

RAIVA AJA

(THE PIONEER)

Keskiviikkona, jouluk. 8 - Wed. Dec. 8, 1999

FINNISH AMERICAN WEEKLY

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*Hei, tonttu-ukot hyppikää, nyt
on riemun raikkahin aika! . . .*

This week in
THE FINNISH-AMERICAN
RAIVA AJA

Christmas Special

Suomen uutisia

Linnan juhlat kruunasivat itsenäisyyspäivän

Suomen Itsenäisyyspäivän (6. joulukuuta) vietto sujui perinteistä juhlallisuudesta noudattaen, jotka huipentuivat Presidentinlinnan juhliin. Tasavallan presidentin Martti Ahtisaaren ja rouva Eeva Ahtisaaren kuudetta ja viimeistä kertaa isännöimä juhlayönsä kesti koko illan.

Itsenäisyyspäivän valtakunnalliset juhlat alkoivat aamun perinteisellä lipunnostolla Helsingin Tähtitorninmäellä. Suomalaisuuden liiton järjestämässä tilaisuudessa lauloivat Viipurin lauluorkesteri ja Helsingin työväenyhdistyksen puheenjohtaja Juhana Vartiainen. Lipun nostosta huolehtivat partiolaiset.

Helsingin tuomiokirkossa pidettiin puolilipun juhlan malanpalvelus, johon osallistuivat myös tasavallan presidentti ja rouva Ahtisaari sekä muun muassa eduskunnan ja hallituksen edustajia. Saarnan piti Tampereen hiippakunnan piispa Juha Pihkala.

Vähäosaisten auttaja Veikko Hursti järjesti itsenäisyyspäivän perinteiset Köyhien linnanjuhlat Hakaniemen torilla Helsingissä. Tarjolla oli muun muassa ilmainen kenttälounas. Hursti sai sosiaalivuoksen arvonimen huomionosoituksena monikymmenvuotisesta työstään.

Myös ylioppilaiden perinteinen itsenäisyyspäivän soitukulkue kiersi illalla Helsingin keskustan katuja. Ennen kulkueen ylioppilaat kunnioittivat sankarivainajien muistoa laskemalla seppeleen Hietaniemen hautausmaalla. Tasavallan presidentti ja rouva Ahtisaari ottivat soitukulkueen vastaan linnan parvekkeelta. Kulkue päättyi Senaatintorille, jossa ylioppilaat järjestivät yhdessä Helsingin kaupungin kanssa itsenäisyyspäivän juhlan. (MTV3)

Runoilija Lars Huldénille eurooppalainen kirjallisuuspalkinto

Suomalainen runoilija Lars Huldén saa eurooppalaisen kirjallisuuspalkinnon. Tunnustus luovutetaan Huldénille Ragusassa Sisiliassa 18. joulukuuta. *Un Ponte per l'Europa* - eli Silta Eurooppaan -palkinto luovutetaan vuosittain eurooppalaiselle kirjailijalle, joka työllään on edistänyt vanhan mantereiden ihmisten ja kulttuurien lähentymistä. (STT)

Keskusta suosituin puolue

Keskusta on noussut suosituimmaksi puolueeksi. Keskustan kannatus nousi lokakuusta marraskuuhun 1,7 prosenttiyksikköä. Marraskuussa keskustan kannatus oli 23,5 prosenttia.

Taloustutkimuksen Yleisradiole tehtävän tutkimuksen mukaan kokoomuksen kannatus oli marraskuussa 22,2 ja SDP:n 22,5 prosenttia.

Taloustutkimus haastatteli kyselyssä yli 1 860 henkilöä. Tutkimuksen virhemarginaali on +/-2,5 prosenttia. (MTV3)

Suomi-palkinnot yhdeksälle taiteilijalle

Sadantuhannen markan Suomi-palkinnon on saanut yhdeksän taiteilijaa. Nämä ovat tanssitaiteilija Katarina McAlester, lavastaja Ralf Forsström, pianotaiteilija Eero Heinonen, elokuvaaja Kjell Lagerroos, kuvataiteilija Marita Liu-Ha, kirjailija Marja-Leena Mikkola, taiteilija Vuokko Nurmesniemi, kirjailija Kalle Päätalo ja taidemaalari Rafael Wardi.

Suomi-palkinto annetaan tunnustuksena merkittävästä taiteellisesta urasta, huomattavasta taiteellisesta saavutuksesta tai lupaavasta läpimurrosta. (MTV3)

Exchange rate

December 6, 1999
1 Finnish mark = US \$ 1.685
1 US \$ = 5.9330 FIM
1 Euro = US \$1.02190
1 US \$ = .9786 Euros
Foreign exchange, New York prices.
Rates for trades of \$1 million minimum.

Nimipäivät



Joulukuun 8 p., Kyllikki, Kylli
Joulukuun 9 p., Anna, Anne, Anni, Anu, Annikki
Anneli, Annukka, Annika
Joulukuun 10 p., Jutta
Joulukuun 11 p., Tanelli, Tatu Daniel
Joulukuun 12 p., Tuovi
Joulukuun 13 p., Seija
Joulukuun 14 p., Jouko
Joulukuun 15 p., Helmo
Joulukuun 16 p., Auli, Aulikki

Joulukuun 17 p., Raakel
Joulukuun 18 p., Aapo, Aappo, Rami
Joulukuun 19 p., Ilkka, Iiro, Iisakki, Isko
Joulukuun 20 p., Benjamin, Kerikko
Joulukuun 21 p., Tuomas, Tuomo, Tommi, Tomi

Suomen uutisia

Aho ja Halonen nostaneet kannatustaan

Presidenttigallupien tulokset vaihtelevat päivittäin. Tuoreimpien kyselyjen mukaan keskustan Esko Aho ja sd:n Tarja Halonen ovat nostaneet kannatustaan. *Helsingin Sanomien* julkistaman tuoreen mielipidekyselyn mukaan Aho kannattaa presidentiksi 27 ja Halosta 24 prosenttia kansalaisista. Kokoomuksen Riitta Uosukaista kannattaa 26 ja RKP:n Elisabeth Reiniä 18 prosenttia äänestäjistä.

Uosukaisen kannatus on laskenut neljä ja Reinin viisi prosenttiyksikköä Suomen Gallupin edellisestä, marraskuussa tekemästä kyselystä. (MTV3-STT)

Mauno Koivisto:

1970-luvulla ei ollut "vaaran vuosia"

Seitsemänkymmenluvun alussa ei presidentti Mauno Koiviston käsityksen mukaan ollut mitään "uusia vaaran vuosia", jolloin vallankumous ja itsenäisyyden menettäminen olisivat uhanneet Suomea.

Koiviston mielestä väitteessä vaarasta ei ole mitään perää. Koivisto lausuu käsityksensä haastattelussa, jonka TV1 lähetti itsenäisyyspäivänä.

"Uskon, että olin niihin aikoihin erittäin hyvin informoitu valtakunnan asioista", Koivisto sanoo ja lisää, että myöhemmin asia tutkittiin myös Suojelupoliisin arkistosta. "Mitään merkkejä siitä ei ole olemassa, että olisi ollut kysymys jostakin merkittävästä vaarasta", Koivisto sanoo. Koiviston mukaan uudet vaaran vuodet on "paukkupommi", jolla "tutkija" yritti saada tutkimukselleen julkisuutta. (HS)

Nokia nousi huipulle

Nokia on noussut koko Euroopan kalleimmaksi yritykseksi. Yhtiön osake jatkoi hurjaa nousuaan sekä maailmalla että Helsingin pörssissä. Kurssinousu on jatkunut huikana jo viikkoja - ja siis vain kiihtynyt viime päivinä. Eikä voittokulku koske pelkästään Nokian vaan koko suomalaista tietoliikenne-alaa.

Useat merkittävät investointipankit ovat nostaneet Nokian osakkeen tavoitehintaa keskimäärin 200 euroon. Esimerkiksi Morgan Stanley Dean Witter korotti Nokian hintaa 200 euroon, kun pankkiiriliikkeen aiempi tavoite oli 175 euroa.

Pankit perustelivat arviotaan sillä, että matkapuhelinten käyttäjämäärä maailmassa ylittää miljardiin ennakoitua aikaisemmin. Nokian pääjohtaja Jorma Ollila sanoi perjantaina analytiikkotapaamisessa Teksasissa, että miljardi käyttäjää saavutetaan jo vuoden 2002 loppuun mennessä. (STT)

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Warmest thanks to all who have placed an advertisement in the annual Christmas Special. We urge readers to use this RAIVAAJA special as a buying guide during the Christmas season and the coming year. Support the businesses that advertise in RAIVAAJA!

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Maistuisiko kokonaisena paistettu riikinkukko ja turkan ilmarakkoon tehty kalasyltti. Vai olisiko parempi tyytyä keitettyyn sianpään, haukeen ja puuroon.

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Tietysti täytetty riikinkukko houkuttaa. Saattaisi maistua tänä päivänäkin. Varsinaista herkkua kynitty suuri lintu

oli 400 vuotta sitten Turn linassa, silloin kun Katariina Jagelonica toi Suomeen ensi kertaa nähtäville haarukan, kaksihiikkisen ruokailuimeen.

Mutta se riikinkukko: ensin se kynittiin, siivottiin ja sitten jatkuu sivulla 8



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joulupäivänä 25 p. klo 8:15 aam.

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Englannink. joulujumalanpalvelus
aattona 24 p. klo 6:30 illalla

Tervetuloa!

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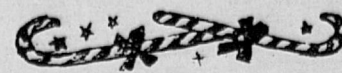
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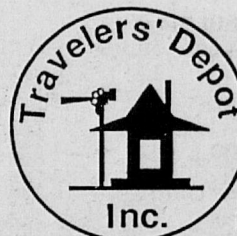
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Merry Christmas to you
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jatkoa sivulta 4

paistettiin kokonaisuena. Pöytään tuotaessa höyhenet puettiin taas linnun päälle. Jo oli komea ilmestys.

On se komea vieläkin. Juhana Herttuan joulupöytä on katettu linnaan. Riikinkukon lisäksi ruokapöydän antimien kuului oikealäiskistä sianla-

paa, turskan ilmarakkoon

tehty kalasylty, kalamureke, ohraryneillä vahvistettuja verimakkaraita, jänispaisteja, marsipaania. Lisänä oli kuivattuja hedelmiä, pähkinöitä, makeisia, herneitä, papuja ja puuroa vadelmanhillon kanssa.

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ruokailutapoja valottaa Salme Kotivuori Turun linnasta.

Juomana oli olutta ja ulkomailta tuotuja kalliita viinejä.

Entä köyhemmän väen jouluateria? Sekin esitellään linnassa. Joulupöytä on katettu ehkä viljelijäperheelle, ehkä jollekin linnan palvelusväen perheelle, ei varakkaalle mutta ei aivan varattomallekaan.

Siinä pöydässä komeilee keitetty hauki ja Annan päivänä leivottu leipä. Kokonainen sianpää antaa juhlan tuntua, puuro kuuluu tietenkin asiaan. Ja paloviina, tuhti juoma. Pöydän alla odottivat tuoreet jouluoljet, jos vaikka sattui syöminen ja juominen väsyttämään. (TP)

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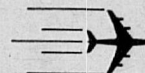
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Jouluaattona Suomen Turusta julistettavan joulurauhan perinne ulottuu kauas vuosisatojen taakse. Keski-ajalla tapa oli yleinen kaikissa Pohjoismaissa. Turussa perinne on kuitenkin jatkunut katkeamattomana, vain sotien pahimpina vuosina joulurauha on jäänyt julistamatta.

Turun maakuntamuseon tutkija Tarja-Tuulikki Laaksonen kertoo, että tiedossa ei kuitenkaan ole, milloin joulurauha Turussa ensimmäisen kerran julistettiin.

"Oletettavasti se tapahtui silloin, kun virallinen ero kirkollisen ja maallisen vallan

välillä 1320-luvulla oli tapahtunut."

Tuon ajan laissa oli 27 erilaista rauhaa, mm. naisrauha, laivarauha, saunarauha, kirkkorauha ja käräjärauha. Ns. tilannerauhaan kuuluivat sekä joulurauha että markkinarauha, joka myös oleellisesti liittyy Turun Suurtorin historiaan.

Julistukset tapahtuivat alkoinaan "raatihuoneen ovista ja ikkunoista".

"Käytännössä se tarkoitti Turun Suurtorin yläpäässä olevaa raatihuonetta, jonka tiedetään sijainneen samalla paikalla aina 1320-luvulta lähtien. Sieltä tapahtuivat



Joulurauhan julistus tapahtuu tänään vuonna tältä tutulta parvekkeelta.

Julistuksen aina Turun paloon asti", kertoo Laaksonen.

Palon jälkeen Brinkkalasta tuli kaupungin uusi raatihuone, jonka keski-ikkunasta julistus annettiin. Nykyiseltä Brinkkalan parvekkeelta joulurauha on julistettu vuodesta 1886 lähtien.

Ainoastaan vuosina 1721, 1809, 1917 ja 1939 tiedetään tämän keskiaikaisen perinteen jääneen julistamatta.

Nykyisen joulurauhan pohjana on maistraatin sihteerin muistista kirjoittama sanamuoto, sillä alkuperäinen tuhoutui Turun palossa.

Vanhoissa maistraatin pöytäkirjoissa käytetty merkintä "utblåsa julfred" viittaa tutkijan mukaan tilaisuudessa esitetyn musiikin merkitykseen.

"Joulurauha onkin myös Turun vanhin musiikkiperinne", Laaksonen toteaa.

Asiakirjat tietävät kertoa, että soittimina on käytetty jousisoittimia, säkkipilliä ja patarumpuja.

1700-luvulla isonvihan jälkeen soittimina olivat käyrätorvet, myöhemmin soittajiksi kutsuttiin henkivartiorykmentin oboistit. Musiikista ovat vastanneet lisäksi mm. Turun Soittannollinen Seura, venäläinen sotilassoittokunta jatkuu sivulla 13

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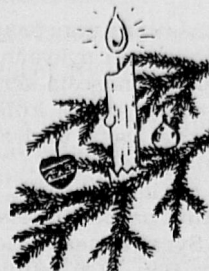
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Pyhän Lucian muistoon liittyvät Suomessa nykyään joulun ajan alkamisesta kertovat Lucia-neidot, jotka kulkueineen tuovat valoa talvisen pimeyden keskelle.

Pyhä Lucia oli neitsyt, joka surmattiin uskonvainioissa Sisilian Syrakusassa vuonna 304 jKr. Hän oli suosituimpia kristittyjen varhaisimmista marttyyreista ja hänellä oli runsaasti palvojia jo 300-luvun päätyttyä. Pyhää Luciaa on rukoillu keskiajalla avuksi erityisesti kaulan kasvaimissa

sekä sokeudessa ja silmätautteissa. Hänestä on säilynyt muistumia myös suomalaisessa kansanperinteessä.

Lucian marttyyrikuolema

Lucia oli syntynyt varakaasta syrakusalaisesta perheestä. Apokryfisten kirjoitusten mukaan hänen äitinsä oli parantunut sairaudesta Cataniassa vuonna 251 marttyyrina kuolleen Agathan pyhänjäännösten äärellä. Silloin Lucia kääntyi kristinuskoon ja vannoi valan seu-

rata neitsytenä Pyhää Agathaa. Lucia sai pyynnöstä äidiltään oman myötäjäisossuutensa ja jakoi sen köyhille.

Silloin nuorukainen, jolle Lucia oli kihlattu, ilmiantoi hänet Paschasiukselle, Rooman keisarin paikalliseen käskynhaltijalle. Tämä tuomitsi Lucian viettäväksi ilotuloon ja pakotettavaksi prostituutioon. Kertomuksen mukaan jumalallinen välitulo ehkäisi määräyksen toimeenpanon.

Luciaa ei voitu minkään voiman avulla siirtää paikalta, jossa hän seiso. Hänen ympärilleen sytytettiin polttorovio, mutta sen paremmin tuli, kiehuva öljy kuin palava pikikään eivät pystyneet vahingoittamaan häntä. Lopulta pyöveli surmasi hänet lävistämällä miekalla hänen kaulansa.

Todellisuudessa Lucia lienee joutunut kristittyjen vainon uhriksi keisari Diocletianuksen hallituskauden lopulla vuonna 304.

Erään legendan mukaan Lucia olisi itse repinyt silmät päästään ja lähettänyt ne pakanalliselle nuorukaiselle, joka oli hullaantunut hänen silmiensä kauneudesta. Jumala oli kuitenkin antanut Lucialle uudet, entistä kauniimmat silmät.

Taru kertoo, että nuorukaisen kääntyi tapahtuman seurauksena kristinuskoon. Historiallisesti ei ole todisteita, jotka puhuisivat Lucian sokeuden puolesta.

Legenda Lucian silmien menettämisestä ja takaisin saamisesta ilmaantui julkisuuteen vasta 1300-luvulla erityisesti Italiassa ja Espanjassa.

jatkuu sivulla 14

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jatkoa sivulta 12

jassa. Siitä lähtien häntä alettiin kuvata tavallisimmin pitämässä toisessa kädessä palmunoksaa ja toisessa kädessä laakeaa maljaa, jossa on silmämunat.

Nykyajan Lucia-netto

Keski-Euroopasta ja erityisesti Saksasta siirtyi 1600- ja 1700-luvulla monia joulutapoja Ruotsiin. Länsi-Ruotsissa saksalaisten "Kinkejens" yhdistettiin Lucianpäivän viettoon ja joulutyttöselälle annettiin Pyhän Lucian nimi. Lucia-juhla alettiin pian viettää myös ylioppilasosakunnissa sekä kouluissa. Lucian päivä osui nimittäin koulujen viimeiseen työpäivään ennen joululoman alkamista ja koulujen Lucian päivän aamujuhlilla on tietoja Tukholmasta 1740-luvulta.

Muutokset Lucian päivän vietossa vakiintuivat 1700-luvun puolivälissä kalenteri-uudistuksen seurauksena. Silloin syntyi myös uudenlainen "lussebruden", Luciamorsian, joka valkoisiin puettuna ja kynttiläkruunu hiuk-

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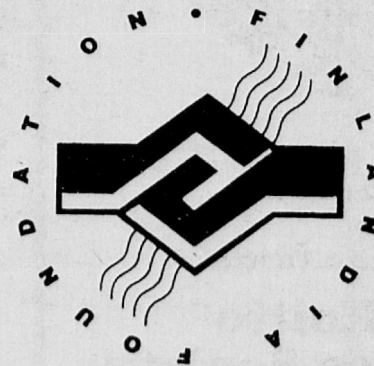
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NEW YORK METROPOLITAN CHAPTER

Holiday Greetings from Connecticut and Rhode Island

Some history of the Connecticut Finns

This glimpse into Connecticut's Finnish history comes from the 1950 edition of the Siirtokansan Kalenteri.

The late Nanni Lassila (1900-1984) writes about the Finns

of Canterbury and the Finnish hall located there and the late Elina Holm writes about the Finns of Voluntown.

The publication of this trans-

lated by Nanni Lassila & Elina Holm translated by Roy Helander

lation in RAIVAAJA is supported in part by a grant from the Finlandia Foundation Trust.

Canterbury and Canterbury Hall

When the Gronman's arrived in 1918, the area already contained the Havunen, Eastlund, Larson, Luoma and Siironen families. 1919 saw the arrival of the Vaara, Salminen, Viljanen, Ukkonen, Saastamoinen, Engman, Laakso, Saario, Johnson, Aho, Wäisänen and Hamlin as well as the Michelson, Kallio and Aarnio families.

Finns living in other places have the impression that Canterbury contains the major Finnish settlement in Connecticut, but in truth the greater part of the Finns live in the areas surrounding Canterbury. It is the "Canterbury Hall" which has influenced the Finnish awareness of the area.

The first cooperative effort was "the Finnish Farmer's Society of Canterbury". I believe it only had 9 members at first. One of the bylaws states: "The purpose of this Society is to provide a place for social contact for its membership, promote and provide courses, lectures, book discussions, plays and amusements for their intellectual and ethnical betterment; make available books and magazines to promote the knowledge of its members and further their appreciation of their social responsibilities."

Meetings were held in homes in turn. The Grange Hall was rented for programs and picnics were held on the banks of the Quinebaug River, which flows through Canterbury. On Nov. 2, 1919 the Farmer's Society joined the Socialist Party and later the Finnish American League for Democracy. It developed into the strongest Finnish society in the area. The Finns of Canterbury belonged to many different groups, as was true in all Finnish settlements in America.

Renting the Grange Hall often resulted in scheduling problems and thus the idea of their own hall germinated slowly. 15 acres of land was purchased beside Rte 93. The sale was finalized on Sept. 18, 1924 and the building of the hall was started immediately with work bees. Paid help was of course also necessary before the hall attained the state in which it stands today.

The women worked along with the men, even in laying the floors. Horses were the main mode of transportation in those days and Mr. Saastamoinen remembers that on one of the trips to the hall, the horse ate his straw hat.

It was a time of battles! A rich neighbor promised a thousand dollars for the land if a hall were not to be built and a hundred dollars for him who could negate the sale. In spite of adversities, the hall was finished, slowly but surely.

ly. Christmas of 1925 and the new year of 1926 were splendidly celebrated at their own hall.

The heating equipment was created by Mr. Kallio. It was made from a tar barrel from which a chimney led to

turn to CONNECTICUT page 18

Season's Greetings from Connecticut and Rhode Island

We wish to thank all our advertisers in Connecticut - Brooklyn, Danielson, Canterbury, Central Village, Dayville, Jewett City, Moosup, Plainfield, Putnam, Sterling and Voluntown - and in Foster, Rhode Island, for advertising in the annual Christmas Special and wish them the best of holidays.

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CONNECTICUT

from page 17

outside. When logs were thrown on the fire, heat resulted!

Later many active members joined the chapter such as the Siitonen's, the Miller's and others. You might sing of the Miller's as of Maija in the folkplay "Tukkijoella": "The world couldn't even spin, if there weren't a Maija!"

An IWW group rented the Canterbury hall until they decided to build their own in

Brooklyn, Connecticut. The Canterbury society has put on ambitious dramatic productions through their own membership and with visiting artists. But today the Sewing Circle is the activity that keeps the hall going. The Finns are getting old here as elsewhere, and since there are not enough immigrants coming in, activities begin to wane.

I would like to mention

many, many individuals by name of those who have come here in more recent years, but space does not permit it. We can only raise our hats to those hard working pioneers, the efforts of whose labors have led to later accomplishments.

Let me say in closing that the town of Canterbury is the only one in the area where the Finns have paid any attention to town politics. When the Finns became interested in town matters, we attained such results that one year, no taxes had to be collected, and thereby the town and the Finns became so well known that reporters from large magazines came to take pictures and interview Finns.

Nanni Lassila

The Finns of Voluntown

The lively Matti Kurikka, who spread much enthusiasm abroad, must have already tired in his efforts to create idealic communities. In 1912 he lived on the road leading to Voluntown, near Westerly, edited *New Yorkin Uutiset*, describing in his writings the varied beauty of color and the peace of the countryside.

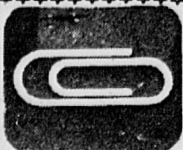
The city Finns were inspired by the writings of "Penkere" and so a second part of Matti's activities, real estate dealings, brought forth desired results. In 1914 he directed Matti Koistisen's family to a place called Pendelton Hill in Voluntown. The Lybeck's, friends of Matti from Malkosaari times, settled at Beach Pond. Mr. Lybeck tells that some Finn had lived here before him, for

a short time. On his arrival, after we came here," continues Mr. Lybeck. "The last an opinion that Finns were time I saw him, he had come restless people and predicted to sell my son his old that Lybeck would soon close Cadillac. 'It goes as if it had wings!' said Matti in his eloquent manner. We thought anywhere," said Mr. Lybeck. that this old car had strained Matti's tender nerves, tired by his numerous creative efforts; to support 9 children." (The he wanted to get rid of his car Lybecks live here still. They and the cold winters of Connecticut. His planned addition to their farm.) move to Florida did not take

"Matti Kurikka died soon place, however, for the next

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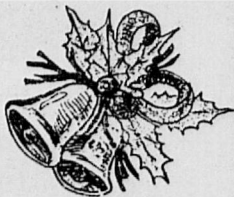
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from previous page

day we heard that Matti had closed his eyes for the last time."

The local Americans knew nothing about the Finns, remembers Mrs. Koistinen. They had heard rumors of our

argumentative natures and our bravery in fights, so that at first some neighbors came to see us with a stick in hand, but we have lived together as good neighbors ever since.

Every year the number of Finns in the town increased. To make their living, some

began to work at known skills, others farmed, raised cattle and during the summers boarded children and some adults from New York City for vacations. We went to the store by horse and that was usually a whole day trip.

These new settlers were only approaching middle-age, but they had inherited many skills from their homes and new skills were learned at both work and social activities. Many had experience in labor movements, others had been in the temperance movement and some in religious societies.

Out here in the country, a feeling of belonging together was perhaps predominant. Seven families sent representatives to the first meeting which was called together on Feb. 4, 1923 at Joel E. Viljanen's farm. The next few meetings saw more families joining. Of them all, the Viljanen, Luoto, H. Matson, Lybeck, Westerlund, Haikman, Koistinen, Karjala, Laine and Mattson families have influenced the progress of the society right up to this day.

The new society was christened "Pyrintö" and its first bylaw was: "The improvement of the economic condition and the advancement of the intellectual level of the membership through lawful means." Membership was open to all Finns, regardless of age or political party affiliation. The Society has remained impartial in these matters. In 1924 it was incorporated with the state under the name "Aura Seura".

At first the Finnish meetings, programs, picnics and sewing bees were held at the homes and farms of various members. The society even had a lending library. Sunday school teachers were appointed from the membership. Various farm machinery was bought for the use of all the members.

An accordion was probably the first piece of property owned by the society. It was played by O. Lindberg, but by 1927 there were so many musicians in the group, that a brass band was formed. E. Karjala, O. Lindquist and J. Wallin promised to promote that activity.

The purchase of grain from the Midwestern cooperatives had been discussed at the first meetings. June 19, 1927 was the date of a meeting at the E. Nyman farm, for founding a cooperative. The discussions of this meeting were then repeated at the Aura Society meeting and they decided to buy ten shares of the Plainfield Buying Club and join them, first as some sort of branch, later legalized as "The Volun-town Farmers' Co-op Association, Inc."

Land was purchased in the middle of the town from H. Lammi and a building was erected for grain storage, distribution and sale. Aura Society gave a \$500 loan to buy building supplies. The

turn to CONNECTICUT page 20

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CONNECTICUT from page 19

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opening of the grain storage was celebrated on Nov. 19, 1927. The cooperative attracted younger families also: the Viljanen (Williams), Mattson, Lindberg and Mallinen families among others.

In 1929 they dared to take out a loan and build meeting quarters at the left end of the grain storage and so the foundation for the Aura Hall was laid.

As a result of the bad times or the influential speakers, at the turn of the decade several families sold their farms and went to find their fortune in Russian Karelia. But new Finns came to Voluntown from New York and the society gained many new active members: the Sihvonen, Helander, Hartikka, Anttila, Green, Hovi and Salmi families.

Poultry production began to grow. Larger and ever more modern poultry houses were built. University lecturers and home economic teachers began to visit from American sources and finally the town began to improve the roads which had been one black lane of mud every spring and fall. Automobile tires sank in up their axels and the motor could pull only a foot at a time. Some times a driver, out late, tired, left his car, walked the long distance home and returned the next morning with an axe to chop his wheels free from the frozen mud.

Things got better. Roads were built, electricity arrived bringing lights, stoves and refrigerators. Houses became prettier and daily life became easier.

On almost every farm you could see the blue-grey, twisting smoke rising from the brooderhouse chimney. It spread out over the bright late winter sky, expressing hope and daring. Feedgrain was no longer purchased in small increments. Some farms bought it a carload at a time. The grain storage area became the stage of the Aura Hall and a refreshment facility was built at the other end of the hall. Several plays have been presented in recent years.

Finnish relief activity has taken place locally from the first meeting in Nov. 1939 on. Almost every one has taken part in this cooperative effort. Once America went to war, we worked to help our adopted homeland.

Now the children of the older generation have reached middle age. They are visible in many professions: in teaching, medical, engineering, office and business positions. The majority, however, have remained here to raise poultry. The farmer's society Aura lives on still. It was at its peak three or four years ago when its membership and supporters numbered 100. Now the activities have waned. Those born in America have their own society. A

religious society has also been in existence locally for some years. Pastor V. Heiman comes monthly to conduct services.

Whatever the direction in which our Finnish activities take place, the economic successes are the result of heavy labor. When you drive down the twisting but good roads of Voluntown, passing the one

Elina Holm

PYHÄ ...
jatkoa sivulta 14

sillaan tarjosi Lucianpäivän aamuna unesta heräävälle talon väelle kahvia ja syötävää.

Päivän erikoisuutena oli kahvileipänä tarjottu Lucianpäivän leipä, joka oli valmistettu saharilla keltaiseksi tehdystä taikinasta.

Ensimmäisen uuden tavan mukaisen "lussebruden" kerrotaan esiintyneen eräällä Länsi-Göötanmaan linnassa vuonna 1763. Tietoja Lucianhiuksillaan kantamasta kynttiläkruunusta on olemassa 1800-luvun alusta.

Lucian päivän vietto yleistyi myös Suomessa ja "lussetit" tansseineen olivat normaalina tapana Porvoon lyseossa 1860-luvulla. Kouluista Lucia-juhla levisi myös yksityisiin koteihin. Perheissä tavallisimmin nuorin tytär sai aamulla valkoisiin puettuna, puolukanvarvuisia punottu kynttiläkruunu päässään, kantaa vielä nukkuvien perheenjäsenten vuoteen vierelle aamiaistarjottimen.

Suomessa Lucian päivän

juhla levisi kouluista myös eräisiin ruotsinkielisiin klubeihin ja yhdistyksiin, joissa se antoi aiheen pikkujoulun viettoon työpaikoilla ja likeyrityksissä.

Nykyinen Lucianpäivän vietto valon juhlanä 13. p:nä joulukuuta on peräisin Ruotsista 1920-luvun lopulta. Stockholm Dagblad herätti nimittäin vuonna 1927 henkiin uuden Lucia-kultin, Lucianeidon valitsemisen ja kulkueet. Lehti järjesti vuonna 1928 ensimmäisen kerran Lucia-neidon vaalin, kruunaamisen kynttiläkruunulla ja mahtavan kulkueen läpi kaupungin. Ruotsissa tapa levisi pian myös sairaaloihin ja muihin laitoksiin.

Asia sai pian huomiota myös Suomessa, sillä helsinkiläinen Allas Krönika -lehti julkaisi 1.11.1930 mainoskirjoituksen "Luciakulkue ja suuri kauneuspalkintokilpailu". Helsingin ruotsalainen laulajainliitto järjestikin samana ja seuraavana vuonna loistavat juhlallisudet Lucia-vaaleineen ja kulkueineen.

jatkuu sivulla 34

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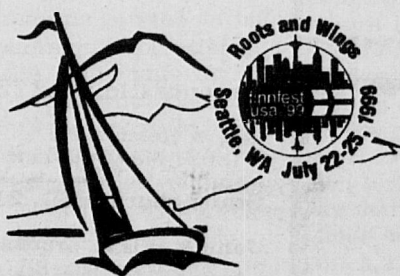
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Hyvää joulua!*

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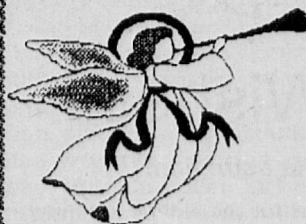
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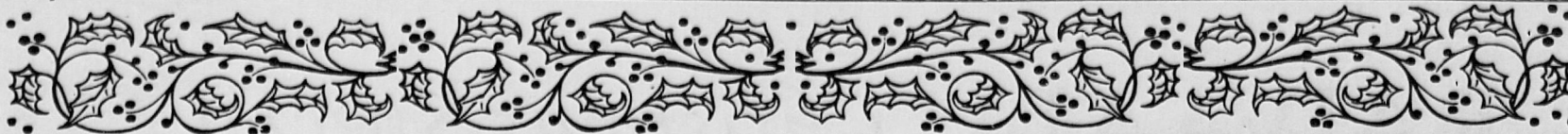


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kultapilven luo.
silmät lemmityn
ehkä näkisin,
huulten hymyilyn.

Vaikka kätkeisit
laakson kiven taa,
taikka porolla
metsään rientäisit:
kivet hongat ois
tieltäin käypä pois.

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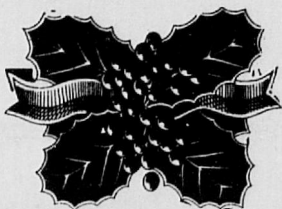
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Tiina ja Matias pääsevät Anaheimiin

SINI HARJUNMAA
HOLDEN, MA
&
TARU KINNUNEN
MARLBORO, MA

Suomalainen Sydänlapset -lehti haki elokuussa viittä halukasta sydänlasta matkalle Teemu ja Sirpa Selänteen vieraksi Anaheimiin. Matka kuuluu *Sydämellä mukana - With All My Heart* -kampanjaan. Mukaan ilmoittautui määräraikkaan mennessä nelisenkymmentä halukasta, joista osa jouduttiin karsimaan heti liian heikon kunnon vuoksi.

Kaksitoistatuntinen lento Helsingistä alkavyöhykkeiden yli länsirannikolle ja viikon mittainen oleskelu ohjelmien vaati osanottajilta hyvää voimaa. Lopullinen valinta tehtiin arpomalla. Pohjois-Suomesta matkalle pääsee Tiina Kuusela Limingasta, etelästä löytyi onnekas helsinkiläinen Matias Lankinen.

Tapaaminen Helsingissä

Tapaan Matiasen Helsingin Itäkeskuksessa marraskuun puolivälissä. Hento vaaleahiuksinen ja muutenkin hyvin vaaleanholoinen koululainen astuu eteeni sovittuna aikana. Amerikantäti ei tiedä, missä meluisassa kaupakeskuksessa löytyisi sopivan rauhallisen haastattelunurkka, joten poika ottaa varman rauhallisesti ohjat käsiinsä. Siirrymme yläkertaan Stockmannin buffet-terassille, jossa kevyen välipalan lomassa Matias vastaa tyynesti kysymyksiini.

Synnynnäinen sydänvika

Matias syntyi Helsingissä kaksitoista vuotta sitten. Uudella tulokkaalla havaittiin synnynnäinen sydänvika, joka leikattiin pian syntymän jälkeen ja pikkuruiseen sydämeen asennettiin tahdistin. Koulun alaluokilla Matias joutui tahdistimen vuoksi olemaan tovereitaan varovaisempi varsinkin liikuntatunneilla. Pari vuotta sitten pojalle asennettiin uusi, nykyaikainen tahdistin, jonka avulla hän pystyy nyt elämään entistä helpommin.

Uusia kokemuksia

Matias on perheineen matkustellut jonkin verran. Pari kertaa Ruotsin laivoilla ja muutama lento Välimeren lomakohteisiin on jo koettu, nyt on edessä Suuri Seikkailu. Matkalta Matias odottaa uusia kokemuksia. Vierailu Disneylandissa on ollut pojan haaveena jo kauan, tällä matkalla se sitten toteutuukin. Paljon muutakin uutta ja jännittävää on matkalla luvassa. Yksi kohokohdista on tietenkin vierailu Sirpa ja Teemu Selänteen kotona.

Asiallinen nuorimies

Matias on hyvin rauhallinen ja asiallinen nuorimies, joka vastaa kysymyksiini lyhyesti ja nasevasti. Hänen harrastuksensa on pianonsoitto ja suunnitelmista on jatkua soittotehtävistä kevyen musiikin

puolelle.

Kun kyselen häneltä, mistä hän koulussa pitää, tulee vastaus nopeasti: "Siitä, kun se loppuu."

Tulevaisuuden haaveena Matiasella on kavereiden kanssa yhteinen bändi. Siinä hänen osansa olisi laulusolistina. Poika myös alustavasti lupaa "koittaa soittaa jotakin" tammikuun matkallamme, kenties jossain illanvietossa muiden iloksi.

Tavoitellessani kameraani Matias ottaa jälleen ohjat suvereenisti käsiinsä.

"Älä ota kuvaa tässä. Menään tonne ylös katolle, siellä ulkona saa parempia kuvia."

Amerikantäti totelee. Nousemme rullaportaat Itäkeskuksen katolle, jonka parkkipaikalla paistaa marraskuun aurinko. Nappaan pojasta muutaman kuvan ja palaamme takaisin alakertaan.



Matias Lankinen

Kuva: Sini Harjunmaa

Kiitän häntä haastattelusta ja toivotan hänelle hyvää kotimatkaa. Tapaamislin Anaheimissa!

Tiinan kertomus

Tiina Kuusela kertoo RAIVAAJALLE itsestään näin:

"Olen Tiina Kuusela Pohjois-Suomesta. Olen yksi niistä viidestätoista onnekaasta lapsesta, jotka Teemu ja Sirpa Selänteen ovat kutsuneet luokseen Kaliforniaan, tammikuussa 2000.

Kun synnyin vuonna 1987, minulla todettiin sydänvika. Minulla on aorttaläpän ahtautuma, joka vaikeuttaa sydämen veren kulkeutumista kehoon. Minulla on kuitenkin ollut onni elää aktiivista ja ihanaa elämää, joka ei olisi onnistunut ilman oikeaa lääkitystä, leikkausta ja tehtyä pallolaajennusta.

Joskus en voi tehdä samoja kuin muut lapset. Esimerkiksi olen yksi viidestä onnellisesta voittajasta, jotka valittiin seikkailuleirille. Osallistumiseni peruutettiin kun kuultiin, että minulla on sydänvika. Osallistumiseni olisi kuulemma ollut liian suuri riski. Olin hyvin surullinen ja pettynyt.

Seuraavana päivänä aurinko hymyili minulle pilvettömältä taivaalta. Suru muuttui iloksi. Olin laittanut hakemuksen Sydänlapset ry:lle ja sain vastauskirjeen, jossa sanottiin, että minut oli valittu mukaan matkalle. Hypin, pompin ja huusin ilosta.

Siskoni, veljeni, isäni, äitini ja lääkärimme olivat yhtä innoissaan kuin minäkin. Lääkärimme antoi minulle luvan lähteä, vaikka minulle elokuussa tehtiin pallolaajennus, koska matkalla on mukana myös suomalainen lääkäri, kardiologi. Tuntuu kuin kaikki auringonkukat hymyilisivät



Tiina Kuusela

minulle. OLEN INNOISSANI!!

Minulta on usein kysytty onko sydänsairauteni aiheuttanut ongelmia. En koskaan ajattele näin, koska kaikilla on jotain ongelmia. Esimerkiksi veljelläni on keliakia. Melkein kaikissa tuotteissa mitä me terveet syömmme, on viljaa. Näitä ei veljeni voi syödä ja se tuntuu joskus epäoikeudenmukaiselta. Siskollani on astma. Talvikaudet täällä Pohjois-Suomessa ovat kylmiä, joskus jopa melkein 40 astetta pakkasta. Kuiva ilma tekee hengittämisen vaikeaksi ja aiheuttaa joskus hengenahdistuksia. Onneksi minun kaksi nuorinta sisarustani ovat tervettä.

Molemmat vanhempani ovat tehneet eteemme kaikkensa, minkä ovat työltään kerinneet. Me lapset tiedämme, ettei heillä ole rahaa eikä aikaa matkustella kanssamme. Minua onni potkasi kun vain lähteä Kaliforniaan. Odotan Teemun tapaamisen lisäksi tapaamista amerikkalaisten lasten kanssa, joilla on samojä sydänvikoja kuin minulla.

Ystävät ovat ainakin minulle olleet elämäni tärkein asia. Toivon, että heistä tulisi minulle sellaisia."

Kampanja jatkuu

Sydämellä mukana -kampanja on edelleen käynnissä. Tarkoituksena on kerätä varoja lasten matkaan sekä Los Angelesissa mahdollisesti luovutettavaan kiipeilytelineeseen First Boundless Playgroundilla.

Suomi-koululaiset myyvät pinssejä kampanjan hyväksi. Myynnissä ovat edelleen myös Teemu Selänteen ja Jari Kurrin henkilökohtaisesti singneeratut jääkiekkomailat (\$100) sekä harvinaisuus, Teemun säveltämä, sanoittama ja laulama CD-sinkku "Lätkäammattilainen" (\$500). Myös rahalahjoituksia otetaan mielellään vastaan.

Verovähennyskelpoiset shekit tulee osoittaa Finlandia Foundation Boston Inc.:lle ja niiden "Memo" -kohtaan tulisi lisätä maininta "Sydämellä mukana - With All My Heart". Shekit voi lähettää osoitteella With All My Heart, Finlandia Foundation - Boston Inc., P.O. Box 308, Arlington, MA 02174-0004.

Tiedusteluihin vastaa Taru Kinnunen, puh. 617-753-9377 (työ).

Kampanjan edistymistä voi myös seurata nettisivuilta www.withallmyheart.org

From the desk of Stig Häggblom:

Kaikki suomalaiset, lähipitäen, tietävät minkälaisia kuperkeikkoja tehtiin maan pankkimaailmassa 90-luvulla. Ne olivat kirveleviä kokemuksia ja monelle vieläpä kovia omakohtaisesti.

Kaikki eivät suinkaan antaneet tukeaan entiselle pääministeri Harri Holkerille, kun hän sanoi: "On lottovoitto syntynä Suomessa."

Minuakin, tämän kirjoittajaa, ärsytti pitkin matkaa monet asiat ja kummallisuudet. KOP esimerkiksi, eräs pankki jossa minulla oli tili, sai kerran aikaan sen, että avasin siellä dollaritilin. Kun olin usein työmatkoilla ulkomailla ja jotain rahaa oli jäänyt taskuun, oli kätevää tallentaa ylimääräiset dollaritilille seuraavaa matkaa ajatellen. Dollarit olivat tilillä dollareina, pankki vakuutti, ja näin ollen Suomen markan kurssiheilahdukset eivät vaikuttaneet siihen.

Mutta kaikki ei ollut ikuista. KOP:n dollaritili minun osaltani muuttui tietämättäni. Tilille oli merkitty dollareita, mutta kun rahojä nosti, ne kierrätettiin sen päivän Suomen markan kurssin mukaan. Dollaritilillä olikin vain markkoja!

Lopetin tilin välittömästi ja kirjoitin USA:n puolelta asiaa kirjeen pankinjohtaja Pertti Voutilaiselle. Pankilta tulikin vastauskirje, mutta se oli erään sihteerin kirjoittama. Asiaa yritettiin selvittää minulle. Kirjoitin uuden kirjeen pankinjohtaja Voutilaiselle. Pyysin häntä esittämään mieltäni pankkinsa hallinto-neuvostolle, jonka johtotehtävistä muistikuvani mukaan Aatos Erkko oli silloin jo eronnut.

Meni joitakin viikkoja ja sitten tuli pankilta selvitys, jossa minulle kerrottiin tilitetty summa, joka osapuolteen vastasi menetystä, jonka n.s.

Pankinjohtajasta puulattiaksi?

dollaritilini oli kurssiheilahtelujen takia kärsinyt.

Pankinjohtaja Pertti Voutilaiselta en kuullut mitään ja pian oli hänen pankkinsakin

muuttanut nimeä. Ensiksi siitä tuli Merita ja nykyisin tämä pankki kantaa nimeä

jatkuu sivulla 35



Aikamolta surffaamista on ollut pankkitointina Suomen maassa koko 90-luvun. RAIVAAJAN kolumnisti Stig Häggblom käsittelee aihetta tämän viikkoisessa kirjoituksessaan. Pankit ja ihmiset mainitaan omilla nimillään.

Kuva: Hana Hou, Hawaiian Airlines

The Finnish-American

RAIVAAJA



Joulu on jo ovella . . .

Christmas is the most traditional of Finnish festivals. It is a time for the family, close relatives, friends without family, but above all for the children. The good old traditional dishes appear on the Christmas dining table year after year. Casserole dishes Finnish cuisine at its best can easily be made a few days beforehand.

Casserole dishes form the main part of the hot dishes served at Christmas. They are very useful from the hostesses' point of view because they can be prepared well in advance. They keep well for two or three days when stored in a cool place the flavor of the rutabaga casserole, for instance, improves with reheating.

Homemade casseroles are Finnish cuisine at its best: nutritious and much easier to prepare than one would imagine and also exceptionally economical.

Rutabaga casserole

Preparation time: 25 - 30 minutes. Boiling time for the rutabagas: 30 - 40 minutes. Cooking time 1/2 - 2 hours. Oven temperature: 350°F. Suitable for freezing

2 large rutabagas, 3 1/2 lb
1 1/2 cups cream or mixture of cream and milk
3/4 cup dried breadcrumbs
1/3 cup dark syrup
1 egg
1 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon white pepper
1/2 teaspoon grated nutmeg
1 tablespoon salt
Coating: dried breadcrumbs, butter

1. Scrub and peel the rutabagas. Cut up into large pieces and boil in slightly salted water until soft.

2. Strain, keep the cooking liquid, and mash or blend the rutabagas in a kitchen blender.

3. Mix in the cream and dried breadcrumb paste, dark syrup, beaten egg and spices, and as much of the cooking liquid as is needed to give a loose soft consistency.

4. Turn into a greased bak-

ing dish, press the surface with a fork to make a pattern, sprinkle over a thin coating of dried breadcrumbs.

5. Dot the top with butter and bake in the oven.

NOTE: The flavor of the rutabaga casserole can be further enhanced by adding some lightly fried, grated onion.

Carrot casserole

Preparation time: 40 minutes. Cooking time: 20 minutes + 1 1/2 hours. Oven temperature: 350°F. Suitable for freezing

3/4 cup rice
1 1/2 cups water
1/2 cup milk
3 teaspoons salt
3 lb carrots
3/4 cup milk or a mixture of cream and milk
1/4 cup butter
3 eggs
1 teaspoon grated nutmeg
1 tablespoon sugar
2 teaspoons salt
Coating: dried breadcrumbs, butter

1. Boil the rice in the water and milk mixture and cook until the rice starts to thicken just a bit.

2. Peel and grate the carrots.

3. Mix the grated carrots, milk, melted butter, eggs and spices into the rice pudding.

4. Pour the mixture into a greased baking dish. Sprinkle with dried breadcrumbs and dot with butter. Bake in the oven until brown all over.

Rice porridge

(for 10 persons)
Preparation time: 10 minutes. Cooking time: 40 minutes. Suitable for freezing.

2 cups water
6 cups milk
1 1/4 cups rice
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 blanched almond

1. Add the rice to the boiling milk and water mixture.

2. Simmer until cooked. Add the salt and one blanched almond. Serve with ground cinnamon, sugar to taste, and milk.

NOTE: The almond is believed to bring good luck to the one round the table who happens to get it.

Mixed fruit soup

Preparation time: 5 minutes. Soaking time: overnight. Cooking time: about 15 minutes.

about 1 lb dried mixed fruit
8 cups water
3/4 cup sugar
stick of cinnamon
(dash of salt)
3 tablespoons potato starch

1. Rinse the mixed fruit in cold water and leave to soak overnight in water containing a little sugar.

2. Boil the fruit in the soaking liquid with the cinnamon and a touch of salt if desired.

3. Continue to boil over a low heat until the fruit is fully cooked.

4. Transfer the fruit with a slotted spoon to the serving dish and remove the stick of cinnamon.

5. Thicken the juice: remove the pan from the heat, mix the potato starch in a little cold water and add in a thin stream to the liquid, stirring continuously. Bring quickly back to the boil without stirring.

6. Pour over the fruit and sprinkle a little sugar over the top.

Joulutortut

Pastry:
7 oz soft butter or margarine
1 cup flour
1/3 cup cold water
1 teaspoon vinegar
Filling:
sweetened prune puree or plum jam

1. Put all the pastry ingredients into a bowl and mix quickly by hand into a dough. Don't knead too much.

2. Put the dough to a cold place to harden.

3. Roll out on a floured board, folding a few times to make a puff pastry, and finally make a 1/2 cm thick sheet.

4. Cut the sheet into 7 x 7 cm squares. Split the corners of each square.

5. Place a bit of prune puree

or plum jam in the middle of each square. Fold over every other split end onto the center, to form a windmill-like pastry.

6. Brush with beaten egg and bake at 450°F (250°C) until light brown. To make round pastries, cut into circles, fill, and fold in half. Bake as above.

Piparkakut

(makes about 200)

Preparation time: 30 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes/batch. Oven temperature: 400°F

1 1/4 cups margarine
1 1/4 cups sugar
3 eggs
1 cup dark syrup
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
2 teaspoons ginger

2 teaspoons ground cloves
1 tablespoon grated orange rind
about 7 cups white flour
3 teaspoons baking soda

1. Boil the syrup and spices, add the margarine and beat until the mixture is cool.

2. Beat the eggs and sugar.

3. Mix the soda in with part of the flour and then combine with the syrup-margarine mixture. Add the whipped eggs and the rest of the flour. Do not knead the final mixture.

4. Cover the dough with plastic wrap and leave overnight in a cool place.

5. Roll out the dough, cut up into shapes and bake the cookies in the oven until golden brown.

Virtual Finland

Christmas in Finland

It has sometimes been said that northern people appreciate Christmas the most, and this does actually seem to be true. After the long, dark and often very wet autumn, Christmas marks the turning point of the year: light begins to win over darkness. It's time to celebrate. Preparing for the year's biggest festival also makes the autumn go faster.

Christmas in Finland is not just Christmas Eve and the two days that follow. It is preceded by a lengthy and cheerful period of busy preparation. For the Church, Christmas begins with the first Sunday in Advent, but long before this, as early as October, countless associations have already set about getting into the holiday spirit.

The first off the line are generally the women's organizations, planning their Christ-

mas bazaars. Members get together in the old Finnish tradition, most often to make Christmas decorations. These evening gatherings could also be regarded as the first Christmas parties, called by the delightful name of *Pikkujoulu*, meaning "Little Christmas", since they always include some type of Christmas program, talks, music and special seasonal delicacies.

The *pikkujoulu* has been part of the Finnish tradition since the 1920's, and every employer of any size arranges one for his staff. Every organization throws a party too. Even town councils may forget their political differences and join forces for one happy evening. They may put on a play or sketch for the amuse-

turn to CHRISTMAS page 33



Lucia



Leonora Curtin Paloheimo 1903 - 1999

One of the leading patrons and advocates of Finnish art and culture has passed away. Leonora Curtin Paloheimo died peacefully on November 27th at the age of 95 in her Acequia Madre, Santa Fe, New Mexico, residence.

Leonora was born December 7, 1903, in Colorado Springs (CO), the daughter of Thomas and Leonora Curtin.

Leonora's father died while she was a young girl and she and her mother moved to Pasadena (CA) to live with her grandmother, Eva Fenyes, on Orange Grove Boulevard.

In the 1930s, Leonora established "The Native Market" in Santa Fe (NM) to provide a venue to assist struggling Hispanic artists to market their weavings, carvings and furniture. She secured federal and state funding to develop vocational training in New Mexico schools.

In 1946, Leonora married Yrjö A. Paloheimo, a Finnish diplomat, the Consul General for Finland in the western United States. This union proved to be a remarkable one.

The Orange Grove Boulevard residence where Leonora was raised and lived became the Finnish Consulate. In 1953, Consul & Mrs. Paloheimo invited local Finnish leaders to the Consulate and they founded Finlandia Foundation National which continues to this day to support Finnish and Finnish-American Culture in the United States.

The Paloheimos also assisted in reviving the Spanish Colonial Arts Society in Santa Fe, establishing a living museum of Spanish colonial history south of Santa Fe called El Rancho de las Golondrinas; entrusted the use of their Pasadena property as a museum for the Pasadena Historical Society; entrusted the use of Consul Paloheimo's estate in Finland to The Sibellus Music Academy, the music school of Finland.

She wrote a book about Finland and shared her husband's passion for Finland, its arts and culture and its people.

Leonora has been recognized for her philanthropy by the president of Finland, king of Spain (highest civil recognition of those countries), the governor of New Mexico (Excellence in The Arts), the University of New Mexico (honorary doctorate) and Suomi College (honorary doctorate).

In addition to her residence in Santa Fe, Leonora maintained a lemon ranch in



Leonora Curtin Paloheimo
Finlandia Foundation photo

Carpinteria (CA) and the Paloheimo family estate, Kallio Kuninkala, in Järvenpää, Finland.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Consul Yrjö A. Paloheimo, in 1986. She leaves four children, George B. Paloheimo, his wife Rita and two grandsons of Santa Fe (NM), Eric Paloheimo of La Cienega (NM), Eva Paloheimo, of Santa Fe, and Nina Bovio, her husband Vincent and six grandchildren of Brighton, (MI).

She also leaves behind a legacy of history and art for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

The family requests that any donations in her memory be made to: Finlandia Foundation, c/o P. O. Box 665, Solvang CA 93464.

Finlandia Foundation

FAR to relocate

SUPERIOR, WI - Hancock, Michigan, will be the new home for *The Finnish American Reporter*, following a November 26th decision by the Työmies Society to transfer publication of the paper to offices on the campus of Suomi College.

The paper's new offices will be in Kivi House on the Suomi campus adjacent to the Finnish American Heritage Center.

Currently published in Superior, *The Reporter* is an English-language monthly which the Työmies Society began publishing 13 years ago. The society board of directors has been looking for a new home for the paper for several years.

The January 2000 issue will be the last put together in the Society's Tower Avenue office. Current FAR editor, Nan Männikkö, will remain with the paper to help with the transition to Hancock.

News from Finland

Lipponen: EU must help balance world economic trends

The European Union should accept a bigger role in balancing global economic trends, Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen (SDP) of current EU president Finland said last week.

In a speech to European employers, Lipponen warned them against assuming the U.S. growth engine would keep pulling as strongly as it had.

"With growth slowing down in the United States and economic recovery in Japan still looking rather weak, the European Union must accept some responsibility for the balanced development of the world economy," Lipponen said in a written speech.

"Though we can feel fairly relaxed about future trends in the world economy at the moment, Europe should also prepare itself to hear less good news about the external economic environment," Lipponen added.

Internally, Europe should develop its own labor market model, which is based on competition and cooperation, not copy other countries' models, he said. (STT)

Independence Day celebrated in style

The 82nd celebration of the anniversary of Finland's independence went ahead peacefully across the country. As is traditional, the day began with the raising of the Finnish flag at dawn, involved a military parade (held on this occasion in Huitinen), the award of around 5,000 honors for service, and climaxed in the gala reception held in Helsinki and hosted by president Martti Ahtisaari and Mrs. Eeva Ahtisaari.

The discussions amongst the nearly 2,000 guests often revolved around the millennium, and another hot topic was the upcoming presidential elections. Five of the seven candidates were present "to measure the curtains" as it were, although foreign minister Tarja Halonen (SDP) was unable to attend as she was in an EU meeting in Brussels.

Probably the most patriotic moment of the evening took place very early on, with the arrival of 94-year-old General Adolf Ehrnrooth, the seventh general in his family and a man who was present as a youth at the time of the country's first Independence Day, and who also played a significant part during Finland's two wars with the Soviet Union, being awarded the highest Finnish military honor, the Mannerheim Cross.

Speaking on television shortly before the arduous task of shaking 2,000 hands, President Ahtisaari commented that during his six-year term of

turn to INDEPENDENCEpage27

Finns now pay quarter of health expenses

These days Finns pay around a quarter of their health costs directly. This share is the second-largest of the OECD countries, with only the Portuguese paying a greater share. The figures were announced recently by Aki Lindén, Senior Physician for the West Finland Medical Area, who also stated that he believes the share will increase still further if the State and the municipalities shrink from stepping up funding for public health services, in spite of increasing GDP. (HS)

HS poll: Esko Aho into the lead, Halonen goes past Rehn

The results of a new *Helsingin Sanomat* opinion poll indicate that both the Centre Party's Esko Aho and Social Democrat Tarja Halonen have made ground. The study, carried out at the end of last week and the beginning of this week, gives Aho 27 percent, pushing him past Riitta Uosukainen (NCP) on 26 percent. Halonen (24 percent) overtakes Elisabeth Rehn (Swedish People's Party), who has seen her support decline from 23 percent to 18 percent.

Esko Aho's rise into the lead is impressive, a full 4%-points since the last Suomen Gallup study carried out for *Helsingin Sanomat* in November. An equally powerful surge of support can be seen in the case of Foreign Minister Tarja Halonen, who had lagged behind the other three major candidates until recently, prompting suggestions that her campaign was in trouble.

The two losers in this case are Uosukainen and Rehn, both of whom have seen a sizeable slice (4 and 5 %-points respectively) taken off their expected share. (HS)

Koivisto: 1970s were not 'Years of Danger'

In the view of former President Mauno Koivisto, the years at the beginning of the 1970s did not offer a repeat of the immediate post-war "Years of Danger" (1944-48), when an internal coup and the loss of Finnish independence were threatened. Speaking in a television interview aired on Independence Day, Koivisto debunked the theories that Finland would also have been under pressure or under direct threat from the Soviet Union at this later time.

"I believe that I was extremely well informed on what was happening in the nation at that particular juncture," said Koivisto, and he added that the matter had subsequently been studied from the files of the Security Police. "There are no indications that what was going on then could be construed as a significant threat to our independence."

Koivisto regards the claims of a repeat performance of the "Years of Danger" drama as a device used by researchers to attract attention to their work. The concept of such a repeat was put forward as early as in 1996 by Juhani Suomi in his multi-volume biography of the life and work of long-serving President Urho Kekkonen, when discussing Kekkonen's career from 1968-72. The term was used to describe a period in which the USSR sought to erode Finnish non-alignment, begin military cooperation, and gradually unsettle the country's internal political structure with a view to taking over. (HS)

Bits and pieces

Poorly carried out deregulation of the financial markets in the 1980s rather than bad luck with international events is the main reason for Finland's high level of structural unemployment, says a study conducted at the University of Helsinki. (HS)

MeritaNordbanken says it wants to thoroughly study the recent Norwegian government report on the sale of Christiania before deciding whether to extend its offer period for the Norwegian bank, due to end this week. (HS)

Finnish Center at Saima Park

Figure skating during Christmas vacation

Weather permitting the ice rink will open Sunday, Dec. 26, and will remain open daily for the Christmas vacation. Skating is free for Finnish Center members and their children. Membership is \$20 for adults. Make checks payable to Finnish Center at Saima Park and mail to Sally Tracy, 511 Greenville Rd.,

Ashby MA 01431.

During regular season free skating is limited to Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons. Unlimited, full season skating is available by membership in the skating committee.

For more information call board director Joan Niehaus at 978-345-1693.

Finnish Center at Saima Park

Finnish Center at Saima Park Celebrate with Us New Year's Eve Year 2000

7 pm - ?

Social Hour
Dancing
Buffet & Coffee Service

Music for dancing by
Veikko & Juhani

Tickets \$10/person.

Available at Raivaaaja, 164 Elm St., Fitchburg, MA

A Finnish Christmas Cookbook

by
Sargit Warriner
&
Liisa Krumsieg

Today's Christmas celebration in Finland mainly comes from genteel customs that evolved in the city life and gradually spread to all parts of the country during the past 100 years. The authors trace the origin of Finnish Christmas customs to harvest times, and many of those rituals are still practiced today.

A fundamental part of the celebration in Finland is the food preparation that creates a special aroma of Christmas that fills the kitchen and permeates the rest of the house. Many traditional recipes are found in this book.

The authors are both natives of Finland and currently live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

soft cover, illustrated with photographs & drawings, 109 pages

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Fitchburg, MA

Holiday favorites in library musical program

A traditional concert of holiday music will be presented on Sunday, December 12, at 2:30 p.m. at the Fitchburg Public Library Auditorium by A Christmas Quintet featuring noted soprano, Diane Cushing.

The quintet personnel are: sopranos, Diane T. Cushing and Gail A. Laraba; alto, Susan Hadmack Erickson; tenor Theodore S. Cushing and bass Bernard Crane.

Diane Cushing began her vocal studies at the age of 16 and performed at Carnegie Hall with a youth choir. She pursued a Bachelor of Music Education, specializing in voice at Anna Maria College in Paxton. She went to earn a Master's Degree in choral conducting from Syracuse University and a second

Master's in vocal performance from the Boston Conservatory.

Some favorite operatic roles have been Hanna in *The Merry Widow*, Lily in *The Secret Garden* and Jenny in *Quilters*. Her vocal studies have been with Dr. Robert White, Ruth Golden, Bruce Kolb, Oren Brown and vocal coaches Michael Strauss and William Merrill. Diane is on the faculty at Keene State College and is a vocal instructor in the Gardner school system.

The library's programs are offered free of charge through support from area corporations, Massachusetts Cultural Council and Friends of the Fitchburg Public Library.

Reservations can be made by calling the Fitchburg Public Library at 345-9635.

Fitchburg Public Library

Oinonen announces campaign for Finnish Center presidency

FITCHBURG, MA - Paul Oinonen, Finnish Center at Saima Park member, has announced his intention to seek the office of president of the Finnish Center by popular vote. Oinonen says that he has come to this resolve because he wants to launch the fundraising campaign for the expansion of the center.

Oinonen serves on the library/museum committee which produced the Byrne/Ahlblad Finnish courtyard design. The membership approved the design, 48 for 6 opposed, in May 1999. If elected, Oinonen says that he will officially launch the fundraising campaign in November 2000, with a gala event of entertainment, personalities and pledges.

Oinonen has been active at the Finnish Center as a board member, skating committee, Kesäjuhla chairperson, publicity for ski club, unification movement and library/museum committee. He has also written numerous articles for both the newsletter and the RAIVAAJA.

Oinonen wants to articulate an ideology of Finnish life and culture for Saima Park and believes the greatest need is to make the Finnish Center a place of education in Finnish life and culture. He believes the best years are in the future of a united Finnish community. He believes the park should be open for all people but is strongly committed to the belief that the Center remains a park of Finland dedicated permanently to Finnish life and culture.

In order to assure a democratic and membership driven organization Oinonen will introduce an amendment to the by-laws at the January membership meeting. The amendment will propose that the president be elected by popular vote, simple majority, of the membership for a two-year term of office, with power of one vote as chairperson of board of directors meetings.

Oinonen is seeking office for October 2000 on a platform of launching the Byrne/Ahlblad expansion fund-raiser and dedicating the park and center permanently for Finnish life and culture.

Political Action Committee
Paul Oinonen



In Search of Santa

by Kari Keränen

with illustrations by Marjallisa Pitkäranta

Two little elves, Quick and Nimble, are brought to life by the magic wand of the Snow Queen. As soon as they hear about Santa Claus, they decide to find him. With the help of friendly animals and people whom they meet on their way, they travel around Europe and Africa, visit Japan and North America, and even reach the North Pole. The little elves travel by airplane, magic carpet, camel and the amazing sleigh of the Ice Princess. During their quest they get to know several of Santa's colleagues, including King Wenceslas, La Befana, Rupert, Juletomten and Jack Frost. But not until they arrive in Finnish Lapland do they finally meet the one they have been looking for: the real Santa Claus.

The search for Santa starts on December 1st, and there is a story for each day until Christmas Eve. Along with the adventures of Quick and Nimble, the book tells many intriguing things about Christmas traditions and customs all around the world.

hard cover (8 1/2" X 10 1/2"), 120 pages full color illustrations
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Order from:

RAIVAAJA

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Lancaster, MA**Kaleva Road Race**

The North Medford Club will be holding its Camp Kaleva 5-mile road race on Sunday, Dec. 12, beginning at 1 p.m. at Kaleva Camp, Fort Pond, Perry Road.

There will also be a race walk.

For more information, contact the North Medford hotline at 978-392-0034.

INDEPENDENCE

from page 25

office much had improved in the state of the nation, but that it was not something the head of state could claim as all his own doing. He noted that the country was promised further positive economic growth, but cautioned that this was not enough: "I hope that Finland will remain a country that cares about its citizens, even those who are not enjoying the fruits of economic progress, into the future," he said. (HS)

For sale

The book: Knives of Finland by L.C. Ristinen is again available. A historical treatise of Finnish cutlery world renowned. \$20.00 ppd. \$24.00 Canada/foreign. Suomi Shop, Box 300, Wolf Lake, MN 5693.

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Metropolitan Chapter, Inc.

Meetings every 2nd

Friday of the month from October through May.

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Canterbury, CT

FAHS annual meeting on January 2

Finnish American Heritage Society members are encouraged to attend the society's annual meeting on the first Sunday in January.

As dictated by the society's by-laws, the annual budget will be accepted during this meeting and officers and board members will be elected for the upcoming term.

At the November membership meeting, the nominating committee, consisting of Mary Ellen Harmon, Marja-Leena Huhta, Hannu Mäkipuro, Jack Smiley and Ilma Tikkanen, presented the proposed slate as follows:

President, Anita Smiley; Vice

President, Jackie Harjula; Treasurer, Matti Huhta; Membership Secretary, Jack Smiley; Recording Secretary, Marcia Huhta; Correspondence Secretary, Stephen Popkin.

Also, Trustees for the 2000-01 term, Ken Bingell, Irene Pinkham and Robert Rautio.

The other two Trustee positions, currently held by Jack Smiley and Mary Ellen Harmon, are up for election next year.

However, Jack Smiley is resigning his position as trustee to run for membership secretary and, therefore, his trustee position is now up for election for the remaining year. After the November membership meeting the

Nominating Committee nominated Elja Miffitt to this one-year vacancy.

Nominations are now on the floor and they stay open until the elections at the annual meeting. Members are welcome to present nominations for any of the positions that are currently up for election. If more than one person is nominated to any one position, secret ballots will be used.

The elections will be held at the annual meeting on Sunday, Jan. 2, at 1:30 p.m. at the Finnish Hall, 76 North Canterbury Rd., Canterbury. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held the following Sunday. FAHS

West Paris, ME**Christmas party Sunday**

The Finnish American Heritage Society of Maine will be holding its monthly meeting this Sunday, Dec. 12. Note: this is one week earlier than usual meetings.

The meeting, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Heritage Center, will be a Christmas party with an exchange of gifts.

Celebrating the new year 2000 will take place January 1 at the Finnish American Heritage Center. A pot luck lunch will be at 1 p.m. and there will be tin melting and volunteer entertainment. Everyone welcome.

Iloista joulua - onnea tulevassa vuodessa!

Laila Suomela

Kalenteri**CALIFORNIA**

Dec. 17 - The Christmas Revels, 8 pm, The Scottish Rite Theater, 1547 Lakeside Dr, Oakland. Performers include The Karelian Folk Ensemble. For more info, tickets 510-893-9853.

Dec. 18 - The Christmas Revels, 3 & 8 pm, The Scottish Rite Theater, Oakland. Performers include The Karelian Folk Ensemble.
 - Finnish Christmas Bazaar, Dinner & Celebration, LA Finnish Center, 10701 Magnolia Blvd, North Hollywood. Bazaar opens 5 pm; dinner 6 pm. For more info: 818-506-6939.

Dec. 19 - The Christmas Revels, 1 & 5 pm, The Scottish Rite Theater, Oakland. Performers include The Karelian Folk Ensemble.

Jan. 8 - Finnish American Heritage Association annual membership meeting, 1 pm, FAHA, Sonoma.

Jan. 13 - Finnish Language & Culture Classes begin, Loyola Marymount University, 7900 Loyola Blvd, Los Angeles. Meets Thursday 7:15-10 pm. Instructor Dr Tuula R. Stark. For more info: 310-338-1971.

Feb. 19 - Finnish history & culture workshop, Seaver 100, Loyola Marymount University, 7900 Loyola Blvd, Los Angeles. Presentations include 'The Recovery of Finland's Cultural Identity' by Dr K Börje Vähämäki and 'The History of Finnish Women and Finnish Women Immigrants in North America' by Dr Varpu Lindström. To register, contact Finnish American Chamber of Commerce, c/o Ava Anttila, P. O. Box 491730, Los Angeles CA 90049.

CONNECTICUT

Dec. 12 - Aura Seura's Family Christmas Party, 2 pm, Aura Hall, Voluntown.

Jan. 2 - Finnish American Heritage Society annual membership meeting, 1:30 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 N Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury. Coffee hour at 12:30 p.m.

FLORIDA

Dec. 30 - New Year's Dinner-Dance, 6:30 pm, Finnish American Club, 6010 Delaware Ave, New Port Richey. Music by Bill Russell Orchestra. Advance tickets required: 849-6349, 848-0622 or 942-3916.

Jan. 5 - Membership meeting & Coffee Time, 1 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

Jan. 15 - 'Yooper' Pasty Dinner Program & Dance, 5 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey. Advance tickets required.

MAINE

Dec. 12 - Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris. Christmas party, exchange of gifts. (Note change of date.)

Dec. 16 - Finn Am Society of Midcoast Maine meeting, 6 pm, Town Hall, Owl's Head. Pot luck supper & Christmas tree. Each member to bring a gift, for him or her.

Jan. 1 - Celebrating the new year 2000, 1 pm, Heritage Center, West Paris. Pot luck lunch, tin melting, volunteer entertainment.

MASSACHUSETTS

Dec. 11 - Spiran Lodge #98 Annual Scandinavian Jul Fest, 9 am-2 pm, Spiran Hall, Broadway, Rockport. Santa Lucia Pageant; Cape Ann Finnish Singers. Free admission. For more info: 978-546-9849.

- New England Suomi-koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, 739 Mass Ave, Lexington.
 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Scott Rd, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Dec. 12 - Finnish Center at Saima Park Christmas membership meeting, 12 noon, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Potluck dinner.
 - Finnish Women's League Pikkujoulu, 5 pm, Messiah

Lutheran Church, 750 Ridge Rd, Fitchburg.

Dec. 14 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Saima Park, Fitchburg. Final meeting of the season. Potluck dinner & riisipuujuhla.

Dec. 18 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Dec. 19 - New England Suomi-koulu Christmas Party, 3-5 pm, Kaleva Maja, Littleton.

- Viking Club members Glogg Fest, 4 pm, Viking Club, Braintree. Members only.

Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Party, Viking Club, Braintree. Hot & cold buffet. Dancing to music of Nils Lundin. Reservations: 617-472-0145.

- New Year's Eve celebration, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Buffet; dancing to music by Veikko Honkala & Juhani Puutio. Advance tickets available at Raivaaja.

Jan. 18 - New England Suomi-koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, Lexington.

MICHIGAN

Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Dinner Dance, Finnish Center Association, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills. Reservations: 248-478-6939.

Jan. 22 - Heikinpäivä festival, Hancock. For more info: 906-482-2333.

Jan. 29 - Finnish-American Society of West Central Michigan winter program, 3 pm, Marne United Methodist Church, Marne. Karl Sandelin will present 'Circumstances Leading up to The War of Independence' as reflected in literature of today.

MINNESOTA

Feb. 18-21 - Finnish Family Fun Weekend, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. For more info: 800-450-2214 or www.finnsonline.org

NEW JERSEY

Jan. 9 - Scandinavian American Heritage Society Friends & Family Christmas Party, Nor-Bu Sons of Norway Lodge, off Green Pond Rd (Rte 513), Lake Telemark. For more info: 201-848-1198.

NEW YORK

Dec. 10 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metro Family Christmas Party, 8-10 pm, 6th floor, Central Presbyterian Church, 593 Park Ave at 64th St, New York.

Dec. 12 - N Y Finnish Lutheran Congregation Joulupuuro & kauneimmat joululaulut, 3 pm, Park Ave Methodist Church, 106 E 86th St, New York.

Jan. 20 - MikaSonik, 9 & 11 pm, Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St, New York. Tel: 212-989-9319.

Feb. 11 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metro Chapter program evening, 8-10 pm, Central Presbyterian Church, New York. Program: 'Changes in the President-Institution in Finland' by Eila Kaarresalo-Kasari.

VERMONT

Dec. 22 - Karelian Folk Music Ensemble in concert, 7:30 pm, Thetford Hill Congregational Church, Thetford Hill. For more info: 802-333-9598.

VIRGINIA

Dec. 11 - Kauneimmat joululaulut, 'the most beautiful Finnish Christmas songs,' 6 pm, Advent Lutheran Church, 2222 S Arlington Ridge Rd, Arlington. Opera singer Hanna Härmänmaa Shen will perform. For more info: 703-521-0481.

CANADA

July 13-16 - Finn Grand Fest 2000, Toronto, Ontario. For registration, more info: Finn Grand Fest 2000, 795 Eglinton Ave East, Box 2, Toronto, ON M4G 4E4, Canada; fax 416-651-0236; www.finngrandfest.org; Canada toll free 1-888-ISO-FINN; calls from outside Canada, 416-651-6465.

Events subject to change without notice



The Hannu Mäkipuro Orchestra of Willimantic (CT) providing music for entertainment and dancing.



Edward & Selja Nummelin of Worcester



Finnish Center director Majla Mård speaking after her daughter's name is drawn as the winner of the raffle. Looking on is Center treasurer Karl Makela.

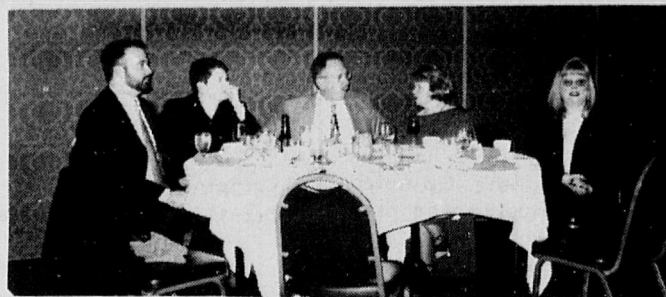
Dinner Dance Celebration

Finland's 82nd year of independence

November 20th at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Fitchburg (MA)

Sponsored by the Finnish Center at Saima Park

Photos by Karl Makela



Finnish Center secretary Jane Guerico, right, and Center president Alida Herring, second from right, are among those seated at this table.



Rudy & Barbara Lahti of Ashby.



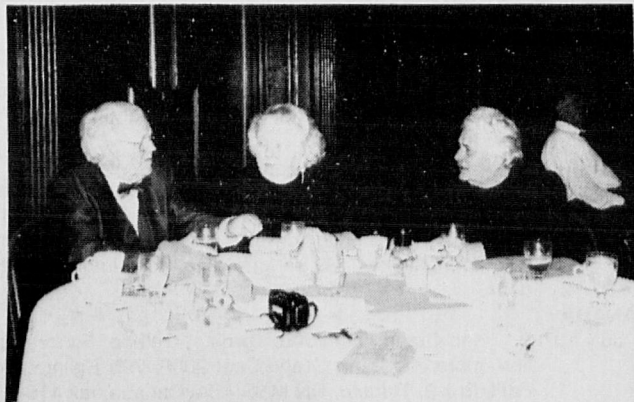
Those seated at this table include Finnish Center vice president Tuure Tenander, left, and his wife Louise.



Lauri & Pirkko Lassila of Ashby



Seated at the table in the foreground are, from left, Myra Minkkinen, Kay and Ray Syvari, all of Fitchburg.



Finnish Center director Armas Kaukoranta, left, participating in a discussion at his table.



Finnish Center director June Rantanen is in the foreground. Others at her table include (from left to right) Tauno Mattson, of Lunenburg, Walter Heikkila, of Fitchburg, Vieno Salmu, also of Fitchburg, Eugene Heikkila of Lunenburg and Aarre Antila of Guld, NH.



Elliott Lockwood at the keyboard

Christmas Party in Shrewsbury, Mass.

Finnish Heritage Society Sovittaja, from Rutland, Mass., recently held their annual Christmas party at Maronis Park in Shrewsbury, Mass.

Bob Belden was the chairman for the party. Over 80 people, mostly members of Sovittaja, but also many guests from other ethnic groups, attended this party. A social hour started at 6 p.m. and dinner was promptly served at 7 p.m.

An excellent buffet table with an ample variety of tasty food was set up for the party

goers to enjoy. Maronis Park's own caterers always do a very good job when it comes to delicious meals.

Many familiar faces were seen at this party and the atmosphere and socializing amongst the members and guests was just great.

Dance music was played by Elliott Lockwood, a well-known musician in this area. With his great personality and his specialty in dance music he is just an excellent musician. He played many familiar Christmas numbers and Scandinavian tunes.



Eileen Granfors, left foreground, and Eino Mäki, right foreground, with his friends Selja & Ed Nummellin in the background on the same side.

Al Seilius, a great vocalist, well-known in clubs in Worcester, sang many of the numbers that were played.

Sovittaja has had their Christmas parties at Maronis Park for many years. The atmosphere at this facility is

very pleasing and the food is always good. And with the great dance floor at this club it's a perfect place for any party.

All the members from Sovittaja and guests had a very pleasant and enjoyable

evening. We wish them all a Happy Christmas and for Sovittaja a Prosperous New Year.

Nils Granfors

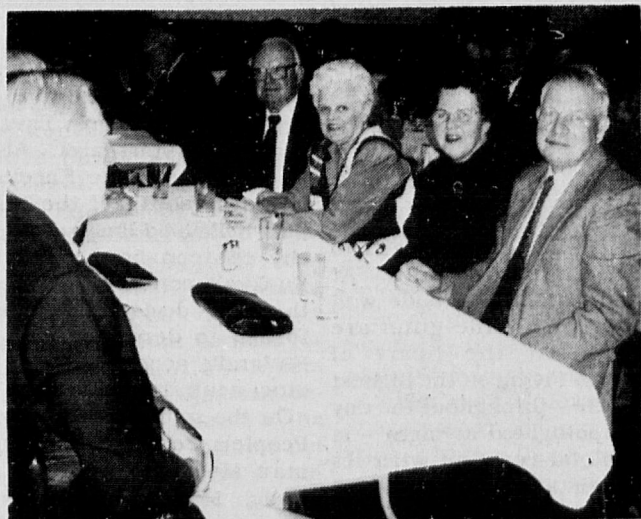
photos by Nils Granfors



Bob and Norma Belden relaxing, watching the dance crowd



An ample variety of tasty food was set up for the party goers.



From right, Henry & Eva Hirvi and Helen & Bill Conway with friends.



Scene on the dance floor at Maronis Park during the party

Blackout Under Northern Lights

Continues from last week

What were the thoughts exchanged between Erkkö, Finnish foreign minister and Derevianski, Russian ambassador?

The Russian diplomat is irritable. We can well imagine that he has an assortment of strong words, coached by Moscow, to deliver in the tone of his master's voice. He seems to be trying his best. "Moscow is perturbed... Finland has responded in a different manner from that of the Baltic states..."

The calm Finn is not ruffled. Furthermore, he suppresses his feelings and answers the questions in the manner of a model school boy.

The Russian continues with his questioning in a disturbed tone of voice: "Why does not the foreign minister (Erkkö) come himself?" "Has Paasikivi extensive powers?"

There was no doubt that it was Finland's own affair as to whom they would send and for that reason, there was no need to reply. As for Paasikivi his credentials, as given by Erkkö to the Russian, gave him an instructive answer which might have given Mr. Derevianski cause for embarrassment. And he learned, further, the difference between the Baltic states and their manner of thought, which the Russian so admired, and that of the Finn, under a democratic system of government.

During the exchange of conversation, Derevianski tries, at first, to be courteous - he assures of his country's respect of Finnish independence - but then he must finally make an effort to tighten his grip: "Can't the delegation be changed?"

Minister Erkkö, on hearing this, must have become firmly convinced that Moscow is making an effort to soften the Finns as they did their Baltic neighbors. The Kremlin wants the foreign minister himself, or someone in his place with the widest possible powers so that by the mere writing of his signature, the demands made on Finland would be approved!

A moment later Derevianski again returns to the model Baltic states. Then the Finn feels it is necessary to inform him, briefly and precisely, that it is impossible it is impossible to imagine Finland will accept the Baltic arrangement and that the situation is not aided by a hint on the Åland Island arrangement, which of course is something entirely different.

When the gentlemen depart, the Finn at least can no longer have a misleading conception as to the seriousness of the situation. It has become perfectly plain "that the purpose of the Soviet Union was to obtain military bases along the Baltic for itself, in as large an area as possible, so that the Soviet Union can control the military situation

around that particular area." In those words it was pointed out to Minister Paasikivi by the Finnish government among the instructions for the conference.

The Finn, Juho Kusti Paasikivi, left Helsinki with his technical advisors on his journey east to perform his difficult task. Even though the press of Finland carefully avoided the slightest expression of its feelings, which might arouse belligerency or misunderstanding, the Finns had surmounting suspicions. Huge throngs gathered at the Helsinki railroad station. As a farewell and in hope they sang Finland's ancient, stolid hymn "God is Our Fortress," a tune which throughout the centuries has resounded at critical periods of Finnish history.

The train started its journey while tear-stained handkerchiefs fluttered their good-byes. Through the dismal Arctic night it sped eastward, carrying the Finnish man grown grey in the service of his country to conciliate the present masters of Russia.

We do not yet know what the thoughts of the Finnish representative were. Perhaps, he may in his memoirs, tell us. But we can well assume he recalled the words of the founder of the Soviet Union, Nikolai Lenin, to the first congress of the Soviet Union in June 1917: "The Soviet Union has no desire to oppress any nation, either through old or new methods, and does not wish to live on the basis of force with either Finland or Ukraine." Or, perhaps in his mind, flashed the words of welcome delivered by Stalin to the convention of the Social Democratic Party of Finland in 1917 wherein he said: "Absolute freedom to the Finnish people as well as to all other nationalities in the arrangement of their own lives. That is the basic political ideal of the Soviet Council of People's Commissars."

Perhaps this Finn, who had been toughened by his many years of experience through all sorts of trying circumstances, recalled, on his trip to Moscow, other statements made by the founders of the Soviet Union. Perhaps, in searching his memory, he discovered at least bits of Stalin's famous speech which was delivered by the present dictator January 4, 1918, before the Executive Committee of the Soviet Union.

Among other things, Stalin said: "No one can say that it (the People's Soviet) is made up of talkers who do not keep their word, for there is no power on earth that can force the Soviet Union to repudiate its promises. We have proven the truth of this by that fact... that we began immediately to formulate a decree which granted Finland her independence (*Isvestia*, January 6, 1918).

Written by E.A. Pulli
Translated by Sävle Syrjälä

Juho Kusti Paasikivi knew there existed not only promises but a reciprocal treaty, solemnly signed by both Finland and the Soviet Union at Tartu, in October 1920. In 1922 a treaty safeguarding the boundaries. In January 1932, a reciprocal nonaggression pact (to be in force to the end of the year 1945 without the power of rescinding by either party), treaties, providing that all questions of difference were to be settled through peaceful means by these two neighbors.

He also knew that the Soviet Union, like Finland, was a member of the League of Nations and in that capacity had signed the Kellogg Peace Pact which condemned resort to war, agreed to settle all disputes peacefully between nations, and in like formal language explained that signatories would never attempt to settle disputes with other nations except by peaceful means.

We can be sure that if the Finnish statesman slept that night, his conscience was clear.

Early the next morning the train which had travelled all night through southern Finland, sped over the bridge at Raja River, which before the war had separated two distinct worlds - East and West. Twenty-four hours later the lone traveller arrived in Moscow, where the founder of the Soviet Union lies mummified in a glass case and Dictator Stalin decides the fate of life or death over 170,000,000 Russians.

CHAPTER THREE

Within the Kremlin...

In what frame of mind did the man, upon whose shoulders rested the fate of his countrymen, approach the rulers of the Kremlin?

He must listen carefully to the proposals which the Soviet Union presents. He must call to the attention of the Kremlin masters the stability of the Russo-Finnish frontier as it was so solemnly guaranteed by reciprocal treaties affirming the boundary line. He must call attention to the decision of his country to remain neutral by a pact with her other northern neighbors. He must protest against demands that would endanger his country's neutrality and internal political affairs. Since Finland has openly announced its decision that it will defend its neutrality, even with arms, he must point out that Finland will not permit the nation to be used as a tool against another nation.

"Delegate is obligated from the very start of the conference to take a firm stand on any proposals brought forth that will imperil a neutral position." So read the instructions which Paasikivi received on leaving for his mission.

The gates of the ancient fortress are opened to the representative of the Finnish nation... those doors, behind which for centuries have been enacted the most brilliant and the most gory events in Russia's age-old history.

Having had occasion to personally view that ancient grey citadel rising in the heart of the city of Moscow, it has seemed to convey (to me) while strolling in the shadow of its stone walls, its dismal buildings, clusters of church cupolas, that they represent in material form the mystic Slavic despotism... mysterious, tyrannical, ever-watchful, over the life and soul of the helpless Slavic peoples.

The Kremlin is, in fact, a detached community surrounded by double walls, high and impassable. Living within these walls the Russian autocrat always has isolated himself. But even those impenetrable walls have been unable to prevent the sanguinary autocrats from giving birth to equally sanguinary revolutionary forces, which gradually penetrated into the very heart of it - and the stony streets of the Kremlin more than once have been stained with the blood of tyrants.

What manner of dramatic, brutal, tragic scenes have been enacted in those musty, vaulted halls, bedchambers, prison cells! The last of the Romanovs avoided this stony prison, but the Bolsheviks have restored it as the governmental seat. On the outer walls they have built small metal boxes containing human ashes. Engraved on the name plates are the names of many of the heroes of the October Revolution and Bolshevik leaders of Lenin's era. Lenin's mummy, in a glass casket, lies just outside the Kremlin in a pyramid-like mausoleum in the Red Square.

The present rulers remain concealed in the very heart of the ancient fortress. Only on days of great celebrations and parades can they be seen on a balcony atop the Lenin mausoleum in the Red Square. They smile with dignity, high above the masses of the common people, and condescend to receive the noisy greetings of the masses as they pass in review.

When the celebration is over the all-powerful quickly retire within the stone walls. At the gates of the Kremlin picked men of the OGPU, armed to the teeth, stand guard. At openings in the outside wall modern machine-guns are pointed at the heart of Moscow. Flying on the highest pinnacle - throughout the day and spotlighted at night - is the blood-red flag with its hammer and sickle, official symbol of the Soviet Union - a flag, which for many years has been the symbol of

Dictator-Usurper Josef Stalin.

.....

What took place at the Moscow conferences wherein vain efforts were made to arrive at a peaceful solution, but which ceased, without an official adjournment, on November 13, 1939?

On October 14, propositions left with Finland's official representative, Juho Kusti Paasikivi, demanded in the name of the safety of Leningrad, the Soviet Union, and Estonia, that Russia be allowed a thirty-year lease of Hango Peninsula, the Finnish Islands of Suursaari, Seiskari, Lavan-saari, Tytärsaaret, a part of the Karelian Isthmus south of the line between Koivisto and Lipola, and the western shore of the Ubachi Peninsula, altogether, 2,761 square kilometers. In return the Russians generously offered to give the Finns 5,529 square kilometers of worthless marshland east of the Finnish border in the Repola and Porajärvi section. In addition, they demanded that the Finnish fortified zone on the Karelian Isthmus be destroyed, but fortification of the Åland Islands by Finland's own forces would be permitted.

Given possession of these Russian demands, Paasikivi departed for Helsinki without delay to place them before his government. Although the demands were discovered to be unusually extensive and severe, the Finns understood their unhappy position and strove to resume negotiations.

Back to Moscow Paasikivi returned again, but not alone. With him as conference partner went Väinö Tanner, the Finnish minister of finance, unquestionably one of the most trusted and respected men of the nation and veteran president of the international co-operative movement. He is in every particular a true Finnish type and has had a long public career of exceptionally varied and rich experience.

On October 23 Paasikivi and Tanner left with the Soviet representatives Finland's counter proposals: These revealed a real effort to preserve peace and friendly relations. They were willing to go a long way.

The Soviet Union, in return for territorial compensation, was granted the Islands of Seiskari, Peninsula, Lavan-saari and Tytärsaaret. Also, in the area of the Karelian Isthmus, south of the Haapala-Kellomäki line, so-called, the eastern border of the Kuokkala corner. The rest of the Soviet demands they were forced to deny because of Finland's accepted policy of strict neutrality.

On the same day the Soviet People's Commissar, Chairman Molotov, hastened to reply. He explained that the Soviet proposals left with Paasikivi on October 14 were

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minimum demands which they must adhere to.

However, Molotov announced, the garrison of 5,000 men planned for Hango could be reduced by 1,000 men, leaving a force of 4,000 men to be stationed on Hango Peninsula only for the duration of the European War. Territorial demands on the Karelian Isthmus would be slightly reduced.

In other respects, the Soviet Union made known they would hold strictly to their original demands. The area which Finland was willing to cede in the Karelian Isthmus was entirely inadequate to safeguard Leningrad.

No common basis for the negotiations was reached. The Finnish representatives returned to Helsinki for further instructions.

The Finnish government conferred with all the parties of the Diet. When agreement was reached on the nature of their reply, the same men - Paasikivi and Tanner - once again were to be sent to Moscow with a communiqué.

Simultaneously Foreign Minister Erkkö, addressing himself to the Finnish nation, explained that inasmuch as the negotiations with Moscow were of a delicate nature as regards to relationship with other governments, which a neutral nation must guard with particular care, and as the negotiations were of a confidential nature, it was not yet possible to make a public statement. He assured the public that in any event, before a final decision was reached, the Finnish nation through the Diet would make that decision.

The reply of the Finnish government was accepted in its final form October 31. But just as the Finnish delegates were departing for Moscow, Commissar Molotov made his famous address before the highest council of the Soviet Union. The address was of such a nature that the Finnish government felt compelled to interrupt the journey of its delegates in Viipuri, so as to afford an opportunity to examine the Finnish communiqué in the light of Molotov's address.

What did Molotov say, then, in his address which was telegraphed the world over?

He - one of the rulers of the Kremlin - permitted himself cynically to explain that "in Finland various external influences on the part of a third power are becoming apparent," but he was certain "that Finnish statesmen will not allow themselves to be influenced by any pressure of anti-Soviet instigation, from whatever quarter it may come." It would be best for Finland to show an understanding of the Russian demands, which demands the Soviet Union had dictated not merely justly but with a serious determination to strengthen their security.

Molotov bitingly criticized, also, the President of the

United States for sending a message to the President of the Soviet Union, in which he expressed the hope that peaceful and friendly relations would be fostered and maintained between the Soviet Union and Finland. The speaker in sharp words castigated President Roosevelt's message as not being in harmony with the neutral policy of the United States!

"If goodwill is shown, Finland will agree to our proposals, which, far from conflicting with Finland's national and political interests, strengthen her external security and create a solid basis which will make it possible to develop the political and economic relations between countries in a high degree." In this manner, in the midst of confidential negotiations, Commissar Molotov concluded his surprise address.

Two days later it was necessary for the Finnish foreign minister publicly to reply to Molotov's address. In typical, calm, Finnish manner, Molotov was reminded that his words had created a new situation "by giving publicity to the point of view of the U.S.S.R. at a moment when the Finnish delegates had just departed from Helsinki to deliver the Finnish government's reply to the Soviet government... Finland has, independently and without influence on the part of any foreign power whatsoever, impartially tried to find a solution to the questions put forward, however difficult they may be, owing to the neutral policy which Finland has adopted. In doing so Finland has likewise been desirous of considering the aims of the U.S.S.R. to increase the security of Leningrad, however without imperiling Finland's own safety."

Though it was too early to say whether the position taken by the Finnish government would be affected and in what manner by the Molotov address, it had, at all events, caused a delay in further continuance of the negotiations. When Commissar Molotov stated in his address that "the Soviet Union has the right and duty to take effective action," the Finnish foreign minister reminded him emphatically that the Soviet Union was bound by a treaty with Finland agreeing to settle all disputes between the two powers by peaceful means, and Finland desires to trust the Soviet Union to honor her agreement.

The fact that the negotiations had been conducted confidentially was based on Finland's desire especially to avoid embarrassing the Soviet Union, thus making it a point of honor, and because of the possibility of failure to reach a mutual solution.

Commissar Molotov's address created a changed situation. Under those circumstances Finland's delegates, Paasikivi and Tanner, on November 3, 1939, again presented new proposals of the Finnish government.

Finland was ready to cede additional territory to Russia in the Isthmus so that the new boundary would follow the line from the mouth of the Vammeljoki River to Vammeljoki, Lintula River and Lake Kaukajärvi. In addition to the islands mentioned previously, the Finns were ready to consider making arrangements in regard to Suursaari with the view in mind of protecting both Leningrad and Finland.

At Petsamo, Finland's arctic port, the Finns were ready to cede the western part of the Fisherman's Peninsula as far as Pummanki Fjord.

The proposals emphasized that the "concessions which Finland agrees to make to the U.S.S.R. in order to improve neighborly relations and insure peace represent a very heavy sacrifice for the Finnish people, as they affect an area which has been inhabited by Finnish population since a very ancient date and, which, for centuries, has formed part of Finland's political territory."

But at the same time, it was necessary to refuse the leasing of Hango Peninsula as Finland was determined to adhere to her neutral position. The Peninsula of Hango is situated on the mainland of Finland, 60 miles west of Helsinki. It is of extremely strategic importance to Finland as it protects her trade routes, especially during the winter time when powerful Finnish ice-breakers cut and keep open a narrow channel beyond its point, through which Finland's shipping passes on to the Baltic Sea.

The Soviet proposal to establish a new boundary on the Karelian Isthmus running along the line of Koivisto-Lipola, also was considered impossible because the new boundary would come too close to Finland's largest export port, Viipuri, and unquestionably would weaken Finland's own safety.

It was also considered out of the question to destroy the fortifications along the Karelian Isthmus for they solely served Finnish defense and security.

In conclusion, the Finnish government affirmed - and justly so - that final acceptance of the proposals would have to be submitted to the Finnish Diet, according to the manner provided by the Constitution.

Finland's reply did not satisfy the masters of the Kremlin.

To the Soviet Union the leasing of the Hango Peninsula seemed to be of utmost importance.

Since Finland, desiring to protect her neutrality, would not permit the building of foreign military bases on her soil, Molotov imagined he had found a solution. It was "that if the region of Hango Peninsula, or, the Islands situated to the east of Hango, were sold (!) or exchanged for a corresponding piece of territory in the U.S.S.R., they could no longer form part of the territory of Finland or be located

within the confines of the Finnish frontier."

To this piece of imagination the Finnish delegates replied most emphatically that "the Finnish Government does not consider it possible to agree to cede in any form whatsoever territories situated at Hango Peninsula or in any other region of the Finnish coast, with a view to their being employed for the establishment of military bases."

The negotiations finally seemed to resolve down to one single question: the Hango Peninsula. Without the Peninsula the Russians would not agree to any kind of treaty.

On November 10 the Finnish delegates, Paasikivi and Tanner, addressed a letter to Commissar Molotov explaining sternly but without agitation, once again, that "the Finnish government, sincerely desirous of strengthening its relations with the U.S.S.R., has declared its readiness to make substantial concessions in order to meet the wishes of the U.S.S.R. However it cannot go so far as to give up vital interests of their own country, which the granting of military bases to a foreign power would mean."

The letter ended with the following: "Lastly, we desire to express on behalf of the Finnish government our sincere hope that an agreement may be concluded between Finland and the U.S.S.R. on the basis of the concessions proposed by Finland to the U.S.S.R."

But all attempts at conciliation seemed to be futile. The Hango Peninsula question remained unsettled. On November 13 it was necessary for the Finnish delegation to address a message to Commissar Molotov:

"In view of the fact that while negotiations have been conducted with your leader Stalin, and yourself, we have unfortunately not succeeded in finding a basis for the projected treaty between the U.S.S.R. and Finland, we feel it necessary to leave for Helsinki this evening.

"As we inform you of this, and thank you for the courtesy shown us, we express the hope that at some future date our negotiations may bring satisfactory results to both nations.

"J. K. Paasikivi.

"Väinö Tanner."

A very correct and apropos note expressive of goodwill, indeed! An historical piece of evidence!

The negotiations had been conducted in a spirit of would-be friendliness. Despite the less friendly speech of Molotov, a sincere effort had been made to find a basis for an agreement.

When it became impossible to reach an agreement on the Hango Peninsula and the destruction of the Isthmus fortifications, it was naturally impossible to formulate a treaty. But hope must be kept alive that a treaty would be reached later! There was

no reason for extreme pessimism, for did there not exist between the two countries a reciprocal treaty providing that even the most serious of disputes should be settled by peaceful means? Surely not by means of war!

So it had been determined in an agreement between Finland and Russia. Russia had, further, solemnly agreed as a member of the League of Nations to so act in relation to all countries of the world.

The Finnish delegates returned to Helsinki. They had done their utmost.

But as they left the Moscow night express at Rajajoki and rode on their own native soil, they scarcely suspected that exactly two weeks later the Kremlin would come calling on Finland, surreptitiously, in the greying dawn, attacking by land, sea, air. The very leaders of the Kremlin who so proudly had shown to the Finnish delegates at the great Agricultural Fair huge Russian signs containing the words: "The Soviet Union does not covet an inch of territory of any other country, but defends every inch of its own country."

The Finns did not think an invasion was in the making. On their arrival in Helsinki they gave a detailed résumé to their government, who in turn communicated it to the Diet, the highest body of a democratic state, to which the people had given vote of confidence in July, 1939.

Finland surely had not acted at these conferences in a belligerent mood or intransigent manner. Neither had Finland set forth any demands. On the contrary, Finland had been ready to make heavy sacrifices, but her primitive instinct of self-preservation forced rejection of such demands as would have endangered her own safety and neutrality.

The people had a clear conscience. They had not threatened anyone. They had made no demands. They could not - because of their small numbers - be a menace to anyone!

They trusted the forces of peace and justice, tried hard to face a difficult era. The Finns felt certain their Eastern neighbor would respect the treaties signed between them and would avoid any act which might, as the Soviet Union had repeatedly declared, be typical of "damned capitalism" and "imperialism" but absolutely strange to the "first socialist state in history" - the act of force and war against a neighbor.

So thought the people of Finland, not suspecting that the last grains of peace already were falling through the hour glass.

to be continued

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New experiences in June

Every year some district of Finland has a weekend festival at the Senate Square by the big Cathedral. This year Pirkanmaa, where Tampere is, was featured. The first day 100,000 people had gone there.

The booths and tents had gifts, breads, fish, books, travel folders, crafts and some food items for sale. Program went on during the day on two stages. I was a little disappointed to see so much general common things. I had expected more traditional things from that area, not things other fairs had. They did have some black sausage (*mustamakkara*), lamb kilbasa and lamb hamburger that I hadn't seen before. I bought some special bread, not *rieska*. That is too sour for me.

One afternoon we went to Kiasma, the new contemporary art museum, which had been completed in 1998. The building was designed by an American architect, Steven Holl. The rooms are large, airy and bright, so items displayed are seen unobstructed in open areas. The five floors are connected by winding ramps, which is a nice feature. There are stairs and elevator to use, too.

A man, Pentti Kouri, bought a collection of international modern art items from a N.Y.C. gallery in 1980 for his private collection. Later the Postipankki got them, and in 1997 the Ministry of Education purchased them to be placed in the Museum of Contemporary Art.

This Kiasma collection was on display for the first time. It consists of 61 pieces by 38 artists: 23 paintings, 34 sculptures, three installations and one work of graphic art. The collection took over almost the entire museum, from the lobby to the fifth floor, offering a survey of current international trends in art.

The younger generation breaks away from the old tradition (which I prefer) and they find new forms and ways to communicate their own environment. Traditional painting is losing ground with Pop Art, Installations, Performances and Event Art becoming established. Minimalism became one of the prevailing styles. Modernism brought about crucial changes with new materials and techniques. This unique collection is a significant beginning for the museum as there is no comparable collection in any other Nordic country.

As you enter the different floors there is printed information available to take explaining the items and information about the artist. Take some when you go.

The 5th floor had a large iron structure "Untitled" (Igloo) by an Italian artist, Mario Merz. The iron is covered with glass plates through which could be seen a small igloo inside made of stones and wax and covered with neon figures.

Another 5th floor installa-

New Experiences in Finland

By Onerva Lovejoy



Kiasma, the new Museum of Contemporary Art

photos by Onerva Lovejoy

tion was "Monument" by the French artist, Christian Boltanski. On top were black and white photographs cut out of old newspapers depicting unknown children who died in the Holocaust. The lower part had piles of second hand clothes from flea markets folded and in rows tied with wire that were reminding of the concentration camps.

The 4th floor had paintings by Italian, German and English painters. I liked their use

of color.

The 3rd floor displayed neon light works and minimalistic sculptures. Claes Oldenburg's huge "Extinguished Match" was almost seven meters high, constructed of steel, foam plastic and latex. Oldenburg is an American artist who has made 20 large sculptured projects including a steel baseball, three gigantic billiard balls, a bent screw and a broken button. Two of these are displayed in muse-

ums in the states, others in Germany and Holland.

The free information I mentioned earlier helped to understand the items. It gave me a better feeling of modern art, which I never liked. Someone told me going to Kiasma was a waste of time. I'm glad I went, but I must admit I really didn't care for the items and will probably never go again.

Kiasma owns about 4000 pieces of modern art, a third

of them made in Finland. Kiasma is more than a museum, it promotes theater, dance, music, debates, artistic seminars, films, videos and performing art. I might go to those affairs.

It would take many hours and many trips to see everything there to really know about the items.

Juhannus

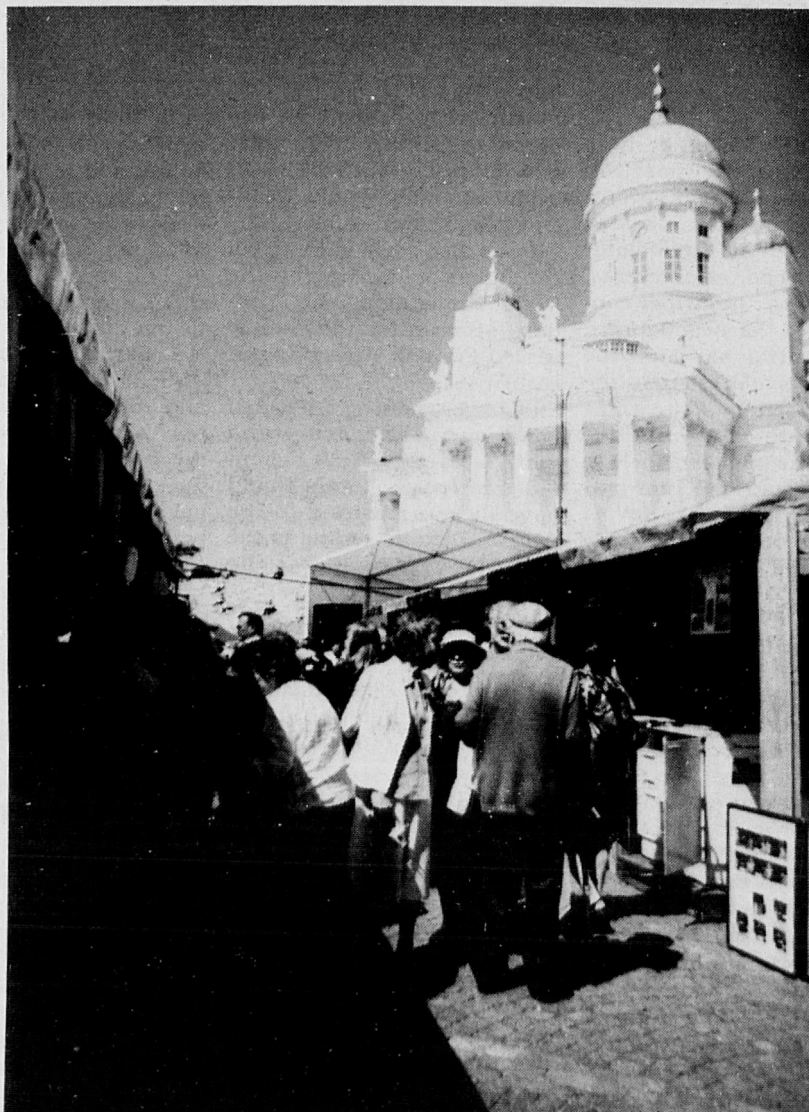
Juhannus came a few days before my three months in Finland would end, June 30. It is a mid-summer holiday honoring St. John the Baptist on the Saturday closest to June 24. This year it was June 26. That is also Finland's Flag Day, the only time the flag is allowed to fly outside all night.

Juhannus is an outdoor festival with everyone wanting to be near water, a lake or the ocean. Bonfires (*kokko*) play an important part in the ceremonies. Birch trees, too, play a part. Branches are sold at the *tori* or cut in the woods and brought home to frame doorways. You see them on store fronts, church altars, city buses and in the harbor on ship deck railings. At the *tori* they were on the sides of most booths. You can say birches are almost a symbol of Juhannus.

Connected with the holiday are many unbelievable magic spells of olden times. I read about some: After the bonfire, a girl hurries to a boy's wheat field, disrobes and circles the field three times. In the fall, after eating bread made from that field's wheat, he falls in love with the girl.

In the country, if you circle the sauna three times and look through the trap door, you will see a picture of your future lover. There were many spells to see your lover - by putting things under your pillow and sleeping on them; put a 4-leaf clover, a bunch of flowers tied with a blade of grass, a bunch of seven different flowers, a hymnal, a copper coin, an untied *saunavasta* (switch). Also, put the sock on the left foot before getting under the covers. Gather dew from a flowered field, put it on a cloth, wipe your face and you will be beautiful because the sun won't tan the face which was considered as being ugly. Also the Juhannus dew would cure skin blemishes, if you roll in the dew.

In Helsinki, every year there is a big celebration of Juhannus Eve at Saurasaari. There are games, band music, dancing and singing before the bonfires are lit. There are many bonfires as different areas make them different, and they are shown here. A couple who was married that day at the Seurasaari church arrived to light the main, big bonfire. They arrived, as music was played, in a long church boat with 16 rowers (*kirkkovene*). It is a nice custom. Juhannus is beyond description with the bright night and the Juhannus white roses.



The Pirkanmaa Fair at Senate Square.

CHRISTMAS

from page 24

It is around this time that the Christmas lights come on ment of their own staff.

The first Sunday in Advent officially opens the Christmas season, the church resounding to the strains of Vogler's "Hosianna". And people flock to hear it. All over the country there are advent concerts in the evening.

In shops and offices. The centers of towns are full of light.

Pietarsaari, a town on the west coast of Finland, has had a Christmas street (Storgatan) ever since 1840's. Suspended over the street are three giant decorations: a cross symbolizing faith, an anchor representing hope, and a heart, the symbol of love. In the olden days they were lit with candles; nowadays the candles are electric. Only war, the start of the oil crisis and the introduction of an outdoor Christmas tree have temporarily interrupted their use.

Lucia Day:**13th of December**

The tradition of celebrating Lucia Day came to Finland from Sweden in 1950 when it was introduced by Finland's principal Swedish-language newspaper *Hufvudstadsbladet* and the health organisation *Folkhälsan*.

Finland's national Lucia is chosen from among ten teenage girls by public vote. The voting is combined with fund raising for charity. The money collected goes to *Folkhälsan* which has been helped in this way to initiate and establish numerous health care programmes.

Lucia makes her first official appearance on the 13th of December dressed symbolically in a long white dress and wearing a crown of lighted candles. During December Lucia pays visits to various Christmas gatherings and to hospitals and schools, bringing with her a message of light, hope and charity.

The Lucia custom has spread to the Finnish-speaking majority. Lucia day is also celebrated within families.

Christmas tree and the sauna on Christmas Eve

Little by little the advent decorations are brought out. The children hang up their advent calendars, and families count the days to Christmas with the help of advent candles. The first candle is lit on the first Sunday, the first and second on the second Sunday, and so on until the fourth is lit on the fourth Sunday, forming a slanting row.

This decoration originally came from Sweden and Germany and found its way to Finland in the 1930's. Christmas cards are posted, decorations made or bought. The baking is also done well in advance.

On the last Sunday before Christmas it is time to start

looking for a Christmas tree, ready to be carried in the day before Christmas Eve, turned to show its finest branches, and decorated. The Finns like to include rows of national flags, a reminder of friendship among peoples.

Another item is geometric mobile made of straw called a *himmeli* - very difficult and timeconsuming to make. The straw which must be straight and of good quality, is first softened in the warmth of the sauna, then cut into sections of equal length. The straws are then threaded to make triangles, squares and eight-sided figures. Finally these figures are combined to make bigger and bigger shapes.

Wood shavings may also be cleverly moulded to make stars with which to decorate the home, and of course there are many other trinkets too. Almost everyone puts out a bundle or two of oats for the birds. The candles on the tree are lit for the first time the day before Christmas Eve.

The sauna is integral part of the Finnish Christmas. Even in the early years of this century people were still expected to "attend" the sauna on Christmas Eve. And still, anyone travelling around the Finnish countryside on Christmas Eve will see smoke rising from almost every sauna house.

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve is the highlight of the year in Finland, and not Christmas Day. Families get together for the occasion, and children who have grown up and moved away from home try to be with their parents for the holiday.

Christmas Eve is still a working day, however: the shops are open until midday. This provides one last chance to buy those few last gifts and dainties for the table. At precisely 12 noon the "Peace of Christmas" is proclaimed in Turku, the former capital of Finland, along with admininistrations and greetings dating from the Middle Ages. Most Finns listen to this ceremony on the radio, and it marks the beginning of the feast. Nowadays most families take the first part of their Christmas meal at this point.

At sunset on Christmas Eve, families make their way to the churchyard, where a service is often held at around 5 o'clock. Candles are placed on the graves of loved ones, sometimes possibly a wreath, but most families have already done this on All Saint's Day.

Finnish graveyard is a breathtaking sight on Christmas Eve. Thousands of candles shining out across the snow are a sight no foreigner will ever forget. In many towns former soldiers go in procession to visit the graves of fallen comrades, and a guard of honor stands with drawn swords by the large

cross dedicated to their memory.

In Helsinki representatives of various social organizations and army officers stand guard by the tomb of Marshal Mannerheim. Usually a hymn or two is sung, including Luther's "Ein feste Burg". For many Finns this is the most serious moment of the entire holiday.

Joulupukki

Back at home, the excitement mounts as the family awaits a quite different aspect of Christmas: the arrival of Father Christmas. The Finnish Father Christmas is a more earthly equivalent of St. Nicholas. Finland differs from most other countries in that Father Christmas really does visit the home in person on Christmas Eve. Most often it is in fact father dressed up, but it may be a neighbour or relative.

The children dress up as *Joulupukki's* little helpers (*tontut*): red tights, a long red cap, and a grey cotton suit also decorated with red. On his arrival, Father Christmas always asks the same question: "Are there any good children here?", and the answer is always an enthusiastic "Yes".

The earliest reports of Christmas presents being given within families in Finland date from the early years of the 19th century. The presents were often made by donors themselves and included items such as clothes or something nice to eat. In the early decades of the 20th century manufactured presents became common and spread throughout the country. In recent years home-made gifts have again become popular.

Joulupukki generally brings in a big basket with all the presents, the children sing to him and may even sing a ring game with him. Then *Joulupukki* tells them how far he has come, all the way from Lapland, a long, long journey. He lives at Korvatunturi, a fell



in eastern Lapland. (The Finnish Broadcasting Company placed him there in 1927, and he has had his headquarters there ever since.)

Joulupukki can't afford to spend long in any one place. As soon as the children and adults have sung him one last song, he takes up his stick and tramps off in his felt boots and furs. His little helpers are left to hand out the presents.

Not until this most important event on the program has been taken care of is the main Christmas meal served. Now the table is decked with the best mother can provide.

Christmas Day itself, which in many countries is the high point of the holiday season, is almost an anticlimax in Finland. It has traditionally been a quiet day of devotion, when the only activity used to be attendance at church. Even nowadays the churches are full on Christmas morning, even though in many places the service begins at 6 a.m. Some people prefer to read the Christmas story and sing hymns at home. Nowadays Christmas Day is a time to spend with family and rela-

tives.

The day after Christmas, which the Finns know as St. Stephen's Day, is also a holiday and used to be the day for sleigh rides. Nowadays, however, there are few horses left.

The New Year is a kind of repeat Christmas, and all the Christmas fare is once more brought out. But New Year's Eve is also a time for magic! Fortunes in the coming year are told from objects hidden under cups, or by interpreting the meaning of tin molten over the fire and cast into a bucket of cold water. The resulting piece of "sculpture" is held up to the wall, and the images formed by its shadow are omens of the future. Christmas ends with Twelfth Night.

Christmas is a festival centred on the family and in particular the children. It is the season to recall what tends to get forgotten the rest of the year but which is nevertheless important: other people, roots and traditions, and the idea of peace on earth and goodwill to all men.

Written for Virtual Finland
by Kaisu Vuolio

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Kuolleita

Leonora Curtin Paloheimo

SANTA FE, NM - Leonora Curtin Paloheimo, yksi Suomen innokkaimmista suojelijoista ja kannattajista, kuoli marrask. 27, 1999 Acequia Madre kodissaan. Hän oli 95-vuotias. Edesmennyt oli 1986 kuolleen konsuli Yrjö A. Paloheimon leski.

Hän oli syntynyt jouluk. 7, 1903 Colorado Springsissä (CO) Thomas ja Leonora Curtinin tyttärenä. Hän menetti isänsä ollessaan pikkutyttö ja muutti sen jälkeen äitinsä kanssa Pasadenaan Kaliforniaan isoäitinsä Eva Feneysin luokse. Hän varttui tässä Orange Grove Boulevardilla sijaitsevassa kodissa, mikä myöhemmin toimi Suomen konsulaattina. Paloheimojen toimesta siltä tuli Pasadena Historical Society Museum.

Vuonna 1953 Paloheimot kutsuivat paikallisia suomalaisia johtohenkilöitä konsulaattiin ja seurauksena perustettiin Finlandia Foundation National järjestö, mikä edelleen tukee suomalaista ja amerikansuomalaista kulttuuria Yhdysvalloissa.

Edesmenneellä oli Santa Fe asuinsijan lisäksi sitruunatila Carpinteriassa Kaliforniassa ja Paloheimojen kotitila "Kallio Kunkinkala" Järvenpäässä Suomessa.

1930-luvulla Paloheimo perusti "The Native Market" kohtaustalon Santa Fehen auttaakseen hispanilaisia taitelijoita markkinoimaan kutoimuksiaan, veistoksiaan ja huonekalujaan. Hän onnistui saamaan sekä liittovaltion että osavaltion rahoitusta, jonka avulla kehitettiin ammattikoulutusta New Mexicon kouluissa.

Vuonna 1946 edesmennyt avioitui suomalaisen diplomaatin Yrjö A. Paloheimon kanssa, joka toimi Suomen

konsulina USA:n länsivaltioissa. Paloheimojen ansiosta Santa Fe Spanish Colonial Arts Society alkoi jälleen kokoistaa, he perustivat Espanjan kolonialismin aikaisen El Rancho de las Golondrinas elävän museon Santa Fehen, luovuttivat Pasadenan kotinsa historiallisiksi museoksi ja konsuli Paloheimon Suomen kodin Sibelius Akatemian haltuun ja perustivat Finlandia Foundation Nationalin. Kaikki ovat taitaita ja monikulttuurisia pyrkimyksiä tukevia ei-kaupallisia yhdistyksiä.

Edesmennyt kirjoitti Suomea koskevan kirjan ja oli yhtä innostunut Suomesta, sen taidesta, kulttuurista ja ihmisistä kuin miehensä.

Paloheimo on saanut vastaanottaa Suomen ja Espanjan korkeimmat siviilihenkilöille myönnettävät kunniamerkit. Hänelle myönnettiin New Mexicon kuvernöörin Excellence in The Arts -kunniamerkki ja sekä University of Mexico että Suomi College leipoivat hänet kunniaatohtoriksi.

Kaipaamaan jäi neljä lasta, George B. Paloheimo, Santa Fe, Eric Paloheimo, La Cieniga, Eva Paloheimo, Santa Fe ja Nina Bovio, Brighton, MI; sekä kahdeksan lastenlasta.

Edesmenneitä voi muistaa lahjoituksella: Finlandia Foundation, c/o P.O. Box 665, Solvang, CA 93464.

Reino V. Laine

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Laine oli ollut entisen Lake Worthissä (FL) toimineen Finnish Workers' Educational Clubin presidentti.

Kaipaamaan jäi puoliso Vienna M. Laine, Grand Junction; poika Jeffrey C. Laine, Springfield, VA; tytär Crystal S. Mohar, Grand Junction; ja neljä lastenlasta.

Ituja tarjolla

Liisa A. Lienes

(Tiitus 3: 4-7) "Mutta kun Jumalan, meidän Vapahtajamme, hyvyys ja ihmisrakkaus ilmestyi, pelasti hän meidät, ei vanhurskaudessa tekemämme tekojen ansiosta, vaan laupeutensa mukaan uudestisyntymisen pesun ja Pyhän Hengen uudistuksen kautta, jonka hengen hän runsaasti vuodatti meihin meidän Vapahtajamme Jeesuksen Kristuksen kautta, että me vanhurskautettuina hänen armonsa kautta tulimme lankaikkisen elämän perilliksi toivon mukaan."

Yksi vakuutettavimpia ja varmin tuloksia Jumalan työstä Jumalalle alistuneen ihmisen elämässä on UUDISTUMINEN, jatkuva, päivittäinen uudistuminen...

Mikä valoisa ajatus! Mikä lohduttava totuus! Kun me vaellamme tätä "korppitietä", me joskus näännyimme, menetämme näkymme, voimamme, joskus jopa toivomme. Silloin on valtavaa muistaa, että Jumalan tahto on UUDISTAA - siis kaikin tavoin tehdä tehoton tehokkaaksi, väsynyt voimakkaaksi, masentunut toivorikkaaksi...

Jumalalle antautuneessa ihmisessä tapahtuu kahdenlaisia uudistumisia: (1) Uudestisyntyminen, joka on kaiken alku, välttämätön jokaiselle, joka tahtoo olla Jumalalle otollinen. (Lue Johanneksen kirjeen kolmas luku). Kun me uudestisynnymme Pyhästä Hengestä ja Jumalan Sanan kautta, me pääsemme osallisiksi Jumalan omasta luonteesta. Meistä tulee Jumalan lapsia - heti kerralla!

(2) Uudestisyntymisen jälkeen tapahtuu jatkuva UUDISTUMINEN Pyhän Hengen ja Sanan kautta. "Sen tähden me emme lannistu; vaan vaikka ulkonainen ihmismme menehtyykin, niin sisällinen kuitenkin päivä päivältä uudistuu." (2 Kor. 4:16) Huomaa, "Päivä päivältä..." Tarvitsemme ja samme päivittäistä uudistusta.

Profeetta Jesaja kuvaa tämän uudistumisen prosessin kauniisti: "Etkö tiedä, etkö ole kuullut: Herra on lankaikkinen Jumala, joka on luonut maan ääret? Ei hän väsy eikä näänny, hänen ymmärryksensä on tutkimaton. Hän antaa väsyneelle väkeä ja voimattomalle voimaa yltäkyllin. Nuorukaiset väsyvät ja näännyvät; nuoret miehet kompastuvat ja kaatuvat; mutta ne, jotka Herraa odottavat, saavat uuden voiman, ja kohottavat siipensä kuin kotkat. He juoksevat eivätkä näänny, he vaeltavat eivätkä väsy." (Jesaja 40: 28-31)

Apostoli Paavali kuvaa tätä uudistumista näin: "Mutta me kaikki, jotka peittämättömin kasvoin katselemme Herran kirkkautta kuin kuvastimesta, muutomme saman kuvan kaltaisiksi kirkkaudesta kirkkauteen, niin kuin muuttuu Herra, joka on Henki." (2 Kor. 3:18)

Uudestisyntynyt ihminen uudistuu... jatkuvasti.

Entäs sellainen, joka ei ole uudestisyntynyt? Sanan perusteella voimme sanoa, että jumalaton (uudestisyntymättömän...) Huom. uudestisyntymättömällä voi olla "jumalia", voi olla uskonto, mutta ilman Jeesusta Kristusta, tämä jumala on vain kuvitelua - ihmisen omaa tekoa. Hän on siis raamatun mukaan "jumalaton"... voi "kukoistaa" hetken, mutta hän koko ajan kuluu yhä suurempaan rapiotilaan hengellisesti, ja usein sitä mukaa sielullisesti ja ruumiillisesti.

Miksi? Koska Jumalan "kiros" synnin tähden vielä lepää hänen elämänsä yllä, koska hän ei ole hyväksynyt Jeesuksen sovitus- ja

veren puhdistusta osakseen. Kaikki synnit ovat sovitettut Golgatan ristillä Jeesuksen kuoleman kautta. Jeesus kuoli kaikkien syntien edestä, mutta eivät kaikki halua häntä Lunastajakseen ja Vapahtajakseen, vaan haluavat elää oman tahtonsa mukaan. Heitä seuraa "Jumalan tuomio", joka on nyt jo maailman yllä.

Sana sanoo: "Sillä niin on Jumala maailmaa rakastanut, että hän antoi ainokaisen Poikansa, ettei yksikään, joka häneen uskoo, hukkuisi, vaan hänellä olisi lankaikkinen elämä. Sillä ei Jumala lähettänyt Poikaansa maailmaan tuomitsemaan maailmaa, vaan sitä varten, että maailma hänen kauttansa pelastuisi. Joka uskoo häneen, sitä ei tuomita; mutta joka ei usko, se on jo tuomittu, koska hän ei ole uskonut Jumalan ainokaisen Pojan nimeen." (Joh. 3:16-18) Selvää puhetta!

Kumpaan ryhmään sinä kuulut? Kuulutko sinä uudestisyntyneiden joukkoon, vai tuomion alla elävien joukkoon? Valinta on sinun. Tee viisas valinta nyt, kun vielä elät armon ajassa. Jumala antakoon sinulle viisautta!

PFYHÄ...

jatkoka sivulta 20

Silloinen lama ilmeisesti esti vielä perinteen syntymisen.

Samfundet Folkhälsan järjesti kuitenkin Lucia-juhlan vuonna 1949 ja seuraavana vuonna sanomalehti Hufvudstadsbladet otti asian omakseen. Se alkoi vuosittain järjestää Lucia-neidon vaalista valtakunnallisen kilpailun, jonka avulla kerättiin rahaa Folkhälsanin sosiaalista toimintaa varten.

Suomessa tapa on sittemmin yleistynyt myös suomalaisissa piireissä ja mm. sairaaloissa sairaanhoidon opiskelijat ovat järjestäneet Lucia-kulkueita.

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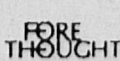
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Kvintetin jäsenet ovat: sopraano - Cushing ja Gail A. Laraba, alto - Susan Hadmack Erickson, tenori - Theodore S. Cushing ja basso - Bernard Crane.

Konsertti on ilmainen ja on saanut rahoitusapua paikallisilta firmoilta sekä Massachusetts Cultural Council ja Friends of the Fitchburg Public Library järjestöiltä.

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Lähetysseurakunta

Jumalanpalvelus sunnuntaisin klo 9:30 aamulla. Lasten ja aikuisten pyhäkoulut klo 11:00.

Kuoro tiistaisin klo 6:45 ill. Hartaustilaisuus keskiviikkoisin klo 2:00 i.p.

Jouluaaton jumalanpalvelus klo 11:00 illalla.

Messiah Lutheran seurakunta

Kuun ensimmäisenä sunnuntaina suomenkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 8:15 aam.

Perjantaisin klo 1:00 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

Sunnuntaisin englanninkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 9:30 aam. Klo 10:30-11:00 seurustelua ja virvokkeita. Klo 11-12 pyhäkoulu ja aikuisten raamattutunti. 12. p:nä klo 2-5 ip. Avoimet ovet pappilassa. Klo 5 pikkujoulu.

Tanssit

Saiman Puistossa

Lauantaina
jouluk. 11. p:nä
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Puheenjohtaja Armas Kaukoranta avasi kokouksen lausumalla kaikki tervetulleiksi. Sen jälkeen lauloimme "America" ja "Maamme" laulut.

Vieraina joukossamme olivat Helen Koroskenyi ja Aina Lundstedt. Heidät lausuttiin tervetulleiksi.

Rahalahjoituksia kerholle tekivät Alli Kamila, \$10.00 syntymäpäivänsä merkeissä ja Einar Heino, \$10.00 vaimonsa Tyynen muistolle.

Lahjoituksia kahvipöytään tekivät seuraavat: Barbara ja Armas Kaukoranta, Rauni Cote, Onerva Lovejoy, Eino Berkiö, Elma Auvinen, Elvie Hagelberg, Alli Kamila, Jay Adams, Irja Alitalo, Kaija Pesonen, Aino Sipilä ja Helvi Fiskaali.

Syntymäpäivänsä vietti Alli Kamila. Hänelle laulettiin "Happy Birthday".

Vieno Rantala lähetti kerholle terveisiä.

Päätettiin pitää kokouksia tammikuun ja helmikuun toisena tiistaina. Jos on huono keli, niin sitten pidetään seuraavalla viikolla.

Joulukuun 14 p:nä on meidän joulu *potluck* ja puurojuhla, alkaen kello 12.

Ohjelma oli seuraava: Mamie Lauricella lauloi kaksi humoristista laulua "kovanpuun hattu" (*Derby*) päässä. Helvi Fiskaali luki kaksi liikkuttavaa runoa.

Kaija Pesonen lauloi kaksi kaunista laulua. Rauni Cote luki hauskan fengliskaisen kertomuksen "Oivan ja Pentin kalareissu".

Mildred Heino luki äitinsä kirjoittaman "Matin ja Majan joulukuusi". Armas Kaukoranta, Kaija Pesonen ja Irene Vilakari johtivat yleisöä joululaulujen laulamissa.

Kahvi jo tuoksui hyvälle, niin mentiin pöydän ääreen.

MILDRED HEINO

PANKINJOHTAJASTA...

jatkoa sivulta 23

Merita-Nordbanken.

Yhteyteni tähän pankkiin Suomessa on säilynyt jonkinmuotoisena joskin entistä vilkkaämpänä. Palvelut ovat kallistuneet ja jatkuvasti mutkistuneet ja pitkistyneet.

Näitä ajatuksia ei olisi tullut kirjoitetuksi, ellei silmäni olisi osunut pieneen lehtikirjoitukseen, jossa sanotaan näin:

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Kolmesta rivistä kasittava pieni kirjoitus sai minut kirjoittamaan tämänviikkoisen kolumnini.

Olen kyllä sitä mieltä, että Suomen tämänhetkisessä "pankkimaailmassa" on sangan paljon parantamisen varaa.

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Pikku hiljaa olemme alkaneet toivua joulukoristeita joka puolelle Lepokotia, joten alamme olla täällä pikkujoulutunnelmissa, tietenkään unohtamatta tulevaa Suomen itsenäisyyspäivää, johon me panostamme myös täällä Lepokodilla asianomaisella kunniotuksella.

Viikko vierähti tutuissa ja turvallisissa merkeissä. Lauantaina oli ylimääräinen An-

nan-Majan jäsenkokous, jossa vierähti iltapäivä asiallisissa merkeissä.

Perjantain iltapäivä sujui Tuomo Murtomäen ja Sylvi Tuorulan seurassa ja he takasivat meille raittoisan kahvihetken iloisella musiikilla ja laululla.

Keskiviikkona vietimme muistotilaisuuden kunnioittaen Eric Smithin ja Uno Korven muistoa. Pastori Wilbert Törmälä oli yhdessä Sylvi Söderströmin kanssa pitämässä tilaisuuden ja hanuristi Veikko Laiho kunnioitti poismenneiden muistoa soitollaan.

Muita esiintyjä tällä viikolla olivat Lydia Knuttila, Leo Jaakkola ja Don Murray yhdessä vaimonsa kanssa. Kiitos kaikille esiintyjille ja oikkein hyvää ensimmäistä adventtia.

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