

# AJAKAJA

SUMMER 2009 • VOLUME 30



ALBERTA ESTONIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY



Rukkilill-National Flower of Estonia

# Alberta Estonian Heritage Society (2009)

---

The Alberta Estonian Heritage Society (AEHS) was formally established on April 23, 2005 to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of Alberta's Estonian community, and to increase awareness of developments in Estonia.

---

## BOARD

President -Executive .....	Bob Kingsep .....	(403)-949-4249
Vice-President-Executive .....	Helgi Leesment .....	(403)-217-0515
Treasurer-Executive.....	Toomas Pääsuke.....	(403)-678-0737
Secretary-Executive .....	Jüri Kraav.....	(403)-257-5690
Membership convener.....	Peter Asmus.....	(403)-295-0291
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:asmusp@shaw.ca">asmusp@shaw.ca</a>
Website committee convener.....	Bob Kingsep.....	(403)-949-4249
Ajakaja Editor .....	Eda McClung .....	(780)-452-2712
Communications.....	Dave Kiil .....	(780)-988-0019

## DIRECTORS - AT - LARGE:

Edmonton area .....	Eda McClung.....	(403)-742-3527
Calgary area.....	Vacant	
Gilby .....	Allan Posti.....	(403)-746-3571
Stettler .....	Deane Kerbes.....	(403)-742-3527
Barons/Medicine Hat .....	Martha Munz Gue .....	(403)-526-2226
Barons/Medicine Hat .....	Barbara Gullickson.....	(403)-757-2229

## COMMITTEES

Past President/Nominations .....	Bob Tipman .....	(403)-263-9447
Membership.....	Helgi Leesment .....	(403)-217-0515
AjaKaja, Calgary area.....	Helgi Leesment .....	(403)-217-0515
AjaKaja, Eckville area.....	Jack Palo	
AjaKaja, Medicine Hat/Barons .....	Barbara Gullickson.....	(403)-757-2229
AjaKaja, Stettler area.....	Astrid Ustina .....	(780)-486-5498
Website committee .....	Peter Asmus .....	(403)-295-0291
Website committee .....	Lorne Hennel.....	(403)-274-6583
Website committee .....	Jüri Kraav.....	(403)-257-5690
Website committee .....	Helgi Leesment .....	(403)-217-0515
Chair, Jaanipäev 2009 .....	Ron Hennel.....	(403)-742-3980

---

Alberta Estonian Heritage Society (AEHS) Website: [www.aehs.ca](http://www.aehs.ca)

---

## AjaKaja

AjaKaja is published semiannually to inform members about Society activities and heritage topics. Publication and distribution costs are covered by membership dues.

Non-members may purchase AjaKaja for \$5.00 per copy by contacting Eda McClung
--

Members and friends are encouraged to submit articles, photographs and heritage-related items to Eda McClung at [emcclung@shaw.ca](mailto:emcclung@shaw.ca)



# AJAKAJA

Alberta Estonian  
Heritage Society

Summer 2009  
Volume 30

## Letter from the Editors

This is a time for our Society to celebrate significant milestones and accomplishments. For this reason, we have chosen a colorful and symbolic cover design for AjaKaja

This year marks the 110th anniversary of Estonian settlement in Alberta. The upcoming Stettler Jaanipäev will rekindle memories of the amazing 1999 Centennial. AjaKaja is proud to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. What began as a local, single folded sheet is now a 36-page newsletter with distinction across Canada, as well as Estonian libraries, museums and archives.

The beginning of 2009 brought welcome news for Alberta Estonian Heritage Society (AEHS). We were the recipient of two new grants, one from the National Estonian Foundation of Canada in Toronto and the other from the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research in Tartu. The grants enable us to complete the “Alberta’s Estonian Heritage” website, make major additions of contemporary activities of the AEHS, add translations of important historical documents, and complete the Multimedia Resources section.

We anticipate a close working relationship with Estonian archives, museums and the Baltic Heritage Network. These institutions are interested in accessing the history and cultural heritage of expatriate Estonian communities. This collaboration will be facilitated by the digital archive developed and maintained by the AEHS.

Alberta’s Estonian Heritage website was established two years ago under the innovative Alberta Online Encyclopedia-Albertasource.ca program of the Heritage Community Foundation (HCF) in Edmonton. On June 1 the HCF gifted the Encyclopedia, with some 80 sites, to the University of Alberta. This will ensure that it can be maintained in perpetuity in service to Albertans, Canadians and all users of the World Wide Web.

With financial support of the Estonian Government, an “Alberta Estonian Archive” project may become reality. This will honor our Estonian pioneers and their descendants and will preserve invaluable historical material.

Thank you to all of you who contributed material towards this issue. Please write us with your opinions and suggestions.

Eda McClung and Dave Kiil

### In this issue

Letter from Editors	3
Letters to Editors	4
President’s Message	5
AEHS AGM	6
Dessert Recipe	7
Estonian Government support	8
Now Generation: Mottus	10
Now generation: Chisholm	12
Heritage Quiz	14
A Culinary Innovator	15
Sinberg-Snieckus	16
Award winners	18
West Coast Estonian Days	19
Montreal Estonian Society	20
Anu Tali	22
Estonian talent in Edmonton	24
Estonian biathletes	26
Hotels Barons	28
Estonia becomes E-stonia	30
News from Estonia	32
Saku beer	33
Hiiumaa history	34
AEHS 2009 Membership List	35

# Letters to the Editors

## Congratulations!

I just received the latest issue of AjaKaja and I must tell you that I think that this is the best yet! Well done!! I am going to pass it on to my children because I find the “Now Generation” stories very inspirational for Estonian descendants of their generation who were born outside of Estonia, do not speak Estonian, but are still emotionally quite drawn to and intrigued by Estonia.



*Harry Jaako, Honorary Consul,  
Republic of Estonia, Vancouver, BC*

---

## A message from Old Town Tallinn

AjaKaja is a brilliant idea to reunite Alberta's Estonians with their Estonian roots. It also gives practical support to build a 21<sup>st</sup> century Global Estonian Cultural Network (GECN). It is time to understand (and recognize) that when, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Estonian pioneers in Canada spoke Estonian, 5-6 generations later the best way to support Estonian cultural roots (mostly as a nice hobby) of their descendants is to use English and to actively participate in their cultural heritage. The technical developments in the 21<sup>st</sup> century gave us the Internet as an instrument. Also, Estonians have started to speak English more fluently during the last 15 years as well as using English in Internet. So be actively involved in the GECN and realize that AjaKaja plays a very important role.

*Anti Liiv, Psychiatrist,  
Tallinn, Estonia  
Anti@Liiv.ee*

---

## Estonian connections

After several frustrating attempts to learn more about my Estonian heritage, I had the good fortune to contact Helgi Leesment and through her learn about the Alberta Estonian Heritage Society and the informative AjaKaja publication.

Our mother, Rosalie Peetof Linderman, of the Estonian Crimean community joined a group of young people escaping the political turmoil of the Bolshevik Revolution in 1920 to go to Estonia which had just been granted independence. She left Estonia in 1924 on another trip, this time across the ocean to Southern Alberta to marry Robert Linderman who left Estonia as a youth in 1912. They struggled to survive on a dryland farm in the Foremost area and to adapt to the language and ways of their new country. Our parents never talked much about their homeland and it wasn't until recently that I have made a concerted effort to explore my Estonian roots.

My sister Lea Sepp had a few of mother's old Estonian letters which we hoped would provide background. Despite the deteriorated condition of these letters, Helgi Leesment managed to translate the contents and also provide historical interpretation. Her extensive knowledge of Estonian language and culture as well as her many contacts have helped us gain a better understanding of our Estonian roots and initiate contact with Crimean relatives.

AjaKaja has been an invaluable source of information. The winter edition has many articles of particular interest to our family. Helgi's biography of Otto Laaman brings memories of a very quiet, intense man-a cousin of Pauline Sniekus. Pauline and mother were friends in the group leaving Crimea in 1920 and would be reunited years later when my parents sponsored them to come to Canada from a refugee camp after the Second World War. Otto's biography is very informative about early Estonian Crimeans and helps fill in stories mother told. AjaKaja has also led to a revival of friendships with Barons' Estonians from childhood visits. My family extends sincere thanks to the editors and contributors to AjaKaja for their role in connecting us with our Eesti heritage and community.

*Anita Linderman Madill,  
Calgary*

## President's Message

Tere!



Christmas this winter saw snow in every city in Canada. Most of us Albertans felt the bone chilling cold weather systems that assumed biweekly sweeps across our province. On those days of double digit minus temperatures, when I ventured out to shovel the drive I became obsessed with imagining how my grandparents and their neighbors had coped with the elements 110 years ago. We've all joked when our parents insisted that winters were more severe when they were young, however statistics bear that out and I've seen the receding glaciers myself. I think I'm ready to believe.

That concession made, I return to my pioneering thoughts. The first year or two of the early pioneers particularly intrigues me. How did they get through days like these? Their refuge was a marginally tolerable hut, and survival depended on outdoor tasks. They donned some felt, wool, and last summer's beard and did what they had to do. There was no choice.

While I can relate to the physical challenges, I have difficulty comprehending the psychological duress that must have weighed on them. They were faced with harsh elements and isolation. Day in and day out nature permeated every aspect of life. For many it had to be a never-ending and deeply depressing struggle.

This last summer our society was exposed to a timeless aspect of human life. At the Great

Estonian Stone Exchange at the Gilby Cemetery, we were read the will of Horma Ott. In it, Horma Ott (Otto Kingsep) pressured his sons and their families to return to Estonia or face losing their inheritance.

The details of this scenario brought us a very personal glimpse of and another dimension to the onslaught of difficulties faced by the pioneers. Over and above struggling for survival, they had to deal with the same stressful family situations that we do today.

It is interesting to watch the layers of our society wrap themselves in our heritage. From the war devastation of Europe, another generation of Estonians found themselves devoid of choice. With relentless dedication their efforts and insights have guided us through some of our proudest achievements. Last years additions to our historical website further opens the window of the world to an enduring community and its roots.

The exposure we have gained over our short existence has inspired organizations regionally, nationally and beyond to query the methods that keep the AEHS in the forefront. Our society, small, dispersed, and of stock from varying backgrounds, continues to fuel aspirations, establish goals and set exceedingly high standards.

Choice surrounds our generation. With it we have elected to honor our heritage and maintain a spirit of optimism and enthusiasm. Ajakaja and the community that supports it are the embodiment of the dreams of yesterday. Once more we open these pages of news, interest, opinion and progress. Enjoy!

Bob Kingsep

# AEHS Annual General Meeting, 2009

Helgi Leesment

Twenty people took part in the Alberta Estonian Heritage Society annual general meeting on April 18, 2009 in Red Deer. It was a positive event chaired by President Bob Kingsep: a review of another highly active year, finances in great shape and clear plans for the near future. The same executive and board were unanimously voted back into office for the next year.



*Participants at the AEHS AGM in Red Deer, April 18, 2009*

Before the meeting, those present helped prepare mailing envelopes with material about the forthcoming Jaanipäev event to take place Saturday June 20 at Linda Hall, Stettler. The planning committee is working very hard, having done major advance fundraising to ensure that costs are covered.

Past year's activities include executive, board and Jaanipäev planning committee meetings plus some meetings with Rasmus Lumi, Estonian Charge d'Affaires, from Ottawa. As usual, we had excellent feedback on the previous two issues of AjaKaja, with the section by and about the younger generation being especially well received. A spontaneous and successful Great Estonian Stone Exchange with guests from Estonia took place at the Old Raabis cemetery,

followed by potluck dinner and presentations. In addition, smaller local events have been held: Jaanipäev in Calgary and a reception for Estonian symphony orchestra director Anu Tali in Edmonton. We have sent 10 copies of our DVD *Alberta's Estonians* to various relevant libraries, archives and government departments in Estonia. As of April 18 we had 85 paid-up memberships covering approximately 200 members. In the future more use will be made of the news bulletins emailed from the AEHS member website. Consideration will be given to making the member site easier to use. As an organization, we are receiving communication from places beyond Alberta, meaning that we are gaining acknowledgement and recognition as an entity with drive, foresight, purpose and integrity.

Treasurer Toomas Pääsuke reported that AEHS finances are balanced, with past and future general expenses as well as special project expenses all under control, within budget.

Dave Kiil's talent at attracting grant funds for our historical and archive projects is keeping various board members very busy writing, editing, working with photos and liaising with the Heritage Community Foundation (HCF) and various archives staff. Phase 3 contract with the HCF terminated May 31, 2009. The AEHS has been awarded a grant from the Government of Estonia to continue our collecting, documenting and archiving projects. Dave Kiil will make a presentation about Alberta Estonians at the Baltic Heritage Network Conference in Tartu, Estonia in July. Dave is also working on a presentation at the West Coast Estonian Days Festival in Seattle, Washington State, in August.

The next AGM is slated for April 17, 2010.

# Dessert Pirukas

Recipe courtesy of Linda Hall Ladies Club

## DOUGH:

- 3 C. flour
- 1 C. butter
- ½ C. sugar
- ½ tsp. salt
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 2 eggs, beaten
- ¼ C. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla

## FILLING:

- 2 C. rhubarb
- 2 C. strawberries or raspberries
- 2 C. apples
- ½ C. golden raisins
- 1 C. water
- Sugar (sweeten to taste)
- 1 tsp. cornstarch



## METHOD:

Mix flour, sugar, salt and baking powder in a bowl and work in butter as for pie crust. Add beaten eggs, milk and vanilla. Mix well and knead until smooth. Roll to ¼ inch thickness on a floured board. Cover bottom of a 9x12 inch pan with dough and bring to 1 inch height on pan sides. Roll top dough to just fit pan to cover filling.

Cook filling ingredients for 10 minutes. Pour hot filling into bottom of dough-covered pan and top with crust. Bake for 20 minutes at 400 degrees F. until golden brown. Serve with whipped cream topping. Delicious!



This is based on Annie Raho's recipe, an original member of the Linda Hall Ladies Club. The Linda Hall district ladies formed a group in the early 1900's soon after men of the community formed the Agricultural Club (Põllumeeste Selts). The club was originally called Linda Eesti Naiste Rahvaste Ühisus and meetings were held in Estonian. In 1952, the ladies formed the Linda Hall Ladies Club and business was conducted in English. The group catered functions at Linda Hall such as Jaanipäev, Christmas concerts and dances. Annie and Oscar Raho (now both deceased) farmed near Linda Hall and were active members of the community. Their two sons, Tom and Vern, have traditionally supplied and prepared logs for the midsummer bonfire and will do so again for Jaanipäev 2009.

# AEHS Heritage Project receives financial support from Estonian Government

Dave Kiil and Eda McClung

**The Compatriot Program of the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research provides financial assistance to expatriate Estonian communities for collecting, digitizing, cataloguing and preserving historical and cultural heritage materials. Establishment of networks and cooperation between Estonian and expatriate memory institutions, individuals and organizations for sharing of archival materials, including the use of new media and enhanced technology, is encouraged.**

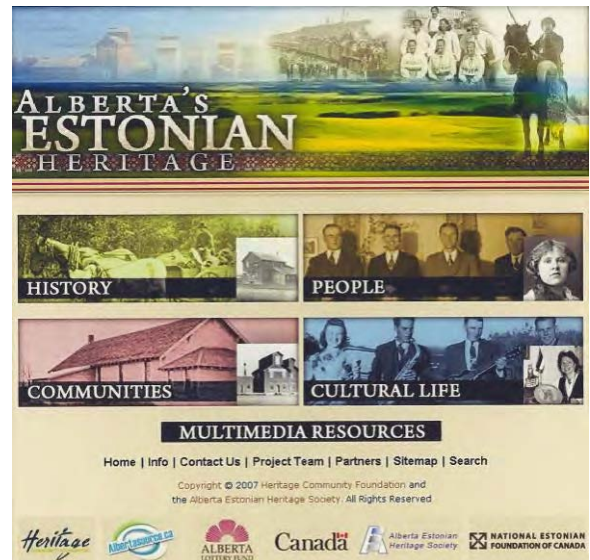
Recently we received exciting news that our grant application to the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research had been approved under the Compatriot Program. This grant will enable us to continue work on the AEHS heritage project and consolidate the archival materials of Alberta's Estonians in a central location in the province.



*Logo of the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research*

The Estonian government's financial support is particularly timely as it will enable us to complete an archival collection to preserve the history and cultural heritage of Alberta's Estonians, and to make the information available to AEHS members, memory institutions in Estonia and elsewhere, and researchers, genealogists and historians worldwide. Maintenance of the "Alberta's Estonian Heritage" website and ease of access to the digital archive will facilitate coordination, cooperation and networking with and by many potential users of the material.

We are now exploring various options to consolidate the donated archival materials used during the production of our heritage website and "Alberta's Estonians" DVD.



*New Home Page of "Alberta's Estonian Heritage" website*

The agreement with the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research provides funds for the collection, storage, cataloguing and preservation of an "Estonian Archive in Alberta", and is intended to provide access to printed and digitized materials. The funds may also be used to enhance our heritage website, to increase collaboration between interested individuals and organizations, and to increase awareness of the availability of the collection. Development of networks and cooperation with Estonian organizations, including the Estonian Literary Museum, Estonian



National Archive, Baltic Heritage Network, and others, will be prioritized.

Development and maintenance of an “Estonian Archive in Alberta” is a challenging but justifiable initiative for our Society. Our members are widely scattered throughout the province, making it impractical to train volunteers to describe and catalogue an archival collection, not to mention the challenge of updating and improving the historical material.

We have initiated discussions with the Provincial Archives of Alberta in Edmonton to explore opportunities for donating our materials for storage, registration, preservation and access. The Library and Archives of Canada have agreed to return the Medicine Valley Estonian Society’s collection, donated to that organization in 1984, to Alberta because it is not national in scope. The Red Deer Archives is willing to accommodate our materials but their primary role is to preserve local and regional collections.

A second grant from the National Estonian Foundation of Canada in Toronto in 2009 has enabled us to enhance “Alberta’s Estonian Heritage” website in several areas, including substantial additions to post-World War II activities, an expanded Multimedia Resources component with several hundred new images, AjaKaja and newspaper articles, and new sections about Estonian cuisine, athletes and musicians.

Work on the so-called Phase 3 of our digital archive was completed on May 31, 2009, and coincided with the transfer of Alberta’s Online Encyclopedia-Albertasource.ca from the Heritage Community Foundation to the University of Alberta. Discussions will be initiated shortly with the University about maintaining and enhancing our history and cultural heritage project.

## **“Alberta Estonian Heritage” website finds new home at the University of Alberta in Edmonton**

On June 1, 2009, the Heritage Community Foundation (HCF) gifted the Alberta Online Encyclopedia-Albertasource.ca, including “Alberta’s Estonian Heritage” website, to the University of Alberta (U of A) Learning Services (comprising the Libraries and Archives as well as the Peel Digital Collections).

The HCF, the developers of the AEHS heritage website since 2007, will be dissolved on June 30, 2009.

The gifting and transfer of the Alberta Online Encyclopedia-Alberta Source.ca to the U of A ensures that our heritage website will be maintained to provide access to individuals, organizations and memory institutions worldwide.

The AEHS has signed a Partner Copyright document to transfer the Foundation’s interest in the AEHS Website to the U of A. We will now hold copyright jointly with the University.

In the months ahead, we will familiarize ourselves with the U of A’s website maintenance program and discuss opportunities for further enhancement of the site. Discussions will include consideration of the University of Alberta Archives and the Peel Digital Collections as well as the Provincial Archives of Alberta as a permanent location(s) for the proposed “Alberta Estonian Archive”.

**Permanent address for accessing “Alberta’s Estonian Heritage” website:**

**[www.albertasource.ca/abestonians](http://www.albertasource.ca/abestonians)**

## “Now Generation” of Alberta Estonians

Catherine Mottus

**Catherine Mottus is the great granddaughter of Gust and Linda (Kingsep) Mottus, and great great granddaughter of Henry and Emily Kingsep. Both families are original Medicine Valley pioneers.**

Many memories of my travels in Japan are truly unforgettable! Imagine being asked if you like “fresh fish”. Well, sure I do. I never dreamed that answering that question would lead to me sitting at a table with my students and watching a fish arrive, so intricately decorated, gently sliced with fresh wasabi on the side, and still flapping its tail and looking at me. Yes, now that is fresh sushi! My students loved to see my reactions to so many events. This was one of my introductions to the passions of Japanese culture. Food is one of them as the Japanese are very ardent about their fresh and delicious cuisine. I also witnessed first hand how they are passionate about their education. I share their beliefs in the value of education and that is one reason why I ended up living and teaching in Japan for almost three years.

It was a curvy learning path for me to reach my dream of becoming a teacher. I have always been an educator in one way or another since graduating from high school. I initially pursued figure skating as a career and had the opportunity to travel to Mexico to skate in an ice show and then concentrated on coaching skating upon returning back to Alberta. I began to think about areas of post-secondary education that interested me and chose to study Correctional Services. After graduating from Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton, Alberta, in 1997, I worked with Young Offenders and as a Family & Youth Counsellor. I loved the challenge of this work, but I still had the desire to obtain my degree and pursue teaching. I decided I could combine my two passions, travelling and teaching.

In April 2003, I graduated from the University

of Alberta with my teaching degree and was on an airplane to Japan by that July. I initially obtained a position as an English Teacher with a national English Conversational School in the city of Kitakyushu on the southern island of Kyushu, where I would live during my time in Japan. I certainly had the opportunity to expand by teaching skills as my students ranged in age from 3 to 76 years. I was extremely impressed with the dedication and seriousness of my students to learn English. They stated that they wanted to speak better English to enhance their careers and travel opportunities. They would study diligently, often after working 12-hour days. It was intriguing to learn that most of my students were medical doctors, lawyers, engineers, and fellow teachers. I held a huge amount of admiration for their determination.



*Cathy with Kenya and his mother Yoko Nakagawa (students from GEOS English School)*

Not only did my adult students show seriousness towards learning, but they were eager to teach me about their culture. My social life in Japan was also a terrific educational experience for me due to my

students. They would invite me to their homes for traditional meals, take me to Japanese tea ceremonies, show me the best Japanese restaurants and karaoke bars, accompany me to local festivals and sumo wrestling events, and show me some of the most majestic and history-filled castles, temples, and shrines. I could have possibly taught them. I did love teaching adult students, but I wanted to focus more on teaching children.



***Cathy teaching Japanese children at Asakawa Gakuendai (kindergarten)***

I resigned from my position with the National Conversational English School and joined a small private English School that contracted teachers out into the elementary schools, in addition to providing conversational English lessons. It was very intimidating the first time I walked into a kindergarten classroom and faced 40 wide-eyed children staring at me in their little school uniforms. Somehow, even at the age of four, the students looked serious. I quickly learned that children are children and my behaviour management skills were fully put to the test! I survived and was able to see my students' progress in the short time that I worked with them. I also learned how focused the younger students were in Japan. It is a very academically competitive culture and the students put all their efforts into studying in order to gain entrance into the desired private schools. It was very common for students to come to *juku* (cram) school before and after regular classes. Most students would take a bus straight from their regular school and

would remain studying until 8 pm or longer. I witnessed first hand how the Japanese people truly value education!

My time in Japan flew by quickly, but I didn't forget to pursue my other passion of travelling before returning to Canada. I enjoyed exploring the island of Kyushu, and



***Cathy with Yoshiko Harada (student/friend) from Kitakyushu)***

visiting Okinawa, Osaka, Tokyo, and Kyoto. I also had the opportunity to travel to South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. Along with my travels in Asia, my love of adventure has led me to Mexico, Los Angeles, New York, Las Vegas, all across Canada, and England. The next country on my list is Estonia! I returned to Canada in the summer of 2006 and began teaching in Red Deer, Alberta. I am currently teaching Kindergarten in the Red Deer Public School District, and ironically, I live within walking distance of the best sushi restaurant in the city!

# “Now Generation” of Alberta Estonians

Liisa and Andrew Chisholm

**Liisa and Andrew Chisholm are third generation Estonians who grew up knowing their Estonian-born great grandparents and grandfather. They have been lucky enough to meet many of their Estonian relatives both here and in Estonia as well as spend several vacations with them. Their Grandpa, Enn Kaarsoo, was very proud when they and their cousins, Alison & Callum McLeod received their Estonian passports and began to learn the language.**

## **Andrew:**

Ever since I joined biathlon five years ago, it seems that it has become the centre of attention in my life. I am in grade 12 at Sir Winston Churchill High School in Calgary and am set to graduate in June of 2009.



*Andrew at the starting line*

I also applied and was granted my Estonian citizenship just over a year ago. As for post secondary education, I have not yet made a solid decision of where to go. My other (and preferred) choice is to move to Canmore, where I will be able to train full time and hope to achieve my goals in biathlon. I will have made my decision soon enough.

Other than in April, I am training around 6 days a week. Last summer I was lucky enough to go to Estonia and attend a training camp in Haanja. This was a bit strange at first as my Estonian was limited, but I soon found myself making friends throughout each training session. I was able to train with many of Estonia’s top biathletes. Some of the ones I met were Meelis Laht, Martin Pajos, and Tõnis Uiboupin. I trained with them

almost every day at the camp, but the exciting part was that after I left Estonia, they came to Canmore this winter for the World Junior Championships! It was an awesome experience having them come here, as they allowed me to train with them on many different occasions. It was in this time that their coach (and my coach from the summer) Tõnu Paasuke helped me with different training methods and skiing techniques. I used their knowledge and integrated that into my own training to



*Andrew, BC and Alberta Champion, 2009*

achieve results I could not have imagined possible! I won double gold medals at the BC championships and became the Alberta Champion the week after. Unfortunately due to a slight illness and extreme exhaustion I was unable to perform equally well at the National Championships, but there is always next year!

I am hoping to return to Estonia this summer to train and visit with my friends once again. I have been keeping in touch with them throughout the year but it is always nice to visit face to face again!

**Liisa:**

I am 15 years old right now, turning 16 in the summer. I've lived in Calgary for my entire life, but I've been lucky enough to visit Estonia twice - once in the summer of 2008 and once several summers before.



*Liisa during a mixed relay race*

I devote a lot of my time to training for biathlon (cross country skiing and rifle marksmanship) and have had successful race seasons the past two years - I won two gold medals at the 2008 Alberta Winter Games and this year, after moving up a category, won two golds at the 2009 National Championships (one in the 6 kilometre sprint and one in the 3 x 4.5 kilometre mixed relay).

The first time we were in Estonia my brother and I did a biathlon race in Otepää - I have kept in touch with two of my friends from that day on the website Orkut - the site that they use instead of Facebook. When we were there this past summer I saw one of them in Otepää while I was on a bike ride and she was training - it was exciting to see her since it was unexpected. I like having connections

to people my age in Estonia.



*Roller blading at Pirita, Tallinn*

My brother and I attended a biathlon training camp in Estonia last summer. It was a really good experience and the training helped me see areas where I need to improve. I'm hoping to be able to see them this summer and go to the camp again.



*Liisa wins two gold medals at 2009 National Championships*

When we are in Estonia I have fun visiting my cousins and the rest of my family. I am really enjoying learning Estonian with my teacher, Helgi Leesment, because even though it is a hard language it is worth it because it helps me communicate with friends and relatives in their own language. The younger people in my family speak English but a large portion of the older ones don't.

# Heritage Quiz



**This rare house was built by an Estonian family in 1910 near Foremost, Alberta. By 1901, only 17 Alberta homes had been constructed of stone. More than ten thousand were made of wood. *Glenbow Archives NA 2616-36***

**Can any of our readers identify this unique stone house with a sauna built 100 years ago? Can you identify the original owners, stories or people associated with its history and/or current circumstances?**

**AjaKaja will reward the most informative response and the winning entry will be printed in the next issue.**

**Please send stories and information to Eda McClung: [emclung@shaw.ca](mailto:emclung@shaw.ca)**

# A Culinary Innovator

## Thirty-three years as doyenne of Calgary's Blue Flame Kitchen



I was born in Barons, Alberta, the youngest of three children of Gustav J. and Linda Erdman. Both parents came from Estonia on the invitation of relatives already

settled in Barons. My primary and secondary schooling was received in the Barons Consolidated School, with the exception that the final year was taken at the Mount Royal College in Calgary. I was the senior class valedictorian at graduation. Following graduation with a BSCHED degree from the University of Alberta and a Registered Dietician (RD) designation, I served a one year practicum at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal.

My first position was as the dietician at the old Medicine Hat General Hospital. This entailed meal planning and service for both patients and staff, ordering food and other related supplies, taking care of special diets and becoming a "jack-of-all-trades", including the operation of the dishwasher should support staff be absent. I was fortunate to be involved in the planning of the kitchen for the new general hospital as well.

After just one year, I was asked back to the U of A Home Economics Department as a food lecturer to fill in for the professor who was on a one-year sabbatical. It was here I got a deep grounding in all aspects of food theory and preparation. I was lecturing students almost my own age who delighted in trying to stump me with questions. To keep up with them, I had to study at least four extra texts each night. This knowledge was a great benefit in my next job which was to become my career.

I accepted a position as a home economist with Canadian Western Natural Gas in what was then the

Home Service Department and became its Director two years later, a position I held for 33 years until my retirement in 1990 when the department was known as the Blue Flame Kitchen. The work was essentially public relations promoting the use of domestic gas appliances through cooking schools conducted in communities throughout southern Alberta. We encouraged customers to contact us with their cooking problems, recipe searches, and any other household problems such as laundry, stain removal, furniture care, etc. I went on to do radio phone-in programs, and then some television cooking programs before the advent of national cooking shows. Any number of cook books and pamphlets were produced in my department. Calgary's high altitude necessitated the testing of all the recipes to ensure that they would be satisfactory. When the Calgary Herald started issuing a week-end magazine we were asked to write the foods column. When this was dropped we continued to write a weekly column for the Herald for a number of years.

After retirement I have been concentrating on various hobbies for which I had no time while working. I enjoy working with my hands and attempting new challenges so have done a fair amount of clothing construction. In the winter months I turn my hand to needlework, knitting, crocheting and quilting (I've even tried rug hooking). In the summer these are set aside and I undertake gardening, trying to keep the flower gardens close to what mother had developed before she passed away.

I am not a great one for international travel, but did take mother back to Estonia in 1967 to visit her immediate family still living, and had not seen since 1920. Estonia was still under Russian domination and travel was strictly controlled but the time I spent there was very enjoyable and informative, and I certainly got much greater appreciation of home and family from this experience.

Evelyn Erdman

# Pauline Sinberg-Snieckus: a prominent member of the Calgary Estonian Community

Helgi Leesment

Pauline Sinberg was born onboard a ship sailing in Crimean waters in 1897 and grew up in one of the many Estonian settlements on that peninsula basked by the warm Black Sea. Little Pauline arrived one month prematurely and was not expected to survive. Amazingly, she would live in three centuries, and would die peacefully in her sleep, in the year 2002, at age 105, in Elora, Ontario, Canada, thousands of kilometers from Estonia and from Crimea. In between she would call five different countries her home and she would become fluent in five languages (Estonian, Russian, Lithuanian, German and English). She would keep pursuing her dream of being a veterinary doctor, overcoming many obstacles to achieve that.



*Snieckus family collection*

**Pauline ca 1920 and granddaughter Naomi Snieckus**

Pauline emigrated from Crimea to Estonia, land of her forefathers, where she studied to become a veterinarian, graduating from Tartu University in 1926. This career choice caused her to face prejudice throughout her life in Europe as well as later in Canada, because veterinarian science was not accepted as a career suitable for women. Nonetheless, in 1927 Pauline directed a

program to eradicate tuberculosis in cattle in Estonia while also working at the Bacteriological Milk Laboratories. In 1928 she married Dr. Victoras Snieckus, a Lithuanian veterinarian and they immigrated to Lithuania where Pauline became director of the Lithuanian Veterinary Bacteriological Institute and later an assistant professor at the Lithuanian Veterinary College. They had one son, Victor.

When World War II brought bombs and foreign soldiers to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, the Snieckus family escaped to Germany, along with a couple of hundred thousand other Baltic refugees. From there, they immigrated to Canada in 1948, by invitation from the Linderman family in Foremost, at the south-east region of Alberta. Rosalie Peetoff (later Linderman) and Pauline had been school chums in Crimea and, together with other Estonian friends, had taken the arduous, uncertain trip from Crimea to Estonia through war-torn Europe in 1920. In the newly independent nation of Estonia they had worked as school teachers and furthered their education. Friend Rosalie had married Alberta Estonian farmer Robert (Bob) Linderman for whom the entire Snieckus family worked most of their initial year in Canada, the fifth country they called home.

A most determined Pauline led her family from Foremost to Calgary without any assurance of jobs. She worked her first years as a cleaning lady while her husband obtained a meat inspection job at a meat production firm. She began to take night school classes and completed a Nurses' Aid program in 1950. But her dream was to practice veterinary medicine once again despite being constantly told this was "not a



ladylike profession” in the typical discrimination manner of the time period. Although by 1951 Pauline obtained a job at the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Animal Clinic in Calgary, her veterinary qualifications from Tartu University, one of the most distinguished universities in Europe, were not formally recognized until she wrote an exam at the University of Alberta in 1957, at age 60. That enabled her to reach her former career again, which she practiced for another 10 years in Calgary, specializing in animal disease diagnosis.

The striving of his parents motivated son Victor to study hard and eventually become a professor at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario and a leading organic chemist internationally. In March of 2009 Tallinn University of Technology announced that Dr. Victor Snieckus will receive an honorary degree, doctor honoris causa, in recognition of his major scientific international achievements in organic chemistry and contributions to advancing chemistry and helping chemists in Estonia as well as the other Baltic States.



*Snieckus family collection*  
**Pauline and Victor Snieckus, ca 1975**

While living in Calgary, the Snieckus family became prominent members within the Calgary Estonian community. Pauline held an executive position on the Calgary Estonian Society and directed many of the

activities. She was also the Estonian representative on the Calgary Citizenship Council. Coincidentally, a former Crimean Estonian relative and a friend also immigrated to Alberta and all three served at various times on the Calgary Estonian Society executive; almost a mini Crimean-Estonian reunion within this organization. The three were Otto Laaman, August Holtswell and Pauline Snieckus plus Rosalie Linderman who occasionally came to Calgary from her farm near Foremost. Small world. The Snieckus family was well regarded among the Estonian community members. When the couple left Alberta in 1967 in order to be closer to their son Victor in Ontario, a huge farewell party was organized to honour them.

The constant, familiar prejudice against women caught Dr. Pauline Snieckus again in Ontario where her Alberta veterinary qualifications were not recognized. Thus she regretfully retired from her beloved veterinary profession at age 70 in 1967.

She continued an active life in her southern Ontario town, Elora and in local Estonian organizations, including attendance at Estonian festivals at Seedrioru, a nearby community of Estonians, only slowing down after suffering a mild stroke at age 102. She died in 2002, leaving behind a son, grandchildren, and many scientific articles in Lithuanian academic journals which were accepted despite being written by the female animal doctor - another long-term battle won by the persistent Pauline Snieckus.

Pauline Sinberg-Snieckus was recognized for her achievements by the Canadian Pioneer Women Veterinarians project in 1994 even though she found feminism strange.

She was not the type to think too long about what she needed to do; she simply took action. Part of the reason for her life's success was that philosophy, plus her unshakeable belief in knowledge and hard work.

## Dr. Victor Snieckus to receive honorary doctorate in Tallinn



The Council of Tallinn University of Technology (TUT) elected Professor Victor Snieckus, Dr. Alfred Bader Chair in Organic Chemistry of Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario, as "Honorary Doctor of Tallinn University of Technology".

This honor is in recognition of his scientific achievements in organic chemistry, merits in promoting Estonian science and scientists in the world, his contribution to supervising and teaching of PhD students at TUT as well as advancing broad international cooperation. Among other joint relations between the two academic institutions, Tallinn University of Technology PhD students have been offered an opportunity to take their practice in Kingston, Ontario and professor Snieckus has taught two special courses to TUT PhD students. His overall lectureship is immense; starting from 2004 he has delivered over 700 lectures/presentations and taught 88 short courses in different universities.

Further, he writes for and edits major international scientific journals and consults for well known firms including Dupont, Bristol-Meyers Squibb and others.

Dr. Victor Snieckus was born in Lithuania. Both his parents were veterinarians, graduates of Tartu University; his mother being a Crimea Estonian and his father being Lithuanian. The couple met in Estonia, then immigrated to Lithuania. The family escaped to Germany during WWII, later immigrating to Foremost, Alberta where they initially worked at the farm of another Crimea Estonian, Rosalie Peetoff-Linderman. Young Victor continued his schooling when the family moved to Calgary, where the whole family partook in activities of the Calgary Estonian Society over the 17 years they lived there. Victor earned his first degree at the University of Alberta. His continued studies led to a Masters degree at the University of Berkeley, California, and a Ph.D at Eugene, Oregon. Later he became a professor of chemistry at Waterloo University in Ontario.

Victor Snieckus is married and has two children, one of whom is the television and movie actress Naomi Snieckus, seen on Canadian television.

The honorary degree will be granted at a ceremony in Tallinn on September 17, 2009

## Adriana Davies nominated for Ernest C. Manning Award for Innovation

Adriana Davies, Executive Director of the Heritage Community Foundation (HCF) and Editor-in-Chief of Alberta's Online Encyclopedia was recently announced as a finalist for this prestigious award. This national award is held annually to recognize innovative achievements of Canadians, with a top prize of \$10,000. Winners are announced in September.



*Shaughn Butts, Edmonton Journal*  
**Adriana Davies at nomination announcement for the Ernest C. Manning Award**

Adriana was the guest speaker at the AEHS Annual General Meeting in Red Deer in 2006. In 2007 our Society entered into a partnership with the Heritage Community Foundation to develop "Alberta's Estonian Heritage" website. Under Adriana's leadership, the Foundation provided the technical expertise for the development and production of a digital archive to preserve the history and cultural heritage of Alberta's Estonians. The history of Alberta's Estonians is now on the Internet and accessible to all.

Alberta Estonian Heritage Society congratulates Adriana on the nomination and wishes her continued success in the years to come. We have enjoyed our working relationship with the Heritage Community Foundation and commend her dedication to excellence.



## **XXIX West Coast Estonian Days**

*August 26-29, 2009*

Seattle, Washington, USA

### ***Program Highlights***



Wednesday, August 26, 2009	14:00 Registration & Ticket Sales
	18:30 Opening Ceremonies
	19:00 Opening Party
Thursday, August 27, 2009	09:00 Seminars, Presentations
	14:00 Theatre
	18:00 Ball
Friday, August 28, 2009	14:00 Guest Concert
	19:30 Song & Dance Festival
	After-hours Entertainment
Saturday, August 29, 2009	13:30 Boat Cruise, Folk Festival & Salmon BBQ

**University of Washington Campus is the Festival's Headquarters  
and primary lodging facility**

**Additional information, including registration, accommodation and tickets, is available at  
[www.LEP2009.com](http://www.LEP2009.com)**

# Montreal Estonian Society celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Enjoys distinction as Canada's oldest functioning Estonian Society

Eda McClung

Montreal Estonian Society (MES) recently celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a gala dinner/dance at one of Montréal's historic mansions. This gathering had the distinction of celebrating the oldest, continuously functioning Estonian Society in Canada. For seventy five years the MES has served the social, societal and cultural interests of Montreal's Estonian community. The beginnings of MES have some parallels with the early Estonian organizations in Alberta. The Medicine Valley Estonian Society (formed in 1910) and the MES (formed in 1933) were the earliest permanent Estonian organizations in Canada. They both owe some of their initial impetus to the seafaring culture of Estonia.

The first known Estonian settler in Montreal was Villem Kerson from the island of Hiiumaa (b. 1890). As a 16 year old boy, he became a sailor and traveled the world for the next four years. He came to Canada in 1910, traveled a bit and eventually settled in Montreal in 1912. He studied to become an engineer and was very instrumental in helping Estonian engineers find work in Montreal, particularly in the post-war years.

The first Estonian settlers to Alberta were the Kingsep brothers. Around 1898, Kristjan Kingsep ended his sea travels and came ashore in New York. Free homestead land was being advertised in western Canada. He informed his brother Hendrik, a teacher with young family in Estonia, who set sail for the 'promised land'. In 1899, the Kingseps reached central Alberta; they were soon

joined by others and established an enduring Estonian settlement there. The MVES was its central organization for many decades.

Its role declined as post-war immigrants moved to urban centres and formed Estonian organizations there. Following nearly 75 years of community involvement and direction, MVES was dissolved in 1984. In 2005, individual societies in Edmonton and Calgary joined with Estonians across the province to form the Alberta Estonian Heritage Society.



MES - 1933

## *Montreal Estonian Society, 1933*

Prior to WWII, there were about 40 Estonian Canadians living in Montreal. In 1933, eighteen participated in the initial meeting to form MES, electing Herbert Tooman as president. Despite the small size of the community, a variety of cultural and social events took place, and visitors from Estonia were welcomed and entertained.

Activity of the MES slowed during the war years due to departure of many of its members. But it picked up rapidly in 1947 when immigrants from refugee camps in Europe began to arrive. In one year, the number of Estonians in



*Montreal Estonian Society's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary Celebration, 2008*

Montreal rose from about 300 to almost a thousand in a relatively short time. MES was active in organizing national celebrations, concerts, theatre, symposiums and handicraft exhibits. Politicians and writers were invited as guest speakers. Their bulletin "Montreal News" was published three times a year with its 104<sup>th</sup> issue being a booklet to commemorate MES 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It shared celebrations and supported mutual causes with other ethnic groups such as the Baltic Federation of Canada.

The deaths of many older members and the departure of younger ones in the late 1970s brought about a decline in the society's activities and a reduction of its role and duties within the community. After the restoration of Estonia's independence in 1991, there was less need for solidarity against a common oppressor or for patriotic activism. Instead, attention is now focused directly on Estonia and has produced intense interest among younger Estonian Canadians in their heritage and all things Estonian.

As a result, there is renewed interest in MES. A new, more youthful leadership gives promise of fresh energy and purpose to its activities. As Karl J. Raudsepp, past-president of Society speaking at the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala stated: "We are gathered here to celebrate the past, but do so in the

present, while always looking toward the future. I am very happy to see so many second and third generation Estonians in attendance. You are the ones who will determine the future potential of this community. The foundations have been laid by

our forebears, the structure is almost in place but the finishing still needs work. It is therefore incumbent upon all of us to build that future together".

Alberta Estonian Heritage Society extends warm congratulations to MES for reaching this historic milestone. We applaud your enthusiasm and renewed purpose. Perhaps the future will bring exciting opportunities for mutual collaboration.

The assistance of Karl J. Raudsepp and MES website [www.mtlmes.ca](http://www.mtlmes.ca) is gratefully acknowledged.



*Karl Raudsepp speaking on Montreal Estonian Society's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, 2008*

# Anu Tali Shines as Guest Conductor of Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

Eda McClung • Dave Kiil

**“One of the most intriguing conductors on the scene today, Anu Tali belongs to a new generation of artists who are searching for fresh musical ideas in the classical music world”**

**Harrison Parrott**

Anu Tali strode confidently onto the Winspear Centre stage as guest conductor of Edmonton Symphony Orchestra on January 14, 2009. Immediately this petite figure conveyed energy, confidence and presence. There was a palpable feeling of pride and excitement amongst the audience, particularly those of Estonian/Baltic community.

With the opening bars of Mozart’s *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, it was apparent that this conductor had the orchestra in her command and her embrace. She caressed a light and lilting sound while showing precision and exactitude which demanded the best from the players. The orchestra sounded as if it had been transported from a stage in Europe. Performance of Brahm’s *Clarinet Sonata No. 1* and Mendelssohn’s *Scottish Symphony* further highlighted her ability to create a polished, evocative sound with clear, expressive gestures. Her spirited and dynamic performance was marked by sustained applause from the audience and a rare standing ovation from the ESO players themselves.

Maestro Tali’s initial training was as a pianist. She graduated from the Tallinn Music High School in 1991 and enrolled in the Estonian Music Academy. Subsequent studies included the Sibelius Academy in Finland and the St.

Petersburg Conservatory in Russia from 1998 to 2001. In 1997 Anu and her twin sister Kadri founded the Estonian-Finnic (now Nordic) Symphony Orchestra, a 90-member ensemble drawing young musicians from many countries. The orchestra gives five series of concerts per year, each revolving around a theme.

In recent years, Anu Tali has been invited to perform as guest conductor in Europe, North America and Asia. She has several engagements planned throughout Continental Europe.



*Dave Kiil*

## **Anu Tali at Eda McClung’s home following concert**

Following the ESO concert, members of the Edmonton Estonian community including several Estonian/Baltic members of the orchestra joined Anu at the home of Eda McClung for an informal reception. Not surprisingly, Anu was the centre of attention. She was lively and direct with her views of life in Estonia, life in the world of music, her own

career and the world of politics. Although she is lauded for her mastery as a conductor, she also pursues diverse interests such as the environment. As an example, she and her twin sister are contributing to reforestation and carbon storage by planting trees on their parcel of land near Tallinn.

Reluctantly, Anu had to leave the gathering for an early flight to Minnesota. She expressed hope for a return engagement. The remainder of the group stayed to savour the warm feelings of a special evening while the image outside was one of wintery Nordic tranquility. All present hoped that she would return soon.

---

## Players' Applause

### Jan Urke, principal bassist with ESO

Anu Tali's guest appearance with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra was very much a success for audience and players alike.

Tali demonstrated a complete knowledge of all the music for the Midweek Classics concert.

She was a model of efficiency, given that only three rehearsals were allotted for a demanding program. She chose a fresh more invigorating interpretation of Eine Kleine Nacht Musik over the standard "safe" interpretation, a better choice for a war-horse of the repertoire. Tali also showed sensitive ability as an accompanist in the Brahms Clarinet Sonata orchestrated by Berio. In the Mendelssohn Third Symphony she showed a confident, inspired interpretation, belying the fact that this was her first performance of the piece.

Tali seemed to elicit admiration and respect from most of the ESO players, and a genuine desire for her to return as a guest.



### Edith Stacey, Assistant Principal Bassoon with ESO

In early January 2009, Anu Tali was guest-conductor for a "Midweek Classics" series that the Edmonton Symphony had on offer in its wide variety of subscription concerts. I am embarrassed to admit that up until a few days before our first rehearsal, I had no idea that we were about to have an Estonian guest-conductor on the podium. I immediately read her bio and it sounded very promising. I was filled with a strange combination of anticipation and dread. Anticipation, as I know that most Estonians are over-achievers in their chosen field. Why dread? Many conductors have impressive press releases yet only a few of them measure up to the claims within.

I was relieved that any sense of dread that I had evaporated instantly. I found that my delight with Ms. Tali's abilities was shared with many of my colleagues and most of them are not even close to being Estonian! She only had two days to work with us to put together a challenging program. Normally we would have had 50% more rehearsal time for the repertoire involved. She proved very efficient and recognized and trusted our ability to put together a difficult program in such a short time. A quality that I admire most in a musician is commitment to the composer's intention. Many so-called interpreters of music make the performance about themselves rather than the music. Ms. Tali shaped and phrased the music with her clear technique and expressive gestures.

We could easily tell what she wanted with the sense that we were in a partnership or collaboration and not a dictatorship. It was also wonderful to get to know her at a post-concert reception hosted by the Estonian community in Edmonton. It was a very satisfying two days, albeit brief. I hope that we will not have to wait long for a return engagement.

# Estonian talent featured during ESO 2009-2010 Season

**A dynamic conductor of the next generation, Lucas Waldin, brings enthusiasm and experience to the ESO as the newly appointed Assistant Conductor in Residence.**

**Mr. Waldin is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and has also studied with Bernard Haitink, Colin Metters, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Helmuth Rilling. His strong passion for baroque music has led him to appearances with the Stuttgart Bach Akademie, the Cleveland Bach Consort, and the Oregon Bach Festival as a Discovery Series Conductor.**

**Also active in Europe, Mr. Waldin has conducted the BBC Scottish SO, l'orchestre du festival Beaulieu-sur-Mer, the Staatstheater Cottbus, and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.**



*Dave Kiil*

*Lucas Waldin shown here with Anu Tali will return to Edmonton in fall 2009 as the new resident assistant conductor of the ESO.*

## **Lucas Waldin, in his own words ...**

Born in Toronto to an Estonian father and a Hungarian mother, I began studying music at the age of 5 with the recorder, and switched two years after to the flute. I studied privately from the beginning, but I only decided to make music my life and profession after attending the Interlochen

Arts Camp at the age of 16 where I felt for the first time the enjoyment and inspiration of being immersed completely in a life of music.

I went to the USA to continue my studies and attended the Cleveland Institute of Music where I received my undergraduate degree studying with Joshua Smith, the principal flute of the Cleveland Orchestra. In my fourth year in the degree program I began to have some opportunities as a conductor-conducting off-stage brass for the conservatory orchestra, conducting the wind ensemble, and also forming my own ensemble of students and faculty to perform the concertos and cantatas of Bach. My favourite music to conduct is Brahms, but Bach will always be the music that nourishes me as an artist. Other musicians in the Waldin family include my grandmother Aino, who is still teaching weekly lessons at the age of 93; my late uncle Peter who played the lute and who recorded frequently for the CBC in the '70s, and my father Jan who tortures the fiddle occasionally and impresses with the jazz harmonica frequently.

I've been living in Europe for the past year gaining experience and exploring my European roots.

Lucas Waldin

## **Lucas Waldin will conduct the ESO on the following dates:**

A Family Christmas Concert  
December 19, 2009 at 2:00 pm

Piano Spectacular  
March 10, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Mozart's Oboe Concerto  
March 17, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Mozart, Boy Genius, Symphony for Kids  
May 8, 2010 at 2:00 pm



## Eri Klas-Guest Conductor with ESO in November, 2009



Eri Klas, a native of Estonia, is in demand in Europe and North America as a guest conductor.

Klas graduated as an opera and concert conductor in both Tallinn and Leningrad.

Currently, he is a professor and honorary doctorate recipient at the Estonian Music Academy.

Eri Klas has served as principal conductor of the Royal Swedish Opera and the Finnish National Opera. Since 2006 he has been the chief conductor of the Novaya Opera in Moscow and he continues as the artistic director of the Tallinn Philharmonic.

He is closely associated with leading contemporary composers, and has conducted a number of world premieres in Hamburg, Munich and Stockholm. Klas has also conducted world premieres of works by Estonian composers Arvo Pärt, Eino Tamberg, Veljo Tormis and Eduard Tubin

### **Eri Klas will conduct the ESO on the following dates:**

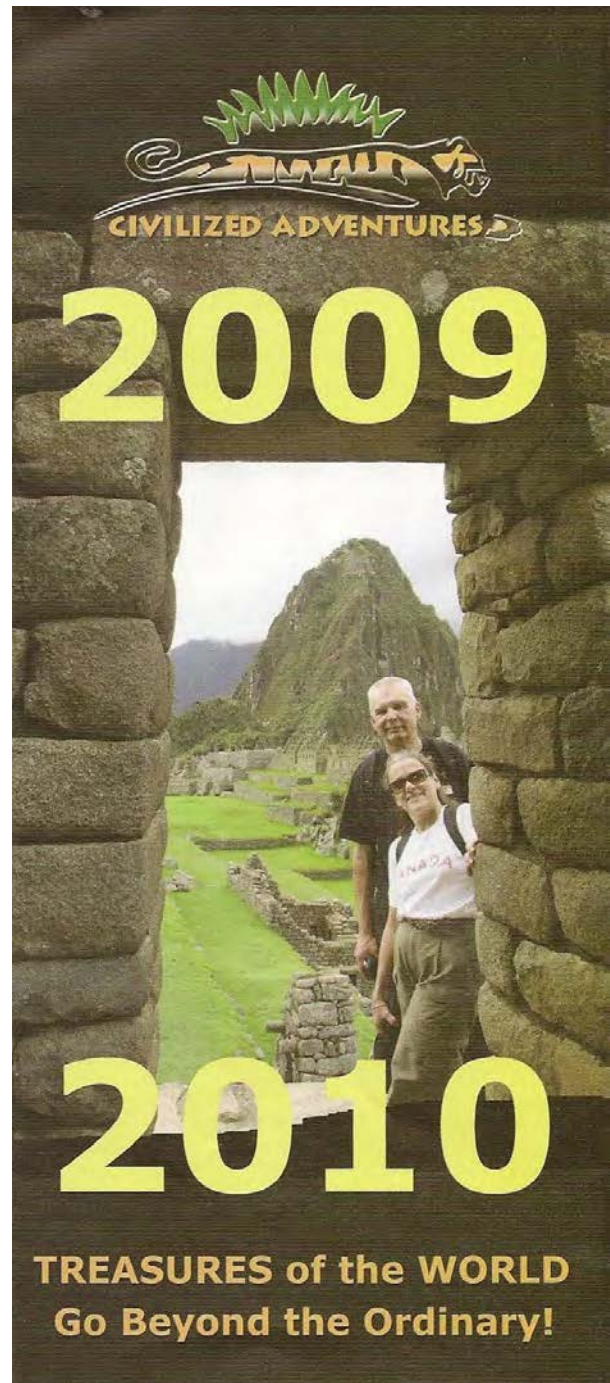
Friday Masters, Winspear Centre,  
November 27, 2009 at 7:30 pm

Classic Landmarks Masters,  
November 28, 2009 at 8:00 pm

**For further program information visit the  
ESO website:**

**[www.edmontonsymphony.com](http://www.edmontonsymphony.com)**

## Tiislar's at Machu Picchu



*Civilized Adventures, Calgary*

*Enn and Pärja Tiislar pictured on the cover of a Civilized Adventures brochure during their visit to Machu Picchu. Enn reports that "These tours are aimed at retirees having fun spending the kids' inheritance!"*

## Estonian Biathletes in Alberta

Helgi Leesment



*Photo: Liisa Chisholm*

*Author Helgi Leesment and Karin Kaarsoo wearing Hiiumaa design hats received as gifts from the Estonian biathlon team*

The Estonian biathlon team competed at the Biathlon Junior and Youth World Championship held in Canmore, Alberta January 28 to February 3, 2009. Competing were four 19 to 21 year old Estonian juniors Meelis Laht, Martin Pajos, Martin Rimmelg and Tõnis Uiboupin, and in the Youth category (17 and 18 year olds) - Heigo Lepik. The wax technician was Rain Kuresoo and coach Tõnu Pääsuke. The championship was held at the same site where the 1988 Olympic Winter Games cross-country, biathlon and Nordic Combined skiing events took place. Estonian biathletes have previously competed in Canmore at the 1992 Junior World Championship and 1994 World Cup events.

These young Estonians are students at high school, Tartu University or at the Estonian Maritime Academy and have been involved in biathlon for 3 – 5 years, having competed in various European countries. Some were initially cross-country skiers. They were drawn to biathlon by the example of older family members or other relatives. Three of the young men live in southern Estonia (Võru or Elva) where conditions are best for participation in this sport. The other two hail from Tallinn.

The sport of biathlon combines two skills: cross-country skiing where only the 'freestyle skating' technique is used, and, shooting from standing and prone positions at targets 50 meters distant. Regular practice sessions last 2 to 3 hours per day, and twice as long at special training camps.

Sun and wind complicate aiming, as does the high pulse rate resulting from tough competitive skiing effort. At Canmore, there is the extra



*Photo: Tiislar*

*Scott Chisholm and Toomas Paasuke in front, with biathlon team and others at the Tiislar's in Canmore.*

challenge of the somewhat rarefied air at an elevation of 1,350 meters (4,300 feet) above sea level. Missing any target results in the addition of penalty minutes or having to ski extra 150 meter penalty loops – one per missed target. The winner has the lowest time score, including the so-called „penalty“ minutes. The trails are

physically demanding and competition is fierce. In the Junior and Youth categories, distances vary from 6 to 15 kilometers including uphill and downhill segments, which, on the average, require 20 minutes for the shorter distances to 45 minutes to cover the longer distances. In world class competition, the difference in time between a winner and 10th place in a 15 km race may be just a matter of 1 or 2 minutes. Among the first five finishers, the time difference may be counted in seconds. It is quite typical for the athletes to collapse just past the finish line, gasping for breath for a few minutes until they recover.

In Europe biathlon is an extremely popular spectator sport; especially in Germany, where approximately 10,000 fans typically attend each competition. Both the stands and trail sidelines are packed with people, shoulder to shoulder, cheering on the biathletes.



*Photo: Tiislar*

***Members of Estonian biathlon team***

The Estonians' shooting garnered attention at Canmore thanks to Martin Pajos who hit every target during his first two competition events. Heigo Lepik achieved the best overall results among the Estonians: 12th among 54 biathlete competitors in one of his events. Also, the bright orange colour of the men's team uniform was generally noticed. The outfit was in response to a requirement that the team wear a major sponsoring firm's colour. A rare occasion at Canmore was the concurrent arrival of three Estonians to shoot during a race. They clearly stood out on the range, side-by-side in their bright orange team uniforms.

As this was the first trip to North America for the Estonian biathletes, they were interested in becoming acquainted with some aspects of life here. Both at Calgary and Canmore they were the guests of honour at dinner receptions at the Leesment, Tiislar and Chisholm-Kaarsoo homes. Also they received assistance of various kinds, including the fact that their Canmore hotel room kitchen cupboards were filled with food prior to their arrival. The visitors, in turn, generously distributed gifts brought from home. Before the competition, they were taken on a tour to world famous Lake Louise in Banff National Park. Before leaving Canada, they visited downtown Calgary and the Olympic Museum, including the place where their compatriot Allar Levandi won the Olympic Nordic Combined bronze medal in 1988.

Among the local hosts were sisters Karin and Kirsten Kaarsoo with their families. Their teenage children (Liisa and Andrew Chisholm and Callum and Alison Macleod), have all visited Estonia and are currently learning to speak Estonian in Calgary. They all volunteered at the world championship, handling a variety of duties. Three of them were also forerunners who skied the competition course each time after the special grooming tractor had been through. Karin Kaarsoo is a board member of Biathlon Alberta and played a major administrative role at the event. Kirsten held a range recording position. The younger members of the families, along with their friends, cheered both the Estonians and the Canadians. A young Calgarian, Kurtis Wenzel won gold, silver and bronze for Canada.

The Estonians were impressed by Alberta's beautiful nature, especially the Rocky Mountains and by the excellent competition trails, as well as the friendliness of the people, but, found that food, on the average, tastes better at home in Estonia. They were amazed and, as serious athletes, were very pleased to see hundreds of office workers out for lunchtime fitness runs in downtown Calgary; not a common sight in downtown Tallinn.

Flying home, the international gathering of biathletes was still talking about Martin Pajos' perfect 30 hits of marksmanship, a very high achievement.



## Hotel Barons in Tallinn

Helgi Leesment

Alberta Estonians are familiar with the village of Barons near Lethbridge. Many Estonian pioneer families settled in that area to farm during the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The irony was that many of those people departed their rural feudal Estonian conditions in order to get away from the harsh, pitiless landowner German barons; yet they wound up half-way around the world at a place called “Barons”. In 2004, the centennial of Estonian arrivals was celebrated there. The very small local hotel was busy.



*Barbara Gullickson*

### ***Barons Hotel in Barons, Alberta***

The Barons Hotel of Barons, Alberta has a namesake in Tallinn, Estonia. There is no connection between the two, but the Tallinn edifice may be of special interest to Albertans merely because of its name.

Tallinn’s Hotel Barons is located in the Old Town, where Suur-Karja and Väike-Karja Streets meet at a sharp angle. “Suur Karja” means “large herd” and “Väike Karja” means “small herd”. In centuries past these two streets were the paths by which cattle were herded from the hilltop wealthy homes to

drink at a spring in the lower town. Later some granaries and possibly a brewery were located there.



### ***Hotel Barons in Tallinn, Estonia***

Originally built in 1911, over the decades the triangular structure has been host to thirteen different banks, including the Estonian Industry and Business Bank as well as the Tallinn City Bank and Hansapank. Shops were located on the main floor, banking took place on the second floor and the upper three floors were amply gracious apartment residences. One of the architectural features added in 1922 was a curved

staircase and railing of solid oak, leading from the main to the second floor. In the 1930's a small elevator with walls of delicate brass 'net' effect was installed and the basement acquired a large vault with a massive armoured door.

During the Soviet period, while many people lived in the building in smaller apartments, a couple of boys stuffed the elevator full of cardboard boxes and lit them on fire. The tiny elevator was destroyed. Over the years, several wood features were covered with damaging coatings. By the late 1970's the upper floors were vacated to enable renovations. In the process someone tried to remove a couple of architecturally grand fireplaces from the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, but was stopped in time. These two Art Nouveau style fireplaces fortunately adorn their respective hotel rooms currently.

In the year 2003, under new ownership, eight months of major renovations turned this edifice into the four-star Hotel Barons with 33 guest rooms decorated in elegant period style and dark wood furniture. The staircase railing's wood has been restored and hotel clients are served by an attractive elevator constructed, for historical preservation reasons, partly from sections of the edifice's two older elevators.

Because of the odd shape of the building, many of the rooms are small and have intriguing angled walls and nooks. Two have clever ceiling windows, all others have normal windows. Some rooms feature a saun (steam bath) or a Jacuzzi-type bathtub with a view to the Old Town. Service includes cable television as well as the luxury of bathrobes and mini-bars, and, true to Estonia's reputation as being an electronically wired country, Hotel Barons naturally offers free WiFi internet access. There are also small conference facilities.

The country's unique armoured former bank vault door separates a conference room from the leather-clad Cigar Room. Nearby is an authentic Estonian saun where food and beverage service is offered to group reservations. Only in Estonia and Finland would it be considered perfectly normal to schedule a meeting at a saun, where food is served while everyone sits around, wrapped in towels after a session of sweating and showering, discussing serious issues - not bizarre at all in that culture!

Light meals, coffee and drinks are available at the main floor Lobby-Bar and the outdoor terrace. Menus can be seen at [www.barons.ee](http://www.barons.ee) (select "English", then click on a restaurant name and choose Menu from the dropdown list of sub-topics). Unfortunately, because of the current economic downturn, as of June 1 this year, the baronial Margarita Restaurant will be limited to group bookings and buffet service for hotel guests.

***“Making use of its name, Hotel Barons currently advertises itself as “a place where barons would spend the night”***

Hotel Barons has a strange double-barreled address: Suur-Karja 7 AND Väike-Karja 2, even though the main entrance is at the point of the triangular edifice, technically on neither street. That's the way things are sometimes on centuries old European streets. Vehicle access to the hotel is somewhat restricted because of local laws prohibiting cars and trucks into the Old Town area during most of the day. However, with advance notice special arrangements can be made for access to the Hotel or porter service to/from Karjavärava (Herd gate) Square one block away.

The business is jointly owned by Estonian and British investors, including the Imperial Shipping Company. The owners wanted the name to reflect the structure's former elegant times, its historical surroundings and the style of the renovated interior décor - thus the choice of "Hotel Barons".

Making use of its name, Hotel Barons currently advertises itself as "a place where barons would spend the night". Not sure whether this is good or bad from the viewpoint of Alberta Estonians, considering the reason their forefathers left their homeland ! However, the historical triangular inn regularly hosts famous musicians and artists from both sides of the Atlantic among its clientele.

It is worth noting that the entire Hotel Barons structure and much of its contents are preserved under official conservation protection.

# Estonia Becomes E-stonia

Walk down the cobblestone streets with medieval houses that look straight out of storybooks, and it's hard to believe that Tallinn – a city that has been sacked, pillaged and bombed numerous times over the centuries - still retains much of its past. But while this capital city of Estonia - a north-European country along the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea - remains a living museum, it's also a high-tech hotbed. For instance, the technologies for Skype and Baidu were developed in this country. Recently with the latest group of Wi-Fi access points installed, this 45,000-square-kilometer former Soviet nation is now also completely covered with wireless Internet access, setting an example for more-developed and richer states that have been trying to achieve this feat for years.

***“Above all, much of this access is virtually free.”***

Often called "E-stonia" by geeks, every one of its 1.4 million residents- half of whom live in the suburbs and rural areas - is connected by wireless Internet. More than two-thirds of the population conduct personal banking transactions and file taxes online. And students access their schools' servers and connect to national libraries from home – or anywhere for that matter. In Estonia, it's even possible to travel between cities by trains and buses and maintain Wi-Fi Internet access.

Above all, much of this access is virtually free. Users do not pay any access charges directly in most locations. Interestingly this nationwide wireless deployment has been achieved with almost no government support. Other than a few schools and libraries that have been set up by the Estonian government, the 1,100-plus Wi-Fi hotspots that span the country, covering every nook and corner, have been set up by small businesses, such as hotels, cafes, groceries and gas stations, along with the four national telecom companies. The whole effort is driven largely by just one man: Veljo Haamer, a technology geek who conceived this dream of wiring - or rather unwiring - his country about six years ago.

## **\*Veljo's Vision\***

"I realized back in 2002 that, for Estonia, the Internet could be just like electricity," said Haamer, editor of WiFi.ee, a nonprofit association he and a group of volunteers created. "And just as it happened 100 years back, when initially people did not care about electricity, Estonians too, were not bothered about the Internet."

That is when, Haamer said, he became a technology evangelist and began promoting free Internet access



***Wifi.ee signs of wireless Internet areas are common throughout Estonia***

as a human right. "I took upon myself, the task of convincing everyone I could that the benefits of the Internet are enormous," he said. Through newspaper articles and visual signs, and the first step of setting up approximately 100 free Wi-Fi hotspots, Haamer and Wifi.ee demonstrated the Internet's power on everyday life.

"It took us a while to drive the concept home, but having achieved that, the rest wasn't very difficult," said Haamer. "We were able to create a competitive environment between businesses, like competition between different cafes or hotels, and soon the numbers [of Wi-Fi hotspots] started growing rapidly. That's how the concept caught on and eventually almost every school, household and business - big and small - joined the movement."

The most interesting aspect of Estonia's public Web access business model is that a user doesn't pay separately for the access, and so it feels as if it comes free. "The price of the access is actually built into the cup of coffee you buy at the cafe, or in the bus and train fare, or the meal or anything you pay for," Haamer said. "Moreover, the price that one pays extra is miniscule, so it doesn't pinch." That's one way of paying for the access. The other one is even simpler: People pay with their eyeballs. For connecting to the Internet where there's no sales outlet, such as in a park, government building or public library, one can gain access just by clicking on an advertisement.



#### ***Estonian children benefit from free Internet access***

There is, of course, paid-for access as well, where a "ticket" could be bought simply through a text message via mobile phone.

#### **\*Technology Inspires\***

Haamer said his idea of wiring his country was borrowed from the Wi-Fi employments in the United States. "I was fascinated when I visited Bryant Park in New York [City] and saw people communicate with nycwireless.net," he said. "I decided that I must roll out a similar network in my country."

With the decision made, it took Haamer several trips to the United States to study the "problems of setting up city-nets" faced by cities like Seattle, Boston and Portland before he could zero in on his business model for Estonia.

The result of that research is that there isn't just one technology that blankets Estonia. A mix of

technologies - Wi-Fi, WiMAX and CDMA 450v - has been used. "Technology is not an issue with me. I favor anything that works," said Haamer. "What is important is a trouble-free Internet access."

***"I am confident that by 2010, Estonia would again be another 'first' by achieving the feat of offering a nationwide [limited-speed] broadband service that's free in the real sense,".***

"Initially when I embarked on this mission [of wiring Estonia], many said that if citywide public access had not proved successful in rich countries, it can't work in Estonia either. But now, Estonia has set an example," Haamer said.

So what's next? "I believe that broadband isn't just a technology -enabler; it should be considered an essential service just like electricity or health services," said Haamer. WiFi.ee is now actively working to involve the central and local governments to open limited-speed broadband absolutely free to be supported by the government. Haamer and his small group of volunteers have already done that, he claims, on some small groups that involved both the local governments and local Internet service providers; soon that rollout would achieve a much bigger scale.

"I am confident that by 2010, Estonia would again be another 'first' by achieving the feat of offering a nationwide [limited-speed] broadband service that's free in the real sense," he said.

Meanwhile, having established itself as one of the most wired countries in Europe, Estonia is also emerging as an important destination for global e-commerce ventures, according to E-Commerce News, which reports that the Internet's growth has made Estonia one of the world's largest per capita users of online banking, and impressively, now ranks seventh in the 25-member European Union for broadband Internet penetration.

Source: Indrajit Basu, Government Technology's Digital Communities, July, 2008

# News from Estonia

## Over 111,000 WiFi Covered Areas Registered in Estonia

31 December, 2008 - There are currently 111,169 WiFi wireless Internet covered areas registered in Estonia, with public WiFi areas numbering 1,174, data by the Internet portal wardriving.wifi.ee show. WiFi.ee editor Veljo Haamer said the number of WiFi areas meant for public use will increase if more cafes offering their visitors a public Internet network appear.

Tallinn has the most WiFi areas cleared as public by the portal -- 637. The eastern Tartumaa region leads among counties with 291 areas. Estonia ranks among the top three European Union countries and Tallinn is among the world's top ten cities in terms of access to WiFi, Haamer added. The first public WiFi area was opened in Estonia in May 2001. WiFi (Wireless Fidelity) is the only standard of wireless data communication that has been integrated into the Linux, Windows and Apple operating systems.

*From Estonian Review, 17 January, 2009*

---

## Cell phone voting

TALLINN, Estonia, Dec. 14 (UPI) -- Estonia has become the first country in the world to allow voters to cast ballots by their [cell phones](#). The law adopted by the parliament takes effect for the 2011 parliamentary elections, TMC.net reported.

Estonia, a country with a total population of about 1.3 million, is already a pioneer in electronic voting. The country began supplying electronic cards to be used for online voting in 2002. By 2007, about 3.5 percent voted on line, and officials say a major reason for the low electronic turnout is that few people own the equipment required to read the electronic cards.

Officials say voting by [cell phone](#) could work out differently because the country has an extraordinarily high rate of usage. The number of phones in the country is significantly larger than the population.

[www.UPI.com](http://www.UPI.com), Published December 14, 2008

## Estonian Added to Google Translate

2 February, 2009 (BNS) - Estonian was one of the seven new languages added to Google Translate over the weekend. The other languages were Albanian, Galician, Hungarian, Maltese, Thai and Turkish. The translator website now supports 44 languages.

*From Estonian Review, 28 January-3 February, 2009*

---

## Order of the Rising Sun

12 December , 2008- Japanese Ambassador to Estonia Hitoshi Honda will be giving the Order of the Rising Sun over to Tiia-Ester Loitme, conductor of the Ellerhein Girls' Choir.

Japan confers the Order of the Rising Sun for achievements in the sphere of culture, education, research and the social sphere both to citizens of Japan and foreigners, the Japanese embassy said.

Japanese Prime Minister Yuji Fukushita signed the decision on this year's recipients of the order on 3 November and Tiia-Ester Loitme is included among the 75 foreigners to be decorated with the order. Loitme will receive a 4th Class Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette.

Japan's decision to decorate Loitme was thanks to her remarkable contribution to the development of choral music in Japan and in the development of friendly relations between Estonia and Japan.

Tiia-Ester Loitme, chief conductor of Ellerhein, has been in close co-operation with Japanese conductors and composers Chifuru Matsubara and Ko Matsushita. Loitme has given three successful concerts with Hellerhein in Japan, in 1995, 2000, and 2005.

The Meiji Emperor of Japan established the Order of the Rising Sun in 1875, and it comes second by its prestige after the Order of the Chrysanthemum.

Conferral of decorations is organized in Japan by the prime minister's office, but the decorations are issued in the name of the Emperor of Japan.

*From Estonian Review 10-16 December, 2008*



***Feelin' like home – with Brews from home...***

## **SAKU ORIGINAAL**



Saku Originaal has been the leader of Estonia's beer market since 1995. Being the first quality beer of the post-Soviet period in Estonia, it reached consumers in 1993 and quickly became a prominent beer in the region.

Saku brand beers were developed on the basis of German brewing traditions.

Since that time, they have accrued certain Scandinavian influences. By incorporating the positive aspects of both German and the Northern countries beer production skills, Saku brand beers have developed their own special quality and strong character. Saku is produced by the bottom-fermentation method, using four main classical raw materials: water, malt, hops and yeast. SAKU beer has high foam and carbon dioxide levels, making it an extremely refreshing and enjoyable drink.

**CSPC 76182**

**500 ml cans**

***Saku Originaal is now available in many Alberta liquor stores.***

Search **[www.Albertaliquorguide.com](http://www.Albertaliquorguide.com)** to see which liquor suppliers carry the beer

## **Saku to Invest 4.5 Million EUR in Brewing Equipment**

**27 April (BNS)** - The listed Estonian beverages maker Saku Õlletehas plans to invest 70 million kroons (EUR 4.5 mln) in brewing equipment and technologies this year.

The company believes the investment to be the biggest placement of funds in the domestic food industry in 2009.

Saku Õlletehas said at a news conference today that the 70 million kroons covers investments to be made during the summer in technology, products and packaging.

The brewer launched today the production of high-quality crystal-filtered beer in a new type of bottle.

Head brewer Enn Karblane said the company is reducing the impact of thermal processing and

the filtered beer produced under the new technology has a longer life and tastes like fresh draught beer. The recipes of Saku beers will not change, he added.

Saku believes the new filter to be the first of this type in Estonia. The same technology is already used for draught beers.

Saku hopes the new technology will bolster its position on the beer market and halt the general contraction of the market. The company expects to sell more than four million liters of filtered beer in new type of bottle this year.

Saku Õlletehas estimates its share of the domestic beer market at 44.5% in terms of sales turnover and 42.1% of market volume.

*From Estonian Review, 22-28 April, 2009*

## From Ristimägi (Cross Hill) on Hiiumaa to Gammalsvenskby (Old Swedish Village) in Ukraine

*Introduction: Large numbers of Swedes from the Swedish-Finnish offshore islands settled on Hiiumaa as early as the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. The descendants of these early Estonian-Swedes were forced to leave Hiiumaa in fall of 1781. They arrived in southern Ukraine, immediately north of Crimea, about 8 months later. Perhaps one-half of the trekkers perished. Promises of land and houses by the Russian Czarina Katherine II were unfulfilled and basic survival was extremely challenging, with the result that by 1783 only an estimated 135 Swedes had survived.*

*The subsequent history of the Gammalsvenskby village Estonian-Swedes is one of persecution and rejection. A detailed account of this interesting episode in Estonian history is posted on the Internet in: 'Gammalsvenskby-the true story of the Swedish settlement in the Ukraine.'*

*While living conditions were extremely difficult, the community survived and some 800 Swedes eventually received permission from the government to move to Sweden in 1929. Most of them settled on the island of Gotland in the Baltic Sea where the small community Roma became their center. This resettlement of the descendants of the Hiiumaa Estonian- Swedes was also difficult; within a few years one-third of them returned to the Ukraine while another one-third went further afield and settled in Wetaskiwin, Alberta!*

***The following story is submitted by Irene and Deane Kerbes who visited the Ristimägi site on Hiiumaa in 2007:***

" On the island of Hiiumaa, Estonia, on the former border of Reigi and Pühalepa parishes, a departure service was held on 20 August, 1781 by the Swedes who were to leave Hiiumaa. Czarina Katherine II gave an order to resettle the Swedes to the south of Ukraine. Stenbock, the owner of Kõrgessaare Estate expelled the free Swedish peasants from their farms because they contributed little to the economic

wellbeing of the manor. As a result, about 1,000 people started a bitter journey on the eve of winter but not before erecting a cross at the Ristimägi gathering place. About half of them reached their destination in spring of 1782 and established Gammalsvenskby Village.

Today, everybody who visits the site of the 1781 departure service may make a cross in memory of the Swedes of Hiiumaa. The cross should be made of local natural materials without damaging nature. The person who makes a cross this way is believed to have good luck in the future.



*Irene Kerbes*

***Wooden crosses at Ristimägi, Hiiumaa, marking the location of the 1781 departure***

The legend of the cross is believed to have originated from an encounter of two wedding parties on the narrow Ristimägi road. Neither of them agreed to give way. The bridegroom of one couple and the bride of the other perished in the fight that broke out between the parties. The surviving bride and bridegroom were said to have got married later and to have lived happily ever after. Single people may find a partner and get married if they put up a cross in memory of those who were killed in the fight."

*Note: Margaret Peltö, and Eldon, Deane and Irene Kerbes were able to visit this site on Hiiumaa with their relatives, Krista and Tarmu Kutt. They fashioned a cross from local grasses and placed it on the hillside.*

## ALBERTA ESTONIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP, JUNE 2009

Anderson; Nicole - Edmonton  
Asmus; Peter, Jeannette - Airdrie  
Clark; John - Denver  
Collin; Glen, Marion, Cameron, Julia, Gary - Airdrie  
Costello; Wilma - Calgary  
Derksen; Colin, Linda, Jack, Jamie - Edmonton  
Dinning; Shirley, Leonard - Edmonton  
Doherty; Linda K - Big Sandy  
Erdman; Evelyn - Calgary  
Erdman; Thomas - Barons  
Fodor; Steve, Evelin, Mitchell, Jasmine - Calgary  
Gue; Brian - Edmonton  
Hall; Gwen - Boyle  
Helenurm; Kalju, Margot - Calgary  
Hennel; Daryl, Gloria, Jeff, Tom - Myrnhem  
Hennel; Lorne, Leah - Calgary  
Hennel; Rodney, Liz, Colin, Keith - Stettler  
Hennel; Ron W. F. - Stettler  
Herman; Derrick, Liia - Innisfail  
Kaert; Mati, Linda, Krista, Eric - Edmonton  
Kalev; Tiit - Eckville  
Kalvee; Willy G. - Calgary  
Kenzle; Alice, Susan - Creston  
Kerbes; Deane, Irene - Stettler  
Kerbes; Marguarite, Hal, Annette Berry - Stettler  
Kerbes; Richard - Saskatoon  
Kiil; David, Betty Ann - Edmonton  
Kiil; Glenn, Ingrid, Ranek, Kalev - Edmonton  
Kingsep; Bob, Annette, Tobi Telford - Redwood Meadows  
Kivisild; Livia - Calgary  
Klaus; Roy - Stettler  
Koper; Donna - Cochrane  
Kraav; Jüri, Helle - Calgary  
Kuester; Matt F. - Edmonton  
Langeste; Helmut, Airi - Edmonton  
Leesment; Peeter, Helgi - Calgary  
Leilop; Aino - St. Albert  
Luik; Avo c/o Renate Smentek - Edmonton  
Lumi; Rasmus - Ottawa  
Maddison; Anneliese - Edmonton  
Madill; Anita, Wallace - Calgary  
Magi; Enzo, Maimu - Calgary  
Matiisen; Arne, Carolyn, Janet - Calgary  
McClung, Eda - Edmonton  
McElroy; Elve, Wilfred - Camrose  
Metsar; Gerli - Calgary  
Mottus; Arnold, Vera, Catherine - Red Deer  
Munz; Lillian - Calgary  
Munz Gue; Martha, David, Lisa, Anita, Brian, Kevin - Medicine Hat  
Myhre; Mae - Port Alberni  
Nicklom; Otto, Gladys - Stettler  
Pääsuke; Elizabeth - Edmonton  
Pääsuke; Mark - Vancouver  
Pääsuke; Rein, Jan - Calgary  
Pääsuke; Toomas - Canmore  
Pallo; Jack Henry - Red Deer  
Pastewka; Astrid - Calgary  
Peet; Ethel - Edmonton  
Peet; Linda - Edmonton  
Pelto; John, Margaret, Christine - Sherwood Park  
Pihooja; Ralph, Nella Collins, Liz Tardie - Edmonton  
Pilt; Shirley - Edmonton  
Põhjakas; Kaljo, Lilian - Lethbridge  
Posti; Allan, Maria, Ryan - Eckville  
Robertson; David, Christine, Brendan, Karl, Travis - Leduc  
Ruusauk; Siim, Lamour - Sherwood Park  
Saar; Lembit, Iris - Calgary  
Saar; Rein, Patricia, Julia - Calgary  
Saarne; Are - Tallinn  
Sandre; Ülo - Calgary  
Shongrunden; Astrid - Penticton  
Silverton; Ernie - St. Albert  
Songster; Giuliana - Sierra Madre  
Sparrow; Lori, Lexi, Evan, Reed - Eckville  
Stanich; Robert, Leila - Calgary  
Tiislar; Enn, Pärja - Canmore  
Timma; Olev - Calgary  
Urke; Jan - Edmonton  
Visser; Mari, Igor, Constantine - Cochrane  
Walters; Sylvia, John - Rimbey  
Wartnow; Floyd C - Delta  
Zach; Inge - Calgary  
Zielinski; Michel, Kristine, Jeffery - Spruce Grove  
Zoumer; Anne - Calgary

