

Winter Greetings! FASM's first virtual/zoom "Social Hour" for 2021 was on Sunday, January 3, and was hosted by Julie Badel with accordion music by Oscar Forsman. The theme was "New Year's Resolutions". All who attended shared their New Year's resolutions or looked back at 2020. The program was recorded and if you would like to view it, send an email to: info@fasm.us.

FASM "Virtual Social Hour" programs will continue monthly, first Sunday of the month at 6pm cst, until we can meet in person once again. Other programs planned are: Shrove Tuesday, outdoor activities, recipes, books, movies, music, art, genealogy, crafts, immigrant stories, spotlight on a FASM member, etc. We welcome all to join the event. If you or you know someone who are/is not currently on the FASM "blast" email list, send an email to: info@fasm.us and you will be added and will receive the zoom login a week before the program. If you are not familiar with zoom, and would like to have a practice login, email me at: info@fasm.us and I will set up a time. You need to download the zoom application onto your device that you will use (iphone, ipad, or laptop/desk computer). There are a few icons to know about—gallery screen, mute, and video.

If your Christmas stocking did not have enough **Finnish items**, call or text FASM Merchandise Chairperson Shari Johnson at 630-336-9654. Inventory includes 2021 calendars, Fazer, Nordi, and Panda Lakka chocolates, coffee and teas.

Important upcoming dates for grants and scholarships:

Sunday, January 17, 2021: Deadline for Finlandia Foundation National Annual Grants for Cultural Projects. Maximum grant \$5,000. Grants are to be supported by a chapter of FFN, which FASM is one. In order for FASM President to review/support, a copy of the grant proposal needs to be emailed to: info@fasm.us prior to the 17th. For more information go to FinlandiaFoundation.org and click on "Programs" and select "Grants".

Monday, February 1, 2021: Deadline for Finlandia Foundation National Academic Scholarships for Post-Secondary Education. For more information go Finlandiafoundation.org and click on "Programs" and select "Scholarships".

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 18, 2021, 8pm cst: Juli Wood's LITTLE ROOTIE TOOTIE Thenonious Monk Tribute. Fulton Street Collective teams up with WDCB Radio to present this program. Livestream@FSC. For more information, go to www.youtube.com/FultonStreetCollective

Friday, January 28, 2021: Call for Art-Animal Life, Art from Kalevala. Copper Country Community Arts Center will host an exhibition of art inspired by the Kalevala. The exhibition will take place in the CCCAC Kerredge Gallery, Hancock, MI, February 2 thru 27th.

Saturday, January 30, 2021, 11am-12 noon cst: FinnFest USA 2021 Virtual Event—"The Origins of Finnish People", lecturer Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen, PhD, University of Indiana, Pennsylvania. This is the first of the monthly Virtual Lecture/Music series which will be the last Saturday of the month at 11 am cst. For more information and

registration/access to zoom, go to www.finnfest.us, click on "Festivals" and "2021 Virtual Event" and scroll down for a listing of the programs.

Saturday, February 6, 2021, 9:30am cst: Chicago-Suomi Koulu at Chicago Estonian House. Theme is "The winter and nature". For more information go to their facebook page.

Sunday, February 7, 2021, 6pm cst: FASM Virtual Social Hour—Shrove Tuesday Traditions. Henna Koivisto and Terhi Tuominen will be co-hosting. The theme will be Shrovetide/Laskiainen (Shrove Tuesday/Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras). Traditions old and new. Zoom login information will be emailed to everyone on FASM "blast" list the week before the event. If you know of someone who would like to receive the zoom login information, send an email to: info@fasm.us. All Finns and Finns at heart are invited to join us!

If you would like to host one of the FASM Virtual Social Hours or have any ideas/topic suggestions, send an email to: info@fasm.us.

If you are aware of any upcoming Finnish related events, please email to me so I can add to the calendar and share with others. Thank you!

This was a long blast but I wanted to get information out to you.

Follow Finnish American Society of the Midwest on our Facebook page and/or website: FASM.us

I hope you all are well. Stay safe!

Mary