

FINNISH CONNECTIONS

Finnish American Society of Milwaukee

Marraskuu/November 2016

This month at FAS

Saturday December 3 12:30
Grace Lutheran Church

Celebrate Pikkujoulu - Little Christmas

FAS will supply the meat for this potluck celebration. Bring a dish to pass and please contact Mary Jane Anttila at (414) 961-0827 or janeant21@hotmail.com to coordinate food. If you have items for the raffle, please bring them to the party.

Potluck contributions so far listed below.

Donna Jacobson- green beans
Ellen Palmqvist- rutabaga casserole
Susie Maki Hansen-herring, crackers, plates, napkins
Sue Pajunen- ham and lingonberries
Mary Strautmann-cookies
Niemi family- TBD
Pirkko Anderson- salad
Mary Jane Anttila-fruit soup and rice

There is no meeting on November 28.

Outstanding Membership renewals

We show the following membership outstanding.

FOSS, HAMALAINEN-WATTS, HASSLER, HEGG, HOLMI, KARSTEN, KESKINEN, KLABUNDE, LAMPI, LARUE, LOHTARI-KUKLIN, MAKI-LAURILA, MUELLER, TAHTINEN, TOUVE, WAKKINEN, ZIERER

Send or confirm your renewal to Pirkko Anderson, 1603 Walter Ave, Racine, WI 53403.
Remember, memberships renew annually in September.

Suomen kieli

celebrate the holidays	juhlapyhien
Merry Christmas	Hyvää Joulua
Happy New Year	Hyvää Uutta Vuotta
family and friends	perhe ja ystävät

This Month Meeting Information

Saturday, Dec 3

2:00 PM
Grace Lutheran Church
3030 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Upcoming FAS Speaker Programs

February 26, 2017
March 26, 2017

Other Events

November 12
Christmas Market at Estonian House
November 18-20th
Folk Fair
December 3
FAS Pikkujoulu
December 3
FACC Christmas Party

December 11
FASM Christmas Party

See more details and more events on page 2

We are on the Web!

Click [here](#)

Send pictures and articles to Ronni Nivala,
rgnivala@yahoo.com

<https://sites.google.com/site/finnishmilwaukee/home>

Area Finnish American Event Calendar

Christmas Market at Chicago Estonian House *Saturday, November 12, 2016*

Save the date for the next Christmas Market. <http://eestimaja.com/christmas-market-2016/>

F

FACC's (Finnish-American Chamber of Commerce) Independence Day Party

Saturday, December 3, 2016 6:30 to 10:30pm, Frontier, 11072 N. Milwaukee Venue, 2nd floor, Chicago.
Traditional Finnish Feast, glogg, complimentary bar until 9:30 PM (cash bar afterward). Dress: Holiday festive or business attire. Tickets and seating will be capped at 70 people. Ticket sales will end by November 25th. Any other questions email: benjamingwheeler@gmail.com

A

Finnladies Christmas Around the World program *Sunday, November 27, 2016, 11am*

Finnladies of Chicagoland perform at the **Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago** at 11am. Chicago Finnish School will perform with the Finnladies. While at the Museum check out the over 50 trees and displays showing Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light. Hope you can make it.

International Christmas Trees at Cook County Building, *Friday, December 2, 5-6:30pm* , 118

N. Clark St., Room 112, RSVP: 312-603-6931.

S

FASM Joulu *Sunday, December 11, 2016 At the Estonian House.*

Menu: Honey baked ham, Swedish meatballs, spinach ravioli, scalloped potatoes, green beans almandine, Caesar salad, cucumber & onion salad, rutabaga casserole, and dessert. Entertainment: Juli Wood Trio. More details to come.

Alvar Aalto Buildings in Helsinki

<http://www.myhelsinki.fi/en/sivu/233/>

Alvar Aalto (1898-1976), one of Finland's greatest architects, enjoyed an exceptionally rich and varied career also as a city planner and furniture designer, both at home in Finland and abroad. Here's some of Aalto's buildings in Helsinki (more in future newsletters):



EROTTAJA PAVILLION, 1951

The first public building in Helsinki designed by Alvar Aalto. Aalto won the wartime bid in 1941 organised by the City of Helsinki to design the entrance to the bomb shelter below the Erottaja hill. Aalto's original plan was left unrealised due to the war, and a temporary construction was erected on the location. The pavilion found there now was built in 1951. Alvar Aalto wanted to reshape his design after winning the bid, as the execution was postponed with several years. The new traffic arrangements proposed by Aalto were not done, and his contribution was left to include the aboveground construction and the staircase.



FINNISH ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATION BUILDING, 1948-53

After the World War II bombings, an empty lot was left along Ratakatu. Alvar Aalto received a commission from the Association of Finnish Engineer Professionals to design an office building. The street level would host a restaurant. The house includes three underground floors, with the top one now hosting the Club Soho nightclub. The building was designed to the last detail in Aalto's studio. His Hand Grenade lamp was customised for this very house. The building was badly damaged in an arson in 1997, when most of the original interior was lost.

FAS - Finn stuff

If it is time to downsize and you have Finnish products, please consider donating to FAS. Contact Ronni Nivala. Some members may not have had as many opportunities to acquire a piece of their heritage.

Meetings

No meetings on November 28 or December 25 We celebrate Pikkujoulu for our November/December event.

No meeting in January. The next meeting is February 26, 2017.

Meeting agenda

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Additions to agenda/Approval of minutes
2. Introductions new members and/or guests
3. Treasurer's Report (Accept)
4. Correspondence/Sunshine
5. Language - Finnish lesson/Song
6. FAS Events
 - a. Programs
 - b. Scandinavian Fest
 - c. Folk Fair
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Nordic Council
 - b. Kipakat Dancers
 - c. Salolampi/Scholarships
8. FAS Quick Updates: Historian, Library, Literature Group, Luncheon, Music, Newsletter
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Adjourn

Folk Fair

Folk Fair set up is Wed evening, November 16. Ronni will be at State Fair Park by 6:00 PM.

Volunteer tickets are being mailed.

Volunteers still needed. Contact Ronni at rgnivala@yahoo.com or 414-217-9811

Sales Booth Schedule

Friday, Nov 18

Hegg/Beyer 9:00 - 12:00, 1:30 - 4:00
 Anderson 9:00 - 1:00
 J Niemi/ Antilla 10:00 - 2:00
 P Schmidt 1:00 - 4:00
 K Nock 3:00 - 7:00
 S Pajunen/A Pajunen 4:00 - 7:00
 Wakkinen/Nivala 7:00 - 10:00

Saturday, Nov 19

Wirtala/Key 9:00 - 1:00
 Palmqvists 12:00 - 4:00
 Mueller 1:00 - 5:00
 P Schmidt 3:00 - 6:00
 E Niemi 2:00 - 5:00
 Wilferts 4:00 - 8:00
 Miners 4:00 - 8:00
 Pajunens 7:45 - 10:00

Saturday, Nov 19

Wirtala/Key 9:00 - 1:00
 S Pajunen/A Pajunen 12:30 - 4:00
 Antilla 1:00 - 5:00
 Nivala/ Nevala 4:00 - 7:00

Take down - Wirtala, Nevala, Nivala

Suomi Then and Now

Finnish is an uralic language. It has nothing to do with either slavic or germanic languages, except loan words.

Swedish, Norwegian and Danish are germanic languages, which belong the Indo-European language family just like the Slavic languages.

For over 600 years Swedish was Finland's official language. This historical fact has, of course, left its mark. Even though Finnish is totally different from Swedish, there are a lot of loan words from the Swedish language – over 4000.

<https://www.quora.com/Why-is-Finnish-so-different-from-other-Scandinavian-languages>

Embassy News

Embassy of Finland 3301 Massachusetts Ave. NW,, Washington, DC

About the Embassy--- The primary goal of our work at the Embassy is to enhance the Finnish-U.S. relationship. We are in the United States to strengthen Finland's role as a U.S. companion and to enhance well-being and safety as well as competitiveness and trade and investments in both countries.

Traveling Sauna Hits the U.S. Roads in 2017

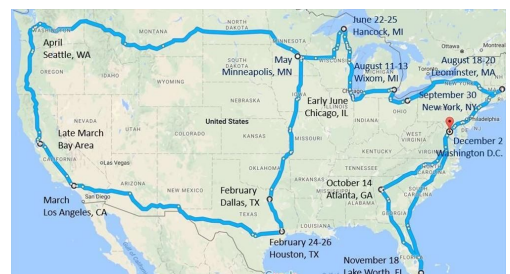
Finland celebrates the centennial of its independence in 2017. Many events will take place throughout the United States, and one of the most exciting centennial projects is the Traveling Sauna. The sauna will drive across the entire continent, from West Coast through Mid-West to East Coast, traveling over 10,000 miles.

The idea of the Traveling Sauna was born when a group of Finns and Finnish-Americans were brainstorming what kinds of events to organize in the U.S. in 2017...

The Traveling Sauna is a "centennial mascot" that is designed to bring as much publicity as possible to the different events being organized by local Finnish and Finnish-American organizations and thus the centennial, especially in the social media. It will also be something unique to catch the attention of local media wherever it travels.

The sauna starts its journey in Texas in February 2017, then makes its way to the West Coast, travels through the Mid-West and spends the autumn driving down the East Coast. The journey will end in Washington, D.C. in the beginning of December.

<http://www.finland.org/public/default.aspx?contentid=353985&nodeid=35833&culture=en-US>



November in Finland

November WEATHER - HELSINKI

Temperature	Avg 32	Low 28 High 36
Rain/Snow	Amt 80mm	Days 17

<http://www.holiday-weather.com/helsinki/averages/november/>

Pikkujoulu

Meaning "little Christmas" it is a Finnish traditional party held to anticipate **Christmas**. The Pikkujoulu party is non-formal, highly festive, and themed after Christmas. Pikkujoulu parties are held by various communities, organisations, companies, or just among friends. Traditionally, Pikkujoulu is a day when Christmas dishes are served for the first time. These include **rice pudding** with fruit and the most traditional Pikkujoulu drink, **glögi**. For entertainment, there are festive speeches often followed by jokes or humorous sketches, after which, mock awards are given out. Song books are then passed out and happy Christmas hits are sung.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pikkujoulu>

The roots of the Finnish pre-Christmas party go back to celebrations of Advent during the 1800s. In the 1920s and '30s students turned these celebrations into parties, and after the Second World War, the pre-Christmas party started catching on with the general population. Nowadays, almost every company, business, organisation and club holds its own pikkujoulu. The word means "little Christmas," implying a head start on the holiday season.

<https://finland.fi/christmas/show-me-the-way-to-the-next-pikkujoulu/>

Pieniä Paloja small pieces ... pieniä paloja ... small pieces ...

- ❖ The official centennial website in Finland is <http://suomifinland100.fi/?lang=en>. The official theme is "Together". Visit this fantastic site to learn what is happening
- ❖ Coming to Chicago Symphony: Estonian conductor Neeme Jarvi will perform December 8,9 and 10. Works will include two pieces by Sibelius. Also, Finnish conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen will perform multiple times in March 2017. <http://cso.org/>
- ❖ The Finnish Government has announced that it is mulling over prohibiting the use of coal in energy production by 2030. Olli Rehn (Centre), the Minister of Economic Affairs, revealed in **an interview with Helsingin Sanomat on Wednesday** that the energy and climate strategy currently under preparation recommends that the use of coal be stopped by 2030 – possibly by means of a statutory prohibition. The Government is to present its new energy and climate strategy to the Parliament in March, 2017.
<http://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/domestic/14333-finland-on-its-way-to-become-world-s-first-country-to-ban-coal-use-in-energy-production.html>

F
A
S



The flag of Finland was adopted after independence from Russia... its design dates back to the 19th century.

The blue coloring is said to represent the country's thousands of lakes and the sky, with white for the snow that covers the land in winter.

This color combination has also been used over the centuries in various Finnish provincial, military, and town flags.

Tiedotus (Announcements)

Luncheon: (Contact Lori Larch, 414-517-2571, larchla@yahoo.com)

Holiday Folk Fair volunteers needed: Volunteers will be needed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (Nov 18 - 20) as well as for set up on Wednesday and/or Thursday (Nov 16-17). Sign up at the September and October meetings--- other options in the next newsletter.

Literature Group: Friday, October 21st at 1:30 (Hales Corner Library) . We are finishing the book, They Took My Father. Ellen will be looking for a possibly more centrally located meeting place for next year. Call Ellen Palmqvist for more information.

FAS Leadership

President	Carole Wirtala	414-321-9915
Vice President	Linda Mayo	414-744-0277
Secretary	Mary Jane Anttila	414-961-0827
Treasurer	Pirkko Anderson	262-619-1249

Trustees	Linda Key	(2019)	414-763-2756
	Majut Kuklin	(2019)	
mkuklin@wi.rr.com			
	Lori Larch	(2017)	414-517-2571
	Ellen Palmqvist	(2018)	414-425-3441
	Paul Schmidt	(2017)	414-771-8668
	Verna Schmidt	(2018)	414-771-8668

Other contacts

Historian **Susie Maki Hansen**

shansen46@wi.rr.com

Luncheon **Lori Larch**
larchla@yahoo.com

Newsletter **Ronni Nivala**
rgnivala@yahoo.com

Program **Linda Pensala**

lindaspensala@aol.com
Verna Schmidt
pvs@wi.rr.com

Minutes (continued)

Historian: Susan Maki Hansen asks that names be added to any photos you forward to her. Many thanks to Susan for taking over this position.

Literature group: The next book we will read is **Jonas of Kiviarvi** .It is available through Amazon and Iva Nevala has some copies to purchase as well. We continue to meet at the Hales Corners Library the third Friday of each month. Contact Ellen Palmqvist for more information.

Luncheons: We have no meeting in January. We will need breads, desserts and pea soup for our February pea soup dinner. Contact Lori Larch to let her know what you will be bringing. We also need kitchen help.

Music: We still need a musician.

Newsletter: Ronni Nivala welcomes any stories or news for publication in the newsletters.

New business: Finland's Centennial Celebration: Events will be held throughout 2017 culminating with a celebration dinner in December 2017.

Submitted by Mary Jane Antilla

FAS

Meetings
Aug to Nov
Feb to April

Last Sunday of the
month
(unless otherwise
noted)

Membership Forms and payments to

Pirkko Anderson
1603 Walter Ave
Racine, WI 53403

Newsletter

Ronni Nivala
2831 S Lenox St
Milwaukee 53207
rgnivala@yahoo.com
414-217-9811

Sunshine

Ellen Palmqvist
flyingfinn@wi.rr.com
414-425-3441

About FAS

The purpose of the Finnish – American Society of Milwaukee is to carry on activities to promote and preserve the Finnish culture in America, to enable its members and the public to appreciate and be cognizant of Finnish contributions to American life, to enable its members and their guests to gather socially to observe Finnish holidays and festive occasions, and to generally promote Finnish-American friendship and understanding.

Minutes (September 2016) - Finnish American Society Meeting

Officers present: Vice pres. Linda Mayo, Treas. Pirkko Anderson, Secy, Mary Jane Anttila, Trustees Linda Key, Ellen Palmqvist, Paul Schmidt, Verna Schmidt.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Linda Mayo. The minutes of the September meeting were reviewed and approved.

New members/guests: Welcome to the Niemi family, the Bryndilson family and Mary Strautman.

Linda indicated that if your dues are past due for renewal your name will be posted in the newsletter as a reminder.

Treasurer's Report: Pirkku Anderson reported on the sales for the food and sales booths at Scandinavian Fest. We came out ahead. Seppo Palmqvist moved and Linda Key seconded the approval of the report. Report approved.

Folk Fair: We signed the contract for Folk Fair. We will not have a cultural booth due to lack of volunteers, but will have a sales booth and our dance group will be performing. Because we will not have a cultural booth we will place cultural information relating to the theme, "The Culture of Water" in our sales booth. We have fifty tickets to sell. Please contact Linda Mayo if you wish to purchase any or take tickets to sell.

Scandinavian Fest: We will be evaluating on whether to continue with the sales booth due to low sales at this event.

Sunshine: Ellen Palmqvist had no updates. Contact Ellen if you know of a member who is ill, has passed or has had a family member pass.

Language Lesson: Seppo Palmqvist lead us in a lesson focusing on words related to books.

Pikkojoulu: We will have our holiday party on December 3 at the Grace Lutheran Church. It will be a pot luck. FAS will purchase the meat. Please contact Mary Jane Anttila at (414) 961-0827 or janeant21@hotmail.com to let her know what you are bringing or to find out which types of dishes are needed. If anyone has items for the raffle, please bring them to the party. Finnish items are particularly welcome. Bob Mayo will coordinate. Additional information will be posted in the newsletter.

Nordic Council: No updates

Dancers: Linda Mayo reported the performances were well received at Scandinavian Fest. The group will next be performing for the Swedish American Society and at Folk Fair.

Salolampi/Scholarships: Please contact Ivy Nevala for scholarship information at (920) 668-8888. We had a student interested in the spring classes.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CHANGES (September to August)

Annual Membership effective 2016-2017: **\$25.00**
There are new membership forms.

- To give a potential member a form, **PRINT a copy ([click here for copy](#))**.
- Pick up copies at a meeting or Folk Fair
- Form is also available from the website or by contacting **Linda Pensala (LindasPensala@aol.com or 1-262-203-3194) or Ronni Nivala (rgnivala@yahoo.com, 414-217-9811) to receive a copy by mail.**

A form will be automatically be included with the newsletter when it is time for annual renewal in September 2017.

The image shows a digital form titled "Finnish American Society of Milwaukee Family Membership Application & Renewal". The form includes fields for Name, Date, Address, City, State, and Zip. It also has a section for "PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING" with checkboxes for New Member, Renewal, Facebook, and Twitter. There are several "YES/NO" questions regarding communication preferences. At the bottom, it states "ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL FEE: \$25.00" and "DONATIONS ARE WELCOME! HELP US TO GROW". The form is in Finnish and English.