



FCA News

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

September 2006

Special points of interest:

Kantele Workshop
October 7, 2006, 12 noon

Learn to play a five or ten string Kantele.

Three great instructors:

Linda Horton
Harvey Horton
Laura Malkamaki

The instructors are members of the "Kantele Players of Lake Erie" Ohio. Registration cost is \$50, which includes instruction and lunch. They will be performing a concert on Sunday, October 8th at 2 pm. A CD will be available for purchase.

If you must purchase the Kantele call the FCA by September 15th.

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An Invitation

You are cordially invited to the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Finnish Center Association on Sunday, October 1st. This very special day will begin with the Soitoniekat's Jam Session from 12 noon until 2 p.m. in the Lounge. These musicians will be commemorating their 10th anniversary, as they came into being at the FCA's 30th Anniversary. Come to listen.

The Anniversary Dinner in the Main Hall begins at 2 p.m. Cocktails at 1:00 pm. Armitage will serve salad with dressings, and a bread basket, at each table. Following that, a buffet of salmon, pork, oven-roasted potatoes, seasonal vegetable, and anniversary cake with ice cream. Cost of the dinner is \$30.00 per person.

Every family group in attendance will receive a 40th Anniversary Booklet being written by various members, edited by Luise Leppanen, and containing photos from the past and the present. Glenn Kujansuu will add the photos and compile the booklet, to be printed in black and white on glossy paper.

We look forward to hearing a 30-minute concert by "Cantate", an excellent acapella singing group directed by our member, Gene Branstrom. We are delighted the Consul General of Finland, Osmo Lippanen, will come from New York to be our featured speaker.

Reservations may be made between now and Sept. 22nd. Open seating, reservations for a party of 8 can be made.

Please do NOT call in your reservation, SEND YOUR CHECK in by Friday Sept. 22 to the FCA, as only 200 guests can be seated. Hope you can join us!

Ilene Maki Yanke, Anniversary Chairman
Markku Ketola, Anniversary Co-Chairman

REMINDER

We are gratefully accepting donations to offset the cost of printing the 40th Anniversary booklet. With the various reflections and 21st century articles, there will be several new photographs that will certainly delight you.

Please address your envelope to "Finnish Center Anniversary". We thank you in advance for your consideration, as it is most appreciated.

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Wed Joint Board Mtg. 6:30pm
 8 Fri Scrapbooking Class 6pm
 Buffet 5-7 with Dancing
 reserve by Wed \$12.75 + tax
 at the door \$14 + tax
 10 Sun Brunch 11:30am – 2pm
 General Meeting 2:30pm
 11 Mon Finnish American Singers 7pm
 13 Wed Camera Club 2:00 PM
 15 Fri Book Club 7pm
 16 Sat Finnish Language Class 10am
 17 Sun Cultural Day 2pm
 18 Mon Finnish American Singers 7pm
 20 Wed Senior Luncheon 11:30 am
 Reserve by Sat 248-437-0350
 Video by Lari Korpela
 22 Fri NO BUFFET
 23 Sat Flea Market 9am-3pm
 Finnish Language Class 10am
 24 Sun Stamp Club 2-4pm
 25 Mon Finnish American Singers 7pm
 28 Thu Women's Club 10am
 29 Fri Fish Fry 5-7pm
 30 Sat Finnish Language Class 10am

OCTOBER

- 1 Sun Jam Session 12-2pm
 40th Anniversary Celebration
 Cocktails 1pm - Dinner 2pm
 2 Mon Finnish American Singers 7pm
 4 Wed Joint Board Mtg. 6:30pm
 7 Sat Finnish Language Class 10am
 Kantele Workshop 12noon
 8 Sun Brunch 11:00 am-1:30pm
 Lake Erie Kantele Players
 Concert 2pm
 9 Mon Finnish American Singers 7pm
 11 Wed Camera Club 2:00 PM
 13 Fri Buffet 5-7 with Dancing
 reserve by Wed \$12.75 + tax
 at the door \$14 + tax
 14 Sat Finnish Language Class 10am
 15 Sun Finnish American Historical
 Society 2pm
The Survivors discussion
 16 Mon Finnish American Singers 7pm
 18 Wed Senior Luncheon
 Reserve by Sat 248-437-0350
 Roger Hewlett, accordionist
 21 Sat Finnish Language Class 10am
 22 Sun Scholarship Reception 2pm

- 23 Mon Finnish American Singers
 7pm
 26 Thu Women's Club 10am
 27 Fri Buffet 5-7 pm
 Reserve by Wed \$12.75 + tax
 at the door \$14 + tax
 28 Sat Finnish Language Class
 10am
 Vegas Night 7:00pm
 29 Sun Children's Halloween
 Stamp Club 2-4 pm
 30 Mon Finnish American Singers
 7pm

NOVEMBER

- 1 Wed Joint Board Mtg. 6:30pm
 4 Sat Finnish Language Class
 10am
 8 Wed Camera Club 2:00 PM
 10 Fri Buffet 5-7 pm
 Reserve by Wed \$12.75 + tax
 at the door \$14 + tax
Christmas Greetings due
 11 Sat Finnish Language Class
 10am
 Scandinavian Bazaar
 12 Sun Brunch 11am-2pm
 General Meeting 2:30pm
 16 Thu Women's Club 10am
 18 Sat Finnish Language Class
 10am
 Craft Show

Blood Pressure reading: 2nd and 4th
 Wednesday's at 11-2

Study Group meet: Thursday's at noon.

Nikkarintalo meets: Monday's at 9 am

MOVIE NIGHT CONTINUES

This fall we will again show movies of interest to members and friends after the Friday Night Buffet. Sign up Wednesday and see what we have scheduled for film lovers. Your donation will be given to various FCA organiza-

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

OFFICERS

Kristen Kreiner, Chairman
 Frank Gottberg, Vice Chairman
 Norbert Leppanen, Secretary
 Brenda Sinclair, Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1 Year
 Norbert Leppanen, Pearl Wanttaja
 David Sharpe

2 Year
 Gene Belttari, Kristen Kreiner
 Lari Korpela

3 Year
 Frank Gottberg, Neil Lehto
 Fritz Putkela

ALTERNATES

Glenn Kujansuu, Jack Kentola
 Henry Naasko

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Ruth Kaarlela, Hilikka Ketola
 Neil Manley, Jr.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Building & Grounds

Frank Gottberg, Ray Wanttaja

Cultural

Ruth Mannisto

Education

Ruth Kaarlela

Finance

Bob Erickson, Delores Aebersold

Gift Shop

Brenda Sinclair

Mailing

Lari Korpela

Membership

Shirley Brooks

Publicity & Publications

Anne Snudden

Social

Ilene Yanke

Sunshine Lady

Margaret Laurila

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Paul C. Hendrickson, Chairman

Tapiola Village

Laura Fultz, Manager

248-471-3802

Freedom Square

Mary O'Brien, Manager

248-442-7250

PASTIES ARE COMING!

On September 29th and 30th, we'll be making 800 pasties under the leadership of Ruth Mannisto. All FCA members and friends are encouraged to set time aside to come help us peel and prepare vegetables on Fri. evening, beginning at 6 p.m. Then, on Saturday at about 8 a.m., the dough will be rolled out, the pasties will be shaped, filled, and baked, and be ready for pick-up by noon.

Since the number is set at 800, be sure to call in your order to Malstroms (734.340.4742) as soon as possible. There is answering machine to leave orders. Each pasty is \$3.50

SENIOR HOUSING

The article in the August Newsletter (page 9) was submitted by Paul Hendrickson. Sorry for the omission of the credit line.

CULTURAL

Sunday, September 17th is Cultural Day. This is a good time to learn more about your Finnish heritage. Displays of Finnish artifacts, demonstrations and some Finnish foods. Bring the children, teens, grandparents, friends and neighbors. Come and enjoy the Voyleipäpöytä (smorgasbord). Remember to wear your costume.

On Saturday, October 7th we will have a kantele workshop at 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to learn to play the instrument of Finland. Registration cost is \$50, which includes the instruction, and lunch. You must have a 5 or 10 string kantele for the class. These can be ordered through the FCA. Our teachers, the Lake Erie Kantele Players will perform a concert on Sunday, October 8th at 2pm.

WOMEN'S CLUB

On Thursday, Sept. 28th, we will resume making pulla/nisu after the summer break. All of you interested in learning how to make this favorite coffee bread are invited to join us regulars at 10 a.m., or a bit later. A pizza lunch is served once we have the dough rising. By about 1:15 p.m., you may stop by for your fresh pulla at \$3 per loaf.

ARTIST

Barbara Eko Murphy has donated a second painting to the Finnish Center Association. Two of her paintings now hang in the manager's office. The third one is in the hallway leading to the Gift Shop.

We also have some of her paintings and prints for sale in the Gift Shop. Hopefully this will encourage other Finnish artists to share some of their works with us.

A very large THANK YOU to Barbara for so generously sharing her art with us.

WEAVERS

Meet on the second Saturday of the month from 9 am to noon. We have an antique Barn Loom warped to weave Rag Rugs. Also have a table loom warped and ready to weave Karelian Red Pick placemats or table runners. You may weave on either, please make arrangements with the Weavers. Don't know how? NO problem, we can show you.

The STAMP CLUB meets the last Sunday of the month from 2 to 4 pm. You are welcome to come and learn about stamps with us.

Ruth Mannisto

FINLAND TODAY

First, Finnish ski jumper Janne Ahonen flies through the air during the winter months, and "flies" on the ground during the summer months. During the summer Janne Ahonen is a drag racer. And a good one.

Recently at the Gardermoen track in Norway, Ahonen set a new European record for his class at 6.98 seconds for the quarter mile drag track. A week earlier in Sweden, at Europe's largest drag race competition, with 128 teams racing, Ahonen again won his class. Ahonen is the Nordic countries' point leader in drag racing. His teammate on the Eagle Racing Team, Antti Horto, is in second place. In the middle of September, Ahonen will again trade his dragster for a pair of jumping skis.

Nokia has opened a Flagship Store on Chicago's Magnificent Mile shopping area on Michigan Avenue. The store is like a high-end boutique. With world music playing, the walls softly glowing with changes in color. The phones are individually displayed on pedestals, like pieces of art, with a brochure. In the back of the store is a small mini store where they sell Nokia's luxury Vertue line. These phones sell for \$19,000 each. My question is, what does a \$19,000 phone do?

The Mint of Finland is the largest producer of Euro coins. Their latest contract is to make 300 million coins for the Slovenian Central Bank. Since Slovenia is one of the new members of the European Union, it will begin the use of the Euros in January. This year the Mint of Finland is also making Euros for Ireland and Luxembourg. In the second biggest deal in their history, the Mint of Finland is also making new coins for Thailand.

UPM Raflatac, a division of UPM which is one of the world's largest forest products companies, will be building a new plant in Dixon, Illinois in the northwestern part of the state. The Tampere, Finland based company will expand its U.S. production of pressure sensitive labelstock. UPM Raflatac, a world leader in labelstock, has 11 factories in 5 continents, including one in North Carolina.

For the first time ever, Finland has appointed a foreigner to coach its cross country ski teams. Magnar Dalen of Norway, has signed a 4 year contract to coach the Finns

toward the the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver. The 42 year old Dalen was the Swedish cross country ski coach from 1998-2002. Evaluating the Finnish teams Dalen said, "I believe the women will be in the fight for gold medals in next year's world championships in Sapporo. With the men's team, we have two, three years of hard work and training ahead of us." The Finnish cross country ski teams were left in shambles following the 2001 doping scandal.

In the European Swimming Championships held in Budapest, Hungary, Finland's Joonas Puhakka won the gold medal in the one meter springboard event. He also won the same event in 2001. In the 3 meter dive, Puhakka got the bronze medal.

Finns are using pig manure to clean ponds? Finnish engineers have discovered that by pouring pig manure into ponds contaminated with metals, it will in time clean the ponds. The pig manure contains a bacteria that binds metals that are in the water, causing them to sink to the bottom. It takes about 2 to 4 years for the bacteria to get their job done.

And finally:

Heikki: Say Matti, how are you and your girl friend Aino doing?

Matti: Not so good, I think we have broken off.

Heikki: What happened?

Matti: Well, one day Aino comes up to me and says that we can't afford to buy beer anymore and that I have to quit. But, then I saw her spending \$65 on make-up. So I asked her how come I had to give up stuff and not her? She said she needed the make-up to look pretty for me. So I told her that was what the beer was for. I don't think she coming back.

Markku Ketola
marketola@yahoo.com

VEGAS NIGHT

Come and try your luck, if you don't know how, we will assist you. October 28th from 7pm to midnight - Admission \$2 each. Games will be "Black Jack", "Maverick Poker", and "Let it Ride" with \$1 To \$5 bets. Food and beverages will be available.

FINNISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Classes will be held on Saturday September 16th to November 18th from 10am to 12noon. The Instructor is Kaisa Mikkola, who will be using *Teach Yourself Finnish* by Terttu Leney. The book can be purchased at Barnes and Noble or Borders.

Register at the first class on September 16th, tuition is \$35. Questions? Maria Hill 248-478-9638 or Ruth Kaarlela 248-437-1205.

SUNSHINE LADY

Many thanks to Marge Thorpe for being our Sunshine Lady and for sending cards of good cheer to members for years.

Margaret Laurila has consented to be our new Sunshine Lady. She sends cards of cheer and get-well cards to members. Call Margaret at 248-356-4522 to let her know whom you would like an FCA card sent to.

SCRAPBOOKING

Learn how to make your scrapbook colorful and interesting. We will be starting a Scrapbooking Class on Friday September 8th at 6pm, fee is \$15. Call the FCA to register – space is limited. If you would like to assist us in making the FCA scrapbooks more appealing and up-to-date, please call the FCA, we really could use the help.

Finnish American Singers

Finnish-American Singers of Michigan commence rehearsals for 2006-2007 Season

The Finnish-American singers will be starting their rehearsals again from 7 pm to 9 pm , Monday September 11th.

After an active three-concert program this summer by eight of our singers, including Bill Gramzow, our accompanist and assistant conductor at Finn Fest 2006 in Oregon and Washington this summer, we are fired up to start again.

We are a group of twenty active singers and are looking for voices of all parts: soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Auditions are not required, nor is the ability to read music as well as a knowledge of the Finnish language.

We hope to see you join this fun group that performs Finnish, English and other World music of all periods-Renaissance to Modern!

Kiitos,

Vickie Kimler
Publicity Co-Chair

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, FinnWeavers, 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. Please do not send cash through the mail.

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

Since the last newsletter and up to August 11, donations to the Memorial Fund are as follows:

In memory of **Charles "Ray" Martin** (6-8-06) of Osseo, WI, a donation has been made by Shirley and Al Burke. Ray was the brother of member Francis Martin.

In memory of **Martha Kotaniemi Towns** (6-30-06) of Novi, donations have been made by her sisters Helen Rickard and Nina Ranta.

In memory of FCA life member **Ralph Mannisto** (8-8-06) donations have been made by Fritz Putkela, Pearl and Ray Wanttaja, Lil Heikkinen, Randy Wanttaja, John Saetta, Roger Wanttaja, Peggy Puuri, Eleanor and Will Manley, Kay Simo, Charlotte Lytikainen, Lois Makee and the FCA.

In memory of member **Carmen Kauble** (8-10-06) donations have been made by Kay Simo, Becky Trafford, Pearl and Ray Wanttaja, Lois Makee and the FCA.

In memory of **Erma Makela Burckman** (8-11-06) of Chassell, a donation has been made by Pearl and Ray Wanttaja. Erma was the cousin of member Eleanor Manley.

In memory of FCA member **Harley Gould** (3-9-06) donations have been made by Francis and Margaret Terrill, Raymond and Mary Taskila and Lois Makee.

In memory of FCA life member **Douglas "Doug" O'Brien** (4-12-06) donations have been made by Charlotte Opie and Lil Waara.

In memory of FCA member **Wally Maki** (7-10-97) a donation has been made by his wife Blanche.

In memory of FCA life member **Earl Bessonon** (7-22-94) a donation has been made by his wife Eva.

In memory of FCA life member **Miriam Raitanen Jarvi** (3-9-06) a donation has been made by her niece Marna Raitanen.

In memory of **James Mayry** (12-19-05) of Dearborn, donations have been made by Rafael and Elvi Saviniemi, Sandra and Pericles Polyzois and Lois Makee. Jim was the brother of members Nancy Nurmi, Millie Aho and Willard Mayry.

In memory of FCA member **August Palo** (2-6-89) a donation has been made by his wife Frances.

In memory of FCA life members **Lillian Ahonen** (8-21-04) and **Eino Ahonen** (10-28-85) a donation has been made by Eva Bessonon.

In memory of FCA life members **Pauline Pullin** (6-3-06) and **Joseph Pullin** (6-10-06) a donation has been made by Frances Palo.

In memory of FCA life member **Francis Keskinen** (6-24-06) donations have been made by Shirley and Al Burke, Sharon and Arvo Parkila, Gary and Gail Burke, Bryan and Jeanette Burke and Kris and Will Will.



HAPPINESS FUND . . .

Happiness is a trip to an outstanding FinnFest with the Finnish American Singers, who performed beautifully.

Ruth Kaarlela and
Edith Raski

Going Places

TRIP NOTES

Please be sure to get your deposits in! We need 30 to 36 deposits 30 days prior to the trip, or we lose the bus.

If you leave your car at the Finnish Center 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 I.D., 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 I.D. card with photo.

Point Edward Casino, Sarnia

1 day, Thursday, September 14, \$17. Includes a \$10 incentive package. Be at FCA by 9:45 am for 10 am departure. Return about 6 pm. Don't forget proper I.D.

(Cont'd on page 11)

(cont'd from page 8 From the Library)

FOXY, FINNISH FOLK TALES FOR CHILDREN. An English translation.

PEIKKO, THE FOOLISH OGRE. English translations of Finnish folk tales for children.

BEAR, FINNISH FOLK TALES FOR CHILDREN. An English translation.

KORVATUNTURI, TALES FROM LAND OF SANTA CLAUS. Written and illustrated by Pekka Vuori.

A GODLY HERITAGE. A historical view of the Laestadian revival and development of the Apostolic Lutheran Church in America.

PLAIN FOLK: NORTH DAKOTA'S ETHNIC HISTORY. Title speaks for itself

HISTORY OF ROLLA FINNS. A companion book to the above.

IN RETROSPECT. A beautifully illustrated publication of the Michigan Nature Association regarding Michigan's natural resources and their conservation.

MANNERHEIM, MARSHALL OF FINLAND. An excellent biography.

We look forward to seeing you in the library!

Lillian Lehto, Librarian

FROM THE FCA LIBRARY

Here is the list I promised you in the last newsletter of the new books we have acquired during the summer. They are now on the shelves ready for your reading pleasure.

FINLAND, THE LAND OF A THOUSAND LAKES by Stefania Belloni. Profusely illustrated in color.

FINLAND by Sinikka Salokorpi. A look at Finland from another perspective, beginning from Stone Age artists to Santa Claus. Highly illustrated.

FINLAND, LAND OF MUSIC AND NATURE by Antti Hayrynen and others. About Finnish music and musicians.

KOIRAMAEN MARTTA JA RUUNEPERI by Mauri Kunnas. The adorable Koiramaki characters of Mauri Kunnas learn about Finnish history. Finnish text, good practice reading for adult Finnish language students.

SAAMENMAA, LAND OF THE SAAME by Pekka Antikainen. Finnish and English text, beautifully illustrated.

SAIMAA, A LIVING LAKE edited by Esko Kuusisto. An introduction to southeastern Finland around Lake Saimaa.

NORTHERN LIGHTS by Martti Rikkonen and others. Unusual pictures of the Northern Lights, with text.

ARCTIC A LA CARTE edited by Manne Stenros and Erik Hornmalm. All about the Arctic, plus recipes for Lapland specialties.

V AASA edited by Veli-Matti Laitinen. All about the capital of the province that was the original home of many of our ancestors.

OULU by Tuomo-Juhani Tapio. If your ancestors weren't from Vaasanlaani,

they were probably from Oulunlaani.

FINLAND TODAY by Raino Suikkari. A look at modern Finland.

ISLAND PASTURES by Leif Lindgren. Pictures the Finnish countryside.

BABUSKAN KANSSA by Nina Suominen. A Finnish grandmother's stories of her Russian Orthodox background. Very informative. Finnish text, suggested for Finnish language students.

ERIKOINEN TAPAUS. Brief unusual happenings garnered by Markku Karumo from **HELSINGIN SANOMA T.** In Finnish, but same recommendation as the two previous books.

SANOISTA KAUNEIMMAT. Short quotations in Finnish, appropriate for greetings, congratulations and well-wishes.

NO HOME FOR US HERE by Jukka Rislakki and Eila Lahti-Argutina. About the annihilation of thousands of Finns from Russian soil by Stalin's purges.

FINLAND, A CULTURAL LONE WOLF by Richard D. Lewis. About modern Finland, an accomplished nation with extraordinary people.

FINNISH FOLKLORE by Leea Virtanen and Thomas DuBois. Not only folklore, but also ethnic information about all regions of Finland.

FENNI: THE FINNS AMONG US by Art Jura. A history of the Finns in New England and beyond.

GIFT by Joseph Damrell. A novel of the Upper Peninsula.

OTAVAN SUURI SATUKIRJA edited by Mary Hoffman. Well-known children's stories in Finnish. Good reading

practice for Finnish language students.

FROM FINLAND WITH LOVE by Roman Schatz. Impressions of Finland and the Finns by a German-born writer living in Helsinki since 1986. A little on the raunchy side, but funny, especially if you have ever visited in Finland!

VUODEN VITSI PORSSI edited by Arto Manninen. A collection of the best Finnish jokes for 2005 in Finnish, but each is short, so give it a try even if your Finnish is rusty.

KALLELA-KIRJA. Memoirs and drawings of Akseli Gallen-Kallela. In Finnish, worth the effort to try to read even just bits and pieces.

CULTURE SMART! FINLAND by Terttu Leney. A quick guide to customs and etiquette.

THE BRIDE OF LIFE by Eeva Joenpelto. A novel by one of Finland's famous authors translated into English.

ATENEUM GUIDE. Pictures with commentary from the Atheneum, the art museum in Helsinki.

SISU MOTHER by Lempi Kahanen-Wilson. A Finnish-American memoir of Elsa, an evacuee from Karalia.

FINLAND. An Insight Guide, a good introduction to Finland.

TURKU by Jarmo Virmavirta. A beautifully illustrated introduction to Turku.

FINLAND LAND OF BEAUTY by Anne Saarenoja. Beautiful color photographs from all over Finland.

(Cont'd on Page 7)

SUGAR ISLAND AND KARELIA

Mark your calendar for an interesting afternoon on Sunday, October 15 at 2pm in the FCA Lounge.

Charlotte Lytikainen and Joyce Keskitalo will lead a discussion of the film *The Survivors* – the story of a family that left Sugar Island to live in Karelia. Charlotte and Joyce will share their experiences of visits to Sugar Island and Karelia.

A coffee hour will follow. Everyone is most welcome to come.

Ruth Kaarlela
Finnish American Historical Society

FINNISH EXCHANGE STUDENT

Jesper, a 17 year old Finnish boy still needs a host family for the 2006-2007 exchange year.

Youth for Understanding exchange students bring their own spending money and good health insurance. The host family provides a family living experience with a place to live, three meals a day, and the encouragement, advice and love to get through the experience. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, with and without children of all ages.

“Welcome Families” sometimes agree to get the students off to a good start and then we replace them in other families once they’ve made a good start in school (so even “snow birds” sometimes serve as welcome families.

Families who might consider changing Jessie’s life can contact Barb Kilka at 248-932-0811 for more information.

FCA Garden News

During the summer a number of our Garden Club members have provided lunch for us as we view their beautiful gardens. We have also visited a number of local sites of garden interest.

Our natural areas are developing nicely. The swales to the west of the building are attracting swallows, killdeer, and other wildlife. A hawk has been seen and we have rabbits and a groundhog on site. A great white heron flew over the center as a number of FCA members were sitting outside in the gardens.

Many donated plants have been added to our landscaping largely due to donations from garden club members.

The vegetable garden is providing tomatoes and zucchini in abundance.

We wish to thank the **Fendt Company** for a donation of paver bricks for our garden walk.

David Sharpe



The garden is doing great.

ROSTER CHANGES Gift Shop

NEW MEMBER

Lieder, Linda J.
35898 Leon Ave.
Livonia, Michigan 48150
734-422-8619
Linda.lieder@comcast.net

ADDRESS CHANGE

Kinnunen, Helmi
227 Blossom Heath Blvd
St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48080-1370
586-777-4143

Kujala, Betty
3221 E. Baldwin Road - #436
Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439
810-694-1630

Salo, Ruth
c/o Lois M. Stierna
3260 Elm Ter.
Melbourne, Florida 32935-4618

Wanttaja, Randy and Saetta, John
1805 Webster Ave.
Norfolk, Virginia 23509

We have great things happening in the gift shop. In the entrance to the gift shop we are featuring Finnish water-color artist Barbara Eko-Murphy. Stop in to see her work!

Believe it or not, we are getting ready for holiday shopping. We will have some awesome specials on some older inventory to make room for our new items. We plan to be well-stocked by the beginning of October.

Already in the gift shop is a nice selection of Finnish foods. The favorite licorice is back. We also have toasted wheat, rye & cardamom rolls, butter cookies, and wild strawberry roll cakes. They are going fast!

We will have many blown glass Scandinavian ornaments, a nice selection of Aarikka jewelry and Christmas items, whimsical embroidered "Joulu Pukki and Hauskaa Joulua" items, plus fun gifts for kids.

We are in need of volunteers to help work short shifts in the gift shop during special events. If you plan to come to a buffet, brunch or cultural event, consider helping in the gift shop for part of your visit to the FCA. Our volunteer meeting is the second Monday of each month at 12:30. If you would like to know more, come to our meeting.

As always, if you have any ideas, please let us know!

CHAIRS FOR SALE

As we have new chairs in our newly decorated Hall, we are offering our old BLUE stacking chairs at \$10 each, for use in your home or patio.

KITCHEN SANITATION CLASSES

The Health Department has issued instructions on how we prepare foods in our kitchen. In order to be in compliance, our caterers conduct **ONE-HOUR** classes on "Food Safety". Anyone that uses our kitchen **MUST take this one-hour course**. The list of GRADUATES is posted in the kitchen, if your name is not there you must take the class. To enroll, call the FCA and let us know your availability so we can set a class time.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Call the Managers office and sign up for Computer classes. This will be for beginners (little or no computer knowledge).

The Classes will be limited to 6 students only and will be on Wednesday morning.

Our Finnish Experience

Herb Piilo tells of an Unusual Sauna Experience.

A number of years ago I had an unusual experience at my summer cottage in northern Michigan. My wife and I had taken our seventh foreign exchange student to show her our lovely summer place. Of great interest to this Finnish girl was the fact that we had a sauna on our premises. She had only been in the United States for a week and had previously told us that she did not want Finnish spoken to her. She was interested in learning English. I was in the process of explaining to her that the sauna was not ready for her as it needed further warming, being heated by a wood burning stove. I left the dressing room to get additional kindling wood. Upon my return with the wood, I did not see her where I had left her. So I entered the sauna room to put the kindling into the stove. Suddenly I realized that I was not alone and that she was already sitting in the bleachers in the buff. I hurriedly backed out and later told her that it was not my fault but that in view of the fact that she had insisted on English only being spoken, she had not understood fully, my directions. If I had given the directions in Finnish she would have understood.

Much later, this lovely, Finnish girl became a justice in Finland's Supreme Court, providing me with the oppor-

tunity to tell the story and to ask my listeners, "How many of you have had the privilege of seeing a Supreme Court Justice in the nude?"

Once upon a time, I took my principal to a Finnish sauna on the northwest side of Detroit. He seemed to enjoy the experience immensely, a first for him. However, he came down with a serious cold which developed into possibly, pneumonia. As a consequence, he never forgave me and told me never to tell him anything relating to the sauna again. However, he did say it with a smile on his face.

In the neighborhood where I lived, I introduced a number of my neighbors to the experience of sauna. On Friday nights we would frequently go to a sauna in Detroit. Mattson's sauna, on DeSota, was a very popular location for Detroit Finns. On one occasion, the streets were entirely covered with ice and Mattson decided to close the sauna early. In as much as his home was located adjacent to the sauna, he suddenly heard a knock on his door. When he opened the door he heard two people asking, "Why isn't the sauna open? He responded, "You crazy Finns, I'm not reopening the sauna tonight. Nobody should be out on a night like this." The irony of this story is that the two individuals were neighbors of mine and had gone there by themselves ostensibly to have a sauna, were not Finns, but were of German and Irish descent.

(Going Places—Cont'd from page 7)

Stratford, Canada

One (1) day, Tuesday, September 26, \$103 includes ticket to "South Pacific" at the Avon Theatre and lunch at The Queen's Inn. Don't forget proper ID. Be at the FCA by 7 am for 7:15 am departure. Return approximately 8:30 pm. Final deadline to sign up is August 25.

Octoberfest, Kitchener – Waterloo, Ontario

2 days, Monday-Tuesday, October 9 & 10, \$239. This is North America's largest Bavarian festival, the second largest in the world – lots of Bavarian entertainment!! Includes 1 dinner and 1 luncheon with show. Deposit \$20 to hold your space. Balance due September 8. Don't forget proper I.D.

Branson, Missouri

Six (6) days beginning Wednesday, November 1, \$859. Includes five (5) shows including Shoji Tabuchi and Dick Clark's American Bandstand. Also includes five (5) breakfasts, four (4) dinners and sightseeing in the area. Deposit \$20 to hold your space. Balance due October 2.

"White Christmas" at the Fox

One (1) day, December 6, 2006. More info later.

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