



FCA News

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

April 2008

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH BUFFET

On Sunday, May 11 from 11 am to 1:30 pm, the FCA will honor mothers on their special day at our annual Mother's Day Brunch Buffet.

The various stations will again have a large selection of foods, including a carvers station.

Adults: \$19.95
Children: \$12.95

As this is a well-attended event, reservations are required. Please contact the FCA by Wednesday, May 8, 2008.

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MAY 31, 2008 DEADLINE FOR GAINING FINNISH CITIZENSHIP FAST APPROACHING

Former Finnish citizens and their descendants have the opportunity to re-acquire Finnish citizenship by declaration, if they have lost it when acquiring the citizenship of another country. Descendants of former and current Finnish citizens may also acquire Finnish citizenship by declaration, even if they never had it. You must act before **May 31, 2008**.

This is your opportunity to pass Finnish citizenship down to your children, strengthen ties to your home country, obtain a Finnish passport, vote in elections, become an European Union (EU) citizen, and live and work in all EU countries.

To learn more, please visit the internet site of the Directorate of Immigration in Finland at www.uvi.fi or the Consulate General of Finland at www.finland.org. You may also contact the Consulate General of Finland at 866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 250, New York, N.Y. 10017. Phone 1 212 750 44 00, fax 1 212 750 44 18. Canadian citizens should contact the Embassy in Ottawa.

Paul N. Potti
Honorary Consul of Finland, Detroit

FCA ARCHIVE PROJECT

The FCA recently signed a contract to share its archives with the Finnish-American Historical Archive and Museum located in Hancock, MI. Members of the FCA are invited to share their experiences with the FCA as part of this ongoing project. If you would to share your memories regarding when you joined the FCA, why you joined, what experiences you've most enjoyed as a member and what you would like to see in the future, please mail your response to the FCA or email me personally.

Personal histories that are shared with the Heritage Center require you to sign an informed consent form that allows the document to be used for historical and academic purposes. Consent forms can be mailed to you, are available at the FCA or as facilitator for the project, I can email a consent form to you by request at don0408@hotmail.com.

Submitted by:

Donald Autio

NOTICE: See page 10 for Newsletter subscription information.

CALENDAR

WEEKLY EVENTS

Crafts

Mondays 10 to 2 pm

Finnish American Singers

Mondays 7 to 9 pm

Library

Open Mondays 9 to 2 pm

NikkarinTalo

Mondays 9 am

BI-WEEKLY EVENT

Blood Pressure Readings

2nd and 4th Monday

11 am to 2 pm

NOTE DAY CHANGE

MONTHLY EVENTS

Gift Shop

2nd Monday 12:30 pm

Finnish Conversation Group

2nd Friday 10:00 am

Stamp Club

Last Sunday of Month 2-4 pm

Weavers

2nd Saturday of the month 9-noon

Camera Club

2nd Wednesday of month 12-2 pm

Card and Game Party

1st Wednesday 11-4 pm

MARCH

14 Fish Fry 5-7

16 New Member Potluck 2pm

23 **CLOSED Easter**

26 Pulla/Nisu Bake 10am-2pm

29 Flea Market 9-3

30 Open House 1-4, FASM

Krun Mtg 2-4

6,7,9,11,12,13,14,15,18,19,21,25,26,30-
Rentals

APRIL

11 Dinner 7pm with President Johnson of
Finlandia University Reserve by 4/4

13 Finnish Breakfast 11:45 am-1:30
Krun Mtg 2-4

18 Fish Fry 5-7

19 Craft Show 10-2

20 Open House 1-4, FCA Board

27 FASM Concert 3pm

Krun Mtg 2-4

30 Pulla/Nisu Bake 12am-2pm

1,2,4,5,6,8,9,12,13,15,16,20,22,23,26,29,
30 - Rentals

MAY

3 Vappujuhla Celebration 6pm

11 Mother's Day Brunch Noon-2

16 Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser 5-7pm

17 Cultural Workshop 9am-3pm

Hist Society Annual Mtg

18 Scholarship 2-6

Krun Mtg 2-4

25 Open House 1-4, Garden Club

26 **CLOSED Memorial Day**

28 Pulla/Nisu Bake 10am-2pm

2,6,7,10,11,13,14,16,18,21,28,31-
Rentals

Pasty Sale

April 26 - To reserve call

734-340-4742

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

President Johnson of Finlandia University will be here for dinner on Friday, April 11 at 7 pm. He will speak on the University and you will have the opportunity to ask questions. More details will follow.

At Vappu on May 3, we will be raffling off an Annual Toikka Bird, a Crazy Tie Quilt and an Elegant Evening Purse. You will be receiving tickets in the mail that we encourage you to sell to your friends, family and yourself. This is a very important Fund Raiser for the FCA. We need things within the building that are going to be costly – remember we have been here for over 40 years and things have a habit of wearing out, or need to be changed. We really need the cooperation of the membership to make this a rousing success.

FCA Address
35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
48335-5108
Tel: 248-478-6939
Fax: 248-478-5671
fcacenter@sbcglobal.net
www.finnishcenter.org
Lois Makee, Manager

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FCA SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEW

The new deadline for students to submit applications for the 2008-09 academic year has passed: March 15. A student who hasn't submitted her/his application by this date will have to wait until the next academic year to apply. The Scholarship Committee depends upon the generosity of FCA members to make possible these scholarships, which assist deserving, outstanding young relatives of FCA members with their university expenses.

This month we interview **Graham Kozak**. He is the son of FCA members Tom and Kath (Usitalo) Kozak; and grandson of FCA life member Robert Usitalo and the late Elsie Usitalo. Graham is currently attending the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and hopes to graduate in 2011. If he continues to study for a higher degree, or decides to study abroad, he might finish several semesters later.

Q: What is your major, and what are your career plans?

A: Freshmen in engineering are all technically undeclared, though my plans are to pursue a major in Naval Architecture or Marine Engineering. With the tremendous growth of global economic activity, shipping is becoming increasingly important, and someone has to design bigger and better ships! It opens up career opportunities all over the world—including Finland, which produces icebreakers and cruise ships. Of course, there is always going to be a demand for yachts and pleasure boats, so I could design those.

Note: From Graham's application I learned that he has built two boats, and is restoring two classic cars, so he has already developed useful engineering skills!

Q: What have been some of your favorite classes, and why were they significant to you?

A: Latin is the one elective class that I am taking and I wouldn't be enrolled in it if I didn't enjoy it. I believe all students, particularly engineers, should take a broad range of classes to become better-rounded individuals. I am, after all, at a university and not a technical college. It's a shame that many people stick to the required curriculum. Also, the Technical Writing class I now have involves a lot of hands-on projects (you need to have something to write about technically) and as I'm a hands-on guy, it's great even if it's at 8 in the morning.

Q: What activities do you participate in, either in the community or the university?

A: The first semester was very busy, so I didn't have as much time to explore extracurricular activities as I would like to. I am in Michigan Interactive Investments, a club for people interested in the stock market and finance in general. There are a lot of interesting engineering clubs I'd like to check out in the future.

Q: What work do you do, including paid and volunteer?

A: Like I said, the first semester was busy, and I didn't have much time for anything, let alone work. But this semester, I designed my schedule to have large blocks of free time. I may have a job lined up, so I should probably get to writing that resume as soon as I finish this!

Q: Describe one highlight of your university experience.

A: Ann Arbor may be its own little world, but it sure is a lot of fun. There is an incredible amount of things to do here. I was fortunate enough to see, or rather hear, the cellist Yo-Yo Ma at the Hill Auditorium. Big cities are fortunate to host him, but he came right to me, and I even got a student discount on the tickets. Also, the sense of independence I get from doing things on my own is refreshing. I have to wake myself up every morning for class, make sure I eat right, and stay on top of homework. The university experience is a great experience in and of itself.

Note: From his application, I learned that Graham is a "pretty decent" clarinet player and a capable artist and writer, and that he tries to bring both his right-brain and left-brain interests and skills together creatively.

Q: What advice would you give to high school students about how best to prepare for the university experience and for their career?

A: The biggest thing is to not worry. College is not high school; you have almost limitless options and opportunities to change your mind. I even know some freshmen that are transferring to another college—it's really not a big deal. There is a lot of pressure to perform and get internships, bolster your resume, etc., but in the end, you can't really mess up without trying! You are expected to make mistakes, and some of the mistakes I have made and the lessons I've learned from them have actually been more useful than the classes I made them in. It does help to have an educational goal in mind though; even if you're not sure your major is what you will be doing for the rest of your life, having something to work towards really helps you stay on track, even if you end up switching gears later on.

Q: How has the FCA scholarship helped you meet your educational goals?

A: An unavoidable part of college is dealing with the stress that comes with trying to figure out what you are going to do with the rest of your life, all the while juggling classes, homework, a social life, and occasionally sleep. Money is really the last thing I, or anyone here, wants to be worrying about, and every little bit helps. The FCA scholarship has so far covered all of my books and school supplies, with enough left over for next year, and for this I am very grateful. Also, I'd like to thank the Scholarship Committee and all of the members of the FCA for the scholarship! Being honored in that way really means a lot beyond the cash value.

Louise Hartung, for the Scholarship Committee

FINLAND TODAY

First, according to a recent survey by the research firm, Allianz, Finland is the most competitive country in Europe. It is the only European Union country to full-fill all the criteria for the so-called Lisbon Agenda. The survey measured a country's economic growth, labor productivity, investment, employment levels, education and economic stability. According to the survey, Finland was followed by Ireland, Denmark, and Sweden. The bottom three were France, Austria, and Italy.

March 1, 2008 was the date that Finland switched completely to digital television. For most viewers it already happened in August 2007, but cable companies were allowed to broadcast in analog until this March. It is estimated that 5% of Finnish households still don't have digital TV or the converter box, which means that they can't view any TV programs.

This February was the warmest February in Helsinki on record, and January was the 3rd warmest since records started to be kept in 1900. With no snow on the ground in Helsinki, the Linnanmaki amusement park reopened to record crowds in February. Usually the park is closed from October to the end of March. Said Linnanmaki spokesman, Risto Raikkonen, "Since there is no more snow in Helsinki during winter, Linnanmaki will be open every winter from now on." Linnanmaki is run by a non-profit charity organization, Children's Day Foundation.

Because of the warmer winters in Finland, the harbors and shipping channels are staying ice free. This winter, only three of Finland's eight icebreakers were used. Some of the icebreakers are being converted to other uses such tourism and cable laying.

At the end of 2007, Nokia's share of the world mobile phone market was 40.4%, up from 36.2% at the end of 2006. The number two mobile phone maker, Samsung, increased its share from 11.3% to 13.4%. Motorola's share dropped from 21.5% to 11.9%. The Japanese-Swedish, Sony-Ericsson share was 9% and the Korean manufacturer, LG, was 7.1% Nokia has opened a new design studio in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The design studio will work in partnership with the UniverCidade design school. This is Nokia's second new design studio. Last year Nokia opened design studio in Bangalore, India. All in all, Nokia employs over 300 designers from 34 countries.

Finnair has ordered three more Embraer 190 passenger planes. Currently Finnair is waiting the delivery of three other 190's it has previously ordered. Finnair is already using seven Embraer 190, 100 passenger planes on its regional routes. Also Finnair is using ten Embraer 170, 76 seat planes on its routes. The Embraer jets are built in Brazil.

The rock group Kiss is going to Finland for two concerts in May. Finland must really be "Kiss Country" because the 26,000 tickets for the two concerts in Helsinki sold out in 16 minutes.

Mikael Forssell became the first Finn in history to score a hat trick (3 goals in one game) in the English Premier Soccer League. Forssell's Birmingham team beat Tottenham 4-1. Forssell has scored 27 goals for the Birmingham squad.

And finally, Pastor Heikkinen was visiting the homes of his new congregation. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no one came to the door despite his knocking.

He took out a business card and wrote on the back of the card, "Revelation 3:20", and stuck in the door.

The following Sunday, when the offering was processed, he saw that his card had been returned. Added to the back of the card was, "Genesis 3:10".

Pastor Heikkinen reached for his Bible to see what the message meant. Revelation 3:20 begins, "Behold I stand at the door and knock." When he read Genesis 3:10 he burst out laughing, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."

Markku Ketola,
marketola@yahoo.com

FINNISH AMERICAN SINGERS

Sunday, April 27, at 3:00 pm, we will present our SPRING CONCERT at the FCA. Hank Naasko, Director, always has a fine line-up of beautiful and lively selections presented in his enthusiastic style. Bill Gramzow, our excellent accompanist, will be playing with his usual spirit and skill. Donation is \$10 for adults. Our traditional array of fine sandwiches and desserts will be on the coffee table. We encourage all to attend!

The singers will perform at FinnFest 2008 in Duluth, MN. You are invited to accompany us on our Bianco bus from July 22-27. Almost all of the singers and their leaders will travel on July 22 staying one night in the U.P. and arriving in Duluth on July 23. We'll stay there July 23, 24, and 25 and perform two concerts on July 24. We'll have two days at FinnFest, July 24-25, and leave out on July 26. We'll travel through Thunder Bay and around the northern coast of Lake Superior, stopping at places of Finnish interest and take in Lake Superior's beauty. We'll cross down into Michigan at Soo, Ontario and come home on July 27.

FCA members and friends are invited to travel with us. The cost of the round-trip bus ride is \$260. You need to register at FinnFest (\$65) and pay for five nights of lodging, plus meals. We can share motel rooms to cut costs, if desired. If interested please contact me at 248.887.3538 as soon as possible.

Ilene Yanke

HAPPINESS

Belated 80th birthday greetings to our Leap Year Baby, Ed Hyypio.

Thank you for inviting us to your wonderful party.

*Kay Simo, Irene Karna,
Lil Heikkinen, Nina Ranta,
Maria Hill, Ann Makila,
Judy Snowden, Dagnie Carlson, Harry
Niemi, Peggy Puuri, and Pearl & Ray
Wanhlaja.*

CARD AND GAME PARTY

A new Card and Game Party will be held the first Wednesday of each month from 11 to 4 pm.

Men and women are welcome.

TABLES FOR SALE

We have several nine foot square tables available for sale at \$50 each. These sturdy tables are suitable for indoor use and would come in handy when entertaining for the holidays, hosting parties or having friends over to play cards.

Armitage Catering

Located at the FCA, we cater any event, big or small:

**Weddings/Showers
Anniversaries
Memorial Services
Business Events
Graduation Parties**

Off site catering is also available.
248-921-7561

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5% Discount to FCA members

OVER ON FINN DRIVE

It is snowing out there, faster than I can write. I suspect there will be a project for me in the morning to do some shoveling.

This year March will bring us an unusual early day for Easter Sunday. From reports that I have read, it will take another two hundred years before Easter will again come this early in the Western Christian Church which uses the Gregorian calendar. There is a number to things that goes into setting the date for Easter after a full moon. Anyway the a major lift will come on Easter morning, as we get the renewal of the Easter message. It is great to be a Christian.

We are bound to get a couple of days of warm sunshine to set the stage for Spring time. The Detroit Tigers will have their opening day to play baseball on March 31, 2008. Will there be any frozen bats? It will be nice to get some seeds into my hot box and see that miracle unfold again. It is true too that it is easier to take the boy from the country, than it is to take the country out of the boy.

Sometimes it is not clear whether we should complain about the weather, or not. After all, it is an item that is beyond our control. We can work our different ways to deal with the weather but nothing is going to control it. Our Lord taught us to be careful about murmuring. Too much murmuring, and going from one complaint into the next will consume us in so many ways. Murmuring in our modern day is like going to the complaint department at our local department store, or at your local laundry, or at the city bus company. To and from our movements each day, it could become easy to continue to murmur and complain all day long. We may feel better for making and telling our case and offering our suggestions and opinions to those people down there. After that, it is best we get on to other business and look for some other promising pursues. Most projects will have its problems if it is worth completing.

Enjoy your April (Huhtikuu)

by Frank Gottberg Chairman

MEMORIAL FUND

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 Folk 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: Pearl Wanttaja, 28235 Townley, Madison Heights, MI 48071. Do not send cash through the mail. Deadline is the first day of every month.

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 me at 248-541-0054.

Thank you, Pearl Wanttaja, Chair

NOTE: All memorial donations must be at my home, not at the Finnish Center, by the 1st of the month.

Donations received since the March newsletter are as follows:

In memory of FCA life member Thomas Hanner (1-5-08) donations have been made by Rosalind Wolf, Eleanor Edwards, Evelyn Hayhurst, Patricia Ivanoff, Kathleen Franzen and the FCA.

In memory of Emmanuel Couture (1-6-08) and Eleanore Kaiponen Couture (2-6-85) of Royal Oak, a donation has been made by the Couture Children.

In memory of FCA member Nancy Kangas Floyd (2-1-08) donations have been made by the FCA Blood Pressure Nurses and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member Marie Hakala (2-8-08) donations have been made by Kay Simo, Pearl & Ray Wanttaja, Neil Manley, Neil Manley Jr., Kathleen Boyer, her niece Joyce & Edward Skindell, John Niemi, Sandra Triplett, Vi Hakala and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member Martha Hookana (2-22-08) donations have been made by Lois Makee, Kay Simo and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member Robert "Bob" Hyrkas (1-3-08) donations have been made by Helen Lampi and Paul Granlund.

In memory of FCA life member John "Archie" Kehus (1-26-08) donations have been made by his sister Laina Lampi, Sandy & Dave Scheel, Jackie Scheel, Paul Lampi, Kyle Lampi, by his daughter Sally, Jim & Heather Hackenberg, Elijah Stewart, Emil Makila, Shirley Cleary and Family, Robert & Edith Vaughn, Otter Lake Sportsmen's Club, Eunice Potti Gould, Cathleen Bruder, Joanne Ouellette, Paul Potti, John Potti, Marja Norris and Rosalie Stephens.

In memory of FCA life member Katri Laine (11-14-07) a donation has been made by Jacob & Doris Hayrynen.

In memory of FCA life member Minda Henline (3-19-88) a donation has been made by her daughter Betty & Leonard Holmbo.

In memory of FCA life member Saima Waisanen Palmer (1-31-08) donations have been made by Edith Raski, Ruth Kaarlela, Betty & Leonard Holmbo and Helen Lampi.

In memory of FCA life member Carol Matero Hyrkas (10-21-05) a donation has been made by Helen Lampi.

In memory of FCA life member Herbert "Herb" Piilo (12-5-07) donations have been made by Mary Ann & Arne Hanninen, Elmer Hanninen, Helen Lampi and Finnish American Singers.

The FCA has made donations in memory of life member Helen Luoto (12-19-07) and in memory of Dean Bonney (1-28-08) of Alston, son of member Donn Bonney.

VOLUNTEER BARTENDERS NEEDED

As the number of events held at the FCA continues to increase, we are faced with staffing challenges. In particular, we need bartenders. If you are a member and are interested in becoming a certified bartender, please notify the FCA and plan to attend a class in May (date yet to be determined).

This is a fun way for members to volunteer some time and learn a new skill in the process.

We look forward to seeing you!

GOING PLACES

TRIP NOTES

Please be sure to get your deposits in! We need 30 to 36 deposits at least 30 days prior to the trip or we lose the bus. If you leave your car at the FCA while on a trip, please park at the north end of the property. If you park near the main or lounge entrances you are using spaces needed for other functions.

FOR BORDER CROSSING: You must have two pieces of valid ID—EITHER a passport (current or expired) OR a certified birth certificate (not a photocopy) OR a Certificate of Citizenship. AND YOU MUST ALSO have a valid driver's license or government ID card with photo.

Four Winds Casino, New Buffalo - Also optional Blue Chip Casino. Two days, April 21 & 22, \$125. Will be staying at Holiday Inn Express. The Four Winds is a brand new casino. Includes incentive packages of \$35 and Bk.

Point Edward Casino, Sarnia - 1 day, Wednesday, May 28, \$10. Includes incentive package of \$10 in coin and a \$10 food voucher. Be at FCA by 9:45 for 10 am departure. Return about 7 to 7:30 pm.

"Church Basement Ladies" at Turkeyville - 1 day, Thursday, August 28, \$69. Includes Marjorie Cornwell's all-you-can-eat turkey buffet. Be at FCA at 9:15 am for 9:30 departure. We will return at about 6:15 pm.

Sneak Peak - Soaring Eagle Casino with Charlie Prose show, October 21, \$34 with \$20 incentive package. More info later.

The Ren Cen Tour and Diamond Jack Cruise is still being planned. A Caribbean Cruise is also in the planning.

SOCIALLY SPEAKING

First, I want to thank all of you who attended the March 14-15 Eero Saarinen events at Cranbrook. At this writing, I have close to 60 tickets sold. We are helping Cranbrook and Finlandia Foundation National with this participation, plus we're having some enjoyable learning and social experiences.

Thirty-six letters have been mailed to new FCA members for 2007. We're looking forward to the New Member Welcome Potluck on March 16 to get to know these members better.

The Social/Women's Club event for April is:

TRADITIONAL FINNISH BREAKFAST

Just this one time, there will be a Finnish Breakfast held on the regular brunch Sunday in place of the brunch that Pearl Wanttaja and her helpers usually do. We did this kind of breakfast in late October of 2007, and Pearl liked it so much that she suggested our doing it on a regular brunch Sunday. So, all of you brunch regulars and others, we want you to come! It will be on Sunday, April 13 from noon-1:30 pm. If you come earlier, Edith Raski

will have coffee ready for you. All items will be a la carte and include: orange and apple juice; puuro (hot cooked oatmeal) with brown or white sugar and milk; boiled eggs; breakfast sandwiches with Rieska, lean ham, Swiss cheese and low-fat salami; Piirakat with muna voita (egg butter); and Pulla/Nisu with butter and jam. And, Pearl says we must have viili! These choices are healthful and if eaten carefully, I have found them to be conducive to weight loss.

Women of the FCA Women's Club will prepare some of the foods ahead of time. The McCues have already volunteered to help on the Sunday of the brunch, so others of you who work at Sunday Brunch are encouraged to call me 248.887.3538 to offer your help, as we do not have a large number in our Women's Club.

Kiitos,

Ilene Maki Yanke, Social

FROM THE FCA LIBRARY

Among the newspapers we receive in our library is AMERICAN UUTISET. I think one of the articles that appeared would interest any of you who are interested in Finnish customs. I have received permission from the author, Riitta Eloranta, to translate and print her article, ALL KINDS OF NEIGHBORS which appeared on January 3, 2006. It follows:

One who has lived in many countries encounters many types of neighbors. Finns greet only people they know. In the German countryside one greets anyone one meets. In passing, a few words about the weather are also exchanged. Someone on the same street whom one knows only casually might greet you wholeheartedly and invite you in for a cup of coffee.

The British will engage quite easily in casual conversation. They might even express their opinions about current politics. The Spanish are rather shy of foreigners, but warm up to you if you speak their language.

Americans relate to their neighbors and people in general more easily than anyone else. They find it easy to express a cheerful "Hi, how are you!" And that's not the end of it, if one has time to spare. Americans are interested in where you are from, what kind of work you do, and sometimes even ask how much you make!

In New York no one is surprised at your accent or different ways. In that great metropolitan melting pot no one wonders at anything. When one is accustomed to that kind of life, it's difficult to adapt to another kind of atmosphere.

After many years in New York we decided we wanted to see another side of America, so we moved to Arkansas. Northerners warned us: "Southerners don't like northerners." Soon we saw that we were not considered to be in that group. We were greeted and chatted with. Some wondered what in the world had brought us there. It sufficed to say that we became tired of the Manhattan traffic. We were left with warm memories of those neighbors. They helped us in every way they could, and suggested ways in which we could meet more people. Many became very good friends with whom we still remain in contact.

Then when one moves to Finland, it is difficult to tolerate the tongue-tied locals. One does not greet strangers, and one's greeting is not even acknowledged. A smile is hard to come by. The people look sober or angry. I remember one instance when my husband said "Good day" to a neighbor, who couldn't bring himself to reply. The neighbor so ab-

horred another encounter that when he saw my husband approaching, he moved to another path or turned around.

In our present housing, almost all of the neighbors will now say "Hi!" The people in the next building are still rather cautious, although we have lived here already for four years.

Does her article surprise you? I think many American Finns assume that because their grandparents came from Finland, they know Finnish customs. That's not necessarily so! We have materials in the library that will help acquaint you with modern Finland.

Lillian Lehto, Librarian

CULTURAL

Kruunuhaat meetings are held from 2-4 pm on Sundays: March 30, April 13, May 18, June 22, July 27, August 24, and many in September. If you have agreed to participate, PLEASE mark your calendars and come to the meetings. You will all be guided as to what you are expected to do in the wedding and how you are to dress. Some Sundays will be scheduled for the dancing but those dates haven't been set as of yet.

Still wondering if anyone is interested in hand puppets? We can make them and do Kalevala stories, Moomin tales or Finnish Folk Tales. Please let the FCA know. I realize it's a lot of work but wouldn't it also be a lot of fun!

A Vappujuhla (beginning of Spring) Celebration will be on May 3 at 6:00 pm. This is fun family event that includes dinner, entertainment, a raffle with prizes and dancing. Please see the insert for more details.

Weavers meet on the second Saturday of the month from 9 am-noon. We'll be raffling a crazy quilt and other items for an FCA fundraiser. Our barn loom is ready for carpet weaving.

The Stamp Club meets the last Sunday of the month from 2-4 pm. Come join us. Our Finnish collection is coming together but we are still missing some stamps. When you come to the FCA, look at the hall display cabinet to see what we have been working on.

Culturally,
Ruth Mannisto, Chair

GARDENS

April showers bring May flowers? As long as the snowy days of winter are behind us, all of us in the Finlandia Garden Club will be excited. The March meeting had 13 of us excited about the new growing season with anticipation of dirty fingernails and new green growth on our minds.

The next club meeting will be 10 am on April 1 at the FCA where we'll make an assessment of the gardens and take stock of the equipment and supplies required for another hard year's work in the gardens. Plans for this year include expanding the vegetable gardens to include up to 20 plots. Club members will erect new fences and the plots will be tilled and amended. Any individuals or groups interested in leasing a vegetable plot for \$25 for the year should contact Gayle Gullen for the particulars. Be aware that the garden club members will NOT be responsible for the upkeep of any vegetable plot except their own. Untended sites will either be tilled or useable produce given to charity as determined by the group. No refunds will be made and negligent individuals will not be allowed to lease next year. If you know a school or scout group that needs a plot for a community project, don't forget the FCA garden sites.

What's in a name? You may ask yourself that when it comes to the numerous gardens surrounding the FCA. If you would like to name a particular garden site or perhaps honor someone with a memorial tribute you now have the opportunity. For \$75, a plaque with the new name of the garden and either a memorial tribute to a loved one or your name will be erected in your newly named garden.

Anyone with an interest in gardening regardless of their abilities or age is encouraged to become involved in the gardens. Once warm weather arrives you will see many of us at various times and days working outside around the FCA. We hope to have at least one evening per week (likely Monday) for those members who work days and have a few hours one evening to help out. Many hands will lessen the workload of maintaining six acres of gardens.

Call 734-453-1379 for more information about the Garden Club, or email me at aylegullen@hotmail.com.

Gayle Gullen

GIFT SHOP NEWS

Gift Shop hours are from 10 am to 4 pm on Wednesday and from 11 am to 3 pm on Saturday, or whenever the FCA has an event.

Rada knives are available in boxed sets or individually. Did you know that black handled knives are dishwasher safe? Are your knives getting dull? The Rada knife sharpener is here. The Rada catalog is available for any special orders and delivered in one week.

Also available:

- *Presidentti Coffee
- *Fazer Dark Chocolate bars, Hazelnut Milk Chocolate bars, Cranberry-Vodka filled Chocolates
- *Halva Black Licorice
- *Panda Red Raspberry Licorice
- *Cardemon Pods
- *Mugs for adults and children
- *Finnish Cookbooks
- *Finnish Greeting Cards – *Birthday, Get Well, Marriage Congratulations, Sympathy and Thank you*
- *3x5 flag- \$40, and a wooden pole with adjustable ceramic bracket- \$40. Or, both for \$70.

Ball candles are available in a variety of colors for \$2.90 each, or 2 for \$5.00. At this reduced price, that's a savings of \$2.00!

Spring is just around the corner, so come and buy a cap at 50% off. If a visor is preferred, we have those as well for a reduced price of \$4.00, while supplies last.

Coming soon:

- *T-Shirts for children and adults
- *Aarikka Jewelry
- *Mugs
- *Gifts for the home
- *Iittala Crystal, Bowls & Candleholders
- *Mustards and other foods
- *Books

Always on hand: Maltex and Trenary Toast.

By purchasing from the FCA Gift Shop, you are supporting YOUR Finnish Center. When there's something you'd like to find here, please inform us.

Gift Shop Manager, Margaret Laurila

ROSTER CHANGES

ADDRESS CHANGE

Fredrickson, Hilda
c/o Heartland Health Care
105 N. Haggerty Road
Room 20-B
Plymouth, Michigan 48170

Heliste, Elna
38168 N. Jean
Westland, Michigan 48186
(734) 728 2465

Makinen, Mildred
42000 Seven Mile Road - Apt 112
Northville, Michigan 48167
(248) 773 7280

Mikko, Bruce
35080 N. 8 Mile - Apt 2
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335
(248) 719 6515

NEW MEMBER

Ouelette, Joanne Potti
31250 John Wallace Road - #415
Evergreen, CO 80439
Pikkujo@live.com

ADD E-MAIL

Felix, Elsie
efelix@wowway.com

Crissman, John & Connie
jerissman8@sbcglobal.net

NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGE

Gayl Harkonen-Szpakowski
9515 Beach Park Road
South Lyon, Michigan 48138
(248) 486 8045

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NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

Reading your newsletter online will save paper and help reduce printing and postage expenses for the FCA. Please see page 11 and tell us if you want to stop the mailed version of the newsletter. If you stop receiving it by mail, plan to read it on our website (www.finnishcenter.org) as it **will not** be emailed to you directly. Past issues are also available on the website.

NOTE:

Beinning in May, there will be a subscription fee of \$30.00/year for the FCA Newsletter.

If you wish to continue getting the newsletter by mail, please send in your check for \$30.00 and provide your correct mailing address.

Please use the form below:

Newsletter Subscription:

I want to receive the FCA News by mail:

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ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: AD DEADLINE IS APRIL 5 FOR THE MAY ISSUE
 EDITOR CONTACT INFO: LOIS MAKEE
 LAYOUT AND DESIGN: GLENN OR KAMELA
 E-MAIL: fcacenter@sbcglobal.net

FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS

FCA News is published 11 times annually (June-July issue is combined) by and for members of the Finnish Center Association. Circulation is about 1,500 of your fellow FCA members, and others, per issue.

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, b&w ad, per three month period:

3 month rate1" ad - \$30.00. 1.5" - \$45.00 2" ad - \$60.00

Pay for full year1" ad - \$100.00. 1.5" - \$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

Note: Starting with the May issue, there will be a subscription fee of \$30/year for the FCA newsletter. See page 10 for more information on ordering your subscription.

OR, enjoy reading the current issue, as well as past issues, of the FCA News free of charge online at our website: www.finnishcenter.org/news. You will need the free Adobe Acrobat Reader program available from www.adobe.com.

WOMEN'S CLUB

April 30 is the Pulla/Nisu baking date. It had to be moved due to a rental. We start at 10 am and usually have the hot loaves ready by 1:30 pm, or a bit later. You may preorder your loaves, come to pick them up, or have us freeze them for later pick-up. Costs of milk, butter, etc. are up so we must ask \$4.50 per loaf.

If you've never come to bake, please try to join us! We have a pizza lunch as we wait for the dough to rise. Our Pulla/Nisu usually sells in two days. Over half of the 30 loaves baked were sold on the last baking day. Baking in March were Char Lytiakainen, Edith Raski, Ruth Kaarlela, Lillian Heikkinen, Dagnie Carlson and Ilene Yanke.

Kiitos,

Ilene Yanke

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FCA Membership Form

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Today's Date: _____ Renewal Month: _____

Please type or print clearly name(s) (Include first name and, if applicable, maiden name)

Applicant: Mr/Ms/Miss _____

Applicant (spouse) Mr/Ms/Mrs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____

- Annual individual membership: \$25.00 for one member (one vote)
- Annual family membership: \$35.00 for applicant spouse and children under 18 (one vote)
- Life membership: *\$250.00 (one vote)
- Life membership: *\$300.00 (two votes)

*Life membership requires that applicant has been a member in good standing for minimum of one year.

Are you of Finnish descent? _____ Is second applicant of Finnish descent? _____

Please make check payable to FCA and Send to :

Finnish Center Association, Membership, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108

Two signatures are required for new applications only:

Recommended by: _____

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To join or renew your FCA membership simply fill out and detach the above form and mail to: Finnish Center Association, Membership, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108

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