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Dear Relatives

Best to you all on this year of celebration, well on its first quarter!

All kinds of festivities are held around Finland in honour of our independence.

Thanks to our forefathers, we have a good life here and now.

It's also a good to celebrate Eskil Piira being born somewhere around 400 years ago.

What he and his children did had a great effect on Kuhmo and its surrounding. I urge You all to read more about that from the pages of the Family Book. Those are both something to be proud about.

On this coming summer we celebrate at the Family Reunion 1.-2. of July 2017 in Kuhmo. Accommodations can be reserved from Hotelli Kainuu info@hotellikainuu.fi, Kalevalan Kuntoutuskoti kalevalan.kuntoutuskoti@kalevalankk.fi, or Hotelli Kalevala info@hotellikalevala.fi, for example. This letter includes the schedule for the Family Reunion. We reserve the right for changes, and any updates can be found on our website, eskilpiira.fi. The most important part of the program will be seeing each other and having good time together. Let's all enjoy that!

The official pin has been updated to resemble the new coat of arms. They are available for purchase, and the price is 5 euros/per each. The new pin is slightly bigger than the old one, 22x18mm, and as accurate as technically possible. The old pin is still available, and will be given out to new members as a gift. Both pins have the official status. The membership count is slightly on the rise, and has broken the 300 limit. Thank you for your trust in us!

The honorary chairman reached the age of 70 in January. The board gifted him with a little pampering and flowers and the picture says it all. (Photo by Roine Piirainen)

Last summer I asked you to spot the family pennons, and the winner spotted three of them.

The prize has been given out to the winner.

My Relatives,
May you have a great spring, and I will see you in Kuhmo!

ESKIL PIIRA SUKUSEURA RY

Risto Piironen puheenjohtaja



Seminar, Family Reunion and Assembly Meeting of the Board, 1.-2. of July 2017 in Kuhmo

Saturday 1st of July 2017

SEMINAR, KUHMO-TALO PAJAKKA-SALI

8:30 Check-in and morning coffee (sponsored by the Family Society)

9:30 Opening event by Risto Piirainen, chairman of the board

9:40 Presentation, Results and Trends in the DNA-Research of the Piira Family by

Ari Kolehmainen Mphil.

12:00 Lunch, at own cost, Kahvila Juttua

12:45 Presentation by Jorma Piirainen, honorary chairman

13:45 Wrap-up and closing words by Risto Piironen, chairman of the board

14:00 Musical performance by Kesämuusikot, Kahvila Juttua

15:00 Concert 'Oli ilo' by Sommelo festival, tickets paid by Family society's

MEMORIAL STONE REVEAL, KUHMONNIEMI

17:30 Transportation to Kuhmonniemi by buss, paid by the Family Society

18:00 Evening bells of the Kuhmo Church

18:05 Vesper by vicar Timo Suutari

Memorial Stone revealed by Risto Piiroinen, chairman of the board, and the hearalds

18:40 Return to Kuhmo-talo

Sunday 2nd of July 2017

FAMILY REUNION

9:30 Depositing the wreath on soldier's grave, Risto Piirainen, chairman of the board, Pekka Piironen, vice chairman, Antero Piirainen, member

10:00 Service, sermon by Riikka Pääkkönen (nee Piirainen)

11:00 Assembly and check in at the lobby of Kuhmo-talo (everyone who checks in will also enter a lottery, and will have the chance to win the family pennon at the end of the Reunion)

Soup lunch, at own cost, Kahvila Juttua

12:15 Family Reunion, host Tapio Piirainen

'Arvon mekin ansaitsemme', principal singer Risto Piirainen, accompanist Pentti Karjalainen

Opening words by Risto Piirainen, chairman of the board

Greetings from the City of Kuhmo

Musical performance by Lorraine Piirainen, kantele, accompaniment

Oration

Musical performance by tenor Risto Piirainen, chairman of the board, and accordionist Pentti Karjalainen Commentary by Jorma Piirainen, honorary chairman

14:15 Closing words by Seppo Piirainen

'Nälkämaan laulu', principal singer Risto Piirainen, accompanist Pentti Karjalainen

Coffee, paid by Family Society

14:45 Family gathering and the lottery for the family pennon

Assembly meeting of the board