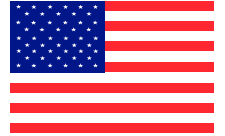




TEX-FINN NEWS



ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FINN TO PRINT
The International Newsletter of the Finnish-American Society of

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Is it Fall already? Summer sure flew by this year. Probably because I had an enjoyable Summer. Spent most of it in Vancouver, BC where it never got hotter than 80 degrees Fahrenheit. I also had the opportunity to attend FinnFest in Duluth, Minnesota. It was so jam-packed with lectures and music events that you simply couldn't attend it all. Personally, I wanted to minimize my time in the hot state of Texas this Summer. Don't know how the rest of you fared but hope you were able to keep cool for some of the time.

Please come out and join us for our next meeting on Thursday, September 18 and tell us about your Summer travels and adventures. This meeting is typically one of the most fun of the year. Hope to see you...and bring pictures!

Karl J. Morris
President
Tex-Finns

TEX-FINN FALL MEETING SCHEDULE

The Finnish-American Society of DFW meets on the third Thursday of each month. Our meeting site is the King of Glory Lutheran Church on LBJ Freeway (I-635) on the north frontage between Hillcrest and Preston Road. The meetings begin at 7:30PM. A security code is needed to enter the building. We will email it to you. You may request the code by emailing karljm@bigplanet.com or to krekuladavid@att.net Someone will be watching the door from 7:30PM until about 8:00PM to let you in.

Our first meeting on September 18th is an opportunity to share summer stories. Bring a picture, a souvenir — something that will give us an idea of what adventures you have been on. The meeting schedule is as follows:

September 18 th , 2008	October 16 th , 2008
November 20 th , 2008	December 18 th , 2008

Plan to join us. Mark your calendars. We hope to see you at the meetings.

Tervetuloa! Welcome back!

TEXFINN MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

KING OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH 7:30PM

(North frontage of 635 (LBJ Freeway) between Preston and Hillcrest

Come and tell us about your summer.
This is a meeting for sharing of stories, photos, and experiences.
Refreshments will be provided.

FINNFEST 2008
By Teddy Krekula

What a celebration! The Duluth convention center with the shining big sea waters lapping at its doors, temperatures from 65 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit, beat the heat of Texas. This is not a blow by blow, fact by fact account of FinnFest. We took our time to get there and we planned to enjoy the entire trip. We motored our way through Oklahoma, Kansas, Iowa and finally to Minnesota, stopping to see some of our family in Minneapolis.

Then it was, “Mush you SUV, north to Duluth.” Of course, there are antique stores, museums and restaurants along the way. Their lure did not escape us. We found our lodging and unkinked our joints, registered into FinnFest and started to read the schedule of events. There was no way we were going to take in everything. Pick and choose—leave ample time to shop in the ‘tori’.

One of us watched Beatrice baking and the other went to a speech on something or other. We both went to hear the Tarja Halonen, President of Finland. We took pictures and you can kind of tell where she is but we were mostly at least an arm’s length away from all the dignitaries. The President spoke in English but with a few words of Finnish. She was presented an Honorary Doctor of Law degree from the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

We went to the evening concert on Friday. The Minnesota Orchestra with Osmo Vänskä, Music Director, performed Sibelius Symphony No. 5 and Rautavaara’s Cantus Arcticus. The next morning I was able to meet Mr. Vänskä who was signing CD’s of Cantus Arcticus at one of the booths in the ‘tori’.

Friday was also a family reunion. They drove to Duluth from New York Mills and Minneapolis to enjoy the day at FinnFest.

We also met some of the TexFinns. John Laine happened to be hanging out at the Finlandia Foundation information booth. Karl Morris, our President, caught us walking around the exhibits. Sharon Blalock and some of her family were enjoying the shopping. Vern and Diane Ruuska were planning to come but Diane broke her ankle picking blueberries at a blueberry farm in Texas. She has spent most of the summer on crutches.

Eventually we had to say ‘so long’ to a very pleasant experience in Duluth and headed back to Texas by way of the family farm in Ottertail, MN. David even managed to get in a day of fishing. Mostly he cooked and introduced the Minnesotans to some TexMex delicacies.

Back to Texas—at the top of Kansas the temperature was 92—the bottom of Kansas was 97. Half way through Oklahoma the car thermometer said 107. I was driving. It was a temptation to make a U-turn and head back to Duluth.

Next year’s FinnFest is going to be on a cruise ship in Alaska. Check it out. Get details at www.finnfestUSA2009.com

Consider it. Texas summers are not likely to be any cooler next year.



**FINNS HAVE
MORE STEAM!!**

UPDATING THE TEXFINN NEWS

This year we are going to make the TexFinn News available electronically to anyone who wants to receive it that way. In order to do this, we will need to be sure that we have your correct email address.

You may send us your email address by writing to us at one of the following addresses:

krekuladavid@att.net
karljm@bigplanet.com

Anyone who does not have email or would prefer to have the newsletter in hard copy may do so. Send a card or letter to let us know that you prefer a post office mailed copy and we will be sure that you receive a copy of the newsletter by mail.

GO TO:

www.texfinns.org our Finnish-American Society website.

Links may be found to the Finnish Lutheran Church of North Texas. The Finnish congregation meets at the Rejoice Lutheran Church in Coppell.

The Finnish Language School of North Texas has a website at www.suomi-koulu.com There is information in both Finnish and English.

SOME FINN FUN!

Introducing Yooper Airlines:

We Are Pleased To Announce Yooper Air Is Now Operating In Minnysota. Also Serving Visconsin, Nort And Sout Dakota an da U.P. If you are travelin soon, consider Yooper Air, da no-frills airline.

You're all in da same boat on Yooper Air, where flyin is a upliftin > experience. Dere is no first class on any Yooper Air flight.

Meals are potluck. Rows 1-6, bring rolls; 7-15, bring a salad; 16-21, a main dish, and 22-30, a dessert.

Basses and tenors please sit in da rear of da aircraft.

Everyone is responsible for his or her own baggage. All fares are by free will offering and da plane will not land 'til da budget is met.

Pay attention to your flight attendant, who will acquaint you wit da safety system aboard dis Yooper Air. Okay den, listen up. I'm only gonnasay dis vonce. In da event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, I am frankly going to be real surprised and so vill Captain Olson, because we fly right around two tousand feet, so loss of cabin pressure vould probably mean da Second Coming or someting of dat nature, and I vouldn't bodar with doze liddle masks on da rubber tubes. You're gonna have bigger tings to worry about den dat. Just stuff doze back up in dair little holes. Probably da masks fell out because of turbulence which, to be honest wit you, we're going to have quite a bit of at two tousand feet, sorta like driving across a plowed field, but after a while you get used to it.

Da use of cell phones on da plane is strictly forbidden, not because day may confuse da plane's navigation system, which is seat of da pants all da way. No, it's because cell phones are a pain in da wazoo

We start lunch right about noon and it's buffet style with da coffee pot up front.

p.s. To understand this it really helps if you are from Mineesoota or Michigan.....Ya. Sure You Betcha, eh?

***SHOP AT THE
WOODEN SPOON!
Avenue K and 18th in Plano***

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY, WRITE OR EMAIL:

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