



READY, SET, PLAY! – SOIVA CAMP 2010 UPDATE

By Jeanne Doty, Trustee

Now is the time to begin planning to attend Soiva Music Camp! Soiva Camp, like no other camp in the world, brings together the best Finnish and American teachers and students ages 11-17. Held in northern Minnesota, the **2010 camp dates are June 14-20**. Please consider this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a child, grandchild, or other young musician in your life. Our goal is to have 47 students this year!

What is new for 2010?

Violin will be added to the existing piano, clarinet, flute and composition instruction.

What do students think of Soiva Camp?

Please read the following comments from 2009 Soiva campers.

“I have learned so much in the way I look at music.”

“Thank you so much for everything! I have met some of the most amazing people and have learned so many amazing things.”

“Salolampi Music Camp was really fun. I think that the balance of music and culture & language was perfect.”

“I think I learned a lot about and learned to respect the Finnish culture. I enjoyed learning about a different culture through contact with students my age from Finland.”

“I had a blast learning other cultures and speaking the language. Hopefully, I can come back next year to learn even more.”

Experience in Bemidji

Soiva music camp is held in Bemidji, Minnesota. At the Soiva camp in Salolampi I enjoyed a wonderful experience there for the second time. The new counselors are always great to meet and fun to be around. The activities are just the greatest and always teach some great new learning skills like English-speaking campers Finnish, Finnish-speaking campers English, and fun Finnish songs. There is a sauna and lake for a great Finnish experience. The composition classes at Bemidji State University are the most fun along with the other classes for piano, clarinet, and flute. My instrument is the piano. This camp is the best! I will definitely come back for the third time in a row. Come and join the other campers and me at Soiva camp at Salolampi.

By Markus Hiukka (*Washington composer and pianist who has attended Soiva Camp for two years*)

To learn more about Soiva Camp:

See a video and photos on the Soiva Camp page at www.finlandiafoundation.com

Visit the following websites for more information, including registration information and “early bird” deadlines:

www.finlandiafoundation.org

www.ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org



Teachers' names are as follows: FRONT ROW: Stephen Carlson (piano); BACK ROW left to right: Karipekka Eskelinen (clarinet), Leigh Wakefield (clarinet), Debora Harris (flute), Timo Klemettinen, Director of the Association of Finnish Music Schools, Heta Priiki (piano), Markus Fagerudd (improvisation and composition), and Terhi Savo-Helske (flute). Photo by Olavi Hiukka.

ANNOUNCING FINN HALL 2010 PERFORMER OF THE YEAR

By Satu Mikkola, Trustee

At their October meeting, the Board of Trustees of Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) selected Finn Hall Band from Minnesota as the FFN Performer of the Year (POY) for 2010. Finn Hall's one-year POY term starts on January 1, 2010.

Finn Hall is a group of musicians dedicated to preserving and performing the feel and sounds of the old Finn Halls. Their performance remains true to the original tunes – music of earlier generations – and also includes dance numbers of the mid 20th century, such as tangos and humppas. Dance music of other Nordic cultures is also in their extensive repertoire.

Finn Hall has gone back to the “old country” to learn traditional and contemporary dance music, at the same time deepening their personal connections with living musicians and the places from which band members trace their heritage.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we look back at the growth of Finlandia Foundation National over the past 56 years, it's amazing to witness what started as a vision of two men--forming an organization for remembering Finnish immigrants in North America, their descendents, and their stories--now encompassing 34 chapters and over 5,000 members.

At the recent Board of Trustees meeting, held in October in Ithaca, New York, in conjunction with the annual Finn Funn Weekend, an **updated Mission Statement** for FFN was approved. It states quite clearly and succinctly what we are all about: ***"Our mission is to sustain both Finnish-American culture in the USA and the ancestral tie with Finland by raising funds for grants and scholarships, initiating innovative national programs, and networking with local chapters."*** This has been and continues to be the basis of our existence.

Finlandia Foundation National's initial philanthropic programs of grants and scholarships started with the awarding of one scholarship and one grant. Through the generosity of many, many people over the years, starting with the founders Yrjo Paloheimo and Vaino Hoover, these programs have expanded to include our Performer of the Year, Lecturer of the Year, and matching scholarships for children attending the Finnish Language Village Salolampi and Soiva Camp at Salolampi. Further information can be found on our website, www.finlandiafoundation.org.

It's gratifying to offer these diverse programs, but we all know that money can't be dispersed without a flow of money coming in. For the first time in our 56-year history, Finlandia Foundation National is embarking on a fundraising campaign so that we will be able to help even more people and organizations. We are indeed fortunate to be the recipients of grant funding from the Paloheimo Foundation, established by Yrjo and Leonora Curtin Paloheimo. This grant funding supports administrative expenses of our national office in Pasadena, California, the printing and mailing twice yearly of our national newsletter, and the printing of the FFN history book "Black Ties and Miners' Boots." In addition, grant funding has been received to cover our fundraising campaign expenses. The Paloheimo Foundation also matches donations up to \$75,000 per year, thus doubling all donations up to that amount--for instance, a \$50 donation becomes \$100. The best part of all of this is that **100 percent of all donations go towards the programs** which are mentioned above. *Our organization is unique in being able to give away all that we receive.*

Finlandia Foundation National is here to serve our members. Our 17-member Board of Trustees is a dedicated group of volunteers, working diligently to make our organization ever stronger. It's exciting for me to witness the interest among our Finnish-American friends and their neighbors across the USA in promoting and preserving that precious Finnish heritage and culture.

Best wishes for a joyous holiday season,
Anita Häkkinen Smiley



FINN HALL PHOTO: Ralph Tuttila – mandolin, Cheryl Paschke – violin and nyckelharpa, Dennis Halme – accordion, and Al Reko – accordion and vocals.

2010 PERFORMER of the YEAR FINN HALL

Continued from page 1

Finn Hall core members are: Al Reko – accordion and vocals, Dennis Halme – accordion, Cheryl Paschke – violin and nyckelharpa, and Ralph Tuttila – mandolin.

Finn Hall friends, who regularly perform with the group, are Gordon Oswald – bass, and Kip Peltoniemi – guitar. Also when available, Johanna Doty joins on violin.

Finn Hall has been together as a band for over ten years. Frequent performers at FinnFests and Grand Fests in the US and Canada, they have toured in Finland and performed at the Kaustinen International Folk Music Festival several times. Most recently, Finn Hall was featured during the FinnFest '09 cruise to Alaska.

Finn Hall has produced two recordings; *Muistelmia* (Reflections) in 2002 and *Tule Tanssimaan* (Come Dance) in 2009. For further information go to their website: www.finnhall.com.

Through the Finlandia Foundation National's POY Travel Grant Program, Finn Hall is available for the Foundation's chapter programs.

For additional information, please contact Satu Mikkola, Coordinator of the Finlandia Foundation Performer of the year Program at satum@aol.com

SCHOLARSHIPS For SALOLAMPI

By Mervi Hjelmroos-Koski, Trustee

During the summer of 2009, four of the Finlandia Foundation regional chapters participated in FFN's Salolampi Scholarship Program that supported a first-time villager to Salolampi Finnish language camp. The Salolampi Scholarship Program is one of the ways FFN promotes the Finnish culture and tradition among our young people. It actively contributes to the education of youths about contemporary Finland.

Finlandia Foundation National is continuing with this effort in 2010 and is encouraging its member chapters to support the Salolampi Language Village program by providing 7 scholarships of \$300 each to cover a part of the tuition **for first-time or second-time campers**, giving the first-time campers the priority. The local FF chapter will need to match this scholarship with an equal amount. For more detailed information, please contact your regional chapter.

Deadline for applications is February 28, 2010.

Recipients for Finlandia Foundation National matching Salolampi scholarship in 2009:

- Jenna Ryyanen, Twin Cities Chapter, Age 14
- Corinne Ryyanen, Twin Cities Chapter, Age 17
- Hailey McArthur, Florida Chapter, Age 13
- Kelli McArthur, Florida Chapter, Age 15
- Elsa Laskorski, Boston Chapter, Age 15
- Anna Laskorski, Boston Chapter, Age 12
- Marcus Hiukka, Seattle Chapter, Age 12

Testimonials from Salolampi campers:

"I plan on continuing to study Finnish throughout high school at Salolampi as a four-week credit villager as well as on my own at home."

"During my two-week stay at the Village, I was able to build off of what I had studied in books and computer programs and was even able to converse in the Finnish language with many of the counselors."

"Each morning we woke up we went to a lesson and learned Finnish folk songs and culture, then at night we would sing them."

"There were many fun and exciting things to do there: Painting, belt making crafts, tie dying, wooden knife crafts et cetera."



PHOTO: Finnish-Americans and Friends (Hibbing Chapter), Minnesota, members with Lucia Wyland who attended Salolampi in 2007.



SOIVA PHOTOS ABOVE: Flute players warming up at Soiva Camp with teachers Debora Harris and Terhi Savo-Helske. MIDDLE: Pianists at Soiva Camp with teachers Stephen Carlson and Heta Priiki. BOTTOM: Students' lunch sandwich factory at Salolampi (kids made their own brown bag lunches in Salolampi kitchen). Photos by Olavi Hiukka.

KIVAJAT DANCERS TRIP TO FINLAND

By Kay Seppala, Director, Kivajat Dancers

The Saturday of FinnFest USA 2008 in Duluth was a memorable day for the Kivajat Dancers, a children's Finnish American folk dance group from Hancock, Michigan. Not only did we perform for Finland's President Tarja Halonen, we were invited to attend the *Tanssiva Turku*, a children's international folk dance festival held every three years in Turku, Finland.

An adventure had begun. In less than a year, the Kivajat families raised more than \$17,000 travel money – much of it from grants from Finlandia Foundation National, Suomi Seura and Kipina Kerho. Local groups and individuals supported us, (in particular, our sponsors — the Finnish American Heritage Center at Finlandia University and the City of Hancock's Finnish Theme Committee) and momentum built as we performed regionally, sharing our story.

The festival itself, sponsored by *Turun Kansantanssin Ystävät*, was a happy blur of events. All 12 dancers (ages 7 – 16) and their moms traveled to Finland. During the five-day festival in late July, 2009, the Kivajat families stayed with Finnish families whose daughters of the same age also danced. We joined the dancers from Karelia, Estonia, Latvia, Siberia, Hungary, and of course Finland for performances, workshops, crafts, dance evenings, a parade, sauna and swimming in the Baltic, and traditional Finnish food. Our goals of learning new dances, becoming better world citizens by learning of other cultures, being ambassadors for the U.S., and building bridges across cultures and the ocean, were more than met.

continued above in next column



The warm Finnish hospitality was unsurpassed. The Finns were delighted to see Americans preserving Finnish folk traditions in song and dance. The weather was (mostly) good. Everyone stayed healthy. The dancers (and their moms!) had fun. What started out as a memorable day at a U.S. festival turned out to be an adventure beyond our expectations at a festival an ocean away!

A New Metal Roof For The Runeberg Hall

By Jay Ringler, Treasurer

The Runeberg Hall, Lodge No. 8, located in the small town of Dollar Bay, Michigan, is 106 years old. Thanks to a generous donation from FFN, the building will be protected by a new roof for many years to come.

In 1903, the Swedish-Finnish Temperance Society, one of many such societies in the area, built the hall for \$3,000. Since these societies provided sickness and death benefits as well as an opportunity to socialize with people of similar backgrounds and language, having their own hall was beneficial. It was used for meetings, socials, gym classes, concerts, and plays. (Of the original 71 lodges with nearly 9,000 members, there are only 15 left; and Dollar Bay is one of only two lodges that still owns a hall.)

In 1920, the International Order of Runeberg was organized when the Swedish-Finnish Benevolent and Aid Association of America merged with the Swedish-Finnish Temperance Association. The name honored Johan Ludvig Runeberg, one of Finland's greatest citizens.

Today, the Dollar Bay Lodge is a cultural, historical, and social organization, having an ethnically diverse membership. The hall is still a community centerpiece and is used for weddings, graduation parties, and public events. All funding for the Lodge comes through membership dues, rentals, and fundraisers, such as raffles and rummage sales.

There are many artifacts maintained at the Runeberg Hall, including membership records, treasury ledgers, sick and death benefits payment records, bylaws, constitution booklets, pictures, original charters, and minutes of the annual meetings.

The members are very proud of the Hall's history and wish to preserve it and its historical artifacts well into the future. The new roof will help ensure the Runeberg Hall will remain a solid structure and an icon of the Copper Country community.

FINN FUNN WEEKEND

By Anja Lauila, FF Florida Chapter member

The Finns of Northeastern US celebrated their annual Finn Funn Weekend at the beginning of October, hosted by the Finger Lakes Finns in Ithaca, New York. "This is the 17th Finn Funn Weekend, and we are aiming for at least 20," said Anita Smiley, who, with her husband Jack, created the concept for and promoted these weekends, with increasing attendance every year. The chair of this weekend, Jean Lindblad, was very pleased that there were so many first-time attendees.

The three-day weekend began with a tour of five wineries followed by an abundance of activities, including dancing, musical entertainment, seminars, a cooking demonstration (*voileipäkakku*), ancestry research, lectures, a *Tori*, and of course, delicious food. Coffee and *pulla* were available throughout most of each day.

We were especially fortunate to have FFN's 2009 Performer of the Year, Terhi Miiikki-Broersma, a talented musician and a delightful young lady, entertain us throughout the weekend. We also enjoyed the musicianship of Richard Koski, FFN 2005 POY, who played with his group and also accompanied some of the other musicians, including Kent Washburn, Vic Aijala, and Richard Impola. The Finnish American Singers entertained us with Finnish songs.

Photojournalist Vesa Oja presented a slide show of various pictures to be published in his upcoming book about Finns in America. Krister Bjorklund from the Turku Institute of Migration helped many attendees find their roots. Tuuli Ross from Tapiola, Finland, spoke about the Finnish educational system. Deputy Speaker Marita Cauthen gave an update on the Finnish Expatriate Parliament.

At the Friday night banquet, Riitta Gerlander, representing the Consulate General of Finland in New York, spoke about Finland's high tech achievements, and urged us to keep our Finnish heritage alive. The Master of Ceremonies for the weekend's evening programs was Osmo Kanerva from Hapoluxo, Florida.

PHOTOS:

Page 4. TOP - Kivajat Dancers in Turku, Finland. Photo by Hal Seppala.

BOTTOM - A new metal roof for the Runeberg Hall, Lodge no. 8, in Dollar Bay, Michigan.

Page 5. ABOVE - Jean Lindblad, Finn Funn coordinator, at the podium. Photo by David Pakkala.

BOTTOM - FFN Trustee Jacqueline Harula and FFN Emeritus and FF Florida Chapter President Juha Makipaa ringing bells at Finn Funn. Photo by Olavi Hiukka.

Bridging The Generations In Literary and Historical Scholarship

By Jon Saari, Trustee

Two of the 2009 FFN grants were about the future of Finnish-American scholarship; i.e., the transition to a younger generation of leaders who will ensure that this ethnic story continues to be told in literature and history.

The latest issue of *The Journal of Finnish Studies* (Volume 13, Number 1: summer 2009) has a striking painting by Joyce Koskenmaki on its cover. Three white birch tree trunks stand out brightly against a black backdrop; they seem to have eyes focusing on the viewer. If black is oblivion, then the tree trunks could stand for the younger scholars who have stepped forth to make sure the only scholarly journal dedicated to Finnish Studies in North America keeps publishing. The FFN grant helped pay for moving the editorship of the Journal from the University of Toronto to Finlandia University. Its new editors are Beth L. Virtanen, Hanna Snellman, Hillary Joy Virtanen, and Sheila Embleton.

Over sixty pages of the new issue of the Journal feature papers presented at an international seminar held in Turku, Finland, in early June 2009. The older generation of migration scholars in Finland – Reino Kero, Olavi Koivukangas, Keijo Virtanen, and Auvo Kostiainen – were all present, as were their counterparts in the United States, including Arnold Alanen, George Hummasti, and Peter Kivisto. Most striking was the presence of younger scholars who will tell the immigration and ethnic story in their own words in the future; they included Eric Hieta, who wrote on the Finnish Relief Fund of 1939-1940; Mika Roinila, who is blazing the trail of Finland-Swedish experience in North America; and Suzanne Matson, who is writing an historical fiction novel based on "seditious" Finns and Montana vigilantes in World War I. The FFN grant helped pay for the travel of younger scholars to Finland for the seminar.



The painting by Joyce Koskenmaki above appeared on the cover of the *Journal of Finnish Studies*, Volume 13, Number 1, summer 2009.



FINNISH HERITAGE SOCIETY SOVITTAJA ENCHANTS LOCALS WITH FINNISH KALEIDOSCOPE

By Lindsay Gwyther, Sovittaja New Activities Committee (member)

Early in 2009, the Sovittaja New Activities Committee (SNAC) was established as a satellite group to the FFN chapter in Rutland, Massachusetts, the Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja (FHSS). This new committee was formed to respond to the aging organization's aches and pains. The long-time members of FHSS posed a challenge to this new group of younger members of FHSS to contrive something new and exciting.

The six SNAC members decided to create an event that would weave modern Finnish themes into the historical fabric of the Finnish immigrants that founded Sovittaja over 100 years ago. Thus, the First Annual Finnish Kaleidoscope was conceived, to be held on Midsummer, June 20, 2009. With support from many outside groups and businesses, the FHSS Finnish Kaleidoscope

was able to offer a dynamic selection of events throughout the day. While Finnish meatball-making was being demonstrated in the kitchen, mölkky was being played in the field, an air guitar competition was held next to the hall, and an all-day Tori was taking place. A homemade Finnish *seisovapöytä* lunch served up soups (*hernekeitto, ohra-sienikeitto or kesäkeitto*), salads, casseroles, meatballs, sandwiches, and desserts.

After lunch, traditional Finnish activities included boot throwing, wife carrying, maypole dancing and storytelling. Lectures during the day were on Finnish topics such as language; immigration to Central Massachusetts; farming; and a local Finnish invention, non-invasive blood-glucose measurement. Other highlights of the day were music, dancing, kids' games, art and artifact exhibits, a raffle, and midsummer magic throughout the extravaganza.

Responses from the Finnish community and the general public, attending from both Massachusetts and the pan-New England area, were overwhelmingly positive.

BALTIMORE AREA CHAPTER CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

By Jaana Myllyluoma, Chapter Member

The FF Baltimore Area Chapter gathered on October 17, to celebrate our 35th anniversary at the home of Pentti and Tuula Aro (the current president and his wife). About forty guests enjoyed an evening of Finnish-style foods, Finnish music by Arto Nousiainen and a small choir, and lively socializing. Anita Smiley, national president of FFN, was a special guest, as were Ossi and Karin Rahkonen from the National Capital Chapter.

The following is an excerpt from the speech given by Jaana Myllyluoma, former chapter president:

"It was a small but energetic group of old-timers from East Baltimore, led by Kalevi Olkio, who banded together to form the Baltimore chapter of Finlandia Foundation on November 3, 1974. The early years of the organization focused on bringing Finnish cultural activities to those living in the Baltimore/Washington area. Those activities included a concert by accordion player Veikko Ahvenainen, folk dancers from Kuopio, co-sponsoring the Tapiola Choir at the Kennedy Center, and even building an authentic sauna in an army tent at a nearby army base.

Hosting visitors from Finland has been an important role for our organization over the years. In 1982, we hosted a picnic for 45 midshipmen from the ship *Pohjanmaa*. More recently, our role has included acting as the welcome wagon for Finnish professionals and their families coming to the Baltimore area to work or study.

If an organization is the reflection of its members, ours is as multifaceted as a snowflake. The initial group of 22 founding members represented second-generation Finns who grew up together in a tightly knit Finnish neighborhood. Their parents had moved here in the early 1900s and settled in the East Baltimore neighborhood of Highlandtown. We have grown in number and diversity from those early days. Now we are first-, second-, and third-generation Finns and their families and friends.

PHOTOS TOP: Children enjoying games at Sovittaja's Finnish Kaleidoscope. Photo by Robea Tatrowicz courtesy of the Holden Landmark.

BOTTOM: FF Baltimore Chapter Board: Anna Braganza, Corresponding Secretary and Newsletter Editor Pirjo Huovinen, Vice President Jaana Moller, Tuula Aro, Treasurer Tom Salmi, Recording Secretary Mike Moriarty, FFN President Anita Häkklä Smiley, and FF Baltimore Chapter President Pentti Aro.



FF NATIONAL CAPITAL CHAPTER (FFNCC) 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

By Ossi Rahkonen, FFNCC President

The FFNCC 50th Anniversary Banquet was held at the Embassy of Finland Finlandia Hall on June 23, 2009. In attendance were H.E., Ambassador of Finland Pekka Lintu, FFN President Anita Hakkila Smiley, two of the founders of the FFNCC (of the three who are still with us), eight past FFNCC Presidents, FFNCC members, Embassy staff, and a large number of outside guests filling Finlandia Hall.

Ossi Rahkonen, FFNCC President, spoke of the objectives of Finlandia Foundation and the reasons for establishing the "International Excellence Award," with opera singer Karita Mattila as the first awardee. He introduced Ambassador Lintu, who spoke of the importance the Finnish government and the Embassy place on the work FFN is undertaking in promoting Finnish and Finnish-American culture in the US. In many ways, the FFNCC acts as the extended cultural arm of the Embassy. In recognition of this, Ossi Rahkonen had recently been awarded the Knight of the Order of Lion of Finland decoration.

PHOTOS TOP: Karin and Ossi Rahkonen, President of the FF National Capital Chapter and FFN President Anita Häkkinen Smiley.
BOTTOM: Kaino Leethem in front of the relief map of Finland and scene of Finland's Lake District.



Anita Häkkinen Smiley extended congratulatory remarks, provided a brief history of FFN and the importance it attaches to the work of the 34 chapters, whose numbers have greatly expanded in recent years. Kirsti Frenzen Noring, the daughter of one of the founders and FFNCC Board member, provided a historical overview of FFNCC. She noted that George Paloheimo had strongly encouraged the establishment of an FFN chapter in Washington, D.C. This chapter has organized many important Finnish musical events and presentations of Finnish technological expertise.

Music for the evening was provided by Valerie Junntila, flute; Erik Bubolz, piano; and Janne Mertanen, piano. An all-male quartet "Atlantic Echo" performed mainly Finnish songs, ending with *Suomen Laulu* (Song of Finland) and *Finlandia*, an emotional moment for many in the audience.

Janne Mertanen, winner of the international Chopin competition, performed an inspiring Impromptu Opus No. 5 by Jean Sibelius, followed by Chopin's Sonata No. 3. These were performances of unquestioned excellence, resulting in standing ovations. He was clearly the star of this anniversary celebration.

50 YEARS of the FINNISH CLASSROOM AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

By Suvi Chisholm, FFCPC President

On May 2, 2009, the Finlandia Foundation Columbia-Pacific Chapter hosted a major cultural event with the Rededication and Celebration of Portland State University's Finnish Room on its 50th Anniversary. The afternoon began with an Open House and viewing of the rejuvenated Finnish Room. The attendees, including members of all the Finnish and Scandinavian organizations in the area and the University, enjoyed the refreshments and studied the displays showing the history of classroom and the rejuvenation project. Honorary Finnish Consul Paul Niskanen spoke to the historical context of the room and Trustee Paul Halme brought greetings from FF National and told of his memories from 50 years ago. Metro Council President David Bragdon spoke about his travels to Finland to study the Finnish educational system and land use planning. Finlandia was played beautifully by violinist Elisa Boynton. The Rededication was officially marked by the cutting of the blue and white ribbon by David Bragdon and Rededication Chair Eila Chisholm using a Finnish puukko. In special recognition Eila then presented David Alford with the puukko thanking him for his leadership and the success of the rejuvenation project.

The celebration continued in the evening with a gala event, including dinner, entertainment and dancing at Multnomah Athletic Club. Finlandia Foundation National Performer of the Year 2009, Terhi Miiikki-Broersma, entertained by singing and playing an array of musical instruments. In addition, three of our FFCPC lifetime members, Elisa Boynton on the violin, Valerie Blessley on the kantele, and Jori Chisholm on the bagpipes, wowed us with their expert musical talents. Vocalist Hilka Helena and musician Heikki Perttu from Florida continued the evening by playing their repertoire of Finnish dance music to the enthusiastic attendees.

APPLICATIONS for GRANTS and SCHOLARSHIPS DUE FEBRUARY 1, 2010!

GRANTS

For non-profit cultural projects of local or national significance

- Projects should benefit the general public, not only the sponsor or sponsoring organization.
- Grants should show evidence or testimony of high cultural, educational, artistic, or scientific merit.
- Special consideration is allotted to projects endorsed or sponsored by a FF chapter.
- Salaries to project staff or employees are not allowable.
- Read www.finlandiafoundation.org

Mail **Grant applications** to:

Rita Vermala-Koski, Grants Chair
1243 NW Blakely Court
Seattle, WA 98177

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Scholarships are awarded to fulltime undergraduate (sophomore or higher) and graduate students enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.
- Students must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.
- Financial need and course of study are considered, and U.S./Finnish citizenship is required.
- Students studying subjects related to Finnish culture receive special consideration.
- Read www.finlandiafoundation.org

Mail **Scholarship applications** to:

Finlandia Foundation National
470 West Walnut St.
Pasadena, CA 91103-3562
Email: office@finlandiafoundation.org
Fax (626) 795-6533

UPDATE on 2009-2010 LECTURER of the YEAR

Jon Saari, Trustee and LOY Coordinator

Arnold Alanen, the 2009-2010 Lecturer of the Year, began his term with a visit to Lanesville, Massachusetts, and Canterbury, Connecticut, in early October. He flew a few days early into New Hampshire in order to add to his research and photo collection on Finnish-American settlements and buildings in New England; he strives to give a local angle to each talk. His curiosity, enthusiasm, and plain speaking are a hit in every venue.

In November and December, Alanen will be speaking at the Embassy in Washington, D.C., and at a Gala Festival of the Finnish Center Association in Farmington Hills, Michigan. Feelers for future presentations in the spring have come from chapters in Boston, San Francisco, and Seattle. But there is still room in his schedule. We would like his LOY visits to reflect the full range where Finnish immigrants settled, including the Upper Midwest and the Inland West. So please contact Jon Saari, LOY Coordinator, at jsaari@nmu.edu to explore a date for Arnold Alanen's visit to your area.

Arnold R. Alanen is Emeritus Professor, University of Wisconsin – Madison. The title of his lecture is "From Finland to North America: Buildings, Landscapes, and Cultural Change." The brochure for his talk is available from the Finlandia Foundation National office.



GRANT REPORT: West Coast Kantele Players

By Rita Vermala-Koski, Trustee

Dr. Julene Johnson, a 2009 Grants recipient, came to the Seattle area to interview the local *Livakat-Evergreen Kantele Ensemble* players in connection with her *Finnish Kantele Players on the West Coast* project. She is documenting the west coast kantele players' personal relationship with music to preserve this cultural knowledge by creation of a digital audio archive of Finnish-American kantele playing and oral histories for future generations. Dr. Johnson is a descendant of immigrant kantele player John Huhtala (1886-1969) and the niece of the leading scholar on Finnish-American kantele playing, Joyce Hakala.





Inland Northwest Finlandia Foundation Member and University of Idaho Professor To Study Effects of Climate Change In Northern Europe

By Don Heikkila, President

A University of Idaho professor may be able to help Pacific Northwest communities prepare for the future by exploring how communities in Northern Europe are coping with the effects that climate change is having on their lifestyle as well as their local economies.

Dr. Harley Johansen, professor and head of the Geography Department at the University of Idaho, since 1981, recently secured a two-year, \$174,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to compare statistics and interview economic planners. The area for this study includes northern Norway, Sweden, Finland and northwest Russia. "These areas reflect the conditions of extreme latitude, a long history of permanent settlements, and a variety of government approaches to climate change and rural development," Dr. Johansen said.

"The Nordic countries at this latitude are way ahead of anyone else in the world in terms of government programs to help local communities adapt to the economic effects of climate change," said Johansen. "They've been feeling the impact of climate change for the past 25 years. I think we can learn a lot from their early work." The study will compare and contrast base indicators such as population trends, urban accessibility, infrastructure, government support, and development strategies to find differences responsible for economic success.



FINNS CELEBRATE 371 YEARS in AMERICA

By Esko Townell, Cultural Affairs and Publicity

The annual celebration of the landing of Finns with Swedes on this continent 371 years ago took place on June 14, 2009, at the Finnish Settlers Monument in Chester, Pennsylvania. Commencing with the flag processional, the ceremony continued with an introduction of the day's events by Roy Palo, President of the Delaware Valley Finnish Americans (DVFA), the group that sponsors the celebration and sees to the maintenance of the monument in cooperation with the city of Chester.

Following the national anthems, Jukka Kervinen, President, Finnish-American Society of the Delaware Valley (FASDV), offered congratulations. These were echoed in comments by Solie Kauranen of the Embassy of Finland Office of Political Affairs, and the Honorable Wendell J. Butler, Mayor, City of Chester.

After wreath-laying at the monument, a dinner and ceremonies were held at Harrahs Resort in Chester. To conclude the event, Ms. Kauranen commented on "Finland Today." The 372nd Anniversary monument ceremony, "Bridging our Heritage" will be held at 2 PM on June 13, 2010. Details are available via Barbara Palo at barbara.palo@state.de.us.

PHOTOS:

Page 8; TOP: Arnold Alanen in a log cabin in Sweden. Photo by Kai Kangassalo.
 BOTTOM: Gathered around the table taking a lunch break at the home of Satu Mikkola
 Left to Right: Eva Männistö, Satu Mikkola, Valerie Blessley, Pirjo Caddy, Mirka Hokkanen, Julene Johnson and Rita Vermala-Koski

Page 9; TOP: Dr. Harley Johansen on Chatcolet Lake.
 BOTTOM: Finnish Settler's Monument, Chester, Pennsylvania. Photo by Esko Townell.

THIS IS FINLAND...

For Finnish recipes and other cultural ideas for the holidays go to:
finland.fi

OTTO HEINO: A Way With Clay

is a ten-minute DVD available for loan from the FFN office. Please e-mail office@finlandiafoundation.org or call (626) 795-2081 if you are interested in showing this DVD to your chapter.

THANK YOU! KIITOS! THANK YOU! KIITOS! THANK YOU! KIITOS!

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OSI THANK YOU! KIITOS! THANK YOU! KIITOS!

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Amounts are cumulative.

\$10,000 PLUS

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(including new gifts)
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- Danielle Crook
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FFN is grateful for countless gifts in-kind.

To send a gift, please write your check to:
[Finlandia Foundation National](#)
470 West Walnut Street
Pasadena, CA 91103

For information about planned giving contact Attorney Paul Halme at POHHC@aol.com.

OSI THANK YOU! KIITOS! THANK YOU! KIITOS! THANK YOU! KIITOS!

View from the Inside: A New Trustee's First Meeting

By Jeanne Doty, Trustee

“Meeting is now adjourned,” rang out the still spirited and vital voice of Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) president, Anita Smiley. It had been two full days of discussions, presentations, reports, agreements, disagreements, and decision-making; obviously, hundreds of hours had been spent in preparation for this weekend’s meeting. Exhausted, I wondered how it was possible that this group of individuals was still so fresh and vigorous.

The October FFN board meeting was held in Ithaca, New York, and immediately followed a highly successful “Finn Funn” weekend sponsored by the Finger Lakes Finns. The weekend gave the FFN board a prime opportunity to meet new supporters of Finnish-American activities, as well as to revitalize previous friendships. Networking and cooperating with other Finnish-American organizations are essential activities to the board and its president. As we enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Finger Lakes Finns, there was no hint of any dividing lines between the various organizations – only a joyful coming together as we listened and learned from the many presenters.

The FFN board meets twice a year. Although they may appear as a private and unreachable organization from the outside, I can assure you that the individuals inside are incredibly hard working, passionate, and generous. In addition to thousands of hours and years of service, almost all of the expenses incurred by board members are reinvested back into the organization. These monies are added to additional generous individual gifts. At my first meeting, however, the board agonized over how to support all of the worthy individuals and groups around the United States in spite of having a smaller budget.

Each new member of Finlandia Foundation National receives a copy of the book *Black Ties and Miner's Boots: Inventing Finnish-American Philanthropy*. Written by FFN trustee Jon L. Saari, the book is a fascinating history of the organization. It is a great privilege for me to serve on this board. I look forward to learning from my colleagues, as well as deepening my own commitment to my Finnish roots. I remember seeing my Grandpa Oscar’s dusty, red mining boots sitting in the front porch. Feeling myself caught between the worlds of black ties and miners’ boots, I’m convinced that the best route to keeping our Finnish-American heritage alive is a commitment to cooperation. I invite you to join us in this commitment!

NEED A TAX DEDUCTION?

Make a Donation In Someone's Name As a Holiday Gift!

Dear Finlandia Foundation Member and Friend,

We all support many worthy causes and organizations by donating our time, expertise and money. Approaching the end of the calendar year gives us an opportunity to review our involvement and giving during the year. When reviewing your giving goals and planning your 2009 taxation, please consider a donation to Finlandia Foundation National by the end of the year.

Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) was founded in 1953 with the goal of uniting American friends of Finland and preserving Finnish culture in America. Today we define our mission as sustaining both Finnish-American culture in the USA and the ancestral tie with Finland by raising funds for grants and scholarships, initiating enlightening national programs, and networking with chapters. We have 56 years of experience in doing just these things!

Example of donation amounts and what we can achieve with them:

- **\$10,000** – Provides full funding for both the FFN Performer of the Year and Lecturer of the Year program.
- **\$5,000** – Fully funds one full FFN grant that has a significant impact on a local Chapter project, individual or group initiative.
- **\$1,000** – Provides one full scholarship for a Soiva Music Camp student for the 2010 camp in Bemidji Minnesota.
- **\$1-\$999** – Any amount helps to grow the FFN grants and scholarships fund for years to come.

Every donation, small and large is important. Please note that *your donation automatically doubles with the generous matching of the Paloheimo Foundation.* For example, your donation of \$250 will become \$500. Also, all funds go 100% to our grants and scholarship programs.

Please use the donation form on the right.

Best Holiday Wishes,
Olavi Hiukka
FFN Fundraising Committee Chair

DONATION TO FINLANDIA FOUNDATION NATIONAL

(All gifts, big or small are welcome.)

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE WORK AND MISSION OF FFN.

\$50, \$75, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, other \$ _____

You may or may not list my gift in the FFN newsletter donor page.

I would like to talk privately with FFN attorney Paul Halme about planned giving.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____, E-Mail: _____

Finlandia Foundation National is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization: Your donation is tax deductible and qualifies for corporate matching funds programs. We will send you a receipt for tax purposes.

Please send this form and your check to Satu Mikkola, FFN Treasurer, 470 W. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91103. To contact Treasurer: Phone 360-697-2688; e-mail: satum@aol.com.

LAHJOITUS FINLANDIA FOUNDATION NATIONALille

(Otamme kaikki lahjoitukset, niin pienet kuin suuretkin, kiitollisuudella vastaari.)

KYLLÄ, HALUAN TUKEA FFN:n TYÖTÄ JA TAVOITTEITA.

\$50, \$75, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, muu summa \$ _____

Tiedon lahjoituksestani saa / ei saa julkaista FFN:n tiedotuslehden lahjoittajaluettelossa.

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Finlandia Foundation National on 501(c)3 voittoa tuottamaton organisaatio: lahjoituksenne on verovähennyskelpoinen ja kelvollinen myös yritysten "matching funds" -ohjelmiin. Lähetämme teile verotukseen kelpaavan kuitin saatuaamme lahjoituksenne.

Lähetätkää tämä lomake ja lahjoituksenne osoitteella Satu Mikkola, FFN Treasurer, 470 West Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91103. Muut yhteystiedot: Puhelin 360-697-2688; sähköposti satum@aol.com

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FF/San Francisco Bay Area Chapter - 1956
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