

FINLANDIA
UNIVERSITY

the Bridge

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Into the Wild

Donor Edition



From the President PHILIP JOHNSON

Finlandia University
A learning community dedicated to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service

This *Bridge* issue features three stories about Finlandia students venturing “into the wild.” “Wild,” of course, does not need to be an exotic location. We all venture “into the wild” whenever we choose to exchange the familiar for the unfamiliar, the comfortable for the uncomfortable, the known for the unknown. Such choosing calls for courage. At her best, Finlandia creates for her students opportunities that are ripe for discovering and exercising courageous learning and living.

This past summer, I paused to reflect on my first five years at Finlandia, which prompted me to re-visit my September 2007 inauguration speech (printed in part below). Courage was its centerpiece, and courageous learning and living—then and now—belongs to the Finlandia experience for our students, as well as to all of us who serve them.

I believe the presidency of any university such as ours calls for courage. And those of you here today who have walked with this place over the decades know this, as well. Yet, it is the courage embedded in our mission and embodied in our students that calls for our attention today.

I have said this many times: it was Finlandia's mission and identity that lured me, though reluctantly at first, to consider the presidency. It takes courage to live with a mission at all these days, I think. I've been tempted, even early on, to say, "Let's cut to the bottom line: what's marketable and makes money?" Why mission? Mission statements, vision statements, the kind that fill the first two pages of our, and most, academic catalogs, often get in the way, to be frank. They slow us down. They stand over us, persistently exposing our lapses in institutional integrity or soundness of purpose. Who needs that? Like my youthful attempts at ignoring my grandma Gladys's knuckled and knobby index finger shaking at me when I grabbed too many cinnamon rolls, we may wish to ignore the disciplining function of our mission statements. Imagine, unshackled by lofty ideals and ideas of purpose, meaning, and values, encumbered all the more by ethnic and religious heritage, we [are free to] pursue at will any and all actions that secure revenue. We could use the money. And, after all, mission statements don't pay the bills. Finlandia's nine institutional commitments don't keep the lights on or the snow plowed. Our Finnish and Finnish-American identity, our church-relatedness and Lutheran roots, our residential character: these and others keep us mission-shaped, but their contribution in today's competitive higher education market calls for courage if they are to remain relevant.

Finlandia's mission statement is extraordinarily bold: a learning community, dedicated to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service. But that doesn't mean anything unless we muster the courage needed to bring these words to life. And I am just beginning to understand how elusive this can be, and how much courage is required....

Though it was Finlandia's mission that initially caught my attention, it is Finlandia's students that keep me coming to work. They, like our mission, embody courage. As I talk with Finlandia students, it becomes clearer and clearer to me that there are extraordinary stories of courage to be heard. Some are those of more common courage: the southerner trekking north to brave the winter drifts and darkness; the New Yorker braving the rural; the Californian who thinks “UP” means up; the transfer student who changes course and campuses mid-stream; injured student athletes, no longer able to compete, who find other constructive outlets for their passion and energy....

If you want to hear stories of sisu, just talk to our students. There is no sisu shortage here. This is why Finlandia, I like to say, matters. We are here to embolden and enable men and women of all ages and seasons in life to seek a college degree that perhaps was thought to be out of reach—and, once reached, inspires us all, certainly me ... a courageous mission serving courageous students. I call upon the rest of you to meet this mission and our students with an equal measure of the same.

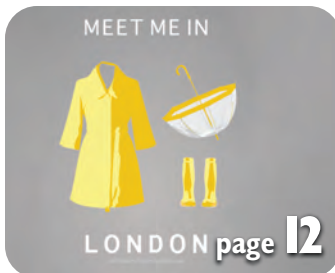
(Finlandia University, September, 2007)

Philip Johnson, Ph.D.
President



page 10

"We walk along the riverbank: you, the dog, and me."



LONDON page 12

"I know now that no matter what one's culture or upbringing, we all have so much in common."



page 28

"I'm telling you, it's going to be good."



Cover Photo: Assistant professor of nursing Mark Miron (front, left) and Liberal Studies junior Bjørn Kristensen try out a traditional dance in a small Masai village near Ngorongoro Crater, which they visited this spring while on safari in Tanzania. The wooden staffs they hold, which are carried by Masai males and primarily used in herding cattle, are also traditional. The dance is a contest and a show of strength in which the males jump as high as they can from a flatfooted stance. "The men can jump amazingly high—as much as 2 to 3 feet—and they invited us to give it a try," explains Miron.

3 Into the Wild: Nursing Students Serve and Learn in Tanzania

10 Into the Wild: A Walk Along Pilgrim River

12 Into the Wild: Room to Breathe, Learn, and Grow

16 Ralph Pifer, A Donor of Many Books

27 FinnFest USA 2013, A Copper Country-wide Event

28 Goodness All Around: Norma's Finnish Tarts

campus news 6-9

- A selection of notable university news

advancement 14-15

- With Gratitude...
- Foundation Relations Update
- The Daryl (Furgason) Laitila Memorial Scholarship

donor section 17-26

- FY 2011-12 Donors (July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012)

athletics news 30

- 2011-12 Athletics Highlights
- Coach Hendrickson Teaches at National Camp

alumni notes 31-33

- Alumni News
- Suomi Roomies Reunion on Track
- 2013 All-school and Choir Reunion
- In Memory
- Care to Share?

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(Left to right) Heidi Wingerson, Lauren Belland, Maci Dyer, Amanda Constable, and Ann Clancy-Klemme try out a traditional Masai dance

INTO THE WILD: NURSING STUDENTS SERVE AND LEARN IN TANZANIA

Since 2006, through the three-credit course Service and Learning in Tanzania (REL 236), directed by assistant professor of religion and philosophy René Johnson, 49 Finlandia University students have traveled annually to the east Africa country for a three-week stay.

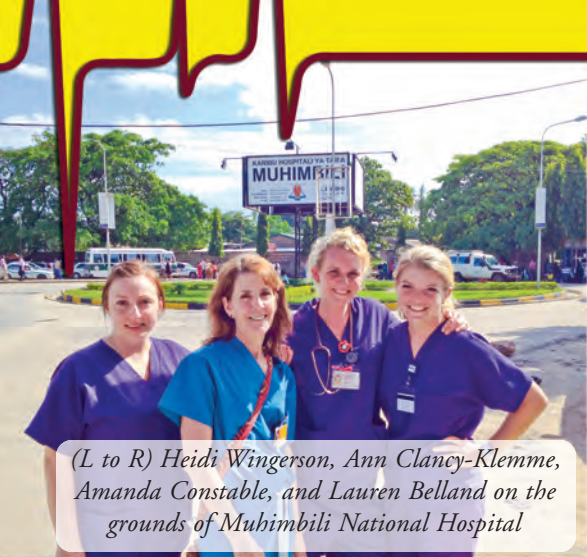
This May, following two years of relationship-building by assistant professor of nursing Mark Miron, four Finlandia Nursing program students participated in a new component of the Service and Learning course, spending a week working side-by-side with Tanzanian student-nurses, nurses, and physicians at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam, the capital city of Tanzania.

“In a country of 43 million, the 1,500 bed facility is the only public specialty hospital in Tanzania,” says Miron. “With over 1,000 weekly inpatient admissions, and 1,200 daily outpatient visits, it is a very busy place.”

As Miron’s nursing specialty is psychiatry, his relationship building at Muhimbili Hospital began in 2010 with a tour of

the hospital’s 90-bed Psychiatric Ward. His ensuing communications with hospital staff led to a spring 2011 opportunity for Miron to spend two full weeks in the hospital Psych Ward. While there, Miron taught hospital nursing students, interns, and staff about therapeutic milieu management, a structured group treatment setting in which patients can work through their psychological issues. In spring 2013 Miron hopes to teach at the hospital a one-week class about milieu management to physicians and health care professionals from across Tanzania.

The Finlandia Nursing students who traveled to Tanzania this May were 2012 graduate Heidi Wingerson, juniors Amanda Constable and Lauren Belland, and RN-to-BSN senior Ann Clancy-Klemme. Sophomore Elementary Education major Maci Dyer and



(L to R) Heidi Wingerson, Ann Clancy-Klemme, Amanda Constable, and Lauren Belland on the grounds of Muhimbili National Hospital



(L to R) Mark Miron, Maci Dyer, Ann Clancy-Klemme, Amanda Constable, Lauren Belland, Heidi Wingerson, René Johnson, and Bjørn Kristensen

junior Liberal Studies major Bjørn Kristensen were also part of this spring's group, along with Johnson and Miron.

"We were welcomed warmly at the hospital," Miron says. "Each morning began with a brief meeting with the director of nursing Agnes Mtawa, who took time from her very busy schedule to ensure the BSN students were accommodated and satisfied with the experience."

Miron explains that, each day, the Finlandia students were permitted to choose a department to visit based on their personal interests, which included the ER, ICU, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Psychiatric, the Pediatric Burn Unit, an HIV/AIDS Testing Clinic, and a Methadone Clinic.

"One student spent two days in the pediatric burn unit, where wound dressings were changed without the benefit of anesthetic," Miron says, adding that at the hospital things like face masks, gloves, and sanitizing hand gel were not available. "The cultural acceptance of death in east Africa was also difficult for the students to cope with."

Miron and the student-nurses ended each day at the hospital with a debriefing. "You can't really prepare for this experience; you can't imagine what it's like," Miron says. "Each day a huge throng is waiting, hoping to be seen at the hospital."

"Student reactions to their experiences were profound," Miron says. "I am certain that their memories of Tanzania and Muhimbili Hospital will significantly affect their lives and their careers as nurses."

Heidi Wingerson RN, BSN ('12)

It has been a life changing few months since graduation! I traveled to Tanzania with fellow Service and Learning students, passed my NLCEX exam, and landed my first nursing position. It's been one adventure after another! I recently began working as a medical/surgical RN at McLaren Northern Michigan in Petoskey. It's the next chapter in my adventure called life.

My recent journey to Tanzania helped me find clarity in developing my career and life plans. It taught me about the

diverse world in which we live and how to develop a global perspective. The most rewarding and surprising part of this experience was the time spent at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam. I had the chance to work closely with Tanzanian nurses and nursing students in the Intensive Care unit, Emergency Department, Methadone Clinic, and HIV/AIDS Testing Clinic. Rotating through these areas of interest presented me with many learning and teaching opportunities, and reinforced all the knowledge I earned during my time at Finlandia.

I have gained from this adventure a new-found appreciation for all that I have: my family and friends, access to water and other things commonly taken for granted, material gains, and mostly my education. I returned home a changed person—a better person and a more understanding person. I will never forget this amazing experience.

Heidi Wingerson is from Calumet. She now lives in Harbor Springs, Mich.

Ann Clancy-Klemme, RN, CCRN, EMT-P

Close your eyes and picture this..... better yet feel it.

The air is very warm and heavy and the dust covered walks at the boarding school welcome the impending rain. It is mealtime, so I am taking leave from the school clinic after a day of ill children and a terminal cleaning with bleach. Walking across the campus I notice the threatening storm is producing a somber, harsh veil over this space that 700 children call home. As I ponder the difficulties these children face, so different from those at home, my thoughts are interrupted by a faint, distracting sound coming from one of the classrooms. It begins to rain and I head for shelter. Getting closer to the building the sound comes into focus. It is the sound of voices joined in song.

Entering this simple brick building, I am overwhelmed by the beauty of the moment. There they stand, boys and girls, young and old singing praises of gratitude for the many blessings in their lives. It is smoky dark inside, however, and as my eyes begin to adjust I am in awe of the glowing smile



Finlandia Nursing students conduct a cardiac resuscitation lesson at Muhimbili Hospital



Amanda Constable leads a seminar at the Kisarawe Lutheran Jr. Seminary

on each face, hands clasped to their chest in a god-loving embrace. Outside, it is dark and windy. A pounding rain is turning the landscape into a muddy, disheartening mess. Inside, I feel safely wrapped, surrounded by this beautiful, joyous, palpable expression of aspiration, promise, and faith.

For me, the Servant Leadership trip to Tanzania was a three-week lesson in gratitude and joy. More specifically, “present moment gratitude and inner joy.” Once you experience this Tanzanian phenomena, once you see it, feel it, and become a part of it..... it in turn becomes a piece of you.

It becomes a new piece of yourself that you instantly know you never want to lose. A new habit you gain of appreciating things formerly taken for granted: abundant resources, ease of travel, malaria-free mosquitoes, and warm water with just the turn of a faucet. It is also a new feeling of enjoying those moments previously ignored; such as a smile from a stranger, a hug from a friend, or simply the sound of children laughing. Here at home, too often gratitude and joy are dependent upon, or in response to, the acquisition of things. However, Tanzanian-grown gratitude and joy appear to be born and nurtured from within. It seems to be based not on acquisition of things, but on acceptance of things as they are. It is an inner peace and unwavering positivity worthy of cultivation.

The first stop of the trip, the Kisarawe Lutheran Jr. Seminary boarding school, left quite a memorable impression. The housing was Spartan and congested, the meals simple, and the alternating rain and drought a challenge. The students, however, were incredible! They were dedicated to their studies, positive about their future, and excited to get to know their new friends from the states.

The Nursing students then moved on to the Muhimbili Hospital in Dar Es Salam. Conditions there were difficult, both for the ill and for those providing the much needed care. Many units in the hospital were filled to capacity, and equipment and supplies were sparse. One outstanding, connecting feature of these two disparate facilities was the incredible spirit of the Tanzanian people that we were blessed with along the way.

I spent most of my hospital time in the Intensive Care and Emergency departments. The nurses and physicians I worked with were welcoming and collegial. They immediately made me feel part of their team. Sometimes, learning from each other was in a mixture of Swahili and English. This added a layer of amusement and intensity to our interactions! Despite some degree of cultural and experiential differences, the desire to improve the quality of patient care was proven to be a universal goal.

At its core, nursing in Tanzania is very similar to nursing in the states. Dedication and compassion provide a strong foundation for long hours, great physical demands, and meeting patient needs that surpassed equipment and supplies. Admittedly, the challenges that the Tanzanian nurses so creatively overcome are greater than those we face here at home. The nurses I met were skilled problem solvers who also had a thirst to acquire and exchange new knowledge and skills.

One of my favorite moments at the hospital was an interactive presentation our Finlandia Nursing group did to teach the steps of cardiac resuscitation. As the lesson progressed, we pulled in Tanzanian nurses to participate. By the end of the learning scenario we had an international team effort working to “save a life.” It was inspiring to see such a diverse group join together for a common cause.

When asked to write this story about my experience in Tanzania, one of the questions posed was, “Do you think this experience will impact the way you practice nursing?” I have worked as a nurse 25 years. One of my favorite fellow-travelers on the trip had just finished her first year of the Nursing program. Simply put, the long and the short of it is, “How could it not?”

Ann Clancy-Klemme, Chassell, has worked in the ICU at Marquette General Hospital for 25 years. She also teaches at Marquette General. Ann has completed volunteer missions, mostly teaching trauma and emergency resuscitation courses, in Uganda, Ghana, and Romania.



The Finlandia Nursing Class of 2012 (left to right): Front row: Brianna Fortin (Lake Linden), Caitlin Rose (Hancock), Krystal Luoma (Calumet), Cleo Brown (Saginaw), Chelsea Bessner (Hancock), Katie LaPlante (Hancock), Heidi Wingerson (Calumet); Center: Philetus Kleinschmit (Battle Creek), Josie Riutta (Atlantic Mine), Stacy Weathers (Chassell); Back: Michael Wilson Sr. (Pelkie), Beth Dorsky (L'Anse), Tina Ploe (Hancock), Eric Monticello (Hancock), Lauren Ruotsala (Atlantic Mine), Philip Hainault (Lake Linden), Stephanie Murray (Quinnesec), Bethany Schultz (Saukville, Wis.). Not pictured is Jennifer Butryn (Escanaba).

10-year Accreditation for Nursing

The Finlandia University Nursing program announces that its accreditation has been renewed through June 30, 2022, by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

(CCNE). The ten-year accreditation period is the maximum length awarded by CCNE, and the accreditation report cited no compliance concerns with the Nursing program's baccalaureate education standards or its key elements.

"Accreditation is a voluntary and rigorous process," remarks Fredi de Yampert, dean of Finlandia's College of Health Sciences and Nursing Department chair. "This outstanding outcome for our program demonstrates that Finlandia's Nursing program and its faculty members consistently strive for excellence and deliver a model of continuous improvement which is consistent with the national standards for baccalaureate nursing education."

CCNE is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accrediting agency for baccalaureate and master's degree nursing programs. CCNE accreditation is "the gold standard" for the accreditation of baccalaureate-level nursing programs, de Yampert says. The Nursing program is also approved by the Michigan State Board of Nursing.

Nurses Commended as Service Leaders

The Finlandia Student Nurse Association was named a community service leader by the Michigan Nursing Student Association (MNSA), which commended the Nursing students for their eighth annual, spring 2012 spaghetti dinner and raffle in support of the Omega House hospice, Houghton. Since 2004, the student-nurses have donated to Omega House more than \$10,000 in dinner and raffle proceeds.



(Left to right) High school students Robby Schneider (Calumet), Blair Harju (Calumet), Alysa Kilpela (Jeffers), and Emily Ahola (L'Anse) on the flight deck of the USS Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum in New York City. All TRiO UB 2012 summer program participants were invited guests July 19 at a televised dedication of the NASA space shuttle, Enterprise, in its new temporary home on the Intrepid.

UB Grant Funding Renewed

The TRiO Upward Bound (UB) program at Finlandia has announced that the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) renewed the program's grant funding for five years, at \$343,416 per year, pending federal appropriations. The grant allows UB to serve 82 students each year from Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw counties. UB youth are from low-income families in which neither parent/guardian possesses a four-year college degree. For 30 years Finlandia has hosted UB in an effort to encourage local high school youth to pursue postsecondary education through activities such as tutoring and mentoring, college field trips, community service, and a six-week mock residential college experience. "TRiO UB participants have moved on to represent all walks of life, and I believe they would have been half as likely to succeed without the intervention of TRiO programs like UB," says Joe Zerbst, director of UB at Finlandia.



Rick Loduha (left), Barb Hardy, and David Sarazin
Photo: Kurt Hauglie, *The Daily Mining Gazette*

Through the Garden Gate

A mini-grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs has led to the installation of an entry archway for the Ryan Street Garden. Garden organizer Barb Hardy says the archway is intended to define the garden's main entrance, attract attention from passersby, and incorporate art in the garden.

Metal artist David Sarazin, a Finlandia Integrated Design senior, with Rick Loduha, an inventive reuse designer and associate professor for the International School of Art & Design (ISAD), designed and constructed the archway. Its components include half a metal spool for fiber optic cable, the remnants of a metal trellis, a metal gear, a rotor from a clutch or disc brake, a water faucet handle, and other repurposed metal items.

In its second season, the garden is a collaborative project that is part of Finlandia's Campus and Community: Together for Good initiative. The garden property is on the university's campus, a grant from the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department provided materials to build the raised garden beds, Mark Salo of Salo Contracting donated his labor to design and build a timber framed garden shed, and the city of Hancock provided the soil/compost to fill the raised beds and supplies water. The garden is cultivated, maintained, improved, and beautified by member gardeners and volunteers.

Additional donations and in-kind support for the archway came from ISAD, Finlandia Facilities Management, LJJ Construction, which poured the foundation for the arch, the Hancock Department of Public Works, and garden volunteers.

Faculty and Staff News

Rekha Ambardar, associate professor of business, will present her paper, "Reaching Across Business Disciplines," at the fall 2012 Marketing Management Conference. She was invited to review entries to the 2013 Marketing Education Association conference. Her mystery story, "Parting Shot," was published as an ebook by Untreed Reads. Her article, "The St. Thomas Christians of South India," appears in the *World and I Journal*. In June, she conducted a fast fiction workshop at Portage Lake District Library, Houghton.

As a social psychologist, **Leslie Johnson**, assistant professor of psychology, is interested in how people behave in their social environments. To that end, she is conducting an online research study examining people's attitudes towards others based upon body weight perceptions. Contact psychlab@finlandia.edu if you would like to participate in the survey.

In May, **René Johnson**, assistant professor of religion and philosophy, and **Mark Miron**, associate professor of nursing, investigated the relationship-building impact of the annual Finlandia Service & Learning in Tanzania experience, both for the Tanzanian hosts and the student participants. Funded by a \$4,920 research and writing grant from Michigan Campus Compact (MCC), their findings will be reported at the June 2013 MCC Summer Network Retreat.

Finnish American Reporter staff members **James Kurtti** (editor), **David Maki** (assistant editor), and **Leena Vänni** (intern) were awarded 2012 Good News Awards from the Diocese of Marquette: Kurtti for his editorial piece, "Christmas on the Edge of Peace," Vänni for "Garden Brings University, City Together," and Maki for "Research Reveals Rare Recording." The Good News Awards honor local works in broadcasting and print that affirm the dignity of people, recognize and uphold universally-recognized human values, and uplift and nourish the human spirit.

Beth A. Martin, head librarian, was appointed to the organizing committee for the 2013 Michigan Library Association Academic Libraries Conference.

Hilary Virtanen, Paloheimo Fellows coordinator and Finnish American Heritage Center programming coordinator, published a book chapter, "Forging a leader for a new heritage: Finnish Americans and St. Urho," in the anthology *Pyhä Urho: Fakeloresta Folkloreksi* (St. Urho: From Fakelore to Folklore), published by the University of Turku, Finland.

In April, **Ann Testini**, director of human resources, completed a Title IX Coordinator and Administrator Training Certification course sponsored by ATIXA (Association of Title IX Administrators) in Atlanta, Ga.

In August, **Suzanne Van Dam**, associate professor of English, and adjunct instructor **Laura Smythe** conducted a one-day non-fiction and poetry writers' workshop retreat at the Marsin Nature Center, Houghton. Also, Van Dam's article, "Abandoned mines provide vital bat habitat as species battle effects of White Nose Syndrome," was published in the summer 2012 issue of the Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition's quarterly newsletter. A related article, "Waiting in the Wings," will appear in the October issue of *Traverse Magazine*. In September, Van Dam will give a presentation about bats at Portage Lake District Library, Houghton.

(continued on page 8)

New Full-time Employees

Rory Baakko

Assistant Director, Plant and Facilities

Michael Baily

Director of Living and Learning

Leann Macomber Fogle ('10)

Coordinator of Residential Life

Richard Gee

Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice

Michele Grisolono

Instructor, Medical Assistant Program

William Knoblauch

Assistant Professor, History

Colleen LaLonde

Instructor, Nursing

Jody Maloney

Director of TRiO Student Support Services (SSS)

Ying Meng

Assistant Professor, Nursing

Suzanne Miron

Assistant Professor, Nursing

Angela Price

Assistant Professor, Business (Accounting)

Danielle Syrowik ('08)

Head Coach, Women's Hockey

Kevin Manninen

Associate Professor, Business

Promotions and Position/Title Changes

Carol Bates

Professor, Assistant Provost, and Director of Disability Services

Phil Dlubala

Network Administrator

Julie Jennerjohn

Director of Admissions

Craig Kangas

Assistant Director of Admissions, Transfer and Veteran Student Coordinator

Heather Reinke

Coordinator of Academic Services and Assistant Athletic Director/Senior Woman Administrator

Johnna Therrian

Associate Professor of Nursing



Two early Suomi College students study in an Old Main dormitory room

Peninsula native Deborah K. Frontiera has been contracted to research and write this brief history. Notably, Frontiera is the author of *Living on Sisu: The 1913 Union Copper Strike Tragedy* and *Copper Country Chronicler: The Best of J. W. Nara*. For more information, or to reserve an advance copy, contact Karen Johnson at 906-487-7348 or karen.johnson@finlandia.edu.

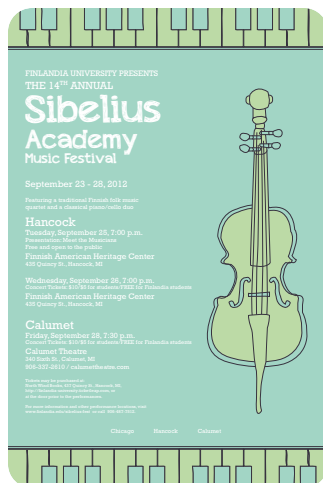
Folk Music Camp Is Best Ever

About 50 campers, aged six years to 80-plus, participated in the second annual Finnish Folk Music Camp, July 17 to 19, on Finlandia's campus. "The camp's opening and closing concerts drew full houses, and a stunning rendition of 'Finlandia' by accordionist Don Reinholm received a standing ovation each night," says camp organizer and Finlandia trustee and Finnish Council in America member Julie Badel. Also at the opening concert, the Finnish Council honored accordionist Wil Kilpela as a Heritage Musician.

"The combination of facilities, the instructors, and the attendees made for a rich experience all the way around. [It was] very well planned and executed," says camper John Reed of Iron River. Retta Kanthak, Deerfield, Wis., judged it the "best camp ever," adding, "Thank you SO MUCH to everyone who worked so hard to make this happen!"



Kaisa Mackey of Jacksonville, N.Y., builds a kantele at the 2012 Music Camp



14th Sibelius Fest Is September 23-28

The 14th annual Finlandia University Sibelius Academy Music Festival is September 23 to 28, 2012, in metropolitan Chicago and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. This year's musicians are a classical music piano/cello duo and a Finnish folk music quartet. Concerts will be presented at the Estonian House of Chicago; the Finnish American Heritage Center, and the Calumet Theatre. For additional information, please call 906-487-7512 or visit www.finlandia.edu/sibelius-fest.



Bike Finlandia students and volunteers

BikeFinlandia

Thanks to Rick Loduha's Integrated Design students, there is a new place to park your bike this fall—on the lawn outside the chapel's main entrance. You say you don't have a bike? Well, no worries. BikeFinlandia, a student-run pro-bike group, will be renting bikes at a very low cost. BikeFinlandia received generous donations of working bikes from community members and the Hancock Police Department. Tune-ups were completed by volunteer bike mechanics, including adjunct physics teacher Kris Bunker. Watch for BikeFinlandia events and posters announcing rental hours.

Community Advisors to Replace RAs

This fall, Finlandia Hall resident assistants have become community advisors. Mike Baily, Finlandia director of living and learning, explains that the term "resident assistant" can invoke an image of a rule keeper. "Renaming the student staff position to community advisor is the first step in re-branding the position as a more positive community-building one," Baily says. The 2012-13 community advisors are Darryl Brown, Kristin DeJong, Siera Hache, Elizavetha Monakhova, Dominic Morrow, and Cole Workman.

Summer Campus Improvements

Summer is prime time on campus for completion of maintenance projects. Outdoors, Finlandia Hall has a new roof and the east stairways of the Paavo Nurmi Athletic Center have been replaced. Inside, Nikander Rooms 20 and 29 have new carpet, tables and chairs, room-darkening shades, and new teaching tools like a whiteboard and computer projector. Numerous other Nikander and Wargelin Hall classrooms and hallways have new computers, seating, and hydration stations. And inside Finlandia Hall there is new carpeting and furniture in the fireplace lounge and a new pool table and ping pong table in the game lounge.

Enterprising Student-Staff Member Improves West Mannerheim

Thanks to enterprising Communication major Heather Dunne, who is also administrative assistant for the Suomi College of Arts & Sciences (SCAS), two common rooms of Mannerheim West's fourth floor, home of SCAS faculty and staff offices, are better organized and more welcoming. For her spring 2012 Research in Communication class (COM 375, instructed by associate professor Diane Miller), Dunne conducted interviews and observed users' experiences of community in the two work areas. Using her findings, she requested and received permission to make changes to increase efficiency and positive interaction in the spaces. As a result, Mannerheim 408 is now a freshly painted, well-organized work room, and Mannerheim 412 is a lounge where the coffee is usually on and faculty have access to a refrigerator, water cooler, and a cozy meeting space. Dunne plans to present her research results and her opportunity to build a bridge between academic assignments and practical implementation of her work at the Writing Across the Peninsula conference in Sault. Ste. Marie, Mich., this fall.



Dawn Engman

Dawn Engman Is Class of 2012 Student Representative

Dawn Engman of Dollar Bay is the Finlandia University Class of 2012 Student Representative, formerly referred to as the valedictorian. She completed her bachelor of arts in psychology with an overall GPA of 3.907. Dawn is justifiably proud of her cumulative GPA, especially given that she competed on two Finlandia sports teams—basketball and soccer—in each of her four years at Finlandia. Dawn is the daughter of Tim and Donna Engman. Tim works in Facilities Management at Finlandia. One of Dawn's sisters, Kasey Engman, is a 2006 Finlandia Elementary Education graduate (and valedictorian of her Finlandia class). Dawn's younger sister, Brittany, is a Pre-professional Science sophomore at Finlandia.

"Finlandia has been a complete learning experience for me," Dawn says. "I'd like to thank all of the people at Finlandia that have made a difference for me. Where you are, and what you're doing, is nothing if you're not with the right people. I am happy to say that I've been learning and growing with the *best* people during my four years at Finlandia."

This fall, Dawn will begin her master's degree in social work at Eastern Michigan University.



Into the Wild: A Walk Along the Pilgrim River

A student writing contest was held in conjunction with the spring 2012 Finlandia University Campus Read. The winning story, by Liberal Studies major Olivia Stevens, is below. It was inspired by Jon Krakauer's 1996 nonfiction book, Into the Wild, which chronicles the experiences of Christopher McCandless in the Alaskan wilderness.

by Olivia Stevens

The snow falls swiftly, landing along thin grey branches. Sunlight beams in jewels through soft blankets of cloud. My snowshoes hardly sink beneath the snow, floating on powder like wooden rafts. The Pilgrim River flows alongside us, babbling quietly along southwest. Frozen banks thin away into translucent mirrors of ice. The dog, old and black, sinks down to her grey whiskers in cold white powder. Her small feet stumble through the deep layers of snow.

We walk along the riverbank: you, the dog, and me. Our snowshoes leave wide, shallow footprints side by side through an otherwise empty plane. You sink deeper than me, your snowshoes heavy, store-bought and carrying a greater weight. My own leave shallow fish-shaped trails, like the footsteps of a ghost. Wide wooden frames hold me sturdy above the snow, as tall as my chest and tightly hand laced with leather. The dog trails behind, sinking through our footprints.

And then off she goes! Down toward the riverbank, little grey paws stumbling into the cool clear water to take a drink. The creek is shallow, brushing her naked retriever belly. She walks in circles lapping frigid water before the cold gets inside her bones. She struggles back up the bank. Her coat is matted in icy knots, and dusted with fresh white snow.

Olivia Stevens

Our big snowshoe footprints first wander alongside one other, then cross and uncross. Sometimes yours, the deeper ones, turn toward the river and make small circles (as you were looking for fish), while mine drift off toward the open forest. They come together again, along with the trail left by the stumbling dog.

A great aspen stands crooked along the riverbank, its pale limbs thick and curling around the air like the hand of a frozen ghost. We pass under a limb and I reach out to touch its scarred and pale skin.

As the day retreats, so do we. We turn to follow our fish shaped trails back to the road we wandered from. We walk back over our paths packing the snow down tighter to help the dog stay afloat. She stumbles gratefully after us, still struggling but less so, and looking tired. We feel tired too, and I watch the corners of your eyes water as you yawn at the setting sun.

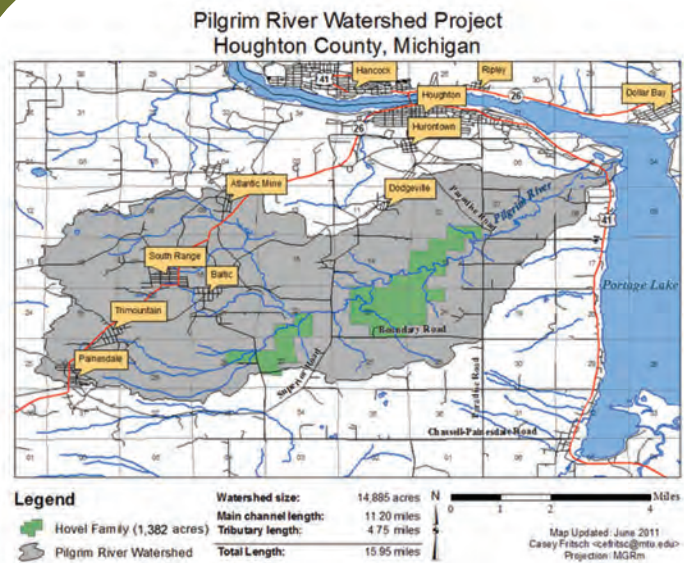
We come to the final bend in the river just as the sun is shining red through the tops of the tallest trees. Swooping down from an old sturdy pine a great bald eagle soars toward us. He glides over the frozen creek where we stand. His handsome white head with the round golden beak is held straight, the rest of his black feathery body powering him from behind. He drifts on a wind before us, just for a moment; then he climbs higher, sailing away along the river to disappear among the pine and yellow-skinned aspen.

We carry on towards home. We duck one last time under the limbs of a quaking aspen, its pale yellow bark woven through with shadows.

Olivia Stevens is from St. Paul, Minn. She currently shares a home in Houghton with her elderly dog, Cassie. The two can often be found together making music and dream catchers. They both love snowshoeing and home cooked meals. Their favorite things include laughter, the outdoors, and long car rides to new places. Olivia recently began studying English and art at Finlandia University, and she lives comfortably in the moment.



Olivia Stevens and her dog, Cassie, cool off in the Pilgrim River



Reprinted with permission

Pilgrim River Watershed Project

For the first time in a century, the largest tract of undeveloped land in the Pilgrim River valley is owned by an individual. The new owner is particularly interested in protecting watersheds and plans to manage this 1,382-acre commercial forest property as a sustainable working forest with enhanced public recreation benefits. The property includes over three miles of the Pilgrim River valley, including a good portion of the river's headwaters.

The Pilgrim River Watershed Project, a coalition of local conservation and recreation partners, is working to purchase a perpetual easement to this land to ensure that it remains wooded, undeveloped, and open for public non-motorized recreational use, no matter who owns the property in the future.

A recreational trail system is being developed on the property, and this May the Watershed Project completed a second hiking and mountain biking trail. The trailhead for the South Loop is located on the logging road on the north side of Boundary Road, 0.6 miles east of Superior Road and 1.4 miles west of Paradise Road. The trail includes scenic vistas from high elevations overlooking the river, the ruins of an old log cabin, and a diversity of flora. Hiking the entire trail requires about 2 ½ hours, but there are opportunities for shorter walks.

Source: www.pilgrimriverwatershed.org



Into the Wild: London: Room to breathe, learn, and grow



*Cait Spera glides
across Abbey Road*

by Caitlin Spera

Usually, when someone tells you about their world travels, the account ends up as a long list of activities combined with vague adjectives such as beautiful, breathtaking, life changing, et cetera. I could tell you about how visiting Charles Dickens' favorite pub is the best way to time travel or how gliding across Abbey Road made me feel more connected than ever to Paul McCartney. Instead, I'll tell you how studying in London helped me get to know myself and my own home better, as well as perfectly rounding out my education.

For those who do not know me, which is probably most of you since I am a semi-anti-social art student, my name is Caitlin Spera and I grew up in Iron Mountain, Mich. I will finish my bachelor of fine arts degree (concentrating in graphic design) this year at Finlandia University. When I'm not working, I can be found singing along to "The Sound of Music" score or honing my culinary skills while watching the television program "Frasier."

This past winter, I lived a life-long dream of mine by studying at the American InterContinental University of London. Being alone in a foreign country was empowering (and sometimes frightening). There I was, little Cait, thousands and thousands of miles away from home and the people I know. The anonymity was freeing. I loved walking into a new place where no one knew me, by reputation or otherwise. There were a couple of moments when panic set in as I remembered I was completely alone across the world, but my adventurous heart soon comforted me.

After studying abroad, some of the mystery is taken out of the world. Don't get me wrong, I know there is still much to see and learn, but traveling made me feel less restless. I discovered that the French countryside looks a lot like Wisconsin and that, as glamorous as living in London is, it is exhausting.

I loved running around seeing symphonies and hanging out with famous artworks, but I realized (much to my surprise) that I enjoy leading a quieter life. While growing up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, I idolized cities and urban areas, but nothing made me appreciate our quiet little home as much as living in London.

Travel also helped me discover what I really want out of life. I learned that I love having the cleanest bathroom in the world and that hanging out with birds in the park can be more relaxing than hanging out with people. (I spent many an hour with the swans on the Thames River.) Being away from my "real" life gave me room to breathe, learn, and grow in ways that are not always possible when surrounded by friends, family, and obligations.

Finlandia has presented me with many opportunities, such as curating a fantastic gallery, participating in traveling exhibitions, and getting to know my wonderful professors, who all truly love what they do. But my education would not have been nearly as full had I not studied abroad.

By attending the American InterContinental University and living in London, even more opportunities were laid in my lap. In a Creative Writing class there, I wrote a short play, delving into the psyche of a fictional character. In my Aesthetics class, I learned what great minds of the past had to say about beauty and art. In Photography for Fashion, I shot professional models and learned to use studio lighting.

Getting to know my classmates was a learning experience in itself. I overheard conversations in Farsi, Greek, and Turkish. I learned that no matter what country you're from, youth looks the same. We are all looking for love, fun, and direction in the midst of growing up.

I know now that no matter what one's culture or upbringing, we all have so much in common. Perhaps the most profound thing I learned in London is that, as people, our similarities run deeper than our differences. It was fascinating to me that a girl sitting next to me—with a different native tongue, religion, and culture—could have the same wants, feelings, and even sense of humor, as me.

By the end of my months in London, I was more than ready to eat some Kraft Mac & Cheese, hug my boyfriend, and return to a quieter life. I am moving back to the U.P. this fall with a full heart, a better idea of who I am and where I want to go, and a new appreciation for this quiet land.

I know now that home is a nest you make in your heart and that wherever one goes, the silence, the noise, and the images go

along, too. Leaving my life behind for a few months was the best life decision I have made thus far. I encourage anyone with a wandering heart to take a leap and visit places they've never been.

As for the future, I would love to work for a non-profit organization like The Cupcake Girls in Portland, Oregon (thecupcakegirls.org), for which I volunteered my time, money, and design skills this summer. It was another eye-opening experience working for an organization with a goal of loving and supporting people in need. Somehow, I want to make a decent living devoting myself to a worthy cause. It seems implausible, but if a poor girl from the Upper Peninsula can make it to London, anything is possible!

If you would like to read more about my experiences abroad, please visit caitleaveshome.tumblr.com.



"We are all looking for love, fun, and direction in the midst of growing up."



Duane Aho

With gratitude....

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.

—William Arthur Ward

Within the last year I have experienced a number of important life events. To name a few: 1) I became a grandpa for the first time; 2) My wife and I celebrated our 36th wedding anniversary; 3) I relocated my 92-year-old mother to the Houghton County Medical Care Facility; 4) I am facing major expenditures on my 31-year-old home; and 5) This summer I attended a family reunion of close to 200 relatives from my father's side of the family.

As a result, lately I've been in a reflective, anticipatory, and grateful state of mind. I've concluded that the glass is more than half full—both personally and professionally.

I am currently working with several people on a university project that will make a significant and positive impact on Finlandia. These university supporters are amazing, resilient

people who just as easily could have decided to spend their time and energy in a different manner. People like this teach me so much about human generosity.

Among the individuals, organizations, and businesses listed in the nine-page donor section of this issue of *the Bridge* are several hundred first-time donors. Our growing donor base bodes well for the future. Finlandia is fortunate to have so many supporters who believe that Finlandia matters. Their willingness to give of themselves financially keeps us moving in the right direction.

In addition to those that support us financially are the individuals, organizations, and businesses that help the university in other ways. Finlandia is blessed that so many volunteer their time and talent to help us succeed. From marching in a parade and volunteering at the Canal Run to participating in our Fish Fry fundraiser, I am always amazed and tremendously grateful to those who step forward to help.

On behalf of the university, let me say how deeply grateful we are for your support in whatever form it takes.

With sincere regards,

Duane W. Aho

Duane W. Aho

EVP for External Affairs/Chief Advancement Officer

Phone: 906-487-7349

E-mail: duane.aho@finlandia.edu



Judy and Lauri Isaacson ('57) with friends Jean (Tamminen) and Gary Terrio ('59, '59), spent four days this August prepping, priming, and painting the enclosed front porch of the Hoover Center. Painter's hats off to this dedicated group of volunteers!



The Office of Alumni Relations, with Don Peryam ('66, pictured above) and Charleen Ahola ('65), revived the Finlandia Fish Fry tradition July 27. Working with Finlandia food service and more than 50 volunteers, and with the support of several local businesses, more than 500 guests enjoyed the all-you-can-eat fresh Lake Superior whitefish and trout dinners!

Estate Gift

Finlandia University gratefully acknowledges a \$50,000 gift from the estate of Urho Kivikoski of Cashmere, Wash. It was Urho's wish that his gift provide unrestricted annual scholarships to Finlandia University students who are recent high school graduates and either Finnish-born or descendants of Finnish-born persons.

Foundation Relations Update

Thrivent Choice DollarsSM funded two EthafoamTM female manikins for the new display case in the Archive Reading Room at the Finnish American Heritage Center. The manikins are designed to safely display artifact garments.

Michigan Campus Compact awarded \$3,500 to the Reshape Downtown Hancock Design Project for which students in Project Management (ARD 329), through a student-run design firm called Creative Guide, will work this fall with business leaders, residents, visitors, and local high school students to develop a comprehensive strategy for the revitalization of downtown Hancock.

The Charles M. Bauervic Foundation approved a grant allocation of \$1,000 towards the acquisition of computer equipment and software for the Finlandia University Experiential Learning (FUEL) Studio.

The Coleman Foundation Faculty Entrepreneurship Fellows Program awarded \$11,000 in continued support of Finlandia programs to promote self-employment education. This fall, Lisa Kahnke, International School of Art & Design instructor, and students in Art Entrepreneurship (BUS 325) will improve campus awareness of self-employment opportunities and contribute marketing and merchandising efforts to the student-run FUEL Studio retail store. Kevin Manninen, International School of Business associate professor, will mentor students engaged in operating the FUEL Studio retail store. Pam Audette, assistant professor and director, Medical Assistant program, will develop an entrepreneurship module for Healthcare Delivery (HCM 412), a course that will explore the feasibility of opening a small Nursing student-run clinic on the Finlandia campus.

Finlandia Foundation National and FinnSpark have awarded grants in support of the 14th annual Finlandia University Sibelius Academy Music Festival.

The Daryl (Furgason) Laitila Memorial Scholarship

Daryl D. (Furgason) Laitila, the wife of Hancock mayor William Laitila, died April 25, 2012, after a hard-fought battle with cancer. A scholarship in her memory has been established at Finlandia University.

"It was Daryl's wish to support Finlandia and a scholarship like this," explains Bill Laitila, adding that he and Daryl agreed that Finlandia has been and will continue to be a major contributor to the culture and quality of life of Hancock and Copper Country.

"Daryl was much impressed—as am I—by the art and design facility in the Jutila Center," Bill says. "She knew art and design faculty and staff and thought highly of their talents and teaching abilities. Even though she is no longer here, [through this scholarship] Daryl will continue to touch the lives of many students, just as she did when she was a teacher in the public schools."



Daryl and William Laitila

Daryl's heritage was English and Scots-Irish, but "she became assimilated to the Hancock-Finnish culture soon after our move here," Bill recalls. "So much so that many assumed she was a Finn. Her blonde hair, blue eyes, and flawless complexion added to the misconception." Daryl was an early and active member of the Finnish Theme Committee of the city of Hancock.

Daryl was born in 1948 in Alma, Mich. She attended Michigan State University and Central Michigan University, from which was awarded a B.A. in art and French education. She taught art and French at Chesaning High School until 1985, when the family moved to Hancock. She taught languages, art, and graphic design at Houghton Middle and High Schools until her retirement from teaching in 1999.

In 1999, Daryl began a second career working for Pasty.net in tech support, e-commerce, and web design. One of Pasty Central's first employees, she created hundreds of websites for local businesses and individuals.

Daryl is survived by her husband of 38 years, William Laitila; a son and daughter, and many more family and friends. She was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Houghton.

If you would like to contribute to the Daryl (Furgason) Laitila scholarship, or establish a Finlandia scholarship in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact Shannon Vairo at shannon.vairo@finlandia.edu or call 906-487-7206.



Ralph Pifer

Ralph Pifer

Donor of many books to the Maki Library

by Diane Miller

If you're a regular patron of Finlandia's Maki Library, you've seen Ralph Pifer's name. It's on the inside cover of hundreds of books, CDs, and DVDs: "Donated to the Library by Ralph Pifer."

Pifer isn't a Finlandia alumnus or the parent of one. And he isn't a wealthy head of a large foundation. He's a recently-retired community college psychology professor who loves books and wants to make a difference.

Pifer began vacationing in the Upper Peninsula in the 1970s. He enjoys the quiet, views wildlife, practices photography, studies the area's geology, and visits bookstores. During one of his early trips, he drove past what was then Suomi College and the school caught his eye. He is familiar with the challenges of operating a college in a faltering economy, and given the area's isolation, he thought, "I bet they don't have a lot; it's really great that they're able to hang on here." It wasn't until about 10 years ago, however, that he stopped in.

Pifer stopped in because North Wind Books—which Pifer was familiar with from previous visits to Eagle Harbor—had recently moved to Finlandia's campus. While browsing North Wind's selection of mystery, geology, philosophy, and nature books, he thought, "I'm going to go to their library—one can learn a lot about a college in its library."

He said that he found the library orderly and pleasant, but also in need. For example, in the psychology section, the newest book was one he had used as an undergraduate many years before. He asked Marjorie Johnson, the head librarian at the time, if she would like some more-current textbooks—something to which he has access.

Like most professors, Pifer receives publisher book samples. Rather than sell them for cash, as many professors do, he donates them. He also

recruits such donations from other professors, and even makes trades with "jobbers" who come around to academic offices buying books. "I'll trade some high value book on my shelf for several titles that I think could be of use to Finlandia," he said.

Pifer has been getting to know Finlandia's librarians and he asks them, "What do you need specifically?" He orders the titles from publisher's remainders and clearing houses and other low-cost book outlets and has them shipped to Maki Library.

Pifer, whose home library contains more than 5,000 volumes, values librarians, libraries, and the ways that students benefit from them. He recalls working as a library assistant as an undergraduate student: "Libraries are places where if you hang out there very much you are well ahead of the curve...you see what comes in the mail." When the Stonewall, N.Y., demonstrations happened in 1969, he saw the photos in his university library's *Village Voice*. A few weeks later, the topic came up in sociology class and he was already familiar with it. He says being introduced to academic journals gave him a "leg up."

Contributing to Finlandia's library gives Pifer a lot of satisfaction. "You want to see where you can make a difference," he said. Pifer's own alma maters are larger, well-endowed schools that "look new and shiny, have a lot of art, and are manicured." When he is sent requests for money from those schools, his response is, "I'm a professor; don't you know what we get paid?"

Instead, he uses his connections to make a smaller amount of money go further. "I hope that people in the local area realize what a gem they've got here," he said of Finlandia. "Glitz is okay, but what about the human dimension? That something is here [at Finlandia] and I call it a sense of community."

Donor Recognition

In each donor edition of *the Bridge*, we are pleased to recognize and thank the many individuals, organizations, churches, clubs, associations, and businesses that generously donated to Finlandia University in the preceding fiscal year ending June 30. 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 or Suomi College. We are grateful for the thoughts and prayers of our friends and alumni, and for their gifts in support of our students' educational goals.

Sincere thanks to all who have supported Finlandia University between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012, and in years past.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE SECOND CENTURY SOCIETY

These new members of the Second Century Society have pledged deferred giving to the university in writing between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012.

PHILIP & RENÉ JOHNSON

Cumulative Giving

President's Circle (\$50,000 and above)

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, and to those who have named the university in their estate plans for \$50,000 or more and informed the university of their intentions. The list excludes deceased President's Circle donors and entities which no longer exist.

REINO E. ALANEN
TRUDY J. ALTER
DALE W. APP
SAMUEL & ELINOR BENEDICT
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Nikander Club (\$10,000 and above)

Juho 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, commerce, 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 its early years it housed classrooms, a chapel, offices, a cafeteria, and a dormitory. Today it is the home of the Office of Admissions and administrative offices.

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continued on page 19

Old Main Society (continued)

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Quincy Club

(\$250-\$499)

Quincy Mining Company helped develop the region that Finlandia University serves. The company employed thousands of Finnish immigrants, 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

(\$100-\$249)

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 20

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continued on page 23

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Sigrid Bartelli - 93rd Birthday

Mrs. Sandra Bartelli Witt

Vieno Culp

Dr. & Mrs. Clyde Culp

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Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Dale Skogman

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Suomi College Seminary & J.C.

Class of 1951

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Mrs. Martha Asuma

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Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Becvar

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Mr. & Mrs. William Maki

Ruth Beegle

Mrs. Margaret Bubolz

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Mr. & Mrs. Philip Michel

Signe Churan

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Mrs. Henna Granvik

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Mrs. Norma Heikkinen

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Mrs. Isabelle Heino

Toini Heino

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Ms. Katherine Britz

Mrs. Helen Esala

Dr. Sylvia & Mr. Sidney Fleishman

continued on page 24

Memorials... given in memory of friends and loved ones (continued)

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Mrs. Helen Karjala

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Mr. Andrew Dutt

Rev. Karlo Keljo

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Rev. Delbert Keltto

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William & Aune Kinnunen

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Mrs. Martha Kopra

Anna Korhonen

Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Lindahl

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continued on page 25

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 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Kilpela
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert King
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Knuti
 The Hon. & Mrs. Michael Lahti
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 Dr. & Mrs. Lowell Luhman
 Rev. Norman Lund
 Mr. & Mrs. Philip Michel
 Mr. & Mrs. James Morrissey
 Mrs. Edith Niederer

Rev. & Mrs. Leslie Niemi
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Nominelli
 Mrs. Kathryn Olson
 Mr. & Mrs. Blair Orr
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 Mr. Larry Ross
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 Mr. & Mrs. Rob Roy
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 Mr. James Ruppe
 Mrs. Connie Sarya
 Ms. Jessica Seaton
 Dr. Kenneth Seaton
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Seaton
 Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Dale Skogman
 Bishop & Mrs. Thomas Skrenes
 Dr. & Mrs. Laurence Stevens
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Ubbelohde
 Ellen & Dana Varney
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 Dr. & Mrs. Roger Westland
 Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Yeoman-
 Ouellette
Lucille Seaton
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Seaton
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 Mrs. Helen Nyberg
Timo Siimes
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 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Walloch
Daniel Wilkman
 Miss Esther Wilkman
Ila Wuorinen
 Dr. Gust Wuorinen

Finnish "Attic Treasures" Donated by David Maki

When they purchased their home just outside of Dollar Bay in 1984, Dave and Kathy Caspary knew there were some ledger books and other materials in their attic that had belonged to an ancestor of the previous owner.

"We've always known they were up there, but there was no time to deal with them until this spring," Kathy Caspary said, adding that she and her husband are doing some remodeling this year. "It was always on our minds to transfer ownership of these to someone, and this year we're doing something."

The ledgers belonged to Isaac Bykkonen, who owned and operated the Dollar Bay Meat Market in the early 1900s. Along with those ledgers, the attic also housed some materials from the Finnish Temperance Society of Dollar Bay. The Casparys purchased the home from Daniel Bykkonen, whom Caspary recalls as either the grandson or nephew of Isaac Bykkonen.

Caspary discussed the Bykkonen materials with friend Brian Hoduski, the chief of museum at the Keweenaw National Historical Park

(KNHP) in Calumet. He knew there was a better home than the KNHP for this particular collection.

Since the FAHC works to preserve and promote Finnish culture in North America, and the Bykkonen records were primarily in the Finnish language, the decision was easy.

Hoduski noted that often, donations of personal or family materials are effective history-teaching tools, since it's easier for visitors and scholars to relate to "real" people.

As for Caspary, she's just grateful the items won't end up in a landfill, lost forever.

"We're getting older," she said, "and we're to a point where you just can't hang on to everything. I just wanted these to be taken by someone who would appreciate them."

The Finnish American Heritage Center always appreciates donations. To determine if the Finnish "treasures" in your attic, basement, or ancestor's home are of historical value, contact the FAHC at 906-487-7347 or 487-7302.



Donors to the Finnish American Historical Archive & Museum Collection

The Finnish American Historical archive received 151 donations in the past year, including several large and significant collections. They include studio recordings of Suomi Kutsuu (a Finnish language television program in its 50th year, Marquette) and of the late Paul Hanslin's radio show (Music of Finland, Fitchburg, Mass.), materials from the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Kaleva, music and papers of Bill Syrjälä, and video recordings by Sylvester Ahola (The Gloucester Gabriel, Gloucester, Mass.) The archive also received four Finnish national costumes, vintage Finnish dolls, Saami artifacts, two large altar paintings from New England by Finnish artists, and a century-old shadow box memorializing mother and son victims of the Italian Hall Disaster of Calumet. The largest recently-received collections represent Finnish church history,

including records of Upper Peninsula Finnish Methodist congregations, Lutheran and societal records from Cape Ann, Mass., and the records of the Finnish Congregational Churches – Eastern Conference. During the past year, the Finnish Congregationalists and the Federation Apostolic Lutherans have both designated the FAHC as their official repository.

The FAHC remains committed to the collection and preservation of all Finnish-North American history and we invite donors to contact us regarding possible gifts. In particular, we encourage the donation of original records and documents, such as diaries, journals, letters, society minutes, and photos. Please direct your queries to Archivist Joanna Chopp at joanna.chopp@finlandia.edu or 906-487-7347.

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 Kristine Aho, Duluth, MN
 Ari Aho, Derby, CT
 Duane Aho, Dollar Bay, MI
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 Markku & Hilikka Kerola Howell, MI
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 Donald Kinnunen, Esko, MN
 Elaine Kipina, Allouez, MI
 Lucille Kirkeby, Brainerd, MN
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 Kimmo Koskela, Finland
 Shirley Kukkonen, Phoenix, AZ
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 James Kurtti, Painesdale, MI
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 Alice Manley, New Hudson, MI
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 Jim & Inez Riverside, Iron Mountain, MI
 Elsa Robb, Ontonagon, MI
 Martha Ahola Robinson, Quincy, MA
 Rev. Nestor "Joel" Rova-Hegener, Eveleth, MN
 Rob Roy, Hancock, MI
 Karl Ruotsala, Ironwood, MI
 Dagmar Ryttonen Estate, Riverside, IL
 Harley Sachs, Houghton, MI
 Dr. Arnold & Connie Sarya, Traverse City, MI
 Kelly Saxberg, Thunder Bay, ON, Canada
 Andrea Schuldt, Lake Linden, MI
 Earl Seppala, Hockessin, DE
 Kay & Hal Seppala, Chassell, MI
 Sharon Sibilsky, Hammond, MN
 Martha Silander, Troy, MI

Susan Smith, Hingham, MA
 Pete Stubbs, Houghton, MI
 Eileen Sundquist, Hancock, MI
 Kristen Tabor, Riverside, IL
 David Thomas, Goodrich, MI
 Kenneth Thompson, Lake Linden, MI
 Hilja Fraki Thompson, Calumet, MI
 Phyllis Tulppo, Bruce Crossing, MI
 Paul Vääräniemi, Loretto, MN
 Harri Vasander, Helsinki, Finland
 Jack Wainio, Wellington, OH
 Vieno Ware, Sudbury, MA
 Karen Warner, Lake Orion, MI
 Glenn Wendela, Lexington, MI
 Susan Wendela, Wixom, MI
 Charles Weston, Alton Bay, NH
 Kim Wiitala, Calumet, MI
 Phyllis Wilkinson, Naples, FL
 Millie Wiskari, Charlestown, RI
 Ruth Wisti, Hancock, MI
 Ambassador Publications, Minneapolis, MN
 American Perspective, Brighton, MI
 Apostolic Lutheran Church of America, Ontonagon, MI
 Aspasia Books, Beaverton, ON, Canada
 Baraga County Historical Museum, Baraga, MI
 Centre d'Echange de Publications Scientifiques, Helsinki, Finland
 Conneaut Community Center for the Arts, Conneaut, OH
 Finnish Congregationalist Church - Eastern Conference (Elizabeth Aho), Quincy, MA
 North Wind Books, Hancock, MI
 Northern Michigan University (c/o Douglas Black), Marquette, MI
 Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, MN
 Peter White Public Library, Marquette, MI
 St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lanesville, MA
 Sulo & Aileen Maki Library, Finlandia University, Hancock, MI



*FinnFest USA 2013 Board of Directors
(Left to right) Back row: Robin Bonini,
Duane Aho, Scott MacInnes, Pete Negro,
Dallas Bond, Glenn Anderson;
Front: John Kilinen, Pauline Kilinen,
Mary Pekkala, Hilary Virtanen, James Kurtti,
David Maki, Kevin Manninen*

FinnFest USA 2013

by David Maki

When FinnFest USA comes to the Copper Country June 19-23, 2013, thousands of Finns from around the world will eagerly explore the region's abundant Finnish-American culture and history.

The Finlandia University campus—and the surrounding area—will be ready!

From the start, back in June 2010, virtually every aspect of festival planning has involved Finlandia employees. In fact, six of the 14 members of the festival's board of directors are university employees. Three others are members of the university's Finnish Council in America, and still more have university connections, such as the Community Partners advisory board.

And many other university employees are providing assistance to the festival, both within the scope of their positions and, in many cases, beyond. All of this is to help make FinnFest USA 2013—which could bring up to 10,000 visitors to the Copper Country and millions of dollars to the local economy – a reality.

But make no mistake, FinnFest USA 2013 is a Copper Country-wide event, and hundreds of organizers from far and wide are working diligently to include people and ideas from all corners of the region.

The primary theme of the event—as illustrated on the festival poster and other festival materials—is Juhannus (Midsummer). Festival-goers

will experience an authentic Finnish Juhannus. Bonfires are planned at several locations, including in the rural community of Toivola, which has hosted an annual Midsummer bonfire for decades.

Since the late 1800s, the upper Midwest and the Copper Country have witnessed a number of historically significant Finnish-American events, many of which will be highlighted during the festival. Notably, programming will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Copper Miner's Strike of 1913 and the tragic Italian Hall disaster on Christmas Eve of that year.

Finally, in typical FinnFest fashion, the five-day international festival will include lectures, craft and cooking demonstrations, exhibits, and performances. There will be plenty of music and dancing, and ample opportunities to sample ethnic cuisine. Several sporting events are on the slate, too, including Nordic walking, a "longest day" fishing tournament in Copper Harbor, and a pesäpallo (Finnish baseball) exhibition at Finlandia's MacAfee Field.

Though many elements of the festival are in place, there are still opportunities to help.

FinnFest USA 2013 is actively seeking volunteers (both in planning and execution), as well as financial supporters. To get involved, contact FinnFest USA 2013 board secretary Robin Bonini at 906-487-7205, or visit www.finnfestusa2013.org.





(Left to right) Susan Halme,
Norma Nominelli, and
Barbara Jackson

Goodness All Around

by Maili Karen Darling Halme

The true cook has, in his or her modest sphere, such pleasure in recipe making as the musician or poet in composition.

—Kitchen Cooks Oracle, London 1927



Maili Halme

introduced as the owner of the Solvang Bakery.

As the graduation neared the end, my mother was tapped on the shoulder by the woman sitting behind her, who said, “Do you just have a minute, because I have to tell you how to make my famous Prune Butter Tarts.”

And so, Norma Nominelli came into our lives. Norma told my mother that she was just about to make a batch of the tarts, and would my mother like to come over to learn how to make them. Unfortunately, my mother and father were on a tight schedule, but they would be back for Finnfest 2013, and my mother assured Norma that she would love to learn then.

Norma mailed us the sweetest letter, along with a book she had written about having polio as a child of 13. I happened to glance through the book and letter and it became another of those serendipitous days for me.

I’d had a few challenges that morning, and yet here was a story about a little girl whose disease might have prevented her from ever walking again. Even at a young age, Norma had the faith and belief that “life was going to be good.” And with her positive attitude, she *DID* indeed walk again. Reading Norma’s inspirational story that day gave me the boost and encouragement I needed just then.

Now we have another twist to the story: Norma and her friend, Barbara, have been friends since Kindergarten—75 years. In high school, the two women met Joan, and the three have been best friends since. Unbeknownst to Joan, and as a surprise for Joan’s 81st birthday, Joan’s daughter, Karon, invited Norma and Barbara to San Francisco for the birthday celebration this June.

We got a letter from Norma explaining that after the party they were coming to, of all places, Solvang, so now Norma would be able to teach my mother how to make Prune Tarts.

After the surprise party (its own wonderful story), the foursome—Norma, Barbara, Joan, and Karon—headed down to Solvang. I want this kind of energy when I’m 81! These women are doers, and Norma worked as hard and fast as my best sous-chef. She made the pastries so quickly that I barely had time to take pictures.

The miracle of it is that her left arm and hand barely work because of the polio, yet she has found a way to roll out the butter pastry dough—and in a way that has actually strengthened her arm. (For those who have made homemade butter pastry dough, you know this requires some serious strength with the rolling pin.) Norma said, “I love using his poor old arm because it makes me stronger. If I didn’t use it, it would have withered.”

I always say that food is healing. That cooking is an act of love. And baking not only heals Norma, it heals others. She takes her famous tarts to fundraisers and gives them as gifts. She shares the recipe with her generous heart.

While the pastries baked, me, my mom and dad, and our visitors had lunch and visited. It was as if we were all old friends. And we didn’t really have time for lunch; it had been such a busy morning. But sometimes you need to change the plan, stop life’s treadmill, and be open to the surprises that fall in your lap.

Norma and her friends came into our lives with a Joy you can’t imagine. As they waved goodbye, Joan showed us a giant red, white, and blue pinwheel that they *GAVE* to her at the hardware store in Solvang!

It was goodness all around and paying it forward in the best way. As I talked to Norma about my life, she said, “I’m telling you, it’s going to be good!” And your life will be too!

Maili Karen Darling Halme is the executive chef and owner of Maili Productions, a Santa Barbara, California-based catering and event planning company specializing in celebrity events. She writes several cooking and recipe blogs. Visit them at www.themailifiles.blogspot.com, mailihealthyrecipes.blogspot.com, and recipetesters.blogspot.com.

Maili is the daughter of Paul and Susan Halme of Solvang, Cal. Paul Halme is chair of the board of the Paloheimo Foundation and executive vice president for Finlandia Foundation National. He is among a small group of special counsels to Finlandia University president Philip Johnson. Susan Halme has owned and operated The Solvang Bakery since 1981. She is known for her signature cakes and wedding cakes, and her custom Gingerbread Houses are shipped worldwide. Visit the bakery’s website at www.solvangbakery.com.



Photos by Maili Halmé

Norma's Finnish Prune Butter Tarts (Also known as Dried-Plum Tarts)

written by Norma Nominelli

The flaky Finnish butter tarts are so popular at bake sales.

Make the prune filling and have it cooled before you make the dough. The prune filling can be made days in advance.

Into 5 cups of all-purpose flour, cut in $\frac{1}{2}$ -cup lard. Add enough cold water to form dough to roll out, but stiff. (About $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups cold water.) Like pie crust. Roll out on well-floured board to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thickness. Using a pound of salted butter (oleo won't do), spread half the dough with butter; fold over and roll out again to about the size of a pastry sheet. Note: the butter should be about the same consistency as the dough, not too soft, not too hard. Roll, spread butter over half, fold and roll again until all of the butter is gone. On last rolling, starting from the longest end of the rectangular dough, roll up like a jelly roll; cut in half (see all the butter layers?) and chill 30 minutes in refrigerator. (If I'm in a hustle, I put it in the freezer for a few minutes.) This chilling is because the butter stays in layers, rather than oozing out on the rolling surface. You may flour liberally, rather than have the dough stick to the surface.

Taking one half of the refrigerated dough, roll to $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch thickness, cut into squares of your desired size. Cut corners of each square on the diagonal, leaving the center intact. Place dollop of prune filling (recipe below) in the center. Take one tip and fold toward the center, go in the same direction, alternating folding every other tip and bringing it to the center. Pinch and twist all points at center over prune filling.

Bake at 375 degrees for 20-30 minutes until lightly browned. Alternately, you may freeze the unbaked pastry on cookie sheets and when frozen place them in plastic bags so they are ready to bake at any time. Take out the frozen pastry and bake as above. They may take an additional 15 minutes if frozen.

For the Prune Filling:

Take 1-pound pitted prunes, cover with water, and boil until soft. Drain. Mash with a potato masher in a sauce pan; add 1 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon vanilla, and return to stove and heat until the consistency of jam. Cool.

Maili's notes: Lard makes a very flaky crust. Butter can be substituted for those who do not care to use lard. Also note that Norma uses salted butter instead of unsalted butter, so there is no need for additional salt in the pastry recipe.



At a ceremony April 19, 2011-12 student-athletes were presented with awards for academic achievement, most valuable and most improved player, and the Lion Award, which honors student-athletes who epitomize what it means to be a Finlandia Lion. Student Athletes of the Year Brittany Garland and Mike Wuthrich are pictured in the center of the front row with their blue and white plaques.

2011-12 Athletics Highlights

Opened last August, **McAfee Field**, with its artificial turf, lights, and scoreboard, is the new home of the Finlandia Men's and Women's Soccer teams. Both teams earned their first wins on the field October 1, sweeping the Grace Bible College (Grand Rapids, Mich.) teams.

November 12, 2012, at the Great Lakes Regional Championships in Oberlin, Ohio, (now) senior **Leah Kanost** of Manhattan, Kan., finished the 6K race in 25:22 with an 18 second PR, a season best. "Leah really improved from the start to the finish of the season," said Cross Country coach Kate Hagenbuch. "In her first 6K race in 2011 she ran in the 27s. Finishing the season running in the 25s is a great accomplishment."

The winter months brought cold and snow back to the Copper Country—and **Finlandia Men's Hockey** back into the limelight. Starting the 2011-12 season with an eight-game losing streak, the Lions found their stride January 14 in a win over Concordia University. The men won six of their next seven games, and a 3-2 overtime victory February 4 over Northland College led to a two-point advantage and the team's first MCHA playoff appearance in four years. A 1-4 loss and a 2-2 tie in MCHA

quarter-final play against Lawrence University wasn't enough for the men to advance, but the experience gives the program something to build on this season.

This spring, the **Finlandia Women's Softball** program was on a mission to make a bold statement. And the women definitely did, finishing the 2011-12 season with a 26-8 record. Disappointingly, the women were denied their bid for NCAA Division III post-season play, but they dominated in statistical superiority. The Association of Division III Independents named ten Finlandia players to the first and second teams, and awarded to Softball team members accolades for Co-Player of the Year, Co-Pitcher of the Year, and Co-Coach of the Year. The team begins its fall 2012 season with some new faces, along with many returning award winners.

Finally, at a ceremony April 19 the first ever Finlandia female and male **Student Athletes of the Year** were named. During the 2011-12 academic year, these two motivated student-athletes—Brittany Garland (Softball, Long Beach, Cal.) and Mike Wuthrich (Hockey, Chassell)—demonstrated their hard work and success both on the competitive surface and in the classroom and the community.



The 2011-12 Finlandia University Women's Softball team. Coach Hendrickson stands at the far left.

Coach Hendrickson Teaches at National Camp

Finlandia Women's Softball coach Shawn Hendrickson was one of just twenty coaches invited to coach this July at a nationally-recognized USA Preps Mizuno Northern California Instructional Camp in Fresno, Cal. One of only three NCAA Division III coaches at the skills camp, Hendrickson interacted with high school student-athletes, teaching them advanced individual softball skills, including effective and aggressive base running techniques, fielding, and hitting. The camp gave Coach Hendrickson an opportunity to work with and recruit some of the best high school softball players in the nation.

Paul Salsini ('56) has published the fourth book in his series set in Tuscany, Italy. *The Temptation of Father Lorenzo: Ten Stories of 1970s Tuscany* bring the characters in the previous three novels into the 1970s. Visit Paul's website at www.ATuscanTrilogy.com.

Charles and Dorothy (Halonen) Altonen ('58, '58), Ashtabula, Ohio, renewed their wedding vows September 9, 2012. The Altonens, who met at Suomi College, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on September 12.

Bob Kutschera ('67) lives south of Knoxville, Tenn., with his wife, Kathy. Following two years in the military, for 28 years Bob worked for Texaco/Shell. He is now retired. "I have many fond memories of Suomi (Finlandia) and NMU. They were wonderful years of my life and they, Suomi/NMU, gave me a good start," he writes. "I'm pleased to read how well Finlandia is doing. Keep up the good work."

LaTanya (Ri'Chard) Quintela ('92) is working on a bachelor's degree in health services, and she performs poetry at clubs in her area. LaTanya wrote the screenplay for the 2002 TV movie "In the Net," which was aired in six states and nominated for a regional Emmy award. "They were some of the best times of my life," LaTanya says of her year at Finlandia. "It was my first time away from home and I met my first love and some cool friends, some that I still have."



The Finlandia Alumni Board and friends (left to right) Back: Erica Payne, Charleen Ahola, Donna Kennard, David Greenhoff, Allen Freis, Gary Crocker, Nancy Crocker, Gary Montgomery, Rev. Henry Aukee, Gladys Aukee, Ellen Varney, Barbara Regan, Susan Biehl; Front: Norma Nominelli, Lauri Isaacson, Evelyn Anderson, Marlain Birdi. FAB members not pictured are Rachel Bogacz, Gary Fish, Robin Mosher, and Lois Stierna.

FAB News! Alumni Board Changes Name

At its May 2012 annual meeting, the International Alumni Board voted to change the group's name to the Finlandia Alumni Board (FAB). An action and advocacy group for the university, the mission of the FAB is "the promotion of the vision, mission, goals, and programs of Finlandia University." Currently, 20 alumni are each serving three-year terms on the Alumni Board. For more information about FAB activities and the board member nomination process, please contact Cheryl Ries, director of alumni relations, at cheryl.ries@finlandia.edu or 906-487-7317.

Greg ('00) and Janel (Jewell) Primeau ('01), PTA, CMT, with their two daughters, recently relocated to Iron Mountain. Janel is working as a physical therapist assistant and massage therapist at Focus on Function Physical Therapy, P.C., Iron Mountain. Greg is a Michigan State Police trooper. Contact Greg and Janel at my2jewells@yahoo.com.

Jessica Battisfore ('11), BSN, and Michael Hermann were married June 9, 2012, in Houghton.



Suomi Roomies in 1974-75

Groovy! Suomi Roomies 2013 Reunion Is on Track

Plans are on track for the "Suomi Roomies" reunion September 27 to 29, 2013. This is going to be one groovy weekend! Blocks of rooms with special rates have been reserved at the Ramada Inn Waterfront, Hancock (877-482-8400), and at the Magnuson Hotel, Houghton (888-487-1700).

We are still looking for some "missing" alumni from the Classes of 1975, '76, and '77. Are you one? Or are you in touch with fellow alumni? If so, please call or e-mail new contact info to Alumni Relations.

Check out "Suomi Roomies" on Facebook. To join the Facebook group, contact Monica (Hill) Githens ('76, monicahill@regan.com), Meg (Beardsley) Gustafson ('76, gustafsonmeg1@gmail.com), or Stephen Szuber ('77, t0812ss@yahoo.com).

Tentative Schedule of Events

Friday, September 27

Suomi Roomies 10-mile Crawl/Walk/Run from McClain State Park to Old Main
Welcome Dinner and Awards

Saturday, September 28

Campus Tours, Color Tour, and Pasty Picnic
Evening tour of Hancock and a celebration at the "Golden Pheasant"

Sunday, September 29

Farewell Brunch



The Suomi College Choir at Helsinki Cathedral in 1963

2013 All-school Reunion, Reunion Choir, and Tribute to Arthur Hill

As part of the All-school Reunion to take place during FinnFest USA 2013 (June 19 to 23), Finlandia Alumni Relations and Campus Ministry are working together to organize a Suomi College/Finlandia University choir reunion and performance to be directed by university chaplain and band/choir director Soren Schmidt. The Reunion Choir will perform June 22, 2013, on campus during an alumni reception. More details about the 2013 All-school Reunion will be available soon.

The Reunion Choir is in honor of the Suomi College Choir that toured Finland 50 years ago, and special tribute will be paid to the late Arthur Hill, who directed the Suomi College Choir and music department from 1946 to 1966. Reunion Choir members need not be university alumni; everyone with the desire to sing is welcome. To join the Reunion Choir and/or to share your memories of Professor Hill, please contact Cheryl Ries at 906-487-7317 or alumni@finlandia.edu.

50th Anniversary Choir Tour to Finland. Are you interested in traveling to Finland to perform with the Finlandia University Choir? Wouldn't it be great to do that again (or for the first time)? If you are interested, please send your contact information to alumni@finlandia.edu or call Cheryl Ries at 906-487-7317. Expressing interest is not a commitment to go. The dates of the choir tour are to be determined.

Suomi College Choir Recordings. Finlandia is seeking Suomi College Choir recordings and university chaplain Soren Schmidt will be working to have them re-mastered and digitized for preservation, for sale at North Wind Books, and as fundraisers for the 50th Anniversary Choir Tour to Finland. The original recordings will be returned if requested. If you have any of these recordings, or you know someone who may, please contact Chaplain Schmidt at 906-487-7239 or soren.schmidt@finlandia.edu.

In Memory

Joel G. Marttila ('31), 99, Oskar, May 29, 2012.

Urho Kivikoski, 97, Cashmere, Wash., Oct. 13, 2011.

Vienna (Juntunen) Balbough ('37), 94, Ahmeek, July 20, 2012.

Mary Margaret "Peg" (Greene) Hanson ('40), 93, Escanaba and Powers, June 15, 2012.

Daniel A. Lazzari, Sr. ('40), 92, L'Anse, May 24, 2012.

Charles M. Hall ('41), 91, Houghton, June 1, 2012.

Evelyn Eleanor (Lencioni) Sibilsky, 91, Petoskey, April 30, 2012.

Alice M. (Kuru) Raisanen, 90, Hancock, March 19, 2012. Alice worked for Suomi College Food Service.

Edna Ainikki (Elson) Kukkonen, 89, North Oaks, Minn., May 7, 2012.

Gordon Peter Kallunki ('51), 87, Ontonagon, April 7, 2012.

Paul E. O'Brien ('48), 86, Dollar Bay, July 29, 2012.

Albert E. "Riley" Rocchi ('52), 84, Hancock Canal, May 13, 2012.

Larry D. Maijala ('52), 83, Boynton Beach, Fla., May 28, 2012.

Rev. Frederick A. Vanhala ('53), 82, Dearborn, April 28, 2012.

Antti A. I. Lepisto, 79, Duluth, Minn., August 10, 2012.

Memorials are suggested to Finlandia University or the Suomi Special Interest Conference of the ELCA for the ministries of the Petrozavodsk congregation in Russian Karelia. See article on page 33.

Kenneth J. Kangas, Sr. ('79), 77, Calumet, May 18, 2012.

Daryl D. (Furgason) Laitila, 64, Hancock, April 25, 2012.

Memorials suggested to Finlandia University or Dial Help, Houghton. See article on page 15.

Karen Sue (Ollermann) Jahnke ('69), 62, April 27, 2012.

John F. Hyry ('76), 55, Escanaba, March 25, 2012.

Carolyn (Lahti) Mortti, 52, Kearsarge, July 14, 2012.

Lynn J. (Pelto) James ('85), 43, Ishpeming, August 1, 2011.

The Reverend Antti A. Lepisto

Antti A. I. Lepisto was born August 31, 1932, in Moose Lake, Minn., to Pastor Antti and Sigrid (Hakola) Lepistö. He died at his home in Duluth on August 10, 2012.

Raised in a bilingual home, Pastor Lepisto's Finnish was a gift that prepared him for many years of ministry. He earned a bachelor of arts from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, a master's-level divinity degree from Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary, and completed additional graduate study at the University of Helsinki and Luther Seminary of St. Paul, Minn. Pastor Lepisto was awarded an honorary doctoral degree at Finlandia University commencement exercises in 2005.



Pastor Antti Lepisto

Pastor Lepisto's father, also Antti Lepistö, served as president of Suomi College (Finlandia University) from 1927 to 1930. A Finlandia University annual scholarship, generously endowed in the 1980s by members of the Lepisto family, honors the late Pastor Lepistö and his wife, Sigrid.

Pastor Lepisto served congregations in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois, worked as a mission developer in Western Canada, and helped many on their journeys to improve their lives and overcome drug and alcohol addiction.

In his retirement, from 1993 until his death, he was president of the Evangelical Church in America (ELCA) Suomi Conference. His mission work with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia gave renewed energy to the work of the Suomi Conference, which assisted in the re-emergence of congregations closed during Stalin's regime and spurred the birth of additional congregations. He helped form a companion relationship between the Ingrian Church and the Northeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA.

Study, reading, and sharing what he read with others were Antti's passions. He took great joy in the activities and accomplishments of his children and grandchildren. As a young man, Antti owned and piloted his own airplanes. During the Cold War, he was a Hungarian and Finnish translator for the National Security Agency, translating intercepted messages between Russia and Hungary.

Antti is survived by his wife Jane (Hill Saarinen) Lepisto, his children and many grandchildren, his brother and two sisters, and many others. He was preceded in death by his parents and his first wife Nancy (Roper) Lepisto. Memorials are suggested to Finlandia University or the Suomi Conference, PO Box 1065, Proctor, MN 55810, for the ministries of the Petrozavodsk congregation in Russian Karelia.



Suomi College president Rev. Antti Lepisto (front) and his wife, Sigrid, with their children Aino, Helmi, Antti, and Veikko



Cheryl Ries and Riku

Care to Share?

The Suomi/Finlandia alumni I talk with often tell me their time at Suomi/Finlandia was among the best years of their lives. After college, the business of life sends us in new directions, and often away from our university friends. Have you wondered what became of your college roommate, or the study-buddy with whom you spent so many hours? Chances are good that someone is thinking of you, too. Now is the perfect time to send me a note or give me a call and give us your update to publish in *the Bridge*! Enquiring minds want to know what you have been up to!

Cheryl Ries

Cheryl Ries,
Director of Alumni Relations
Phone: 906-487-7317
E-mail alumni@finlandia.edu

NORTH WIND BOOKS

Lars Bolander's Scandinavian Design

by Heather Smith MacIsaac

Authors Lars Bolander, one of Sweden's foremost designers, and Heather Smith MacIsaac, a design writer and former architecture and design editor of *House & Garden* magazine, offer expert guidance and practical advice about achieving a Scandinavian look, incorporating Scandinavian elements into any décor, and mixing and matching traditional and modern, humble and grand. More than 350 color photographs illustrate every aspect of the Scandinavian aesthetic—from kitchen layouts to storage schemes, wall treatments to living room furnishings, front porches to gazebos.

The Vendome Press, 2010

Hardcover\$40.00

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