



LEADING STAR LEDSTJÄRNAN

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International Order of Runeberg Supreme Board President's Message

I hope all of our IOR members in Canada, USA, and Finland enjoyed summer and are looking forward to the fall season with its beautiful colors.

Finland is in the news again:

According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in 2010, Finland became the first country in the world to make broadband Internet access a legal right for all citizens. Finland's 5.3 million people will have guaranteed access to a high-speed Internet connection. In addition, Finland plans to make lightning fast 100-megabit broadband service a legal right by the end of 2015. In the USA, on the other hand, there are about 19 million people with no access to high-speed Internet.

Finnish & Swedish masonry heaters:

A number of our members have been inspired by experiencing the beauty, warmth, efficiency, etc., of Finnish and Swedish masonry heaters—either, as Kaarina and I did, from visits to relatives in Finland or actually growing up in a home having a masonry heater. Some of these heaters include another feature - a bake oven.

The newest addition to our Runeberg website is a page dedicated to these heaters and bake ovens. In addition to heaters and bake ovens information and web links, the web page includes pictures of our IOR



members' Finnish masonry and soapstone heaters. If you have a Finnish or Swedish masonry heater and/or oven, we would love to add a picture of it to our web page's gallery of masonry heater pictures. Email masonry heater/oven picture(s) and/or information (my contact info is listed on "About Us/IOR

Board Members" web page of the Runeberg website).

We all need to address our declining membership:

It has been suggested that each new generation feels less tied to their heritage, making it more difficult to get active participation from younger family members.

To counter this, consider:

(1) Each of us should take the initiative to seek out new members who may be interested in experiencing Finnish/Swede-Finn culture and traditions. This has been very effective for our Lodge #205 (New Haven). There have been numerous and successful instances of new members joining us after one of our members notices such things as a car in a parking lot with a Finnish flag bumper sticker, or overhearing persons with Finnish accent (or speaking Finnish)—and then our member takes

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Christmas is approaching. Christmas greetings maybe sent to other IOR members and your friends through the media of the *Leading Star* at the cost of \$5.00 per column inch (minimum). Please write your greeting in this form and mail it to your *Leading Star* editors. You will be billed; or if you are submitting your name and lodge only, please include your \$5.00 check with the form.

Thank you,

Mail to: *Leading Star*

Attn: Dale Hjort
7682 Tracy Lane
La Palma, CA 90623

OR

E-Mail: d.mlhjort@juno.com

Fax: 714-739-0932

Telephone: 714-739-0932

Celebrate the Magic of Christmas with a personal Christmas Greeting . . . in the *Leading Star*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Greeting: _____



Good Advice

In his President's Message, Stew Lyons has some good advice about increasing membership. We all need to do what we can to promote the Order of Runeberg and get other people interested in our organization. If we are to continue, we need to make the effort to recruit new members.

In this issue we have the form for sending a personal Christmas greeting that will be printed in the paper. Not too many people have sent in a greeting over the last few years. You are encouraged to do so as this is a way of letting others know you are alive, well, and ready to celebrate Christmas.

Remember, FinnFest 2012 is coming up on November 8–11 in Tucson, Arizona. Here is your opportunity to see what is currently going on in regards to Finnish culture. Information is in this paper to help you make your plans.

—DH

Please submit all news, resolutions, and articles by November 15 for publication in the December *Leading Star*

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Correspondents: Information received by the first Friday of the quarterly month or as noted will be included in that quarter's issue.

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

**Dale & Mary Lou Hjort
7682 Tracy Lane
La Palma, CA 90623-1501**

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Lodge & Number: _____

President's Message

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the initiative to approach the person(s), or place a note under the windshield wiper of the parked car, with a brief introductory note (an invitation to join us, with member's name and phone number. This has been so successful that our Lodge acquired enough Finnish flag stickers—including a magnetic backing (to allow easy application & removal)—for our members use on their car.

(2) Each Lodge should take up the topic of increasing membership. Set aside a portion of a meeting to talk about it and get back to the Supreme Board with your ideas.

Is our Scholarship program enough to interest new members? Based on history, apparently this is not enough. What do we (or may we) offer individuals who might consider joining?

(3) In a conversation with Veli Niinimaa (his books are featured on our website), he mentioned the significant membership growth success he's had with a Finnish organization in the Calgary area. The methods used included: (a) direct contact—calling people, (b) strong programs that attracted membership, (c) emphasis on programs to attract younger members, (d) focus on future activities rather than past activities, (e) Finnish films, (e) dinners, (f) newsletters, and (g) an active rolling calendar.

As in previous communications, I'd like to again remind you:

If your lodge would like information posted on your lodge's web page (every lodge has a page), email or call me with the information you'd like posted (such as meetings schedule, meetings locations, etc.)—and thank you again to both Nils Holm and Shea Teixeira for the web pages editing they do for their lodges.

Working to increase membership,
Stew Lyons

Thank You

Dear Runeburg,

I would like to thank you for your generous gift which is going to help further my education at the University of Connecticut where I will be majoring in environmental engineering. I am very grateful to be apart of this great association and I hope that you continue to provide opportunities for future students just like you did for me.

Thanks again,
Austin Connell

Lodge #205, New Haven, Connecticut



Austin Connell



Elise Kelleher

I would like to thank the International Order of Runeberg for awarding me one of this year's scholarships. I am very honoured to have received this scholarship and would like to thank all of our members for their generous contributions to the scholarship fund. This scholarship has helped me to continue to strive towards my educational goals.

Thanks again,
Elise Kelleher

Lodge #124, Vancouver, BC, Canada



Joanne N. Mamaril

To the International Order of Runeberg Scholarship Committee:

I am writing to sincerely thank you for your generous gift that you have given me. I am very happy and appreciative that I was selected as the recipient of your scholarship. Your support has been very helpful in allowing me to continue pursuing my goal, to qualify as a physiotherapist. I truly value my education and I am happy that I have been given the privilege to continue here in Canada.

I am currently working as sitter and physiotherapy assistant (part-time) in a clinic here in Ottawa. Because of this good experience in Rehabilitation, I am encouraged to continue my studies here. With the Order of Runeberg's help, I am only two steps away from obtaining my license.

Thank you, again, for your generosity. I look forward to the time when I can help others as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Joanne N. Mamaril

Lodge #124, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Genealogy Corner



June Pelo, A Dedicated Genealogist

The Karelian Riviera— Terijoki

The 30 km. long sandy beach between Terijoki and Kuokkala was Finland's most exotic sun-coast before the Winter War. The majestic sea, the mile-wide beach, and the legendary villas enticed tens of thousands of summer visitors from many countries. Today the sun-coast is still the most popular, but also the most expensive area around St. Petersburg. There is nothing left of the old riviera. We went along the Teatralnaja Ulitsa in Zelenogorsk (formerly Terijoki) with architects Olga Kalinkin and Aleksey Vasiliev to look for the famous villas.

We were where the hotel Puistola stood—formerly the Bellevue. We admired the barred dilapidated wooden villa a few steps from the famous seaside resort. In a window hung a sign: Police Surveillance!

We drew the curtains. An old photograph in Karelian emigrant Kaj Wahlbeck's book, *Karelia with Love*, emerges: a tower juts up from a magnificent white-washed villa ... three people pose on the porch. The hotel was built in 1874. It offered 20 rooms and a first-class restaurant. Today nothing remains.

Olga said the city is now trying to sell the area. The only requirement is that the buildings must be restored. Olga is responsible for the restoration of the old villas along the riviera isthmus. But right now she has no work to oversee because nothing is being restored. Many of the villas belong to the state ... a state that does not have any money to invest. So the villas decay.

The Railroad Changed Everything

When the St. Petersburg-Rihimäki railroad opened in 1870, the Karelian isthmus was transformed into a summer paradise. St. Petersburg residents built about 12,000 summer villas along the Finnish coast, mostly between Terijoki and Kuokkala (Repino). The climate in the large city was unhealthy and the drinking water was bad. The wealthy people longed for a breath of fresh air and the sunny dunes. During the active years it is estimated the number of summer guests was 70,000. In 1914 the glamorous villa lifestyle came to an abrupt end when the First World War broke out. After the Russian revolution the abandoned summer villas were given over to the Finnish state. After five years they were sold at auction. As a result about 2,000 Terijoki villas were demolished and moved to other places in Finland. Then the war broke out and the last remnants of the summer paradise were crushed.

Kaj Wahlbeck said that after the Winter War only 5–10 percent of the buildings in the parish remained. In the summer of 1944 most of them were burned by our retreating troops in Raivola.

Unique postcards with views of Terijoki, Kellomäki, and Kuokkala before 1917

Harsh Decline

Havsgatan in Komarovo (Kellomäki). A steep hill leads down to the mile-wide sandy beach. Driving up the hill a number of young sporting cyclists rode by in gaudy attire. The young people are from one of the many summer holiday camps. Olga stopped by a magnificent, romantic turn-of-the century villa with towers and pinnacles, at the top of the hill. The windows are empty. The facade is decayed. Even in 1927 when the Finnish author Ernst Lampén strolled around here, the decay was evident.

"One doesn't need to be sentimental to be touched by sorrow over the sight of all the destruction that has happened here. Gone are the throngs of people, gone are the grandeur, finery, and frivolity. Broken windows are like an empty eye socket in an old worm-eaten skull."

Olga said that rich people are not interested in restoring old turn-of-the century villas. They don't see the value. They don't see the beauty. Instead, they build grotesque places of red brick. A style that she used to call prison romanticism.

Holiday with Prestige

Komarovo has a railway station to thank for its existence. The village was built in a deserted area. But it soon became a popular holiday place, thanks to the healthy climate and its high overlook to the sea. Even today Komarovo is a coveted holiday place. It was here that poetess Anna Akhmatova and composer Dimitri Sjostakovitj had their dacha, and today many artists and academicians come here. The governor of St. Petersburg has his summer residence here. In the 1950s the Soviet Union produced a special kind of dacha here. Homes that could

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Terijoki beach restored. Sand as far as the eye can see.

Emil Ems Photographer

emsemil@gmail.com



LODGE NEWS



Lodge #106 Tacoma, Washington



From left: Ralf Lind and his son Marcus



The Logging Museum in Hoquiam, WA—worth a visit



Gate, WA—Moon Rd: where Lena Holman's great-grandparents' farm was, now just the barn still standing on the Tribal property



Mountain View Cemetery in Centralia: Gabriel Wilhelm Erickson (1864–1943) and Lena Gustava Erickson (Brommels) (1868–1948)



From left: Lena Holman-Erickson; Marita Agnew, Tacoma OR President; and Eileen Scott



Edna and George Hashagen, Tacoma, WA #106 Order of Runeberg members



Rhea Linden and picnic host John Sandstrom



From left: Angela Brannfors, David and Lena; "Looks like you are staying happy and cool!"



From left: Ray Thompson, Ed Brannfors, and Sally Thompson; "Hi there, long time no see!"

Dear Members of IOR near & far away,

It's hard to believe we are almost into the month of September. Where in the world did these summer months go? When the summer months arrived, they came with a bang—thunder, lightning, hail, and a heavy downpour of rain ... nice hot weather mid-August ... but let's begin with the month of May, Mother's Day, to be exact.

Our members, Lena and David, were welcoming relatives from Sundbyberg, Sweden—born in Övermark, Finland. These two gentlemen were actually Lena's cousins, Ralf and Marcus Lind, a father and son team. Ralf was doing a genealogy tour of USA, visiting relatives and friends whose families came from Finland and photographing historical buildings and sites of Swede-Finnish importance. On the one and only day they were here in Olympia, our first stop was in Aberdeen, Washington, at the old Vasa Lodge, now Sons of Norway—Grays Harbor #4.

Next was to be the Polson Logging Museum in Hoquiam, Washington, but sadly it was not open. From the museum we walked three blocks to the building that had been the Runeberg Hall in Hoquiam. Sign now says: "Grays Harbor Moose." We then drove to Elma and stopped at the Odd Fellows Cemetery. That is where my Grandpa "Charlie"—Karl Johan Erickson (Troyer) and my father are buried side by side—also many other family members.

Our next stop was Gate, Washington—Moon Road—just outside of Oakville. That is where my great-grandparents' farm was. It is now Chehalis Tribal Reservation property. Just the old barn is still standing.

Then we went to "Swede Hall" in Rochester, which used to be the Order of

Runeberg Hall. My cousin Ralf was especially excited to see this and take photos. We were invited inside and got to take a lot of pictures and were given a great deal of information about it.

Our last place to visit was Centralia and the Mountain View Cemetery. My great-grandparents rest there—Gabriel Wilhelm Erickson and Lena Gustava Erickson (Brommels).

The next day, Ralf and Marcus were on their way to Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, as well as a few other states. They were going to visit ghost towns, Yellowstone, and Mt. Rushmore and continue their tour of Swede-Finn historical sites.

David and I had a great day with them, and I really thought it was fun following their United States tour on Facebook. Thank you, Lena, for sharing all this with us Runeberg members.

It's with much sadness to write that our dear friend and Order of Runeberg #106 member Edna Hashagen passed away on June 15, 2012, after a valiant fight with cancer. Edna and George enjoyed the friendships with the Tacoma #106 members, and Edna always had such a warm, kind, and sweet smile towards everyone. Her celebration of life was held on June 23, 2012, at

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LODGE NEWS



Saga Backlund's 90th birthday

Lodge #130 New Westminster, B.C., Canada

One of life's great pleasures is listening to a performance by an excellent choir, especially one representing my homeland.

The Psallite Chamber Choir from Korsholm, Finland, gave a concert at the Emmaus Lutheran Church in Burnaby, on August 5, 2012. Twenty-six singers under the leadership of Susanne Westerlund, performed a broad and meaningful repertoire with sacred, secular and cappella songs. The choir was established in 1966 and led by the previous conductor, Rainer Holmgård, for forty-five years. A bouquet of flowers was presented to the conductor by the pastor's wife, Mrs. Joensuu. These singers were a joy to listen to as well as meet. Several of our members were in attendance and we all left feeling nostalgic for our native country.

Member, Saga Backlund, celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends at a party in July. We gathered at the Gustav

Vasa complex where she resides. She received flowers and cards from Lodge #130, the Runeberg Choir and Finland's Svenska Klubben. Saga is a loyal and longtime member of these organizations. All the best to you, Saga!

Oscar Mara reached his 85th birthday in June. His daughter, Susanne, gave him a dinner party. Family and friends wished him a happy journey to Finland for further celebration with his twin brother, Evert, in Helsingby.

Also, Walter Carlson is nearing his 90th birthday. He has been struggling with ill health and is now waiting to move into a senior citizens home. Hopefully this place will be located close to his family in Port Coquitlam.

After several hospital stays, during the last few months our Financial Secretary, Evelyn Carlson, is now home, and we are glad to hear that she is getting stronger every day. We look forward to meeting each other again at our lodge meeting in the fall.

Submitted by

Nancy Snickars, Recording Secretary

Finland receiving more immigrant citizens

The number of immigrants receiving Finnish citizenship increased in the first half of 2012. This follows a change to the law, shortening the period of residence from six years to five for citizenship applications.

Among the largest ethnic groups receiving Finnish citizenship in the first six months of the year were Russians, Estonians, Solmalis, Afghans, and Iranians.

The number of those granted citizenship doubled compared to the same period last year. Citizenship was given to around 4,500 individuals between January and June. This compares to around 2,000 for the same period last year.

A change in legislation governing the period of pre-citizenship residence came into force last autumn.

From *The Finnish American Reporter*
—August 2012

Electric cars not catching on just yet in Finland

The electric car revolution still seems some way off, at least in Finland.

According to the Finnish Transport Safety Agency (Trafi), the sales of electric vehicles remained very small hereabouts over the first months of the year.

In the period from January through May, only 20 electric cars were sold in Finland.

The number of new vehicles entered over the same period in Trafi's Vehicle Register for the first time was 59,205.

The vast majority of registered new cars run on gasoline or diesel.

Only 758 vehicles had some other source of power. About 700 of them run on ethanol.

From *The Finnish American Reporter*
—July 2012



CREATIVITY CURIOUSITY CONNECTION

FESTUSA

TUCSON NOV 8-11, 2012

No snow! Saguaro cacti! Mild shirtsleeve weather!

Surrounded by scenic mountains and desert! No snow!

Multicultural art, food, history, music! No snow! No moose!

Finns came to Arizona to work in logging and mining, and were part of a rich labor history, including being "deported" from Bisbee in 1917. Many stayed, and the Finnish American Club of Tucson was founded 46 years ago. Many of us are working on making FinnFest 2012 a real treat for everyone.

Join us for Finnish and local food: entertainment and vendors at the free entrance daily "Tori," marketplace; activities and entertainment for children; discussion panels and presentations on topics such as education and innovation and Finnish/Finnish-American culture; live Finnish and local music; film showings and Finnish crafts and design; a chance to meet and engage with guests from Arizona, the greater U.S., and Finland. Visit www.2012FINNFESTUSA.COM for more information and to register. We look forward to meeting you! Tervetuloa!

—Finnish American Club of Tucson
From *The Finnish American Reporter*
—September 2012



Resolutions

Lodge #101 Seattle, Washington

It is with deep sorrow that we report the loss of

Anni Gunhild Osterback

who passed away suddenly on May 1, 2012.

Anni was born on March 1, 1923, in Overmark, Finland. She immigrated to Seattle in July of 1961 with her husband and two sons. She joined the lodge on September 12, 1963. As a long time lodge member, she participated in our Bowling League and Circle #1 Bowling Tournaments. She also was a member of the chorus and traveled to Finland with the OR chorus.

Anni spent several years, working in the upholstery department at a local department store (Fredrick & Nelson). A skilled seamstress, knitter, gardener, and baker, with her "bull" being sought after, at our local fundraisers.

Anni lost her husband (Boris) this year on January 23. She leaves behind her sons, Gustav and Ralf and their families; a brother in Lake Tahoe, CA; and sisters in Finland.

Graveside service was held on May 11, 2012.

Resolution Committee

Lodge #211 Norwood, Massachusetts

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of our Lodge Brother

Melvin N. Anderson

on February 2, 2011 at the age of 92. He was the husband of Catherine Anderson and the late Mary Anderson, loving father to Richard A. Anderson and his wife June of North Attleboro, Christina Anderson and her husband Earl Landry of Stoughton, and Karen Hanlon and her husband Edward of Marlborough, dear grandfather of Michelle and David Landry, Mark Anderson, and Kyle Hanlon.

Melvin joined Runeberg Lodge #211 on February 11, 1977. He was an active member, attending many dances, dinners, and meetings. He was a trustee for many years.

Mel was an avid Red Sox fan.

A funeral service was held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church where he had been an active member, involved in several areas within the church.

Members of Lodge #211 extend their deepest sympathy to Catherine and her family.

Resolution Committee

Lodge #211 Norwood, Massachusetts

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of our Lodge Brother

Curtis Leon Balduf

on June 24, 2012, at Maples Rehab Nursing Center in Wrentham. He was preceded in death by Ethel A. (Johnson) Balduf, his wife of 51 years. He is survived by his sons Carl J. Balduf and his wife Joanne of Plainville, MA, and Donald C. Balduf of Oakwood, Ohio; loving grandfather of Eric and Olivia Balduf of Plainville, Anna Brissman of Fort Worth, Texas, and Maria Balduf of Grapevine, Texas; great-grandson Aleandar Brissman.

Curt was born in Norwood and lived there till he married and moved to Walpole in 1955. He attended Northeastern University and served in the U.S. Army. He worked as a pressman at Plympton Press for 30 years. He retired in 1991 after working for Polaroid Corp. in Norwood.

Curt had many and varied interests. As a young man he obtained a pilot's license. He was a life member of the National Rifle Association and a senior member of the Sharon Fish and Game Club. He was a member of the Sharon Pistol Team that won many South Shore titles. In the 1960s and '70s, Curt served the Walpole Police Dept. as an auxiliary police officer.

Curt was an active member of Runeberg Lodge #211 and served on many committees. He printed tickets and advertisements for different club functions. He served for many years as Financial Secretary and held that position until his death.

Curt was an active member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church. His funeral was held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 30, at 10:00 a.m. Burial services were private.

Members of Lodge #211 extend their deepest sympathy to Carl, Donald, and their families.

Resolution Committee



Tucson FinnFest includes field trip to mine sites

Finnish labor history will come alive through word, music, film and a field trip to the Bisbee Mines during FinnFest 2012 in Tucson, November 8–11, 2012.

In July 1917, workers at the Queen copper mine in Bisbee, Arizona, went on strike for safety and the right to be paid in U.S. dollars, not scrip redeemable only at the company store.

The sheriff and the mine owner deputized more than 2,000 men to roust strikers and either force them back to work or "deport" them. Some 1,200 miners, at least 100 Finns among them, were forced into cattle cars and box cars and transported across the New Mexico line and dumped in the desert.

Albert Lannon has written and performed an eight-minute piece for several voices about the Bisbee Deportation, and members of the Tucson Finnish American Club are related to "deportees."

A field trip to the Bisbee Mines is scheduled for Sunday, November 11, and Monday, November 12. Reservations are required; there is limited availability. To register for this trip, use the festival website at www.2012finnfestusa.org.

Other programming of this component of the festival includes "Crossing the Borders—Then and Now," a lecture by Dr. Thomas Sheridan, University of Arizona, comparing the issues facing Finnish and other European immigrants in the early 20th century with the issues of immigration, legal and illegal, today.

Red Diapers—A Family Affair: A panel discussion named "Red Diapers—A Family Affair" on growing up in the 1950s as children of Finnish American Red parents, will be moderated by Eleanor Palo Stoller. The panel includes Baltimore sisters Judy Weber and Frances Lodder, and their cousin Albert Lannon. A "Coffee Conversation" will follow. Panelists will tell their stories for about 12–15 minutes each, followed by exchanges between them and questions/comments from the audience.

Additionally, a presentation by Dr. Sheridan titled "Arizona Labor History" will take place. There are also several films to be shown related to this programming.

For more info, visit the festival website at www.2012finnfestusa.org.

From *The Finnish American Reporter*
—September 2012

**Visit
our
website**

www.orderofruneberg.org

Genealogy Corner

The Karelian Riviera—Terijoki

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be shared by three families. Two families had rooms with a veranda. The third family had to settle for a room without a porch. They split the use of the kitchen. These dachas are now rented out to ordinary people such as radiology nurse Valentina Rostjina. She complains about the house, saying that it is old and ugly. The walls are so thin that she has to light a fire for warmth in the evenings. She said that when one is on a holiday, they'd like the house to be better than what they have in the city. But this one is just a shed. She pays 2,200 rubels (550 mk) a year for her room with a veranda. Normally the price would be 6,000 rubels (1,500 mk). She rents it cheaper because there is an invalid war veteran in the family.

She said they do not swim in the sea but go to a place a few km away. They like to go down to the sea but it smells so bad because of the algae. Renting a dacha in Komarovo costs 26–95 rubles (6–24 mk) per square meter per month. The gulf coast is the most expensive dacha area around St. Petersburg.

Repino

We trudge through high wild grass. Olga wants to show the house she especially likes. It lies along the shore in Repino. It is a stunningly beautiful house with a tall tower with small blue windows. But it is in miserable condition. The villa belonged to a composer's union. Three years ago it was sold to a Russian firm for \$50,000. The firm had to restore the house but did nothing for two years. Olga suspects they had plans to tear down the house and build a new one. Now the house will be auctioned off again. It's such a shame that in this area the villas and their history die away. But Olga said there are also good examples. She points out a villa in Komarovo that was restored according to regulations. The house is owned by the St. Petersburg city traffic collective department. Olga stressed: "You have to restore—not build new ones. That is my philosophy."

Corner between the Wars

Late in the evening we decided to seek the Villa Golicke in Repino. It was a pilgrimage for an entire generation of contemporary Finn Swedes and Swedish writers during the 1900s. Writers who were all drawn to the east and to each other. All were literary heirs to Edith Södergran (1892–1923) who had lived in Raivola a few km north of Terijoki.

Hosts at Villa Golicke were artist couple Tito and Ina Colliander. As we searched along the paved coastal road, I imagined the bygone life at Villa Golicke: In the large villa would be Tito Colliander pounding on his typewriter. His wife Ina would be bending over a photo collection on the glassed ve-

randa. Out in the garden Johannes Edfelt would be playing "Here Comes the Gorilla" with the Colliander daughter Maria. Elmer Diktonius walking along the beach. In the guest house Lorenz von Numers was discussing the cannons at Kronstadt with Rabbe Enckell and Helen of Enehielm. Gunnar Björling sitting down at the beach and writing poetry on matchboxes. In the neighboring villa Ralf and Eva Parland—she preparing her new collection of short stories and he is working on a difficult translation. At the pension Häki sits Gunnar Ekelöf completing his collection of poems "Köp den blindes sång." In the evening all gather on the glass veranda. The samovar simmers. Tito reads aloud his short story "Taina." Later a heated discussion breaks out. To calm the mood, Ralf Parland starts his gramophone. Kreuzer's sonata drowns out the noise of Kronstedt. Edfelt reveals he has received an honoraria. General rejoicing. It breaks up for a visit to the casino. Diktonius mutters: The casino is for riding club riders and unmarried girls and wealthy snobs in swimming costumes.

Golicke Re-conquered

We need not go far before we find Villa Golicke. The cottage is located a few km from painter Ilya Repins (1844–1930) imaginative villa. The great Russian realism master lived in Kuokkala the last 30 years of his life. He is buried in the garden and the house now serves as a museum. There are the wild rose bushes and the tall pines ... and there lies the Villa Golicke, slumbering, wedged between the road and the beach.

"A very interesting lair, maturing on the beach and the power of the sea, and lush and dirty, mixed in with animals and people. We have a small and low but neat cottage and also a large veranda where I write my articles. Occasionally, some of the boys get seizures because of the lack of schnapps. The nearest Alkon is in Viborg. Early morning brought one of the old men and women who were in the alley calling 'fish and vegetables' and sticking their heads through the window," guest Diktonius wrote in a letter 20 July 1937.

We ask: who are housed in Villa Golicke these days? Seated around a table in the garden are five young women. On the table is an empty salad bowl and a few bottles of beer. One of them looks familiar. The photographer asks if they speak English. I myself ask if they speak Swedish.

Sure, responds Helena Sandman from Helsinki. Swedish-Finland has regained Villa Golicke! Again Finland's Swedish sounds out over the vast sandy beaches of Kuokkala!

It turns out that a fine arts academy in Helsinki is renting Villa Golicke for the third summer in a row. The school hopes that Kuokkala will have an inspiring effect on the students.

Of those around the table only Sala Järvinen is studying at the academy. The others are there out of curiosity. Helena said they were quite shocked when they got there. The house was in poor condition. It was dirty inside and the mattresses smelled of mildew. So they had to start by cleaning.

I went down to the beach. An impressive panorama opens: the sea is wide open, an armada of clouds sailing slowly forward ... Kronstadt's silhouette hovers on the horizon ... empty Corona beer bottles rest on boats pulled up on a sandy beach. Soon it is time for tea.

Anders Mård 6 Jan 2011

Norden 19 Aug 2012

English translation by *June Pelo*

Terijoki— Zelenogorsk

Terijoki is a suburb of St. Petersburg, situated on the Karelian isthmus and in the St. Petersburg federal urban area. The population was 14,958 in the 2010 census. It was formerly a Finnish municipality in southeast Karelia, but was conquered by the Soviet Union during the Winter War.

Terijoki parish in 1812–1940 and 1941–1944 was Finland's most southeastern parish, and bordered on Russia at Rajajoki. The villages Nykyrka and Kivinebb are mentioned as independent congregations in 1445 documents. The village of Terijoki (originally Tervajoki) first belonged to Kivinebb until 1910 when it became a separate parish together with the village Kellomäki.

About 19 percent of the parish land was clay soil and arable land. Otherwise the neighborhood consisted of mostly pine forest and gravel ridges and had a magnificent beach. When the railroad between Viborg and St. Petersburg was completed in 1870, high society in St. Petersburg and Viborg discovered the idyllic village and began to build many grand villas ornamented with the gingerbread of that time period. Three hotels were built in the center. The population of 4,000 was amplified in the summer and the place was called "Finland's Riviera." When the Iron Curtain was lowered in 1918 Russian tourists no longer came and Terijoki experienced a slump, but with purposeful marketing, western visitors increased and there was no artist's colony when many artists and intellectuals found their way there for the summer.

After its conquest during the Winter War, a Finnish-quisling government was brought to Terijoki, led by Otto Ville Kuusinen and known by the name Terijoki government.

Wikipedia

Highlights of the International Supreme Board Conference Call by Skype on June 10, 2012

Call to order:

4:30 p.m. PDT

Attendance: Present:

Stew Lyons, Nils Holm, Lorene Mara, Janet Anderson, Annabelle Kergan, Gary Robinson
Absent: Ed Brannfors, Dale Hjort

Treasurer's Report:

Total Account Value \$63,829.94

(Money Market, CD)

Checking Account (May 31, 2012)
\$8,899.87

Reports:

Leading Star report: Constitution and bylaw revision in progress as is a membership list of security lodge members.

Website report: Use has been positive. Stew has contacted the Finlandia Lodge to see if they would like to link in to our site; however, nothing has been heard from them.

Scholarships for the year 2012 have now been awarded. Three applicants applied on or before April 30, 2012, and each applicant received a scholarship of \$500.00. Minor changes to the application form came under discussion and will be tabled until our next meeting. The Scholarship Committee has been receiving some applications after the published application deadline. It was recommended that the postmark date be April 7, allowing the applications till April 30 to be received, due to postal delays between USA/Canada.

Old Business:

Vancouver is looking into appropriate dates for the 2014 Convention to be held in Burnaby, B.C. More information will follow as we get a little closer to the Convention year.

The "Highlights" of our meetings will continue to be published in the *Leading Star*. Some issues may contain two summaries as the timeline does not always allow for publications in each issue.

New Business:

Of continued concern is the decreasing membership in individual lodges and the possible disbanding of some lodges as membership becomes too small to continue. Discussion on retaining membership will be ongoing. It is hoped that lodges that are too small to continue will transfer their membership to an adjoining lodge. If this is not feasible, members will be encouraged to become security lodge members. The Supreme Board welcomes any and all suggestions for membership retention and increase.

Annual fee to be paid for use of Skype is \$132.54. This is a tremendous savings over the use of land line communication.

A donation of \$50.00 to each group—FinnFest and FinnGrandFest—will be made to help support these events with expenses.

Of concern to all is the billing of Resolutions to the *Leading Star*. Dale will be encouraged to keep billing up to date so that individual lodges do not face large billing charges due to a back log of invoicing.

Sadly, Janet Anderson will not stand for re-election in the next term. She will kindly continue in her position until after the 2014 Convention.

The next conference call will be held on October 14th, 2012, at 4 p.m. PDT.

Call to adjourn: 5:55 p.m.

Submitted by Annabelle Kergan

Lodge #106 Tacoma, Washington

continued from page 4

Baptist Church in Centralia. Edna's grandmother, Selma, immigrated from Karleby and her grandfather, Albert Malm, immigrated from Malax. They were both Swedish-speaking immigrants from Finland. Albert and Sofia were married in Tacoma, Washington, October 4, 1902. Albert's parents were Jonas and Sofia Malm. Edna especially had a very close contact with Thea Malm in Malax, Finland, every week by Skype—and had visited her relatives over there also together with her family. Our thought and prayers go out to George, the children, and their families. "To the friends of our mother Edna Hashagen, 'Thank you for being a part of our mom's life. She will be truly missed.' Her daughters, Laurie Kuhlman and Elaine Gilman"

Our June Midsummer Picnic was held out at Carolyn Nelson's home on the lake. "Thank you once again," Carolyn, for opening your home and beautiful place. Our "Midsummer Ladies" were Suzanne Edwards and Eileen Scott, who were enjoying the occasion. (The pictures will be in the next issue.)

The next "Summer Picknick" was held out on Lake Sammamish—hosted by John Sandstrom. It must have been the hottest day so far this year. Some 21 happy members were present enjoying the view, friendships, and the good food. "Thank you," John, and "Thank you," Shirleyanne and Marge, for taking care of the guest book and the food also. Also, a special "Thank you" to Nils Holm for donating some of the pictures you took out there. Will add some of them in this article. So until next time, be thankful and kind to each other and for each day we awake.

See you in October and before you know it, December will be here. Until then, be well and happy!

As always,

Marita Agnew, President #106

Did you know?

Sept. 29, 2012

1 USD = 0.777750 EUR

1 CAD = 0.791080 EUR



FinnFest 2013 filling local lodging quickly

In less than 10 months, thousands of Finns from around the world will come to Michigan's Copper Country for FinnFest USA 2013—and they'll all need a place to stay.

That's why FinnFest USA 2013 board members are encouraging everyone interesting in coming to FinnFest June 19–23 of next year to make their lodging reservations as soon as possible. At least two hotels are reportedly at capacity for that week, and some others are very near that point.

The Copper Country does have a number of smaller hotels near the Hancock-Houghton area, as well as in outlying communities. Additionally, there are many bed-and-breakfasts, campgrounds and RV parks, and both Michigan Tech University and Finlandia University will have dormitory rooms available.

However, at the rate lodging is being reserved, organizers anticipate that de-

mand could exceed local availability. With that in mind, they are appealing to local residents who are able to offer home stays or similar lodging options.

The person who has assumed a leadership role in this effort is Susie Landers, who was hired by the FinnFest USA 2013 board of directors to be the managing director of the festival. In that role, Landers is providing "nuts and bolts" support to the festival, handling aspects such as contracts, visas and database management. In addition, she's helping to coordinate planning subcommittees and fundraising efforts.

Landers reports to the festival board of directors, a 13-member group led by Jim Kurtti, who was unanimously selected as chairman by this board at its first meeting in October 2010. Kurtti has attended every FinnFest since 2001, as well as several festivals prior to that year. His vice chairman is Mike Abbott of Michigan Tech University; Abbott is also chairing the festival's fa-

cilities committee. Board secretary is Robin Bonini of Finlandia University, which local CPA Pete Negro is the festival's treasurer/finance chairman.

This team is overseeing a festival that is designed to be a community-wide endeavor, which is appropriate since the Copper Country's predominant ancestry is Finnish—nearly 40 percent of the population has roots in Finland. Not only will the festival take place on the campuses of the area's two universities, but it will also branch out into the surrounding area, giving visitors a full taste of why the area was once known as "Amerikan-suomalaisuuden pesäpaikka" (the nesting place of Finnish America).

For more information, log on to www.finnfestusa2013.org.

From *The Finnish American Reporter*
—September 2012