Finnish Center Association



FCA News

October 2017

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 03 Tuesday Runebergskoren Choir 7 pm
- 06 Rental
- 06 Friday Night Dinner 5 8 pm
- 07 Rental
- 08 Sunday Folk Dance Workshop 2 5 pm
- 11 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 14 Rental
- 15 Scholarship Pancake & Waffle Buffet Fundraiser 12 1 pm
- 15 Finnish Movie 2 pm
- 20 Friday Night Dinner 5 8 pm
- 21 Rental
- 22 Rental
- 25 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 pm
- 27 Rental
- 28 Rental
- 29 Rental
- 29 Sunday Suomi Koulu Halloween Party
- 29 No Open House due to party and rental

NOVEMBER

- 03 Friday Night Dinner 5 8 pm
- 03 Pasty Prep 10 am
- 04 Saturday Pasty Sale 8:30 am Noon
- 05 Sunday FCA Joint Board Meeting 1 pm
- 05 Sunday FCA General Meeting 2 pm
- 11 Saturday Scandinavian Market 10 am 4 pm
- 15 Rental
- 17 Friday Night Dinner 5 8 pm
- 18 Rental
- 19 Sunday Finnish Film 2 pm
- 26 Sunday Open House 1 4 pm



Reservations are recommended for all events.

Weekly Events

Finnish American Singers Monday 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

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

Fall arrived overnight in the beginning of September and the trees started to change colors. We are really lucky to live in Michigan surrounded by beautiful lakes and nature and have no fear of huge storms and big earthquakes. Our hearts go out to the people devastated by the natural disasters in various parts of the world

Suomi Koulu had its first meeting. It has now grown to two separate classes we call: isot and pienet. Adult classes will hopefully start next month. Conversation group is meeting the First Friday of every month. FCA will offer a lot of opportunities to learn and/or improve your Finnish language skills. Our unique Finnish language is an important part of the Finnish Culture. And do not forget that we have Folk Dance workshop again. It is October 8, 2017 at 2 pm. We have a beautiful dance floor and it needs to be used more.

The Flea Market happened at the end of September with a very popular bake sale. The Scandinavian Market is also just around the corner with a bake sale as well. Mark your calendars for November 11, 2017. It will be a wonderful event and a way to meet friends and enjoy good Finnish food as well. Norwegians and Finns are providing an ethnic luncheon as usual.

Thanks to Dale Hietanen, we have a new computer at the center. It is a welcome addition to our aging computer and office equipment. Two of our computers were so old that their operating systems could not be upgraded any more. Thank you Dale.

We are very excited to host the Runebergskoren Finnish Male Choir on Tuesday, October 3 at 7 pm. Please join us for this special event in honor of Finland's 100 years of Independence!

I hope to see you at the Finnish Center. If you are able to volunteer, please call us and we will find something for you to do. As always if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. (cell: 734-834-6085).

Mia Lamminen Chairman



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

SOCIAL NEWS

We have had a very busy summer with a cookout, strawberry social and ice cream social and the first annual craft sale. What fun events.

For fall plan on attending the Halloween Party on the 29th of October. News of holiday events to follow in upcoming newsletters.

Please join us for the fall events. All will be welcome with warm Finnish Hospitality.

Mary O'Brien



POKER ALL STARS



I want to thank the following volunteers who helped make another successful fundraiser. Mia Lamminen, Olli Lamminen, Bruce Mikko, Paul Rajala, Mark Rikkonen, John Saarinen, Aggie McManus, Gene Belttari, Neil Manley, Ilene Yanke, Marlene Ruuskanen, Alice Manley, Cortland Book, Mark Belttari and Roger Wanttaja.

Our next event is October 5th to October 8th. Please call me to join our Poker All Star volunteers. Gene Belttari (734) 416-8644.



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

October 6 & 20 November 3 & 17 5 - 8 pm

FinnFolk playing during dinner!



GIFT SHOP

Fall is here and we are stocking up. Be sure to stop in and see all the new things.

Finland Anniversary dishes from Iittala are here. They are just beautiful and make wonderful gifts.

Gaissa glasses from Iittala have arrived.



Lots of candy is coming in for the holidays.



Special for the month Ultima Thule plates original price \$25. Now \$18.

Stop at your gift shop. We are here Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

Mary O'Brien

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

Sunday, October 15 11 am - 1 pm

Since the early 1960's (before the Finnish Center was formed) scholarships have been presented to over 300 Finnish students. We no longer receive the donations we once did; consequently, the treasury is very low, and your help is needed.



In order for us to continue these scholarships, we invite you to attend our Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday, October 15.

As most of the food items are being donated by the committee, 95% of the income from the breakfast will go into the scholarship fund.



FROM THE LIBRARY



Shepherd of the Wilderness by Bernard J. Lambert

The year was 1797 when Napoleon was causing troubled times in Austria. The French army was taking the conquered people to support the invasion. Frederic Baraga was born on June 29th of that year. Two siblings born before him did not survive. His sister Amalia, preceded Frederic by two years and another sister, Antonia was born six years later.

Fredric's parents, John Deponic and Catherine lived on the lands connected to the castle of Mirna in the province of Austria called Slovenia. As the overseer John had a difficult time over the extensive lands. He was forced to fulfill the demands of the French invaders who asked for more and more produce. Over John's protests, Catherine, Amalia, and Frederic went out to supplement John's workers in the fields. Catherine was able to keep their home happy and productive. Both parents were devout and Frederic was active in the life open to him which included faith and praise to God. He was sent away to learn how to better manage the large estates his family was responsible for. At home he showed dedication and perseverance and responsibility for the poor around him. He was known to invite the hungry to dinner with no warning.

At school in Ljubljuna he lived in rented lodgings with a private tutor. He was expected to study German and Latin. The first year was challenging and satisfying for the studious Frederic. The second year he received a letter from home announcing his mother's death. Her last words stayed with him always, "I will not always be near to caution you. God will reward you for the good you do in this world". Frederic's education was interrupted by the third invasion of Slovenia which altogether lasted four years. He had succeeded in coping with the emptiness from his mother's death when word came that his father had also died.

He and his sister, after being assigned a guardian, were sent to the home of Dr. Dolinar for four more years of study. A professor of church history and canon law, he often sponsored promising students who needed support to continue studies. After these four years, Frederic desired to attend a prestigious law school in Vienna. His lodgings, which were in the shadow of the historic University were ideal for his various classes, and for attending to social life and friends.

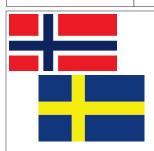
Painting became a passion and gave him respite from his intense class schedule. During all this he met and fell in love with Anna Dolivar. They had an understanding that they would marry when Frederic finished his education.

At this time he became attached to Father Hoffbauer who had earned the title of Apostle of Vienne. He (Hoffbauer) had a following to return the students to the sacraments which were forbidden by the edict of Napoleon. Frederic's general confession admitted him to hymn singing, processions, and praying the rosary of the "Spiritual Sons". Sacraments were part of the program. Father Hoffbauer became his sainted example and advisor.

He attended his sister's wedding where he and Anna talked about being married in two years. When he returned to Vienna he dropped Spanish and English and put away his paints and brushes. Dr. Hoffbauer died that year. Frederic could not be sure of what he would do next. Anna understood his change of heart when he considered becoming a priest. Anna never married and died two years later.

After much more studying with companions who had similar plans he graduated from law school. The year was 1821. On November first he entered the seminary.

Frederic had given up the girl he loved and his privileged life for the priesthood. He had a passion for alleviating suffering and filling the needs of those who had so little. He was appalled by the separation of the (continued on page 9)

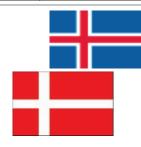


\$1 Donation at the Door



Scandinavian Market Saturday, November 11, 2017 10 am – 4 pm

Finnish Center Association 35200 W. Eight Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48335 (248) 478-6939 or (734) 834-6085



Public Welcome

Enjoy good Scandinavian food, good music while strolling through our many crafters and vendors, including hand-woven rugs, Scandinavian imports,

FOLK DANCING WORKSHOP

Sunday, Oct 8 from 2pm - 5pm



CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 17 2 - 4 pm



The 4th annual Candlelight Service is your opportunity to remember loved ones. Simply make a donation to the FCA and you will receive an angel to place on a tree in remembrance of a loved one or special friend!

OCTOBER IN THE GARDENS

Fall in the gardens already. Days are getting shorter and cooler and we seem to be catching up on the rain we missed this summer. The asters, mums, and hydrangea are beautiful even with the lack of rain this year.

As you walk through the gardens you will see some identification tags for a few of the perennials and shrubs. We will continue to add new signage as we can as part of our effort to educate our garden visitors.

Our new patio in front of the building was built by Bryan Reppenhagen for his Eagle Scout certification.

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

Gayle Gullen, Finlandia Garden Club President





MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Ruth Mannisto** 8/5/17) donations have been made by Lois Makee, Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA member **Jon Kauppi** 8/4/17) a donation has been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member **Helen Peterson** 7/28/17) donations have been made by Sara & James McCrea, Teri & Mark Yanalunas, Dolores & Debbie Rajala, Deb & Hal Johnson, Beverly Rodriguez, Pearl & Ray Wanttaja, Alice Yanalunas and Kathy Meister.

In memory of FCA life member **Gerald Malstrom** 7/12/17) donations have been made by Mary Stapleton, Louise Hartung & Jim Fostey, Lois Makee and Pearl & Ray Wanttaja.

In memory of FCA life member **Aileen Jouppi** 7/4/17) donations have been made by Irma Leppala Family, Diane & Bill Yagerlener.

In memory of FCA life member **Paul Hendrickson** 6/28/17) a donation has been made by Louis Hartung & Jim Fostey.

In memory of FCA life member **Erick Kyro** 1/24/17) a donation has been made by Sandra J. & Alan M. Pennanen.



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, Soittoniekat/FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers.

If a donation is undesignated, it goes to the General Fund for expenses of the Center.

The family of the deceased may direct undesignated donations toward a specific fund (up to one year after date of death).

Please make your check out to the Finnish Center Association and send donations to: FCA, 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Donations received by the 5th of each month will be published in the next month's newsletter.

You may also direct your donation toward the Elders' Housing, but then your check <u>must</u> be made out to FCA Senior Housing Corp.

Please include full name (with middle initial), address, dates of death and birth of the deceased; also the name and address of the next of kin to whom the acknowledgement card is to be mailed.

If you know of a member, parent or child of a member who has passed away, please call the FCA at (248) 478-6939.

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







FINNISH FILM

The Cultural Committee's October film is *Lights in the Dusk* directed by Aki Kaurismaki. The last Kaurismaki film, Le Havre, is scheduled for November 19. Mark your calendars.

We look forward to seeing you also at the Scholarship fundraising brunch at 11:00 am that precedes the October film showing.

Lights in the Dusk

Laitakaupungin valot 2006

Director Aki Kaurismäki In Finnish with English subtitles



October 15, 2:00 pm

This is the third film in Kaurismäki's "Helsinki Trilogy," and it shares many thematic elements with *Man Without a Past* and is, perhaps, his most cynical.

Koistinen is a lonely security guard who is ignored and teased by his co-workers. The only "real" relationship he has is his friendship with the female owner of a hot dog stand, but then it's all limited to small talk about how boring his life is. Then one night a woman decides to keep him company in a cafè. Over enthusiastic, Koistinen asks this lady out and soon his life is completely changed by this femme fatale with heartbreaking results.

The films of the "Helsinki Trilogy" all deal with people on the margins and it is clear that Kaurismäki's sympathies are with common people and not with those whose power dehumanizes them. His "heroes" bear their sufferings stoically and have a never-say-die attitude that makes them admirable. Their hang-dog expressions may make us pity them, but it is their inner strength that makes us fond of them.





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**

Learn more about the book at **GreatLakesGazette.com**

WHERE ARE WE?

A couple on vacation was driving their RV through Wisconsin. As they approached the town of Oconomowoc, they started arguing about the pronunciation of the town's name. They argued back and forth as they entered the town and continued to bicker while they stopped for lunch. As they stood at the counter, the husband asked the cashier, "Before we order, could you please settle an argument for us? Would you please pronounce where we are....slowly?" the cashier leaned over the counter and said, "Burrrrr-gerrrr-kiiiiiig."

FCA BAKERS

On Thursday, September 7th, nine women came into the center to bake pulla/nisu. This included Charlotte Lytikainen, Betty Taipalus, Barb Whitty, Ilene Yanke, Christine Martin, Elsie Felix, Hannah Carlson, Irene Lamanen, and Margaret Laurila. The many loaves turned out well.

Always remember to check in at the Gift Shop on pulla/nisu availability.

kiitos, Ilene Yanke



HAVE YOU MADE PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS YET?

The Finnish American Singers of Michigan have begun practicing for their Christmas concert which will be held Sunday, December 10, 2017. "Christmas!? Already?" we think. Many of us are not ready to see fall decorations in stores yet, since we have had what seems to be, an unseasonably cool summer! However, Halloween and Thanksgiving are just around the corner, followed closely by the season of Christmas trees, presents, twinkling lights, and dare I say...snow! Please put our concert on your calendars since we truly would like you and your friends to attend.

For several years in the fall, courtesy of the Singers' fundraiser, you have been able to order beautiful, freshly cut greens from the Northwest, delivered in time for Christmas decorating. In the past, although the greens ordered by most people were shipped to the FCA for each singer to deliver to their own customers, it also is possible to order greens that will be delivered directly from the company (Sherwood Forest) to anyone in the continental United States. Several choir members have sent wreaths or arrangements to distant friends or family. My three adult children, for example, looked on the arrival of their wreaths as the true beginning of their holiday season, enjoying the pungent smell of pine until long past Christmas. I knew they probably would not have Christmas trees, so this small bit of "Up North" was a welcome gift. Who do you know that would appreciate your thoughtfulness? If you have a business and try to think of a gift suitable for every person, let us help you with that task! Items can be ordered and arrive ready to hang after the accompanying ribbon and pinecones are attached, and come complete with a card sharing your wishes for the season.

In order for greens to arrive in Farmington by Thanksgiving, a convenient time we have found to distribute wreaths, swags, and garland to local friends and family, the orders and money must be turned in by Monday, October 30th. Direct mailing will go out the first week of December. There will be a poster at the Finnish Center advertising the sale, or you can talk to any choir member for information and/or to place your order during the whole month of October. If you have a business and would like to send several items to employees, we will work with you on pricing.

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather that we so often encounter in Michigan. For those that enjoy outdoor winter sports, your time will come all too soon, especially for those of us that enjoy the snow and cold best from a comfy spot in front of a roaring fire!

Submitted by Scribe, K. Koskela



Lifetime member Reverend Elmer Limatta was down from the UP visiting the Finnish Center. He is pictured beside the Hanko Rock, outside the Finnish Center.

Library (continued from page 4)

classes of people he had become comfortable with.

His path to the Great Lakes region was complicated. He realized early that the native people were being taken advantage of due to a lack of education. Frederic started a lifetime commitment by teaching the Indians to plant vegetables to better their diet. Also he showed by doing how shelters and a regular routine of rest could improve their health. He became known as the black robe and recognized as the leader, gathering potential converts wherever he went. His generosity with his time and energy became legendary. Although the settlements were far apart, Fredric found ways to get where he had promised to be, mostly walking. He lived frugally and shared even his shoes when he saw a man with sores due to exposure. He was sure God would provide and prayed often for help for the native congregations who were being ignored by the government. Constant challenges kept him always on the move but he never doubted, his prayers would be answered.

Father Baraga's most lasting accomplishment is the dictionary of the native language plus hymnals and prayer books he composed with collections of religions works he provided. He baptized more people than any other missionary.

Author Bernard J. Lambert's extensive research had made it possible for us to know much of Father Baraga's adventures and trying times in the harsh Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the Great Lakes.

We have this book in the library. It doesn't completely fit in with our Finnish and Michigan restrictions but is vital to the development of our Great Lakes region. Bishop Baraga abhorred any acclaim for his successes. Completely selfless he was the best example of the "black robes" that descended on our growing country. When passing the shrine between L'Anse and Baraga stop and say thank you, Reverend Baraga.

Ruth Ojala, Library Volunteer



The Bishop Baraga monument in L'Anse



FINLAND TODAY



First, more than half of Finland's 300-odd municipalities offer a "breakfast club" service for first and second graders whose parents start work early. The program ensures that youngsters can rest, have a snack, play or engage in a craft in the hours before they start school. An increasing number of Finnish municipalities are stepping up to provide "breakfast club" activities for young primary school students whose parents need to get an early start to work, but can't leave their youngsters at home alone. According to the National Agency for Education (NAE), a survey done in 2013, showed that just one in five municipalities offered early morning programs for school children. The situation has changed dramatically since then. "According to a survey done last year, 170, or more than half of the municipalities in Finland offered a "breakfast club". More than 260 offered after school programs," said Arja-Sisko Holappa of the NAE.

Starting in October, new mothers will have the option of caring for their newborn in hotel rooms rather than in hospital wards. The new arrangement is being piloted by the Helsinki and Uusimaa Hospital District (HUS), which has rented 20 rooms on an entire floor of the Cumulus City hotel in Merilahti, offering a family-friendly neo-natal environment. It is hoped that some mothers who have given birth normally at Helsinki's Women's Clinic, Naistenklinnika, will be able to move from the neo-natal ward to the hotel rooms with their families, located right around the corner. Before moving to the hotel, mothers and babies will be under observation for about six hours so that hospital staff can ensure that they are in good health. HUS said that it wants to use the patient hotel to refine a model where families can actively care for newborns themselves in a pleasant environment and get to know their new family member in private. Mothers' partners or other individuals providing support will also be able to stay overnight at the hotel room. The hotel will be staffed with 24 hour nursing staff who will be on hand to provide advice and assistance. Pediatricians will also check babies to clear them to go to their new family homes. Mothers will typically be able to spend 1-2 days in the hotel and they will be charged roughly the same fee that they would if they stayed in a hospital ward.

Finns are some of the world's happiest people. In celebration of the International Day of Happiness, a total of 155 countries have been ranked in order of their perceived happiness levels. This year Finland was placed fifth overall, moving up one position from last year. Each countries ranking was determined by six factors: GDP per capita, healthy years of life expectancy, social support (as measured by having someone to count on in times of trouble), trust (as measured by a perceived absence of corruption in government and business), perceived freedom to make life decisions, and generosity (as measured by recent donations). The Nordic region seems to be the happiest area in world, placing four countries in the top five spots, with Norway in first place followed by Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, and Finland.

Finally, I have a couple, two, three, "getting older" jokes.

"The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then, your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends."

"Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved."

"You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks."

Thanks Jussi.

Markku Ketola marketola@ yahoo.com



Tuesday, October 3 7:00 pm

Finnish Cultural Center

Farmington Hills, Michigan

Public Welcome



ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: **DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE IS OCTOBER 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.

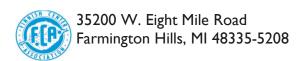
Deadline/payment for ad is the 5th of the month preceding publication.

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 RENEWAL
DatePhone:	_email:
Applicant	
Applicant/Spouse	
Address	
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

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

Freedom Square (248) 442-7250 www.fcaseniorhousing.org



THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME

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