



Mai Raud-Pähn from Sweden and Anton Pärn, the director of the Foundation of Haapsalu and Läänemaa Museums at the Ants Laikmaa Museum – photo by Lea Kreinin

ESTONIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE FROM REPOSITORY TO EXHIBITION

This year the 7th BaltHerNet Summer School titled From Repository to Exhibition took place from July 4th-7th in Haapsalu, Estonia. 34 participants came together from 8 different countries from Estonian organizations, museums and archives located both in Estonia and abroad.

On the way to Haapsalu we stopped at the Ants Laikmaa House Museum, where the artist's life and art were introduced. Among the summer school participants was Mai Raud-Pähn from Sweden, who remembered visiting Ants Laikmaa when she was a child in 1930. Upon arriving in Haapsalu the summer school program continued in the rooms of the vocational school. Tiina Kirss' lecture, the BaltHerNet annual meeting and opening party all fit into the first day along with a documentary film program after dinner, which was focused on the theme of Estonians abroad.

The second day was filled with many interesting lectures about a variety of exhibitions in Estonia and abroad. Maie Barrow from Sydney, Australia, Vera Nikolajeva-Oinets from Siberia, Russia, Ain Dave Kiil from Alberta, Canada, and Piret Noorhane from Toronto, Canada all shared their experiences organizing Estonian themed exhibitions abroad. Many of the communities are not in as great a situation as the Toronto Estonians are in terms of resources for exhibitions. However, all of the speakers had interesting material to share with others. Lectures about archives and museums in Estonia

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The Baltic Heritage Newsletter is distributed quarterly, on-line. The newsletter is compiled and edited by Kristina Lupp. The next deadline for submissions is **18 November 2016**. Please send all related enquiries and submissions to

Kristina Lupp: kristinailupp@gmail.com

The Non-Profit Association Baltic Heritage Network was founded in Tartu on January 11, 2008. NPA BaltHerNet was established to foster cooperation between national and private archives, museums, libraries, and institutions of research, public associations and organizations collecting and studying the cultural heritage of the Baltic diaspora. It aims to facilitate the preservation and research of the historically valuable cultural property of the Baltic diaspora, as well as to ensure accessibility of these materials to the public.

NPA BaltHerNet is also committed to the organising of conferences, seminars and workshops, and to developing and administrating the electronic information website Baltic Heritage Network, a multilingual electronic gateway for information on the cultural heritage of the Baltic diaspora.

www.balther.net

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were also presented by the some of the leading figures of these institutions. It was interesting to hear about the new buildings housing the National Archives and the Estonian National Museum. The lecture on the Occupations Museum and upcoming changes regarding its content and new name (Vabamu) created a lot of excitement and discussion. During the lunch break an exhibit from the Dance Festival Museum was put on display in the hallway. A discussion about Estonia 100 and celebrations taking place abroad followed the lectures. Many interesting ideas were proposed on how to celebrate such an important historical event. All are welcome to contribute and propose ideas, no matter how small or large.

At the end of the long and busy day we drove to the beach town, Nõva, to visit Marko Raat at his summer home. On the way, we stopped to see the wooden church in Nõva, which is one of the oldest and most unique churches of its kind. Filmmaker Marko screened a number of his creations in an old fishnet shed behind his summer home in Nõva. One of Marko's more recently completed films is a documentary based on archival material collected in Canada titled *Fast Eddy vanad uudised* ("Fast Eddy's Old News").

The third day included a walk through the resort town with Haapsalu history expert, Kalev Jaago. We visited the ruins of the bishop's castle, the cathedral and a number of museums. Haapsalu is very rich in this department; the most memorable museums were the Museum of Coastal Swedes, where there is an active handicraft circle, and the child-friendly museum Ilon's Wonderland. This museum is based on the Estonian artist living in Sweden, Ilon



The BaltHerNet directors kept up a summery spirit during a board meeting on July 8th at the Cafe Pierre in Tartu. Participants (from the left): Kristine Bekere, Guntis Švitins, Piret Noorhane, Karin Kiisk and Birgit Kibal. Unfortunately, summer travels had taken Jolanta Budriuniene and Maarja Merivoo-Parro elsewhere and they were unable to attend the meeting.

Wikland and her creations. Ilon Wikland was raised in Haapsalu and has become known as the illustrator of Astrid Lindgren's children's books. The final evening ended with a spirited party with live music and singing.

We wish the organizers lots of strength and will be eagerly waiting for the next BaltHerNet Summer School next year.

Lea Kreinin

NEW ESTONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

This October will mark an important historical event; the new building for the Estonian National Museum will be opened in Tartu, Estonia. This moment has taken 107 years to arrive. Until now the museum has been housed in a number of temporary locations. Although there have been many architecture competitions, this is the only time any of the projects have reached completion and become a building. The last competition was held in 2006 and the winning

project was Memory Field by the Dorell Ghotmeh Tane Architects firm in Paris.

Construction began in 2013. The building has 6200 m² of exhibition space and 8100 m² of storage space. Two new permanent exhibitions will be opened: an Estonian permanent exhibit titled *Kõnelused* (Talks), and a Finno-Ugric cultural exhibit titled *Uurali kaja* (The Echo of the Ural). In addition, there are a number of smaller exhibits, such as the *Talu elu ja talu ilu* (Farm Life and Beauty), *Inimene ja keskkond* (The Person and the Environment), *Regilaul* (Regi Songs), *Aja jälg vaibal* (The Imprint of Time on a Carpet), *Korralik toit* (Proper Food), etc. For the first time in history, the first Estonian flag, which belongs to the Estonian Student Society, will be put on permanent display in the *Rahvas ja riik* (The People and Nation) exhibit.

The Estonian diaspora are also included in the new exhibits. For example, in the exhibit



focused on the Soviet period in the section titled Raudne eesriie (The Iron Curtain), a theme about both forced and voluntary migration has been included. One display is dedicated to those who fled in 1944 (the two other displays discuss deportations and immigration to Estonia). In addition, a touch screen will be available for looking at photos, documents, and letters about the life of a 13 year old boy in 1944. The material covers 1944, when the boy fled from Estonia with his parents until the fall of 1989 when he took his first trip back to Estonia.

One of the largest themed exhibitions is titled Paralleelilma (Parallel Worlds), which discusses the everyday and extraordinary moments in the lives of Estonian people from the years 1939-1989. Among the represented people are Estonians who were born and raised in Estonia, left or taken from Estonia, and those who have come and remained in Estonia. The exhibit uses life history episodes as “windows” through which one can see into the period in history when there was major opposition in the world – The Cold War. These episodes show the impact of these significant historical events on peoples’ lives,

but also that there was a lot to be happy and sad about in everyday life, regardless of politics and the government. Similarly, there are a number of main characters, who have spent most of their lives abroad, away from Estonia featured in the exhibit.

Beginning October 1st, we welcome all who are interested in Estonian and Finno-Ugric cultures to Tartu to visit our new, modern, and exciting Estonian National Museum.

Riina Reinvald

ROMAN TOI'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On June 18th Maestro Roman Toi, choir director, composer and keeper of Estonian culture in Canada, celebrated his 100th birthday. To celebrate this occasion a number of events took place in Toronto.

The festivities began at Tartu College on June 17th with a VEMU symposium titled The Grand Old Man of Estonian Music: Roman Toi 100. The conductor of many choirs and the artistic director of many song festivals, Hirvo Surva, the President of the Estonian Song and Dance Celebration Foundation, Aet Maatee, the active Canadian-Estonian musician and cultural figure, Andres Raudsepp and the ethnomusicologist from the Estonian Literary Museum, Triinu Ojamaa spoke of Estonia's outstanding musical culture and Roman Toi's achievements. Jean McKen from Toronto also told many stories about teaching Roman Toi how to use a digital sheet music program. Charles Kipper played a piano piece by Johan Aavik based on his memories of his trip to Canada, which he wrote while he was on his way back to Sweden. The Roman Toi 100 exhibition was



Jubilarian arriving to Tartu College. From right to left: the Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Estonian National Oper Boy's Choir Hirvo Surva, Toi family relative Hanno Puskar from Tallinn, Roman Toi and his son Dr. Ants Toi
Photo: P. Noorhanni

opened, which was created in collaboration with the Estonian Theatre and Music Museum. In addition, two films were screened: an ETV interview with Roman Toi recorded in Estonia in 2014 during the last Song Festival, and Kalli Paakspuu's short documentary filmed to celebrate Roman Toi's birthday - Roman Toi: A Century and More. This film was a trailer of what will become a full length documentary in the near future. The Chief Archivist of VEMU, Piret Noorhane, concluded VEMU's Collection Campaign "Music in Estonian Life." The symposium was live streamed on Skype in Tallinn, Estonia at the Estonian Theatre and Music Museum. Roman Toi's friends and colleagues in Estonia were all able to wish him happy birthday via Skype. The symposium participants also had many heartfelt birthday wishes for the centenarian.

The birthday celebrations continued on June 19th at the church service concert held at EELK St. Peter's Church in Toronto. The Estonian National Opera Boys' Choir conducted by Hirvo Surva and the organist Ene Salumäe performed as special guests. The Toronto Estonian Male Choir and the Estonia Choir sang along with soloists Avo Kittask and Kristina Agur. A number of Roman Toi's works were performed at the concert, including the cantatas Suur Jumal Su ramm and Te Deum laudamus. Riho Esko Maimet's piece composed specially for Roman Toi's birthday was also premiered at the concert. A reception followed the church service concert in the church hall, where a number of moving speeches were given and songs were sung.

The main guest for the celebrations

was the Estonian National Opera Boys' Choir, who were named the Choir of the Year in Estonia in 2015. This world renowned boys choir celebrated its 45th birthday with a tour of North America. The boys choir stayed in Toronto from June 16th-22nd and performed many times in Toronto and Niagara Falls in addition to their performance at the church service concert dedicated to Roman Toi. The Estonian National Opera Boys' Choir gala concert took place on June 21st at Koerner Hall, one of Toronto's most prominent concert halls. They performed pieces by Estonian composers, including R. Toi's works. The main sponsor for this event was the Estonian Studies Centre/VEMU. The celebrations and exhibition were supported by the Ministry of Culture of Estonia, the Cultural Endowment of Estonia, Toronto Estonian Credit Union, the Estonian Foundation of Canada, Frat. Vironia, The Integration and Migration Foundation Our People (MISA), Estonian Relief Committee in Canada, Estonian Singers Federation in North America, Estonia Choir, the Toronto Estonian Male Choir, St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Vancouver, Estonian Arts Centre, St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto, St Andrews Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church Diocese Abroad,

Canada Synod of Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Estonian Choral Association.

The Viljandi County Governor, Peep Aru and Viljandi Mayor, Ando Kiviberg, also participated in the festivities. A number of leaders in choir music in Estonia and the ETV film crew were also in attendance. On August 20th, the 25th anniversary since the restoration of independence of Estonia, ETV screened a special feature of Roman Toi's birthday celebrations in Toronto.

Piret Noorhane

PRESERVING OUR HISTORY

Since its inception in 2013, KLAM (Latvian Canadian Archive and Museum) has been busy collecting and recording archival material donated by individuals and organizations.

The next step is to start digitizing this material. To that end, with financial help from PBLA (World Free Latvian Association), Linda Jegorova, a specialist from the National Library of Latvia in Riga, spent the month of July in Toronto helping us to set up the KLAM Database in a format to be used for digitizing which would be compatible with the system in Latvia. KLAM has purchased and installed two scanners for this purpose.

KLAM is also participating in the Baltic Canadian Imprints:

*Linda Jegorova,
Skaidrīte Tērauds,
Vilnis Pētersons,
Ženija Vītols, Aija
Kārklīš.*

*Photo: Ž. V.
collection*



Snapshot Stories project - collecting oral histories through interviews with members of the exile generation.

Song Festivals and “song” in general have been instrumental in maintaining Latvian culture and identity for centuries, which is well documented in “Power of Song” by Guntis Šmidchens.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of Latvia in 1918, KLAM is collecting Song Festival memorabilia, with an emphasis on festivals in exile, with the aim of curating an exhibit in 2018.

Ženija Vitols

EDUCATIONAL PROJECT: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT EMIGRATION - PART TWO



*Alma Stanaitytė-Masevičienė
at the IFLA conference*

On August 13-19, a pilot project “Conversations about Emigration” carried out by the National Library of Lithuania last year was presented at the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) conference held in Columbus, Ohio. According to representative of the National Library of Lithuania Alma-Stanaitytė Masevičienė, who has presented

the project during the poster sessions, “Conversations about Emigration” attracted a lot of attention from the participants of the conference.

After the success of the pilot project “Conversations about Emigration”, the second Project “Conversations about Emigration 2” is moving from the town of Ukmergė to Utena County of Lithuania. The project will be carried out in 5 local high schools at the same time in collaboration with local public libraries, Antanas Smetona Gymnasium in Ukmergė (the school, where the pilot project took place), “Global Lithuanian Leaders”, Vytautas Magnus University Lithuanian Emigration Institute, and LRT Lituanica, a Lithuanian public TV channel, which programs are tailored for Lithuanian audience abroad. The first project showed that students were more efficient at learning when completing interactive and creative tasks and working on their own. Therefore the second project “Conversations about Emigration 2” will be oriented towards individual and group activities, which require the most creativity.

Valdonė Budreckaitė

SUMMER GUESTS

Summer is the season of unexpected visits and guests. This summer at the Lithuanian Studies



*Kristina Lapienyte-Bareikienė (right)
and Jolanta Budriūnienė*



Kęstutis Nakas

Research Department of National Library of Lithuania was no exception.

Kristina Lapienyte-Bareikienė, the Executive Vice-President of Lithuanian Research and Studies Center, Chicago, visited our Department on July 15. During the meeting with the head of the Department, Jolanta Budriūnienė, the guest discussed the future projects in the field of digital heritage, also small print identification, handling and storage issues.

A guest from London, Virgilijus Vaitkus, paid us a visit on July 28. Since 2005, Vaitkus has been living in London and working as a choir leader and organist at the Lithuanian St. Casimir parish in London. In the past, 1991-2005, he lived in Rome, where he met the Lozoraitis family. By request of Mrs. Daniela Lozoraitis, Vaitkus helped her sort the Lozoraitis family book collection, which today is part of the Lithuanian National Library collection. The Lozoraitis collection, consisting of more than 23,000 publications in Lithuanian, Polish, English, German, French and Russian, is being stored at the Lithuanian Studies Research Department Archive.



*Karilė Vaitkutė (right)
with Jolanta Budriūnienė.*

Guests from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, Gitana Skripkaitė and Katažyna Voišnis together with the Department of Lithuanians Living Abroad Interim Director Lina Žukauskaitė visited our Department on August 2. The representatives of the Ministry of



*Laura Zaveckaitė (right)
and Jolanta Budriūnienė*



Virgilijus Vaitkus

Foreign Affairs and National Library of Lithuania discussed the opportunities of closer inter-institutional cooperation and collaboration with Lithuanian Embassies. The guests were interested in the educational youth project “Discussions about (E)migration-2,” which will be implemented by the Lithuanian Studies Research Department starting this September.

On August 8, a guest from the US, Kęstutis Nakas, visited us. The director, actor and writer met with the Department director, Budriūnienė, Deputy Dr. Giedrė Milerytė-Japertienė and senior researchers, Dr. Dalia Cidzikaitė and Dr. Lara Lempertienė.

On August 10, another guest from the US paid us a visit. Karilė Vaitkutė, the director of Genealogy Division at Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture and museum’s magazine Lithuanian Museum Review editor, discussed the possibilities of future cooperation, such as joint virtual exhibitions and book presentations.

The most recent guest to visit the Lithuanian Studies Research Department also came from America. Laura Zaveckaitė is a US-based organization Sla307 public relations representative and graphic designer. Founded in 2014 by Lithuanian Alliance of America, Sla370 is a non-profit art space that provides local

*Dr. Giedrė Milerytė-Japertienė, Deputy of
Lithuanian Studies Research Department,
with Marius Pečiulis, representative of the
Ninth Fort Museum.*



and international contemporary artists a forum to explore critical issues within art and culture in New York City. Sla307 produces a number of contemporary art exhibitions throughout the year as well as a series of public programming which include lectures, performances, and film screenings.

During the meeting, which took place on August 28, Zaveckaitė described Sla307 activities and the current situation of the Lithuanian Alliance of America archives, also discussed the ways and forms of future cooperation with National Library of Lithuania. More about Sla307: <http://www.sla307.com/>

Lithuanian Studies Research Department National Library of Lithuania

SPEND YOUR SUMMER AT THE MUSEUM

On July 21, the Lithuanian Studies Research Department of National Library of Lithuania took part in the event “Spend Your Summer at the Museum” hosted by the Ninth Fort Museum in Kaunas. The guests were invited to take a tour of the museum and watch the movie, Flight across the Atlantic (dir. Raimondas Vabalas, 1983). The travelling exhibition, dedicated to Lithuanian publishing in Western Europe in 1944-1952 and created by the Lithuanian Studies Research Department was also opened.

Lithuanian Studies Research Department National Library of Lithuania

WORLD LITHUANIAN UNITY DAY

On July 17, Jolanta Budriūnienė, director of the Lithuanian Studies Research Department of National Library of Lithuania, participated in World Lithuanian Unity Day. This year the celebration took



The participants of this year's World Lithuanian Unity Day.

place in Ukmergė region, at the mansion of the first Lithuanian President Antanas Smetona.

The event brought together many Lithuanians living abroad, as well as honorary guests from Lithuanian Parliament, the Government, and foreign embassies residing in Lithuania.

A carved crucifix by folk artist Alekas Eugenijus Kulvietis, a gift from the organizer of the event, the Lithuanian World Community, to Smetona's homeland, was unveiled. Several art exhibitions by Lithuanian diaspora representatives were also opened.

**Lithuanian Studies Research
Department National Library of
Lithuania**



STILL ESTONIAN

Estonian Archive in the United States has been in existence for over 50 years despite being staffed only by volunteers and depending on charitable donations. The geographical location makes its survival even that more miraculous. Lakewood, New Jersey, used to be a large Estonian enclave but has now rapidly become one of the largest Hasidic communities in the United States. It is difficult to make friends with new neighbours that won't shake your hand. Literally.

Luckily we do have an ally in the other end of the congested town - Lakewood Estonian House.

On September 2 Lakewood Estonian House is celebrated its 70th anniversary. Many volunteers were excited to choose historic photographs from the Archive's extensive collection, to be displayed at an exhibit for the milestone. Seventy years is a generation. The first Estonian DPs arrived in Lakewood shortly after WW2, learning English, adapting to the culture and customs of their new homeland. Children enrolled in local schools, participated in sports, joined the Boy and Girl Scouts. The grown-ups took whatever jobs were available. A doctor may have become a bricklayer, a lawyer might have found employment at a poultry farm. The Can Do generation considered government handouts embarrassing. Together the Lakewood Estonian community, that numbered in hundreds back then, worked hard, strived for better education and held dear their language and culture.

The strong community feeling among Lakewood Estonians is evident to this day. It is understood, that giving back to the community is part of life. Even the land where Lakewood Estonian House stands was a donation. A young newlywed



couple, Konstantin and Martha Lacht in 1933 offered up a parcel from their farmland. The Estonian Clubhouse was completed in 1947. Understandably, altruism takes time and money. Recent expatriates visit Estonian Houses and other organizations, but it often takes a few years of adapting to a new society and to line up profitable work that enables one to volunteer time and money to keeps these organizations going.

Lakewood has supplied the Estonian expatriate community in Northern America with quite a few notable individuals - the honorary consul-general of Estonia in Canada, Laas Leivat's uncle settled in Lakewood already in the early twenties. Two of Estonia's historic diplomats - Consul Johannes Markus, representing the Republic of (independent) Estonia in Canada beginning 1959, was a pre-war inhabitant of Lakewood as was Johannes Kaiv, Consul-General in New York and in charge of legation (chief diplomatic representative of Estonia in the US). Juhan Simonson, a tireless freedom fighter during the Soviet years and a long serving president of Estonian American National Council called Lakewood home. But as illustrious as some of these careers have been, an expatriate community survives and thrives thanks to ALL its members - the ladies who donate their time and skill to make potato salad and herring sandwiches for parties and fundraisers, the men who mow the lawn or plough the snow, the children - who sometimes no longer even speak Estonian - learn hours of Estonian folk song repertoire by heart to delight the audience.

In an era of borderless utopia and the voluntary mandatory

assimilation of cultures, honouring one's roots and ethnic origin may soon be a revolutionary act. Are you ready?

Ave Maria Blithe

VEMU COLLECTION CAMPAIGN "MUSIC IN ESTONIAN LIFE"

2014 was a Song Festival year in Estonia. Eight song and dance collectives from Canada flew to Tallinn to join in the party and to participate in the powerful experience of creating music together. As if to continue these empowering emotions, 2015 was announced as the Year of Music in Estonia. The intent was to draw the diverse Estonian music scene to the centre of attention, introduce singers, songwriters and performers, initiate interest in music and increase the role of music in people's lives. The motto for the year was "Kõlab hästi!" ("Sounds good").

Music not only sounds good to our ears, but also reassures the spirit and invigorates the soul. Music has played a central role in the development of Estonians as cultural folk and the preservation of Estonians as a people. Both the national movement at the end of the 19th century and the restoration of independence at the end of the 20th century were greatly supported by the people's love of music and dedication to musical activities. Famous composers and musicians have become our ambassadors of Estonian culture in the world and a source of national pride. We have recently been celebrating one of these famous composer's, Roman Toi's, 100th birthday. Music has continued to connect us, as a people, as communities and as subcultures.

Music holds a special place for

Estonians. Each one of us has their own personal and intimate connection to music. What kind of connection exactly? What role does music play in the lives of Estonians abroad? To find out, VEMU announced a collection campaign for 2015 "Music in Estonian Life." The deadline for submissions was in the spring of 2016.

A total of 22 essay submissions and archival donations were received for the campaign, almost half of them were from the Estonian Supplementary School students. We received audio recordings from Väino Einola and Karin Kimmel as well as an abundant collection of photo material of the 2014 Song Festival from the doctor turned photographer, Peeter Põldre. Elle Rosenberg gave us the Toronto Estonian school choir's song festival books, which included memories from many different Song Festival experiences. Õnne Laikve donated "Arien - Album," which originally belonged to Helmi Betlem, and other sheet music and notes. Filmmaker, Helga Merits from The Netherlands, donated a very unique historical document - a copy of Ernst Öpik's "A Hymn to Humanity," the Baltic University hymn. Helga is hoping that one of our choirs will record the hymn, so she can use it in her film "The Story of the Baltic University." On many occasions, Mall Puhm donated the Ööbik choir's archival material, in addition to performance costumes from the Toronto Estonian choirs amongst many other items. Mall is one of the best closet cleaners in Toronto, we always receive interesting material from her! We received Lembit Aveson's large sheet music collection and the DVD "Oreliga" ("Postludes") from Marta Kivik.

We would like to thank the Estonian School and especially teacher Kai Kiillaspea, who has continuously been able to convince her students to participate in our collection campaign. We received a total of 10 submissions from the school. Understandably, the students wrote about their experience at the Song Festival (Genevieve Perron, Lief Kolga, Seliina McConville, Katariina Järve, Natalie Jenkins). Participating in the Song Festival is a serious rite of initiation for Toronto Estonian youth; those who are able to take part once, are no longer cold towards their Estonian heritage. To quote Lief Kolga: "This Song Festival was very impressive and touched my heart. I will always remember it."

However, the students also wrote about other topics. For example, Linda Jürimäe discussed the role of Estonian music in her life.

We also find out that in addition to the Song Festival repertoire, she keeps up with other kinds of music. Some of Linda's favourites are Elina Born, Stig Rästa, Kristel Aaslaid, and Cartoon. Andrus Käärid wrote about the Estonian band that won all of our hearts when they came to visit in the fall of 2015 - Curly Strings. He writes about their song "Kauges külas": "It reminds me of my grandmother's cottage in Magnetawan. When we spend time there during the summer, it's all quiet. There is a small town a couple kilometres away and you have to walk or ride your bike there." Mari Käärid wrote about her personal encounter with the famous singer Tõnis Mägi. She even had the chance to take a photo with him, but: "I had the chance to take a photo with him, but unfortunately I sneezed..." The photo that concludes her project is proof of this historical event. Sylvi

CALL FOR PAPERS & UPCOMING CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE – HERITAGES OF MIGRATION: MOVING STORIES, OBJECTS AND HOME – CALL FOR PAPERS

In their movements between old and new worlds, migrant communities carry with them practices, traditions, objects and stories that are transmitted across new communities and through generations. This conference seeks to explore the layering of global cultures that has been produced by centuries of global migration, and its effect on memory, identity and belonging, as well as its effects on tangible and intangible heritage. The conference is designed encourage provocative dialogue across the fullest range of disciplines. Thus we welcome papers from academic colleagues in a wide range of fields. Please see the conference website for full details and call for papers.

Dates: 6 – 10 April 2017

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Organisers: Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage (University of Birmingham), Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy (University of Illinois)

Contact: Hannah Stretton, Ironbridge@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Deadline: Call for papers deadline: 14th October 2016

Web links: www.heritagesofmigration.wordpress.com & universityofbirmingham.submittable.com/submit

WAYNE S. VUCINICH FELLOWSHIP

The Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at Stanford University invites applications for the Wayne S. Vucinich Fellowship. This is a twelve-week residential fellowship to be offered in January-March 2017.

The fellowship is open to scholars working on the region in any discipline. Preference will be given to scholars who have completed the PhD (or equivalent) in the past five years and who are residents of countries that fall under the direct purview of the Center: Russia, East Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia (including Afghanistan).

The fellowship award funds international travel, health insurance, and visa support, in addition to a \$10,000 stipend for living expenses. The fellow will have access to university libraries and archives and will have use of a shared work space at the Center. He or she will be expected to be in residence throughout the fellowship period and to participate actively in the scholarly activities of the Center.

Interested applicants should submit this application form, a letter of application, a Curriculum Vitae, a writing sample, two letters of recommendation, and a short proposal for a public lecture and/or workshop by October 14, 2016.

For more information please visit: <http://web.stanford.edu/dept/CREES/VucinichFellowship2017.fb>

Oja is a true admirer of Ewert and the Two Dragons. Liivi Sermat Cooke's project, "Our Shared Soundtrack" discusses songs that have played important roles in her life and that of her family, such as "Tuljak," "Ta elagu," Christmas and national songs. Liivi's project includes beautiful photos with examples of lyrics from the above-mentioned songs.

We also received essays written in memoir format from adults. Anne Remmel remembers Aino Waldin's piano studio, the musical life led by Kaljo Raid at the Baptist church and also Helmi Betlem's singing studio, Estonian School and much more. Her essay is a beautiful overview of a Toronto Estonian's musical life story. We also received sheet music and photos from Anne.

The two next submissions go farther back in history. Aino Müllerbeck begins her work with a memory from 1929 in Estonia when she was sitting on the floor of the Viljandi Defence League house as a 4 year old listening to Ms. Lillakas and Bishop Jaan Lattik singing a duet. Aino's first piano lessons also took place around that time. Later, she remembers participating in musical activities at the Viljandi Education Society's High School for Girls and at Valga's II Elementary School, as well as being a member of the Iigaste choir in Valgamaa during the war. Aino continued to pursue music in exile: in a German DP Camp, in Stockholm (under Juhan Aavik's conducting baton), in Montreal, and in Toronto. Aino also gave us a photo album with detailed descriptions and concert programs.

Elna Libe is a singer, who gave her heart to Estonian music, as the title of her work puts it. Similar to Aino, Elna's singing career

BALTIC-CANADIAN IMPRINTS – YOUTH AND SENIORS COME TOGETHER TO PRESERVE BALTIC HERITAGE

The Canadian Baltic Immigrant Aid Society, Estonian Studies Centre/VEMU, Lithuanian Museum Archives of Canada and the Canadian Latvian Archive and Museum (Latvian National Federation in Canada) have received funding from the New Horizons for Seniors Program, a federal grant program that supports projects inspired by or led by seniors.

Known as Baltic-Canadian Imprints, this new partnership has launched the 'Snapshot Stories' project, which brings together youth with seniors who share a common Baltic heritage to gather oral histories. Through interviews and by showing photos, documents and artifacts that are meaningful to them, the seniors will share their personal experience, cultural identity and reflections on Baltic heritage with youth in their community. Seniors are keepers of cultural history and the generation of post-war immigrants is rapidly disappearing. We are therefore at a critical moment for sharing and documenting the rich cultural knowledge that this generation has to offer.

The recordings, photos and information gathered through 'Snapshot Stories' will be used to create an exhibit to be launched at Toronto's Estonian Studies Centre/VEMU in February 2017. Each organization involved will also add the information and materials to their archive collections, so they are preserved for their respective communities, academics, historians and future generations.

This exciting project involves seniors as cultural mentors and will enable youth to gain a new understanding and appreciation of their cultural heritage. It will also contribute to a strengthened Baltic presence in Ontario's multicultural community. For more information about 'Snapshot Stories', to participate as a volunteer or if you know someone who would like to be interviewed, please contact the project organizers:

Canadian Baltic Immigrant Aid Society - Petra Grantham cbias.hv@hotmail.com

Latvian National Federation in Canada-Canadian Latvian Archive and Museum - Andris Kesteris andriskesteris8@gmail.com

Lithuanian Museum-Archives Canada - Dani Breen klma@primus.ca

VEMU/Estonian Study Centre - Piret Noorhani piret.noorhani@vemu.ca



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by the Government of Canada.**

Canada 



Enno Agur, the winner of the contest.

began very early, at the age of 3-4, when she earned a little money for performing and quickly spent it all on candy at the store. Elna is from a musical family, so it is not surprising that her own life has been filled with music. She did not abandon singing on her journey from Estonia through Finland and Sweden to Toronto. She even met her husband, Viktor, through singing in the Göteborg Estonian Choir. Elna was a recognized soloist and in addition to singing in Estonian choirs, also sang in the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir for some time. Elna and Viktor sang together in the Cantate Domino Choir at St. Peter's Church in Toronto for 50 years.

Scoutmaster, Enno Agur's compiled book "Jämesäär. Translations and songs" is the product of 10 years of work. It was actually already completed in 2005, but upon the encouragement of his friends, Enno finally brought his work to the archive just this year. Jämesäär is well known among Canadian-Estonians; it is the scout name of late Heino Jõe. Jämesäär was a man of many talents, as Enno writes, and his singing talent was one of many. Jämesäär wrote Estonian scout songs for the scout groups to sing. If a new song was needed, he picked a well known tune and wrote lyrics to go along with it. Enno collected these tunes, wrote the music and compiled them all into a large manuscript, which includes 63 songs and their

POST PHOTOS OF YOUR HOMETOWN ON TOPOTHEQUE!

The National Archives of Estonia is inviting people to join in the Euro Project Community as Opportunity – Creative archives' and users' network by posting their personal photos on the webpage <http://topotheque.eu>. This web page called Topoteek in Estonian, allows an individual or a community (society, town or city, etc) to upload their personal photos of their hometown or surrounding area and post them on the web, thus creating a historical source of photographs for others. Topotheque's goal is to provide a shared community website for individuals to digitally share their historical information, locate the places on a map, and in this way, expand access to local history into countries beyond Estonia. Photos, documents, audio and visual recordings can all be uploaded to Topotheque. The main focus is on photos, describing them, and placing images on a map to connect images locations in the past with images of the same places in the present. There are no limitations of time and date of images, thus Topotheque also welcomes images from more recent history and contemporary times. Topotheque is maintained through the efforts of volunteers and is coordinated in Estonia by the National Archives of Estonia.

Creating a Topotheque account is easy. Any interested volunteer, who wishes to post his/her own photos, or those of their friends (may also include other topics), may create a password and begin posting photos and describing them. The descriptions are simple and should include the author of the photo, the name of who's collection it belongs to, the date, and description of the activity or object in the photo. There is also a handbook available for understanding how Topotheque works.

An Estonian overview of Topotheque/Topoteek can be found here:

<http://www.arhiiv.ee/public/Projektid/topoteegid.pdf>

We welcome you to share the file and link above, or print and share in other ways. If you are interested in releasing your own personal heritage or community heritage and creating a Topotheque account, please contact archivist Sven Lepa, sven.lepa@ra.ee, +372 738 7556.

translations. "I guess I became interested and was inspired by the songs over the 4 and half years I had the opportunity to work with Heino in the noolepoiste (arrow boys) group, writes Enno. "During this short time, I learnt a lot from him about scouting, but also about many other things. I am thankful to Heino and the directors of the Lembitu scout group to have had the chance to be a part of it." We are thankful to Enno for completing such a great work.

Appreciation letters and flowers were given to all participants. Monetary prizes were awarded

by the Estonian Studies Centre by judges Prof. Jüri Kivimäe from the Chair of Estonian Studies at the University of Toronto, Vice-President of the Bibliography Club, Asta Lokk and Chief Archivist of VEMU, Piret Noorhani. 2.-3. prize went to Elna Libe and Aino Müllerbeck, and Enno Agur received 1st prize.

The deadline for the new collection campaign "Estonia 100. My Life and Love," in collaboration with the Estonian Life Stories Association and the Estonian Literary Museum, is December 1st, 2016. **Piret Noorhani**

TARTU**ESTONIAN STUDIES CENTRE
VEMU: MUSEUM OF ESTONIANS ABROAD**

**Gift for Estonia 100:
Significant Canadian Estonian Cultural Figures**

As part of the Eesti Vabariik 100 (Republic of Estonia 100) celebrations in 2018, the Estonian Studies Centre/VEMU would like to create a gift -an exhibit and a book- that reflects the accomplishments of Canadian Estonians who have made a contribution to both the Estonian and Canadian arts and culture. Be they musicians, composers, singers, dancers, actors, filmmakers, writers, poets, directors, artists, designers and others; they are individuals who have stood out in their field. We would like to recognize these individuals who live or have lived in our midst.

In order to accomplish this task, we are asking for your input. Please fill out this anonymous form and list 10 Canadian Estonians who you would nominate for consideration. Encourage your Estonian friends and family to do the same. Remember that we wish to recognize those Estonian individuals who have left their footprint on Canada, not just in our Estonian community. From your suggestions, we will pick the top 25 nominees and create a lasting tribute. Each chosen individual will be represented by a short biography with a summary of their contributions to our culture and a pictorial remembrance.

Our intent is to collect your suggestions during the spring and summer of 2016. A working group established by the Estonian Studies Centre will compile a list of the 25 most nominated individuals. Once this list is compiled, the working group will begin researching these individuals and gathering material. Our goal is to have the finished exhibit and book ready to present to the Estonian Government in time for the 2018 celebration. Copies of the book will be presented to other appropriate institutions as well.

If you have any questions or comments about this project or would like to offer your help, please contact: piret.noorhani@vemu.ca, t. 416 925 9405.

Nominated Individual	Area of Cultural Contribution	Additional Comments
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Return this completed form by September 30th, 2016 to: Estonian Studies Centre/VEMU (310 Bloor St. W., Toronto ON M5S 1W4 or marika.mayfield@vemu.ca

The survey can also be completed online: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/?sm=tSoR06crVWdFnSqYCrVfxQ_3D_3D

Feel free to make copies and encourage Estonian family and friends to complete one also.

THANK YOU!

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