion will be leaving the FCA and also Michigan as she takes up residence in Florida. This month Marion was formally recognized for her services by the Garden Club at a luncheon, where she was presented with a certificate for all her kindness.

Ed Gilbert has been a Finnish Center volunteer for many years. He has washed and cleaned the kitchen, waxed the floors, and assisted with general maintenance at the FCA. In addition he has mowed the extensive lawn. He has serviced and repaired the mower and kept it in excellent working order. As Finlandia Gardens developed, Ed adjusted to the changes in mowing necessary to keep the lawns and gardens looking their best. He shows his love for the Finnish Center through serving as a volunteer, and by helping to maintain and support our Finnish Center.

I want to extend my best wishes to these two volunteers as they begin new changes in their lives.

Sincerely, Cortland R. Book, Chairman

SAVE THE DATE

Finnish Independence Ball
Saturday, December 8
6 pm—Midnight
Finnish Independence Day
Sunday, December 9
Program at 2 pm

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SCANDINAVIAN BAZAAR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012

10 AM – 4 PM

COME ENJOY THE

SIGHTS, SOUNDS, SMELLS & TASTES FROM
NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND, ICELAND & DENMARK

WEEKLY EVENTS

Finnish American Singers
Mondays 7 pm to 9 pm
Library
Open Mondays 10 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

OCTOBER

14 **Finnish Breakfast Noon-1:30**
14 **FAHS 2 pm**
17 **101st Luncheon 11 am**
18 **Rental 5-8 pm**
19 **Dinner 5-8 pm**
20 **Kitchen Rental**
24 **Rental noon**
28 **Open House 1-4 pm**
28 **“Life of a Finnish Copper Miner”
3 pm**
31 **Monthly Luncheon Noon**

NOVEMBER

2 **Baking for Bazaar 9:30 am**
2 **Pasty prep 10 am- 3 pm**
2 **Dinner 5-8 pm**
3 **Pasty Bake 11 am-4 pm**
4 **Daylight Savings ends**
8 **FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm**
9 **Baking for Bazaar 9:30 am**
9 **Bazaar Set Up 12-5 pm**
10 **Scandinavian Bazaar 10 am-4 pm**
11 **Brunch Noon-1:30 pm**
11 **Rental Noon-3 pm**
11 **Train Depots of Michigan 2 pm**
14 **Rental noon**
16 **Dinner 5-8 pm**
17 **Rental**
21 **101st Luncheon 11 am**
25 **Open House 1-4 pm**
28 **Monthly Luncheon noon**
28 **Rental noon**

DECEMBER

2 **Pikkujoulu 2-4 pm**
7 **Dinner 5- 8 pm**
8 **Independence Day Ball 6pm-
midnight**
9 **Independence Day Program 2 pm**
15 **FASM Holiday Concert 3 pm**

**NOVEMBER PASTIES**

The next pasty bake is Saturday, November 2. Make your reservations by signing up on the sheet in the FCA lobby, by calling the Finnish Center, or email at fca-pasties@comcast.net. All orders must be picked up on Saturday between 11 am and 4 pm. Sign up early so you don't miss out.

Volunteers are always needed to help with the pasty bake. Simply sign up on the sheet in the lobby or contact Paul Rajala (248) 926-0532.

ED GILBERT RETIRES

After 25 years Ed Gilbert has retired from cutting the lawn at the FCA. We are still looking for someone to come forward to take on this task next year.

Thank you Ed for your dedication to the FCA!



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www.finnishcenter.org

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

Board of Trustees

1 Year
Gerald Malstrom, Roger Wanttaja,
Lois Makee

2 Year

Frank Gottberg, Cortland Book,
David Sharpe, Marlene Ruuskanen

3 Year

Carl Aebersold, Olli Lamminen,

Alternates

#1 Francis Fadie
#2 Gayle Gullen

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Marlene Ruuskanen

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Christine Johnson

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248 471-3802

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248 442-7250

Tapiola@ameritech.net

www.fcaseniorhousing.org

GARDEN CLUB

Have you seen what happened in Finlandia Gardens in late summer and early fall? Suddenly the gardens sprang to life again with blooms everywhere. It is hard to believe that we went through a serious drought this year.

Our birdfeeder has attracted many new visitors including chickadees and the rose-breasted nuthatch. A few minutes spent on the deck brings rewards with birds all about the area. The birdfeeder is located just a few feet away and the chickadees will take seeds from your hand. You can also watch the birds enjoying the seeds from our native plants in the wetland as well. Seed collecting by birds and garden club members will provide sustenance and new flowers for next year. The last of the vegetables are gone and the vegetable gardens are being prepared for next year's crop. A small snake in the greenhouse and a hawk on the wing show that our habitat is fulfilling its purpose.

We have dedicated gardens this fall for two of our associates who have left us. However, one a brighter note, there are three new gardeners who have joined our dedicated garden crew and we are delighted with this development.

Autumn activities have included trimming a number of trees, adding leaves to our compost bins and gardens, repairing items on the exterior of the building, and planning for new improvements in the spring.

We appreciate the work of the Livonia Eagle Scouts in raising and realigning our walls around the Finnish Center early in the fall. Also, your donations of wood, hardware, tools and garden enhancements are gratefully appreciated. Any additional support you may wish to send our way is always helpful. Also don't forget the Finnish Center as you decide on holiday giving. We are continuing our development efforts to save the Finnish center.

We are looking forward to decorating the FCA for the coming holiday season. Be sure to come by and see the results of our efforts next month.

David Sharpe, Garden Club President

EAGLE SCOUT VOLUNTEERS

During September and October a number of Livonia Eagle Scout candidates did yeoman service at the Finnish Center. These volunteers rebuilt the sagging garden walls surrounding the FCA building and their efforts have given the building a fresh look for the coming holidays.



These volunteers were recruited by FCA landscape coordinator, David Sharpe.

DJ TwinK3y
(734)858-4803

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FINNISH AMERICAN SINGERS



What happens when a fat cell is magnified 65,000 times? Many of us think we have the answer to that question and wouldn't say it's pretty! However, FASM soprano, Vickie Kimler does know and told this scribe that they are beautiful, with gorgeous colors, patterns and details! She said this beauty and the photographing of it, is the favorite part of her job!

Vickie is a self-described "lab rat," working in a Wayne State medical research lab investigating microscopic cells as part of diabetes research. She has an impressive professional resume in the medical field, including a PhD, two stints as a university professor, a medical assistant at a brain injury rehabilitation fa-

cility, and as a researcher in cancer and diabetes studies. Whew!

Vickie was introduced to the FASM by her parents, Victor and Anna Kimler, who were active members, while she was finishing up her PhD studies. She originally began singing with the group in 1991, and often is the really high voice listeners hear, in a range this tenor only dreams of! Her singing is also employed in working with mostly seniors in a YMCA class that combines movement, song, and acting to engage participants in a full complement of creative expression. Her start in this came when she was a child and told me she remembered playing with girlfriends for hours with Barbie Dolls. However, they used to write skits, stories, and songs, recording them in booklets, and using their dolls as actors. Vickie even managed to rope her brother into participating, something she said he got very good at!

We've found in the FASM that practice makes...well, if not perfect, pretty darn good! Won't you join us Monday nights at 7 pm as the Singers practice Christmas music for the up-coming holiday season? Add your voice (or your son's, nephews, or granddaughter's) to our group as we strive for that "perfect" sound! Stay tuned for December's introduction to Vickie's mother, Anna, who will share stories of her childhood in Germany and favorite Christmas traditions. Until next month!

Katie Koskela, Singer's Scribe

TRAIN DEPOTS OF MICHIGAN

On November 11 at 2:00 pm, Ron Campbell, of the Oakland County Historical Commission, will present "Train Depots of Michigan". Comments and questions are a part of an afternoon of information on past and present depots. There is a fee of \$5.00 at the door. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there. Lila Ball



A DAY TO REMEMBER

As the sun shone brightly on a cool September morning, a ceremony was held at the Finnish Center. This was to dedicate a new flag donated by the Finnish American Cultural Corporation. Members of the 101st Airborne and the FCA gathered to see the old flag being lowered and a new flag raised as the bugle solemnly sounded. The pledge of allegiance was recited and many of those attending stood at attention, saluting, or with hand on heart. The beauty of the outdoor setting and the knowledge that we stood among many of the “greatest generation” was a humbling experience. Later, at the luncheon which followed, stories of those who had bravely fought to preserve our freedoms were retold to remind us of the sacrifices of those who had given their best to preserve our nation. This was another one of those memorable days at the FCA.



Cortland Book, Chairman of the FCA and Frank Gottberg, President of the FACC raise the new flag.



Gene Kramer plays the bugle.



George Koskimaki saying the Pledge of Allegiance.



Members of the FCA and the 101st at ceremony.

Photos and story by Glenn Kujansuu

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: FCA, 35200 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 must 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 Sylvia Saarinen (11/21/11) donations were made by Barbara Sharp, Gerald & Dagmar Malstrom and Maria Hill.

In memory of Ronald Hargan (1/2/12) a donation was made by Dorothy Bays.

In memory of FCA life member Eva E. Suokas (4/1/12) a donation was made by Eva Bessonon.

In memory of FCA life member Shirley Erickson (4/30/12) a donation was made by Mildred Harju.

In memory of FCA life member Ella Hillson (6/12/12) donations were made by Fred & Cynthia Page and Sharon Geisler.

In memory of FCA life member Christine Jurgensen (6/16/12) a donation was made by Neil Manley.

In memory of Anne Kujala (6/20/12) a donation was made by Lillian Niemi.

In memory of FCA life member John Kulju (7/31/12) a donations were made by Neil Manley and Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member Grace Nayback (8/14/12) donations were made by Irene Nayback, Debra & Steven Viele, John & Leila Malmstrom and Mildred Harju.

In memory of FCA member Leo Hakola (9/8/12) donations were made by Gloria Albrecht and Neil Manley.

In memory of Vera J. Oja (9/20/12) a donation was made by Steven & Linda Oja Jacobs.

The FCA also wishes to extend condolences to the family and friends of:

John Kulju (7/31/12)
Waino Kuitunen (9/19/12)
Laila Pelto (8/8/12)

Corrections from October:
Nellie Hakala (7/26/12)
Laila Pelto (8/8/12)



To see the world in a grain of sand, and to see heaven in a wild flower, hold infinity in the palm of your hands, and eternity in an hour.
William Blake

GOING PLACES

All Things Detroit, Thursday, October 25th, \$59. This is a repeat of the trip on September 27, which was so popular. Many were unable to go. There are still some openings so don't miss out this time. A local step-on guide will be with you the whole tour, which will include Belle Isle, Indian Village, Water Works Park, Fisher Building, Eastern Market and the Majestic Guardian Building. The Guardian Building was built in 1929 and been completely renovated. It alone makes the trip worthwhile. Lunch will be at the American Coney Island and dessert at the 1030's Cliff Bells. Bus will depart at 8:30 am from the Nardin Park Church on 11 Mile Rd and return about 4:30 pm. Call Evelyn as soon as possible at (248) 357-0186.

Ethnic Dine-A-Round #2 – one day, Wednesday, November 14, \$63. This is a gourmet food lover's delight. We begin with appetizers at Moro's in Allen Park. Then we go to the Hungarian Rhapsody Restaurant in Southgate for our entrée. We will be entertained by Hungarian music while we enjoy a choice of veal, chicken paprikas, stuffed cabbage or pork chop. Then it is on to the ever popular Union Street in Detroit for dessert. You will have a choice of tiramisu, chocolate mousse or bread pudding. Sounds enticing doesn't it? We depart at 10 am from the Nardin Park Church on 11 Mile Rd. and return about 3 pm. Full payment by November 7th please.

Caesar's Windsor and Let's Make A Deal On the Road, December 6, \$15. The show includes Tim Wise serving as host of Let's Make A Deal On the Road - giving "traders" a chance to wheel and deal in person - in the tradition of the classic game show. And, of course, you can try your luck at any of the 3000 slot machines or any of the 136 table games. We depart at 9:30 am from the Nardin Park Church on 11 Mile Rd. and return about 6:15 pm. Passport, passport card, enhanced drivers license or certificate of naturalization required to cross the border.

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



FINNFEST 2013 - JUNE 19-23 - COPPER COUNTRY

Want to attend FinnFest 2013?

Need a ride to FinnFest 2013?

Contact Lila Ball at (248) 682-6792.

Lila will hire a bus and driver if she can get enough interested people.

Let's go to FinnFest 2013!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE



The next Monthly Luncheon is October 31st and we hope to have 50 guests in attendance. Come join us and take part in laughs and fellowship.

The September Luncheon had many winners, with Marge Salo taking home the grand prize. Gretchen Lempeo, Natalie McCue, Eunice Gould, Megan Mattila, Pearl Wanttaja, Dagmar Malstrom, Charlotte Lytikainen, Eleanor Manley, Dale Mattila, Fritz Putkela, Elma Heliste and Connie Fosness were also winners.

See you on the 31st?

Terry and Lila Ball

GIFT SHOP

Be sure to stop in during the Scandinavian Bazaar on November 10th for “one-day-only specials”, holiday gift items and Fazer candies.

Squeaky Cheese now in.



GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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



LOCAL SCULPTOR DISPLAYS WORK

Late-blooming sculptor, David Sharpe is currently showing his latest work, entitled, “Ethnic Unity.” Sharpe, previously known for his poetry, has discovered sculpture as a new creative vehicle. Displayed at Finlandia Gardens of the Finnish Center Association, his latest sculpture embodies the use of heavy materials which emulates the “sisu” that embodies the Finnish people. Sharpe prefers to utilize local natural materials in his designs.

It is rumored that Sharpe has been offered four figures for this work by a local university. However he prefers to display his work in the gardens where he has spent much of his time since retirement from teaching.

Sharpe’s other works, “Three Stone Columns” and various natural wooden pieces relate to the beauty of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

LIFE OF A FINNISH COPPER MINER

Come to the Finnish Center at 1 pm on Sunday, October 28, for the Open House, and stay for a program at 3 pm about the history of UP copper mining. Larry Molloy, Oakland Community College professor emeritus and UP copper mining expert, will give a slide show titled "Life of a Finnish Copper Miner." Mr. Molloy currently gives tours at the National Historic Park in the Keweenaw Peninsula, and will also be presenting at FinnFestUSA 2013 in Hancock.

There is no charge for the program, which is sponsored by the Finnish American Historical Society of Michigan. Historical Society members will provide a coffee table with desserts and coffee, and people may make a free-will offering to benefit the Finnish Center.

Louise Hartung, FAHS of MI Secretary



GLENDA DAWN GROSS TO PRESENT AT 65TH CELEBRATION OF FINLAND'S INDEPENDENCE

Plan to hear the 2012 Finlandia Foundation National Lecturer of the Year, Glenda Dawn Goss, on Sunday, December 9, at the Finnish Center. She is a prominent Sibelius scholar and musicologist, who for many years was a professor at the University of Georgia, and now teaches at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. Read more about her at her website, www.glendagoss.fi

You will find her most recent book, published in 2009, *Sibelius: A Composer's Life and the Awakening of Finland*, in the Finnish Center library. As a non-Finn, she brings what she calls an "outsider's perspective" to the study and understanding of Jean Sibelius and to the development of the Finnish nation. Her presentation about "Finland's Golden Age" in art and music will include sound recordings, literary excerpts, and artistic illustrations. The program will culminate with an orchestral version of Sibelius's "Finlandia," performed on accordion by Don Reinholm, music director of the Finnish Center's Soittoniekat/FinnFolk band.

In addition to Ms. Goss's presentation, there will be a respectful remembrance of Finnish war veterans and Lottas. The honorary Finnish consul and local Finnish foreign exchange high school students will be introduced, and music will be provided by Soittoniekat/FinnFolk. The program begins at 2:00 PM, and ends with a social hour, with coffee table offerings provided by the Finnish American Historical Society of Michigan. Admission is \$10 for adults, and free for young children and students through the university level.

Louise Hartung, Finnish American Historical Society of Michigan

SIX STUDENTS HONORED WITH NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

The FCA Scholarship Committee honored six students who qualified for the new Edith Antilla Memorial Scholarship. This generous award was made possible by the Arlene and F.W. Page Foundation, and is in memory of Mr. Page's mother, Edith Antilla, who was born in Hanko, Finland. In order to qualify, students had to demonstrate both academic strengths and financial need. The extremely high cost of a university education was made less burdensome by this memorial scholarship.

Amy Erickson is from St. Joseph, MI, and is a freshman at the University of Michigan, planning to major in international business. She earned academic letters each year in high school, volunteered in the senior citizen prom, and would like to study at the University of Turku, in Finland.

Megan Hella, from Troy, MI, is in her fourth of six years at Central Michigan University, earning three degrees in Special Education. She is a continuing volunteer in Muscular Dystrophy Camp, and works at Mid-Michigan Industries, which assists people with disabilities in finding employment.

Brittany Keranen, from Kalkaska, MI, is a freshman this year at Northern Michigan University, where she plans to study radiology. While in high school, she was on the honor roll all four years, volunteered through the school's Key Club, and attended Michigan Finnish festivals with her family.

Paige Kozak is from Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, and is in her second year at Cornell University, studying clothing design. Last year she won a faculty award for creativity in children's clothing design. She is very interested in visiting Finland so she can study Marimekko designs.

Rachel Lowrance is from Southfield, MI, and studies music at Cedarville University in Ohio. She has several jobs in the music field: as a piano teacher; and as an accompanist for choirs, vocalists, and other instrumentalists. Rachel has volunteered at the Finnish Center several times, playing the piano at different events.

Kristina Rikkonen, from Farmington Hills, is a senior at Hope College, studying international relations and psychology. She studied abroad in London for one semester last year, and works at a local law firm. Each summer she visits Finland to be with her grandparents.

Louise Hartung, Scholarship Committee

Neil J. Lehto

Attorney and Counselor At Law

nlehto@sbcglobal.net

4051 Wakefield Road
Berkley, Michigan 48072

(248) 545-1753 (Phone & Fax)



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

If you wish to extend a holiday greeting to a friend or loved one submit the full name to the FCA before November 2, 2012. Greetings will be published in the December issue of the FCA newsletter.

\$10.00 per greeting

Thank you, Luise Leppanen

FROM THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Finnish Center Association was created to “provide for the spiritual, physical, and cultural welfare of its members... To serve as the parent or central coordinating organization for the various Finnish-American organizations which are nonprofit and which foster the purpose of this organization” (FCA by-laws revision 2003, article II)

I keep on hearing how Finnish Center once had these great events with a room full of people. One task of development committee, in my opinion, is to ensure that this happens again. We are striving to bring the Finnish Center back to its glory days. This is done by arranging events, advertising them, and bringing new people to the Finnish Center. It is through the people who come to the events that we build awareness and find new members. Through these new members we will be able to find more volunteers and eventually more funds for the Finnish Center to ensure that we continue to excel.

It seems that there has been some confusion regarding the nonprofit status of Finnish Center. We would like to clarify some of the confusion in a spirit of transparency and better communication. A nonprofit status is something that the Internal Revenue Service grants to an organization based on the organization’s purpose (part of the FCA purpose was quoted above). IRS granted a nonprofit status to FCA as a 501(c)4, a social welfare organizations and local associations of employees. FCA is not a **charitable** organization and therefore donations given to FCA are not tax deductible per IRS, but still a nonprofit organization. Often in general public there is confusion as both charitable and nonprofit are used comparably in the general language.

It is important to understand that even the charitable nonprofit organizations do have to pay taxes for any unrelated business income, and local taxes such as property taxes are based on local laws and have nothing to do with the Federal taxes. Also, if you want to support Finnish Center, please make sure you designate your donations to the Finnish Center and not to any other organizations.

I was elected to lead the Development Committee by the Board in July and after few months in Finland, I’m ready. The Development Committee has met a few times to discuss ideas on how we can improve the Finnish Center. We are aware and sensitive to the financial status of FCA which also creates some constraints on our efforts.

We are working on planning better advertising for events, creating new events, and looking for ways to bring more people to these events. Members from Southeast Michigan should have received a postcard that lists all events taking place in October, and we are hoping to do that on monthly basis. We are also looking for ways to improve information sharing in other areas as well.

Like Finnish Center & Hall on Facebook and encourage your friends to do that as well.

Aurinkoista syksyn jatkoa.

Terveisin

Tarja Virtanen
Chair, Development Committee



FROM THE FCA LIBRARY



No visit to Finland is complete without a visit to Rovaniemi, gateway to Lapland. A town of about 60,000 inhabitants, it is located just five miles south of the Arctic Circle. It is the administrative capital of Lapland and the largest province in Finland. Situated about 520 miles from Helsinki, it can be reached conveniently by bus, car, Finnair (90 minutes from Helsinki), or by train (11 hours by express train.)

Located at the junction of Kemijoki (Finland's longest river) and Ounasjoki, it has been an important trading center for centuries. There was a settlement there as early as the 1500s, when it was already known by its present name. It quickly increased in importance because lumber could be floated down the two rivers to the Gulf of Bothnia and on to the Baltic Sea; in fact, lumbering is still an important industry of the area.

In the winter of 1944-45, retreating Germans burned the town to the ground during the Lapp war, following the Continuation and Winter Wars. Alvar Aalto was commissioned to redesign it for rebuilding; the result was a colorful, modern, unusual city. He laid out the main streets in the pattern of reindeer antlers.

Rovaniemi attracts 400,000 visitors annually, winter being as popular as summer. The Ounasvaara Sports Center draws winter sports enthusiasts, as do ski areas throughout Lapland. In late winter and early spring, Lapland is a skier's paradise, providing modern facilities with downhill as well as cross country trails. In a more exotic vein, one can rent reindeer-drawn sleighs for excursions, or even enroll in a reindeer driving school. Many Finnish tourist agencies, including FinnAir, offer ski vacation packages to Lapland.

In summer, Ounasvaara hill provides good viewing of the midnight sun, just one of the area's attractions. A trip to the Arctic Circle is a must; take one of the buses from the city tourist office, or go on your own via city bus. There you will find Santa Claus Village, containing a number of shops, and often Santa himself as well as his reindeer.

You can leave your children's or grandchildren's names and addresses; at Christmas each will receive a letter from Santa.

Tourist attractions abound in and around Rovaniemi. Do visit the Lutheran church, rebuilt after the war by funds donated by Americans; the altar fresco is one of the most famous in Finland. Behind the church is the beautiful veterans' cemetery with a memorial to the war-dead of 1939-45. The Orthodox church, which can be visited by appointment (inquire at the tourist office), houses many valuable works of art from the Valamo monastery.

The Aalto-designed complex of Lappia House, is a must. Lappia House also houses the provincial museum, theater, conference hall, and a radio station. Tours are available. In the museum you will see a model of Rovaniemi as it was before the war, and as it was after the war. (90% of it was destroyed.)

Other museums include the Pöykkölä Ethnographic Museum (old houses, 19th century peasant culture) about 2 miles out of town, and the Lapland Forestry Museum. About 13 miles out of town is Narvajarvi Chapel; in the basement are buried 3000 German soldiers fallen in WWII. About 10 miles toward Kuusamo is Raanupirtti, which exhibits and sells hand-woven textiles in a restored log house hewn with an ax at the beginning of the 18th century. Other souvenirs to look for in shops in town are items made of reindeer antlers, woolen products, wooden items, leather goods, fur items (beautiful hats!) or "puukko" knives. (But be sure to put the latter in your checked luggage, not your carry-on when you return.) Jewelry shops sell Lappish silver jewelry and gemstones. Also look for Lappish dolls and the colorful Lapp clothing.

If statues interest you, find the lumberjack statue by Kalervo Kallio in Ounaspuisto; the Karjala statue in Karjalanpuisto; the "Chain" memorial at the corner of Hallituskatu and Varsitie, honoring those Swedes who voluntarily assisted Finland in the last war; and Alvar Aalto's "Northern Lights" relief at the corner of Koski and Rovakatu. (Remember: you can also learn about Finnish history from its statues).

(continued on page 13)

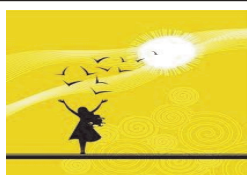
GARDEN DEDICATION

On Sunday, September 30, an FCA garden was dedicated to former FCA board member, Norman McCue. His three sons, their spouses with his six grandchildren joined his widow, Elizabeth, for a short dedication service. The Reverend Allen presided and those who attended remembered Norman's sweet disposition and giving spirit.

Norman will be remembered by all who knew him. We celebrate his life and his contributions to the FCA.



Norman McCue Grandchildren
Natalie, Maddison, Ella, Lexi, Gwen and James



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



CALLING ALL BAKERS

Two dates for baking pulla and tarts for the Scandinavian Bazaar are scheduled, **Friday, November 2 and Friday, November 9**. Ilene Yanke will take charge of the baking. All seasoned bakers and any new bakers are needed and welcome. Start time for both dates is 9:45 am. Contact Nancy Rajala at (248) 225-9013 or Ilene Yanke at (248) 887-3538 with questions or to volunteer. Many hands will make light work.

These baked items will be held for the Bazaar. **No early sales.** Thank you.



From the Library (continued from page 12)

Be sure to sample reindeer meat for at least one meal. My favorite is *poronkärstys* (reindeer meat in gravy served over mashed potatoes). If they are in season, don't overlook the rare cloudberry ("*lakka*."). And remember, the fish is fresh!

Rovaniemi can be a jumping off place for the interior of Lapland, often called "The Last Wilderness in Europe." There is good fishing in all lakes and rivers of Lapland, with salmon heading the list. If you travel to Ivalo and Inari, you can try your hand at panning for gold.

Rovaniemi offers accommodations from a youth hostel to summer hotels, to the very expensive. Reservations are strongly recommended.

If you want more information about Rovaniemi, check one of the many travel books we have in the library on Finland.

Lillian Lehto, Librarian



FINLAND TODAY



Finland will become the first European country to eliminate the use of coal as an energy source by 2025. There are a couple of reasons for doing this. One of these is to reduce the amount of carbons Finland is emitting, and the second is to save money. Finland imports all of its coal, which costs up to \$390 million annually. The European Union has a mandate to have 20% of its energy produced by renewable resources by 2020. For its 20%, Finland plans to eliminate the coal use and replace it with wind power. It seems that the plan to eliminate coal is well on its way in Finland. Between January and June of this year, there was a 39% reduction in coal consumption. Finland imports most of its coal from Russia and Poland. The U.S. is also a big exporter of coal to Europe, which increased by 29% during the first half of 2012. Coal use as an energy source accounts for 20% of the world's carbon emission. China is the world's leader in coal use, getting 70% of its energy from coal, the U.S. is second.

A mother's high blood pressure during pregnancy may have an effect on her child's thinking skills all the way to old age, so says a study made in Finland. Researchers from the University of Helsinki looked at the blood pressure for mothers of 391 men born between 1934 and 1944. The men's thinking abilities were tested at the age of 20 and again at the age of 69. The tests measured language skills, math, visual and spatial relationships. The study found that men whose mother had high blood pressure scored lower at the age of 20, and had a greater decline in their score over the decades. The findings also showed the greatest difference was for math related reasoning for the mothers with high blood pressure compared to the ones with normal blood pressure. The study appeared in the online journal, *Neurology*.

Roy Hodgson, the current coach of the English National Soccer Team, has been Knighted by the Finnish government for his service as the coach of the Finnish National Soccer Team during 2006-2007. Hodgson led the Finnish team to its highest international ranking ever, 33rd, and got the Finnish team to within one goal of making to the Euro Cup 2008. Currently Finland has its worst international ranking ever, 96th.

The average Finn consumes about 27 pounds of coffee annually, ranking him number one in the world. But because of the worldwide coffee shortage, they will be paying more. The Finns, 94% of them, also prefer the lighter and costlier variety, Arabica coffee. So, Since Hilka and I only drink Finnish coffee (Kulta Katriina) at home, I guess its time to stock up before the price really shoots up.

And finally, Heikki and Hilma, both 65, were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary at the Kaleva Cafe in Hancock with their favorite meal, a nice hot pasty, when a Genie suddenly appeared and said to them: "For being such a exemplary, loving couple, I will grant each of you one wish." Hilma said: "Oh, I want to travel all around the world with my darling husband." The Genie, arms folded, gave nod with his head, and all of sudden tickets for around the world cruise on a luxury cruise liner appeared on the table.

Now it was Heikki's turn. He said, "Well, this all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again, so sorry, my dear, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me." Hilma and the Genie were deeply disappointed in his choice, but a wish is a wish. The Genie folded his arms and gave a nod with his head, and poof, Heikki became 95 years old!

The moral of this story is.....be careful what you wish for.

Markku Ketola marketola@yahoo.com

ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 5TH
 EDITOR CONTACT INFO: PAUL RAJALA
 LAYOUT AND DESIGN: NANCY RAJALA
 E-MAIL: nrajala@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.

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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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To join or renew your FCA membership simply fill out and detach the above form and mail to:
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