



Finnish Center Association

FCA News

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2022

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

February is here and, unfortunately, so is COVID. It is always an interesting month with the snow. This year the snow has been quite different. The storm last week made for a very beautiful scene. When driving down Geddes Road near Ann Arbor it was breathtaking. I have never seen snow stick to the trees and bushes like this and it was fascinating! Then we drove to Saginaw and Midland and saw a very different scene. First, to my surprise, there wasn't as much snow and it didn't stick to the trees. We complain and complain about the snow because it is cold and hard to drive in, but it is beautiful! I read a quote after Ground Hog's Day that just about sums it up. The little fella saw his shadow so six more weeks of winter except in Michigan because Michigan has a mind of its own. Try to enjoy winter because in no time we will be complaining about the heat.

The **annual meeting is February 20 via zoom**. Everyone who has email registered with us will get the information. If you do not get the information, call me at (248) 895-3231, and give your email, and we will send it to you. PLEASE COME! We need you. Remember the housing meeting is at 1pm and the board meeting is at 3pm. We are looking forward to a much better year.

COVID restrictions are still in force at the Finnish Center so please wear your mask in the building. We have printed copies of our policy so if you want one, please call the Finnish Center.

Mary O'Brien

ANNUAL MEETINGS February 20, 2022 via ZOOM

FCA SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING CORPORATION 1 pm
FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION 3 pm

If you want to participate in these meetings, contact Finnish Center at
(248) 478-6939
or via email at: finnishcenter@gmail.com by Friday February 18, 2022
with your name and email address

FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

Hours of Operation

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Plan on stopping by?
Please call beforehand.
Thank you. (248) 478-6939

GIFT SHOP

We are having some special February sales. All Iittala is 15% off through the end of February 2022 and calendars are now \$8.00.

Candy that is close to expiration dates is available for a reasonable donation.

Give a donation of \$25.00 or more to the Finnish Center and receive a free box of Wiener Nougat Candy.

Let's support our Finnish Center!

Mary O'Brien



FCA EMAIL BLAST

When notification of information of importance must be sent out to the membership of the FCA immediately, the Board of Trustees utilizes an email list for passing on the appropriate message.

If you are not on this list and would like to be, please send your email address to:
finnishcenter@gmail.com

**FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION
FCA ANNUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2022 3:00 PM**

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Reading of the February 21, 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of February 21, 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes

5. Chairman's Report
6. Election
 - a. Trustee election
 - b. Alternate Trustee Election
 - c. Committee Chairman Election
 - d. Financial Review Committee
7. Vice Chairman's Report
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Finance Committee Report
10. Membership Committee Report
11. Education Committee Report
12. Cultural Committee Report
13. Social Committee Report
14. Publicity & Publications Committee

Report

15. Gift Shop Committee Report
16. Building & Grounds Committee Report
17. Garden Report
18. Soitto/FinnFolk Annual Report
19. Additional items
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
20. Adjournment

Mary O'Brien

FCA BOARD CANDIDATE UPDATE

FCA Board of Trustees candidate Marilyn Clark has withdrawn her name for a position on our FCA Board. Marilyn recently took on additional unplanned responsibilities elsewhere.

This occurred after the deadline for candidates to submit their biographies to FCA. We will have further discussion during the February 20, 2022 Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Committee

35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
48335-5108
Tel: (248) 478-6939
Fax: (248) 478-5671
finnishcenter@gmail.com
www.finnishcenter.org

Officers

Mary O'Brien, Chairman
Cynthia Haffey, Vice Chairman
Christina Lovgren, Treasurer
Linda Poirier, Secretary & Asst. Treasurer

Board of Trustees

1 Year

Cynthia Haffey, Sherrill Tedford,
Austin Strobridge

2 Year

Kathryn Hill, Mary O'Brien,
James Lee

3 Year

Irene Lamanen, Linda Poirier,
Roger Wanttaja

Alternates

#1 Ed O'Brien
#2 Jerry Collins

Financial Review

Paul Rajala
Annikki Kurvi
Olli Lamminen

Committee Chairpersons

Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

Education

Ilona Takakura

Finance

Mia Lamminen

Gift Shop

Mary O'Brien

Mailing

Alice Manley

Membership

Sherrill Tedford

Publicity & Publications

Ed O'Brien

Social

Mary O'Brien

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Olli Lamminen, Chairman

Tapiola Village

Laura Fultz, Manager

(248) 471-3802

tapiola@ameritech.net

A MEANINGFUL LESSON

When I was a child in elementary school, I was a busy boy. Not only did I drive the teachers to distraction, but my classmates often found my behavior upsetting. This was before psychiatrists and psychologists had come up with the acronymic designations like ADHD, ADD etc. I was a bad boy at that time in history and often my behavior resulted in my being bullied by my peers.

We rode the bus to and from the school which was a mile and a half from my home. Bullying on the bus, which had become a bane of my existence, included my being pinched and punched, stealing my hat or scarf or making remarks reflecting on my qualities became a serious problem for me. Repeated attempts to enlist my parents to my situation fell on deaf ears as they probably figured I was getting what I deserved as they had been living with me for some time.

Finally, the situation came to a head one afternoon on the way home from school. On this day a particularly brutal, chubby boy was victimizing me. Everyone was watching what Willie was about. When we came to the bus stop, just ahead of where I usually got off, I made a decision. I told Willie that it was time for us to get off the bus and deal with the situation. Willie eagerly agreed. This raised quite a bit of interest among the other passengers, I suspect even the bus driver was watching and listening.

When Willie and I got off the bus it began. I began pounding him with all my might. I knew it was “do or die.” Suddenly it was over. Willie was crying and I had been victorious. The bus moved on and I walked the rest of the way home. I guess the word got around as I never was picked on again after that and I never thought about it anymore.

About fifty years later, I was in the doctor’s office many miles from where I was raised. The nurse called out my name, “David Sharpe”. Suddenly an older man stood up and came up to me asking, “Are you the David Sharpe from Taylor?” “Yes” I replied. With an admiring grin on his face, he said, “I remember the day when we were on the school bus and Willie was picking on you and you both got off the bus and you beat him up. He was always picking on many of us kids. It was amazing what you did.” He looked at me like I was Mohammed Ali, with admiration. I was astounded. He remembered that incident from fifty years before as if it had happened only yesterday. That impressed upon me that one can never know the impact you have on others, even after fifty years. A sobering thought for parents, teachers, and all those we come in contact with in life.

A true story by David Sharpe

SUNSHINE LADY

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

This little-known function has been around for many years, and can only be accomplished when I am notified that someone needs a card. Send or call your card requests to the attention of the “Sunshine Lady” at the FCA.

Thank you,

Eunice Potti Gould



EMBRACE ADVERSITY

from Find Your Resilience The Finnish Way
by Justyn Barnes

Life is punctuated by major challenges.

But once you learn how to access your personal view,
You can greet any severe misfortune like an old friend.
Give it a hug, have a convivial chat, and find out what’s
Going on. Reflect on times past when you may have had to
Deal with similar situations. And when you get to the root
Of the problem, take action. Then it’s time to bid a fond
Farewell, knowing that next adversity pays a visit,
You will be a little stronger, more self-aware,
And better equipped to deal with it.

FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION



35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108

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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!



FCA Senior Living

One and two bedroom rentals. Convenient, safe and affordable in highly desirable Farmington Hills, MI

Contact us at:
Tapiola Village (248) 471-3802
www.fcaseniorhousing.org



THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME

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