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NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INC.

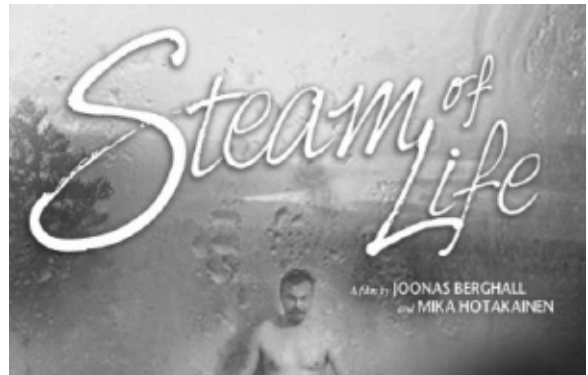
September/Syyskuu 2011

POV and FACA present:

Steam of Life (Miesten Vuoro)

Conventional wisdom tells us that Finnish men do not talk about their personal struggles or show their feelings. Is this really true? In 2010, Finnish filmmakers Joonas Berghäll and Mika Hotakainen completed a fascinating documentary about contemporary Finnish men that challenges this notion.

Shot in multiple locations around Finland, *Steam of Life* is a moody, comic and moving study of Finnish men going about the everyday ritual of the sauna. There, they come together to sweat out not only the grime of contemporary life, but also their grief, hopes, joys, and memories. The 12 men profiled in *Steam of Life* open up with incredible candor about their families, children, marriages, divorces, love, loss, struggles, and redemption.



In conjunction with the PBS program, POV, FACA will host a screening of the highly acclaimed Finnish film at the September 16th program. Join us as we kick off our 2011–12 year of programming with the 52-minute film and a brief audience discussion afterward. Coffee and treats will follow.

The filmmakers describe their work as follows:

“The idea for *Steam of Life* came to us on a Friday evening in 2005, as we sat in the men’s side of a public sauna. A sauna is a place where Finnish men not only clean their bodies, but also clean their spirits. We were struck by the way gruff Finnish guys entered the sauna and immediately began sharing insights about their lives with each other, often in a deeply emotional way. It was a purifying experience for the listeners, as well. We wanted to capture that spiritual side of sauna in this film.

Program In Brief

***Steam of Life*
Film and Discussion
Friday, September 16, 7:30 p.m.
International Institute
1694 Como Ave., St. Paul
If you need transportation, call
Marianne Wargelin
(612) 374-2718**

“Despite the fact that both women and men go to the sauna in Finland, we decided to focus on men only in this film. Men (especially Finnish men) are frequently portrayed as silent and even brusque. We think that’s not exactly accurate: Finnish men just need time and space to open up.

“A sauna is the perfect place to dive deep into your own soul and deal with life issues. *Steam of Life* takes a fresh look at how men can confront their emotions and share things through dialogue. One of the reasons we wanted to make this film was to update the stereotypical image of modern Finnish men.”

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President's Message

By Kara Middleton

I can hardly believe that it is time for the FACA year to begin again, but here we are. I hope that you all enjoyed the summer and were able to attend some of the great events around the Twin Cities, and perhaps even Finnfest in San Diego!

The 2011–12 FACA board met at my house in August for preliminary planning of the coming year. Serving on the board this year will be Edie Boos as Treasurer, Bud Berry as Vice President/Programming Chair, and David Breeden handling Special Events. Glen Bay will serve as Member-at-Large, and I will continue to serve as President. We are still in need of a Secretary on the board. This position mainly entails attending the monthly board meetings and taking minutes. If you are interested in serving on the board in this capacity, please contact one of the board members to learn more.

Several excellent Finnish cultural events took place around the Twin Cities this summer. On June 17th, local Finnish-American folk duo Kaivama held their CD release party at the Cedar Cultural Center. Performing with Kaivama was Finnish musician and composer Arto Järvelä. All three musicians—Arto, Sara Pajunen, and Jonathan Rundman, are very talented and highly skilled. The audience was hugely enthusiastic.

The vocal group, Saana Ensemble, released another CD this summer, and I listen to it almost every day! The five Finnish women with beautiful voices released a collection of Finnish folk songs, waltzes, and tangos, accompanied by some very talented local musicians. Both the Saana and Kaivama CDs are available at Finnstyle on Glenwood Avenue.

Especially intriguing to me this summer was Dina Kantor's photography exhibit, *Finnish and Jewish* at the Sabes Jewish Community Center in St. Louis Park. The exhibit opened on July 14th with a reception and artist's talk. In 2006, Ms. Kantor began photographing members of the small Jewish community in Finland (about 1,500 people in a country of 5.3 million). She says, "In addition to being a visual record, the images function as a sociological document exploring how Finnish Jews live, work, and practice their religious traditions." It was inspiring to see the gathering of interested viewers from both Jewish and Scandinavian backgrounds. Ms. Kantor's talk concluded with lively discussion from the audience. Finnish and Jewish will remain on display at the JCC through September 22nd. I highly recommend it.

Please join us on September 16th as we begin another year of FACA programming. The film, *Steam of Life*, is a beautiful marriage of music and cinematography as well as a thought-provoking study of men's social roles in Finland. It is our hope that the film will serve as a springboard for discussion about our own experiences with sauna and the kinds of personal conversations it makes possible. Your feedback and questions after the film are welcome and encouraged.

I look forward to another year of learning and collaboration at FACA.

Nähdään siellä!



Board Notes

President Kara Middleton called the meeting to order at 7:30 at her home on Wednesday, August 10, 2011. Present at meeting: Kara Middleton, Ray Piirainen, Edie Boos, Glen Bay, Jeanne Swope, Jane Olson, and Bud Berry. Minutes of the May meeting and the Treasurer's report were reviewed and approved.

Kara reported that CCL, Deco Catering, and Saana have all been procured for the 2011 *Pikkujoulu*, which will take place on Saturday, December 3, 2011.

(Former) Vice President's Report: Ray and Jeanne summarized the Vice President's duties for Bud Berry, who will be stepping into this role. Ray talked about the many interesting connections he made among the potential presenters he spoke to during his tenure as Vice President.

The bulk of the meeting was devoted to discussing potential program subjects and presenters for the 2011–2012 year.

The Board will provide treats for the September program.

The September board meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 14, at Panera Bread in Rosville, at 7:30 p.m.

SAANA ENSEMBLE CD RELEASE CONCERT: "On The Bridge"

Saana Ensemble will perform at a CD release concert on Sunday, September 11, at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Avenue, St.

Paul. Pianist and accordion player Dan Chouinard and violinist Sara Pajunen will join Saana Ensemble for this 3:00 p.m. concert. Coffee and treats at the following reception.

For more information: www.reverbNation.com/saanaensemble or www.saanaensemble.weebly.com/



Jarkko Sipila Appears at Finnstyle

By Kara Middleton

Finnish crime novelist and television reporter Jarkko Sipila appeared at Finnstyle on July 28 to talk about his latest novel to be translated into English, *Nothing but the Truth*. A former journalist with several years of experience writing for *Helsingin Sanomat*, Sipila spoke about the real-life events that inspired the book as well as his current work as a crime reporter for Channel 3 News in Helsinki.

Audience members were curious about the prevalence and type of violent crime taking place in Finland at present. Sipila reported that the annual homicide rate in Minnesota is close to that of the comparably-sized population in Finland, but the crimes differ in nature. Homicides in Finland are more likely to involve knives than guns, they often involve alcohol, and the perpetrator and victim are often acquainted.

Sipila is careful to craft his novels with accurate details supplied by his knowledge of criminal activity and the workings of the Helsinki police department. Both the practices followed by criminals and detectives are taken from real events.

When asked what it is like as a reporter to witness the effects of violent crime on a regular basis, Sipila replied that it can be difficult, and that he and his colleagues approach their work with sensitivity toward the victims as well as an awareness of their own limits. "You are there doing your job, and you feel their sorrow, but you must remember ultimately that it is not your sorrow. This allows you to carry on."

Sipila's novels are for sale at Finnstyle and online at www.icecoldcrime.com and www.amazon.com.

Portable Passport Machine Availability

Finnish citizens can once again renew their passports without having to travel to New York, Washington, Los Angeles, or Finland. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland now has an operational portable passport system; and this system will be available at the Honorary Consulate of Finland in Minneapolis, MN, from Thursday, September 15, 2011, through Saturday, September 17, 2011.

For further information, please contact either the Honorary Consulate of Finland, Honorary Consul Marianne Wargelin, (612) 374-2718, email: kmwargelin@comcast.net or the Consulate General of Finland, Consular Section, (212) 750-4400, email: consular.nyc@formin.fi

Salolampi Celebrates 35 Years

Midsummer, June 25, 2011, was an appropriate day to celebrate the approaching 35th anniversary of the Salolampi Finnish Language Village. A pleasant sunny day welcomed guests who represented major donors and leaders of the village history who mingled with the villagers and staff during the lunch and program. During the morning, honored guest, Pekka Lintu, Finnish Ambassador, spoke to the closing ceremony for a session that was ending that day and noted that it was an ideal Midsummer day for the event. He visited with Salolampi Board members and spent a question and answer time with the 4-week credit villagers.

Gil Kinnunen, program master of ceremonies, took the audience through a colorful history timeline which included the four Salolampi village songs that have been composed over the years and one of which is reminiscent to every Salolampi villager. Memories of past summers came back as the villagers sang.

Recognition of Larry Saukko's 30 years of service as retiring dean were made by Joanne Bergman, President of the Salolampi Foundation, and Patricia Thornton, Concordia Language Villages Director of Summer Programs. Amy Tervola Hultberg was introduced as the new Dean of Salolampi. The folk duo, Kaivama, entertained during the lunch and accompanied the audience for *Maamme* and villager songs.

Sara Pajunen from the duo is a former villager and staff member. A silent auction received an enthusiastic response as well as the new sauna located in Jyringin Talo, sponsored by several donors and built by Kenneth Tervola.



Ambassador Lintu visits with campers.

Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon Let's Keep Our Finnish Heritage Alive

Your help is needed! On Tuesday, November 1; Wednesday, November 2, and Thursday, November 3, the annual Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon will be held. Volunteers can make calls soliciting scholarship support from their homes, or they can call from on-site phones at Lutheran Community Foundation in the Thrivent Financial building in downtown Minneapolis.

Come to raise money for our Finnish youth and socialize with fellow Finns. Currently, every villager receives scholarship assistance to help defray tuition costs and make attendance at Salolampi more affordable to families.

A postcard will be sent in October reminding you of the upcoming call. Send contributions directly to the Salolampi Foundation, P.O. Box 14480, Minneapolis, MN 55414-0480. You can donate online via our secure website www.salolampi.org; click on Phonathon Donation. Thrivent Choice Dollars can be used for scholarship contributions.

Please call Linda Davis at (612) 247-2299 or Ruthann Swanson at (612) 788-3905 if you can call either from your home or from the Lutheran Community Foundation location. A light supper will be provided.

Please help send Finnish-American villagers to Salolampi to experience and to learn more about their rich heritage.

FACA Membership

A one-year membership provides you with eight issues of this newsletter, plus other benefits, for \$25. To subscribe or renew, complete this form and mail with your check to FACA, P.O. Box 580708, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0708. (Check mailing label for membership expiration date.)

Name _____

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Snow Angels and Lucifer's Tears

By Beth Jarvis

Julia Keller, *Chicago Tribune*, said, in 2010, of the flush of Nordic novels: "It is a world of bleak twilights and tortured souls. A world of cold dawns and dour sleuths. A world of frozen lakes and repressed detectives."

Here are two Finnish crime novels you may have missed: *Snow Angels*, and *Lucifer's Tears* both by James Thompson.

Snow Angels is set in Kittilä, 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle. Police Inspector Kari Vaara is married to an American woman who runs a ski lodge and is struggling to learn Finnish and to understand the Finnish people. Vaara's charged with solving the murder of a Somali grade-b movie actress. The book reflects the challenges faced by both the Somali refugees and the native Finns in adjusting to each other and the different cultures.

Lucifer's Tears is set in Helsinki about a year later. Vaara has accepted a transfer after the successful solution of the *Snow Angels* crime. His wife manages a five-star hotel in Helsinki so she's around more people who speak English.

In Helsinki, he's faced with solving a more brutal murder with a more convoluted plot. He is also charged with learning the truth about a national war hero's involvement with a stalag in Salla in northern Finland during WW2. Germany wants to try the war hero for war crimes. Varra's *ukeki* (grandfather) was the national hero's friend and fellow soldier, so the truth could smear his grandfather's memory as well.

In both books, the head of the national police is a pain in the *perse* and urges Vaara to leap to the easiest, fastest solution. To add to Varra's woes, his wife's brother and sister arrive to be there when the Vaaras' first baby is born. Sister is a religious bigot, who sees Finland a backwater and insults Varra's neurologist brother and midwife spouse at a family dinner. Brother turns out to be a lying drunk who is constantly calling Vaara to bail him out of the latest jam.

Both books take hard looks at Finland's social and cultural conflicts: non-Finns moving in and the role of Finland during WW2 and the Nazis. Were Mannerheim and Kekkonen as saintly as people tend to believe?

Social conflicts are hot topics in Nordic literature now, and these books are in that vein. Be aware that there is some graphic content and vulgar language (translated.)

The chief villain in *Lucifer's Tears* is Russian. My favorite line in that book was "Ryssä on aina ryssä, vaikka voissa paistaisi." ("A Russian is always a Russian, even if you fry him in butter.") From conversations with my family in Finland, many agree with that sentiment.

Both books move at a good clip. Thompson is a talented writer who was born and raised in eastern Kentucky. He's lived in Finland over a dozen years. In my humble opinion, Thompson, through the eyes of a foreigner, has nailed many Finnish personality traits/quirks that those of us raised in a Finnish community recognize.

<http://www.jamesthompsonauthor.com/jthompson-bio.htm>

Conversational Finnish Class

Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

St. Anthony Library

Corner of Como and Carter Ave.

St. Paul

Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please call
Urho Rahkola at (651) 429-3319

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FACA needs your ideas and your helping hand. If you can help with any of the committees or events, please return this form. Thanks!

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Hospitality |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Library |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Pikkujoulu</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Festival of Nations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Phone |

Name _____

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Return to FACA, P.O. Box 580708,
Minneapolis, MN 55458-0708 or bring to the
next program.

TUCSON TO BE SITE OF THE 2012 FINNFEST USA FESTIVAL

*By Marianne Wargelin,
President, FinnFest USA Board of Directors*

Tucson, Arizona will be the site of the next FinnFest USA Festival. The festival dates, November 8–11, 2012, will permit the festival to commemorate Martti Ahtisaari Day, an official day now in Finland, a day that Finns use to honor and consider the subject of international peace mediation. For FinnFest USA, International Peace will become the theme of the 2012 FinnFest USA festival. Attendees will see its influence in all elements of program planning.

The FinnFest USA Board of Directors will function as the organizers of the festival. Local residents in the Phoenix and Tucson area will assist as they themselves decide to define their participation. They will be meeting with Ryan Braski, festival chair, in early September. At this point, it can be said that festival attendees will find that America's Southwest will indeed become part of the festival. However, holding the festival in Tucson, while organizing it with leadership living elsewhere, means that the 2012 festival administration will have a different look and feel.

FinnFest USA is now 28 years old, and the original organizing format needs to respond to audience requests for changes in programming and administration. Wanting to stay far away from competition with more traditional "FinnFest" style festivals, the FinnFest USA Board chose a location far away from festivals already in place. The intention is to develop a festival with programming that specifically appeals to contemporary concerns and programming approaches.

The FinnFest USA board decided to use 2012 and Tucson as a time and space to explore how these new programming formats and festival administration can work with the traditional programming that attendees have come to expect and ask for at FinnFest USA festivals.

Not to worry! The long standing tradition of FinnFest USA festivals will continue. Already set your calendars for a large national gathering to occur in 2013 when FinnFest USA returns to the Upper Peninsula, this time to the Keweenaw Peninsula and a Juhannus-centered festival, June 19–23, 2013.

Look to the FinnFest USA website for updates and further information: www.finnfestusa.org

FinnFest USA Festival in San Diego

*By Marianne Wargelin,
Finnish Honorary Consul in the Twin Cities*

The 2011 FinnFest USA festival, held at the Town & Country Convention and Resort Center in San Diego, had promised a chance to get to know contemporary Finland. Attendees confirmed that Finland took on new meaning as a contemporary country with a contemporary culture with much to interest all Americans, regardless of their previous connection to Finland.

Music, a central component of all FinnFests, this year emphasized contemporary Finnish music and musicians. All varieties of Finnish music were offered, including folk, rock, gospel, pop, jazz, and classical. Both Finns and Americans, including Minneapolis-based Kaivama, Singing Strings, and Saana, created music in the torii, on a sunny outdoor courtyard, and in two auditoriums devoted to concerts and performances.

Kantele players were everywhere. Keynoters were the American Wilho Saari, NEH Heritage Artist in 2006, now this year's Finlandia Foundation National Performer of the Year, and the Koistinen Kantele Duo from Finland. Anttu Koistinen, first seen at the 2005 FinnFest USA festival, returned this year with Olga Shishkina, a Russian kantele player studying at the Sibelius Academy, to play a wide repertoire of electronic Kantele music. Merja Sorja, Finlandia Foundation's first Performer of the Year, in 1996, served as host for a kantele concert that included a kantele "orchestra" made up of players from across the USA, including Joyce Hakala, founder of Koivun Kaiku.

Classical music included two chamber music concerts, two solo recitals, and a panel discussion about contemporary Finnish music performance. Organized by Minneapolis musician and conductor, Craig Johnson, the events created opportunities for professional American and Finnish musicians to come together to perform seldom heard works by Finnish composers. Gregory Barrett, Katri Ervamaa, Folke Gräsbeck, Will Haapaniemi, James Koenig, Alyssa Moquin, Päivikki Nykter, Mikko Raasakka, Karl Rahkonen, and Ulla Suokko contributed virtuoso performances that brought audience members to their feet again and again. Minneapolis' Sara Pajanen performed with the musicians in the concert on Thursday evening.

Finland's contemporary gospel music, performed by a gospel choir formed of singers from Seattle and San Diego, featured Finland's leading gospel music composer and performer, Pekka Simojoki, and his daughter, Henna Simojoki. The two also performed in concert alone and Pekka joined Jonathon Rundman, Minneapolis Lutheran liturgy composer and half of the duo

Kaivama, in a discussion about contemporary religious music composition.

On the last night of the festival, J. Karjalainen and the Polkabillies as well as Ismo Alanko Teholla enabled attendees to feel the energy and creativity of contemporary Finnish rock music in a rock concert in the space that earlier that day featured chamber musicians. Opening for these rock musicians were jazz pianist, Lenni-Kalle Taipale and jazz singer Sami Pitkämö. It was that kind of a festival of Finnish music. A music lover could go from one music genre to another throughout the day and evening.



Kaivama and the Polka Chicks' evening courtyard performance

A major festival highlight included the chance to interact with the Moomins, the characters created by Tove Jansson in a series of beloved Finnish children's books about Moominvalley. Both children and adults wanted to talk to the Moomins and have their photograph taken with the Moomins. Minneapolis attorney, Elaine Kumpula, who had provided the legal assistance needed for the Moomins get their visas to come to the USA, was only one of many who went home with photos. The Moomins themselves had such a good time at the festival that they began discussions with the FinnFest USA board about how they could become a regular feature at future festivals.

Lectures and panel discussions

Since the first year of FinnFest USA, lectures and panels have enabled FinnFests to create stimulating and challenging discussions. San Diego's program continued in that tradition, this year emphasizing opportunities to learn more about contemporary Finland. Already on Tuesday, August 9, a day before the festival formally began, "Brave Questions", an all-day seminar, looked at public education, its challenges and its potential. Looking closing at the system in Finland, speakers provided insights into what is happening in Finland's public schools today and reasons for its high international test scores. Well received, future festival goers should expect that education will be a topic again.

That emphasis on Finland continued in individual lectures and panels that followed throughout the festival. People heard "the latest" on the impact of Finland's

recent parliament elections, the debt crisis in Greece, the migration that is transforming European countries into multi-cultural societies. Finland, as one European country coping with these contemporary issues, provided a context and a perspective that the American media generally fails to include. Included among the speakers were a Finnish member of the European Parliament, the Archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, and a researcher at the Migration Institute. Many attendees spoke about how meaningful this experience had been for them personally.

Minneapolis presence at the festival

As can already be discerned, Minneapolis was well represented at the San Diego festival; but a few more things need to be said: More than one attendee remarked on how much they had enjoyed "those young children performing in the Singing Strings. They perform with such enthusiasm and skill." As importantly, Saana not only wowed attendees with their singing, but the Marimekko fashion show produced and directed by our own Elina Ruppert and modeled by members of Saana was the show stopping highlight of the gala dinner prepared by "Master Chef" Stefan Richter, a Finnish chef who came in second on the fifth season of Bravo's Top Chef competition. The dinner, by the way, was a fascinating study in how to feed 300 people and still make it look like it was cooked for only 8.

FinnFest USA was far away in California, but Minnesota still was a powerful presence. I counted over 50 people from the Twin Cities and the Cokato region. We missed you, but you can be proud of the Minnesota presence at the festival.

Additional Calendar Items, from page 8

Diane 612-822-5273, email: djarvi@q.com website www.dianejarvi.com

Oct. 10-16 Adult Week at Salolampi. Salolampi.org

Oct. 16 Finnish Culture Through Movies group, 6:00 p.m. *Postia pappi Jaakobille* www.ses.fi/en/film.asp?id=923 Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis.

Nov. 1-3 Annual Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon. Thrivent Financial building in downtown Minneapolis. Contact Linda Davis (612) 247-2299 or Ruthann Swanson (612) 788-3905. (See page 4.)

Nov. 3-5 Midori Plays Sibelius. Midori will play the hauntingly beautiful *Violin Concerto* of Finland's Jean Sibelius. Minnesota Orchestra Hall. More information: www.minnesotaorchestra.org

Nov. 20 Finnish Culture Through Movies group, 6:00 p.m., *Täällä Pohjantähden alla* www.ses.fi/en/film.asp?id=904 Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis.

Dec. 3 FACA *Pikkujoulu*

Dec. 18 Finnish Culture Through Movies group, 6:00 p.m., *Napapiirin sankarit* www.ses.fi/en/film.asp?id=1044 Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis.



Finnish American Cultural Activities, Inc.

P.O. Box 580708

Minneapolis, MN 55458-0708

FACA

Finnish American Cultural Activities, Inc.

is an organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the cross-cultural heritage of Americans with Finnish ancestry.

Information: (612) 374-2718, www.finnfaca.org

Sept. 11 Saana Ensemble CD Release Concert “On The Bridge” 3:00 p.m. Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Avenue, St. Paul. Coffee and treats at the reception following. (*See page 4.*)

Sept. 14 FACA Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Panera Bread, Roseville.

Sept. 15–17 Portable Passport Machine Availability, Honorary Consulate of Finland, Minneapolis. (*See page 3.*)

Sept. 16-18 Salolampi Fall Work Weekend. To attend, please RSVP to p.taipale@gmail.com

Sept. 16 FACA Program *Steam of Life* (*See page 1.*)

Sept. 18 Finnish Culture Through Movies group, 6:00 p.m. *Havukka-abon ajattelijä* www.ses.fi/en/film.asp?id=1012 Season tuition: \$25/\$15 for students, Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Avenue South, Minneapolis. More information: Movie group page or (651) 428-3155.

Sept. 24 Finnish Genealogy Group meeting 9:30 a.m. Members review summer activities, show and tell format. Plymouth Apostolic Lutheran Church, 11015 Old County Road 15, Plymouth. Directions/changes: www.minnesotafinnish.org. Click on left menu.

Sept. 25 – Oct 9 Explore the modern Nordic world through art, film and culinary delights at the 24th Annual Leiv Eriksson International Festival, Mindekirken The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, 924 E.

21st Street, Minneapolis. (612) 874-0716

Sept 28 The Cedar welcomes back the Finnish-Norwegian fiddling folksters Frigg. With fiddles, youthful energy, and creative instrumentation that includes a double bass, guitar/dobro, and cittern. Opening will be Finnish folk fiddle and guitar duo Kaivama. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. www.thecedar.org

Oct. 1 24th Annual Leiv Eriksson International Festival, 7:00 p.m. Performers Anna Hersey, award-winning soprano, and Matti Hirvonen, pianist, will perform an all-inclusive repertoire. Accompanying Hersey is her coach, Matti Hirvonen. He studied piano at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki and the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. Mindekirken The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, 924 E. 21st St., Minneapolis. (612) 874-0716.

Oct 4 Kantele Class Come learn how to play the Kantele, Finland’s uniquely beautiful Baltic lap harp. In eight sessions learn to play beginning level music for the 5-string kantele. We will cover some history and mythology of the instrument, care and maintenance and discover the many dynamic kantele players of Finland. Here is your chance to learn to play that instrument! Rental options will be available. Come and join us! We will meet Tuesdays 7:00-8:00 p.m. Starting October 4, Cost for eight sessions: \$100.00. For more info contact

More calendar items on pg. 7