



Finnish Center Association

# FCA News

August 2016

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### AUGUST

- 02 Rental
- 06 Rental
- 10 Wednesday FCA Joint Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 13 Rental
- 14 Rental
- 20 Rental
- 27 Rental

No Sunday brunch, Open House, or  
Monthly Luncheon in August

### SEPTEMBER

- 02 Friday -Office Closed
- 05 Monday -Office Closed
- 09 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 14 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting. 6:30 pm
- 17 Rental
- 21 Rental
- 23 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 24 Saturday--Cultural Committee Art and  
Craft Fair 10 am - 5 pm
- 25 Sunday Open House 1 - 4 pm
- 28 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon

No Sunday Brunch in September

### OCTOBER

- 01 Saturday Flea Market 10 am - 3 pm
- 09 Sunday Finnish Film *Mother of Mine* 2 pm

### SAVE THE DATE

### SCANDINAVIAN BAZAAR

Saturday, November 12  
10 AM - 4 PM



#### Weekly Events

- Finnish American Singers  
(rehearsals resume in September)
- 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  
(Resumes in October)
- Book Club  
Last Monday of the month 1 pm
- Luncheon  
(Resumes in September)
- Open House  
Last Sunday of the month 1-4 pm

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

I hope you enjoy the beautiful Michigan summer. Personally my husband and I spend a lot of time during the summer on the shores of Lake Superior. The scenery there is a lot like Finland, as is the climate. The children and grandchildren like to come and visit there as well.

The past month at the Finnish Center has been rather quiet, more so than it has been for a long time. It does not mean that nothing is happening. We have done a lot of improvements during the last month including new HVAC unit in the main hall. The old one was from 1981 and had given us a lot of problems in the last two years. The new unit is also going to be much more energy efficient. A new ice maker was also installed and it is a big improvement and is considerably quieter than the old one. A much-needed cleaning was done on the kitchen floor by a professional company. More work still needs to be done to get us ready for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

The cultural committee has worked hard to get ready for the Arts Day in September and the Food Weekend in October. We are also working on the Independence Day/50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Jubilee December 3, 2016. Finlandia Foundation has generously given us a grant for these functions but it is not enough to cover all the costs. If you are willing to contribute to these functions; donations would be greatly appreciated.

Suomikoulu has been on vacation this summer but we hope to continue classes in the fall. Unfortunately, we lost our teacher Maija Muukkonen Friesorger who moved to Chicago when her husband got a job transfer. She will be greatly missed by all children and parents alike. Now we are looking for a new teacher for the children. If you know of anyone, please let us know as soon as possible,

The Finnish Center is doing rather well both financially and operationally. However, we must recognize that changes are needed should this present day success continue into the future. As a first step our application process to obtain 501.c.3 status is finally under way. This should hopefully be completed by the end of this year. If there are any members opposing our decision to apply for 501.c.3 status, please contact either myself or any other board member and bring up your concerns so we can openly discuss such.

As our membership ages, in five years it will eventually become practically impossible to run operations by volunteering. We need to develop our future operational structure and business model with this in mind. Successful completion of our 501.c.3 status will provide us a much wider variety of options.

Have a wonderful rest of the summer and see you at the FCA!

Mia Lamminen  
Chairman

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### Officers

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

### Board of Trustees

#### 1 Year

Lila Ball, Mia Lamminen,  
Margaret Laurila

#### 2 Year

Olli Lamminen, Henrikki Pantsar,  
Marlene Ruuskanen

#### 3 Year

Cynthia Haffey, Robert Waissi,  
Roger Wanttaja

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#1 Carol Tudball  
#2 Lois Makee  
#3 Wayne Walli

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Fran Fadie, Eunice Gould,  
Sarah Wiideman

### Committee Chairpersons

#### Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

#### Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

#### Education

Katri Ervamaa

#### Finance

Olli Lamminen

#### Gift Shop

Mary O'Brien

#### Mailing

Alice Manley

#### Membership

Anu Pantsar

#### 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*

Theresa Show, Manager  
(248) 442-7250

**www.fcaseniorhousing.org**



## FROM THE LIBRARY

### EDUCATION IN FINLAND



On an extraordinary day of study in Finland, a group of 12 to 13 year old students waited to enter the gymnasium. On the previous day, 10 lessons had been carefully presented in anticipation of this unusual learning experience. Eighteen cardboard booths greeted them, labeled as doctor's clinics, offices, places of business. The script in hand directed them to their My City location. In their choice of work for the day they will see what it means to make a living and why we pay taxes.

There are six My Cities around the country and a mobile unit. About half of the students get to enjoy My City and more are planned.

These children are ready to move into *ylä aste*: the three years before high school (13 to 15 year olds).

Success of My City is evident as many leave the work scene with comments like "What a good day at work!"

*Ylä aste* is the last compulsory part of the basic education. A choice must be made. If they choose *lukio* (which compares to our high school) they will have another 3 years of intense study. Or they can choose the technical curriculum if they have a particular talent or passion. The third choice is to go on to find a job or business of their own.

Finishing *lukio* is a "big deal". It is the first time they are confronted with a nationally graded exam.

Revamping of the Finnish educational system began in the 1990's. Technical fields were developing rapidly in Europe and beyond. Education realized the potential in their children. Doing well by them had to begin with the teachers.

Higher standards were set by requiring teaching aspirants to place in the upper third of their high school class. Prospective teachers must be upper achievers in high school. Every teacher is required to have a master's degree.

Schools are publicly funded and are managed by university trained educators, not by career politicians, business leaders or military officers.

Success with children begins at home. They are expected to be reading by the time they start school (usually age 7). Play is emphasized for 15 minutes between lessons. Children stay alert and are able to keep up with the teacher. "Rigor" is important in the classroom, (definition: logical exactitude). With educators, everyone wanted the "rigor" which can be felt in the classroom when everyone is challenged and paying attention.

The premise in Finland continues to be "all children are the same and must be treated the same". When special help is needed it is incorporated into the child's lesson and he or she is not separated from the regular class. These specialty teachers have a year of extra training after the master's degree. The early intervention is shown eventually in the graduation statistics. Finland has a successful 93% of its high school classes graduating.

Also, many times it is helpful to have a successful teacher pass into the next grade along with her students.

Celebrating is natural for Finns. Finishing *lukio* means 12 years of study is over. A farewell ceremony (*penkkarit*) means dressing up as jesters, pirates, ghosts, or animals and singing joking songs about teachers, along with other mischief. It is an all-day party ending with students riding on the back of trucks singing and shouting "Aamulla Nolla!" (nothing in the morning).

(continues on page 4)

## Library (continued from page 3)

A month's vacation follows, giving time to study and prepare for the important first graded national exam. Photos are taken at this time, and the white cap ceremony is held when everyone gets a red rose. Parents are present.

The sealed exam arrives from Helsinki. It is opened at 9:00 am. The teachers are posted as monitors and will accompany anyone who needs to go to the lavatory. Everyone must stay for the whole six hours. The results are handed to the teacher. She may look them over to get some idea of success or failure. The tests then go to Helsinki to be graded.

Pasi Sohlberg is a math teacher and now a member of Finland's Ministry of Education and Culture. His explanation of why tests are not necessary until graduating from the *luiko*, "We prepare children on how to learn, not how to take a test".

Success begins before the child enters school. Most children have learned beginning reading. Parents continue support by example. Reading to children at an early age, keeping books and magazines around makes it a natural part of the environment. This type of exposure does more **for** the child than attending PTA meetings.

Sports are not a part of the school curriculum. They are managed and supported by families and the community. Also funding from the school system is evenly distributed but increased when needed for the poorer communities.

Our forbearers entered here at the turn of the last century. Their primary purpose was to increase the quality of their lives and ours by the opportunity to learn. None would have guessed, ourselves included, how other countries would be looking to Finland for direction. What are they doing to become winners in this anxious pursuit for excellence?

SOURCES: *The Smartest Kids in the World and How They Got That Way*, by Amanda Ripley; *A + for Finland* from the Smithsonian Magazine, September 2013, Focus Magazine, 2014, Fennophile, 1984, Lillian Lehto, newsletter.

Ruth Ojala, library volunteer



Pirkko Koivumaa in the white cap with the rose.  
Pirkko lives in Aavasaksa.



## MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Calvin Niemi** (6/14/11) a donation has been made by Lillian Niemi.

In memory of FCA life member **George Koskimaki** (2/6/16) A donation has been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member **Elvira Kortesoja** (3/7/16) a donation has been made by Joanna Steinman.

In memory of FCA life member **Hildegarde C. Wiljanen** (4/11/16) a donation has been made by Mildred Harju.

In memory of FCA member **Dr. Thomas Kane** (5/26/16) donations have been made by Nancy Kane and Jason & Kelli Kane.

In memory of FCA life member **Rafael Saviniemi** (5/30/16) donations have been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja, Mildred Harju, Elvi Saviniemi, Deborah Stepek Quails, John Sefcovic, Susan O'Leary, John & Leila Malmstrom, Dale & Carol Karpp and Mary Jurgensen.

In memory of FCA life member **Rosemary Evans Hella** (6/8/16) a donation has been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA member **Margaret Kicinaki Kustron** (6/11/16) a donation has been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member **Wibert "Willi" Rajala** donations have been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja, Lillian Maata and Neil Manley.

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

FCA life member **Ronald LaCourt** (1/24/16)  
 FCA member **Dr. Thomas Kane** ((5/26/16)  
 FCA life member **Rafael Saviniemi** (5/30/16)  
 FCA life member **Rosemary Hella** ( 6/8/16)  
 FCA member **Margaret Kustron** (6/11/16)  
 FCA life member **Willi Rajala** (6/28/16)

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.

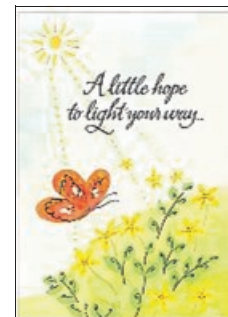


## GET WELL, THINKING OF YOU

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



## FASM SINGERS TO PERFORM AT MACOMB SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT Friday, October 7, 2016

The FASM will again participate in the Macomb Symphony Orchestra's concert on Friday evening, October 7, 2016, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts. The FASM participated in this event 13 years ago and were invited by Thomas Cook, Conductor, to come again. The performance by the orchestra will include the 2nd Symphony of Jean Sibelius and a selection by Rautavaara in their performance.

General admission for seniors is \$20. Transportation may be available to depart from the Finnish Center. Details to follow.

The Macomb Symphony is seeking corporate sponsors. Please submit ads by September 10. These ads range from \$130 to \$550 and will appear in all four of the Macomb Symphony's concert programs. Courtesy ads begin at \$100.

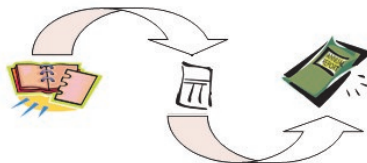
The FCA Bakers will plan to bake pulla/nisu to sell at the concert. Please help us support this fine cultural event on Friday, October. 7.

Ilene Yanke



### WANTED

Wanted part-time help in the accounting office. If you are able to donate some time, have accounting experience, or are willing to learn accounting, please contact the FCA office to volunteer. Thank you for your consideration.



## AUGUST IN THE GARDENS

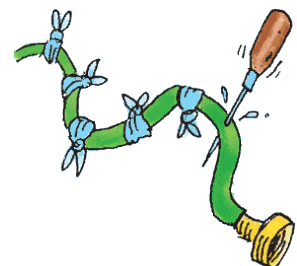
August and the extreme heat and drought has made gardening very difficult this year. We've had to water the annuals several times a week and even run hoses to the outlying gardens. The drought has even affected the number of butterflies as the males need puddling areas to get minerals in order to mate. It seems that when we finally get rain it is too little and it evaporates too quickly.



If anyone can spare a bit of time to assist with the watering of the annuals both in the ground and in the pots it would be much appreciated. David Sharpe is back after having two rounds of cataract surgery but having a bit of help would make his life easier as he is the only one of the regular gardeners who lives close enough to water. If you do volunteer a perk is that you get to enjoy the raspberries that are growing in the vegetable garden. These are for garden volunteers and vegetable garden renters only. We also have jobs for those who can only sit such as painting and seed sorting. We are always looking for volunteers of all abilities to assist us.

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.

We have sprung leaks in some of our hoses so if you have extra hoses you can spare we will be happy to take them off your hands. If you have any questions or comments, or other items to donate, please contact me at (734) 546-5190 or email me at [gaylegullen@hotmail.com](mailto:gaylegullen@hotmail.com)



Gayle Gullen,  
Finlandia Garden  
Club President

**CELEBRATING  
OUR 50<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY**



As readers know, 2016 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Finnish Center Association. The FCA is planning a year of activities to celebrate our Finnishness, commemorate the Finnish Center Association, and honor its charter members and families to whom we owe our very existence as a center. During this year of celebration, the cultural committee is planning a traditional Finnish arts day and a Finnish food extravaganza.

A Finnish folk arts day is planned for Saturday, September 24. Many folk arts learned from our ancestors have been maintained in the U.S. decades ago. Symbolically, these folk arts designate our communities as Finnish American and mark boundaries between Finns and non-Finns. They are imbedded with cultural meaning and express our history and identity. To celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and our Finnish American identity on this folk arts day we will invite traditional Finnish American musicians, joke and storytellers. Textile artists, wood carvers, and cooks will demonstrate and sell their crafts. There will be a Finnish national dress fashion show, dance workshop, and more.

We will continue to celebrate the FCA and our Finnish identity with a culinary extravaganza. Because Finnish food is one of our most tenacious cultural features, much of which was learned from our immigrant ancestors, we will celebrate with food. We are inviting Beatrice Ojakangas, celebrated Finnish American cook, baker, cook book author, and television personality, to join us for a food fest weekend. With Beatrice we are planning a food workshop (October 15) and a delicious Finnish mid-day lunch (October 16) for our members and the broader community, sharing the richness and breadth of Finnish cuisine.

## GIFT SHOP

July was a good month at the gift center. The summer Iittala sale began on the July 21st and runs through August 2.

It was a great time for people to pick up those special items they have wanted. In August we will be receiving a new shipment of Iittala. Please stop in and look around. This is a great place to buy that gift for that special event. Wouldn't you rather see that money go into our Finnish Center than one of the big department stores?

Our newest Iittala addition is Tanssi, a Finnish word meaning dance. Tanssi was illustrated by Klaus Haapaniemi inspired by The Finnish National Opera Company production *The Cunning Little Vixen*. The story comes alive on the tableware created by Heikki Orvola.



Iittala tanssi dinnerware.

August Special: Sauna soap at 10% off.

Remember this is your gift shop. Please stop in and see all the high quality Finnish items.



## CALLING ALL BAKERS

Next baking date is scheduled for  
Thursday, October 6  
Begins about 9:30 am

No  
experience  
necessary.



## SMALL BUT MIGHTY!!

In September, this scribe will begin a 5<sup>th</sup> year with the Finnish American Singers of Michigan, a relative “newbie” in a group with others that may have close to or more than twenty years with the group. Our director, Hank Naasko, for example has been with FASM for 21 years, and his tenure is not the longest. Although life changes have reduced our numbers, the very committed cadre of singers still plan for the future, celebrate past achievements and encourage family, acquaintances, and even strangers to join us! I’ve heard the platitude, “The more things change the more they stay the same,” and agree it applies to FASM.

Bylaw revisions and a few leadership changes have not swayed us from the goal of promoting Finnish music and culture, support of the FCA, nor from continuing as an amateur but well-trained and congenial group of singers. When I was recruited to the group after buying frozen pasties at one of the flea markets, the seller asked if I was a singer. Hesitating, I replied, “Well I sing, but I wouldn’t consider myself a singer!” Today, the response would be different and more confidence would accompany it due to the music education woven into our practices and the encouragement our group provides to each singer!

We are fortunate to have a very supportive base of operations at the FCA, practicing there Monday evenings during the school months and holding both Christmas and spring concerts in the main hall which last year attracted about 150 attendees. Reciprocal support on our part has come in varied ways. Several members are active members of FCA committees and bring us news of events scheduled, encouraging interest and attendance. With the assistance of David Sharpe, gardener extraordinaire, the flowers on our spring concert tables are paid for by the group and then donated back to the Garden Club to help beautify the grounds. We also give back to the Association in varied ways monetarily.

The Finnish American Singers is a self-supporting group with enthusiastic participation in our holiday greens sale, concerts, and pasty sales. Almost every member helps produce pasties – from organization to before bake-day prep to several shifts on the long bake days held several times a year. The events are a joint venture with the FCA, benefitting both organizations. Last year 3,500 pasties were made and the whole process takes about 30 volunteers! The FCA provides the facility, and FCA members, as well as spouses and friends of the singers, all contribute their time. A recent kitchen training session with a representative from the Department of Health has encouraged us in our efforts to get a large refrigerated chiller in the kitchen in order to drop the temperature of our pasties faster, for which we will be examining our production and distribution procedures during the coming year. We started the Chiller Fund with a donation of \$1,000 and encourage our pasty-loving buyers to consider donating to that fund as well!

The Little Christmas musical celebration held at the FCA the past two years and coordinated by FASM soprano Karen Call, keeps a tradition alive started by the predominantly Finnish congregation of her former church. It has provided exposure of the FCA both to musicians from area churches as they have participated in the event. Last year there were about 100 in attendance! FASM has also represented the FCA at many FinnFests through the years, singing and performing for people from all over the world. There has been discussion about holding that gathering in the Detroit area in the near future. Stay tuned!! In a smaller sphere, but no less important, representatives of our group have sung at funerals of former choir members and other FCA members. In an effort to encourage and support music training, FASM also donated \$500 last year toward a music scholarship fund, to be awarded to a young person from the FCA majoring in college music studies.

Small but mighty is a great description of the Finnish American Singers of Michigan. Thank you for your support and here’s to many more years of cooperation and growth between our two organizations! Our practices will begin September 19<sup>th</sup> this year. We’d love to see you there.

Katy Koskela, Scribe





## FOOD WORKSHOP

**Saturday, October 15**

Beatrice Ojakangas, celebrated cookbook writer, cook, baker, and television personality, will be at the Finnish Center, Saturday, October 15, for a workshop on Finnish food.

The cultural committee would like to hear from you about what you would like her to demonstrate. What Finnish food have you always wanted to know how to make? What is it that gives you a lot of trouble? Please contact Yvonne Lockwood at [poppana123@gmail.com](mailto:poppana123@gmail.com) or (517) 522-4197 with your interest and preference.

We look forward to your suggestions. Stay tuned for more information when the time is closer.



Beatrice Ojakangas



## POKER ALL STARS

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out on June 30, July 1 & 2: Neil Manley, Nancy Sannar, Norb Leppanen, Marlene Ruuskanen, Charlotte Lytikainen, Kelly Taurianen, Paul Rajala, Mark Belttari, John Saarinen, Bruce Mikko, Aggie McManus and Roger Wanttaja.



## FILM SERIES CONTINUES

In the next months, we will be seeing several films by award winning director Klaus Härö (*Mother of Mine*, 2005; *Elina*, 2003; *Letters to Father Jacob*, 2009). Härö films have won more than 60 prizes at festivals all over the world, including The Crystal Bear at the Berlin Film Festival and the prestigious Ingmar Bergman prize. Four of his films were selected to represent Finland in the Best Foreign Film Category at the Oscars. His 2015 film, *The Fencer*, is nominated for the Golden Globes 2016.

We are fortunate to be able to see Härö's films. In my opinion, they are some of the best that Finland has to offer.

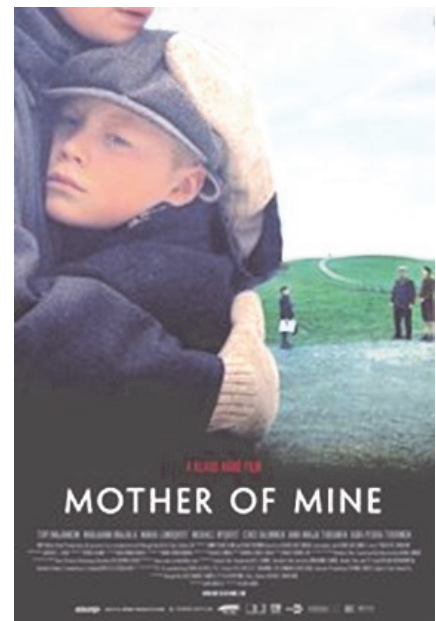
The first film, *Mother of Mine*, will be shown Sunday, October 9, at 2 pm. There will not be films July-September. The next film by Härö is scheduled for November 13.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9**

***MOTHER OF MINE, Äideistä parhain***  
Klaus Härö, Director, 2005

During World War II, more than 70,000 Finnish children were evacuated to neutral Sweden. *Mother of Mine* tells of that painful period of history in a tale about 9-year-old Eero, who increasingly feels abandoned by his biological Finnish mother and yet not attached to his Swedish surrogate mom. When he is returned to Finland, his confusion intensifies.

Yvonne  
Lockwood





## FINLAND TODAY



First, there are certain summer foods that the Finns love to eat. I have a "top ten list".

1. Strawberries. For Finns nothing says "it's summer" like the taste of fresh strawberries.
2. New Potatoes. The second most popular summer time delicacy is the "new potato". Served with butter and warm milk.
3. Ice Cream. For the younger people, what says summer better than an ice cream cone from a kiosk. In addition to the traditional flavors, like vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry for the younger people there are also flavors such as tar and licorice.
4. Grilled Sausages. For many Finns, the epitome of summer is the grilling of sausages. Finland has a wide variety of sausages to grill, such as the traditional hot dog to sausages that have cheese or jalapeno chili peppers. Finland is one of the few countries in the world that has recipe books with detailed instructions on how to grill the various sausages.
5. Rhubarb. It is said that the rhubarb is the "real king of the Finnish summer table". The rhubarb can be made into jams and jellies, flavor lemonades, and in roasting hams. Try grilling rhubarb, wrapped in bacon, and flavored with honey or maple syrup.
6. Crayfish. The crayfish season in Finland doesn't start until late July, is also when the "rapujuhlat" begin. Rapujuhlat are the crayfish festivals that are held all over Finland to celebrate the catching of the local crayfish. Oh, you can buy the frozen crayfish from the stores, but obviously they aren't as good as the locally caught ones. While some Finns have gone the Russian tradition of drinking beer with the crayfish, most Finns have adopted the Swedish tradition of drinking schnapps, aqua vit, white wine or champagne with the crayfish.
7. Summer Soup. The most popular of the soups is the "kesakeitto", which is made from "baby" peas carrots, cauliflower, potatoes, and cream or milk.
8. Smoked Salmon on Plank. The so called "loimulohi" is salmon, which is smoked while the salmon is nailed to an alder wood plank. It is very easy to make, all you need is salmon, salt, alder wood plank, and nails. It's best to soak your plank in water for about half an hour before smoking.
9. Blueberry Milk. Before the popularity of smoothies, Finns made drinks from seasonal berries. Blue berry milk, familiar to every Finnish kid, is made from cold fresh milk and blueberries. Even though when I was a kid, I was more familiar with "mansikkamaito", strawberry milk.
10. Fried White Fish. Which is frying small white fish, it is not the much bigger than "whitefish" that we have here.

Finnish Customs have been ranked as the fourth best in the world by the World Bank. The Bank surveyed 160 countries for its Logistical Index. Finland is in fourth place, behind only Singapore, Germany, and the Netherlands .

And finally, Heikki, the smoothest talking Finn in the Michigan National Guard, got called up to active duty, Heikki's first assignment was in a military induction center. Because he was a good talker, they assigned him the duty of advising new recruits about government benefits, especially the GI insurance, to which they were entitled.

The officer in charge soon noticed that Heikki was getting a 99% sign-up rate for the more expensive supplemental form of GI insurance. This was remarkable, because it cost these low-income recruits \$30 a month for the coverage, compared to

(continued on page 11)

## FINLAND TODAY (continued from page 10)

what the government was already providing at no charge. The officer decided he'd sit in the back of the room at the next briefing and observe Heikki's sale pitch.

Heikki stood up before the latest bunch of inductees and said...."If you have the normal GI insurance and you go to Afghanistan and get yourself killed, the government will pay your beneficiary \$20,000. If you take out the supplemental insurance, which cost you only \$30 a month, than the government got to pay your beneficiary \$200,000!" Heikki concluded, "Now which bunch do you think they gonna send to Afghanistan first?"

Thanks to John Aukee

Markku Ketola  
marketola@yahoo.com



### FINNISH PROVERBS



Kyllä pienikin tähti pimeässä loistaa.

Even a small star shines in the dark.

Ei oksattomaan puuhun voi kiivetä.

No one can climb a tree with no branches.



## ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE:

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS AUGUST 5TH

EDITOR CONTACT INFO:

PAUL RAJALA

LAYOUT AND DESIGN:

NANCY RAJALA

E-MAIL:

[nrajala@comcast.net](mailto: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, and unknown numbers online.

**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](http://www.fcaseniorhousing.org)



**THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME**

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