



The Finnish-American Society of  
the Delaware Valley

# THE FINNISH ACCENT



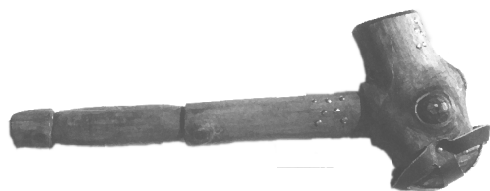
THE FINNISH AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DELAWARE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

Issue No.152

Winter/ Spring 2014

## The Annual Meeting of the Finnish-American Society of the Delaware Valley Sunday April 27. 1 PM.

Election of the Executive Board  
and other agenda according the bylaws.



at Tuomi Residence  
37 Rose Apple Road  
Levittown, PA 19056  
Tel: 215-547-0987

Email: [aimotuomi@comcast.net](mailto:aimotuomi@comcast.net)

Would you like to serve at **FASDV** Board. We are looking to fill a position of secretary and for couple of Members at Large. The board meets five times a year. The meetings have been held on Saturdays or Sundays.

We urge you to think about filling these positions. Please, remember that our Finnish-American Society is only as good as we ourselves make it. Anyone willing to serve in these valuable positions or just want some additional information please contact Marja Kaisla. [mjkaisla@yahoo.com](mailto:mjkaisla@yahoo.com)

Hanna Lin is relocating to Washington. DC,  
**A big Thank You** Hanna for all the work you have done  
past few years.!

## MARK YOUR CALENDER 2014

April 12	Spring Church, Gloria Dei Church
April 17	Finnish log cabins, Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard, Wilmington, DE
April 26	*Valborg: Bonfire and Choir Concert*
April 27	Annual Meeting, Levittown, PA
May 10	Suomi-Koulu Movie Afternoon
June 8	Finnish Monument Ceremony, Chester, PA
June 22	Lavatanssit, Doylestown, PA
August 8-10	FinnFest - Minneapolis. Michigan
August 31	ScanFest, Budd Lake, NJ
Sept.	FASDV picnic at Core Creek Park.
October 18	FASDV Cooking Class

\* ASHM event. For more information [www.americanswedish.org](http://www.americanswedish.org)

## FASDV Board 2013

President	Marja Kaisla
Vice President	Earl Seppala
Recording Secretary	Hanna Lin
Membership Secretary	Elana DiCio
Treasurer	Adam Peritz
Member at Large	Kristina Antoniades
Member at Large	Mari Opuda
Member at Large	Aimo Tuomi
Member at Large	Kelly O'Connor
Member at Large	Anja DiCio
Ex Officio	Kristina Mattila (Honorary Consul)
Auditors	Aimo Tuomi & Anja DiCio
Suomi-koulu Representative (Webmaster)	Hanna Manninen

## BRIDGING OUR HERITAGE



Celebrating the 376th Anniversary of the First Finnish Settlement in America.

Annual Finnish Settlers Monument Ceremony  
Chester Pennsylvania

Sunday, June 8, 2014

For information contact Barbara Palo [dyfa@live.com](mailto:dyfa@live.com)



The last event of the **375th celebration** on November 1, 2013 was a wonderful example of bridging the genre and generation gap with the presentation of EMILY SAMSON TEPE, also known as "IVA". She calls her music "Electric-Organic-Operatic-Pop", and I would tend to agree. IVA had an airy appeal with her wavy blonde hair and organic clothing. She sang exquisitely; mixing Swedish folk songs with her spectacular range in the fashionably bare surroundings of the BARNES FOUNDATION, in Philadelphia. IVA first performed an operatic solo. Then Emily and her Band tapered off the evening with a stylish set of what Swedish Eco Pop. A brilliant show that was a bit folky but informed,

## FINNISH SPRING CHURCH KEVÄTKIRKKO

We have a chance to attend a Finnish-language church service here in Philadelphia.

**The Finn Church of New York** will conduct the Spring Service.

Our service will be held

**Saturday  
April 12, at 2 PM.**

**Gloria Dei  
(Old Swedes) Church**

So. Columbus Boulevard  
& Christian Street

Philadelphia, PA

Coffee served afterwards at the meeting hall.

Please bring something to share.

**Children welcome!**

**Service conducted in Finnish and English**

<http://www.finnchurchny.org/>



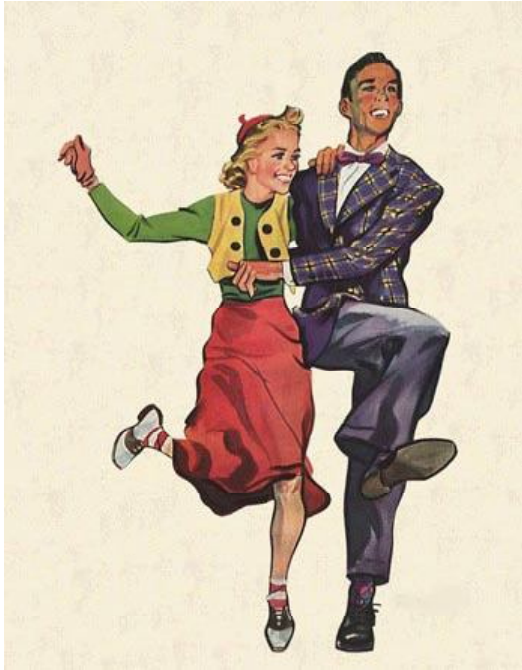
*Left:* Earl and Sylvia Seppala, left and right Gene and Mary McCoy, from the Sister Cities organization in Wilmington, DE. *Below:* Roy and Barbara Palo President and Secretary of Delaware Valley Finish Americans, , Kim-Eric Williams, historian and a member of several of the Swedish American organizations in the Tri-State area.



beautiful, with an intellectual musical twist. What a perfect way to celebrate and spread Scandinavian heritage. Thank you, IVA, Marjla Kaisla and the 375th foundation for a great night, and the new musical perspective. Rock on!

*Photos and text Sarah Opuda*

## Lavatanssit June 22



Philadelphia Suomi-koulu and the Finnish American Society of the Delaware Valley invite you to Midsummer party and Lavatanssit (barn dance) on Sunday, June 22, 2014 at Lake Galena Peace Valley Park, Pennsylvania (Pavilion 1) from 2pm-6pm.

Accordionist Ed Hendela will play traditional Finnish dance music and the Philadelphia Suomi-koulu children will perform traditional Finnish tanhu-dancing with the instruction of Anitta Williams.

Food and drinks, additional music and entertainment will be provided on a volunteer and pot-luck basis. FASDV will provide hot dogs and Hamburgers for the grill.

The Facilities at Lake Galena Peace Valley Park include a covered picnic area, grill, playground, boat rentals, trails and nature trails.

Free admission to members of FASDV and PSK, non-members are warmly welcomed also. (Admission cost for non-members: \$5/couple, children: free.)

<http://scenicbuckscounty.com/PeaceValleyPark/PeaceValleyPark.html>

<http://www.edhendela.com/>

### "If It Fits, It's Finnish!"

-- Frank Eld, Long Valley Preservation Society, Idaho

Date: Thursday, April 17th

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

Place: Kalmar Nyckel Foundation Shipyard

"Finnish Log Building from the Old World To America"

- A Special "Show & Tell" Performance (with Axe!)



### Finnish Accent arcieved.

Siirtolaisinstituutti - Migration institute in Turku, Finland requested electronic copies of our Newsletter for their collection sent all issues starting Fall 2001 in pdf form.

Mari Opuda, editor of Finnish Accent

<http://www.migrationinstitute.fi/>



### DID YOU KNOW...

That 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Finnish artist and author Tove Jansson, creator of the popular Moomin books?

Check out the website celebrating her life and work:

<http://www.tove100.com/>



## FASDV CHRISTMAS PARTY - A BIG SUCCESS



ISO kiitos kaikille / BIG thanks to everyone for all your help in making this year's Pikkujoulu a big success!

I especially want to thank Pastor Talvitie for the beautiful and traditional Christmas service, cantor Kalle Toivio for making it down here just in time to share the Christmas song cheer with everyone, and of course Daniel McAuliffe for following on Aimo's Joulupukki tradition and making it now his own. You made a great impression on the young and not-so-young!

Thank you Kristina Mattila for sharing your personal stories AND artwork with us, and thanks to Jukka, our popular immediate past president for the "inspirational" speech, given as always in fun holiday spirits. We thought he was going to be our perennial president, like Kekkonen.

Mari, Sarah and Justin' your food prep was - loistavaa!

Anja DiCio for arranging the Raffle and Elena DiCio for manning the Registration desk.

And last, but definitely not least, thanks again to the rest of the Suomi-jengi for doing a great job.

Saatiin juttu hanskaan talkoohengessä! (=We pulled it off in community spirit!

Edited from e-mail by Marja Kaisla

*Photos by Anitta Williams, Sirpa Cossaboon and Sarah Opuda.*



## **The Education seminars highlighting the Finnish education system.**

The purpose of the education seminars is to share information about the Finnish education system with educators, school administrators, and elected officials and inspire conversation on the current challenges in the US basic education, offering solutions, led by invited panelists, based on information received on the practices used in the Finnish Education System.

As many public school districts, especially in urban areas are facing considerable and multi-faceted challenges in their attempt to provide proper basic education to its youth, this project hopes to share some of the best practices, successfully implemented in Finland as evidenced by superior results in international testings, and let educators, administrators and publicly elected officials consider the possibilities of some of the components of the Finnish education system to be considered or adapted in part in the local schools systems. This project wishes to be part of the current and serious discussions of school reform in many areas in the United States.

If you are an educator or administrator, or just an interested parent or community member, please contact Marja Kaisla at [mjkaisla@yahoo.com](mailto:mjkaisla@yahoo.com) to find out how this seminar can be brought to your school and/or community.

Marja Kaisla

## **2013 Christmas Raffle**

Thank you for all donations:

2 Finnish Plates- Kristina Antoniadis

2 bottles of Finlandia Vodka- Marja Kaisla

Various chocolate included in baskets- Aimo Tuomi

Items found by Anja DiCio: Candles, napkins, plates,

Christmas ornaments, wine glasses,

various other Christmas gifts

Raffle winners:

Finlandia Vodka- Anthony Campbell

Wine basket and glasses- Kristina Mattila

Porcelain candle holder with shade- Sylvia Seppala

Snowman basket- Auli Lyons

Music CD- Bill Eaton

Big basket of goodies- Hanna Lin

2015 membership raffle winner was Kelly O'Connor.

## **The Helsinki Viikingit - Haverford Hawks youth hockey exchange continues**

### **Exchange Enters Its 15th Year of Cultural Bliss**

Beginning Saturday, March 22nd, Delaware County's Haverford Hawks began hosting the Viikingit (Vikings) Hockey club from Helsinki, Finland. For fifteen years these two organizations have alternated hosting each other, allowing each young participant to immerse themselves into the host country's culture while competing in the sport they love which has brought them together from thousands of miles away.

"The Viikingit hockey club has brought two, 2001 birth year Pee Wee teams to be part of this wonderful exchange," says Tournament - Exchange Chairman Emeritus, John Wert. "It is really incredible how powerful a sport can be in bridging cultures and providing young minds with an experience to last a lifetime."

Each of the visiting 12 and 13 year old Finnish players stayed in the homes of their host families. Other organizations partaking in the hockey tournament portion of the exchange include the Lehigh Valley Flames, the Valley Forge Colonials, the West Chester Quakers and South Jersey's Flyer's Youth.

Other activities across the Delaware Valley included a welcome reception at the Sky Zone in Oaks, PA on March 23rd, the Philadelphia Flyers-LA Kings game March 24th, a cultural visit throughout metro Philadelphia March 25th and a visit to New York City March 27th. The ice hockey tournament starts Friday March 28th through Sunday March 30th. All ice hockey events took place at the Skatium, 1002 Darby Road, Havertown, PA.

Awards and farewells took place Sunday evening, March 30th at the King of Prussia Firehouse. The young players and attending adults returned to Helsinki through JFK Airport on Monday March 31st.

For further information about the Haverford Hawks Finland Exchange please visit [www.haverfordhawks.com](http://www.haverfordhawks.com).

Spring 2015 eager Hawks' group is going to go to Helsinki – preparations for that are also already on-going. So the tradition continues,

Pertti Rinta-Panttila - exchange veteran since 1999 / [printapanttila@hotmail.com](mailto:printapanttila@hotmail.com)



## Suomi-Koulu Blog.

*Vellamo music workshop, January 13, 2014*



### Vellamo Music Workshop

The Philadelphia Suomi-koulu had a great time learning about Finnish folk music Sunday, January 13th at a song writing workshop by Vellamo (Pia Leinonen & Joni Tiala). Under Pia and Joni's instruction the students wrote a song called "Hei hei pupu." The children got to sing, play rhythm instruments and practice performing the song.



### Ice Skating – February 2014

Philadelphia Suomi-koulu students had a lot of fun ice skating at the Philadelphia River Rink. Despite the melting ice conditions due to the 50-degree weather, we were on the ice from 3-4:30 PM. Such a pleasant way to spend an afternoon – thank you all for coming!



### February 2014 Suomi-koulu

In February we learned about Laskiainen, a traditional Finnish sledding day. The children baked and enjoyed Laskiais pulla (Lenten buns), a big hit with everyone! And to top off the fun, we had our first tanhu-dance practice.

*Text by Hanna Manninen, photos Anitta Williams and Hanna Manninen*



### Finland Society's Intensive Finnish Language Course 2014

Time: July 14 - 25, 2014 (arrival on Sunday, July 13)  
 Place: Laajasalon opisto / Laajasalo Folk High School, which is located in a suburb of Helsinki, about 9 kilometers from the city center. There are good and rapid connections between the Laajasalo Folk High School and the city. We offer a language course specifically designed for descendants of Finnish emigrants. Foreign spouses are also welcome to participate in the course.

The minimum age is 18.

The objective of the course is to maintain a connection with Finland. It can also serve as an introduction to living in Finland.

This language course has been held for many years, and it has been very popular with the participants.

Contact information: [info@suomi-seura.fi](mailto:info@suomi-seura.fi),

Please send the application forms to Finland Society by March 28, 20



### SALOLAMPI PROGRAM

FFN Scholarships with Local Chapter Participation  
 Finlandia Foundation National is encouraging its member chapters to support the Salolampi Program. FFN will award up to six (6) scholarships of at least \$300 each when a local chapter provides a matching or larger scholarship. The name of the participating child(ren) must be submitted to the Finlandia Foundation National office by May 1, 2014. Selection will be made on a first-come first-serve basis, with first-time campers receiving priority. This scholarship can be used as part of the tuition for a one-week or multi-week session at Salolampi. The individual scholarship funds will be transferred directly to Concordia Language Villages. Additional Salolampi scholarships are also available through Concordia Language Villages web site: (<http://www.salolampi.org/village/youthscholarships.html>), and the application form at: <http://www.salolampi.org/applications/index.html>).

### Phone Directory

As a member of the society, one of the benefits is getting a Membership directory sent to you either by mail or email. If you wish to be included in the directory and you have not yet submitted your 2014 membership, please send your membership dues (\$20 for singles and \$25 for families) to Elena DiCio by May 31st.

Checks can be made payable to FASDV and sent to:

Elena DiCio

76 South Keim St.

Pottstown, PA 19464.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Elena DiCio**

76 South Keim St.

Pottstown, PA 19464.

[dicioe12@yahoo.com](mailto:dicioe12@yahoo.com)

Family Membership \$25.00

Single Membership \$20.00

Make Checks payable to: FASDV

If you don't want to be listed in the Membership directory, please note so on this membership form. The membership directory is for our members use only, FASDV does not share it's mailing list with any advertisers or other organizations. Also if you don't like any of your photos published, note on this form.

**Updated news about FASDV is available.**

Send an email to [FASDV-subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:FASDV-subscribe@googlegroups.com)  
for news of current and upcoming events.



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Philadelphia Suomi koulu

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web page

**<http://fasdv.org/>**

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Advertising rates in the newsletter

- o ¼-page for a year, includes each issues \$150
- o ¼-page for one issue \$50
- o 1/8-page for one issue \$25

I would like to hear your comments about this Newsletter and  
any information about newsworthy events. Please get in touch.  
Mari Opuda, e-mail [Marjukka@verizon.net](mailto:Marjukka@verizon.net) -  
tel. (609) 823-5646 829 Dorset Ave., Ventnor, NJ 08406

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**c/o Elena DiCio**  
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