



FCA News

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

April 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

- 14 Friday Fish Fry 5-8 pm Baked and fried cod, Italian chicken, vegetable soup, oven browns, mostaccioli, vegetable, garden salad, rolls
- 15 Saturday 3:30 pm Karkelo Nordic Program - Spaghetti dinner, with Finnish dessert
- 16 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12:30-2:30 pm
- 21 Friday Fish Fry 5-8 pm - Baked and fried cod, Italian sausage w/peppers & onions, au gratin potatoes, macaroni & cheese, bean chili, garden salad, rolls
- 26 Wednesday Luncheon 12 noon
- 28/29 Friday/Saturday Flea Market 10-4 pm
- 28 Friday Fish Fry 5-8pm - Baked and fried cod, taco bar, rice, bean soup, garden salad, rolls
- 30 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12:30-2:30 pm
Sunday Open House 1-4 pm

APRIL

- 4 Friday Fish Fry 5-8 pm
- 11 Friday Fish Fry 5-8 pm
- 13 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12:30-2:30 pm
Sunday Brunch 12-1:30 pm
- 18 Friday Fish Fry 5-8 pm
- 25 Friday Pasty Prep 10 am-3 pm
- 26 Saturday Pasty Bake Pick-up 11-4 pm
Saturday Vappu Party 5 pm-Midnight
- 27 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12:30-2:30 pm
Sunday Open House 1-4 pm
- 30 Wednesday Luncheon 12 noon



MAY

- 2 Friday Buffet 5-8pm
- 4 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12:30-2:30 pm
- 10 Saturday Eurovision 2 pm
- 11 Sunday Mother's Day Potluck
- 16 Friday Buffet 5-8 pm
- 18 Sunday Scholarship Reception 12-3 pm
Sunday Suomi Koulu 12:30-2:30 pm
Sunday FASM Spring Concert 4 pm

**RESERVATIONS ARE
REQUIRED ON
DINNERS AND LUNCHEONS**

APRIL PASTIES



The next pasty bake is Saturday, April 26. Make your reservations by April 21st 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.

The cost is \$5 each, but for orders of 10 or more, you can save 10%. Here is how: email your order and phone number to fca-pasties@comcast.net by 10:00 pm on Monday, April 21. To receive the discount you must pick up your order on Saturday.

Volunteers are always needed to help with the pasty bake. Simply sign up on the sheet in the lobby or contact Paul Rajala, prajala@comcast.net. (Pasty-making volunteers can pick up a free pasty on Saturday).

Easter eggs, also called **Paschal eggs**, are special eggs that are often given to celebrate Easter or spring-time. As such, Easter eggs are common during the season of Easter-tide. The oldest tradition is to use dyed and painted chicken eggs, but a modern custom is to substitute chocolate eggs, or plastic eggs filled with confectionery such as jelly beans.



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

35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
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www.finnishcenter.org

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248 471-3802

Tapiola@ameritech.net

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248 442-7250



KARKELO NORDIC

March 15, 2014

3:30 pm

5 pm Buffet

Presented by the
FCA and FACC

FinnFolk begins the program at 3:30 pm with a variety of music presentations. At 4 pm the "Karkelo Nordic" with Eero and Rosann Angeli will present a program of Finnish historical insights, dance, music, drama and cultural demonstrations.

Complete the afternoon with a spaghetti dinner buffet and Finnish desserts at 5 pm. Followed by music and dancing.

Cost is \$15 per person with advance reservation or \$20 at the door. Children under 12 are free. Call the FCA today at (248) 478-6939.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Greetings. Wow, what a winter! Michigan has broken all kinds of records for cold temperatures and snowfall. Spring will be here soon.

Thanks to everyone who attended the February Sweetheart luncheon. Eric Pietila cooked a beautiful lunch. Thank you, Eric, for your special presentation. Continue to support our Finnish Center by attending events. The March 26 luncheon will include chicken salad sandwich, roasted basil soup with dessert and beverage. April luncheon includes roast beef, potatoes, vegetable and salad. Be sure to sign up on the previous Monday or call the FCA for reservations. Reminder: if you don't make a reservation the cost is \$10 at the door.

The Spring Flea Market, Craft and Bake Sale is on Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29. The event runs from 10 am to 4 pm both days with lunch available between 11 am to 2 pm.

February luncheon 50/50 raffle winner was David Sharpe. Other winners include Elizabeth McCue, Debbie Rajala (2), Dagmar Malstrom, Marge Salo, Elaine Lada, Joyce Keskitalo, Lori Olsen and Maria Hill. Congratulations winners. See you all at the next event.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry and Lila Ball



APRIL IN THE GARDENS

Honestly, who knows what anyone is really going to be doing in the gardens in April a month ahead? I'm a professional and I'm not sure that I will be visiting my customers' gardens with all this snow still on the ground so let's just concentrate on March. The Flea Market is on March 28 and 29 and the Garden Club will have a table with many garden club related items for sale. Our special raffle item is a bird house with a wood burned figure of a bird on the front so please stop by our table and support the club with a purchase.

The Garden Club has also been in talks with Waste Management looking at ways to go Greener. As some of you may already know the Garden Club captures over 900 gallons at a time of rain water to utilize in watering the vegetable plots we rent. We also compost waste from the kitchen to make compost soil for the gardens. The wetlands and swale with their native plants take runoff from the driveway and filter impurities slowing their progression into the adjacent waterway system. We are proposing to add two recycle bins like those at nearby residential sites to the Finnish Center to recycle paper, plastics #1-7, cans, and glass. The cost would be \$35 per month. We have approached Senior Housing to add an additional two bins at that site for no additional cost and perhaps split the cost between the two sites.

Meanwhile before the snow melts, take a look at the tracks around the woodshop and wetlands. You will see deer, birds, coyote, rabbits, and squirrels tracks. If you see cars near the woodshop on Monday morning, please drop by and join us in our projects, to chat, or have a cup of coffee.

If you have any questions or comments, items to donate, or monetary contributions, please contact me at (734) 546-5190 or gaylegullen@hotmail.com

Gayle Gullen
Finlandia Garden Club President

FLEA MARKET FRIDAY, MARCH 28 SATURDAY, MARCH 29

10 am—4 pm

Treasures
old and new,
jewelry,
glassware,
furniture,
garden items,
books,
clothing,
and much more.



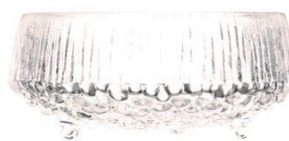
Food,
fellowship,
bake sale.

Come
and
see
for yourself.



GIFT SHOP NEWS!

Iittala has raised the Ultima Thule prices. All Ultima Thule in stock is available at 2013 prices. Buy now before the prices go up.



In the Detroit area,
Maltex is only available here.

We are now open Monday evenings
6 pm to 8 pm

MEMORIALS

When making a memorial donation, you may direct it toward a specific fund. The funds available are: FCA General Fund, Library, Scholarship, Hoi-jakat 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.

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, address, date of death of the deceased as well as the name and address of the next of kin to whom the acknowledgement card is to be mailed. **Also include all names of donors.** If the deceased is a non member of the FCA please include city and state of residence.

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 **Walfred "Tony" Nelson** (12/8/13) a donation was made by his grandson Steven M. Nelson.

In memory of FCA life member **Anita Pirslin** (2/19/14) a donation has been made by Carl (Bob) & Bonnie Kangas.

In memory of FCA life member **Robert Lahti** (2/26/14) donations have been made by Helen Pertunen and Norman Juntunen.

In memory of FCA life member **Seija Usitalo** (1/4/14) a donation has been made by Margarita Aroutiunian.

In memory of FCA life member **Edith Raski** (12/12/13) a donation has been made by Paul & Lillian Lehto.

In memory of **Siiri Kahkonen Dobbins** (1/18/14) a donation has been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member **Irene Honkala** (2/26/14) a donation has been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of **Rigmor Cuolahan** (2/7/14) a donation has been made by Kay Simo.

In memory of FCA life member **Anne Paulson** (12/13/13) a donation has been made by Edith Niederer.

In memory of **Violet Carlson** a donation has been made by Bernie & Lena Los.

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

FCA life member **Vivian Peters** (7/13/13)

FCA life member **Lillian Hanner** (7/20/13)

FCA life member **Ellen Karvonen** (2/12/14)

FCA life member **Leslie Kent** (1/11/14)

David Pelto (2/8/14) of Commerce Township, son of member Marion Pelto.

Lisa Lawitzke (2/20/14) of Wyandotte, daughter of member Louise Lawitzke.



GOING PLACES

Irish Tenors at the Soaring Eagle, Monday, March 17, \$38. You will receive a \$10 coin coupon and a \$5 food voucher. A free show by the talented Irish Tenors is included. To receive the casino package you must fill out a coupon which you will find on the flyer at the FCA. You must also have a valid photo ID. Combo with Nardineers. Depart 8:30 am and return about 9:30 pm. Get your money in soon on this one as Evelyn has to order tickets the end of January.

Journey to Freedom, Tuesday, April 22, \$52. This is an official tour of the National Park Service, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. It will be narrated by Deborah Meadows, a docent with the African American Cultural & Historical Museum of Washtenaw County. Lunch will be at Haab's Restaurant, a historic restaurant dating back to the mid-19th century. Combo with Nardineers. Depart at 8:45 am and return about 4:15 pm.

Flavors of Frankenmuth, Tuesday, May 13, \$78. There is more to Frankenmuth than just chicken dinners. This trip begins with lunch at the Frankenmuth Brewery which is one of the oldest brewery's in Michigan and the second oldest brewery in the nation. Next we go on a leisurely cruise on the Cass River. Finally we get to go in the Bavarian Inn kitchen to try our hand at making their famous apple strudel and we get to taste some too. There will also be time for shopping. Combo with Nardineers. Depart at 10 am and return about 6:30 pm.

Cornwell's Turkeyville, Wednesday, July 9, \$71. "Suds" is a Rocking 60's Soap Opera, a story about a young woman and her guardian angels and some of the 60's greatest pop hits. And, of course, lunch is at the wonderful all you eat turkey buffet. Combo with Nardineers. Depart at 10 am and return about 6 pm.

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



Neil J. Lehto

Attorney and Counselor At Law

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FROM THE FCA LIBRARY



Easter is just around the corner, so let's take a look at Easter festivities in Finland. Like in other Christian countries, the Easter traditions in Finland have both pagan and Christian elements.

On Palm Sunday, or on Easter Sunday (sometimes on Holy Saturday), depending upon the part of Finland one is speaking of, children dressed as witches may appear at your door. Years ago, people believed that evil spirits were abroad while Jesus was in the grave. Witches (called *trulli* in Finnish) were believed to fly around on broomsticks. Now this has evolved into a fun activity for children, who go from door to door dressed as witches, offering a blessing for your home in return for some treats.

The witches recite a traditional rhyme at the door: *Virvon, varvon, tuoreeks, terveeks, tulevaks vuodeks; vitsa sulle, palkka mulle.* (Translation: I wave a twig for a fresh and healthy year ahead; a twig for you, a treat for me.) They offer a willow twig decorated with colorful feathers and crepe paper. It would be a good idea to have a basket of sweets or small change at your door in anticipation of these visitors.



Another custom is an Easter tree. A branch of willow is brought indoors and forced to bud. It is placed in a pot or other holder and decorated with colored feathers, colored blown eggs, and sometimes witches or birds. Some families sow grass in small pots before Easter, and put eggs in them when the grass has grown sufficiently.



The religious aspect of Easter is found especially in music. Sacred music concerts are organized during the Easter season, especially for Good Friday. Bach's *The Passion of St. Matthew* and *The Passion of St. John* are the most attended concerts of the holidays. The texts of these are based on the account of the Passion and Death of Jesus according to the gospels of Saint John and Saint Matthew. These concerts often attract more people to church than does the Easter morning service.

Compared to Christmas, Easter is not as enthusiastically celebrated among the Lutheran Finns. Instead of the true message of Easter, the growing commercialism of the holiday is making Easter more popular. Stores are filled with things that especially appeal to children: Easter bunnies, chicks and chocolate eggs.

On the other hand, Easter is the most important festival of the year for the Orthodox Church, who

(continued on page 8)

Library (continued from page 7)
make up about 1 percent of the population.

Finns do send Easter cards; the custom became popular already in the 1880's. The illustrations range from religious themes to witches.

Easter cuisine often consists of roast lamb for the main course. Often included are the traditional puddings, *mämmi* and *pasha*. Some claim that *mämmi* looks unappetizing, but is delicious. *Pasha* is a creamy-colored pudding which sounds more appetizing.

Regardless of how it is celebrated, Easter means a four-day weekend for Finns, when perhaps one can already see some signs of spring.

We have books in our library with information on Finnish holidays, including Easter.

We have been the recipients of a beautiful seven-volume set of hardback books of Z. Topelius' stories, in Finnish. Since we already have a duplicate of this series on our shelves, we would like to see these books (as a set) find a good home in exchange for a donation to the library. If interested, call the Finnish Center and leave a message for me, including your phone number.

Lillian Lehto, Librarian



IITTI COAT OF ARMS DONATED



Mark Rikkonen presented the "Coat of Arms of Iitti" (Iitin Vaakuna), his home county in Finland, to the Chairman of the Finnish Center Association, Lois Makee, during the FCA Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 16. The shield was donated by the county of Iitti during his visit there last summer.

Iitti is located in the province of Southern Finland and is part of the Kymenlaakso region. The municipality has a population of 6,959 (January 31, 2014) and covers an area of 265.28 square miles of which 37.56 miles is water. The population density is 11.8 inhabitants per 31 square miles.

In 1990, the center of Iitti, which surrounds the old parish church, was voted the most attractive *kirkonkylä* "church village" in Finland.

The municipality is unilingually Finnish.



TEAMWORK

Teamwork is a major aspect of two of this scribes current past-times: singing with the Finnish American singers and making pasties. Each activity is comprised of various components that are comparable, and that illustrate the importance of teamwork.

- The Singers have a leader in the person of our director Hank Naasko who commits to weekly practices and twice yearly concerts. Pasty Bake coordinator Paul Rajala oversees the order process, pre-bake day prep, and smooth flow of task coverage on the day we make, bake, and distribute the pasties...each time we make them.
- We have a second-in-command in FASM, accompanist Bill Gramzow, much like Nancy Rajala is the “commander in charge of packaging” and right-hand-helper to Paul for the Bakes.
- Our chorus is comprised of 4 major voices: soprano, alto, tenor, and baritone/bass, with some further division among the voices based on need, ability, and preference. Tasks are broken down more at the Bake, but are also based on ability, preference, and need. We have peelers and choppers, dough mixers, measurers and flatteners, filling mixers and scoopers, crimpers, oven tenders, finished pasty removers (from baking trays), pan washers and cleaner-uppers, baggers, boxers, cashiers and treat table suppliers.
- Each activity depends on each part of its team – the team does not function well if one of the components is missing or not performing optimally with the rest of the group.

The Bible points out that many parts with different functions make up the “whole,” and that each one is important and should be considered a gift (talent). “Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function” (Roman 12:1), “And there are different activities, but the same God activates each gift in each person.” (1 Corinthians 12:6) It’s human nature to feel that perhaps *our* contribution is more important than someone else’s. Everyone secretly wants to be considered indispensable! Successful teams recognize that although no one is indispensable, each “job” is important and they celebrate the importance of *each* contributing member’s valued contribution.

Each of our singers is important to the heart, sound, and spirit of FASM. Health concerns, conflicting schedules, and just *life* take a toll on our small group. We support each other while encouraging new singers to join our group, so if you like to sing, come see what we are all about. This would be a great opportunity for young singers in local colleges, fresh from an intensive high school choir experience to “get their music on” in a well-respected but small musical group.

Our practices are Monday evenings, from 7 pm to 9 pm with coffee and treats after practices, if you’d like to stay. We are currently meeting in the Lounge at the FCA. Please come check us out...and thank you for supporting our other teamwork effort – pasty making!

Katy Koskela – FASM Scribe



FINLAND TODAY

First, Valmet and Klabin S.A. of Brazil have signed a contract for Valmet to deliver two pulp drying lines for a new plant that Klabin is building in Parana, Brazil. The value of the deal is worth about \$200 million. The new plant will be ready in 2016 and will produce about 1.7 million tons of pulp per year. Valmet will supply the machinery, engineering, installation, training and the start-up.

Klabin is Brazil's largest producer and exporter of paper, cardboard, corrugated packaging. Klabin, founded in 1899, has 16 plants, 15 in Brazil and one in Argentina.

Valmet also announced that it has signed a contract with Cheng Yang Paper Mills of Viet Nam, to supply a containerboard line for its new plant in Ho Chi Minh City. The new production line will produce high grade container board using 100% recycled raw material.

Earlier this year, Valmet announced that it has received an order from OKI Pulp and Paper of Indonesia to produce a "fine paper line." The project will include: two biomass gasifiers, two biomass boilers, an evaporation system, two lime kilns, and two pulp dryers. The value of the order is about \$375 million.

Valmet is a leading global developer of services and technologies for the pulp paper and energy industries. The technology includes building entire pulp and paper mills; tissue, cardboard and paper production lines, as well as bio-energy power plants.

Valmet, who has been doing business for two hundred years, had sales of \$2.9 billion in 2013.

The VTT Technical Research Center of Finland has developed a camera that is able to detect early stages of skin cancer. The ultra-precision hyperspectral camera can recognize within two seconds the early stages of skin cancer that is invisible to the naked eye. The camera, invented by Heikki Saari of the VTT, has been patented in the United States and in Finland.

And finally, Hilma and Heikki are on their first date. The evening is going fine when Hilma asks

Heikki, "Do you drink?"

Heikki: "Sure I do, but strictly for medicinal purposes only."

Hilma: "What do you drink?"

Heikki: "Well for digestion, I drink beer. For appetite, I drink white wine. And for low blood pressure, I drink red wine, and for high blood pressure, I drink cognac. And whenever I have a cold, I drink whiskey."

Hilma: "When do you drink water?"

Heikki: "Oh, I have never been that sick."

Markku Ketola
marketola@yahoo.com

"Pääsiäinen" means Easter in Finnish

You will find that Easter decorations in Finland show lots of colored eggs and yellow flowers (e.g. daffodils). Some Finnish families sow grass in small pots before Easter, and put eggs in them when the grass has grown.

Another Easter tradition in Finland you might see is children walking between houses, handing out twigs or decorations, asking for a few coins in exchange.

Traditional Easter food in Finland can be ham, poultry, or lamb. Note that during the public holidays for Easter in Finland, many businesses remain closed.



ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE:

EDITOR CONTACT INFO:

LAYOUT AND DESIGN:

E-MAIL:

DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE IS APRIL 5TH

PAUL RAJALA

NANCY RAJALA

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 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:

3 month rate1" ad - \$30.00.	1.5" ad - \$45.00	2" ad - \$60.00
Pay for full year1" ad - \$100.00.	1.5" ad - \$150.00	2" ad - \$200.00

READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

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Date _____ Phone: _____ email: _____

Applicant _____

Applicant/Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip code _____

Signature _____ Are you of Finnish descent? _____

- Annual membership, single, one vote \$50.00
- Annual membership, senior* or youth*, one vote \$25.00
- * Senior, over 65 years, youth under 30 years of age
- Annual membership, couple, two votes \$100.00
- Annual membership, family, one vote \$75.00
- Life membership, one vote \$500.00
- Life membership, senior, one vote (see membership for details)

Amount enclosed _____
Please make check payable to FCA and send to Finnish Center Association,
Membership, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108
Recommended by: _____

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Photographer
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