



ESKIL PIIRA SUKUSEURA RY  
Risto Piironen, the chairman  
Mujejärventie 3  
75500 Nurmes – FINLAND  
Tel. +358 400 579 453  
risto.piironen(ät)oyk.fi

BULLETIN 2/2015 1(3)

August 2015

Dear Member of the Family Society

This year the Piirainen Family gathered in Joensuu on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of July.

On Saturday we made a trip to Ilomantsi. The bus was filled with 41 relatives and our professional guide Mr. Martti Kukkonen (Col. Rtd.) with his maps.

In Ilomantsi our main interest was to learn about the history of our wars in 1939 – 1944. At first we made a visit to the yard of Piirola house in the center of Ilomantsi. The theme of the following hours was the war. Café Möhkön Manta offered coffee and Parppeinpiirtti lunch. Finally we visited the Hermanni winery.

### **Family reunion and family meeting**

On Sunday morning we laid flowers at the Memorial of the War in Joensuu cemetery and then there was the service in Joensuu Evangelical Church, where the preacher was Mr. Erkki Suhonen, assistant vicar in Lahti Joutjärvi congregation (his mother is Terttu Suhonen born Piironen).

After the church coffee we started the family reunion singing together with Mr. Seppo and Mrs. Roine Piirainen, who also were the speakers. Mr. Juha Mustonen brought the regards of the City of Joensuu.

Ambassador, Mr. Kari Karanko spoke widely and with many details about the immigration from Finland. Mr. Dale Piirainen went through the immigration from Finland to America in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Mr. Pauli Piironen told us about his experiences as an immigrant in Australia during almost 50 years.

The theme of Mr. Jorma Piirainen, the Honorary Chairman of the society, was the distribution of the Piira-tribe in Savo-Karjala area. Mr. Terho Piironen told about his roots in Savo.

Mr. Pentti Karjalainen, Karjalainen Rahvas, Mr. Kari Pääkkönen (mandolin), Mr. Risto Piirainen (guitar and song) and Miss Pinja Piirainen were responsible for the music. When Pinja sang “Evakon laulu” (The Song of an Evacuee) there was not a single dry eye in the hall.

There was an audience of about 90 people, of which many came for the first time. Fine. In the whole the program was tight and wide and we did not quite keep to the schedule.

**The official family meeting** was lead promptly by Mr. Jorma Piirainen. There were many changes in the administration. The new chairman of the society is Mr. Risto Piironen from Nurmes. The continuing members of the board are Mrs. Anja Pulkkinen (Kuhmo, secretary), Mr. Pekka Piironen (Kuopio/Nurmes, vice chairman) and Mr. Antero Piironen (Sotkamo). The new members are Mrs. Roine Piirainen and Mr. Seppo Piirainen (both Joensuu/Kuhmo) and Mr. Esa Piirainen (Kuhmo). The vice members are Mr. Juha Kampman (Kuhmo), Mrs. Liisa Leppihalme (Nummela) and Mr. Terho Piironen (Vantaa). Mrs. Tuula Piirainen continues as the treasurer. The auditors are Mr. Tenho Piirainen ja Mr. Kaarlo Piirainen (Mrs. Saara Aho and Mr. Pekka Piirainen). You find the contact info of the board on our web site.

I want to thank the resigned members Mr. Jaakko Kampman, Mr. Timo Piirainen and Mr. Martti Piironen for their valuable work for the society.

I hope that the new board brings even more publicity to the society. Let's develop the society together!

### Membership fee

The family meeting decided that **the membership fee for the period 2015 – 2016 is 40 euro**. For one year this means 20 e. We organize the family reunion with the official meeting every other year, next time in 2017. In the year between two reunions we have arranged a trip, in 2012 to Russian Karelia and in 2014 to the USA (Maine, Connecticut and New York). The board is planning the next trip and we are open for suggestions. The members will be informed in good time about the new trip.

A bulletin is sent to the members about twice a year. On our web sites [www.eskilpiira.fi](http://www.eskilpiira.fi) you find the latest news, genealogical articles and you may even send an old photo for recognition. On the sites you can join the society and correct your membership information. You can also order the Family book, the pennant and/or the pin. In matters concerning orders or membership you can contact Jorma Piirainen, tel. +358 400 280 940. In Facebook you find an active Eskil Piira group.

### Genealogical research

Genealogical research is an essential part of the family society. Though we have researched for more than 30 years the descendants of Eskil Piira, we still find new lines to research. The data published in the Family Book become more specified all the time. As a new line we have started gathering genealogical information of the Piira tribe in Savo-Karelia area, meaning Leppävirta/Heinävesi, Liperi, Kiihtelysvaara and Mäntyharju. We shall continue the DNA-research with the objective to find out which route the Piira tribe conquered Finland, starting in Sastamala, where the first Piiras are supposed to have lived around 1460. Mr. Jorma Piirainen is in charge of the genealogical research. You may reach him: jorma.piiirainen (ät) kuhmonet.fi or tel. +358 400 280 940 or by mail Mäntytie 26 A, 88900 Kuhmo, Finland.

### The Chairman's presentation

"I live in Mujejärvi in Nurmes, where my family has lived continuously for almost 200 years. We are the descendants of Eskil's son Juuso. I started my work career as an officer with the Finnish Border Guard and ended it as a joiner and an entrepreneur. Joiner's work is still my hobby for the joy of my grandchildren. I have with my wife 6 children. In the photo you can see my dearest ones, today there is one more among us.

I have been the member of the board of the society only for one period, so a freshman still. I try to do my best in the job you have chosen me for.



I wish all our members a good autumn. I'll start my work!

ESKIL PIIRA FAMILY SOCIETY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Risto Piironen', written in a cursive style.

Risto Piironen  
The chairman