

Founded December 6, 1886 as a non-profit, non-political organization

# Kahden Uutiset

Volume 14, Number 1

Tammikuu/Helmikuu ~January/February 2017

Dear Members of Astoria Lodge #2,

## President's Message:

It was a pleasure to have guests from other lodges attending our 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Remember, all of you are always welcome at Suomi Hall.

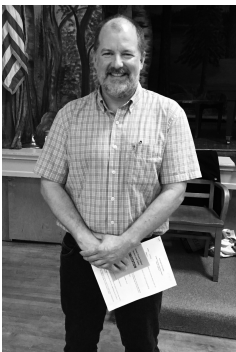
The Finns were responsible for refreshments for the Community Lucia the Friday after Thanksgiving. We provided punch, coffee, three huge pulla braids rings and decorated the area with red and white tablecloths and assorted fresh greens and poinsettias. President Judi Lampi called the work crew, bought the disposables ( cups, plates, napkins), ice and creamer. The new courts from each lodge were introduced, we watched dancing, sang carols and enjoyed the Santa Lucia sing and procession. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all and not a crumb was left.

Our hall was well dressed for Christmas this year with a live tree, assorted greens and the smell of the holidays. We enjoyed sausage, minestrone soup and Christmas cookies. Kurt Koivu brought leather to stamp and knife sheaths to stick.

We have a few new faces in the ranks of our offices, so join us in January for installations. Our coffee program will be by Terry Arnell on the act of Carl Larson, Swedish pea soup and corn chowder will be served. Please come, enjoy each other's company and help strengthen our lodge.

Trudy Enke

President



Please say hello to our new member Erik Westerholm. Tervetuloa!

*Lodge Officers:*

President Trudy Enke  
 Elder Ron Collman  
 First VP Marvin Hautala  
 Jr. VP Karen Reintzell  
 Financial Sec. Bernie Bjork  
 Recording Sec. Leena Riker  
 Treasurer Faith Swanson  
 Conductress Kathy Hendrickson  
 Doorkeeper Kurt Koivu

*Board of Trustees:*

President Leena Riker  
 VP Trudy Enke  
 Secretary Arnold Hummasti  
 Treasurer Willard Nyberg  
 Members at Large:  
 Bernie Bjork  
 Marvin Hautala  
 LeRoy Adolphson  
 Nettie Blair  
 Stan Hendrickson

*Auditors:*

Greta Passetti  
 Stan Hendrickson  
 Cindy Daly

*Auxiliary Officers:*

President Trudy Enke  
 VP Veja Lahti  
 Secretary Lis Stubberfield  
 Treasurer Beth Kandoll

*Lodge Historians:* Liisa Penner &  
 Arnie Hummasti

*Newletter-* Elizabeth Newton



Marlene Taylor, born 1934, joined the Lodge on October  
 14, 1996

Esther Lampi, born 1928, joined the Lodge on February 9,  
 2003

Carol Long Little, born 1959, joined the Lodge on  
 November 7, 2004

Herbert Jerry Lange, born 1930, joined the Lodge on  
 February 9, 2014

**NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER LODGE NEWS****By Leena Riker, Secretary**

The 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Astoria Lodge #2 was held at Suomi Hall on November 13<sup>th</sup> with a turkey and ham dinner. President Judith Lampi welcomed everyone, including guests from neighboring Lodges of Aberdeen and Longview-Kelso. 25-year pins were awarded to five members: Jennifer and Jeff Cline, Ryan Phillips, Helen Pitkanen and Margaret Johnson. President Lampi presented a slide show of Lodge events during the year. Carole Lyngstad gave a presentation on the plans for the Scandinavian Immigrant Park. Vice President Trudy Enke thanked everyone for coming to celebrate our Lodge's 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Membership applications:** Application from Erik Westerholm from Springfield, OR, was received and approved. He was proposed by Jon Westerholm, Bernie Bjork and Trudy Enke. As an out-of-town new member, Erik Westerholm was initiated while he was in town.

**Sick Members and Sunshine:** Condolence cards were sent to Jean Brunner and Donna Moberly on the passing of Don Brunner. A card will be sent to Nettie Blair who has been ill for more than a month.

**Trustees report:** Lee Burnard continues the building improvements. The startling hole in the SW corner under the eave can be fixed from the inside. It is in the 130 year old part of the building. Storage area above the fire escape corridor will have an access via a ladder only to avoid additional bannisters. The west wall of the building will need to be replaced, and when funds are available, will be done in three stages within the next 10 – 12 years.

Trustees are generating a priority list for further improvements; those will include replacement of floor tiles and carpet, basement stabilization, and a stair climber requested by elderly members. Cost estimates are being sought.

**Auxiliary news:** A decision was made to give the Lodge building fund a check for \$2,000. Laksloida was discussed, the food was very good, good advertising as well. It was decided not to have Lutefisk Dinner this year. New Officers were elected: David Drafall and Dea Helligso will be co-chairs, Peggy Nikkila the Secretary and Beth Kandoll will continue as Treasurer.

For the December membership meeting the Lodge was beautifully decorated for the season with holiday flowers and a fresh Christmas tree. During the social hour members enjoyed a hearty vegetable soup served by Trudy Enke.

**Membership applications:** Applications from Tim and Karen Malinen were received and approved. The applicants were proposed by Bernie Bjork and David and Eija Stevenson.

**Nomination and Election of 2017 Officers:**

Ron Collman, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Presented the slate for 2017 officers, and asked for any nominations from the floor. The membership voted on each nominee. The following is the list of the 2017 Officers:

Trudy Enke, President

Marvin Hautala, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Karen Reintzell, Jr. Vice President

Leena Riker, Secretary

Bernie Bjork, Financial Secretary

Faith Swanson, Treasurer

Kurt Koivu, Doorkeeper

Katherine Hendrickson, Conductress

**Trustees:**

Arnie Hummasti, to serve until the end of 2017, completing the term of Judi Lampi after her resignation

Nettie Blair, Willie Nyberg and Marvin Hautala were elected to serve a three-year term, until the end of 2019

**Auditors:** Cindy Daly and Stan Hendrickson were reelected for another year; Greta Passetti was nominated from the floor and voted in.

**Communications:** The Secretary read a Thanksgiving greeting from Eureka Member Elsa Cline and Dennis Cline. A note from the November 16, 2016 issue of the Daily Astorian was read. Under the heading 50 Years ago, it read: "Astoria

Continued,

Finnish Brotherhood lodge is celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary next Sunday at Suomi Hall with a program of music, speeches, refreshments and a dance, all free to members and friends, according to Mrs. Ralph Mattila, lodge President.”

**Sick Members and Sunshine:** Poinsettias were delivered by Judi Lampi, Trudy Enke and Leroy Adolphson to members in Clatsop Care and Clatsop Village and to August Schulbach, along with a Bakers Dozen of cookies from the Auxiliary’s cookie exchange.

**Trustees report:** Willie Nyberg reported for the Trustees: After improvements, the elevator is now working well, it was tested with three people riding in it, and it worked just fine. Upon request from several elderly members, the Trustees are considering a possible installment of a chair lift in the stairwell at the front entrance to the Lodge. Current cost estimate is nearly \$10,000. The cost is high due to new structural regulations by the City. The issue will be presented to the membership for discussion.

Upcoming Lodge events: in September 2017, the hall will be rented to Vasa Lodge on September 7 – 9, Grand Lodge Officers meeting will be held on September 17<sup>th</sup>, and the Finnish Metsälehti tour group will be visiting on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The Kalevala Lecture by Greg Jacob will be scheduled some time in the spring of 2017. The Trustees have considered opening it to the public.

A discussion on the possibility of having Bingo fundraisers was also mentioned.

**Scandinavian Midsummer festival:** The Finnish Princesses were crowned at the Lucia Fest in November; they are Aimee Schacher, Sr. Miss Finland, and Georgia Sutton, Jr. Miss Finland. Congratulations to our representative members of the Scandinavian Court of 2017.

**Scandinavian Monument:** City of Astoria has not yet approved the plans for the park. The concerns are the cost of maintenance. The Monument Committee has offered to take care of all the tasks the City has requested except the regular removal of trash from the site. It is also hoped that Tongue Point Job Corp and the Astoria Rotary may help.

**White elephant sale:** Members had brought several wrapped gifts as auction items. The sale was a lot of fun, books, food, and small collectible items were auctioned. The sale netted the Lodge \$108 dollars.

**The retiring President Judi Lampi** thanked all officers and members for the support she received during her term as President of the Lodge. The members present showed their appreciation to Judi Lampi for a great job as the President with Thanks and an enthusiastic applause.

**Next Lodge meeting:** The next regular meeting will be on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> with social hour at 1 PM and business meeting at 2:00 PM. Pea soup will be served during the Social hour.



Suomi Hall Restoration  
Trustee, Bernie Bjork

Suomi Hall is still here due to the fact that it has been taken care of so well by the Trustees, and membership, since it was purchased in 1934 by UFKB&S Astoria Lodge #2. Built at its current location in 1910 after moving the second floor main Hall section down the hill from up on Alameda Avenue and placing it on top of a newly constructed first floor, the Hall is still here, ready for the continuation of its current restoration. With more hard work, and money from a very generous membership, and public, "with enthusiasm", we carry on with the project.

From the history of the Lodge we see that the last major restoration was done in 1946, when it says that "foundation work and new siding was installed". We believe it was at this time that the front, Marine Drive side, was changed to its current configuration. Anyway, here it is, December 2016, and we are almost done with the 5th year of our most recent Suomi Hall restoration. Actually, we started a year earlier with a new \$30,000.00 roof. That much needed project came about due to a generous donation in her will from Sylvia Koskela. Over the last 5 years, with the help of donations and fund raisers, we have accomplished an amazing amount of work on and in the Hall. The good news is that we are up to code, which is extremely important, since we can now have fund raisers and rent out the Hall, and be covered by our insurance.

In 2012 we negotiated a lease with our renter which raises their rent over a 12 year period, so that they can help pay for the restoration. The raise in rent every two years is certainly going a long ways in bringing about the renovation. The project started off with replacing old garage doors, and two doors and an old porch and stairs, to our renters first floor. It was not long after we started that we came across much needed other work, to do with the replacement of a fire escape, and then another fire escape. We brought in an architect to see if we could somehow replace two fire escapes with one out the back/north wall, however the membership did not want to place a corridor in the upstairs which would have taken away space from the dining room. So, we went to plan B and then C, which ended up putting in two escapes while taking out the old metal one that went out the west side of the main Hall. While taking out the old metal fire escape, and putting in the new corridor along the stage, we came across rot in the west wall, that told us that that wall will have to be replaced over the next ten to fifteen years. So far there has been nothing easy about the process; however the end result works real well and looks great. We have our contractor, Lee Burnard, to thank for being very patient, and for doing truly excellent work for an affordable price.

Over the 106 years the Hall has been where it is now, there has been a slight lowering of the east and west walls. Up in the Main Hall room you can most definitely see the lowering on the west side of the room. Also, a quick inspection of the basement, shows this same thing happening. Something not uncommon in our area with all the rain we get. Fixing the problem will entail what we have already started this year, and that is making sure all water from the roof is directed away from the outside walls of the building, placing some new posts under beams, and shoring up the east and west side of the building, so that the walls stop sinking. We have replaced two posts in the SW corner of the basement, while adding metal strapping to the posts and beams in that area. We will do the basement first, and then move into our first floor renters area, and shore up and strap posts and beams together. Since there is no emergency and the building is basically sound, the plan is to do this as money comes into the Lodge over the next ten to fifteen years so as to not put too much pressure on the incoming funds of the Lodge.

A possible project that has been talked about for years, on and off in Trustees, is a stair climber for people who need help going up the stairs. Yes, we have an elevator, however several people have informed us that they do not like to use the elevator either because they do not like the confined space, or they just do not trust the elevator. Well, yes we have had a few incidents over the last twenty years where people got stuck in it, and had to be hand cranked down. However it is very, very rare. Now, the elevator has been not functioning at times, even this last year, however we have spent a small fortune on replacing old parts, and the technicians say that it is a truly sound machine that should give us many more years of service.. Our contractor has spoken with the city about the stair climber since the building is open to the public and has to be up to code, and the job has turned out to be quite a bit more difficult than thought. Also, the \$10,000.00 price tag is a bit more than anticipated. To be up to code, there has to be a banister running up/down each side of the stairs, and since we have to take the banister off the side we put the stair climber on, that doesn't work. So, the idea of a low wall running up the stairs was brought forward for discussion. Well, in this last Regular business meeting, that plan was not well received by the membership. It also has to be remembered that the Marine Drive entry stairs is also considered one of our three fire escapes, so putting a wall down the middle of the stairs kind of defeats the purpose. So, nothing is easy with commercial buildings, however we will continue to try to find a solution/plan that works.

It is this time of year that the Trustees draw up their priority list of projects, and the foundation and west wall have already been named. Other projects are continued work on the elevator, electrical, and plumbing systems. Also, some cosmetic work replacing old rugs and flooring, especially in the bathrooms. So, as you can see, we have plenty to do. Okay, well that about does it for this article about the current renovation of our beloved Suomi Hall. We Trustees will continue to work hard with what we have to work with, and with "enthusiasm", do as is expected of us.

Truly;

Bernie Bjork  
Trustee

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**BIRTHDAYS**
**January Birthdays:**

EINO JOHNSON 1  
 LINDA SCHATZEL 1  
 MARGARET JOHNSON 4  
 ROBERTA RYDING 8  
 LAWRENCE MARTIN 9  
 HELEN PITKANEN 9  
 JUKKA PERKIOMAKI 10  
 CAROLE LYNGSTAD 13  
 JOHNNY LAINE 14  
 PAIVI TERHAR 14  
 BETH KANDOLL 16  
 WES GINTHER 17  
 TOM MATTSON 27  
 SHIRLEY MARTIN 28  
 MERLE REINIKKA 29

**February Birthdays:**

SALLY LAINE 3  
 THELMA ROSE 5  
 NAIMI KOSKELO 9  
 VIENO OJALA 9  
 LAURA BIEDERMAN 13  
 HERBERT HYVARI 14  
 VAINO KOSKELA 17  
 DEANNA WILSON 19  
 LIS STUBBERFIELD 25  
 LISA STEVENSON 26

**LODGE #2 COMMITTEES**

*The Lodge has a number of standing committees, which are always in need of help.*

*Please contact:*

**Auxiliary**

Peggy Nikkila

**Historian**

Liisa Penner 338-4849

**Safety Committee**

Lynn Thompson 325-0918

**Scandinavian Midsummer Festival**

Nettie Blair 325-4964

**Sunshine**

Karen Reintzell 325-2672

**Cultural and Heritage Activities****Membership****Scandinavian Festival Princess**

Leila Collier 791-1139

**Scholarship,**

Vacant

**Union Town Association**

LeRoy Adolphson 325-6197

## PUUKKO TALES

## ECHOS FROM THE PAST

SUMMER 2016

I have been fishing for salmon in the Columbia River. After several weeks I concluded that the salmon run is not even a trickle .I have switched to catching baitfish, mostly anchovies and have developed a taste for them.

One day I was catching small American Shad when a man started watching me. I could see that he had what looked like a large tuna fishing rod. After a few minutes he approached me and said " I see that you have a puukko, you must be Finnish. American Finnish I said. he told me his name was H #\* ? \$\*& LA. He asked for a fish and I gave him the shad that I was reeling in. He thanked me and found a flat rock upstream and cast out his line.

The fishing flurry stopped and I found myself staring into the water through my polarized glasses. Suddenly I saw an object 2 feet below the surface. It was slowly swimming towards me. I could see that it was a huge Green Sturgeon. It looked like it was attached to a very heavy fishing line. The other guy started shouting " bring the net". The net I had was for a 4 pound coho not a seven foot sturgeon.

I walked over to him and told him what he had on his line. He said cut the line with your puukko ! I did as he requested and that was it ... end of story.

We both stood there awestruck. We have just seen a living relic from about 80 million years ago. We said our thanks for receiving that beautiful experience and departed that sacred location.

Collected by Kurt Koivu

**From Member Pirjo Schulbach:**

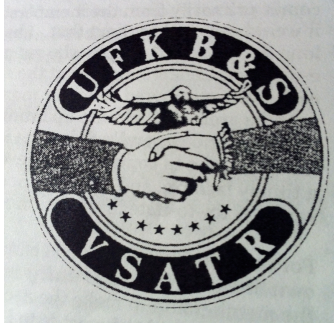
Information on the Finlandia Foundation Scholarships, please visit the website at :

<http://finlandiafoundation.org/programs/scholarships> to download the information and the application. The application deadline is February 1,2017 and will be awarded to a student attending music institutions.

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KAHDEN UUTISET  
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Gearhart, OR 97138-2366

FIRST CLASS MAIL



## ASTORIA LODGE CALENDAR

### Upcoming Dates:

Monday, January 2: Auxiliary , coffee at 10 AM, meeting at 10:30

Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>: Lodge meeting: Social hour at 1:00 PM, pea soup will be served, Business meeting at 2:00 PM.

Monday, February 6: Auxiliary, coffee at 10 AM, meeting at 10:30 AM

Sunday, February 12: Lodge Meeting, Social hour at 1 PM, Business meeting at 2 PM