



## NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INC.

October/Lokakuu 2004



### Finland's War Children—A Legacy of the Winter War Veijo Paine

Veijo Paine (Ponniainen), a FACA member from Bloomington, will present a program on "Finland's War Children" at our October 15th meeting. This program will be a look at the unique and somewhat unknown story of thousands of Finnish children that were evacuated to Sweden during WWII. Veijo was one of these children and lived in Sweden for most of WWII. He will speak on why, when, and how they were evacuated and also what happened to them after the war ended. These children have been the subject of many studies by sociologists from around the world looking at the effects of their separation from their homes and families.

Born in Porvoo, Veijo came with his mother to the United States in April, 1950, to live in Duluth with his aunt. He graduated from Duluth Central High School in 1955. After completing two years of pre-engineering curriculum at UMD he then went on to the University of Minnesota to earn an Electrical Engineering degree and later a Business Management degree.

He started his career as a solid state electronics design engineer with General Mills Electronics Division. After a couple of years at General Mills, Veijo joined Honeywell Ordinance Division in Hopkins, MN, working for Honeywell for 29 years until the defense business part of Honeywell became a separate company, Alliant Techsystems. He continued to work for Alliant Techsystems for three more years, retiring in 1994 as Director of Program Management.

Veijo and his wife of 34 years have four married children and nine grandchildren all living in the Twin Cities area.

Come and enjoy this interesting and informative program given by one of the members of this unique group of children. There will also be refreshments and good company as usual after the meeting.

#### FACA PROGRAM

**Veijo Paine**  
**Friday, October 15**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**International Institute**  
**1694 Como Ave., St. Paul**  
*If you need transportation,*  
*call Marianne Wargelin*  
*at 612-374-2718*

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## President's Message

*By Alan Norgard*

We had an impressive turnout last month for our regular meeting. It was great to see so many of you after the summer break. You were well rewarded for your attendance with the music and singing of the *Pohjan Akat*. When I first heard them I knew they would be a hit at FACA and they sure were! *Kiitoksia paljon ladies!*

I was reading *The Finnish American Reporter* a few days ago and there were a couple of things I saw that interested me. First, Finn Grand Fest 2005 is going to be held August 10-14 in Marquette. This will be the second time Finnfest will combine with the Grand Canadian Festival. For those of you who were at Marquette's Finnfest in 1996, I'm sure you remember it for the many innovative touches and especially (for me) the blue and white chairs that were placed all over town. It looks like they are planning to have them back as well as another try at the world's largest sauna. Plans seem to be well under way – check out the latest developments at their website [www.finngrandfest2005.com](http://www.finngrandfest2005.com).

The other story that caught my eye was the one asking for nominations for Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year. As most of you know I am a member of Koivun Kaiku and we were selected for this honor in 1997. One of my best memories from our performances that year was our spring trip to the East Coast – it was quite an adventure, traveling to Washington DC and Fitchburg, Massachusetts. We came up with the idea of renting a huge RV as we had eight people who each had about 3-4 instruments, costumes, as well as our suitcases. The thought of flying with all that gear didn't appeal to us so we drove straight through to DC taking turns driving and navigating, sleeping, and eating. Driving the RV in Chicago and New York traffic took some getting used to. Luckily we had few problems with the weather or the RV and it turns out that we were all probably better rested than if we had driven several cars or taken several different flights to get there. We even had the Finnish movie "Leningrad Cowboys Go America" along to add atmosphere. (The movie is about a Finnish rock group that travels across America in a Cadillac.) My thanks go to the Finlandia Foundation for this program. Many other Performers of the Year have also had performances here in the Cities and at FACA events and I'm sure they also could share many memories, too.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting!



## Those "Pohjan Akat" Can Sing!

By Floyd Niskanen

Our first program/meeting of this year on Sept. 17, 2004 featured the "Pohjan Akat" (Hags, Old Ladies, of the North) as they call themselves. They are not old ladies, but young ladies or wives, which is another translation of *akka* which I prefer.

In any event, the nice crowd in attendance was entertained by this talented group. They performed a variety of Finnish folk and pop music, new and old, from different areas of Finland. Many of the songs were accompanied by a variety of instruments including kitchen utensils and the outcome was very enjoyable.

Most of the ladies are from Finland and they shared music from their home area in Finland. Their preface to each song, giving information about the composer and the music was interesting and helpful, especially when the songs were in Finnish.

The 12 members of "Pohjan Akat" are: Eeva Savolainen, Elina Ruppert, Elina Kala, Ulla Tervo-Desnick, Anne Shadrick, Sari Rannholm, Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner, Milla Kokko, Minna Dunder-Beddoe, Anne Dahlman, Ann Borgwardt, and Tiina Watts.

Many thanks for the excellent performance!



## Board Notes

By Luella Zibell

The September FACA board meeting was attended by Al Norgard, Floyd Niskanen, Luella Zibell, and Andreas Ostenso from the board, and Beth Jarvis from the newsletter committee.

The usual reports were given, and as part of the president's report, Al mentioned that about \$500 was received by FACA as a memorial for Ted Lucas. Thank you to all who contributed.

Beth Jarvis discussed with the board updating the FACA website home page and adding links to other Finnish sites. She will do the updating. She is looking for pictures to include in the website. If you have any pictures or ideas, contact Beth at brjarvis@umn.edu.

The Leiv Ericksson Festival was discussed, as well as plans for the September FACA program. FACA's subscriptions to various Finnish American publications was also discussed.

The FACA board is still in need of a Special Events coordinator and a Hospitality Chair.



Coach Tammilehto, pictured here with his son Lasse and Finnish teacher, Tiina Watts

## Youth Bandy Camp

Minnesota Youth Bandy would like to say "thank you" to Tiina Watts for the informative and FUN Finnish lessons during this year's summer bandy camp.

Do you know what bandy is? The simplest description is field hockey on ice. It is the world fastest team sport and the Finnish National team is the reigning World Champion.

Roseville Parks and Recreation offers recreational bandy at the John Rose Oval every winter for youth ages 5-18 and adults. Minnesota Youth bandy coordinates the youth program and offers a summer bandy camp in the Twin Cities. This summer instructors included Esko Tammilehto, the coach of the Finnish National team.

If you would like to know more about bandy and how to get your children involved please contact Nancy Nelson at 651-484-0840 or via e-mail at [bandymama@hotmail.com](mailto:bandymama@hotmail.com)

## News from the IHRC (Immigration History Research Center)

### First Riippa Fund/Finlandia Foundation Intern

In April, the IHRC announced a new grant of \$3,000 from Finlandia Foundation National, which, together with other funds received earlier, has allowed the IHRC to offer the first Riippa Fund/Finlandia Foundation Internship in Finnish American Studies. Congratulations to Johanna Leinonen, the intern for this past summer. She is a PHD student from U of Turku, Finland, who was working at the U of MN on her dissertation. For more information on this award, contact Joel Wurl at 612-625-0553 or [wurlx001@umn.edu](mailto:wurlx001@umn.edu).

### Finn Forum Closing Gala

Finn Forum VII, an Interdisciplinary Conference in Finnish and Finnish-North American Studies, "Cultural Encounters: Migration, Ethnicity, and Identities," will be held Oct. 28–30 at the U of MN Twin Cities. The IHRC is a co-sponsor. A gala musical cabaret evening, open to all and benefitting the IHRC's endowment, will be held to close the conference on Saturday, October 30, 7:00 p.m., at the U's Humphrey Center. Performing at the gala will be a variety of Finnish and Finnish American musicians, including Kip Peltoniemi, *Koivun Kaiku* kantele ensemble, *Ameriikan Poijat* brass septet, Diane Jarvi, *Pohjan Akat* womens' choir, and playing for the dance will be the *Finn Hall Band*. For more details, or to register online for Finn Forum, see the website at <http://esc.cla.umn.edu/FinnForum.htm>.

### Half-Price Books benefit Scholarship Fund

To raise funds for the Michael G. Karni Scholarship Fund, the Friends of the IHRC has been authorized to sell items remaining in the inventory of Michael Karni's company, Sampo Publishing, Inc. The books, all with Finnish American themes, are being sold at half price, and all the proceeds will be contributed to the fund. As a gift from the Friends to the Karni Fund, this money qualifies for the NEH Challenge Grant match. To request a catalog and order form, see the website at [www.ihrc.umn.edu/](http://www.ihrc.umn.edu/)

When you're through reading this newsletter, share it with a friend!

## Finn Forum VII

The upcoming interdisciplinary conference on Finnish and Finnish American Studies, Finn Forum VII, will be held at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus October 28-30. The theme will be Cultural Encounters: Migration, Ethnicity, and Identities."

In addition to some very intriguing scholarly presentations, the program also features a variety of sessions, presentations, and workshops that are of particular interest to the Finnish American community. Some of the prominent activities are:

- The American premiere of Kelly Saxberg's film "Letters from Karelia" (for more information see [www.kodak.com/US/en/motion/newsletters/inCamera/oct2003/letters.shtml](http://www.kodak.com/US/en/motion/newsletters/inCamera/oct2003/letters.shtml)) with insights on the film by Professor Varpu Linström of York University, Canada.
- A Friday evening event on the Artistry of the Saarinen family with Mark Coir (Director of the Cranbrook Archives) and Prof. Thomas Fisher (Dean of the College of Architecture at the University of Minnesota) with possible participation of the eminent architect Ralph Rapson who was a student and a friend of the Saarinens.
- A session on genealogy on Saturday afternoon;
- A Saturday keynote by the Finnish immigration researcher Jouni Korkiasaari of the Migration Institute, University of Turku; he will speak on his ongoing research under the title "Finnish America Today," a project in which many North Americans of Finnish descent have participated.
- Several sessions address contemporary Finnish society from the perspective of migration, ethnicity, and identities, reflecting contemporary debates across Europe.
- A closing gala on Saturday evening organized by the Immigration History Research Center as a benefit for its Timo Riippa Fund.

You can access a complete conference schedule and additional information at the conference web site: <http://www.esc.umn.edu/FinnForum.htm>

## Finns at the LEIV ERIKSSON International Festival

Sunday, OCTOBER 17 at 3 p.m.

### **Bloomington Symphony Orchestra concert**

St. Michael's Lutheran Church

9201 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington

Tickets: \$12, \$10 senior (65+), \$5 student

All Nordic program, including: Jean Sibelius, *Symphony No. 1* and Finnish composer Ernst Fabritius' *Violin Concerto* (solo by Minnesota Orchestra associate concertmaster Roger Frisch)

Tuesday, OCTOBER 26—11 a.m. coffee; noon program

### **Tango: A Finnish Passion**

Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church  
(Mindekirken)

924 E. 21st St., Minneapolis

Lecture, music, and dancing by Ralph Tuttila, with musician Dennis Halme and dance partner Joan Gerr. History, customs, and dance—from its origins in Argentina to a real passion in Finland  
Cost: \$7 at the door.

Saturday, OCTOBER 30 from noon–2 p.m.

### **Christ Church Lutheran—A Finnish Architectural Treasure**

3244 34th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Follow a guided tour by docent Ronald Ylitalo of the architectural treasure designed by Eliel Saarinen. This church is included in the American Institute of Architects' collection of 31 "buildings that changed modern life." Meet at the church at noon. Free.

Sunday, OCTOBER 31—Church service with Finnish focus

### **Adult forum—10 a.m.** The Church in Finnish Life **Family service—11 a.m.**

Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church  
(Mindekirken)

924 E. 21st St., Minneapolis

Join the Suomi Koulu children who will sing during the service, led by Elina Ruppert. The Mindekirken Choir will perform Finnish music. Harvey Gustafson will play organ music by Sulo Salonen, Taneli Kuusisto, and Ilmari Krohn. Finnish treats will follow. The sermon will be in English and Norwegian by Pastor Jens Arne Dale.

For information on the concert or the festival, see [www.mindekirken.org](http://www.mindekirken.org), call Betsey Norgard at 651-786-5988 or email [norgard@winternet.com](mailto:norgard@winternet.com)

## Attention Swedish Finns!

Are you from Åland (Ahvenanmaa) or are you a Swedish Finn? A researcher from Finland, Susanne Osterlund-Potzsch, is interested in talking with descendents of immigrants from Swedish Finland. She completed her Ph.D. in folkloristics on this topic and is now beginning a new research project with a special interest in Swedish Finn organizational activities, such as societies and churches. If you or someone you know is a Swedish Finn and would like to meet her, contact Betsey Norgard, 651-785-5988 or [norgard@winternet.com](mailto:norgard@winternet.com). Susanne will be in Minnesota between October 21–November 3 and hopes to meet people both in the Twin Cities and Duluth. She will be here to also participate in the Finn Forum conference.

### More Finnpuns

I'll get a boat vene I need one.  
Kääntyy see he's turning?  
Chew that suu kiinni with your mouth closed.  
I look a little peilin the mirror's reflection.  
People kalju bald.  
Go reikä hole in the leaves.  
Avanto make a hole in the ice.  
Kohta the store soon.  
It's a porsaita see them little pigs getting slaughtered.  
You're not lauta use that board.  
He tukka whole head of hair.  
I got gloves because my hanskaat cold.  
I heität when you throw things.  
What should I do with the vest? Liivit!  
When I'm down below, alhaalla load.

### Conversational Finnish Class

Tuesdays  
4:30 to 6:00 p.m.  
St. Anthony Library  
Corner of Como and  
Carter Ave. in St. Paul  
Everyone is welcome.  
For more information,  
please call Floyd Niskanen  
at 763-540-0121.

# ANNUAL PHONATHON FOR SALOLAMPI SCHOLARSHIPS

**November 9, 10 and 11** are the dates for the upcoming Salolampi Phonathon from 5:30 to 9 p.m. This Phonathon is the major appeal 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 raised must also increase. Every villager receives some amount of scholarship assistance to reduce the real cost of attendance. The Board's goal is to eventually fill all the summer sessions with Finnish villagers. Your support this year is more critical than ever!

Despite the telemarketing calls that can be a nuisance, it would be appreciated if donors would leave their telephone available for accepting a call from a volunteer on those 3 nights. A postcard will be mailed prior to November 9 to remind donors that they can expect a Phonathon call on November 9, 10 or 11.

Please note that if readers know that they will be unavailable those evenings, they may donate early by sending a check to the Salolampi Foundation, PO Box 14480, Minneapolis MN 55414-0480. Also, should a donor receive a postcard, but not a phone call from a volunteer on one those nights, the donor may send a donation directly to the Foundation.

Volunteers are needed to staff the 14 on-site phones each night at the Lutheran Community Foundation offices in the Thrivent Financial Building in downtown Minneapolis, or make off-site (from your home) calls. If you can help, please call Evelyn Eskeli at 612-359-0805 or email [eeskeli@usfamily.net](mailto:eeskeli@usfamily.net) or Linda Davis at 763-420-3237 or email [ldavismn@hotmail.com](mailto:ldavismn@hotmail.com) Free



## Upcoming Piano Performance by Craig Johnson

Monday, November 29, at 7:30 p.m., Craig Randal Johnson, Finnish American professional pianist and musician, will be performing at Southwest University's Fine Arts Theater in Marshall, Minnesota. He will play Widdershins, for Piano Solo by Judith Shatin (Composed 1983); Works by Erik Bergman and Aarre Merikanto, to be announced; *Mephisto Rag* by Libby Larsen (2000); Variations for Piano by Hanns Eisler (Composed 1940-41); Two Sonatas (after Scarlatti) for Piano Solo: David Macbride (Composed 1999-2000); Piano Sonata II, Op. 64 *The Fire Sermon* by Einojuhani Rautavaara (Composed 1971). For more details, email [musiccrj@visi.com](mailto:musiccrj@visi.com) or see [www.tonttu.com](http://www.tonttu.com).

## Suomi-koulu Starts a New Season

Suomi-koulu, or the Finnish Language School of Minnesota, started the new school year September 18, but you can still join in the fun. The school meets every other Saturday for 2 hours of language and culture instruction at ChristChurch Lutheran in Minneapolis. For more information call 651-489-8036 or email [risto.ann@usfamily.net](mailto:risto.ann@usfamily.net)

### 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             |
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| <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.

# Pieniä Paloja

• A very big KIITOS to the **FACA board** for the great refreshments at our September FACA program.

• **Leila Watts**, daughter of FACA newsletter editor Tiina Watts, was selected as a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist, one of 2 students chosen at Anoka High School. Congratulations, Leila! (You, too, can brag about your children—just send information about FACA members and their families to [tiiwatts@usfamily.net](mailto:tiiwatts@usfamily.net).)

• A number of Finnish conscripts have been excused their full term of military service because they are addicted to the Internet, the Finnish Defense Forces Doctors have found the young men miss their computers too much to cope with their compulsory six months in the forces. There are no official figures for the Internet addict dropout rate. They get sent home for three years and after that they have to come back, when they have “grown up.”

•An elk jumped through a townhouse window in Kokkola, Finland and crashed into a toddler’s bed, scratching the cheek of a sleeping two-year-old and wreaking havoc in a Finnish family’s home. The toddler’s mother was shocked to find the beast in her bed and ran to a neighbor for help. The elk then jumped on to her son’s bed, crushing it but only scratching the boy’s cheek with its hoof. It rampaged through the house and fled through another window.  
*C ontinued, next column*

## Future Calendar Events

**Nov. 9-11, Tues.-Thurs.** Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon 5:30 to 9 p.m., Lutheran Community Foundation offices, Minneapolis. Volunteers needed to make phone calls. Call Evelyn Eskeli at 612 359-0805 or email [eeskeli@usfamily.net](mailto:eeskeli@usfamily.net) or Linda Davis at 763 420-3237 or email [ldavismn@hotmail.com](mailto:ldavismn@hotmail.com). (See p. 6 )

**Nov. 19, Fri.** November FACA monthly program at the International Institute, St. Paul.

**Nov. 29, Mon.** Craig Johnson performs at Southwest University in Marshall, MN at 7:30 p.m. For info email Craig at [musiccrj@visi.com](mailto:musiccrj@visi.com). (See p.6 )

**Feb. 18–21, Fri. –Mon.** Finnish Family Fun Weekend at Salolampi Finnish Language Village. Adults \$200, children \$75. See [www.salolampi.org](http://www.salolampi.org).

**Aug. 10–14, 2005** Finn Grand Fest 2005 in Marquette, Michigan, where we will once again join with the Canadians in celebrating Finns and Finland. See [www.finngrandfest2005.com](http://www.finngrandfest2005.com).

### More Pieniä Paloja

•This past summer, no cheap plastic chairs and tables or long benches were allowed in the outdoor terraces of bars and restaurants in central districts of Helsinki. The city’s Real Estate Department has forbidden such furnishings. The new regulation affected nearly 550 bars and restaurants with seasonal outdoor seating. The many terraces equipped with the cheapest plastic chairs have been seen as problematic for the city’s public image.

Restaurant and bar owners feel the restrictions are too severe. One Helsinki restaurant owner had furnished his terrace with new, elegant benches just last summer, but now new investments must be made again. Another complaint is that the new rules were mailed to restaurant owners only one month before the start of the terrace season. The new requirements only apply to terraces on city property, such as sidewalks. If the state or a building owns the plot of the terrace, the chairs and tables can be chosen freely.

## FACA Membership

A one-year membership provides you with eight issues of this newsletter 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

651-777-7662

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

## FACA CALENDAR

**Oct. 9, Sat.** Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra presents: "An Evening of Scandinavian Music," featuring Eeva Savolainen, soprano, Tom Hanson, piano soloist, and Paul Niemisto, conductor, at the Sheldon Theatre, 443 West 3<sup>rd</sup> St. (at East Ave.), Red Wing, at 8:00 p.m. Call 1-651-385-3667 or 1-800-899-5759 or email [buytickets@sheldontheatre.org](mailto:buytickets@sheldontheatre.org) to order tickets.

**Oct. 9, Sat.** Cokato Finnish American Historical Society Fall Festival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Temperance Corner, Cokato. See [www.cokato.mn.us/cmhs/fahs.html](http://www.cokato.mn.us/cmhs/fahs.html).

**Oct. 15, Fri.** FACA monthly program at 7:30 p.m. at the International Institute, 1694 Como Ave., St. Paul, with Veijo Paine speaking on the topic: Finland's War Children—A Legacy of the Winter War. (See p. 1 )

**Oct. 22, Fri.** Deadline for newsletter articles for the November/December newsletter (there is no separate December newsletter). Please send articles and calendar items to Tiina Watts and pictures to Beth Jarvis (at least 100 dpi, preferably 200 dpi). (See p. 2 contact information)

**Oct. 17, Sun.** The Bloomington Symphony Orchestra, in connection with the Leif Ericksson International Festival, will be presenting a concert featuring Scandinavian and Finnish composers at 3:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 9201 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington. Contact Betsey Norgard at 651-786-5988.

**Oct. 26, Tues.** Open House for the Leif Ericksson International Festival 2004. Ralph Tuttila and Finnish tango. For more information contact Betsey Norgard at 651-786-5988 or email her at [norgard@winternet.com](mailto:norgard@winternet.com). (See p. 5 )

**Oct. 30, Sat.** Leif Ericksson Festival tour of Christ Church Lutheran from noon to 2 p.m., 3244 34<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Minneapolis. (See p. 5 )

**Oct. 31, Sun.** Leif Ericksson Festival Adult Forum and family worship service at Mindekirken (Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church) 10th Ave. S. and 21st. St., Minneapolis. The Adult Forum topic will be "The Church in Finland Today." The Family Service will feature Suomi Koulu children singing, led by Elina Ruppert, as well as the Mindekirken choir singing Finnish music, accompanied by organist Harvey Gustafson. (See p. 5 )

**October 28–30** Finn Forum VII, an Interdisciplinary Conference in Finnish and Finnish-North American Studies, will be held at the University of Minnesota. The theme will be "Cultural Encounters: Migration, Ethnicity, and Identities." All invited to the closing gala, a benefit for the Timo Riippa fund, featuring Ameriikan Poijat and Koivun Kaiku Kantele ensemble, among others. To learn more, see [www.esc.umn.edu/FinnForum.htm](http://www.esc.umn.edu/FinnForum.htm). (See p. 4 )  
(*More calendar, p. 7*)