



Finnish Center Association

FCA News

February 2016

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 03 Wednesday Rental
- 05 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 10 Rental
- 12 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 14 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12noon-2 pm
- 14 Sunday Brunch 12noon - 1:30 pm
- 17 Rental
- 19 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 21 Sunday Senior Housing Annual Meeting 1 pm
- 21 Sunday FCA Annual Meeting 3 pm
- 24 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon
Wednesday Spain Travelogue following luncheon
- 24 Rentals
- 26 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 28 Sunday Kaleva Day Celebration
Knights & Ladies of Kaleva 12 noon Brunch (\$5)
Program Following (everyone welcome)
- 28 Sunday Open House 1-4 pm
- 28 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12 noon-2 pm

MARCH

- 02 Rental
- 04 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 05 Rental
- 06 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12 noon-2 pm
- 09 Rentals
- 09 FCA Joint Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 11 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 13 Sunday Brunch 12 noon-1:30 pm
- 13 Sunday Performer of the Year 2 pm
- 16 Rentals
- 18 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 20 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12 noon-2pm
- 20 Sunday Open House 1-4 pm
- 21 Monday Scholarship Meeting 1:30 pm
- 25 Friday Night Buffet 5-8 pm
- 30 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon



Weekly Events

- Finnish American Singers
Mondays 7 pm
- Library
Open Monday 10 am-2 pm
- Nikkarin Talo
Mondays 9 am
- Finlandia Garden Club
Mondays 9 am

Monthly Events

- Finnish Conversation
1st Friday of the month 10 am
- Sunday Brunch
Second Sunday of the month
12-1:30 pm
- Book Club
Last Monday of the month 1 pm
- Luncheon
Last Wednesday of the month Noon
- Open House
Last Sunday of the month 1-4 pm

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

This year is the 50th Anniversary year for the Finnish Center. It is a remarkable accomplishment from our founding members and everybody who has kept the doors open all those years. It has taken a lot of work and SISU and is even more remarkable in light of similar clubs having had to close these past several years. Several events are in the plans for celebrating this important milestone. We will keep you posted on them.

The Annual Meeting is held February 21, 2016 at 3 pm. Ballots are mailed to all members for the three Board of Trustee positions. Alternates and Chairpersons of each of the Standing Committees shall be elected by the members in attendance at the annual meeting. It is important that you attend the meeting. This election is important to continue the progress we have made with the current board to sustain the Finnish Center.

FinnFest USA has approached us and other Finnish organizations in the area for possibility of holding FinnFest 2017 in our area. This would coincide with the 100th year Anniversary of Finland's independence. We have expressed our willingness to discuss such event with FinnFest USA. We are currently conducting our due diligence of FinnFest USA, successes of the past FinnFest functions and suitability of our undertaking it, especially with such a short planning time. We will keep you posted.

And finally, as I have mentioned before, if you are in the area please consider volunteering at the Finnish Center. There are many different ways to make a huge difference! If your schedule is too busy or you are not in the area—please consider a donation! Thank you so much in advance for your support and encouragement!

Mia Lamminen, Chairman



35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
48335-5108
Tel: (248) 478-6939
Fax: (248) 478-5671
finnishcenter@gmail.com
www.finnishcenter.org

Officers

Mia Lamminen, Chairman
Roger Wanttaja, Vice Chairman
Robert Waissi, Secretary
Marlene Ruuskanen, Treasurer

Board of Trustees

1 Year

Lois Makee, Robert Waissi,
Roger Wanttaja

2 Year

Lila Ball, Mia Lamminen,
Margaret Laurila

3 Year

Olli Lamminen, Henrikki Panstar,
Marlene Ruuskanen

Alternates

#1 Wayne Walli
#2 Carol Tudball
#3 Katie Waissi

Financial Review

Fran Fadie, Eunice Gould,
Sarah Wiideman

Committee Chairpersons

Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

Education

Katri Ervamaa

Finance

Melissa Hill-Biddix

Gift Shop

Margaret Laurila

Mailing

Alice Manley

Membership

Anu Panstar

Publicity & Publications

Fran Fadie

Social

Lila Ball

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Paul C. Hendrickson, Chairman

Tapiola Village

Laura Fultz, Manager
248 471-3802

Tapiola@ameritech.net

Freedom Square

Jennifer Bridges, Manager
248 442-7250

www.fcaseniorhousing.org



FROM THE LIBRARY



Since we have just celebrated the 150th anniversary of Jean Sibelius' birth, it seems appropriate to learn about the Sibelius monument in Helsinki, and its creator, Eila Hiltunen.

Planning for the monument started shortly after Sibelius' death in 1957. A competition was organized and artists were invited to submit designs. From the very beginning of the competition it was surrounded by controversy. Some people wanted a traditional piece, while others favored an abstract work of art.

Fifty sculptors participated in the competition. The winning sculptor, Eila Hiltunen, submitted an abstract design of a piece which would consist of approximately 600 stainless steel tubes welded together; they could be interpreted as organ pipes. Since Sibelius never played the organ, some considered that inappropriate. Finally Hiltunen was awarded the project, with the stipulation that Sibelius himself appear somewhere in the monument. Therefore the sculptor created a bust of Sibelius which is set off to the side. There was even heated debate as to whether he should be represented as an elderly Sibelius or as he appeared at the height of his creativity. The former was chosen.

Each of the monument's tubes was individually welded and textured by Hiltunen. At its highest point the monument measures 8 1/2 meters tall. It weighs 30 tons and measures more than 10 meters in length and over 6 meters in width. It was assembled by just Hiltunen and her assistant, Emil Kukkonen. It took four years of welding and construction and unfortunately resulted in Hiltunen's developing chronic bronchial asthma due to exposure to toxic fumes. It was finally unveiled on September 7, 1967, almost exactly ten years after the death of Sibelius.

The monument, a breath-taking creation, is situated in Sibelius Park near the seaside; it is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Helsinki. Some people even stick their heads into the lower tubes. The artist has stipulated that the unique nature of the location be preserved and that there be no commercialization of the site.

A smaller version of the monument is located at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Another similar work, also designed by Hiltunen, is located at the grounds of the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

Eila Hiltunen, born in 1922, had prepared for her career at the Finnish Art Academy in Helsinki. In 1944 she married Otso Pietinen, a professional photographer, but retained her maiden name professionally. She was very sociable, and fluent in six languages. During her long career she met numerous heads of state, traveled extensively and had commissions for her work worldwide. She died at her home in Helsinki in 2003.

Lillian Lehto, FCA librarian



Left to right: Eila Hiltunen at the monument, the monument itself, the bust of Sibelius at the monument

Directory Corrections:

The following life members were inadvertently left out of the directory. Our sincere apologies.

Adams, Paul J. & Lois M.
26133 Brest Road
Taylor, MI 48180-3963
Tel: 734-946-5898

Bergstrom, Gordon
4420 S. Duck Lake Rd.
Commerce Twp, MI 48382-1332
Tel: 248-685-7707

The following members should have had the *notation to indicate they are life members.

Eunice Potti Gould
David and Sandra Scheel

Last name correction:

Hill-Stephenson change to Stephenson, Ty & Brittni

Other changes since the directory publication:

Kartes, Sharon change to Zizka, Sharon

Address and phone number changes:

Boccomino Mr. & Mrs. Edward
(248) 960-0743
41340 Fox Run Road
Novi, MI 48377

Hill, Maria
(248) 759-4489
875 W. Avon Road, Apt. 340C
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Orchard, Mr. & Mrs. Melvin
(248) 859-3806
41340 Fox Run Road, Apt 112
Novi, MI 48377

Usitalo, Mr. Dennis
(503) 750-5065
P.O. Box 8496
Portland, OR 97207

Address changes:

Bessonon, Mrs. Eva J.
22512 Devron Ct.
Novi, MI 48374



Hamilton, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas
8 Pine Shadow Ct.
Savannah, GA 31411

Justusson, Mr. William M.
14113 Monthaven Park PL
Hendersonville, TN 37075

Kortesoja, Ms. Elvira
10524 Stanton Dr.
Brutus, MI 49716

Lappala, Mr. & Mrs. Dale
P.O. Box 1110
Howell, MI 48844

Mannisto, Mrs. Ruth
4620 Hogback Rd.
Fowlerville, MI 48836-1085

McMahon, Ms. Gailyn
35254 W. Eight Mile Rd, Apt 37
Farmington Hills, MI 48335

Putkela, Fritz
21400 Archwood Circle Run, Room 215
Farmington Hills, MI 48336-4182

Wiljanen, Mrs. Hildegard
22874 Brookforest
Novi, MI 48375

Phone number changes:

Dolkey, Mr. Bill (Howell, MI)
(810) 986-0654

Haffey, Mrs. Cynthia (Novi, MI)
(248) 880-5880

Heikka, Mr. Kenneth (Pinckney, MI)
(734) 878-5884

Kauppi, Mr. Jon (Detroit, MI)
(313) 608-0660

Kyro, Mr. Erick (Midland, MI)
(989) 486-3398

Lada, Mr. & Mrs. Charles (New Hudson, MI)
(248) 667-9125

Laurila, Ms. Margaret (Southfield, MI)
(248) 508-5608

Mikkola, Mr. & Mrs. Michael (Walled Lake, MI)
(248) 624-5394

Puska, Mr. & Mrs. Wallace (Holly, MI)
(248) 459-2484

MEMORIALS



The FCA would like to extend condolences to the family and friends of the following:

FCA life member **Irene Gauthier** (2010?)
 FCA life member **Leslie Harju** (12/02/13)
 FCA life member **Shirley Huhta** (12/2014)
 FCA life member **Dorothy Jarvela** (4/06/15)
 FCA life member **Emily Stewart** (7/5/15)
 FCA life member Leonard Nuorala (12/22/15)
 FCA life member **Marguerite "Marge" Korpi**
 (12/28/15)
 FCA life member **Walter "Mike" Michelson**
 (1/1/16)
 FCA member **Martha Boscarino** (1/4/16)

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, Happiness Fund, FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers. If a donation is undesignated, it goes to the General Fund for expenses of the Center.

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

Also include all names of donors. If the deceased is a non-member of the FCA please include city and state of residence.

You may also direct your donation toward the Senior Housing, but then your check must be made out to FCA Senior Housing Corp.

Please include full name, address, and 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.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Wow! Winter did come after all. What cold weather we're having here. I hope this finds everyone staying warm and healthy. Many are sick. Take care of yourself.

I hope all of you had some good times during the last two months. The Finnish Center certainly keeps busy. The parties, rentals, dinners, and special get-togethers have been wonderful.

The Candlelight Service was extremely well-attended. Many participants spoke of memories and loved ones. Thank you to all who participated and especially to Freddie Liimatta for involving everyone.

The Social Committee has been making pasties and would appreciate a few more volunteers. We'd like to make pasties available at all times at the Finnish Center.

Luncheons are continuing on the last Wednesday of each month. Please make a reservation by the Monday before the luncheon. Be sure to let me know of any special food items you'd like on the menu.

Comments always welcome! Bingo, game time, card playing, and speakers could be some suggestions.

Respectfully,
Lila Ball



CALLING ALL BAKERS

The bakers will head to the kitchen on February 4 at 9:30 am to make pulla. No experience necessary. Come and join the fun!



FEBRUARY GIFT SHOP

40% discount on selected items including discontinued Iittala dishes.

Come in and check out new items:

- Aprons
- T-shirts
- Jewelry and more.

Due to health issues I must resign from managing the Gift Shop at this time. I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered and assisted me in the Gift Shop for the past 8 years. I have enjoyed spending time with you, the customers and doing the ordering. It has been challenging at times, but enjoyable.

Please continue to support the Gift Shop. Hours of operation: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 am to 4 pm.

Sincerely,
Margaret Laurila



Margaret models one of the new aprons as she waves goodbye.

FEBRUARY IN THE GARDENS

The Garden Club members have been in the woodshop cleaning and sharpening equipment, putting away the holiday decorations, repairing and painting benches, and generally trying to purge clutter in the garage and woodshop.

While moving the crèche to the garage we found prayers written to Jesus. One such prayer was a plea for a safe return to the US for all our troops. This is the first year we have found such prayers and consequently we are considering adding a small prayer box near the crèche for next year. Building the prayer box will be one of our winter projects.

Daniel Coleman has started college and Kathy Maillard is off renovating a house which makes us extremely short-handed in the garden, especially late March and early April when gardening starts again in earnest. If you have a few hours a week to spend outside any day of the week, please let either Gayle Gullen or David Sharpe (248) 977-1337 know and we will make arrangements to work with your schedule.

If you have any questions, comments, or donations, you can contact me at (734) 546-5190 or gaylegullen@hotmail.com.

Gayle Gullen
Finlandia Garden
Club President



STORIES OF THE TOWN OF KALEVA, MICHIGAN WITH MARY O'BRIEN

Have you ever wondered when people mention the town of Kaleva where it is? Mary O'Brien grew up in the little town of Kaleva with both of her parents being Finnish. She will speak at the Sunday Open House on January 31, with stories of Kaleva (Part I). You will see how the Finnish Culture and SISU molded the little town. In March she will continue with Part II of Kaleva which will include an interview with her Mother who arrived in Kaleva in 1909 and lived her entire life there. Hope to see you there.



FASM DIRECTOR AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THE CHOIR

Throughout the last two years, you have been introduced to members of the Finnish American Singers in this column: long time and recent members, singing couples, and our faithful accompanist. After a short interview with some prompting questions, we have gotten a peek into lives both familiar and unfamiliar. Information has come directly from the “expert” on the subject – themselves! As a school librarian, students are constantly reminded to verify information, rely on authoritative sources, and as in a courtroom, ignore hearsay. Definition of primary and secondary sources occurs and bias is mentioned. Here, this scribe is ignoring that advice to acquaint readers with someone important to FASM by revealing oft repeated stories and reminiscences shared during rehearsals and gatherings.

Friends have joked about how quiet, sometimes taciturn, stoic, and almost unemotional the “average” Finnish man is, based on our experience. A young blog writer said that “An outgoing Finnish man would be considered introverted anywhere else in the world.” This is diametrically opposed to a description of our director, Henry Naasko.

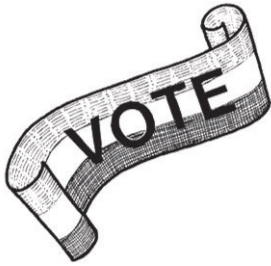
As a parent (three daughters), grandparent (five+ grandchildren) and middle/high school teacher for over 40 years, Mr. Naasko, affectionately called Hank, shows his love of children and teaching ‘on his sleeve.’ He is a taskmaster, expecting the best from those under his tutelage. Accompanying history lessons with laughter, dressing in costume, using cookies to illustrate the spice trade, there is plenty of emotional feedback. One current FASM member was his music student in middle school and said one glare of his could intimidate a whole choir, but we have also heard about “boose-gumps” (goosebumps) he often got as well as the high school choir aghast during their concert to see tears coursing down his cheeks. Upset that he was disappointed in their performance, he later assured them the tears were in response to their beautiful performance. FASM singers have seen similar brief tears and heard about orchestra or choral concerts, musical theater and Christmas CD’s (of his 350+ collection) on his car stereo that have resulted in sopping hankies and sometimes sobbing. In the case of the music in the car – rest assured he has pulled over to recover! Loving Christmas, he has been the one to put up seven Christmas trees in their home covered with ornaments collected through the years.

Hank’s family is very close. His daughters’ families and grandchildren all live near him and his wife in the Ann Arbor area. Everyone gathering at the Naasko’s for Sunday dinners provides many opportunities for singing and playing with creative, musical granddaughters and enjoying his namesake grandson. Born in the U.P, we have heard about his mother’s family (Kangas’) with their thirteen children (only two boys) and the fact that the boys had to use the outhouse while the girls were able to use the “flushie” indoors. Fun family reunions are still held for that group, with gatherings in the U.P every three years or so. Hank found, despite his large family, that he was certainly a naïve, sheltered young man when he went to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan to study history and music. Proudly he sang with the prestigious Michigan Men’s Glee Club, touring Europe multiple times with the group, singing in amazing venues. One time the group broke into song at a train station, perhaps a precursor to the Flash Mobs of today! He still owns a white cashmere sweater the group was required to wear, instead of their traditional black tuxedos, on a Christmas television special with Andy Williams. His loyalty to the University has been demonstrated during the fifty years he has attended UM football games, missing only about 5 during that time, cheering from seats at the 50-yard line.

We are lucky to have such a dedicated, exacting, and yes, emotional director. Hank expects a great deal but is somehow able to get it from our group. Hoping the facts here are accurate, a future interview with Mr. Naasko himself will provide a personal peek into his experience, life and philosophy.

Submitted by Scribe, Katy Koskela





**FCA SENIOR CITIZENS
HOUSING CORPORATION ELECTION
NOTICE**

February 21, 2016 at 1 pm

**FCA ELECTION
NOTICE 2016**

February 21, 2016
3 pm.

**SAVE THE DATE
SPRING FLEA MARKET
SATURDAY, APRIL 16**

Contact the FCA to rent your table while supplies last. Cost is \$25 for (1) 8' table.

Several opportunities are available to volunteer from set-up, baking, clean-up and more. Call Margaret Laurila or Denise Book.



FCA SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING CORPORATION

Many FCA members are not aware of how FCA and FCA Senior Citizens' Housing Corporation are related. FCA does not directly own Senior Housing but FCA members are the sole members of the FCA Senior Citizen's Housing Corporation which is a charitable, 501(c)(3) corporation.

FCA Senior Citizens' Housing Corporation together with FCA membership are the sole owners of Tapiola I, majority owners of Tapiola II and a 1% general partner in Freedom Square.

All three senior housing corporations are - unlike FCA and FCA Senior Citizens' Housing Corporation - for profit corporations and financed by MSHDA, a state of Michigan program. In future newsletters, finances and profitability of all of these three corporations will be clarified. FCA members should take notice that the realistic market value of these three corporations is in millions of dollars.

Paul Hendrickson initiated and organized our Senior Housing corporation and has been in charge of its operations since its inception. Without Paul's lifelong efforts there would be no Senior Housing associated with FCA.

In the January 13, 2016, FCA Senior Citizens' Housing meeting, the board trustees unanimously approved to initiate a renovation program of Tapiola I and II. The intent and hope is to complete renovations by the fall of 2017. FCA members will be kept informed of progress.

If any FCA member or Senior Housing resident has anything to contribute regarding Senior Housing, please contact Mia Lamminen at (734) 834-6085 or mialamminen@gmail.com. A Senior Housing article will be included in all future newsletters.



FINLANDIA FOUNDATION NATIONAL'S PERFORMER OF THE YEAR for 2015-16

Sara Pajunen, violinist and composer, is this year's Performer of the Year. She will be performing at the Finnish Center Association on March 13 at 2:00 pm. FCA members \$10.00, non-members \$15.00, senior non-members \$12. Children free.

As a child growing up on Minnesota's Iron Range, Sara Pajunen was steeped in Finnish traditional music. She went on to study classical violin at the University of Minnesota, and earned a Solo Studies degree from Stadia in Helsinki. In 2010 she received a grant from Finlandia Foundation National to study folk music in Finland.

Returning to her Finnish roots, Sara has created her own tribute to her heritage, melding the music of her Finnish American ancestors with that of present-day Finland. She has since toured and recorded with the top folk musicians of Finland and North America. Currently Sara performs with Finnish accordionist Teija Niku; their duo is called Aallotar.

Sara is an amazing and versatile musician who describes her music as "progressive yet reverent." Today she is considered one of the most notable practitioners of Finnish traditional music outside of Finland.

Join us on March 13 for an unforgettable performance.



GOING PLACES



Mardi Gras at Caesars, Tuesday, February 9, \$20. A \$15 voucher is included. Depart at 9:45 am and return about 5:30 pm. Please remember to bring a valid passport or ID to cross the border.

The Odd Couple at The Purple Rose, Wednesday, February 24, \$82. Lunch at the Common Grill and time for shopping. Depart at 11:00 am and return about 6:30 pm.



All of these trips are combined with the Nardineers on 11 Mile Rd. Have questions? You may call Betty at (248) 553-7618 or Pearl at (248) 541-0054. Trip flyers will be available at the FCA.

GET WELL, THINKING OF YOU

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

Please notify me if you think someone might need warm and thoughtful wishes from the friends at the FCA. Send or call your card requests to the attention of the "Sunshine Lady" at the FCA.

Thank you,
Eunice Potti Gould



STAY CONNECTED



This publication will feature updated member address and phone number changes to keep the membership connected.

If you have a change please contact the FCA.



FINLAND TODAY



First, the final score was 4-3, in overtime! Finland is again the World Champion! On Tuesday, January 5th the Finnish Under 20 Hockey Team beat Russia in a thriller of a hockey game. With 1:33 gone in overtime, Kasperii Kapanen, gets the puck and goes around the back of the net from the right side to the left side and tucks the puck into the net. Russia scored on their first shot of the game at 4:55 in the first period. The second period was scoreless with Finland having the edge on shots 9-2. All the drama occurred during the next 21:33. At 00:24 of the third period Patrik Laine scores a wrist shot and ties the score. About a minute later at 1:41 the Russians again take the lead. But the Finns really turn on the heat by scoring the next two goals, giving the Finnish Young Lions a 3-2 lead. First Sebastian Aho scores at 10:07 and then at 17:51, Mikko Rantanen fires a wrister past the Russian goalie. Then at about 18:30, the Russians pull their goalie for an extra attacker and it works. At 19:54, with 6 seconds left the Russians tie the game 3-3. And then at 1:33 of the overtime period Kasperii Kapanen does his heroics, and the Finnish young Lions win their 4th World Championship.

Talk about keeping the dramatics in the family, in the 1998 world championships, Finland also played against Russia, and the game went to overtime with Finns winning, and coach of that team, Hannu Kapanen, Kasperii's grandfather. And not to be outdone, Kasperii's father, Sami Kapanen was a member of the 1995 men's World Hockey Championship team.

Now let's talk about accolades. Selected as the best forward in the tournament was Jesse Puljujarvi, who tied Wayne Gretzky for number of points in the tournament with 17 points. Puljujarvi was also voted as the most valuable player in the tournament. Joining Puljujarvi on the All Star team was his lines mate, Patrik Laine and American, Auston Matthews. And on defense, the best was American, Zach Werenski, and joining him on the All Star team is a Finn, Olli Juolevi. The best goalie award was given to a Swede, Linus Soderstrom.

How popular was this tournament in Finland? Well, the attendance set an all-time European record for the Under 20 tournament, with 7,174 people at each match, for a total of 215,225 in attendance. What about the TV audience? For the whole tournament, the average game had TV audience of about 1.5 million people watching, that's about 29% of the whole country watching. What about the final game between Finland and Russia? Well at the beginning of the game, there were about 1.9 million people watching and at end of the game there were over 2.4 million people, which comes down to 48% of the whole country watching. Those are pretty impressive numbers.

Finnair is among the 20 safest airlines in the world, that is according to AirlineRatings.com. The only airline that is singled out in the top 20 list is Australia's Qantas airline, rated as number one, having stayed at that position for the last three years. Qantas has a fatality free record in the jet age. Among the top 20 airlines are Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Scandinavian Airlines, and United Airlines. AirlineRatings.com looks at such stuff as each airlines fatality record, each airlines operational history, incident records, operational excellence, and governmental audits.

The coldest day of the year so far occurred in Muonio in the Lapland, near the Swedish border, on Jan. 7th the temperature went down to -42°F. Even in southern Finland, in the Helsinki area, the temperature went down to -7°F. The al-time coldest temperature in Finland occurred in 1999 in Kittila, in the Lapland when the temperature was -61°F. The cold weather also affect the electricity consumption in Finland. The country was using about 15,000 megawatts of power out of the total capacity of 17,000 MW. About 4,300 MW of the power was imported from Sweden and Russia, and to a small extent from Estonia.

(continued on page 11)

FINLAND TODAY (continued from page 10)

A train tunnel between Helsinki and Tallinn, Estonia? A feasibility study just completed says that it is possible, with a few "ifs". Probably the biggest "if" is, if the European Union picks up at least 40% of the cost of building the tunnel which would cost about 9-13 billion euros. Another "if" is if the projection for at least 11 million passengers a year is the right figure. And that is assuming the one-way ticket for the train would be 36 euros. And how do they get the 11 million passengers a year figure from? Well they get it from the fact that there are about 60,000 Estonians working in Finland and that most of them go home every week-end. What if you could get about 25,000 of them to go home nightly? The train trip would only take about half an hour. For years it's been the Helsinki and Tallinn city planners dream to have a rail link between the two cities. Maybe by 2030 this dream will be come true.

And finally, Heikki, a traveling sauna stove salesman, is back home in Ishpeming. It's the middle of the night when his wife, Hilma's cell phone rings. Heikki, who was up, having just used the bathroom, said that he'd get it.

Heikki: "Well how the hell should I know, we're not at our camp on Lake Superior!"

Hilma: "Who was that?"

Heikki: "I dunno, some fool wanting to know 'if the coast was clear' and than he hangs-up before I have chance to ask him 'who's calling!' "

Thanks, Jussi Lapinoja, Florida

Markku Ketola
marketola@yahoo.com



ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE:	DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 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 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 rate 1" ad - \$30.00. 1.5" ad - \$45.00 2" ad - \$60.00

Pay for full year 1" ad - \$100.00. 1.5" ad - \$150.00 2" ad - \$200.00

Photos: B&W photo ads incur a one-time charge of \$25.00 payable at first insertion.

READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION



35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5208

Prsrt STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Farmington, MI
Permit NO 250

Current Resident or

FCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR ____ RENEWAL

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: _____

Visit us on “Finnish Center and Hall” Facebook page and “like” us to get the latest updates!



FCA Senior Living

One and two bedroom rentals
Convenient, safe and affordable in highly desirable Farmington Hills, MI

Contact us at:
Tapiola Village (248) 471-3802
Freedom Square (248) 442-7250
www.fcaseniorhousing.org



THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME

33603 Grand River,
Farmington, MI
(248) 474-4131
Paul N. Potti, Director