FINNAM HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

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WHAT'S AN AUSTRALIANSUOMALAISET?

Did you know that there are 30,000 Australian citizens that are of Finnish ancestry? They are called, you guessed it, Australiansuomalaiset! Plus, another 7,500 Finland-born Finns living there as well. Is that a surprise? It was to me a few years back when I was in Turku, Finland visiting the Migration Institute of Finland. They were able to give me a print out on my grandparents who left Finland in 1905-1906. They had a small room dedicated to the history of Finns who had migrated to other countries around the turn of the century. Of course, I assumed everyone had left Finland for America. To my surprise many had gone instead to Australia. In fact the very first Finn to arrive in Australia was Herman Spöring Jr from Turku who was part of the first voyage of James Cook, landing in Australia in 1770! However, most came during the Victorian gold rush in the 1850's. Another wave of Finnish immigrants arrived in Australia between the years 1947-1971. These Finns got high paying jobs in the sugar cane fields and in the mines of Mount Isa in north Queensland. At that same time Finland was experiencing an economic crisis so Australia implemented a "reinvigorated" assisted passage scheme to entice them to come.

Fast forward to today's world, Australia imports goods from over 40 subsidiaries of Finnish companies. More than 120 Finnish brands are sold in Australian. Finns do well in Australia as the two countries have similar ideals, work ethic, honesty and preference for quality items (they are not so much into the made in China brands, for instance). The Australian lifestyle leans towards spending time in nature and the outdoors, eating healthy food and possessing an easy-going nature about them. Finns and Australians sound quite compatible, but I'm wondering when it comes to language as to how a Finn might understand the Australian slang that is used in everyday conversations?

I'm curious what Google Translate says about how to say "Bludger" (someone who is lazy and relies on others). Let's see, it's "Röyhkeä; or "Sanger" (sandwich) it's "Laulaja. You might think you are asking for a sandwich only to be surprised when the sandwich artist bursts out with *Waltzing Matilda!* What about the word "Billabong" (a pond in a dry riverbed), no translation. Same with "Drongo" (a fool), "Billy" (teapot), "Bruce" (an Aussie Bloke). There's no translation for any of them. What's a transplanted Finn to do speaking English with so much slang and colloquial phrases? That's what I'm hoping to find out in November when I visit Australia and New Zealand. Not sure if I'll be able to bump into any Finns while I'm there but if I do I promise to report back. Until then "No Wucka's" (no worries) and G'day to you!

-Andrea Tolonen

The "It Can't Get Any Better Than This" Column...It's So Exciting to Have...

NEW MEMBERS!

Tervetuloa:

TOM & DEBBIE MILLBROOKE

Lifetime Members

FFCPC now has 191 members!

A dollar saved is a dollar earned.

A dollar earned is seldom

a dollar saved.

- Old Finnish Proverb

Merle Reinikka

Our dear friend and lifelong supporter of Finnish-Americans and Finland, Merle Reinikka, passed away on July 22, 2203 of cancer.

He served for decades on the Board of the Finnish American Society of the West, and with the United Brothers and Sisters of the Kalevala #2 in Portland. He is sorely missed.

President's Message

Hei kaikki! Hello everyone! Fall greetings to you all from Finlandia Foundation Columbia Pacific Chapter!

We are gearing up for a busy fall and holiday season with many events and chances for you and us to meet and enjoy our Finnish and Finnish-American traditions and holidays. However, before I get into all those, I wanted to tell you about an urgent

campaign that Finlandia Foundation National and local chapters are involved with. You will find more information in the attached 'It's Up to Us' newsletter as well.

You may have heard that Finlandia University in Hancock, Michigan closed, and that the historical archives and collections of the Finnish American Heritage Center were about to be lost with the closure of university. Suomi College was founded in 1896, and ever since then it became the center for protecting the legacy of Finnish America with huge archives of donated and preserved artifacts, oral interviews. periodicals, newspapers etc. Finlandia Foundation National stepped up quickly and guaranteed these items and the heritage of Finns in America not to be lost in the dismantling and university. The collection is considered the "Smithsonian of Finnish America".

Finland Foundation National needs to raise funds for the initial phase of the "Saving Finland in America" campaign. We know that some of our members have attended the college and/or have university, received scholarships different to its programs. Some of their family members have even been involved in the founding of Suomi College. Some of you may have visited the Finnish American Heritage Center in Hancock.

It is now up to us to help preserve and support this huge task of keeping Finnish history alive in the United States. We have included the donation form in this newsletter, and would appreciate your monetary support and donation to this effort.

Here on the Homefront we have been busy planning and coordinating events with our local partners. Please make sure you subscribe to our eNews, follow our FB and IG page, and check out the events page at nordicnorthwest.org.

Here is the lineup of the events planned before the end of the year:

Coffee Hour/Kahvi Hetki: Tuesday November 14 and 28 at 10:00-11.30am at Nordic Northwest/MLC Room. Just come and join us

Lindgren Cabin Work Days: Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19 at 10.00am - at Lake Cullaby, 89990 Hawkins Road, Warrenton. Lunch and coffee provided. Volunteer signups will be posted soon.

Movie Night at NNW: 'Tove' movie about the creator of Moomins (Muumit) Tove Jansson's early career. November 17 at 6:00-8:30pm. Doors open at 5pm. Register through nordicnorthwest.org.

Fogelbo Ole-Bolle Troll Christmas: First weekend of December, Saturday and Sunday, December 2 and 3. New Sweden and our chapter will have glögg and cookies to pass out. Come see the troll and Fogelbo grounds all decked up and lit for Christmas.

Finland's 106th Independence Celebration at NNW: Wednesday December 6th at 6pm. Special guest performer, the FFN Performer of the Year, Ida Metzberg entertain us along with the Nordic Choir. More details are coming.

ScanFair at the Oregon Convention Center: December 9 and 10 at 10am-5pm. We will have our Joulupukki Booth there for family pictures, and an Info Booth on anything about our chapter and Finland with Finnish candies for sale. Make sure you come by our booths and say "Hei!"

Christmas Celebration

/Joulujuhla: Sunday, December 17 from 10am with church service and from 11.30am--a traditional Finnish potluck with rice porridge, cookies, and coffee/sparkling cider at NNW together with Messiah Lutheran Church and Suomi-Koulu/Portland Finnish School. Not open to the public. We hear that Joulupukki might stop by. The Lucia Court will attend this as well.

Wow, it will be a busy holiday season for us! However, we enjoy bringing you a glimpse of Finnish traditions, foods, and have ways for us to meet and to get to know each other.

Never hesitate to contact us via email or catch any of the board members while attending our events. We plan to send more frequent emails to remind you of our events and things around town that might interest you. We are always looking for volunteers to help as well.

Wishing you a wonderful colorful Oregon Fall and the start of a beautiful holiday season!

Terveisin,

Heli Hatanpaa-Wetzel
President of FFPC
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A good teacher follows his or her
own instructions.
-Old Finnish Proverb
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# Cook's Column

By Katariina Lehtonen



### Welcome Katariina Lehtonen!

Katariina has graciously agreed to write the Cook's Column for the Finnam Historical Quarterly. She hails from Finland, married a Swede and has lived in the Portland area now for many years. If you've ever been invited over to her house for dinner or eaten some of her piirakkaa at Borders you know that she is one heck of a cook! We are excited to see what's she'll "bring to the table" every edition of the newsletter.

She's starting with Finnish Carrot Casserole that she says is a perfect dish for Christmastime.

### Porkkanalaatikko

Finnish Carrot Casserole

The ingredients:
1.5 dl rice
3 dl water
About 1 liter milk
4 tsp salt
½ kg carrots

2 Tbsp sugar or light syrup 2 eggs White pepper Nutmeg

On the surface: Bread crumbs Butter

- 1. Cook the Rice with water and milk to get a loose rice porridge
- 2. Poach the Carrots, then puree or mash them
- 3. Add the carrots, eggs, sugar, pepper, and nutmeg into the loose rice porridge in the greased Casserole

Hint: If you choose to prepare the casserole a head of time, add the eggs just before you are going to bake the casserole.

- 4. Sprinkle crumbs over the top of the casserole and dot the surface with dabs of butter
  - 5. Patter the surface with a spoon
- 6. Bake at 302 degrees Fahrenheit 1.5 hours.

# The Boarding House Finns

# FINNISH BOARDING HOUSES AS INCUBATOR OF FINNICANS

By Walter Mattila August 1972

### Continued from July 2023

"From 1911 to 1916 when I lived in Portland with my family, I was employed delivering groceries for Albert Larson Grocery on Failing Street and Minnesota Avenue. One of my stops was Alamas Boarding House where Finnish was heard. The boarders were loggers, fishermen and longshoremen. It was a very homelike place and there were other boarding houses close by."

"We used to stop at the Tomas Basse Boarding House in Astoria around World War I. It was a really good place, very good food, and well heated sleeping rooms. I know that for I stayed there many times during several years. The hospitality of love was always there."

"I have friends originally from Butte, Montana, who lived in a Finn boarding house there. They praised its food and homelike living. They worked in the Butte mines before coming here to Pendleton to harvest wheat for many years, working with steam engines and also running separators and threshers. One of the Finnish women who owned a boarding house in Butte came to live here and married a wheat farmer. Some of her family are still here. The Butte miners were very strongly built men. They picked up and piled six hundred sacks of wheat a day in warehouses, the sacks weighting 140 pounds."

In her continued research, Mrs. Anderson came upon five Finnish sisters who ran boarding housed in the Pacific Northwest. One of that quintet, Anna Augren Perkins of Seattle, furnished Mrs. Anderson information for the following account of their boarding house careers:

"There were eleven children in the family in Finland. Nine Augren eventually settled the Pacific in Northwest of America. They journeyed from their birthplace, Ullava, near the town of Kokkola on the eastern shore of the Gulf of Bothnia. Five of the Augren sisters, all of them talented cooks, operated boarding houses from 1913 to 1959.

Mrs. Anna Perkins, a very charming lady who is young in heart, was the youngest child. She traveled to Nibbigan, Ontario, Canada and entered school there. As was often the case in the early 1900's, any child from a different culture was teased by the other children. Learning a new language,

which most of our ancestors wrestled with, made new beginnings even more difficult.

Anna found a way to join her sister, Mrs. Lena Hakviat, who ran a boarding house, The Northern Hotel, in Raymond, WA. The young sister worked hard, washing dishes, doing laundry and preparing food. The table was always laden abundantly. People often commented about the possibility of the table giving was under the fantastic feats set there. This plenty was a hallmark of all the boarding houses that Anna's sisters and their husbands managed. Anna attended school in Raymond when she was not working at the Northern Hotel. It was in 1913. The Hakvists managed the Northern Hotel from 1912 to 1914.

In 1914, Anna went to live with another sister and her husband, Mary and Olaf Sandness, In Port Angeles, WA. The Outside Inn was their boarding house. It was on the spit where lumber mills now stand. Later they operated the Outlook Inn which had an impressive view of the bay. Anna helped at this boarding house which was above the Lee Hotel. Mill workers stayed at these establishments.

Anna completed two years of grade school in one year and went back to Raymond to live with still another sister, Tekla, and her husband, Herman Antilla, who managed Willapa House. It had been a hospital during the First World War. The Antillas later sold Willapa House to Mr. and Mrs. Kero and decided to run another place, called the Lincoln Hotel. Mrs. Kero had been a dishwasher at Willapa House. A Mrs. Parkinen also had a dishwashing job there. The Lincoln Hotel was at First and Ellis Streets in Raymond.

Anna Perkins recalls five mills in operation when she was living in Raymond, the Willapa Mill, Raymond

Mill, Siler's Mill and Mr. Case's two shingle mills. Hearty and abundant meals were very welcome to hardworking Millhands. There was usually one kind of fish on the menu and two or three meat entrees, rieska, other white bread and rye bread. Often there was salt and smoked salmon and scalloped potatoes and salmon casserole. Villija (clabbered milk) was always on the table as well as fresh fruit and cold meats, cheeses, apple berry and other pies, cream fronted cakes, fruit soup with rice. The Antillas also managed the Clarno Hotel in Portland at one time.

Anna Perkins went on rides to Tokeland from Willapa Harbor on a The passengers took picnic lunches to eat at the beach. As there were few roads, small gasoline powered boats were used for transportation in the waters near the Raymond-South Bend area. Mr. Case, the owner of two shingle mills, had a small boat named the Nemah which Mrs. Perkins recalls riding in from South Bend to North River. There were many Finns, Swedes Norwegian and Greeks in the area during the years when the mills were quite busy.

Emma Augren, another of the sisters, ran National House in Port Angeles for a time before fire demolished it in 1915. Emma and her sister Sigrid (Peterson) ran the Toikka Hotel in Astoria for some years until 1959.

Years before, Anna's Raymond, WA brother-in-law used to take rides in his Buick to get milk and other boarding house supplies. Anna can remember one ride to Portland and back which was harrowing; her brother-in-law had rheumatism and could not operate the brake and gas pedals too well.

In those early days there were various entertainments. One popular form was dancing in town halls. A man and wife would bring the entire family and when the children became drowsy, they slept on benches in the dance hall while mamma and papa practiced their schottisches, hambos, waltzes and two-steps. Single girls brought box lunches which were raffled off. The girls ate with the young men who bought the lunches. During the Christmas holidays, the dance halls were decorated with cedar boughs which gave a wonderful bouquet to the rooms.

One by one, the foreign boarding houses have gone out of business in keeping with a trend which was established earlier bv American boarding houses. In Astoria, boarding houses tried every possible sideline to keep going but failed. However, memories of American white collar boarding houses are not likely to fade away as long as that steady boarder, bombastic Major Amos Hoople, brags up his petty deeds into grandiose dimensions in the newspaper comic strip on boarding house life.

Were there Americanized Major Hooples in Finn boarding houses? They could not have flourished as well as the comic American super boarder does because foreign minorities restrained by a feeling that big scale bragging is the American's exclusive privilege. That reticent attitude in a foreign boarding house would depress a "native" American crowing there in Hoople fashion. But, such a veteran Finnish boarding house as the Toikka Hotel in Astoria was known to have several mute, inglorious Hooples whose actual little known accomplishments were more illustrious that those which Major Hoople in the comics fabricated as his own. The quiet Hooples in the Toikka Hotel wanted nothing more than good eating, good sleeping and good rest-which would have bored the American Major Hoople into a chronic fret.

Of those tight lipped Major Hooples in unpublicized might deeds in the Toikka Hotel, which was operated as a boarding house for more than 35 years by its founders, the only "native" American was one of the greatest tree fallers on this planet. He was Jack McCawley of the soundest Yankee pioneer stock which served him well at toppling forest for more than a half a century. He grew up attached to his falling saw that he declined to put it aside in favor of a power saw. His long time employer, Crown Zellerbach, had deep regard for the man who may have brought down more timber than any one save Paul Bunyan who wasn't held back by union regulations and strikes and fires. Jack McCawlev permitted to continue falling by hand after others turned to power. There was more to the big company's indulgence. Though he was a rugged and powerful logger with a lifetime of experience in the woods where many lost their lives, Jack McCawley always had difficulty getting a partner because his hefty stroke on the saw wasn't rhythmic—he didn't sing, dance or play a fiddle. No rhythm was like twin motors not synchronized. But the company lined up one substitute after another from the time his veteran Joe Toikka partner, Lapinski, McCawley, Toikka and Crown.

big And still ore company indulgence. A bachelor, Jack McCawley had no intention of quitting on reaching the company's retirement age and Social Security eligibility. He fell many more and hemlock firs, spruce before company chiefs at Seaside talked him into retiring. Cancer from which he died later may have actually done the persuading. He clung to pioneer American sisu.

Already late in the Depression, Crown Zellerbach recognized this mighty woodsman of the Toikka, by naming one of the mightiest spruce in its Lewis and Clark forest near Seaside "Jack McCawley's Tree" after he and Joe fell the monster. It measured more than 12-feet at its high cut and turned out 105,000 board feet in payload.

Born on a farm near St. Helens, McCawley was at heart a plain spoken, good spirited and fair-minded frontiersman to the end of his life. He may have missed pioneer frankness and other simple old virtues and perhaps found them in Katri Toikka, boarding house landlady, and in her husband, Henry, a cabinet maker, building contractor and fisherman. Frontier taste stood out in McCawley's dress off the job, snug fitting blue suit, pant legs cut short above the ankles; white shirt, stiff collar and blue silk tie; and an expensive high crown hat always perfectly blocked. He was over six feet tall, rangy limbed and spry footed. He had wavy dark hair, hatchet face, several gold teeth, Yankee drawl and never went without a can of Copenhagen snuff. He had played bush league baseball in his youth but did not have much sport interest in later life. Nor did reading take up his time. He liked country fairs.

His logging began in Columbia County fresh from the farm with immediate promotion to bull skinner, driver of a ten span ox team—the most important job in small scale logging on the frontier except for the bull of the woods, the bellowing superintendent. Young Jack had the qualifications for handling oxen from working them on big farms and in land clearing. He was mater of the most important skill—preventing valuable oxen from being injured and skilled by sliding logs. He also knowhow to look after the big

animas and feed them properly and make them pull without much goading. He did not suffer his assistants to punch his oxen full of bleeding holes. Years later, he would talk about his ox bossing at the Toikka with old friends who dropped in for old time logging, not one Major Hoople among them. He later worked as a faller with the first donkey engine logging on the lower Lewis River and left for a long vacation in the Nevada goldfields.

This forest mower would have been just another well behaved and quiet Toikka boarder who walked downtown once a day for one drink of good whiskey after Prohibition if it hadn't been for non-loggers, two Franklin D. Roosevelt and John L. Lewis. Whenever Jack McCawley heard the New Deal leader mentioned at any length in the Toikka lobby, he couldn't refrain from bursting out in another scorching denunciation of the crooked bankers who had robbed him and other working people by their wildcat banking bankrupt going before Roosevelt chained them to honesty. Only the approach of Mrs. Toikka, whom he treated with unfailing courtesy, shut off his wrath short of the full dose.

# TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

It's not that I spend more

than I earn,

But that I spend faster that I earn.

- Old Finnish Proverb

### **OUR LINDGREN CABIN**

By Andrea Tolonen



Let's consider the Lindgren Cabin for a moment. If you're new to FFCPC let me tell you the story of this incredible little cabin. It was built by hand with an ax by Erik Lindgren in the wilds of Soapstone Creek, Hamlet, OR. It was perhaps a small Finnish utopia for Erik Lindgren and his family, wife Karoliina and a son and daughter. Erik was 68 when he began building his dream. They lived there until the early 1940's.

Made of big cedar logs, well hewn boards and planks with "fishtailed" corner planks hewn to perfection, Finnish style. Not one "store bought" board or nail was used in this masterpiece. Not only had a rain and wind proof home been built, but there was also a smoke sauna/woodshed, outhouse, smoke house and a barn built on the property. Truly works of art.

Eventually, the Lindgrens grew old and left their piece of utopia in the woods. The property was abandoned. There it sat in the middle of the Nehalem forest perfect for hunters to take refuge while out hunting with their buddies. To keep warm they dismantled some of the outbuilding to burn. Soon they moved their fires inside to the living room floor! (Signs of this destruction can be seen today when you visit the cabin).

Foresters from the state department were tasked with getting rid of old abandoned buildings that could potentially attract people who might cause a forest fire to break out. Lucky for the little cabin, a Portland architect,

who was then teaching architecture at Portland State University (1966), learned of this incredibly built cabin on a trip to the beach. His name was Charles Gilman Davis. Intrigued, Davis pursued finding this little nugget in the woods. Ultimately Davis was able to save the Lindgren Cabin, using it as a teaching tool for PSU students. This cabin was built like no other—it was Finnish.

Realizing that it couldn't stay in the forest, Davis dedicated himself to finding out who the Lindgrens were and to safeguard the cabin. He discovered that Erik Lindgren had been trained in rough carpentry by masters in Finland. An article ran in the Astoria newspaper, *The Columbia Press*, which sparked local interest. Fundraising soon began. The Finnish American Historical Society of the West being the first to give. Others followed with personal donations.

With help from the Finnish Brotherhood and Kaleva Lodge, and a Clatsop County crew, in 1968 the cabin and outbuildings were dismantled and the pieces numbered in order to put it back to together one day. These pieces were stored in a warehouse in Seaside until the present location on county land at Cullaby Lake could be secured.

The idea was to have the Lindgren home serve as a museum, an example of Finnish log cabin construction and a place to gather friends, as did the Lindgrens, Kalevala-style with singing, music, food, laughing in the forest and enjoying a bit of ancient Finland and Kalevala idealism here in America.



Friends gathered at Finnic

So where are we now? Caretakers of the Lindgren Cabin for many years, The Finnish American Historical Society of the West was absorbed by Finland Foundation in 2018. Thus, it became the responsibility of FFCPC to continue the care of the Lindgren Cabin.

Clatsop Community College has been instrumental in teaching students how to be stewards of antiquated buildings. They have cleaned the outside walls (looks amazing) and are helping with the issue of trees growing on the roof! A big thank you to CCC.

Each year we gather in August for our annual Finnish picnic which we call FINNIC. This year's attendance was light. FFCPC is responsible for hosting summer weekends by opening up the cabin for visitors. Unfortunately, not every weekend was hosted.

The Lindgren Cabin needs your help! Please consider signing up to host a Saturday or Sunday during the summer months to showoff this incredible piece of Finnish architecture. While you are there you can meet new people, bask in the quiet, lakeside grounds, or bring a picnic—make it fun!

What activities would you like to see at the Lindgren Cabin in the future? Demonstrations? Talks about the cabin? Kubb Day? Are you handy with a hammer? Can you sew curtains? Can you turn out for Clean-Up Day on November 18th at 10a? Your input is valuable; we'd love to hear from you. The Lindgren Cabin seems to be like

another member of our organization in a way. It's a vital part of our local "Saving Finnish History in America" you might say.



# Finnish Bazaar & Joulumarkkinat

Mark your calendars for Joulumarkkinat, a Finnish Bazaar, sponsored by Northwest Finnish Organizations, coming on November 11th from 10a-3p in Seattle. It will be held in the Leif Eriksen Hall located at 2245 NW 57th St.. Seattle.

"Meet wonderful vendors, and lovers of Nordic cultures. We will be sharing Nordic related foods, treats, gifts, design, music and ceramics. There will be a Finnish pea soup lunch prepared by The Finnish Choral Society. This year there will be even more vendors than before!" Sounds like a wonderful event; worth the trip up 1-5.



Fall in Finland

## Click This Link

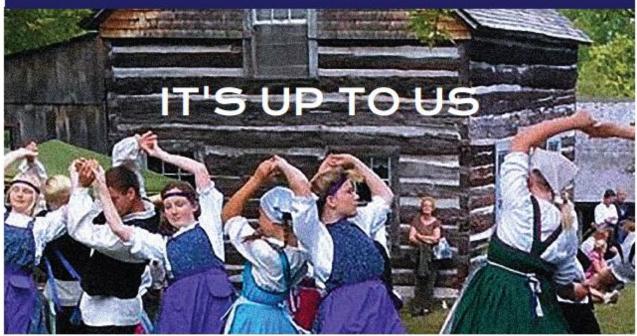
The Finnish community nationwide is being asked to step up to Save Finland in America. Click on the link below to learn about what is at stake and what you can do to help.

### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmSk8QHU PsQ&t=1s

Next read the following pages to get more of a glimpse of what Finlandia Foundation Nation is asking of all of us. Time is short to answer this call. Please consider donating to this worthy cause today.



PELASTA AMERIKAN SUOMI RÄDDA FINLAND LAMERIKA



#### BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, WE MUST RAISE \$3 MILLION TO SAVE FINLAND IN AMERICA

In his column in the April issue of The Finnish American Reporter, Editor Dave Maki talked about the importance of rescuing the historical archives and collection of the Finnish American Heritage Center. These invaluable treasures were put in jeopardy earlier this year when Finlandia University in Hancock, Michigan, announced its closure. He referenced his hardworking and generous great-grandfather Jalmer, who had a connection to the school that was founded as Suomi College in 1896.

Dave commented that Jalmer "would've done anything and everything he could to help" to protect the irreplaceable materials and the most extensive collection of Finnish-American history. He encouraged readers to do the same.

"It's up to us to do all we can to ensure that our stories will continue to be told and chronicled, our history will still be preserved, our past will not fade into the past," Dave wrote.

"It's up to us," the trustees of Finlandia Foundation National concluded at an emergency meeting to consider the dire situation. Guided by our organization's 70-year-old mission, our unanimous sentiment was, "It's up to us."

Since March, we have successfully secured the extensive inventory of the FAHC and maintained operations and staffing. It is our duty and privilege to protect the legacy of Finnish America, but we cannot do this without you.

It is imperative that we raise \$3 million by the end of 2023 in this initial phase of the campaign.

It's up to us. All of us. Together, we can do this.

Thank you for your sincere interest and generous support of the "Smithsonian of Finnish America."

Anne-Mari Paster

President, Finlandia Foundation National



PELASTA AMERIKAN SUOMI

RÄDDA FINLAND I AMERIKA

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PELASTA AMERIKAN SUOMI RÄDDA FINLAND I AMERIKA

#### FINLANDIA FOUNDATION NATIONAL

is the leading, independent source of support for Finland in America.

In 1953 in Pasadena, California, led by Yrjö and Leonora Paloheimo, Finlandia Foundation was created by nine Finnish-Americans to "unite all Finland Friends in this country."



Now celebrating its 70th year, FFN:

- connects a network of nearly 60 Finnish-American affiliates across the U.S.
- is a non-profit, philanthropic organization, and the leading source of support for Finland in America
- funds scholarships, grants and touring and online cultural and educational programs
- cultivates closer relations between Finland and the U.S.
- strengthens the bonds of friendship among Finnish-Americans and others interested in Finnish culture and heritage and Finland today
- is still based at the site of the founders' home, also home to the Finnish Folk Art Museum
- is "Saving Finland in America" by securing the invaluable cultural assets and archives at the Finnish American Heritage Center, Hancock, MI

FFN is a leader of events and programs including, in recent years, Soiva International Music Camp; National Sauna Week; the 150th anniversary of the birth of Jean Sibelius in 2015; the Centennial of Finland's Independence in 2017; and more!

Finlandia Foundation is proud of its association with its first Patron, Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, as well as current Patron, internationally renowned composer and conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen.



For information about its mission and to contribute to its programs, please go to: FinlandiaFoundation.org office@finlandiafoundation.org