



# Uutiset

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

November–December/Marraskuu–Joulukuu 2012

### Ice Hockey: Finland's National Passion Ben Dorer

On May 15, 2011, shouts of jubilation exploded in the streets of Helsinki and reverberated throughout the rest of Finland as its national team, Leijonat (the Lions), won the gold medal in the International Ice Hockey Federation's World Championship tournament. The next day, a stunning crowd of 90,000 filled Helsinki's Market Square to welcome their national heroes home.

Ice hockey, or *jääkiekko*, is the most popular sport in Finland. Professional players are lionized by native Finns and respected by hockey fans around the world. For the last decade, the country has been considered one of the "Big Six" leading teams on the international scene.

Some say that a passion for *jääkiekko* is "drilled into the Finnish soul."

From where in the Finnish soul does this passion originate? Join us at our November program as our guest speaker, Ben Dorer, illuminates this facet of Finnish culture in a lively presentation using video clips, historical background, and humorous anecdotes. You might also learn some hockey terms in Finnish!

Although not of Finnish heritage, Ben became fascinated with Finland after living there for a year as a teenager. While there, he played hockey in an adult recreational league and experienced the great love that the country has for the sport.



#### Program In Brief

**Ben Dorer**  
**Ice Hockey**  
**Friday, Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m.**  
**International Institute**  
**1694 Como Ave., St. Paul**  
*If you need transportation, call*  
*Marianne Wargelin*  
*(612) 374-2718*

Ben is currently a Finnish instructor at Salolampi Language Village. He is known by his students for creating lively learning experiences through games and rousing cultural presentations.

Come to the November program and be prepared to have fun! Coffee and treats will be served after the presentation.

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## President's Message

By Kara Middleton

Thank you to all who came to hear Betsey Norgard speak on the tall ships of the Åland Islands. I especially enjoyed learning about the Finnish ships that won the grain races, from Australia to the United Kingdom. Her presentation was both a piece of valuable Finnish history and a meaningful personal story of her own. Thank you, Betsey!



At the FACA board meeting in October, the new board for the 2012-2013 season reconfigured. Bud Berry will serve as president. I will serve as vice president/program chair. Harlan Stoehr will continue as secretary as will Edie Boos as treasurer. Glen Bay will continue as member-at-large, and newly-elected Richard Harju will serve as director of hospitality. Richard's role will finally relieve Jane Olson, who has carried the responsibility of hospitality for more than one term. Thank you so much, Jane, for your long-lasting contribution to FACA. We appreciate your efforts and are glad to give you a well-deserved break!

I think these changes will be good for us in a few different ways. New responsibilities help us develop new skills. Each director can see things that the previous director in that role may have overlooked. And perhaps most important, changing roles prepare us better for when members of the board have to depart. I have enjoyed being president of FACA for the last two years. It has been an honor to serve all of you in this capacity. But I am also happy to turn over the reins to Bud Berry. He is eager to contribute his time and energy to our beloved organization, and I know that he will add valuable things to FACA. Please welcome Bud in his new role!

Many of you have heard about the Finnish Christmas event that will be held at Christ Church Lutheran on Saturday, December 15th. As you may know, FACA will be participating in this event with several other Finnish organizations in the Twin Cities. This we will do in place of holding our annual *Pikkujoulu* dinner. I know that it is somewhat sad to be ending a tradition that goes back to the beginning of FACA—the annual *Pikkujoulu* dinner. But I also think that our size and current economic realities require that we invent something new. I hope that many of you will attend this event. It is a great opportunity to get further acquainted with others of Finnish heritage in our community. Please see Betsey Norgard's article on the event on page 4 for information on all that is planned for this day!

After some deliberation, the FACA board decided that we will announce the annual Sauna Bucket Award winner at the *Laskiainen* celebration at the February program. If you would like to nominate anyone for the Sauna Bucket, please feel free to contact any member of the board.

Are you a hockey fan? Be sure and join us for our November program and find out how crazy the Finns are about this most popular sport in Finland. Ben Dorer will be entertaining and fun, and we will enjoy coffee and treats afterward. *Nähdään siellä!*

## Board Notes

By Harlan Stoehr



Left to right: Kara Middleton, Edith Boos, Bud Berry, Harlan Stoehr, Glen Bay

All directors but Stoehr were present at the September 19 board meeting at Panera Bread, Roseville. Richard Harju also attended. In Stoehr's absence, President Middleton appointed Glen Bay secretary pro tem. The board dealt with routine business matters at the meeting, agreeing to next meet at 7 p.m., October 17, at Perkins Restaurant, Co. Rd. B, Roseville.

Bay continued to serve as secretary pro tem at the special meeting, and annual meeting held preceding the September 21 program at the International Institute, St. Paul. At the special meeting the bylaw amendments proposed by the board, as published in the September *Utiset*, were adopted by unanimous vote.

At the annual meeting a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes of the 2011 annual meeting was adopted. The treasurer's report was received. It showed a balance of \$6,484.89 on July 1, 2011, the beginning of fiscal year 2011-2012, income of \$12,975.80, expenses of \$12,996.31, and a balance of \$6,434.38 at the fiscal year close on June 30, 2012, was received. The slate of directors presented by the nominating committee in May was elected: Kara Middleton, to succeed herself, and Richard Harju, to succeed Edith Boos, for 3-year terms, and Edith Boos, at her request, to serve the remaining 2 years of the term from which David Breeden resigned.

At the October 17 board meeting at Perkins Restaurant, Roseville, all six directors were present. Honoring Kara Middleton's request to step down as FACA president, directors elected Bud Berry president, Middleton vice president, Edith Boos treasurer, and Harlan Stoehr, secretary. Harju will serve as hospitality chair; Glen Bay continues as director at large.

Middleton reported that the committee developing the multi-Finnish organization Christmas celebration to be held Saturday, December 15, at Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis, will promote the event as "*Joulu*,

A Magical Finnish Christmas (JAMFC)." Stoehr was named to chair a committee to develop a FACA promotional folder/brochure in time for its availability at JAMFC. The board determined that the Sauna Bucket Award, customarily presented at FACA's *Pikkujoulu* in December, would next be awarded in February 2013 in conjunction with *Laskiainen*.

The board will meet again at 7 p.m., November 14, at Perkins Restaurant, Co. Rd. B, Roseville.

## A Note from Your Incoming President:

*Bud Berry*

*Kiitos*, Kara, for your leadership and commitment to FACA. We are pleased that you will continue your involvement with FACA, as vice president. Kara will also continue to serve through the Finnish Network "*Joulu*, A Magical Finnish Christmas" planning committee. More information on the upcoming event can be found on page 4.

## Nordic American Thanksgiving Breakfast

Tuesday, November 20, 2012

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel (formerly Sheraton Bloomington), 7800 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington, Grand Ballroom. Seating begins at 6:30 a.m. Program at 7 a.m**

You are cordially invited to the Nordic American Thanksgiving Breakfast, nearly 30 years old, bringing together people of Nordic heritage to celebrate freedom, faith, family, and friends.

Mirja Hanson, a Finnish national and the honorary consul general of Japan at Minneapolis, will serve as master of ceremonies. This year's guest speakers are:

- Mark Dayton, *Freedom*  
Governor, State of Minnesota
- Richard L. Torgerson, *Faith*  
President, Luther College
- Marcia A. Zimmerman, *Family and Friends*  
Senior rabbi, Temple Israel

Music will be provided by the American Swedish Institute Male Chorus, the Norwegian Glee Club, and the M-Saxteens from the 34th Infantry "Red Bull" Band.

Tickets are \$20 per person (\$15 for students), with seating at tables of 10 with the Finnish community. For reservations, call Sons of Norway, (612) 821-4640, by Wednesday, November 14. For information, contact Betsey Norgard at: [norgard@winternet.com](mailto:norgard@winternet.com) or (651) 786-5988.



## **Joulu—Magical Finnish Christmas— a new Finnish Christmas celebration**

**Saturday, December 15—Noon to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Christ Church Lutheran,**  
**3244 34th Avenue South,**  
**Minneapolis.**

**Traditional Holiday Christmas Buffet**, noon to 2 p.m.—Finnish chef Soile Anderson continues the *Pikkujoulu* dinner tradition with her Holiday Christmas Buffet on Saturday, December 15, as part of *Joulu—Magical Finnish Christmas*. Deco Catering will offer a sumptuous selection of Finnish delicacies.

Featured in the Christmas Brunch will be herb-roasted wild Alaskan salmon with cucumber dill sauce and Christmas ham, accompanied by breads; a variety of herrings, cheeses, and lox; pea, red beet, and cucumber salads; holiday rutabaga, carrot, and liver casseroles; and Scandinavian strawberry torte for dessert.

Join other families to continue this years-old *Pikkujoulu* tradition. The cost for the Christmas Brunch is \$25 for adults; \$15 for children ages 5-12; and free for children age 4 and under. For reservations, <http://christmasbuffet.eventbrite.com> or call (612) 756-9050.

*Kauneimmat Joululaulut*, 2 p.m.— Following the brunch, enjoy Finland's popular Christmas service of carols and holiday music in the beautiful Christ Church Lutheran sanctuary. This service will be in commemoration of Rev. Antti Lepistö and Rev. Melvin Johnson, two leaders of this service in past years. Music will be provided by *Ameriikan Poijat* and *Suomi-koulu* children.

*Tiernapojat* (Starboys)— is a traditional musical play that has its roots in medieval depictions of the Three Magi story. In Finland, the boys' procession originated in Oulu and also includes non-biblical elements. Seldom seen in the Twin Cities, this *Tiernapojat* presentation is directed by Frank Theater artistic director Wendy Knox.

**Wreath Design Contest**—Create your own wreaths with the theme “Magical Finnish Christmas” to bring for decoration during the afternoon at Joulu and to take home. Judging will take place with prizes awarded during the event. The maximum size is 4 feet by 4 feet; bring decorated wreaths to the event by noon.

*Joulutori* (Marketplace), noon to 5 p.m.—The *Joulutori* will be a great place to do some Christmas shopping for Finnish imports, crafts, books, CDs, and tasty treats, featuring FinnStyle and local vendors and craft-people.

**Finnish Christmas films**—Watch *Joulutarina* (Christmas Story) and other Finnish Christmas films all during the afternoon.

**Children's activities**, for kids of all ages, during the afternoon, led by Minnesotan Suomi-koulu.

**Deco Café**, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.—Enjoy hot apple cider, and coffee with Karelian *piirakka*, salmon and beef pasties, other open-faced canapés, and soups.

For more information, go to [GoodDesignIsForever.org](http://GoodDesignIsForever.org). *Joulu—A Magical Finnish Christmas* is co-sponsored by Finlandia Foundation-Twin Cities, Finnish American Chamber of Commerce, FACA, FinnStyle, Minnesotan Suomi-koulu, and the Honorary Consulate of Finland.



*Committee members Dan Salin, Betsey Norgard, Delores Salin, Lotta Breyer, Mary Bodine, Jouko Sipala, Kara Middleton stopped for a quick photo during Joulu planning at Christ Church Lutheran.*

## **Learn to Dance!**

*By Dan Salin*

The Kisarit Finnish-American folk dancers would like to invite anyone who would be interested in learning some basic Finnish dance steps and a few traditional dances: such as the waltz (*vals*), schottische (*jenkka*) and possibly some other dances.

We will be meeting on Thursdays from 7:00–9:00 p.m., at the International Institute of Minnesota, 1694 Como Avenue, St. Paul (across from the State Fair grounds). The first session will be Nov. 29 and will continue Dec. 6, 13, and 20.

Come and enjoy Finnish dancing with the Kisarit. It doesn't matter if you are a first-time dancer or an experienced dancer, all are welcome. You do not need a partner to join us and there is no charge.

For more information, call Dan at (763) 544-1441 or email: [tanu@linuxmail.org](mailto:tanu@linuxmail.org)

## An Infant Salolampi Villager? (Phonathon – November 13, 14, & 15)

Last summer, Salolampi Dean Amy Iida Tervola Hultberg, her husband Aarre, and their seven-month-old daughter Heta were thrilled to share their first summer as a family at Salolampi. Summer at Salolampi is always a magical opportunity offering new and returning friendships and unique memory-making. Heta was a main attraction with the villagers! Amy said, “Our infant daughter, Heta, is a fortunate Finn to have so many good friends at Salolampi.”

During the summer of 2012, 96 student villagers came from 14 states plus program staff from Finland, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, and Nevada. The kitchen staff traveled from California, Minnesota and North Dakota.

Amy is using technology and social networking tools to reach out to potential attendees, current and future staff members, and returning villagers. See what is happening at [www.salolampi.org](http://www.salolampi.org) or [Facebook.com/Salolampi](https://www.facebook.com/Salolampi). The village page on [www.concordialanguagevillagers.org](http://www.concordialanguagevillagers.org) is active throughout the academic year.

Salolampi boasts great rates of returning villagers, and pride is taken with how welcoming villagers and staff are towards brand new families and villagers. The ability to freshen past friendships with new ones proves to be a critical skill for many facets of the villager’s life.

With tuition costs increasing each year, the summer attendance at Salolampi would decrease without the scholarship support from the Phonathon. Please give generously when you receive a call from one of our hard working volunteers.

If you can make calls from your home or the Thrivent location or help with paperwork, it would be immensely appreciated. It is critically important that funds are raised to make the ever-increasing tuition costs more affordable to villagers. If you can help, please contact Ruthann Swanson at (612) 788-3905 or [Ruthann@ars-services.com](mailto:Ruthann@ars-services.com) or Linda Warpula Davis at (612) 247-2299 or [ldavismn@hotmail.com](mailto:ldavismn@hotmail.com). *Kiitos.*

## FACA Salolampi Scholarships Available

FACA offers scholarships of \$100 to Exploration Session Villagers and \$200 to Youth Immersion Villagers who are children or relatives of a FACA member. Request information and application from Kathleen Jackson, 3225 Century Ave. S., Woodbury, MN 55125; (651)739-3102. Application deadline is March 11, 2013.

## Independence Day 2012: World Takes Note of Design in Finland

Thursday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.,  
Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave.,  
Minneapolis,  
Jennifer Komar Olivarez, speaker  
Christa Saeger, cello

As the Helsinki World Design Capital 2012 year comes to a close, we welcome Jennifer Komar Olivarez, associate curator of Decorative Arts, Textiles, and Sculpture, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, to reflect on her experiences during the year in Finland observing and participating in the design activities. Her travels to Finland included leading a design-focused tour to Helsinki in April, in conjunction with an exhibition she is developing at MIA on Finnish contemporary design in summer 2014.

Also, enjoy music of Sibelius played by cellist Christa Saeger, a doctoral student at the University of Minnesota, writing her dissertation on Jean Sibelius’ solo and chamber music works for cello. During summer 2012, she spent time in Helsinki gathering research materials at Sibelius Academy.

Following the program, listen to the traditional greetings from the president of Finland, and join in the singing of *Maamme*. Coffee and treats follow. Adults \$10; Students, seniors, \$7; Children \$5 at the door. For info: Betsey Norgard, [norgard@winternet.com](mailto:norgard@winternet.com).

**Welcome New Member!**  
Vivian Neseth of Owatonna  
***Tervetuloa!***

## FACA Membership

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## Program Recap

By Jeanne Swope

*The Tall Ships of Åland That Sailed the World*

Betsey Norgard was our October speaker. She began by showing a photograph of a tall ship with sails full of wind that hung on her grandparents' wall in her childhood. Her grandfather had been ship's carpenter on the vessel, and her great-uncle the captain. Eventually the photo found a home on her own wall, and she became curious about the story behind it—the remarkable 1920s and '30s when Åland's square-rigged sailing ships gained international acclaim in the "grain races" from Australia to Europe.

Betsey Norgard, a second-generation "Ålander-American," studied Scandinavian languages and literature at the University of Minnesota and spent a Fulbright year in Finland, studying literature at Åbo Akademi and living in Åland. She has been active in the Twin Cities Finnish community as president of the Finlandia Foundation-Twin Cities Chapter, secretary-treasurer of the Minneapolis Kuopio Partnership committee, and a member (along with her husband, Al) of Kisarit Folkdancers and *Koivun Kaiku* kantele ensemble.

The Åland Islands lie in the Baltic Sea between Sweden and Finland. There is no quick way through the complex of 6,700 islands; ferries and boats abound. The majority of the population lives on the main island and its archipelagos. Åland has been an autonomous province of Finland since 1921—Swedish-speaking by law, demilitarized, and governed by its own parliament. The islanders have been farmers and sea-goers since far back in time. In every church you can see a votive ship near the altar.

Betsey's mother's family, the Grönlunds, come from Föglö, an island near the large main island. Like most Ålanders, the family has a long history of connection to the sea. Her great-great-grandfather was the first lighthouse master at the Sälskär lighthouse, and her great-grandfather was also a lighthouse keeper there. Her great-uncle, A. Ferdinand Grönlund, a sea captain from 1924 to 1948, hired his younger brother (and Betsey's grandfather) Leonard to work as a ship's carpenter from about 1924 to 1929, at which time Leonard left the sea to live in Brooklyn, NY, where his wife and children joined him the next year.

### Gustaf Erikson and the Tall Ships

In the 1920s, when European shipping companies were decommissioning sailing ships and replacing them with steam, an enterprising Ålander sea captain, Gustaf Erikson, bought up three- and four-masted ships, mostly barques, and fitted them up for the grain trade. Carrying various smaller cargo and a lot of heavy



*The Lamhill, a ship Norgard's great-uncle captained for many years and her grandfather was ship's carpenter on.*

Åland rocks for ballast, the ships sailed south, then east around Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, taking advantage of the prevailing winds. They were headed for the great grain harvests of Australia. Then, loaded with grain, they continued east, braving dangerous Cape Horn at the bottom of South America and circumnavigating the globe, and sailed north to Europe. Erikson's repurposed ships were not only profitable, but fast. In the great "grain races," it was mostly the Gustaf Erikson ships that got their cargo home fastest—until World War II put an end to this kind of shipping.

The voyage was long and dangerous—storms, icebergs, night watches, lonely hours. For example, the first year Ferdinand Grönlund captained the *Lamhill*, the ship took 124 days to reach Melbourne, and the return voyage took 121 days. Australia, where the ships unloaded that ballast rock from Åland and took on the grain cargo, was a kind of "second home" to the crews—10 or 12 of Gustaf Erikson's ships would be there at the same time; there was a social life, parties, new faces. The ships might be in Melbourne for as long as two months, preparing the ships and waiting for the harvest to come in. Back home in Åland, the men would have only a few weeks at home, then the ships turned around and made the voyage again.

A crew consisted of 20–25 men. Betsey described the duties and how a sailor would rise to higher level jobs as he gained skills and experience. The food was monotonous, mostly salt beef, though the men fished when they could, and animals loaded on for the voyage eventually became dinner. Everyone was involved in maintaining the sails, which deteriorated quickly in the wind, salt, and sun. There was no communication with home or with shore except when the ship put into a port. Many men kept diaries. Postcards from men at sea were treasured by families. Betsey showed a torn fragment of a post card from Ferdinand Grönlund to his wife, sent in the 1920s, a sepia-toned shadow of a ship, sent from the other side of the world.



## Grain Races

Shipping grain from Australia to Europe became a race. Which ship could make the voyage fastest? Time was calculated from date of departure from Australia to date of arrival with the grain in Great Britain. Ships on the results chart were different sizes and carried various size loads. Of the nineteen years when records were kept, Finnish ships were first thirteen times. Two winners are listed for 1932 and 1937, when two Finnish ships finished in a tie—in 1937, one of these was the *Passat*, captained by Ferdinand Grönlund.

The *Herzogin Cecilie* won more grain races than any other ship before being wrecked in the English Channel off Devon in foul weather. The captain's salon from the *Cecilie* was salvaged and is now in the Nautical Museum in Mariehamn.

Only one of the ships, the *Pommern*, is still intact. It is now a museum ship anchored in Mariehamn. The Nautical Museum in Mariehamn contains history and artifacts of the great sailing grain ships. On your next trip to Finland, stop in to learn more about the beautiful islands and this heroic and fascinating chapter in Åland/Finnish history!

## Calendar—continued from pg. 8

**Dec 8** Cokato Finnish American Historical Society is sponsoring its annual *Pikkujoulu* Celebration 3:30 p.m., lighting candles at the Finnish cemetery, 4:30 p.m. Potluck at the Cokato Township Hall, Hwy 3 and 30th Av. SW. Good food, program, and good visiting. Information: (320) 286-5823.

**Dec 15** A Finnish Christmas celebration Mark your calendars for a Christmas celebration highlighting the innovative culture of Finland. Enjoy elegant Finnish cuisine, live music, a Christmas carol sing-along, Christmas wreath exhibition, a marketplace with a variety of gift items, family-friendly films, and more. 12:00–5:00 p.m. Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Avenue South, Minneapolis. (See page 4.)

**Dec 20 and Dec 22** A Scandinavian Christmas. Join the Minnesota Orchestra for a very special Yuletide celebration: a winter bouquet of Scandinavia's most beautiful Christmas songs. The Auditorium at the Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 2nd Ave South, Minneapolis. For more info: minnesotaorchestra.org

**Dec 21** *Untiset* copy deadline, January issue

**Jan 18** FACA program

**Jan 26** Technology Tools. Learn about hardware and how to use it to make your research life easier. Joan Dwyer and Carol Schwartzbauer will coordinate. Finnish Genealogy Group of Minnesota, 9:30 a.m. Plymouth Apostolic Church, 11015 Old County Road 15.

**Feb 23** Software Tools. Learn what various software programs are and how you might use them. Elaine Barton will coordinate. Finnish Genealogy Group of Minnesota, 9:30 a.m. Plymouth Apostolic Church.

## Pieniä Paloja

- October servers were Linda Davis, Stella Arola, Jane Olson, and Jeanne Swope. *Kiitos!*
- The authorized biography of former President Tarja Halonen, *Halonon—Paremmän elämän puolesta* (*Halonen—For a Better Life*), has been published. In the book Halonen opens up about how she worked together with the five prime ministers who were in power during her 12 years as President.
- According to the Estonian Doctors' Union, about 1,000 Estonian doctors and a larger number of nurses have emigrated since 2004, when Estonia joined the European Union. The main destinations for medical emigrants are Finland and Sweden. A few hundred Estonian doctors work in Finland.
- Finnish architect and designer Alvar Aalto's beehive pendant lamps sold over expectations in this autumn's Nordic Design Auction in London. The auction concentrated on 20th- and 21st-century design classics from Sweden, Denmark, and Finland.
- The downsizing of the Finnish forest industry has resulted in the closure of pulp mills and left pulp and paper workers without work. Many of the unemployed are waiting for retirement to kick in, while others are training for new professions.
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland has lost a million churchgoers in the 2000s, according to recent statistics gathered by the Church Research Institute. Some six per cent of church members go to church at least once a month, while a total of 60 per cent of all Finns aged 25 to 34 years have not attended church services (not including weddings) for many years.
- The Finnish Nurses' Union says that in five year's time, one in three nurses in Finland will retire, and there are many younger nurses who are considering changing professions. At least 30,000 qualified nurses in Finland are working at other jobs.
- The sparsely populated municipality of Lestijärvi in Central Ostrobothnia is offering a 10,000 euro cash bonus to tempt residents into having children. With a population of 850, Lestijärvi is expecting to welcome at least six new babies in 2013.

### 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



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

**Nov 3-Jan 13** American Swedish Institute The Nordic Christmas rooms have become a holiday destination for many visitors. Five galleries on the first and second floors of the Turnblad Mansion will be decorated for the holidays, representing the traditions of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Iceland. This year's theme is *A Royal Christmas* and each Christmas Room will highlight its country's royalty or head of state in photos and text. Finland will be featured November 21. (See listing.)

**Nov 8-11** Finnfest, Tucson, AZ, 2012finnfestusa.org

**Nov. 13-15** Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon.

**Nov 14** FACA Board, Perkins Restaurant, Co. Rd. B., Roseville.

**Nov 16** FACA Program (See page 1.)

**Nov 18** St. Anthony, MN (Salo, Finland) Sister City Annual Meeting. Minneapolis Institute of Arts curator Jennifer Komar Olivarez will speak about an upcoming Finnish exhibit at the Institute and an update on a recent St. Anthony Village city official trip to Salo, Finland will also be presented. Finnish refreshments will be served during the social time. 7:00 p.m., St. Anthony Village City Hall and Community Center, 3301 Silver Lake Road, St. Anthony Village, City Council Chambers.

**Nov 20** Nordic American Thanksgiving Breakfast, Seating begins at 6:30 a.m., program at 7:00 a.m. Grand

Ballroom of the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel (formerly Sheraton Bloomington), 7800 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington. (See page 3.)

**Nov 21** This lively twenty minute holiday tour gives you time for your shopping and wrapping too! With this year's holiday exhibit theme, *A Royal Christmas*, each Nordic Christmas room display focuses not only on the Christmas traditions of each of the five countries but also their royal families or heads of state. No reservations necessary; included with museum admission. 7:00 p.m.-7:30 pm American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Avenue Minneapolis (612) 871-4907.

**Dec 6** Independence Day 2012: *The World Takes Note of Design in Finland*, 7:00 p.m., Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave., Minneapolis. (See page 5.)

**Dec 7** *Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale*, film presented by Den Svenska Klubben, University of Minnesota, 4:00 p.m., Folwell Hall, 32. BYO snacks.

**Dec 7-8** A Scandinavian Christmas in Cokato. Finnish gifts, baked goods, imported candy and more! Enjoy a delicious homemade Scandinavian meal, coffee and pastry with and friend while listening to the musical program! Visit traditional candle-lit Finnish cemetery. The Finnish Cemetery is in front of the Laestadian Lutheran Church, also bazaar site. For more info: Cokato Laestadian Lutheran Church, [www.ellchurch.org](http://www.ellchurch.org)

*Calendar-cont. pg. 7*