



Dear Friends,

February 2021

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 2021 through December 2021. Dues are due March 31, 2021.

This year we are again planning a full program of activities within the limitations of the pandemic. These activities are currently fun Zoom meetings held the first Sunday of the month at 6pm cst. By the latter part of the year we hope to resume our regular in person events that are in the planning stages. So far in 2021 the virtual/zoom programs were New Year's Resolutions and Laskiainen/Finnish Shrovetide. Future zoom events planned are Crafts-Making Paper Stars and Himmelis, Genealogy, and Paint and Sip. 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. Hopefully in person events can resume in the Fall and they would be FASM participating in the annual Scandinavian Day Festival at Vasa Park in Elgin, FASM Annual Meeting and Member Picnic, FASM cooks lunch at the Estonian House, Merchandise table at the International Christmas Market, and Jouluk.

The FASM Board of Directors annually selects organizations that promote Finnish/Finnish American and/or Nordic Culture and provides them with financial support. The organizations to which FASM has contributed regularly includes;

- Chicago Estonian House, which provides our home base for meetings and events,
- Salolampi scholarships for FASM member, children or grandchildren,
- Finlandia University,
- Finnish American Heritage Center,
- Historical Restoration of The Finn Hall in DeKalb, Illinois,
- Scandinavian Park Inc.(Vasa Park),
- Chicago Suomi Koulu, and other similar organizations.

FASM makes donations in excess of \$3,000 annually.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROVIDES:

- Invitations to all cultural events offered by FASM.
- 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!

Arto

Remember to visit our website at: www.fasm.us and to "Like" us on Facebook!