



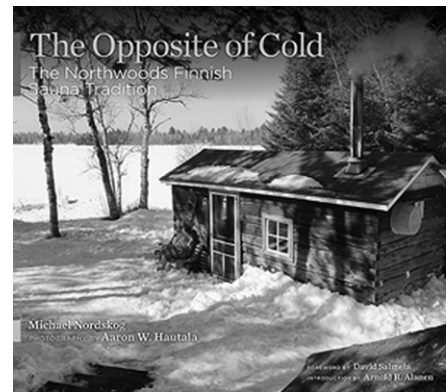
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NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INC.

April/Huhtikuu 2011

Sauna Time! **Michael Nordskog** **Aaron Hautala**

Author Michael Nordskog and photographer Aaron Hautala will present the book *The Opposite of Cold: The Northwoods Finnish Sauna Tradition* at the April 15 FACA program. The book “is an exquisite commemoration of the history, culture, and practice of Finnish sauna in the north woods. stunning photographs of unique and historic saunas of the region... Nordskog and Hautala unveil the importance and beauty of sauna culture in modern Midwestern life”.



A recent book review stated, “You might be tempted to look at this pretty book as ‘just’ a coffee table book. But that would be a disservice, both to the book and to the reader. This is serious sauna talk, folks... *The Opposite of Cold* contains detailed histories of many Finn family homesteads, along with a history of sauna in Finland, which goes as far as the country’s literature, and modern tips on where to find the few remaining public saunas in Helsinki.” (Linda White, Minneapolis Books Examiner, Nov 26, 2010)

Nordskog and Hautala will discuss *Opposite of Cold* as well as other current and upcoming projects. *Me tarve lisää löyly!* (We need more sauna steam!)

Program In Brief

Saunas
Nordskog and Hautala
Friday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.
International Institute
1694 Como Ave., St. Paul
If you need transportation, call
Marianne Wargelin
at (612) 374-2718

Michael Nordskog grew up in the heart of North American *sauna* country. He works as an attorney, writer, and editor, and he lives with his wife and three children in Viroqua, Wisconsin.

Aaron W. Hautala is the creative director and owner of Red-HouseMedia in Brainerd, Minnesota. He has helped launch a variety of magazines and was the founding art director at *Lake Country Journal*. His photographs have appeared widely throughout Minnesota.

Editors Note: *The Opposite of Cold* is a finalist for a Minnesota Book Award in the General Nonfiction category. If you are interested in reviewing the candidate books and voting, connect to <http://twincities.upickem.net/engine/votes.aspx>. You must register to vote, but the process is quite simple.

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President's Message

By Kara Middleton

We had a wonderful March program with the very gifted Craig Johnson telling us about the forthcoming opera, *Rockland*. Craig took us on a journey from the initial events that sparked the idea to the current group of talented artists who will bring it to life this summer. I think that the somewhat unlikely pairing of an art form like opera to a story of working class immigrants makes the story all the more powerful. Listening to Craig helped me to realize that opera not only can, but should, tell the stories of real people's lives.



I neglected to mention at this program that we were also celebrating St. Urho's Day that week. Thanks to Pam Rahkola, Vergene Routhe, and Luella Zibell, we had an extraordinary St. Urho's Day treat buffet. Thank you, ladies, and thanks also to all of you who showed your *sissu* by wearing purple! I felt very remiss showing up in grey...

Events celebrating Finnish culture around the Twin Cities continue to take place. During March, FACA partnered with the Finlandia Foundation to host an event celebrating the 100th anniversary of the music of Viola Turpeinen. Carl Rahkonen's lecture on the life and career of Ms. Turpeinen was fascinating. Afterward we danced to the music of her era performed by the Finn Hall Band. It would have been nice to see more people there, but those who were enjoyed it greatly.

As I mentioned at the March program, two more members of the FACA board will retire this year. These two people, Jeanne Swope and Jane Olson, have been important contributors to FACA for some time. As with any club, FACA functions the best with several people volunteering a little bit of their time. If you have any questions about what board membership entails, please contact me. Prior experience is not required, and we really do have a lot of fun!

The one other area in which help is greatly needed at present is in the exhibit booth for the Festival of Nations, May 5-8. Each year it seems that the Finnish café draws nearly too many volunteers, while the exhibit suffers from too few. However, the exhibit is necessary for the café. No organization is allowed to have a café without also taking part in an educational portion of the Festival. So we really need your help in both areas. Shifts for the exhibit are just three to four hours long and only require you to smile and help the visitors interact with the exhibit. We will provide each volunteer with a simple education about the exhibit so that you know what to talk about. Volunteers are desperately needed here, so please contact me if you have a few hours to spare on any of these days in May. *Kiitos!*

I hope many of you have had a chance to see the book, *The Opposite of Cold*. I gave it away as a Christmas present this past year and it was much appreciated. Aaron Hautala's photographs are artful and stunning. I look forward to learning more about the thought that went into the book's creation at the April program, and I hope you can join us. *Nähdään siellä!*

Board Notes

By *Jeanne Swope*



L-R Kara Middleton, Glen Bay, Jane Olson, Jeanne Swope, Edith Boos, Ray Piirainen

President Kara Middleton called the meeting to order at 7:30 at her home on Wednesday, March 16, 2011. Present at meeting: Kara Middleton, Jane Olson, Edie Boos, Glen Bay, and Jeanne Swope. Minutes of the February meeting and the Treasurer's report were reviewed and approved. All *Pikkujoulu* refunds are now complete, though quite a few people have not cashed their checks yet.

President's report: Kara reported on Festival of Nations planning. There are some parking changes for the Festival, and we need more volunteers. We are checking whether there is a *tori* backdrop for the exhibit from a previous Festival in storage, but may have to paint a new one.

The Viola Turpeinen event by Finlandia Foundation was an excellent program, Kara said.

We have reserved Deco Catering for December 2011 *Pikkujoulu* (Dec. 4), but do not have a site reserved yet (this is in the works).

We answered the "Finnish Place" questionnaire sent out by Marianne Wargelin, and Kara is ready to participate in discussion of the idea at the upcoming Finnish Network meeting. We are supportive of the idea, but need more information.

We discussed ways we could participate in the approaching "Helsinki City of Design" year. Grants may be available for programs; the kind of programs required are the kind we often present to FACA. We would need to write proposals. Kara will find out more details at the Finnish Network.

Hospitality report: Jane Olson reported that plans are in place for refreshments for the March program.

Next meeting: Jeanne Swope's house, Wednesday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Finn-tastic!

"Packing so much goodness into something so slim and delicious takes real dedication," says the box of Finn Crisp Plus 5 Wholegrains Thin Crispbread.



Who knew? If you're a fan of Finn Crisp's Traditional Rye Crispbreads, you may have wondered how the company manages to squeeze so much flavor into one remarkably slender wafer. (Apparently, it's not easy.) Thank goodness Finn Crisp went to all that trouble.

The new 5 Wholegrains Crispbreads adds, well, four other whole grains, "For an even tastier and healthier crunch." And, since the crisps are imported from Finland, the label reveals how much of each major ingredient you're getting. (Wouldn't that be handy to have on U.S. labels?)

The crackers are still mostly rye flour (65%), plus oat flour and oat flakes (8 percent), barley flour and wheat flour (4 percent each), and millet (1.7 percent).

Together, they deliver three grams of fiber for the two-slice (1/2 oz.) serving that's listed in the nutrition facts, or six grams for the 1-oz. serving that most cracker labels show. And those grams are intact fiber, not the isolated kind (like inulin, oat fiber, wheat fiber or polydextrose) that bakers use to make impressive (though misleading) fiber claims. It's the real deal.

Bonus: a 1-oz, serving has just 120 calories and 140 milligrams of sodium, so it won't stick to your rib padding...or pressure your arteries.

Spread on a dollop of hummus or a thin slice of Brie, or enjoy them sans topping. Finn is in.

Reprinted from the *Nutrition Action Healthletter*

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

FinnFest Seminar to Focus on Education

By Marianne Wargelin

Recent US media attention on the high Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) assessment scores achieved by Finland's students has brought Finland to the attention of Americans concerned about the future of public education. Why have these high scores happened? Why do Finnish children consistently remain at the top of these exams? *Brave Questions: An International Discussion about Public Education in the 21st Century*, a one day-long seminar, will address these and other questions related to educational achievement. Part of the City of San Diego's month long emphasis on Finland, the seminar will occur on August 9, 2011, one day before the opening day of the FinnFest USA annual festival to be held this year in San Diego, California at the Town & Country Resort and Convention Center.

FinnFest USA festivals have often opportunities for extended presentations and discussions on topics of interest in both Finland and the USA. In 1996, for example, the festival, held at Northern Michigan University, assembled experts to discuss genetic health issues of Finnish people: diabetes, hypertension, and alcoholism. That seminar, held just before the festival began, appealed to both health professionals and FinnFest attendees. This summer, the pre-festival seminar format will be repeated in San Diego, this time on the topic of education.

The seminar will bring together eight educational experts from Finland and four from the US to explore questions related to educational achievement in the context of the 21st Century realities of hard economic times and increasing societal violence and alienation. The keynote speaker will be Pasi Sahlberg, Director General of Finland's Center for International Mobility (CIMO). His topic will be "Reasons Behind the Finnish Education Success." Sahlberg, a specialist in educational reforms, has trained teachers and leaders, coached schools to change and advised education policy-makers around the world. Among his most recent publications are "The most wanted: Teachers and teacher education in Finland" (2010), "Rethinking accountability in a knowledge society" (2010), and "Creativity and innovation through lifelong learning" (2009).

Responding to the keynote address will be the following panel: Linda Darling Hammond, the Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education at the Stanford University School of Education; John Burbank, Director of Early Childhood Foundation, Seattle; Hannele Niemi, Ph.D. in Education, University of Helsinki; and Karen Symms Galager, PhD in Education, University

of Southern California.

The afternoon will consist of five repeating and concurrent break-out sessions with experts on Early Childhood Education, Special Education, an Overview of Finnish Higher Education, Challenges of School Bullying, and Foreign Language Learning.

The event will be free and open to the public. Educators and the general public are encouraged to attend.

Special Request:

In response to your requests, here is the recipe for the delicious lemon dessert brought to our *Laskiainen* celebration by Joanne Smith. Thanks, Joanne!

Forgotten Torte

Note: prepare crust the evening before making the finished torte. The crust stays in the oven overnight.

Meringue base:

- 6 egg whites
- 1 ½ cups white sugar
- ½ teaspoon cream of tartar

Baking Meringue Crust: Beat egg whites until foamy. Add cream of tartar. Beat mixture adding vanilla and sugar slowly, until stiff and glossy. To bake the crust, butter bottom and sides of a 9x12 baking pan. Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Spread meringue mixture on bottom of pan. Place in oven. Turn oven off and leave in overnight.

Lemon filling ingredients:

- 2 ¼ cups white sugar
- ½ cup corn starch
- 2 ¼ cups water
- 4 egg yolks slightly beaten
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 4 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel

Mixing lemon filling: Mix sugar and cornstarch in sauce pan. Gradually stir in water. Cook over medium heat stirring constantly until mixture thickens and boils. Boil at least one minute (or until thick). Slowly stir at least ½ hot mixture into beaten egg yolks in a bowl. Blend this into remaining hot mixture in sauce pan. Boil four minutes longer stirring constantly. Remove from heat and continue stirring until smooth. Blend in butter, lemon juice, and grated peel cool mixture.

Whipped cream: Whip 1 pint cream (add sugar and vanilla to taste).

Preparing torte: Frost meringue shell with thin layer whipping cream (leave enough whipping cream to "frost" pudding). Add lemon pudding. Top with remaining whipped cream. Refrigerate.

Social Media Experts Share Insights at Finnish American Chamber Breakfast

By Leena Kurki, Secretary, Finnish American Chamber of Commerce Minnesota

The Finnish American Chamber of Commerce Minnesota hosted a breakfast panel on social media in Minneapolis on February 24. Panelists from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, international law firm Faegre & Benson, LaBreche brand communications firm, and DeWitt Publishing discussed the best practices, common mistakes, and new trends in using social media for international business.



Panelists from left to right are Björn Freudenthal, Jennifer Niemela, Adam Severson, Ravi Bapna, and Laura Boyd.
Photo: Leena Kurki

Social media crosses national boundaries and makes the world more accessible. "Facebook alone has more than 600 million active users and as such could be considered the third largest country in the world," said Ravi Bapna, associate professor at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. "Use of social media is currently growing the fastest in China and India," he continued.

In the business world, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, MySpace, and other social media are most often used as marketing tools to promote companies and their products.

Jennifer Niemela, managing editor at DeWitt Publishing in St. Paul, provided a Finnish perspective. "Although Finns have really high use of cell phones, internet, and social media, companies have been slow in adopting social media tools for business purposes, definitely slower than in the United States."

About 30 people enjoyed the lively discussion and traditional Finnish treats of Karelian pie and sweet bread, *pulla*.

The Finnish chamber was founded in 2010 to promote business and commercial relations between Finland and Minnesota. "The chamber is delighted to have hosted its second successful event. We hope to continue to provide new insights and value to our members as well

as anyone else interested in trade between Minnesota and Finland," said president Jouko Sipilä.

The chamber will host its next event May 19. For more information, please visit www.facc-mn.com.

Festival of Nations Café

By Junelle Bernard

Thank you to all who have signed on to work in the Finnish Café at the Festival of Nations and/or baking day. I will have your admission tickets at the next FACA meeting and at baking day. If I don't see you at either of those events I will mail them to you. If you have questions, call me at (763) 434-5399 or email at sjbl2@msn.com.

Where can you find out the latest?



Join FACA on Facebook! Just search for FACA. Post your events!

Or, check out our website: finnfaca.org/Calendar.html for the newest events.

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!

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| <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"/> <i>Laskiainen</i> |
| <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 _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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

FACA March 2011 Program Recap

By Ray Piirainen

In 1906, shots were fired and two Finnish miners were killed in Rockland, Michigan (“Upper Peninsula” or “UP”).

“Finn-tastic program!” “Craig Randal Johnson is wonderful.” “I wish we had time for more of the history and music.” These were just some of the comments following the March FACA program of FACA member Craig Randal Johnson’s presentation of insights and music of *Rockland: The Opera (Rockland)*. “Opera sometimes seems foreign and unintelligible,” said FACA president Kara Middleton. “But *Rockland* presents the culture, history, and emotion of an important part of Finnish American culture, the very reason for FACA.”

Johnson related how Andy Hill discovered the diary of his grandfather, UP miner Alfred Laakso. Hill presented the story to Upper Peninsula residents John and Pauline Kiltinen, who presented it to the Pine Mountain Music Festival (www.pmmf.org) board. The process of creating an opera began. The Kiltinens and Gloria Jackson (also of the UP) commissioned the opera. Finnish stage director Jussi Tapola is the librettist (lyricist), Finnish composer Jukka Linkola is the composer, and Craig Johnson is the conductor for the American premier performances in Houghton, Michigan, July 15 and 17. The Finnish premier performances will occur a few weeks earlier at the Nivala, Finland, Music Festival. Jackson has family roots in Nivala. (Note that Johnson will be performing a piano concert at the Nivala music festival, as well as in Hanover, Germany, on June 5.)

Tapola, Linkola, Johnson, and other *Rockland* members have family connections to the Michigan UP. Johnson spoke passionately of his 94-year-old mother’s memories of her father Gus working as a miner in the UP. “It is important that the historical context be preserved before all the people [with UP mining memories or stories] are gone.” Like the *Rockland* character John, whose mining partner dies in Rockland when a tunnel collapses, Gus’s mining partner died in an underground mining accident. Incredibly enough, FACA member Bud Berry told Johnson following the program that his grandfather had also died in a UP mining accident. Rockland is indeed a part of the Finnish-American cultural fabric!

Rockland begins with a tour bus leaving Wakefield for the ghost town Rockland. Here Laakso’s story unfolds. Johnson briefly outlined portions of *Rockland* to give FACA members a better sense of the story line. In one scene, miner Polkki describes the terrible work-

ing conditions, and idealist miner Pekka expresses his desire for worker’s rights (unfortunately tempered by his desire for alcohol). Later, Pekka argues about workers’ rights with his non-Finnish foreman William who is attracted to Pekka’s wife Johanna. William’s supervisor learns of the unrest and demands of William the names of the instigators. William identifies Pekka as an instigator, and Pekka is shot to death. The character of Alfred Laakso then says that life in Rockland has ended because of the killings. The widow Johanna returns to Finland.

Johnson then performed piano reductions or simplifications of [some of] the 43 pieces of *Rockland* orchestral music that he will be conducting. “Foreboding music prepares the audience for tense scenes, strident music accompanies striker actions; and there is ragtime, polonaise, and other music creating various themes throughout *Rockland*.” Themes include, but are not limited to, Finnish workers vs. non-Finnish bosses, churchgoing vs. nonchurchgoing Finns, town life vs. farm life, the hard-working nature of Finns, problems with alcohol, and the question of whether to stay or return to Finland.

Johnson closed his presentation by encouraging FACA members to share their family histories with the *Story Line* project, a regional, community-based art and history project to be created and displayed in conjunction with *Rockland*. Everyone is invited to participate by exploring their own family history, and the history of the community in which they live. Some possible sources are stories told by grandparents, old photo albums and letters, or library resources like old newspaper clippings and school, church, or township records.

The *Story Line* will consist of cotton fabric panels, each of which will be imprinted via photo-transfer with the story and photograph (if available) of an ancestor who overcame challenges and improved their lives and impacted future generations. <http://www.thestorylineproject.com/storyline/aboutproject.html>

In addition, you may listen to excerpts of other Finnish music performed by Johnson in *Piano Music from Finland (Pianomusikkia Suomesta)* at <http://www.tonttu.com/cds.html>

Historical Church Tours

Free docent-led public tours of Christ Church Lutheran are offered on the first Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m., following the 9:30 worship service. Private and group tours may be arranged for other times by emailing reservations@christchurchluth.com. The \$10 per person fee includes a \$5 souvenir booklet about the building. Tour fees go to preserving this National Historic Landmark.

Pieniä Paloja

- *Kiitos* to March servers: Vergene Routhe, Pam Rahkola, and Luella Zibell. They did a spectacular job!
- On a recent trip to Finland, Vice President Biden praised the Finnish educational system and gender equality in Finland. Biden went on to say that his 12-year-old granddaughter, Finnegan, had been impressed by the position of women in Finnish politics.
- The Jorvi Hospital, in Espoo, celebrated International Women's Day, March 8, with 14 babies. Born that day were 13 baby girls and only one boy. Statistically, such a baby girl boom is a rare coincidence.
- According to a poll commissioned by *Helsingin Sanomat* and conducted by TNS Gallup, about 60 per cent of Finns of voting age are certain that they will exercise their right in the Parliamentary elections in April.
- Fewer and fewer Finnish parents are paying their children a regular weekly or monthly allowance, instead giving their children money as they need it. Grandparents or godparents have been a source of revenue for children also.

The Festival of Nations 2011 Marketplaces of the World

Presented by the International Institute of Minnesota, The Festival of Nations is the largest and longest running multicultural festival in Minnesota, celebrating cultural diversity with food, music, demonstrations, exhibits and dance. This year the celebration takes place from May 5–8, at the Saint Paul RiverCentre, downtown Saint Paul.

Your ticket to the Festival of Nations includes entertainment on three stages, participation in our Demonstration and Exhibit area and access to all areas of the entire Festival. Items that are sold in our ethnic Café and Bazaar are extra.

General Public Hours are from:

Friday, May 6th: 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 7th: 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 8th: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Advance tickets are available at all Twin Cities Bylery's Locations and at the International Institute of Minnesota from April 4th–May 4th. Tickets during the event are available at the RiverCentre box office.

World Pass: A multi-day festival world pass is good to enter the Festival of Nations anytime during event hours and is available ONLY through the International Institute of MN and must be purchased in advance. (651) 647-0191.

Calendar-continued from pg.8

May 15 Finnish Culture Through Movies group, 6:00 p.m., *Risto Rääppääjä* <http://www.ses.fi/en/film.asp?id=848> Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave. South, Minneapolis. More information: (651) 428-3155.

May 6–8 *Salolampi* Spring Work Weekend Work weekends (*talkoot*) at *Salolampi* started in 1993 with volunteers joining together to assemble three log cabins from Finland. These weekends, one in the fall and one in the spring, have continued ever since to help maintain the village. Anyone is free to attend work weekends and bring whatever skills they have with them whether it be painting, chopping wood, cleaning or organizing. Please bring your own sleeping bags, pillows, and towels. Please notify the *Salolampi* Foundation by e-mail if you are interested in attending. www.salolampi.org

May 19 Finnish American Chamber of Commerce Mn., 7:00 p.m. Carlson School of Management Executive MBA students share experiences from their recent visit to Finland: what did they learn from Nokia, Kone, Neste, and Fortum? University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management, 321 Nineteenth Ave. S., Minneapolis. www.facc-mn.com (See page 5.)

May 21 Elections and open discussion of summer plans. 9:30 a.m., Finnish Genealogy Group of Minnesota, Meetings at the Plymouth Apostolic Lutheran Church, 11015 Old County Road 15, Plymouth.

May 28 Cokato Memorial Day Spring Festival, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Program at Noon: Sami Roots, Temperance Corner, 3 miles north on Co. Rd 3 from Cokato (Hwy 12) More information: www.CokatoFinAm.org

June 17 Arto Järvelä and Kaivama perform, 7:00 p.m., The Cedar Cultural Center, 416 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis, (612) 338-2674 More information: <http://www.thecedar.org>, <http://www.myspace.com/artojarvela/shows>, <http://www.kaivama.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

April 14–May 5 The Film Society of Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival, St. Anthony Main Theatre. New Finnish Films! For dates and times: mspfilmfest.org.

April 13 FACA Board meeting 7:30 p.m., at the home of Jeanne Swope

April 15 FACA Program

April 16 Duane Wiita—topic to be determined. 9:30 a.m., Finnish Genealogy Group of Minnesota meetings at the Plymouth Apostolic Lutheran Church, 11015 Old County Road 15, Plymouth.

April 17 Finnish Culture Through Movies group, 6:00 p.m., *Näkymäton Elina* <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0330911/> Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave South, Minneapolis. More information: (651) 428-3155

April 18 *Going Home to Finland*, a presentation by Dr. Arne Vainio and family. They will talk about their trip to Finland in 2010, making first time family connections, being ambassadors of the Ojibwa Nation and the international premiere of their film *Walking Into the Unknown*. Sponsored by the Minnesota Finnish American Historical Society of Duluth. Free and open to the public. Program begins at 7:00 p.m., in the lower level, Kenwood Lutheran Church 324 W. Cleveland Street, Duluth.

April 22 May *Untiset* deadline

April 23 Kaivama in concert, 2:00 p.m., Hosmer Library, 347 E 36th St Minneapolis. (612) 630-6950

Apr 30 Festival of Nations Baking Day, White Bear Lake High School kitchen, 7:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Contact Junelle at (763) 434-5399 or email SJBL2@msn.com.

April 30 *The Invisible Element of Place* book release party, American Swedish Institute. Join author Thomas Fisher and architect David Salmela for the release of the new book *The Invisible Element of Place: The Architecture of David Salmela*. Festivities will begin with a reception in the Grand Hall from 6:00–7:00 p.m. with light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Salmela, Fisher, and photographer Peter Bastianelli-Kerze will sign books during the reception. At 7:00 p.m., Fisher and Salmela will give a short talk and slideshow presentation on the book. This event is free and open to the public. Registrations are strongly encouraged; please call (612) 871-4907.

May 1 Finn Hall will play for the *Vappu* “Spring” Dance, 1:00-5:00 p.m. AAD Shrine Building, 5152 Miller Trunk Highway Hermantown. Hosted by the Minnesota Finnish American Historical Society, Chapter #1, Duluth. Family friendly event. Adults \$10 at door, 18 and under, free. Includes light lunch. Silent auction of quality new & used items. Proceeds help fund *Salolampi* scholarships & others.

May 5-8 Festival of Nations, “Marketplaces of the World” St. Paul RiverCentre.

More calendar items on pg. 7