

Friends of Suomi Hall, Finlandia Foundation Astoria Chapter

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

KAHDEN UUTISET

Dear Members,

Thank you, members! Our Lodge is successful because of the many volunteers that step forward to help with our events. The last two months have been busy with the Miss Finland Tea, the Scandinavian Festival Court visit and of course the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. We could not have done it without the many volunteers that came forward. It was a lot of fun, a lot of hard work and a lot of memories created.

Hope everyone enjoyed the 2023 Astoria Scandinavian festival. Another successful Rice Pudding and Fruit Soup booth for our Auxiliary. The Prune Tarts were a great success also. Thank you to the shoppers, rice cookers, fruit soup makers, rice haulers, booth workers and booth set up and tear down people. Great to see so many new members helping out. Thank you Auxiliary.

The Miss Finland Tea was held Saturday, May 13th. Thank you to Greg Jacob and Sirpa Duoos for sharing their knowledge with us. A special thanks to my helpers Avery Hoyer, Chloe Stelzig and Anna Stelzig. They did a fantastic job assisting with the memorial service, handing out candy prizes for Greg's quiz and raffle prizes. Thanks to Finn Ware for raffle prizes and to Dea Heligso and the Auxiliary for the beautiful table loaded with delicious sandwiches and desserts.

The Scandinavian Festival Court visited the Lodge for our May meeting. Thank you to the men of the Lodge for the great job preparing and serving the delicious Strawberry Shortcake. All Court members,

both Senior and Junior, were exceptional speakers and did a great job with their presentations.

Congratulations to Olivia Esnard and Stian Matthews, recipients of our Lodge scholarship in the amount of \$1000 each. We wish them success on achieving their goals.

The Friends of Suomi Hall would like to expand our executive board. Contact myself or any board member for more information. Help is also needed on the Building committee. The building committee recently installed a bell next to the elevator. During events, if help is needed, push the button and someone will assist you.

Suomi Summer School 2023 is scheduled for August 7th through 11th from 9:00 am to 12 noon at Suomi Hall. Children ages six through 12 are welcome and we have a few spaces available. Contact me for a registration packet.

Our annual Lodge picnic is Sunday, August 13th at Cullaby Lake South Shelter at 12 noon. The Lodge will furnish chicken, water and coffee. Members are asked to bring appetizers, salad or dessert.

Volunteer at the Lindgren Cabin this summer! The cabin needs volunteers to open the cabin on weekends for visitors to enjoy this historic cabin. You may contact me for more information and the link to sign up.

Kiitos,

Karen Van Cleave, President
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Friendsofsuomihall@gmail.com

In May, the Court came to visit! They shared their amazing information about their costumes and heritage with us! THANK YOU to the men of the lodge for the Strawberry Shortcake and we sure had a full crowd!



In May we also hosted Princess Tea! It was a great afternoon of goodies (wow, were there goodies to eat) and stories to share! Sirpa Duoos gave a great presentation on Finnish Costumes!!



Festival was very busy this year! The booth was busy and the festival was hopping! Here are some highlights!!



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SUMMER FOOD MEMORY!

What's a summer food that comes to mind when you think of summer. My all-time favorite was my mother's Vispivuuro! It was so yummy and refreshing in the summer. Cooked up, cooled down and eaten with sugar and cream. You can't get any better than that! So simple. You use a berry juice of your choice! In Finland, my mother would have used lingonberries, but here in America the cranberry came a close second! She would cook up the cranberries, or even better use a juice that she had made from fresh berries. After cooking up some "Cream of Wheat" she would then add the juice to the 'Cream of Wheat' and whip it up! After it was fluffy and "cloudlike" it was done! In the bowls it would go along with a sprinkle of sugar and some cream! I wish I could tell you the exact amount of ingredients, but that wasn't how my mom cooked it! Here is a recipe that I found online for those of you wanting to make it! Try it, it's yummy and a great summer dessert!

Copied from: ScandiKitchen online!

Ingredients

500 ml water

200 g frozen lingonberries

80 g caster sugar

65 g semolina

1 drop vanilla sugar or vanilla extract

Instructions

In a saucepan, add the lingonberries, water and sugar and bring to the boil.

Simmer for about 10-15 minutes until the berries are cooked through, then pour through a sieve, preserving the juice. Press through most of the berries to the juice but discard the skins.

Pour the liquid back into the pan and add the semolina and vanilla, bring back to the boil and simmer for 5-6 minutes until cooked through and thickened.

Take the porridge off the boil and leave it to cool down. Once just warm, whip the Vispivuuro for about 10 minutes on full speed in a hand mixer. After a few minutes, it will change color from dark purple to pink - and the texture becomes light and almost mousse like. Set aside in fridge to chill. Serve cold in a bowl with milk, sprinkled sugar and fresh berries on top.

Also works well for a breakfast treat: Make it healthier with less sugar and more berries.

2023 July and August Calendar:

July

Monday, July 3. Auxiliary Meeting. 10:00 am Coffee.

10:30 am Business Meeting.

Monday, July 10. Lodge Meeting. 6:00 pm social.

7:00 pm meeting. Summer Birthdays bring treats.

August

August Auxiliary Meeting is canceled due to scheduling of summer school.

August 7 through 11. SUOMI SUMMER SCHOOL.

9:00 am - 12 Noon.

Sunday, August 13. Lodge Picnic. Cullaby Lake South Shelter.

12 noon



Friends of Suomi Hall Board of Directors

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Friends of Suomi Hall

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