

[View this email in your browser](#)

Vol 21 and No 3

July/August 2024

# Kahden Uutiset

Friends of Suomi Hall

Formerly known as United Finnish Kaleva Brothers & Sisters Astoria Lodge #2

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

Finlandia Foundation Astoria Chapter

## President's Message:

Midsummer has come and gone and I hope you all had a wonderful 4th of July.

The Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival kept so many of us very busy! Thank you so much to all who helped make Prune Tarts, Rice Pudding and Fruit Soup! Everything was so delicious! Thank you also to all who helped set up, bake, cook, clean up, and just partake in everything at the festival.

Congratulations to our own Riley Phillips! Not only did she represent our lodge exceptionally well, she was also selected as the Lucia Bride for the Santa Lucia Festival in November! She also was the recipient of our lodge scholarship in the amount of \$1000. CONGRATULATIONS! She was also accompanied by our adorable Junior Miss Finland, Aspen Barendse. For those of you who have interested elementary aged and high school aged students, the selection of our next court will happen in the fall! Contact ChrisLynn Taylor if you have any interested young ladies. Her phone number is 503.440.9002.

We now have a new committee that will be meeting. They are the Building

Committee and they have been tasked with coming up with a timeline and budget for our lodge's renovation and foundation work. This will be very helpful when we go to apply for grants for this work.

Suomi School planning is in full swing! We once again had a very generous donation for our school and will not have to charge anything for our students. The school is full, and there is currently a wait list. We are in year 3, and so excited to see what wonderful things will happen at this year's school. The school will occur during the week of August 5th, and on August 9th you are all invited to attend their little mini concert at 11:00 and join in a picnic lunch. Hope to see you there.

Our Lodge's Annual picnic will be at a new location this year. It will be at Fort Stevens, Coffenbury Lake, Shelter C! For those who don't know where this is, it's at the upper end of Coffenbury Lake, ALL THE WAY to the back! There will be a \$5 parking fee, so don't forget to bring that and your potluck item! The lodge will provide the paper products, chicken and some beverages. Come one and all! We are hoping to have some of the Suomi School students there to do a short presentation of songs.

Please keep any of our elderly or ill members in your thoughts and I hope that you all have a wonderful summer.

Leila Collier  
President, Board of Trustees  
503.791.1139, mlcollier62@gmail.com

We could not be more proud of our Senior and Junior Miss Finland! They represented their Finnish Heritage in such an amazing way!  
Congratulations to Riley Phillips for



being chosen the Runner Up. She will now be the Lucia Bride in November! CONGRATS!

THANK YOU so much to all who helped in any way in regards to our booth at the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. To those who baked, carried, worked, stirred, took money, cooked, cleaned, set up, took down, you name it! THANK YOU! Another successful festival is in the books!



## Concert

The Brownsmead Flats are playing at the hall on July 13! They are scheduled to perform from 2-4. If you are interested, the cost of admission will be a donation which will go towards our Building Fund!

## News

We have a Building Committee! They will have their first meeting on July 8, and their job will be to put together a timeline and proposed budget for our building renovation! We look forward to seeing what they come up with!

Members are: Madeline Matson, Eric Williams, Marvin Hautala, Dirk Schulbach, and Carole Lyngstad.

THANK YOU for serving.

## Hall Picnic

We will have our annual picnic on August 11. It will be out at Fort Stevens this year! Shelter C has been reserved and it will be a marvelous spot! There is a covered area with electricity there and lots of room for games for the adults and kiddos! Plus, if the kiddos are so inclined there is swimming there as well since it's right by Coffenbury Lake. Hope to see all of your there! AUGUST 11, noon, Shelter C at Coffenbury Lake. It's a potluck! Chicken will be provided.



Kids playing at last year's picnic.

## Nordic Youth Choir



The Nordic Youth Choir would like to THANK the Trustees for allowing them to practice at Suomi Hall! This was their second year performing the anthems at the festival. THANK YOU! Kiitos! Tack! Takk skal du ha! Tak skal du have! Þakka þér fyrir!

Taft, Avery, Violet, Petra, Mia, Finnley, Corbin, Maci, Liz Jolley and Leila Collier

---

## FUN FACT:

I was in a zoom meeting last week, and they had a trivia question! What country drinks the most coffee per person each year! Well, I knew the answer, but so many were completely shocked by it! Of course, it was Finland! “On average, a Finnish person drinks about four cups of coffee a day....”

Do you drink four cups of coffee a day?

---

## Photos from Astoria Scandinavian Festival





---

## Auxiliary News

We were sad to lose long time member Ron Collman this spring. Ron often supplied us with Alaska salmon for our October Laksloda luncheon. He always had a good story to tell and we were pleased to meet his family at the June 8th memorial reception at the hall.

Our condolences also to member Veja Lahti on the loss of her brother, Toivo. A well attended reception at the hall on June 1st spoke of a rich life.

June was Scandinavian Midsummer Festival month and auxiliary was busy making and selling prune tarts, fruit soup and rice pudding. A big thank you to all the folks involved from the people at the hall, the transporters, the booth sellers, the helpers setting up and taking down the booth. Our senior Miss Finland, Riley Phillips, was named runner up to Miss Scandinavia. Congratulations to Senior Miss Sweden, Audrey Cereghino, crowned 2024 Miss Scandinavia.

Want to enjoy an afternoon of music at the hall? Come on down Saturday, July 13, from 2-4 PM. The Brownsmead Flats play folksy tunes that will get your feet tapping. A \$10 suggested donation goes to the hall for upkeep. Auxiliary will be serving coffee, cookies and prune tarts also.

Started several years ago with an idea by Karen VanCleave, Suomi School has become a very popular event for the young folk. The roster is full for this year and dates are August 5-9. Auxiliary will be serving treats. If you would like to help with this, contact Dea at 503-741-6317.



Rounding out the summer is the Lodge picnic at Coffenbury Lake in Ft. Stevens State Park. A site has been reserved on the east side of the lake. Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 11 at noon. Nick and Madeline Matson will be coordinating a fun time for all ages. Bring your favorite side dish to share; the lodge will provide an entree and beverages.

Our auxiliary meets the 1st Monday of each month (unless it's a holiday). Social time is 10AM followed by a meeting at 10:30. Maybe you would like to join us. Call Beth at 971-704-6243 with any questions. Kiitos!

## Upcoming Calendar

### JULY:

Monday, July 8, Board of Trustees, 9:30 AM

Monday, July 8, Members Meeting, 6 PM Coffee. 7:00 PM Business Meeting

### AUGUST:

August 5-9, Suomi School, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

TBD, Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00 AM Coffee. 10:30 AM Business Meeting

Sunday, August 11, NOON, Astoria Finnish Lodge Picnic, Fort Stevens State Park, Fort Stevens, Shelter C at Coffenbury Lake

Monday, August 12, Board of Trustees, 9:30 AM

### SEPTEMBER:

Tuesday, September 3, Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00 AM Coffee. 10:30 AM Business Meeting

Monday, September 9, Board of Trustees, 9:30 AM

Monday, September 9, Members Meeting, 6 PM Coffee. 7:00 PM Business Meeting

### OCTOBER:

Monday, October 7, Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00 AM Coffee. 10:30 AM Business Meeting

Saturday, October 12, Laksloda Luncheon, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Monday, October 14, Board of Trustees, 9:30 AM

Monday, October 14, Members Meeting, 6:00 PM Coffee, 7:00 PM Business Meeting

**NOVEMBER:**

Monday, November 4, Board of Trustees, 9:30 AM

Monday, November 4, Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00 AM Coffee. 10:30 AM Business Meeting

Sunday, November 10, Members Meeting, Thanksgiving Potluck 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM Business Meeting

**DECEMBER:**

Monday, December 2 Board of Trustees, 9:30 AM

Monday, December 2, Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00 AM Coffee. 10:30 AM Business Meeting

Friday, December 6, Finnish Independence Dy, Astoria Heritage Nordic Park, Time, TBD

Sunday, December 8, Friends of Suomi Hall Annual Meeting 1:00 PM, followed by Pikku Joulu Celebration

**Board of Trustees for 2024**

Leila Collier	President
Madeline Matson	Vice-President
Jane Hill	Corporate Secretary
Katie Ryding	Financial Secretary
Faith Swanson	Treasurer
Karen Van Cleave	Trustee
Laura Crowe	Trustee
Carole Lyngstad	Trustee
Helen Pitkanen	Trustee
Eric Williams	Trustee
Marvin Hautala	Trustee
Peggy Nikkila	Trustee

**Historian / Archivist**

Eric B Williams

**Building-Ronovation Committee**

Eric B Williams

**Auxiliary for 2024**

Anne Stickel	President
Dea Helligso	President emeritus
Chris Lynn Taylor	Secretary
Beth Kandoll	Treasurer
Janice Magness	Treasurer

**Memorial committee members:**

Faith Swanson  
Helen Pitkanen  
Beth Kandoll  
Mary Ann Mattila

**Scholarship committee**

Katy Cvitanovich  
Saara Matthews  
Terry Arnall  
Mary Ann Mattila  
Karen Van Cleave  
Pirjo Schulbach

Marvin Hautala  
Carole Lyngstad  
Peggy Nikkila  
Madeline Matson  
Lelia Collier  
Dirk Schulbach

*Copyright (C) 2024 Suomi Hall. All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

