

WarmStone NEWSLETTER

Created and Distributed by Ron Pihl
Cornerstone Masonry Distributing, Inc.



Greetings from Ron

In July my wife, Desiree, and I were hosted by Tulikivi to a trip to Finland. This was Desiree's first visit to Finland and my fifth.

The day after we arrived in Helsinki we boarded a train for a long planned four day side trip to St. Petersburg, Russia. The trip by rail is six hours long. The train winds through lush farmland on the Finnish side of the border and then through dark green forest and small towns bordering the Gulf of Finland on the Russian side. We moved on into the city through the crumbling dismal outskirts of the metropolis formally known as Leningrad. Desiree was having serious misgivings about our destination until we arrived in the heart of St. Petersburg, which has to be one of the most interesting and beautiful cities in all of Russia and Europe.

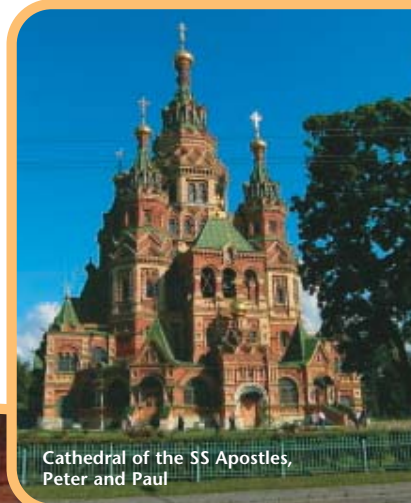
We saw many of the famous sites of Peter the Great's carefully planned and architecturally

crafted city. Heikki Vauhkonen of Tulikivi told me that dictators (and czars) build better cities because they get things done according to their plans. I have to agree.

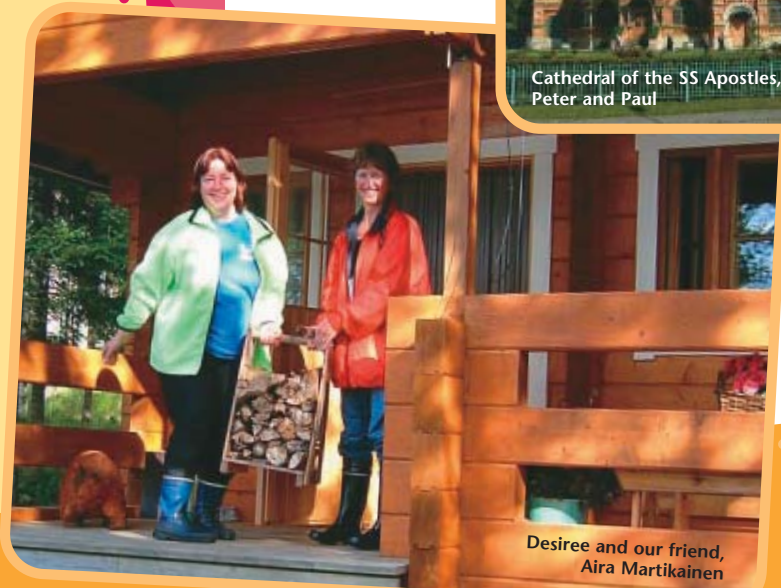
We spent hours walking up and down the famous Nevsky Prospekt (Main Street) taking in the flavor of this energetic city. Peter the Great loved Venice so St. Petersburg is threaded with canals. We took a ride in one of the many tour boats moored along the canals. While trying to drown out the drone of the guide's Russian monologue, we gained an even better appreciation for the loveliness of this place.

Riding the subway was particularly exciting as the Russian alphabet is incomprehensible to anyone but a native, so we never knew which direction we were going when we boarded a train. The language really is a barrier—once when I ordered vodka I got ice cream!

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Cathedral of the SS Apostles, Peter and Paul



Desiree and our friend, Aira Martikainen

Customer's Corner



The Hetta



The Kiisa

Tulikivi's New Linea Alternativa Fireplaces

A new version of Tulikivi fireplaces is being offered to customers in light weight models that are perfect for a bedroom, basement, office, or family room. The Linea Alternativa series offer looks suited for any home. The core of the fireplace is a clean burning ceramic lined steel firebox that guarantees a fast transfer of heat into a room. The large fireplace door allows the glowing fire to permeate the room, while at the same time it radiates a generous amount of warmth. The soapstone surface releases radiant heat into the room long after the flames have died down in the firebox. The lighter weight allows for installation in areas that cannot otherwise support the weight of a full size Tulikivi.

Another feature of the new line of fireplaces is to be able to continuously burn a fire for as long as you like. They are rated to heat around 1500 square feet if burned continuously. These units are suited for use as additional sources of heat or for heating a specific area in your home.

The new line comes in three models. The Hetta is built with a large curved door and natural rough-face soapstone surface. Its unique look blends beautifully with both urban and rustic style homes.

The rounded Zevio can be installed easily into a corner or in the middle of a room. The rough sawn Tulikivi Sky soapstone

and the smooth Tulikivi Blue stone give an elegant finish to the fireplace and accentuates its large door. Its column-shaped rear gives contrast to the otherwise soft appearance of the fireplace if placed in the middle of a room.

The Kiisa stands on cubical wooden legs, creating a modern look to suit many room designs. The wooden ledge and railing bar increases the functionality of the fireplace.

Frank and Sarah Horiel of Livingston, MT recently had a Kiisa installed in the map room of their apartment. They had been looking for a small wood burning stove and were researching different

Feel Good About Burning Wood

It Is a Responsible Choice

It is important that we consider all the consequences of the energy decisions we make. The good old days of cheap fuel are disappearing in our rearview mirror at warp speed.

Oil is obviously a problem from start to finish. Natural gas is a limited and non-renewable resource that contributes to the green house effect like all other fossil fuels. Electricity has its own set of problems: dams, dirty burning power plants, and inefficient transmission grids. So what about wood? Wood is plentiful and renewable. With sound forest management and improved recycling programs wood can go a long ways in easing our national and personal energy woes.

We have learned that heating with wood can be complex. To reduce the impact of woodburning smoke, clean burning technologies like masonry heaters and high tech wood stoves are available. Clean burning technologies have dramatically reduced emissions from woodburning.

When wood burns cleaner, the fire produces more heat therefore reducing the amount of fuel necessary for home heating. Besides the obvious financial advantage, we all benefit from cleaner combustion technology.

Tulikivi's unique contra-flow design and long flame path ensure almost complete combustion of wood smoke gases, creating an extremely clean fire with minimal emissions of particulate matter and carbon monoxide. Clean wood burning does not affect the atmosphere's carbon dioxide balance. Whether wood is burned or rots on the forest floor the same amount of carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere.

Do your part and burn your Tulikivi correctly—remember dry, well-split wood is the key to clean burning in your Tulikivi.

European brands when they came across Ron's website. Knowing Ron, Frank gave him a call to see if Tulikivi had something similar to what they had in mind. Ron sensed that one of these new models would be a perfect fit for what they wanted. When asked if he liked his Kiisa, Frank immediately said, "We love it. The ambiance and warmth are beyond our expectations."

These fireplaces are E.P.A. approved and safety testing has been completed this summer. Ron hopes to have them available in September. Call or email him with any and all questions regarding these beautiful new Tulikivi Alternativa fireplaces. 🌸

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Melanie Moroney lives in Paradise Valley, Montana, with her husband Fred and is a long time advocate of Tulikivi soapstone products.



The Zevio

Greetings from Ron

continued

We were lucky enough to spend part of two days with a Russian Tulikivi associate named Michael Pankin (they sell lots of Tulikivis in Russia these days). Spending time with this proud young native of St. Petersburg gave us insight into a new Russia that is fitfully rising out of the remnants of what

was the twentieth century Soviet Union. Michael graciously drove us around the city and took us to Peterhof (Peter the Great's summer castle) one afternoon. The summer castle with its abundant gardens and fountains was one of the highlights of our Russian trip.

Upon our return to Finland we immediately hopped a Finnair flight for Joensuu—about 350 miles northeast of Helsinki in the heart of North Karalia. Once there we were treated to a week long stay near the Tulikivi factory in Juuka. This area of Finland abounds in the natural beauty of northern birch and spruce forest interspersed among hundreds of lakes, rivers and ponds. From the air it looks like it is at least fifty percent water.

I had never been to Finland in the height of summer and the long artical days and very short nights energize you into wanting to do more than you would ever attempt to do in twenty-four hours at home. We crammed a lot into seven days. Aside from a few business meetings



Finnish floating sauna

and a visit to the new Stone Center at Juuka we spent most of our time enjoying the company of our hosts. We took many saunas, picked cloud berries with our friend Aira Martikainen, then more saunas. We jumped in the lakes and swam briefly (not as cold as I feared). I rented a motorcycle for three days and became proficient at riding in heavy downpours.

The week went too fast. I want to say a special thank you to all of our friends at Tulikivi who helped make our visit so special.

I hope many of you will get a chance to visit this special part of the world someday! 🌸



Peterhof—Peter the Great's summer palace

New Colorado Tulikivi Dealer

Bill Eckert along with Kay, Jeff and Brad Reynolds of Friendly Fire in Fort Collins, CO are the new Colorado dealers for Tulikivi and Cornerstone Masonry.

Friendly Fire has a showroom at 1802 W. LaPorte Ave in Fort Collins. They now have Tulikivi display models on hand plus soapstone countertops, sinks, and tiles.



Left to right: Brad, Bill and Kay of Friendly Fire

Bill and his family have worked with Ron in the past and have installed many chimneys for Tulikivi projects in Colorado. They have proven to be extremely professional, knowledgeable, and reliable. Ron is eager to welcome Friendly Fire as his Colorado dealer.

Bill and Kay will be sharing the Tulikivi booth at the Log

Home and Timber Frame Expo at the Denver Merchandise Mart in October, 2005 with Ron, Paul, and Jamie.

Watch for more information about our new dealers and their showroom in our next newsletter.

New Brochures

We plan to have new editions of both the North American Comfort and the Forms of Warmth brochures ready for distribution late this fall. Please call the office at 406-333-4383 or email me at ronpahl@warmstone.com if you would like a new brochure.

2005 Log and Timber Expo Schedule

September 30 – October 2, 2005
Denver, CO Merchandise Mart

October 28 – October 30, 2005
Tacoma, WA Convention and Trade Center

