



Dear Friends,

January 2019

Hyvää päivää!!! Greetings to you and your family from the Finnish American Society of the Midwest, a Finlandia Foundation Chapter, (FASM).

It is time for membership renewal for FASM. Dues are \$25 per family household good for all family members living in the household. Membership runs from January 2019 through December 2019. Dues are due March 1, 2019. New this year are member discounts on advance ticket/reservation sales.

This year we are again planning a full program of activities. These activities include not only regular events, such as Vappu in April and Joulu in December, but a few that are in the planning stages. In January already we had the Bulls game which had discounted tickets and Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year Juli Wood, jazz saxophonist. We keep you apprised of these and other local events of interest through email "blasts" as well as on Facebook and FASM's website "Calendar" section.

- **March:** Kalevala program at the Chicago Estonian House.
- **March:** Arto Saarinen teaching how to make Finnish sourdough rye bread.
- **April and November:** FASM cooks lunch at the Chicago Estonian House.
- **May:** FASM shares a booth with the Estonians at the annual Skokie Festival of Cultures.
- **September:** Participate in the annual Scandinavian Day Festival at Vasa Park in Elgin.
- **September:** FASM Annual Meeting and Member Picnic.
- **November:** Merchandise table at the International Christmas Market at the Estonian House.

The FASM Board of Directors annually selects organizations that promote Finnish American Culture and provide them with financial support. Below is a list of organizations to which FASM has donated over \$3,000 annually in past years:

- Chicago Estonian House, which provides our home base for meetings and events,
- Salolampi scholarships for FASM member's children or grandchildren, just apply,
- Finlandia University,
- Finnish American Heritage Center,
- Historical Restoration of The Finn Hall in DeKalb, Illinois,
- Scandinavian Park/Vasa Park,
- Chicago Suomi Koulu, and others.

#### **YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROVIDES:**

- Invitations to all cultural events offered by FASM, with discounts on prepaid reservations.
- Extensive information regarding Finnish events via email "blasts", Facebook, and website.
- The opportunity to support and work with fellow Finnish Americans to create programs, meet and view some of the finest performers, share Finnish food, language and much, much more.
- Opportunity to "shop" the FASM merchandise table.
- And FASM is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation and dues/contributions are tax deductible to the extent of IRS regulations.

We value your membership! Kiitos!

Mary

Remember to visit our website at: [www.fasm.us](http://www.fasm.us) and to "Like" us on Facebook!