

TEX - FINN NEWS



ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FINN TO PRINT
The International Newsletter of the Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Fort Worth

Volume 19 Number 7

Maaliskuu/March 2008

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We had a great turnout for our February meeting. Teddy lead a discussion on the Finnish language that had everybody's attention. Lots of positive comments. Kiitos Teddy!
We also had a couple attend for the first time, Bernice and Dick Hobday. Thanks for coming out and hope to see y'all again. Our March meeting is movie night. We are in the process of trying to get a copy of Keisarikunta which has had some very good reviews. In addition, we have other options at our disposal....Jeremy has a few shows related to Finland that we can watch also.

For our April meeting, Dave Krekula will be in charge of our Finnish food night. I'm hoping that will mean more Finnish treats to taste. I do know that Kirsi Stickler of the Finnish Lutheran Church has offered to bring freshly baked Finnish pulla, Karelian rice pastries and other Finnish pastries. These will be for sale and the proceeds will go to the church. So please bring your cash and check book. In addition, KP Wilska, former CEO of Nokia USA, is still scheduled for our May meeting. Come join us for popcorn and coffee for our film night March 20th! And I'm sure we'll have a few other things to eat. Look forward to seeing you there.

Karl J. Morris
Tex-Finn President

Upcoming meetings:

- March 20 - Movie night - Keisarikunta
- April 17 - Finnish food night
- May 15 - KP Wilska - Former CEO Nokia USA

MEMBERSHIP DUES—member invoices were enclosed in the February newsletter. If you have not renewed your membership, there's still time. Bring the membership form to the March meeting or mail it to: FAS/DFW, PO Box 832933, Richardson, TX 75083. If you are not a member and would like to join the TexFinns, email karljm@bigplanet.com

NEW AT SALOLAMPI THIS SUMMER—

News from the Finlandia Foundation President about Salolampi's new music camp.

As you may have heard already the Finlandia Foundation National is embarking upon an exciting new program called Soiva Camp at Salolampi. This music camp will start this June in Bemidji, MN with the campers living at Salolampi and taking their instruction at Bemidji State University. This initial camp will be a pilot program limited to 25 students and the two instruments that will be taught at this first camp are piano and flute. We are asking that the student campers have had two years of private instruction and the age range is 11-17 years.

It will be possible to use the FFN "first time camper" scholarships for this and other scholarships are available from the Salolampi Foundation IF YOU ACT QUICKLY! The student teacher ratio will be 5:1 and three of the instructors will come from the Association of Finnish Music Schools (flute, piano and improvisation/composition) while the two American instructors come from Concordia College/ Moorhead (flute) and Bemidji State University (piano). You will find more detailed information in the attachments.

For more information please visit www.salolampi.org

The Finlandia Foundation National continues to seek ways to bring youth into our programs and to involve our chapters in new and innovative efforts.

With best regards,
John Laine, President, Finlandia Foundation National

TEXFINN MEETING

Thursday, March 20th, 2008

KING OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH 7:00 PM

(North frontage of 635 between Preston and Hillcrest)

Program: Film night: See President's message above

Come and bring a friend. Snacks and coffee served before the meeting.

FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF NORTH TEXAS

Services are partly bilingual (in Finnish, with English inserts).
Coffee is served after services.

Dates and times for service for the Easter season is on March 23rd at 7:00 PM at the Rejoice Lutheran Church.

Rejoice Lutheran Church
532 E Sandy Lake Road,
Coppell, TX 75019

Address: 532 East Sandy Lake Road
Coppell TX 75019

The church website has links to other Finnish groups such as the Finnish Language School of North Texas and the Women's club. The website also has an English portion.

FINNISH CITIZENSHIP - ACT BEFORE MAY 31ST 2008

Opportunity for Finnish citizenship - act before May 31st 2008

Under the new Nationality Act, which came into effect on June 1, 2003, former Finnish citizens and their descendants may now regain Finnish citizenship through a declaration procedure.

Former Finnish citizens have the opportunity to re-acquire Finnish citizenship by declaration, if they have lost it when acquiring the citizenship of another country, for example. Descendants of former and current Finnish citizens may also acquire Finnish citizenship by declaration, even if they have never had citizenship.

Please note: The declaration must be received by the Consulates General or the Embassy of Finland on 31 May, 2008, at the latest.

There is a processing fee charged for the declaration. You can verify the current fee from the Services section of this website or by calling one of the Finnish missions in the US.

You can download the declaration forms from the webpage of the Directorate of Immigration at Finland. Also, the Consulates General or the Embassy of Finland can send it to you by request.

Return the completed form to the Consulates General or the Embassy of Finland in person or by mail; do not return the form to authorities in Finland if you are only visiting the country.

Thank you,
Christina Lin, Exec. Assist.
Finlandia Foundation National
470 W. Walnut Street
Pasadena, CA 91103-3594
<http://www.finlandiafoundation.org>
ffnoffice@mac.com

25TH FINNFEST-COME CELEBRATE

Duluth, MN, July 23-27, 2008

Calling all Finns, Finnish Americans and friends of Finnish culture nationwide is the invitation from Jeanne Doty and Diane Fay Skomars, co-chairs of FinnFest 2008. "We want to welcome everyone. It is open to everyone."

For further information about the 2008 FinnFest, please contact:

Ira Turunen
Chair, Publicity Committee
iraturunen@finnfest2008.com
(218) 213-6080
Finn Fest at 25

More about: SALOLAMPI -

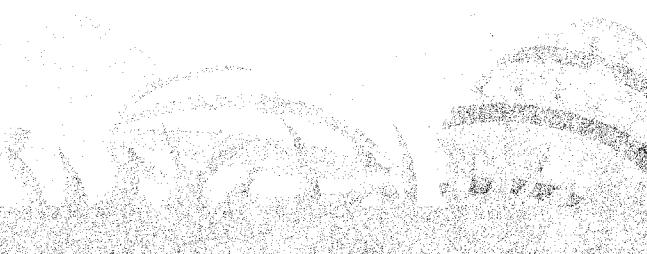
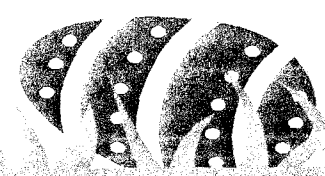
Soiva, the music camp, is the newest camp at Salolampi. This camp is being piloted this summer, June 15-21, limited to 25 students, ages 11-17. It will feature advanced study in flute, piano together with improvisation and composition.

The Soiva camp is in addition to all of the regular camps in the Salolampi language program. Registrations forms, scholarship information, dates and types of camps as well as the cost can be found on the website: www.salolampi.org

The website has information on housing, activities, pictures of events and classes in order to give applicants as full an understanding as possible of what the Salolampi experience will be like. Take a tour through the website. Who knows, you might even discover that there is a Salolampi language camp week just suited for you—whatever age or background you have.



**ILOISTA
PÄÄSIÄISTÄ!**



FINLAND'S DNA PROJECT - OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

<http://fidna.info/pmw/>

Welcome—

The Finland DNA Project will collect DNA data for persons who live in Finland, whose ancestors emigrated from Finland, or can trace a direct-line paternal or maternal ancestry to Finland. The data will be analyzed and reported for mutual access. Membership in the Finland DNA Project is free of charge, and the administrators are doing their job on a volunteer basis, with no financial connection to familyTreeDNA.

From this link order the DNA test kit sent to your home . You can access the results via the internet, password-protected. In the Finland DNA Project you will also participate in the comparison of the birth places of the ancestors of DNA relatives. Test result from another lab? Join The Finland DNA project by ordering at special pricing a test result at The FamilytreeDNA.

http://www.familyreedna.com/pdf/promo_gap.pdf

For complete information go the the website

<http://fidna.info/pmw/> □

It is an opportunity to go beyond the church books to trace you family roots.

FINLAND EXCELS!

First, a medical break-through has taken place in Finland. Scientists in Finland have replaced the upper jaw of 65 year old man with a bone graft that had been grown from his own cells.

The patient had lost his upper jaw because of tumors.

The stem cells came from the man's fatty tissue and were cultivated for two weeks. The scientists selected a set of cells called mesenchymal cells, those that give rise to bone tissue. Those cells were placed in a scaffold structure. The structure was than placed inside the patient's abdomen and allowed to grow for nine months. Than the grown structure was taken from the abdomen and placed where the upper jaw should be. Screws and microsurgery were used to connect the structure to the head and blood vessels were connected to the arteries in his neck.

Dr. Riitta Suuronen, head of Regea Institute of Regenerative Medicine in Helsinki, told a news conference recently, "From the outside nobody would be able to tell that he has been through such a procedure."

An in-flight video shown on Finnair flights has won a prestigious award, again.

The Finnair short film, "Welcome to Lakeland", was awarded the Silver World Medal prize in the in-flight entertainment category at the New York Film and Video Festival.

The award is the twelfth of its kind earned by Finnair's in-flight films.

This year's competition had 212 films from 25 countries.

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Some Finn Funn—

And finally, in a trial "way up north", the prosecuting attorney called his first witness, Hilma, a grandmotherly looking woman.

He approached her and asked, "Hilma, do you know me?"

She responded, "Of course I do, I've known you since you were a young boy, and you have been a big disappointment to me. You lie, cheat, you talk about people behind their backs, you are nothing but a two bit lawyer."

The attorney is stunned! He finally points across the room and asked, "Hilma, do you know the defense attorney?"

She again responded, "Of course I do, I have also known him since he was youngster. He's lazy, bigoted, and has a drinking problem, and has the worst law firm in the state."

The judge, hearing the questions and answers, asked both of the attorneys to approach the bench. In a very quiet voice he said, "If either of you asks her if she knows me, I'll throw you in jail for contempt."

A QUICK GUIDE TO HOW TO START AN ARGUMENT WITH THE NEIGHBOURS IN HELSINKI

Finns can be ticked off by any number o things. The arguments often end up in fist fights and police have to be called to settle the arguments. There are 5 housing counselors in Helsinki. The Finns stick to their principles and feuds can last over days, weeks and sometimes months.

Carpets and rugs being beaten at the wrong times will often do the trick.

Parking in the wrong space (especially one with a winter block-heater outlet) .

Finally, watching the actions of the neighbours like a hawk (binoculars optional) will ensure an argument, regardless of the type of housing that is involved.

Helsingin Sanomat / Adapted from an article first published in print, 28.2.2008

WHAT MAKES FINNISH KIDS SO SMART?

Ellen Gamerman of the Wallstreet Journal wrote an article on February 29th, 2008 about the excellence of Finnish high school students.

Finnish students have only about 30 minutes of homework every night, no societies, no valedictorians, no tardy bells or classes for the gifted. Yet on an international level they score among the highest of 15-year-old students in 57 countries tested.

American students finished among the average students, C-level. American students have hours of homework with many standards and rules. Both Finnish and American students spend time on the internet, dye their hair, listen to heavy metal . What makes the difference? Go to the Wall Street Journal site to read the entire article.

FINNISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY OFFICERS

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Helen Tiainen;

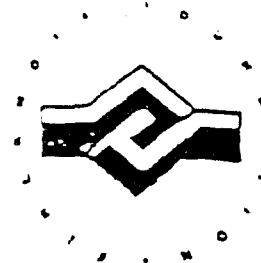
Membership Committee: open

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
THE SOCIETY, WRITE OR EMAIL:

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Dallas/Ft. Worth**
P.O. Box 832933
Richardson, TX 75083

website:<http://www.texfinn.org>

email: karljm@bigplanet.com



TEXFINN MEETING DATE

March 20th, 2008

King of Glory Lutheran Church

on the north frontage of LBJ Freeway between
Hillcrest and Preston Road

Welcome to anyone who is interested in things
Finnish.

THE WOODEN SPOON

1617 Avenue K in Plano.

Open Monday-Saturday from 10am-6pm

Tel: 972 424 6867 or 1 800 2 NORDIC

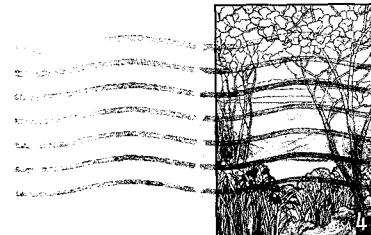
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LOUIS COMFORT TIFFANY