



Finnish Center Association

FCA News

November 2017

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 02 Thursday FCA Bakers 10 am
- 03 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 03 Friday Pasty Prep 10 am - 3 pm
- 04 Saturday Pasty Bake & Sale 8:30 am - 12.30 pm
- 05 Sunday FCA Board Meeting 1 pm
- 05 Sunday FCA General Meeting 2 pm
- 10 Friday Scandinavian Market set-up
- 11 Saturday Scandinavian Market 10 am - 4 pm
- 15 Wednesday Harvest Dinner 12 noon
- 17 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 18 Rental
- 19 Sunday Finnish Film 2 pm
- 23 Thursday Closed for Thanksgiving
- 24 Friday Closed for Thanksgiving
- 26 Sunday No Open House due to holiday
- 29 Wednesday Germany Travelogue 1 pm
(Pie and coffee to follow)



**Reservations are recommended
for all events.**

DECEMBER

- 01 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 02 Saturday Independence Day Celebration 5 pm
- 03 Sunday Lecture by Sharon Rahkonen
Franklin 2 pm
- 05 Rental
- 08 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 08 Friday Novi Band Concert 7 pm
- 09 Rental
- 10 Sunday Finnish American Singers of Michigan
Concert 4 pm
- 12 Tuesday Little Christmas Concert 7 pm
- 13 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 16 Saturday Pikkujoulu with Finnish Christmas
Dinner 5 pm
- 17 Sunday Candlelight Memorial Service
w/dinner 2 - 4 pm
- 22 Friday Closed for Christmas holiday
- 25 Monday Closed for Christmas

Weekly Events

- Finnish American Singers
Monday 7 pm
- Library
Open Monday 10 am-2 pm
- Nikkarin Talo
Mondays 9 am
- Finlandia Garden Club
Mondays 9 am

Monthly Events

- Finnish Conversation
1st Friday of the month 10 am
- Book Club
Last Monday of the month 1 pm
- Luncheon
Last Wednesday of the month
12 noon
- Open House
Last Sunday of the month 1-4 pm

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Preparations are under way to improve the appearance of the Finnish Center. Walls are being painted, chairs cleaned, floors and carpets scheduled to be cleaned by a professional company. Kitchen is also being worked on and looks a lot better already. A lot of work is still ahead of us to have all necessary improvements done as planned. If you can help, please let us know, we will find something for you to do. If you are not able to help, maybe you can give us a donation. Outside help is costly.

Runebergskören from Porvoo Finland gave a fantastic concert in early October. It was a nice beginning for our own Finland's 100 year Independence celebrations. FCA will have the main Finland's 100 year Independence celebration on December 2, 2017 starting with a cocktail hour at 5 pm. Our Guest speaker is Consul General of Finland



Manu Virtamo. In addition to dinner and dancing the evening program will include a special performance by Järnefelt Piano Trio with Ruusamari Teppo, piano, Katri Ervamaa, cello and Päivikki Nykter, violin. Ruusamari's and Katri's ancestry is joined in Aino Sibelius (nee Järnefelt) and Jean Sibelius. Selections of Sibelius will highlight the program.

Independence celebrations continue December 3, 2017 with a lecture at 2 pm by Sharon Rahkonen Franklin.

November is also the month of our annual Scandinavian Market (formerly Bazaar) to be held November 11, 2017. The gift shop has been stocking up for this event and we hope for a great turnout. Pasties and baked goods are also being sold at the event. Please mark your calendars and let your friends and neighbors know as this event is an important fund raiser for the FCA.

Improvements have not only extended to the building. The volunteers have worked hard on the grounds improvement. We were fortunate to have a young boy approach us for a project he needed for Eagle Scout credits. This resulted on a project where he built a patio in front of our lounge. It will be a nice area to sit and enjoy the beautiful grounds and will be a nice outside space for parties.

We should start thinking about the upcoming elections in February. In the last Board Meeting the need to find qualified candidates to run for the Board was discussed. In the past FCA seldom paid any attention to the qualifications of the candidates and the Chairman was selected among the elected Trustees. The fact is FCA Chairman has been de facto operations manager for the past 6 years. Before we can hire a full-time manager, we have no other options available.

The next general meeting will be November 5, 2017 at 2 pm.

Mia Lamminen, Chairman

35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
48335-5208
Tel: (248) 478-6939
Fax: (248) 478-5671
finnishcenter@gmail.com
www.finnishcenter.org

Officers

Mia Lamminen, Chairman
Roger Wanttaja, Vice Chairman
Robert Waissi, Secretary
Marlene Ruuskanen, Treasurer

Board of Trustees

1 Year

Olli Lamminen, Henrikki Pantsar,
Marlene Russkanen

2 Year

Cynthia Haffey, Roger Wanttaja,
Robert Waissi

3 Year

Mia Lamminen, James Lee,
Mary O'Brien

Alternates

#1 Carol Tudball
#2 Terry Ball
#3 Wayne Walli

Financial Review

Fran Fadie, Eunice Gould,
Sarah Wiideman

Committee Chairpersons

Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

Education

Katri Ervamaa

Finance

Olli Lamminen

Gift Shop

Mary O'Brien

Mailing

Alice Manley

Membership

Anu Pantsar

Publicity & Publications

Fran Fadie

Social

Mary O'Brien

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Cynthia Haffey, Chairman

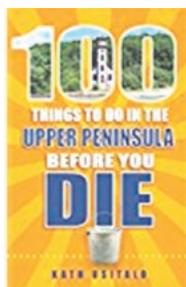
Tapiola Village

Laura Fultz, Manager
(248) 471-3802

Tapiola@ameritech.net

Freedom Square

Theresa Show, Manager
(248) 442-7250



100 Things to Do In the Upper Peninsula Before You Die

A new book by FCA member
Kath Usitalo,
who now lives in the U.P.

Get your copy at the FCA gift shop.
Also available at **Amazon.com**

Learn more about the book at
GreatLakesGazette.com

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 17
2 - 4 pm



The 4th annual Candlelight Service is your opportunity to remember loved ones. Simply make a donation to the FCA and you will receive an angel to place on a tree in remembrance of a loved one or special friend! Dinner served after service.



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

November 3 & 17
5 - 8 pm

FinnFolk plays during dinner!



INDEPENDENCE DAY LECTURE

Sunday, December 3
2:00 pm

Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen is one of the Finlandia Foundation National's centenary lecturers for 2017-2018. As her Independence Day presentation, she will discuss the history of Finnish independence and factors that enabled a small, less developed corner of the Russian empire to declare and retain that freedom.

She received her Ph.D. from Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, where she specialized in Finnish history. Subsequently she spent 2 years in Finland as a Fulbright scholar studying minority identity, women's suffrage, and Finnish education. Currently, She is associate professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Sponsored by the
Cultural Committee



Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen

GIFT SHOP

The holidays are rapidly approaching and we are making plans for a few gifts for your special people. Be sure to check out the 100th Anniversary Iit-tala. It is beautiful and makes a nice gift.

Some new candy has arrived just in time for the holidays. As usual we will have that special table at the bazaar. So remember your Finnish Center Gift Shop for that special holiday gift.

Mary O'Brien

SOCIAL NEWS

Join us for a Harvest Dinner on Wednesday, November 15 at noon.

On Wednesday, November 29 at 1 pm, come and see a travelogue on Germany. Our travels will take you to Rothenburg, Heidelberg, Nuremberg and a few other German cities. There is no luncheon for this event but we will have pumpkin pie and coffee after. A donation will be accepted. Join us for an interesting day.

Mary O'Brien





FROM THE LIBRARY



Larry A. Thorne is the only American who was a POW/MIA and fought communism under three flags - those of Finland, Germany and America. His was a most amazing, stranger-than-fiction life.

Larry Thorne was born Lauri Allan Törni on May 28, 1919 in Viipuri, Finland. As a young man he served in the Civil Guard, similar to our National Guard, where he excelled as a skier, marksman, and athlete. In 1938 he was called up for his compulsory year of service in the Finnish Regular Army. Before his term ended the Winter War began in November 1939; his enlistment was extended and his outfit soon confronted invading Soviet troops. His superior performance was noticed by his superiors and he was assigned to officer training school where he became a vänrikki, the equivalent of a 2nd lieutenant. The Winter War was over in March 1940.

In May 1941 Törni was asked if he would volunteer to attend Officer Training School in Germany. Always eager for adventure, he joined approximately 650 other selected Army officers and NCOs to be taught by the best-trained soldiers of that era. They were taught that as leaders they were expected to set an example and to ask their soldiers to perform only what they themselves were capable of performing. Weakness was not tolerated, and fear, they were told, was their enemy. Törni learned his lessons well. According to several soldiers who later served under him he was fearless in battle and always led by his own personal example.

While the group was training in Germany the Continuation War began. Finland requested that their officers return home. In spite of the fact that they had been subjected to Nazi propaganda, there was never any evidence that the Finns accepted any of it.

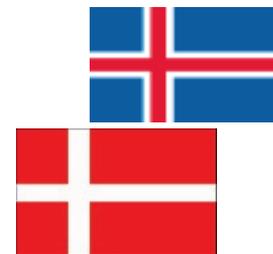
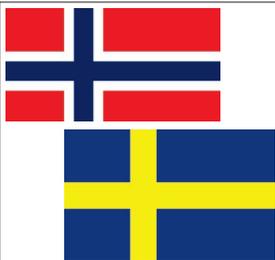
Törni was made head of an infantry unit whose job was to penetrate deep behind the enemy lines, where they created so much damage that the Soviets placed a price on his head - 3,000,000 Finnmarks to anyone who brought him in, dead or alive. A future president of Finland, Mauno Koivisto, was one of the men in Törni's unit. By the end of the war Törni had every medal awarded by the Finnish Army, including the Mannerheim Cross, comparable to our Congressional Medal of Honor.

As strange as it may seem, after the war, Törni and many of the officers in the war, and even the president, Risto Ryti, were arrested, accused and convicted of treason, and imprisoned as "war criminals" by a government which had become infiltrated by Communist sympathizers. Törni and many others thought it wisest to leave Finland, and eventually ended up in the U.S. It took several years before the U.S. authorities were convinced that he was not a spy, Communist or Nazi. On January 28 1954, he raised his right hand, took the solemn oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States" and formally enlisted in the US Army for six years, subsequently gaining American citizenship. While in the army he changed his name to Larry Allan Thorne.

Thorne didn't remain a private for long. He was sent to Officer Candidate School and emerged as a lieutenant and a member of the Special Forces (Green Berets). He spent some time in Germany but ended up in Vietnam. When he was in Germany he briefly visited his relatives in Finland. In an episode of *The Big Picture* released in 1962 and composed of footage filmed in 1959, he is shown as a lieutenant with the 10th Special Forces Group in the U.S. Army. He also appears in Robin Moore's book *The Green Berets* based in Vietnam where he is the character "Kornie".

Thorne was first deployed to Vietnam in November 1963 and again in 1965. On October 18, 1965 he was on a clandestine helicopter mission to locate and destroy some Viet Cong on the Ho Chi Minh trail. His helicopter crashed in the mountains and all efforts to find the remains were unsuccessful until 1999.

(continued on page 7)



SCANDINAVIAN MARKET

Saturday, November 11, 2017
10 am – 4 pm

\$1
Donation
at the
Door

Finnish Center Association
35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
(248) 478-6939 or (734) 834-6085

Public
Welcome

Enjoy good Scandinavian food, good music while strolling through our many crafters and vendors, including hand-woven rugs, Scandinavian imports, ethnic foods and much more.....

FINNISH FILM

Le Havre

Director: Aki Kaurismäki, 2011
In Finnish, French, & German; English subtitles
GP; comedy & drama

November 19, 2017; 2:00 pm

In this film we again encounter Aki Kaurismäki’s dark, dry sense of humor and moments of absurdity in the midst of tragedy. The story is set in Le Havre, the French port city. A young African refugee is being pursued by officials for deportation when Marcel, an artist who works shining shoes, befriends him. With support from his friends, Marcel hides the boy and defends him.

Le Havre has been called by film critic Roger Ebert as Kaurismäki’s “sunniest film.” Others, too, have written positively: “endearingly quirky,” “the most humanist, generous and hopeful movie in recent memory.” The film has been called a political fairy tale about how Kaurismäki wishes every immigrant story would play out.



HURRY UP AND WAIT!



Over a lifetime, the average person spends:
5 years waiting in lines,
6 years eating,
2 years playing telephone tag,
1 year looking for misplaced objects,
and 6 months waiting at red lights.

Submitted by Pearl Wanttaja



OCTOBER POKER ALL STARS

We had another successful event due in part to the following volunteers: Hilikka Ketola, Lois Makee, Cortland Book, Mia Laaminen, Olli Lamminen, Marlene Ruuskanen, Paul Rajala, Mark Belttari, Mark Rikkonen, Bruce Mikko, Aggie McManus, Karin Camilleri and Gene Belttari.

Our next poker event will be March 29th to April 1st, 2018.

Gene Belttari
Poker Organizer

MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Ruth Mannisto** (8/5/17) donations have been made by Louise Hartung, Jonene Eliasson, Maria Hill, Kathryn Hill and Charlotte Lytikainen.

In memory of FCA life member **Gerald Malstrom** (7/12/17) donations have been made by Joan & John Leinonen, Alice Manley, Charlotte Lytikainen, Mary-Ann & Arne Hanninen, Joan Daley and Victoria & Rudolph Perttunen.

In memory of FCA life member **Fred Aebersold** (4/1/17) donations have been made by Joan Daly and Victoria & Rudolph Perttunen.

In memory of FCA life member **George (Fritz) Putkela** (3/30/17) donations have been made by Charlotte Lytikainen, Joane McNabb, Victoria & Rudolph Perttunen, and Mary-Ann & Arne Hanninen.

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

FCA member **William Lockwood** (10/13/17)
 FCA life member **Ellen Clisch** (10/13/17)

When making a memorial donation, you may direct it toward a specific fund. The funds available are: FCA General Fund, Library, Scholarship, Hoijakat Folk Dancers, Drama Club, Finn Weavers, Garden Club, FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers.

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: FCA, 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Donations received by the 5th of each month will be published in the next month's newsletter.

You may also direct your donation toward the Elders' Housing, but then your check must be made out to FCA Senior Housing Corp.

Please include full name (with middle initial), address, dates of death and birth of the deceased; also the name and address of the next of kin to whom the acknowledgement card is to be mailed.

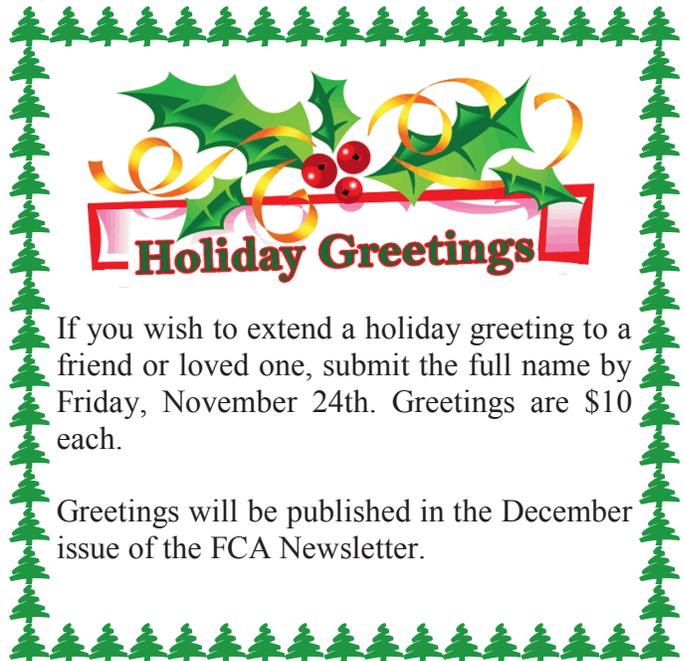
If you know of a member, parent or child of a member who has passed away, please call the FCA at (248) 478-6939.

GET WELL, THINKING OF YOU

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

Please notify me if you think someone might need warm and thoughtful wishes from the friends at the FCA. Send or call your card requests to the attention of the "Sunshine Lady" at the FCA.

Thank you,
 Eunice Potti Gould



If you wish to extend a holiday greeting to a friend or loved one, submit the full name by Friday, November 24th. Greetings are \$10 each.

Greetings will be published in the December issue of the FCA Newsletter.



CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Thursday,
 November 2, 10 am

Pulla/Nisu baking day.
 No experience necessary.

SUOMI FINLAND

Please join us to celebrate 100 Years of Independence

at the Finnish Cultural Center
Dec. 2, 2017
5PM

Guest speaker:
Consul General of Finland Manu Virtamo

Tickets \$ 50.00 per person
Children (4-16) \$10.00

Dinner featuring Finnish Cuisine
Cash Bar open

Special performance by the Järnefelt Piano Trio
Ruusamari Teppo, Piano
Katri Ervamaa, Cello
Päivikki Nykter, Violin

for reservations please call the FCA office
248-478-6939
by November 26, 2017

family and friends
TERVETULOA/WELCOME

35200 W 8 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48335

LIBRARY (continued from page 4)

Formally identified in 2003, his remains were buried in Arlington National Cemetery on June 26, 2003 along with the three South Vietnam Air Force casualties of the mission recovered at the crash site. Thorne was posthumously promoted to the rank of major and awarded the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Flying Cross. All in all, he was awarded ten decorations and medals by the U.S. Army.

In the United States, the Larry Thorne legend has been memorialized by the creation of Special Forces Association Chapter 33. In Finland he has been commemorated by the men who served under him. The Finnish military officer corps shares an admiration for one of their comrades who helped earn the Finnish Army's reputation for being one of the toughest fighting forces in World War II. One place where he has yet to find renewed recognition is the Finnish Officer's List. In October 1950, a few days after he entered the U.S. illegally after his escape through Sweden, the Finnish Army purged his name from the Officers List, probably because of his conviction of "treason". He had been pardoned by the President of Finland, but that didn't seem to make any difference. It is hard to understand why the Finnish government has not reinstated the status of one of its most famous officers.

For further reading about Larry Thorne visit our library for *Soldier Under Three Flags* by H.A. Hill, III or *Törnin Jääkärit* by Lars Rönquist and Anssi Vuorenmaa. The latter contains reminiscences by men who were in Törni's outfit in the Finnish army, including Mauno Koivisto. I would also highly recommend *Born a Soldier: the Times and Life of Larry Thorne*. We do not have it in our library but it is available from Amazon.

Lillian Lehto



Lauri Törni in Finnish uniform



Larry Thorne as a Green Beret



Larry Thorne grave stone in Arlington National Cemetery

**NOVI COMMUNITY
BAND CONCERT**

Friday, December 8 Concert Only \$5
Dinner 5-8 pm Dinner & Concert \$12
Concert 7 pm



Menu:
Baked Cod
Meatloaf
Finnish Dish TBD
Mashed Potato and Gravy
Green Beans
Salad and Rolls
Tomato Pasta Soup

NOTES FROM THE FINNISH AMERICAN SINGERS

Recently, a friend shared photos online from concerts by Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, and Joe Bonamassa (a guitarist). Not only a rock music enthusiast, she also attended a Detroit Symphony Orchestra performance! Although music has been a part of this writer's life since 2nd grade: school band, piano lessons, church choir and FASM, attending concerts of popular musicians has been an infrequent event.

The evening of October 3rd, this writer was one of the thrilled hundred or so in the audience at the FCA privileged to hear the men's choir, Runebergskören BSB, visiting from Porvoo, Finland in the United States on a seven-city tour. They probably would not consider themselves singers of "popular" music, but they were certainly popular with this audience! With a group of more than forty men, they blended their voices in a capella song seamlessly, soaring both high and low to tease, excite, enchant, and lull the listeners, many of whom could not understand any of the words to the songs being sung. Singing in Finnish, Swedish, Estonian, and even Basque, their repertoire was divided into groups of three songs about subjects such as love, seafaring, silliness, drinking, nature (specifically the woods), and patriotism.

Each section was introduced by a choir member who provided brief information about the three songs in that group. In the series Patriotic Pathos, poetry inspired the music *Ej med klagan* (J. Sibelius). Based on poetry written by Finland's national poet, Johan Ludvig Runeberg, it was obvious the poetry came first due to the cadence of the lyrics. He was a Finno-Swedish lyric and epic poet and professor who lived in Porvoo for the last forty years of his life and is the author of the lyrics to the Finnish national anthem, *Maamme*. When the drinking songs, *Cheers in Good Company!*, were profiled, the singer explained that *Metsämiehen juomalaulu* (Hermes) (which sounded like a barbershop quartet tune) was about drinking in the woods; *Trinklöd* (Pacius) a light, bouncy tune with a very high tenor part instructed "Don't trust the water in the springs;" and *Ardotxo txuria* (Mäntyjärvi) declared that "The wine is really bad but we drink it anyway." We were told that the third song was sung in the Basque language. Loving this song, this writer searched online for more information about it and discovered a very humorous story.

Alan King, the author of the lyrics, was contacted by a singer who relayed that he was learning the song and wanted to know what the words *to the poem King wrote* meant. King recalled, "All I remember is that I (the said younger Alan) was at a conference to do with linguistics once and at coffee break I got talking to a man who told me that he composed music (as well as being a linguist, I assume). He told me about a project he had to write choral music using words in an "unknown" language, just for the sound; the idea was that people shouldn't know what the words mean, which means that it doesn't actually matter what they do mean, so he wanted to pick something completely random. And he had a copy of *The Basque Language [written by King]*, in which he had found some sentences in Basque that sounded just right for such songs. He was Finnish and introduced himself as Jaakko Mäntyjärvi. He asked me if I would give him permission to use the words. Of course I had no objection but I pointed out that they were sentences from exercises, not poetic or musical lyrics. (It was my first book for learning Basque and I wished to teach how to say things that would be found useful.) "I understand," he said. "That's just why I like them."

King provided the song lyrics & story above about the song on his website [<http://www.alanrking.info/category/aha/>].

(continued on page 9)

NOTES FROM FASM (continued from page 8)***Ardotxo txuria****(the wine is really bad)**This bar's wine is really bad.**Bring some more please.**I've finished the bottle.**We still need two more litres.**White wine, red wine,**white wine, we'll drink as much as we like.**

Notes taken during the concert highlight descriptive terms such as poignant, dour, resolute, firm, sweet, happy, lyrical, fast, and haunting. However only one song sung might embody most of these characteristics – *Jojk* (Paakkunainen). Many readers here are familiar with the sounds of Sami music, embodied in the *jojik* (also spelled *joik* and *yoik*). Wikipedia relays that originally *joik* referred to only one of several Sami singing styles, but in English the word is often used to refer to all types of traditional Sami singing. It honors someone or something in the singers' lives. You can joik the wind, a friend, your family and more. The Sami, living in the northernmost regions of Scandinavia, share traits of their music with traditional chanting of some Native American cultures as well as the shamanistic cultures of Siberia which mimic the sounds of nature. Featuring a moving and energetic Runebergskören singer supported by choir created sounds of nature and compelling counterpoint melodies and rhythms, the audience listened intently and broke into immediate applause, whistles, and vocalization (hoots and hollers) after the *jojik's* end. It was glorious! Providing beautiful closure to this concert as FASM does theirs, the group ended singing *Findlandia*.

Though the FASM singers don't fill the risers quite the same as Runebergskören did, we hope you will come to our concert on Sunday, December 10th to hear a concert of Christmas music much of which you will understand, since it is sung in both Finnish *and* English!

Submitted by Scribe, K. Koskela

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Mary has taken on many volunteer tasks since she became an active member. She runs our gift shop and took on the job of painting and adding her own special touches to the shop. Her previous career path included owning and operating a retail store with her husband and we appreciate her expertise.

Mary also was the manager at Freedom Square, one of the senior housing properties the FCA is involved with, for many years. While there she provided many social events for the seniors and has brought some of those ideas here.

She is our social committee chair and has introduced several new events such as ice cream socials, travelogues, Suomi Koulu parties, as well as the traditional monthly luncheon. She has many ideas to bring members together in a fun and relaxing social setting.

She also serves on the board of both FCA and Senior Housing. This can be a time consuming commitment, but she has been there to support both organizations.

We truly appreciate her time planning and hosting so many social events as well as managing the gift shop! Thank you Mary.





FINLAND TODAY



First, Finnair has been awarded, for the eighth consecutive year, the title of 'Northern Europe's Best Airline' at the World Airline Awards, at the Paris Air Show. The results are based on an independent survey of over 19 million passengers from 105 countries covering 325 airlines. The World Airline Awards is organized by international air transport rating organization, Skytrax. "We are proud that Finnair has once again been recognized by Skytrax and passengers from across the world as the Best Airline in Northern Europe," says Piia Karhu, Senior VP, customer experience, at Finnair. "We are committed to providing the very best experience to our passengers throughout their journey and we constantly develop our service both on the ground and in the air while staying true to our renown Nordic hospitality."

The Finnish manufacturing company, Wartsila, is to supply a 225 megawatt power plant to Denton, Texas. The plant will supply "stand-by" power to the city, which is moving towards a low emission power system. Denton aims to produce 70 per cent of its energy from renewables by early 2019. With Wartsila's solution, the Texas city will reduce its emissions by approximately 78 per cent. "We are changing the electricity generation paradigm by using renewables as our base load power, and quick starting generation when the wind doesn't blow and sun doesn't shine," says Mike Grim, executive manager at Denton Municipal Power. The power plant deal, valued 100 million euros, consists of twelve 18-cylinder Wartsila 50SG engines operating on natural gas. "Our flexible power plant technology is a perfect match for renewables," says Dan Shelledy, business development manager at Wartsila North America. "We provide balancing power when wind and solar aren't available." The equipment will be delivered during the second half of 2017, and the plant is scheduled to begin operation in July, 2018.

In other Wartsila news, the company acquires Weir American Hydro. Wartsila strengthens its position in renewables with the purchase of the hydroelectric company. The acquisition will help Wartsila to grow and expand its existing global and industrial service offering. "American Hydro has an established position in the hydroelectric business," says Pierpaola Barbone, President of Wartsila Services. "The acquisition supports our growth strategy and expansion in renewables, improving our offering and services towards our customers. American Hydro is a supplier and installer of large equipment upgrades and servicing for the hydroelectric and water distribution industries.

The Finnish renewable power plant construction company, Fortam, has won the bid for the construction of a major solar power plant in the state of Rajasthan, in western India. The seventy megawatt solar power plant will be part of a project to expand the impressive Bhadia solar park. The solar plant will be massive, especially by Finnish standards. The completed project will be 200 times larger than the Suvilahti solar plant in Finland.

And finally, Heikki went into Dr. Nurmi's office and told the receptionist that he had the shingles. She told Heikki to sit down and that a nurse would see him shortly.

Heikki said, "But....."

After a while the nurse saw Heikki, did some tests and told him to wait for the doctor.

Heikki said, "But....."

Doctor Nurmi finally arrived and asked Heikki how he could help him?

Heikki said "I have the shingles."

"Where are they?" Doctor Nurmi asked.

"Outside in my truck" Heikki replied, "Where do you want them delivered?"



Thank you to Pearl Wanttaja
Markku Ketola, marketola@yahoo.com

NOVEMBER IN THE GARDENS

November marks the unofficial end to the gardening season before we start the holiday preparation. The skies over the Finnish Center are different with the butterflies, bees, and wasps gone. Many bird species have gone south including the swallows, red-winged blackbirds, hummingbirds, killdeer, ducks, and geese.

The toads and frogs are hibernating and the squirrels and chipmunks are vigorously gathering seeds and nuts for the winter. FYI, chipmunks stay in their burrows for the winter but do not truly hibernate as they wake up every few days to eat. This year was a banner year for black walnuts to drop their nuts and if you have this type of tree you will want to gather the nuts before these critters bury them. The poisonous juglone in the black walnuts can stunt or kill other trees, shrubs, and plants (especially potted plants) if several are buried at the plant roots.

The patio in front of the building is finally completed and we are researching patio sets for this area. We'd like a metal set heavy enough that it won't be blown over in a strong wind storm and one that can withstand being outside all year. It would be nice to have chairs that could be used with or without padded seats. If anyone has a set to donate that meets these criteria please contact us.

We were awarded another Beautification Award by the city of Farmington Hills on November 2nd. This is our 13th year in a row for this award. You will be able to see all this great publicity on local cable television.

If you have any questions, comments, or donations, you can contact me at (734) 546-5190 or via email at gaylegullen@hotmail.com.

Gayle Gullen
Finlandia Garden Club President



ADVERTISING RATES

DEADLINE:	DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 5TH
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FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS

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

Deadline/payment for ad is the 5th of the month preceding publication.

Column (ad) width is 2-1/4" for rates quoted below. Other sizes quoted on request.

Rates for a camera-ready, black & white ad, per three month period:

3 month rate 1" ad - \$30.00. 1.5" ad - \$45.00 2" ad - \$60.00

Pay for full year 1" ad - \$100.00. 1.5" ad - \$150.00 2" ad - \$200.00

Photos: B&W photo ads incur a one-time charge of \$25.00 payable at first insertion.

READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION



35200 W. Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5208

Prsrt STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Farmington, MI
Permit NO 250

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:
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Freedom Square (248) 442-7250
www.fcaseniorhousing.org



THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME

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