



NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INC.

September/Syyskuu 2007

Mikael Agricola, Reformer of Finland

Presented by:
Pastor Rodger Foltz



This year Finland is celebrating the 450th year anniversary of Mikael Agricola's death, so it is fitting to have a program about him. Our presenter, Pastor Foltz wrote his dissertation for his Master of Sacred Theology on Mikael Agricola, Reformer of Finland. He will share his knowledge of this great man during his pivotal time in Finland history.

Agricola was born in 1510 in southern Finland and early in his life, Finland, which was under Swedish rule, changed from Catholic to Lutheranism. The church services were now held in Finnish, but there was virtually no written language in Finland. Agricola took on the difficult task of translating the Bible into Finnish. He had to form new words, word forms, and phrases to put the language into writing. He completed about 10 publications, and for his work he has been called the "Man of Dawn" because this work energized the growth of Finnish culture.

SEPTEMBER FACCA PROGRAM

Mikael Agricola
Friday, Sept. 21
7:30 p.m.
International Institute
1694 Como Ave., St. Paul
If you need transportation, call
Marianne Wargelin
at 612-374-2718

Pastor Foltz grew up in NE Ohio. He attended Suomi College, Youngstown University, Suomi Synod Seminary, Lutheran School of Theology, and Concordia Seminary. He was ordained into the ministry in the Suomi Synod and served in congregations in PA, IL, Michigan, and Plymouth, Minnesota until his retirement. He studied at the University of Helsinki and while there married Aila Saarnivaara in 1966. They have 2 children and 5 grandchildren.

Come join us for an informative and enjoyable evening followed with refreshments.

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President's Message

By Alan Norgard

I hope that everyone has had a good summer and is ready to start another season of FACA programs and activities. Some big events have started such as the Nordic Landscape Exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and the various activities that tied into it. I have been able to see the exhibit and think those who cannot attend might be interested in getting a copy of the official catalog being sold by the Finlandia Foundation for the benefit of the Twin Cities Finnish Network. We will have some copies available at our first monthly program.

Many of you have already heard that our longtime member Helen Jacobson has passed away during the summer. She served for many years as our telephone line answer person. I remember her reports on some of the calls she received and how she would spend the extra time and effort to get answers to the questions asked. Helen was also a person who was always willing to work at the Festival of Nations, Finnfest, and many other events FACA sponsored. Her smile and presence will be missed. Thank you, Len, and extended family for sharing her with us, and our condolences to you.

Our FACA board is now in session and I would like to report the new positions that have been appointed. I will stay on for one more year as president – hopefully I will be semi-retired and living in our home near Grand Rapids by this time next year. Floyd Niskanen will be leaving the board and the new vice president will be Ruth Wilkman, one of the two new officers elected last May. Thank you, Floyd, for doing a great job of finding programs for us in the last few years and compiling a list of possible future programs. Ruth has been a longtime member and has cheerfully accepted this position and will benefit from Floyd's hard work. Our new secretary is Stella Arola who was also elected last May and will take Luella Zibell's place on the board. I don't know how we can ever thank Lu for being on the board for the last seven years – working on all our *Pikkujoulu* celebrations, Festival of Nations, and being a go-to person for advice, history and knowledge of the FACA membership. Thanks again, and we hope to be able to work with you now on a more informal basis. Andreas Ostenso, newly-wed and back from his honeymoon, has agreed to continue as our treasurer this year. He has done a great job tracking and organizing our group's finances and has brought some good ideas to help increase our membership. Barb Nikula-Owens and Kaarina Kotkavuori have done an outstanding job as coordinators for our hospitality and special events groups and will continue on this year.

I hope all of you remember that we are offering a prize to the person signing up the most members. Help spread the word and ask your friends and neighbors to consider joining.

See you at the September program—7:30 p.m. at the International Institute!



Movies, Music and Munchies

The Suomi-Finland Social Club invites you to come and enjoy an evening with the *Lännen-Jukka String Band* live and watch documentary films by Erkki Määttänen on Friday, September 28th.

The fun begins at 7:00 p.m. with music by Jukka Karjalainen followed by two short films at 7:30, *Toivola, Land of Hope* (47 min.), *Haapalan pojat USA* and *The Haapala Boys, USA* (25 min.) There will be a quick intermission, followed by a question and answer session with Erkki Määttänen and Jukka Karjalainen. The evening ends with two more films beginning at 8:45. *Memories, Diane Jarvi* (13 min.) followed by *Minnesota Tango* (19 min.)

The location for this event is the Elmer L. Andersen Library, Room 120, on the University of Minnesota Campus, 222 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis.

More information: <http://events.tc.umn.edu/event?occurrence=402889;event=117254>
IHRC Office at 612-625-4800; Institute for Global Studies at 612-624-9007, Cindy Herring at herri003@umn.edu.

Sponsored by University of Minnesota Immigration History Research Center, Institute for Global Studies, the Government of Finland/David and Nancy Speer Professorship in Finnish Studies, and Friends of IHRC.

Welcome New Members!

• Dr. Cheryl Kamunen Johnson,
• Apple Valley,
• Lisa S. Rowan of Jacksonville,
• FL
• Harlan & Marlene Stoehr of
• Shoreview.

Tervetuloa!

Board Notes *By Stella Arola*

The composition and responsibilities of the Board are as follows: President: Alan Norgard; Vice President/Program Chair: Ruth Wilkman; Secretary: Stella Arola; Treasurer/Publicity: Andreas Ostenso; Hospitality/Special Activities: Kaarina Kotkavuori; Special Activities Director: Barbara Nikula Owens. Outgoing Board members are Floyd Niskanen and Luella Lepisto Zibell to whom we owe many thanks.

After review and discussion of the regular reports of the secretary and treasurer, the remaining agenda items included the December 2007 Pikku Joulu, the Finnish Independence Day celebration in December, the 2008 Festival of Nations, the 2008 FinnFest in Duluth next July and reports from the Vice President/Programs and Special Events and Hospitality chairs.

Mark your Calendars for FinnFest 2008

The Duluth area Finnish-American community has been busy planning for FinnFest 2008. Entitled “*Sharing the Spirit of Finland*,” the event will be held July 23-27, 2008 at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC).

The four major themes of FinnFest 2008 are:

- **Culture** – the appreciation of the customary beliefs, social forms and material traits of the Finns spanning generations both in Finland and the USA
- **Music** – the exploration of the signature works of Finland’s most influential and eminent composers as well as prominent folk musicians
- **Women** – the impact of Finnish women in Finland and the USA
- **Finnish-Ojibwe Integration** – the study of the interaction of two distinguished cultures.

We will continue to give you updates about FinnFest 2008 as we hear about them. You can also check the website- www.FinnFest2008.com-for the most current information.

Tervetuloa kaikille!



Annual Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon November 6, 7, and 8.

By Evelyn Eskeli, Phonathon Chair

Please accept a call on Nov. 6, 7, or 8 when Foundation Board members and friends of *Salolampi* will be making hundreds of calls nationwide again this year for the scholarship program. Your support this year is more critical than ever!

This Phonathon is the major annual appeal by the *Salolampi* Foundation that provides approximately \$25,000 to help defray tuition costs and make attendance at *Salolampi* more affordable to families. As the number of villagers increases, the number of dollars needs to increase. Every villager receives scholarship assistance to reduce the real cost of attendance.

A postcard will be mailed prior to November 6 to remind donors to expect a Phonathon call on November 6, 7, or 8. Please note that if you will not be available or if you do not receive a call or postcard from the Phonathon, send a contribution directly to the *Salolampi* Foundation, P. O. Box 14480, Minneapolis MN 55414-0480.

Volunteers are needed to staff the 15 on-site phones at the Lutheran Community Foundation offices in the Thrivent Financial building in downtown Minneapolis. Please call 612-359-0805 or email eeskeli@usfamily.net, or call 763-420-3237 or email ldavismn@hotmail.com if you can help.

Support Finnish American youth by helping the *Salolampi* Foundation raise the necessary scholarship funds. *Salolampi* is a special place.

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
Floyd Niskanen at 763-540-0121.

Salolampi Yahoo Group Keeps People Connected

By Lisa Rowan

What's going on at the *Salolampi* Finnish Language Camp? Want to keep in touch with others involved? Want to ask questions, learn, share? Now *Salolampi* volunteers, board members, staff, students, and friends can communicate easily with each other using a single e-mail address, thanks to a new Yahoo Group recently set up by an out-of-state *Salolampi* volunteer who yearned to stay close from afar. *Salolampi* Yahoo Group also offers these other great features on its website:

- * Photo sharing (Ideas: Photos from Work Weekends, classes, other activities)
- * File sharing (Ideas: Song lists, Finnish language notes)
- * Activity calendar (Ideas: Dates for work weekends, classes, other activities)
- * Polls (Ideas: *Salolampi* Work Weekend facilitators can use this feature for planning)
- * Lists (Ideas: Contact information, Work Weekend to-do lists and "tools to bring" lists)
- * Message Archive

To prevent spam, the *Salolampi* Yahoo Group is a members-only list, but it's easy to join, and best of all, it's **FREE**. Just visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/salolampi> and click **Join This Group!**. You'll need a Yahoo user ID and password, which are easy and free to set it up if you don't have one; just follow the instructions. After you join, the moderator will "approve" your request to join (just to make sure you're not a spammer), and then you'll be able to send e-mail to the list and use the features on the website. Questions or problems joining? Just send e-mail to Lisa at mica_wrensong@hotmail.com.

Salolampi Yahoo Group is growing and can become a useful tool for all involved with or interested in *Salolampi*. We invite you to join us!

Finlandia University Gets New President

The Finlandia University Board of Trustees and Finlandia faculty and staff were pleased to welcome Philip Johnson, Ph.D. as the university's 16th president effective July 1, 2007.

Johnson succeeded Robert Ubbelohde, Ph.D., who held the position since 1991.



A public inauguration event to officially install Dr. Johnson as Finlandia's president will take place September 20, 2007.

"I am delighted to assume Finlandia's presidency," said Dr. Johnson. "At Finlandia, the life of the president need not be far from student life. I am excited about the possibilities for a presidency that is about students, for students, and with students."

Philip Johnson came to Finlandia University in January 2006 as campus pastor and assistant to the president. From August 2006 until the present, he served as campus pastor and associate dean of Finlandia's Suomi College of Arts and Sciences.

President Johnson is a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) with 18 years of leadership experience in church-related contexts including congregational ministry, teaching, and administration. He has lived and worked in the United States, Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia.

From 1999-2005 Johnson taught at the Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary and the Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He served as the seminary's dean of the Theology Department from 2001-2003. From 1992-1996 Dr. Johnson supervised the Nairobi Lutheran Parish of the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church. Prior to this, from 1988-1991, he was associate pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Circle Pines, Minnesota.

Johnson completed his M.Div. and Ph.D. at Luther

Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. He is married to René Johnson, the interim campus pastor and director of servant leadership at Finlandia. The Johnsons have two high school-age children, Simon and Neal. They are active members of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Hancock. Johnson serves on the Copper Country United Way Board.

Finlandia University, founded in 1896 as Suomi College, is the only private university in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and one of 28 colleges and universities affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is the only university in North America founded by Finnish immigrants. Located in the beautiful, rugged Upper Peninsula town of Hancock, Michigan, Finlandia University is a learning community dedicated to academic excellence, spiritual growth and service. Bachelor and associate degrees are earned by students in two schools and two colleges serving the disciplines of art and design, international business, arts and sciences and professional studies. Web site at www.finlandia.edu.

Did You Attend FinnFest 2007?

If you did, please share your experience and a few jpegs with fellow FACA members. Send articles and images to mary.belanger@dctc.edu for inclusion in the October *Utiset!*

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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Laskiainen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> Pikkujoulu |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Festival of Nations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Phone |

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

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

Greetings from Finland!

Date: Tue, 28 Aug 2007 14:47:14 +0300

Hi!

Eeva here from Finland. Just wanted to let you know, that all is well and we have settled during these three months here. Lahti is a beautiful city and we live on a high hill with great views. Kids school started last week and it definitely is different, but so far so good. Kari is here now too, but leaves in two weeks. Life is different, funny how it seems so familiar, but then so unfamiliar.

I guess I am still on a stage where I am hanging somewhere between these two continents. Some say that's the way I'll always be! I have been enjoying my work very much and am happy to let you know, that our website is open and the first concert streaming will take place next Thursday at 11am Central Time (7 p.m. here). Lahti Symphony Orchestra will play Sibelius' Kullervo, Osmo conducting with the soloists Jorma Hynninen and Lilli Paasikivi. Now you can watch it too, all you need is a computer with 1Mb broadband connection and good speakers or headphones. Visit www.classiclive.com for more information-- or ask me! A Flash-video featuring Osmo will be there by the end of this week.

I would really appreciate, if you could pass the message forward to your family and friends, or anyone you believe enjoys high-quality classical music. We had our press release last week and have received some visibility in European media, but could use more, also in the States. Send me feedback about the website, we are trying to make it as user-friendly as possible.

If you can watch the concert, we would love to hear how it worked out there, so let me know.

I hope all is well with you and you are enjoying the rest of the summer. Summer has taken a turn to fall here already!

Best,

Eeva Savolainen

Marketing Coordinator

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Karelian Borscht—*Borschkeitto*

This well-flavored beet and cabbage soup is well-known in Russian cuisine; however, it is so much a favorite of Karelians (Eastern Finns), and such a fine soup, I am including it here.

4 medium beets, peeled and grated
2 tbsp. butter
1 tsp. salt
4 tbsp. flour
2 tbsp. vinegar
1 small head red cabbage, shredded
1 bay leaf
1 clove garlic
2 carrots, peeled and cut up
1 tbsp. sugar
8 c. meat broth
½ lb. spicy sausages (choritzo, Polish sausage or frankfurters)
Sour cream
Lemon slices

Brown the beets in the butter over medium to high heat until limp. Add the salt, flour and vinegar and mix until blended. Put into a large pot with the cabbage, bay leaf, garlic, carrots, sugar and meat broth, and simmer for at least two hours, adding water as needed if too much stock cooks away.

Before serving, slice the sausages and add; serve when heated through. Serve in a soup tureen; pass a bowl of sour cream, and a plate of sliced lemons. Serves about six.

From *The Finnish Cookbook*, by Bea Ojakangas

Mashed Potato Casserole—

Perunalaatikko

6 medium potatoes, peeled
2 eggs, beaten
1 c. cream or milk
Salt (to taste)
4 tbsp. butter (plus some for pan & topping)
6 tbsp. fine, dry bread crumbs

Cook then mash the potatoes. Whip the eggs, cream or milk, salt and butter; beat until very fluffy. Turn into a buttered one-quart casserole and sprinkle with bread crumbs. Dot with more butter. Bake in a 375 degree oven for 20-25 minutes or until the top is nicely browned. Serve hot. Serves six.

Source: Carlton Co. Extension Service

Pieniä Paloja

•Where to go for **the Finnish hamburger experience?** *Hesburger*, Finland's largest chain of fast food hamburger outlets. The chain's beef-based sandwich offerings include about six different configurations, the most expensive and largest of which is known as *megahampurilainen*, or "megahamburger." A *megahamburger* combo meal consisting of the traditional add-ons of fries and soft drink and runs about \$9.30 US.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/benton/17279503/in/set-390262/>

•**Kimi Räikkönen**, racing with Ferrari, is in fourth place in the F1 standings while fellow countryman **Heikki Kovalainen**, with Renault, is in seventh with five races to go yet this season.

•In the southeastern Finnish city of Kouvola, **Finland grabbed the karaoke world record** from China.

•**Large rafts of blue-green algae** drifting in the coastal waters of the Gulf of Finland are forcing some inhabitants of Southern Finland to look for cleaner shores in inland areas. **Nevertheless, the prices and demand** for summer cottages on the south coast have not as yet been affected by the algae problem.

•**Storms bring flash floods to Pori.** Cellars are under water and cars are stranded in the streets as the skies open and deliver two weeks' rain in a couple of hours.

•A majority of Helsinki residents second the idea of setting up a large **wood chip biomass power plant** in the Finnish capital. People see this as a measure of climate change prevention. In the Swedish capital, Stockholm, the construction of a second wood chip power plant is already under way.

•At least **seventeen brown bears** were killed the first two days of the Finnish hunting season. Before the season began, the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute estimated that there were between 930 and 990 bears of more than a year of age in Finland.

•The **Matsutake mushrooms** have probably grown in stands of pine on sandy ground in Finnish forests for ages, but through a few coincidences, hundreds of people this summer have trained to become expert pickers, and a few hundred kilos of the fungus have been flown to be sold in Japan. Matsutake is a cult mushroom in Japan—a great delicacy, for which people are willing to pay huge prices.

Calendar, cont. from p. 8

Nov. 4 All Saints Sunday Finnish Service, Rev. Melvin Johnson, presiding, 1:30 p.m. Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave. S., Minneapolis. More information: (612) 721-6611.

Nov. 6, 7, and 8 Tues-Thurs. Salolampi Phonathon. Support our youth by participating in the *Salolampi* Scholarship Phonathon. Volunteers needed to make phone calls to raise money for scholarships to the *Salolampi* Finnish Language Village. Contact Evelyn Eskeli at (612) 359-0805, eeskeli@usfamily.net, or Linda Davis at (763) 420-3237, ldavismn@hotmail.com.

Dec. 8, 90th-Anniversary Independence Day Celebration, First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis, 900 Mount Curve Ave., Minneapolis. More information: Betsey Norgard (651) 786-5988. Independence Day Celebration is part of the Finlandia Foundation Twin Cities Network "Finland's 90th Anniversary" series of events. For more information about the events and activities, go to www.minnesotafinnish.org

Dec. 1 Pikkujoulu. Details to follow.

Soile Anderson on Food TV Segment

Soile Anderson's catering company was featured in the sixth episode of Feasting on Asphalt 2 on Sept. 9. This special series on the Food Network featured host Alton Brown (Good Eats and Iron Chef), traveling the length of the Mississippi River, sampling local cuisine as he went. Brown and crew met with Anderson as they sought and sampled a true smorgasbord. Catch it on reruns through Sept. 16. Schedule and video clips at:

http://www.foodnetwork.com/food/show_ab and <http://www.decocatering.com/>

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 _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____



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

FACA CALENDAR

Sept 21 FACA Monthly Program: Mikael Agricola, Reformer of Finland presented by Pastor Rodger Foltz. 7:30 p.m. International Institute, 1694 Como Ave., St. Paul. See p. 1 for info.

Sept 21 Uutiset copy deadline Send copy to Mary at mary.belanger@dctc.edu and photos to Beth at brjarvis@umn.edu

Sept 28 Suomi-Finland Social Club Event, Movies, Music, and Munchies. 7-10 p.m. Come enjoy the *Lännen-Jukka String Band* live and see documentary films by Erkki Määttänen. University of Minnesota, Elmer L. Andersen Library, Room 120, 222 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis. More information: <http://events.tc.umn.edu/event?occurrence=402889;event=117254>

IHRC Office at (612) 625-4800; Institute for Global Studies at (612) 624-9007, herri003@umn.edu. See p. 3 for info.

(More calendar items on p. 7)

Sept 28th–30 9th Annual Nordic Roots Festival

For a complete list of featured artists check out the website below. Festival passes are available for \$99. Cedar Cultural Center, 416 Cedar Avenue S; Minneapolis. More information: <http://www.nordicroots.org/NRF2007/index2007.html>, (612) 338-2674

Oct. 5, 6, and 7 Salolampi Fall Work Weekend at Salolampi Finnish Language Village near Bemidji. Come to clean, paint, cut wood, etc., while enjoying nightly entertainment, Finnish films, Finnish food and the sauna, free of charge. To sign up, contact Harlan Haanpaa at (218) 326-6884 or email harlanhaanpaa@msn.com

Oct. 12 Concert by *Saana Ensemble* as a part of the Leiv Eriksson International Festival, 7:30 p.m. Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church (Mindekirken), 924 E. 21st St, Minneapolis More information: (612) 874-0716, LEIF@mindekirken.org

Oct 18 Meet *Iittala's* Oiva Toikka, signing his glass birds. Reception for Finnish Community at 5-6 p.m. at: Ampersand -3445 Galleria, Edina (corner 69th St. and France Ave.) More information: (952) 920-2118