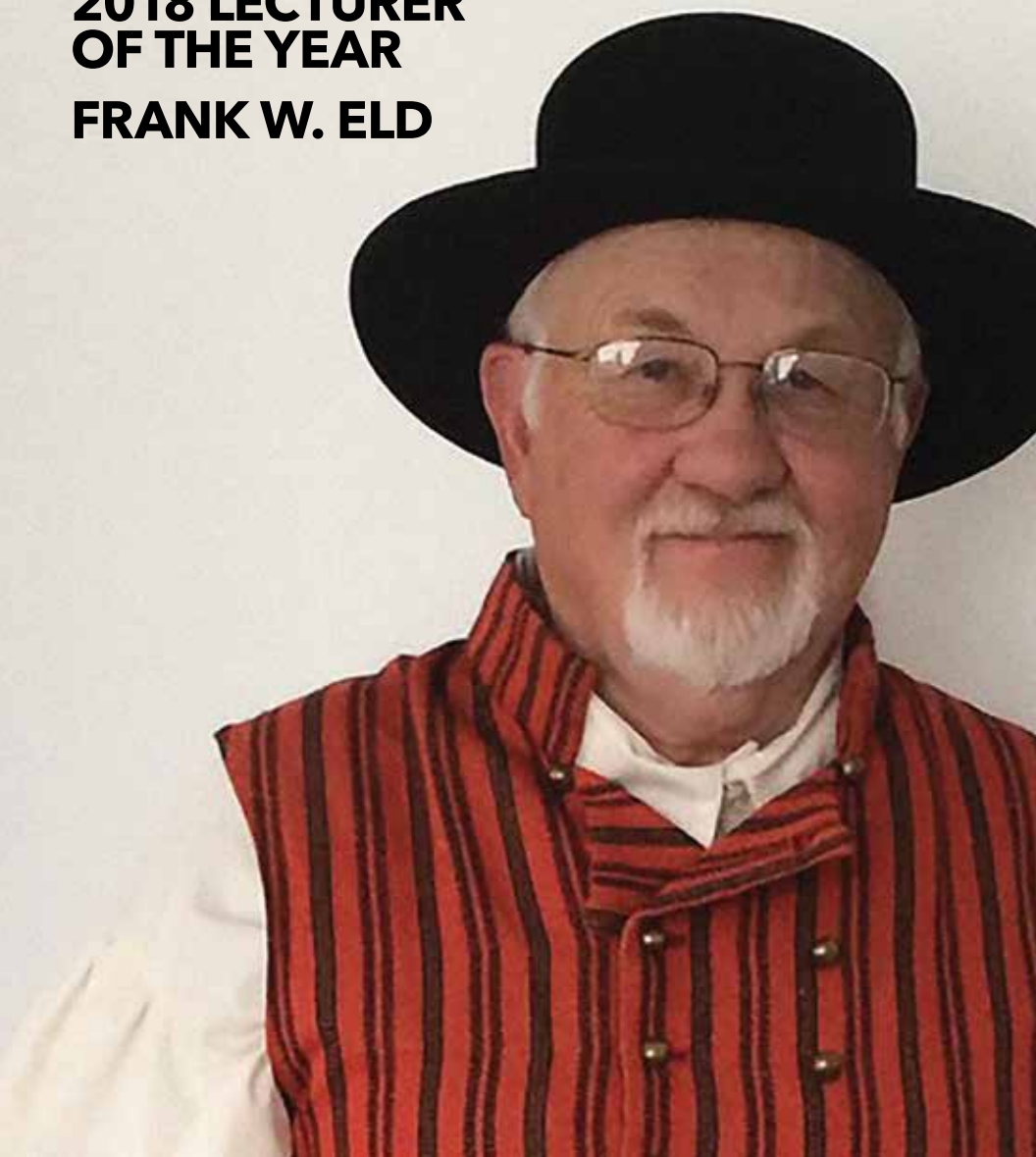




Finlandia Foundation® National

Inspiring, celebrating and connecting the Finnish-American community since 1953

2018 LECTURER OF THE YEAR FRANK W. ELD



"Finnish Log Construction--The Art"

Frank W. Eld

In 2006 Finlandia Foundation National (FFN), the premier network of Finnish-American organizations in the United States, introduced its Lecturer of the Year (LOY) program for the purpose of sharing the history and culture of Finland and Finnish America with audiences across the U.S.

Since its inception, FFN chapters have hosted LOY on topics ranging from the Winter War to Jean Sibelius, the architecture of the Saarinen, and folk music traditions.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of Finland's Declaration of Independence in 2017, five Centenary Lecturers spoke about a variety of topics related to Finland's independence and identity.

Current FFN lecturers are James Ford Cooper, who was twice posted in Finland during his Foreign Service career, on the topic of "Finland in the Cold War;" and Frank W. Eld.

Frank Eld, the son of a Finnish immigrant carpenter, shares his passion for the unique method of building brought to North America from Finland in his presentation, "Finnish Log Construction---The Art."

That's also the title of his first book, in which he describes the hewing, scribing and close fitting of the logs that eliminated most chinking between the logs. Through visuals and live demonstrations, Frank---dressed in authentic Finnish attire---shares the lost art of this construction method with his LOY audiences.

His mission is to educate and encourage the preservation of these buildings, which are

tangible symbols of Finnish culture, especially when built as saunas.

Traveling in his "Finnebago," a pick-up truck outfitted with a log cabin in back, Frank scours the countryside across the U.S. and Canada, documenting structures to be featured in his second book on the subject.

Frank is lending his expertise to the construction of a replica of a savu sauna and tupa (smoke sauna and farmhouse) that will be installed as the Finnish classroom at the University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning.

He lives in Idaho, where his Finnish immigrant family members settled.

The Lecturer of the Year term begins in July of 2018 and runs through June of 2019. Learn more about Finlandia Foundation, the LOY and its other programs at the website: FinlandiaFoundation.org

PAST LECTURERS OF THE YEAR:

2017 Centenary Lecturers: Thomas A. DuBois, Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen, Peter MacKeith, Börje Vähämäki and K. Marianne Wargelin

2015-16 "An Evening with Taina Elg: From Finland to Stardom," with Heli Sirviö

2014 Suzanne Jurva and Erin Smith, filmmakers of the documentary *Yoopera!*

2013 Yvonne Lockwood, "Traditional Material Culture in Modern Finnish America"

2012 Glenda Dawn Goss,
“Sibelius: A Composer’s Life
and the Awakening of Finland”

2011 Carl Rahkonen,
“The Finnish-American
Musical Journey”

2010 Arnold Alanen,
“From Finland to North
America: Buildings, Landscapes
and Cultural Change”

2007-09 Mark Coir and Susan
Saarinen, “The Saarinen
Architectural Legacy”

2006 Ben Stout and *Fire and
Ice*, a documentary about The
Winter War between Finland
and Russia

Finlandia Foundation
National, the most
important source of support for
Finnish culture in the U.S., was
founded in Pasadena, California
in 1953. FFN administers
grants, scholarships and
programs supporting and
celebrating Finnish heritage and
Finnish-American culture and
traditions, and contemporary
Finnish America.



FFN is a 501(c)(3) organization.
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FinlandiaFoundation.org

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