“We are very honored and grateful to have received this award. The collaboration with Finlandia Foundation National has been excellent over the years, and we are very excited to be able to introduce contemporary music by Finnish composers in the United States in the near future.”

Jussi Makkonen and Nazig Azezian

continued on PAGE 4
Word from the President

Hyvät ystävät:

The Board of Trustees of Finlandia Foundation National met in Helsinki in early October for the first time in more than 20 years. It was a very successful visit, as described elsewhere in this newsletter.

It was also a necessary visit, in order to strengthen our relations with important stakeholders in Finland, and to establish new ones. It was apparent that establishment of personal contacts is important, as demonstrated by the number of meetings we had and by the turnout of our Finnish contacts at the reception we hosted at Helsinki City Hall Restaurant.

We were able to present the Award of Excellence to Finnish cellist Jussi Makkonen and pianist Nazig Azezian for their great work in promoting Finnish music—that of our former patron Jean Sibelius in particular—to audiences in the United States. They have really been great promoters of Finnish music and culture.

We also recognized Suomi-Seura/Finnish Society, our most important contact in Finland, for the work they are doing worldwide. Suomi-Seura supports overseas Fins, and acts as the secretariat for the Finnish Expatriate Parliament, which is the only one of its kind in the world. It is obvious that the FFN Board needs to visit Finland again in about 10 years.

Fundraising is another matter of key importance to FFN. Our strength is in the American community at large, including grants and scholarships (summarized each program we provide to benefit the members of our 58 chapters and the Finnish-American community in the United States. They have really been great promoters of Finnish music and culture.

We also recognize Suomi-Seura/Finnish Society, our most important contact in Finland, for the work they are doing worldwide. Suomi-Seura supports overseas Fins, and acts as the secretariat for the Finnish Expatriate Parliament, which is the only one of its kind in the world. It is obvious that the FFN Board needs to visit Finland again in about 10 years.

Fundraising is another matter of key importance to FFN. Our strength is in the American community at large, including grants and scholarships (summarized each year in our spring newsletter). The grants we award demonstrate the very wide range of cultural areas we support, but the demand is much larger today than what we can financially assist. It is absolutely essential that not only continue, but expand the ability to fund these projects, and to do that we must receive increased support through donations. The same applies to scholarships. We are able to fund only a fraction of the annual cost of college-level education and the gap is widening.

Finlandia Foundation does not receive any public funding; it is entirely dependent on private donations. We are making a strong plea for support in this newsletter, and I am sure that you will respond. We cannot allow our support of Finnish and Finnish-American culture to decline.

I wish you wonderful holidays and all the best in the year ahead. Hauskas joulua ja onnellista uutta vuotta!

Ossi Rahkonen

Please see the article on page 25 regarding a tax-free gift you may be eligible to make through your IRA.

The newsletter is produced twice yearly by the FFN Communications Committee: Jacqueline Harjula, chair, and Katarina Lehkonen, Betsey Norgard and Tarja Silverman.

Additionally, FFN produces a monthly, free e-news; sign up to receive it at the FFN website.

Submit chapter news and other items of interest and photos to FFN Communications Manager and newsletter editor

The newsletter is produced twice yearly by the FFN Communications Committee: Jacqueline Harjula, chair, and Katarina Lehkonen, Betsey Norgard and Tarja Silverman.

Additionally, FFN produces a monthly, free e-news; sign up to receive it at the FFN website.

Submit chapter news and other items of interest and photos to FFN Communications Manager and newsletter editor

The newsletter is produced twice yearly by the FFN Communications Committee: Jacqueline Harjula, chair, and Katarina Lehkonen, Betsey Norgard and Tarja Silverman.

Additionally, FFN produces a monthly, free e-news; sign up to receive it at the FFN website.

Submit chapter news and other items of interest and photos to FFN Communications Manager and newsletter editor
Sibelius, and 

(Lintu Sininen influence of nature on Jean 

are among the founders of 

Makkonen and Azezian U.S. tour, now through 2021. 

bring the music of Finland to 

Blue Bird (a new composition 

Soiva Metsä CD recordings and illustrated 

Europe and the United States. 

at schools across Finland, in 

Dedicated to introducing 

Makkonen and Azezian are 

October 3 reception during 

FFN President Ossi 

great Finnish composers, 

of the works of Jean Sibelius, 

their unique interpretation 

receive its 2019 Award 

pianist Nazig Azezian to 

cellist Jussi Makkonen and 

FFN selected Finnish 

Finlandia Foundation 

Monola Festival in Pieilann-Karelia. Monola nurtures and 

promotes the heritage of Sibelius, the Kätevulia and 

Karelianism. 

Finlandia Foundation presented its inaugural Award of Excellence in 2015 to the Seattle Symphony as the orchestra celebrated Jean Sibelius and the 500th anniversary of his birth. In 2017, the Finland 100 year, the award recognized John and Pauline Killmen of Marquette, Michigan, for their many contributions to Finnish America.

Makkonen and Azezian are dedicated to introducing classical music to young people through performances at schools across Finland, in Europe and the United States. They have produced two sets of CD recordings and illustrated children’s books: Soita Metäi (Melody Forest) about the influence of nature on Jean Sibelius, and Lintu Sininen (The Blue Bird), a new composition by Jonne Valtonen. The duo will bring the music of Finland to American audiences on their U.S. tour, now through 2021.

At the Helsinki reception (above, from left) Tina Strandberg, Marjut and Teuvo Pulkkinnen, and Nazig Azezian and Jussi Makkonen with their awards.

Ceramic artist Lenore Rae Lampi of Duluth, Minnesota, created the new piece by contemporary composer Jonne Valtonen that can be performed with or without live orchestra. The tour program stands as follows:


2020 SPRING: The plan includes concerts in Florida, the Midwest and Boston in April. The schedule and tour details are under development, and more concerts may be added.

2020 FALL: The tour will begin in Alaska in late September and continue in October to Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and San Diego. The schedule and concerts still are being finalized, and more concerts may be added.

2021 FALL AND SPRING: The tour schedule is open and will be developed based on interest from FFN chapters.

Find more information about the artists and their programs at FinlandiaFoundation.org. To discuss and schedule an appearance contact Teuvo Pulkkinnen at teuvo_pulkkinen@hotmail.com or 760.975.7504.

Music that transports the audience into the natural world that inspired Jean Sibelius.

THE BLUE BIRD, a new piece by contemporary composer Jonne Valtonen that can be performed with or without live orchestra. The tour program stands as follows:


2020 SPRING: The plan includes concerts in Florida, the Midwest and Boston in April. The schedule and tour details are under development, and more concerts may be added.

2020 FALL: The tour will begin in Alaska in late September and continue in October to Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and San Diego. The schedule and concerts still are being finalized, and more concerts may be added.

2021 FALL AND SPRING: The tour schedule is open and will be developed based on interest from FFN chapters.

Find more information about the artists and their programs at FinlandiaFoundation.org. To discuss and schedule an appearance contact Teuvo Pulkkinnen at teuvo_pulkkinnen@hotmail.com or 760.975.7504.

FFN Recognizes Contributions of Suomi-Seura

At an afternoon reception at the Finnish Literature Society in Helsinki during the fall board meeting of Finlandia Foundation National, President Ossi Rahkonen recognized Suomi-Seura/Finnish Society for its many contributions toward building stronger connections between American citizens with Finnish roots, other friends of Finland, and contemporary Finland. Since 1927, Suomi-Seura has worked to serve and connect expatriate Finns, and to strengthen the image and knowledge of Finland overseas through its resources, distribution of information, and magazine, Suomen Siltta (Finland Bridge). Suomi-Seura serves as secretariat of the Finnish Expatriate Parliament, the only organization of its kind. Additionally, Suomi-Seura supports Suomi-koulu (Finnish language schools) for children around the world, including many in the United States.

To learn more about the Finland Society go to suomi-seura.fi.

By 1840, SKS welcomed women and in 1880 SKS completed its current structure, “for the protection of national literature.” The handsome building houses an archive, library, research department, publishing house and FILI, the export center which supports the translation, printing and publishing of Finnish, Swedish and Sami literature in Finland. It is possible for the public to arrange a tour; for more information: finlit.fi.

At left: Sirko-Leena Mettemäki, SKS director of communications, welcomes the FFN board to the Finnish Literature Society. The smoral murals on the lobby ceiling date to construction of the building in 1890. FFN trustees Betsey Norgard (foreground) and Hilary-Joy Virtanen admire portraits of literary figures that line the walls of the SKS Ballroom.
FFN Grant, Scholarship and Law Scholarship Deadlines Approach

It’s time to prepare applications for Finlandia Foundation National grants as well as scholarships for undergraduate, graduate and law students, to be awarded in the spring of 2020. Deadlines are January 17 for grants and February 1 for both types of scholarships. Find complete information on the application processes and learn about past scholarship and grant recipients at FinlandiaFoundation.org.

GRANTS
Richard Ahola
Committee Chair

Non-profit cultural projects of local or national significance related to Finnish America or Finland may be eligible for a grant from FFN. In 2019, FFN awarded $105,000 in grants to 37 projects. In developing a grant proposal consider the following:

- 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.
- Grants are limited to a maximum of $5,000 per award.
- Special consideration is given to projects endorsed or sponsored by an FFN chapter.
- Salaries to project staff or employees are not allowable.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAILED;
DEADLINE IS JANUARY 17, 2020.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Hanna Wagner
Committee Chair

Shortly after it was founded in 1953, Finlandia Foundation launched its scholarship program. Initially, scholarships went to music students at Sibelius Academy and The Juilliard School. Shortly after it was founded in 1953, Finlandia Foundation launched its scholarship program. Initially, scholarships went to music students at Sibelius Academy and The Juilliard School. In 2019, FFN awarded $115,000 in grants to 37 projects. In developing a grant proposal consider the following:

- 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.
- Grants are limited to a maximum of $5,000 per award.
- Special consideration is given to projects endorsed or sponsored by an FFN chapter.
- Salaries to project staff or employees are not allowable.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAILED;
DEADLINE IS JANUARY 17, 2020.

Finnish Expatriate Parliament

Parliament Finnish Expatriate News from the Deputy Speaker for the USA able to attend. We visited the Finnish Parliament, time, Teuvo Pulkkinen from San Diego was also October 7-8 at the offices of Suomi-Seura. This The FEP speakers had their meeting parliament to consider. thinking about putting forward a motion for the invitation late this year, and everyone should be The member organizations will receive their June 11-12, 2020 at Finlandia Hall in Helsinki. rules yet please do so at uspf.org. If your organization has not ratified the FEP session during FinnFest USA 2019 in Detroit. Our last visit was to the Population Register Center (Vaestorekisterikeskus), which will be joined with the Local Register Offices (Maastrautti) on January 1, 2020. They have plans to create a means for secure identification on the internet that could be used in all government offices. This would be a world-wide, free system and would not be tied to having a bank account. For any questions you may have, don’t hesitate to contact us: Hanna Wagner (dhkpwagner@yahoo.com) and Teuvo Pulkkinen (teuvo_pulkkinen@hotmail.com)

News from the Finnish Expatriate Parliament

By Hanna Wagner
Deputy Speaker for the USA and Latin America

Thank you to everyone who attended the Suomi-Seura/Finland Society and Finnish Expatriate Parliament (FEP) informational session during FinnFest USA 2019 in Detroit. If your organization has not ratified the FEP rules yet please do so at usp.fi.

The 10th parliamentary session will convene June 11-12, 2020 at Finlandia Hall in Helsinki. The member organizations will receive their invitation late this year, and everyone should be thinking about putting forward a motion for the parliament to consider.

The FEP speakers had their meeting October 7-8 at the offices of Suomi-Seura. This time, Teuvo Pulkkinen from San Diego was also able to attend. We visited the Finnish Parliament, where some parliamentarians have founded the group “Eduskunnan Ulkouusmailaisen Ystävyysryhmä,” loosely translated as an organization that fosters friendship with expatriate Finns. The speakers also visited the Finnish Broadcasting Company (YLE) and discussed the viewing of Finnish programs overseas.

The FEP representatives, front left to right: Keiti Hughes (Central Europe), Katja Brunetto (Southern Europe, Africa and Middle East), Teuvo Pulkkinen (deput to Hanna Wagner). Back row left to right: Sajo Sjöstedt (Northern Europe), Veeti Ninninen (Canada), Sakari Neuvonen (Eastern Europe), Hanna Wagner (USA and Latin America), Mikko Pekkala (Australia and Asia), Barbro Allardt Ljunggren (Swedish speaking Finns in the world), and Speaker Morliss Aulinen (Suomi-Seura).
Soiva 2020
Soiva International Music Camp will be held June 12-21, 2020 on the campus of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, for students ages 11 to 19 who play piano, violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, clarinet or saxophone, or are interested in composition or improvisation.

Soiva 2019 in Finland
By Dennis Anderson and Melodee Bahr
Co-Directors
Soiva International Music Camp 2019 was held in Finland at Kallio-Kuninkala, the Sibelius Academy Music Centre, for the second time in Soiva history.

On June 7, students and faculty from Minnesota and students from Chicago, Michigan and Vancouver, B.C. departed for Helsinki for the start of their Finnish experience.

Our American group spent a couple of days in Helsinki touring the new Central Library, called Oodi, and the American Embassy, which is celebrating 100 years of diplomatic relations with Finland. We visited the Church of the Rock, Chapel of Silence, Sibelius Monument and Linnanmäki amusement park. Lauri Paloheimo arranged a tour to Ainola, the home of Jean and Aino Sibelius, which is very near Kallio-Kuninkala.

From June 12-20, 14 American students and six faculty members from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, joined 19 Finnish students and five Finnish faculty for nine days of chamber music rehearsals and performances. Kallio-Kuninkala is a beautiful estate in the Finish countryside not far from Helsinki. Lodging was provided at no cost by the Paloheimo Foundation of Finland, with tantalizing meals by Salmi Catering. The final student/faculty concert was held on June 20, the day before Midsummer celebrations.

Following Soiva Camp, our American delegation was lodged at Bore Hostel in Turku, which is operated by a Finnish trade school. Hannu Land, violin teacher and Turku resident, made our stay in Turku entertaining, educational and informative. We visited the Sibelius Museum, the presidential summer residence grounds at Naantali, the Turku Conservatory and Turku Cathedral.

One of the highlights was an all-day round trip to Mariehamn, capital of the Åland Islands, via the Viking Line ships Amorella and Viking Grace. The meal service was superb, and we even got to play some miniature golf on the ship.

Soiva 2019 was perhaps the most rewarding camp to date, with super students, dedicated faculty, wonderful hosts, outstanding chaperones and a deeper understanding of Finland, its people and its culture.

Find links to Soiva performances at FinlandiaFoundation.org.

Soiva offers a valuable educational as well as cultural experience, with American and Finnish instructors and students from both countries working together toward the final concert at the Scandinavian Hjemkomst/Midwest Viking Festival on Sunday, June 21.

Tuition remains at $700 through April 30; after that it is $800. The fee includes classes, lodging in dormitory rooms, most meals and some extracurricular, fun activities. Travel grants and scholarships may be available. The fee for students who commute (no housing) is $500. Transportation to and from the campus is not included.

For more information go to FinlandiaFoundation.org. Contact Soiva Co-Director Dennis M. Anderson at soiva2020@yahoo.com or call 218.251.0164.

For more about Concordia College, concordiacollege.edu

Soiva Music Camp is “A Brilliant Concept”

By Aubrey Clarke, clarinet, Fargo, North Dakota

The 2019 Soiva International Music Camp was an amazing experience. I learned a lot through the two-week program; being able to work with accomplished music professors as a high school student was an extraordinary opportunity. As a result of the camp and travel, I have grown much as a musician and person. I really enjoyed participating in a full orchestral group with professionals and other students as passionate as I am about making music. On top of all the musical growth, I expanded my knowledge and cultural understanding. Being fully immersed in another culture and language was not only a great way to learn hands-on about the larger world around me, but also to hold a mirror up and reflect on my own culture.

The Soiva Music Camp also provided the opportunity to make invaluable connections. I developed one-in-a-lifetime friendships with people from across the globe. I also had the chance to meet those near me that I never would have met otherwise. These relationships created many fond memories that I will look back on for the rest of my life. Studying music in Finland was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, complete with wonderful staff, people, and music. Cultural immersion is a privilege to experience and I am so thankful to have been invited to participate this year. I am beyond grateful for the entire experience which has permanently changed me for the better. The Soiva Music Camp is a brilliant concept that has such a positive impact on all involved and opens up new chances to learn and grow both musically and personally.

Thank you Finlandia Foundation for making my experience possible!

Ellie-Leena (at right) who plays violin and is from Rauma, Finland.

Laina says, “Since I was the youngest, I had to work extra hard, but it was all well worth it, as we all sounded amazing during the concerts! The final concert was the highlight of my trip to Finland!”

Co-Directors
Soiva Music Camp
Lauri Paloheimo and Melodee Bahr

On June 7, students and faculty from Minnesota and students from Chicago, Michigan and Vancouver, B.C. departed for Helsinki for the start of their Finnish experience.

American Embassy, which is celebrating 100 years of diplomatic relations with Finland. We visited the Church of the Rock, Chapel of Silence, Sibelius Monument and Linnanmäki amusement park. Lauri Paloheimo arranged a tour to Ainola, the home of Jean and Aino Sibelius, which is very near Kallio-Kuninkala.

From June 12-20, 14 American students and six faculty members from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, joined 19 Finnish students and five Finnish faculty for nine days of chamber music rehearsals and performances. Kallio-Kuninkala is a beautiful estate in the Finnish countryside not far from Helsinki. Lodging was provided at no cost by the Paloheimo Foundation of Finland, with tantalizing meals by Salmi Catering. The final student/faculty concert was held on June 20, the day before Midsummer celebrations.

Following Soiva Camp, our American delegation was lodged at Bore Hostel in Turku, which is operated by a Finnish trade school. Hannu Land, violin teacher and Turku resident, made our stay in Turku entertaining, educational and informative. We visited the Sibelius Museum, the presidential summer residence grounds at Naantali, the Turku Conservatory and Turku Cathedral.

One of the highlights was an all-day round trip to Mariehamn, capital of the Åland Islands, via the Viking Line ships Amorella and Viking Grace. The meal service was superb, and we even got to play some miniature golf on the ship.

Soiva 2019 was perhaps the most rewarding camp to date, with super students, dedicated faculty, wonderful hosts, outstanding chaperones and a deeper understanding of Finland, its people and its culture.

Find links to Soiva performances at FinlandiaFoundation.org.

Soiva offers a valuable educational as well as cultural experience, with American and Finnish instructors and students from both countries working together toward the final concert at the Scandinavian Hjemkomst/Midwest Viking Festival on Sunday, June 21.

Tuition remains at $700 through April 30; after that it is $800. The fee includes classes, lodging in dormitory rooms, most meals and some extracurricular, fun activities. Travel grants and scholarships may be available. The fee for students who commute (no housing) is $500. Transportation to and from the campus is not included.

For more information go to FinlandiaFoundation.org. Contact Soiva Co-Director Dennis M. Anderson at soiva2020@yahoo.com or call 218.251.0164.

For more about Concordia College, concordiacollege.edu

Co-Directors
Soiva Music Camp
Lauri Paloheimo and Melodee Bahr
Making Memories, and All That Jazz

By Melodee Bohr
Solva Camp Co-Director

For nine years, FFN trustee Dennis Anderson and Melodee Bohr have volunteered their time and talents as co-directors of Solva Music Camp. FFN is delighted with the performance opportunity she enjoyed in Finland this summer.

June 26, 2019: what a memorable day. Several weeks earlier I had received a phone call from Finnish composer and musician Markus Fagerudd asking me if I would like to celebrate my 80th year by giving a concert in Porvoo, Finland. “My class based on STEM was very engaging manner.”

I have sung all over the world since I cannot read Swedish or Finnish even managed to engage, and despite being taught in an engaging manner.”

I have never been in Porvoo but never in Finland, so I was flattered. Dennis Anderson and I would be in Finland with the Solva Music Camp, so I was convenient time. My son, Bob Gardner, writes my musical arrangements and would be coming to Finland with us—the trip was his birthday gift from Dennis and me. For months he wrote.

When we arrived in Finland and drove to Loviisa to stay with Kati and Markus Fagerudd, I was surprised to see posters around town with my face on them advertising the concert. I had also two newspaper and radio interviews. A Swedish newspaper wrote a full-page story about the concert, but since I cannot read Swedish I had to have an interpreter translate it for me. It was so much fun!

That Jazz

By Melodee Bohr
Solva Camp Co-Director

I am delighted with the arrangements and would translate it for me. It was so much fun!

The day before the concert we had a rehearsal with the accomplished musicians we had hired. It was thrilling to hear them play Bob’s arrangements, and a joy to sing with them. We were so pleased with their musicianship.

On the day of the concert we had a short rehearsal on the stage of the Grand Theater in Porvoo. The theater is truly “grand” and the old building was fantastic to sing in. My dressing room was the largest and most accommodating one I have ever had. My daughter, Elen, flew in and helped me with my makeup and gowns. We were amazed to have a coffee station and shower in the dressing room.

Finally, the moment arrived and the concert began. It was exciting to see so many friends and strangers in the theater. I felt quite at home on this stage surrounded by family, friends and great music. After the concert, I received an armful of flowers and walked into the reception room to a champagne party. It was a perfect ending to a perfect day. This was a beautiful memory that I shall always remember, and it will always bring a smile to my heart.

To see and hear one of the songs from the concert, search YouTube for “The Jazzy Grandma—she’s still got it at 80!”

Melodee Bohr and the Finnish musicians who accompanied her Porvoo concert. Her son and music arranger Bob Gardner is at upper right. Fannie Fagerudd, at lower right, sang duets with Bohr.

Making Memories, and All That Jazz

By Melodee Bohr
Solva Camp Co-Director

I am delighted with the arrangements and would translate it for me. It was so much fun!

The day before the concert we had a rehearsal with the accomplished musicians we had hired. It was thrilling to hear them play Bob’s arrangements, and a joy to sing with them. We were so pleased with their musicianship.

On the day of the concert we had a short rehearsal on the stage of the Grand Theater in Porvoo. The theater is truly “grand” and the old building was fantastic to sing in. My dressing room was the largest and most accommodating one I have ever had. My daughter, Elen, flew in and helped me with my makeup and gowns. We were amazed to have a coffee station and shower in the dressing room.

Finally, the moment arrived and the concert began. It was exciting to see so many friends and strangers in the theater. I felt quite at home on this stage surrounded by family, friends and great music. After the concert, I received an armful of flowers and walked into the reception room to a champagne party. It was a perfect ending to a perfect day. This was a beautiful memory that I shall always remember, and it will always bring a smile to my heart.

To see and hear one of the songs from the concert, search YouTube for “The Jazzy Grandma—she’s still got it at 80!”

Melodee Bohr and the Finnish musicians who accompanied her Porvoo concert. Her son and music arranger Bob Gardner is at upper right. Fannie Fagerudd, at lower right, sang duets with Bohr.
Ruusamari Teppo Delights with “Sibelius at the Piano”

By Ken Quiggle

FHM member and delegate to the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation

In 1916 the City of Cleveland established a series of gardens that would be developed by ethnic communities to represent the cultures of the world, and be enjoyed as a symbol of peace.

A century later, the Finnish Heritage Museum (FHM) in Fairport Harbor became aware that the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation Board had serious concerns regarding the Finnish Garden, which had been created in 1958. A small group of Finns in Cleveland that had managed the garden was no longer able to devote the time and energy to maintaining it. Subsequently, a meeting was set to discuss the pros and cons of FHM assuming responsibility for the garden, located 50 miles away in Cleveland’s Rockefeller Park. The leadership of the museum felt that the garden represented the Finnish culture and needed to be preserved. Scarce resources, distance and service hours from our members were the cons. Preserving a Finnish cultural presence and a desire to help were the pros. Several members volunteered, and the FHM agreed to take over the maintenance.

The first year was the most difficult in terms of getting the garden back into shape. Many museum members and non-members volunteered to do the work. They donated their time, energy and personal resources. The Finnish Garden, which includes sculptures of important figures Aleksi Kivi, Jean Sibelius, Elias Lönnrot, Johan Ludvig Runeberg and Johan Vilhelm Snellman, gets many compliments, although it is sorely in need of an update. Much of the concrete work needs to be replaced and the landscaping must be redone. Museum resources are limited and the greater Cleveland Finnish community has aged. True to the sisu nature of Finns, museum members participate each August in the garden’s One World Day celebration.

FHM demonstrates what makes the Finnish culture unique in concert with over 30 other cultures represented in the park. Please visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and the Finnish Garden. For more information: clevelandculturalgardens.org

Finnish Heritage Museum Sponsors Cleveland Cultural Garden

In May, the Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury participated in a weeklong series of activities at the Pomfret Community School, a preschool through grade eight program with nearly 400 students.

For over 25 years the school has conducted a “visit” to another country, and this year it was Finland. FAHS members Anita Smiley, Katharine Leigh, Stan Karro, Arlene Baril, Saul Ahola and Sandra Ahola worked hand to engage children and inspire them to appreciate and be aware of another culture with local roots. With the Finnish flag flying in front of the school and teachers wearing “Ask Me About Sisu,” the students were aware of another culture.

The Finnish Heritage Museum (FHM) in Fairport Harbor became aware that the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation Board had serious concerns regarding the Finnish Garden, which had been created in 1958. A small group of Finns in Cleveland that had managed the garden was no longer able to devote the time and energy to maintaining it. Subsequently, a meeting was set to discuss the pros and cons of FHM assuming responsibility for the garden, located 50 miles away in Cleveland’s Rockefeller Park. The leadership of the museum felt that the garden represented the Finnish culture and needed to be preserved. Scarce resources, distance and service hours from our members were the cons. Preserving a Finnish cultural presence and a desire to help were the pros. Several members volunteered, and the FHM agreed to take over the maintenance. The first year was the most difficult in terms of getting the garden back into shape. Many museum members and non-members volunteered to do the work. They donated their time, energy and personal resources. The Finnish Garden, which includes sculptures of important figures Aleksi Kivi, Jean Sibelius, Elias Lönnrot, Johan Ludvig Runeberg and Johan Vilhelm Snellman, gets many compliments, although it is sorely in need of an update. Much of the concrete work needs to be replaced and the landscaping must be redone. Museum resources are limited and the greater Cleveland Finnish community has aged. True to the sisu nature of Finns, museum members participate each August in the garden’s One World Day celebration.

FHM demonstrates what makes the Finnish culture unique in concert with over 30 other cultures represented in the park. Please visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and the Finnish Garden. For more information: clevelandculturalgardens.org

Finland Comes to Pomfret Community School

In May, the Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury participated in a weeklong series of activities at the Pomfret Community School, a preschool through grade eight program with nearly 400 students.

For over 25 years the school has conducted a “visit” to another country, and this year it was Finland. FAHS members Anita Smiley, Katharine Leigh, Stan Karro, Arlene Baril, Saul Ahola and Sandra Ahola worked hand to engage children and inspire them to appreciate and be aware of another culture with local roots. With the Finnish flag flying in front of the school and teachers wearing “Ask Me About Sisu,” the students were aware of another culture.

The Finnish Heritage Museum (FHM) in Fairport Harbor became aware that the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation Board had serious concerns regarding the Finnish Garden, which had been created in 1958. A small group of Finns in Cleveland that had managed the garden was no longer able to devote the time and energy to maintaining it. Subsequently, a meeting was set to discuss the pros and cons of FHM assuming responsibility for the garden, located 50 miles away in Cleveland’s Rockefeller Park. The leadership of the museum felt that the garden represented the Finnish culture and needed to be preserved. Scarce resources, distance and service hours from our members were the cons. Preserving a Finnish cultural presence and a desire to help were the pros. Several members volunteered, and the FHM agreed to take over the maintenance. The first year was the most difficult in terms of getting the garden back into shape. Many museum members and non-members volunteered to do the work. They donated their time, energy and personal resources. The Finnish Garden, which includes sculptures of important figures Aleksi Kivi, Jean Sibelius, Elias Lönnrot, Johan Ludvig Runeberg and Johan Vilhelm Snellman, gets many compliments, although it is sorely in need of an update. Much of the concrete work needs to be replaced and the landscaping must be redone. Museum resources are limited and the greater Cleveland Finnish community has aged. True to the sisu nature of Finns, museum members participate each August in the garden’s One World Day celebration.

FHM demonstrates what makes the Finnish culture unique in concert with over 30 other cultures represented in the park. Please visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and the Finnish Garden. For more information: clevelandculturalgardens.org

Finland Comes to Pomfret Community School

In May, the Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury participated in a weeklong series of activities at the Pomfret Community School, a preschool through grade eight program with nearly 400 students.

For over 25 years the school has conducted a “visit” to another country, and this year it was Finland. FAHS members Anita Smiley, Katharine Leigh, Stan Karro, Arlene Baril, Saul Ahola and Sandra Ahola worked hand to engage children and inspire them to appreciate and be aware of another culture with local roots. With the Finnish flag flying in front of the school and teachers wearing “Ask Me About Sisu,” the students were aware of another culture.

The Finnish Heritage Museum (FHM) in Fairport Harbor became aware that the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation Board had serious concerns regarding the Finnish Garden, which had been created in 1958. A small group of Finns in Cleveland that had managed the garden was no longer able to devote the time and energy to maintaining it. Subsequently, a meeting was set to discuss the pros and cons of FHM assuming responsibility for the garden, located 50 miles away in Cleveland’s Rockefeller Park. The leadership of the museum felt that the garden represented the Finnish culture and needed to be preserved. Scarce resources, distance and service hours from our members were the cons. Preserving a Finnish cultural presence and a desire to help were the pros. Several members volunteered, and the FHM agreed to take over the maintenance. The first year was the most difficult in terms of getting the garden back into shape. Many museum members and non-members volunteered to do the work. They donated their time, energy and personal resources. The Finnish Garden, which includes sculptures of important figures Aleksi Kivi, Jean Sibelius, Elias Lönnrot, Johan Ludvig Runeberg and Johan Vilhelm Snellman, gets many compliments, although it is sorely in need of an update. Much of the concrete work needs to be replaced and the landscaping must be redone. Museum resources are limited and the greater Cleveland Finnish community has aged. True to the sisu nature of Finns, museum members participate each August in the garden’s One World Day celebration.

FHM demonstrates what makes the Finnish culture unique in concert with over 30 other cultures represented in the park. Please visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and the Finnish Garden. For more information: clevelandculturalgardens.org

Finland Comes to Pomfret Community School

In May, the Finnish American Heritage Society of Canterbury participated in a weeklong series of activities at the Pomfret Community School, a preschool through grade eight program with nearly 400 students.

For over 25 years the school has conducted a “visit” to another country, and this year it was Finland. FAHS members Anita Smiley, Katharine Leigh, Stan Karro, Arlene Baril, Saul Ahola and Sandra Ahola worked hand to engage children and inspire them to appreciate and be aware of another culture with local roots. With the Finnish flag flying in front of the school and teachers wearing “Ask Me About Sisu,” the students were aware of another culture.

The Finnish Heritage Museum (FHM) in Fairport Harbor became aware that the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation Board had serious concerns regarding the Finnish Garden, which had been created in 1958. A small group of Finns in Cleveland that had managed the garden was no longer able to devote the time and energy to maintaining it. Subsequently, a meeting was set to discuss the pros and cons of FHM assuming responsibility for the garden, located 50 miles away in Cleveland’s Rockefeller Park. The leadership of the museum felt that the garden represented the Finnish culture and needed to be preserved. Scarce resources, distance and service hours from our members were the cons. Preserving a Finnish cultural presence and a desire to help were the pros. Several members volunteered, and the FHM agreed to take over the maintenance. The first year was the most difficult in terms of getting the garden back into shape. Many museum members and non-members volunteered to do the work. They donated their time, energy and personal resources. The Finnish Garden, which includes sculptures of important figures Aleksi Kivi, Jean Sibelius, Elias Lönnrot, Johan Ludvig Runeberg and Johan Vilhelm Snellman, gets many compliments, although it is sorely in need of an update. Much of the concrete work needs to be replaced and the landscaping must be redone. Museum resources are limited and the greater Cleveland Finnish community has aged. True to the sisu nature of Finns, museum members participate each August in the garden’s One World Day celebration.

FHM demonstrates what makes the Finnish culture unique in concert with over 30 other cultures represented in the park. Please visit the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and the Finnish Garden. For more information: clevelandculturalgardens.org
By Rob Ranta
Cape Ann Finns

Besides the timeless granite of Cape Ann, which precedes human habitation, a handful of places and organizations symbolize our enduring heritage. These include the Rockport Legion Band, honored on July 21 with a Tribute Concert to the band’s 32 charter members.

B o s t o n

Anne-Meri Paster of Finlandia Foundation Boston reports that on September 23, “Rachel Lee Priday, a world class violinist from Seattle, performed pieces of Saariaho, Bach, Salonen and Nielsen chosen specifically for our audience. We want to acknowledge and thank Silkki Kontinen for her generous donation as well as her hard work in coordinating the logistics to make this beautiful and memorable event possible. We truly enjoyed this performance and welcomed a peaceful afternoon to remember our friend and benefactor Leena Park, as well.”

A heavy downpour began just before the start of the outdoor event, but the rain soon abated and according to Susan Gunks, “Hardly a soul had left. Finns are a stubborn, hardy group along with most New Englanders. Cooled, we were rewarded with a top notch concert.”

Guest conductor Paul Niemisto led the band in a spirited performance featuring pieces by Finnish-American immigrant composers, traditional and contemporary pieces from Finland, and the American classics “Anchors Aweigh” and “God Bless America.” Jason Howard’s rendition of “Trumpeter’s Lullaby” recognized both Cape Ann’s outstanding Finnish-American trumpeter, Sylvester Aboa, and Massachusetts’ favorite Swedish-American composer, Leroy Anderson.

Performing with the band were guest musicians Erik Aho (Ohiio, euphonium), John D. Hopkins (Finland, trumpet), Martina Gallo (Gloucester HS, percussion), and veteran band member Walter McGrath. It was an occasion for assimilated Finnish-Americans to celebrate their Cape Ann heritage. Some came from Pennsylvania, Florida, New Hampshire, Maine and central and southern Massachusetts. When Niemisto asked who did not have a Finnish connection, the small show of hands in the audience of about 275 told the story.

The Legion Band was formed in 1953 on a shoestring and hope by 32 Rockport men, about two-thirds from Finnish homes. They were honored by her great-great-grandfather Wayne Tunkula, a local auctioneer with Finnish roots, gave the history and current value of a variety of items. The fee of $5 per item (or three for $10) benefitted the society. Of course, coffee and conversation prevailed afterwards, making it an enjoyable and informative afternoon for all.

The Band Played On at Cape Ann

By Rob Ranta
Cape Ann Finns

Besides the timeless granite of Cape Ann, which precedes human habitation, a handful of places and organizations symbolize our enduring heritage. These include the Rockport Legion Band, honored on July 21 with a Tribute Concert to the band’s 32 charter members.

B o s t o n

Anne-Meri Paster of Finlandia Foundation Boston reports that on September 23, “Rachel Lee Priday, a world class violinist from Seattle, performed pieces of Saariaho, Bach, Salonen and Nielsen chosen specifically for our audience. We want to acknowledge and thank Silkki Kontinen for her generous donation as well as her hard work in coordinating the logistics to make this beautiful and memorable event possible. We truly enjoyed this performance and welcomed a peaceful afternoon to remember our friend and benefactor Leena Park, as well.”

A heavy downpour began just before the start of the outdoor event, but the rain soon abated and according to Susan Gunks, “Hardly a soul had left. Finns are a stubborn, hardy group along with most New Englanders. Cooled, we were rewarded with a top notch concert.”

Guest conductor Paul Niemisto led the band in a spirited performance featuring pieces by Finnish-American immigrant composers, traditional and contemporary pieces from Finland, and the American classics “Anchors Aweigh” and “God Bless America.” Jason Howard’s rendition of “Trumpeter’s Lullaby” recognized both Cape Ann’s outstanding Finnish-American trumpeter, Sylvester Aboa, and Massachusetts’ favorite Swedish-American composer, Leroy Anderson.

Performing with the band were guest musicians Erik Aho (Ohiio, euphonium), John D. Hopkins (Finland, trumpet), Martina Gallo (Gloucester HS, percussion), and veteran band member Walter McGrath. It was an occasion for assimilated Finnish-Americans to celebrate their Cape Ann heritage. Some came from Pennsylvania, Florida, New Hampshire, Maine and central and southern Massachusetts. When Niemisto asked who did not have a Finnish connection, the small show of hands in the audience of about 275 told the story.

The Legion Band was formed in 1953 on a shoestring and hope by 32 Rockport men, about two-thirds from Finnish homes. They were honored by her great-great-grandfather Wayne Tunkula, a local auctioneer with Finnish roots, gave the history and current value of a variety of items. The fee of $5 per item (or three for $10) benefitted the society. Of course, coffee and conversation prevailed afterwards, making it an enjoyable and informative afternoon for all.

The Band Played On at Cape Ann

By Rob Ranta
Cape Ann Finns

Besides the timeless granite of Cape Ann, which precedes human habitation, a handful of places and organizations symbolize our enduring heritage. These include the Rockport Legion Band, honored on July 21 with a Tribute Concert to the band’s 32 charter members.

B o s t o n

Anne-Meri Paster of Finlandia Foundation Boston reports that on September 23, “Rachel Lee Priday, a world class violinist from Seattle, performed pieces of Saariaho, Bach, Salonen and Nielsen chosen specifically for our audience. We want to acknowledge and thank Silkki Kontinen for her generous donation as well as her hard work in coordinating the logistics to make this beautiful and memorable event possible. We truly enjoyed this performance and welcomed a peaceful afternoon to remember our friend and benefactor Leena Park, as well.”

A heavy downpour began just before the start of the outdoor event, but the rain soon abated and according to Susan Gunks, “Hardly a soul had left. Finns are a stubborn, hardy group along with most New Englanders. Cooled, we were rewarded with a top notch concert.”

Guest conductor Paul Niemisto led the band in a spirited performance featuring pieces by Finnish-American immigrant composers, traditional and contemporary pieces from Finland, and the American classics “Anchors Aweigh” and “God Bless America.” Jason Howard’s rendition of “Trumpeter’s Lullaby” recognized both Cape Ann’s outstanding Finnish-American trumpeter, Sylvester Aboa, and Massachusetts’ favorite Swedish-American composer, Leroy Anderson.

Performing with the band were guest musicians Erik Aho (Ohiio, euphonium), John D. Hopkins (Finland, trumpet), Martina Gallo (Gloucester HS, percussion), and veteran band member Walter McGrath. It was an occasion for assimilated Finnish-Americans to celebrate their Cape Ann heritage. Some came from Pennsylvania, Florida, New Hampshire, Maine and central and southern Massachusetts. When Niemisto asked who did not have a Finnish connection, the small show of hands in the audience of about 275 told the story.

The Legion Band was formed in 1953 on a shoestring and hope by 32 Rockport men, about two-thirds from Finnish homes. They were honored by her great-great-grandfather Wayne Tunkula, a local auctioneer with Finnish roots, gave the history and current value of a variety of items. The fee of $5 per item (or three for $10) benefitted the society. Of course, coffee and conversation prevailed afterwards, making it an enjoyable and informative afternoon for all.

The Band Played On at Cape Ann

By Rob Ranta
Cape Ann Finns

Besides the timeless granite of Cape Ann, which precedes human habitation, a handful of places and organizations symbolize our enduring heritage. These include the Rockport Legion Band, honored on July 21 with a Tribute Concert to the band’s 32 charter members.

B o s t o n

Anne-Meri Paster of Finlandia Foundation Boston reports that on September 23, “Rachel Lee Priday, a world class violinist from Seattle, performed pieces of Saariaho, Bach, Salonen and Nielsen chosen specifically for our audience. We want to acknowledge and thank Silkki Kontinen for her generous donation as well as her hard work in coordinating the logistics to make this beautiful and memorable event possible. We truly enjoyed this performance and welcomed a peaceful afternoon to remember our friend and benefactor Leena Park, as well.”

A heavy downpour began just before the start of the outdoor event, but the rain soon abated and according to Susan Gunks, “Hardly a soul had left. Finns are a stubborn, hardy group along with most New Englanders. Cooled, we were rewarded with a top notch concert.”

Guest conductor Paul Niemisto led the band in a spirited performance featuring pieces by Finnish-American immigrant composers, traditional and contemporary pieces from Finland, and the American classics “Anchors Aweigh” and “God Bless America.” Jason Howard’s rendition of “Trumpeter’s Lullaby” recognized both Cape Ann’s outstanding Finnish-American trumpeter, Sylvester Aboa, and Massachusetts’ favorite Swedish-American composer, Leroy Anderson.

Performing with the band were guest musicians Erik Aho (Ohiio, euphonium), John D. Hopkins (Finland, trumpet), Martina Gallo (Gloucester HS, percussion), and veteran band member Walter McGrath. It was an occasion for assimilated Finnish-Americans to celebrate their Cape Ann heritage. Some came from Pennsylvania, Florida, New Hampshire, Maine and central and southern Massachusetts. When Niemisto asked who did not have a Finnish connection, the small show of hands in the audience of about 275 told the story.

The Legion Band was formed in 1953 on a shoestring and hope by 32 Rockport men, about two-thirds from Finnish homes. They were honored by her great-great-grandfather Wayne Tunkula, a local auctioneer with Finnish roots, gave the history and current value of a variety of items. The fee of $5 per item (or three for $10) benefitted the society. Of course, coffee and conversation prevailed afterwards, making it an enjoyable and informative afternoon for all.

The Band Played On at Cape Ann

By Rob Ranta
Cape Ann Finns

Besides the timeless granite of Cape Ann, which precedes human habitation, a handful of places and organizations symbolize our enduring heritage. These include the Rockport Legion Band, honored on July 21 with a Tribute Concert to the band’s 32 charter members.

B o s t o n

Anne-Meri Paster of Finlandia Foundation Boston reports that on September 23, “Rachel Lee Priday, a world class violinist from Seattle, performed pieces of Saariaho, Bach, Salonen and Nielsen chosen specifically for our audience. We want to acknowledge and thank Silkki Kontinen for her generous donation as well as her hard work in coordinating the logistics to make this beautiful and memorable event possible. We truly enjoyed this performance and welcomed a peaceful afternoon to remember our friend and benefactor Leena Park, as well.”

A heavy downpour began just before the start of the outdoor event, but the rain soon abated and according to Susan Gunks, “Hardly a soul had left. Finns are a stubborn, hardy group along with most New Englanders. Cooled, we were rewarded with a top notch concert.”

Guest conductor Paul Niemisto led the band in a spirited performance featuring pieces by Finnish-American immigrant composers, traditional and contemporary pieces from Finland, and the American classics “Anchors Aweigh” and “God Bless America.” Jason Howard’s rendition of “Trumpeter’s Lullaby” recognized both Cape Ann’s outstanding Finnish-American trumpeter, Sylvester Aboa, and Massachusetts’ favorite Swedish-American composer, Leroy Anderson.

Performing with the band were guest musicians Erik Aho (Ohiio, euphonium), John D. Hopkins (Finland, trumpet), Martina Gallo (Gloucester HS, percussion), and veteran band member Walter McGrath. It was an occasion for assimilated Finnish-Americans to celebrate their Cape Ann heritage. Some came from Pennsylvania, Florida, New Hampshire, Maine and central and southern Massachusetts. When Niemisto asked who did not have a Finnish connection, the small show of hands in the audience of about 275 told the story.

The Legion Band was formed in 1953 on a shoestring and hope by 32 Rockport men, about two-thirds from Finnish homes. They were honored by her great-great-grandfather Wayne Tunkula, a local auctioneer with Finnish roots, gave the history and current value of a variety of items. The fee of $5 per item (or three for $10) benefitted the society. Of course, coffee and conversation prevailed afterwards, making it an enjoyable and informative afternoon for all.
The 2019 Lecturer of the Year “Meet the Finn Cooks” program by Soile Anderson and Eleanor Ostman kicked off with a well-attended presentation for Finnish-Americans and Friends, the Hibbing, Minnesota FFN affiliate.

The food experts have scheduled presentations at FinnFunn Weekend (co-hosted by several FFN chapters in Troy, New Hampshire) in November and in Portland, Oregon in April with Finlandia Foundation Columbia-Pacific Chapter. Additional appearances are in the works.

In September, at FinnFest USA in the Detroit area, the duo conducted a sold out, hands-on session in the kitchen of the Finnish Center Association’s Cultural Center.

The “Meet the Finn Cooks” presentation on Finnish foods can be tailored to the interests and resources of individual chapters, with possibilities ranging from demonstrations to workshops and more. Chapters collaborate with the lecturers to create a program best geared toward their needs.

Learn more about the LOY program and presenters at FinlandiaFoundation.org.

For more information or to plan a presentation at your chapter, please contact LOY Coordinator Hilary-Joy Virtanen at hilary.virtanen@finlandia.edu or 906.483.0171.

The Knights and Ladies of Kaleva of Red Lodge, Montana are proud of their sauna, which dates to 1924. The well-used sauna dressing room was in need of refreshing, and member Kirsi Parker proved more than up to the task.

With the help of many members, especially Bill Calvois and his son Bill, the cleaning, painting, rearranging and decorating transformed the space in time to welcome members for the summer season. A scummotuu (sauna elf) carved from a single piece of wood by member Barb Grove watches over the sauna and bathers.

The sauna is located in Finnish Kaleva Park, along Rock Creek north of Red Lodge. The community attracted a sizeable number of Finnish immigrants in the area’s coal mining heyday, and a walking tour notes several historic buildings that remain of its “Finn Town.”

Many of the participants, from presenters to performers, have been or are affiliated with Finlandia Foundation, including former Lecturers of the Year and Performers of the Year, grant recipients, chapter leaders and trustees.

FinnFest USA 2020 will be held in August in Joensuu, Finland. For details check the website at finnfest.us or the FinnFest Facebook page.

The program for FinnFest USA 2019, held September 19-22 in the Detroit area, was packed with interesting panel discussions, tours, demonstrations, film screenings, sporting activities, tori, a worship service and variety of musical performances. Food events included traditional mojakka and pea soup suppers and an elegant Finnish cuisine buffet. Finnish comedian Ismo had audiences roaring at two performances the evening before FinnFest opened.

Historic Sauna Cleans Up Well

This happened nowhere else. How was it possible in Finland?

Simon, an American Jew who lives in Finland, may be available for additional appearances. Contact him at John.Simon@kone.com.

Strangers in a Stranger Land, John B. Simon’s historically factual novel about Finnish Jews who fought alongside Nazi troops in World War II, was a 2017 finalist for History Book of the Year in Finland. The fascinating story has been released in English, and Simon’s recent U.S. book tour has taken him to FFN chapters in New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Author Visits Multiple Chapters

By Hilary-Joy Virtanen
LOY Coordinator

The 2019 Lecturer of the Year “Meet the Finn Cooks” program by Soile Anderson and Eleanor Ostman kicked off with a well-attended presentation for Finnish-Americans and Friends, the Hibbing, Minnesota FFN affiliate.

FinnFest USA 2019 in Metro Detroit

By Hilary-Joy Virtanen
LOY Coordinator

The 2019 Lecturer of the Year “Meet the Finn Cooks” program by Soile Anderson and Eleanor Ostman kicked off with a well-attended presentation for Finnish-Americans and Friends, the Hibbing, Minnesota FFN affiliate.

FinnFest USA 2019 in Metro Detroit

By Hilary-Joy Virtanen
LOY Coordinator

The 2019 Lecturer of the Year “Meet the Finn Cooks” program by Soile Anderson and Eleanor Ostman kicked off with a well-attended presentation for Finnish-Americans and Friends, the Hibbing, Minnesota FFN affiliate.
FFN Board Meets with Stakeholders in Helsinki

This was the first time in more than 20 years that the FFN board met in Finland. In addition to conducting its normal business, the agenda included discussions with representatives of several stakeholders, as a means of building and strengthening relations and exploring mutually beneficial interests.

“We felt it was the right time to personally connect with these individuals and to look to the future and see what potential there might be for cooperation between our organizations,” says FFN President Ossi Rahkonen. “As a result, we have a better understanding of each other’s missions and goals.”

In addition to Jaana Tapanainen-Thiiss and the theater group Osmiakka (see stories on page 20), the FFN board heard from the following: Joni Brunnsberg, senior manager of business development at Fazer Confectionary, said that the fourth generation leadership of the company continues in the tradition of founder Karl Fazer in using premium ingredients and developing innovative products that capture the Nordic spirit and flavors unique to Finland.

Fazer was founded in Helsinki in 1891, and its products are now available in more than 40 countries. In 2012, after an absence of more than 20 years, Fazer has restarted its marketing in the U.S. with Nordi, a new line of premium dark chocolate bars.

Fazer was interested in obtaining feedback from FFN, as the organization representing a large number of Finnish-American groups, regarding Fazer’s presence in the U.S. For more about Fazer: fazergroup.com.

MIGRATION INSTITUTE OF FINLAND Director Tuomas Martikainen informed about the organization, which was founded in 1974 and is headquartered in Turku. It carries out research and collects and documents material related to international and internal migration within Finland. It also publishes reports and provides information on migration.

Within Finland and abroad, the institute works with universities and other organizations that are related to migration. It is primarily funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture.

Martikainen was interested in cooperation with FFN, and a memorandum was distributed to the trustees outlining areas of possible cooperation. For more about the institute: migrationinstitute.fi.

SUOMI-SEURA Executive Director Tina Strandberg shared a summary of the survey of young expatriates conducted earlier this year by Olli Arvo, a doctoral student in the Department of Education at the University of Turku. Suomi-Seura commissioned the survey, which drew 651 responses. A quick look reveals, among other things, a desire for more activities aimed at young people; meetings with a low threshold; bringing up the benefits of organizational work; and more extensive use of social media.

Strandberg suggested that FFN could conduct its own survey among its membership of 58 chapters, as the Suomi-Seura survey was limited in respect to coverage in the U.S.

Find the article (in English) starting on page 18 of Suomen Siltan online magazine online at: lukusali.fi/?p=Suomen%20Siltan%4093s35c4-da9-9e9-9fa0-01555d640300

Ambassador Okko-Pekka Salminen of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, described TEAM FINLAND as a network of 14 Finnish government ministries, agencies and organizations dedicated to increasing awareness of the country as a hub of world class knowledge and know-how. It connects foreign professionals and investors with Finland, collects and shares world market information, and offers grants and other financial services.

Team Finland is interested in working with organizations such as FFN in promoting Finnish business interests abroad. For more about the organization: team-finland.fi.

Pia Dolivo, chief of communications and community relations at the UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI, shared information about the best-rated university in Finland, which is also ranked within the top 5% of universities in the world. In addition to the main City Centre Campus, it has three other campuses in Helsinki and nine at locations elsewhere in Finland. The University of Helsinki is interested in expanding its outreach activities internationally, including the U.S., and in cooperation with FFN. To date, its activities in the states have consisted of alumni meetings and exchange student agreements with universities and colleges, but there is a need for expansion with increased focus on fundraising. For more about the university: helsinki.fi.

Paloheimo Foundation Board Member Martti Paloheimo (below, at left) describes how the former Paloheimo estate, now the Sibelius Academy Music Centre, was the location of Sova Music Camp in 2016 and 2019.

At left, clockwise: Tuomas Martikainen, O.P. Salmimies, Joni Brunnsberg, Tina Strandberg.

Above: Pia Dolivo (standing) and her associate Iiris Wirtaala (seated at left) meet with the trustees.

On the third day of their board meeting, FFN trustees traveled about 40 miles from Helsinki to Järvenpää for a tour of Anola, the home of Aino and Jean Sibelius. The meeting resided at Kullo-Kuninkala (below), the former Paloheimo estate, now the Sibelius Academy Music Centre. It was the location of Sova Music Camp in 2016 and 2019.

This is the first time in more than 20 years that the FFN board met in Finland. In addition to conducting its normal business, the agenda included discussions with representatives of several stakeholders, as a means of building and strengthening relations and exploring mutually beneficial interests.

“We felt it was the right time to personally connect with these individuals and to look to the future and see what potential there might be for cooperation between our organizations,” says FFN President Ossi Rahkonen. “As a result, we have a better understanding of each other’s missions and goals.”

In addition to Jaana Tapanainen-Thiiss and the theater group Osmiakka (see stories on page 20), the FFN board heard from the following: Joni Brunnsberg, senior manager of business development at Fazer Confectionary, said that the fourth generation leadership of the company continues in the tradition of founder Karl Fazer in using premium ingredients and developing innovative products that capture the Nordic spirit and flavors unique to Finland.

Fazer was founded in Helsinki in 1891, and its products are now available in more than 40 countries. In 2012, after an absence of more than 20 years, Fazer has restarted its marketing in the U.S. with Nordi, a new line of premium dark chocolate bars.

Fazer was interested in obtaining feedback from FFN, as the organization representing a large number of Finnish-American groups, regarding Fazer’s presence in the U.S. For more about Fazer: fazergroup.com.

MIGRATION INSTITUTE OF FINLAND Director Tuomas Martikainen informed about the organization, which was founded in 1974 and is headquartered in Turku. It carries out research and collects and documents material related to international and internal migration within Finland. It also publishes reports and provides information on migration.

Within Finland and abroad, the institute works with universities and other organizations that are related to migration. It is primarily funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture.

Martikainen was interested in cooperation with FFN, and a memorandum was distributed to the trustees outlining areas of possible cooperation. For more about the institute: migrationinstitute.fi.

SUOMI-SEURA Executive Director Tina Strandberg shared a summary of the survey of young expatriates conducted earlier this year by Olli Arvo, a doctoral student in the Department of Education at the University of Turku. Suomi-Seura commissioned the survey, which drew 651 responses. A quick look reveals, among other things, a desire for more activities aimed at young people; meetings with a low threshold; bringing up the benefits of organizational work; and more extensive use of social media.

Strandberg suggested that FFN could conduct its own survey among its membership of 58 chapters, as the Suomi-Seura survey was limited in respect to coverage in the U.S.

Find the article (in English) starting on page 18 of Suomen Siltan online magazine online at: lukusali.fi/?p=Suomen%20Siltan%4093s35c4-da9-9e9-9fa0-01555d640300

Ambassador Okko-Pekka Salminen of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, described TEAM FINLAND as a network of 14 Finnish government ministries, agencies and organizations dedicated to increasing awareness of the country as a hub of world class knowledge and know-how. It connects foreign professionals and investors with Finland, collects and shares world market information, and offers grants and other financial services.

Team Finland is interested in working with organizations such as FFN in promoting Finnish business interests abroad. For more about the organization: team-finland.fi.

Pia Dolivo, chief of communications and community relations at the UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI, shared information about the best-rated university in Finland, which is also ranked within the top 5% of universities in the world. In addition to the main City Centre Campus, it has three other campuses in Helsinki and nine at locations elsewhere in Finland. The University of Helsinki is interested in expanding its outreach activities internationally, including the U.S., and in cooperation with FFN. To date, its activities in the states have consisted of alumni meetings and exchange student agreements with universities and colleges, but there is a need for expansion with increased focus on fundraising. For more about the university: helsinki.fi.

At left, clockwise: Tuomas Martikainen, O.P. Salmimies, Joni Brunnsberg, Tina Strandberg.

Above: Pia Dolivo (standing) and her associate Iiris Wirtaala (seated at left) meet with the trustees.

On the third day of their board meeting, FFN trustees traveled about 40 miles from Helsinki to Järvenpää for a tour of Anola, the home of Aino and Jean Sibelius. The meeting resided at Kullo-Kuninkala (below), the former Paloheimo estate, now the Sibelius Academy Music Centre. It was the location of Sova Music Camp in 2016 and 2019.

This is the first time in more than 20 years that the FFN board met in Finland. In addition to conducting its normal business, the agenda included discussions with representatives of several stakeholders, as a means of building and strengthening relations and exploring mutually beneficial interests.

“We felt it was the right time to personally connect with these individuals and to look to the future and see what potential there might be for cooperation between our organizations,” says FFN President Ossi Rahkonen. “As a result, we have a better understanding of each other’s missions and goals.”

In addition to Jaana Tapanainen-Thiiss and the theater group Osmiakka (see stories on page 20), the FFN board heard from the following: Joni Brunnsberg, senior manager of business development at Fazer Confectionary, said that the fourth generation leadership of the company continues in the tradition of founder Karl Fazer in using premium ingredients and developing innovative products that capture the Nordic spirit and flavors unique to Finland.

Fazer was founded in Helsinki in 1891, and its products are now available in more than 40 countries. In 2012, after an absence of more than 20 years, Fazer has restarted its marketing in the U.S. with Nordi, a new line of premium dark chocolate bars.

Fazer was interested in obtaining feedback from FFN, as the organization representing a large number of Finnish-American groups, regarding Fazer’s presence in the U.S. For more about Fazer: fazergroup.com.

MIGRATION INSTITUTE OF FINLAND Director Tuomas Martikainen informed about the organization, which was founded in 1974 and is headquartered in Turku. It carries out research and collects and documents material related to international and internal migration within Finland. It also publishes reports and provides information on migration.

Within Finland and abroad, the institute works with universities and other organizations that are related to migration. It is primarily funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture.

Martikainen was interested in cooperation with FFN, and a memorandum was distributed to the trustees outlining areas of possible cooperation. For more about the institute: migrationinstitute.fi.
A primary reason for the Finlandia Foundation trustees meeting in Helsinki October 3-5 was to strengthen relationships that have been built between FFN and contacts in Finland. In the more than 20 years that have passed since the board last met there, FFN has worked to increase awareness of the organization in Finland.

At a Thursday evening reception hosted by FFN at the Helsinki City Hall Restaurant, more than 100 guests and trustees were able to meet and mingle. Attendees included former Ambassadors of Finland to the U.S., staff from the Office of President Sauli Niinistö, representatives of the Paloheimo Foundation, Suomi-Seura, Sibelius Academy, Business Finland, Crisis Management Initiative and other organizations, as well as recipients of FFN grants and scholarships.

In addition to hearing from FFN trustees, President Ossi Rahkonen presented the Finlandia Foundation Award of Excellence to Jussi Makkonen and Nazig Azezian, and the guests were treated to a performance by the musicians.

Making Connections in Helsinki

A primary reason for the Finlandia Foundation trustees meeting in Helsinki October 3-5 was to strengthen relationships that have been built between FFN and contacts in Finland. In the more than 20 years that have passed since the board last met there, FFN has worked to increase awareness of the organization in Finland.

At a Thursday evening reception hosted by FFN at the Helsinki City Hall Restaurant, more than 100 guests and trustees were able to meet and mingle. Attendees included former Ambassadors of Finland to the U.S., staff from the Office of President Sauli Niinistö, representatives of the Paloheimo Foundation, Suomi-Seura, Sibelius Academy, Business Finland, Crisis Management Initiative and other organizations, as well as recipients of FFN grants and scholarships.

In addition to hearing from FFN trustees, President Ossi Rahkonen presented the Finlandia Foundation Award of Excellence to Jussi Makkonen and Nazig Azezian, and the guests were treated to a performance by the musicians.

How do we prepare for the future?

Jaana Tapanainen-Thiess shared her expertise and suggestions regarding strategic planning for the future.

By Betsey Norgard, FFN Trustee

Last year, the Finlandia Foundation Board of Trustees created a Future Committee, with the charge to study the impact of generational changes, and recommend how Finlandia Foundation can remain current, attract younger generations, and become more visible as a source of information and resources about Finland and Finnish America.

During its recent meeting in Helsinki, FFN board members had the opportunity to meet and hear from Jaana Tapanainen-Thiess, a futures consultant and chief specialist in the Prime Minister's Office.

Her work for the past two years has been to assist Finland’s administration, ministries and Parliament in creating strategy-based policies and annual reports for their programs that reflect on possible future scenarios. These policies, when shared across the government, can inform discussions among the ministries and with Parliament, and provide messages and strategies for policy-making.

These ministry “future reviews” do not attempt to predict what will happen in the future, but rather use strategic forecasting tools to consider what could happen and what various government offices would be open to see happening in Finland in the future, leading to the creation of scenarios that better prepare the country for change.

John Morton: The Musical

John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Pennsylvania in 1724, the son of Finnish immigrants. His great-grandfather, Morti Marttinen (his name anglicized to Morton), had come to the New Sweden colony in 1654.

Morton, a judge who was elected to the Continental Congress, sided with Benjamin Franklin and James Wilson in the 1776 debate on a resolution of independence. His life is the subject of an original Finnish musical production, Rotkaisevo ääni (Deciding Vote), which has been staged in Finland by Musiikkiteatteri Onnikka. Members of the theater group performed a few show numbers in the course of a meeting with FFN trustees about the possibility of translating the play for American audiences.

The board has taken it under consideration and will make a decision in the near future about the potential for this interpretation of the story about the Founding Father of Finnish descent.

See a scene from Rotkaisevo ääni at: youtube.com/watch?v=mA0dkKBHJu9s

FFN trustee Hanna Wagner (second from left) with the Rotkaisevo ääni/ creative team (from left) playwright Terho Arola, director Ritta Wolfl-Mäkelä, actor Jussi Luhtamäki (John Morton), composer Pär Cola, and Martti Kavukari, chairman.

Across the government, these foresight scenarios serve to provide a shared understanding of future trends or occurrences, a common language in which to consider possible futures, and strategic dialogue to address various situations that occur.

Tapanainen-Thiess is an expert in strategic foresight, with 25 years of residence abroad, working in both the private and public sectors. Just before returning to Finland, she was a futures consultant in the United Arab Emirates, leading their work in developing future scenarios.

As one example of her work, in Finland last August she participated on a panel sponsored by Suomi-Seura/Finland Society and the Institute of Migration that discussed perspectives on the changing nature of expatriatism and the needs of Finns abroad.
Gifts from $1,000 through Major Gifts are cumulative

MAJOR GIFTS
Rauha Cole Estate
Curtin-Palohjano
Leonnora Foundation
Aina Swan Cutler
FF National Capital Chapter
Hilka Kalliomaa
Ronald A. Helin
Hilma M. Hendrickson
Thao N. Huy
Hilda M. Hendrickson Trust
Dr. Vaiio Holov
John & Pauline Kittinen
Hilka Kittinninen Trust
Aune E. Koski Estate
Esko Koskinen
Gertrude Kuusela
John & Nancy Lane
Edward Laissy Estate
Petri Lintudos
Earle I. Mack Foundation
Timothy Naurala
Palhojano Foundation
Leonnor C. Palohjano
Dess J. & Karin Rahn
Elma Randell Estate
Jon & Christine Saari
Jean Saimo-Nellan Trust
Bert & Marjatta Salonen
George & Marion Seppala
Suomi-Seura, Finland
Eero Teri
Päivi & Brunner Teri
Andreas Udris
U.F.B.B.S. Lodge #1 of San Francisco
Regina K. Valley
Rosa Kuusela-Williams & Albert Williams

$5,000 to $9,999
Anonymous
J. Bradnot & Pikko Borland
John Brock
& Siri Ristimaki-Brock
Finlandia Music & Art Festival
Finnish-American Literary
Heritage Foundation
Paul & Susan Hole
Olavi Haukkia
Janet Kniffin Estate
Rita Vermaila-Koski & Alvar Koski
Juha O. Mäkipää
Saija & Juhani Makela
Seija & Lawrence Farber
FF San Francisco Bay
Anna Chapter
FF Seattle Chapter
Finnest USA 2007
Finnish Folk Festival - Naiselle
Water Heikka
Richard & Helma Impola
Richard & Alina Kurimo
Kati Lehtonen
Lehti O. Hakala
Richard & Lisa Landin
Richard A. Luhtanen
Maryknoll Mission
Finn Maila
Eva & Heikki Mannisto
Gabriel & Annette Monroe
Ossi & Ciszewa Narni
In Memory of
Emil & Hilli Narni
Mike, Inc.
Batesy & Alan Nordgard
Anno Rosvall
Addy Ryden
Eva Svaar
Prof. Borje O. Säilä
Scandinavian-American Cultural & Historical Foundation
David & Jeannette Sharpe
Marja O. Snyder
Brontis Thomopoulos
Johanna Thormod
Mervi Vainio
Albert Walluf

$100 to $999
Joy & Patrick Clement
Jacob & Mary Mäki
Sven Wahnhos

Gifts from Spring through October 2019
$1,000 and more
Anne-Mari & Frederick Paster
Dirk & Pjörk Schubach
Sidra Anderson Consulting, Inc.
Susan E. Walia
Anni Kuusela-Williams

$1,000 to $9,999
Helen E. Kubala
Takeda Pharmaceuticals

$500 to $999
William & Helen Albert
Ashland University
In honor of Sara Pajunen
Ronald R. Karjala
Katarina Lehtonen
Batesy & Alan Nordgard

$200 to $499
M. J. & Q.E. Anu
Anna B. Scanlon
In memory of Jacob Engblom
Alpo Crane
Finlandia Foundation of Michigan
Richard & Leila Judd
Karen Kour Living Trust
Red River Finns
John Sundgren

Honor Loved Ones with a Special Finlandia Foundation Scholarship

The names of Finlandia Foundation members and friends below are followed by those they have acknowledged with a Centennial Honor Gift to Fenn. Accredited to the Finlandia Family Tree with their story and photos. To read the stories, including that of Ruth Viola Hyyry Sharpe (right) and to make an honor gift, visit FinlandiaFoundation.org.

GIFT OF $500+
Paul & Susan Halme
Omar & Siama Halme
Loretta (Ploiss) Lindell & Carolyn (Ploiss) Wills
Posio/Ranta Families
Pertti Lintodos
Consul Jan Lindell
Kari Ernest Pierson
Heimi Wirtanen Pierson
David & Jeannette Sharpe
Ruth Viola Hyyry Sharpe
Anita Stille
Jack & (Iliditt) Hakkila

GIFT OF $250+
Michael E. & Anne Anu
Helmi Cisztomo-Taipela
Michael E. & Anne Anu
Taimi Elona Kellonen
Anna Leen Christensen
Alma (Sooja) & Matti Laaktonen
Kiri Frie Nir Ncilda
Donald Frezen
Hillevi Nill
Nikolai & Amalia Dömar
James R. Riehe
Alla Kaozan
Pyro Kjusjanus Schubach
Olli Eibolt Kjusjanus Peterson
Kathleen & Raja Lehto
Robert & Ellisie Ustado,
Ellen & Rino Lhlo
Isaia & Ustado
Marisska Westerfield
Finnish Grandparents & Fatherhood

GIFT OF $100
Mark Andstrom
Karen Andstrom LaBonte,
Elaine Caron
Ron & Karen Knudt
Keith Karpius
Robert & Brenda Anderson
Jarno Heinilä
Winter War Fund in honor of
Jarmo Heinilä

By Tim Naurala
FFN Trustee
Did you know that you may declare a donation to the Finlandia Foundation through your IRA that is completely tax-free?
A lot of people over 70% take their required minimum distribution (RMD) from their IRA before the end of the year.
Many retirees don’t necessarily need this distribution to cover living expenses. By giving directly to a charity, your contribution is a tax deduction that you can carry forward in future years.
You could give your entire IRA or a portion of your IRA—whatever you’d like. You can select a charitable organization and receive a Form 1099 in the year you made the gift.
You don’t need to itemize your deductions to get a tax benefit from the gift (and many people who no longer have a mortgage don’t itemize their deductions).
Making the tax-free transfer also keeps you out of your adjusted gross income. That could help you avoid the Medicare high-income surcharge and make less on your Social Security benefits taxable.
Note that these rules apply only to IRAs and not 401(k) plans.
Please let the Finlandia Foundation know of your intentions to make use of this charitable contribution through your IRA. This way, we will know that the contribution came from you and we can send you an acknowledgment.
FFN Vice President Paul Holvi is ready to assist you with options for giving to Finlandia Foundation National. Please contact him at 805.688.6225 or paul@halvamonde.com.

NEWS NOTES
If you have a change of address or would like to receive this newsletter as a PDF by email, inform Maria Kuiusan at office@finlandiafoundation.org.
For more FINN news and items of interest to Finnish America, sign up for the free, monthly FINN E-newsletter at FinlandiaFoundation.org.
Join our international community for tips, fun news items and event information:
Friend us on Facebook and follow us at Instagram/finlandiafoundation.
Find more information about the chapters, including websites and Facebook pages, at FinlandiaFoundation.org

**ALASKA**
Anchorage Suomi Finland Club/2015
Hanna Eklund
hanna.eklund@gmail.com

**ARIZONA**
The F-A Club of Tucson/2007
Tommi Koskinen
tucsonfinnclub@gmail.com
Finns and Friends of Phoenix/2010
Joy Dorvinen
finnsandfriendsclub@gmail.com

**CALIFORNIA**
Finlandia Club of Sacramento Valley/2006
Chad Riding
criding2002@yahoo.com
FF Berkeley Chapter/2016
Kaj Rekola
krekolaj@gmail.com
FF Los Angeles Chapter/1974
Ellen Harju
harju@ucla.edu
FF San Francisco Bay Area Chapter/1956
Nina Ehersam
nehrsam@mac.com
Heidi Saario
heidi@playthepiano.ca
The House of Finland-San Diego/2015
Eeva Syvanen
eeva_sylvanen@yahoo.com

**COLOMBIO**
FF Colorado Chapter/1993
Dennis
Kirsi St. Marie
kirstimarie@comcast.net

**CONNECTICUT**
F-A Heritage Society/2011
Canterbury
Steven Bousquet
stevenbousquet@yahoo.com

**DELAWARE**
Delaware Valley Finnish-Americans/2017
Newark
Roy Pato
palopaa@aol.com
New Sweden Alliance/2017
Yorklyn
Affiliated Member
Sheila Romine
sromine@newswedenalliance.org

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
FF National Capital Chapter/1959
Turto Turtiainen
turtiain@aol.com

**FINLANDIA FOUNDATION: NATIONAL CHAPTERS: YEAR AFFILIATED WITH FFN AND PRESIDENT/CHAIRMAN**

**FLORIDA**
FF Florida Chapter/1954
Lantana
Kaarina Langeland
kaarinlangeland@comcast.net
FinnsConnect South Florida/2017
Miami-Dade-Broward Counties
Päivi Kaufman
finnsconnect@gmail.com

**GEORGIA**
Atlanta Finland Society, Inc./1975
Minna LeVine
levineminnia@gmail.com

**IDAHO**
FF Inland Northwest Chapter/1970
Don Heikkila
idaho@nmt.edu

**ILLINOIS**
F-A Society of the Midwest/1997
Chicago area
Liisa McMahon
liisa.mcmahon@yahoo.com

**MAINE**
F-A Heritage Society of Maine/2012
West Paris
Dale Pirainen
mainefins1@gmail.com

**MICHIGAN**
FF of Michigan/2012
Royal Oak
Frank Gottberg
frankkk@att.net
F-A Society of West Central Michigan/2007
Coopersville
Marie Godell Fowler
lydiamarie@earthlink.net

**MINNESOTA**
FF Northland Chapter/2010
Duluth
Amy B. Hietapelto
ahbietipelto@yahoo.com

**MONTANA**
FF Montana/2017
Missoula
Jenni Rohrbach
finlandiafoundationmontana@gmail.com

**MISSOURI**
FF Columbia-Pacific Chapter/2001
Portland
Greg Jacob
jacobgk@comcast.net

**NEVADA**
FF Nevada/2010
Nevada

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**
FF New Hampshire/2015
New Hampshire

**NEW JERSEY**
FF New Jersey Chapter/1980
New Jersey

**NEW MEXICO**
FF New Mexico Metropolitan Chapter/1954
Eero Kilpi
kilpi@me.com

**NEW YORK**
Finger Lakes Finns/2006
Spencer
Restina “Rusty” Wigg
r16wigg@aol.com
FF New York Metropolitan Chapter/1954
Eero Kilpi
kilpi@me.com

**OHIO**
FF Heritage Association of Ashatabula County/2003
Linda Sippola Riddell
liriddell1207@gmail.com

**OREGON**
FF Columbia-Pacific Chapter/2001
Portland
Greg Jacob
jacobgk@comcast.net

**PENNSYLVANIA**
FF Pittsburgh Chapter/1990
Seija Cohen
SeijaC@aol.com

**SOUTH DAKOTA**
Frederick Forward - FF Dakota Chapter/2012
Heidi Marttila-Losure
hmmartti@yahoo.com

**TEXAS**
F-A Society of Dallas/Fort Worth/1991
Jeremy Martin
president@texfinn.org

**UTAH**
FF Utah Chapter/2016
Provo
Tiina Watts
tiiwatts@gmail.com

**VIRGINIA**
FF Tidewater Virginia Chapter/2001
Portsmouth

**WASHINGTON**
FF Seattle Chapter/1968
Mikko Mannisb
mikimxott@hotmail.com

**WASHINGTON D.C.**
FF Suomi Chapter/2010
Bellingham
Pasi Virta
pasivirta@comcast.net

**WISCONSIN**
F-A Society of the Northwest/2012
Seattle

**WASHINGTON**
FF Western Washington Chapter/1995
Bill Carlson
carlsinharriington@comcast.net