

Finnish Accent

Your newsletter regarding all things Finnish in the U.S.
Brought to you by the Finnish-American Society of the Delaware Valley



Finnish Monster Band Lordi on tour

Lordi, the only Finnish winner ever to win the Eurovision song contest, will tour the US and Canada in February and March

Lordi's bold and shameless combination of 1980s-influenced melodic heavy metal with the outrageous horror image immediately caught the attention of the rock media and genre fans around the world. The band's live shows

Watch here Lordi's performance of their huge hit *Hard Rock Hallelujah*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGe8qID9gSs>

became known for their horror film-like theatrics and bombastic pyros. Join the monstrous Lordi party near the Delaware Valley at the Chameleon Club in Lancaster, PA on February 17 or at the Soundstage in Baltimore on February 25!



Einojuhani Rautavaara

(1928-2016)

Finnish composer's peaceful and awe-inspiring *Vigilia* for a cappella choir will be performed at the Barnes Foundation. Robert Whalen leads the



Philadelphia Voices in the museum's inaugural program on Parkway on Sunday, February 26 from 3pm until 4:15pm. Free to the public.

FASDV celebrates its 40th Anniversary

In 1978, 33 members of the "American-Finnish Society of the Delaware Valley"

gathered to lay out by-laws, elect the first officers, establish the group's purpose and set the annual dues. The group adopted its current name "Finnish-American Society of the Delaware Valley" (FASDV) in 1997. FASDV was founded to promote Finnish culture, customs, and traditions as well as the knowledge of Finland, its history and language. The Society aims to bring together Finns of the Delaware Valley, Americans of Finnish ancestry and friends of Finland. FASDV hosts visitors from abroad and other parts of the U.S. and acts as a link between the local community and visiting students, scholars, entertainers and artists. FASDV recently gave a \$500 grant for the restoration of the John Morton obelisk and gravesite in Chester, PA, spearheaded by the Swedish Colonial Society. In attendance, among many others, were the Mayor of Chester and State Representatives from Pennsylvania. John Morton, whose ancestry is Finnish, provided the swing vote in Pennsylvania, which allowed the state to vote for the Declaration of Independence.

Stay tuned to hear about the FASDV 40th Anniversary events coming up later in the year. You may also contact FASDV at fasdv.org if you have a great idea for an Anniversary event.



Aimo Tuomi, pictured above with FASDV President Marja Kaisla, is the beloved patriarch of FASDV and one of its founding members.



Pictured above: Aleasa Hogate, advocate and educator of Finnish and Swedish history; Marja Kaisla, FASDV President; Kristina Antoniades, FASDV and SCS Board member



Got Finnish related news you'd like to see in the next issue of the Finnish Accent? Email mjkaisla@yahoo.com



HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017? IF NOT, GO TO fasdv.org FOR QUICK AND EASY RENEWAL! MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY \$20/INDIVIDUAL, \$25/FAMILY.

FINLAND CELEBRATES HER 100TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR!

The centenary year 2017 has inspired thousands of Finns and friends of Finland to build the historic year together: more than 2,200 projects have been included to the centenary year program.

In 2017 tens of thousands of events and gatherings will be organized around Finland under the name Finland 100. The celebrations also reach beyond Finland's borders: the big year is celebrated at least in 70 different countries and on five different continents.

Visit suomifinland100.fi for more info on Centennial events in Finland and around the world.



SAUNA-ILTA

FASDV is continuing its newly established *saunailta*, sauna evening on Friday March 3, from 6pm until 10pm, in Hamilton/Trenton NJ at the home of Auli and Frank Lyons. Their home is now for sale, but the sauna is open for us!

The \$10 cost covers lenkkimakkara, sinappi ja olut (sausage, fixings and beer), plus cake for Auli to celebrate her birthday! Just bring your own towel. Contact eaton_bill@hotmail.com ASAP to reserve your spot. Only 8 spots left...



Aleasa Hogate receives FASDV Citation of Recognition

Aleasa Hogate, a long time passionate advocate of Finnish and Swedish history, culture and heritage, was awarded the *FASDV Citation of Recognition* along with a congratulatory letter from Kirsti Kauppi, Ambassador of Finland to the US at the annual FASDV Pikkujoulu. She has made tireless and long term efforts through the New Sweden Centre and other cultural organizations' activities in the Tri-State area to promote the Finns' contributions to the New Sweden Colony. The first Finns and Swedes arrived in the Delaware Valley in 1638.

As part of the award, Ms. Hogate also received a hand-woven wall hanging from Alajarven Kutomo in Finland, donated by FASDV President Marja Kaisla as well as a \$100 grant to the New Sweden Centre, an education and cultural organization, where Ms. Hogate is Vice President and the current Education Director.



Aleasa Hogate at the FASDV Pikkujoulu at ASHM receives Citation of Recognition from FASDV President Marja Kaisla on December 10, 2016

STEVE 'N' SEAGULLS TOURS THE U.S.



Steve 'n' Seagulls (stevenseagulls.com), the wildly popular Finnish bluegrass band playing AC/DC, Lady Gaga, Iron Maiden etc., is touring the U.S. all of February. Their heavy metal covers are basically a YouTube lark gone horribly, horribly wrong! In 2014 a bunch of Finnish musicians played a version of AC/DC's Thunderstruck in their barnyard. The video got millions of views in just a few short weeks and landed the band on the websites and magazine pages of elite metal media. Steve 'n' Seagulls came to Philly on February 2 during their current tour and played for a full house of enthusiastic fans at Milkboy in Center City.

Check some of the hilarious music videos of these VERY talented musicians on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4Ao-iNPPUc>



Steve 'n' Seagulls saying hi to FASDV members at Milkboy in Philadelphia on February 2, 2017

