



LEADING STAR LEDSTJÄRNAN

CX EST. 1906 La Palma, California June 2016 Number 2 www.orderofruneberg.org

Order of Runeberg Message

Finland *100* years

*From the Home page
of the website,*

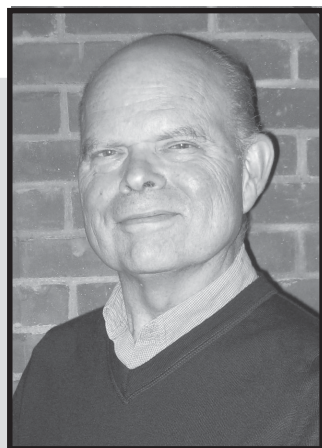
<http://suomifinland100.fi/info/?lang=en>, created by the Finnish Prime Minister's Office:

Finland's big year 2017

Finland became an independent state on 6 December 1917. The newly born state was willed into being by the Finns after a long struggle. In spite of hard times, the Finnish people have for almost a hundred years engaged in the building of their country and making decisions together. Now the Finns are leading their country into a new century with courage and determination.

The centenary of Finland's independence in 2017 will be the most significant commemorative year for this generation of Finns. It will provide opportunities to better understand the past, experience the jubilee together and set the course for Finland's future success.

Also from the above referenced



Home page:

"Theme – Together"

The theme of Finland's centenary celebration year is 'Together.' With the help of a host of participants, we will draw up a lively program covering the whole of 2017. The centenary celebration is open to both Finns and friends of Finland. Now you have the opportunity to do a small or great deed and so make

a contribution to your own community – Finland.

The centenary is a vantage point from which we can look both forward and back on a hundred years, with our feet firmly planted in the present. Our centenary program will deepen our understanding of the entire period since independence, while surveying Finland as it is now and seeking and forging a new country.

A varied program will mark Finland's independence celebrations in 2017. While overall responsibility for putting the program together rests with the 'Finland 100 Years' organization established in the Prime Minister's Office, the centenary program can only be created through the joint efforts of Finns and friends of Finland."

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WHAT'S INSIDE:



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Our past, present and future

We weren't sure how much content we would have for this issue of the paper. As it turns out we have a number of good articles that tell about our lodge members and their activities. Also, the front page article about "Finland 100 Years" and the Genealogy Corner article about "The Creativity of Finns" fit well together. Both share and consider how Finland has developed a national identity and celebrate what has been accomplished.

We have a couple of articles that tell about keeping a record of our history. The Swedish Finn Historical Society is digitalizing past issues of the *Leading Star* which will make them more accessible to all. There is an article about a request for information about someone from the past. These articles can be taken as a challenge for you to record your family history if you haven't already done so.

As always, we are in need of articles for the paper. Send us news about your activities and pictures, if possible, so we can keep the historical record going.

—DH

Seattle Sojourn

It was after the Millennium that I became acquainted with the Swedish Finn Historical Society. *The Quarterly* provided the right connection with my heritage. My Swedish-Finn parents immigrated from Österbotten and made their first home in Aldergrove, British Columbia, Canada. My aunt, Anna Peterson, was a life-long member of the Order of Runeberg, Lodge #124. As a result of family interest, I, too, joined the same Lodge.

As a child, I attended the Order of Runeberg Christmas Concerts and loved to watch the adults dance. It seems I had my first acquaintance with Gunnar Damström, *The Quarterly* staff editor in chief, when I submitted a short story to *The Quarterly* about Bill and Linnea Klockars who danced the hambo like a couple in "Dancing with the Stars."

If Life is a Journey, then my Guardian Angel directed me to plan a trip to the Swedish Finn Historical Society 25th Annual Meeting and Luncheon on March 12, 2016. I was privileged on Friday to ride to Seattle with Cousin Annabelle Kergan, president of the Vancouver Runeberg Social Club and Secretary Janet Duxbury. We headed towards Ballard and stopped at the Nordic Heritage Museum. We had time to meander through two floors, oohing and awing at Scandinavian history, colors, design, and the results of prayer, work, and conditions of the times.

We drove into the parking lot of the Swedish Club Cultural Center at 1920 Dexter Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109, in mid-morning on Saturday, March 12. We received a warm welcome and tour of the second floor. I met Gunnar Damström and Syrene Forsman. We toured the area for Swedish Finn Emigrant Data. Kim Jacobs told of Pedigree Charts and Genealogy.

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The Leading Star is published quarterly by the Order of Runeberg for its members and others interested in the Order at 7682 Tracy Lane, La Palma, California 90623-1501.

The Leading Star / Ledstjärnan

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Name: _____

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City: _____

State: _____ Zip _____

Lodge & Number: _____

Finland 100 years

continued from page 1

Also from the above referenced Home page:

"Building the program together"

Anyone can propose a project to be included in the Finland 100 program – this means you or your club, association or company (maybe your O of R lodge?). Applications are received up to the autumn of 2017. To read more about the principles of program preparation and the requirements for cooperation and partnering agreement and to access the online application form, click the provided link."

The above referenced Home page mentions that program updates are made almost daily, you may sign up for a newsletter. Signup is easy to do.

From the Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) website

www.finlandiafoundation.org/finland-100/

"Finnish Ambassador to the United States, Her Excellency Kirsti Kauppi, and her staff at the Embassy in Washington, D.C., have been working with representatives of local Finnish-American organizations (including Finlandia Foundation represented by FFN President Ossi Rahkonen) to plan a series of events across the U.S., notably a traveling sauna that will visit at least a dozen locations throughout 2017."

I hope the above information will encourage you to visit the referenced websites where much more information on the "Finland 100 Years" programs is available.

Stew Lyons

Lodge#205, New Haven, CT

Publication Fund Report June 2016

As planned, we reduced the number of pages in the *Leading Star* from 16 pages to 12 pages (25% less pages), effective with the March issue. The costs of publication / issue were reduced as follows:

Graphics cost for March was \$360

$360 / 480 = 75\%$ of previous cost

The postage cost for March was \$165.13

$165.13 / 204.204.69 = 81\%$ of previous cost

The printing cost for March was \$111.13

$111.13 / 136.41 = 75\%$ of previous cost

The total cost for the March issue was \$836.26

$836.26 / 1,021.10 = 82\%$ of previous cost = 18% cost reduction

Cost summary of the March 2016 issue of the *Leading Star*:

Per *Leading Star* issue:

Editors' stipend: \$200.	Printing: \$111.13
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Graphics: \$360.	Total / issue: \$836.26
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LS postage: \$165.13

In addition to the *Leading Star* cost reduction, I received an offer of a 20% reduction in the annual (5/7/16 to 5/6/17) cost of our Internet service provider (ISP – for our Runeberg Lodges website hosting)

$126.79 / 158.49 = 80\%$ of previous annual cost

Publication Fund Balances:

Balance reported in March 2016	\$5,778.21
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Cost of March 2016 LS	\$836.26
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Annual ISP service cost	\$126.79
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Current Balance, June 2016	\$4,815.16
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Based on the above cost reductions, it is estimated that the revised "last *Leading Star* issue," to be the June 2017 issue (previously projected to be the March 2017 issue).

Our *Leading Star* editors have suggested we may be at a point with the June issue of the paper that we go to 8 pages—there was not a lot of content. The plan is to look at each issue on an individual basis. Thus the page count would be 8 or 12 depending on what has been submitted. I agree with the editors.

Report submitted by
Stew Lyons

Genealogy Corner

The Creativity of the Finns

The creativity of the Finns is recognized in areas such as architecture, literature, music and technologies. This article focuses on six historical leaders who developed the Finnish language and national identity. A common language provides the means for populations to achieve a national unity and culture. Without the foresight and creativity of these six, there may never have been a Finnish nation.

Every independent nation has scores of men and women whose thought, creations and deeds have made possible their country's nationhood. In America we have Thomas Paine and Francis Hopkinson. Paine wrote his fifty-page booklet, *Common Sense*, which stirred the colonists to act. Hopkinson designed the American flag, our symbol of unity. Both still help us to understand define our country.

Finland's freedom and independence could neither be conceived nor achieved in the brief span of time as that of America. Sweden's forced annexation of Finland began around 1200. Its rule lasted more than six centuries. In 1807 Napoleon plotted with Tsar Alexander I to convince Sweden to help in their war against England. They failed.



June Pelo
A Dedicated Genealogist

Russia then attacked Finland and Sweden in 1808 and won the war, fought largely by the Finns, in 1809. Finland was made a Grand Duchy of Russia. Russia's rule, ranging between benevolent to despotic, lasted more than a century.

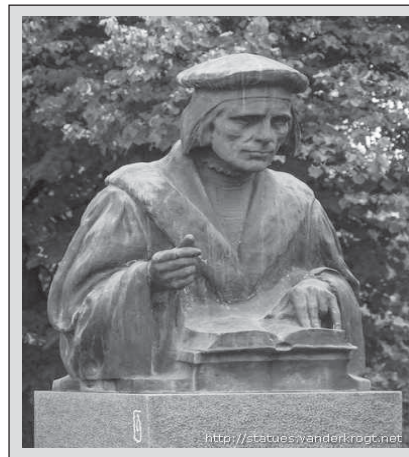
People under foreign control for centuries see it as unchangeable. But certain people in Finland worked with the elements of national identity in both the Swedish and Russian periods.

MICHAEL AGRICOLA (1510-1557)

Finnish has a long history as a spoken language. Michael Agricola developed it into written form and systemic use. Born in 1510, he grew to manhood with two driving causes in mind, Christian faith and the Finnish people. As a gifted student he was sent to Wittenberg, Germany, to study under Martin Luther and his co-worker, Phillip Melanchthon.

In 1531 Agricola returned to Finland. He was assigned to the cathedral school in Turku where he taught pastoral candidates biblical studies, theology and the duties of pastors. He had a major influence on the people of Finland by virtue of his personal dedication. What he did for the Finnish language outreaches his lifetime of service.

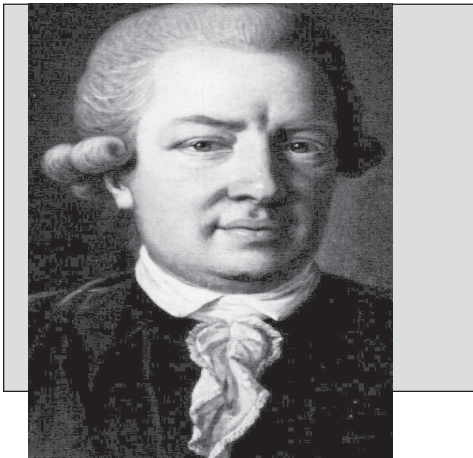
During time away from classrooms and pastoral work, Agricola gathered the letters of spoken Finnish into an alphabet



and a study book called an aapinen. He translated the catechism received from Martin Luther. He prepared a prayer book in Finnish. Later he translated the New Testament and much of the Old Testament. People were drawn to them for their content and the Finnish language.

Agricola is recognized as father of the written Finnish language. His objectives were to foster and nurture the faith and to help people to learn and grow.

HENRIK PORTHAN (1739-1803)



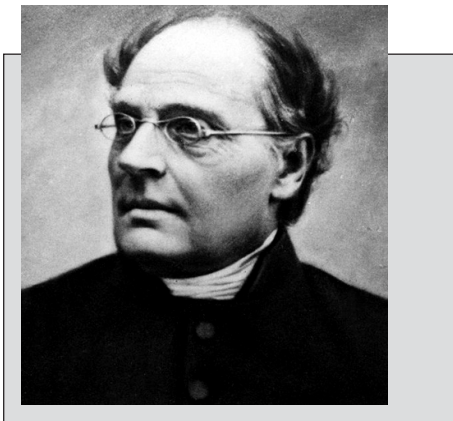
After Michael Agricola many people could be named for their contributions to the Finnish people, but a history teacher comes into our view for the creative intensity of his research, teaching and ideas. He is Henrik Porthan who taught at the University of Turku. He died 24 years before the university burned and was moved to Helsinki. Following his death students and scholars formed a Saturday Society to study and discuss his ideas. He taught in the 18th century, but his largest impact came through the Saturday Society in the following century.

What was it about Henrik Porthan that caused people to take up his legacies? What he found in the history of the Finnish people helped him to envision what they could accomplish, what they could become. What he learned through his research he taught and articulated well. For these reasons Henrik Porthan is every bit as creative of the Finnish identity and culture as those who followed him.

JOHAN LUDVIG RUNEBERG

(1804-1877)

The son of Finland who brought his country some of her earliest literary and intellectual acclaim was Johan Ludvig Runeberg. He was born in February 1804 and raised by an uncle due to the poverty of his parents who had younger children to house, clothe and feed. Being gifted he tutored children of wealthy families for a living and later for his studies at the University of Turku. He learned of Professor Henrik Porthan and joined



others in their study of his ideals. He earned his doctor of philosophy degree in 1827 shortly before Turku and its university were claimed by fire.

By 1830 he had published a book of poems, translated and published another and also began a periodical called *The Helsingfors Morgonblad*. While Runeberg wrote and published in Swedish, his life and thought were centered in Finland. Except for one short trip to Sweden, Runeberg lived his entire life in Finland. Despite this he came to be recognized as one of the lead-

ing poets and thinkers of all Scandinavia.

Runeberg published a number of books such as *Kung Fjalar* in 1844. The same year the King of Sweden decorated him with the Order of the North Star. Most noteworthy of his books was *The Songs of Ensign Stål*. It deals with the war against the invading Russians in 1808-1809. Finnish heroism and pride occurs and reoccurs in Runeberg's book of vivid poems.

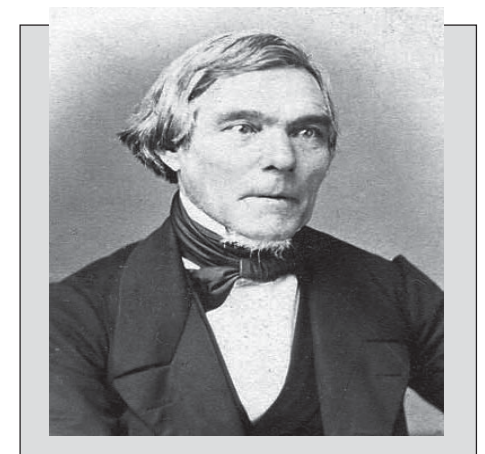
Runeberg reached his beloved countrymen. A further bonding with them was forged when the book's poem of dedication, "Our Land," became Finland's national anthem.

DR. ELIAS LÖNNROT (1803-1884)

What drove this doctor of medicine to seek, sort out and publish the sung legends and poems of the folk and peasants of Finland and Karelia? What excited him to do this? What gave him the determination and stamina to stick to his task?

Born in 1802 into the family of a village tailor he spent work time in his father's shop. He also worked in an apothecary to earn

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LODGE NEWS



Lodge #205 New Haven, Connecticut

"St. Urho's Day" 2016 Celebration



Sandy (L) & Brenda enjoying gourmet selection of appetizers, vegetables, salads, and desserts



L-R: Liisa, Kirsti, Dottie & Stew - enjoying conversation

Everyone had a good time at our annual "St. Urho's Day" celebration on April 3rd. The celebration had been scheduled for mid-March but was rescheduled due to predictions of a heavy snow storm. The prediction was inaccurate—only minor snow. The celebration included a potluck dinner, reciting the "Ode to St. Urho" and good conversation at the home of our hosts, Glenn and Sandy.

Glenn and Sandy did a wonderful job decorating for the St. Urho's Day celebration—purple, green, and grasshoppers everywhere! We had a good turnout of members as can be seen in the pictures accompanying this article.

All the potluck appetizers, dinner and dessert items were delicious. Thank you to all our members for their contributions to the gourmet selections! We had a wide variety of food items: shrimp dip, pea soup, deviled eggs, chili, salad, salmon pie, pulled pork, as-



LODGE NEWS



paragus quiche, fruit tarts, and chocolate whisky cake!

After a business meeting, Liisa Lindholm led the group in reciting the "Ode to St. Urho." Roy Kosonen then treated our members by singing a traditional Finnish folk song. The pictures accompanying this article may be seen in color at New Haven Lodge's St. Urho's Day web page:

www.orderofruuneberg.org/l205sturho16.html

Our New Haven lodge also held our annual Summer Picnic on June 4th, which will be covered in the September issue of the *Leading Star*.

Our next meeting, which is the annual Fall Hike & potluck dinner, is planned for October 15th, and will be hosted by Robert & Tuula Berke. The hike will be at Hammonasset Beach State Park. Upon completion of the afternoon hike, we will gather at Robert and Tuula's home for a potluck dinner. Check our lodge website for details as the date approaches: www.orderofruuneberg.org/lodgesl205newhavenct.html

Stew Lyons



L-R: Cindy, Klas, Brenda & Roy enjoying the potluck dinner selections and St. Urho Day celebrations



Our Lodge #205 St. Urho grasshopper



Liisa is leading the group in reciting the "Ode to St. Urho"



Reciting the "Ode to St. Urho"

L-R: Klas, Brenda, Roy, Doug & Lise

My Trip to Sweden and Finland

By *Linden Keinzle*

Part two: Finland

This is the second part of my Sweden and Finland story. At the ferry terminal in Stockholm we got onto an ocean liner called the Viking Line that was taking us to Finland. Inside the boat there was a kid's video game place and a huge restaurant buffet. After hanging around the boat a little bit and going on to the windy deck, (by the way, the view was amazing, we even saw a medieval castle) we went to the buffet for dinner with lots of choices for food. I got turkey and cranberry sauce. We then went to bed in our cabins below deck. There were nice little fold-up bunks and I got the top, as usual.

When we arrived in Abo, Finland, we made breakfast before going to Muminville. In Muminville we met more relatives and then we saw a play (in Finnish). Next, we visited a replica of Mumin's house and went on a little hike visiting Mumin's dad's ship.

We left Muminville at about 3:00 p.m. and headed north to Kristinistad. Kristinastad is a very old town near Vasa. We were coming here because it is where my great-grandpa was born. He lived on a street called Cat Fighting Street. It was very interesting looking at all the old gravestones in the churchyard.

Next, we arrived at Johan and Margareta's house in Vasa. It was 11:00 p.m. and it was still light out! When we got there we had strawberry cake with whipping cream. Vasa was an important stop because my great-grandma was born here and most of my relatives live in Vasa and Sundom.

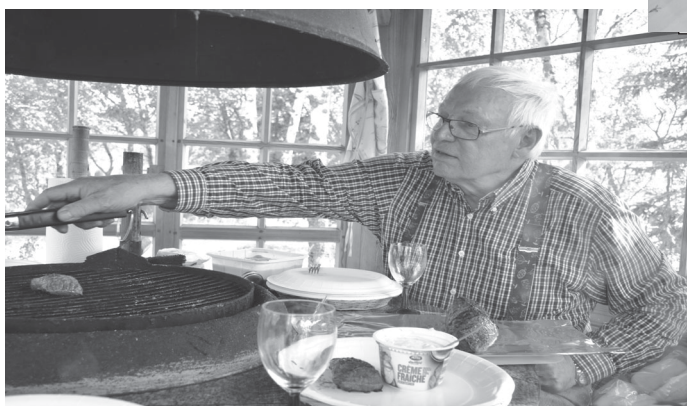


Richard Martina, Linden and Annabelle on the ship

Linden on the top bunk on the ship



Strawberry cake at Margareta and Johan Stoor's house



Johan cooking potatoes and elk

The first big adventure in Vasa was going to an island owned by Margareta and Johan Stoor, called Rock Island. There were lots of fun things to do there like going to the sauna, hiking around the island, swimming and even a gazebo with a barbeque inside it. In the gazebo Johan cooked us potatoes and elk.

Some of the other highlights of Vasa were going to the yacht club with an outdoor buffet. Going to Stundars, a historical outdoor museum where I learned to walk on stilts and make knikibrod and of course, going to another buffet!

In Sundom we went to a meteorite observatory and watched a mini film about the meteorite that fell in Sundom during the last ice age. It was called Söderfjärden. I learnt a lot about meteors. After we went to Söderfjärden, we went to visit relatives who lived near the crater. They had a dog named Elvis who was very fluffy and only understood tricks in Swedish. They also had a cat who brought in a dead mouse. We had dinner with cousins Sabina and Andreas. We stayed there the night and in the morning once again the ten of us

and two dogs drove on the road to Helsinki!

When we arrived in Helsinki, we found the Stoors' apartment that they kindly let us stay in it. The next morning we went to the market. I bought a Finnish knife that had a flint and steel and even a case. It was fun to look at all the cool stuff in this outdoor market. We then went to Stockmans for more shopping. It is a really big store with 7 floors! When we got home we packed up, and said goodbye to our Swedish relatives before they got on the boat to Sweden.

We woke up at 1:00 a.m. to catch a taxi to the airport. Time to go back to Canada! It was a trip that I will never forget!

The End!

Seattle Sojourn

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We met more of the Vancouver Lodge brothers and sisters: Etel and Tor Rosback, Ulla and George Nelson. It was a lovely social get together over coffee and cardamom bread. "Svenska" music was provided by Verne and Jeannie Lindquist. Verne played the accordion and Jeannie played guitar, mandolin and flute. This setting and special company gave me a grateful feeling.

At 12:30 we went downstairs to the dining room for a traditional Swedish luncheon. The menu included a buffet of choices: limpa bread, hardtack, cardamom bread, pickled herring, and cucumber salad with dill. There was roast pork with prunes and lingonberries,

Jansson's Temptation and braised red cabbage.

There was wine on the table. Coffee and tea were ready. Dessert was cinnamon and cardamom spiced poached pears. After our welcome, a toast, and opening prayer, we joined our table mates in eating while listening to the interesting speakers. Roger Johnson spoke of the Swedish Finn Community in Northern Minnesota (Hibbing, Duluth). He also thanked his Seattle hosts for the Washington "washing." It was rather cold and wet. Dick Erickson spoke about writing his family history, "Immigrants of the Independence Valley," which took 10 years to write. The afternoon ended with a short financial and business overview. On the drive back to Burnaby, B.C., we happily discussed aspects of our memorable weekend.

Barbara Winter—April 18, 2016

Swedish Finn Historical Society

Please Help Us Make Your History Available to You and the World:

Dear Members and Friends of the Order of Runeberg:

When the International Order of Runeberg made the decision to close, the records of each chapter were sent to the Swedish Finn Historical Society. SFHS already had copies of most of the *Leading Star* issues. At that time \$10,000 was given to SFHS to help support the archiving of these records.

SFHS has recently completed digitizing of the *Leading Star*. The digital copies are searchable in Swedish or English. They will be made available to SFHS members online. SFHS has also nearly completed the digitizing of our photo files some of which are from OR. These, too, will be available online. Many members of the Order of Runeberg are also members of SFHS. SFHS is willing to grant membership to all Order of Runeberg members; you just need to contact SFHS and sign up and give the name of your OR chapter (or former chapter if it closed).

One of the exciting things about history is making it available to people to explore their past, their families' past, and the history of the communities in which they lived. There are 65+ boxes of records of Order of Runeberg. These boxes vary greatly in number of pages from none to well over 3300. Most will have significant numbers of pages. The single box having no pages was full of trophies—which we will photograph. We are still trying to estimate a total page count. It will be a very high number.

The process of digitizing, organizing and uploading to our website is time consuming and expensive. We are asking OR members, OR Chapters, and SFHS members to please help us with donations to support this effort.

Donations can be made by mail to:

Swedish Finn Historical Society

1920 Dexter Ave. N.

Seattle, WA 98109

Or at our webpage:

Swedishfinnhistoricalsociety.org

We hope you will support this effort to record your history.

Sincerely,

Bill Carlson

President of Swedish Finn Historical Society

Ed Brannfors

Former Treasurer, International Order of Runeberg

Stewart Lyons

Former President, International Order of Runeberg

Dale Hjort

Editor of the *Leading Star*

Genealogy Corner

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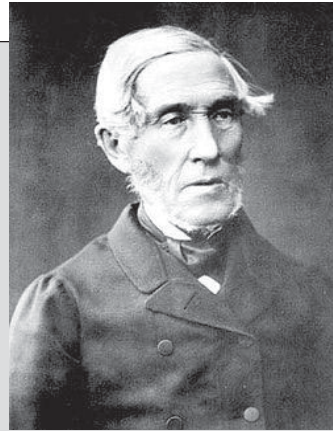
for his costs at the University of Turku. Others at the university who studied folk poetry sparked his curiosity about the subject. He made Väinämöinen the focus of his master's thesis. Perhaps the apothecary experience, folk medicine or something from Henrik Porthan's work contributed to Lönnrot's interest in medicine. Perhaps he foresaw how he could combine medical calls with literary research. In any case he completed his doctoral studies in 1832 with a study of healing and medicine among the folk and peasant Finns.

Dr. Elias Lönnrot made many trips in Finland and Karelia to gather as much as he could of the legends and verses. Equipped with a flute, writing materials and his doctor's kit he attended to persons with illness or injury when the need arose; provided music for events of life such as weddings and village gatherings; and responded to rune singers when they were ready to share. He listened to, memorized, sang and recorded dozens of poems and thousands of poem lines.

In 1835, Lönnrot published the first *Kalevala* in a limited number. In 1849, his enlarged and revised *Kalevala* was published. By then a waiting readership in Finland and other countries was anxious to secure this epic of Finland. Runeberg and Lönnrot did so much for the identity and culture of their

people. It remained for another to make the benefits of their work known and usable in all of Finland.

JOHAN VILHELM SNELLMAN (1806-1881)



The third person of the Saturday Society who made major gains for the cause of Finland was Johan Snellman. His contributions built on those of Runeberg and Lönnrot. With them he believed in the quality, strengths and wisdom of the Finnish people. No nation of credible character and purpose would overlook the human resources and potentials in its folk and peasant populations. In them the future of Finland was to be found.

Johan Snellman recognized the need for two considerable changes essential for Finland's future. First, the education of Finnish speaking children needed to take place in Finnish, not Swedish. Second, the Finnish majority and the Swedo-Finnish minority needed to be reconciled into a cohesive society.

Through his own periodicals, one in Finnish and one in Swedish, Snellman brought the issues to his readership. Snellman kept the Grand Duke of Finland, Tsar Alexander II, informed of developments and the needed changes. Alexander II also knew that Sweden was coveting the now more prosperous Finland.

In 1868 Alexander II issued a Language Edict which made Finnish the language of children's education in Finnish speaking communities. Swedish was allowed in the schools where Swedish was the local language. Finnish became one of the two languages of Finnish governmental personnel. Government administrators and workers were given twenty years to become proficient in Finnish.

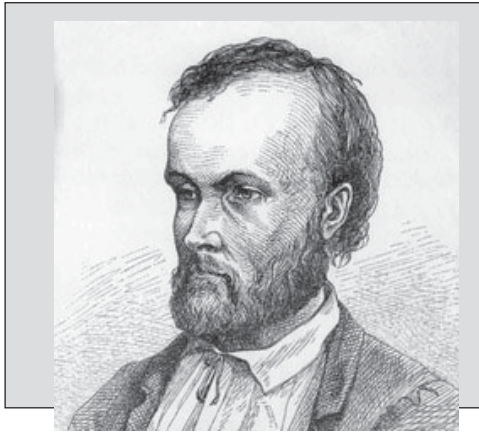
Johan Vilhelm Snellman is one of the persons whose creative passions freed the Finnish language from its historical shackles and helped to bring the Finns and Swedo-Finns together for the sake of their country.

FinnFest USA 2016

Sailing from Boston, Massachusetts, to Montreal, Quebec, on board Holland America's *Veendam* July 9-16, 2016. Travel with others who enjoy a bit of Finland on their cruise including Finnish music, Finnish films, Finnish cooking demonstrations and interesting lectures on the route that many Europeans used to enter North America

ALEKSIS KIVI

(1834-1872)



From the province of Häme came a man of incomparable gifts of language. His powers of observation, human characterizations and drama, coupled with his superb language skills, won him Finland's highest literary acclaim. His name is Aleksis Kivi.

Kivi was born beyond the time that would allow him to have participated in the Saturday Society's probing discussions of

Henry Porthan's work. But Kivi's instinctive, driving interest in his fellow Finns brought him into that company of people who believed in the future of Finland.

Kivi wrote as a dramatist and novelist. Plays he did for the theater are *Lea and Village Cobblers*. Their performances mark the beginnings of Finnish theater, an undertaking that was summarily opposed at that time by Swedish speaking citizens. His plays are masterful and their high standings continue.

The greatest work of Kivi is his novel, *Seven Brothers*. It was published when he was thirty-six years of age. In this work the Finns could read about themselves, see themselves. The realities of life in Häme were before their eyes. The emotions in the novel were theirs. Everything they knew was there, simple but heroic. When *Seven Brothers* was absorbed by the Finns they took Kivi into their hearts in a way that reflects what he gave to

Genealogy Corner

them. They came to love him because he loved them, their way of life and their language.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SIX

During the 20th century I, as well as others, have heard references to these six men and others by grandparents and other relatives, in church and historical society meetings and later in post high school studies. Memory and curiosity cause us to ask, "What was their significance?" It lies in the use of their creative talents toward the nationhood and independence that their country ultimately achieved.

By Giles C. Ekola,
The Finnish American Reporter, Oct. 1998
June Pelo

Request to all readers of the Leading Star

June Pelo, who provides the Genealogy Corner article, received this request from Finland.

Markus Ahlskog, a professor of physics at Jyväskylä University in Finland, is gathering information about Viktor Gåsström prior to writing a book, and has asked for help. Viktor was involved in socialist clubs in New York in the early 1900s, and married there in 1913. He went to Canada in the 1920s and was deported in 1927 because of his socialist activities (Markus can't find anything about that period).

He also was involved in socialist activities in Chicago circa 1916. His son Elis was born there in 1916. Viktor seemed to travel back and forth to Finland frequently, as well as to Russia, where he died in 1969. Any information about him would be welcomed.

If you have any information, please send an email or letter to your editors, Dale and Mary Lou Hjort. Their addresses are found at the bottom of page 2 of this paper.

Thank you and a Reminder

As done in previous issues of the *Leading Star*, I want to: (1) thank those who have contributed articles (front page and "Lodge News") and (2) remind our lodges, including individual lodge members, of the need to provide front page articles and lodge meeting and activities articles for future issues of the *Leading Star*. Quoting Vancouver lodge member Annabelle Kergan: "The success of the *Leading Star's* continuation will depend on all the remaining lodges / members being willing to contribute something to each publication." *Stew Lyons*

THE LEADING STAR

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Address Service Requested

Order of Runeberg Lodges

CANADA

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CALIFORNIA

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Eureka

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