



Uutiset

NEWSLETTER OF THE FINNISH AMERICAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INC.

September/Syyskuu 2012

Finland's Thriving Design Culture Presented by Susan Harstad

In recognition of Helsinki as the 2012 World Design Capital, FACA will continue its showcase of Finnish Design at the start of our 2012-13 season. Finnish American art historian Susan Harstad will discuss Finland's current design scene at the September program

Join us as we learn about Helsinki's thriving, trend-setting design culture today and discover how Finnish design has impacted the world. In addition to well-known Finnish exports such as Nokia, Iittala, Fiskars and Marimekko, Susan will highlight some new innovative Finnish design companies. Enjoy images and discussion featuring today's top designs from Helsinki, the "most livable city in the world" (*Monocle Quality of Life Survey*, 2011), in the "best country in the world" (*Newsweek*, August 15, 2010).



Susan E. Harstad holds a BA in Art History, a BS in Art Education, and a MA in Art History from the University of St. Thomas, where she specialized in the art of Finnish women painters. Her strong interest in Finnish culture, art, and design began at Salolampi, the Finnish Concordia Language Village, where she has been an instructor since 1990. She is now Salolampi's director of adult programs. Susan is a member of the Salolampi Foundation board of directors, the Nordic Lights Film Festival committee, and works at the design store FinnStyle in Minneapolis. She is skilled in traditional Finnish handicrafts such as birch bark, rag rug, and band weaving as well as postage stamp collage.

Program In Brief

Susan Harstad
Finnish Design
Friday, Sept. 21 7:30 p.m.
International Institute
1694 Como Ave., St. Paul
If you need transportation, call
Marianne Wargelin
(612) 374-2718

Help celebrate our heritage of Finnish design at the program by wearing a favorite piece of Marimekko clothing or Aarikka or Kalevala jewelry, or perhaps a pin from a national dress. Your fellow Finnophiles will appreciate it, and Susan may be able to offer some background about the design's significance.

The annual meeting of FACA will take place at 7:30 p.m., September 21, followed immediately by the evening program.

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President's Message

By Kara Middleton

Hyvää alku syksyä kaikille! As I write this, I am sending you some “fresh Finland,” since I recently returned from spending five weeks there. I hope you can feel it emanating from these FACA *Utiset!*



For many of us who are Finnish citizens or Finnish-Americans, summer is best when spent at a slower pace, having time for quiet, and being close to nature, family, and friends. Summer cabins and saunas are precious retreats. My time in Finland allowed for much of this *kesämökki* time. I lost myself in hiking, berry picking, and mushroom hunting. I spent a lot of time with my family, sharing memories and deepening our connections to one another. We walked through peaceful cemeteries and touched the gravestones of our ancestors. We visited exquisite old churches and imagined our ancestors there. The white nights were magical; and sitting outside late at night after sauna, I felt a rare and delicate happiness. Time seemed to stop. At other times, with family or near a gravestone or in a church, I wept. In both cases—laughing and weeping—I could not describe what I felt. Perhaps words are too weak for the deepest things inside of us.

As our last season was wrapping up in May, I was finishing graduate school and did not properly report on the Finnish exhibit at the Festival of Nations. So many FACA members helped to make it a success. As you may know, our Midsummer-themed exhibit won one of three awards given for excellence. The exhibits are visited by two anonymous judges during the festival. There are numerous criteria on which exhibits are evaluated, such as adherence to a chosen theme, creativity in presentation, and the effectiveness of communication—both through visual aids and volunteer interaction with visitors. One of the strongest features of our exhibit was the way our volunteers interacted with visitors. Thank you to Glen Bay, Maree Bay, Edie Boos, Kathy Chambless, Richard Harju, Phyllis Kiihn, Dawn Kinnunen, Gil Kinnunen, Kaarina Kotkavuori, Judy Mikkola, Bob Nelson, Al Norgard, Betsey Norgard, Andreas Ostenso, Harlan Stoehr, Marlene Stoehr, and Kaisa Taipale for volunteering in the exhibit. Thank you also to Jeanne Swope and Kaarina Kotkavuori for making costumes for nearly everyone. We would not have won the award without your fine efforts.

I am looking forward with excitement to another season of FACA programming, fun, and friendship. Please join us this month for our program with Susan Harstad. It is sure to be entertaining and fun. We will begin the program with the annual meeting, during which we will elect officers and take care of other club business (*see page 3 for details*). The attendance of members will be greatly appreciated, as these annual meetings affect the future of FACA. Once club business is finished, we will turn it over to Susan for an evening of Finnish design, followed by coffee and treats. I'm hungry already. *Nähdään siellä!*

Board Notes

By Harlan Stoehr



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

FACA directors met June 13 and August 15 at their usual hangout, Panera Bread, Roseville. On June 13 all directors were present, along with FACA members Junelle and Stuart Bernard, Richard Harju, and Pamela and Urho Rahkola.

The secretary reported attendance of 55 at the May 18 member meeting and program. Minutes of May 16 were approved and the treasurer's and president's reports received. The board and members had a long informal discussion concerning planning for continuity of leadership to continue the Finnish Café function at the annual Festival of Nations. The Bernards and Rahkolas will organize and manage the 2013 café but wish to transfer management of it thereafter. It was emphasized that the Finnish Café ought not be considered solely a fundraiser for FACA but a means to promote awareness of Finnish culture and participation in the global community celebrating our diversity.

The FACA-owned storage shed on Margaret Stewart's property, unused for several years, was discussed. Ms. Stewart is selling her property, the shed must be moved and the site restored. Because the cost of moving and relocating the shed would be greater than its value and Ms. Stewart considers it a property enhancement, directors approved transfer of the shed to her.

On August 15 directors Berry, Middleton, and Stoehr were present, Bay and Boos absent. Minutes of June 13 were approved. Directors approved the following:

- Expenditure not to exceed \$750 to purchase, transport, and install a replacement storage shed on the Junelle & Stuart Bernard property to store Finnish Café items.
- Cancellation of FACA's Hartford Casualty Insurance Co. policy, now inappropriate.
- Revision of the Director Responsibilities document to better reflect current operations.
- A proposal to recommend that members amend FACA bylaws (*details below.*)

Berry led a discussion of recommendations for future programs and publicity for them.

Notice of Special Meeting and Postponed Annual Meeting

A special meeting of FACA voting members will precede the program on September 21 to amend FACA bylaws as follows:

Article 2.g, to change the number of voting members required for a quorum from 25% to 10%. Minnesota Statutes Chapter 317 (MSC 317) governing nonprofit corporations (451.1) specifies that ... "unless otherwise provided for by articles or bylaws a quorum is 10 percent of members entitled to vote"...

Article 4.g, to remove the requirement, "The corporation shall obtain and pay for officers and directors liability insurance." MSC 317 (257.10) provides sufficient liability protection to unpaid directors of nonprofit corporations.

Article 5.b, to change FACA's fiscal year from July 1 through June 30 to January 1 through December 31, to provide for more timely reporting at the annual meeting in May.

Article 6.a, The present provision for amendment requires only an affirmative vote of two-thirds of members present at a meeting to amend. The board proposes adding the words, "when a quorum of members is present."

If the recommendation to amend the bylaws is adopted, the postponed annual meeting will be convened immediately to receive the treasurer's report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, to elect three directors, and to conduct new business, if any.

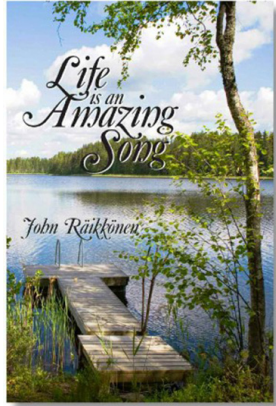
Election Reminder:

No business could be conducted at the May 18 annual meeting due to lack of a quorum, so a brief business meeting to revise the bylaws and elect directors will be held preceding the regular program of September 21.

The nominating committee presented these candidates: For the 3-year term to succeed herself, Kara Middleton; for the three-year term to succeed Edith Boos, Richard Harju; and for the remaining two years of the term from which David Breeden resigned, Edith Boos. Directors serve until the board meeting following the election of successors.

Life is an Amazing Song

My name is John (Juha) Raikkonen, and I would like to share with you my exciting new memoir, *Life is an Amazing Song*, about my life growing up in Finland during the Finnish-Russian war, from 1939 to 1945 and beyond. One reader described it this way: “a very humorous and still serious tale... this book left me wanting for more.”



It is a poignant story of a young boy's experience at his grandparents' farm in Oulu, northern Finland, during the war. One day, a Russian war prisoner “under house arrest” was brought to the farm from the war front by my father. He became a valued farm hand and my good friend. The man was unreal with his talents. I will never forget “Stranos.”

The boy was later shipped to Orsa, Sweden, in the Dalarna region. The fear and trauma of war are captured in a story that is nevertheless both touching and sentimental. He spent several years in Orsa.

He finally returned to his mother, sister, and brother in southern Finland. It was a happy and somewhat awkward homecoming after a seven year absence. Compared to the comfortable life his grandparents had provided, he now had to cope with the challenges of a hardscrabble life and bone-grinding poverty. Food was scarce. They lived in a tiny firetrap apartment building. His mother struggled valiantly to put food on the table with her meager salary as a prison guard, in the old castle in Hameenlinna.

His father returned from the war and immediately announced that he wanted a divorce, after which he disappeared from their life without any financial support. And so the struggle went on.

Eventually good fortune shined on the desperate little family when Mother regained her old position at the internationally famous resort Hotel Aulanko. The family moved to the hotel's premises into a solid and large log cabin. Life was now bright with promise for the whole family. The hotel years were exciting and uplifting. Life became beautiful again.

As a poor boy from a war-torn country, what happened to him next, at seventeen, was truly a “miracle.” A hotel guest, a lonely, rich widower, invited him to go to America. As his sponsor, this remarkable individual

provided him with all travel and living expenses, plus schooling in Philadelphia.

The young man embraced his new life in America with vigor, eventually becoming a successful businessman. America truly was “the land of opportunity” just as he had dreamed it to be.

For more information, please visit my web page and be sure to tell your friends about *Life is an Amazing Song*. <http://www.LifesAmazingSong.com>

All copies ordered from web page will be autographed by author. ISBN: 1453735100, 300 Pages. Member: SFHS. \$19.85 includes shipping and handling.

ASI Forum: *The Lapp King's Daughter: A Family's Journey Through Finland's Wars* Wednesday, October 24, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

From 1939 to 1945, Finland fought three wars: the Winter War of 1939, the Continuation War of 1941 to 1944, and the Lapland War of 1944-45. At this month's ASI Forum, author Stina Katchadourian discusses her book, a moving memoir that tells the story of how these three wars uprooted the lives of one Finnish family. The book draws on Katchadourian's childhood memories and also on the correspondence between her parents, who were separated during most of World War II. Finland's dramatic political history is told in riveting detail as the country struggles to retain its independence, a pawn in the power struggle between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany, focusing specially on the little-known Lapland War that resulted in a large part of the population of northern Finland being evacuated to Sweden.

Stina Katchadourian is an author, journalist, and literary translator who lives in Stanford, California, and summers in Finland. Her prizes include the Leif and Inger Sjögren Translation Prize of the American-Scandinavian Society and the Södergran Prize. She has written three non-fiction books, of which *The Lapp King's Daughter* is the latest. The book has been translated into Swedish and Finnish.

ASI Forum presentations are included with museum admission. Reservations are encouraged but not mandatory—call (612)871-4907.

The American Swedish Institute, founded in 1929, serves as a gathering place for people to share stories and experiences around universal themes of tradition, migration, craft and the arts, all informed by enduring ties to Sweden.

FinnFest USA 2012 Tucson

By Marianne Wargelin

A FinnFest USA festival in the Fall? Who would have thought? When the FinnFest USA festival idea was first dreamed up (right here in Minneapolis at the old North Star Inn) in 1982, everyone was thinking “summer festival.” And the first festival, held in August, 1983, was indeed a summer festival. Only three times have FinnFests drifted into other times of the year.

A November date has never been on the radar. We are discovering, as we plan, that our programming can rightfully engage in some new topics and approaches just because it’s November. For example, because it’s during the school year, we are including a special Saturday event with appeal to area Tucson teachers; and the University of Arizona is providing Continuing Education credits to teachers attending this all-day Education Forum, November 10.

Pasi Sahlberg, the author of *Finnish Lessons: What can the World learn from Educational Change in Finland?* will keynote the day, and our own Twin Cities teachers, Ulla Tervo-Desnick, Monika Hoffman, and Anne Sheridan are developing a series of break-out sessions putting his ideas into the reality of real classrooms. They will be joined by teachers traveling to Tucson from Tampere, Espoo, and Kuopio, Finland.

Because the festival is occurring during the school year, we can better connect the festival to the local community. If you come to Tucson, you’ll be able to meet local people who, like you, want to know more about Finland. As a festival registrant, you can attend the education keynote for free, and, if you want to attend the entire day, you will receive a substantial discount on the cost.

We are opening up all of our events to the community, and we are including local people in the programming. You’ll get a chance to see long time FinnFest USA festival performing group, Finn Hall, interact with Gertie and the Boyz, a local waila band. (Waila is dance music originating with the Tohono O’odham, native people of Southwestern Arizona. Like Finn Hall, it uses accordion and plays music in the style of polkas and the schottisch.)

The November timing has encouraged us to develop programming related to Finnish Christmas foods. The Embassy of Finland’s chef, Timo Kosonen, will demonstrate Christmas foods and share recipes. Sirpa Welch, chef at the Los Angeles consulate, will share the podium. (If you can keep a secret, we can tell you that Santa Claus may show up during the festival as well.)



Kosonen and Welch will be supervising the *toris kabvilla* (Finnish-food snacks and lunches) as well as the hotels’ awarding winning Sunday brunch, this week only supplemented with Finnish foods. All this and the fact that we will have Finnish American food anthropologist, Yvonne Hiipakka Lockwood, interview Mikko Kosonen, giving us all a chance to learn “what it is like to cook at the Finnish Embassy.” Not to forget, however, that the best tamales in the Southwest are available only a mile away from the Doubletree, our festival headquarters. A chance to connect all “foodies” to the Southwest and to Finland!

These days Finns are everywhere, not just the Upper Midwest. We knew that Phoenix and Tucson had active Finnish American clubs, but none of us initially thought about Arizona’s Finnish American immigrant labor history. We’ll have a chance to learn about the 1917 deportations from the Bisbee Mine and take a field trip to Bisbee. We’ll learn about people with names like Alvar Wilska and Yrjö Paloheimo and meet people like Sinikka Garcia. Since 2012 is the Centennial of the State of Arizona, we will be bringing light to a little known aspect of Arizona history, history we can share with Arizona.

Contemporary Finland will be present, too. This year’s festival is giving us another chance to meet the Finnish Ambassador to the USA. Ritva Koukku-Ronde will give the keynote at the opening and join with Green Party Central committee member, Kimmo Wilska, to talk about Finland’s recent presidential elections. Two local University of Arizona professors will respond with comments, comparing and contrasting Finland’s election with the US presidential elections that ended that Tuesday.

For people who want to connect both to contemporary Finland and to the contemporary USA (with a Finnish perspective), this year’s FinnFest USA festival should provide a great long weekend. Check <http://www.2012finnfestusa.org/> for updates. Advance registration (with lower prices) will end on September 14. *Tervetuloa!*

Karita Mattila, soprano and Martin Katz, piano to Perform at the Ordway

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m.

Karita Mattila is one of today's most exciting lyric dramatic sopranos. She is recognised as much for the beauty and versatility of her voice as for her extraordinary stage ability. A native of Finland, Karita Mattila was trained at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, where her teacher was Liisa Linko-Malmio; and subsequently she studied with Vera Rozsa for nearly 20 years.



She sings in all the world's major opera houses and festivals and has performed with the world's greatest conductors including Levine, Abbado, Davis, Dohnanyi, Haitink, Pappano, Rattle, Salonen, and Sawallisch. Her operatic repertoire encompasses works by Beethoven, Strauss, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, Puccini, Wagner, and Janáček.

Karita Mattila's innate sense of drama has led to remarkable collaborations with major stage directors including Luc Bondy in his highly acclaimed *Don Carlos*, which she performed in Paris, London and at the Edinburgh Festival; Lev Dodin in his productions of *Elektra* for the Salzburg Easter Festival and *Pique Dame* and *Salome* at the Opéra National de Paris; Peter Stein for his *Simon Boccanegra* in Salzburg and *Don Giovanni* in Chicago; and Jürgen Flimm for his *Fidelio* at the Metropolitan Opera.

She is an influential artistic force in the development of new music, regularly collaborating with eminent contemporary composers in the debut performances of significant modern works. Recent performances in this genre include the world premiere of *Emilie de Chatelet* by Kaija Saariaho at the Opéra National de Lyon.

Karita Mattila has many recordings to her credit on the Phillips, EMI, Sony, DG, and Ondine labels. Her 40th birthday concert, in front of nearly 12,000 people in Helsinki, was released on CD by Ondine.

Recent highlights include the title role of Janáček's *Katya Kabanova* at the Lyric Opera Chicago, Lisa in *Pique Dame* at the Metropolitan Opera, *The Makropoulos Case* at San Francisco Opera, and concert appearances with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Phil-

harmonic, and with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic.

Throughout her distinguished career, Karita Mattila has won numerous awards. Most importantly, she was named Musical America's Musician of the Year, one of the most prestigious honours paid to classical artists in the USA; and she has been awarded one of France's highest cultural honours, the Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres.

This is Karita Mattila's second time performing for The Schubert Club. She last appeared on the International Artist Series in 2007. Ticket information can be found at schubert.org

..... **Exclusive Ticket Discount from our friends at The Schubert Club: 50% Off Tickets to Finnish Soprano, Karita Mattila**

Karita Mattila will be featuring a set of Finnish songs on her October 3, 2012 program at the Ordway.

Use promocode "FINLAND" to purchase tickets to this recital for half price! Purchase online at schubert.org/ias or call (651) 292-3268. Offer not valid on previously purchased tickets. Subject to availability. only valid in price 1 and 2 sections.

Minneapolis-Based Folk Duo Kaivama to Release New Album with Acclaimed Finnish Fiddler Arto Järvelä

Finnish-American musicians Sara Pajunen and Jonathan Rundman of the Nordic-folk duo Kaivama will celebrate the release their second album with a performance on Tuesday, September 25, at 7:30 p.m., at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Avenue, St. Paul. The duo will be joined in concert by renowned fiddler and composer from Finland Arto Järvelä. Järvelä has collaborated with Pajunen and Rundman on the new 13-song CD entitled *Arto Järvelä and Kaivama*.

One of Finland's premier fiddlers, Arto Järvelä has, over the past three decades, been a member of more than ten folk music groups. He's primarily known as founder, composer and arranger of Kaustinen fiddle legends JPP, in action since 1982. Sara Pajunen and Jonathan Rundman formed Kaivama, a Minneapolis-based duo, in 2010 to explore the music of their Finnish ancestry. Influences alternately ancient and modern, Nordic and American, reveal themselves in Kaivama's sound. Collaborating for the first time on a full-length album, these three musicians create a bridge between Finland and Finnish-America. \$15 at the door, all ages welcome (651) 699-6886 www.pilgrimstpaul.org

Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon November 13, 14, 15 (Tuesday-Thursday)

Salolampi Foundation Board members and friends of Salolampi will be making hundreds of calls nationwide again this year for the scholarship program. Calls can be made from home or from the phones at the Lutheran Community Foundation in the Thrivent Financial building in downtown Minneapolis.

Come to raise money for our Finnish youth and socialize with fellow Finns. Keeping the Finnish heritage alive for future generations is a truly worthwhile legacy. Your support this year is more critical than ever.

Currently every villager receives scholarship assistance to reduce the real cost of attendance.

A postcard will be mailed in late October/early November reminding everyone of the upcoming call. If you cannot be reached, please send contributions directly to the Salolampi Foundation, P.O. Box. 14480, Minneapolis, MN 55414-0480. You can donate online via our secure website – www.salolampi.org; click on Phonathon Donation. Thrivent Choice Dollars can be used for scholarship contributions.

If you can call from home or the Thrivent location, please call Linda Warpula Davis at (763) 420-3237 or email her at ldavismn@hotmail.com or Ruthann Swanson at (612) 788-3905 or email her at Ruthann@ars-services.com.

Please help send Finnish-American villagers to Salolampi to experience and learn more about their rich heritage.

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 _____

Pieniä Paloja

- There are about 16,000 foreigners studying for a degree at Finnish institutions of higher learning.
- MTT Agrifood Research Finland says that 75 percent of food consumed in Finland is also produced in Finland.
- The Population Register Centre reports that the population of the city of Helsinki exceeded the 600,000 mark. August and September are months in which migration to Helsinki is about twice the rate of other months, because of the arrival of students.
- Finns have the shortest work weeks of all countries in the European Union, according to the Swedish economic journal Dagens Industri. The total number hours worked by Finns in a week averaged out at 37.8 in 2011, including possible overtime and absences.
- A Finnish teenager won a mobile phone throwing contest by hurling his old Nokia phone for a new record of 101 meters.

Obituary

Edith Jeanette Fatcher, Robbinsdale, died on August 4 of multiple cancers at age 81. Born on September 5, 1930 in Lawler, Minnesota, to Matt J. and Ida S. (Jarvi) Jackman. Graduated from McGregor High School, where she later worked as the school secretary. Preceded in death by a granddaughter and two brothers. Survived by her husband of 54 years, J. S. (John Stanley) Fatcher; children, Ruth Meadow Mazza (Richard C.) and Paul Forest Fatcher (Mary E.); grandchildren, Juliana E. F. Mazza, Lydia J. F. Mazza; brother, Raymond D. (Sandi); nieces, nephew, grand nephews and nieces, cousins. Graveside service was held at at Salo Township Cemetery in Aitkin County, Minnesota on August 9; and an open house was held on Sunday, August, 12 at 4132 Regent Av. No., Robbinsdale, 55422.

Jeanette was a long-time Finnish Genealogy Group member and FACA member.

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

Sept 21 FACA Program

Sept 22 The Finnish Genealogy Group will meet at Plymouth Apostolic Lutheran Church, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Program will be show and tell, "What I did/ found over the summer." For more information contact Joan Dwyer: dwyers@ties2.net

Sept 25 CD Release Show with Finnish folk duo Kaimama and special guest Arto Järvelä from Finland! 7:00 p.m., \$15 Pilgrim Lutheran Church 1935 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul. (See pg. 6.)

Sept 28 Finn Hall at Kramarczuk's in Minneapolis. Music from 6:30–8:45 p.m., \$4 cover charge. Bring the children; this is a family-friendly place. Great food drinks and dance space! Kramarczuk's Deli and Sausage Co., 215 E. Hennepin Ave. Minneapolis.

Sept 28 *Uutiset* copy deadline

Sept 29 Finn Hall, 3:00 p.m. Dance instruction, Concert and Dance at the Kaleva Hall, 125 N 3rd Ave W, Virginia. For more information; dianecwns9@aol.com

Oct 3 Karita Mattila performance at the Ordway. (See pg 6).

Oct. 19 FACA Program

Oct 19 Finn Hall at Kramarczuk's in Minneapolis. Music from 6:30–8:45 p.m., \$4 cover charge. Kramarczuk's Deli and Sausage Co., 215 E. Hennepin Ave. Minneapolis.

Oct 24 ASI Forum: *The Lapp Kings's Daughter: A*

Family's Journey Through Finland's Wars 6:30–7:30 p.m., American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Avenue, Minneapolis. Info: asimn.org (See pg. 4)

Nov 8–11 Finnfest, Tucson, AZ, www.2012finnfestusa.org (See pg. 5.)

Nov. 13-15 Salolampi Scholarship Phonathon. (See pg. 7.)

Dec 7–8 A Scandinavian Christmas in Cokato. Beautiful unique gifts, including imported candy, specialty bakery items, including prune tarts, *karjalan piirakkas*, *pulla*, pasty, and more! Enjoy a delicious homemade Scandinavian meal. Share a fresh, specialty dessert from our bakery with a friend and some hot coffee and then relax in our candle-lit sanctuary to enjoy the musical program put on by elves of all ages! Take a drive through the candle-lit Finnish cemetery to experience the tradition of remembering loved ones who have passed away. The Finnish Cemetery is directly in front of the new Laestadian Lutheran Church where the Bazaar will be held. For more info: Cokato Laestadian Lutheran Church, Cokato. www.clchurch.org

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