

SUMMER/FALL 2025

SALOLAMMEN SANOMAT

News from the Salolampi Foundation



KESÄ 2025

from Jen “Jenna” Pulju Porter

We are glad to report that we had another wonderful Salolampi summer filled with laughter, games, and all sorts of Finnish fun. Salolampi also celebrated the 80th anniversary of the Moomins with our own Muumikesä, which included our family week villagers making Moomin comics and the credit villagers researching a Moomin character and then showing up to a meal in character to answer questions and tell Moomin stories. We learned about the history of Turku in an evening program affectionately called “Burning the Turku” and played a lot of pingis (ping-pong) and lentopallo (volleyball).

I’m so proud of all of our staff members and villagers who made the summer one to remember (and that doesn’t even include the power outage!). We are already looking forward to next summer and thinking about all the fun things we might do. Please note that, due to the calendar, our Salolampi summer will “jump forward” one week with our Family Week beginning on June 15th and our first youth week beginning on June 22nd, 2026.

KIITOKSET

Paljon kiitoksia to our former president of the Salolampi Foundation, Susanna Ojo, for her hard work and dedication to Salolampi! We are proud to have Kristi Loeck, a Salolampi alumni and previous board member, step into the role of president: "In some ways, Salolampi has never changed since my first time crossing the 'border' in the mid-90s. My grandfather paved the way for me to learn something he never was able to learn, the language his parents used. He never knew that Salolampi would be so much more to me than just a language village. My own children still arrive at the 'border' in the same way I did, maybe naively thinking that they are also just arriving to learn the language. Little do they know, this place taught me that I was stronger than I thought, allowed me to explore new interests, gave me lifelong friends that are now scattered around the globe, and linguistic confidence and capabilities that extend beyond being able to speak Finnish (just ask me about getting my daughter through virtual Spanish immersion kindergarten!). By serving as the next Salolampi Foundation president, I strive to give the next generation of Salolampilaiset these opportunities to connect in impactful ways that they don't even realize yet."



Kristi, adult & family week participant Alma, and past Salolampi Foundation president, current adult program and summer staff member Susan Harstad at the Salolampi booth in the tori at Finn Fest 2025

ADULT WEEK 2025

from Tiina Watts

It's fun at Salolampi Finnish Language Village when we have a big crowd, but it is also fun with a smaller group. Sept. 14-20 we had our fall adult week, and because of the smaller group, we had more opportunities to get to know each other. We did karaoke, had a movie night, enjoyed 3 musical concerts, dove into family history, enjoyed the sauna, wove belts and rugs, made cardamom rolls, created birch bark jewelry, and learned lots and lots of Finnish!

Our teachers were Leila Stewart, Daniel Haataja, and Tiina Watts. Susan Harstad kept us busy with a variety of activities, and our musicians were Jason Busniewski from Milwaukee, Sheila McCoughlin from Kettle River, and Dan and Candace Knutson (two of our participants) from Tamarack, MN.



6 Ways to Give to the Salolampi Foundation

Scholarship Fund

- Online at www.salolampi.org
- Venmo @SalolampiFoundation
- Send us a check (self-addressed envelope enclosed in this edition) or mail to:

Salolampi Foundation
P.O. Box 14480
Minneapolis, MN 55414-0480

PayPal Giving Fund

Go to paypal.com/fundraiser/hub to make Salolampi Foundation your charity

Employer Match

Check with your employer to see if it matches a yearly or monthly charitable donation.

Retirement Account

- Make a distribution to the Salolampi Foundation from your retirement account
- Name the Salolampi Foundation as a beneficiary of a retirement account or estate.

Sampo Endowment

Leave a legacy by donating to the Sampo Endowment Fund.

Volunteer

- Volunteer at our spring and fall Work Weekends (see article at right about our Fall 2022 work weekend).
- Volunteer to serve on a foundation committee.
- Volunteer to call donors for our annual Phone-A-Thon.

Email info@salolampi.org to learn more about donating, to sign up to volunteer, and to update your contact information with us!

WORK WEEKEND 2025

from Eli Schlotec

On September 12-14, 2025, Salolampi Foundation organized our Fall Work Weekend at the Salolampi Finnish Language Village. Our team of fourteen volunteers, consisting of board members, staff, friends of Salolampi, and even a couple villagers completed many necessary tasks to prepare the site for winter. Thank you to former villagers John Laitinen and Eli Lahti-Schlotec for leading work weekend, as well as Annikka Nordby, Kristi Loeck, Nora Wikstrom, Susan Harstad, Lily Obeda, Linda Davis, the Zarns family, and the Taipale-Ostenso family for your work over the weekend.

Tasks completed include:

- Cut, split, and stacked firewood for our sauna
 - Cleaned the decks, coffee corner, hallways, windows, and stairs of Iso Talo
 - Warped looms and re-organized the askartelehuone (craft room)
 - Weeded rock beds and tended to gardens
 - Deep cleaned cabins
- And so much more!

Keep an eye out for the dates of our next Spring Work Weekend. Kiitos paljon to everyone who continues to make such progress possible!



SCENES FROM CAMP



IN LOVING MEMORY...

Gifts in Memory of:

Dale Tuura
Jayne Tuura

Donna Jacobson
Finnish-American Society of Milwaukeee

Elaine Anuta
Paavo Taipale
Kaisa Taipale

Fran Lahti
Finnish-Americans & Friends

Kenneth Lahti
Jon Lahti
Cindy Kennedy
Thomas Russ
Judith Eccles
Donna Hoag
Knights of Kaleva Pohjolaisen Maja #25

Kenneth and Frances Lahti
Kristi & Darrel Pederson
Ronald G. Lampinen
Mary Ann Goms
David Cowan
John Caputo
Doug & Lori Goetz
Arlene Putikka-Schierenbeck
Lorraine Erickson

H. Eugene and Beth Karjala
Diane Cavosie

JoAnn Jokinen Salo
Patricia Downs

John A. And Eila M. Haapala
P. Hannele Haapala

Larry (Lauri/Heinrich) Saukko
JoAnn Tiedemann

Leonard Hill
Linda Mehle School

Marlene Banttari
Andreas Ostenso & Kaisa Taipale
Jim & Debbie Kurtti
Verna Ludvigson

Michael John Mowers
Patrick Mowers

Raili Rautio
Corrine Centa

Victor and Esther Sola
Dale D. & Elizabeth Sola Charitable Trust

Gifts as of September 1, 2025

KENNETH AND FRANCES LAHTI, STEADFAST SUPPORTERS

Ken and Fran Lahti were long-time supporters of Salolampi and are greatly missed by our community. Kenneth Richard Lahti passed away on May 30, 2025, and Frances Harriet Aamodt Lahti passed away on January 22, 2025.

Ken and Fran met at Concordia College in Moorhead and lived in Eveleth. Along with full professional and family lives, Ken and Fran worked hard to help establish Salolampi and fund the Salolampi Foundation's mission of scholarships for Salolampi, as well as the establishment of the permanent site for the camp with buildings of Finnish design. Fran was involved with the Ladies of Kaleva and Finnish-Americans and Friends, and was a fundraiser for the Salolampi Foundation. Ken participated in the Knights of Kaleva, Finnish-Americans and Friends, and Salolampi Foundation activities, in fact serving as an early Salolampi Foundation president. They both supported their grandchildren in attending Salolampi.

NUOTIO PROJECT

New fire pit needed for summer camp memories

The nuotio (fire pit) area on the shores of Turtle River Lake has been taken back by nature – the shoreline has eroded and it is no longer working as a place to gather, sing songs, and create memories. In 2026 we aim to plan a new fire pit with moveable benches, closer to the main buildings.

When you donate to Salolampi Foundation, we apply donations for scholarships to scholarships. This fall we aim to raise \$2500 in donations to fund the nuotio project and other non-scholarship needs that support Salolampi.

Designate gifts to “As Needed” or come to the spring work weekend if you want to support the 2026 Nuotio Project! Gifts to “As Needed” are funds we use to support non-scholarship projects that benefit the kids and adults who come to Salolampi, in coordination with Dean Jenna Porter. Thank you for your support and stewardship!

Other long-time supporters of Salolampi remember them as follows: Michael Anuta remembers them as “dedicated workers for anything Finnish.” Ahvo Taipale remembers them as instrumental in promoting Finnish-American culture in the Virginia and Eveleth area. He says, “[Oli] erittäin miellyttävää toimia heidän kanssa.”



SIGN UP FOR ADULT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS!

Session Type	Start Date	End Date	Reg. Deadline	Price*
Nordic Holiday Weekend	12/5	12/7	11/21	\$375
Family Weekend	1/16	1/19	12/19	\$415
Adult Week	5/11	5/17	4/13	\$1305
Family Week	6/15	6/20	5/18	\$955

For a digital copy of the Sanomat, please email info@salolampi.org

Salolampi Foundation

*Kristi Loeck, President
Steve Leppälä, Vice President
Laura Bernard Moon, Secretary
Kaisa Taipale and Jeffrey Bernard Moon,
Treasurers
Linda Davis
Amelia Wickstrom
Max Stevenson
Eli Schlotec
Ceridwen Koski*

Ex-Officio Members

*Jennifer Porter, Dean
Susan Larson, Interim Exec. Director, CLV
Marc Johnson, Development Director, CLV*

Salolampi Foundation
P.O. Box 14480
Minneapolis, MN 55414-0480

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UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES AND
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND
OPERATED EXCLUSIVELY FOR
CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL
PURPOSES.

SALOLAMPI FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES
ITS GENEROUS DONORS IN ITS ANNUAL
REPORT, AVAILABLE AT
SALOLAMPI.ORG. TO REQUEST A
PAPER COPY, PLEASE EMAIL
INFO@SALOLAMPI.ORG

2026 YOUTH PROGRAM DATES

Session Type	Start Date	End Date	Reg. Deadline	Age Range	Price*
1-week	06/22	06/27	05/25/26	7-12	\$1425
1-week	07/06	07/11	06/08/26	12-18	\$1425
2-week	06/22	07/04	05/25/26	8-12	\$2830
2-week	07/06	07/18	06/08/26	12-18	\$2830
4-week	06/22	07/18	05/25/26	12-15	\$5590
2-week Credit	06/22	07/04	05/25/26	Grades 8-12	\$3265
High School Credit	06/22	07/18	05/25/26	Grades 8-12	\$5910

*Opting into scholarships greatly reduces the cost of attendance. Visit salolampi.org for more information.