



# LEADING STAR LEDSTJÄRNAN

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La Palma, California

March 2010

Number 1

## International Order of Runeberg Supreme Board President's Message

**W**ell, here I am...right in the middle of the 2010 Olympic extravaganza! What excitement! We have been enjoying every moment! The glory of medals won, visitors from all over the globe, entertainment and food galore...just a wonderful time to be in Vancouver. Our Scandinavian Centre was not to be left out and they have been open for the duration...9 a.m. until midnight daily. All activities are assisted by loyal volunteers from the Scandinavian community. It is times like this that makes one proud to be Canadian but also to be proud of my Scandinavian heritage! The TV is on throughout the day—just to be certain I don't miss something exciting. For me, a ticket to a Curling event was indeed the highlight of the Games and not to forget the torch exchange, which took place a few yards from my front door! But the icing on the cake was the visit from the Swedish King, Queen, and Prince—who visited the Centre for a private reception, of which I was privileged to attend!

Of course, our February 7, 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration—in honour of the Order of Runeberg Lodge #124, Vancouver, B.C., had its place of distinction as well! We had a wonderful celebration with members,

past and present, friends, relatives, and children...all enjoying the festivities on a brilliant sunny afternoon. Again, proud...proud to be a member of the Order of Runeberg! Our anniversary celebration was quite an accomplishment for a Lodge that has gone from 25 Charter members in 1925 to its heyday in the early 60s when approximately 700 members participated. Now, we have a membership of 57 with 4 juniors! We are once again growing, little by little. We are not ready to close the door on Lodge #124 quite yet!

Now, the excitement builds again as I, and I hope many others in the Order, prepare to travel to Eureka, California. Eureka Lodge #102 with Crescent City Lodge #132, are busy preparing for our arrival on August 21 and 22, 2010. What a wonderful opportunity to celebrate! An opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones, to carry out the business of the Order with members from far and wide, and to renew our commitment to this grand Order! I, for one, am making my plans early so I will not miss out on any of the planned activities. Events underway sound wonderful: meet and greet, silent auction, Swedish pancake breakfast, just to name a few of the activities being planned for the Convention. Will you be there also? I certainly hope so!

On a sad note—we once again say goodbye to another Lodge. Hoquiam Lodge #110 can no longer continue. Its membership has dwindled to such small numbers that it is no longer feasible to continue. Members and friends remaining are invited to continue as Security Lodge members. With the loss of Hoquiam and, of course, with the loss of Portland Lodge #125, earlier, it is prudent that the Lodges remaining try to maintain and grow in numbers. The history and importance of the Order of Runeberg as a connection to our Scandinavian roots is certainly worth preserving. It is time to think about



creative ways to continue in a positive direction. It is time to bring your ideas to our Convention. To preserve the remaining Lodges, we must examine ways in which to continue. It is time to investigate new and innovative ways to do this. Your input is vital and necessary to create dialogue and a plan of action. Please consider this challenge and bring your thoughts forward to the Supreme Board or to the Convention. I look forward to hearing from you.

We can continue to be an integral part of the Scandinavian community if we choose to think in creative and positive ways. The challenge is out...enter into the spirit and together we can come up with some winning ideas!

With anticipation for an excellent Convention,

I remain,  
Fraternally,  
**Annabelle Kergan**  
Supreme Board President  
International Order of Runeberg

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### International Convention in Eureka

The 24<sup>th</sup> International Convention of the International Order of Runeberg will be held in Eureka, California, on August 21 and 22, 2010 with registration starting on August 20. Lodge #102 of Eureka and Lodge #132 of Crescent City, California, will be hosting this event and planning is under way. Look for more information in the next issue of the *Leading Star* and be sure to save these dates on your calendar.



Thank you from Erin Roufosse, 2009 *International Scholarship Winner*

I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude to the International Order of Runeberg.

This scholarship will help me to further my studies at college, and I am greatly thankful that you considered and accepted my application.

Sincerely, *Erin Roufosse*

## Lots of things to do

The deadline for scholarship applications will be here on April 30. The application was printed in the December 2009 issue of the paper and is also available online at the website [www.orderofruneberg.org](http://www.orderofruneberg.org). The scholarships are for students of all ages.

Let us support our website by providing information about our lodges and events within our order. Send your information to Stew Lyons, 140 Fire Tower Rd., Guilford, CT 06437 or to [stewlyons@gmail.com](mailto:stewlyons@gmail.com).

In this issue you will find a lot of information about Finnish and Swedish language instruction (See page 6.). It is also available on the website. Consider taking advantage of these schools.

Be sure to read the resolutions on page 8. They will be the business of the convention in Eureka during August. Information on the credential forms and number of delegates per lodge will be in the next issue of the paper.

—DH

Please submit all news, resolutions, and articles by May 10 for publication in the June *Leading Star*

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To correct our listing of your address, fill in the requested information in the form below and send your old mailing label to:

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La Palma, CA 90623-1501

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge & Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Valsberg, Finland

A very good friend of mine, Klas Bjork, a longtime member of New Haven Lodge #205 IOR, gave me an interesting article to read about Valsberg, Finland.

Valsberg's population in the 1900s was about 180 people. Emigration to America at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century put a stop to Valsberg's population growth. I noticed a correlation between that emigration and the location of many of the Order of Runeberg Lodges, both past and present, in the United States.

The *Valsbergsbladet*, a newspaper published in Valsberg, tells the story: "People from these parts of Finland concentrated their settling in America to a number of places. The most significant one was Branford, Connecticut, which at one time used to be called "Little Overmark" due to the fact that a great number of its inhabitants came from Overmark. A list of places where the emigrants settled down could be very long, but a number of them has to be mentioned: Worcester and Gardiner in Massachusetts; Escanaba, Gladstone, and Dollar Bay in Michigan; Astoria and Coos Bay in Oregon; Bakersfield and Eureka in California; Tacoma and Seattle in Washington; and, of course, New York, both the city and the state.

When the U.S. census of the population was executed in 1910, there were 1.4 million people in the U.S. that were born in the Nordic countries (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark). Of these, almost 130,000 people were from Finland and they were represented in all the states. The Swedes dominated in most of the states, but Sweden and the other countries were outnumbered by Finland in Michigan, where the Finns were the largest group, with over 31,000 people."

From its renovated old schoolhouse, the Valsberg Village Society offers a variety of activities, courses, society festivals, and a meeting place. To support all the society's operations they raise funds by publishing the paper *Valsbergsbladet*. The fourth edition of the newspaper is in English, making it easier for those emigrants or descendants who have questions about the old country and their ancestors.

For further information about Valsberg' history or if you wish information on your ancestors, contact:

Ralf Lind  
Pjasbacken 12, 3tr  
172 47 Sundyberg  
Sweden

I thank you, Klas, for making me aware of this article. It was interesting to see the relationship between the immigration from Valsberg and the location of IOR Lodges.

George A. Nousiainen  
Past International President

## Annual Cost of *Leading Star*

Each issue of the *Leading Star* has five separate cost components. They are:

1. Graphics, layout, and design. For an eight-page issue of the paper, the cost is \$480. This is figured at \$60 per page. As long as the paper is eight pages, this doesn't change.
2. The printing cost is \$220. This is for 1,000 copies, which is the minimum press run. This is for an eight-page paper in black and white.
3. The mailing service cost is \$200. This is the minimum cost for the approximately 350 copies of the paper that are labeled and prepared for domestic mailing in the U.S.
4. There are two postage costs: one for domestic mailing in the U.S. and one for foreign mailing. The paper is classified as a "periodical" and, thus, gets a reduced rate for postage. Up until mid-2007, you could send the paper to foreign addresses at the periodical rate. Since then, all foreign mailings are at the first class rate. The domestic mailing cost averages \$105 and the foreign cost averages \$95.
5. The editors' stipend is \$200.

These five costs total \$1,300 for one issue of the paper.

For 2009, the actual cost for the four issues was:

March 2009	\$1,300.76
June 2009	\$1,304.34
September 2009	\$1,304.84
December 2009	<u>\$1,290.42</u>
	<b>\$5,200.36</b>

The cost of publishing the *Leading Star* is paid for by member dues, subscriptions, and any other contributions. In 2009, there were around 506 adult members. Each of those members had \$12 of their dues go to the Publication Fund. This results in a minimum of \$6,072 in the Publication Fund. This number increases because of subscriptions from non-members, Security Lodge members' dues, and any other contributions.

Thus, the IOR is able to publish four issues of the *Leading Star* each year and maintain a positive balance in the Publication Fund.

Submitted by Dale Hjort  
*Leading Star*, Co-Editor



# Genealogy Corner

## Living on the Island in the Early Days

Front windows, looking out over the waters of the busy harbor to the long sand peninsula which is the harbor's southern boundary, serve as a constant reminder to John Matson and his wife Hilda of the days that used to be. Those were the days of their carefree youth and early married life when "The Island," as the peninsula was then called, was their home.

The now barren sand waste was the site of two hustling lumber towns, Buttersville and Taylorsville; and down on the point, where Lake Michigan and Pere Marquette Lake meet, was Fintown, a colony of fisher folk most of whom immigrated from Finland and Sweden.

Through the living room window of their home on West Loomis Street, Ludington, Michigan, Mrs. Matson pointed out a large spreading lilac bush just west of the Pere Marquette memorial shrine, which now dominates the site.

"My mother planted that lilac bush," said Hilda Matson, now herself a grandmother of 17 grandchildren. "It is all that is left of our home which stood just behind it and of the beautiful old-fashioned flower garden which mother tended every summer."

Hilda Matson was born on The Island, the daughter of Charles and Augusta Wilson, who had emigrated to America from Sweden. Charles was a sailor who sailed on the lumber schooners and Augusta stayed at home with their seven children. She was known as a good angel to all the families along the length of the peninsula. For many years she attended the mother and helped as midwife with every baby born on The Island.

"Many a night there would be a rap on our window," Mrs. Matson recalled. "Mother would get up immediately and go to assist with the birth of a new baby." Many of those babies are senior residents of Ludington (Michigan) today.

John Matson came to America with his parents from Finland when he was 10 years old. Herman Matson, his father, got a job working in Taylor's mill, a bustling center of the lumber industry then located on the site where the Marquette memorial cross stands today.

"We first lived in one of the company houses where rent was free to the men who worked in the mill. At that time (1893), 40 to 50 of these frame houses, all alike, lined each side of the plank road, which led from Buttersville along the peninsula to The Point, which was Fintown. Later, we moved to a house further west on the plank road which my father bought for his family," said Mr. Matson.

Little John Matson, along with other children from The Island, attended First Ward School in Ludington. They crossed the harbor channel on a cable ferry running between Taylorsville and the foot of Ferry Street in Ludington. "John Stram ran the ferry," he said. "School children traveled back and forth free of charge, Stram being exempt from city taxes for performing this service. All other foot passengers and teams crossing paid a small fee." Mr. Matson went on to explain that running the ferry was a thriving business. All the farmers from Claybanks in Pere Marquette and Summit townships hauled their produce down the plank road from Buttersville and crossed the ferry to Ludington instead of going around the head of Pere Marquette Lake and crossing the state road bridges.

Like many other children of his day, John Matson received little in the way of formal education. As soon as he was considered old enough to work (before he was 12), he was taken out of school in the early spring to help his uncle on a farm in Amber. When only 14, he got his first job in the Butters mill, hauling barrel staves for the cooper shop. He went to school only a few months in the winter when the mill shut down.

John Matson grew to manhood working at the Butters mill and was foreman of the cooper shop,



### June Pelo, A Dedicated Genealogist

in which he started, when the mill burned down in August, 1909. He transferred to the Stearns mill on Pere Marquette Lake in Ludington's Fourth Ward, continuing there as foreman until it closed down in 1917. During those years, the mills ran only in the summertime and young Matson worked winters at other jobs, sometimes logging in the woods, and other times fishing with his Finnish neighbors, commercial fishermen living in Fintown. For a few years, too, he shipped as wheelsman on Great Lakes freighters.

In later years, he has been best known in Ludington and throughout western Michigan as a piano salesman and tuner. Working with the late Louis F. Peterson, he was a piano salesman for Cable Piano Co., traveling throughout western Michigan for a number of years. While with the Cable company he learned to tune pianos and for the last few years has confined his work almost entirely to tuning the instruments.

On the last day of December, 1904, John Matson and Hilda Wilson were united in marriage by the late Rev. Mr. C. V. Vestling, pastor of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Ludington for many years. The ceremony was performed in the home on The Island where the young couple immediately started house-keeping. On that New Year's Eve of 1904, they held a big reception for their many friends in the famous Fintown dance hall, social center of the families living on The Island for many years.

About the last social affairs to be held in the dance hall were Saturday night dances held regularly throughout the summer months and patronized by many couples from Ludington, who came by boat and ferry across the harbor channel. John Matson and his friend Oscar Holmstrom managed the parties and also played for the dancing. Mr. Matson played the violin; Holmstrom, a mandolin; with Paul Matson, his brother, Andrew Nass and sometimes others, including Louis Peterson, making up the rest of the orchestra.

"I can remember the posters on which we used to advertise here in town," said Mr. Matson. "They read: 'Come one, come all; Come big and small; Enjoy yourself at the Finlander hall.' And we really packed them in on many a Saturday night."

Mr. Matson still plays his violin, though now he confines himself mostly to playing tunes from a Scandinavian Song and Dance Album for his own amusement. His friend Andrew Nass taught him how to read notes when he was still in his teens and he taught himself how to play the violin just through hours and hours of practice.

Interesting to readers of today may be Mr. Matson's boyhood recollection of the Finnish bathhouse on The Island. This was a log house, perhaps 12x13 feet, he said, fitted on the inside with a big stone fireplace at one end and a raised platform running all around the other three walls just as they were built in Finland. Families would take turns going there for their baths, he explained, each person washing himself from a pail of water carried to the raised platform and all enjoying the heavy steam created in the bath house by someone throwing pails of water over the hot stones of the fireplace.

The Matson's oldest son Eugene was born on The Island in 1906. A short time later, they were the last family to move from the isolated spot to Ludington. Their house at 404 West Loomis Street, from which they look out across Pere Marquette Lake to the old home site, was built out of lumber brought over from The Island on rafts. "My father gave me three houses over there," said Mr. Matson, "and I used the best lumber from the three of them to build this house."

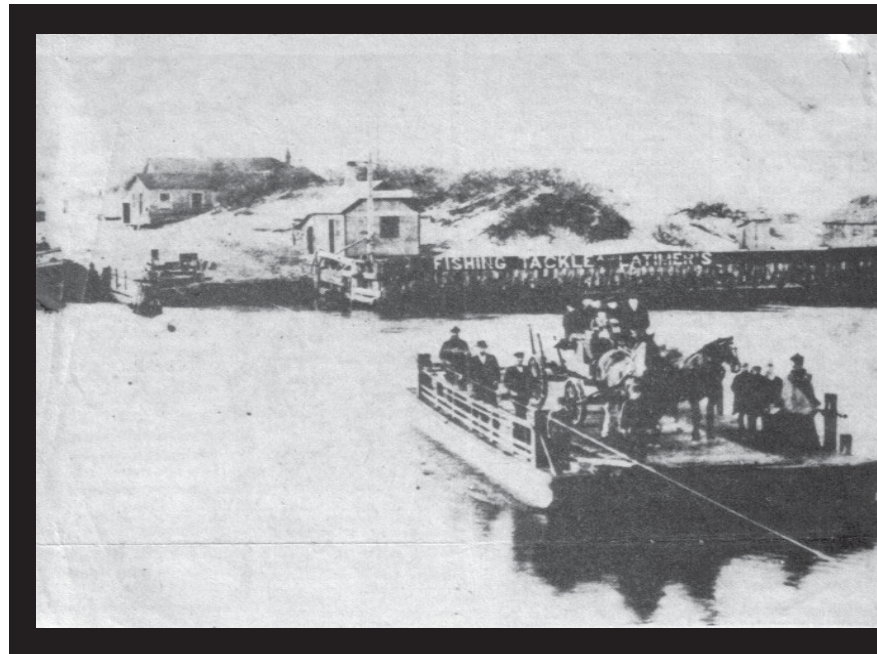
The Matson home is far from being the only one built from lumber ferried across from the ghost towns on the south side of Ludington harbor. Mr. Matson named several on West Loomis Street and in other parts of the city still in use today which were built from lumber salvaged from the abandoned houses.

"West Loomis Street was pretty much settled by folks moving across from The Island," he declared. "We could not stay there, but we had to get where we could at least look out over the water." The big Fintown dance hall was brought over and served for several years as a meeting place for a temperance society then flourishing among Finnish residents of the city. It was located on East Danaher Street and has since been remodeled into a residence.

The Matsons celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with a big party at Luther Hall in December, 1954. Assisting them in the celebration were five of their seven children, two having died in childhood. Living are three sons, Eugene and Robert, both of whom reside on West Loomis Street; and John, who lives on Bryant Road; and two daughters, Agnes (Mrs. Thomas L. Herndon of Hammond, Indiana) and Margaret (Mrs. Marvin Taylor of Lansing). There are 17 Matson grandchildren.

Mrs. Matson has a sister, Mrs. John Gustafson, and two brothers, Oscar and Arthur Wilson, still living in Ludington. Of the 11 children of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Matson, John, his brother Walter, and their sister, Mrs. Donald Crawford, are the only ones remaining here.

Submitted by *June Pelo*



**Ferry from Fintown to Ludington, early 1900s**  
**Leonore P. Williams**  
*The Ludington Daily News*, July 24, 1956





# LODGE NEWS



## Lodge #106 Tacoma, Washington

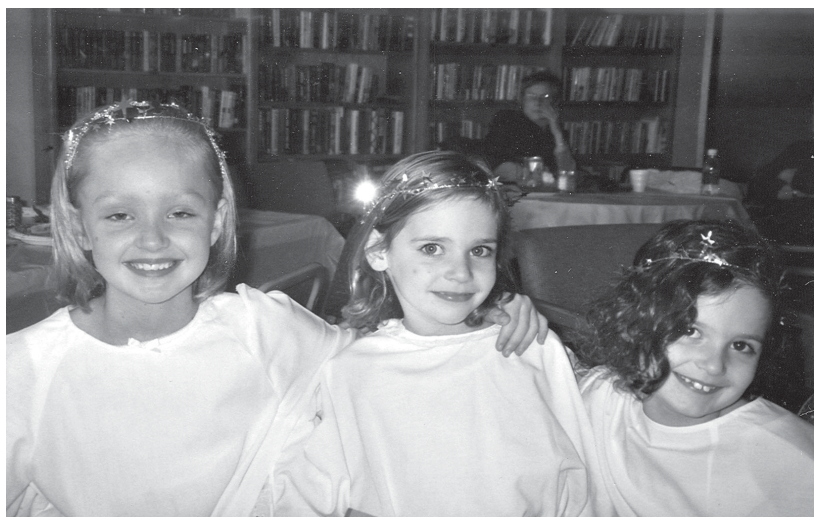
Our December Christmas Potluck and Lucia Program was well attended by some 50 adults and several grandchildren of members who took part in the Lucia Program as you see by the pictures I've included. We also sang the Lucia song in Swedish and by next year will be even better sounding.

"Thank you" goes to all you members who support Tacoma Lodge by attending the meetings, opening your homes time and time again.—and now we look forward to a new year of activities to keep and uphold our common bond and heritage.

We send our best wishes to the O.R. Lodge #124 in Vancouver, B.C., as they celebrate their 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary February 7, 2010.—and also, "Thank you" to the *Leading Star* editors, Dale and Mary Lou Hjort, for your work in putting out the paper. Let's all try to write a few lines for the *Leading Star*—just to keep in touch between the few Runeberg lodges that are still there. And to our I.O.R. Supreme Board President Annabelle Kergan, "Thank you" for your faithful articles of support and encouragement to us all.

So to "All Runebergare" near and far, God Fortsättning på 2010 and keep in touch with each other.

As always,  
Marita Agnew



▲ *The Lucia Attendants: Erin Thompson and Kendall and Kelsey Tebatebei, granddaughters of Ray and Sally Thompson, members of Tacoma O.R. Lodge*



◀ *Tacoma O.R. Christmas meeting: Tacoma O.R. member Elsie Thompson and little friend, Kaylyn Wilson, great-granddaughter of Jim and Marita Agnew*



▲ *Tacoma Order of Runeberg held their 2009 Christmas Potluck and Lucia Program on December 5 at Colonial Estates in Olympia. This year's "Lucia" was 14-year-old Mikaela Mason, granddaughter of Jim and Marita Agnew of Olympia. Her attendants were Erin Thompson and Kendall and Kelsey Tebatebai, granddaughters of Ray and Sally Thompson of Tacoma; Brandon and Kaylyn Wilson, great-grandchildren of Jim and Marita were Tomte Starboy and little 3½-year-old Kaylyn was dressed in a traditional folk costume*



▲ *A special moment as "Lucia" Mikaela Mason enters the room and the members sing the Lucia song in Swedish*

◀ *Tacoma's Order of Runeberg "Lucia" 2009: Mikaela Mason and her parents, Alan and Kathleen Mason*





# LODGE NEWS



## Lodge #124 Vancouver, B.C., Canada

*Terhi Mikki  
Broersma  
playing the Bassoon*



*Alexia Cappellini  
and Leanne Felton*



*Leanne Felton, Alexia Cappellini, Marjatta Kestila,  
Terhi Miikki Broersma & Lorene Mara*



*Eric and Lorene Mara – Eric has been a member for 56 years*

## 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

February 7, 2010

The Scandinavian Community Centre in Burnaby, B.C., was the scene of many reunions as members, their families, and friends gathered in the hall decorated with evergreen garlands and trees, icicles and large snowflakes. The blue and white table centrepieces were designed by President Lorene Mara. Many guests were descendants of former members of the lodge which was formed March 23, 1925.

President Lorene Mara welcomed all the members and guests, 78 in total, especially Barbara Winter from Lafayette, California, and her brother Leonard Tornquist from Aldergrove, B.C.; John Gronlund from Camino Island, Washington; Dorothy Faulkner from Pender Harbour, B.C.; Margaret Stafford from Kelowna, B.C.; May Anderson, Todd and Angela Kergan, and their daughters, who all came from Victoria, B.C.

Cards of congratulations were received from President Marita Agnew of Tacoma Lodge #106 with a special message; also from New Westminster Lodge #130; and greetings from Else Gullmes from Nanaimo, B.C., who was unable to attend.

International Supreme Board President and Vice-President of Lodge #124 Annabelle Kergan, read a history of the lodge. Lifelong friendships were formed as the members enjoyed Midsummer picnics in Swedish Park in North Vancouver, dances, potluck dinners, and regular meetings at Swedish Hall in Vancouver. The

Runeberg Choir, Youth Lodge, Sewing Circle, the Bowling League, and charter flights to Finland were some of the activities enjoyed by many members.

Tor and Ethel Rosback arranged a display of many bowling trophies won by Lodge #124 teams at the Western District Circle #1 Bowling Tournaments.

Many photos, memorabilia books, and event programs were studied as we tried to find ourselves, family members, and friends in the photos. Luckily, we still remember back 50 to 60 years, because there were no names on most of them!

The buffet lunch was delicious. Old favourites—such as meatballs, baked salmon, roast pork, vegetables, salads, desserts, and coffee—were enjoyed by all.

We were treated to delightful entertainment by Terhi Miikki Broersma from Lynden, Washington, who strolled among the audience playing the bassoon and singing and playing the accordion. She also played the piano accompaniment as Marjatta Kestila sang “Kotimaani Ompi Suomi” in Finnish or “Mitt Hemland Är Finland.” Leanne Felton, the granddaughter of Eric and Lorene Mara, provided the piano background music and accompanied vocalist Alexia Cappellini who sang two songs, “Hallelujah” and “I Have a Dream.” The entertainers were all presented with floral bouquets by Lorene Mara.

The afternoon ended with more visiting and promises to meet again.

Janet Duxbury  
Secretary



# FINNISH LANGUAGE ADULT STUDIES

## Language Villages/Language Camps

Salolampi (Concordia Language Villages) - Bemidji, Minnesota  
Finnish Cultural Camps - Sonoma, California  
Laestadian Lutheran Church Camps - Becker, Minnesota or Champion, Michigan

## Community Courses- U.S.

Finnish American Heritage Center - Hancock, Michigan  
Community Language Course - Gray, Maine  
House of Finland - San Diego, California  
Little Finland - Kimball, Wisconsin  
Finnish Center Association - Farmington Hills, Michigan  
SISU Seminar - University of Minnesota-Duluth - Duluth, Minnesota  
Finnish Heritage House - South Thomaston, Maine  
Minnesota Finnish American Historical Society - Wolf Lake, Minnesota  
Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter - Seattle, Washington  
Finnish American Society of Delaware Valley - Levittown, Pennsylvania  
Finnish Language Class - Negaunee, Michigan  
Community Schools Programs - Grand Rapids, Minnesota  
Finnish Conversation Group - Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota  
Saima Park - Fitchburg, Massachusetts  
Finnish Connection - St. Paul, Minnesota  
Conversational Finnish - Virginia, Minnesota  
Finnish American Club - Tucson, Arizona  
Friends of Finland - Flint, Michigan

## Public School Courses- U.S.

Calumet Elementary School - Calumet, Michigan  
Hancock Elementary School - Hancock, Michigan  
Baraga Area Schools - Baraga, Michigan  
L'Anse Area Schools - L'Anse, Michigan  
**Suomi Koulu/Public School Courses - Canada**  
Scandinavian Cultural Society - Calgary, Alberta  
Suomi Koulu - Montreal, Quebec  
Suomi Koulu - Ottawa, Ontario  
Suomi Koulu - Sudbury, Ontario  
Suomi Koulu - Thunder Bay, Ontario  
Suomi Koulu - Toronto, Ontario  
Toronto Finnschool - Toronto, Ontario  
Suomi Koulu - Vancouver, British Columbia  
Suomi Koulu - Victoria, British Columbia  
Suomi Koulu - Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario  
Algoma School District - Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario  
Ontario North East School District - Timmins, Ontario  
Lakehead School District - Thunder Bay, Ontario  
Ottawa Carleton School District - Nepean, Ontario  
Rainbow School District - Sudbury, Ontario  
Toronto School District - Toronto, Ontario

## Colleges and Universities

Finlandia University - Hancock, Michigan  
Lakehead University - Thunder Bay, Ontario  
University of Toronto - Toronto, Ontario  
University of Massachusetts - Amherst, Massachusetts  
University of California - Berkeley, California  
Indiana University - Bloomington, Indiana  
University of Oregon - Eugene, Oregon  
University of Wisconsin - Madison, Wisconsin  
University of Minnesota - Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Columbia University - New York, New York  
Portland State University - Portland, Oregon  
Brigham Young University - Provo, Utah  
University of Washington - Seattle, Washington  
Northern Michigan University - Marquette, Michigan

## Suomi Koulu Programs- U.S.

Atlanta, Georgia  
Berkeley, California  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
Lake Worth, Florida  
Los Angles, California  
Santa Monica, California  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Boston, Massachusetts  
Cresskill, New Jersey  
New York, New York  
Irving, Texas  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Portland, Oregon  
Sacramento, California  
San Diego, California  
Seattle, Washington  
Silicon Valley, California  
South Bay, Redondo Beach, California  
Washington, D.C.  
Finnish Language School Association - Arlington, Virginia

# SWEDISH LANGUAGE ADULT STUDIES

**California**  
**The Scandinavian School in San Francisco**  
20 Woodside Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94127

The Swedish School Association in Walnut Creek  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
2491 San Miguel Drive  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

**Language Door**  
Encino Town Center  
17200 Ventura Blvd, Suite 305  
Encino, CA 91316

Tamalpais High School  
700 Miller Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
301 Burlingame Ave.  
Burlingame, CA

Monitor Lodge  
Vasa Order of America  
Sacramento, CA

**Beverly Hills Lingual Institute**  
439 North Canon Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**The Swedish School Association in Orange County**  
555 West Main Street  
Tustin, CA 92780

**Illinois**  
**North Park University**  
3225 West Foster Avenue  
Chicago, Il 60625-4895

**Swedish American Museum Center**  
5211 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60640  
Phone: 773-728-8111 X28  
bdupriest@samac.org

**Kansas**  
Ove Johnsson  
409 South Ridge Street  
Olathe, KS 66061

**Minnesota**  
**American Swedish Institute**  
2600 Park Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Concordia Language Villages  
901 8th Street South  
Moorhead, MN 56562

Gustavus Adolphus College  
800 West College Ave.  
Saint Peter, MN 56082

Isanti County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 525  
Cambridge, MN 55008

**New York**  
**Church of Sweden in New York**  
5 East 48th Street  
New York, NY 10017

**New York University**  
School of Continuing and Professional Studies  
Center for Foreign Languages and Translation  
145 4th Avenue  
New York, NY 10003

**Oregon**  
Portland State University  
admissions@ pdx.edu

Trollbacken @ Menucha Retreat  
www.trollbacken.org  
**director@trollbacken.org** (email address)  
Corbett, OR

**Pennsylvania**  
**American Swedish Historical Museum**  
1900 Pattison Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19145  
Phone: 215-389-1776

Westmorland County Community College  
Youngwood, PA 15697  
Phone: 724-830-9939

**Texas**  
**The Swedish Club of Houston**  
Phone: 713-661-0159

**Virginia/ District of Columbia**  
**The Swedish School in Virginia**  
Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School  
7130 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22043

**Washington**  
**Bellevue Community College**  
3000 Landerholm Circle SE  
Bellevue, WA 98007

**Scandinavian Language Institute**  
Nordic Heritage Museum  
3014 NW 67th Street  
Meet in Seattle, Bothell, Edmonds, Everett, & on Whidbey Island  
Seattle, WA 98117  
**www.sliseattle.com**

Swedish Language Course  
Swedish Cultural Center  
1920 Dexter Ave. N  
Seattle, WA 98109

University of Washington  
Dept. of Scandinavian Studies  
318 Raitt Hall  
Seattle, WA 98195-3420  
uwscand@u.washington.edu

**Canada**  
Scandinavian Community Centre  
Burnaby, B.C.

University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, B.C.

Simon Fraser University  
Burnaby, B.C.



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Harp:

Harp is one of oldest musical instruments and thus symbolizes love equal to poetry, art and music. The harp also stands for mythical connection of Celtic civilization that represents a bridge between earth and the heaven. Similarly, in Iceland and Norway, the strings of the harp represent ladder that symbolizing the elevated states of love and path showing the way to paradise.



Finland in the UN since 1955

In the end of 1955, Finland joined both the Nordic Council and was finally accepted as a member of the United Nations. Its membership in the Nordic Council had been slowed down by the Soviet Union’s negative attitude toward the issue, as all other Scandinavian countries except Sweden had joined NATO. The situation remains unchanged today: Finland and Sweden are not members of any military alliance, including NATO.

Membership in the UN was connected of the ‘Geneva Spirit’ of the day. For years, the parties of the Cold War had prevented new members from joining the world organization. In December 1955, however, the UN accepted European applicants including those on the ‘losing side’ in World War II: Bulgaria, Italy, Romania, Finland, and Hungary; as well as Austria and Albania, which had been occupied by Nazis, and Portugal and Spain, which were still dictatorships. The same year, the neutrality of Austria was ratified internationally in the ‘Spirit of Geneva.’

The UN was founded on October 24, 1945, in San Francisco. Its charter was signed by 51 nations, including Denmark and Norway. Sweden and Iceland joined the world organization in 1946.

Finland had applied for membership soon after signing the Paris Treaty with the Allies – the Soviet Union, Britain, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Czechoslovakia, India, New Zealand, Ukraine, and South Africa – in February 1947. But the application was not accepted until 1955.

During the eight-year waiting period, Finland’s relations to the UN and its general secretaries, Trygve Lie from Norway and Dag Hammarskjöld from Sweden, were maintained through its consulate general in New York: first unofficially by the consular general, then by assistant Olli Kaila as well as the consular generals Richard Rafael Seppälä and Arturo Laitinen.

Finland’s UN Representation in New York was established in early 1956, with the distinguished diplomat G. A. Gripenberg serving as Finland’s first UN Ambassador from that year until 1959. He was succeeded by Ralph Enckell in 1959–65 and Max Jakobson in 1965–1972. Jakobson had the honor to be the first Finn to represent his country in the UN Security Council in 1968–69. During Finland’s second term in the Security Council in 1989–90, we were represented by Klaus Törnudd.

Of the 11 Finnish UN Ambassadors, two have been women: Marjatta Rasi in 1998–2005 and Kirsti Lintonen until this year. Since last spring, Jarmo Viinanen has served in the duty.

Suomen Silta, 6/09

International of Runeberg List of Lodges 2010

Lodge Number	President	Financial Secretary
8 – Dollar Bay 64 0	Theresa Kokkenen P. O. Box 424 Dollar Bay, MI 49922	Jay Ringler P. O. Box 602 Dollar Bay, MI 49922
101 – Seattle 36 0	Bonnie Olson 17201 – 15 <sup>th</sup> Ave. N #239 Shoreline, WA 98155	Nils Holm 21006 NE 18 <sup>th</sup> Place Sammamish, WA 98074-4204
102 – Eureka 101 6	Jim Townsend 822 Pleasant Avenue Eureka, CA 95503	Jewell Shelton 2307 Bayview Lane Eureka, CA 95503
104 – San Francisco 22 0	Leif Sundquist 2154 Harkin s Ave. Menlo Park, CA 94025-6225	Liisa Snell 193 W. Verano Avenue #103 Sonoma, CA 95476
105 – Butte 23 4	Patricia McCabe 412 West 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Anaconda, MT 59711	Roberta Perino 3041 Josephine Butte, MT 59701
106 – Tacoma 45 0	Marita Agnew 8543 Sweetbrier Loop, SE Olympia, WA 98513	John Sandstrom 601 N. Jay Street Tacoma, WA 98403
110–Hoquiam  DISBANDING	Svea McKay 419 Chenault Hoquiam, WA 98550	
124 – Vancouver, BC 57 4	Lorene Mara 2021 Palliser Avenue Coquitlam, B.C. V3K 1W8 Canada	Eric Mara 2021 Palliser Avenue Coquitlam, B.C. V3K 1W8 Canada
126 – North Bend/Coos Bay 38 0	Clara Robinson 1392 Commercial Avenue Coos Bay, OR 97420	Harriet Rempelos 67566 North Bay Road North Bend, OR 97449
130 – New Westminster 11 0	Birdy Mara 301-1802 Duthrie Avenue Burnaby, B.C. V5A2R8 CANADA	Evelyn Carlson 2342 Central Ave. Poco, BC V3C1W1 CANADA
132 – Crescent City	Leo Wilson 141 W Aldo Road Crescent City, CA 95531	Dorothy Nuskiewicz 2901 Parkway Drive Crescent City, CA 95531
205 – New Haven 31 12	Stew Lyons 140 Fire Tower Road Guilford, CT 06437	Dorothy Bjork 58 Ark Road Branford, CT 06405
211 – Norwood 15 0	William Kivi, Jr. 33 Smith Avenue Walpole, MA 02081	Curtis Balduf 10 North St. Circle Walpole, MA 02081

Report of the Secretary 2010

MEMBERSHIP BY LODGE

Lodge		Adults	Juniors
#8	Dollar Bay	64	0
#101	Seattle	36	0
#102	Eureka	101	5
#104	San Francisco	22	0
#105	Butte	23	4
#106	Tacoma	45	0
#110	Hoquiam DISBANDING	0	0
#124	Vancouver	57	4
#126	North Bend/Coos Bay	38	0
#130	New Westminster	11	0
#132	Crescent City	19	0
#205	New Haven	31	12
#211	Norwood	15	0
Total Members		462	25

2008 604 Seniors 42 Juniors  
2009 506 Seniors 31 Juniors  
2010 462 Seniors 25 Juniors



Resolutions presented for consideration at the August 21–22, 2010, International Convention—Eureka, California

ARTICLE I

Name and Character:

Section 3: (sentence one) FROM...The object and purpose of the Order are 1) To unite in a fraternal organization men and women who are sober and of good moral character.

CHANGE TO READ...The object and purpose of the Order are 1) To unite men, women, and youth of similar interest, in a fraternal organization. (all else to remain the same)

ARTICLE II

Government

Section 1: (sentence one) FROM This Order shall be composed of local Lodges, which shall hold regular or stated meetings at least quarterly, formed as hereafter provided within the limits of the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

...DELETE the Dominion of ...

CHANGETO READ...This Order shall be composed of local Lodges, which shall hold regular stated meetings at least quarterly, formed as hereinafter provided with the limits of the United States and Canada.

ARTICLE III

International Conventions

Section 1: The Order shall hold International Conventions at least once every three years.

CHANGE TO READ...The Order shall hold International Conventions at least once every four years.

ARTICLE V

Admission of Members

Section 6

A member must be initiated before he/she becomes entitled to any rights and privileges of membership. In case an applicant is unable to appear for initiation at the local Lodge to which application was directed, then the application may, with permission of such local Lodge, be initiated in another local Lodge of the Order with the same force and effect as if initiated in the local Lodge to which application had been originally directed.

CHANGE TO READ...A member must be initiated before he/she becomes entitled to any rights and privileges of membership. Initiation shall take place in accordance with individual Lodge formalities and routines.

DELETE...However, when distance or unusual circumstances make it impractical for a prospective member to attend initiation ceremony at a regular Lodge meeting, the local Lodge membership at a regular meeting may authorize a Special Initiation upon receipt of a written request from the prospective member stating his/her reason for special consideration. This Special Initiation shall be in the form of an approved written DECLARATION OF INTENT duly signed and witnessed by the prospective member and the local Lodge officers. The form to be used will be one approved by the Supreme Board and made available to local Lodges in the same manner as the present membership application forms, but shall be used only under the special circumstances indicated above.

ARTICLE VI

Dues and Benefits

Section 1: The initiation fee, which is transmitted together with the application, may not be less than \$2.00 for membership.

CHANGE TO READ...The initiation/joining fee, which is transmitted together with the application, may not be less than \$2.00 for membership.

ARTICLE VII

Rights and Obligations of Members

Section 4: A member desiring to move to another local Lodge of the Order shall be entitled upon payment in full of all dues to his/her local Lodge, to a Transfer Card signed by the President and the Secretary of his/her local Lodge declaring him/her to be a member in good standing. Upon presentation of this card to the new local Lodge the member shall be admitted, if favorably voted on in accordance with Article V, Section 4, of this Constitution and Bylaws, provided Transfer Card is presented within (60) days of its date and any dues which have accrued in the interval are paid.

Transfer Card shall then be forwarded to Supreme Board Secretary to effect change in records of the Order. Refer to Section 4, Article XIV hereof.

CHANGE TO READ Section 4: A member desiring to move to another local Lodge of the Order shall be entitled upon payment in full of all dues to his/her local Lodge, to a letter of Transfer, signed by the President and Secretary, declaring him/her to be a member in good standing. Upon presentation of this letter to the new local Lodge, the member shall be admitted, if favorably voted on in accordance with Article V, Section 4, of this Constitution and By-laws. Secretary of receiving Lodge shall forward said information to the Supreme Board Secretary to effect change in records.

ARTICLE IX

Local Lodges and their Government

Section 10: ADD TWO WORDS TO SENTENCE #1 TO READ AS...The Marshall, if elected, shall give the sign of greeting to the President at the opening of the meeting and shall demand the same from all members present. He/she shall aid in the initiation of new members and take charge of all paraphernalia of the local Lodge at the closing of the meeting, as well as discharging all other duties in accordance with the By-Laws and customs.

Section 15: Besides these officers, the local Lodges may elect other officers if, necessary, such as Hall Managers, Librarians and Program and Economy Committees to serve in accordance with instructions and duties assigned to them by their respective local Lodges.

CHANGE TO READ...Besides these officers, the local Lodges may elect other officers as necessary.

Section 18: A local Lodge shall have the option of having a Nominating Committee. When a Nominating Committee is created, this Committee shall be nominated by the local Lodge members at a regular meeting after one month's notice by mail.

CHANGETO READ...A local Lodge shall have the options of having a Nominating Committee, formed by the local Lodge members at a regular Lodge meeting.

Section 19: Each individual local Lodge shall have the right to incorporate under the laws of the State in which it is located, subject to the review and approval of the Supreme Board.

CHANGE TO READ...Each individual local Lodge shall have the right to incorporate under the laws of the State/Province in which it is located—subject to review and approval by the Supreme Board.

ARTICLE XI

Dues to the Order

FROM...The Supreme Board may levy an extra assessment or assessments for the Expense Fund not exceeding twenty five cents (\$.25) per member in any one year: in case of such levy, the Supreme Board shall furnish each local Lodge with a statement clearly explaining why such a levy has become necessary.

CHANGE TO READ...The Supreme Board may levy an extra assessment or assessments for the Expense Fund not exceeding two dollars (\$2.00) per member in any one year: in case of such levy the Supreme Board shall furnish each local Lodge with a statement clearly explaining why such a levy has become necessary.

ARTICLE XII

Funds

Section 2: When a local Lodge cannot continue, it may disband, provided it has given a written notice to the Supreme Board President three months prior to disbanding. The Supreme Board President shall notify the Supreme Board. The disbanding Lodge must individually notify all of its members by registered mail with return receipt. After these conditions are met and its obligations to the Order are fulfilled, the disbanding Lodge shall immediately turn in its Charter, records, memorabilia, and Rituals to the Supreme Board Secretary.

Section 2, Sentence #3 (as underlined): CHANGE TO...The disbanding Lodge must individually notify, appropriately, all of its members of its intention to disband.

Paragraph 2 of Section 2: Reads: It is further provided that, where a member in good standing has no other alternative, he/she may retain membership in the Order by notifying the Supreme Board Secretary of his/her intention. Such members shall pay all subsequent dues annually by mail to the Supreme Board Secretary.

ADDITION...add after last sentence of paragraph two: This member will officially become a Security Lodge member but without voting privileges at International Conventions.

ARTICLE XIV

General Regulations

DELETE

Section 1: Officers, who neglect to have the various books of the local Lodge and other necessary belongings present at a regular meeting, shall for each negligence pay such fine as a local Lodge may impose.

Section 2: All fines imposed by a local Lodge, if not paid at once, shall be paid by the fined member in addition to the regular dues if he/her rights as a member shall be retained

Section 5: No member has the right to discuss in public anything that takes place at a meeting of a local Lodge.

Section 8: FROM...All members are reminded to be present at the funeral of a deceased member. The Secretary shall notify the members in regard to the time and place of a funeral.

CHANGE TO...All members are reminded to be present at the funeral of a deceased member.

ARTICLE XV

Socials and Entertainment

Section 4: Local Lodges are encouraged to organize singing and/or orchestral groups within their areas for the purpose of preserving Nordic culture and traditions of our founders in song and music. Such organized groups, when representing the Order on excursions outside of their respective areas, shall be required to have:

1. Chorus or Music Directors, etc.
2. Flight or Transportation Directors, etc.

CHANGE TO READ...Local Lodges are encouraged to organize song and/or orchestral groups within their areas for the purpose of preserving Nordic culture and traditions of our founders in song and music.

In addition,

From Portland Convention 2006: Re-submit for further consideration

Be amended to read

ARTICLE III

Section 3: to be amended to show delegate entitlement to the Conventions of the Order be as follows.

Lodges with membership up to twenty-five in total, shall be entitled to choose one delegate. Lodges with membership from twenty-six up to fifty shall be entitled to choose two delegates. Lodges with membership from fifty-one up to one hundred shall be entitled to choose three delegates. Lodges with membership over one hundred shall be entitled to an additional delegate for each 50 members thereafter.

In addition, any Lodge may choose one additional delegate provided the Lodge agrees to pay all costs and expenses of the extra delegate.

Section 6: The transportation cost of the Supreme Board, Past President(s), and Delegates, such as air fare or mileage using the current Federal mileage rate, shall be paid from the Expense Fund of the Order. In addition, the compensation for the Supreme Board shall be paid from the Expense Fund of the Order. Such payment shall be determined by the appropriate committees appointed at the International Convention.

ADD ON...Be it resolved that...Under no circumstances shall the total mileage allowance claim exceed the lowest available airfare cost for the same distance.

NEW RESOLUTION:

In keeping with the Constitution and Bylaws of the International Order of Runeberg, Article 1, Section 3, which states (3) To encourage the education and conservation of the Swedish language as well as the culture and traditions of founders. Be it resolved that...In addition to the Scholarship which is made available to students, one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) per year be offered to one Order of Runeberg member only, to study the Swedish Language at a School, College, or University. The applicant must first enroll and present credentials stating their enrolment in the class, before funds are released.

Submitted by Lodge #124 Vancouver, B.C., Canada