



FINLANDIA FOUNDATION NATIONAL CAPITAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER - October 2014

EVENTS 2014

**Saturday,
October, 4th
1 - 4 pm**

Fall Picnic
Olney Park
1840 Olney Road
Falls Church, VA

**Friday,
November 7th
6 - 10 pm**

Sauna Night
Embassy of Finland
Washington, DC

**Saturday,
November 22nd
11 am - 3 pm**

**Finn Spark
Christmas Bazaar**
River Road
Unitarian Church,
Bethesda, MD

**Saturday,
December 6th**

**FFNCC Independence
Day Cocktail Party**
Arlington, VA

**Saturday
December 13th**

**Children's Christmas
Party**
Resurrection Evangelical
Lutheran Church,
Arlington, VA

Message from the President

Dear Members,

I hope you all enjoyed your summers and are ready to join in on the festivities this fall! Twice this summer I had someone come up to me and ask me if I was Finnish after seeing the Finnish flag on my car's bumper. Both people said they were involved with Finlandia Foundation years and years ago. I told them how lucky they were to bump into me because this upcoming year would be a perfect time to reconnect with the Finnish community in the DC area!



The first chance for us all to reconnect is this Saturday at our fall picnic. It's not too late to RSVP and join us! The forecast calls for cooler fall temperatures, but we will have grilled sausages, hot coffee and races and a cell phone throwing competition to keep you warm. Read the newsletter for more information about the picnic.

Other events this season include a Sauna Night on November 7th, and an FFNCC Independence Day celebration on December 6th. More information will follow in the November newsletter. The Embassy has generously given us a date in February for a second sauna night and our Kalevala Dinner in March will feature the FFN Performer of the Year, jazz guitarist, Olli Hirvonen.

Next year also marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Jean Sibelius. Finlandia Foundation National has formed a Sibelius 150 Jubilee Committee to help support the 46 FFN chapters across the country with the planning of their own Sibelius inspired programs. Several performances in the area are in the planning stages and we will tell you about them in the next newsletters. In the meantime, you can look at Sibelius150.org to see the scope of events planned in Finland and beyond to celebrate FFN's first Patron and one of Finland's greatest treasures.

The year promises to be an exciting time for us all who share a common bond to Finland!

Hope to see you soon,

Kirsti Frenzen-Noring

FFNCC Board of Directors 2014-2015

President: Kirsti Frenzen Noring president@finlandiadc.org, **1st Vice President:** Stephen Frey,
2nd Vice President: Erika Carlson, **Recording Secretary:** Bruce Griffin,
Treasurer & Membership: Mikko Mäkäräinen mmakarainen@gmail.com,
Newsletter Editor: Susanna Andersson finlandiafoundationncc@gmail.com,
Members at Large: Leila Takala, Tabitha Takala, Juha Seppälä, Irina Watkins



**Finlandia Foundation
National Capital Chapter's**

FALL PICNIC

Saturday, October 4th, 2014
1 - 4 pm
Olney Park, Falls Church, VA

Soft drinks, grilled sausages and dessert provided by FFNCC! Please bring a side dish large enough to serve your group + two

Finlandia Foundation members welcome ... along with family and friends!

Fee: \$10 per adult - children under 12 are free

Tickets available at Finlandiadc.org via Pay Pal or RSVP by October 2nd to Susanna Andersson at finlandiafoundationncc@gmail.com with number attending - including children - and pay at the door

Olney Park, 1840 Olney Rd. Falls Church, VA 22043

Directions via Beltway I-495s from Virginia/inner loop

Merge onto VA-123/Dolly Madison Boulevard via exit 46B toward Chain Bridge Road/McLean
Turn right onto Great Falls Street/VA-694
Turn right onto Magarity Road Take first left onto Olney Road

Directions from Beltway I-495 from Maryland/outer loop

Take left exit 45B toward I-66 Merge onto VA-123/Dolly Madison Boulevard via exit 19B toward McLean
Turn right onto Great Falls Street/VA-694
Turn right onto Magarity Road Take first left onto Olney Road



FFNCC's Saunailta

Please join us on Friday, November 7th
6 pm to 10 pm

Saunailta at the Embassy of Finland
3301 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

- Doors open at 5:45 pm and the event begins at 6pm.
- Sauna time for women is 6 pm and 8 pm
- Sauna time for men is 7 pm and 9 pm

Please bring a vegetable, potato casserole, or other side dish in a disposable container - large enough to serve your group and two other people.

FFNCC will supply the sauna sausage, hot mustard, dessert, beer and soft drinks.

Don't forget to bring your towel, "seat cover", soap, shampoo etc.

\$15 for members and \$30 for non-members and guests.

Tickets are available through the FFNCC website, www.finlandiadc.org by using PayPal, or by sending a check made payable to FFNCC - along with the names of the members of your group to:

Mikko Mäkäräinen,
2100 11th St, NW #307
Washington, DC 20001

Payments are due by Wednesday, 11/5. No tickets will be sold at the door!

Fun times at the Summer Picnic by the Chesapeake Bay

Thank you to all the members and guests who attended the summer picnic last June in Annapolis. We had fun chatting and swimming and enjoying the wonderful food! We had perfect Finnish-like weather for the occasion, too.

A special thank you to Jaana Moller who, once again, let us enjoy the picnic grounds of her neighborhood's beautiful bayside park! And thank you to Leila Takala for baking the delicious dessert for the party.

We also held our annual meeting and two new board members were elected. Welcome to Juha Seppälä and Irina Watkins! You can read more about their journey on the next page.

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to some board members. The Board would like to thank Mirja Clement for her many years of service to FFNCC. Mirja designed our invitations and programs over the past several years and also donated her beautiful works of art to our Kalevala raffle drawings and silent auction.

Thanks also to Ville Uusimäki who helped out wherever he was needed! We were especially lucky to have his help in the kitchen at the Embassy of Finland.

And one last thank you - to the nominating committee members, Fern Malila and Bob Cavanaugh, for volunteering their time and effort in this important behind-the-scenes role!



The new board is ready for action!

From left: Bruce Griffin, Juha Seppälä, Tabitha Takala, Leila Takala, Mikko Mäkäräinen, Irina Watkins, Kirsti Frenzen Noring and Susanna Andersson. Not pictured: Stephen Frey and Erika Carlson.

Welcome to our newest Board Members, Juha Seppälä and Irina Watkins



I am Juha Seppälä, born in Kouvola, the third stop on the Trans-Siberian railway west from Vladivostok. My father used to work at the Stockmann's department store there (yes, it existed!), but after Kouvola didn't exactly become the boomtown it was destined to be, we moved to Nurmijärvi, home of the Finnish national novelist Aleksis Kivi. And Ere Kokkonen, director of the "Uuno Turhapuro" movies and Hannu Karpo, the tv investigative journalist always on the side of the little guy facing oppression from the state and its bureaucrats.

My great grandfather came to the US in 1902 at the age of 17, but returned back to Finland a couple of years later after having made enough money for the dowry. His brother remained, and I have relatives living in Maryland and the east coast.

From my grandmother's side, I have family in Seattle and my uncle just moved to Atlanta with his family from Vienna (Fairfax County, that is). Another uncle worked in DC for a few years in the 70s and lived in McLean, where I now live with my family. So, to honor my family roots, I only needed a little persuasion to apply for Board membership.

We have lived in Virginia for a year now. The previous four years we spent in Jakarta, which is like DC in a sense that it is the capital city and was home to Obama. Different in all other ways.

My name is Irina Watkins (nee Koistinen), and I am originally from Varkaus, Finland. I moved to the United States 14 years ago after high school when I received an athletic scholarship from University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. I have been a runner most of my life, and I have represented Finland in various international races, such as the European Cross Country Championships. Thanks to athletics, I have traveled around the world, but mostly here in the United States. Additionally, I have lived in total of 10 states so far. I am the only one in my family living here in the United States, so I travel to Finland frequently to see family and friends.

We moved to Washington DC just 8 months ago, when my husband relocated here for work. I just finished my studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, earning a master's degree in Kinesiology, with a concentration in performance psychology. I have been a coach at youth track and field teams, high school teams, and at college level.

Currently I work for a Finnish company as a North American Sales Support, and teach Finnish at FLSA. I live in Lorton with my husband David and dog Lasse, and I am a dual-citizen of Finland and US.

Living in the DC area has been wonderful since there are so many other Finns here. It is great to be part of Finlandia Foundation, preserving the Finnish heritage, customs, language, and culture. Additionally, being part of Finlandia Foundation brings the dear mother-land closer to us who are living here in the United States, which is a wonderful thing.



Scandinavian Bazaars in November and December 2014

List created by American Scandinavian Association, www.scandinavian-dc.org

SCANDINAVIAN BAZAARS in the DC Area

<p>Drott Lodge Swedish Bazaar</p> <p>St. James Episcopal Church 11815 Seven Locks Road Potomac, Maryland</p> <p>drott-lodge@drott-lodge.org www.drott-lodge.org/Bazaar.htm</p>	<p>SATURDAY, Nov. 1, 2014 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM</p> <p>Swedish: Smorgasbord - features hot meat balls and potatoes, pea soup, open-faced sandwiches, & desserts Imported Food - cheese, herring, chocolates Imported Gifts - Christmas and other items Baked Goods - limpa bread, kringles</p>
<p>Norwegian Christmas Bazaar-Julemarked</p> <p>Emanuel Lutheran Church 7730 Bradley Blvd Bethesda, Maryland</p> <p>Lasse Syversen 301-641-7908 lasse@flagship.com</p>	<p>FRIDAY, Nov. 7, 2014 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM, SATURDAY, Nov. 8, 2014 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM</p> <p>Enjoy Norwegian food, open sandwiches, marzipan cake, fresh waffles, coffee and tea, solo! Saturday we will also serve warm Norwegian rice pudding with sugar, cinnamon and butter in addition to the other treats. Do your holiday shopping of Christmas food, chocolate, Scandinavian Christmas gifts, Scandinavian sweaters, Rosemalings products, jewelry, ornaments, Scandinavian Christmas decorations and a lot more!</p>
<p>Danish Bazaar</p> <p>St. Elizabeth's Church 917 Montrose Road Rockville, Maryland</p> <p>danishclubdc@yahoo.com www.danishclubdc.org/bazaar.shtml</p>	<p>SATURDAY, Nov. 8, 2013 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM</p> <p>Open-faced sandwiches, pastry, apple cake, beer, decorations, embroidery, jewelry and china.</p>
<p>Icelandic Christmas Bazaar</p> <p>Islenskur Jolabasar</p> <p>American Legion Post 177 3939 Oak St Fairfax, Virginia</p> <p>icelanddc@hotmail.com www.icelanddc.com/</p>	<p>SATURDAY, Nov. 22, 2014 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM</p> <p>Velkomin - Welcome Come discover "<i>The Land of Fire and Ice</i>"</p> <p>Imported Crafts Handmade Icelandic Woolens Icelandic Holiday Decorations Traditional Icelandic Foods</p>

<p>Finnish Bazaar</p> <p>River Road Unitarian Church 6301 River Road Bethesda, Maryland</p> <p>703-642-2181 www.finnspark.org</p>	<p>SATURDAY, Nov. 22, 2014</p> <p>11:00 AM to 3:00 PM</p> <p>Opening by Ms. Ritva Koukku-Ronde, Ambassador of Finland to the U.S.</p> <p>Marimekko ittala glass, Finnish foods, baked goods, crafts, books, silent auction and instant raffle. Grand Raffle.</p>
<p>Norwegian Holiday Festival/Bazaar</p> <p>Christ Lutheran Church 3810 Meredith Dr., Fairfax, VA.</p> <p>703-573-5943. http://www.norwaydc.org/events/bazaar</p>	<p>FRIDAY, Dec. 5, 2014 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>SATURDAY, Dec. 6, 2014 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Live musical entertainment, Norwegian cafe, serving Rommegrot, Pea Soup, Rice Pudding, Lefse, etc. Home baked pastries and breads. Purchase Norwegian sweaters, T-shirts, rosemaling, jewelry, food products - Lutefisk, CDs, books (in English), linens, and more!</p>
<p>SWEA Swedish Bazaar</p> <p>House of Sweden 2900 K Street NW Washington, D.C.</p> <p>For more information contact washingtondc@swea.org www.swea.org</p>	<p>SATURDAY, Dec. 6, 2014 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM St. Lucia at 5:00 PM (Swedish Choir)</p> <p>Children's room for play and making decoration.</p> <p>Swedish artwork, crafts, crystal, textiles, books, baked goods, real delicacies at the popular Swedish Cafe, and amazing raffle prizes.</p>
<p>ASA Christmas Bazaar & St. Lucia Festival</p> <p>St. James Episcopal Church 11850 Seven Locks Road Potomac, Maryland</p> <p>703-356-3274 erlandmag@msn.com www.scandinavian-dc.org/Meet-1.htm (scroll down to Dec.8)</p>	<p>SUNDAY, Dec. 7, 2014 St. Lucia at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary</p> <p>The MOST beautiful St. Lucia festival in the DC area.</p> <p>Bazaar: 5:30 - 9:00 pm Parish Hall Dancing around the Christmas tree Santa Visit with children's gift bags</p> <p>Nordic Dancers</p>



**Olney Park,
Falls Church, VA**



**Resurrection Evangelical
Lutheran Church,
6201 Washington BLVD,
Arlington, VA**



**Embassy of Finland
3301 Massachusetts Avenue,
NW, Washington, DC**



**River Road Unitarian
Church
Bethesda, MD**

2014 EVENTS

Saturday, October 4th, 1 - 4 pm

Fall Picnic

Olney Park

1840 Olney Road, Falls Church, VA

Sunday, October 19th, 2 pm

Finnish Congregation Worship Service

Resurrection Lutheran Church

6201 Washington Boulevard, Arlington, VA

Friday, November 7th, 6 - 10 pm

Sauna Night

Embassy of Finland

Washington, DC

Sunday, November 16th, 2 pm

Finnish Congregation Worship Service

Resurrection Lutheran Church

6201 Washington Boulevard, Arlington, VA

Saturday, November 22nd, 11 am - 3 pm

Finn Spark Christmas Bazaar

River Road Unitarian Church

Bethesda, MD

Saturday, December 6th

FFNCC Independence Day Cocktail Party

Arlington, VA

Saturday, December 13th

Children's Christmas Party

Resurrection Lutheran Church

6201 Washington Boulevard, Arlington, VA

In memoriam, Esko E. Hallila (Age 93)

On Monday, June 23, 2014, predeceased by his wife of nearly 50 years Gertude Hallila (nee Tilley); father of Bruce (Pam) Hallila, Brian (Jo) Hallila, and Joyce (Mark) Musser. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Esko was an immigrant from Finland, a Marine Corps veteran of WWII and the Korean conflict, an electrical engineer with the VA, a winning senior Olympics swimmer, a patriotic American citizen, and devoted follower of Christ. Esko was a long time member of the Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter.

New Members and Life Members

- ❖ Leena Kempainen
- ❖ Ilari Llindy
- ❖ Amanda Wand-Ollikainen and Mikko Ollikainen

- ❖ Birgita and Markku Miettinen became Life Members of FFNCC

The Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter is open to anyone who is interested in the Finnish Culture in the Greater Washington, D.C area.

Single Membership: \$20 for individual members

Family Membership: \$25 for family members living in the same household

Student Membership: \$15 for any person who is enrolled in an educational institution

Lifetime Membership: for any person who would like to become a Lifetime member, the dues are fifteen times the family membership fee

Visit: www.finlandiadc.org / Membership



**Finlandia
Foundation
National**

Inspiring, celebrating and connecting the Finnish-American community since 1953.

Sign up for the free, monthly E-News for the latest from our parent organization Finlandia Foundation National:

www.finlandiafoundation.org

Useful links:

- Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter - www.finlandiadc.org
- Finlandia Foundation National - www.finlandiafoundation.org
- Finnish Children's School - www.suomikouludc.org
- Finnish Language School Association, USA - www.finnschool.org
- Finn Spark, Inc (Kipinä-Kerho) - <http://finnspark.homestead.com>
- Finnish Lutheran Congregation - www.finnchurch.org
- Embassy of Finland, Washington, DC - www.finland.org/Public/Default.aspx

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