Finnish Center Association



FCA News

April 2017

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

- 01 Rental
- 06 Thursday Finnish Language Class 7 pm
- 07 Friday Night Buffet 5 8 pm
- 07 Friday Pasty Prep 10 am
- 08 Saturday Pasty Bake & Sale 8:30 am 12 noon
- 08 Saturday Piirakka Workshop 10 am 2 pm
- 09 Sunday Children's Finnish Easter Party 12 noon
- 11 Rental
- 12 Wednesday FCA Joint Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 13 Thursday Finnish Language Class 7 pm
- 14 Friday Night Buffet 5 8 pm
- 19 Rental
- 20 Thursday Finnish Language Class 7 pm
- 20 Thursday Set Up for Flea Market
- 21 Friday Flea Market 10 am 4 pm
- 22 Saturday Flea Market 10 am 3 pm
- 23 Sunday Finnish Film *Big Game* 2 pm
- 26 Rental
- 26 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon
- 27 Thursday Finnish Language Class 7 pm
- 29 Saturday Vappu Party 5 pm
- 30 Rental
- 30 Sunday Open House 1 4 pm

May

- 05 Friday Night Buffet 5 8 pm
- 06 Rental
- 07 Sunday Finnish American Singers of Michigan Concert 3 6 pm
- 10 Rental
- 10 Wednesday Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 13 Saturday Mother's Day Brunch 10 am
- 19 Friday Night Buffet 5 8 pm
- 19 Friday Steve Lehto Presentation 7 pm
- 20 Rental
- 21 Sunday Scholarship Reception 2 pm
- 24 Rental



Reservations are recommended for all events.

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

11:30-1 pm

Book Club

Last Monday of the month 1 pm

Luncheon

Last Wednesday of the month

12 noon

Open House

Last Sunday of the month 1-4 pm

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Finally, after a long warm spell, we got snow and cold weather back. At least it makes everything look so nice and clean.

Today FCA is running smoothly and above the break-even point. We have as many rentals as we can handle. As a matter of fact, we would have more rentals but it is becoming increasingly difficult to get volunteers to sacrifice weekends to attend and manage them.

In the last Board meeting this matter was discussed and the Board agreed to initiate a policy to compensate our members for attending and managing our rentals. In the near future we will write down such a policy. Currently we are working out the details for such.

The Senior Housing Board is lacking one member as the Chairman Paul Hendrickson retired last month for health reasons. According to the Bylaws, the Board will select a replacement for the remainder of his tenure. As Senior Housing is currently undergoing Tapiola I and II renovation projects, the Board is looking for a candidate with a financial, management and/or construction background. If you feel, that you would be interested joining the Board, please contact us.

We are presently working preparing our Finland 100 Year Independence Celebrations. Part of this is an Exhibition of Jääkäri/Jaeger Movement, a military training program of young Finnish men that eventually enabled the creation and the continuation of the Finnish Independence more than once.

We are also finalizing the plans for our extended Scandinavian Market. We have held meetings at FCA with various Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Finnish organizations to either expand our Scandinavian Bazaar or create a new, much larger Nordic Fest. It appears that Scandinavian Bazaar will be renamed Scandinavian Market and all participants have agreed to work together to build a much larger event based on the previous successful years of our Bazaar.

This spring we will also have a new Fundraising appeal letter mailed to all members.

As always, if you have ideas or comments about our activities, please contact us. We would love to hear from you. Email: finnishcenter@gmail.com or call at (248) 478-6939.

Mia Lamminen Chairman



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www.finnishcenter.org

Officers

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

Board of Trustees

1 Year

Olli Lamminen, Henrikki Pantsar, Marlene Russkanen

2 Year

Cynthia Haffey, Roger Wanttaja, Robert Wasissi

3 Year

Mia Lamminen, James Lee, Mary O'Brien

Alternates

#1 Carol Tudball #2 Terry Ball #3 Wayne Walli

Financial Review

Fran Fadie, Eunice Gould, Sarah Wiideman

Committee Chairpersons

Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

Education

Katri Ervamaa

<u>Finance</u>

Olli Lamminen

Gift Shop

Mary O'Brien

Mailing

Alice Manley

Membership

Anu Pantsar

Publicity & Publications

Fran Fadie

Social

Mary O'Brien

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Cynthia Haffey, Chairman

Tapiola Village Laura Fultz, Manager (248) 471-3802

Tapiola@ameritech.net

Freedom Square Theresa Show, Manager (248) 442-7250



FROM THE LIBRARY VIOLA TURPEINEN



One hundred years ago, a seven-year-old fair-haired Finnish girl was playing with her parents push-pull button box. Two years later her curiosity led to regular accordion lessons. An extraordinary life's journey had just begun.

Viola Turpeinen was born in Champion, Michigan, Marquette County, on November 15, 1909, the eldest of four daughters of Walter and Signe (Wiitola) Turpeinen. The next year the family moved to Iron River for Walter's employment purposes, and this is where Viola would grow up.

Why are we celebrating this little girl's life? Because it can never happen the same way again to anyone, anywhere. There are no longer challenges like this for choosing. This kind of planning and striving is of another time, a time which could produce such an independent personality, who connects with people, those who embraced her talent and enthusiasm.

The memory of Viola was renewed when in 2009 her hundredth year since birth was celebrated. To me Viola was a distant personage. I knew she was well known but someone I had never seen nor heard. But she was there somewhere. Any little girl who picked up an accordion was encouraged by hearing about Viola. My sister, who taught herself to read music at an early age, was often urged to follow the style of Viola Turpeinen.

As a teenager Viola had progressed to the more sophisticated style of the piano accordion and was soon entertaining at the local Finnish labor hall and the Italian Bruno Hall. In 1925, at 16, she met a musician and concert promoter and planner, John Rosendahl. She joined him on tours, chaperoned by her dad. The two became popular circuit entertainers throughout the western Great Lakes.

In 1927 they moved on to New York where they were able to get employment as part of a company offering plays, concerts, and dances. Victor and Columbia, two large record companies, were starting to record ethnic American musicians. For the next year Viola and John (who traded on and off the violin and banjo) recorded four duets for Columbia and nine for Victor. Viola cut five accordion solos for Victor.

John Rosendahl and Viola toured in Finland during 1929. The työväntalo (workers' hall) documented 2,300 participants at one of their affairs. The program began with someone of note providing an introduction and maybe a local musician performance. Viola and John were already well known from having been advertised. They were well received to say the least. Viola's favorite comment was "They *really* loved me there".

In 1931 the duo became a trio. Sylvia Polso, who was born in Ironwood in 1911, became the Italian counterpart to the Finnish virtuoso accordionist. Sylvia, Viola and John cut records for Victor in March 1931. Touring together included the Great Lakes region. They "hit" the small farming communities as well as the path well-traveled: Ashland, Aurora, Park Point, Bessemer, Cloquet, Cromwell, Crystal Falls, Duluth, Escanaba, Eveleth, Hancock, Hibbing, Iron River, Ironwood, Ishpeming, Keewatin, L'Anse, Maple, Marquette, Mass City, Michigamme, Montreal, Negaunee, Pike River, Ramsey, Sault Ste. Marie, South Range, Stambaugh, Toivola, Van Buskirk and Virginia.

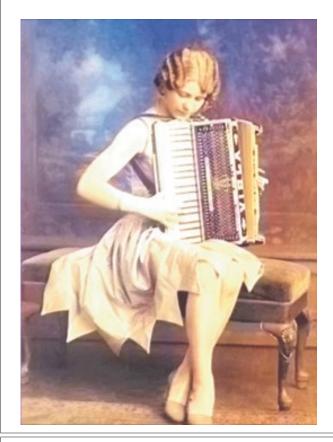
All were ethnic mining and farming towns with workers' halls and community accommodations like schools, churches, etc. Usually the program was introduced with Miss Turpeinen and Miss Polso on their accordions. After local speeches or announcements, or introductions, or all three, each girl did a solo which brought hearty applause. Coffee was served during an intermission after which dancing was enjoyed until midnight. (continued on page 4)

LIBRARY (continued form page 3)

After Sylvia married in 1933 and started her own life, and John Rosendahl met his death from a fall, Viola teamed up with William Syrjale and later married him. The two had a varied life together recording, touring, etc. In 1952 they moved to Florida, again entertaining. They were well received wherever they went; the music they wrote and their traditional numbers are still around and emulated. Viola died in 1958. She was 49 years old.

Viola's story is priceless and timeless and needs to be passed along from generation to generation. The passage of time will change the "color" and vitality if we don't renew the facts. Much has been written about Viola's music and influence. It is important to remember.

Ruth M. Ojala, Library Volunteer



GIFT SHOP

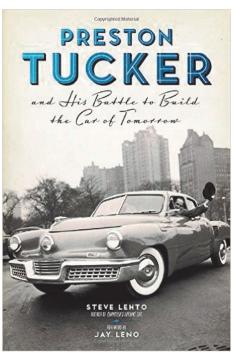


SALE MARCH 22 - APRIL 4

PRESTON TUCKER AND HIS BATTLE TO BUILD THE CAR OF TOMORROW

Steve Lehto Presentation Friday, May 19 at 7 pm





Mr. Lehto has written a book titled, Preston Tucker and His Battle to Build the Car of Tomorrow.

Preston Tucker attempted to launch a car company in the immediate aftermath of World War II. He promised to deliver a low priced revolutionary car that would be safer than anything on the road at the time and be filled with cutting-edge technology. After building only a handful of cars, he was shut down by the government. To this day, people argue about who was behind the action against him and whether or not Tucker intended to actually build cars. His story was made into a Hollywood film in 1988, "Tucker: the Man and the Dream."

Steve Lehto's book is a detailed look at Tucker, his car and his company, and what happened to him. The book was named a Michigan Notable Book for 2017 by the Library of Michigan.

Steve will have books with him for sale that he can also sign.

MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Erick Kyro** (1/24/17) donations have been made by Judith Gates, Craig Erickson & Nancy Orasaki, Elaine & Charles Lada, Kenneth Hellonen & Linda Van Meer, Marion Lisker, Jan & Carol Janigian, Jerry & Sharon Hall, Jack & Lynn Lehto, Ingrid Erickson, Fred & Dee Aebersold, Leslie Poida and the firm of Edwards, Ellis, Stanley, Armstrong, Bowren, Krizan & Company.

In memory of **Ellen Slavin** (1/5/17) of Commerce Township, a donation has been made by Maria Hill.

In memory of FCA life member **Nina Ranta** (12/8/16) a donation has been made by Dolores & Debbie Rajala.

In memory of FCA life member **Kay Simo** (11/19/16) a donation has been made by Fred & Dee Aebersold.

In memory of FCA life member **Toini Kesti** (8/28/16) a donation has been made by Kenneth Hellonen.

In memory of FCA life member **Elvi Saviniemi** (8/19/16) a donation has been made by Fred & Dee Aebersold.

In memory of FCA life member **Willi Rajala** (6/28/16) a donation has been made by Fred & Dee Aebersold.

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, Finn Weavers, Garden Club, Happiness Fund, FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers. If undesignated the funds will be directed to the General Fund for expenses of the Center.

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

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





GIFT SHOP

I hope everyone is looking forward to spring as much as I am. The Vappu party is coming. I went to Scandinavia after Christmas and learned how important it is to celebrate this holiday. We will be open the night during the Vappu party.

We have a few new things in the gift shop. Candy from Finland and it is tasty. Ternary toast from The UP and a few new things from Iittala. Be sure to stop in and check us out for all the things we have to offer. There is a sale on Iittala from March 22 - April 4.

Mary O'Brien



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH - Charlotte Lyikainen

Charlotte is such a good natured and willing volunteer. It makes things so nice when her smiling face shows up at the Finnish Center.

Living at Tapiola Village, she often walks next door to open up or close the building. She checks on things and will be there on a moments notice.

She volunteers at the front desk, spends many hours practicing with the singers, helps with mailing out the newsletters, is on the senior housing board and served several years as its secretary. She has participated and volunteered at so many events and projects there is not a list long enough to cover them.

Char always has a smile, a good word, a helping hand, and is a real joy to have at the Finnish Center.



LAST CHANCE FOR PASTIES

On April 8th you can get fresh U.P. recipe pasties from the FCA ovens. Your next opportunity won't be until September. To order, just send an email to fca-pasties@comcast.net. Provide your name, phone number, and the number of pasties you would like. The cost is \$6, but you can save 50¢ per pasty by ordering 10 or more. All pasties must be picked on Saturday, April 8, between 8:30 and noon. (There is also a sign-up sheet in the FCA Lobby.) Orders will be filled on a first come basis.

We are seeking volunteers to help with the peeling and dicing of the vegetables. Let us know if you can be at the FCA on Friday, April 7, around 10 am. On the morning of Saturday the 8th there is tremendous opportunity for you to be a part of the baking, assembling, packaging, and cleanup crews. Email me at prajala@comcast.net and I will be happy to find a task to fit your talents, although most tasks do not require special skills. Your reward for volunteering is a complimentary pasty and the satisfaction of providing needed support to the mission of the Finnish Center.

Paul Rajala, FCA pasty coordinator





SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social committee has begun, following the election, with some new events, and some old events that have changed a little. We hope you will enjoy what we have planned for you.

Again this year Lila and Terry will be in the kitchen providing a wonderful lunch for the flea market. Menu includes: Hamburger, egg salad sandwich, dessert and beverage.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, April 26, monthly luncheon, at noon, pasties will be served for your enjoyment.

Saturday, May 13, 11 am. Mother's Day Brunch. with casseroles and cinnamon rolls among other tasty things.

Friday, May 19, at 7 pm. We are honored to have Steve Lehto give a presentation on his latest book *Preston Tucker and His Battle to Build the Car of Tomorrow*. Please join us at this time for this special event. We will have books for sale if you wish to purchase.

Reservations in advance will be appreciated.

Mary O'Brien



"Sometimes an audience of one is still a great audience"
Steve Niemi and three-year-old Dominic at the
Friday Night Buffet.



SPRING FLEA MARKET & BAKE SALE

Friday, April 21 10 am - 4 pm

Saturday, April 22 10 am - 3 pm

CALLING ALL BAKERS

Pulla bakers will meet on Thursday, April 20 at 10 am to bake for the Flea Market Bake Sale.

No experience is necessary to be part of this Finnish Center baking tradition.

Contact Ilene Yanke (248) 887-3538.

FINNISH FILM Sunday, April 23 at 2 pm

Big Game

Directed by Jalmari Helander 2014 In English and some Finnish (subtitled)

Billed as a fable thriller, *Big Game* is the second feature by Finnish director Jalmari Helander ("*Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale*", 2010), and stars his nephew, Onni Tommila as 13-year-old Oskari and Samuel Jackson as the president of the U. S.

The setting is Lapland. Oskari, with his father and other weathered woodsmen, who also appeared in *Rare Exports*, prepares to spend a solo night in the wilderness to hunt a deer with only a bow and arrow as a test of his manhood. While in the woods, he witnesses a spectacular crash of the escape pod of Air Force One, containing the president, who was on his way to Helsinki for a peace conference. As it turns out, his plane was shot down by terrorists and now they are trying to find him to finish the job. Oskari is the only one who can save him.

This film is great fun. Oskari has an expressive face and his acting is totally understated. Samuel Jackson takes on his role with humor and ease. It is rated PG-13, because of gunplay and corpses, but no obscenities and no sex.



Charlotte Lytikainen with the kings cape & crown.

ST. URHO'S PARTY MARCH 17



Gerry Malstrom celebrated his 80th birthday at the St. Urho celebration while his wife Dagmar, Carol Tudball and Alice Manley look on.



Pearl & Ray Wanttaja enjoy dessert



The parade was led by members of FinnFolk



Left: Gene Belttari enjoys the buffet.



St. Urho dancing



2017 St. Urho king Gerald Munro

Join us for

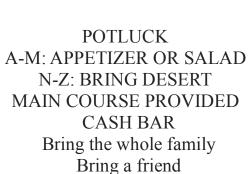
VAPPU PARTY CELEBRATION OF SPRING

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017 5 PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT

FINNISH CULTURAL CENTER 35200 West Eight Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND
CHILDREN
ADMISSION \$15.00
STUDENTS and SENIORS \$5.00
CHILDREN FREE





If you are not a member of FCA yet, now is a good time to join, applications available at the Center If you have questions you can call (248) 478-6939 or email: finnishcenter@gmail.com





FINLAND TODAY



First, a recently published report outlining proposals to improve working life in the five Nordic countries of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden; has a proposal that contains a startling word: "mandatory." Poul Nielson, a Danish politician given the task last year of preparing a labor market report for the Nordic Council of Ministers, puts forth "proposal 7," which states that the "Nordic governments should commit to the principle of mandatory adult and continuing training for everybody in the labor markets. The combination of rapid technological development with the gradual increase in retirement age increases the need for new forms of education." Nielson says it would be visionary for the Nordic countries to adopt this proposal, which doesn't define how long or how often adults would have to submit to schooling; he's aware there will be critics. Nielson expects many misgivings, conflicts of interest, and not least major difficulties when it comes to the allocation of costs and rights, as the Nordic Labor Journal notes.

The three Finlandia literary prizes were awarded at the Finnish National Theater and all three award winners had something in common, they all were from Helsinki. Juuli Niemi, 35, won the Finlandia Junior Award, for her book, *Et Kavele Yksin* (You Won't Walk Alone). The book, intended for children and youth, paints a portrait young people searching for their identity in a multicultural Finland. Mari Manninen, 45, won the Tieto-Finlandia Award, for her non-fiction book, *Yhden Lapsen Kansa* (A Nation of One Child), which was about the one child per family policy that was in effect in China during 1980-2015. Jukka Viikila, 43, was the winner of the Finlandia Award for Literature for his novel, *Akvarelleja Engelin Kaupungissa* (Watercolors From the City of Engel). It is Viikila's first novel, a story written in a form of a diary, explaining the work of Carl Ludvig Engel, the German architect of Helsinki. When Viikila received his prize, he said, "I will give the prize sum in its whole to my wife," making the room laugh. Viikila went on to explain, "We've been married for 18 years, and during the early days when I wasn't making any money, my wife supported us financially."

The Finlandia Prize is the most prestigious literary award in Finland by the Finnish Book Foundation. It is awarded annually to the author of the best novel written by a Finnish citizen (Finlandia Award), children's book (Finlandia Junior Award), and non-fiction book (Tieto-Finlandia award). The award sum for each category is 30,000 euros.

A new oath for teachers was introduced by a union. Sixteen thousand teachers have pledged that "education belongs to all children, students, and adults", as part of a new oath introduced by teachers' union, Opetusalan Ammattijaresto. The oath stresses that there is "no place for a commercial mind set" in education, according to union President Olli Luukkainen, as well as underlining the status of teachers and the value of their work.

And finally, Hilma and Heikki had a fight and they decided to give each other "the silent treatment."

Later that night, Heikki remembered that he has an important meeting the next morning, but he didn't want to be the first to break the silence so he decided to write Hilma a note asking her to wake him by six in the morning.

The next morning when Heikki woke up he noticed that it was already nine o'clock. At the same time he saw a note on the night stand next to the bed, "It's six o'clock, time for you to wake up."

Markku Ketola marketola@yahoo.com



Friends gather to thank Paul Hendrickson for his service as Chairman of the Senior Citizen Housing corporation and to wish him well on his retirement.

Front row (left to right): Charlotte Lytikainen, Laura Fultz, Paul Hendrickson, Helena Hendrickson.

Back row (let to right): Marlene Ruuskanen, Olli Lamminen, Annikki Kurvi, Susan Gaines, Mia Lamminen, Ryan Bessert, Cynthia Haffey, Sarah Wiideman.

FUELISINESS

Sometimes I think it's very crass
That I must pump my lead-free gas,
While watching me with vacant stare,
Attendant sits on derriere,
Which makes me think
Technology is using poor psychology.
Removing lead was very neat,
Until they put it in his feet!
-Corinne Adria Bariteau

Submitted by Pearl Wanttaja





ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE IS APRIL 5TH

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

FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS

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

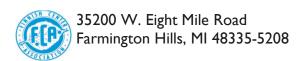
Deadline/payment for ad is the 5th of the month preceding publication.

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:

READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION



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Current Resident or

FCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEW	/AL
DatePhone:email:	
Applicant_	
Applicant/Spouse	
Address	
CityStateZip code	
SignatureAre you of Finnish descent	?
□ Annual membership, single, one vote □ Annual membership, senior* or youth*, one vote *Senior, over 65 years, youth under 30 years of age □ Annual membership, couple, two votes □ Annual membership, family, one vote □ Life membership, one vote □ Life membership, senior, one vote (see membership for deta Amount enclosed Please make check payable to FCA and send to Finnish Center Associated Membership, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-Recommended by:	\$25.00 \$100.00 \$75.00 \$500.00 ils)

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