Finnish Center Association



FCA News

August 2017

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENT

August

- 02 Rental
- 05 Rental
- 06 Rental
- 09 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 12 Saturday Craft Show 10 am 4 pm
- 16 Rental
- 17 Rental
- 18 Rental
- 19 Rental
- 23 Rental
- 23 Wednesday Ice Cream Social 2 pm (Replaces Monthly Luncheon)
- 27 No Open House in August
- 30 Rental

September

- 01 Friday Finnish Center office closed
- 03 Sunday Finnish Movie 2 pm
- 04 Monday Finnish Center office closed
- 06 Rental
- 08 Rental
- 08 Pasty Prep 10 am
- 08 Friday Night Buffet 5 8 pm
- 09 Pasty Bake/Sale 8:30 am 12:30 pm
- 09 Saturday Ice Cream Social 12 2 pm
- 10 Sunday Fritz Putkela Memorial 1 4 pm
- 13 Wednesday FCA Joint Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 14 Rental
- 15 Rental
- 15 Friday Night Buffet 5 8 pm
- 16 Rental
- 17 Rental
- 20 Rental
- 22 Friday Flea Market 10 am 4 pm
- 23 Saturday Flea Market 10 am 3 pm
- 24 Sunday Open House 1 4 pm
- 27 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon
- 30 Saturday Pulla Workshop 11 am 2 pm



Reservations are recommended for all events.

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

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

Our first Strawberry Social in the middle of June was well received and was a nice celebration of the beginning of summer. We hope to have more of these events in the future. A couple of Ice Cream socials are also planned, please check the calendar for the dates. The planning of the cultural activities are under way for the rest of the year.

Our Scandinavian Market is scheduled for November 11, 2017. Invitations have been sent to vendors and we hope for a big turnout as usual. If you know of prospective vendors with Scandinavian flare, please contact me, and I will be happy to send an application.

Some exciting news is we have found a Suomi Koulu teacher for the upcoming year! Her name is Michelle Schubert. She is an American who has lived in Finland for three years as an exchange student and she speaks fluent Finnish. She has a lot of experience in many areas, with teaching being one of them.

Another exciting cultural event coming up on Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at 7 pm is a concert performed by a Finnish choir named Runebergskoren. I have spoken with the choir director and they are very excited to come perform for us. We look forward to this and many other cultural events this coming fall!



Runebergskoren Choir

We all need to work together to ensure that FCA will be here for years to come. We are a volunteer organization and need to have everybody work together for the common good. Today the workload faced by our volunteers is somewhat of a concern. Many of us are doing full 40 hour workweeks or even more. We need volunteers for our gift shop, office and to chaperone events and help around the center

I wish you a very wonderful rest of the summer and hope to see you at the Finnish Center in the fall. As always if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me on my cell at (734) 834-6085.

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

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 Waissi

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 Finance 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

PULLA WORKSHOP

The Cultural Committee is pleased to announce that Helvi Koivunen will be conducting a pulla workshop at the center on September 30, 11am-2 pm. A \$10.00 donation is requested.

Come and learn special tips on turning out a perfect loaf. How many of us have produced pulla that pulls apart across the top when it bakes? What about pulla that is way too dry or comes out of the oven doughy? There's a lot to learn about pulla, not only how to put it together, braiding, and proofing, but how to bake it to perfection. Helvi has been making pulla for many years and will share her skills and knowhow.

Coffee with pulla will be available after the workshop.

AUGUST IN THE GARDENS

August and the heat and drought has made gardening very difficult this year. Who knew the drought this year would start in June? We are watering trying to keep the gardens going but using most of it in the vegetable gardens and on the annuals.

Typically August is a slower month in the gardens for flowers before the September final fall push but something is always blooming and we are always busy. If you find yourself with some extra time on your hands, we can find something for people of all abilities to do.

If you see cars near the woodshop on Monday morning, drop by and join us in our projects, to chat, or have a cup of coffee.

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

Gayle Gullen Finlandia Garden Club President

GET WELL, THINKING OF YOU

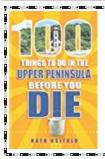
Sending get-well cards, thinking-of-you cards and words-of-encouragement cards to FCA members.

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







100 Things to Do In the Upper Peninsula Before You Die

A new book by FCA member Kath Usitalo, who now lives in the U.P. Get your copy at the FCA gift shop. Also available at Amazon.com Finnish Center Gift Shop.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

This past June the Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships to:

Mitchell Hella (Packaging/Engineering)
Peter Lowrance (Computer Programming)
Ashley Niemi (Teaching/School Counselor)
Joel Pietila (Teacher/Administration)
Ian Sorensen (Computer Science)

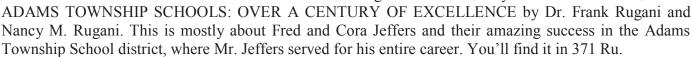
These scholarships were possible because of the generous donations of Finnish Center members, families, and friends. We appreciate and thank you for the donations we have received to assist us in providing deserving students with monetary assistance. Now, however, we are in desperate need of donations to continue our mission to help students further their education.

When you give a memorial to the Finnish Center, please keep the students in mind and designate your donation for the Scholarship Committee. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.



FROM THE LIBRARY

We have added the following items to our library:



MAGGIE WALZ AND THE EARLY FINNS ON DRUMMOND ISLAND by Beth Maki. In 1905 Ms.Walz of Calumet led a group of Finns from the Copper Country to establish homesteads on Drummond Island. Dewey number 920 Ma.

SUGAR ISLAND SAMPLER by Bernard Arbic. Sugar Island is in St. Mary's River, south of the Soo locks. It belongs to Michigan. The author was born and grew up on the island. Dewey number 977.4 Ar.

SOME COPPER COUNTRY NAMES AND PLACES by Clarence J. Monette. If you are from the Copper Country, you will surely find the name of your town or hamlet here. Dewey number 977.4 Mo.

THE LEGACY OF THE FINNISH JAEGERS: THE FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE by The Jaeger Battalion 27 Heritage Society. You can also read about the Jaegers in the December 2015 newsletter. Dewey number 947.1 Le.

EERO SAARINEN: THE ARCHITECT WHO SAW THE FUTURE. This TV production was on public television a few months ago. DVD 720 Ee.

FINN HILL: MEMORIES OF GROWING UP IN ELY, MN by William A. Saari, who led a typical Finnish-American life. Fun reading. It's in biography, B Sa.

The following are all fiction, shelved in alphabetical order by author:

A WINTER BOOK, SELECTED STORIES by Tove Jansson. These are stories for adults by the creator of the Moomin Books.

IRON FINNS by Michael Resman. About Finnish-American miners in northern Minnesota who had to contend with Socialists in their midst.

SONG OF SAMPO LAKE by William Durbin. About both the hardships and opportunities experienced by a Finnish American family in Minnesota in 1900.

A BRIDE FOR ANNA'S PAPA by Isabel R. Marvin. Two Finnish immigrant children plot to find a wife for their widower dad in 1907 in Minnesota.

THE YEAR OF THE HARE by Arto Paasilinna, translated from the Finnish Jäniksen vuosi. Funny, as this author's books always are.

AN UNEXPECTED GUEST by Anne Korkeakivi. The author, born and raised in New York, who has lived in France and Finland, but currently lives in Switzerland, has written about a British diplomat's wife in Paris.

CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE by Owen Laukkanen, a Finnish - Canadian mystery writer. This is a page turner about an upright citizen turned bank robber.

THE LONG WINTER ENDS by Newton G. Thomas. An immigrant miner from Cornwall, England finds work in the mines in the Upper Peninsula. Come and visit us. We guarantee you'll find something of interest!

Lillian Lehto

FINNISH FILM

Sunday, September 3, 2:00 pm

To the faithful who came to the center to see a film by Aki Kaurismaki in June only to learn that I had forgotten it at home, my sincere apologies. I have scheduled this film for September 3; mark your calendar.

The Man Without a Past (2002) Mies vailla mennesisyyttä Director: Aki Kaurismaki Finnish with English subtitles

Our next series of films will be those of director Aki Kaurismaki. Along with Klaus Härö. Aki Kaurismaki is another of the directors credited with broadening the styles and genres in Finnish cinema.

The film that first brought attention to Aki Kaurismaki in the U.S is Leningrad Cowboy. Rather than viewing this film, we will start with one from his Finland trilogy, Man Without a Past (2002), for which he was awarded the Grand Prix in Cannes and which has received the highest accolades possible from world famous film critics. It also is the most widely distributed Finnish film of the last decade



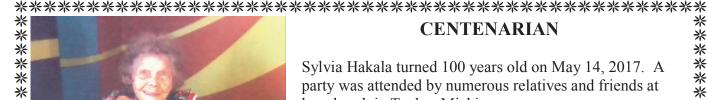
The film follows a man who arrives in Helsinki and gets beaten up so severely he develops amnesia. Unable to remember his name or anything from his past life and unable to get a job or an apartment, he starts living on the outskirts of the city and slowly starts putting his life together.

This is a comedy-drama rated PG-13 (brutality, no sex, profanity limited). Aki Kaurismaki is an interesting man, admired by some but not by all. The other films we will be seeing are Lights in the Dusk and Le Havre. All his films will be preceded by short introductions, to better understand the films and the director. Afterwards, there will be time for discussion.

Yvonne Lockwood

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CENTENARIAN

Sylvia Hakala turned 100 years old on May 14, 2017. A party was attended by numerous relatives and friends at her church in Taylor, Michigan.

Happy 100th Birthday Sylvia!

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MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Ellen Alanen** (5/18/17) a donation has been made by Francis & Eleanor Martin.

In memory of FCA life member **Fred Aebersold** (4/1/17) a donation has been made by Richard & Jo-Ann Vinikainen.

In memory of FCA life member **Rosemary Hartung** (10/15/16) a donation has been made by Karin Arneson.

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: FCA, 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

IN SYMPATHY

It is with deep regret we are informing the membership that Paul C. Hendrickson, long time past Chairman of Senior Housing, passed away June 28, 2017. Paul was born December 26, 1936, in Chassell, Michigan to the late Waino and Tyne Hendrickson.

There was a memorial service held for him on Friday, July 14, 2017 at the Finnish Center.

We express our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to his wife Helena, as well as his family and many friends.

Below is a picture of Paul and his wife Helena, along with their friend and fellow FCA member, Charlotte Lytikainen, at the Independence Day celebration in December 2015.



SENIOR HOUSING

Tapiola Renovation is imminent. As reported previously, our architect, Carl Hueter, is in a 'design phase' of the Tapiola Renovation - it is expected this phase will be complete by mid-August. Drawings, specifications and construction bidding documents will go out in September or October. The Finance Committee is exploring best options for long term and most affordable mortgage options. A HUD guaranteed loan appears most appealing - a decision for the mortgage financing has yet to be determined.

Any FCA member or Tapiola resident, with interest in the process and progress of the renovation, is welcome to attend board meeting.

Sarah Wiideman Renovation Committee Chair



FIRST ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, August 12 10 am - 4 pm

This event promises to be a fun day with a variety of vendors. Come see weaving, photography, jewelry and pulla to name a few. Lunch will be available.

Deadline to reserve a table is August 1st. Cost is \$10 per table.

Contact Mary O'Brien at the Center with questions.

GIFT SHOP

Iittala has come out with some beautiful pieces for the 100th anniversary. They are now available in the gift shop for a limited time only. Be sure to come in and see the special pieces of Aquamarine dinnerware.



This just in - July 20 to August 2 all Iittala is 20% off, includes special orders. This sale only happens twice a year. So don't miss out!

Sisukas Suomalainen shirts and additional designs are in. Assorted mugs to fill with your Finnish coffee are available in many designs.

Shop today!



POKER ALL STARS



Thank you to the following poker volunteers: Cortland Book, Neil Manley, Mark Belttari, Alice Manley, Bruce Mikko, John Saarinen, Paul Rajala, Fran Fadie, Mike Fadie, Aggie McManus and Gene Belttari

The next fundraiser poker event dates are August 31 to September 3rd. Please call Gene Belttari to help out at this fundraiser. (734) 416-8644



ICE CREAM SOCIALS

Wednesday, August 23, 2 pm and Saturday, September 9, 12 noon



No charge. However, donations gladly appreciated.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

A Surprising Call:

During the course of a baseball game, the umpire glanced at the stands and noticed medics carrying a woman out on a stretcher. Walking over to the manager of one of the teams, the ump asked, "What happened? Heart attack?" The manager, whose team was losing, replied, "No, you called one right and she fainted."

Submitted by Pearl Wanttaja

REACH OUT IN FRIENDSHIP

Friday, June 23rd, Bethany Lutheran Church in Kaleva, Michigan was the concert destination for ten singers from the Finnish American Singers of Michigan, there to join in the celebration of midsummer. It wasn't quite like the movie, *Planes, Trains & Automobiles* since all arrived by the latter mode, but each arriving pair or trio told a different story. Director Hank Naasko and accompanist Bill Gramzow sped up from SE Michigan in a zippy red convertible. Truck driver and bass John Hookana rented a car, picking up spunky tenor Charlotte Lytykainen, then were delayed enroute by detours due to flooding from recent rains in the center of the state. Second sopranos Ilene Yanke and Dee Aebersold happily toured with first soprano Vickie Kimler, shopping at garage sales along the way! Alto sisters Karen Gasinsky and Nancy Jacobs, misdirected by their GPS, took the "long way" there. Bass Paul Rajala and wife Nancy got a jump on the drive, leaving Friday from the Mt. Pleasant cottage of tenor Katy Koskela and husband David. The most challenging journey was made by first soprano Cortney Standifer after suffering a rear-end collision two days prior, resulting in a totaled car and whiplash. Obviously in pain and driven by friend Kenyatta, she moved gingerly with her neck brace as she joined the group.

Although not a huge church, Bethany's soaring wood paneled, peaked sanctuary and undulating brick nave wall promised great acoustics for the upcoming concert. Wearing new casual concert polos in vivid Finnish blue and seated in the chancel, the choir watched as 40-50 eagerly gathered and sat in the church pews. While waiting, this writer took a closer look at two commemorative quilt banners hung on the sanctuary walls created in 2002 to honor the church's 150th anniversary. Individual families chose creative ways from embroidery to historic picture transfers to personalize their quilt block, including their family's history as part of the community and church family. Obviously Finnish names such as Jouppi, Makinen, and Hulkonen reoccur in several squares representing various branches of the families and are a testament to the hardy families and descendants with roots in Finland.

Singing most of the music from our spring concert in both English and Finnish with the addition of the timely *Nyt on Juhannus* (*Now it is Midsummer*), our concert theme, "Take Your Neighbor by the Hand," included music whose titles and/or lyrics reinforced the concept of individual acceptance, togetherness and national pride. Starting with the national anthems of both the United States and Finland and ending with *Finlandia*, the smiles and occasional teary eyes let us know that our audience enjoyed the concert at least as much as we enjoyed singing for them! Church members provided a delicious coffee table of treats after the concert enabling singers and concert goers to chat and relax together. After a brief sojourn, three groups of singers left to make the return drive home that evening but the balance of the group stayed overnight in a local motel or at the home of Kaleva friends before leaving the next day. Thank you to our participating singers, director and accompanist who were available and made time to reach out in music to residents in Kaleva who had extended their hands in friendship to us.

Submitted by Katy Koskela



(see photos on page 9)

Reach Out In Friendship (continued from page 8)



Back Row: Cortney Standifer, Vickie Kimler, John Hookana, Paul Rajala

Front Row: Dee Aebersold, Ilene Yanke, Katy Koskela, Charlotte Lytikainen, Karen Gasinski,

Nancy Jacobs

Director: Henry Naasko



Bethany Lutheran Church Kaleva, Michigan



Accompanist: Bill Gramzow



FINLAND TODAY



First, thousands packed open air events in Finland the first week-end of July. From "hot metal" to prayer meetings, people flocked to outdoors gatherings from Seinajoki to Pori, Hameenlinna to Helsinki, in a mostly sunny and warm week-end. At a reunion show in Seinajoki, one of Finland's top bands from the 1990's (1994-2001), Ultra Bra, made an appearance. Their chief lyricist was Anni Sinnemaki, who later became the Labor Minister, the Green Party Chairwoman, and the Deputy Mayor of Helsinki. Also appearing at the Provinssi Festival in Seinajoki was a U.S. gothic rock group, Danzig. On a quieter note, in Pori, some 87,000 people attended the annual Summer Services gathering of the Laestadian Lutheran Church. Meanwhile in Hameenlinna, some 55,000 fans gathered for a reunion performance by the U.S. hard rock band, Guns N' Roses. Opening act was Finnish rocker Michael Monroe, whose 1980's rock group, Hanoi Rocks, has been cited by Guns N' Roses, as an "early influence".

Besides being host to the annual Gay Pride Festival, Helsinki was a busy place. It also was the host to the 20th annual Tuska Open Air Metal Festival at Suvilahti and the Blockfest at the Kaisaniemi Park at which the headline group was the "Weekend". At the Tuska Festival, the headliners were Amorphis, Apocalyptica, Sonata Arctica, and HIM, which is nearing the end of their farewell tour. Ending the performances on Sunday was the U.S. group Mastodon. In the past years U.S. groups such as Alice Cooper have played there.

The month of June was officially the coldest since 2003, says the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI). That's despite the fact that most of the country was bathed in a typical 250-300 hours of sunshine. Average temperatures stayed far lower than usual for June, from 46.4F in Lapland to 57.4F in southern and coastal region. The highest temperature of 79.2F was recorded in Mikkeli on June 16th, while nighttime frost was recorded across the country during the first week of June. The cold weather also means that there have been fewer thunder and lightning storms this year. The FMI counted some 3,000 lightning strikes this May and June. It may sound like a lot, but it's the lowest since records have been kept starting in 1960.

Finland and Sweden are now members of the British-led Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF). The JEF is a rapid response unit that can support NATO or UN troops anywhere in the world. Each country is committed to offering units in the event of a crisis situation, whether that involves combat, deterrence or humanitarian support. Ground, air and naval forces are led by British commanders, while participating countries contribute specialist skills and troops. Finland's decision to join the military force comes as the latest in a series of steps the country has taken to strengthen its cooperation with NATO, which is widely viewed as the result of Russia's behavior in the Baltic region. As says Jussi Niinisto, Finland's Defense Minister, "Finland's military performance needs to be updated as a result of the current global security environment".

Finnish law enforcement is taking a stronger stance against online crimes with the recruitment of 25 new web police officers. The new web police unit aims to curb online crime and hate speech. Finland's 11 regional police departments will get a boost with each region getting at least one web officer. A special unit of ten web police officers will be established in Helsinki, which is where the crime investigation unit will also be based.

Finnish Post Office to start beer deliveries. National postal carrier, Posti, and Finland's brewery product leader, Sinebrychoff, have signed an agreement that Posti will take over delivery of the company's beverages nationwide. Postal employees will also stock the shelves for some of the retailers, and make sure that

(continued on page 11)

Finland Today (continued from page 10)

empty bottles and cans as well as packing materials are returned or recycled. Posti says the move will not affect any existing services such as snail mail. Posti already home delivers meals to the elderly, and is piloting web-based food ordering services in five Finnish regions. Cool and frozen products are next on Post's expansion list.

And finally, these fine words from Heikki,

"Don't sing in the shower

Singing in the shower causes dancing.

Dancing causes you to slip on the shower floor

Slipping in the shower causes you to be seen naked by the first-responders".

Remember the fine words from Heikki,

"Don't sing in the shower".

Markku Ketola marketola@yahoo.com



ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS AUGUST 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.

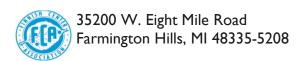
Column (ad) width is 2-1/4" for rates quoted below. Other sizes quoted on request.

Rates for a camera-ready, black & white ad, per three month period:

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



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CityState	Zip code
SignatureAre you of Finnish descent?	
□ Annual membership, single, one vote □ Annual membership, senior* or youth *Senior, over 65 years, youth under 30 ye □ Annual membership, couple, two vote □ Annual membership, family, one vote □ Life membership, one vote □ Life membership, senior, one vote (see Amount enclosed	*, one vote

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