



LEADING STAR LEDSTJÄRNAN

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International Order of Runeberg Supreme Board President's Message

Greetings to our members in Canada, Finland, and USA.

Our August 15–16 Convention in Vancouver / Burnaby, BC, Canada:

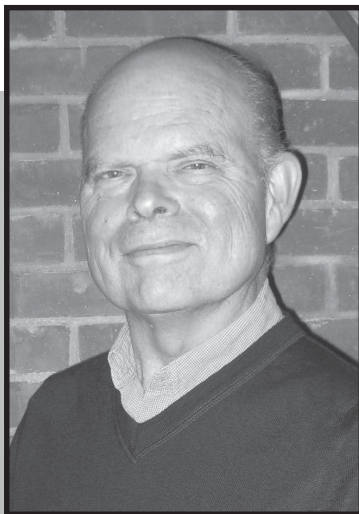
I would like to thank Vancouver Lodge #124 for their well-organized hosting of the 2014 IOR International Convention. Their Convention Committee worked hard to plan and welcome lodge delegates. I'm sure delegates appreciated this effort by Lodge #124.

It is with sadness that I report that the anticipated has occurred—the delegates, representing their respective lodges, after much discussion, resolved that the International Order of Runeberg be dissolved, effective March 31, 2015, with the Supreme Board serving until no later than March 31, 2015, to resolve legal and financial matters.

On the positive side, "Proposal 4" passed: "Be it resolved that should the Supreme Board be discontinued, the remaining lodges may continue to operate under the name of the Order of Runeberg."

After determining that the annual costs for the *Leading Star* newspaper publication are approximately \$3,000, and our editors, Dale and Mary Lou

Hjort, are willing to continue their service, it was decided to allocate \$9,000 (with a small portion going to our website), which should allow publication for almost three years, assuming lodges contribute content articles and pictures.



There is a new page on our website to view pictures from our

IOR 2014 Convention. You may view it by going to our "Home" page, <http://www.orderofruneberg.org>, and click on the Convention pictures page link. Attendees who have pictures from the convention and would like to share and display on our website may email pictures to me (stewlyons@gmail.com). Please provide a caption (i.e., description, names) in your email for the picture(s) you send.

Scholarships Update

Note (a) new scholarship and (b) applications submittal and awarding date changes.

(a) \$500 has been allocated for person(s) taking Finnish or Swedish language classes. Depending on the cost of classes, it is possible that multiple scholarships may be awarded, if we re-

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Changes

There are changes ahead that have resulted from the just concluded 2014 IOR Convention in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Of course, the biggest change is in the IOR itself. Please carefully read the President's Message.

One change to take note of is in regard to scholarships. First of all, there are now two different scholarships. Secondly, the timing of submitting the applications is different. If you are applying for a scholarship, please read page 13 in this issue very carefully which tells about the timing of the application.

Also in this issue is the form for sending a personal Christmas greeting.

-DH

Please submit all news, resolutions, and articles by November 23 for publication in the December *Leading Star*

President's Message

continued from page 1

ceive applicant(s). This is a one-time scholarship offer.

(b) Application and award date changes, applying to both our three annual \$1,000 scholarships, and the new language scholarship(s). Due to the impending dissolution of the International, scholarship applications submittal date and awarding date changed to 2/15/15 and 3/1/15, respectively. Note to USA applicants: Due to frequent long delays with mail to Canada, it's recommended that applications be submitted at least 3 weeks before 2/15/15 (i.e., 1/25/15)

More information and the applications are available at our website – from the "Home" page,

click on the "IOR Scholarship Info" page menu link.

As always, I continue to encourage lodges to take advantage of their lodge's web page on our website. Have you checked your lodge's web page? Does it reflect accurate up-to-date lodge information (meetings schedule, meetings locations? Is there information to encourage potential new members to contact the lodge? If your lodge would like information posted on your lodge's web page, email or call me. For Lodge #124, Vancouver, BC, send your lodge information directly to Shea Teixeira.

Stew Lyons



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Editors: Dale and Mary Lou Hjort

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To correct our listing of your address, fill in the requested information in the form below and send your old mailing label to:

Dale & Mary Lou Hjort
7682 Tracy Lane
La Palma, CA 90623-1501

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip _____
Lodge & Number: _____

FinnFest— August 7–10, 2014 Minneapolis, Minnesota

Report:

Since 1996 at Portland, OR, SFHS has sent an exhibit and volunteer crew to 15 Festivals. The intent was to raise awareness of the Swedish-speaking parts of Finland and their emigration. This is the first year ever that “Swedish Finns” was included within the range of 5 major topics offering dozens of

lectures. Other topics were literature, music, DNA, etc. The 2014 SFHS Tori booth offered free family searches, using databases and the Internet, projecting the process on a large screen so visitors could watch. Judi and George Miller, Syrene Forsman, Jane Ely, and Wendy Sundquist responded to Genealogy queries, map questions, Kronoby craft questions, and offered SFHS memberships. Syrene delivered one lecture to the Genealogy conference Thursday, and one on SFHS’ mission and history for

the Swedish Finn group of lectures. Jane attended Finlandia Foundation International’s discussion the 2015 events to celebrate the Sibelius Jubilee as SFHS’ representative. She also attended lectures on the kantele, its history, construction, and performing on Finland’s national instrument. Wilho Saari, National Heritage Fellowship winner from Naselle, WA, performed and discussed his work.

SFHS Newsletter Volume I,
Issue I August 31, 2014
Svensk Osterbotten Edition



***SFHS* volunteers at their booth at FinnFest 2014**



LODGE NEWS



Lodge #106 Tacoma, Washington

On July 20, 2014, some 24 members were present at Carolyn Nelson's home. All of us members always enjoy coming out to Carolyn's out on Clearlake. This year Mt. Rainier was behind clouds, but a few Runeberg members took a trip around the lake.

Rhea Linden and Monica Mason were crowned "Midsummer Flicker."

Sten-Erik Andreassen joined Tacoma Lodge #106 two years ago. Sten-Erik is the grandson of our president, Marita Agnew, and has traveled with her to Finland, Sweden, and Denmark to learn more about his family heri-

tage. Sten-Erik is a four-year honor student at Curtis High School in Tacoma, Washington. He plans to attend a university and major in Civil/Mechanical Engineering with a goal of working for a large company such as Boeing. He says: "Thank you, #106 Order of Runeberg, for awarding me this scholarship; it will be a tremendous help toward my tuition."

#106 Order of Runeberg members who have birthdays in September are:

September 8
Karlyn Andreassen

September 11
Susanne Edwards

September 13
Sandra Gustafson

September 14
John Sandstrom

September 16
Al Ramberg

The next Order of Runeberg meeting will be held October 4, 2014, and we will be having a guest speaker according to what I hear. This will be a potluck affair at the church.

Sincerely, Your president,
Marita P. Agnew
President Tacoma #106

P.S. I have been thinking about new ideas for our lodge:

1. How about a picture of yourself when you were little, or a young person.

2. Where were you born.

3. Write something about your background and share it with our members.

—**Marita Agnew**, president

90th ANNIVERSARY— YOU'RE INVITED

Order of Runeberg, **Vancouver Lodge #124**, will be celebrating its 90th Anniversary, Saturday, March 28, 2015, at the Scandinavian Center, Burnaby, B.C.

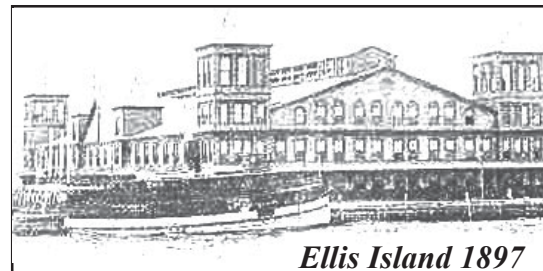
Some of you indicated, at the Convention in August, that you would come and help us celebrate. We hope you are planning to come. It will be our 90th Anniversary, as well as the closing of the International, a double party.

Mark your calendar. We are already making plans for a good celebration. Watch for more information later.

Lorene Mara

Genealogy Corner

The Journey to America Through Ellis Island



Ellis Island 1897

Ellis Island is a place of names. Here millions of immigrants called out theirs for the first time—proud names, long names, names that would twist the tongue—before they stepped ashore onto America’s soil. To most, Ellis Island was an Isle of Hope, a brief stopping point on the way to a better life. To an unfortunate few, it became an Isle of Tears, a place of detention and possible rejection.

When the great steamships of the early 20th century sailed into New York Harbor, the faces of a thousand nations were on board. There were Russian Jews, Irish farmers, Greeks in kilts and slippers, Italians with sharp moustaches, Cossacks with fierce swords, English in short knickers, and Arabs in long robes. The old world lay behind them. Ahead was a new life. Gone were the monarchies and kings, the systems of caste and peasantry, of famine and poverty. But also left behind were friends and family, as well as tradition and customs generations old.

By the 1890s steam-powered ships replaced sailing vessels and cut the time of an Atlantic crossing from three months to two weeks. Large shipping lines such as *Cunard* and *White Star* competed for the immigrants who were seen as a profitable cargo.



June Pelo,
A Dedicated Genealogist

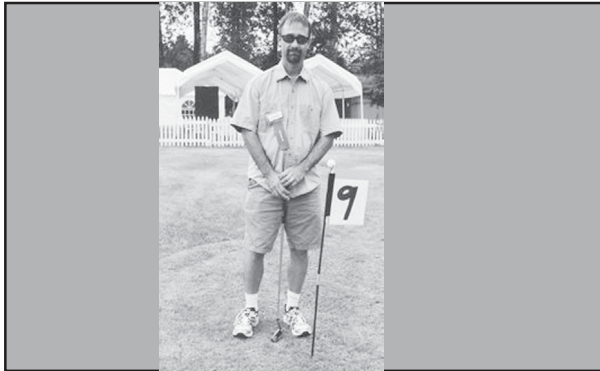
The steamships could accommodate as many as 2,000 passengers in steerage, so-called because it was located on the lower decks where the steering mechanism of the sailing ships had once been housed. These long narrow compartments were divided into separate dormitories for single men, single women, and families. Jammed with metal-framed berths three bunks high, the air in steerage became rank with the heavy odor of spoiled food, sea-sickness, and unwashed bodies. There was little privacy, and the lack of adequate toilet facilities made it difficult to keep clean. A Russian Jew recalled that “the atmosphere was so thick and dense with smoke and bodily odors that your head itched, and when you scratched your head...you got lice on your hands.”

By 1910 many ships had replaced steerage with four- and six-berth third-class cabins. These vessels served meals in dining rooms with long tables set with dishes and utensils. However, on many of the older ships, passengers still ate meals from a tin mess kit while sitting on deck or in the hot, cramped steerage dormitories. The Italian lines served pasta and wine, and many shipping lines provided kosher food for Jewish passengers, but not all ships catered to ethnic or religious tastes. Cases of malnutrition were not uncommon. Standard fare consisted of potatoes, soup, eggs, fish, stringy meat, prunes...and whatever food the immigrants carried from home.

By the time the steamships sailed into New York, the first and second-class passengers had already been inspected and cleared to land by immigration officials who came aboard. However, steerage passengers were not afforded such privileges and their first steps on the mainland were brief. They were directed helter-skelter onto ferries which shuttled them to Ellis Island. These vessels were little better than open-air barges, freezing in the winter, sweltering hot in summer, and lacking toilet facilities and lifesaving equipment. Deaths caused by

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International Order of Runeberg



Registration, Friday, August 15th:

To the left we see Lodge #205 delegate Jason Garnett dealing with the stress of being a voting delegate to the convention.

The hosting lodge, Vancouver Lodge #124, did a wonderful job of making the convention an enjoyable event, as demonstrated here by Jason enjoying the miniature golf course that was set up for the convention participants.



The Finance Committee:

L-R: Tom Martin, Tor-Erik Rosback, Ed Brannfors, Janet Anderson, and Ron Kokkonen



The Nominating Committee:

L-R: Bob Anderson, Carolyn Nelson, Jason Garnett, George Nelson, and Theresa Kokkonen



The Press Committee:

L-R: Heidi McCarthy, Clara Robinson, Nathel Martin, and Monica Mason



During the meeting, Andy Carlson providing his opinion on an agenda item.

2014 Convention, Vancouver, BC, Canada • August 15–16, 2014



The Saturday evening banquet dinner was well attended.



Being entertained with music—
Terhi-Miikki Broesma is playing the bassoon. Terhi-Miikki is an accomplished musician, born in Finland, and plays several instruments. In 2009 Finlandia Foundation elected her as “Performer of the Year.”



Stew and Annabelle enjoying the social aspects of the dinner event.



We had a large turnout for our Sunday morning breakfast, as we filled three long tables at the restaurant.



IOR Board Meeting, Sunday, following breakfast:
L–R: Stew Lyons, Gary Robinson, Dale Hjort, Ed Brannfors, Nils Holm, Annabelle Kergan, Janet Anderson, and Lorene Mara.

International Order of Runeberg
2014 Convention, Vancouver BC, Canada
August 15 -16, 2014





Genealogy Corner

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exposure to cold were not uncommon. A Public Health official estimated that of the children suffering from measles when they arrived, 30% died because of their trip across the harbor. On busy days the immigrants were imprisoned on these vessels for hours while they waited to disembark and be ferried to Ellis Island. Sometimes new arrivals had to wait in steerage for days, prolonging the miserable journey.

When they landed, the immigrants had numbered tags pinned on their clothes which indicated the manifest page and line number on which their names appeared. These numbers were later used by immigration inspectors to cross-reference immigrants about their right to land. Though relatively few immigrants who landed at Ellis Island were denied entry, the 2% that were excluded often equaled over a thousand people a month during peak immigration years. Greeted with pointing fingers and unintelligible commands, the new arrivals formed a line which stretched from the Ellis Island dock into the Baggage Room of the main building, winding its way up to the second floor where the immigrants were met by a team of doctors and inspectors who would decide which way the Golden Door would swing. Jostling three abreast, the immigrants made their way up a steep flight of

stairs and into the great hall of the Registry Room. The inspection process had begun, although many did not know it.

Scanning the moving line for signs of illness, Public Health doctors looked to see if anyone wheezed, coughed, shuffled, or limped as they climbed the steep stairs. Children were asked their name to make sure they weren't deaf or dumb, and those that looked over two years old were taken from their mothers' arms and made to walk. As the line moved forward, doctors had only a few seconds to examine each immigrant, checking for sixty symptoms, from anemia to varicose veins, which might indicate a wide variety of diseases, disabilities, and physical conditions. Of primary concern were cholera, scalp and nail fungus, insanity, and mental impairments. In 1907, legislation further barred immigrants suffering from tuberculosis, epilepsy, and the physically disabled. The disease which resulted in the most exclusions was trachoma, a highly contagious eye infection that could cause blindness and death. At that time, the disease was common in Southern and Eastern Europe, but almost unknown in the U.S. Doctors checked for trachoma by turning the eyelid inside out with their fingers, a hairpin, or a button-hook to look for inflammation on the inner eyelid, an extremely painful experience. The "button-hook men" were the most dreaded officials on Ellis Island.

During inspection, those immigrants who appeared sick or were suffering from a contagious dis-

ease were marked with blue chalk and detained for further medical examination. The sick were taken to Ellis Island hospital for observation and care, and once recovered, could proceed with their legal inspection. Those with incurable or disabling ailments were excluded and returned to their port of departure at the expense of the steamship line on which they arrived. In an attempt to discourage steamship companies from transporting ill, disabled or impoverished passengers, an immigration law of 1903 imposed a \$100 fine for every excluded passenger.

Medical inspectors developed a letter code to indicate further examination, and roughly every two out of ten immigrants received mystifying chalk marks. This alphabet of ailments ranged from Pg for pregnant to K for hernia and Ft for feet. Those suspected of having feeble minds were chalked with an X, and along with those marked for physical ailments, about nine out of every hundred immigrants were detained for mental examination and further questioning. Usually this consisted of standard intelligence tests in which immigrants were asked to solve simple arithmetic problems, count backwards from twenty, or complete a puzzle. In an attempt to deal with immigrants' cultural differences, Ellis Island's doctors developed their own tests which allowed them to base their decision on problem solving, behavior, attitude, and the immigrant's ability to acquire knowledge.

Requiring immigrants to copy geometric shapes, for instance, was only useful for testing those who had some schooling and were used to holding a pencil.

After passing the line inspection, immigrants were waved forward toward the main part of the Registry Room. There they entered a maze of open passageways and metal railings which divided the entire floor. As crowded as a country town on market day, the Great Hall was “a place of Babel” where all languages of the world seemed to cry out at once. At the far end of Registry Hall the legal inspectors stood behind tall desks, assisted by interpreters fluent in major languages and any number of obscure dialects. Although the interrogation that immigrants were to face lasted only a matter of minutes, it took an average of five hours to pass through the inspection process at Ellis Island.

Wearing starched collars and heavy serge jackets, the inspectors verified the 29 bits of information already contained on the manifest sheet. Family names were recorded with care, especially if they were spelled Andrjulgawierjus, Grzyszczyszyn, or Soutsoghianopoulos. Firing questions at the immigrants, the inspector asked them their age, occupation, marital status, and destination in an attempt to determine their social, economic, and moral fitness.

Influenced by American welfare agencies that claimed to be overwhelmed by requests for aid from impoverished immigrants, the exclusion of those “liable to

become a public charge” became a cornerstone of immigration policy as early as 1882. The Alien Contract Labor Law of 1885 also excluded all immigrants who took a job in exchange for passage. These laws presented the immigrant with a delicate task of convincing the legal inspectors that they were strong, intelligent, and resourceful enough to find work easily, without admitting that a relative had a job waiting for them.

In 1917 anti-immigration forces succeeded in pressuring the government to impose a literacy test as a further means of restricting immigration. The law required all immigrants sixteen years or older to read a forty-word passage in their native language. Most immigrants had to read biblical translations. Working from 9 am to 7 pm, seven days a week, each inspector questioned 400-500 immigrants a day. Those who failed to prove they were “clearly and beyond a doubt entitled to land” were detained for a hearing before the Board of Special Inquiry. As immigrants had no legal right to enter the U.S., there could be no lawyer present at this hearing, but friends and relatives could testify on the immigrant’s behalf. The Board reviewed about 70,000 cases a year, admitting five out of every six detainees.

Along with medical detentions and immigrants facing a hearing from the Board, unescorted women and children were detained until their safety was assured through the arrival of a telegram, letter, or a pre-paid ticket from a waiting relative.

Immigration officials refused to send single women into the streets alone, nor could they leave with a man not related to them. Fiancées, reunited with their intended husbands, often married on the spot.

After inspection, immigrants descended from the Registry Room down the “Stairs of Separation,” so-called because they marked the parting of the way for many family and friends with different destinations. Immigrants were directed toward the railroad ticket office and trains to points west, or to the island’s hospital and detention rooms. During its half-century of operation over 3,500 immigrants died at Ellis Island and over 350 babies were born. There were three suicides. While doctors, nurses, inspectors, interpreters, matrons, and other staff employed during the station’s peak years generally followed the directive to treat immigrants with “kindness and consideration,” the process of inspection and detention—and the frightening prospect of exclusion—remained overwhelming.

Ellis Island became too costly to run—in 1953 the island’s staff numbered roughly 250, to serve approximately 230 detained immigrants. The doors finally closed on November 19, 1954. Its last resident, detainee Arne Peterson, a seaman who overstayed his shore leave, was granted parole and ferried to the mainland.

Excerpted from *Ellis Island*
by B. Colin Hamblin

June Pelo

Germans buy Finnish shipyard, land large order

German shipbuilder Meyer Werft will take over a major shipyard in Turku, Finland, officials announced in mid-September, after gaining approval from antitrust authorities.

“We now have a great chance to make the Turku yard strong again. It will not be easy—the competition in our market remains intense,” Meyer said in a statement.

Meyer Werft will have a 70-percent stake and run day-to-day business at the former STX Finland shipyard, which specializes in building large cruise ships.

The Finnish state will own the remaining 30 percent through its company, Finnish Industry Investment.

No value for the deal has been disclosed. A preliminary sales agreement was announced in early August.

The September 19 announcement came after German competition authorities approved the deal, the Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy and shipbuilder Meyer Werft said.

The shipyard will be renamed Meyer Turku and will be headed by Meyer Werft’s chief executive, Jan Meyer.

The announcement breathes new life into the Turku shipyard, which has about 1,300 employees and also specializes in building passenger ferries.

Due to a drop in orders, its sister shipyard in Rauma, western Finland, was closed earlier this year.

Following the announcement of new ownership, German group TUI Cruises placed an order for two cruise ships for delivery in 2016 and 2017. The order is worth almost 1 billion euros.

—The Finnish American Reporter
October 2014

Norden Newspaper

Norden is a Swedish-language daily newspaper published in New York in the USA. The newspaper *Norden* is addressed to Finland Swedish immigrants (American Finns), and is today the only remaining American-Finnish-Swedish newspaper which is published in the United States. The newspaper prioritizes news from the Swedish communities in Finland, and news about what’s happening in the American-Finnish-Swedish Cultural Community. It is published with one number per week (with the exception of five weeks during the year), and has a circulation of about 1,000 copies.

The magazine was founded in the fall of 1886 under the name of *Finska Amerikanaren* in Worcester, Massachusetts. Initially, the newspaper was bilingual, all editorial text drafted in both Swedish and Finnish. From an unknown date in early 1887 the newspaper was printed entirely in Swedish. After some years, the editors moved to New York where the magazine continued to be published under the same name until 1935, when it was renamed *Norden*.

The circulation was about 6,000 copies in 1920 and fifty years later (early 1970s) about 1,800 copies.

The newspaper *Norden* has long had only a part-time editor. In recent years, subscribers have also been able to read the magazine digitally. Over the years the magazine has had close cooperation with the Swedish American newspaper *Nordstjernen*. Since the magazine *Nordstjernen* passed a few years ago to be issued mainly in English, so the American-Finland-Swedish newspaper *Norden* is the only almost entirely Swedish-language daily in the Americas.

A selection of editors

- 1897–1924 — E J Antell
- 1926–1950 — Otto A Gullmes
- 1963–2014 — Erik Rune Hermans

Of the other editors who have made meritorious contributions to the magazine include Professor Anders Myhrman.

— From the Internet

Swedish or Finnish Language Scholarship

Guidelines for the language scholarship:

The \$500 Scholarship for the Cultural Study of Swedish or Finnish will be awarded to anyone wishing to study the language(s). The student must send proof of enrollment and show the cost of the course along with the completed "Language Scholarship" application. Should the tuition requirement be less than \$500, the asking amount only for the applicable course will be paid. The maximum tuition paid out for an individual language course will not exceed \$500.

Important dates:

Application and any support documents must be received by February 15, 2015. Note to USA applicants: Due to frequent long delays with mail to

Canada, it is recommended that applications be submitted at least three weeks before February 15, 2015 (i.e., January 25, 2015).

Scholarship(s) will be awarded March 1, 2015. Applications can be found at the website www.orderofruneberg.org and look for the word "scholarships."

This is a onetime scholarship offer. Send completed application and proof of enrollment to:

Lorene Mara
Scholarship Chairperson
2021 Palliser Ave.
Coquitlam, BC V3K1W8
Canada

International Order of Runeberg \$1,000 Scholarship

Rules and Application Form

The International Order of Runeberg (IOR) has annually awarded three scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000, available to all members of the IOR pursuing education at an institution of higher learning or a vocational school for further studies towards an advanced degree.

- The scholarship is open not only to high school graduates but to adults and college students who meet the eligibility requirements.

- Scholarship applications must be received by February 15, 2015.

- Scholarships will be awarded March 1, 2015.

- Applications can be found at the website www.orderofruneberg.org and look for the word "scholarships."

Application and any support documents must be received by February 15, 2015. Note to USA applicants: Due to frequent long delays with mail to Canada, it is recommended that applications be submitted at least three weeks before February 15, 2015 (i.e., January 25, 2015).

This is our final scholarship.



The eligibility rules are:

1. All members of the IOR are eligible to apply.
2. Applicant must be a current member in good standing (dues paid) of the IOR and have been a member for at least one year prior to application. Verification of the membership must be submitted by the Financial Secretary of the applicant's lodge.
3. An applicant can be awarded a scholarship every two years (not consecutive years) for a maximum of three scholarships.
4. Impartial judges will be chosen by the Supreme Board each year.
5. Application must be typed or neatly written.
6. Letters of recommendation may be included from a teacher, employer, or community service supervisor.
7. Application must be accompanied with a copy of the applicant's transcript, if applicable.
8. Write a statement telling why you should be awarded this scholarship (must be typewritten).
9. Send completed application along with verification of membership, letter(s) of recommendation, a personal written statement, and transcript (if applicable) to:

Lorene Mara
Scholarship Chairperson
2021 Palliser Ave.
Coquitlam, BC V3K1W8
Canada

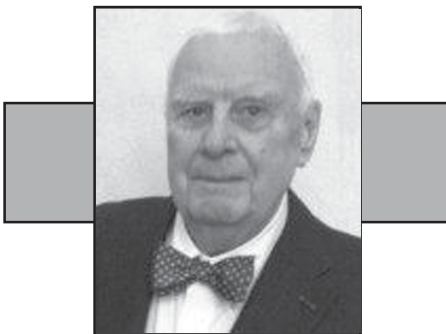
The SFHS Swedish Finn Heritage Tour II

June 5–19, 2015—The SFHS Swedish Finn Heritage Tour II introduces emigrant descendants to the “Old Country.” Genealogy volunteers look forward to researching tour members’ family names for reunions in locales like Vasa. Proposed itinerary: June 5, 2015, depart for Helsingfors for 4 days with guided tours; June 10 drive via Tampere to Vasa (Swedish Ostrobothnia). Four

days in Vasa with time for family visits; then 3 days in Åbo, Finland’s capital city from about 1200 to 1850. June 18 to Helsingfors via Hangö, departure point for emigrants from 1875. The Heritage tour ends June 19. More details in *The Quarterly Spring* 2014 issue. To sign up, contact Sandy Gaffney (360-748-4928 or gaffney62@msn.com) and Lynn and Lee Thompson (425-746-9128 or LynandLeeT@comcast.net).

SFHS Newsletter Volume I, Issue I
August 31, 2014 *Svensk Osterbotten* Edition

Obituary



Erik Rune Hermans

The Editor in Chief of the *Norden* newspaper, Erik Rune Hermans, died Friday, August 11, 2014, in New York at 83. For over 50 years this Närpes-born journalist has lived and worked in Manhattan, editing *Norden*. It is the only Swedish Finn newspaper which was still published in the USA. He gathered news from the four areas of Swedish-speaking Finland. Erik Rune

chose not to take retirement and worked at *Norden* up to his death. He was highly admired for the work he carried out at the small, spirited newspaper in New York, the world’s center. Erik Rune was a champion of Swedish Finn culture in the USA. Finland’s news *Yle* produced a documentary about Hermans, “A Gentleman in New York.” This April he received the Swedish Ostrobothnian Foundation’s Cultural Award at the Runeberg Festival in Vasa. There are countless people on both sides of the Atlantic who will miss him.

*Ann-Christine Westerlund,
Norden*



Waste power plant opens

The biggest power plant turning refuse into electricity has officially been taken into use in Vantaa. The new plant will produce 920 gigawatt-hours of heat and 600 GWh of electricity each year by burning rubbish collected across Uusimaa.

Vantaan Energia officially opened its new waste-to-energy incinerator on Wednesday. The new plant is Finland’s biggest of its kind, and will produce half of the district heating demand and 30 percent of the electricity needed in the municipality of Vantaa.

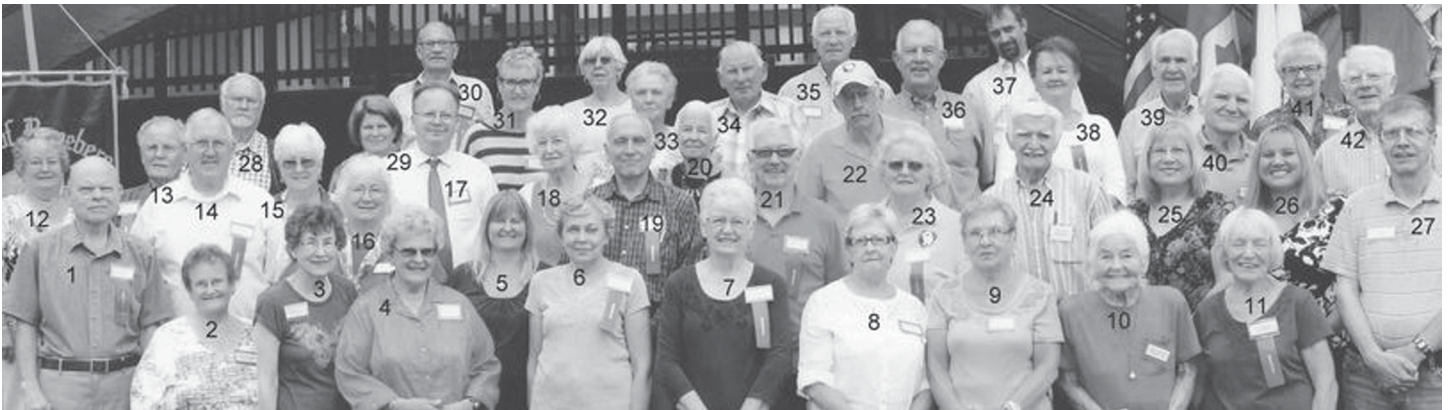
The facility has been thoroughly tested, with the first waste entering the system this spring. It’s the biggest investment the local electricity company has ever made, replacing one unit at the company’s existing incinerator in Malminlaakso.

Around 320,000 tonnes of rubbish will arrive at the plant every year, before it is sorted and incinerated to produce some 920 gigawatt-hours of heat and 600 GWh of electricity. That will reduce Vantaan Energia’s carbon output by 30 percent.

—*The Finnish American Reporter* October 2014

International Order of Runeberg

**2014 Convention
Vancouver BC, Canada
August 15 -16, 2014**



- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Stew Lyons | 15 | Linda DeVries | 30 | Tor-Erik Rosback |
| 2 | Annabelle Kergan | 16 | Janet Anderson | 31 | May Anderson |
| 3 | Margaret Stafford | 17 | Peter Duxbury | 32 | Ann-Mari Rovatti |
| 4 | Barbara Winter | 18 | Janet Duxbury | 33 | Ulla Hogberg |
| 5 | Michelle Kienzle | 19 | Tom Martin | 34 | Ralf Hogberg |
| 6 | Kaarina Lyons | 20 | Alfie Warne | 35 | Dale Hjort |
| 7 | Nathel Martin | 21 | George Nelson | 36 | Ed Brannfors |
| 8 | Ulla Nelson | 22 | Ron Kokkonen | 37 | Jason Garnett |
| 9 | Etel Rosback | 23 | Theresa Kokkonen | 38 | Monica Mason |
| 10 | Miia Kronholm | 24 | Doug Hanson | 39 | Andy Carlson |
| 11 | Marilyn Thompson | 25 | Clara Robinson | 40 | Gary Robinson |
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| 13 | Eric Mara | 27 | Nils Holm | 42 | Lee Thompson |
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