



FFFC NEWS

Finlandia Foundation®
Florida Chapter

December the 15th

2006, No 2



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2007**

**HAUSKAA JOULUA JA MENESTYKSELLISTÄ
VUOTTA VUOTTA 2007**



Season Greetings from The Board of FFFC 2006-2007

We wish each of you a Joyful Christmas and a Healthy & Prosperous New Year for 2007. We are so fortunate to have such delicious traditional Finnish Christmas food such as the various casseroles, ham, tarts, and breads. Also, many of the young Finns excitedly wait for the arrival of Joulupukki on Christmas Eve. This season is a special time to settle down to celebrate with family and friends bringing everlasting memories.



Joulurauhaa

Connie Tuisku (VP), Birgitta Kaanto (P), Irja Vileen, Raita Karpa,
Timo Vainionpää(S), Peter Makila, Heikki Vettenranta (not in photo)

FFFC Calendar Events for 2006/2007:

Membership meeting at Kravis Center on January the 30th, 2007: Join us for a pre-concert beverage and guest appearance of Finnish performer Paavali Juntanen. Concert at 8 p.m. with the Hungarian Symphony Orchestra.

Finlandia Week in Lake Worth: February 3rd to 11th. PBCC Library event during the week, featuring professor, poet and Finlandia Foundation National 2006 grant recipient Beth Virtanen.

Main Event @4PM on the 3rd of March (Saturday) at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Lake Worth, FL. Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year Maria Mannisto, vocalist accompanied with a bass and a piano.

Popular Music Concert
April the 17th at Ft. Lauderdale.

Annual Meeting: April 19th, 2007 at Suomi Talo.





GALA SUCCESS



The Finlandia Foundation Florida Chapter hosted a 2006 Holiday Gala at Benvenuto Restaurant on November 2nd. Guests enjoyed champagne at the Art and Cocktail hour and socialized with old and new friends, artists and dignitaries before the dinner. Finnish and Finnish-American artists Rodney Paavola, Sami Makela, and Tula Antikainen displayed their art, from international and mystical oil paintings, to gorgeous life-sized nature photography. Accordion music by Merja Hulkkonen gave a warm ambiance to the social hour.



Consul General and keynote speaker Mr. Paavo Lipponen and Honorary Consul Peter Makila

FFFC has now more than 140 members. We welcome all applicants.

Have you remembered to pay your membership for 2006?

Birgitta Kaanto, FFF Chapter President, welcomed guests, and introduced speakers and the evening performers. The Consulate General of Finland Osmo Lipponen was the featured guest speaker. The Honorary Consul of Finland Peter Makila, local city mayors, and Al Zucaro from the World Trade Center were honored guests.

The evening highlight was the brilliant performance by operatic singer and Artistic Director of the Savonlinna Opera Festival, Raimo Sirkia, and the talented pianist and accompanist, Barbara Kaskinen.

Holiday decorations, created by Board Members Raita Karpa and Irja Vileen, and members Tula Antikainen and Mirja Silvan, added elegance to the dining tables. Over 100 guests and members were in attendance and the food was extraordinary. Sponsors for the evening were: Design NS Leather of Boca Raton, FL; Dr. Gloria Hakkarainen, Lake Worth FL; Dr. Casey Boyer, Atlantis, FL; International Title Company of the Palm Beaches, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL; Finnish Granite Group, Inc., Boynton Beach, FL; and Birgitta Kaanto Realty, Inc., Lake Worth, FL.





Please fill this part and send with payment to FFFC.

My membership renewal for 2007.

Individual \$_____, Family \$_____.

Date _____ Check no _____ ☐ Cash

Any changes in name or address, please modify reverse side.

Finlandia Foundation® Florida Chapter



MEMBERSHIP CARD 2007

Valid April/2006 through April 2007
with paid membership fees

Finlandia Foundation Florida Chapter membership is from April to April. The current payments are for Individual Membership \$10, Family Membership \$18 and for Students \$5 yearly. The Members will have discount on Event fees. Finlandia Foundation Florida Chapter arranges yearly at least a Holiday/Independence Gala and Spring Event with other smaller scale events during the year to promote Finnish Cultural Heritage in The United States.

Travel Notes:

I recently attended the Finlandia Foundation® National Trustee Conference in Sonoma & San Francisco area, California. Prior to the conference, I had the opportunity drive through the Napa Valley & Sonoma Vineyards enjoying the wineries along the way. I was surprised to learn that chicken farming is what brought Finns into the Sonoma area back in the early days. Now I know where Napa Valley gets its name, the mountainous terrain surrounding the vineyards do collectively look like "Napa". One of our Trustee conferences was held at the Finnish American Home Association "FAHA" located in Sonoma. The FAHA's hospitality will be memorable: Sauna, swimming, and "pannukakku" pancakes. I also had the opportunity to attend one of the residents' dance exercise class. The "Moomi" display in FAHA's library brought early childhood memories. The highlight of my trip was the Finlandia Foundation San Francisco Bay Area's 50th Anniversary Celebration and my personal meeting with the Finnish Ambassador Pekka Lintu. Also, it was heartwarming to meet members of the San Francisco Bay Area who share our Florida Chapter's vision in the preservation of Finnish culture in the United States.

Birgitta Kaanto, Trustee
Finlandia Foundation®National



***"Finlandia Foundation,
Florida Chapter, Inc. is an
independent organization
associated with Finlandia
Foundation National, one of
27 chapters across America"***

*Ambassador Pekka Lintu, Birgitta
Kaanto and Finlandia Foundation
Bay Area President and trustee
George Sundquist photographed
during the Evening Gala.*



**Finlandia Foundation®
Florida Chapter**

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***Working together to build a
strong Finnish America***

**PAAVALI JUMPPANEN, pianist At Kravis Center January
The 30th, 2007 with Hungarian Symphonic Orchestra**

Contact us if you need some
more information.

This is the board for 2006-
2007.

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"Paavali Jumppanen's technique is big and his imaginative daring even bigger. His unusual recital prompted the observation that great artists take you places you haven't been to before. Jumppanen's performance of the Dutilleux Sonata was masterly in its handling of rhythm, color and texture, and in its headstrong, controlled abandon." - **THE BOSTON GLOBE**

"Paavali Jumppanen, who gave a recital in the Young Concert Artists Series at the 92nd Street Y, offered a thoughtful, passionate and compelling journey. He performs with immense power and drive, and commands an extraordinary range of colors. The piano sings beautifully, but with a voice that is big and full of expressive possibilities." - **THE NEW YORK TIMES**

CONSULATE OF FINLAND UPDATES:

The new Finnish biometric passport system went into effect on August 21st 2006. Passports issued before the introduction of the new system will remain valid until their expiration date. New biometric passports are valid only five years.

Honorary Consulates no longer handle passport applications. Please contact Consulate Generals in New York tel. 1-212-750-4400 or Los Angeles tel. 1-310-203-9903 or Embassy of Finland in Washington D.C. tel. 1-202-298-5800 regarding the new passports.

Deadline for Finnish Citizenship Declarations (so called dual citizenship) will be 31st of May 2008. ONLY 18 months to obtain your Finnish Citizenship by declaration.

Please contact us at:

Consulate of Finland Honorary Consul Peter J. Makila
523 Lake Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33460
tel. 561-582-2335

