



FCA News

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

April 2007

FCA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The FCA Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for an FCA scholarship for the school year of 2007-2008. Application forms are available from the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. 8 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills 48335 (248) 478-6939.

The deadline for receipt of all information requested on the form is August 15, 2007.

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“OVER ON FINN DRIVE”

At our annual meeting of the FCA for 2006 which was held in February, we had a good number of members represented. A growing list of activities taking place at the Finnish Center and a wide variety of clubs being formed are good signs that our center is becoming a “point of interest” to many new people in our area. The International Jamboree Festival, the Project Finland for local elementary students, the expansion of Finnish language classes, and our Vappu Paiva cultural events all help to bring people to our facility. The more groups that get to see our newly renovated building and enjoy the tasty food that is provided will bring in more rentals to use our hall. Our bookings for the hall rentals has increased for 2007. We have as many rentals booked in our schedule in March 2007 as we had for all of last year. Many of the parties are for weddings which are planned 1 to 1 ½ years in advance. These larger banquets and parties also have needs for additional hospitality services which we can accommodate very well.

The Board of Trustees at the FCA have been concerned for a number of years about the lack of income coming into the Center. The largest item in our income list from operations has been rentals for the hall. I will assume that was why the previous boards decided to invest in the renovation of the hall to make it more rentable. The hall rentals are now increasing and the best part is that the “additional services” needed for these rentals is also increasing the invoice amount. The rentals for 2006 are up by 60% from the 2005 rentals.

For a number of years we have not been able to match our operations income to the expenses to run the facility. Our club functions have managed to control their expenses to match the gross income they expect to take in. The problem is we need additional amounts of income to meet the basic requirements. To name a few of the large facility expenses: property taxes \$25,000, insurance premium \$15,500, heating \$7,000, electric power \$15,000, water and sewage \$1,726, printing of newsletter \$7,600, mailing costs \$6,000 and telephone \$3,006.

The Cultural Center has had bequeaths and donations that have permitted us to invest in our building with capital improvements. A thousand thanks to those members! The end result is a fresh facility that is now rentable. Our membership dues bring in \$12,000 per year which is only a small part of the income. We have a large portion of members that are in a Life Membership status and do not pay any dues. The life dues structure was good when the club was formed to get things going but now the cost of printing and mailing has gone up so much over the years that this now is an unexpected, increased expense. I would like to suggest we have a survivor “Life Jacket status” which would recognize those members who would like to donate to cover the mailings and newsletters.

We have the \$100 Board at the Center which you can donate to. It is right there in the main corridor going toward the Hall. Our Cultural Center still has some projects which would help make it a better rental hall facility. A good suggestion was made to have a moveable curtain which would isolate the Grand Hall from the entrance sitting area—more on that later.
Best regards,

Frank Gottberg, Chairman

CALENDAR

WEEKLY EVENTS

Crafts

Monday's 10 to 2pm

Finnish American Singers

Monday's 7 to 9pm

Library

Open Monday's 9 to 2pm

Nikkarintalo

Monday's 9am

Study Group

Monday's 1 to 3pm

BI-WEEKLY EVENT

Blood Pressure Readings

2nd and 4th Monday

11 am to 2pm

NOTE DAY CHANGE

MONTHLY EVENTS

Gift Shop

2nd Monday 12:30pm

Stamp Club

Last Sunday of Month 2-4pm

Weavers

2nd Saturday of the month 10-12

APRIL

- 5 Thu Regular Board Mtg 6:30pm
 7 Sat Language Class 11-1
 14 Sat Flea Market 9-3
 Sat Language Class 11-1
 15 Sun Brunch 11:30 – 1:30pm
 General Meeting 2:30pm
 Finnfest Info
 18 Wed Senior Luncheon 11:30am
 Reserve by Fri 248-478-6939
 19 Thu Garden Club Lecture
 21 Sat Language Class 11-1
 22 Fri Book Club 4 pm
 27 Fri Buffet 5-7 pm
 Reserve by Wed
 28 Sat Language Class 11-1
 Sat Vappu Celebration 6pm

MAY

- 3 Thu Joint Brd Mtg 6:30
 5 Sat Language Class 11-1
 12 Sat Language Class 11-1
 13 Sun Mother's Day Brunch
 Reserve by May 7

- 16 Wed Senior Luncheon 11:30am
 Reserve by Fri 248-478-6939
 18 Fri Buffet 5-7
 Reserve by Wed
 19 Sat Language Class 11-1
 Sat FAHS Annual Mtg
 20 Sun FASM Spring Concert 3pm
 26 Sat Volunteer Dinner

ARCHIVE

Request for Documents

To facilitate the task of archiving the FCA records, members are urged to donate old newsletters, annual reports, meeting minutes or other documents or photos that pertain to the history of the organization. These can be submitted to the FCA office during hours that the FCA is open. The FCA has a considerable body of archives but there are gaps in the record and duplicates would be useful for sharing with the Finnish-American Historical Archives located within the Finnish American Heritage Center (FAHC) in Hancock. The FAHC is associated with Finlandia University and is dedicated to preserving Finnish culture. According to the FAHC membership form:

(cont. on page 3)

BLOOD PRESSURE Day change

Starting in April, your Blood Pressure will now be taken on the second and fourth Monday of the month.

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

Frank Gottberg, Chairman
 Gene Belttari Vice Chairman
 _____, Secretary
 Brenda Sinclair, Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1 Year
 Gene Belttari, Kristen Kreiner
 Lari Korpela

2 Year

Frank Gottberg, Neil Lehto
 Fritz Putkela

3 Year

Maria Hill, Glenn Kujansuu, David Sharpe

ALTERNATES

Rigmor Cuolahan, Jim Kettunen,
 Margaret Laurila

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Hilkka Ketola Neil Manley, Jr.,
 Herb Pillo

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

Gene Belttari

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

www.fcaseniorhousing.org

(cont. from page 2)

"Located in the lower level of the Heritage Center, the Finnish-American Historical Archives was established in 1932. The FAHA has the distinction of housing the most comprehensive Finnish-American archival collection in the world. The mission of the FAHA is to collect and preserve the multi-faceted history of North American Finns. In addition, the Archives has a significant collection of material from Canada, Finland and other countries. More than 20,000 items are carefully preserved within the climate-controlled archival stacks - including books, newspapers, church and societal records, sound recordings, photos, artifacts, art work and manuscripts."

Having duplicate archives at FAHC would help ensure preservation of the historical records and make these documents available to scholars wishing to learn more about FCA. Members are also encouraged to write personal or family histories and submit them to the FCA. We have legal forms available from the Heritage Center for personal documents as access to such material can be restricted if desired. A questionnaire is being developed to facilitate the task of writing personal histories for those interested in submitting material to the FinnishAmerican Historical Archives.

Donald Autio

TROLL EXHIBITION

We are planning to have a Troll Exhibition here prior to the Scandinavian Bazaar and continuing through the holiday season. This is being planned in conjunction with the Bazaar participants. Each nationality will bring forth their trolls for this exhibition and hopefully get into the Guinness Book of Records. As we understand the largest display had 300 Trolls. Please contact the office if you have any trolls that you would like to see displayed and help us into the record books.

\$100 BOARD

Remember the \$100 Boards? They are on the wall leading into the Main Hall. Now is the time to fill the second board. For a donation of \$100 you will get a name on a plaque. The size of the plaque will only accommodate one name. Be sure to print your name the way you want it engraved.

There are a few places left on the \$500 Board, if you prefer.

GIFT SHOP

Some of you have stopped in and taken advantage of our specials. We will continue to offer ½ off of our coffee mugs (excluding the new SISU ones), the Mita Kuuluu t-shirts, trivets and licorice while supplies last. We now have for the sauna, vihtas and a new style of sauna bucket. Our gift shop meeting is the second Monday of each month, although we are not going to meet in April. We really could use help during the week, as people do stop in to shop during the day. . If you are interested in joining the committee please call us during business hours- we'd love to have you!

"DEATHS DOOR"

Over 100 people attended the engaging presentation and book signing of "Deaths Door" by Steve Lehto in February. We have an opportunity to present Mr. Lehto again in the fall for members that missed this event. Call the office if you are interested in seeing this presentation.

Books are available in the gift shop.

FINLAND TODAY

The Finnish waste management company Ekokem will build a new waste-burning power plant in Riihimäki. The plant will incinerate 150,000 tons of municipal waste. But, the interesting thing about the plant is that it will provide district heating for Riihimäki and half of the city of Hyvinkä. Also, during the summer months, the plant will generate electricity.

The city of Oulu is expanding its Wi-Fi network. Oulu with a population of 130,000, will provide wireless high-speed voice, video, data, and internet access to its citizens. The Wi-Fi network will be a "mesh network", somewhat like a cell phone network. When you get out of range of one node, another node will continue your wireless connection.

The Finnish specialty paper company, Ahlstrom Corp, is setting up a joint venture in Brazil with the VCP Corp. VCP is a leading pulp and paper company in Latin America with net sales of \$1.3 billion. The joint venture, of which Ahlstrom will be the majority stake holder, will produce 121,000 tons of paper annually.

Ahlstrom had net sales of \$1.6 billion last year. The company employs 5,700 people in over 20 countries.

Nokia had a banner year last year. Its sales were up by 20% to \$53.3 billion, which is larger than the Finnish government's budget. Profits before taxes were \$7.41 billion. Nokia last year sold 347 million cell phones, which is about 36% of the world wide cell phone market.

World wide Nokia employs 68,000 workers, with about 24,000 in Finland. 60% of the people employed in Finland are in product development.

The Finnish elementary and high school systems by all measures are some of the tops in the world. There are now plans to make 4 of Finland's universities into world class "super universities". The universities of Joensuu, Kuopio, Turku, and Helsinki will receive special attention to be upgraded to some of the best in the world. Each of the universities will specialize in certain fields such as arts, economics, technology and innovation. By 2012, the budgets of each university will be more than doubled.

The Lappeenranta Technical University and the St. Petersburg State University in Russia are starting a joint masters program. The object of the program is to prepare students for jobs in the Finnish-Russian trade. The graduate will receive a masters degree from both universities. The classes will be taught in English.

Good news for Chocolate lovers! Since the 1960s a team of researchers from the Finnish universities of Oulu and Hel-

sinki have been studying a group of Helsinki business men, their average age was 76. Of the 1,367 in the study, 860 eat chocolate, 399 ate other sweets, and 100 said they didn't eat sweets. The chocolate eaters tended to be leaner, have smaller waists, and suffered less diabetes.

But the biggest difference was in psychological wellbeing and attitudes toward life. The chocolate eaters rated their own health significantly higher, felt happier, less lonely and were less likely to be depressed. Can I offer you a chocolate Kiss?

In Finland there is a big investment in home care for the elderly. The Finns think that the best people to take care of the elderly, is the family. Currently if you take care of your elderly parent at home, you receive about \$540 a month in support.

Mikko Ilonen won the Indonesian Open Golf Championship. Ilonen became the first Finn to ever win an Asian and European Tour co-sanctioned event. Ilonen shot a 9 under 275 to win by one shot. The four day event was repeatedly interrupted by monsoon rains and lightning.

The Finnish Winter Swimming Championships aren't just Finnish anymore. This year more than 1,000 swimmers from around the world took part in the Championships held in Elli-Vuori, a village north of Tampere. The course was a pool, 25 meters in length, cut through solid ice on a lake. At "game time", the temperature was -31F.

Lordi is coming to the States. The Finnish rock band that dresses up in monster costumes and won the Eurovision Song Contest last year, is coming here for a 12 city tour starting in late April. They will cap their tour by playing at Bamboozle Festival May 5-6 th in East Rutherford, N.J. The Brooklyn based End Records has also released the Lordi album "Arockalypse", along with bonus tracks and DVD, on March 20th.

And finally, Heikki and Hilma were driving down a country road, not saying a word to each other. An earlier argument had led to give each other the "silent treatment". As they passed a farmyard with mules, pigs, and turkeys, Heikki sarcastically asks Hilma: Relatives of yours"? Hilma: Yep, inlaws.

Markku Ketola
marketola@yahoo.com

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH BUFFET

Sunday, May 13 from Noon to 2pm.

The various stations will again have a large variety of foods. There will also be a Carvers Station.

Adults \$19.95, Child \$12.95.
Reservations required by
Wednesday, May 9.

FINNFEST INFO

After the April general meeting we will have an informative discussion on travel, lodging and restaurants in Ashtabula, Ohio.

WOMEN'S CLUB

We will again make Pulla/Nisu on Thursday, April 26 at 10am. It will be available for purchase at 1:30pm.

FINNISH FACTS



Finlandia House, the white marbled concert hall, was designed by Finnish architect Alvar Aalto in 1971. He once remarked, "Architecture is our form of expression because our language is so impossible."

ROSTER CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS (as of March 14, 2007)

MATHENY, DEBRA
495 S. Newman
Lake Orion, MI 48363-2132
(248) 693-8368
Mdnrmath@comcast.net

VanSLAMBROUCK, MARCIA
17178 Spring Hill Court
Northville, MI 48168
(248)449-7411

All other roster changes will be in your directory.

CULTURAL

Vappujuhla will be celebrated on Saturday, April 28. There will be food, music, dancing, games and prizes. This is a family event, so bring your children and/or grandchildren as there will be entertainment for them. See the enclosed flyer to make your reservation.

We would appreciate some help with food preparation, so please say yes when Margaret calls for help. We will be making pasties and Karjalan piirakka (500 of each). Shouldn't take too long if a bunch of us will join the Ann Arbor ladies.

Don't forget the Weavers meet on the second Saturday of the month from 9am until noon and the Stamp Club meets the last Sunday of the month from 2 to 4 pm.

Knitting classes—are you interested in learning? We are thinking of a four week class in the evenings from 7 to 9 pm. Please call the FCA and tell us what day you would like. There will be a charge.

Ruth Mannisto, 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, 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 6th 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

Corrections from March newsletter:

In memory of FCA life member Elizabeth "Betty" Eskuri (1-24-07) donations have been made by Erick Kyro and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member James "Jim" Jumisko (11-23-06) a donation has been made by Elma Hanson.

Since the last newsletter and up to March 9, donations to the Memorial Fund are as follows:

In memory of FCA life member Mabel Wiinikka (2-10-07) donations have been made by Michael Meade, Renee & Al Kwiatkowski, Nina Ranta, Janet Narey, Marty & Judy Langsam, Bob & Laura Schmitt, Carolyn Pickle, Julie & Dick Warner, Debbie & Tim Brooks, Robbie & Peter Dalton and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member Phyllis Piira Takala (2-15-07) donations have been made by Pearl & Ray Wanttaja and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member Edwin Anderson (2-22-07) donations have been made by Nina Ranta and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life member Dorothy Saari (3-1-07) donations have been made by

her sister Shirley Jokinen, Pearl & Ray Wanttaja and the FCA.

In memory of FCA life members Helen Gunnari Gehrman (11-3-06) and Warren Gehrman (11-30-06) a donation has been made by their godchild Maria Aukee Brunet.

In memory of FCA life member Evelyn Keskinen Hanninen (1-23-07) donations have been made by Rigmor Cuolahan, Helen Perttunen, Jay & Sara Brookman, Nina Ranta, Bill Harrington & the guys at Genesis, Volunteers at Info Desk at Henry Ford Fairlane, Estella Merigian, the Gorman Family, Paul & Ardythe Smith, the Gary Family, Joan Tylutki & the Fairlane Volunteer Services, Ellen Alanen, Randy & Jane Triola, Jim & Dorothy Kettunen, Norma Kolehmainen, Brenda Lang, John & Jan Attaway, Elmer Hanninen, Jan & Harold Pfeifer, Gertrude Canan, Joan Alviso, Bill & Connie Duterte and Alma Bojanic.

In memory of Ellen Huusko Lahti (1-27-07) of Rock, a donation has been made by Elsie Kolehmainen.

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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.

Niagara Falls Casino (NOTE Date Change)

Two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 15 & 16, 2007, \$99. Includes \$25 package the first day at the Casino Niagara and \$10 package the second day at Fort Eire Raceway (slots). Includes overnight at the Sheraton. Don't forget proper ID.

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SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEW

FCA College Scholarship Interview: **Kerri Metzker**

The Scholarship Committee presents an interview with Kerri Metzker this month, the fourth of the seven students who will be interviewed for the Newsletter. We encourage you to keep the Scholarship program in mind when making donations to the Finnish Center.

Kerri lives in North Carolina, and is a senior at Wingate University, located in Wingate, North Carolina. Wingate University is small—about 1700 students—and she likes the atmosphere, and is close to the city of Charlotte. Home is only about an hour away, so her parents can easily come to see her basketball games. In order to graduate in May, she is taking 18 credits this semester. Her degree will be a Bachelor of Science in Marketing, and she has a 3.3 GPA.

Q: What is your favorite class, and why?

A: My favorite class right now is Ethics. I love my teacher and the topics are interesting. I have never taken philosophy before and have only taken one religion class, so I am being exposed to a different way of thinking. Ethics and morality are interesting as well as important, especially in my future field of business.

In addition to all the credit hours she has taken, Kerri has

played on the basketball team for all four years, and is now in her final season. Her team is playing in the NCAA tournament for the third year in a row. Good luck, Wingate basketball women! Her team won their conference for the fourth year in a row.

Q: What are your career plans?

A: I am currently interviewing for all sorts of positions in my field of Marketing. However, I have not made any decisions yet. I have done internships with Wachovia Bank the past two summers and they are also a top prospect for employment beginning in May when I graduate.

Q: Do you have a mentor who has helped you with career planning?

A: I don't really have a mentor per se, but my dad is very knowledgeable about the corporate world and always gives me advice when I need it. He has a lot of experience and I respect his opinion. He is making sure that I think about things like benefits and 401 (k)s when I think about who I want to work for.

(Cont. on page 9)

FROM THE FCA LIBRARY

EERO SAARINEN: SHAPING THE FUTURE, edited by Eeve-Liisa Pelkonen and Donald Albrecht. Those of us who were at the last Finnish Independence Day celebration at the Center were treated to an interesting and informative talk by Mark Coir of Cranbrook, who spoke about the life of Eero Saarinen, the noted Finnish-American architect. Eero became one of the prominent architects of his time; among his designs are the TWA building at JFK Airport in New York, the Dulles Airport, the General Motors Technical Center and other works too numerous to mention.

An exhibition of his work opened in Helsinki this past fall and will eventually travel around the world. The sponsors of this exhibition were responsible for the publication of this book, which consists of profusely, illustrated essays of Saarinen's work.

The book is too large and expensive to be checked out, but you are welcome to come and peruse it to your heart's content. The illustrations alone are worth your time. You will find it under Dewey number 720.92 Ee.

EERO SAARINEN by Jane Merkel. This biography is the most definitive book published about Eero Saarinen. It traces his life from his birth in Finland to his life at Cranbrook and later when he established his own firm. Included are many illustrations of Saarinen's work; it is a good companion to the book listed above. You'll find it in biography.

We now have a copy of the DVD entitled **AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH** ready to be checked out. Did you know that each of us can help stop global warming? You can: (1) Replace your regular light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. Replacing one bulb will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide per year (and you'll save on your light bill besides!). (2) You can save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you cut down your garbage by 10%. Recycle! (3) Use less hot water. Wash your clothes in cold or warm water instead of hot (500 pounds saved per year!). (4) Adjust your thermostat. Moving your thermostat down just 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer could save about 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year (and think of the savings on your heating bill!). What a difference we could make if everyone did his/her bit. Be a part of the solution to save our planet! You'll find the DVD on the non-book media shelf.

CULTURES IN CONVERSATION by Donal Carbaugh. The author is a Professor of Communications at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He spent a year in Finland as a Fullbright scholar and became aware that Finnish customs in meeting and dealing with people, as well as conver-

sational style, differ from that of Americans. He was quite taken aback when someone suggested "Would you write something about why Americans are so superficial. We hear this so much from Finns who travel to the United States, and from Germans, too." He thought, "Superficial? I didn't know we were!" He began a comparative study of the two cultures and their conversational styles; chapters 3 and 4 in this book are about the results. For instance, he observed that Finns are not adept at what we call "small talk". His conclusions will surprise you if you thought you knew native Finns. Chapters 1-3 and 5-8 deal with conversation practices in other countries, which may or may not be of interest to you. But chapters 3 and 4 should interest anyone with a few drops of Finnish blood. You'll find the book in non-fiction, Dewey number 302.2.

Lillian Lehto
Librarian

(Cont. from page 6)

In memory of FCA life member John Ranta (3-18-05) a donation has been made by his wife Nina and son Mark and his family, Shelly, Scott, Lauren and Bridget.

In memory of Carl "Charlie" Kauppi (12-7-06) of Livonia, a donation has been made by Elma Hiltunen Hansen.

In memory of FCA life member Jane O'Brien (1-2-07) donations have been made by Walt & Betty Wilson, Tem & Virginia Ahonen, Emil Makila and Susan Kiligian.

In memory of FCA life member Rudolph "Rudy" Kilponen (12-7-06) donations have been made by Vernon & Mary Leinonen, Larry & Debbie Beauregard, Clayton & Patricia Hubel, Keturah Thunder-Haab, Sally Duffy and Martha Erickson. A donation has been made in memory of four fabulous Brunch coffee servers - Ted, Ben, John and Clarence.

In memory of FCA life member Frances Simo (8-15-06) donations have been made by Hjalmer & Edna Sunni and Sharon & Eric Gray.

The FCA has made donations in memory of life member Toivo Huurto 3-1-07) and in memory of member Elsie Tolonen Precobb (2-26-07).

(Cont. from page 7)

Q: How has the FCA scholarship helped you meet your educational goals? **A:** The FCA scholarship provided me with funding for all of my textbooks this year. It took the burden off my parents and me to come up with the money each semester. It's nice not to have to worry about paying for books during exam time.

Q: What is one highlight of this school year? **A:** One thing I am so grateful for this year is all the new relationships I have formed with people. As a senior you gain a lot of confidence and I broke out of my shyness a little this year and met some great people. College is something you will never forget and this senior year I have formed new relationships with people that will last for years to come.

Q: What advice would you give to high school students? **A:** To high school students starting college, I would just say to manage your time as best you can. A daily planner is a must. Don't get caught up in the hype of the people who say they aren't going to study because the reality is that those people will not be successful and studying is necessary even if you didn't have to in high school. Also the best way to obtain really good grades is to read the chapter before you go to class, because it will make everything so much easier.

Louise Hartung, for the Scholarship Committee

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will have its next meeting April 27 (Friday) at 4 pm. Participants will discuss "Isaac Polvi, The Autobiography of a Finnish Immigrant". It is a story about a young Finnish immigrant who travels alone to Calumet, Michigan. The book is edited by Joseph David Damrell (maternal grandparents Polvi), born in Highland Park, Michigan, author of several UP books and Professor of Sociology and Native American Studies at Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. Copies of the book are available in the bookstore.

Donald Autio

GARDEN CLUB

Improving the Watershed

On Thursday, April 19, at 7 pm, the FCA Garden Club is pleased to present Barbara Burke and Martha Montgomery who will present a program entitled, "Rain, Gardens and More." The Master Gardener and Michigan Conservation Stewardship programs will be explained as well as the Master Composter certification program, SOCRA, and Tree Keepers. Barbara and her sister are FCA members and will bring exciting information on the efforts to conserve our Michigan environment, an evening of enlightenment in early spring. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

All are invited to attend and dessert will be served. For more information email dcs37mgsc@earthlink.net or 248-477-5709.

EXCHANGE STUDENT

Youth for Understanding (YFU) USA is looking for host families including couples with or without children, empty nesters, single parents, and single adults. The students come from 40 different countries. They speak English, have their own spending money, health insurance, attend an American high school and will provide many good memories and experiences to you! Families can choose to host a student for ten months, or for only six to twelve weeks.

Families interested in hosting students from Finland are advised to speak up early as Finnish students are often chosen early in the placement cycle. We expect to place 12-15 Finnish students in Michigan arriving in August 2007; profiles of those students are available now and you can request profiles and an interview to find out if this might be right for you.

YFU staff and volunteers are available to support you every step of the way.

Barb Kilkka
248-932-0811 or email kilkka@yfu.org

SENIOR LUNCHEON

On February 21, Finnish Center members and friends gathered for fellowship, entertainment, and lunch.

The Finnish American Singers sang an assortment of Finnish and English songs. Caryl Miilu of Rockland was the accompanist for the day.

Pastor Jered Niemela from Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church spoke briefly, and then led us in prayer.

It's imperative that reservations are made by the Friday before the luncheon, so the caterers can buy sufficient food. For example, a delicious cabbage casserole was prepared for 27 guests, but an extra 13 people came. Just think, what would you do if this happened to you?

To make our luncheons more enjoyable, you are encouraged to share a thought, a poem, a song, an experience, etc. After a humorous story was read, Pastor Jered related a similar one.

Edith Raski, Ray Wanttaja, and Miranda Spisak celebrated birthdays.

A moment of silence was led by Pearl Wanttaja for Jack Smith, William Sibilsky, Martha Koski, Roy Parvi, Frank Gudán, Evelyn Hanninen, Mario Oliver, Elizabeth Eskuri, Sulo Nummela, Mabel Wiinikka, and Phyllis Takala.

Miranda Spisak and Dennis Usitalo were our visitors. Dennis lives in Portland, Oregon.

KIITOS, KIITOS, KIITOS to Eleanor Manley for taking reservations for over 25 years. She has now retired. If you would like to take the reservations, please contact the office.

Bring a friend to lunch next month!

Margaret Laurila, emcee

(cont. from page 7)

Tulip Time in Holland

One day, Wednesday, May 9, \$78.00. Includes lunch, Dutch Marktplaats, Volksparade and Veldheer Tulip Gardens. Price and times later. Be at the FCA by 7:15 am for a 7:30 am departure. To return about 9:30 pm

Daniel O'Donnell

One day, Wednesday, June 6, \$113. Includes main floor seats at the Seagate Convention Center. More information later. Be at the FCA by 9:45 am for 10:00 am departure. To return about 7:45 pm.

Turkeyville

One day, Monday July 23, \$67. Includes the show "Nonsense A-Men!" which has an all male cast. Think of it as 'Mrs. Doubtfire enters the Convent'. Also included is Marjorie Cornwell's wonderful turkey buffet. Be at FCA at 8:45 a.m. for 9:00 am departure. Return about 6:30 pm.

Hiawatha Slots in Sarnia

One day, Thursday, August 22, \$33. Includes a \$10 incentive package and a narrated luncheon cruise on the Duc D'Orleans. Don't forget proper ID. Departure time not available yet.

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ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE: AD DEADLINE IS MARCH 10 FOR THE APRIL 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. Advertising is limited to FCA members in good standing.

Deadline/payment for ad is the 10th 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..... 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.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY OPTION

The newsletter is now available for reading on the web site www.finnishcenter.org/news

You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (free) - available from www.adobe.com.

If you would like to stop your paper Newsletter delivery, please email the following information to: fcacenter@sbcglobal.net:

first and last name
 mailing address
 email address

In the subject line of the email, please write "newsletter".

REQUEST FOR FCA DIRECTORY

Please reserve one directory for FCA Member:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ APT _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____

Please check one: I will pick up Ship to address above.

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FCA Membership Form

- NEW FCA MEMBERSHIP
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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 Sent 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: _____

and _____

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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