



Uutiset

NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INC.

April/Huhtikuu 2015

Finnish-American Cooperatives: Case histories from the Brule area of northern Wisconsin.

Jim Pellman

Our April speaker is historian and writer Jim Pellman, who examines early years in Finnish communities of northern Wisconsin/western south shore of Lake Superior. He will talk about the local cooperatives in their regional historical settings, with emphasis on the Town of Brule as typical, but with deeper emphasis within Old Brule on Section 26 Township 48 Range 11, which straddled the Brule River in the area of the Juntti-Waino neighborhoods and was home of the Brule River Northern Cooperative Park.

Jim is a fourth generation Finnish American, the great-grandson of Finnish immigrants. He lived in Maple, Wisconsin, until the age of ten, then, after many years as a young Minnesotan, returned in 1981, where he has a business, Finnworks. He graduated from high school in Babbitt and from UMD in 1974, with a B.S. in General Science and B.A. degrees in Psychology and Fine Arts. He also served in the Marine Corps for four years. His first



book, *Uskollinen. Suomalainen. Vapaa.* (Faithful. Finn. Free.), was published in both Finnish and English in 2000 with support from the municipality of Lappajärvi, Finland. At the request of Maple's town chairman, he is currently writing a history of Maple, *The Discovery of Maple*, where many Lappajärvi people settled.

In 1998, Jim helped found the Old-Brule Heritage Society, which acquired the Davidson (Tapola) windmill. He has written or edited several historical works on the windmill and on the local communities in the area. He is also an artist and has done many paintings, drawings and sculptures, much of it portraiture. He has a particular interest in anthropology and is on the Board of the Northern Lakes Archaeological Society.

Program In Brief

Cooperatine History
Jim Pellman

April 17, 7:30 p.m.

International Institute

1694 Como Ave., St. Paul

*For help finding a ride to the program:
call any of the board members*

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President's Message

By Gene Ollila

The past month went very quickly, working outdoors in Southeastern Arizona for Nature Conservancy projects, including cutting mesquite (I love chain-sawing) and placing a fence along the trail cut through, and demolishing an old mobile home at the mouth of one of the most beautiful canyons I have ever seen, Aravaipa Canyon, which has year-round water flow into the San Pedro watershed. We had excitement, with western diamondback rattlesnakes by our tent, gila monsters, bark scorpions, and lots of skinks. I crossed several breathtaking mountain ranges driving home, and actually got to put my physician skills to work for a man passed out on a remote roadside on the Navajo Nation Reservation.



Going back to the thoughts of what is learned from family as a child – the “myth.” I felt a palpable love from my maternal grandmother when growing up, and her husband taught me to drink coffee from the saucer with a lump of sugar in my mouth. He was reading thick books into his 80s when he had to stop due to cataracts – how sad, since he lived to 91. After my paternal grandmother remarried and moved from Zim to Cloquet, I “inherited” a Daisy Red Ryder BB gun and an entire box of homemade fishing lures and bobbers made of rolled birch bark around a stick. Thus began my interest in fishing, in which I was aided by my twelve-years-older brother. We would go to Lake Vermilion or the Echo Trail and camp out on rocks. (I had a green and plaid cotton sleeping bag from the Coop.) Once we watched snow squalls come across Sand Point Lake on the Ontario border. Wonderful memories!

The Festival of Nations is coming up, April 30 through May 3 in St. Paul, where this year's theme is *International Art*. The Finnish legacy includes wonderful and varied art. There will be an interesting booth to show Finnish art; there will be children's and adults' dance exhibitions; there are the bazaars for shopping and the Finnish Café for your eating enjoyment. See you there.

Finally, Dr. Andreas Ostenso, an internist at the Minneapolis Veterans Hospital, is this year's Sauna Bucket Award winner. Congratulations to him.

Kiitos paljon!

FACA Event Cancellation Policy

If St. Paul public schools are cancelled due to bad weather, then a FACA event scheduled for that day will also be cancelled. FACA members may contact any Board member if they have a question about whether an event is cancelled.

Board Notes *By Ruth Erkkila*



L-R: Front: John Rova, Ruth Erkkila, Janie Ahola, Back: Gene Ollila, Dennis Halme, Richard Harju.

The FACA Board met March 17 at Bakers Square in St. Paul. The meeting was called to order by vice president Dennis Halme at 6:35 p.m. Present were: Dennis Halme, Janie Ahola, Richard Harju, John Rova and Bud Berry. Not Present: Gene Ollila and Ruth Erkkila.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Treasurer: Janie reported the bank balance. Due to new management for the Finnish Café, FACA does not owe any sales tax for 2014. To comply with the terms of the Minnesota Department of Revenue, she filed an electronic return in the amount of \$0. Failure to file a return would have resulted in a \$100.00 penalty.

Vice President: For April's program, Dennis reported that Jim Pellman of Maple, Wisconsin, will be giving a presentation on the Finnish American cooperative movement. For May's program, Rosann and Eero Angeli will be giving a PowerPoint presentation on "Things that People Might Not Know about Finland."

Hospitality Chair: Richard reported on the hosts for the March program. Festival of Nations: Richard asked the board to each contact 30 members to recruit volunteers for Baking Day and for the Festival of Nations Finnish Café and Cultural Exhibit Booth.

John Rova, chair of the Culture Booth, reported that Dennis Halme, Marlene Banttari and Kaarina Kotkavuori have volunteered to work on the committee for the booth. The theme for this year's Festival is *International Art*. John will take photos of Finnish art, such as Iittala glassware and Marimekko tablecloths. These will be artistically

displayed on tri-fold boards. John is also planning to have volunteers read poetry from the *Kalevala*, especially during student days.

Sauna Bucket Award: This year's award went to Andreas Ostenso. He was not present for the February program, so the award was announced, but not presented. It will be presented at the March program on Friday for which Andreas is the speaker. Gil Kinnunen, last year's winner, will be a part of the presentation.

Other Business: Janie said she has several file boxes and totes containing old FACA records. She would like to reduce the volume. We are searching for guidelines on length of time to keep financial records, what to collect, and how to discard other material.

FACA member Robert Katvala sent us a copy of the *Finnish American Week* 2015 schedule. The scheduled events provide ideas on how to conduct fundraising meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Next meeting: April 14, 6:30 p.m., Bakers Square, 2239 Ford Parkway, St. Paul.

Festival of Nations Workers Still Needed

There are still many work opening remaining for the Festival of Nations. The Finns have had a presence at FON for many years and we would like it to continue but we need your help.

Please join us by volunteering to work at Baking Day, Cultural Booth and/or Finnish Café. The board of directors will be calling FACA members to solicit workers; but if you call a board member first, we would really appreciate that!

Richard Harju is coordinating the scheduling; he can be reached at (612) 719-4965 or rjharju@yahoo.com. Thanks to all who have already volunteered!

Conversational Finnish Class

Tuesdays, 4:00-5:25 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

Thirtieth Anniversary for St. Anthony Village and Salo, Finland, Sister Cities

Sunday, April 19, 2015 will be Salo Finland Day in St. Anthony Village! This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Sister City relationship between St. Anthony Village and Salo, Finland. In honor of this, a community gathering will be held on Sunday, April 19, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the St. Anthony Village Central Park Pavilion, 3400 Silver Lake Road, City of St. Anthony Village. Members of Finn Hall will perform. Light refreshments will also be served.

On April 23, 1985, the city council of St. Anthony Village passed Resolution 85-023. This resolution was the formal invitation from St. Anthony to Salo, Finland requesting that our two cities become official Sister Cities. This step is part of the process utilized by Sister Cities International (SCI) to formally designate this relationship. Below is a section of this resolution:

Section 1. That this Council on behalf of the people of St. Anthony does hereby extend an invitation to the government and the people of the City of Salo, Finland, to participate with St. Anthony as its Sister City for the purpose of creating greater mutual understanding between the peoples of our two great cities and nations.

The resolution referenced was signed by then mayor, Robert J. Sundland. It should be noted that it was Mayor Sundland who conceived of the idea of establishing this Sister City relationship and worked to bring this idea to fruition. Leena



1986 picture of one of the earliest exchanges; it features Leena Lindqvist, wife of Salo Mayor Reijo Lindqvist and St. Anthony mayor Robert J. Sundland.

Lindqvist was made an Honorary Citizen of St. Anthony during this visit. Mayor Sundland and wife Ardelle traveled to Salo in 1989.

On March 24, 2015, the St. Anthony City Council passed Resolution 15-029 to recognize the 30th Anniversary of the Sister City Relationship between Salo, Finland, and St. Anthony, Minnesota. Part of the resolution is the declaration of April 19 as Salo Finland Day.

There have been numerous exchanges between the two cities during the thirty years that have enriched not only the cities themselves but also the entire Twin Cities Finnish American community.

Finnish Passport Renewal Available in the Twin Cities May 7 and 8

The passport machine is returning to the Honorary Consulate in Minneapolis, May 7 and 8. Please contact the Honorary Consulate to set up an appointment. To set up a 20 minute appointment email kmwargelin@comcast.net or call (612) 374-2718.

The passport machine comes only once a year, so check your passport expiration dates. If you have children that need Finnish passports, they can get them during this passport machine visit.

All Finnish citizens have the right to a Finnish passport. Whether you need to renew or wish to get your first Finnish passport, whether your passport has expired or will expire in the near future, you can take care of this task without having to travel further than Minneapolis.

FACA Membership

A one-year membership provides you with nine 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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City/State/Zip _____

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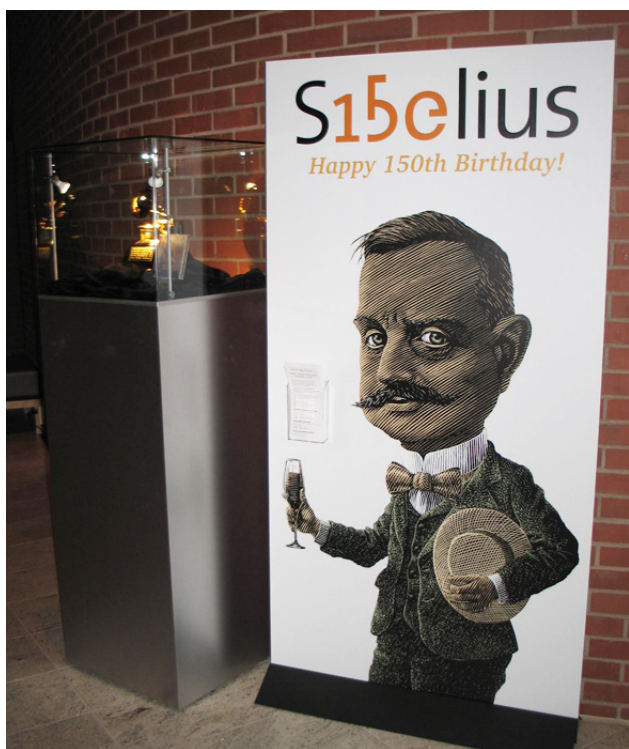
Email _____

Sibelius 150 Jubilee Year

By Betsey Norgard

The Sibelius 150 Jubilee Year is in full swing.

The Twin Cities celebration of Jean Sibelius' 150th birthday anniversary kicked off in February when the Minnesota Orchestra performed Sibelius' music written for Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. The pre-concert interview included Sibelius scholar and music historian Glenda Dawn Goss. She also gave a lecture about the pre-independence time in Finland when Sibelius and other leading intellectuals of the "golden years" created Finland's national identity.



Sibelius poster, "Kippis!" at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis, next to the case with the Minnesota Orchestra's Grammy award for their first Sibelius recording.

For the Minnesota Orchestra's complete Sibelius 150 programming through 2016, go to minnesotaorchestra.org/buy/special-events/sibelius-150.

Upcoming Sibelius events in Twin Cities

The jubilee celebration, *Sibelius 150: His Music, Life, and Times*, presents various programs throughout the year sponsored by Finlandia Foundation Twin Cities. For information, email Betsey Norgard at norgard@northlc.com or call (651) 270-9784. The next upcoming events:

Sat., April 18 "The Romantic Life of Jean Sibelius," presented by Paivi King. Letters between Jean Sibelius and his future wife, Aino, tell an amazing story of a love that would sustain Jean throughout his composing life, as well as the various mishaps and adventures that Jean experienced while living abroad during their secret engagement. No charge for event. (2:00 p.m.—note change of time from earlier publicity, Textile Center Auditorium, 3000 University Ave. SE, #100, Minneapolis. For directions, <http://www.textilecentermn.org/>)

Sat., May 2 "Language Nation, Identity: The Story of Swedish in Finland," presented by Börje Vähämäki. During Jean Sibelius' life time the role of the Swedish language—Jean's home language—experienced a monumental shift in Finland: Swedish transitioned from official national language to a regional minority language, from the center to the margins. The presentation will examine the historical context of this shift and explore its most significant consequences and manifestations. Sibelius' life will serve as central example. No charge for event (1:00 p.m., Paulson Hall, American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Ave. S., Minneapolis.)

Soiva Music Camp Invites Students June 20-28

By Betsey Norgard

Soiva Music Camp, an international music partnership between Concordia College and Finlandia Foundation National, is held at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. The camp provides opportunities for students in grades 6-12 from the U.S. and Finland to experience music instruction in piano, flute, clarinet, violin, viola, cello, saxophone and composition/improvisation.

At Soiva, students interact with faculty and other students from both the U.S. and Finland. In addition to receiving individual lessons, students also play in small chamber ensembles. Their daily musical experiences culminate in a final public concert. Tuition for Soiva Camp is \$750, which includes instruction, lodging in single-gender campus dormitory rooms, most meals and local transportation. Scholarships and travel grants may be available. Read more at <http://finlandiafoundation.org/soiva-music-camp/>

Recap: Health and Healing in Pre-Twentieth Century Finland

By Dennis Halme

Dr. Andreas Ostenso discussed the differences between modern, science-based medical practices and the traditional practices based on a world view that had its own assumptions about the nature of disease and how to treat it.



Andreas showed two advertisements for medical practices and devices from the 1890s, illustrating that all was not pure proven science at that date in modern medicine, even though modern medicine has its roots in the Enlightenment Era of the late seventeenth century. He also talked about a Viennese doctor who was frustrated by his inability to get surgeons to wash their hands regularly in the middle of the nineteenth century.

He then talked about epistemology, the theory of knowledge (how we know what we know?). This led to a discussion of the contrast between traditional pre-modern and modern science-based worldviews. The scientific method is evidence based and begins with an observation of a phenomenon, a thesis providing a possible explanation for the phenomenon, experiments, data collection and conclusions. (is the thesis correct or not?)

He described prescientific or traditional folk healing practices and treatments prevalent in Finland into the nineteenth century, often brought to this country by immigrants from Finland. The theories of illness and disease implicit in these practices were:

People were generally considered to be healthy by nature. They possessed wholeness, purity and humanity. Individuals were valued.

Illness could be caused by a disturbance to any of the above. The kinds of illness were categorized as *pane taudit*, diseases caused by external forces (evil eye, curses, witchcraft, nature spirits, etc.); *Jumalan taudit*, diseases from God that were usually fatal; and *mental illnesses*, the result of personal transgressions.

Cure depended on identifying the cause. There were three kinds of medical practitioners: midwives, bonesetters, and healers. All used incantation in their practices. In regard to healers, we were shown a video of Shemeikka, a Karelian healer, singing an incantation (from a film early 1900s). Other tools of healing were leeches, herbs and cupping. All of this was done by a person who was a member of the community, who had proved him or herself to have the gift of healing and was taught as an apprentice under an older healer. It was a very personal type of healing, and the healer's compassion must have been an important part of the process. Andreas pointed out that young, basically healthy people often got well on their own.

In contrast to this approach, modern medicine focuses on pathology (determining the nature of the disease and prescribing a treatment (e.g. medicine, surgery)). While we are much healthier and live longer as a result of modern scientific medicine, we can learn a few things from older folk-based practices particularly the importance of human relationships in treating patients. Some of the old herbal remedies have also found their way into modern medicine.

This was certainly an interesting and thought provoking presentation by an impressive, knowledgeable speaker.



Andreas had no idea he had won the Sauna Bucket. He thanked FACA for helping him get oriented when he moved to the Twin Cities. He admitted that he'd met his wife through FACA. Dennis Halme recapped Andreas' FACA activities and Gil Kinnunen presented the award.

Events Calendar

Apr. 17 FACA program. International Institute of Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 18 Finnish Genealogy Group-MN, 9:30 a.m. *Finding Family in Finland* - an interactive presentation by Barb Wilson. Driving directions or changes/cancellations: minnesotafinnish.org; click on left menu, Finnish Genealogy, then Meeting Information

Apr. 18 Finnish Culture through Movies group. Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave. South, Minneapolis. 12:30 p.m. *Kovasikajuttu* www.finnkino.fi/eng/Event/299045/ (adults) and *Risto Rappääjä* [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricky_Rapper_\(film\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricky_Rapper_(film)) (children). More information: minnesotafinnish.org; click on Suomi-koulu, then Groups, then Finnish Culture through Movies or call (651) 428-3155.

Apr. 18 "The Romantic Life of Jean Sibelius," presented by Paivi King. Textile Center Auditorium, 3000 University Ave., SE, #100, Minneapolis., 2:00 p.m. No charge for event For directions, textilecentermn.org/ See page 5.

Apr. 19 Salo Finland Day in St. Anthony Village! Community gathering at the St. Anthony Village Central Park Pavilion, 3400 Silver Lake Rd, City of St. Anthony Village, 1:00-3:00 p.m. See page 4.

Apr. 19 Finnish metal band Apocalyptica performs at Mill City Nights, 8:00 p.m., as special guest of Sixx:A.M. For info: millcitynights.com/events/detail/254748.

Apr. 23 Deadline for submitting articles for May *Utiset*. Send to facaeditor@gmail.com by midnight.

Apr. 25 Baking Day for the Finnish Café at the Festival of Nations. For more information or to volunteer for this activity, the Cultural Exhibit Booth or Finnish Café: (612) 719-4965 or email rjharju@yahoo.com

Apr. 30-May 3 Festival of Nations. River Centre, St. Paul. More information: festivalofnations.com/

May 1 Finnish music at the Finnish Bistro, Como and Carter Aves., St. Paul, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Finn Hall trio and others, Outside on patio if weather permits. May Day food and beverages.

May 2 "Language Nation, Identity: The Story of Swedish in Finland," presented by Börje Vähämäki. Paulson Hall, American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Ave., S., Minneapolis, 1:00 p.m. No charge for event. See page 5.

May 17-23 Spring Adult Week, Salolampi Finnish Language Village. More information: salolampi.org/village/adultprograms.html

May 7-8 Finnish Passport Renewal Available in the Twin Cities Please contact the Honorary Consulate to set up a 20 minute appointment.

Email kmwargelin@comcast.net or call (612) 374-2718. See page 4.

May 15 FACA program. International Institute of Minnesota, 7:30 p.m. Annual meeting and program.

June 12-13 Nisswa Stämman, Nisswa. Scandinavian Folk Music Festival. More information: nisswastamman.org/

June 20-21 Midsummer. Lake Vermilion Culture Center, Tower. More information: vermilionculturalcenter.org/

June 26-27 38th Annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival. Moorhead. More information: nordiccultureclubs.org/

June 26-28 Finn Grand Fest, Toronto, Ontario. For information: <http://finnfestival2015.com/>

Oct. 9-12 FinnFest USA 2015, Buffalo, NY.. For information: finnfestusa.org

Thursdays. Kisarit Finnish American Folk Dancers. St. Sahag Armenian Church, 203 N. Howell St., St. Paul, 7:00 p.m. The group does not meet during holidays. New members welcome. Call Dan (763) 544-1441.

Fridays. Finlanders at the U of M conversation hour. Bordertown Coffee, 315 16th Ave. SE, Minneapolis. For more information or to check on meeting day/time: karvo001@umn.edu

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



Finnish American Cultural Activities, Inc.

P.O. Box 580708

Minneapolis, MN 55458-0708

FACA

Finnish American Cultural Activities, Inc.

dedicated to exploring and preserving Finnish and Finnish-American heritage. (612) 374-2718,

www.finnfaca.org

Pieniä Paloja

- Hospitality for March program was provided by Stella Arola, Phyllis Kiihn, and Jeanne Swope. *Kiitos!*
- As of February 2015, Finland's population stands at 5,472,971. *Finland Times*
- A research team at the University of Eastern Finland has isolated a genetic variant in the ABCA7 gene that doubles the risk of developing Alzheimer's, an illness that affects an estimated 36 million people around the world. For the most part, previous research in the field has only isolated genetic risk factors that increase the risk of Alzheimer's by 10-20%. Everyone has the ABCA7 gene, but the rare genetic variant that can lead to Alzheimer's is estimated to be found in one percent of people. This research is part of the University of Eastern Finland's UEF Brain project that works in cooperation with international researchers. *Yle*
- It could soon be mandatory for pet owners to have their cats and dogs fitted with microchips for identification. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has decided to let the Finnish Centre for Animal Welfare reach a decision about whether chipping pets could become a requirement. Most dogs, about 80 percent, are already chipped. But very few cat owners have bothered with the relatively new practice. Main reasons for compulsory chipping are controlling animal importation and animal welfare. *Yle*
- In February, the Association for Finnish Work asked over one thousand Finns between the ages of 15 and 79 to rank their favorite dishes. Karelian pies, Karelian stew and macaroni casserole came in as the top three, pulling in over 40 percent of the votes. Pulling up the rear on the favorites list were soups, like sausage and meat soup. The top Finnish food among women was Karelian pies, while men preferred Karelian stew. The stew's biggest fans were from east and north of the country, while the pies were the favorites in the capital city region. Karelian pies were also the top choice among younger people, gaining a whopping 24 percent of the vote. Some perennial favorites, like cabbage rolls, *laskisoosi* (a fatty pork sauce served with potatoes) and fried Baltic herring fillets, raised their heads among older respondents. *Helsingin Sanomat, Ilta-Sanomat, Aamulehti, Yle*