Finlandia’s North Wind Books was opened in 1999, but its history began several years earlier. The university’s bookstore will celebrate its 10th anniversary this October with a series of events the week of October 12.

In spring 1999, as Peter and Patricia Van Pelt prepared to open North Wind Books for its ninth season, they concluded that the bookshop had outgrown its Eagle Harbor location. The bookshop’s success had been exceptional, especially given its rural Keweenaw County location. By 1999, thousands of people had visited the shop.

In August 1999 the Van Pelts learned that Suomi College was planning to relocate and enlarge its bookstore. The mission of the new Suomi College bookstore was to be educationally-focused, the same as that of the Van Pelts’ bookshop, and it would serve the community at large and provide a quality experience for visitors.

The Van Pelts felt it was a good match, so in October 1999 Suomi College was invited to purchase at cost the remaining North Wind Books stock. The Van Pelts donated to the college the bookshop’s shelving, mailing list, supplier contacts, name, logo, and goodwill.

Since then, North Wind Books has enlarged its selection of books and gifts and added the Lion’s Den, which features Finlandia University logo wear and gifts. The bookstore has an entire room of children’s books and young adult fiction, and a room devoted to Finnish design items for the home. In 2005 a new addition was constructed for textbooks and school supplies.

Special book collections feature Finnish, Great Lakes, and Upper Michigan history and literature, and related topics. A quality selection of contemporary adult trade fiction and classic literature rounds out the book collections, and autographed copies of titles by local and regional authors are often available. An impressive collection of Finnish music CDs is also available.

Each year, many local and regional authors are invited to present readings and conduct book signings at North Wind Books. This summer, Thursdays in the month of July were dedicated to engaging children and adults in books and reading with a series of author events.

For adults, at four “Campus, Community, and Authors” (CCA) events authors read, discussed, and signed copies of their books. Featured writers were poet Lisken Van Pelt Dus, author of *Everywhere at Once*; Lauri Anderson, author of *Mosquito Conversations* and numerous other books, and writer, lay minister, and musician Joy Ibsen, author of *Unafraid*.

At four “Children’s Unique Books” (CUB) events, authors read their books to children and engaged them in a related activity. They were Connie Loisel, author of *Pentti the Hungry Polar Bear*; Paula Ellis, author of *Michigan Activity Book*; and Deborah Frontiera, author of the *Eric and the Enchanted Leaf* series. To wrap up the CUB events, Finnish educator Kaisa Randolph read a number of children’s books with a Finnish theme.

“Through the CUB and CCA events, the community met a variety of authors and learned something new,” said Alan Nolan, manager of the bookstore. “It was a great way for people to explore different authors and genres.”

“We are looking forward to serving the Copper Country community and beyond for many decades to come!” Alana concludes. “Please visit us in Hancock, or check out our website at www.northwindbooks.com.”
New Degree Programs
Colleges respond to employment opportunities, student demand

The Finlandia Fund
A strong foundation for academic excellence

Donor Section
Sincere thanks to FY 2008-09 donors and friends

It’s a Team Effort
Twice-annual Fish Fry dinners help men’s basketball team

Jutila Center Renovations
Phase II improves floors six and seven

11th Annual Sibelius Academy Music Festival
Folk, jazz, and classical musicians visit Chicago and the Upper Peninsula

President’s Letter

Sports News

Gallery Schedule

Alumni News

Boards and Councils

University Calendar

Campus News

On the cover: International student Henna Rintämäki of Isokyrö, Finland, checks in for Fall semester classes August 19 at the Paavo Nurmi Center. Photo by Brockit.
I am pleased to welcome Duane Aho to Finlandia University. As executive vice president for external relations and chief advancement officer, Duane is responsible for all advancement activities and is a member of the president’s three-member Management Team. Duane also supervises and supports collegiate athletics, the Jutila Center for Global Design and Business, the Finnish American Heritage Center, the university’s Admissions Department, and Marketing and Communications.

— President Philip Johnson

The best part about gardening....

A few years ago I made a decision not to grow a garden. I grew up watching my Dad produce a beautiful garden each year and occasionally participated, although not willingly, in keeping it free of weeds so the maximum yield was possible. It was very hard work and as a youth I always wondered why my Dad did it religiously every year.

Once I got my own place, for 26 straight years I had the garden experience. Some years were better than others, but each year there were results to anticipate. I guess that’s the part of my decision not to grow a garden that I didn’t give enough thought to. I really miss the harvest each fall. Perhaps I need to reconsider my decision.

As I enter a new season of my working career at Finlandia University, I find myself reflecting not only on my personal life experiences, but also on those things that I observe to be important here at Finlandia. As an alumnus of the Suomi College Class of 1971, and a lifelong citizen of the Copper Country, I have always been casually aware of what was happening on campus. But it wasn’t until several years ago when I was appointed to the Board of Trustees – and more recently on June 1 when I became a staff member – that I became aware of how important and needed Finlandia really is. As President Johnson has said on many occasions, Finlandia matters!

It’s also a new season at Finlandia. Harvest season is upon us. It’s a banner year for new students beginning their college careers at Finlandia with 258 freshmen and transfer students. (Congratulations to the enrollment team on a job well done!) The Campus and Community: Together for Good initiative is in full swing, and changes to the Condon Field athletic complex start this fall. There is much excitement in the air.

On July 1, the university began a new fiscal year. In Advancement, and across campus, we are beginning a new season of planting seeds to grow donor support as Finlandia carries out its mission this academic year. In this issue of the Bridge you’ll learn about the Finlandia Fund on pages six and seven. For Finlandia, this annual fund is the lifeblood of the university, enabling day-to-day excellence at Finlandia – each and every year.

In my first few months as a staff member here at Finlandia, I have been impressed by the many people I have met through the Alumni Board, the Finnish Council in America, the Board of Trustees – both active and emeritus – and all those who have stopped by to visit. Another inspiring positive impression I gained early on is the quality and work ethic of the staff here. The university employs scores of very talented and dedicated people who love Finlandia and continue to contribute positively even through difficult times. And then there are the volunteers – hundreds of them – who accomplish a variety of tasks that make Finlandia a better place, people such as Don Peryam, Nancy Fenton, and Charleen Ahola, to name a few. There is a lot to like about Finlandia. Finlandia matters. Finlandia deserves our support.

Please consider supporting the Finlandia Fund today. Good things are happening here and Finlandia is on the move. Just as Admissions has had a record year of recruiting students, I anticipate a record harvest of support for the Finlandia Fund. As my father taught me, the harvest is the best part of gardening.

Thank you – kiitos – in advance for your consideration of support. I look forward to the opportunity to meet as many of you as possible over the coming years. Please contact me at 906-487-7349 or duane.aho@finlandia.edu if you have questions about the Finlandia Fund.

Warmest regards,
Duane Aho, ’71
EVP, External Relations, and Chief Advancement Officer
New Degree Programs

In response to local and national job trends and student demand, this fall Finlandia University’s College of Health Sciences and Suomi College of Arts & Sciences have introduced several new degree programs. For complete program and admissions information, please visit www.finlandia.edu or contact Finlandia Admissions at 877-202-5491 or admissions@finlandia.edu.

College of Health Sciences
Medical Assistant and Radiography

The Medical Assistant associate in applied science degree is a two-year, five-semester program. Freshman-level students take courses including college English, math, anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, and computer applications.

In the second year, Medical Assistant students complete courses in medical office administrative procedures, medical office clinical procedures, and lab procedures. Two externships — one administrative and one clinical — are also required. The Medical Assistant associate degree prepares the student to take the medical certification exam or continue their college education toward a bachelor’s degree.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that job opportunities for medical assistants will grow 35 percent from 2006 to 2016, particularly for those with formal training or experience, and certification.

The Radiography program, a collaborative agreement between Finlandia and the Marquette (Mich.) General Health System (MGHS) School of Radiography, is a three-year, seven-semester associate degree program accredited through the MGHS School of Radiography.

A radiographer uses diagnostic imaging technologies such as x-rays to produce images of human body tissues, organs, bones, and vessels, as directed by physicians, to assist in the diagnosis of injury or illness.

Employment of radiologic technologists is expected to increase by about 15% from 2006 to 2016, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

First year Radiography students complete general education coursework at Finlandia. During the first year, students apply for entry to the MGHS School of Radiography and, upon acceptance, take clinical coursework at Marquette General Hospital in the second year. In the final year of the program, students complete clinical experiences in Marquette or the western Upper Peninsula, while finishing radiography theory coursework via online or distance learning classes.

Suomi College of Arts & Sciences
Psychology, Communications, Criminal Justice

The Psychology bachelor of arts program, with concentration options in General Psychology and Alcohol and Drug Abuse, prepares graduates for careers related to community and social services, vocational rehabilitation, corrections, and many others. It is also good preparation for graduate school. The Princeton Review rates Psychology as the second most popular major in the U.S.

Completion of the four-year Communications major can lead to careers in public relations, marketing, writing and reporting, and broadcast media, to name a few. Nationwide, communications is the eighth most popular major, according to the Princeton Review. The Psychology bachelor of arts program offers specializations in Journalism and Visual, Environmental, or Organizational Communications.

The Criminal Justice associate degree program was established in 1983, and this year a four-year bachelor of arts degree option begins, in addition to the two-year program. Criminal Justice graduates can look forward to careers in local, state, and federal law enforcement, corrections, private security, and related fields. Law enforcement-related job applicants with college training will have the best employment opportunities (www.bls.gov).

The Human Services major, formerly a bachelor’s degree program, is now a two-year associate degree program, although students currently pursuing the four-year degree path may still complete the B.A. Human Services graduates are prepared to begin careers as social services professionals.
September 17 to October 20, 2009
Opening Reception: Thursday, September 17, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Artist talk begins at 7:15 p.m.

Terri Saulin: Lines of Flight
Terri Saulin creates artwork organic in nature and layered with meaning. Her interest in biology, botany, classical music, geology, and gastronomy are evident in every nook and crevice of her densely textured ceramic pieces. Drawings and plaster prints, supplemented by their ceramic references, will be exhibited in Lines of Flight.

October 26 to November 27, 2009
Opening Reception: Thursday, October 29, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Artist talk begins at 7:15 p.m.

Gerard Brown: Seeing and Reading
Gerard Brown makes drawings that sit at the intersection of seeing and reading. By employing various writing systems as building blocks of pictures, Brown invites the viewer to be a reader, and the reader to be a viewer, in hopes that something might be gained in the space between these parts of ourselves.

December 3, 2009, to January 3, 2010
Opening Reception: Thursday, December 3, 2009, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

19th Annual Contemporary Finnish American Artist Series
Bruce Niemi: Heavy Metal/Graceful Forms
As a twelve year old, Bruce Niemi was introduced to welding by his father, a self-taught abstract sculptor and ornamental iron artist. Bruce was fascinated and his passion for sculpting began. Ranging from small pedestal pieces to larger wall and free-standing sculptures, Niemi’s art is characterized by an uplifting positive nature.

The Finlandia University Gallery, in the Finnish American Heritage Center, features year-round exhibitions of contemporary Finnish, Finnish-American, and American artists. The gallery provides educational resources for the community and is a gathering place for people to discuss and reflect upon art. One of its goals is to become a leading exhibitor of Finnish and Finnish-American art nationwide.

Carrie Flaspohler,
Gallery Director

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A Strong Sense of Place and Purpose
For 113 years Finlandia University, in Hancock, Michigan, has been meeting the educational needs and aspirations of the men and women from the Upper Peninsula region of Michigan and beyond. Today, Finlandia remains the only private, liberal arts-based and church-affiliated institution of higher learning in the Upper Peninsula. In addition, we are the only residential, four-year institution offering NCAA Division III athletic programs in the U.P. The commitment at Finlandia to prepare students for meaningful careers and purposeful lives remains as strong today as when Finnish Lutheran immigrants first established Suomi College in the year 1896.

The Finlandia Fund: A Strong Foundation
A healthy Finlandia Fund is critical to the university and its students; it ensures the affordability of Finlandia’s distinct private education experience. Most importantly, the Finlandia Fund enables us to offer institutional financial aid and reduce student need for private loans. In addition, the Finlandia Fund provides the basis for operating support, which translates into well-qualified faculty and staff to support our community-based and niche academic programs, as well as improved facilities, up-to-date instructional aids, and athletic competition. Your annual gift to the Finlandia Fund has a direct, immediate, and major impact on all our students.

Who supports the Finlandia Fund?
The Finlandia Fund is the umbrella that covers all gifts given to the university. These are the people who support the Fund:

- Alumni
- Parents
- Faculty/Staff
- Friends
- Businesses/Sponsors
- Foundations
- Churches
- Groups/Organizations
- Major Gifts

What does the Finlandia Fund support?

- Affordable education: 98% of Finlandia students qualify for financial aid
- Qualified instruction: 93% of faculty hold advanced degrees in their field
- Modernized facilities and instructional technology: A recent renovation and expansion of Finlandia’s International School of Art & Design and university-owned incubator, the Lily I. Jutila Center for Global Design and Business
- Practical and unique programs of study: Health Sciences - Nursing, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiography, and Medical Assistant; Art & Design - entrepreneurship-based fine art and design programs; Business - Accounting, Marketing, Management, Sports Management, and Criminal Justice; Arts & Sciences - Liberal Studies, English, Communications, Psychology, Social Sciences, Criminal Justice, ACE, Elementary Education, and Human Services
- Division III NCAA athletic programs: Men’s and women’s programs in Hockey, Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Golf, and Volleyball that emphasize the student in student-athlete. Student-athletes generally have higher GPAs, and higher retention and graduation rates.
Invest in a stronger Finlandia
Your tax-deductible annual donation to the Finlandia Fund accompanies students from admission to graduation. If you are a regular donor, please consider increasing your support. If you haven’t yet given, please consider making this commitment today. Your gift to Finlandia University matters!

Giving levels include:
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Contact Info
If you have questions about the Finlandia Fund, please contact Ross Rinkinen, director of annual giving and special events, at (906) 487-7314 or ross.rinkinen@finlandia.edu, or Kori Tossava, director of foundation relations, at (906) 487-7232 or kori.tossava@finlandia.edu.

How can I give to the Finlandia Fund?
• Cash, check, or credit card. These gifts provide an immediate impact on Finlandia University. They can be mailed to Finlandia using the post-paid return envelope included in this issue of the Bridge.

• Matching Gifts. In addition to the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Matching Gift program, many employers will match charitable donations with a gift of their own.

• Securities. These include donations of stocks, bonds, treasuries, and mutual funds.

• Bequests. A gift to Finlandia through a will or bequest provides future support for the university.

• Life Insurance. By naming the university as a beneficiary to a paid-up life insurance policy, a large gift can be made with little or no financial impact to the donor.

• Retirement Plan Assets. Naming Finlandia as the beneficiary of an IRA, 401K, Keogh, or other retirement plan can result in an estate tax reduction for the donor.

• Personal Property. Assets that will enhance the educational mission of Finlandia University make a lasting and tangible impression.

• Real Estate. Gifts of real estate may reduce or eliminate certain capital gains taxes for the donor.

• Planned Giving. Planned giving options include charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and charitable lead trusts.
Finlandia University Welcomes the 
Journal of Finnish Studies

The university will strengthen its intellectual role in Finnish America by becoming the host university for the Journal of Finnish Studies. Formerly at the University of Toronto under the editorship of Borje Vähämäki, the Journal, as of July 2009, will be edited at Finlandia by Dr. Beth Virtanen.

“The Journal of Finnish Studies has been roundly welcomed by Finlandia University,” said Virtanen. “The move of the Journal to Finlandia University reflects Finlandia’s central role in Finnish Studies scholarship in North America.”

Virtanen will be assisted by Hanna Snellman at the University of Jyväskylä as co-editor and Hilary Virtanen, a doctoral student in the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Scandinavian Studies program, as assistant editor. “This editorial team brings together a diverse group that addresses the broad topics of Finnish and North American traditional and interdisciplinary scholarship,” said Virtanen.

Founded by Dr. Vähämäki, professor of Finnish Studies at the University of Toronto, the Journal produced its first issue in 1997. Since then, twenty-five issues have been produced, Virtanen said.

Topics of future issues include Finnish-American Immigrants in Transition, Kalevala, papers from Finn Forum IX, papers from the conference on the Victims and Survivors of Karelia, and an issue on Finnish-North American music has been proposed.

The transfer of the editorship was facilitated by a grant from Finlandia Foundation National.

Student Employee of the Year

Six Finlandia student workers were nominated by their supervisors for the Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators (MASEA) Student Employee of the Year (SEOTY) competition. The nominees were ranked by the MASEA according to five criteria: reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism, and uniqueness of contribution. This year’s Student Employee of the Year is Human Services senior Romana Vosecky, South Range, who has worked at North Wind Books for two years.

“Romana has been a tremendous addition to the staff,” said Alana Nolan, manager of North Wind Books. “She not only portrays what the bookstore is all about, but also portrays an exceptional student at Finlandia University to customers and community members. She is very smart, friendly, and has a good work ethic.”

Romana received a certificate of appreciation, a North Wind Books gift certificate, and was entered in the state-level SEOTY competition. In recognition of the valuable work they do, all other nominees received a certificate of appreciation and a gift from North Wind Books.

Finland Honors Marvin Suomi

The government of Finland has conferred the honor of Knight, First Class, Order of the Lion of Finland, on Marvin Suomi of Los Angeles. The decoration ceremony took place August 26 in Helsinki.

The honor was proposed by Finland’s Minister of Education and recognizes Suomi’s achievements in education and his support of Finnish cultural causes in the United States and Finland.

Suomi, of Beverly Hills, Calif., is president and CEO of KUD International, a company that develops large scale, public-private projects worldwide. Suomi serves as special counsel to the president of Finlandia University. He grew up in Wakefield, Mich.
Art from the Grieving Heart

The Community Coalition on Grief and Bereavement held a reception for winners of the second annual “Art from the Grieving Heart” writing competition at the Finnish American Heritage Center April 2.

The Coalition provides support and education to the people of Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties. Their goal is to help grieving people and offer educational opportunities for the community, said Barbara Kendall, a member of Coalition.

Students and adults from four western Upper Peninsula counties were invited to submit a short story, poem, or essay expressing personal grief. Entries were judged on the quality of writing, a demonstration of personal growth, and an understanding of grief issues. “The winners were able to show that although they are still grieving, they are able to cope,” said Jessica Shea-Fox, a Finlandia Elementary Education student and a judge of the competition. Additional Finlandia students involved were Justin Buzzo and Allison Tincknell.

Shoes & Socks for Kids

For the past four years, Shoes4Kids has distributed new youth tennis shoes to the needy and homeless children of the host cities of the American Physical Therapy Association’s (APTA) annual conference. Over 550 pairs of new youth tennis shoes and over 1,200 pairs of new socks were distributed this year.

The Finlandia University Physical Therapist Assistant program participated in the Shoes4Kids effort this year and PTA club and community donations totaled $600. Half of the shoes and socks they purchased were sent to Baltimore; the remaining shoes and socks will be distributed locally to the Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, and local churches.

The Finlandia PTA student club was the only program in Michigan to participate in this year’s Shoes4Kids effort, so for next year they have issued a challenge to all other PTA programs in Michigan, hoping to encourage additional PTA programs to participate.

Finlandia Receives National Media Attention

An article about the “Campus and Community: Together for Good” collaboration between Finlandia, the City of Hancock, and Hancock Public Schools was included on page four of the July 10, 2009, edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education. A full version of the article can be accessed by registered users at www.chronicle.com.
Faculty Participate in Health Care Forum

Debbie Karstu, Finlandia assistant professor of nursing, and Barbara McLean, Finlandia 2008-09 visiting assistant professor of psychology, described their impressions of Finnish health care at a recent public forum, “Finding Solutions to the Health Care Crisis,” in Houghton.

In May, Karstu and McLean accompanied a group of Finlandia nursing students on a three-week trip to Finland as part of Finlandia Connection, a three-credit elective course at Finlandia. The trip included visits to health systems, education systems, eldercare facilities, and playschool and university systems.

At the forum, McLean and Karstu both emphasized the basic philosophy in Finland: that every person is deserving of health care. They believe it offers a model the U.S. could do well to imitate.

Fredide Yam pert, chair of Finlandia’s Nursing program and president of the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country, stressed at the forum that the education of a new generation of nurses requires funding for nursing teachers, and that advocating for funding for education in health-care disciplines is critical. She also explained that the League’s long-standing position on healthcare is a national plan of affordable, quality health care for all Americans.

Along with de Yam pert, McLean, and Karstu, the panel of Upper Peninsula speakers included Dr. Richard Imm, president of the Western U.P. Healthcare Access Coalition, and Rev. Robert White of the United Methodist Church Keweenaw Parish.

From Keweenaw Now (http://kweenawnow.com), a news blog edited by Michele Bourdieu, Hancock.
CAMPUS NEWS

Soren Schmidt is Finlandia Chaplain

Soren Schmidt has accepted the call to serve as Finlandia University chaplain. Soren, originally from Escanaba, is a Suomi College alumni ('94). He earned a B.A. in music at Dana College and a M.A. in education administration at Northern Michigan University. Since 2000, Soren has been the Outdoor Ministry program director at Fortune Lake Bible Camp near Crystal Falls. As university chaplain, he will be installed as a Licensed Lay Ministry professional.

Soren comes to Finlandia with rich and varied experiences in Christian ministry, including 20 years of achievement in leading, developing, and implementing creative and educational faith-building programs.

“Soren will bring a mature energy that will serve our campus community very well. He is very familiar with Lutheran higher education and the 90-plus congregations of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,” said President Johnson. “I believe you will find Soren to be a very good Finlandia fit, able to genuinely and fully embrace our religious diversity while celebrating our distinct Lutheran heritage.”

René Johnson, who served as interim campus pastor for two years, will continue as a full-time faculty member, directing the curricular and co-curricular aspects of Servant Leadership and delivering the Christian Vocation concentration.

Craig Kangas Returns to Finlandia Admissions

The Finlandia University Admissions Department is pleased that Craig Kangas was hired as a senior enrollment officer effective May 26. Kangas has returned to Finlandia after a 3-year hiatus during which he worked in the kitchen and bath industry. He also worked in Finlandia Admissions from 2002 to 2006.

As senior enrollment officer, Kangas’s job responsibilities include recruiting students and helping them complete the admissions process. Kangas completed a degree in business at Michigan Technological University in 2001. He and his wife, Brianna, live in Laurium. They have four children.

MSU Bequest Benefits Elementary Education Grads

With the establishment of the Troy Stearns Memorial Fund, Sandra Eiker, a 1962 and 1964 graduate of Michigan State University, has found a way to honor a MSU faculty member, express her gratitude to the MSU College of Education for beginning her career, and remember her parents.

By incorporating a charitable bequest in her will to the MSU College of Education, Eiker is both fulfilling a personal philanthropic goal and paying tribute to her family’s belief in education and their heritage in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. The Upper Peninsula was her mother’s birthplace and the site of many happy family remembrances. Both of Eiker’s parents are buried in Newberry.

When the future gift is received, the Stearns Memorial Fund will provide fellowships for teachers from the Upper Peninsula who wish to pursue graduate studies at the MSU College of Education, with preference given to students who obtained their bachelor’s degrees from either Finlandia University or Northern Michigan University.

Jaimianne Amicucci

Ceramics Student Awarded Tony Velonis Memorial Scholarship

Finlandia ceramic arts senior Jaimianne Amicucci, Mahopac Falls, New York, has been awarded the 2009 Tony Velonis Memorial Scholarship by the Society of Glass and Ceramic Decorators (SGCDpro), a professional network of decorators and marketers of glass, ceramic, and related products.

The Velonis Scholarship, named for a past president of SGCDpro, is open to undergraduate and graduate students in a glass, ceramic, or related curriculum. Amicucci’s experience in ceramic design, along with her academic standing, financial need, and plans for future study, contributed to her selection for the scholarship.

Past recipients of the scholarship include students attending University of Florida, Georgia State University, Rutgers University, and George Washington University.
Karimo Painting Finds Permanent Home

“A monumental painting which will be placed in the upper hallway of J.K. Nikander Hall was presented to Suomi College by the Suomi-Seura organization of Finland,” says an article in the November 11, 1946, issue of Inklings, a student newspaper published in the 1940s. In storage for several years, the 12-foot by 5-foot painting now hangs in the Finnish American Heritage Center theatre.

The three-panel oil on canvas was completed in 1946 by Finnish artist Aarno Karimo to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Delaware (Maryland) settlement and to honor the memory of the Finnish settlers, the Inklings article explains. The 1-1/2-foot left and right panels depict a Finnish woodsman sitting in front of a fire in the woods of Finland and a Native American viewing the settlement, respectively; the center panel is of a Finnish settlement being built on the Delaware River. The frame, also signed by the artist, is made of wood taken from a church in Karelia built around the same time as the founding of the settlement.

Yueh-mei Cheng Selected for Michigan Masters Invitational

Yueh-mei Cheng, Finlandia University associate professor of studio arts, is one of 30 artists selected as the most exciting and inventive in Michigan. Her work was exhibited May 2 to July 31 at the 50th annual Michigan Masters Invitational at the Kresge Art Museum, East Lansing. The exhibition was funded in part by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Ernst Hansersky’s giant himmeli at The Domes in Milwaukee

Finnish Himmeli Finds Home in Hancock

For the 2006 Old World Wisconsin Holiday Ethnic Dinner, artist Ernst Hansersky, Milwaukee, was commissioned to create a 20-foot wide, 30-foot long wooden himmeli, a decorative Finnish handicraft typically made of straw tied together to form a regular lattice. When the Old World Wisconsin event was over, the himmeli was stored, and in 2008 installed for the holiday season at The Domes, a horticultural conservatory in Milwaukee.

This January, the himmeli was taken down and slated to be burned. However, the Finnish Americans of greater Milwaukee were so proud of the giant mobile that they set out to find it a new home. And they have. In a collaborative effort, and with the help of Finlandia Foundation National grant, the Nordic Group, the Finnish American Society of Milwaukee, and the City of Hancock Finnish Theme Committee has arranged for transport of the himmeli to Hancock this autumn. James Kurtti, director of the Heritage Center, is arranging a permanent home for the extraordinary piece of art at the Heritage Center.

FinnFest 2009 Alaska Cruise

More than 650 people attended FinnFest USA 2009, a cruise to Alaska this May. Among them were James Kurtti, director of the Finlandia University Finnish American Heritage Center and Honorary Consul of Finland for the Upper Peninsula, and Gloria Jackson, secretary of Finlandia’s Board of Trustees and Honorary Consul of Finland for the state of Arizona. Jackson graciously hosted two Finlandia University receptions aboard the Holland America Westerdam.

The cruise departed from Seattle, Washington, and visited the ports of Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan, Alaska, and Victoria, British Columbia. For Kurtti, highlights of the cruise included the food, of course, and the opportunity to tour the Finnish community of Sitka, Alaska. Kurtti also presented a lecture and led a discussion about the Finnish-American press.

Gloria Jackson (left) with Beatrice and Richard Ojakangas aboard the Westerdam

Ernst Hansersky’s giant himmeli at The Domes in Milwaukee
Donor Recognition

In each donor edition of the Bridge, we are pleased to recognize the many people, organizations, churches, clubs, and associations that have generously donated to Finlandia University in the preceding fiscal year. Some have pledged deferred giving or named the university in their wills. Some have given in memory of loved ones or to honor a special date, event, or person. Others have made donations out of a sense of loyalty – cherishing their time at Finlandia University/Suomi College. We are grateful for the thoughts and prayers of our friends and alumni, and for the education their support provides our students.

Many thanks to all who have supported Finlandia University/Suomi College between July 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009, and in years past.

Cumulative Giving

Gifts to Finlandia University for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Received from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009.

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Lifetime membership in the President’s Circle is granted to those who have given $50,000 or more to Finlandia University during any five-year period, or to those who have named the university in their estate plans for $50,000 or more and informed the university of their intentions.

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New Members of the Second Century Society

These donors have pledged deferred giving to the university in writing in 2008-2009.

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Nikander Club

($10,000 and above)

Judo Kustaa Nikander (1855–1919), born in Lammi, Finland, helped found Suomi College and served as president from 1896 to 1919. An ordained Lutheran pastor, Nikander traveled to the Copper Country from Finland in the fall of 1884. As a national leader of Finnish-American communities, he helped advance local congregations and fight the discrimination many of the immigrants faced.

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Nisonen Associates Council  ($5,000 - $9,999)

In 1922 Martti Nisonen (1891–1946) left Finland with his wife and four children to become Suomi College’s music instructor. He created a music program that drew many Finnish-American musicians. A noted composer and arranger of cantatas, operas, and several orchestral works, Nisonen is remembered as a tireless and dedicated instructor, not only of music, but also of cultural and moral development.

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Wargelin Council  ($2,500 - $4,999)

Dr. John Wargelin (1881–1970) was president of Suomi College from 1919 to 1927 and 1930 to 1937. In 1896, at the age of 15, Wargelin enrolled in the college’s first class, graduating in 1904. In 1906 he graduated from Suomi’s former seminary. Wargelin served as a Suomi College trustee for 36 years. In 1966 the university’s library and science building was officially named for him.

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Waino “Pop” Lehto League  ($1,000 - $2,499)

Waino “Pop” Lehto graduated from Suomi College in 1918. From 1920 until 1962 he served as instructor and dean of the business, and liberal arts programs at Suomi College.

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Old Main Society  ($500 - $999)

Built in 1899, for many years Old Main was the sole Suomi College building. In early years it housed classrooms, offices, a cafeteria, and a dormitory. Today it is the home of the Office of Admissions and other administrative and student support services.

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continued on page 15
Old Main Society (continued)

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Quincy Club

Quincy Mining Company helped develop the region that Finlandia University serves. The company employed thousands of Finns, including many who helped establish and support Suomi College. Finlandia University’s campus on Quincy Street in Hancock sits on a hillside once mined by the Quincy Mining Company.

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Minnie Perttula-Maki Circle

Minnie Perttula-Maki (1880–1957) was Suomi College’s only woman president to date, serving from 1922 to 1923. She was born in Lohtaja, Finland, and was a member of the college’s first class, graduating in 1904. She continued her education in Chicago, Duluth, and at the University of Helsinki.

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continued on page 16

the Bridge Summer/Fall 2009 15
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Donors to the Finnish American Historical Archive & Museum Collection

The 2008-09 volunteers and donors to the Finnish American Heritage Center and the Historical Archive are gratefully acknowledged below. These contributions of time, materials, and expertise are what keep the Heritage Center and Archive vibrant and growing. A few notable 2008-09 additions to archive and museum collections include a large collection of books from the estate of Dr. A. William Hoglund; nearly 200 record books from Finnish Lutheran congregations and societies in Cape Ann and Lanesville, Massachusetts; the real, financial, and intellectual property of the recently-dissolved Yrjö Kilpinen Society; a collection of mining records and early newspapers; a giant bimmeli created by artist Ernst Hensersky; historic photo collections; original artwork; Nordic films; and translation services.

Sally L. Lassila Hanson … a gift rooted in love for the U.P. and Suomi College

On behalf of her mother Shelley Williamson of Commerce, Ga., visited Finlandia University this June to present a $5,000 gift for scholarships and library resources. Sally Lassila Hanson’s fondness for Finlandia, and ancestral roots that lie deep within the northern Michigan landscape, make this gift especially meaningful as it both acknowledges, and actively demonstrates, Sally’s love of both environments.

Born in 1922 and raised in Hancock, Sally graduated from Painesdale High School and in 1942 earned an associate degree in history at Soumi College. In 1944, she completed a B.A. in English at Northern Michigan University. Her first teaching job was in Flint, where she met her husband, Gilmour B. Hanson. They were married in 1945 after the war.

In 1946, the Hansons relocated to Valley City, N. D., where for two years Sally was a public school teacher and principal. In 1949, she put her career on hold to become a housewife and mother while her husband pursued what became a 43-year career at Valley City State College as an associate professor of business. The couple raised three children - a son, Leigh, and two daughters, Shelley and Lori.

From 1967 until her retirement in 1983, Sally was a resource librarian for the Valley City Public Schools, where she assisted hundreds of students. In 1971, she earned a master of library science at the University of Oregon in Eugene.

During her sixteen years as a library director, Sally’s sincere hope was that her personal interest in her students would influence them to become better scholars and citizens.

Sally was a “ground-breaker” and role model for both her peer group and young women in Valley City. An advocate of the women’s liberation movement, in the 1960s she lobbied for “equal pay for equal work” through her leadership in the Valley City chapters of Business Professional Women and Delta Kappa Gamma.

In her retirement, Sally perfected her hobbies of quilting and Hardanger fiddle techniques, and traveled to Finland several times to visit Lassila family relatives.

Today, Sally is an Alzheimer’s patient at a North Dakota nursing home. The Sally L. Lassila scholarship and gift for library resources is made by Sally’s children in fulfillment of her wishes.
All started in 1998 when Finlandia restarted its basketball program,” Chris Peterson says of his and his family’s support of the university’s men’s basketball program. “I volunteered to help with the new team and I’ve been hanging out at Paavo Nurmi ever since.”

Chris, along with his wife, Tammie, and his parents, Pat and Gil Peterson, opened Peterson’s Fish Market, Hancock, in 1991. For the past three years they have sponsored and organized a twice-yearly Fish Fry dinner to benefit the men’s basketball program.

“We enjoy doing it,” says Pat Peterson. “It’s a team effort. The whole family is involved, including the grandkids. We hope we can keep doing it for awhile.”

The Petersons’ main aim in hosting the Fish Fry dinners is to support the community and help the school. “Plus, it helps our business,” Pat adds.

The Petersons also have a personal interest in Finlandia men’s basketball. “We want to endorse the tribal members who are in school,” Pat explains. “Any incentive for our youth to stay in school is a big plus.”

The Petersons are members of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa based in Baycliff, Wis. In recent years, five tribe members have played on the Finlandia basketball team, including current team stand-outs seniors Tyler Gordon and Eric Bresette.

Chris says he wants the men’s basketball players to “have it a little better.” At each Fish Fry dinner he says an average of 500 pounds of fish is served to 600 people. At $10 per dinner, that’s a lot of extra support!

“We’re always trying to supplement our budget,” Charlie Kemppainen, head men’s basketball coach, says. “The Fish Fry funds are used for extra events such as special field trips and airplane fares.”

Of course, serving dinner to more than 500 people is more than just showing up on the scheduled day. A lot of advance preparation is needed.

“We’re very involved right from the start,” Coach Kemppainen says. “We get a lot of the credit, but they do the bulk of the work, for sure.”

Chris says it generally takes about a month to plan the dinners, but now that they have six dinners behind them, things go pretty smoothly.

Chris’s brother, Matt Peterson, and Don Peryam are the head chefs. Matt attended the French Culinary Institute in New York City; Don was director of food service at Suomi College for 14 years. Matt and Chris man the fryers, while Pat and Tammie do multiple tasks in the kitchen. Ron Waara, owner of the Harbor Haus restaurant in Copper Harbor, is also involved. Peterson’s Fish Market provides fresh Lake Superior fish at minimal cost only to recover fuel costs and the time spent catching the fish.

The men’s basketball team also helps out. “At the event they do everything from collect tickets, greet diners, serve coffee and beverages, and clean up,” Coach Kemppainen says. “I encourage them to sell advance tickets, and as an incentive the player who sells the most tickets doesn’t have to do dishes.”

“Chris has been great; he’s invaluable to the program,” Coach Kemppainen adds. “I’m really grateful that he contacted me and offered to organize the dinners. He’s been very supportive.”

“I feel fortunate to be a friend of Charlie’s,” Chris says. “I’m honored that I can help him with the team.”

Chris has also helped upgrade the weight-lifting equipment in the Paavo Nurmi Center fitness center. He has donated two Olympic weight sets and helped to facilitate the addition of equipment formerly at Michigan Technological University.

Chris attended Suomi College in 1990-91, and also attended Bay College. Tammie earned a two-year business degree from Suomi College in 1990. The couple met at Suomi College. They have two daughters, ages 11 and 16.

When Chris is not out in his fishing boat – from 10 to 18 hours a day, five days a week, year-round – he tries to attend as many men’s basketball games as possible.

The next men’s basketball Fish Fry dinner will occur on a Friday evening in late October or early November. It’s held in the Finlandia Hall Café in the university’s residence hall.
The second round of improvements to the Finlandia University Jutila Center for Global Design and Business began June 1, and is slated for completion this November. The current renovations continue a multi-phase project funded by an Economic Development Authority grant awarded in 2005. Including the current $1.58 million project, a total of $4.7 million has been invested to date in renovations to the Jutila Center building, including a $700,000 investment from the Smart Zone. A recent 40% anonymous matching gift paved the way for Phase II work.

"Finlandia recognizes the importance of contributing to the economic development of the western Upper Peninsula," President Philip Johnson says of the success of the Jutila Center. "It is rewarding to contribute to a stronger business community, creating more job opportunities for our graduates and all Copper Country citizens."

The Jutila Center small business incubator opened in 2005. Currently at 90% capacity, the incubator houses 19 companies employing 37 people. Software development, insurance, art, music, photography, wellness, and a café are among the services offered. The Smart Zone location on the fourth floor is home to 11 technology-focused businesses.

"As a business incubator the Jutila Center was eligible for EDA grants that encourage job creation," says Bonnie Holland, director of the Jutila Center. "Now that the first three floors are fully occupied, and we continue to receive applications to lease office suites, additional space has become justified."

"The Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) helped us facilitate both phases of the public/private project, and we’ve also worked closely with UP Engineers and Architects and other local partners to make this happen," Holland notes.

"Community support was essential to progress this far with Jutila Center renovations. Community development cannot be accomplished in a vacuum," Holland adds. "The Chicago regional office of EDA has placed tremendous confidence in this project."

A distinction of the Jutila Center business incubator is the opportunity for collaboration between Finlandia’s art and design students and Jutila Center and Smart Zone businesses, as well as other Keweenaw-area businesses. Product and graphic design, market research, rapid prototyping, marketing and branding campaigns, and ergonomic analysis are a few of the many projects undertaken in recent years by Finlandia students.

"This component of the EDA/Finlandia University partnership complements and adds value for Jutila Center and Smart Zone tenants," says Holland. "In 2007 the combined value of student-provided design services, if purchased, would have exceeded $60,000."

Ken Dillinger, president of U.P. Engineers and Architects, believes the success of the Jutila Center incubator illustrates the creativity of the community. He adds that he sees a lot of communication between the engineers of the Smart Zone technology companies and the Finlandia students, and that the overlap in communication strengthens ties with the Keweenaw community and between Finlandia and Michigan Technological University.

“I think we have a lot of entrepreneurs in the community,” says Dillinger. “Business incubators are a way to keep capital investment low and give businesses the opportunity to build a client base, develop assets, and eventually move on and make room for others.”
UPEA translated Finlandia’s Jutila Center program statements into cost estimates and a schematic design. Dillinger says the plans anticipate future needs, including connecting suites to allow for individual business expansion and opening up the corridors to create display space.

Improvements to both the exterior and interior of the nine-story building include replacement of the roof, and the windows on floors five to nine, and upgrades to the plumbing, electrical, mechanical, and fire suppression systems. A second boiler and a second elevator will also be added.

“The building is structurally sound so our approach is to preserve as much of the original structure as possible, replacing only those systems that need updating,” says Holland.

Phase II also includes complete renovation of floors six and seven, each 6,000 sq. ft., which will add up to 25 additional business incubator suites. Floors eight and nine are open for development or sale or lease. The fifth floor of the Jutila Center is reserved for additional university classrooms and studios.

John Sturos, Gundlach Champion engineer and estimator, is the project’s manager. He notes that 14 subcontractors, each of them employing two to four workers, are completing Jutila Center renovations. Subcontractor specialties include roofing, windows, flooring and carpet, acoustical ceilings, fire suppression, electric and mechanical, signage, and elevator upgrades.

As the regional liaison to the EDA, the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR), along with several other regional economic development agencies, has been assisting the City of Hancock and Finlandia with Jutila Center renovations since 2001.

WUPPDR represents the western U.P. counties of Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon in a collaborative effort to foster economic development. It is a member-based organization representing various forms of municipalities, including the City of Hancock. Established in 1968 by a State of Michigan Public Act, it is one of 14 economic development districts in Michigan.

“Regionalism is the key to what we do,” notes Kim Stoker, executive director of WUPPDR. “What’s good for us is good for our neighbors. Given today’s limited resources, we all have to collaborate in order to survive.”

As all requests for EDA grants must be proposed by municipalities, the City of Hancock and WUPPDR worked closely with Finlandia to propose the Jutila Center renovations via a Community Economic Development Strategy. Stoker notes that the EDA grant for the first phase of Jutila Center renovations was approved with much credit due to Glenn Anderson, Hancock city manager, and John Peck, retired economic development representative for the EDA.

The second and current phase of Jutila Center improvements was begun by Joanne MacInnes, the previous director of the Jutila Center. Stoker says her recognition that the “envelope” of the former hospital needed improvement for the overall success of the effort was key to what has been accomplished.

“It is very unusual that the EDA will come in and do a second phase on a project,” says Stoker. “Their attitude is, if we can’t make it work the first time, why would we fund it again? But Joanne sat down with the EDA and convinced them that they needed to help with the envelope of the building.”

Stoker adds that it took a lot of hard work by a lot of people to help the Jutila Center succeed, including John Sullivan and Ken Dillinger of UP Engineering, the cooperation of MTEC and the Smart Zone, and Bonnie Holland, who stepped in to bring all the pieces together.

Seven companies have pre-leased sixth and seventh floor Jutila Center suites, Holland says. Two of them are current tenants moving into larger offices; five are new companies moving to the area, one of them being started by a graduating Finlandia senior.

Holland invites businesses in all phases of expansion to contact her. “These are exceptional office suites with a premium view of the Portage Waterway,” she notes. “We are not only looking for new start-up companies, but for companies in expansion mode, firms that are investing in new equipment and adding personnel, and businesses that are relocating to the western U.P.”
Classical, jazz, and folk musicians from the Sibelius Music Academy of Helsinki, Finland, will present four concerts and a music workshop in the western Upper Peninsula and metropolitan Chicago September 21 to 25 for the 11th annual Finlandia University Sibelius Academy Music Festival.

“This year’s festival will be a lot of fun,” predicts Kaisa Randolph, coordinator of the festival. “We are excited to welcome these varied Finnish musicians to Michigan and the Midwest. I am hoping to see people of all ages, with musical interests of all kinds, at this year’s concerts.”

The seven musicians are all looking forward to their visit to the Midwest. While many of them have performed in multiple European countries, most of them have never been to the U.S. “I think that when you read more about these musicians, you’ll realize that you just have to attend these performances!” Kaisa says. “Coordinating these concerts has been a huge challenge, but when they finally arrive in Hancock, I know that it will all be worth it.”

Viola loves performing. “I enjoy the sparkle I get from this moment,” she explains. “And the feeling that I am now in the middle of this amazing music and an audience, and my purpose is to tell a story with music – the way I feel and understand it!”

Maija Parko’s first piano teachers were Hungarian and she says she learned a lot from their deep enthusiasm for music, and all her teachers have been a great influence and inspiration. Maija performs actively in Finland as both a soloist and a chamber musician, and she has also performed in Hungary, Wales, Denmark, Norway, and Belgium. She has been teaching piano for many years and says she enjoys working with young musicians.

Visit the duo’s website at www.maijaviola.com.

Duo Räisänen & Parko (above) is a classical music ensemble featuring violinist Viola Räisänen and pianist Maija Parko. They have been studying and performing together since 2005.

Folk musicians Anssi Salminen, guitar, and Markus Luomala, accordion, (above) are Duo Luomala & Salminen. Both known as charismatic live performers, their concerts include modern arrangements of traditional Finnish fiddle tunes and Anssi’s original compositions. The duo combines technical skill with experimentation and a strong background in Finnish folk music.
Anssi, both a musician and a composer, works extensively with many top Finnish musicians. “Music is everywhere!” Anssi says. “It’s the part of our daily lives, I think, that gives the joy to carry on when you’re having difficult times. Music is everything to me. I express myself through the music I play.”

Markus’s repertoire varies from modern Finnish experimental folk music to classical music and avant garde. He won the Finnish Golden Accordion competition in 2001 and has been awarded several other prizes in Finland, as a soloist and with his folk rock band Snekka.

View the duo’s MySpace page and listen to their music at www.myspace.com/luomalasalminen.

The Tuomas Juhani Turunen Trio (above), a jazz combo, features three young Helsinki-based musicians. Their music combines the deep-rooted swing rhythms of the American jazz tradition and the classical lyricism of European jazz. The trio features Tuomas Juhani Turunen on piano, William Tarvainen on the upright bass, and Mikko Arlin on drums.

Tuomas’s compositions are inspired by everyday life experiences. “Whenever something moves me, I try to make a tune out of that event. My compositions could be read as a musical diary.”

Tuomas notes that a great thing about jazz concerts is that an audience can cheer and applaud a musician during the performance, unlike classical performances.

“At some gigs, I’ve sensed this kind of positive energy coming from the audience and it has helped me to play even better and be more involved in music,” he adds. “For me, that’s the best that can happen.”

At the ensemble level, Tuomas says the Trio’s philosophy is built on collective improvising and communication where each musician is equal as a soloist, an approach pioneered by the early 1960s Bill Evans trio, whose more egalitarian trio concept stretched the conventional borders of the piano trio.

For additional information about the 11th annual Sibelius Academy Music Festival, please visit www.finlandia.edu, or contact festival coordinator Kaisa Randolph at kaisa.randolph@finlandia.edu or 906-487-7280.

Concert and workshop tickets may be purchased at North Wind Books, Hancock, or on-line at http://finlandia-university.ticketleap.com. Tickets for the Ishpeming concert may also be purchased at Peninsula Bank, Ishpeming, and Range Telecommunications, Marquette. Tickets for the Calumet Theatre concert must be purchased through the Calumet Theatre: call 906-337-2610 or visit www.calumettheatre.com.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
11th annual Finlandia University Sibelius Academy Music Festival

Monday, September 21, 7:00 p.m.
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Naperville, Ill.
Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for students with ID; children age 10 and under attend free.

Tuesday, September 22, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Jazz and Folk Music Workshop:
Duo Luomala & Salminen and the Tuomas Juhani Turunen Trio
Finlandia University Finnish American Heritage Center
Pre-registration requested. Cost is $25 per person. Lunch will be served.

Tuesday, September 22, 7:00 p.m.
Duo Luomala & Salminen, folk guitar and accordion
Finlandia University Finnish American Heritage Center
Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students with ID; Finlandia University students and children age 10 and under attend free.

Wednesday, September 23, 10:00 a.m.
Duo Räisänen & Parko, Duo Luomala & Salminen, and the Tuomas Juhani Turunen Trio
Public school students and teachers attend free. Tickets are $5.00 for adults.

Friday, September 25, 7:00 p.m.
The Tuomas Juhani Turunen Jazz Trio, with special guests Duo Räisänen & Parko and Duo Luomala & Salminen
Calumet Theatre, Calumet, Mich.
Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students with ID; Finlandia University students and children age 10 and under attend free.
NCAA Grants AQ Waiver to MCHA

Joe Burcar, Finlandia University head men's hockey coach, is ecstatic that the winner of the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association (MCHA) Harris Cup will now officially advance to the NCAA Tournament field and compete for the national championship.

The MCHA was notified this summer that the NCAA granted the automatic qualifier (AQ) waiver for the winner of the league tournament starting with the 2009-10 season.

“This is great news for Finlandia and Division III college hockey,” said Burcar. “The AQ waiver offers an exciting opportunity for Finlandia student-athletes to challenge for the 2010 NCAA Championship. We are now on an even playing field with all the other NCAA Division III teams that are members of conferences with AQs.”

WBCA Academic Top 25

The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced the 2008-09 Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll in July. With an average cumulative 3.592 grade point average, the Finlandia University women's basketball team is ranked third among the top 25 NCAA Division III teams. This is the second year in a row that Finlandia has received this third place academic recognition.

“Among all the NCAA Division teams – I, II, and III – Finlandia is eighth in the nation!” said Curtis Wittenberg, Finlandia’s head women’s basketball coach. “I’m proud of the team for working so hard. It is one of our main goals every year to make this top 25 list.”

Men's Soccer Joins WIAC

Finlandia Athletics announces that this fall the university will join the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) as an affiliate member in the sport of men's soccer.

“We are thrilled about our affiliate membership in the WIAC,” said Athletics Director Chris Salani. “Our association with one of the strongest DIII athletics conferences in the country will provide unprecedented opportunities for our men’s soccer program.”

Tincknell, Riutta on 2009 All-Independent Women's Teams

Finlandia University’s Ally Tincknell was named to the 2009 Association of Division III Independents Women’s Basketball First Team. Tincknell is a junior forward/center from Negaunee. Finlandia junior forward Jodi Riutta, Houghton, was named to the 2009 Honorable Mention Team.

DIII Independents Recognize Softball Standouts

The Association of Division III Independents 2009 All-Independent Softball Teams include four Finlandia student-athletes.

On the First Team are Lions freshman pitcher Tiffany Coppens (Placentia, Calif.) and senior first baseman Jamie Bellinger (Coleman). On the Second Team are catcher senior Amy Bellinger (Coleman) and utility player freshman Shannon Miller (Banks, Ore.).

NCAA Sportmanship Initiative

Finlandia will participate in a recently launched NCAA sportmanship initiative, titled “RESPECT,” during the 2009-10 academic year.

Spearheaded by the NCAA Committee on Sportmanship and Ethical Conduct, the campaign will focus on encouraging student-athletes and coaches to take the lead in creating a culture of sportmanship and respect, and addressing negative fan behavior.

The NCAA initiative is based on results and feedback from extensive public and membership surveys. Its goals include providing a communication and educational plan that campus leaders can implement and creating a common language for sportmanship. On the part of NCAA, initial steps include the introduction of an improved sportmanship website and the production of support materials.
SPORTS NEWS

NCHA Awards Go to Four Lions Women

Four Finlandia University women's hockey team members were named to the 2009 Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) All-Academic Team.

They are junior Nursing majors goalie Annika Danielson (Cokato, Minn.) with a 3.26 GPA and forward Emily Conrad (Marquette) with a 3.6 GPA; senior Art & Design major defenseeman Chaslyn Duffek (Houghton) with a 3.3 GPA; and junior Elementary Education major, defenseeman Jessica Jones (Winnipeg, MB) with a 3.3 GPA.

Finlandia University men’s hockey team student-athletes received 14 of the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association (MCHA) 2008-09 end-of-season awards.

Junior defenseeman Quinn McIntosh of Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan, was one of only 12 league players to receive the 2008-09 MCHA All-Conference award.

Freshman forward James Neitsch of West Bank, British Columbia, was one of only seven league players to make this year’s MCHA All-Freshman Team.

In addition, 12 Finlandia men are included on the 2008-09 MCHA All-Academic Team. The sophomores (with hometown and major) are Jim Brey (Hancock, business), Ryan Donovan (Pinckney, liberal studies), Dan Grille (Wallace, liberal studies), and Matt Wylie (Eagan, Minn., business)

The juniors are Quinn McIntosh (business), Eric Schultz (Strasbour, SK, Canada, business), Bryan Solander (Marquette, elementary education), and Brandon VanAcker (Lincoln Park, liberal studies)

The seniors are CJ Fisher (Yakima, Wash., business), Matt Krueger (Pewaukee, Wis., business), Tiger Marcotte (L’Anse, nursing), and Blake Miller (Hancock, business)

Krueger and Solander are two-time members of the MCHA All-Academic Team. Marcotte, Miller, and VanAcker are three-time members.

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**ALUMNI NOTES**

**Class of 1962**

Phyllis Bracco Locatelli
Laurium, MI
locatelli@charter.net

Phyllis Bracco Locatelli, Laurium, is the 2009 recipient of the Rita Finch Community Service Award. Raised in Raymbaultown, she has been involved in community activities all her life, according to a June 24, 2009, article in the Daily Mining Gazette. After graduating from Calumet High School in 1961, Locatelli spent a year at Suomi College then studied physical education at Northern Michigan College (University). She later completed a teaching certificate and a master’s degree.

Locatelli retired in 2000 after teaching in the Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw Public Schools for 25 years. She is the current secretary of the C-L-K Board of Education. Locatelli is also president of the Keweenaw Heritage Center Board of Directors. Her other volunteer activities are considerable and varied.

**Class of 1966**

John H. Hosking
Battle Creek, Michigan

John H. Hosking has been elected board president for The Guido A. and Elizabeth H. Binda Foundation effective June 11, 2009. He has served on the foundation board for ten years. Hosking attended Suomi College and Michigan Technological University. He is retired from Consumers Energy and is a Vietnam veteran with the U.S. Navy Seabees. Hosking is an elder at First Presbyterian Church and resides in Battle Creek with his wife, Elizabeth “Bunny.” They have two daughters.

**Class of 1987**

Gina Lepisto
Hancock, Michigan
redwingdetroit@hotmail.com

Gina M. Lepisto, Hancock, graduated with honors from the University of Phoenix with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice administration and business. Lepisto, vice president of Finlandia’s Alumni Board, is now pursuing a master’s degree in business administration at University of Phoenix. She is a graduate of Hancock High School and earned an associate degree in accounting at Finlandia.

**Class of 2001**

Katherine Michie-Zahn
Arequipa, Peru
katranzahn@me.com

I am a graduate of the Human Services program of 2001. My family moved to Peru when my husband, Randy Zahn, who works for Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc., was given the opportunity to be in charge of the materials characterization lab at the Cerro Verde mine property. We have been here just shy of a year and hope to stay another two to four years. Here we live a luxurious lifestyle we would never be able to lead in the U.S. My oldest son, Andrew, is four and attends the pre-school “Pinares Nido.” It is an all Spanish speaking school, and it is amazing to see a four-year-old completely understand and speak two languages. My youngest, Logan, is two and will be attending the same school in March. He also speaks both languages and has comprehended the fact that our maids speak differently than we do. Simply amazing! The photo (above) is of my children with friends Estephanie (4) and Kevin (3),
who they met when were visiting a volcanic refuge in Bolivia. My family currently lives in Arequipa, Peru, and we have been able to visit many different places in South America. I just wanted to share how a touch of Finlandia is all over the world.

**MARRIAGES**

Kate Lisa Abbott ('08) and David Leon McCLOUD were married December 13, 2008. Kate is a 2005 graduate of Houghton High School and attended Finlandia University. David is a graduate of Michigan Technological University and is employed by ReGenCo, Milwaukee, Wisc.

Annika Danelson and Marcus Johnson were married June 6, 2009. Annika is a graduate of Dassel-Cokato High School and is studying nursing at Finlandia. Marcus is a 2001 graduate of Jeffers High School and is studying criminal justice at Finlandia. He is employed by Sayen's Auto, Houghton.

Jennifer Verran ('05) and Jeffrey Koski were married May 2, 2009. Jennifer is the daughter of Ed and Judy Verran, Hancock. Jeffrey is the son of John and Anita Koski, Chassell. He is a 1998 graduate of Michigan Technological University.

Ashley Wilson ('05) and Brian Grieve were married August 15, 2009. Ashley works as a registered nurse at Stevens Hospital, Seattle, Wash. Brian is a graduate of Michigan Technological University and is pursuing a MBA. He works for the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Connie Kentala ('05), Dollar Bay, and Aladino Mandoli ('84), Ishpeming Township (formerly of Calumet), announce their engagement. Connie is employed as a nurse at Bell Hospital, Ishpeming. Aladino is a graduate of Suomi College and Northern Michigan University. He is employed as a driver with the United Parcel Service. An October 3, 2009, wedding is planned.

**ALUMNI RELATIONS UPDATE FROM CHERYL RIES, DIRECTOR**

**Left to right: Bailey Gardner, Brent Loukus, and Taylor Gardner with the Timber Rattlers mascot, Fang**

**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME!**

Alumni Board member Allen Freis ('76) and his wife, Julie, were our hosts for a Timber Rattlers game in August. I met them, along with 39 additional friends and alumni, on the deck of the Home Run Porch at the Fox Cities Stadium in Appleton, Wisc. It was a beautiful evening. Kids and adults alike enjoyed the ball park food, Fang the mascot, and the baseball game, which the Rattlers won. A fireworks display followed – a perfect ending for this perfect summer alumni event. Thank you Allen and Julie!

**A LOVELY ALUMNI EVENT.** This May, Alumni Board member Evelyn Anderson ('66) hosted a reception at her home in Saginaw, the third annual gathering hosted by the Andersons. It was a fresh spring evening with fabulous food and great company! Evelyn and her sister, Carol Jilbert, served freshly baked pasties and other scrumptious homemade goodies. “I am so very proud of my roots, both being a Finnish girl from Calumet and Finlandia University (Suomi),” Evelyn wrote in an e-mail to me recently. “I want to help the university as much as possible, both socially and financially. Also, I like to see alumni get together and reminisce.”

Evelyn and Carol both attended the summer 2008 all-school reunion at Finlandia. Carol thoughtfully kept and preserved a small bouquet of flowers that was part of a table center piece at the reunion. She preserved the flowers in a beautiful piece of art that she presented to President Johnson that evening. Kiitos! to Evelyn and Carol for the memorable evening.

**“The Fearsome Foursome,” above, all graduates of the Class of 1961, were among those at the July Twin Lakes gathering. They are: back row: Paul Kaarre (left) and Bob Kekke; front row: Art Ollie (left) and Dan Ojala.**

**TWIN LAKES REUNION.** This July a small group of alumni gathered at the home of Bill ('62) and Dorothy Johnson in Twin Lakes, after agreeing during last summer’s all-school Finlandia/Suomi reunion to try to get together every year. The group is excited about the planned 2010 Finlandia/Suomi reunion and will participate on a planning committee to recognize the class of 1960.
Alumni News

Francis N. “Frank” Bates ('77), age 63, Hancock, died April 25, 2009, in Hancock.

Robert MacDonald ('77), age 54, of Hancock, died July 25, 2009, in Hancock.

Deborah M. (Karna) Kinnun ('80), age 53, of Fulton, died August 2, 2009, in Laurium.

Deborah M. Lewis ('81), age 48, of Oconto, Wis., died June 28, 2009, in Oconto.

Peggie (Schmidt) Taivaloja ('82), age 61, Laurium, died April 28, 2009.

Syme Margareeta Sofia (Vaataja) Atkyns, age 96, died May 23, 2009, in Atlantic Beach, Fla. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to Covenant Soup Kitchen of Willimantic, Conn., and Finlandia’s Finnish American Heritage Center.

Raymond Spencer Carlson, age 74, died June 24, 2009, in Marquette. Raymond was a local historian, researcher, and friend of the Finlandia University Finnish American Heritage Center Archive, for which he authored a finding aid for the Help Finland Collection.

Paula (Richards) Littleton, age 68, of Tucson, Ariz., died June 1, 2009, in Tucson.


Effie (Anderson) Leppaluoto, 93, Gwinn, died April 4, 2009, in Marquette. She was born in Hibbing, Minn., September 3, 1915, to A.C. and Olga Anderson. She attended Suomi College ('38) where she met her husband, Rev. Edward Leppaluoto. Their joint pastoral duties carried them across the country until they returned to the U.P. in 1958 to serve the congregation of Grace Lutheran Church, Gwinn, and the outlying parishes of Skandia, Carshend, Suomi Location, Palmer, and Rock.

Effie attended the United School of Nursing in the early 1950s and worked as a practical nurse. She obtained a California teaching certificate, and a B.A. at Northern Michigan University. She taught fifth grade for many years and, after earning a master’s degree in library science at NMU, was a librarian at Gilbert Elementary School, Gwinn. She retired in 1978.

Effie was well known for her community involvement. She was a founding member of the Forsyth Public Library, and a member of the committee to bring a doctor to Gwinn. She was Forsyth Township treasurer in the late 1960s. She was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church.

Effie was a challenging and bold woman, ever faithful and true to those that she loved and cherished. She had an eclectic interest in life and loved a good story, a rich cup of coffee (with homemade cinnamon rolls), and hearty laughter.

Effie’s husband, Edward, preceded her in death in 1966. She is survived by a son, two daughters, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made in Effie’s memory to the Grace Lutheran Church Building Fund or the Forsyth Public Library.

Save the Date! June 2010 All-School Reunion

Mark your calendars! Don’t miss it! The next Suomi College/Finlandia University all-school reunion will be June 24 to 27, 2010. Additional details will follow. For more information, please contact Cheryl Ries at 906-487-7317 or cheryl.ries@finlandia.edu.
Do you remember the song, “To Know Him Was to Love Him?”

“To Know Him Was to Love Him” should also be put on Frank Plautz’s stone at Lakeview Cemetery in Calumet. He died August 31, 2008.

Frank was a long-time beloved, tenured Suomi College English professor who made the complex interesting and understandable.

He was my best male friend and had so many facets to his character there are not enough adjectives to describe him. He was a neighbor, I was his student, and later I joined him on the faculty in the 1970s.

Many of you will recall the yellow Volkswagen he drove that had footprints on the roof, or the Rabbit. Students would look for his vehicle and know that Frank would help stranded commuters get home.

He often chuckled over the time his car was broken into and a bag of white powder was stolen. He wondered how the thief enjoyed his bag of Cremora.

His everyday rituals made the mundane magical. If you dropped in for coffee, he served it in a bone china cup. He was a collector. He collected people, all types of people: the brilliant, the rich, the talented, and the slow, poor, and sad.

He loved us all. It was such a comfortable loving, like being wrapped in a well-worn chenille bathrobe. He knew each of us, and he accepted the flaws as part of the package. He picked his friends—but never apart, believing that the best things in life weren’t things, but people.

Frank could hear a musical selection and know the composer; if it was an opus, he knew the number of the opus. He could recite Nietzsche – in German, that is.

Even stray animals found their way to his home. When he had a cat, Esmeralda, indoors in the winter, he put a box with an electric heating pad on his porch for another stray cat, keeping them apart so there would not be a cat fight, yet both would be safe, warm, and comfortable.

For years he worked evenings at Harter’s Grocery Store on Pine Street in Calumet. Many of the store’s patrons never knew that Frank was a college professor, a prolific writer, and a practical philosopher.

Frank’s friends enjoyed Sunday morning coffee klatches, bouquets of arbutus in May, and food fit for angels, especially his walnut and pineapple whipped cream pavocitas. I particularly enjoyed his buzik.

I did not know that Frank and Dr. Carl Waisanen, the Dean of Faculty during my tenure at the college, were friends dating back to their own college days. Every year Dora, Dr. Carl Waisanen’s wife, made Frank a birthday cake. I truly believe that it was God’s fine hand which caused us to meet recently so Dora could learn of her dear friend’s illness and have a last visit with Frank at Omega House.

At Omega House, I read poetry to Frank citing William Cullen Bryant’s Thanatopsis as my favorite. He preferred John Dylan and was an elegant orator to the end. I remember his mellifluous voice: “Do not go gentle into that good night, old age should burn and rage at the closing of the day. Rage, rage against the dying of the light.”

His delivery was sheer theatrical genius.

To Know Him Was To Love Him.
EVENTS

SEPTEMBER
10 Closing Reception: Derek Guthrie, 7-8:30 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)
17 Opening Reception, Terri Saulin: Lines of Flight, 7-8:30 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)
21 Sibelius Academy Music Festival Concert, 7 p.m. (Naperville, Ill.)
22 Sibelius Academy Music Festival Workshop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (FAHC)
22 Sibelius Academy Music Festival Concert, 7 p.m. (FAHC)
23 Sibelius Academy Music Festival Concert, 10 a.m. (Ishpeming, Mich.)
25 Sibelius Academy Music Festival Concert: 7 p.m. (Calumet, Mich.)

OCTOBER
5 Community Enrichment Classes Begin (Topics to include Finnish I and II, 5-string kantele, 10-string kantele, and fiddle. FAHC)
8 Nordic Film Series: Unis Ildminen (A New Man), 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
12-16 North Wind Books 10th Anniversary Celebration
29 Opening Reception: Gerard Brown: Seeing and Reading, 7-8:30 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)

NOVEMBER
12 Nordic Film Series: Kasby (Orders), 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
7 Men’s Basketball Fish Fry Dinner (Finlandia Hall)
25-29 Thanksgiving Break

FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY GALLERY
September 17 to October 20
October 26 to November 27
December 3 to January 3

ATHLETIC EVENTS

SEPTEMBER
Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
1 Northland College
12 Lake Superior State University
19 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
26 University of Minnesota

Women’s Cross Country
1 Northland College
4 Defiance College
6 Rochester College @ Defiance College
10 Northland Baptist Bible College
13 Rockford College
19 Lawrence University
25 Mount Mary College

Men’s Golf
4-5 Edgewood College-Clover’s Fall Classic
12 Lawrence University Invitational
19-20 Ripon College Fall Invitational
26-27 Ferris State University Invitational

Women’s Volleyball
5 Mount Mary College
11-12 University of Wisconsin-Stout Triangular
15 Northland Baptist Bible College
18-19 Finlandia Triangular
26 Northland College Triangular

Men’s Soccer
1 Northland College
2 St. Norbert College
4 Defiance College
5 Rochester College @ Defiance College
10 Northland Baptist Bible College
19 Lawrence University
26 Great Lakes Christian College

Women’s Soccer
1 Northland College
4 Defiance College
5 Rochester College @ Defiance College
10 Northland Baptist Bible College
13 Rockford College
19 Lawrence University
25 Mount Mary College

OCTOBER
Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
3 Wisconsin Lutheran College
10 Ripon College

Women’s Cross Country
3-4 Milwaukee School of Engineering Invitational

Men’s Golf
3-4 Milwaukee School of Engineering Invitational

Women’s Volleyball
10 UW-Stevens Point @ UWSP Quadrangular
12 Millikin University @ UWSP Quadrangular
18 Walworth College @ UWSP Quadrangular
23-24 Northland Baptist Bible College
30 Northern Michigan University
31 Crown College @ Northland College Triangular
31 Northland College @ Northland College Triangular

NOVEMBER
Men’s Soccer
2 Robert Morris University-Lake County
3 North Central University
4 University of Wisconsin-Platteville
6 Northland Baptist Bible College
9 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
10-11 Robert Morris University-Springfield
14 University of Wisconsin-Superior
18 Lakeland College
20 University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
23 North Central University
24 Carthage College

Women’s Soccer
2 Robert Morris University-Lake County
3 North Central University
4 University of Wisconsin-Platteville
6 Northland Baptist Bible College
9 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
10 Robert Morris University-Springfield
11 Robert Morris University-Springfield
14 University of Wisconsin-Superior
18 Lakeland College
22 North Central University
24 Carthage College @ Soccer USA

DECEMBER
3 Opening Reception: Bruce Niemi: Heavy Metal/Graceful Forms, 7-8:30 p.m. (Finlandia Gallery)
6 Finnish Independence Day Celebration, 2 p.m. (FAHC)
10 Nordic Film Series: Joulutarina (Christmas Tale), 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. (FAHC)
11 End of Fall 2009 semester
28-31 Holiday Break (all non-essential university offices closed)

THE IIth ANNUAL
FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY
SIBELIUS ACADEMY MUSIC FESTIVAL
September 21 to 25

Visit www.finlandia.edu for more information.

ATHLETIC EVENTS

SEPTEMBER
Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
1 Northland College
12 Lake Superior State University
19 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
26 University of Minnesota

Women’s Cross Country
1 Northland College
4 Defiance College
6 Rochester College @ Defiance College
10 Northland Baptist Bible College
13 Rockford College
19 Lawrence University
25 Mount Mary College

Men’s Golf
4-5 Edgewood College-Clover’s Fall Classic
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26-27 Ferris State University Invitational

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5 Mount Mary College
11-12 University of Wisconsin-Stout Triangular
15 Northland Baptist Bible College
18-19 Finlandia Triangular
26 Northland College Triangular

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1 Northland College
2 St. Norbert College
4 Defiance College
5 Rochester College @ Defiance College
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26 Great Lakes Christian College

Women’s Soccer
1 Northland College
4 Defiance College
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10 Northland Baptist Bible College
13 Rockford College
19 Lawrence University
25 Mount Mary College

OCTOBER
Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
3 Wisconsin Lutheran College
10 Ripon College

Women’s Cross Country
3-4 Milwaukee School of Engineering Invitational

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10 UW-Stevens Point @ UWSP Quadrangular
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31 Northland College @ Northland College Triangular

NOVEMBER
Men’s Soccer
2 Robert Morris University-Lake County
3 North Central University
4 University of Wisconsin-Platteville
6 Northland Baptist Bible College
9 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
10 Robert Morris University-Springfield
11 Robert Morris University-Springfield
14 University of Wisconsin-Superior
18 Lakeland College
22 North Central University
24 Carthage College @ Soccer USA

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Northland College
17 Northwestern College Tournament
24 Lakeland College
25 University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
30 Northern Michigan University

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Northland College
17 Northwestern College Tip-Off Tournament
24 Lakeland College
28-29 University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse

MEN’S HOCKEY
6-7 Lake Forest College
13-14 Concordia University-Wisconsin
20-21 Marian University

WOMEN’S HOCKEY
6 Saint Catherine University
7 College of St. Benedict
14-15 Hamline University
21-22 Lake Forest College

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**Kailee Laplander (right)**

Dollar Bay High School graduate, sophomore Nursing student

**Chelsea Bessner (left)**

Hancock High School graduate, sophomore Nursing student
Saara’s Passage, by Karen Autio
In this sequel to Second Watch, twelve-year-old Saara Maki continues her passage—not across the Atlantic, but through the shoals and storms of growing up. Her story is Canada’s story, as both take up the responsibilities handed to them by circumstance and history. For readers age 10 and over.
Sono Nis Press, 2008. Paperback .......................................................................................................... $10.95

Kiekkumaralla
Kiekkumaralla is a collection of 20 Finnish children folk songs. Text is in Finnish and the book includes a CD on which Finnish children sing the songs. Listen to this fun CD and follow along in the book anytime you feel like singing.
Tammi, 2007. Hardcover ...................................................................................................................... $23.00

Iron Finns, by Michael Resman
After his father’s death in an underground iron mine, Matti takes his place on the timbering crew. His uncle promises to get him a safe job above ground in exchange for allowing Socialists to meet at his farm plot. Matti finds danger, love, and loss while learning a trade and developing spiritually in this novel set in the 1920s.
Frederick Brogger, 2008. Paperback ...................................................................................................... $14.95

Born a Soldier: The Times and Life of Larry Thorne, by J. Michael Cleverley
Born a Soldier is a tour of mid-20th century conflicts guided by the remarkable Larry Thorne. Born “Lauri Torni,” Thorne fought in Finland’s battles with Russia and won the country’s equivalent of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Thorne was the legendary leader of one of the most elite companies in the Finnish army, itself one of the best armies of World War II. When World War changed to Cold War, Thorne was a refugee, political prisoner, fugitive, exile, and illegal alien, eventually gaining legal status in the U.S. through an Act of Congress. A best seller in Europe, this updated edition of Born a Soldier is the first published in the U.S.

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