



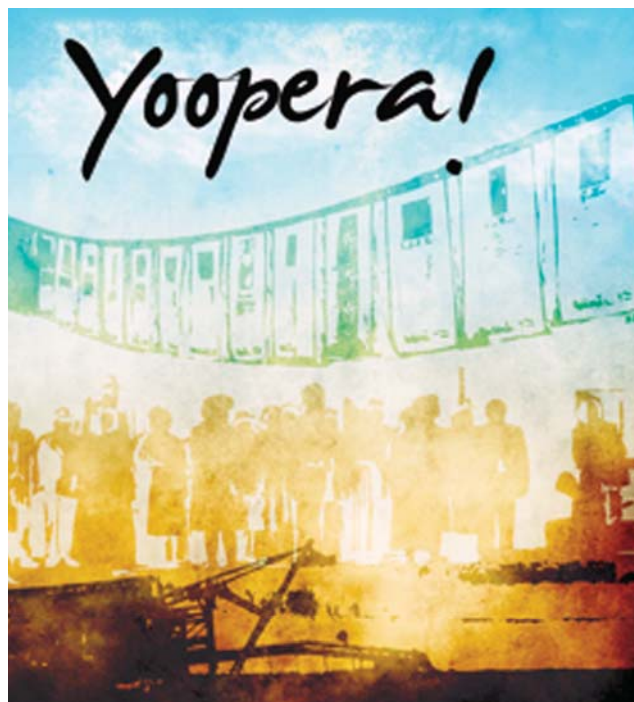
# Finlandia Foundation® National

## Film Team Named Lecturer of the Year

By Jon Saari, Trustee and LOY Coordinator

In 2006 the FFN Board selected the filmmaker Ben Strout and his Winter War film “Fire and Ice” for the first Lecturer of the Year. It was shown over 30 times around the country, and stimulated deep reflection about that seminal event in Finnish history.

At its October 2013 meeting the Board selected filmmakers Suzanne Jurva and Erin Smith and their film “Yoopera!” for the 2014 Lecturers of the Year. The film documents the story of a labor strike in the Upper Peninsula mining town of Rockland in 1906. It tells how the story was rescued from oblivion and turned into a folk opera full of significance for community memory.



Suzanne Jurva

Finland and Houghton, Michigan in 2011, where an audience of 2,000 filled the Rozsa Center for two nights. The composer, the librettist and several leading singers were all Finnish nationals; the staging and casting were done by the Pine Mountain Music Festival, based in the UP. It was truly a high level international collaboration.

Suzanne Jurva, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia, is an award-winning international filmmaker who saw great potential in this local story out of Copper Country. Erin Smith teaches film studies at

The striking title “Yoopera!” is a combination of Yooper, meaning UP native, and the Finnish word *ooppera* meaning opera. Although set in the UP the themes transcend place to stimulate reflection on social justice, immigration and memory.

The original folk opera “Rockland: The Opera” premiered in Nivala,

Michigan Tech University, and was an excellent local collaborator. One of the lecturers will be present at all LOY showings of “Yoopera!”

The film is not only about the making of “Rockland: The Opera,”

but also about the accompanying Story Line project designed for the Houghton premiere by community artist Mary Wright.

It engaged hundreds of school children (as well as some adults) in telling their own family stories on cloth banners.



Film editor Erin Smith (left) and Director/ Producer Suzanne Jurva answer audience questions following the Marquette premiere of “Yoopera!”

# Word from the President



## Tervehdys:

Finlandia Foundation National, now celebrating its 60th anniversary, is the most important source of support for Finnish and Finnish-American culture in the United States.

During the past 20 years, we have provided hundreds of grants and scholarships and supported special programs for a total of about \$2 million.

As you'll find in stories throughout this newsletter, by awarding grants for cultural projects and offering aid to college students we are assisting our young people in their pursuit of education and helping artists, writers, keepers of history and others to present and preserve our heritage. For example, "Yoopera!," whose producers are the 2014 FFN Lecturers of the Year, benefited from an FFN grant.

In her testimonial at the FFN 60th Anniversary Gala, Hilary Joy Virtanen, PhD candidate and recipient of FFN scholarships, stated: "To say that Finlandia Foundation has contributed greatly to my education is an understatement. Finlandia Foundation programs have had a profound impact on my ability to pursue the college education of my dreams and, even before completing my final degree, to be able to give back to the Finnish ethnic community."

"You have impacted my life and countless others through your scholarship and grant programs, and for this, I thank you all deeply and congratulate you on your 60 years of philanthropy and fellowship."

We are presently able to meet only about a third of well-qualified grant requests, and scholarships recognize a only a token of the excellent applicants. Our funding has not kept up with the rapid increase in the cost of institutions of higher learning in the US.

We decided at our 60th Anniversary to make a determined effort to increase our levels of support. This means intensified fundraising, as we receive no public monies. We have made a good start. You have already received and will be receiving further fundraising letters and e-blasts, and we hope that you can still respond positively in 2013 and beyond. Increased funds will benefit all of us with expanded programs and the ability to respond to the greater need for grants and scholarships.

"Finlandia Foundation programs have had a profound impact on my ability to pursue the college education of my dreams, and even before completing my final degree, to be able to give back to the Finnish ethnic community." Virtanen

We also believe that greater collaboration with FFN chapters would be beneficial to all of us. We welcome suggestions on how we can improve our interaction. I am, as are my fellow Trustees, ready to visit chapters and to meet with you.

We would like to hear from you.

  
Ossi Rahkonen  
FFN President

**Our Mission** is to sustain both Finnish-American culture in the U.S. and the ancestral tie with Finland by raising funds for grants and scholarships, initiating innovative national programs, and networking with local chapters.

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# Nominations Open for Performer of the Year Changes to Program in 2014

Since 1996 when Finlandia Foundation National selected Merja Soria, a vocalist and kantele (stringed Finnish folk instrument) artist as its first Performer of the Year (POY), audiences across the United States have enjoyed entertaining programs related to Finnish and Finnish-American culture.

The POY, who must reside in the US, receives a travel stipend of \$7,000 to make at least six performances at FFN chapter events in a 12-month period. Until now the program has operated on a calendar year, but at its October meeting the FFN board decided to adjust the schedule to better accommodate programming among its chapters.

“We have found that many FFN chapters plan their programs from fall through summer, and have now brought our POY schedule in line with that,” said Satu Mikkola, POY coordinator.

Effective in 2014, the year-long commitment will begin September 1 and end the following August 31.

The schedule change necessitates an adjustment in the selection process, which previously took place in September. Applications for the September 2014 - August 2015 program must be postmarked by February 15, 2014.

While most performers have been vocalists and instrumental musicians, the POY may possess any talent that appeals to a range of ages and is consistent with the goals of the FFN; in 1998 POY Bernhard Hillila entertained audiences with his comedic lectures on Finnishness.



Kantele musician Wilho Saari was POY 2011.

The POY is selected each year from applicants nominated by an FFN chapter or other Finnish-American organization, or an FFN Trustee. An artist may not self-nominate. If not selected an artist may apply again, but a POY may serve only once.

Find the list of 45 FFN chapters, trustees, POY guidelines and more information at [www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org).



Pianist Marja Kaisla will appear as POY through August 2014.

## Marja Kaisla Continues as POY

Due to the changes to Performer of the Year the 2013 POY, concert pianist Marja Kaisla, will extend her performances through August 2014.

Kaisla, of Philadelphia, was born in Finland and has lived in the US since 1987. She began studying piano at the age of three and continued her education at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, the St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia, with György Sebök in Switzerland and Susan Starr in Philadelphia.

Earlier this year Kaisla received the Commemorative Medal of the Centennial of the Parliament of Finland for her work promoting Finnish and Nordic Culture in the U.S. She serves as vice president of the New Sweden Alliance, which planned this year's 375th anniversary events celebrating the arrival of Finns and Swedes in the Delaware Valley in 1638.

For the POY schedule go to:  
[www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org).

For further information about POY nominations or to book Marja Kaisla for a performance contact POY Coordinator Satu Mikkola at [satum@aol.com](mailto:satum@aol.com)

## Finnish Embassy's Cultural Counselor Available to Speak

Keijo Karjalainen is the new Cultural Counselor of the Embassy of Finland in Washington DC. He succeeds Anneli Halonen, who has retired. Karjalainen was earlier assigned to the Embassy of Finland in London.

He covers a wide area of subjects, including education, and is ready to accept invitations to speak at Finlandia Foundation chapters. Reach Karjalainen at (202) 298-5823 or [keijo.karjalainen@formin.fi](mailto:keijo.karjalainen@formin.fi)

# Soiva Camp Offers Lessons in Music and More



Soiva students and faculty gather at the Stave Church where they performed concerts.

By Dennis Anderson, Trustee, Soiva Camp Co-Chair

Soiva Music Camp held June 22-30 was fantastic. The students were outstanding and the faculty very dedicated to the art of teaching. Of the 21 students, 13 were from Finland and eight from the US. Finnish faculty numbered three, plus four members from the Concordia College music department. It truly was an awesome week for everyone connected with the Soiva Camp, held at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN.

Highlights included playing four concerts, in small and large ensembles, at the Scandinavian Festival June 28-29. The webcast concert on June 30 included "Jupiter from the Planets" by Holst and "Andante" by Sibelius.

Evenings were busy with a pizza night, a S'mores party at Leigh Wakefield's home, a Midsummer dinner at the home of Jane and Rod Capistran, swimming, shopping, playing Gamelan instruments from Java and African drumming, and a special farewell banquet.

FFN sincerely thanks the Concordia College faculty for their exceptional teaching and organizing skills: Debora Harris, flute (and US coordinator); Jane Capistran, violin; Russell Peterson, composition/improvisation; and Leigh Wakefield, clarinet. From Finland we acknowledge the fine instruction of Eeva Kaisa Malin, flute (and Finnish coordinator); Hanne Lund, violin; and Marja Pohjola, piano.

Special thanks to every student who attended Soiva Camp 2013.

Of her experience Minna Thrall of Afton, MN, writes: "I'm so glad I was able to connect with people who live where my ancestors were from and share with them one of the most beautiful things on earth: music! I made many friends and learned so much about Finnish culture. I also learned many great violin techniques from some of the best teachers in the world! Because of this camp I have a whole new appreciation for music and the violin."

Thanks also to Soiva Committee Co-Chair Paul Suomala and members Dorothy Suomala, Betsey Norgard, Anne-Mari Paster and Madeline Bahr.

## No Tuition Increase in 2014

Soiva Music Camp, for students of violin, viola, flute, clarinet and piano in grades six-12, will be held June 21-29, 2014.

Tuition remains at \$650 for registrations made by April 1, 2014. After that the cost rises to \$750. It includes instruction, the use of all music hall facilities and computer lab, dormitory lodging, meals and activities. Students are under adult supervision. Commuting students pay \$450 (includes all meals).

FFN offers four travel grants of \$500 each to students who live outside of the upper Midwest.

For scholarship information contact Dennis Anderson at [soivaatcord@yahoo.com](mailto:soivaatcord@yahoo.com) or phone (218) 251-0164.

For more about Soiva Music Camp visit: [www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org).



Jonas Lund of Finland plays the Gamelan.

# Salolampi: A Finn-tastic Experience All Year Long

By Betsey Norgard, FFN Trustee

Salolampi Finnish Language Village is a great place for kids...and for adults, college students and families, too. In 2013 the camp on Turtle River Lake near Bemidji, MN, brought visitors to its Finland-like setting during every season of the year to learn about Finnish traditions, heritage and culture.

Summer villagers numbered 83 this year and came from 15 states. Children up to age 15 attended one- or two-week sessions, and youth ages 12 through high school attended the two- or four-week immersion sessions. High school students in the four-week program can obtain a one-year foreign language credit.

Adult Weeks, a Family Week and February's Family Fun Weekend are memorable experiences. Young children can participate in the Adventure Day Camp, and usually discover how much they want to return as a resident villager.

The nearly 30 staff members provide the welcoming and encouraging environment that makes for a special experience. Salolampi Dean Amy Tervola Hultberg wrote in the *Salolammen Sanomat*, "Our high number of native Finns on staff this summer gave us the opportunity to think deeply about what we value at Salolampi and how we can make the experience even more meaningful for villagers."

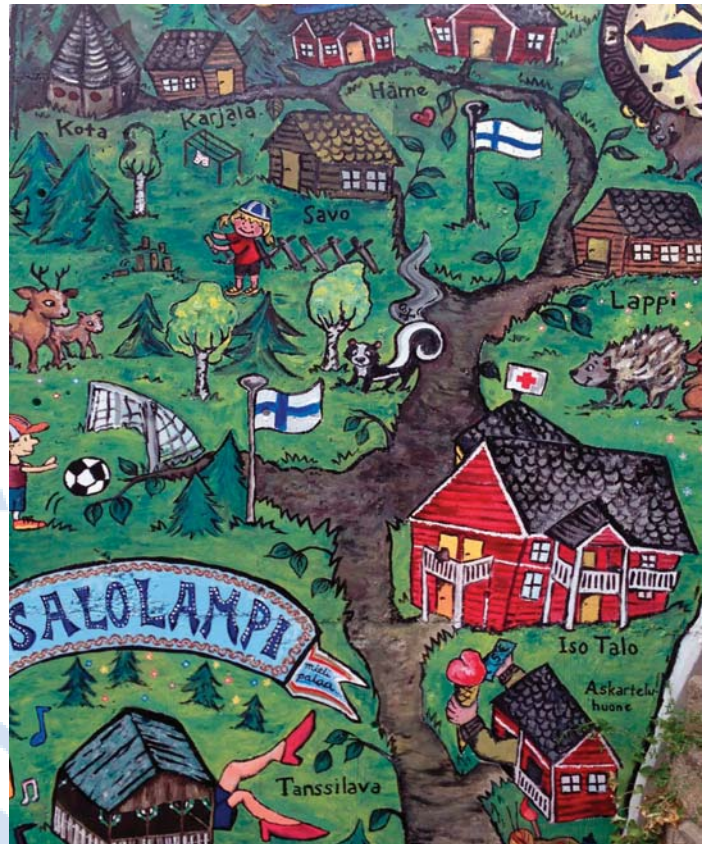
She explained, "Our new curriculum is designed as a seven-year cycle leading to our credit program, so villagers will experience a new theme each year as Salolampi seeks to be a 'bridge' to Finland."

## FFN Assists with Scholarships

FFN offers scholarships to help young people with the cost of attending the summer programs. In 2013 FFN awarded four scholarships for Salolampi villagers through the Boston Chapter, Dallas-Fort Worth Finnish-American Society and the Finnish-American Society of the Midwest in Chicago.

FFN contributes \$300 per youth to those who receive matching (or greater) funds from FFN chapters. Chapters must submit their nominees for the 2014 program to the FFN office by February 28, 2014.

Salolampi tuition for the 2014 season begins at \$895 for the one-week session; register by December 1, 2013 and the rate is \$870. Salolampi also offers scholarships. For further information about Salolampi Language Village phone (800) 222-4750 or go to [www.salolampi.org](http://www.salolampi.org).



## Saukko Readers Await New Book

Fans of Finnish culture and language will want a copy of *Opi II*, the second compilation of columns by Lauri Saukko, past dean of Salolampi Language Village in Bemidji, MN.

"The artwork on the front cover features a photograph of the colorful, whimsical mural painted on a prominent exterior wall at the Salolampi Language Village during the summer of 2013," said Joanne Bergman, past president of the Salolampi Foundation. Finnish artist Elisa Repo, a staff member, was assisted on the mural by Mirka Oinonen, Peri Bovitz, Sam Copelan and Kylie Pieczonka.

Saukko's monthly Finnish language columns originally appeared in *The Finnish American Reporter*. *Opi I* has been sold out for more than a year. Both volumes received FFN grants. *Opi II* will be available online at [www.salolampi.org](http://www.salolampi.org).



"Heritage Powers the Future," a wall hanging at Salolampi.

# Savoring and Serving Our Finnish Heritage

By Anita Häkkinen Smiley,  
FFN Immediate Past President

At FinnFest 2013, held in June in Hancock/Houghton, Michigan, representatives of three organizations met to strengthen bonds, celebrate significant anniversaries and recognize that individually and together they give Finland a strong voice. All enjoy rich histories and are working to build a stronger root system among Finnish nationality groups:



## Finlandia Foundation National

([www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org)), celebrating its 60th anniversary, continues to grow as new chapters and individual members sense the importance of maintaining a link with one's history through an umbrella organization that has as its purpose the strengthening of Finnish culture and heritage. FFN has over 7,000 members in 45 chapters throughout the US, and individual



Gathered at the FinnFest 2013 reception (l to r) Laura Norella of The League of Finnish-American Societies, FFN President Ossi Rahkonen, FFN Past Presidents Anita Smiley and John Suomela, Eeva Pinomaa of Helsinki and FinnFestUSA President K. Marianne Wargelin.

## Double FinnFest Fun in 2014

FinnFest USA returns to Minneapolis August 8-10, 2014 when the celebration of culture and heritage returns to the site of the inaugural FinnFest USA in 1983. And for the first time a FinnFest will be held in Helsinki, August 28-31, 2014.



For information go to [www.finnfestusa.org](http://www.finnfestusa.org) or find FinnFest USA 2014 on Facebook.

members who do not have a Finnish-American organization in their area but who wish to be a part of this important network.



**Finland Society** ([www.suomi-seura.fi](http://www.suomi-seura.fi)), located in Helsinki and now in its 86th year, is an organization unlike any other in the world. It is the voice of Finnish citizens and dependents around the globe and welcomes

members. A bi-monthly newsletter keeps them in touch with the homeland.



## The League of Finnish-American Societies (LFAS)/Suomi-Amerikka

Yhdistysten Liitto (SAYL), ([www.sayl.fi](http://www.sayl.fi)), with offices in Helsinki, is celebrating its 70th anniversary and has 54 chapters in Finland with over 9,000 members. The League works to maintain and promote friendly relations with the United States. It is important to nurture these ties and friendships.

We paused that June evening to reflect on how fortunate we are that these organizations strive diligently to keep our Finnish heritage alive and strong. We salute all the branches around the world that are joining in this work. Each of us is a part of a network of people who are thankful for a rich heritage passed down through generations, and who do not want to have it become just another vegetable in the pot of soup called ethnicity.

Let's all---Finns and friends of Finns alike---continue to support our Finnishness in any way that we can, whether through monetary donations, sharing stories of Finnish heritage, encouraging younger generations to get involved, serving on committees, or even stepping into leadership roles. You are an important part of this worldwide network, serving to maintain pride in our Finnish heritage.

## “Yoopera!” continued from page one

The message was the same inside and outside the Rozsa Center: humble stories are opera material, worthy of being dramatized, displayed and performed.

This moving film reaches through and beyond Finnish America to tell universal messages of courage and survival for both communities and individuals.

To schedule a showing in 2014, contact LOY Coordinator Jon Saari at [jsaari@nmu.edu](mailto:jsaari@nmu.edu).

## US Congress Inaugurates Friends of Finland Caucus

The founding meeting of the bipartisan Friends of Finland US Congressional Caucus was held in Washington DC in May 2013 with the Speaker of the Parliament of Finland, Honorable Eero Heinäluoma, and Her Excellency Ritva Koukku-Ronde, Ambassador of Finland to the United States, participating.

The objectives of the Friends of Finland Caucus are to strengthen the ties between the US and Finland and to serve as a forum for a dialog between members of the Congress and the Government of Finland. It also has the task of promoting issues of mutual concern and supporting the interests of Finnish-Americans.

FFN President Ossi Rahkonen noted that the latter objective of the caucus is compatible with the mission of the 60-year old philanthropic organization. “We very much look forward to interacting with the caucus,” said Rahkonen. “The cooperation between the Friends of Norway Caucus established in 1999 and the nonprofit Norwegian American Foundation provides an excellent example for us.”

Co-chairs of the Friends of Finland Caucus are Congressmen John Carney (D-Delaware), Dan Benishek (R-Michigan), Rick Nolan (D-Minnesota) and Sean Duffy (R-Wisconsin).



Friends of Finland Caucus Co-Chairs Congressmen John Carney (left) and Sean Duffy (right) met in May with Eero Heinäluoma and Ambassador Ritva Koukku-Ronde in Washington DC.

Earlier this year Delaware hosted the 375th Anniversary celebration of the 1638 arrival of Finns and Swedes who settled the first permanent European colony in the Delaware area; Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin have significant populations of Finnish descent.

The other caucus members are Spencer Bachus (R-Alabama), Mike Honda (D-California), Doris Matsui (D-California), Henry Waxman (D-California), Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Florida), Randy Hultgren (R-Illinois), Collin C. Peterson (D-Minnesota), Carol Shea-Porter (D-New Hampshire), Michael Grimm (R-New York), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas), Gerry Connolly (D-Virginia), Reid Ribble (R-Wisconsin) and Jim Sensenbrenner (R-Wisconsin).

## IRA Charitable Rollover Can Be a Tax-Free Gift to FFN

By Janet Kniffin, Trustee

There's a brief window of opportunity for folks 70-1/2 and older to make a tax-free gift this year from their IRA to benefit eligible organizations including Finlandia Foundation National.

This provision, called the IRA charitable rollover, expires at the end of 2013 and is a win-win for both the donor and the designated charity. It allows a transfer of up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to a qualified charitable organization, and the donor will not have to pay income tax on the amount of that gift.

Because the IRA contribution is excluded from a donor's gross income, it cannot be counted as a charitable contribution deduction.

If you or someone you know qualifies for the IRA charitable rollover please consider this opportunity to assist FFN, which is in its 60th year of encouraging and connecting the Finnish-American community and its ancestral tie with Finland through efforts such as:

- scholarships awarded to college students in the US and Finland
- grants for Finnish and Finnish-American cultural projects
- programs by the Performer of the Year and Lecturer of the Year
- sponsorships for young people at the Soiva Music Camp and Salolampi Finnish Language Village, both in Minnesota

Please note that the IRA charitable rollover must be completed by December 31, 2013.

# Chapter Happenin

During the “Taste” a steady stream of members and curious visitors sampled---many trying Finnish foods for the first time---from a buffet of about three-dozen different dishes.

The tastings, at \$1 each, ranged from a selection of open faced sandwiches and carrot salad to mushroom and salmon soups, *mojakkka*, cabbage casserole, Karelian *piirakka*, sauna sausage, Finnish meatballs, whipped berry pudding, *pannukakku* and, of course, an array of cookies and *pulla*. Many of the ingredients were Finnish imports.

Chef Salanen demonstrated construction of a kind of *leipä kakku* (bread cake) made with bread, meats and raw vegetables, which was auctioned off for \$72!



Chef Salanen prepares salmon for open faced sandwiches. (Photo by Glenn Kujansuu)



Chef Eero Salanen demonstrates creation of a savory layer “cake” (below) which was then auctioned at the Taste of Finland event. (Two photos by Kath Usitalo)

## A Taste of Finland, Michigan

By Kath Usitalo

It was an idea cooked up by Hilikka Ketola when she brainstormed with her daughters about a fresh, new event and a way to raise interest and funds for the Finnish Center Association in Farmington Hills, MI. “They suggested a celebration with Finnish foods, since everyone loves food!”

Ketola, who co-chairs the FCA’s Cultural Committee, organized a two-day feast of delicious dishes prepared by a visiting chef from Finland and volunteers---including herself.



With assistance from an FFN grant the FCA brought Chef Eero Salanen from Joensuu to prepare a sold-out sit-down dinner Friday, November 1 and the day-long “Taste of Finland” Saturday, November 2.

## Red River Finns Report Hjemko

By Ellen Liddle

The 36th Annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst & Midwest Viking Festival held Friday and Saturday, June 28-29 in Moorhead, MN, was a success. A total of 4,178 people attended the event which had 70 vendors, 100 entertainers and a variety of good programs. There were 400 volunteers, 50 Vikings/ Hjemkomst Center staff and volunteers.

The Red River Finns, with 14 volunteers, sold *mojakkka* (beef stew), *leipä* (bread), *torttu* (prune tarts) and *pulla* (sweet cardamom bread). We sponsored pianist Marja Kaisla, FFN Performer of the Year.

Soiva Music Camp, a program of FFN with Concordia College in Moorhead, was held June 22-30 and the musicians performed at the festival and presented a concert on Sunday afternoon, June 30.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make the festival a success!



# gs Across the Land

## Sibelius From the Heart, Washington State

By Jaana Hatton, FF Suomi Chapter

The evening of October 10 at the Jensen Art Center in Lynden, WA, generated a mix of smiles, tears and respectful and attentive silence. The well-loved music of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius left none of us unaffected.

Performing as part of the annual Lynden Music Festival, Finnish cellist Jussi Makkonen and pianist Ruusumari Teppo, the great-granddaughter of Sibelius, delighted the audience with heartfelt performances played to perfection. Having only recently met, the duo has already made plans to continue their musical partnership.

Ruusamari's connection to the music and Jussi's magical touch on the cello created scenes almost visible through sound. Violinist Grant Donnellan added his skill to the evening, making it an unforgettable experience and generating enthusiastic applause.

The program included Rachmaninoff's "Valse and Romance" and Jussi playing Tchaikovsky's "Legend"



Pianist Ruusumari Teppo and cellist Jussi Makkonen performed at the Lynden Music Festival.



with three cellists from the Whatcom Symphony. He explained the background and inspiration for each melody, and how Sibelius was affected by nature's beauty and Lake Tuusula by his home, Ainola.

When the program concluded with a bit of "Finlandia" the room was filled with powerful sound, and his music brought tears to the eyes of many listeners.

No Finnish event, whether coffee with neighbors or a grand-scale cultural occasion, is complete without *pulla*, and attendees could sample the sweet coffee bread during intermission.

We owe thanks to Terhi Miikki-Broersma (FFN Performer of the Year 2009), who somehow found the time to bake while also being a busy hostess and a performer during the festival week. We are also grateful to Suomi Chapter, a member of FFN, a co-sponsor in the event.

The music of the night lasted only a few hours, but the chance to meet fellow Finns and to be in touch with Finnish culture will undoubtedly keep us feeling happy for a good while longer.

## st Festival Success, Minnesota



Esther Garrity, charter member of Red River Finns, stamps children's "passports" at the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival.

## Ohio Museum's Got the Spirit

The *Spirit of Finland* now graces the grounds of The Finnish Heritage Museum of Fairport Harbor, OH.

The aluminum sculpture by Finnish-American artist Ken Valimaki has leaf-like S-shaped extensions rising from a base; the base has an arch reminiscent of Eero Saarinen's Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

The sculpture is to suggest the collective spirit of the Finnish immigrant ancestors: Suomi, Sauna, Sisu, Sibelius, Sun and Swan (national bird of Finland).

FFN assisted the project with a grant in 2013.

To learn more about the sculpture and see additional photos visit the museum website at: [www.finnishheritagemuseum.org](http://www.finnishheritagemuseum.org).

The next deadline for grant applications is February 1, 2014; see page 11 for more information.



The *Spirit of Finland* at the Finnish Heritage Museum, Fairport Harbor, OH  
(Photo by Scott Curry)

## FFN Seeks Sibelius Centennial Materials

In 1965, on the 100th anniversary of the birth of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared, "Through his art, Sibelius has made an enduring contribution to the enrichment of the human spirit, and his music continues to bring enjoyment to people throughout the world."

A Sibelius Centennial Concert work was held in September 1965 at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles, and FFN chapters hosted events across the country.

FFN is looking ahead to 2015 and the 150th anniversary of his birth, and is seeking archival information on the Sibelius celebrations of 1965. Please contact Maria Kizirian at the FFN office if you have program books, photos, newsclippings or other materials to share. Items will be handled with care and returned. Email: [office@finlandiafoundation.org](mailto:office@finlandiafoundation.org) or phone (626) 795-2081.



Jean Sibelius was born December 8, 1865.

## July Camp Honors Folk Music Tradition

By Jacqueline Harjula, FFN Trustee

To all our readers who love Finnish music (and who among you doesn't?), here is some information about an opportunity for you to go to "camp" with other music lovers.

FFN sponsors a wonderful musical experience for young people (Soiva Camp), but the Finnish Folk Music Camp is for adults also, and is sponsored by Finlandia University's Finnish Council and the Finnish American Heritage Center. It will be held on the campus in Hancock, Michigan, from July 15-17, 2014. An exciting array of classes and workshops is planned, including some for non-musicians.

Having attended this camp twice, it has been in my top 10 favorite life experiences, and I can't wait to return. I hope to see you there!

For more information phone (906) 482-1413 or go to the Finnish American Heritage Center website ([www.finlandia.edu/FAHC.html](http://www.finlandia.edu/FAHC.html)) and click on Finnish Folk Music Camp.

# Memorial Monument in Works for 75th Anniversary of Winter War

By Ossi Rahkonen, FFN President

The Finnish Winter War Memorial Committee, appointed by the Finnish Government, conducted a public art competition for a national monument to commemorate the Winter War. The war began when the Soviet Union attacked Finland on November 30, 1939, along their shared border.

Finnish troops, badly outnumbered and poorly equipped, relied on superior winter fighting skills (temperatures reached -40F), ingenuity and *sisu*. Red Army casualties and injuries far outnumbered those of the Finns.

The conflict ended March 13, 1940, when the Finnish government signed a peace treaty with the Soviet Union. As is generally recognized, the Winter War was the decisive event in the maintenance of Finnish independence and provided the foundation for the development of Finland into the prosperous, modern western nation it is today. It required enormous national sacrifices.

The Winter War Memorial will be located at Kasarmitori square in Helsinki, outside the Finnish Ministry of Defense. Unveiling will be March 13, 2015, the 75th Anniversary of the ending of the war. The Finnish Winter War Association (Talvisotayhdistys ry) provided the Finnish Government the initiative for implementation of the memorial; FFN is an Association member.

President Martti Ahtisaari is Patron of the Winter

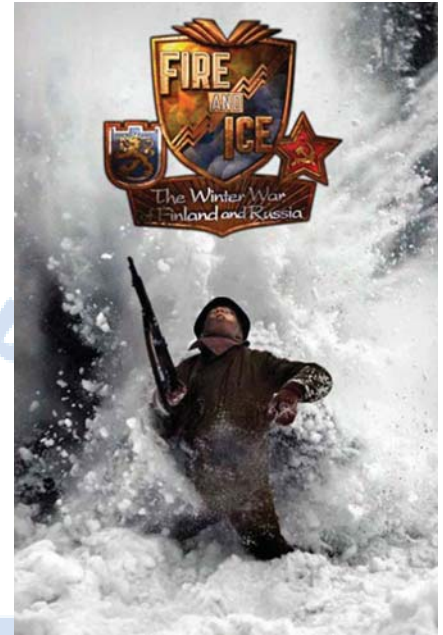
War Monument project. Former Prime Minister Matti Vanhanen was elected Chairman of the Advisory Council for the Winter War Association, and the Advisory Council includes former Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen and many other prominent Finns.

The estimated cost of the Winter War Monument project is 1.5 million euros, or about US \$2 million.

The Finnish government, the City of Helsinki and the Winter War Association are each responsible for one third of the cost.

The Association is fundraising in Finland and abroad. Any amount is appreciated.

To contribute contact the Association Chairman, Prof. Matti Palo, by email at: [matti.palo.metsa@gmail.com](mailto:matti.palo.metsa@gmail.com).



FFN Lecturer of the Year 2006 was Ben Strout and his Winter War film "Fire and Ice." Borrow it and the documentary, "The Nordic War" from the FFN office; see page 12.

## Apply by February 1, 2014 for Grants, Scholarships

Finlandia Foundation National is accepting applications for its 2014 grants and scholarship programs. Deadline for submissions is February 1, 2014.

### GRANTS

Richard Ahola, Trustee and Committee Chair

FFN awards grants for non-profit cultural projects of local or national significance.

- Projects should benefit the general public, not only the sponsor or sponsoring organization.
- Projects should show evidence or testimony of high cultural, educational, artistic, or scientific merit.
- Maximum award is \$5,000 per grant.
- Special consideration is given to projects endorsed or sponsored by an FFN chapter.
- Salaries to staff or employees are not allowable.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Hanna Wagner, Trustee and Committee Chair

Scholarships are awarded to fulltime undergraduate (sophomore or higher) and graduate students enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.

- A 3.0 GPA is required.
- Applicants of Finnish-American heritage will be given primary consideration.
- Financial need and course of study are considered, and US or Finnish citizenship is required.
- Law students may be eligible for the P.J.C. Lindfors Legal Scholarship

Applications and support materials must be sent to the FFN office and postmarked by February 1, 2014. Full guidelines and applications are available at [www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org)

# FFN in the News

Finlandia Foundation National has been featured in a variety of media recently. There have been many stories about appearances by Performer of the Year Marja Kaisla and Lecturer of the Year Yvonne Lockwood, as well as articles about the 60th Anniversary of FFN in a number of Finnish-American media. In addition:

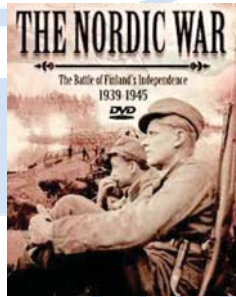
- FFN Trustee Jon Saari appeared on the Finnish language program *Suomi Kutsuu, Finland Calling* on WLUC-TV in Marquette, MI in October. Saari talked with program host Carl Pellonpaa about FFN as well as the history book that he wrote about the organization. Pellonpaa first aired the program in March 1963, making it the longest-running variety show on television.
- *The Wesleyan Argus*, the student newspaper of Wesleyan University, featured FFN scholarship recipient Heidi Hirvonen and her interest in and efforts to promote Finnish culture. FFN Trustee and scholarship committee

## FFN's Lending Library

Here's a sampling of the items available for loan from the FFN office in Pasadena. Contact Maria Kizirian to borrow: [office@FinlandiaFoundation.org](mailto:office@FinlandiaFoundation.org)

### DVDs:

- 8-Pallo (8-Ball)*
- Finland Phenomenon*
- Fire & Ice*
- Otto Heino: A Way With Clay*
- Otto Heino: A True Potter*
- Letters from Karelia*
- Mother of Mine*
- The Nordic War*
- Sibelius*
- Kalevala Tuohitorvi Soi!*



*The Lapp King's Daughter: A Family's Journey Through Finland's Wars*  
By Stina Katchadourian

*The Legacy of Ida Lillbroönda: Finnish Emigrant to America 1893*

By Arlene Sundquist Empie  
"An insightful analysis of a Swedish-speaking woman and of her adjustment within a multitude of different settings in the American West."

*Sibelius: A Composer's Life and the Awakening of Finland*  
By Glenda Dawn Goss

We also have DVDs from Lecturers of the Year and CDs from Performers of the Year; contact the office for details.

### Books:

- The Best of the Rune Singers*  
By Paula Ivaska Robbins
- Finland Swedes in Michigan*  
By Mika Roinila

*The Helsinki Chronicles of Dr. Louise C. Love and Mr. P.: Six Adventures in Finland's Capital*  
By Arthur M. Alexander

member Jaqueline Harjula was quoted in the story about FFN and its mission.

- The *Finnish American Reporter* has carried several stories about FFN programs, including a feature on the 60th anniversary and an article about the Fenyes-Paloheimo home where FFN was founded in 1953 and which is now open for public tours as a part of the Pasadena Museum of History.
- In Michigan, Houghton's *Daily Mining Gazette* and Marquette's *Mining Journal* and *The North Wind*, the newspaper of Northern Michigan University in Marquette, featured stories about FFN grants awarded to people and projects in the Upper Peninsula.



In October FFN Trustee Jon L. Saari (left) with host Carl Pellonpaa on "Suomi Kutsuu, Finland Calling," on WLUC-TV Marquette.

## Get Your Copy of FFN History Book

*Black Ties and Miners' Boots: Inventing Finnish-American Philanthropy, A History of Finlandia Foundation National 1953-2010* by Jon L. Saari, is available for \$19.95 (California residents also pay 9.25% sales tax). New members receive a complimentary copy. Contact Maria Kizirian at: [office@FinlandiaFoundation.org](mailto:office@FinlandiaFoundation.org) or phone (626) 795-2081.

## Board Meeting continued from page 13

director and curator for the DeVos Art Museum in Marquette. FFN grant monies are helping with the cleaning and restoration of paintings by N. Cecelia Kettunen, a Finnish-American artist whose work was damaged while stored in an Upper Peninsula cabin.

In addition, Marquette residents John and Pauline Kiltinen spoke about their commitment to philanthropy and support of Finnish-American programs, notably "Yoopera!" (see story on page 15).

# FFN Board Meets in Michigan's UP

The FFN Trustees met October 10-12, 2013 at the historic Landmark Inn in Marquette, MI. The all-volunteer board gathers each spring and fall to conduct the business of the organization and plan programs.

A major decision at this meeting affects the Performer of the Year schedule and selection process (see story on page three).

It was the first time the trustees gathered in the city on Lake Superior in Upper Peninsula, and the long weekend provided an opportunity to meet with members of the local League of Finnish-American Societies and recipients of FFN grants.

After its committee and business sessions on Friday, board members joined the audience at Northern Michigan University to view the local premiere of "Yoopera!" (see story on page one).



Board members gather with the filmmakers after the screening of "Yoopera!" in Marquette. Front row (l to r) John and Pauline Kiltinen, Suzanne Jurva, Erin Smith and FFN President Ossi Rahkonen. Second row (l to r) Trustees Päivi Tetri, Satu Mikkola, Hanna Wagner, Dennis Anderson, Anita Häkkinen Smiley, George Sundquist. Top row (l to r) Anne-Mari Paster, Paul Halme, Peter Mäkilä and Jon Saari.

Following a full-day meeting on Saturday the board enjoyed dinner with local chapter members and learned about a project led by Melissa Matuscak, continued on page 12

## Welcome, Maria Kizirian



Maria Kizirian now handles the FFN office in Pasadena.

When you phone the Finlandia Foundation National office in Pasadena you'll hear a new voice on the other end of the line.

Maria Kizirian recently assumed the position of Assistant to the Board of Trustees when, after nearly 10 years in charge of the Pasadena office, Christina Lin decided to leave California and return to her roots on the East Coast.

"Christina was the first person hired to staff the Pasadena office,

and she did a fine job," said FFN President Ossi Rahkonen. "We will miss her and we wish her the best in her new endeavors."

Kizirian has extensive experience in running a business with her husband Paul, and is active in non-profit work in the Los Angeles area.

And if, when you phone the office and that voice sounds familiar, it may be because you heard her sing as the 2012 FFN Performer of the Year. She has traveled around the world for her music. Kizirian, who is also a songwriter, music producer and instrumentalist, was born in Finland and moved to the US with her American husband.

She looks forward to serving all of you and speaking in Finnish with those who wish to converse. Contact her at: [office@finlandiafoundation.org](mailto:office@finlandiafoundation.org), or phone (626) 795-2081.

The FFN public relations and communications duties will be handled by Communications Manager Kath Usitalo, whose contract, initiated a year ago, has been extended. She works from her office in Michigan and can be reached at: [kathusitalo@mac.com](mailto:kathusitalo@mac.com) or (313) 530-1129.

# Kiitos! Thank You For Your Gifts!

From May 1 to October 31, 2013, except Major Gifts, which are cumulative:

## Major Gifts

Curtin-Paloheimo Charitable Trust  
Aina Swan Cutler  
Haikala Associates  
Ronald A. Helin  
Hilda M. Hendrickson Trust  
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Peter Mäkila  
Satu & Jussi Miikkola  
Ray & Anja Miller  
Anne-Mari Paster  
Susan Walima

## \$1,000 to \$1,999

Dennis Anderson & Madeline Bahr  
FF San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
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Walter Heikkila  
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Miriam & Esko Koskinen  
Juha Mäkipää  
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Craig Chisholm  
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Mark Coir  
Finnish American Cultural Corp.  
Niels Weber Frenzen  
Esko Hallila  
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Sharon and Peter Kachmar  
Maxine Koski  
Rita Koski  
Marion Kyröla Hedenberg  
T. Juhani Linna  
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Brent Thompson  
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Peter and Aira Williams  
John & Judith Yesso

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FFN is also grateful for in-kind contributions.

Please report any errors to Treasurer Anne-Mari Paster: [ampaster@rcn.com](mailto:ampaster@rcn.com)

Finlandia Foundation National is a US non-profit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax-exempt and designated a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS codes.

# Why We Give: John and Pauline Kiltinen

By Kath Usitalo

When John and Pauline Kiltinen start talking about their philanthropy it's hard not to be inspired to pick up the phone and volunteer for something. Or write a check. Or, preferably, both.

The couple, who live in John's hometown of Marquette in Michigan's Upper Peninsula (UP), are known for generously sharing their time, talent and, yes, treasure. The retired educators---she taught French and English and he is Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Northern Michigan University---bubble with enthusiasm when asked to talk about the dizzying array of activities and causes they've volunteered for and have donated to. Many of their efforts have been directed toward Finnish-related and musical causes, two of the three things that make John, they both chime in, "as happy as a clam." (The third is mathematics.)

"The main reason for our giving has been to make important cultural activities happen locally in an area that has more deer than people, and where one might not expect such a rich culture to exist," said John. "A secondary reason is to inspire others to realize that one does not need to be super wealthy in order to use your money to make important things happen."

Pauline (Fenton), who hails from Shawano, WI, and John met as high-schoolers at a summertime science institute at NMU. They married in 1965 after obtaining their bachelor degrees; she from the University of Wisconsin and he from NMU. After both earned advanced degrees and John's teaching stint at the University of Minnesota, he joined the NMU faculty in 1971, the same year their son Eric was born. At St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Marquette John sang in the choir and Pauline played the organ, and they became involved in civic activities.



"It is so exciting to think about 'Yooper!' being shown around the United States," said John Kiltinen about the Lecturer of the Year selection. From left, filmmakers Erin Smith and Suzanne Jurva, John and Pauline, LOY Chair Jon Saari and FFN President Ossi Rahkonen.



Pine Mountain Music Festival recognized John and Pauline Kiltinen for their contributions to "Rockland."

They consider their year in Finland, from 1978-79 while John was on sabbatical and teaching in Joensuu and Tampere, to be a turning point in their "Finnishness." Since then, among other things, Pauline has helped to connect Marquette and Kajaani, Finland as Sister Cities and chaired FinnGrandFest 2005; John joined the FinnFest USA board and advised the Finn Club at NMU. Together they helped organize the UP Chapter of the League of Finnish-American Societies. Notable is their involvement in making the opera "Rockland" a reality, as well as the "Yooper!" film about the musical and the accompanying Story Line project (see page one). And, they are major donors to FFN.

For those considering whether and how to become involved, Pauline, one of four children, recalled her parents' example. "Our father was a teacher and we grew up pinching pennies." They learned, however, to volunteer in their areas of interest. "Ask yourself, does it fit with your outlook on life?"

She also credits John and their church with her learning to look at their money differently. Of each opportunity they ask, "Is it something in the community we think is worthwhile?" She now feels comfortable saying, "We can afford this money, to spend it. To let it go and not regret."

"Be not afraid," said Pauline about taking the first step to philanthropy. "Walk out the door and do something. When it comes to spending money, look at your budget. Determine how much you can part with, and you can make wonderful things happen."

Added John, "He who gives while he lives knows where it goes."

## Finlandia Foundation® National

Newsletter

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[www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org)

If you would like to receive this newsletter as a PDF by e-mail only, let us know by contacting Maria Kizirian at: [office@finlandiafoundation.org](mailto:office@finlandiafoundation.org)

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Send your news tips and story ideas to FFN Communications Manager Kath Usitalo at: [kathusitalo@mac.com](mailto:kathusitalo@mac.com)

## Important Dates

See the stories in this newsletter and mark your calendar:

**February 1, 2014:** Deadline for FFN Grant and Scholarship applications

**February 15, 2014:** Performer of the Year application deadline

**February 28, 2014:** FFN Salolampi scholarship application deadline

**April 1, 2014:** Early discount deadline for Soiva Music Camp registration

Find more information at [www.FinlandiaFoundation.org](http://www.FinlandiaFoundation.org)

## Finlandia Foundation® National Chapters: Year Affiliated and President/Chairman

### ARIZONA

**The F-A Club of Tucson/2007**

Joel Wasti - [jhwasti@finns.org](mailto:jhwasti@finns.org)

**Finns and Friends of Phoenix/2010**

Hannele Waissi - [mhannele@hotmail.com](mailto:mhannele@hotmail.com)

### CALIFORNIA

**FF/Los Angeles Chapter/1974**

Ellen Harju - [harju@ucla.edu](mailto:harju@ucla.edu)

**F-A Home Association/2005**

Kari Autio - [kautio@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kautio@sbcglobal.net)

**FF/SF Bay Area Chapter/1956**

Stina Katchadourian -

[stinakatch@gmail.com](mailto:stinakatch@gmail.com) &

Don Fidler - [dfid@hotmail.com](mailto:dfid@hotmail.com)

**Finlandia Club of Sacramento/2006**

Heli Hatanpää-Wetzel - [helihw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:helihw@sbcglobal.net)

### COLORADO

**FF/Colorado Chapter/1993**

John Koski - [koski@att.net](mailto:koski@att.net)

### CONNECTICUT

**F-A Heritage Society/2011**

Stan Karro - [swkbrklyn@aol.com](mailto:swkbrklyn@aol.com)

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**FF/National Capital Chapter/1960**

Leila Takala - [leilatak@verizon.net](mailto:leilatak@verizon.net)

### FLORIDA

**FF/Florida Chapter/1954**

Kaarina Langeland -

[plangeland@bellsouth.net](mailto:plangeland@bellsouth.net)

### GEORGIA

**Atlanta Finland Society, Inc./1975**

Tuula Becker -

[tuula.becker@gmail.com](mailto:tuula.becker@gmail.com)

### ILLINOIS

**F-A Society of the Midwest/1997**

Oscar Forsman -

[Oforsman@yahoo.com](mailto:Oforsman@yahoo.com)

### MAINE

**Finnish Heritage House/2007**

Jacqueline Harjula -

[jackielee207@gmail.com](mailto:jackielee207@gmail.com)

**Finnish Farmers Club/2012**

Inez Goodine -

[Donaldp.Higgins@gmail.com](mailto:Donaldp.Higgins@gmail.com)

**FA Heritage Society of Maine/2012**

Dale Piirainen -

[dwpmp@megalink.net](mailto:dwpmp@megalink.net)

### MARYLAND

**FF/Baltimore Area Chapter/1974**

Merja Laakso -

[merjalaakso@hotmail.com](mailto:merjalaakso@hotmail.com)

### MASSACHUSETTS

**FF/Boston, Inc./1955**

Tapani Ronni -

[tapanironni@yahoo.com](mailto:tapanironni@yahoo.com)

**The Finnish Center at Saima Park, Inc./2005**

Maija Mård - [MaiLisl@aol.com](mailto:MaiLisl@aol.com)

**The Finnish Heritage Society - Sovittaja/2006**

Barry Heiniluoma -

[fhss@sovittaja.org](mailto:fhss@sovittaja.org)

**F-A Society of Cape Cod/2012**

Stephen Trimble -

[satcapecod@hotmail.com](mailto:satcapecod@hotmail.com)

### MICHIGAN

**Finnish Center Association/2004**

Lois Makee -

[fcacenter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fcacenter@sbcglobal.net)

**Finnish Theme Committee of Hancock - FF Copper Country Chapter/2006**

Becky Hoekstra -

[mommabecca@hotmail.com](mailto:mommabecca@hotmail.com)

**F-A Cultural Corporation/2012**

Frank Gottberg - [frrankk@att.net](mailto:frrankk@att.net)

**Upper Peninsula Chapter of the League of F-A Societies/2006**

Ron J. Hill - [ronjhil38@aol.com](mailto:ronjhil38@aol.com)

**F-A Society of West Central Michigan/2007**

Kay Ollila - [K2ollil@aol.com](mailto:K2ollil@aol.com) &

Char Stucki - [cgstucki66@gmail.com](mailto:cgstucki66@gmail.com)

### MINNESOTA

**Finnish-Americans and Friends (Hibbing Chapter)/1998**

Wes Kutsi -

[wesleykutsi@yahoo.com](mailto:wesleykutsi@yahoo.com)

**FF/Twin Cities Chapter/1993**

Betsey Norgard -

[norgard@northlc.com](mailto:norgard@northlc.com)

**FF Northland Chapter/2010**

Tracey Gibbens - [ballade@q.com](mailto:ballade@q.com)

**Red River Finns/2011**

Ellen Liddle -

[ellen.liddle@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen.liddle@yahoo.com)

### MONTANA

**Finn Club of Helena/2007**

Marjorie Peura Reilly -

[marj@jeffbb.net](mailto:marj@jeffbb.net)

**Red Lodge Knights and Ladies of Kaleva/2011**

Pat Walllila -

[wallilaranch@yahoo.com](mailto:wallilaranch@yahoo.com)

### NEW YORK

**FF/New York Metropolitan Chapter/1954**

Eero Kilpi - [kilpi@me.com](mailto:kilpi@me.com)

**Finger Lakes Finns/2006**

Maija DeRoche -

[jderoche@stny.rr.com](mailto:jderoche@stny.rr.com)

### OHIO

**F-A Heritage Assn. of Ashtabula County/2004**

Elsa Shephard -

[ellishepard@yahoo.com](mailto:ellishepard@yahoo.com)

### OREGON

**FF/Columbia-Pacific Chapter/2001**

Greg Jacob -

[jacobgk@comcast.net](mailto:jacobgk@comcast.net)

### PENNSYLVANIA

**FF/Pittsburgh Chapter/1990**

Seija Cohen - [SeijaC@aol.com](mailto:SeijaC@aol.com)

**F-A Society of Delaware Valley/2006**

Jukka Kervinen -

[jukkakervinen@comcast.net](mailto:jukkakervinen@comcast.net)

### SOUTH DAKOTA

**Frederick Forward - FF Dakota Chapter/2012**

Heidi Marttila-Losure -

[hmmartti@yahoo.com](mailto:hmmartti@yahoo.com)

### TEXAS

**F-A Soc. of Dallas/Fort Worth/1991**

Vernon R. Ruuska -

[VRRUUSKA@aol.com](mailto:VRRUUSKA@aol.com)

### VIRGINIA

**FF/Tidewater Virginia Chapter/1978**

Riikka Mohorn -

[riikkamohorn@verizon.net](mailto:riikkamohorn@verizon.net)

### WASHINGTON

**FF/Seattle Chapter/1968**

Mikko Männistö -

[mikkotm@hotmail.com](mailto:mikkotm@hotmail.com)

**FF/Inland Northwest Chapter/1970**

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