



Finnish Center Association

FCA News

December 2018

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 02 Sunday FASM Concert 4 pm
- 04 Rental
- 05 Wednesday Independence Day Cake & Coffee 1 pm
- 08 Saturday Independence Day Dinner 5 pm
- 09 Sunday FinnFolk "Finland: Independence & Identity" 2 pm
- 11 Tuesday Little Christmas Concert 7 pm
- 12 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 14 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 14 Friday Novi Community Band 7 pm (during dinner)
- 15 Saturday Finnish Christmas Dinner 5 pm
- 16 Sunday Candlelight Service 2 pm
- 21 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 24 Closed
- 25 Closed
- 31 Closed

January

- 01 Closed
- 04 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 18 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8 pm
- 20 Sunday Lapland Travelogue 2 pm
- 24 - 27 Rental
- 30 Wednesday Monthly Luncheon 12 noon



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

- Book Club
Last Monday of the month 1 pm
- Luncheon
Last Wednesday of the month
12 noon

**Reservations are recommended
for all events.**

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

We have had a taste of winter with the first snowfall. Despite the hazards of the icy snowy roads and driveways, the snow brightens up the scenery and gets us in a Christmas spirit. My memories of Christmas in Finland include the snow and all the fun, outdoor activities despite the dark days of December. These included building lumilinna (snow castles) and snow lanterns, daily cross country skiing and snowball fights (I had brothers), making snow angels in the pristine snow, unforgettable stargazing in the darkness of night with occasional and remarkable displays of the Aurora Borealis - even in the south of Finland. And, lastly is the memorable, deeply moving, event and image of lighting candles at the graves of loved ones. I'm sure many members share these memories – Christmas in Finland was a beautiful time of year.

Our Scandinavian Market this year was hugely successful for everybody as was the Swedish Christmas Fair in the following weekend. These both have become traditions and nice preludes to the holiday season. The Finnish Center is becoming the true center for all Scandinavians in southeastern Michigan. Our dedicated volunteers, members and committees have helped with many special events before Christmas. December starts with a Finnish American Singers' concert on December 2, following this, on the 5th, is an Independence Day coffee and cake after which, on Dec. 8, is our Independence Day Gala - and finally, on the 9th, a presentation by FinnFolk of "Finland: Independence and Identity".

Make sure to mark your calendars for these events including the Friday night suppers, the Novi Band Concert, a Little Christmas concert, Pikkujoulu with a Finnish Christmas dinner and, finally, a Candlelight Memorial Service. Check our calendar for days and times of these events. Check also our gift shop where our very dedicated manager, Mary O'Brien, has brought in new gifts and foods unique to our culture – both Finnish and Finnish American. The Leipajuusto is pretty wonderful.

Finally, I want to thank all our tireless volunteers for another successful year. It takes a lot of effort to keep the Center in operation. Without our volunteers FCA could not keep its doors open.

Have a wonderful, peaceful Christmas Holiday - I look forward to seeing you at the Finnish Center in 2019.

Mia Lamminen, Chairman



November 10
Scandinavian
Market opened
the doors
with a crowd of
people waiting to
gain entry.

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

Mia Lamminen, Chairman
Roger Wanttaja, Vice Chairman
Linda Poirier, Secretary
Ilona Takakura, Interim Treasurer

Board of Trustees

1 Year

Cynthia Haffey, Roger Wanttaja,
Robert Waissi

2 Year

Mia Lamminen, James Lee,
Mary O'Brien

3 Year

Irene Lamanen, Linda Poirier,
Ilona Takakura

Alternates

#1 Paul Rajala
#2 Carol Tudball
#3 Mike Fadie

Financial Review

Nancy Lee
Maria Lena Kuhn
Gene Belttari

Committee Chairpersons

Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

Education

Katri Ervamaa

Finance

Olli Lamminen

Gift Shop

Mary O'Brien

Mailing

Alice Manley

Membership

Fran Fadie

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
freedom.square@yahoo.com



5th ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, December 16, 2:00 pm



You're invited to the 5th Annual Candlelight Service to remember those who have passed on. Rev. Elmer Liimatta, of Chassell, and Chaplain Fred Liimatta, of VFW Pontiac Post 1370, have been invited to speak. Dinner will follow the program, including angel tree presentations. To have your loved one remembered, please send their name with your donation to Finnish Center Association, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

For information please call Lila Ball (248) 682-6792.

FINLAND: INDEPENDENCE & IDENTITY

Sunday, December 9
2:00 pm

How are we Finnish? To celebrate Independence Day in music and dance, the Cultural Committee, invited FinnFolk musicians and the Hoijakat Folk Dancers to tell stories of the Finnish people, to perform pieces that made us who we are. No longer part of Sweden or Russia, many artists used their talents to create their new nation. From the times of Kalevala, through the struggle for independence to the end of the cold war, our story is told by common folk as well international artists such as Sibelius. Please join us; audience members will be invited to share personal connections to their own favorite songs and dances.

Coffee and pastries will be available.
Donations are always appreciated.



NOVI COMMUNITY BAND

Friday, December 14



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

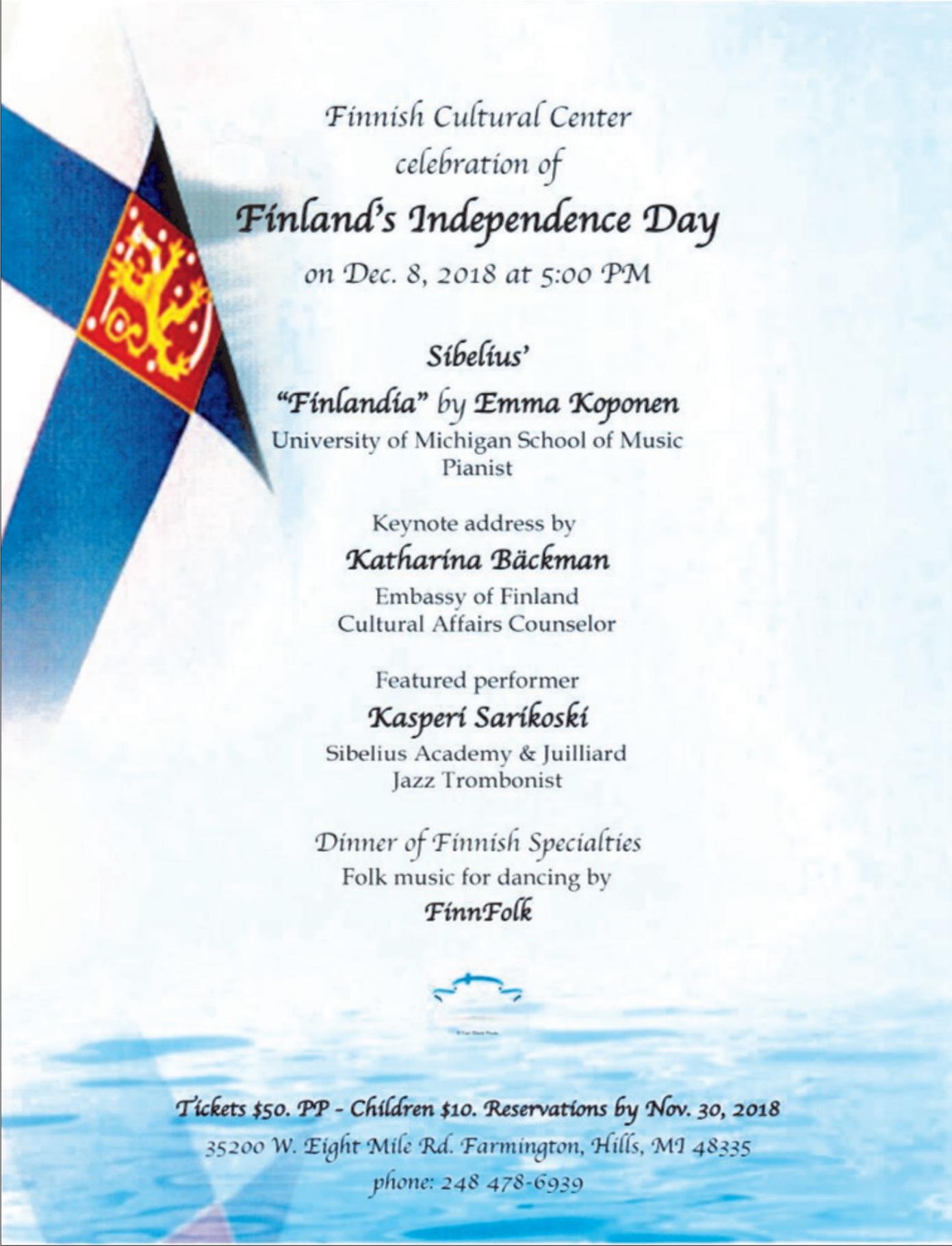
FCA BAKERS

On Thursday, November 8th, the following group of people came to the FCA to bake nisu/pulla, gingerbread, prune and apricot Christmas tarts for the November 10th Scandinavian Market. They were Elsie Felix, Chris Martin, Louise Harmala, Margaret Laurila, Tobie Line, Kris Bachmann, Eric Bachmann, Betty Taipalus, Lorraine Hannah, and Ilene Yanke.

It was great to have two men join the ladies. They also were a great help with lifting the heavy mixing bowls and dish washing!

Kiitos,
Ilene Yanke





Finnish Cultural Center
celebration of
Finland's Independence Day
on Dec. 8, 2018 at 5:00 PM

Sibelius'
"Finlandia" by Emma Koponen
University of Michigan School of Music
Pianist

Keynote address by
Katharina Bäckman
Embassy of Finland
Cultural Affairs Counselor

Featured performer
Kasper Sarikoski
Sibelius Academy & Juilliard
Jazz Trombonist

Dinner of Finnish Specialties
Folk music for dancing by
FinnFolk



Tickets \$50. PP - Children \$10. Reservations by Nov. 30, 2018
35200 W. Eight Mile Rd. Farmington, Hills, MI 48335
phone: 248 478-6939



Kasper Sarikoski is a trombonist and composer from Helsinki, Finland, currently studying the Artist Diploma in Jazz Studies program at the Julliard School in New York. His professional career has encompassed a broad array of musical ventures; in Finland he has worked with the UMO Jazz Orchestra as well as many of the country's leading jazz artists. He has also performed with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis in New York. In addition to his work as a sideman, Sarikoski has led his own group Nuance, with which he has toured Finland and performed at various jazz festivals. The band released its debut album "Essense" in 2015.

Kasper will be the featured performer at the FCA Independence Day celebration on December 8, 2018.



FROM THE LIBRARY



If you speak Finnish and have visited Finland or have had Finnish visitors, you have probably observed (if you are a Finnish American) that your vocabulary differs markedly from that of your Finnish friends and relatives. You probably say "kööki" for "kitchen", (Finnish: ("keittiö"), "ruuma" for "room" (Finnish: "huone"), "kaara" for "car", (Finnish: "auto"), "tokka" for "doll", (Finnish "nukke"), "pännä" for "pencil", (Finnish "kynä), "kaartiini" for "curtain" (Finnish "verho") etc. Your Finnish friends and relatives may have remarked "My, but you speak old-fashioned Finnish!" All of the old Finnish words mentioned have their origin in Swedish. They were common, legitimate Finnish words when your grandparents lived in Finland if that was prior to about 1900.

Although every language is constantly evolving, historical linguists have observed that the language of immigrants does not change nearly as rapidly as does that same language in the mother country. The language of immigrants can give a clue as to what the language of the mother country was like when they left it. This, indeed, is the case with American Finnish. All of the old Finnish words mentioned above are of Swedish derivation. The bulk of Finnish immigration to the United States was prior to or around the turn of the last century, when the Swedish language was prevalent in Finland. During Swedish domination prior to 1809 much Swedish crept into the Finnish vocabulary. The publication of the *Kalevala* in 1835 lent dignity to the Finnish language, but it took most of the century for Finnish to gain a real foothold.

Toward the end of the 19th century, an effort was made to replace words of Swedish derivation with Finnish words. If your grandparents came to the United States prior to this movement, they brought with them a vocabulary with many words of Swedish origin.

J.V. Snellman was a philosopher and statesman who campaigned for the establishment of Finnish as an official language of government, alongside Swedish. In this he succeeded; Finnish became an official language in 1863. In 1906, on the 100th anniversary of Snellman's birth several thousand Finns changed their names from a Swedish form to a Finnish form; even the form of your name may be a clue as to when your forefathers arrived here.

(continued on page 6)

From The Library (continued from page 5)

Besides words of old Finnish origin, American Finnish dialect contains words borrowed from English in this country and given a Finnish-type pronunciation. This accounts for “kaara”, “kraatsi”, “laisi”, “poppi”, “toori”, and so on. This also is a common linguistic phenomenon which accounts for the Swedish words in our grandparents’ vocabularies.

Yet another type of word appears in American Finnish dialect; this is a word invented for items encountered for the first time in their new land. Communication with the mother country was poor and rather than find out what people in the mother country called an item, they invented their own term. Such is the case with “ilmalaiva” (literally “airship”), which is the American Finnish word for “airplane”. In Finland it’s called a “lentokone”. The same applies to many words for car parts. For many of the latter, Finnish in Finland borrows from British English (Example: Am. Finnish “patteri” from Am. “battery” vs. “akkumalaattori” in Finland, from the British “accumulator”). American Finns invented the word “jääkermaa”, based on the literal words “ice cream”. In Finland ice cream is called “jäätelö”. One tourist whom I know who ordered “jääkermaa” got a bowl of ice cubes covered in whipped cream! The dessert was served after a very long wait while the kitchen staff was probably wondering what the customer actually wanted, and probably also whipping the cream!

In many cases, Finland’s Finnish vocabulary borrows identical English words for the same items as the American Finnish dialect does. However, the pronunciation is often different. Such is the case with “radio”. Because first generation American Finns were more likely to hear the word and adopt it via sound, they pronounced it “ray-dee-oh” (with a Finnish rather than English “r”). In Finland, however, the word is more likely to be adopted from print and therefore pronounced phonetically “rah-di-oh”. The same phenomenon applies to many other words like “camera”, “banana”, “vitamin” etc.

The next time someone comments on your “old-fashioned” Finnish, you can explain to him/her that you are a linguistic phenomenon, an “archeological find”. Explain that you speak the American Finnish dialect, a linguistic treasure you inherited from your Finnish roots. Some people have coined the term “Finnglish” for this dialect; however, I prefer to call it American Finnish dialect. It seems to me that “Finnglish” is a derogatory term, whereas the term “American Finnish” recognizes the fact that ours is a legitimate dialect and nothing to be ashamed of!

Lillian Lehto

lklehto@comcast.net, or (248) 642-1437

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



FRIDAY NIGHT BUFFETS

5-8 pm

December 14, 2018

December 21, 2018

January 4, 2019

January 18, 2019



Finnfolk perform at all dinners.
Join us for good food,
friendship and conversation.

MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Connie Fosness** (11/06/18) donations were made by Hannah Carlson, Leslie Swayze, Jennifer Jump & family, Charlene Erickson & family, Kathleen Smith & family, Jen Norber & family.

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

FCA life member **Rudolph Perttunen** (11/13/18)

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.

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.

The family of the deceased may direct undesignated donations toward a specific fund (up to one year after date of death).

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.



FCA ELECTION NOTICE 2019

Officer election at the Annual meeting on February 17, 2019 at 3 pm. The FCA Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to fill three positions on the FCA Board of Trustees.

Members running as candidates need to submit short biographies (250 words or less) by January 18, 2019 to the Finnish Center Association, attention Linda Poirier, Nominating Committee Chair. Biographies may also be submitted via email to finnishcenter@gmail.com.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Poirier at (248) 478-6939 or email to the FCA at finnishcenter@gmail.com

Please consider serving the FCA as a leader in one of these positions.



FCA SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING CORPORATION NOTICE

We are seeking candidates for three Board of Trustee positions to be elected at the Annual Meeting on February 17, 2019 at 1 pm.

If you are interested in participating as a member of the Board, forward a short resume (max 250 words) including your birthplace, your formal education and professional background as well as explanation of how you would contribute to the Board.

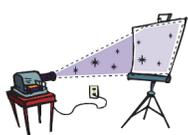
To be received no later than January 18, 2019 at: FCA Senior Citizens Housing Corporation, Attention: Secretary, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335



SOCIAL NEWS

We have a few events to celebrate in December before we close for the holidays. The Independence of Finland has much to celebrate. Please come to all the events. I promise you it will make you proud of your Finnish Heritage.

On Wednesday, December 5, we will have cake and coffee at 1:00 pm to celebrate. Please join us!



Sunday, January 20 at 2:00 pm Olli Lamminen will present his pictures of Lapland. This should be a special event! Let's make this a fun day.

Wednesday, January 30, will be a luncheon at noon. We will have chili to warm you up. A special gift will be given away.



Mary O'Brien

GIFT SHOP

Thank you to everyone who helped the gift shop for the Scandinavian Market. It was a wonderful day. Thank you for all who shopped at this wonderful event. I would especially like to thank Sherrill, Amy, Cynthia, Mala, Luise, Maureen, Mary Kay, Linda, Mary Archer, Chris, and Austin. A huge thank you to Fran for the advertisement and Mia for support and help in so many ways.

December is a great time to stop in the gift shop. We have so much to choose from for that special someone. Let's shop small. Finland manufactures wonderful items.

For your convenience the gift shop will be open on December 14 and 21 during the Friday night buffets. Sherrill will be there to help you.

Sherrill, Amy and Mary would like to say kiitos for supporting the gift shop this year. We would also like to say Hyvää Joulua.

Mary O'Brien

SCANDINAVIAN MARKET NOVEMBER 10, 2018



SCANDINAVIAN MARKET



SCANDINAVIAN MARKET



HOLIDAY SOUNDTRACK

A recent science fiction movie depicted a future world in which a person's memories could be extracted and watched on a screen like a movie by another person. Think about your Christmas memories. If your memories could be viewed now, many scenes would probably be similar among readers.

Family: opening presents, playing games, greeting members that haven't seen each other recently, gathering around a table filled with food. Food: from elaborate meals, to family snack favorites, to marathon cookie-baking sessions. Holiday decorating: including the loneliest Charlie Brown tree and the most elaborate professionally decorated tree, delicate blown-glass ornaments and kindergarten paper and glitter treasures. Presents: thoughtfully chosen, assembled, handmade, gaily wrapped, and finally given and unwrapped! For some it's outdoor scenes: snowy hills, desert mountain paths, beach walks, with fluffy parkas or candy cane colored flip-flops. Church services: simple and with pageantry, candles, special decorations only seen once a year. We can provide the soundtracks for these silent movies with the music that strikes special chords within each of us when we hear our favorites.

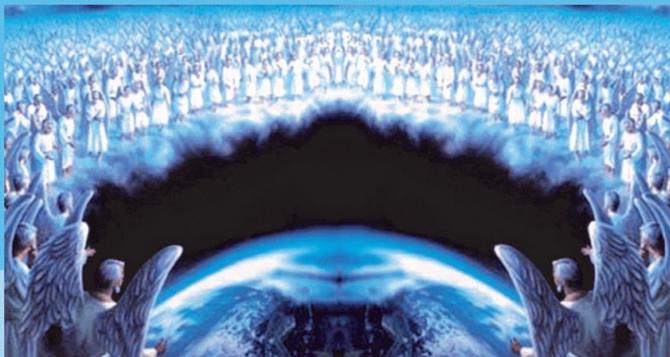
When asked what their favorite Christmas song is and why it is special to them, John Hookana eventually defaulted to *Silent Night* but several other members of our choir chose that song without hesitation. Mary Stapleton said it has been her favorite since grade school because of its simplicity and beauty. Dee Aebersold laughingly said she used to make her children learn it in Finnish during the long drive to the family farm in the U.P! Char Lytikainen claimed it because she can sing it in three languages. This scribe has never been to a Christmas Eve service where *Silent Night* has not been sung! Today this favorite is sung in more than 300 languages around the world. Vickie Kimler chose a song from our Christmas concert repertoire, *Something Told the Wild Geese*. "It represents seasonal transition in anticipation for the first signs of winter, very characteristic in our own state of Michigan." She also appreciated that it is a secular piece which all faiths can relate to. Sometimes we remember a special person singing a song. Nancy Jacobs shared that although she loves most carols, *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* is probably her favorite holiday song because it is the one she remembers her mother singing the last time her extended family got together when she was in middle/high school. "My mom had a lovely voice until the smoking and yearly pneumonia made it harsh and raspy."

A version of *The First Noel* by Dan Forrest that is included in this year's Christmas concert was the choice of Helena Hatten after some deliberation, because of the beautiful harmonies in this arrangement. Ilene Yanke's choice, *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*, was written by Martin Luther and as she relates, "With a cheerful and uplifting melody tells that the Infant is to be found, not on velvet and silk, but on hay and straw." Jean Shea's American favorite is *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, loving the words in the verses where we are reminded that although the town is dark and quiet, the Baby in the manger is watched over by angels in the heavens proclaiming His birth. *Angels We have Heard on High* is the favorite of Paul Rajala, chosen because he feels the verses succinctly tell the story of the nativity and the chorus "Gloria in excelsis Deo" lets us express our great joy in the coming of salvation. "Singing this carol," he shares, "is the emotion of Christmas." Another song that speaks of angel voices was chosen by two choir members, Elaine Weider and Cortney Standifer. *O Holy Night* was the song Elaine and her sister used to entertain the family with during family carol night. Elaine, who is a tenor in our choir, said her sister sang alto to her soprano, adding a postscript that she had a MUCH higher voice then! Cortney, a first soprano, loves the reminiscing about that holy night in the song, and agreed that it has a WONDERFUL soprano part.

Many people feel Christmas is especially for children. Director Bill Gramzow picked out *Come Hither, ye Children*, the first song of the Christmas pageant at Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School in Detroit, im-

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The Finnish-American Singers of Michigan Present Sing to the World, It's Christmas!

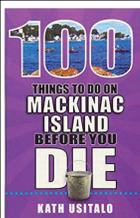
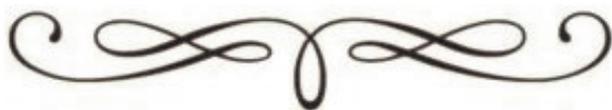


*Featuring:
Finnish Carols and American Favorites*

*Date: Sunday December 2, 2018
Time: 4:00pm*

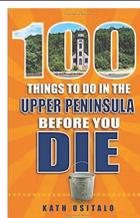
*Price: Adults (over 12 yrs old) - \$10
Youth (5 - 12 yrs old) - \$5
Under 5 yrs old - free
(Price includes the luncheon afterward)*

*Place: Finnish Cultural Center
35200 West Eight Mile Road
(between Farmington and Newburgh Roads)
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335
248-478-6939*



**100 Things to Do
In Mackinac Island
Before you Die**

**100 Things to Do
In the Upper Peninsula
Before you Die**



Books 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

Holiday Soundtrack
(continued from page 11)

portant due to its German origin, the same as his heritage. The pageant generated standing room only attendance two consecutive nights, one of which was Christmas Eve. He loved it so much after participating as he was raised in that church, that he perpetuated the pageant for 23 years professionally as a Lutheran School teacher and musician. He also mentioned *Oh Come, All Ye Faithful* because “it wonderfully captures the joyful excitement of the long-awaited Christmas season anticipated and prepared for during the season of Advent.”

No soundtrack would be complete without other musical instruments and sounds, in addition to singing. Hank Naasko believes the words to *I heard the Bells on Christmas Day* are among the most beautiful of any particularly American Christmas song. “Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: God is not dead, nor does He sleep, For Christ is here; His Spirit near Brings peace on earth, good will to men.” David Sharpe loves *The Little Drummer Boy* because, in his words, it describes a naïve young lad who brings all that he has to Jesus, and with his humble gifts of sound and rhythm remind us that the gifts that really matter are sincerity and honesty. After many years of playing a musical instrument, this scribe loves the bells, brass, and full orchestra sound of *Carol of the Bells* as played by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra as well as the vocally intricate version sung by the Pentatonix. An octet (8 singers) will be singing an arrangement of this at our Christmas concert. I hope you had the opportunity to hear it!

May all of your holiday memories be accompanied by a rich soundtrack of wonderful music.

Contributed by scribe,
Katy Koskela





FINLAND TODAY

Climate change and Finland



This year's Independence Day Ball at Helsinki's Presidential Palace will be about climate change and the environmental issue. President Niinistö said that the environment and nature are inseparable parts of Finland and Finns, and that the responsibility rests on us. The environmentally-conscious theme will be seen in the party's catering and decorations. The President's wife will be wearing an evening gown made of wood-fibre fabric. The company called Stora Enso, will provide the fabric for the first lady's gown and it is environmentally sustainable.

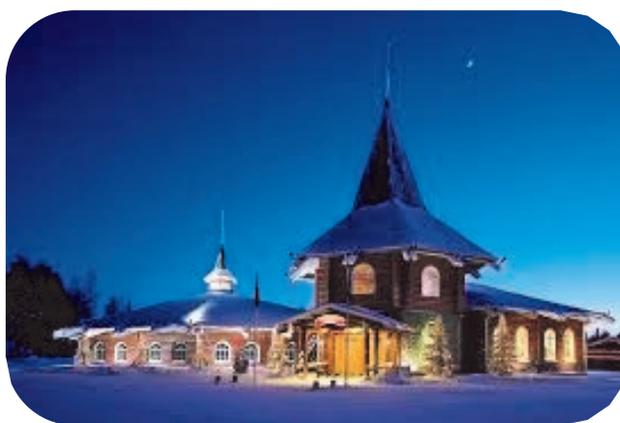
October 9, 2018, The Arctic Biodiversity Congress met in Rovaniemi. The goal of the event was to bring experts from across the world to share their knowledge in support of the common goal: "to safeguard the precious species and ecosystems of the Arctic". The Arctic region is one of the most vulnerable systems on our planet, as sea ice is melting at an alarming rate. As mentioned in speeches, the main focus of the Paris Agreement was to reduce CO2 emission by doing what we can to slow down the melting of the ice. Cutting back on the black carbon emissions would be the quickest way to slow down the rapid changes that are occurring in the Arctic. President Niinistö was one of the speakers at the meetings and he believes that preserving the Arctic's biodiversity is closely linked with combating pollution and climate change and that we all play a part in it. Each country needs to think about black carbon emissions, reducing oil and gas productions, switching from heavy fuels to LNG in ship engines, upgrading old coal power plants and preventing wildfires. President Niinistö believes that there is hope and that we can still "save the Arctic and save the globe".

"WWF Finland" issued a report in which it outlined signs that global warming is already beginning to affect Finland. The ice formations on lakes and open seas last for shorter periods of time, vegetation is changing and the tree lines are moving further north. The Arctic fox has almost entirely disappeared from Finland, the snow owl nesting sites cannot be found, the wolverines, the Saimaa ringed seal and salmon are also suffering all because of the climate change. Melting glaciers in the north are raising sea levels on the other side of the planet. At the same time, as oceans are become warmer, the acidity and the air and marine currents are changing. Melting permafrost is releasing massive amounts of greenhouse gases that have the potential to further increase global temperatures. The Finnish climate is expected to warm up considerably by the end of this century.

On a lighter note about the Arctic, Finland still has Korvatunturi where Santa lives and you can still visit it, but the best place to see Santa is at Rovaniemi Santa Claus Village in the Arctic Circle. You can join the 500,000 other visitors from around the world that want to meet up with Santa and his elves. You can write to Santa and if you add your return address, he will write you back.

Santa Claus
96930 Arctic Circle
Finland

Santa's Village
 Rovaniemi,
 Finland



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KIITOS

Thank you to all involved who made the Scandinavian Market a success. Special thanks to all our exhibitors: Finn Weavers, Nordkap Lodge/Sons of Norway, Fritzcraft, The Swedish Club, Swedish Club Women's Organization, Jenny Lind Club of Michigan, Scandia House, Danish Brotherhood, Accents by Agatha, Richard Willard, Finnish Family Bath Products, Lavender Fleece, Susan Fogarasi, Swedish Passprt, Sarina Siljander and Laestadian Luther Church.

Thank you to Nordkap Lodge/Sons of Norway and with FCA volunteers who again provided great food for the visitors. Thank you also goes to all the tireless volunteers at the admissions, gift shop sales, bake sale, kitchen and food service who made it all happen and not to forget the volunteers setting up the hall. Without our volunteers we could not have done it. Our bakers did a great job in filling our table for the bake sale. Thank you Margaret Laurila for coordinating the bake sale Nancy Rajala for making sure we had coffee and cake and Paul Rajala and his crew who provided pasties. Thank you also to Mary O'Brien who had stocked up the gift shop with great gift items, food and candy. Finally a special thank to Finnfolk for providing music for the occasion.

The date for next year's Market is November 16, 2019. Mark your Calendars!

KIITOS!

Mia Lamminen

DECEMBER IN THE GARDENS

The holiday lights were checked early this year so we could have them out in early December for all the festivities which take place at the Finnish Center early in the month of December. We opted to cut back on the number of figures to streamline the look and minimize the cost as we have not yet switched to LED lighting.

We presented David's project highlighting the environmental history of Finlandia gardens at a meeting of Master Gardeners and Master Gardeners in Training in late November. Brochures of the gardens and Finnish Center were distributed and we hope to obtain both new volunteers and increased traffic from our efforts.

The Garden Club will be meeting the first Monday in January to remove the decorations if anyone is available to assist. We have also put out approximately 8 suet feeders so if anyone has suet to contribute it is much appreciated.

We received sad news in November that one of our former garden members, Kirkland Morris, passed away. Kirkland lived at Tapiola Village at one time and she and her dogs were frequent garden visitors. She was a wonderful chef and for many years the Garden Club holiday celebration BBQ's were led by Kirkland.

If you have any questions, comments, or donations, you can contact me by phone at (734) 546-5190 or via email at gaylegullen@hotmail.com. Extra Christmas lights (LED's please) are always appreciated.



Gayle Gullen, Finlandia Garden Club President

Finland Today (continued from page 13)

Finally, Heikki and Matti were going fishing for Christmas Eve Dinner.

Matti: “Voi Poika – we better get some fish this time, I do not think I can stomach the taste or the stink in the house this Christmas!”

Heikki: “I know – if we don’t get the salmon, the house is going to smell for a long time, Pappa Toivo said it was a Finnish Tradition.”

Matti: “Voi, Voi, what can we do to prevent this?”

Heikki: “Ja, Jaa – lets think! Maybe we can steal the Lutefish and bury it or see if the dogs would eat it?”

Meanwhile Hilma and Sanni were starting to prepare the Lutefish in the barn, they were soaking the lye out from the lutefish. The barn smelled so bad that dogs and cats ran out, not even a mouse to be found.

Matti : “So why do those Norwegian and Swedes keep on selling our wives this ungodly food - lutefish?”

Heikki: “Tradition, tradition, voi, voi kauhial!”



ADVERTISING RATES

EADLINE:	DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ISSUE IS DECEMBER 5TH
EDITOR CONTACT INFO:	PAUL RAJALA
LAYOUT AND DESIGN:	NANCY RAJALA
E-MAIL:	nrajala@comcast.net

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 500 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.

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