



NEWSLETTER

Tucson Chapter of Finlandia Foundation National®

<http://www.TucsonFinnishAmericanClub.org>

Lokakuu (October) 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Backyard Meet & Greet: Finns and International Friends

Saturday, October 7, 2023

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Home of John Hughes & Mary Charlotte Kidd

7712 E. Oakwood Circle

Tucson, AZ

Green Valley Fall Party

Saturday, November 11, 2023

3:00 to 6:00 PM

Home of Hannu & Darlene Mäkälä

733 S. Abrago Dr

Green Valley, AZ

Scandinavian & Nordic Fair

Saturday, December 2, 2023

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Streams in the Desert Church

5360 E. Pima, Tucson

Pikkujoulu

Saturday, December 9, 2023

Begins at 4:00; dinner at 4:30

Dove of Peace Lutheran Church

665 W. Roller Coaster Rd.

ANCESTRAL JOURNEY

By Kathi Huhtaluhta

From July 3 to July 19, 2023, my daughter, Kali Lucey and I did an "Ancestral journey" to Finland, Finnish Lapland, and Norway. The trip started with 2 nights in Helsinki. Helsinki such is a vibrant city, especially in the summer, with all the activities going on. The Sea Market is always a treat for buying things from local vendors. It was windy and cool by the water and you needed a wind breaker, or jacket. We were saved from the local seagulls by a Helsinki resident, Mia and her dog.



Kathi and Kali with Mia (L) and her dog



Kali Lucey in Helsinki

The local seagulls are quite aggressive and will steal food right out of your hands, but Mia's "koira" kept them away. The cafes in the city are also great. It is lovely to be able to sit outside while eating, or drinking coffee. There are more cars, than I remember and the electric tram and buses are everywhere. The cobblestone streets and beautiful, green parks make Helsinki a very easy place to walk and get around in. Something unique to the market: there is a large ferris wheel on the bay and it has a virtual reality experience in each car, plus in one car there is a sauna! Hard to imagine.

From Helsinki we took the train to "Alaharma". Alaharma is a rural community and every summer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **FinnFest USA 2024** Festival takes place July 25 – 28 in Duluth, Minnesota.

31st Annual FinnFunn Weekend 2023 is happening in Gloucester & Rockport, MA on **October 27-28**.

FACT Memberships

It's time to renew your 2023 membership.

Suggested Donation

\$20 per family; \$10 for individual

Payable at all meetings

or

by mail: **Lisa Garcia**,

2349 W Dante Way, Tucson, AZ 85741

Make checks payable to "FACT"

Club Website: <http://www.tucsonfinnishamericanclub.org>

Club e-mail: TucsonFinnClub@gmail.com

it's main attraction is an Amusement park. My cousin Kauko had us stay at his farm cabin. It's really a house right in the middle of fields and fields of potatoes, oats, and other agricultural products. Farming is the main industry in Alaharma. We literally walked the same path as my grandmother, Wilhelmina Huhtaluhta. There were 5 sisters and they all immigrated to America in the 1890's. We visited the cemetery where the graves are marked with the Huhtaluhta name and her brother Nillo, who went to America, but returned to Finland. Kauko's father Nillo is buried there, by the beautiful stone church.

Then, there was a family reunion. Over 50 people, men, women, and children, cousins from all over Finland attended. They all came to meet Kali and me, the cousins from the U.S.A. It is taken very seriously when the family who left Finland returns to Finland! What a turn out! It was incredible to meet so many relatives in one place!

Kauko's cabin and the big barn were perfect for all the people to gather. Kali read what I told her I could remember about her Great grandmother, Wilhelmina Huhtaluhta. They wanted to know all about the family that left for America! Kali gave an informative presentation to everyone summarizing the Sisters lives in America. It was a very touching moment. It is a miracle that I even found the "Huhtaluhta" family in Finland. The name was changed to "Huhtala" in Minnesota, because "Huhtaluhta" was too difficult to pronounce! Many Finnish names were changed, or shortened upon arrival in the U.S. It is a tragedy. Many people are probably lost forever from their roots.

My cousin, Kauko lives right on the Lapua River and is a very respected leader in the community. He rents canoes and gives canoe trips. So, of course, we had to go on a canoe trip along the river! It was calm and peaceful. Kauko led a small group along the river. I canoed together with Timo, my cousin. Timo is Kauko's brother and he is a farmer and owns 500 acres of prime land in Alaharma.

The fields are like green velvet. Everything is green, lush, and beautiful.

Kali and I visited a local farm that raises "Finn" sheep and "Finn" horses. They are very special animals to the Finnish. The small horses were invaluable to the Finnish troops in the Winter War against Russia. We spent time with Timo as well at his farm house. Kali got a tour of the large tractors and farming equipment. The next day we drove with Timo, Sari (his wife) and their five children, to Vassa on the coast. Vassa is a very "Swedish" settlement. The signs are in Finnish and Swedish language. Vassa is interesting and has a history of surviving the elements of the sea. In the summer, it is a popular place to travel.

Additionally, I had the opportunity to revisit "Kaustinen," and the famous Music Folk Festival held there every year. It was a strange feeling to see where I performed twelve years ago on stage! We were able to go to a few performances on a Saturday.

Well, our visit with family was very purposeful. Our next journey by train was to Lapland and Rovaniemi to visit my cousin and her son. Rovaniemi is a busy place in the summer. All along the river people are swimming, or boating. We had a dinner that consisted of reindeer and a local fish that they catch in the river. It was a delicious meal. Reindeer meat is the main meat in Lapland. They have reindeer hamburgers, reindeer stew, in many different varieties. We also saw reindeer while there. Most of the reindeer go to higher ground where is cooler, but we saw a few on the road and in the forest.



Kathi Huhtaluhta and Sámi friend

We also visited the famous "Santa Village." At Santa's village you can jump across to the Arctic. A fun place to visit. I promised my students in Tucson I would visit there and bring them back "proof" that there really is a Santa in the North Pole! My cousin Helene and her son Juusi met us in Rovaniemi. Helene told the story how she met her husband of 56 years in Lapland. He is a Sámi and she said she saw him, they both looked at each other, and it was Love at first sight!

Kali and I rented a car in Rovaniemi and drove all the way to Skibotin, Norway to attend the Music Festival "Riddu Riddu." Riddu Riddu was started in the 60's by a group of young Sámi men that wanted retribution from the government for all the damage that was done to them by the Norwegian government. They wanted a place where All Indigenous peoples could come and meet – a place where they could share music, dance and celebrate their culture. The event is something like the "Tucson Meet Yourself," only in Lapland, Norway. Ever since then the "Riddu Riddu" Music Festival has been held in July.



Reindeer skins stacked at the Riddu Riddu Festival in Lapland, Norway

Norway is stunning. The fjords are incredible. You can imagine a Viking ship sailing on them from centuries ago! The music festival had the most prominent up and coming Sámi Yoikers, but it also highlighted other groups of performers as well. One talented singer was a Lakota Sioux rap singer from the Lakota reservation of North Dakota. I was a bit skeptical of rap, but when I heard his voice, the power struck me! He was dynamic, and shared a message of hope for indigenous people everywhere. Although radical in the message the lyrics were meaningful. Especially the

song he dedicated to his mother in gratitude for her sacrifices. The audience was very moved. Kali and I were truly touched by his powerful presence, as were the Sámi people. Other Indigenous groups came as well. All the way to the ends of the world in Norway! What an experience it was to be there.

SAVING FINLAND IN AMERICA

With the closing this year of Finlandia University, founded in 1896 as Suomi College, Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) stepped in (at a cost of \$30,000 per month) to become the caretaker of the Finnish American Heritage Center and its extensive archives and artifacts, the monthly *Finnish American Reporter*, the Finnish American Folk School, the Art Gallery, War Museum, and North Wind Books store.

With the University's closure, the content of the archives were at risk of being dispersed, sold at auction, or just discarded into dumpsters. This archive of over 40,000 artifacts is the largest collection of Finnish-American materials in the US. However, working with the University and the court-appointed Receiver to acquire and protect "the Smithsonian of Finnish-America," FFN has rescued the archives, artifacts and programs of the Heritage Center, and is on track to finalize the purchase the building.

However, to continue its work in preserving the operations of the Finnish American Heritage Center in Hancock, Michigan, and in safeguarding the story of Finnish America for future generations. Finlandia Foundation National **must raise \$3 million by the end of 2023**. Per the FFN website, this money is needed to fund, secure and protect:

- cultural and historical treasures of the archives
- staffing and physical operations
- programming and exhibitions
- endowment for the continued legacy
- digitization of archival material for worldwide use
- and more!

Club Website: <http://www.tucsonfinnishamericanclub.org>

Please donate to be part of Saving Finland in America.

Donate online at:

<https://finlandiafoundation.org/donate/>

or

Send a check made payable to Finlandia Foundation National to:

Finlandia Foundation National
254 N. Lake Ave. #852
Pasadena, CA 91101

FFN 2022 ARTIST OF YEAR

Earlier this year, Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) introduced **Eric Aho** as its inaugural **Artist of the Year**, a program that spotlights outstanding talent within the Finnish-American visual arts community. According to the FFN announcement, Eric has been called "One of the leading painters of landscape and the environment of his generation."



Eric Aho,
2023 FFN Artist of the Year

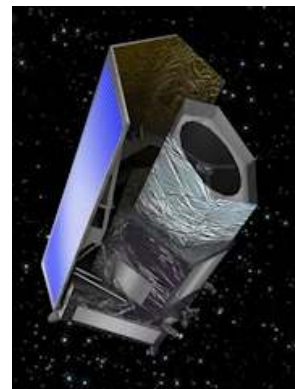
An American of Finnish descent, Eric lives in Vermont, and studied at the Central School of Art and Design in Vermont. He has a BFA from the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston and did postgraduate work at the Institute of Art and Design in Lahti, Finland.

Finland, of course, is internationally recognized for its contributions to the arts and design fields, and that extends to Finnish and Finnish-American designers, weavers, painters, illustrators, photographers, woodworkers, sculptors, ceramic and other tactile artists in the US.

Learn more about Eric at his website: <https://ericaho.com/>. -SH

MANY FINNS COLLABORATE ON EUCLID SPACE TELESCOPE ENDEAVOUR

Launched by the European Space Agency (ESA) on July 1, 2023, the **Euclid Space Telescope** shall spend the next six years mapping the universe with its main objective to solve the question of dark matter and dark energy. Dark matter and dark energy have long been theorized but never directly observed – other than how they might affect objects around them.



Artist rendering of Euclid Space Telescope

"The gravity of dark matter and dark energy affects the movements of galaxies and the expansion of the universe. Though we cannot see either of them directly, they make up some 95% of the universe," says Professor Hannu Kurki-Suonio from the University of Helsinki.

Euclid will produce a three-dimensional map of the universe with billions of galaxies. This map will cover over one third of space, up to 10 billion light years away. (The further away an observed galaxy is, the further we can see into the past – all the way to 10 billion years ago.)

In order to accomplish this goal, Euclid large cameras will produce massive amounts of data. The images from visible light camera contain more than 600 million pixels and the ones from the infrared camera more than 60 million pixels.

More than 300 research institutes and 2,000 researchers from 21 countries are participating in Euclid. The observational camera data from Euclid will be analyzed in nine separate Euclid science data centers, one of which is located in Finland.

Club e-mail: TucsonFinnClub@gmail.com

Additionally, Finnish scientists have collaborated in developing computing methods, producing simulated data, and developing data quality-assurance methods for Euclid. The Finnish team members also hold a strong position in combining observations made from Earth with Euclid data. In addition to the data gathered by the space telescope, a huge amount of data collected from Earth is required to determine the distances of galaxies.

"In order to collate all this data, we need long-term collaboration between observatories and data centers around the world, but once it is finished, it will also offer scientists the best material for research into the structure of the universe," says University Lecturer Aku Venhola from the University of Oulu.

"Data-intensive computation is a swiftly growing field within science. The Finnish Euclid science data center is a spearhead example of this," says Director Janne Ignatius from CSC, the IT Center for Science.

"The development of efficient methods of data analysis poses cross-discipline challenges between cosmology and IT," adds Associate Professor Maarit Korpi-Lagg from Aalto University. The Finnish computing center will be responsible for processing 5% of the data from Euclid.

Euclid will start collecting the measurements three months after the launch. The telescope is currently in its commissioning phase where the mission team is fine-tuning its instruments before the mission begins. The first results from the Euclid project are expected by the end of 2025. *-phys.org & Helsinki Times*

KARELIAN LANGUAGE REVIVAL PROJECT

University of Eastern Finland has received more funding from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture to continue its Karelian language revitalization project. The aim of this project, which was launched since 2020, is to develop a program that involves more and more young people in the process of learning Karelian.

The Karelian language is spoken by the Finnic ethnic groups in Northwestern Russia and Eastern Finland. The language is closely related to Finnish language and the number of its native speakers on both sides of the border is less than 20,000.



Karelian language books.

The language has faded out because there has been very little governmental support before, Project Coordinator Milla Tynnyrinen told *The Barents Observer*. She also explained that "Karelian speakers were living in the most Eastern parts of Finland that surrendered to the Soviet Union after WWII. Consequently, the Karelians were evacuated to the Western and Central part of Finland, where everyone around spoke Finnish. To succeed in life you had to speak Finnish. Also although the Karelian language very much resembles the Finnish, for some local Finns back then it reminded them of the Russian language. So there was suspicion towards Karelians and Karelian language was spoken within individual households only".

Russia's invasion of Ukraine had another negative impact on the Karelian revival program. Academic cooperation with the Karelians in Russia is on hold now. *-Barents Observer*

MY TRIP TO FINLAND

By Renee Nelson

Food

Travel and food are always tied together for me. This spring I stayed most of June in Joensuu area of Finland. The lakes and nature provided a much-needed respite from my hectic work life. Food has always been a big part of my Finland visits.

In 1973 on my first trip to Finland, my high school friend's father told me I had to work for food while I was there. He had me rowing and piling wood because the cabins are on an island. My first shock came from the salad! They had garden lettuce that was bitter, not the familiar iceberg! The next shock was all the fish...small fish, large fish, fish soup, fish stew – heads removed, fish bread, smoked fish, fried fish, all harvested from the lake by my friend's father and cooked by her mother. At home my mom would stream fish for trout and pan fry it or we'd have tuna or jarred herring if dad was in charge.



Finnish delights await their consumption.

Additional working for food consisted of foraging. I had to pick raspberries from bushes taller than me. Luckily, I was given a little container to put my berries in while crouching and balancing on rocks by the short bushes. The farm strawberries in August became a game of one for me, two for the bucket, one for me, two for the bucket. I was not hungry when dinner time came.

Her dad traded fish for sausages with a friend, so we had lots of sausages too. That was of some comfort. Flash forward 50 years to 2023! Fish is on the menu again, but it is early in the season. We supplement from the store and eat chicken or beef. The grocery options have greatly expanded and include food from all over the world! They even have peanut butter now.

Berries have been foraged and frozen during the last year. We have them in the morning, for snacks or desserts. It is too early for me to work for this food as the berries have not set. We look at the plants anyway to watch them grow. In addition, mushrooms that were foraged last year and frozen must be eaten to make room for this year's bounty. We did not hunt for

mushrooms, but I heard fresh mushrooms were found after I left.

My friend, her neighbor and a couple of other people would come back to the cabin with green things in their hands to cook. Nettle pancakes which were quite good. Something called "Fire Weed" (*Google Translation*) that was fried and served with pasta. There were other things I didn't recognize but if they were being served, I decided they were safe enough to eat.

Rented Chickens

Did you know that you can rent chickens for the summer if you have a place for them? You can rent the same chickens if you want from year to year. My friend rented four chickens, built a chicken coop, and took care of them. They were allowed out of the coop several days after they arrived. They knew where the coop was, so they would return at night. They also decided to dig up the potatoes in the garden so chicken wire was used to guard the potatoes. The temperature was warmer than usual with no rain, so the chickens were provided with a sheet about knee high on the fence for shade.



Rented Chickens in their coop

We had fresh eggs every day but no standard size, shape or color. I don't know if it was determined which hen laid which kind of egg. The eggs from the rented chickens had much darker and richer yolks. Recycling and composting are something Finns do, so there was daily discussion about what food items we had were appropriate for the chickens.

When fall arrives, the chickens will go back to their original farm because they need a warm house to survive the winter. Last winter was cold enough for the lake ice to break one of the jetties.

Anita Smiley Shout out

I had the good fortune to talk with several tour guides during my stay. I mentioned Anita Smiley and they said her tours were great. Anita has a regular guide, so they don't get a chance to do the tours, but their professional opinion is that the tours are great!

Weather and Midsummer 2023

I arrived in Finland the middle of May and spent Midsummer in the Finnish part of Karelia. It was colder than usual and windy which limited the mosquitoes at least for the locals. When mosquitoes were about, they found me, and the others never even saw them!



Cottage with solar panels.

It was so dry that no fires were permitted for Midsummer. We had to change our plans for Midsummer dinner featuring smoked fish. In the ingenious way of the Finn, an electric smoker was purchased. Salmon was salted two days before midsummer. Fish was smoked, herring both pickled and in mustard sauce (my favorite) was served with boiled new potatoes. The salad had local lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, and apple pieces. We had reindeer cream cheese on bread pieces. Fresh rhubarb was baked in a pie for dessert. In keeping with my skill with fish as food, I learned the small fish called *muikku* (vendace in English) could be eaten bones and all when fried but needed to be deboned when smoked with the electric smoker. My friend taught me the fast way to debone fish and took the bones out of all of hers.

It actually rained during the Midsummer ceremony. The flag was raised, and the national anthem was sung with gusto! Music played and there was dancing. The mosquitoes partied too and were out in full force the next day!



Grilled *muikku* ready for midsummer dinner.

Birthday Party and Hobby Horses

I went to Helsinki for my friend's granddaughter's birthday party. The party had a "cake" made of donuts, cupcakes, and other sweets in a tower. Quite cute. The party also had individualized cheese pizzas, some candy, and the usual chips, etc. The soda came in a cardboard container like we have for milk with a top I could not figure out. There was a pull ring but then you pushed it all in?!? Plastic is not as abundant in Finland as here in the States. The party theme was horses and included Pin the Tail on the Horse. Hobby Horses are very popular, and girls take their horses to parties. Some of the horses are purchased, some are homemade. They are customized with different snaffles or bits, breast plates, halters, ropes, award ribbons and other items. The girls train on dirt or grass obstacle courses for competitions. The speed and height of the jumps are part of the scoring for deciding the winners.



Hobby Horses at birthday party

On the day of this party, the wind was up, the course was in the common area of the apartments. The jumps were blown here and there requiring adults to secure them in place. The girls persevered in the cold wind and did not mind a bit, while I was colder than I expected. We also had a Hobby Horse obstacle course built with spare pieces of construction wood for about a week during my visit.

Of course, they weren't too cold, because apparently her dad has the family go sea swimming in the dead of winter!



Stacked "cake" at birthday party

Karelian Pies (*Karajanpiirakkas*)

These were the first things I could truly enjoy on my first trip. They are my comfort food, especially the ones with rice in them and egg butter. I realized the egg butter was familiar because my dad who had Danish heritage used to make it for us.

These thin rye pies are better known now and can be found in the frozen food section of some of the larger grocery stores. They are best when fresh of course, and there was a shop that sold them about 10 minutes from the island. Their store is a bright pink trailer with a cute short legged cat who wanted, and was granted, pets by me while my friend negotiated the orders of both regular and gluten free *piirakkas*. The owner is from the Philippines who married a Finn. The business is run by her and her daughter. They have grown so much they are moving the store to Joensuu into I believe a coop building later this year. I need to learn how to make these. The rye needs to be quite thin.

Transportation

Many Finns do not have cars. There is a great public transportation system. We stayed part of the time north of Helsinki in Mantsala. There are cars but parking in Helsinki is such that taking the train makes much more sense and is more relaxing. The trains run frequently, you get your tickets from a machine, and then you walk, or use a bus or taxi. If you decide to risk riding the train without a ticket and are caught, the fine is quite

high. Once you are on the train you cannot purchase a ticket and they don't always check, but it can be stressful if you were distracted about catching your train and forgot.

How do they take their pets to places? Well, pets can go on public transport if they are well behaved. There are special train cars designated for pets. Since the dogs start riding the train as puppies, they have fantastic balance on the trains, kind of like sea legs for those on boats. There are also bicycle ramps next to the stairs in train stations, and cars designated for bicycles too. Yet, I cannot imagine my German Shepherd riding on a train or in a boat... she barely likes getting in the car.

My Music Adventures:

The music scene was interesting. We went to an Erja Lyytinen concert in Joensuu in June. We ate at an Asian restaurant outdoors with blankets provided by the restaurant on our laps in Joensuu. The sun was still up so of course we ate outside. Then we warmed up in a local bar before the concert started. Erja Lyytinen's concert was outside under a shade, the sun was setting for several hours, and it got a little nippy. People had jackets and gloves holding their wine and coffee.



Government building in Joensuu flying the Karelian Flag

Erja is a blues singer/songwriter from Kuopio. She studied at the Sibelius Academy and has played with many artists worldwide. In 2018 she performed with Carlos Santana in Kaisaniemi, Helsinki.

In addition, I went to The World Village Festival for sustainable development, May 27-28 in Helsinki, advertised as discrimination-free. The Festival was about peace and cultural

understanding. There were Finnish performers Von Herten Brothers, Jesse Markin, Yeboyah, Ilta and Megasakki. The internationally renowned Seun Kuti who continues his father's pioneering Afrobeat/Pan-African with complex intersecting rhythms and percussion was there.

The Ukrainian Balaklava Blues performed Ukrainian songs integrating Eastern European folk music, hip hop and some documentary film footage. They created the multi-award-winning guerrilla-folk-opera *Counting Sheep* which is a story of love and revolution in response to the violence and annexation of Crimea.

FINNBYTES

- The **Tuska 2023 Festival**, the biggest heavy metal festival in Northern Europe, took place at Suvilahti from June 30 to July 2, and attracted over 63,000 "metal-heads!"



- Finland's former Prime Minister **Sanna Marin**, who narrowly lost an election in April and stepped down from the leadership of her party, plans to leave parliament and join the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. -Reuters
- According to the latest forecast by **Danske Bank**, Finland continues to have the bleakest economic prospects in the Nordics and predicts Finland as the only Nordic country likely to slip into recession - HT
- The **Second Helsinki Harp Festival** took place at the Helsinki Music Centre, from August 31 – September 3, 2023.
- Lahti, Finland has a ski jump tower that transforms into a summer open-air swimming pool at the base of the tower. This seasonal feature is the only ski jump tower in the world that offers year-round facilities. However, if you prefer to stay dry, you can still take advantage of the chairlifts

and take in the breathtaking views of the surrounding scenery. For an even better view, you can find an observation deck at the top of the 380-foot tall structure, that offers panoramic views of the city and surrounding area. -RADseason

- A seaside sauna renaissance of sorts has appeared on Helsinki's waterfront. A number of new sauna buildings have noticeably transformed parts of the Helsinki waterfront, and increasing the number of public saunas where both visitors and locals can go to experience an authentic Finnish sauna – and a brisk dip in the Baltic Sea.
- The **Korkeasaari Zoo** is celebrating the birth of its first **manul kitten**. The manul, also known as the Pallas's cat, hails from Asia and is recognized for its thick fur and stern expression. These cats inhabit the vast and harsh grasslands and mountain steppes of Central Asia.



- **Rockfest** attracted about 50,000 people to the Hyvinkää Airfield between June 8 and 10.



- **Jukkatalo**, the second largest manufacturer of semi-detached and detached houses in Finland, recently filed for bankruptcy. The 50+ year-old company submitted its bankruptcy petition in late August. Having reported a loss of 4.6 million euros on revenue of 95 million euros in 2022, it is the largest of the hundreds of construction companies that have entered bankruptcy proceedings this year.

Bankruptcies within the Finnish construction have soared by 38% year-on-year between January and August, as per information provided by consumer services company Asiakastieto. -HT

- In mid-September, the Finnish Defense Forces (FDF) announced that a NATO surveillance drone flew along Finland's border with Russia's Karelia region. In a statement released by the FDF, the flight "improves joint situation awareness" and strengthens national defense.

NATO confirmed that this was the first time a drone from the alliance's Ground Surveillance Force has flown over Finland. - Barents Observer

FINNFUNN

Finnish Riddle

Who is he??

Hakee, hakee, eikä soisi löytävänsä.

He seeks and seeks, hoping not to find it.
(Answer along right edge of last page.)

Old Finnish Proverbs

Ilta on aamua viisaampi.

Evening is wiser than morning.

Joka kuritta kasvaa, se kunniaa kuolee.

He who grows up without discipline, dies without honor.

Sanasta miestä, sarvesta härkää.

You hold a man for his word, just like an ox for his horn.

FINNISH-AMERICAN CLUB OF TUCSON VAPPU CELEBRATION 2023

Swim, Sauna, and Sima

On the warm afternoon of May 6, Club members met at the home of Quique and Nancy Garcia for a potluck lunch that included grilled hamburgers and hotdogs along with freshly made *sima*. Many folks also took advantage of the sauna!



FACT Club President, Tommi Koskonen (R) chats with Lisa Garcia and her son, Dominick



Chico and Sinikka Garcia enjoyed the warm weather



Judy and Jim Wesanen pose for a photo as Jim enjoys a chilled glass of *sima*.



Everyone took refuge from in the shade to enjoy grilled sandwiches, sodas, long drinks, and conversation



Newsletter Editor:

Steve Huhta
Tel. 520-829-7496
Email: shuhta@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor Emeritus:

Sinikka Garcia
Tel. 520-742-0266
Email: sinikkag@yahoo.com

Left: View from Tampere Tower
taken 38 years apart!!

Club email address: TucsonFinnClub@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheFinnishAmericanClubofTucson>

The Finnish American Club of Tucson
c/o Garcia, 2800 W. Mesa Verde Pl.
Tucson, AZ 85742

