



BALTIC HERITAGE NETWORK

NEWSLETTER NO. 2 (3) 2013

BALTHERNET HONORARY MEMBER ELMAR TAMPÖLD DIES

The Baltic Heritage Network was saddened to learn of the death of BaltHerNet Honorary Member Elmar Tampõld. Elmar Tampõld died in Toronto on March 7, 2013 after 92 eventful and well lived years.

Elmar Tampõld (born August 3, 1920 in Kärkla, Estonia) was an Estonian-Canadian architect and founder of an academic base for Estonian studies in Toronto. Tampõld studied in Estonia (Kärkla and Tallinn), and later continued his studies in Stockholm and Toronto after escaping from occupied Estonia in 1944. He graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture in 1953. Among the honours he achieved as a student at the University of Toronto was the Hobb's Glass Scholarship for highest standing in Design, and he was nominated for the Pilkington Award for his thesis project, "Toronto Olympic Stadium".

In 1956, Elmar Tampõld was accepted as a member of both the Ontario Association of Architects and the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. In 1997, Tampõld was nominated and awarded a lifetime membership of the Ontario Association of Architects. During his years in Canada, Elmar Tampõld has been a prominent leader in the Toronto Estonian community and has helped preserve the Estonian language and culture. In 1949 he established the University of Toronto Estonian Students' Society and was elected the organization's first President. Proceeds from the Society's events and fundraisers helped enable the founding of a scholarship fund for Estonian immigrant students and students of Estonian heritage. In 1967, Elmar Tampõld proposed the concept of a residence hall called Tartu College to the Canadian Estonian community and the University of Toronto, and from 1967 to 1970 Tampõld was involved in numerous roles in the implementation, construction and design of Tartu College; from main financier, to sponsor and main architect. Tampõld



named the student residence hall after the Estonian University of Tartu. Completed in 1970, the building is located at Madison Avenue, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and serves as a residence hall for University of Toronto students as well as a centre for serving the Estonian-Canadian community of the city. Tartu College has a long-standing relationship with Estonia's University of Tartu.

In 1982, Elmar Tampõld proposed the idea of reinvesting Tartu College's surplus revenues for the founding of a Chair of Estonian Studies at the University of Toronto. The university agreed and in 1983, he helped establish the Chair of Estonian Studies Foundation with fellow expatriate Estonian professors, neuroscientist Endel Tulving and chemical engineer Olev Träss. The three men made the initial presentation to the University of Toronto and Tampõld became the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Chair of the Estonian Studies Foundation.

In 1999, Elmar Tampõld established the Estonian Scholarships Fund, with donations from the University of Toronto, the government of the province of Ontario, Tartu College, the Estonian Studies Fund, the fraternity Fraternitas Estica, the

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A Note from the Editor:

The submission deadline for the next issue is August 1, 2013. We welcome news articles, conference information, calls for papers, new publication information, and images. Please send articles in English with high quality images to:

Kristina Lupp
kriss.lupp@me.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 administering the electronic information website Baltic Heritage Network, a multilingual electronic gateway for information on the cultural heritage of the Baltic diaspora.

The Baltic Heritage Newsletter is distributed quarterly, on-line. The newsletter is compiled and edited by Kristina Lupp. Please send all related enquiries and submissions to Kristina Lupp: kriss.lupp@me.com
www.balthernet.net
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Estonian National Foundation, and the Estonian Credit Union. The scholarship was called the Ilmar Heinsoo Award in appreciation of the former Estonian honorary consul. Additionally, in 1999, he helped merge the two Toronto-based Estonian weekly newspapers into a single weekly paper called Estonian Life.

Tartu College has been a home for the collections of the Tartu Institute Archives and Library as well as other groups keeping the history of Estonians in Canada. Tampõld has long planned to found a Museum of Estonians Abroad in Toronto (VEMU, for the Estonian Väliseesti Muuseum). Tampõld envisions the museum becoming a monument to part of the Estonian immigrant community in the West that will serve as a higher educational and cultural institution.

The government of Estonia recognized his accomplishments by awarding him a White Star IV Class in 1998 and the University of Tartu made him an honorary fellow in 2004. He was a member of the Estonian fraternity Korp! Sakala.

■Piret Noorhani

NEW PUBLICATION: ATLAS OF DAMAGE DESCRIPTIONS OF ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

By the end of June this year (at the latest) a new book named the *Atlas of Damage Descriptions of Archival Materials* will be published in co-operation with the National Archives of Estonia and the National Archives of Latvia.

The Atlas will be addressed to every person who needs to understand if there is anything 'wrong' (in preservation terms) with the archival materials they hold or use, and when the only means to determine condition or make an initial diagnosis is through visual observation.

The content of the publication is derived from a selection of the most commonly observed damages to archival objects and presents 46 damage types, providing descriptions of their visual characteristics and indicating the severity and possible causes of each. Each damage type explanation is accompanied by illustrative photos showing examples of damage on archival records, i.e. paper, bindings, parchment and seals. Finally, possible preservation actions to stop or slow down the damaging processes are suggested. All content is presented simultaneously in

English, Latvian and Estonian.

The publication was supported by the Latvian State Culture Capital Foundation, the Latvian Society of Archivists and the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research Compatriot Program. The topic of archival materials' preservation surveys was also briefly raised and discussed during the Baltic Heritage Network Summer School held in Estonia in the summer of 2007, while records preservation issues were addressed to the expatriate archivists.

The Atlas will be distributed free of charge, please contact the National Archives of Estonia for more information: ruth.tiidor@ra.ee.

ESTONIAN EXPATRIATE LITERATURE CENTRE ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD

The Estonian Expatriate Literature Centre (EELC) at the Academic Library of Tallinn University has announced Sander Jürisson as new head of the department. Jürisson has a masters degree in modern history from the University of Tallinn, with a thesis on Estonian migration to Brazil. So far, Sander has been working in the same department as senior the bibliographer. Former head of EELC, Dr. Anne Valmas, will continue as a researcher.

EELC accumulates, stores and provides access to publications dealing with expatriate Estonian issues as well as titles printed abroad by expatriate Estonians since 1944. The collection originated in 1974, when a restricted access department was formed at the Library of the Academy of Sciences of the Estonian SSR in order to accumulate all the books forbidden to Estonians in their homeland during that period, as well as the titles authored and published by expatriate Estonians. For now, EELC has developed into the most complete collection of expatriate Estonian literature in Estonia with about 37,000 volumes, including 6000 titles of books and more than 500 titles of periodical publications issued abroad by Estonians. About one third of the holdings are unique copies in Estonia.

SALME KOOBAKENE

Two Baltic women who came to Australia as refugees after World War II have been honoured in contributions to the Australian Women's Register by

Ann Tünder-Smith. They are Salme Koobakene (1919-1998), originally from Valgamaa in southern Estonia and Zenta Liepa (1927 - 1987) originally from Riga, Latvia.

Both women were chosen to migrate to Australia on a ship known in the Baltic communities as the "First Transport", the General Stuart Heintzelman, which arrived on 28 November 1947. The passengers on the First Transport were the first ever non-British migrants to be selected for settlement by Australian officials. They were participants in a social experiment that was so successful that it brought millions of migrants to Australia in the following decades. The "First Transport" is the focus of Ann Tünder-Smith's research into the Baltic communities in Australia.

The Australian Women's Register is an on-line, searchable archive at www.womenaustralia.info. It sees itself as "a valuable and growing source of biographical data about Australian women and their organisations, with hyper-links to the archival repositories and libraries where their records are held and to other sources of information." Ann is a member of the Register's Canberra support committee.



This year is the 100th anniversary of the proclamation of the name of Australia's new capital city, Canberra, in 1913. As part of the Centenary celebrations, the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government funded the Register's support committee to commission new entries and update existing ones on women who had a substantial connection to Canberra. The resulting special exhibition

is called, "From Lady Denman to Katy Gallagher" and can be found at www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/ldkg/. The two women honoured in the title are the wife of the Governor-General in 1913, who announced the new name, and the ACT's Chief Minister since 2011.

Both Salme Koobakene and Zenta Liepa lived out their lives in Canberra after being sent there to work in late 1947. Zenta died early from lung cancer but not before those she worked with as a technical assistant at Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation began to thank her for her dedication by naming insects in her honour. The Latin names of at least two genera and 21 species of flies now include 'zenta' or 'liepa'. Her story is at <http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE4910b.htm>.

Salme Koobakene spent most of her working life in a library at the Australian National University, where her Russian language skills were of particular use. In her will she asked the Country Women's Association (CWA), of which she had been a member since her early days in Canberra, to use funds from her estate to provide grants to high school students and young carers who are still at school in their Canberra-Monaro Region. Her estate was also able to provide grants of at least \$10,000 per year for six years to the National Gallery of Australia. Salme's life is at <http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE4860b.htm>.

Ann-Tündern-Smith's interest in Salme Koobakene also led to her contributing a history of the Canberra Branch of the CWA to the Australian Women's Register Canberra centenary project as well as two other entries.

■ Ann Tündern-Smith

"PRESERVING OUR HISTORY" VEMU ARCHIVAL COMPETITION

2013 is the year of cultural heritage in Estonia. The goal of this year's theme is to promote cultural issues to the general public – to recognise that culture concerns us (in one way or another), and that it is worthy of appreciation and preservation. Throughout the year of cultural heritage, many events will take place to explain what cultural heritage is, introduce its importance and, broaden its understanding. You can read more about the year of cultural heritage at: www.

10TH CONFERENCE ON BALTIC STUDIES IN EUROPE

"CULTURES, CRISES, CONSOLIDATIONS IN THE BALTIC WORLD"

JUNE 16-19, 2013 TALLINN UNIVERSITY, ESTONIA.

The forthcoming conference "Cultures, Crises, Consolidations in the Baltic World" in Tallinn is grounded in the realm of the Baltic countries and people who have experienced periods of crises throughout their history: wars and revolutions, plagues and famine, economic and demographic decline. Often enough, periods of consolidation have been followed by just another form of crisis. Therefore, it is important to analyse strategies of adaptation to and representation and remembering of changes throughout the history of the Baltic countries. As a specific focus, the conference looks at post-socialist cultural changes and the emergence of new identities in the Baltic communities at home and abroad, particularly the transformation of everyday life in consumer society and the migration experiences. In addition to the historical view, we call for particularizing current challenges including democratic changes, international security concerns (energy and cyber security topics) and changes in environmental aspects

like climate, land use or water resources of Baltic region. Likewise contributions on cultural and societal issues facing the Baltic countries like social movements, lifestyles and new forms of stratifications or social exclusion, youth cultures, education and (un)employment are very welcome.

Traditionally, contributions analysing linguistic issues or literature and folklore of Baltic countries as well as interdisciplinary and comparative studies are the integral part of the programme. Tallinn University is proud of its Baltic Film and Media School inviting you to tackle the exciting challenges that the recent spread of digital equipment and drastic changes in the media world bring to our everyday realities.

Conference secretariat: Kerli Kangro and Kadri Eisenschmidt (balticstudies2013@tlu.ee)

www.tlu.ee/balticstudies2013

5TH BALTHERNET SUMMER SCHOOL

The Baltic Heritage Network Summer School is intended for Estonians living abroad who are involved with the collection and preservation of the cultural heritage of the Estonian diaspora. The Summer School awaits those working in the archives of Estonian communities abroad as well as others interested in collecting and preserving the cultural heritage of Estonian communities in the east or west. The programme includes lectures, training courses and practical exercises, discussions and debates. Specialists from different Estonian cultural preservation institutions will share their knowledge of archiving, librarianship, and museology. There have been four summer schools: Koke 2007, Käsma 2008, Viljandi 2010, and 2011 in Kääriku.

The Summer School will take place 7-10 July, 2013 at the Alutaguse Puhke- ja Spordikeskus. (<http://www.alutaguse.com/>).

The theme for this year's Summer School will be Estonian Diaspora Databases (an overview of existing databases, the presentation of a new technical solution by National Archives) and private correspondence as a historical source (the importance and possibilities of private correspondence collections, the use of private correspondence in historical research).

The event will be organised by NGO Baltic Heritage Network, the Estonian National Archives, the Estonian Literary Museum, and the Estonian National Museum.

Registration for the summer school will be open until 3 June.

Information and registration: <http://suvekool.balthernet.net/2013/>

parandiaasta.ee.

In honour of the year of cultural heritage, VEMU/The Estonian Studies Centre is organizing the archival contest "Preserving our history." In keeping with the motto "No heritage without heir," we are looking for contributions from Canadian Estonians, but in particular from children and young people, as they inherit Estonian culture from the previous generation. The contest aims to consider the daily lives of Canadian Estonians over the decades, like food and daily chores, Estonian grocery stores in Canada. Estonian culture is not only preserved in fighting for Estonian freedom, singing and dancing, reading Estonian literature, and teaching children the Estonian language. Culture grows while eating sauerkraut and blood sausage, baking kringel and pirukad, and decorating your home with Estonian handicrafts. It grows while following and understanding the culinary traditions and consumer culture of our homeland.

Collected materials will be preserved at VEMU and will be used in an upcoming exhibit.

The deadline is November 1, 2013. Please send entries to: VEMU/Estonian Studies Centre, 310 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1W4. To keep all entries anonymous we ask that you choose a keyword by which to name your entry, for example "Home." Do not put your name on your entry, but rather your keyword. Include a separate envelope labelled with your keyword and inside please include the following information: name, age, address, telephone number, and email.

Winning entries will be announced November 17, 2013. Cash and book prizes will be awarded to the best entries!

Info: piret.noorhani@vemu.ca, t. 416 925 9405, <http://vemu.ca>

CHARITY DINNER IN SUPPORT OF VEMU

Marika Blossfeldt's charity dinner in support of VEMU took place on Saturday, 14th of April at Tartu College in Toronto. Individuals and organisations that have supported the building of the new VEMU museum were invited to the dinner. The dinner was similar to that held in 2012 with special guest chef Inga Paenurm, executive chef to the president of Estonia.

A total of \$440,000CAD has been raised so far. Supporters and collaborators were

thanked by Tartu College's president Jaan Meri and VEMU/The Estonian Studies Centre head archivist Piret Noorhani. Music was performed by Kadi Kuivits and Charles Kipper.

Blossfeldt, dancer and choreographer, lives in New York during the winter months, and in Estonia during the summer. She held many lectures in Toronto about healthy eating. Her lecture at Tartu College was entitled "Energize your body and mind by making smart food choices." Her award-winning book "Essential Nourishment. Recipes from My Estonian Farm" was for sale after the lecture.

View the pictures here: <http://vemu.ca/index.php/en/photo-galleries#UX6nfMpvAR8>

■ Piret Noorhani

CULTIVATING REMEMBRANCE

memory cultures as a challenge and chance for historians and educators

International Conference

November 15 - 16, ESG Muenster

What happens, when individuals share common experiences, which were made long ago? What kinds of memory-expression can be found in such situations? Why do people remember historical events, which happened generations ago? What are the impacts of such memory-cultures upon cultural identity, resilience and compassion for these people and the next generations?

Researchers, who are involved in such questions concerning Baltic events like German and Soviet Occupation, Shoa, Deportation, Exile and Diaspora, are invited to share their projects, ideas, challenges and results with international colleagues (20 minute presentations, 10 minutes for discussion).

Please send your personal data, your questions and remarks and a short abstract (10-20 lines) of the project to:

Geert Franzenburg (gfranz@kk-ekvw.de)

(50€ all inclusive fee, travel-cost-refund)



NATIVE LANGUAGE DAY CELEBRATION IN TORONTO

On Sunday, March 17th VEMU/Estonian Studies Centre celebrated the Native Language Day. The theme for the day was "Married to Estonia?" The event was intended to draw attention to intermarriages and what it means for a non-Estonian speaker to be married to an ardent Estonian.

An overview of the the situation in Estonian communities abroad was given by VEMU/The Estonian Studies Centre head archivist Piret Noorhani. The keynote speaker was Kathy Põldre, wife of Canadian Estonian Peeter Põldre. Her speech was entitled: "Estonia in my Life." In addition, two Estonian Television programmes were shown: "Kahekõne / Dialogue", Indrek Treufeldt's interview with Ka Bo Chan, a Hong Kong Chinese, who is now a resident of Tallinn (2012), and "Jõuluks koju / Home for Christmas" about Epp and Justin Petrone's life in Estonia (2012).

View the pictures here: <http://vemu.ca/index.php/et/events-fotogaleriid/347-17-marts-2013-emakeelepaev-abielus-estiga>

■ Piret Noorhani

BALTIC SUMMER STUDIES INSTITUTE 2013 JUNE 3 – JULY 12, 2013

The intensive Summer Language Institute will be held at the University of Pittsburgh from June 3 through July 12, 2013, and will host the Baltic Summer Institute (BALSSI) for the second summer. Intensive Beginning and Intermediate Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian will be offered. This course is open to students of any age, including juniors and seniors in high school, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as to persons of any age not currently enrolled in a college or university. Partial and full scholarship aid is available. Apply by March 15 for scholarship consideration.

Attracting students from all over the U.S. and Canada, the Summer Language Institute consists of intensive instruction (five hours daily), allowing students to make the greatest possible progress in the target language during the time available. The BALSSI Institute includes cultural and social activities, including lectures, discussion groups, and film screenings. Guest students may choose to stay in a dormitory or in a subletted apartment. Beginning and Intermediate Intensive Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian, which carry

six college credits, are a thorough introduction to the basic categories of pronunciation, grammar, and syntax. Emphasis is placed on the communicative competence, the active use of new structures in dialogues, unstructured conversation, reading, and listening comprehension.

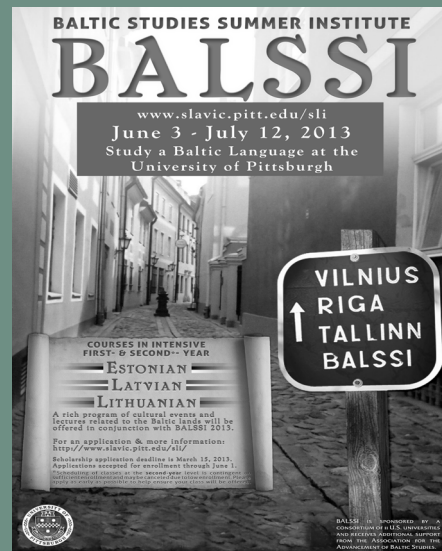
The instructors, native speakers chosen for their experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to language teaching, ensures the high academic quality of Pitt's SLI programme. Location at the University of Pittsburgh campus ensures access to the latest technology, combined with a sophisticated urban setting, with social and cultural amenities. The BALSSI Institute is part of the University of Pittsburgh's East European Summer Language Institute. Other languages offered include Bulgarian, Czech, Serbian/Croatian, Ukrainian, Polish, Turkish, Russian, and Slovak. Study abroad programmes in Russia, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland are also offered.

Participants and instructors alike in the 2012 programme praised the linguistic progress

achieved and the atmosphere and facilities at PITT, where BALSSI is offered side-by-side with the popular SLI programme. Applicants for 2013 can look forward to good opportunities for tuition scholarships and some stipends for this programme.

Website: <http://www.slavic.pitt.edu/sli/>

Contact: slavic@pitt.edu 412-624-5906



ESTONIAN ARCHIVISTS SET THE RECORDS STRAIGHT IN MINNESOTA

Aet Tran-Tõnissoo and Peeter Väljas from the National Archives of Estonia formed the fifth team in the past five years to tackle the Estonian archival material at the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC), University of Minnesota. Their mission, funded by the IHRC, Estonian National Archives and the Compatriot's Program was to process some of the vast holdings during a month long sojourn. From the end of April until the end of May Tran-Tõnissoo and Väljas sorted out 15 linear feet of material from 19 collections, among them well-known journalist Harald Raudsepp's papers that contain valuable documentation on many exile Estonian individuals and organizations, but also various trivia, such as a four page manual on how to behave in a proper Finnish sauna – part of materials from Finnair's first transatlantic flight which Raudsepp happened to be a part of.

For Tran-Tõnissoo – working with IHRC holdings for the first time – it was fascinating to experience the intensity

of the correspondence she found in collections like that of former Hoover Institution librarian Hilja Kuk. Another aspect that caught her eye was that even though the archival holdings of the IHRC are very substantial, just a few people do the work involved in maintaining them. For Väljas it was the second time in the US and he also emphasized the significance of the input that the IHRC staff is able to provide on a day-to-day basis, as well as the worthwhile efforts of research archivist Daniel Necas who is responsible for the Estonian collection.

Tran-Tõnissoo and Väljas shared their knowledge and experience at the American-Estonian symposium held on May 15th (for more information, read XXX) and got to enjoy the company of local Estonians on a number of occasions. There were helpful compatriots who showed Tran-Tõnissoo and Väljas what the Twin Cities had to offer, as well as those who opened up their home and organized social gatherings to the benefit of the visitors. Both archivists found this to have been very pleasant on a personal level, but also illuminating on a professional one. According to Väljas, this gave their archival

mission a new dimension and a human face to the papers they were working with.

■ Maarja Merivoo-Parro

LEP-ESTO 2013

28 JUNE – 1 JULY
IN SAN FRANCISCO

For the first time ESTO and the West Coast Estonian Days (LEP) will take place at the same time. The four-day programme includes some of the usual events, as well as new ones that will offer Estonians and visitors from both the United States and abroad a great time. In addition to the main programme, many events will also take place prior to the opening day on June 27.

The opening ceremony will include the Estonian National Ballet, performances by Hanna-Liina Võsa and Hando Nahkur, a song and dance festival, authors James and Maureen Tusty of "The Singing Revolution" screening their new film "Üheshingamine" and a business conference that will take place in the heart of Silicon Valley entitled "iEstonia."

Many Estonian, American, and Canadian memory institutions and organisations will take part in LEP-ESTO: BaltHerNet, VEMU/The Estonian Studies Centre, The National Archives, Stanford University Library, Hoover Institute, the Museum of Occupations and so on.

On June 27th a conference will take place at the Stanford University Library. It will discuss Estonian foreign material collections, looking at their current status as well as future prospects for growth. Speakers will include representatives from the Baltic Heritage Network, VEMU/The Estonian Studies Centre, the National Archives and Stanford, Minister of Culture Rein Lang, and the Estonian National Museum Director Tõnis Lukas, as well as the undersecretary from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication Taavi Kotka. The Ambassador to the United States Marina Kaljurand and Foreign Minister Urmas Paet will also be in attendance. All representatives of Estonian associations and organisations abroad, as well as those interested in memory institutions are invited to take part in this free event.

The opening day of LEP-ESTO will take place on June 28th, where the EXPO will introduce Silicon Valley start-ups and Estonia business to several of the above mentioned memory institutions to inform those interested with information about their activities and collections. A mini-exhibition from the Museum of Occupations about Olga Kistler-Ritso an exile Estonia will also be on display. On June 30th, a short overview of the Stanford conference will take place in the morning, as well as give an opportunity for questions about collecting, preserving, using, and digitising archives.

LEP-ESTO will also include travelling history exhibits. On June 27, after the conference at the Stanford University Library, the exhibit "Karm kevad" will open in the Hoover tower. From June 29 – July 1, the exhibit "Kaks algust" will be on display at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

More information about all of the LEP-ESTO events can be found at www.lep-esto2013.com as well as from Liisi Eglit (liisi.eglit@stanford.edu)

RESEARCHING AND ARCHIVING THE ESTONIANS IN AMERICA

The Immigration History Research Center and Baltic Heritage Network hosted an interdisciplinary symposium on May 15, 2013, at the University of Minnesota, with the goal of furthering efforts to research and archive the experiences of Estonians in America.

"Researching and Archiving the Estonians in America" brought together scholars, archivists, and Estonian Americans to discuss international and academic-ethnic community achievements, needs and future directions for collaboration, with attendees of Estonian descent outnumbering all others.

IHRC Director Erika Lee welcomed participants, warmly noting the work of Maarja Merivoo-Parro, a Fulbright Scholar in residence at the University of Minnesota and a BaltHerNet board member, in organizing the day-long symposium.

Kris Kiesling, director of the Archives and Special Collections at Elmer L. Andersen Library, described the significance of the Estonian American Collections at the University of Minnesota. She introduced Enda-Mai Holland-Michelson, Director of the Estonian Archives in the U.S., Inc. (Lakewood, N.J.), an organization central to preserving Estonian and especially refugee experience in the U.S., whose work continues today. The EAUS first gathered much of the current IHRC materials and cooperates closely with the collections in Minnesota.

The IHRC Archives is the largest North American collection of multi-ethnic immigrant experience. Estonian American collections comprise 1,100 linear feet, or about one-tenth of the vast immigration and refugee holdings, according to Kiesling, who moderated the archival presentations for the morning.

Estonians abroad have created and preserved historical materials that are vital to the continuing work of reconstituting Estonian culture after decades of Soviet occupation. Keynote speaker Piret Noorhane, president of BaltHerNet since 2008, spoke about the synergy between diaspora and homeland Estonians in that process. The Year of Cultural Heritage 2013 especially calls attention to the fundamental role of heritage and culture in

bringing together communities separated for decades in the 20th century, she noted.

Chief archivist of VEMU (Museum of Estonians Abroad) of the Estonian Studies Centre at Tartu College, Toronto, Noorhane detailed the organizational archives held by VEMU. Consistent financial support and scholarly cooperation with the University of Toronto's Chair of Estonian Studies and the Estonian Canadian community has made it possible for VEMU to become a leader in promoting North American Estonian history. Archival collections are fundamental to the array of cultural and scholarly activities in which the centre engages, such as lectures, public events and the recent "Siberian Estonians" exhibition created by the Estonian Literary Museum and other Estonian heritage institutions.

The Estonian national government has consistently supported the Baltic Heritage Network, recognizing that diaspora Estonians have often articulated their experiences and aligned themselves in common with Latvian and Lithuanian refugees. Their shared political efforts abroad and similar refugee experiences despite language differences provide examples of how ethnic identity can remain distinct yet take on collaborative forms. That philosophy is echoed in the structure and mission of BaltHerNet.

Peeter Väljas and Aet Tõnissoo, archivists of the National Archives of Estonia, offered an overview of work undertaken to preserve evidence of the past two waves of Estonian emigration as well as that occurring since the late 1980s. Although certain materials predated the war, the majority of available documentation abroad relates to post-World War II refugees, or Displaced Persons. Väljas and Tõnissoo traced preservation efforts as early as 1946 from Geislingen DPs through the establishment of the Estonian Archives (now EAUS) at Lakewood in the late 1960s and early 1970s, to the transfer of a large amount of materials in 2003-2005 to the IHRC in Minneapolis.

The IHRC's research archivist, Daniel Necas, recounted the long relationship between Lakewood and the IHRC that preceded the momentous gift of historical materials that enlarged the center's existing Estonian American Collection. Michael G. Karni worked on staff as a volunteer to cultivate relationships in the Estonian community, corresponding as early as 1974 with Endel Kuik to express the center's

understanding of the importance of preserving Estonian immigrant materials. The National Archives, BaltHerNet, and IHRC have closely coordinated work at University of Minnesota for five years to describe and make collections known to scholars and the public, ensuring that EAUS efforts are continued and amplified in Minneapolis.

Their archival colleague Liisi Eglit, the newly-named assistant curator for Estonian and Baltic Studies at Stanford University Library (SUL), elaborated on collections at SUL and the Hoover Institution (HI), also located at Stanford University. She has been assigned the task of filling gaps in the existing print holdings of SUL, and she commented that both institutions aim to increase their Estonian collections, especially through digitization. Recently HI has begun to interpret refugee experience as being fully part of its Cold War focus, encouraging growth of such collections rather than excluding them. Regions near Estonia are also documented, enabling comparative research, and SUL works closely with the Museum of Occupations in Estonia. Stanford University is a leader in digital humanities in the United States, making joint access to digital materials (such as the KGB files of the National Archives of Estonia) an intriguing area for continued work.

The afternoon turned to research and Estonian experience presentations. Erika Lee, who also is a professor in the Department of History at University of Minnesota, introduced Maarja Merivoo-Parro and other speakers. Merivoo-Parro called for scholarly attention to "global Estonianism" and the ways that individuals choose to practice Estonian culture in their everyday lives. She selected Estonian schools and recreation as themes for emphasizing the ways that members of communities inculcate and re-create Estonian knowledge and values in environments far from a native land that a growing number had never seen firsthand.

Bernard Maegi, assistant professor of history at Normandale Community College, spoke of the importance of studying Estonians in the U.S. Despite small numbers and low visibility, such groups can provide insights about immigration writ large. He challenged the audience to consider the complexity of illegal immigration by noting that some Estonians simply signed up for ship crews and after disembarking to

American shores, did not return to their vessels. Baltic groups took on an identity that fit within Cold War relations, earning disproportionate political attention and modeling interethnic cooperation.

The afternoon session closed on a personal note of remembrances by Kalju Kubits, who came to Minnesota as a refugee with his family. He recalled not learning English until he was sent to an American school, with Estonian language dominating his childhood. Twin Cities Estonians worked to build their community through the Minnesota Eesti Selts, dramatic and sports groups, as well as cultural associations. Pastor Lind inspired the community with his church leadership, and Richard Nixon began testing his national political aspirations in appearance at the Estonian House in Minneapolis, he said. Audience members likewise shared memories, and Kubits accepted requests for Estonian flags carried in protest of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the Twin Cities, still in his possession.

The predominantly Estonian audience talked deeply after the research session as well as throughout the day, with members sharing wartime and later memories in small groups. An audience member's comment about the available but aging energy of first-generation immigrants who wished to help with heritage preservation stirred conversation among archivists and community members, as did the question of how to define "Estonianess" – by geography, language, cultural practice or, as one person nicely said, "conversion."

A concert of choral music arranged for the treble voice made song the answer to those many questions and exchanges. Kelley Sundin, recipient of the first Gustav and Hildegard Must Graduate Fellowship in Estonian Studies, conducted a chorus reprising her master's degree recital with the university women's chorus in November 2012. Selections drawn from the IHRC's collections, gathered first from the Estonian community and stewarded by the University of Minnesota, came to light in a small forest of voices and the piano accompaniment by Jessica Schroeder. Upon audience request, the chorus repeated the song "Koit," with the phrase "The Homeland soil awakes for blossoming" recalling for one listener the moment of return to Estonia after second independence. As with the symposium, the music summed up the sustenance that émigrés had willed to Estonia from exile.

■ Elizabeth Haven Hawley

VEMU PRESENTS: "TARTU, TORONTO – TWO PERSPECTIVES"

Fate can surprise us. A casual encounter, an exchange of business cards, can suddenly become important. Such was the manner in which Kerly Ilves' and Peeter Põldre's careers intertwined as a result of meeting at the 2011 EstDocs opening at the Bell TIFF Lightbox in downtown Toronto. Their common ground was photography and this exhibit offered them an opportunity to collaborate.

Ilves' birthplace is Tartu. Even as a child, she was interested in visiting Canada, a dream that came true in the spring of 2011. Since 1993 she has explored many aspects of Tartu through her camera lens. Her calling is photography. Toronto is new and interesting, and offers many similarities and connections to Estonia.

Põldre was born in Buenos Aires, to Estonian parents, and has lived in Toronto almost 56 years. He works as a physician. During his student days, he travelled to Europe, but his budget compelled him to a strict daily limit of photos. Never would he have dreamed that by the spring of 2012, with superb Nikon equipment, he would be photographing birds, and that his Estonian heritage would lay the foundation for a collaborative photo exhibit.

"Tartu, Toronto - Two Perspectives" is not about two Estonias, but rather tries to capture both the parallels and the contrasts between two cities that are very far apart. Whether the places were small or large, our stories and the moments we captured, as two photographers sharing an Estonian heritage, tried to present portraits of our two cities. For those who wish, the exhibit offers an opportunity to study contrasts and to realize that such contrasts make life interesting. Canada is a very tolerant nation, which fortunately allows for tiny Estonia to be understood and seen.

Exhibition stays open at Tartu College (310 Bloor St. W.) until September 13, 2013.

The Regional Public Organization "The Latgalian Culture Centre" of the Krasnoyarsk Krai (Russia)
The University of Latvia (Latvia)
St. Petersburg State University (Russia)

The 6th International Conference on Latgalistics 90 YEARS SINCE THE ORIGINATION OF THE LATGALIAN SCHOOLS IN SIBERIA

Achinsk,
Bolshoy Uluy,
Bichki
(Krasnoyarsk Krai)



August 19-25,
2013

Dear colleagues,

The year 2013 marks the 90th anniversary since the opening of the first Latgalian primary school in Siberia – in Poperechnaya of the Tyazhinski District. The number of Latgalian schools in Russia increased to 70 primary schools and seven junior secondary schools (in Novo-Adamovo, Borokovka, Kreslavka, Malichevka, Okunevo, Timofeyevka, Akimo-Annenka). The Achinsk Pedagogical Technical College had a Latgalian Division from 1931 to 1938. During the 1920s and 1930s Latgalian culture in Soviet Russia flourished: Latgalian periodicals appeared and developed ("Taisneiba", "Ceipas Karūgs", "Latgalīšu kalendārs"), new authors (I. Kūkojs, A. Začs, A. Mežule, A. Ladusāns, D. Logins, etc.) became more and more popular. The Latgalian Collective Farmers' Theatre shed light on the mother tongue and delighted its spectators. Teaching aids were developed for schools, V. Daškeviča introduced innovations in methodology and didactics; native language teaching books were written by V. Daškeviča as well as by J. Siliniks, A. Eisuļs, I. Meikšāns, P. Grovers, M. Zālāne.

We dedicate the 6th international conference on Latgalistics to this period, hoping for an update of the language and culture of Latgalians of Russia as well as for a deeper insight into the fate of the Baltic nations abroad in general.

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Applications for the conference (an application form and the abstract of the presentation up to 300 words) must be sent electronically by **June 15, 2013** to: latgalec@list.ru

A notification of acceptance or rejection of your application will be mailed by **July 1, 2013**.

The working languages of the conference – Latgalian, Latvian, Russian and English. The conference papers in Latgalian / Latvian or English are supposed to have a short presentation or a summary in Russian.

Presentation time – 30 minutes: 20 minutes for the presentation itself and 10 minutes for discussions.

The conference papers will be published in the collection of scientific papers.

No participation fee.

Accommodation and meals will be provided by the organisers, but please be aware that the standard will be quite basic (expedition-style).

Due to possible limited comfort and a lot of moving from one place to another during the conference it is recommended that you bring a sleeping bag with you.

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Achinsk, Bolshoyuluy, Bichki (Krasnoyarsk Krai)

Participant's Inquiry Form

Name.....
Scientific Degree.....
Place of Employment, Position.....
Address of Place of Employment, Telephone, Fax, E-mail.....

Title of Presentation.....

If you need an official invitation for a visa for the Russian Federation to be issued please attach a copy of the passport page with personal details and indicate in which consular office (city) you will submit your documents for the relevant visa.

Please send applications for the conference to the Regional Public Organization
"The Latgalian Culture Centre" of the Krasnoyarsk Krai,
e-mail: latgalec@list.ru
http://www.latgalec-ru.narod.ru/_LG/index.htm

DIASPORA STUDIES SUMMER SCHOOL IN JŪRMALA, LATVIA JUNE 25-29, 2013

The school will operate in the seaside resort of Jūrmala (25 km from Riga), in the Hotel SIVA, 71 Dubultu prospekts, Jūrmala.
www.hotelsiva.lv

An interdisciplinary summer school focused on diaspora issues is being organized by the University of Latvia Foundation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Representation of the European Commission in Latvia, and the European Latvian Association. The school will gather Latvian and foreign researchers as well as Ph.D. students dealing with migration and diaspora issues.

For on-line registration, please go to:

<http://www.fonds.lv/vasara-2013/konferences/diaspora-studies-summer-school/on-line-registration/>

The registration form will request to upload a motivation letter; kindly prepare it in advance. The allowed size of the letter is "no more than 500 – 700 words", but 200 – 300 words is enough. For invited speakers, just one sentence (e.g. "I have been invited as a speaker") is sufficient, but technically it should be uploaded as a document (it is not possible to write it in the field).

If you have questions or in case of technical problems with registration, please send an e-mail to the following address:
diaspora@fonds.lv.

Participation fee (does not apply to invited speakers): 21 LVL (30 euro). If necessary, a scholarship may be offered to cover the participation fee.