

Members and Friends of Finnish Room Committee

Surviving during the pandemic!

June has passed and July is here. This summer we must show progress on our fundraising for the Finnish Room. The pandemic has forced the cancellation of many events, including any gatherings planned for this summer: no picnic; no music; no visiting performances. We, however, will continue with our advertising in the papers and are hoping that everything goes well with the project.

KALEVALA 150 v. 1985

Soltti vanha Väinämöinen.
Ei ollut sitä metsässä
jalan neljän juoksevata,
koivin koikkelehtavata,
kun ei tullut kuulemahan
iloa imehtimähän.

Played the aged Väinämöinen
Nothing was there in the forest,
which upon four feet was running,
Or upon their legs were hopping,
And which came not near to listen,
come not to rejoice and wonder.

Vise Väinämöinen spelar –
ingenstans i srora skogen,
finns ett djur på fyra fötter,
lunkande på långa skänkar,
som ej lyssnar på hans låtar,
fröjdas åt hans fägningsångar

JUHLALAUTANEN

Tämä lautanen on valmistettu Kalevalan ilmestymisen
150 vuotisjuhlan kunniaksi. Lautanen on suunnitellut
taiteilija Raija Uosikkinen ja sitä valmistetaan
vain yksi valmistuserä vuonna 1985.



150 celebration plate

Some things have changed, and we need to take a new look on the situation. It turns out that the log house we were looking at is not suitable for the use originally intended. We wanted to show the aging and beauty of old wood that had been long exposed on the walls of a house. For the University, a question arose as to whether it would stay mold-free and not rot when placed in close contact with cement walls which might absorb moisture. To make sure that a defect in old wood would not later become a problem in such a situation, the University now prohibits old wood from being used in Nationality Room construction. We are required to use new wood. Our architect has made recommendations for that.

What happens to the old building? It was originally purchased with non-university funds with the intention to donate it for the logs. Since that is no longer possible, it remains a valuable example of Finnish log construction which we hope to keep intact. Mr. Frank Eld, our expert, is now in charge of the house and may have already found a site where it can serve as an authentic meeting place. We are happy with that solution. We hope that more Finnish- Americans will recognize the value of a permanent showcase of our native traditions. Hopefully, those who enjoy the use of that cabin will also help to see that our room is completed. They will be able to appreciate the culture which was able to develop and exist for hundreds of years in these smoke houses, which offered warmth and comfort for home life, gatherings, and learning.

Our room will not be a museum, even though we had hoped to get a touch of it there through the old wood. We will now take the opportunity to look for local sources of wood and get to know some local experts also.

It is important that we have our revised plan well thought out so we can present it to the University when it comes for evaluation, perhaps this coming August.

Of course, our fund drive must proceed. Keep sending you donations, big and small. Keep talking about the project to your friends and encourage them to come along. It is time that we get our culture to stand up and to be recognized among the others.

The best way to make you donation is with your credit or debit card on the web: **giveto.pitt.edu/finnishroom**. To donate by mail, please, make a check payable to **University of Pittsburgh** (in the memo, please write Finnish Nationality Room) and send your check to **University of Pittsburgh, Nationality Rooms #1209, Att. Maryann Sivak, 4200 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15260**.

As you may recall, we each pay membership fees of \$15 a year--\$10 to the University of Pittsburgh Nationality Rooms Committee and \$5 to the Finlandia Foundation. While you are making your donation for the Finnish Room, you may find it convenient to include your \$10 Nationality Rooms fee. If you are including your donation in a check to "University of Pittsburgh," please write "includes membership fee" on your check, along with "Finnish Nationality Room". If you want to donate \$100 and pay your membership online, you need to send \$110.00.

Remember that Finlandia Foundation Chapter dues go to Sally Morton. Use the form below to send dues and donations to her.

Finnish Room Committee/Finlandia Foundation Pittsburgh Chapter

Seija Cohen: Chair: email seijac@aol.com, phone 412-372-6876

Sally Morton: Treasurer: email sallymort@verizon.net, phone 412- 965-2286

Frank Eld: Log construction consultant email imfinn@icloud.com,

Maryann Sivak: Office, Nat. Rooms Programs email mhs35@pitt.edu phone 412-624-6167

Form for Dues, Donations

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

(1) Check to *University of Pittsburgh*, Memo *Finnish Room* (tax-deductible)

Dues for the Finnish Room Committee of the University of Pittsburgh: \$ 10.00

Donation to the Finnish Room Committee (at your discretion): \$ _____

This donation is in memory of: _____

Address: _____

Total amount of check payable to the University of Pittsburgh: \$ _____

Mail this check with your Chapter dues to Sally Morton or mail this directly to
**University of Pittsburgh, Nationality Rooms #1209, Att. Maryann Sivak,
4200 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.**

(2) Check to *Sally Morton*

Dues for the Finlandia Foundation Pittsburgh Chapter: \$ 5.00

To support for bringing Finnish programs to Pittsburgh and to cover advertising
and other expenses not paid from our University Room Fund, I will add \$ _____

Total amount of check payable to Sally Morton: \$ _____

Mail this form along with the check(s) to

Sally Morton, 5250 Liberty Ave. Apt. 447, Pittsburgh, PA 15224.