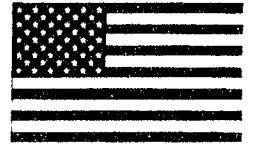


TEX - FINN NEWS



ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FINN TO PRINT

The International Newsletter of the Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Fort Worth

Volume 18 Number 7

Maaliskuu/March 2007

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

March 2007

Karl J. Morris

Hyvää Päivää!

Don't look for things to slow down here any....actually the Tex-Finns are getting busier!

On March 4th our Star's hockey event would have already taken place....and yes, we all had a great time!

On March 18, 2007, at 3:00 p.m., Mr. Ben Strout, Director of FIRE AND ICE and Finlandia Foundation's 2006 Lecturer of the Year will be speaking at King of Glory Lutheran Church in the Lower Level Banquet Room. We ask that you join us and learn more about this often forgotten piece of World history. FIRE AND ICE is about the Winter War between Russia and Finland in 1939-1940. This documentary film has been shown on over 25 PBS stations and at several film festivals. We are reaching out to all the Scandinavian organizations within the Metroplex and we look forward to renewing old acquaintances and to meeting new friends. Please RSVP to myself at karljm@bigplanet.com by March 14, 2007.

We will NOT be having a meeting this month at our regularly scheduled time (Thursday, March 15 at

7:00pm). However, we will be having our board meeting at that time or on the Sunday of the Fire and Ice event, TBA.

We should have our April/May program firmed up by the March 18th event so there's just another reason to come out and give your support. You'll want to know the skinny for what's up for April before the April Newsletter comes out.

See you on Sunday, the 18th!

Karl J. Morris
President Tex-Finns

HAPPY ST. URHO'S DAY- DON'T FORGET THE GUY WHO MADE GRASSHOPPERS HISTORY IN FINLAND! HEINÄSIRKKA, HEINÄSIRKKA, MENNE TÄÄLTÄ.....WELL, YOU KNOW WHERE THEY WENT!!!



TEXFINN MEETING: HELMIKUUN KOKOUS

March 18th, 2007

KING OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH 3:00 PM

(North frontage of 635 between Preston and Hillcrest)

Program: Guest Speaker Ben Strout

Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year

Director of the documentary *FIRE AND ICE*

FINLAND - RUSSIA WINTER WAR 1939-1940

(See additional information elsewhere in the newsletter)

FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF NORTH TEXAS

At Rejoice Lutheran Church, 532 E. Sandy Lake Rd ,
Coppell, TX 75019

Rev. Päivö Tarjamo, cell # 972 795 5158

paivo@finnishlutheran.org

Worship services are in Finnish with English inserts.
Services are partly bilingual. Coffee is served after
services. There is a link on the website for a map with
directions to the church.

Finnish Lutheran Church of North Texas is a Worshipping
Community authorized by the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America (ELCA) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of
Finland. Worship Services Services are partly bilingual (in
Finnish, with English inserts). Coffee is
served after services.

Dates and times for worship services on spring season 2007:

Sunday 03/18 6 pm

Sunday 04/08 3 pm

Sunday 05/06 6 pm

Sunday 06/03 3 pm

Sunday (Day of Pentecost) May 27 a joint service with
Rejoice Lutheran Church at 10.30 am. Location of
Activities is Rejoice Lutheran Church, 532 E Sandy Lake
Road, Coppell, Texas.

**SALOLAMPI SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS
TEXFINNS HAVE A PARTICIPANT**

FAS Student Olivia Ruuska to Salolampi

The Finnish-American Society of DFW (FAS) has elected to
send Olivia M. Ruuska to attend the one week Salolampi
Finnish Language Village program in June 2007.

Olivia, the granddaughter of Vernon & Diana Ruuska
(FAS members) was born in Dallas, Texas in 1997 where
she lived for several years before moving to Germany with
her family. She loved attending the neighborhood "kita"
(Kindergarten), where she learned to understand and speak
German. During her stay
overseas, she visited many countries and thrived while
learning about different cultures, sampling the variety of
foods, and hearing the various dialects that were spoken.
She also loved living in a home with a built in sauna! It
was a wonderful foundation for her to live and experience
the culture of a different country.

Olivia is very interested in her Finnish heritage and is
always soaking up information she comes across. Olivia
now lives in Northern California where she is a 4th grader.
She enjoys reading, and her favorite subjects in school are
(next column---)

history, science, and math where she is studying geometry
and fractions. When she is not in school, she is a Girl Scout
and attends church activities. This year, her Girl Scout
troop selected Finland to study for their annual "Thinking
Day" celebration. It allows the girls to learn about different
countries and Girl Scouts around the world.

Olivia will be turning 10 this July and is so excited to
have the opportunity to attend Salolampi this summer. Her
grandparents, who have nurtured her interest in Finland's
culture throughout the years, will be close by to share the
experience with her. She has been practicing some Finnish
words and is looking forward to making new friends and
"having an awesome time!"

If you are interested in Salolampi and the language schools,
visit

www.concordialanguagevillages.org for detailed
information.

SALOLAMPI KUTSU!!!

**LECTURER OF THE YEAR BEN STROUT TO
SPEAK TO THE TEXFINNS**

Ben Strout, the director of *FIRE AND ICE*, a documentary
about the Finnish Winter War, will be speaking to the
Finnish American Society on Sunday, March 18th at 3pm at
the King of Glory Lutheran Church. He is the first person to
be chosen as the Lecturer of the Year by the Finlandia
Foundation. The LOY is patterned after the Performer of
the Year program. Strout has no Finnish heritage but his
curiosity about the Finnish-Russian war led him to do
extensive research on the subject. The film premiered at
FinnGrandFest in Marquette Michigan. The film has
already been shown on 25 PBS stations. Come and invite
others to an interesting documentary.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

"It's not too late!!!"

In January the Membership Renewal forms were inserted
into the **TexFinn News**. The current return address will be
printed on the forms. It is the same one given on the
newsletter. TexFinn News, P.O. Box 832065,
Richardson, TX 75083. If you haven't sent in your dues,
please do so as soon as possible. We appreciate all of our
members,

FINNISH CLASSES AT THE WOODEN SPOON

Beginning Finnish classes will begin at the Wooden
Spoon on Saturday March 17th. For complete details, call
the Wooden Spoon at 972 424 6867. She will have all the
infomation on cost, time, textbooks and class meetings.

**You are invited to join the
Dallas/Fort-Worth Finnish-American Society as they welcome
Ben Strout
Director of *Fire and Ice* &
Finlandia Foundation's 2006 Lecturer of the Year**

Sunday, March 18, 2007, at 3:00 P.M.

King of Glory Lutheran Church - Lower Level Banquet Room

(North frontage road of LBJ Freeway between Hillcrest and Preston Road)

At its Minneapolis meeting in March, the Finlandia Foundation Board chose filmmaker **Ben Strout**, the Director of *Fire and Ice*, as the first First Lecturer of the Year. Strout has no Finnish heritage but developed a massive curiosity about the Winter War between Russia and Finland in 1939-1940, a curiosity that he satisfied by researching and producing this documentary film. The film premiered in August, 2005 at FinnGrandFest in Marquette, where it was shown to large, enthusiastic crowds. And its popularity has not slowed. By mid-March 2006 it had been shown on over 25 PBS stations and was being featured at several prestigious film festivals, from Newport Beach, California to Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the Minneapolis Film Festival in May it garnered an award as the best documentary film.



Prepare for an emotional evening. The trauma of the Winter War caused an intense sympathy and unity among Finnish Americans in 1939-1940, and the response to reliving that event today seems no less dramatic. An almost forgotten chapter of World War II is once again front and center.

**If you would like more information about this event please contact
Karl Morris, TexFinn President at karljm@bigplanet.com**

FINNFEST 2007

Finn Fest USA 2007 in Ashtabula, Ohio in Ashtabula County— Ashtabula is a small vibrant city in northeastern Ohio, a port on Lake Erie that is over 150 years old. The Bascule bridge spans the river on it's way to the lake. The river area is crowded with boats of all sizes. The Kent campus is minutes away as are the 3 museums, the art center and many other points of interest.

One of our tours will cover several of our covered bridges plus the building site of what will be the longest covered bridge in the country. Also the tour will stop at several vineyards, one of which will include lunch.

You will discover why we are Ohio's corner on fun. www.Ashtabula.Kent.edu will have information about the campus. Our local tourism website is located here:

www.VisitAshtabulaCounty.com

FinnFest takes place from July 26-28. Most activities will take place at the Ashtabula campus of Kent State University. Make plans to attend. FinnFests are always fun! The website for the 2007 FinnFest is: www.finnfestusa2007.com

IRINA BJORKLUND APPEARING IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

Irina's band and she are playing at the SXSW Festival in Austin on March 16th-17th. For information about Irina Bjorklund and her band, go to:

myspace.com/irinabjorklund

They will be playing the official showcase as part of the Nordic Nights on Friday the 16th at 8pm at a place called Uncle Flirty's on 6th Street in Austin, Texas. They will also have 3 shows on Saturday the 17th: At noon at the Day Stage at the convention center (20 minute set); At 3:30pm as part of a Nick Drake Tribute at Habana Calle & Annex on 6th Street (15 minute set) and at 5pm at Dominican Joe on S. Congress street -a full set. Irina plays the musical saw and sings in 4 languages. You could listen to the full album on cdbaby.co/bjorklund Her band goes by the name Irina Bjorklund & Peter Fox.

Irina's background is rich and colorful. She composed her first song at the age of seven. She grew up in Finland, France and Sweden and uses the language of each country in her songs, adding English and Russian in her repertoire. She has acted in movies and has lived in Los Angeles since 1999. She has many CD's to her credit. The next CD 'Pour un Monde' will be released within the next year.

ABOUT THE MEETING FLIER ENCLOSED

The flier enclosed with this newsletter was created by Shannon Martin. Thanks for a great job.

FINNS BRING HOME EIGHT MEDALS FROM SAPPORO WORLD SKIING CHAMPIONSHIP

The Nordic Skiing World Championships awarded eight medals to Finnish skiers. Five of them were gold. The Finnish Nordic skiing team can be pleased with their performance a Sapporo. They were in second place behind Norway. Finland took home five gold medals, one silver and two bronze. Norway won five gold medals, four silver and seven bronze. The Finnish women did very well. Four of the medals went to Virpi Kuitunen, an 18 year old, who won the final event by 6.9 seconds over the Norwegian, Therese Norhaug. The men's cross country team came home empty handed. One of the ski jumpers, Harri Olli, took home a silver medal.

THANK YOU JEREMY

A big Texas sized THANK YOU to Jeremy Martin for organizing the group tickets for the TexFinns at the March 4th hockey game between the Stars and the Sharks. The Sharks were biting hard and the Stars could have been shining a little brighter but we enjoyed the game and appreciate all of the work Jeremy put into getting the event organized. Go Stars! Yea, Jeremy!

A REQUEST---

Many times the fastest way to get information to everyone in the TexFinn Society is by email. We do not have email addresses for everyone. If you would like to receive information from the Society by email, please send your request with your correct email address to our president, Karl Morris at: karljm@bigplanet.com

TEXFINN BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED

A board meeting has been scheduled for the TexFinns on Sunday, March 18th at 1:00 pm. We will be meeting at the King of Glory Church prior to our special presentation FIRE AND ICE. Any member who wishes to attend is welcome to do so.



THE WOODEN SPOON

 1617 Avenue K in Plano

 Open Monday-Saturday from 10am-6pm

 Tel. 972 424 6867 or 1 800 2 NORDIC

www.woodenspoon.ws

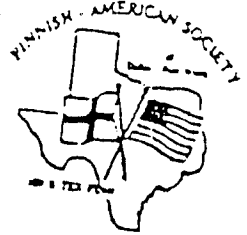
twonordic@aol.com twonordic@verizon.net

FINNISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Karl Morris
Vice President: John Laine
Secretary/Treasurer: Vern & Diane Ruuska
Program Committee: Marcia Kuusisto
Jeremy Martin
Newsletter Editor: Teddy Krekula
Circulation: David Krekula
Social Committee: David Krekula
Sharon Blalock
Library Committee: open
Sunshine Committee: open
Finnish Language School Contact Person:
Helen Tiainen.
Membership Committee: open

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
THE SOCIETY, WRITE OR EMAIL.

**Finnish-American Society of
Dallas/Fort Worth Inc.**
Finnish-American Society of D/FW
P.O. Box 83265
Richardson, TX 75083
TXFINN@prodigy.net
website: <http://www.texfinn.org>
or email our president at
karljm@bigplanet.com



TEXFINN MEETING DATE

March 18, 2007

King of Glory Lutheran Church

on the north frontage of LBJ Freeway

between Hillcrest and Preston Road

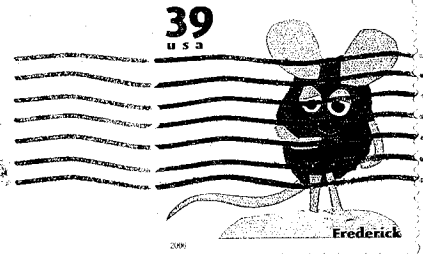
**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE AND TIME
OF THE MARCH TEXFINN MEETING.**

**WE ARE NOT MEETING ON THE
USUAL THURSDAY EVENING. WE ARE
INSTEAD MEETING ON SUNDAY FOR
THIS SPECIAL PRESENTATION.**

March 18th, Sunday at 3PM,
we will have a special presentation by the
Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year
(LOY), Ben Strout, who has researched and
directed a film call *FIRE AND ICE*, a
documentary about the Finnish-Russian
winter war 1939-1940. The film has been
featured in several film festivals. Reserve
Sunday, March 18 at 3:00PM and plan to
attend at the King of Glory Lutheran
Church.

Finnish American Society of DFW
P.O Box 832065
Richardson, TX 75083

**finnfest
usa**



Jeremy & Shannon Martin
3204 Ocean Drive
Denton, TX 76210

