



Finnish Center Association

FCA News

January 2018

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- 01 Monday Closed for New Year's
- 04 Rental
- 05 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 06 Rental
- 10 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 12 Rental
- 19 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 20 Rental
- 21 Sunday Germany Travelogue 2 pm
- 26 Friday Pasty Prep 10 am
- 27 Saturday Pasty Bake and Sale 8:30 am - Noon
- 28 Sunday Open House 1 - 4 pm
- 31 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon



February

- 02 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8pm
- 07 Wednesday Valentine's Party 12 noon
- 11 Sunday Finnish Movie (to be announced) 2 pm
- 16 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 17 Saturday Kaleva Day Celebration
Knights & Ladies of Kaleva Brunch 12 noon
Program 2 pm
- 17 Rental
- 18 Sunday Senior Housing Annual Meeting 1 pm
- 18 Sunday FCA Annual Meeting 3 pm
- 23 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8pm
- 25 Sunday Folk Dance 2 - 5 pm
- 25 Sunday Open House 1 - 4 pm
- 28 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon

**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

What a wonderful finish for the year 2017 with Finland's 100th year of Independence festivities, followed by concerts, Christmas parties, both for young and old and to be able to quiet down before the Christmas holiday with the Candlelight Ceremony in remembrance of deceased loved ones. This past year has been a busy one both with our activities as well as rentals and other fund-raising activities.

There will be challenges, some very tough challenges. As indicated previously, it will be ever so difficult to keep our membership numbers up. On the positive note, we are happy to inform that IRS approved our 501C3 status. This means that any donations given to Finnish Center are tax deductible. Please consider Finnish Center when deciding on donations. We want to maintain the Finnish Center as a Cultural Center for all to enjoy for years to come. However, the building is getting old and needs a lot of repairs. We want to make sure that we continue the legacy that our founding members intended, when they started our organization.

I want to thank all of the tireless volunteers who made possible the success of FCA year 2017. Without dedicated volunteers we could not have done it. A special thank you goes to Sarah Wiideman, who worked tirelessly and made our Independence Day celebration a success.

I wish all of you a very healthy and Happy New Year, and hope to see you at the Finnish Center this coming year.

Mia Lamminen
Chairman



Connie Fosness, the first female Chairman of FCA with Mia.

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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 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

GIFT SHOP

The gift shop year started a little slow but as the year went on we got new and exciting things in and were able to finish with great events. The Scandinavian Market and 100th Anniversary gave us more people and things definitely got better. Thank you each and every one for shopping in your gift shop. Remember we can do special orders, and if you can't get in to pick it up, we can ship it to you at the normal postal rate.

SPECIAL: December 20- January 21
All candy 20% off.

Have a wonderful New Year,
Mary O'Brien



FOLK DANCING WORKSHOP

Sunday,
February 25

2 - 5 pm



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

January 5
January 19

5-8 pm

FinnFolk plays during dinner!



DECEMBER COFFEE AND CAKE

Finland's 100th year of Independence was celebrated with a wonderful final event. Reading the internet we found out Finland was having cake and coffee on the 5th before the main event. We

were closed on the 5th so decided we would decorate the tables and serve cake and coffee and watch the festivities in Finland. It turned into a wonderful event. Finland was dressed in their finest and we were delighted that we could be with them. If you weren't proud to be a Finn or a Finnish American watching Finland, you had a problem. Such a beautiful event and we were able to see it. Thanks Marlene and Roger for the technology. Mary O'Brien





FROM THE LIBRARY



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland is one of the two national churches of Finland; at the end of 2016, 71.9% of Finns were members of this church. Two very important occasions, baptism and confirmation, are celebrated in connection with the Lutheran church in every family with children.

The first of these is baptism, which in the Lutheran church is infant baptism, although adults may be baptized also if they were not baptized as a child. In this event the child receives his/her name and also becomes a member of the church and is now considered a child of God. This event is also called a christening.

At least one parent of the child being christened must be a member of the church. There must be at least two godparents who must be confirmed members of the church. Being chosen as a godparent is considered an honor. They are to be not only witnesses of the event but should aid in the spiritual growth of the baptized child. Traditionally they present the child with a gift which should be a memorial of the event, such as a silver spoon which can later be engraved with the child's name and birth date.

Baptism may take place in the church, or at home. The baptism is to be performed by a minister of the Lutheran church, either the pastor of the parents' church, or another pastor who might be a family friend or relative. The time and place are to be arranged beforehand through the church office. The parents are to return to the pastor the filled-out form entitled "an announcement of the child's reception into the population registry", which has been provided earlier by the church office. Children must be registered in this registry within two months of birth.

On one of my visits to Finland one of my cousins had a small baby. As any American would do, I inquired as to the baby's name. My cousin answered "She has not been baptized yet." This non sequitur would have puzzled me had I not learned earlier that the name is kept secret until the baptism. Then it is divulged when the pastor says "I baptize you, (name)___, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost" while he sprinkles water on the child's head. The main event is followed by a social hour at home, where lunch is served.

When youths reach the age of fifteen they attend confirmation school, where they receive the teachings of the church. The aim is to strengthen the young in the faith of the church into which they were received at baptism, support them in growing in love for their fellow human beings, and encourage them to share in the parish's life and worship. This concludes in a special church service where they are confirmed. Before the service itself, there is usually a rehearsal, during which the confirmands go through the order of service with the pastor who is confirming them, and the seating arrangements are made. The candidates dress in white robes, called albs. Here each receives communion for the first time. Often communion is offered to the rest of the congregation as well. The confirmand is now qualified to serve as a godparent, and may be married in the church as long as he/she has reached the age of 18.

Flowers are presented to the confirmand, often roses. A social hour where lunch is served usually follows at the home or a suitable venue after the church service. A little program may be presented, where a godparent or the confirmand's father speaks some words of a spiritual nature. Music also makes a nice addition to the occasion. It is customary for the parents, grandparents and godparents to give the confirmand a gift which becomes a souvenir of the event, such as a watch, piece of jewelry or possibly a good book.

Finland has the highest rate of participation in confirmation preparation of any Lutheran country.

(continued on page 5)

Library (continued from page 4)

Variations of these celebrations may be held in other Finnish churches also, as well as in families with no church connection. All children must be enrolled in either a church or civil registry and all parents must follow the rules regarding naming of the child.



Baptism



Confirmation

Lillian Lehto

SOURCE: Käytöksen kultainen kirja (Golden Book of Etiquette) by Sirkka Lassila, c 1990.

Correction: The captions in the December 2017 newsletter article were reversed. The top picture is of SantaPark and the second one is of Santa Claus Village.

SOCIAL NEWS

We presented a few events for you this year. I hope you enjoyed these events as much as I did. It was fun seeing some new faces and getting to know the ones I had met before a little better.



Sunday, January 21, we will have a travelogue on Germany at 2 pm. Coffee and desserts will be available following the program.



Wednesday, February 7, we will celebrate Valentine's Day. There will be a luncheon followed by some games.

Join us for these events and if you have any other ideas for get-togethers, please call at the FCA. I am in the gift shop on Wednesday's.

Enjoy the New Year.
Mary O'Brien

Kaleva Day Brunch/Lunch 12 noon
Lecture by Dr. Tom Dubois 2 pm

Saturday, February 17 will be the day to commemorate the *Kalevala*, the national epic for the Finns, with a very interesting presentation by one of the nation's experts on Finland, Finnish culture and the *Kalevala*. Dr. Tom Dubois has done extensive research on Finnish and Sami culture, past and present. His talk will focus on Finland and the *Kalevala*.

Dr. Dubois is the Halls-Bascom Professor of Scandinavian Studies and Folklore at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He holds a Ph.D. in Folklore and Folklife from the University of Pennsylvania. His books include *Finnish Folk Poetry and the Kalevala: Lyric, Meaning and Audience*; *Nordic Religions in the Viking Age*; *Sanctity in the North: Saints, Lives and Cults in Medieval Scandinavia*, and the co-edited volumes *Finnish Folklore* and *The Nordic Storyteller*.

Dr. Dubois is one of the centenary lecturers of the Finlandia Foundation National and his presentation is also supported by the Knights and Ladies of the Kalevala, and the Finnish Center and the cultural committee.

MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Milda Mattila** (11/10/17) donations have been made by Lillis & Wayne Raylean, Laura & Kenneth Paulson, Janet & Robert Clisch, Mary-Ann & Arne Hanninen, Pearl & Ray Wanttaja and Neil Manley.

In memory of FCA member **William Lockwood** (10/13/17) donations have been made by Joan Daley, Kathryn Hill, Lois Makee, Sandy & Dave Scheel, Jackie Scheel Weinman and Maria Hill.

In memory of FCA life member **Ellen Clisch** (10/13/07) a donation has been made by Lois Makee.

In memory of FCA life member **Ardythe A. Smith** (10/17) donations have been made by Janet & Jack Foster and Brenda & Mark Litka.

In memory of FCA life member **Ruth Mannisto** (8/5/17) donations have been made by Sandy Lampi Scheel and Jackie Scheel Weinman.

In memory of FCA member **Jon Kauppi** (8/4/17) donations have been made by Sandy Lampi Scheel and Paul Lampi.

In memory of **Martha Boscarino** (1/4/16) a donation has been made by Dominic Boscarino.

In memory of FCA life member **Joyce Juntunen** (11/8/13) a donation has been made by Harold Juntunen.

In memory of **Eleanor Manley** (12/5/12) a donation has been made by Alice Manley.

In memory of **Kenneth Juntunen** (6/30/00) a donation has been made by Harold Juntunen.

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

Earl Lampi of Bloomfield Hills(11/25/17)

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

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,

FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers.

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 must 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



HAPPINESS FUND

Did you know you can also request a happiness greeting? New baby, special anniversary, significant achievement and more.

JANUARY IN THE GARDENS

January is always a wonderful time to reflect on what we accomplished during the year while we plan for next year. This year was an exciting one for the gardens. The FCA was designated as an official location for MSU Master Gardeners to complete their required volunteer hours. Two new Master Gardeners have joined our garden crew and made wonderful additions. Sue Trescott has created four decorative signs and Kofi Meyer is restoring a donated carved grizzly bear for an interesting addition to our gardens

We have two new areas for gathering and relaxing. Boy Scout Bryan Reppenhagen built a brick patio in front of the lounge for his Eagle Scout certification. A deck was built in the Willow Grove utilizing the old dance flooring and brick from the patio project. A wedding was held this summer in the Willow Grove and a wooden arch was left for our use. The arch along with these new additions offer new possibilities for outside venues.

Woodshop activities included creating a lollipop tree, restoring the grizzly bear, and constructing a Free Little Library which will offer a book exchange for children and adults. The library will be located in the gardens in the spring.

We will be taking down the holiday decorations on the second Monday in January and then meeting again in February to repair some benches and bird-houses. Feel free to drop by and join us in the woodshop.

David Sharpe will be coordinating all workdays this winter as I will be in Florida with my parents due to some family health issues. If you have any questions about the gardens, contact David at (248) 477-5709.

Gayle Gullen
Finlandia Garden
Club President



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Amy Lowell has been a valuable and reliable volunteer in the gift shop for many years. She helps with the book work, displays, sales, special orders and anything else that might come up while she is there.

She is very helpful with researching special items for sale in the gift shop. She loves to find out the intimate details about each piece and can share that information with anyone who might stop by the shop.

Amy is usually in the gift shop every Monday and also comes in to help with special events or when extra work needs to be done.



Hilka & Markku Ketola dressed in Finnish clothes as they attend the Lecturer of Year program on December 3

SUOMI / FINLAND 100

FCA celebrated Finland's 100 years of Independence with a full cultural experience of guests, food and entertainment! Ambassador Manu Virtamo, General Consul of Finland was our guest speaker. Special guests included Ossi Rahkonen, president of Finlandia Foundation and also Dr. Phillip Johnson, president of Finlandia University.

FinnFolk provided lively Finnish folk music before and after the performances and dinner.

The program began with the walk of the flags carried by Roope Pantsar and Robert Crouse.

The Finnish American Singers of Michigan then led the audience in the national anthems of Finland and the United States.

Mia Lamminen, chairman of FCA, gave the welcome and opening remarks, followed by the convocation by Dr. Phillip Johnson.

The heart of the evening was a pure Sibelius program performed by the Jarnefelt Trio. The Trio musicians are Ruusamari Teppo on the Piano, Katri Ervamaa on Cello and Paivikki Nykter on Violin. Before their final piece of Finlandia, Emma Kaipainen and Roope Pantsar read the lyrics to the Finlandia. A standing ovation was much deserved!

The Keynote Address was then given by Ambassador Manu Virtamo, Consul General of Finland.

The evening was made perfect by a wonderful traditional Finnish meal. Finnish appetizers began the evening and a meal of Karjalan Paisti with lingonberries, Yukon gold potatoes, roasted asparagus & sweet potatoes along with rye bread was enjoyed by all.

A Centennial Celebration Cream Cake along with Pulla and Fazer chocolates were the final touches on a truly memorable night in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Finland's Independence!



Roope Panstar & Robert Crouse
Flag Bearers

SUOMI / FINLAND 100



Mia Lamminen,
FCA Chairman



Ossi Rahkonen,
President Finlandia Foundation



Ambassador Manu Virtamo,
Consul General of Finland



Phillip Johnson,
President of Finlandia
University



Left: Ossi Rahkonen and
Henrikki Panstar

Below: Manu & Liisa
Virtamo with Sarah
Wiideman



SUOMI / FINLAND 100



Jarnefelt Piano Trio
 Ruusamari Teppo, Piano - Katri Ervamaa, Cello -
 Paivikki Nykter, Violin



Finnish American Singers of Michigan
 sing the National Anthems of both the
 USA and Finland



FinnFolk Left to right:
 Louise Hartung, Kristen Kreiner,
 Don Reinholm, Steve Niemi,
 Joe Kylman, Roger Hewlett and
 Ron Karvonen

SUOMI / FINLAND 100



Beautiful tables, delicious food and lots of conversation amongst friends.



FINLAND TODAY



A revolutionary new Finnish invention by EEE Innovations Ltd. and VTT Technical Research Center of Finland, detects black ice and provides other improvements to vehicles such as guiding drivers to drive more economically and safely. The new invention allows slippery road conditions to be detected extremely accurately in real time and with costs significantly lower than by any other methods currently in use. “The driving optimization system we have developed is the only one capable of recognizing the driver’s input in economical driving, taking also into account factors independent of the driver, such as weather conditions, traffic jams and vehicle-related differences, “ says Jarmo Leino, CEO of Innovations Oy. The driver guidance system can be installed as a part of software already existing in vehicles. Or it can be installed as an independent entity, containing both the driving optimization and slipperiness detection components. The first application of this patented technology is offered for heavy vehicle use, but the invention can be applied to private vehicles as well. “The pilot project indicates that with the system, savings up to 20% in fuel consumption can be reached, in addition to improved road safety,” says Principal Scientist Raine Hautala of VTT.

Kahon 3, which is headquartered in Kalasatama, Helsinki, was the largest corporate tax payer in Finland in 2016. Owned by Softbank, the holding company paid almost 700 million euros in corporate taxes on the proceeds of the sale of a majority stake in Supercell to Tencent. Supercell itself was the second largest corporate tax payer with a total tax bill of 181 million euros. The massively successful game studio also produced seven of the ten largest income tax payers in the country, who paid over 123,500,000 euros in income taxes and other contributions in 2016. Supercell tax contributions have already prompted experts to describe it as the long await “New Nokia.” We are very active in wind in the Nordic countries.

General Electric’s power generation unit is planning to build new wind farms in Finland. They are very active in wind in the Nordic Countries. They are planning new farms in Finland, about 80-100 MW per unit, said Markus Alholm, CEO of GE Power Finland.

Bakery in Finland Unveils Bread made of Crickets and is the world’s first insect-based bread to ever be sold in stores. In September 2017, Finnish officials approve the cultivation and sale of insects as food. Fazer Food Services in Helsinki has been testing bread that contained cricket flour, before official decision had been made. A single loaf of cricket bread will cost \$5. Each loaf contains around 70 crushed crickets, imported from Netherlands because Finland currently did not have enough crickets. Cricket bread has more protein than the typical baked goods and it is believed to be more environmentally friendly.

Finally: Dr. Nurmi was telling Grandmother Hilma to make sure that Grampa Heikki makes his appointment in time and make sure he brings a fresh stool sample. Hilma Mummu drives the old Ford Fairlane and gets close to Hancock and she asked if Heikki pappa has brought the stool sample. Heikki Pappa answers : “Oo Jaaaa, I brought my long-johns from yesterday”.

Thanks, Jackie Alasimi

Markku Ketola
marketola@yahoo.com



FCA ELECTION NOTICE 2018

Election at the Annual meeting on February 18, 2018 at 3 pm.

The FCA Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to fill three positions on the FCA Board of Trustees. Members running as candidates need to submit short biographies (250 words or less) by January 18, 2018 to the Finnish Center Association, attention Fran Fadie, Nominating Committee Chair. Biographies may also be submitted via email to finnishcenter@gmail.com.

If you have any questions, please contact Fran Fadie at finnishcenter@gmail.com or at (248) 478-6939.

Please consider serving the FCA as a leader in one of these positions.

FCA SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING CORPORATION NOTICE

We are seeking candidates for three Board of Trustee positions to be elected at the Annual Meeting on February 18, 2018 at 1 pm. If you are interested in participating as a member of the Board, forward a short resume (max 250 words) including your birthplace, your formal education and professional background as well as explanation of how you would contribute to the Board. To be received no later than January 18, 2018 at:

FCA Senior Citizens Housing Corporation
 Attn: Secretary
 35200 W. Eight Mile Road
 Farmington Hills, MI 48335



ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE:	DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE IS JANUARY 5TH
EDITOR CONTACT INFO:	PAUL RAJALA
LAYOUT AND DESIGN:	NANCY RAJALA
E-MAIL:	nrajala@comcast.net

FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS

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



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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!



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