



VAASAN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU
VASA YRKESHÖGSKOLA
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Pakkanen, Heli Johanna

Finnish Family Celebrations- and Festival Venues in Vaasa

Business Economics and Tourism

2010

FOREWORD

This thesis has taken its form under a time between spring 2009 and spring 2010. During that time I have become a mother. The birth of my daughter Ninni has motivated me to finish my final thesis so that in addition of being a mother I could also be a Bachelor of Hospitality Management. I want to thank my family for all their support. I have always said that I do not want to work on the same field with my mother, but surprisingly I find myself exactly there. My mother received her degree year and a half before me. I want to thank her for pushing me into graduating. My sincere thanks go to my supervisor Helena Alamäki, who did not give up on me and assured me that I will finish my studies, sooner or later.

In Vaasa, May 2010

Heli Pakkanen

VAASA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

VAASAN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU

Degree Programme of Hotel and Restaurant Business

ABSTRACT

Author	Heli Pakkanen
Title	Finnish Family Celebrations- and Festival Venues in Vaasa
Year	2010
Language	English
Pages	69+3 Appendices
Name of Supervisor	Helena Alamäki

Finnish families and friends celebrate and come together for highlights in their lives, related to people growing up, new life in families and also leaving this earth. Different traditions colour these occasions and many things have to be considered in arranging family celebrations. Main celebrations and guidelines in organizing festivities are presented in this thesis as a theoretical frame.

Festivities are often brought outside private homes because of the size of today's homes and to facilitate the organization. Vaasa has many places to offer for people who are seeking a place to have for example their graduation parties, weddings, birthday parties or memorial services. These different festival venues all have their own characteristics as well as both pros and cons in the eyes of a party planner. Basic information on places is gathered by visiting the sites and conducting interviews with the place representatives.

This thesis aims at helping a private person to find some tips for their family celebrations and to make the organizing easier. As an exhaustive list of festival venues and their characteristics and possibilities has not been conducted in Vaasa, this also aims to be an informative guide, to respond to queries about festival venues in Vaasa.

Keywords family celebration, organizing parties, festival venue

VAASA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
VAASAN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU
Degree Programme of Hotel and Restaurant Business

TIIVISTELMÄ

Kirjoittaja	Heli Pakkanen
Nimi	Finnish Family Celebrations- and Festival Venues in Vaasa
Vuosi	2010
Kieli	englanti
Sivumäärä	69+3 liitettä
Ohjaaja	Helena Alamäki

Suomalaiset perheet ja ystävät kokoontuvat yhteen juhliakseen elämän kohokohtia, niin ikääntymistä, perheiden uusia jäseniä kuin muistotilaisuuttakin. Erilaiset perinteet värittävät juhlia ja monia seikkoja tulee ottaa huomioon juhlia järjestäessä. Yleisimmät perhejuhlat ja niiden järjestämisen pääpiirteet on esitelty tässä työssä teoreettisena osuutena.

Juhlat tuodaan usein kodin ulkopuolelle kotien koon ja järjestämisen helpottamisen vuoksi. Vaasassa on tarjolla monia paikkoja, joissa perhejuhlia järjestävä voi viettää esimerkiksi valmistujaisia, häitä, syntymäpäiviä sekä muistotilaisuuksia. Kaikilla näillä juhlatiloilla on omat erityispiirteensä niin hyvässä kuin pahassakin juhlanjärjestäjän silmin. Juhlapaikkojen perustiedot on kerätty vieraillemalla kohteissa ja haastatteleamalla paikkojen edustajia.

Tämä opinnäyte on kirjoitettu yksityisen juhlanjärjestäjän avuksi. Kattavaa listaa Vaasan juhlapaikoista ja niiden toimivuudesta ei ole tehty, joten työ vastaa informatiivisena juhlatilaoppaana käyttäjien kysymyksiin ja mietteisiin.

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	1
ABSTRACT	2
TIIVISTELMÄ	3
1 INTRODUCTION	7
1.1 Background	7
1.2 The aim and restrictions of the thesis	8
2 FAMILY CELEBRATIONS	10
2.1 Christening and Name giving	10
2.2 Confirmation and Prometheus	11
2.3 Graduation party	12
2.4 Engagement	14
2.5 Wedding	15
2.6 Birthday parties	17
2.7 Funeral	19
3 HOW TO ARRANGE FAMILY CELEBRATIONS	21
3.1 When, where and who	21
3.2 What to offer and decorations	22
3.3 Is there something else to a party than food?	24
3.4 The Law and Order	25
3.5 Afterparty	25
4 ACCOUNT ON FESTIVAL VENUES IN VAASA	27
4.1 Objectives of the account	27
4.2 Methods used to conduct the account	27
5 FESTIVAL VENUES IN VAASA	29

5.1	SWOT for private occasions in venues without services	29
5.2	Cantare.....	29
5.3	Vaasan Merenkyntäjät Seuran Maja, Pavillion	31
5.4	Pohjanmiehet, Club room.....	33
5.5	Villa Hietalahti	34
5.6	Kotirannan Työväentalo, Community hall of Kotiranta	35
5.7	Palosaaren Järjestötaalo, Association house of Palosaari	37
5.8	Arbetets Vänner.....	39
5.9	Arbis	40
5.10	EFÖ- Evangeliska folkhögskolan i Österbotten	41
5.11	Mira-house	43
5.12	Vaasan Kiltatalo, Vaasa Guild house	44
5.13	Palosaaren Työväentalo, the Community hall of Palosaari	45
5.14	Sundom UF, Sundom Youth Association.....	47
5.15	Wärtsilä-hall.....	48
5.16	Youth houses owned by the city of Vaasa.....	50
5.16.1	Suviboxi	51
5.16.2	Sumppu	52
5.16.3	Villa Gerby.....	53
5.16.4	Sunhouse	55
5.17	SWOT for private occasions in restaurants	56
5.18	Loftet.....	57
5.19	The Officers Club and Restaurant Seglis.....	58
6	FINAL DISCUSSION	62
	REFERENCES.....	65
	APPENDIX 1	70
	APPENDIX 2.....	71

APPENDIX 3 72

1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces some background to the phenomena of family celebrations and organizing parties outside private homes. The concept of family and everyday life has changed over the years. Industrialization and shift from agricultural living to factory work and concentrated housing in the cities have changed the way people live their working days and celebrate the highlights of their lives. The parties have concentrated more on a cosy home-feeling and included family members and relatives as guests. (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 10.)

1.1 Background

Finnish people gather to celebrate different kind of events throughout people's life. In one person's lifecycle different kinds of celebrations come after each other. After the birth of a child the first ceremony is the name-giving or Christening, which gives the person their identity in the form of a name. The confirmation party or Prometheus- celebration moves the child into adulthood. After vocational school or senior secondary school the graduation is celebrated. People meet their partners, get engaged and later married. In engagement and marriage people get new family ties and new relatives and this even changes the inheritance order. Age is something that is celebrated with bigger parties later in life. 50th, 60th and 70th birthdays can be big celebrations. When children are born into formed families the cycle starts from the beginning and it ends eventually in one's death, and then a funeral is organized. (Kämäräinen 2005, 315.)

In the Finnish society many celebrations are related to the Evangelic-Lutheran church or have religious background, even though the church does not have a state-church status anymore. Over 80% of the Finnish citizens are members of Evangelic-Lutheran church, which can label the church as folk-church and back up the fact that many family traditions are based on the church's traditions. Back in the day when traditions started to take their form, these kinds of celebrations were highly valued and thus the ceremonies were held by the professionals like priests and representatives of the state. Even people, who are not religious, hold

nowadays family celebrations which have historical connections to the church. (Evangelic Lutheran Church of Finland, 2009.) (Kämäräinen 2005, 315.)

Many things need to be taken into consideration when bigger parties are organised. It is not only who to invite or what to serve. According to the information from 2007 as big part as 43.4% of the population lives in apartment buildings. This has brought the need for different kind of festival venues and places to gather. All parties cannot be held at home anymore. (Housing statistics 2008.)

1.2 The aim and restrictions of the thesis

In this thesis traditional Finnish family celebrations and parties are introduced and basic guidelines for party planning and organising are formed with the help of literary sources. Family festivities around the world have their own characteristics, even in Finland regional differences occur. In the chapter concerning family celebrations the most common traditions shared in the whole of Finland are introduced. The family festivities mentioned in this work are chosen with the thought that people might need a place outside their home particularly for these celebrations.

The main focus of the thesis is on the latter part of the work; introducing and analysing the festival venues in Vaasa. This analyse is conducted by visiting all the places in question. Information about the places is collected beforehand if possible from varying sources and expanded with the information received through interviews with the renting party and their representative at the venue. The analysis of the venues is implemented to meet the needs of a private person who wants to organise a wedding, birthday party or other festivity as a banquet with a buffet or food served to tables where seats are needed for all guests. This means that the venues are fairly sizeable to be able to host a party with possible program and proper seats to enjoy a whole meal.

The venue itself is characterised, basic information is given about the size and the facilities offered. The main facilities concentrated on are tables, chairs and kitchen utilities. Possible extra services bind to the place are listed. This means whether it is possible to rent extra silverware, table cloths and other decoration or get catering through the renting party as also the cleaning of the venue before and after the party. The interview questions are attached as Appendix 2. This thesis will fulfil its purpose if some person finds help in organising their party with the information presented here.

2 FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

Different kinds of family celebrations in Finland are introduced in this chapter. Celebrations and traditions have taken new forms and styles over the years, but the main celebrations have stayed. More options for civil ceremonies have come along as options for the celebrations with religious features. (Kämäräinen 2005, 315.)

2.1 Christening and Name giving

A child is given a name within two months of its birth, because during this time the name information has to be added to the civil register. Most of the children in Finland are given a name in an Evangelic Lutheran Christening and they are made a member of their parish. If either of the parents is a part of the church, the child is registered to church records. Members of the Orthodox Church and Roman Catholics have their own traditions for name giving. Nowadays Christening is performed in the newborn's home, church or some other parishes' facility often on Saturday or Sunday. Before the 17th century Christenings were only performed in churches, but for practical reasons home Christenings became more popular (Aurejärvi-Karjalainen 1999, 80). Almost all the other bigger celebrations have been moved away from the home surroundings, Christening and name giving is still something traditionally celebrated at home. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 204-205.) (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 34.) (Aurejärvi-Karjalainen 1999, 91.)

A name giving ceremony is seen as a celebration where the child is joined into the family and circle of friends. In addition to getting a name, the child is welcomed among the people close to them. There is no certain form that the name giving ceremony should follow, whereas the Christening follows the Christian formula. All the guests can take part somehow in the name giving and a theme can be built with accessories and decorations. Name giving celebration being a newer form of celebrations, families usually can make it their own as they like. (Kämäräinen 2005, 321.)

Godparents are named to the child as a part of Christian traditions, but it has become more common that also parents who are not a part of the church want to name a loyal adult friend to their children. Evangelic Lutheran church has defined that the godparent's obligation is to support the child in their upbringing with Christian values and to be a safe adult figure in their life. In name giving ceremony the adult friend is often seen as a supportive adult in the child's life. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 207-208.)

From the 1930s' the course of Christening itself has not changed significantly. The party around it is often seen as in addition to giving a name to the newcomer, a possibility to visit the home of the new family. The closest relatives like parents, grandparents and siblings are invited to celebrate the day with the family and godparents. Coffee, small savoury and sweet bits are often on offer. Christening is not considered as a food fiesta, but as in other family parties the organisers decide this according to their preferences. (Aurejärvi-Karjalainen 1999, 81-87.)

2.2 Confirmation and Prometheus

In Finland 87.6% of all the 15-year-olds in 2008 received confirmation after confirmation camp or day school. This means that they so to say graduate from confirmation school. Within Lutheran countries, especially in the Nordic countries Finland has the record figure on how many young people take part in church-organised confirmation education. Compared to the figure of 45% in Sweden, confirmation classes have a huge success in Finland. (Evangelic Lutheran Church of Finland, 2009.) (Swahn 2000, 94-96.)

Back in the day confirmation classes served firstly to control the reading skills of young people. It was considered to be a step to adulthood and gave permission for the youth to start socialising more with the opposite sex by themselves. The importance of celebrating the growth from childhood to adulthood is seen in the invention of celebration of Prometheus-party. Prometheus-camps are a non-religious option for young people in the age of 15. Prometheus-camps have been organised in Finland since 1989. In the 1980s' people who were not taking part in

the religion education at school but had ethics instead started to long for a camp and a celebration of their own. If in confirmation classes the education is about church and Evangelic Lutheran faith as also the big questions in life, on Prometheus-camps the conversations are more concentrated on society and ideologies. After either of the camps or classes, the young person in question is often greeted with a family celebration. (Aurejärvi-Karjalainen 1999, 124.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 209-212.)

Confirmation or Prometheus-celebrations are often the first bigger family celebration in the youngster's life. Family, relatives and friends are invited to a home or a venue to celebrate the young adult with good food and cake according to the organisers' liking and economical situation. This is also the time when the adolescents themselves can take part in the planning. Maybe the youngsters have their own opinions about what to serve or who to invite. Things like jewellery, books or something else lasting is often favoured when a proper gift is chosen. Many young people may start collecting things; kitchenware, sheets and such for their first home already in as early stage as this. Confirmation cross has kept its place as a popular gift and Prometheus- necklace has been created to the ones celebrating Prometheus celebrations. (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 50.) (Isotalo 1999, 58.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 211.) (Kämäräinen 2005, 322-326.)

2.3 Graduation party

On the last Saturday of May or the first of June one can see people very well dressed-up, carrying roses and gifts. It is time for graduations. People who graduate from senior secondary school or vocational school are celebrating their finished education. At least school is out for some while. Even though the matriculation exams have renewed systems so that even Independence Day graduation is possible, spring time is still the number one choice for many graduates. (Kämäräinen 2005, 327.)

Baccalaureates have been graduating since 1640's so the traditions are deep in the souls of Finns. The habits have changed over the years; women have received

their permission to graduate from senior secondary schools equally to men, even though it took until 1870s'. The accreditation of the degree has lost some of its value in comparison to before it being a sign of having significant academic skills of few when nowadays all most half of the age-class graduate from senior secondary school. From changes hints also the fact that before the matriculation cap was used throughout the summer when now it is only dusted maybe once a year for May Day celebrations. (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 55.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 215.)

The day is celebrated in many ways and often the day begins at the school's formal graduation party where the new baccalaureates get their certificates and greetings on schools behalf. After that people make their way to the graduate's home or other festival location. In the past invitations have not been necessary, friends and relatives were expected to come and congratulate the graduate without invites. Nowadays invitations are often sent, also in case that the celebration is not organised at home. Many young people move already to another city to attain their senior secondary school and matriculation examinations or vocational degree, so the festivities might be organised on a different date from the original graduation day. Also invitations in local papers are used frequently on this occasion. (Ruoppila-Martinssen 1999, 203-205.)

A proper buffet or sweet and savoury snacks, there are so many ways to organise the day and the serving as there are celebrators. Often this is also affected by the origin of residency. In different areas of the country, different ways and habits concerning celebrations are obtained. Toast while the guests arrive is nevertheless a vital part of graduation parties. The senior secondary school graduation bears more traditions, but similar kinds of parts are adjusted also to any other graduations. It is common nowadays that some kind of program is added to graduation parties. This goes to show how old traditions can get new shades and new traditions can be born. (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 57.) (Isotalo 1999, 7-8.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 217.) (Kämäräinen 2005, 331.)

2.4 Engagement

A woman's hand in marriage has traditionally been asked from her father prior to the proposal. The tradition goes back in time to 19th century, when a man had to get permission for marriage from a girl's spokesman. Usually this spokesman was the father. From 1864 onwards a 21-year-old woman has been able to get married without a spokesman's interference. The time from the official proposal to wedding is called engagement. Nowadays engagements' significance has changed. Before engagement was a legally binding contract, which was made between two families (Isotalo 1999, 59). Today engagement does not have any legal value. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 184-185.)

Some people are engaged without even thinking about getting married when some people might get married without being engaged at all. Traditionally the engagement took place a year or six months prior to the planned wedding day. This time was meant for the preparations and planning of the wedding celebration. Nowadays the length of engagement is not specific. Engagement is often celebrated only with the close family, meaning parents and siblings with a dinner or coffee and cake. Traditionally bride's parents have invited relatives to their home to celebrate the engagement of their daughter. In the 1960s' many formalities in general were demolished in Finland, also many of the family celebrations and it has affected the engagement parties. (Ruoppila-Martinsen 1999, 212.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 184-185.)

Engagement celebrations do not follow any strict Finnish traditions as does not the wearing of rings or putting an ad in the paper either. In Finland the rings are set to the left hands ring finger and are often slick which is heritage from Sweden. The left hand has also been the hand of choice because it has said to have straight connection to the heart. (Isotalo 1999, 59.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 185.) (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 62.)

2.5 Wedding

Weddings have not always borne their today so vital romantic atmosphere, like at the time when marriage was purely an agreement on joining property of two families. Forced marriages were in use even in Finland. The Christian church made the Lutheran marriage compulsory in 1612. A clerical marriage received a law status year 1743 in Finland, being added to the church law before. The only legal way to get married at the time was thus by a priest. The church as a place for the wedding vows has been in use more in the 20th century, and it maintains its popularity today. Before the ceremony took place in brides home or at the vicarage with just few witnesses. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 192.) (Aurejärvi-Karjalainen 1999, 39.)

A civil ceremony became possible in Finland in 1917 and in 2002 it became possible for people of the same gender to register their relationship. In those cases the person to marry the couple has to be an adjudicator or a judge. To be able to get married in a church by a priest require both parties of the couple to have a certificate of confirmation. Bride and groom acquire a marriage permit from their parish which clarifies that there are no legal hindrances for the marriage; register office gives this permit to the ones not part of church. This procedure is to be taken care of before the marriage can receive legal powers. In the case of either of the couple belonging to church, they have the possibility to get their marriage blessed at church if they so wish. (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 70.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 193.)

Traditionally the wedding party itself has been celebrated in two parts in Finland. The first part has taken place in bride's home as a going away party and the second part in groom's home as a welcoming party. The bride's parents and relatives took part in the festivities at her house and the groom's at his, families were not present simultaneously. Up to the 19th century weddings were celebrated in the autumn or winter, between September and January. October was a very popular wedding month, because the harvesting season had just ended. People had time for celebrations and food and drink could be arranged in large amounts.

Summer weddings came into fashion and found their place even more in the early 20th century. (Aurejärvi-Karjalainen 1999, 37.) (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 68.) (Isotalo 1999, 61.)

Weddings are today events where friends and relatives have been invited to celebrate the newlywed couple. Food and drinks have always played a vital role of the day. Toasts of congratulations when the couple arrives are raised, often of sparkling wine or champagne. Food is enjoyed both in large amounts and with time. In the old days the wedding meal might have taken from four to eight hours. Until the end of 19th century soups were popular wedding food. The Finnish treat, pea soup has been popular on the wedding menu accompanied by pancakes as a dessert. Casseroles and later on regional traditional food replaced the soups of the wedding tables. Buffets with both cold and warm courses are nowadays often used at bigger weddings. Trends from the world and the wedding couple's own diets and liking have brought a variety and influence to the food on offer. Coffee and cutting the wedding cake are a number of its own in the wedding program. Creamy multilayered wedding cake has come to replace a pile of sweet biscuits in Finland in the 20th century. Before the cream cakes arrival to Finnish wedding tables and as an option for sweet biscuits was a high artistic piece of baked figures put together with almond paste. This piece of pastry is called "krokaani" in Finnish. (Huhtaniska, Backström, Kouhia 2007, 36.) (Isotalo 1999, 64.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 197.) (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 69.)

Wedding celebrations in use in Finland have taken their bits and pieces from around the world. American ways as also traditions from Europe and east have influenced the parties according to how the happy couple has wished to combine everything. Speeches belong to weddings commonly. Traditionally the bride's father has started by giving a speech after the wedding meal, but other family members can as well share their thoughts. Maid of honour and bestman are helping the wedding couple through all the wedding preparations and often it is their duty to come up with the program and act as a marshal for the day. Different kind of funny games for both guests and the wedding couple are to cheer the

mood and give the celebration its personal atmosphere. Music and dancing can be part of the wedding program and it has been popular especially in big wedding on the countryside. Throwing the suspender and the wedding bouquet are seen as a vital part of the party before the wedding couple leaves the party for their wedding night. (Isotalo 1999, 65.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 197-198.) (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 74-75.)

2.6 Birthday parties

Birthday parties have not been common among the general public for more than a bit over 100 years. Actually celebrating birthdays instead of name days came a custom in Finland among the majority as late as in the 1940s'. In the cities and among wealthier people birthdays have been celebrated though from the 18th century. Monarch families and rulers of the countries have led the example on how to hold birthdays. Nationally important persons like poets and influencers have also been celebrated which was introduced as a part of the national awakening. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 226-227.) (Isotalo 1999, 70.) (Huhtaniska, Backström, Kouhia 2007, 47.)

There were information about birthdays already from the antiquity, but for example in Sweden the Christian church did not value birthdays. The opinion was that there is nothing to celebrate about being born in to the sinful Earth. One reason for not celebrating birthdays among ordinary people has been that birthdays have not been clearly known. Babies have been recorded to the parish books with the year of birth or by their Christening date. (Swahn 2000, 108-110.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 227.)

Name days celebrated before in Finland gave way but also habits to birthday celebrations. Back in the day when it was common to go around and visit neighbours more often people might have not invited anyone, but coffee and sweets were on offer if anyone would happen to pop in. Traditions were not established as such, the whole celebrating of birthdays were implemented according to the wealth, personality and own taste of the birthday boy, girl, man

or woman. Birthdays are important to children, have been before and are today. Children have then the possibility to invite their friends from day care or school to play different kind of games with them. That is also the day they get all the attention, not forgetting the gifts either. One of the most important symbols of birthdays is the birthday cake, which if a children's party is in question can be made and decorated according to a certain theme. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 227-230.) (Isotalo 1999, 70.)

For adult-age birthdays, turning 50 is respected within all the Nordic countries with bigger celebrations or reception inviting together family, friends and co-operational partners. Speeches are held and in most cases the dress code is dark suit and a tie. Official receptions are held with a separate time reserved for receiving congratulations and toasts. On those kinds of events, people are not expected to stay the whole day, just to come and give their happy returns, enjoy something from the buffet and give way for the next visitors by going home. If not sent individually, the invitations for official parties are published on local papers, where the date, place and time are announced and are open for everyone. People tend to inform in papers if they do not want to celebrate their birthday or are perhaps on holiday on the day in question. (Immonen, Nevala 2002, 42.) (Swahn 2000, 108-110.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 228.) (Kämäräinen 2005, 332.)

In the general aging, after childhood, every tenth year is celebrated more, like 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th birthdays. The birthday party is often constructed around good food, some speeches, music and maybe even dancing in the later part of the celebration. Different kind of games can be played even on an adult's birthday party to loosen up the mood. Parties are on their best when they resemble the person of the day, whether it is a crazy rocking dance party for a 30-year-old or a more old fashioned coffee reception for a lady turning 70. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 228.)

2.7 Funeral

The last journey for a human being is not so much called a celebration, but it is the last time the person in question is greeted and given a farewell to. A vital part is giving support to the nearest and dearest of the deceased. A lot has changed in the way people handle death and grief. In today's society families do not live in so close contact anymore like in past centuries. Before families stayed with the dying before the moment of passing and different kind of habits were conducted so that the death would pass smoothly, today the actual death is often met by professional nursing staff in hospitals and elderly homes. They are present at the moment of death and funeral homes take care of the deceased until the actual funeral day. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 220-221.)

The burial and the memorial service are the moments when relatives and friends come together in their sorrow. A majority, 97% of burials in year 2006 were conducted in a Christian manner (Evangelic Lutheran Church of Finland 2009). Civil style burial is still a minority figure in statistics; it mostly retells the same ways as Christian memorial service apart from the blessing in the church or chapel even though it is freer from traditions. The percentage of Christian burials is high and affected also by the fact that relatives can wish for and organise a religious funeral regardless whether the deceased was a member of the church or not. The funeral in church will not be conducted if the person has while alive made it clear that it is not according to their wishes. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 220-221.) (Kämäräinen 2005, 356.)

The venue of the memorial service can be a venue of the parish, home, festival hall or even a restaurant. The place often guides the style of the moment. In the 19th century and until the wars in 20th century funerals were massive get-together's of relatives and acquaintances, where food was on offer and even alcohol played a vital part on the menu. This kind of history is something Finland shares with other Nordic countries. Funerals would go on for the whole day, sometimes longer. In Finland a tradition of guests bringing food to the house in mourning was in use, at the time when funerals were held in private homes and

the deceased was physically among the grieving people. (Swahn 2000, 11-115.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 220-223.)

White table cloths, candles by the photo of the deceased and at least coffee serving mark traditional funeral of the present generations. Food is often on offer if some of the people attending are known to come far away or the length of the service is assumed to be long. Music performances or singing of hymns take the moment onwards in addition to the reading of cards of condolences. Taking part in the funeral and laying flowers on the grave are seen as funeral habits to be followed in today's society. Personal invites are not sent for funerals, the obituary in a newspaper may include a general invitation or it might state that the burial has already been conducted in silence. In this case only close family members have taken part. (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 221.) (Ruoppila-Martinsen 1999, 227-228.)

3 HOW TO ARRANGE FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

The easy part, before the celebrations can begin, is to come up with the reason for celebrating. People have many reasons to gather around but in the previous chapter mentioned family celebrations are very common reasons to invite family, relatives and friends to a same place. There are yet many other things to consider when it comes to arranging successful family celebrations. It is in order to write things down and make a list or two to get everything done before the celebrations can begin. (Roininen, Kämäräinen 1999, 8.) (Packalen 1996, 26.)

3.1 When, where and who

Summer time is filled with family celebrations as weddings and confirmation celebrations are very commonly held at that time of the year. Graduation parties are mostly always held in the spring but birthdays and name givings are distributed evenly around the year. Family celebrations can bring joy and variation to the dark and cold season if autumn or wintertime is chosen for the occasion. The type of the celebration guides the choosing of the weekday for the party to be held. Receptions where official delegations are expected might be held on week days as celebrations with relatives and friends usually fall on weekends. Variation on the time of the day is possible. Afternoons can host coffee serving, whereas noon and early evening often hint of a meal to be served. (Packalen 1996, 8-9.)

The celebrations are to be thrown; a place for the occasion has to be chosen. Private homes are not always big enough for a large number of guests and the organiser has to ensure that everyone has enough space to eat, move around and take care of their private needs. The warm season so popular for joint celebrations can be a big help for the organisers. The organiser has to book the place wished in good time for the summer because celebrations tend to fall on same days. Big yards and outdoor spaces bring possibility to enjoy company outdoors but as the weather in Finland can be so unpredictable must some precautions in case of rain

be taken. Even a smaller venue can be chosen if outdoor seating is arranged. The large number of guests, seating and program organised often requires one large space indoors. Schools, sports clubs and youth organisations have often houses which can host a family celebration. It asks for weighing options and one's own preferences. People emphasize different features on venues. (Strandén 1991, 40, 42) (Packalen 1996, 11.)

The birthday girl or boy, couple of the day want to share the day with a certain group of people. The guest list takes its form from these thoughts. Some organisers start with the list to see how big venue is needed to host a party for their number of guests and some start by deciding the venue and then limit the number of guests according to the space. People who already know each other make an easy guest list, but to get a more interesting party, both old and new acquaintances can be mixed. One has to give some thought when making the guest list so that everyone are comfortable and the celebration can run smoothly and leave happy memories. When the list is complete one can invite the guests with a more formal invitation card or with a simple phone call. One important thing is in the end to get some kind of a picture of how many guest will arrive and whether they have food allergies. Enough food and drinks have to be prepared and purchased. (Pitkänen 1998, 22.) (Packalen 1996, 12.)

3.2 What to offer and decorations

The theme of the celebration often helps in the decision making of the menu. Some celebrations do not last so long that the whole table full of food dishes should be put on offer. In christenings a soup could be offered accompanied with coffee and cake. When birthdays are celebrated with time and money can the buffet offer cold and warm appetizers from fish to vegetables and have options in main courses.

The tastes, colours and textures of food should complement each other and bring variation to the menu. Always in menu planning different kind of courses should be picked to tempt both taste and visual senses. In big celebrations the space,

dishes and number of staff limit the possibilities. The food should be such that it can be served the right temperature. In the winter time the food should not be too cold overall and in the summer time the hot course will not necessarily taste best. Seasonality can be taken into account, so that fresh ingredients are easy to find. To maintain the atmosphere lively too greasy, heavy or sweet menus should be avoided. (Packalen 1996, 33-35.) (Pitkänen 1998, 31-33.)

Drinks should complement the courses served. The theme of the party and number of guests should also be taken into account. Wine is a festive drink which is often served. When alcohol drinks are on offer, the guests' not drinking alcohol should not be forgotten. Alcohol free drinks should always be served. Food allergies should be taken into account, as allergies have become more common. There should be something for every guest to eat. (Packalen 1996, 37) (Strandén 1991, 56-57.)

Decorations can make even a dull square space into a memorable celebration venue. Imagination should be used in decorations because unusual things can make the best decoration. The table cloths make the base for the tables and even though white cloths are classical, some splash of colour can build a nice combination. Old lace sheets make good table cloths as well as different coloured rugs and pieces of fabric. Candles and tea lights bring soft light to tables. On summer evenings tea lights can create a nice atmosphere. Outdoors lights or fires guide guests and give a festive mood. If orders are made in time the florists can design flower arrangements that crown the tables. Flowers have to go together with the other decorations. Table cloths being very bright and multicoloured, the flowers should be plainer and vice versa. One thing to keep in mind with flower arrangements is that if they are placed in the middle of tables, they should be low enough to enable conversation and good eye contact over them. Flowers can be replaced on some other material from the nature. The resources are endless, as stones, twigs, leaves and moss just to name few can be used. (Roininen, Kämäräinen 1999, 14-20.) (Kämäräinen 2005, 233-234, 240.) (Strandén 1991, 74.)

Napkins are a part of the decoration. When the number of guests is not too huge, there are all kinds of napkin folding models to choose from. Napkins can be set to the tables for each guest individually. Simple sail model looks pretty and can be quickly folded even to a bigger number of seats. In buffet tables the napkins can be placed between plates or on the serving table as a carousel shape. (Kämäräinen 2005, 235.)

Seating cards make the tables very festive. The classical name card is white but imagination can be used to cheer up the table setting. The name card can that way be used as part of the decoration more than just to guide guests to their own seats. Menu cards are placed beside everyone's plate to demonstrate what is on the menu. This is a nice memory from the occasion to take back home. (Pitkänen 1998, 39.)

3.3 Is there something else to a party than food?

To meet relatives and friends is one reason to have parties but it does not necessarily make a great atmosphere for the guests who do not know each other or are not socially active in getting to know people around them. To make the celebration memorable and successful a proper program should be planned ahead. (Packalen 1996, 15.)

A great delicious meal and dessert coffee can give some frame for the course of the occasion. Before, in between and after all the eating some program highlights the event and voila' preliminary time table is formed. Toasts are a vital part of all the festivities; at least the host should say some words in the beginning to welcome everyone. Other speeches can be added to the program as wished like congratulation speeches can be given between courses and the guest of honour can say something before the dessert. When a buffet style meal is offered, speeches can be given before the coffee. At weddings different kind of games for the bride and the groom are popular whereas musical performances can give a thrill on

birthday parties. Dancing can be a part of the celebration with an orchestra on set. (Packalen 1996, 15.) (Seljavaara, Kärjä 2005, 197-198.)

3.4 The Law and Order

A private party in a festival venue is held to privately invited guests without any need to involve the official authorities. If family celebrations for a certain restricted guest list are organised, the police does not need a notification. Using common sense is recommended for example in a case of a large wedding with 500 guests as can be the case in Ostrobothnia. The local police patrol could be informed that a large party is going on to prevent unnecessary visits from the law enforcement. (Salo 2009.)

According to the alcohol legislations 59th section, the arranger of the occasion is obliged to inform the police if alcohol is on offer at the party. This is written in the Finnish legislation and is nationally binding. The notification costs 10 € at the police station of Ostrobothnia, in Vaasa. This notification should be made five to six days prior to the occasion but can still be accepted six hours before the party starts. (Salo 2009.)

The owner of the venue and the person throwing the party can negotiate other possible issues. On the demand of the owner of the venue legitimated guards must be arranged to secure the course of events. This is highly rare in private occasions but if the safety of guests is at risk, options should be weighed. When legitimated guards are working at the scene, the police do not need to be informed. (Salo 2009.)

3.5 Afterparty

Guests have gone home but the hosts have to still take care of some duties. The employed help or caterers should be paid as also other bills like rent of the venue, food and liquor. Food and drink leftovers are to be cleaned and packed away. It is possible to make arrangements at the time of the purchase so that Alko takes unopened bottles back. Everything borrowed like cutlery, dishes and furniture

should be taken in to their place cleaned and tidied. The venue is cleaned and table clothes taken to the dry-cleaner. All personal items should be taken home and the gone day discussed. To make the next celebration even better, if possible, problems and successes should be discussed and written down. That way next time arranging things would go even smoother. Food and drink amounts are good to write down for further guidance. (Packalen 1996, 27.)

4 ACCOUNT ON FESTIVAL VENUES IN VAASA

As the practical part of my thesis I wanted to get to know festival venues in Vaasa and gather information from as many as possible. The information should describe the venue and the usability of it.

4.1 Objectives of the account

A number of possible places for organizing family celebrations in Vaasa are presented in this work. The places are grouped in two groups. The larger group is self service venues, where only the venue is rented and everything additional has to be taken care of by the customer. The other group consists of only a few, but still popular places for family celebrations which work on reservation restaurant basis. These venues cannot be rented without the restaurant services and limitations that come with it.

All the introduced venues can be rented for parties and family celebrations. Birthdays and weddings seem to be the most popular reason for the use of a rental venue but everything from Christenings to memorial services have been organised at the venues. The number of people is presented as the number that can be seated with a table place. This enables organising occasions where food is served and guests are expected to stay more than a brief moment.

4.2 Methods used to conduct the account

All the information concerning festival venues is gathered by interviewing people who are responsible for renting their venue and through visiting and self observing the spaces. I studied a list of venues to be rented on the Internet on the web pages of Vaasa, Kansalaisinfo, (vaasa.fi) as a base for the places I wanted to include in my account. The list was read on 12th of October 2009. I did not use the entire list straight from the Internet but picked the places suitable and added places I knew would fit my work and were not mentioned in the list. I got

information on additional places during my interviews with venue representatives and through people originally from Vaasa.

I used the contact information in the Internet to get in touch with the representatives of venues. The list was not up to date so some private investigating had to be done to get the correct contact information. Most of the venues had email addresses as their primary contact information. I wrote them an email stating my purpose of writing my final thesis and that I wanted to meet them and get to see the venues. I asked the contact person for their permission in involving the venue in question in the thesis. The draft of my email to the venues is in Appendix 1. Some venues I contacted by calling. This resulted in a visit and I included altogether 20 places for my thesis.

The venues were visited between 15th October and 30th of November 2009. I made appointments with the representatives according to their schedules. The meetings lasted from 15 minutes up to an hour depending on the person who showed me around. I prepared for the meetings by looking up information on the venue from the Internet from possible web pages of the venues. The basic questions were the same in every place (Appendix 2.) and during the conversations additional questions to support the existing information were made. The rental rates for the venues valid at the moment of the interview are attached as Appendix 3.

5 FESTIVAL VENUES IN VAASA

The festival venues in Vaasa are introduced and analysed to help the organisers of family festivals to find the best place for their needs. The places are situated around the city of Vaasa and are all accessible by car.

5.1 SWOT for private occasions in venues without services

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Table and space arrangements can be done more freely *Individual solutions can be used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Food has to be ordered and staff has to be employed from somewhere else *Varying furniture and kitchen ware in use *Requires more work from the person arranging the occasion
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Case by case treatment *The look can be just like the arranger wants *Possibility to have the festivities at any time of the day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The state of the venue depends on the interest of the owner *If not rented regularly, all the expenses go to electricity and water bills, extra maintenance not possible

5.2 Cantare

Cantare is a venue situated in Vöyrinkatu 12, in Vöyrinkaupunki, near the centre of Vaasa. The building is built in 1897 by Consul J.E. Moe, to his alcohol factory's employees. It has served during the 20th century as a home for different kind of families and businesses. Finne&Beijar Bus Company got it to their possession in 1956 and turned downstairs into four separate apartments and

upstairs was divided into two apartments. In the 1980's a building company Iskura Oy owned the house and it was left to fall into a bad shape. (Wasa Sångargille 2009.)

Wasa Sångargille bought the house and the site in 1987 to be preserved and fixed for the guild's two choirs as a practise place. After many man-hours and a lot of voluntary work the downstairs hall was finished in 1990 and upstairs in 1996. The name Cantare is a winner of a name competition and it stands for the verb "to sing" in Italian. The winning name was a suggestion by Lea Holm. The house is owned by Public Limited Company Gillestugan Ab and the Wasa Sångargille association owns the shares of the company. The choir holds their own practice at the house twice a week and they have also other permanent users during weekdays. (Salomaa 2009.) (Wasa Sångargille 2009.)

The house has 275 m² of space downstairs and 200 m² upstairs. Upstairs there is an apartment which is rented out to an outside tenant, a music room, an office, some storage space and a toilet and a small kitchen. Downstairs there is a festival hall of 108 m². There is also a separate cabinet, called "Orvarin huone" named after an active member of the guild. The cabinet can host up to 28 people at once. Three toilets are situated downstairs in addition to the kitchen, entrance hall, office and a storage facility. (Salomaa 2009.)

The festival hall downstairs can be furnished well for 80 people with individual seats by tables. This still enables a serving space for a buffet table. The cabinet can be set for 20 people. With dexterous solutions the venue can host even 120 people, but the most convenient amount of people is 80-100. This enables comfortable moving around, serving and possible space for hosting program. According to official safety measures the festival hall can have 162 people inside at once. The tables and chairs are included in the rental price of the house and can be freely set by the user's liking. (Salomaa 2009.)

The kitchen has dinner service for 80 people including glassware like champagne, wine, aroma and schnapps glasses in addition to water glasses. The whole crockery is in use of the renter for the price of 20 €. The kitchen is equipped with a double oven and a normal four plate stove, institutional dishwasher and a large coffee maker. A fridge- freezer combination is also at the scene. The whole house has a mechanical air-conditioning to keep the air fresh. White table cloths can be rented from the house for a price of 5 € per tablecloth. (Salomaa 2009.)

The venue has a grand piano, which can be used but not preferably moved to maintain its tuning. There is no sound system in the house but the acoustic of the festival hall is excellent, it is renovated for a choir in the first place. The place is possible to decorate like the renter wants honouring the existing interior decor. The site offers 15 own parking spaces and additional cars can be parked on the nearby streets. The keys of the clean house are handed over to the renter and the house should be cleaned after use. Cleaning equipment can be found from the venue. Cleaning can also be provided by the owners for a certain fee. Possible broken items are to be compensated. (Salomaa 2009.)

Bookings have been made for as far as a year in advanced. The renting and showing of the house is taken care of by a housing management company and superintendent Yrjö Salomaa. A written contract is made for every renting and if the booking is cancelled a part of the rental sum will be charged. (Salomaa 2009.)

5.3 Vaasan Merenkyntäjät Seuran Maja, Pavillion

Seuran Maja, the house of Vaasan Merenkyntäjät, is situated in Vaskiluoto, Niemeläntie. The Pavilion is built in 1927 as a house for the Finnish yacht club in Vaasa, founded in 1926. Matti Visanti has designed the house and it is built by Juho Myntti Oy. The building work was conducted incredibly quickly over summer 1927. The house itself is owned by the yacht club Vaasan Merenkyntäjät and the site is rented from the city of Vaasa. The house is kept in shape by voluntary work of the members of the yacht club. (Pohja 1996.)

Upstairs of the Pavilion is in private use of the yacht club as storage and meeting facilities. The entrance hall has coat racks and male and female bathrooms, both with two separate toilets. Downstairs of the Pavilion there is a hall for approximately 150 m², the kitchen is in the back of the house. Some storage rooms connect the kitchen to the festival hall.

The festival hall can nicely fit 80 to 100 people. Someone who has had a party at the house has managed to fit in 130 guests, but stated that it did not leave too much room for moving around. The downstairs festival hall is separated with a partial glass wall in the middle, which has shelves for clubs prizes. Two doors lead to the smaller side. Hall is formed like a T, still enabling it to be used as one festival hall. The other side is around 100 m² and the other 50 m². A large fireplace is situated on the other side of the main hall and the hall has also radiators to warm the space up. Tables and chairs are provided for 100 people and are in the use of the customer with the same rental price as the facility. (Jussila 2009.)

The kitchen is fairly well equipped, because the Pavilion earlier served as a summer restaurant. Two institutional stoves and an institutional dish washer can be found in addition to a large fridge room and a lot of cool storage shelves for a shorter storage of food items less sensitive. The working area is fairly sizeable. The Pavilion's history as a restaurant is visible through a bar counter corner in the festival hall. It can well be used as a part of a buffet table. The venue does not have any set of dishes or table cloths; these items have to be taken care of by the customer.

The site is idyllic, by the sea front and surrounded with nature. The house is in use during summer season between 1st of May until last of September. It is not winter insulated and is cold during the winter season. The water has to be turned off for the winter to prevent any freezing damage. As the location is remote from dense housing, there are no limitations on the times of the day when parties start or end. Dancing in the house can go on until 6 in the morning. Guests can fairly freely

move around the house. These points attract the possible accumulators. (Jussila 2009.)

The Pavilion is rented for the whole weekend, renting time from Friday to Sunday or even as long as to Monday. Cleaning of the house has to be taken care of by the customer, and if this is not possible, the cleaning will be added to the rental price as an additional charge. Kari Jussila takes care of renting of the house and shows the space to ones interested. (Jussila 2009.)

5.4 Pohjanmiehet, Club room

Pohjanmiehet Ry is a man choir which is founded in 1929 in Vaasa. In 1973 they moved to a newly built house in Kasarminkatu 10, where a club room was planned as a part of an apartment building to suit the choir's needs. The builder of the house has been a member of the choir, so there was a possibility to influence the final space. No bigger renovations have been done to the house, but in the future some small remodelling is planned. The choir owns a condominium of the house, so the association is the other renting party when booking their venue. They have their own choir rehearsals at the club room as also regular users like dance groups during some of the week days. (Asunmaa 2009.)

The club room has a hall, which is altogether 199 m² and can be divided into two parts. The entry hall has toilet facilities, one for each gender and plenty of coat racks for outdoor clothing. A small kitchen is separate and a few stairs lead down to the actual hall. Tables, which are foldable, and chairs can be found for 60 people and they are to be arranged self as wanted.

The kitchen is modern with two microwaves, a home style dishwasher, fridge and freezer combination, oven, stove and a coffeemaker. A big thermos for 50 cups of coffee can also be found from the kitchen. The coffee set and glasses are a part of the kitchen kit and it is for 60 people. When renting the venue, the kitchenware is included in the rental price of the venue. Tablecloths can also be found and used at the same price, if taken to the laundry after use. (Asunmaa 2009.)

A piano, an electric piano and stereo are in the hall and can be used by the customer. The hall is situated underground, so it will not disturb the people living in the house, but the entry hall is a part of the basement of the house. The rules state that after 10 pm the venue should be quiet and empty latest at midnight. Cleaning should be taken care of by the customer. Ville Asunmaa is the contact person in the choir who shows the venue and deals with the rental issues including keys. (Asunmaa 2009.)

5.5 Villa Hietalahti

The city of Vaasa owns Villa Hietalahti, an 1846 built old festival house, which is situated in Hietalahti, only a couple kilometres from the market square. The lot that the house stands on has been in possession of the city of Vaasa from 1852 and been since used for many different functions. It has been a summer villa for many families before it was first established as a restaurant. The downstairs of the house was renovated in 1992 by the city. The Villa is rented for different kind of private and city's occasions, meetings and festivities. Villa Hietalahti is one of the most popular places to organise weddings during summer. (Vaasa 2009.)

The whole house is in total 1304 m² in size. This includes also the second floor which is not in use at the moment. The u-shaped hall of 190 m² and a podium of 44 m² form the festival hall which can accommodate 150 people. A side room is 31 m² and is calculated for 22 people. The cloth racks are situated at the side room's wall, so the customer organising something in the house has to decide according to their own needs how the side room will be used. Toilets are in the entry hall, three for men and two for women. A wheel chair accessible toilet is in the hallway leading to the kitchen. The house has a set of tables and chairs for altogether 150 people and two highchairs for children. All the furniture is to be organised by the customer. The house is accessible with a wheelchair with ramps both in and outside the house. (Saari 2009.)

The kitchen is quite large in size, because a summer restaurant has operated on the premises before. Appliances like two fridges, a big stove and an oven, a microwave and two large coffee makers can be found and used. Two large thermoses are also in use. The dishwasher is of an industrial model, which is quick and effective. Villa Hietalahti does not have any kitchenware or dishes. Tablecloths and all the decorations have to be purchased and supplied by the customer self, because nothing is provided at the house. 19 flower vases are in the customer's use in the house.

A beautiful park surrounds the house and the sea front is only few steps away. No neighbours are situated nearby so there are no time limitations for the parties, they can last until the early morning if so wished. The house is in use from May until early October. In the winter the water pipes are closed and the house is not heated because of too high costs. (Saari 2009.)

The keys can be collected from either the Vaasa city office of free time and sport or from the swimming hall information desk. Cleaning of the house is included in the rent. Cleaners of the city take care of the cleaning of floors before and after the occasion. The rental contract is done in writing and it has specific terms for cancellation cases. Reservations are taken almost a year in advance. In October 2009 there were only two weekends left for year 2010 which tells about the popularity of the place. Leena Saari is the contact person from the free time and sport office of the city of Vaasa. (Saari 2009.)

5.6 Kotirannan Työväentalo, Community hall of Kotiranta

The community hall of Kotiranta is situated in Kustaalantie 82. The house is built in 1947. The lot is a rental lot from the city of Vaasa and the house is owned by the association of Vaasan Pioneerien tuki ry. They rent out the venue and also have their own activities like flea markets and dances. On week days regular users have evening courses at the venue. (Backman 2009.)

The house itself has a terrace which is glazed and nicely gives shelter even later on in the autumn. The house consists of a restaurant hall, festival hall, smaller meeting rooms and sauna in the basement. In big parties the restaurant side is often used as a place for the buffet table. It is convenient because the kitchen and a storage room are situated behind the restaurant space. Some cloth rack space is situated in the entry hall. The toilets of the house are downstairs, the ladies toilet has a lot of space so also brides with big dresses have room to move, and both male and female toilets have two water closets.

The festival hall is a large space with a podium. The podium is ideal for a band and there is a separate door from outside leading straight to it, which makes it easier for moving instruments around. As a special decoration the podium back wall has a restored painting of a painter called Hjortell from 1950. The festival hall can nicely host a party for 130 guests. Tables and chairs are calculated for 130 people, some extra stools in addition can also be found. In the summer 2009 the biggest party arranged had 150 guests. (Lehto 2009.)

The kitchen is small in size but has a storage room behind it. Appliances in the kitchen include a stove, an oven, a quick dishwasher, four fridges, a freezer, a coffee maker, a microwave and even a wringer. Coffee thermoses of different styles and sizes can be found. The kitchen has a lot of all kinds of equipment for cooking and serving and all of it can be used when the kitchen is rented. The renter just has to see what equipment is there, to know what to bring in addition. It is positive that wide selection of kitchenware can be found in the house but to get the advantage of it requires time and interest to look through what is on offer. Tableware, both coffee and food sets, for about 100 people can be used for the price of the venue. 20 table cloths can be found at the scene and cost 50 € to rent. (Lehto 2009.)

The lot is surrounded with a fence and there is a mini golf course on the yard, which is open at summertime for the public. There is parking space for about 30-40 cars. Additional things that can be rented are a large gas grill and a PA system

which includes a mixer board, two loud speakers and three microphones. The rent for the PA systems is 30 €. (Lehto 2009.)

The customer does not have to rent the whole house, if the event in question is small. The restaurant hall is for 20 people. A separate club room for about 10-15 people is rented for meetings and other activities. The sauna department downstairs is for groups of maximum 10 people. The restaurant and the kitchen can be rented as one; also restaurant, kitchen and the festival hall can be rented at a separate price. The whole house is often rented in case of weddings and private parties to ensure that no outside people is at the scene. The house has functioning air-conditioning and heating and it is in use all year round. (Lehto 2009.)

Rental times and prices vary according to the time of the week and how long the place is wanted for. The whole house for example from Friday afternoon to Sunday afternoon costs 300 €. More price information can be found in Appendix 1. Cleaning of the premises is agreed case by case with the customer. If the janitors take care of the cleaning an extra fee is set. The house has two janitors, who in addition of cleaning take care of the premises and check that bookings of the venue are in order. There is a janitor's apartment as part of the house, so they are often at the scene especially for evening events. For weekend events the customer will be provided with a key. (Backman 2009.)

5.7 Palosaaren Järjestöotalo, Association house of Palosaari

The joined house for different organizations in Palosaari, Vapaudentie 27, was built between 1955 and 1961. From the start it was built for different kind of occasions, events and to serve numerous associations in their activities. Today the organizations of different ideologies together form a board, which takes care of the matters and makes the decisions concerning the house. The grounds of the whole house were built first and the actual house was built in different phases. The kitchen, cafeteria side and what now works as an entry hall and cloak room were built in 1955. The entry hall was used as a dancing area in the beginning, because at that time dances were organized often in the house. In 1961 the large

festival hall was added to the house and one year after the stage was built. The house is situated on city's land and the organizations rent it. (Sparf 2009.)

The house has altogether over 6000 square meters of space. Part of it works as a museum, a janitor's flat can be found upstairs together with some storage rooms and an office. Also a gym is located in the basement. The actual festival hall is 375m² with a stage of 100 m². An old fashioned record booth for a DJ is situated in the corner of the stage. The festival hall takes up to 300 people if only chairs are needed. Tables can be found and set up for maximum 200 people in the hall. (Sparf 2009.)

The kitchen has a wide selection of appliances and also all kind of kitchen ware from saucepans to serving trays, bowls and other equipment. Metos- hotplates and a warm cart for displaying the food are in the cafeteria. Two ovens and stoves are in the kitchen with two fridges and an effective dishwasher designed for industrial use. Large coffee thermoses are also included in the kitchen accessories. Tableware is for 150 people and is in customers' use with the rental price of the whole house. Table cloths of odd number can be borrowed for price of 20 € if the customer takes care of the washing afterwards.

The customer takes care of the cleaning of spaces used. For smaller occasions only the cafeteria side can be rented separately for 60 € per occasion. One meeting room is on the second floor. The arrangements are made with Tarja-Maija Sparf and often prices and timetables can be reconciled case to case. Sparf has been the housekeeper and janitor in the house for the last 30 years. Together with her companion they can provide food or coffee by the order for small groups up to 50 people. (Sparf 2009.)

The house is in active use all year round. During the weekdays all the evenings are booked for different dance groups, sport clubs and other activities. In the old days, a rumour says that even 700 people have been participating in some dance

organized. Number of users today is perhaps not that many at the time, but the house is used very actively. (Sparf 2009.)

5.8 Arbetets Vänner

Arbetets Vänner is a venue in Ajurinkatu 14 in the centre of Vaasa. The house is built in 1978 in co-operation with the city of Vaasa. The first floor is in possession of the cultural association Arbetets Vänner, which is the oldest cultural association in Vaasa. The city of Vaasa runs operations and some offices elsewhere in the house. During the weekdays a lot of activities go on in the festival hall, the associations own choirs and a square dance group have their practice there. (Borgar 2009.)

The house is entered straight from Ajurinkatu. The spacious hallway has well space for coats and the toilets are situated there. Two entrances go to the festival hall, the other one near the stage and the other one in the other end of the hall. The festival hall is 200m² big and has a stage of 30 m². The hall is long, rectangle shaped and in the opposite end of the stage a smaller part of the hall can be separated with folding doors. The whole venue is registered for 290 people; seats can be arranged well for 180 people, maximum up to 200. Chairs are altogether enough for 230, tables for 200. (Borgar 2009.)

A small kitchen is on the side of the hall and is connected to the hall with a connective opening in the wall. Tableware for both dining and coffee serving can be found for 120 people. The kitchen is equipped with a fridge, industrial dish washer, stove and an oven plus a coffeemaker. The kitchen has couple of coffee thermoses to use. Some tablecloths can be used when renting the venue but the amount is not enough for all the tables. The tablecloths have to be washed by the customer. For possible music program the hall has a piano, which is in use of the customer. The association also has a grand piano, but a separate price is settled if it is used. 20 parking spaces can be found in the backyard. (Borgar 2009.)

The venue is due to its use available for rental use on weekends. Summer time is quiet, but different kinds of family gatherings fill the booking calendar from September to May. When renting the venue, it is possible to use starting on Friday at 6 pm. On Saturdays the venue can be used from 9 am until 02 am and on Sunday the venue needs to be cleaned and be empty by 12 pm. Sture Borgar is the caretaker of the house and he opens and closes the doors before and after the events. He also shows the house for the people interested in renting it. (Borgar 2009.)

5.9 Arbis

Vasa Arbis (Arbetarinstitut) has their house in Kirkkopuistikko 15. The house itself was built in 1876. In the beginning it served as an apartment and office building until the end of 19th century. In 1907 the house started to operate as a school. It was a Swedish public school, Svenska samskola, which was situated in the house and it stayed until 1975. Vaasa Arbis had been looking for their own place and after a long hunt for their own venue they found themselves in the house which Samskolan had moved away from. In the late 1970's the house was renovated to suit the needs of Arbis and its operation. (Andersen 2007, 53-58.)

The institute is a part of the operations of the city of Vaasa and the city owns the building. Arbis arranges education, different kind of courses on many areas like languages, culture and art. The house has class rooms, administrative offices and a large festival hall, which can be rented for meetings, occasions and even family celebrations. As the house works as an education building, toilets can be found in good quantities.

The whole festival hall is big enough for 200 people seated with only chairs for concerts and such. The hall can be divided into two parts with a separation wall. The smaller part is then for about 40 people and the larger part for a bit less than 100 in the case of seats by the table. The bigger part of the hall has a stage with curtains and theatre lights. Tables and chairs altogether can host an event for 150

people. A piano and stereo are situated in the hall and can be used by the customer. In December 2009 the hall has been renovated. (Nordman 2009.)

Arbis does not have any tableware or tablecloths to borrow and the kitchen facilities are minimal. Near the hall, in the hallway a small kitchen corner is situated, merely for the use of the personnel as a break area. In case of meetings and daytime events coffee serving can be ordered from the Swedish vocational school's students practice kitchen Restaurant Fyrklöver. Decorations and other organising of the space can be done before the event if the venue is not booked otherwise. Clearing of decorations and customers' own things should be done after the event; house has cleaning staff who will take care of more thorough cleaning. (Nordman 2009.)

The venue is available mostly during the school year; from August until May and due to the institute's own activities mostly for weekends. All the arrangements concerning a booking are taken care of with the secretary staff. The practical matters are arranged depending on the situation. Only few family festivals are organised in the venue, hence the case to case treatment. House has janitorial staff, who open and close the doors if a member of staff is not present in the event otherwise. The rents can be seen on the Appendix 1. Value added tax is added on the rates and also the possible janitor's fee for opening and closing the doors. Janitorial fee is decided upon conversation. (Nordman 2009.)

5.10 EFÖ- Evangeliska folkhögskolan i Österbotten

Evangeliska folkhögskolan i Österbotten has its house in Rantakatu 21-22. The school has worked in the neighbourhood from 1942, but the actual house that the festival hall is situated in, is built in 1964. The school operates in close contact with the Swedish Lutheran evangelical society in Finland and works according to the church's values offering one year and shorter courses in different topics like languages, music and drama. (Evangeliska Folkhögskolan i Österbotten 2009.)

The school has a festival hall which is used often for schools term festivities and other activities. Private celebrations like weddings, christenings, birthdays and gatherings are popular in the festival hall though not so many people outside the school's operations know about the possibility to rent the venue. This is partly due to the ideology of the school, which should be respected in party planning.

The festival hall is situated in the top floor of the building. The entrance of the house is between stories, few steps down on the ground floor toilets and cloth hanging is situated. The lunch cafeteria of the school is also on the first floor. The festival hall is a large, spacious room with windows overlooking to the sea. Tables can be arranged to the hall for 100-150 people and this is done by the customer. White table cloths are included in the price and can be found from the venue. The hall can be rented on its own without any services from the venue.

The school has a kitchen which is open from middle of August until Midsummer and food serving for private parties can also be ordered from the kitchen. During the school year, the kitchen operates as a preparation kitchen and serves lunch daily for the students of the school. When food is ordered from the kitchen, the serving style is always a buffet table. There is a lift from the kitchen to the festival hall, and it is easy to set the buffet table in the front of the festival hall. The total price in this case will depend on the number of the people and the menu. The kitchen can be rented with all its appliances and kitchenware for customers own use by an agreed price depending on what is needed. Dishes can be rented with a similar agreement as the kitchen. (Nordblad 2009.)

Festivities with alcohol or dancing should not be arranged on the premises, though welcoming toasts can be raised and some couples have danced a wedding waltz on their wedding party in the hall. A grand piano and the organ are situated in the festival hall and can be used by the customer. A stereo is also found in the hall. Course of the arrangements and festivities are settled with the staff. The head of the kitchen, Camilla Nordblad, takes care of the reservations and the arrangements. (Nordblad 2009.)

5.11 Mira-house

Mira-house is an old youth house in Kirkkopuistikko 34. The house was taken into use in January 1887. The City of Vaasa owns the house, the Mira-association uses it and co-operates with the city. The Mira-association arranges their own varying activities; the aim of the association is to bring different kinds of cultures together in multicultural Vaasa. (Zhandr 2009.)

When entering the house, an entry hall opens up with clothes storage space and toilet facilities. The house has altogether 5 toilets and one wheelchair accessible toilet. The festival hall is entered from the entry hall. Between the festival hall and kitchen is a side room which in big parties is often used for the food buffet.

The festival hall has the entrance in the back of the hall so that the stage is on the opposite wall from the doors. 120 people can nicely be seated in the hall. 28 tables for four and over 200 chairs are at the house, they can be organised to the festival hall. A stage with partially working lights and a PA-system are in use for example for a band performing in the event. The floor of the festival hall is of material suitable for dancing. A room which can be used for the band breaks is behind the stage and can be accessed through the back door of the house. During other times the room is used as a meeting facility. (Zhandr 2009.)

The kitchen has plenty of working surfaces and space but the appliances are not designed for making or even heating food for a bigger party. An old stove, an oven and two fridges and a freezer are at the scene. A cleaning closet is in the kitchen and in the use of the customer. Toilet paper and handtowels can be used from the closet as a part of the rent. Cleaning of the premises should be agreed upon the booking of the venue. Table cloths and decorations have to be brought to the scene by the customer. The venue does not have any serving ware or dishes either for the customers' use so that aspect has to be taken care otherwise. (Zhandr 2009.)

Today the house is in use all year round for different kinds of events. During weekdays an afternoon club for kids operates in the house and in the evenings' different kind of clubs and organisations have their meetings and rehearsals in the hall. The Mira-association takes care of the renting procedures and forwards the information and the rent is paid to the city of Vaasa. During the summer season, maintenance is done in the house. Festivities can still be organised in the summer time as well, mostly weekends are booked. In this case the rent must be paid for one month prior to the booked date in order to keep the booking. (Zhandr 2009.)

5.12 Vaasan Kiltatalo, Vaasa Guild house

Vaasa Guild house is situated in Gerby, by the sea in the end of Solasaarentie. The house is built there between 1988 and 1991. The log frame of the house has been transferred from Purola, where it has worked as a house of the defence force's white troops and later on as a shooting range. After thousands of hours of voluntary work by war veterans and other interested the house was ready to use in 1991. The lot and the buildings were at the time owned by the Finnish Army. Later the land came to the possession of the city of Vaasa and at the same time all the different associations who had an interest in the house registered as one association, Vaasan Kiltatalo Ry. They purchased the buildings on the lot from the city to be used for their own meetings and happenings. (Kauppinen 2009.)

Vaasan Kiltatalo Ry constitutes of 12 associations, who all have the will of national defence as their associations theme. According to the house attendant Seppo Kauppinen, 83 events and occasions were organised in the house in 2008. The usage of the house was over estimated in the beginning of its existence and from first being restricted to the use of only the members of its owning association, it is nowadays free to rent for anyone. (Kauppinen 2009.)

The house has a small porch which leads to the festival hall. The outerwear storage is very restricted in this space. The main hall is calculated for 40 to 50 people. Chairs and tables are for that number of people. A fireplace with sofa chairs around it is situated in one corner of the hall. The other corner leads to the

kitchen, which is connected to the hall with a half open wall. Toilets for male and female can be found in connection the sauna department. A wheelchair accessible toilet has been added later to the premises. The house has electrical heating.

The kitchen is equipped with home style appliances. An oven and a stove and a fridge are situated in the kitchen. A dishwasher cannot be found from the premises, partially because the water that comes in is from a drilled well on the lot. The water is salty and rusty and not drinkable. All the drinking water has to be brought to the premises. The kitchen does not have dishes for customers. More cold storage in a form of two freezers and a fridge are possible to use in a case of big occasions like weddings and birthdays in the summertime on agreement. (Kauppinen 2009.)

Additional furniture and patio furniture to take advantage of for summertime outdoor events can be borrowed from the association. They have storage facilities on the lot, where extra things are kept. The lot is fairly large in size and can easily fit 30 cars to the parking lot and more with careful planning. (Kauppinen 2009.)

The customers need to clean after themselves. The house has a cleaner who visits the premises once a week to maintain the shape of the house. Seppo Kauppinen shows the house for the interested renters and takes care of the key before and after the occasions. All the arrangements and rules are agreed upon the situation. Vaasan Kiltatalo Ry invoices the customers afterwards. The house is rented on a weekend rate. Rate for half-day event before 6 pm is 100 € and for the evening 150 €. Additional price information is shown on Appendix 1. (Kauppinen 2009.)

5.13 Palosaaren Työväentalo, the Community hall of Palosaari

The Community hall of Palosaari is situated in Varisselänkatu 22. The house and the lot are owned by the social democratic blue-collar association of Palosaari. The house is built in 1949 and its size is 496 m². Earlier it has been a popular place for organizing dances on regular bases. Nowadays furniture sales, auctions and meetings have replaced dances. An accordion club has their practise on the

second floor and as rent they organise dance evening every now and then. (Jyrkiäinen&Leinonen 2009.)

The house has its main entrance directly on the street Varisselänkatu and has a spacious vestibule with a ticket sales booth. The entry hall after the vestibule has a large cloak room space and toilets. A wheel chair accessible toilet has recently been built in connection to the festival hall. The entry hall is a space between two halls of the building. Doors lead to the restaurant hall and the festival hall. The house also has a janitor's apartment on the second floor, but it is empty as the house has no full time janitor.

The festival hall is large with big windows to the both sides of the house. A stage for a band or for example the bride and the groom on a wedding party is situated in a central spot of the hall. The hall can be divided into three separate spaces with folding doors. The festival hall can fit 150 people with seats. Tables and chairs can be found also in bigger number, some of them are situated in the restaurants side.

The separate restaurant hall can well seat 50 people and a big serving table stands in the middle of the restaurant. In one corner a bar desk is situated. Behind the bar one can access the small kitchen of the house. The kitchen has an oven, stove, microwave and a fridge. Coffee thermoses are included in the kitchen's movables. Coffee cups are enough for 300 people and soup plates and dinner plates for 70-100 people. Glass jugs and other serving ware and flower vases are a part of the kitchen set. All the dinner ware and kitchen movables can be used by the customer renting the venue without a separate price. The washing of the dishes is more troublesome, because there is no dishwasher in the facility. Tables have usually plastic table cloths with different kind of runners, but in private occasions decorations can be placed according to the theme and wishes of the customer. (Jyrkiäinen&Leinonen 2009.)

The lot has some parking space for about 10 cars; otherwise the cars must be parked in the streets nearby. The whole venue can be rented as one or the restaurant side and the festival hall side can be booked separately. The board members take care of small meeting arrangements and also serving, on their own time. The association also has a B-licence to sell alcohol in their own events but this does not affect private events. Helinä Jyrkiäinen, who is one member of the board of the association, shows the house and opens the doors. The members of the board of the association together take care of the bookings and the house. (Jyrkiäinen&Leinonen 2009.)

5.14 Sundom UF, Sundom Youth Association

The house of the Sundom Youth Association stands on a hill, by the road from Maalahti to Vaasa. The address is Sundomintie 74. It has been built to the same purpose it serves today, as a Youth Association house. The building work has been done in different parts, the earliest phase dating back to 1906. A big renovation was made in the 1980's and since then the house has been in use all year round. The youth association owns both the lot and the house. (Finne&Sigg 2009.)

The size of the festival hall is 160 m² and 150 people can be seated there. In addition to the festival hall, a cafeteria side for 60 people can be rented, either separately or with the festival hall. Between the festival hall and cafeteria a spacious entry hall is situated. There is a proper cloak room space and large toilets for both genders. The total size of the first floor is about 400 m². The house has a youth space on the second floor which is used regularly, three times a week. (Finne&Sigg 2009.)

The festival hall has a stage, for a band or other performances and a lower platform in the corner. The floor is ideal for dancing. Tables and chairs can be found from the house in large numbers. The house has once said to have hosted a wedding party of 400 people all with seats. To fit that amount of people on the

premises has asked for some imagination. On that occasion all the square meters have been in effective use, even the lobby. (Finne&Sigg 2009.)

The kitchen can be used for the same rental price as the other spaces when the whole house is rented for one party. A bar counter separates the kitchen from the cafeteria and is a good spot to place coffee or food on offer. A professional dishwasher, home style stove and oven and one fridge are the appliances found from the kitchen. A microwave and a coffeemaker are also in use. Coffee cups can be found for 190 people. At the moment they are included in the rent, but in the future the association is going to set a separate price for the usage of dishes.

Meeting equipment and a piano in the festival hall can be freely used by the renter. The customer organises all the tables and movable themselves and takes care of the cleaning afterwards. If cleaning is done improperly a cleaning crew will be hired and the bill is sent to the renter in question. The lot is large with spacious parking area on both sides of the house. (Finne&Sigg 2009.)

During wintertime the house is more actively used for different meetings and parties. Coffee serving for occasions like these can be ordered from the house but for bigger occasions customer has to organise everything themselves. The house has a janitor couple who live at the premises and take care of the bookings and the state of the house. The janitors, Magdalena Sigg as one, also show the house to the interested ones. The rental contract is done in writing and regulations about the usage of the house are gone through. The price for the renting of the house depends on whether the one renting is a member of Sundom Youth Association or not. Prices which are visible in the APPENDIX 3 are valid for non-members. (Finne&Sigg 2009.)

5.15 Wärtsilä-hall

Wärtsilä-hall is the festival hall in the house of the student association of University of Vaasa. It has been built in 2008 and inaugurated in use in August 2008. This all has been a result for many years of dreaming and a lot of work,

both on paper and physically as the student association has been seeking for facilities of their own. The lot and the house are in the possession of housing company Vaasan Ylioppilastalo. The housing company is owned half by the city of Vaasa and half by the student association of the University of Vaasa. (Viitala 2009.)

The house consists of office space both for the student association and some other businesses, Wärtsilä-hall for festival use, a cabinet with a fireplace and sauna department for 15-20 people. The festival hall is 131m² in size. The entry hall is spacious, has clothes hanging possibility and two toilets for both genders and a wheel chair accessible toilet. The sauna department is entered from the entry hall. Sauna has a dressing room and a separate toilet. The parts of the house which can be rented are situated on the first floor.

According to safety measures, the hall is for 200 people but it can nicely host 120 people. Tables are for 150 people and chairs for 200. One wall of the hall is all windows and has a view to the sea. The cabinet opens up to the festival hall and can be easily used as an additional seating area. Cosy sofas and chairs for 15 people are situated in the cabinet but can be moved away if customer so wishes. A small atrium which has a glass roof open from the sides and calculated as outdoor space is situated in the middle of the house. It is only accessed from the festival hall. (Viitala 2009.)

A small kitchen is built firstly as a serving kitchen and not as a preparation kitchen. It is equipped with a fridge, stove and oven, coffee maker, microwave and an industrial dishwasher. Work surfaces can be found on a fairly good amount even though the space is small and narrow. Kitchen has no kitchenware or crockery to rent. The kitchen has its own entrance, designed to help catering companies to load and unload their things.

The customers organise all the furniture in the venue themselves and are obliged to put them back to their original place after the occasion. Tables are to be wiped

and own decorations taken away from the premises. Proper cleaning by professionals is included in the rental price. The facility does not have any alcohol license, so customers can bring their own drinks. Smoking is allowed only at the terrace, not in the atrium. The terrace of the house gives out to the sea and is separated from the shore only with a sidewalk. (Viitala 2009.)

The sidewalk and a larger yard area in the end of the house are in possession of the city. These areas can be closed from the general public if requested separately from the city of Vaasa. If nothing specific is going on in the area, the outdoor spaces have been possible to use without a separate fee. The house has approximately 20 parking spaces for the associations use. University of Vaasa has their parking just across the road and on demand can be used by the users of the venue. (Viitala 2009.)

The venue can be rented all year round. The facility is rented only to one party at the time. This means either the sauna department or the festival hall, if not rented both for the same customer. When renting the festival hall, the cabinet and the kitchen are automatically included in the same rate. The sauna department can be rented for discounted price of 100 € for the whole weekend together with the Wärtsilä-hall. (Viitala 2009.)

A contract is written between a customer and VYY Holding Oy. Rules and regulations are clearly established and have to be signed before closing the contract. Two set of keys are given to the renter and can be collected from the office of the student association. One day rental time is from 6 am until 2 am. If the venue is rented for the whole weekend, the using time is from Friday morning until Sunday evening. (Viitala 2009.)

5.16 Youth houses owned by the city of Vaasa

City of Vaasa has seven youth houses around the city to serve the youth of different areas. The city offers their youth premises for rent for different kind of private parties and meetings for their co-operational partners in addition to their

own usage. The houses are different in size and style and firstly exist to serve the youth of Vaasa. Due to this primary use of the houses which narrows the possibility to rent the venue and the physical restrictions of the places, next four youth houses are chosen and introduced here. Official information is that all the other youth houses would also be available for renting just like the following sites but for practical reasons this is not possible.

When renting any of the youth houses a written contract is made when the customer goes to see the venue and all the aspects of the use of the space are discussed. The youth workers of the houses take care of the showing of the premises and writing of the contract. The person who is renting the venue has to be at least 25 years old. Cleaning is taken care of by the customer and if it is not conducted properly, the city will send a bill afterwards. Anything that is demolished has to be compensated. The key is collected from the free time office of the city of Vaasa, Vaasanpuistikko 20 B, for weekend bookings earliest at 12pm on Friday and should be returned latest on Monday by 12 pm. (Purtola&Wahlström 2009.)

5.16.1 Suviboxi

Suviboxi is a youth house in Suvilahti, Teirinkatu 5. Vaasan opiskelija-asuntosäätiö, the Student housing association of Vaasa owns the building and the youth department of Vaasa rents the facility. The youth activities have begun in the house in 1985. On weekdays the facility has youth activities organised by the city from Monday to Wednesday during the afternoons and evenings. (Kuukka&Parviainen 2009.)

The whole facility is over 500m² in size. That includes a hall, an entry hall, cafeteria and some office, storage and band practise space. Two toilet facilities for both males and females and a wheelchair accessible toilet can be found on the premises. Main entrance leads to a hall which is situated between the festival hall and the cafeteria. Visual contact can be made from both spaces.

The festival hall does not have fixed furniture, so it is easy to arrange the space as wanted. The hall is situated few steps lower from the other facility. Tables and chairs have just been renewed, are of dark wood and look good even without tablecloths. Tables and chairs can be arranged freely and are all together enough for 50 people. One table is for four. The cafeteria side has also a sofa set. During youth operations in the house, the tables and chairs are all situated in the cafeteria side.

The kitchen is of open model in the corner of the cafeteria and has a bar desk opening to the space. The kitchen is equipped with home style equipment: a stove and an oven, a fridge, a freezer and a coffee maker and a water boiler. Food and coffee dinner sets are available for 30 people and can be found from the kitchen. The rate includes the possibility to use the dinner sets. Table cloths cannot be found from the premises. (Kuukka&Parviainen 2009.)

Decorations can be set up as the customer wants, with blue-tack or tape. Cleaning equipment can be found from the premises for the customers' use. The hall has a piano, disco lights, a stereo with loudspeakers and a PA-table. Few parking spaces are situated in front of the entry to the house; otherwise parking is poor in the area. During weekends the rental time is from Friday to Sunday, it is only possible to rent the whole weekend, not one day. (Kuukka&Parviainen 2009.)

5.16.2 Sumppu

Sumppu is situated by the school of Isolahti, in Pallokatu 17. It has been operating as the city's youth centre from the beginning of 1980's. The house is built in 1977-78. The centre is open for children and youth of different ages on Monday and from Wednesday until Friday from afternoon until evening. (Purtola&Wahlström 2009.)

The facility has a 108 m² size hall and 127 m² of other spaces. Entry hall with good cloak space and toilets leads to the hall and the small kitchen. A pool table is

situated in the entry hall and a cover board exists for the table, so it can be used for other purposes. Youth workers have their office in connection to the entry hall.

The hall has a narrow stage going along side of the hall. Tables can also be put on it and in the end, where the stage gets a bit wider a sofa group is situated. Seven similar table sets with chairs for four people can be found. This adds up to 28 seats all together. Different kind of chairs and tables can be found an odd number from the facility in addition. 40-50 people can be invited to the venue for an occasion. (Purtola&Wahlström 2009.)

The kitchen corner is small, separated from the hall only with a bar desk. The bar desk is good if a buffet style serving is in use for a smaller group of people. The appliances are of home style but the basics can be found; a fridge and a freezer, oven and stove, microwave, coffee maker and water boiler. Table cloths or set of dishes cannot be found in Sumppu. Different kind of mugs and plates and such are in the cupboards in the kitchen and can be used, but the style and numbers of items vary.

Additional things good to know are that the hall has music equipment like loud speakers and stereo and partially working disco lights. Parking is not a problem, thinking that the school's parking area is behind the corner and can easily fit 50 cars and even more. Sumppu is possible to book mostly only for weekends, because all the activities that go on during the week. The venue is rented on daily rate basis and if nothing else is going on in the space, decorations and organising the tables can be done the day before. Cleaning can be done on Sunday. (Purtola&Wahlström 2009.)

5.16.3 Villa Gerby

Villa Gerby is an old villa from the end of the 19th century by the sea front in Gerby, Saariniementie 1. The first owner has been Captain Adolf Schönberg and the Assessor of the court of Appeal Balder Hemmer later had it as his summer house. After a diverse history the house ended up under the ownership of Vesa

Kauranen, who founded Villa Gerby as a restaurant and was followed as a restaurateur by Olof Hasselblatt. He sold all the effects in the house to the city of Vaasa, and Villa Gerby started as a youth facility in the late 1980's. (Ojanen 2009.)

Villa Gerby has activities for youngsters during the school year from Wednesday to Saturday. It is possible to rent in the winter season as well, but the activities on Saturday evenings restrict the rental times. In the summer time it is only rented out for different kind of festivities. It is the most popular youth venue of the city of Vaasa for organising events, due to its location and good equipment. (Ojanen 2009.)

The house is 250m² big in two stories. The first floor has a big kitchen and a hall which has a bar desk with water connection in one corner reminding from the restaurant times. A fire place and a group of sofas around it take one corner of the hall. Toilet facilities can be found on the first floor, one of them accessible with a wheelchair. A small sauna is in connection to the toilet facilities. The house has a wheelchair ramp by the main entrance. Upstairs an office and two rooms and a third toilet can be found in addition to a storage room. These remind of the time when Villa Gerby has been a private home.

The big room in Villa Gerby is more of a living room like rather than a festival hall. Big windows face the yard and the sea and the surroundings can even work as a decoration in the summer time. Two pillars stand in the middle of the room and it has to be considered when calculating seats. Tables and chairs are for 50 people and that is the maximum amount of people indoors, if one wishes to move around too. Things, game tables and such are cleared away for the summer in exception of the pool table. A board has been made to cover it and it can be used in the festivity organisations. The table can be moved, if someone wants to do the heavy lifting. (Ojanen 2009.)

The kitchen is well equipped both with appliances and tableware. Three fridges, a dishwasher, stove and an oven, microwave and coffee maker are in the kitchen. A good dishwashing station with a large sink and a side table are still there from the restaurant times. A storage room behind the kitchen brings room to place all extra equipment. Dinner and coffee set for 50 persons can be found and inventory is made regularly keeping in mind how much the venue is rented out in the summer time. Different kinds of drink, shot and wine glasses can be found, with a bit more of an odd number. Table cloths cannot be found on the premises.

A big decked terrace outside is ideal for more space for summertime occasions. The terrace does not have an entrance direct to the house; it is built to the side of the house. A large lot brings possibilities for the innovative organisers and trees shelter from the neighbours. A large gas grill belongs to the property of Villa Gerby and can be used; the customers just have to bring their own gas bottles. A sauna cabin at the shore and small cabins for accommodation can also be rented. Sauna cabin is in use for 21 € per hour and the small cabins for accommodation cost 31 € per day. The rental rules are similar as in other cities venues. (Ojanen 2009.)

5.16.4 Sunhouse

Sunhouse is a youth house in the area of Huutoniemi-Teeriniemi and situated behind the hospital of Huutoniemi. The street address is Axel Mölnerintie 1. It has been built as a piggery and served after that as a warehouse of the hospital and after that among many different purposes also as a day care facility. In 1999 the house was renovated and it started operating as a youth house. The house is open for youth from August until mid May from Monday until Wednesday and on Fridays. (Saarela&Tuisku 2009.)

The whole facility is long and narrow in shape and it reminds more of a warehouse than anything else. The office space and a game room are situated in the other end of the house, by the main entrance. The corridor takes to the other end of the house where the kitchen corner and the bigger hall space are situated.

The main hall is separated to two spaces partly with a wall. It is not so easy to organise and decorate the venue for one party, where the guests are wished to be seated in the same space with visual contact to each other.

The kitchen is a small corner in the bigger hall. It is separated from the other spaces with a bar counter. Kitchen is equipped with a fridge, oven and a stove, microwave, coffeemaker and water kettle. Sunhouse does not have any kitchenware or table cloths to use or rent. The tables and chairs are for 20 people and there are sofas and arm chairs around the facility. A pool table is situated in the middle of the hall and it is not preferably moved to maintain its position. A board to cover the pool table exists. Parking space is not a problem, since the lot of the house is open space and remote from neighbours. (Saarela&Tuisku 2009.)

During the operating season the place is up for rental use only on Saturdays and Sundays. The house is not as popular for family occasions as the three before introduced. Most of the external use is for different kind of teams and groups who wish to have the premises for an overnight stay. Upstairs of Sunhouse is used to accommodate overnight users mostly in the summer. (Saarela&Tuisku 2009.)

5.17 SWOT for private occasions in restaurants

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *All the services from the same provider *Organising can be left to the staff *Experienced staff *Possibility to enjoy the event as a guest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Restrictions set by the restaurant in e.g. Time, length, decorations, and privacy. *Less possibilities in menus *Price can be higher, by the price list
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Less stress *Easy *Less time consuming arrangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Private caterers more flexible and a big competition to restaurants *Can all the guests sit in the same space

5.18 Loftet

Loftet is situated in Raastuvakatu 28, right in the heart of the city centre. The house is built in 1861 and is designed by C.A Setterberg, who also designed the main church of Vaasa. The house rose to be one of the best known homes with its residents in Vaasa between 1883 and 1934 when a businessman Consul Moe and his family lived in the house. Consul Moes second wife Tulla Moe was involved in cultural activities in the city and lived in the house after her husband's death until selling the house to the city of Vaasa in 1934. The city of Vaasa has had very different kind of use for the house, ranging from doctors and dentists' practice to different kinds of offices and even into being crime investigators headquarters. (Arai 2009.)

In 1985 Loftet association started renting the house from the city and put up their operations in the house. Today Loftet has a handicraft shop and restaurant "Konsulinnan kahvihuone" named after a Mrs Consul Tulla Moe. The association made big renovations in 1999, and dug up the glamour original decor from the old days. The restaurant started its operation in 2001 as a summer restaurant and for private parties, from May Day 2002 it has worked all year round. (Arai 2009.)

The restaurant has three different rooms, altogether fitting 70 people in its 94 m² of customer space. The meeting cabinet provides space for 15 people, dining room also for 15 people and the festival hall can fit up to 40 people. Festivities can be organized in one or all of the rooms. The meeting cabinet and the festival hall are in connection to each other in such a way that they cannot both be booked for separate groups.

Always when choosing Loftet as the venue for a private occasion, food and drinks have to be ordered from the restaurant. They offer four ready planned menus and a list of courses where the customer can pick their menu, but also individual wishes can be executed if the limited kitchen of the restaurant allows it. Serving for a bigger party is always offered in a buffet table form at least when the main course is in question. The kitchen is small and the restaurant does not have the possibility

for hot plate service. Soups, starter salads and desserts can be portioned and served to the table for reasonable size groups. Alcohol on offer is limited to sparkling wine, house wines, some liqueurs and cognac. Other drinks and wanted brands which can be purchased from Alko can be provided if this is settled beforehand in the planning phase with the customer. (Arai 2009.)

As the venue is an operating restaurant, the personnel will take care of organising the seating, table cloths and the needed dishes and the table setting as also the cleaning afterward and it is included in the total price. Table arrangements and setting can be discussed to the accumulators liking and if the booker wants to do that themselves, it is possible. If the accumulator wants to decorate the space in a certain way for example with special flowers and arrangements, it is possible but has to be done on own expense. Restaurant offers few different candle and napkin options, but if these are not selected the things have to be purchased by the customer. (Arai 2009.)

The company operates from Monday to Saturday; only on rare occasions parties can be held on Sundays. On Sunday events 120 € charge is set for this special arrangement. Personnel are at the scene all the time because the restaurant has an A-licence in selling alcohol. This also programmes the events organised. The restaurant has license to sell alcohol until 01.30, which means that the party has to be broken up by that time. Food and drinks are charged per person and rent for the venue is charged on an hourly 29 € rate after first three hours. Sanna Arai is the restaurant manager and takes care of bookings of parties and all the arrangements. (Arai 2009.)

5.19 The Officers Club and Restaurant Seglis

The house of the Officers Club in Vaasa is in the old barrack area, in Kasarmintori 7. It has been built in 1882-1883 and the Officers club activities started in 1919. The use of the house was restricted to officers only, so what went on in there is not that well known. In 1998 the army unit of Vaasa, Vaasan Rannikkopatteristo was shut down and most of the buildings came to the possession of the city of

Vaasa. From the year 2003 onwards the house of the Officer's club is rented by city owned Hotel Silveria. The house is used as a restaurant on reservation only. The Finnish Club of Vaasa is sub renting the space, but they only have their activities seldom, approximately once a month. (Osala 2007.)

The facilities can well host a family festival or a get together for 120 people. The maximum customer amount is 170 people. The house has separate, different sized rooms, which makes it challenging to organise for example a wedding with a lot of program if all the guests are to be seated with visual contact with each other. The house has a bigger hall for 75 people and a dining room in connection to the hall for 30 people. The bar area has tables and chairs, though little diverse from the other furniture, for 15 people. These three rooms are connected and partial visual contact can be achieved. In addition to these rooms, a Perinne- room has place for 15 to 20 people and two cabinets, Patteristo- and Korsu-cabinets have seats for 15 persons each. The two later mentioned cabinets are in the other end of the house and are used mostly only as meeting rooms and decorated very heavily with army related pictures and accessories. Perinne-room is closer to the festival hall and in connection to the dining room, but still separate and does not offer a view to the festival hall. It has more massive heritage furniture with a very unique style.

Table settings, table cloths and some decoration come from the operating restaurant but the customer can influence the colour scheme if so wished. The space has quite a lot of elements in the interior decoration which reminds of the original use of the house, which does not appeal to everyone. A piano can be found in the facility and is in the use of the customer. Cleaning afterwards does not have to be taken care of by the customer; it belongs to the restaurant operations.

Price is always correlated with the customer number, what will be served and the length of the occasion. The restaurant might have two occasions at once, if groups are small. Two groups over the size of 30 people cannot be situated in the

facilities at once. A rental price will be added to the bill if a relatively small group wants to have the whole house in their use. Otherwise a separate rent is not charged. (Rantala 2009.)

The Officer's Club is a restaurant, so there are restrictions in the operation. The staff of Hotel and Restaurant Silveria work there and the person in charge is restaurant manager Kimmo Rantala. The venue cannot be rented on its own; food and other serving are included in the booking. The place has a bar with an A-licence and the last call is given 1.30 am when the alcohol selling will end. By 2 am the place has to be empty. Possible food ordered is brought from the kitchen facilities of Hotel Silveria, because of the character of the Officer's club being a restaurant on reservation only. The kitchen of the house could be used as a preparation kitchen and it has all the needed appliances, but it would require constant use of the house for that to happen. The bookings of the Officer's Club are quite irregular. Mostly the space is used during the winter season, because in the summer time Restaurant Silveria operates Restaurant Seglis in Vaskiluoto. (Rantala 2009.)

Restaurant Seglis is the summer restaurant of Wasa Segelförening rf., the Swedish sailing club of Vaasa. It has operated in the same house since 1908 and belongs to the oldest restaurants in Vaasa. The address is Niemeläntie 14. Restaurant Seglis is open for the public from the beginning of May until the end September. Lunch and a' la carte are served during the week and for the weekends Restaurant Seglis can be booked for private occasions. The place is well suited for summer events. Restaurant Seglis is situated by the sea and has a view to the centre of Vaasa. (Wasa Segelförening 2009.)

The house is good for 120-125 guests, but more seats can be arranged. About 70 people can be seated on the terrace in addition to the festival hall inside. The hall is light and open space, which customers can decorate to their liking. The menu can be planned freely but also ready planned wedding and birthday menus are on offer. The food is made at the premises; the kitchen is equipped for normal

restaurant operations. Buffet table is often used in big parties, but also table service is possible in restaurant Seglis. Alcohol can be dispensed on the premises according to the restaurants A-licence, the last call is given 1.30 am. (Rantala 2009.)

6 FINAL DISCUSSION

Family traditions colour people's lives. In Finland many traditions date back to the past times, some have stayed and become adjusted to the modern life cycle, some have faded away. While studying these family traditions for an academic course I have myself gathered new information on the occasions that we have celebrated in our family. I find that our family has been celebrating very classical phases of life and our circle of relatives and friends have a similar tradition. Traditions have interesting roots and older than I could have expected. There are visible differences between areas of Finland how certain celebrations are held and organised. This can be seen in the food on offer, number of people invited and the style of festivities. This has been visible before and still is.

I found that the basic tips and directions on how celebrations should be held always reflect the individual organiser but were similar in many sources. This section of the thesis could have been a lot more extensive, but in that case it would have also changed the emphasis of my work. I wanted to put more weight on the actual information on venues which was the later part of the work. The main guidelines in organising celebrations are still a notable addition in the thesis and I see them as a great help when analysing different kind of venues. It helps to see points that otherwise could be left in oblivion.

Vaasa and its surroundings have slowly become my home hoods and it has been extremely interesting to drive around looking for all these varying venues that this city and its many organisations and clubs have to offer for the use of people and their festivities. Through the process of this account I have seen a lot of places and areas of my home town I did not even know existed. It has also brought more information on associations and other activity organisers. This kind of account should be brought to easier access for city residents. Information could give an addition to the knowledge of the city for the ones interested.

I did not reach all the festival venues which I tried to contact but as in all kind of researches and accounts, the answer percentage is seldom 100%. Some places never answered my mails and others did not answer via telephone, which I found a pity. The contact information was maybe not up to date or people in charge had changed. I think that if I could not reach these places then how could the potential customers and users.

I met and came into contact with very different kind of people during my thesis project. One entrepreneur did not find his venues suitable to be included in my work, one place had changed from a festival venue to a children's home whereas many representatives genuinely wanted to do their utmost so I could conduct a good work. Some representatives gave me advice on who to contact and what kind of other places were out there. I was positively surprised how much trouble some had gone through to be able to meet me and to answer my messages. One place representative told me that he got my mail via another person who had moved abroad and read the email on behalf of a person who had just passed away.

As I already had gathered such a large number of venues, I did not include the venues of the parish of Vaasa in this study. I did not go outside borders of the city of Vaasa, even though places commonly used by many wedding and birthday organisers in Vaasa were then excluded. Next step in this work would be to make a more tempting guide book in appearance of all this information, look for more venues which still probably exist and by expanding the party planning part and organizing part with maybe an interview research among caterers. I find that it would be interesting to hear from the caterers in Vaasa about their opinions of the venues. This could be a very usable addition to the information on the usability of venues.

Interviews worked very well for me as the mode of getting information. I feel that I got the best possible outcome when I could interact with people and there was a possibility to ask follow-up questions. A sent questionnaire survey with readymade questions would have not worked for this thesis benefit. The weakness

was that I should have paid more attention on getting exactly the same information in every venue. I have noticed that on some visits I had forgotten to ask some information.

The venues were as different as the people presenting them. The interview situations went on the pace which I and the representative of the venue decided. Some people were very talkative and others just told the required information. Those situations as this whole thesis process had their ups and downs. All in all, the work came together in the end.

REFERENCES

Andersén, Mats 2007. Folkbildning i 100 år. Vaasa, Waasa Graphics Oy.

Arai, Sanna, Restaurant manager 19th Oct, 2009. Ravintola Konsulinnan Kahvihuone, Vaasa. Interview.

Asunmaa, Ville, Association treasurer, 20th Oct, 2009. Pohjanmiehet Ry, Vaasa. Interview.

Aurejärvi-Karjalainen, Anneli 1999. Perheen omat juhlat, siviiliseremoniat häistä hautajaisiin. Juva, WSOY.

Backman Jan, janitor, 21st Oct, 2009. Kotirannan Työväentalo, Vaasa. Interview.

Borgar Sture, caretaker of the house, 22nd Oct, 2009. Arbetets Vänner, Vaasa. Interview.

Evangelic Lutheran Church of Finland, 2009 [online] Available in www-form: <URL:http://evl.fi/EVLen.nsf/Documents/A47B48B9B3B2188AC22572B400213CE6?OpenDocument&lang=EN> [referenced 21st Sep 2009]

Evangeliska Folkhögskolan i Österbotten, 2009. Presentation of the school and its operations [online] Available in www-form: <URL:http://www.efo.fi/engelska/info_eng.htm > [referenced 3rd Nov 2009]

Finne Peter & Sigg Magdalena, representatives of Sundom UF 26th Nov, 2009. Sundom Ungdomsförening, Youth association house of Sundom, Vaasa. Interview.

Huhtaniska Tytti, Backström Nico & Kouhia Leena 2007. Pieni Juhlakirja. Jyväskylä WS Bookwell Oy.

Immonen, Päivi & Nevala, Riitta 2002. Juhlakirja- juhlia, tapoja ja perinteitä. Porvoo, WS Bookwell Oy.

Isotalo, Merja 1999. Joulusta juhannukseen, häistä läksiäisiin. Suomalaisen juhlaperinteen ja kansanhuvien opinto-opas. Vantaa, Tummavuoren kirjapaino Oy.

Jussila, Kari 20th Oct, 2009. Vaasan Merenkyntäjät, Vaasa. Interview.

Jyrkiäinen Helinä & Leinonen Tuula, board members 25th Nov, 2009. Palosaaren työväenyhdistys, the community hall of Palosaari, Vaasa. Interview.

Kauppinen Seppo, janitor 20th Nov, 2009. Vaasan Kiltatalo, Vaasan Kiltatalo Ry, Vaasa. Interview.

Kuukka Isto & Parviainen Hanna-Maria, youth workers 11th Nov, 2009. Suviboxi, youth house, Vaasa. Interview.

Kämäräinen, Eija 2005. Käytöksen kultainen kirja: Hyvä käytös, hyvät tavat. Porvoo, WS Bookwell Oy.

Lehto, Taina Inkeri, Board chairman, 21st Oct, 2009. Vaasan Pioneerien Tuki Ry, Vaasa. Interview.

Nordblad Camilla, head of the kitchen operations, 3rd Nov, 2009. Evangeliska Folkhögskolan i Österbotten, Vaasa. Interview.

Nordman Anna-Maria, secretary, 2nd Nov, 2009. Arbetarinstitut Arbis, Vaasa. Interview.

Ojanen Ilkka, youth worker 18th Nov, 2009. Villa Gerby, youth house, Vaasa. Interview.

Osala, Tapio 2007. Presentation of the Tiilikasarmi of Vaasa [online] Available in www-form:

<URL:http://gamma.nic.fi/~tapioo/tiilikasarmi.html#Vaasan_Upseerikerho>

[referenced 6th Nov 2009]

Packalen Leena, Heikkinen Leena, Uski Sirkka, Härkki Taija, Räikkönen Raija, Kivistö Helena & Shemeikka Merja. Maa- ja Kotitalousnaisten Keskus Ry 1996. Järjestämme juhlia, rakennamme pitoja. Kokemäki, Satakunnan Painotuote Oy.

Pitkänen Anneli, Muurinen Pirjo, Pietilä Hanna, Valkonen Kaija & Paakkanen Mia. Reader's Digest Ab 1998. Nyt on juhlan aika- Juhlan järjestäjän käsikirja. Farigliano Italy, Milanostampa Spa.

Pohja Juhani, 1996. History of the Yacht club, Vaasan Merenkyntäjät for their 70th anniversary celebration 1996 [online]. Available in www-form: <URL:http://vaasanmerenkyntajat.fi/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=57&Itemid=57> [referenced 20th Oct 2009]

Purtola Monika & Wahlström Juha-Matti, youth workers 11th Nov, 2009. Sumppu, youth house, Vaasa. Interview.

Rantala Kimmo, restaurant manager 6th Nov, 2009. Restaurant Silveria, Upseerikerho&Seglis, Vaasa. Interview.

Roininen Kaarina & Kämäräinen Eija 1999. Kodin parhaat juhlat. Porvoo, WSOY Kirjapainoyksikkö.

Ruoppila-Martinsen, Marketta 1999. Uuden kodin kirja. Jyväskylä, Gummerus Kirjapaino Oy.

Saarela Minna & Tuisku Petri, youth workers 30th Nov, 2009. Sunhouse, youth house, Vaasa. Interview.

Saari, Leena 20th Oct, 2009. The city of Vaasa, Villa Hietalahti, Vaasa. Interview.

Salo, Ari 9th Dec, 2009. The Department Secretary, Pohjanmaan Poliisilaitos, Vaasa. Phone interview.

Salomaa, Yrjö, Superintendent 15th Oct, 2009. Cantare, Vaasa. Interview.

Seljavaara, Anu & Kärjä, Päivi 2005. Juhlat alkakoot! Vuotuisia tapoja ja perinteitä. Juva, WS Bookwell Oy.

Sparf, Tarja-Maija, housekeeper, 22nd Oct, 2009. Palosaaren Järjestöotalo, Vaasa. Interview.

Statistics Finland, 2009. Housing statistics for 2008. [Online] Available in www-form: <URL: [http:// www.tilastokeskus.fi/tup/suoluk/suoluk_asuminen.html](http://www.tilastokeskus.fi/tup/suoluk/suoluk_asuminen.html)> [referenced 9th Sep 2009]

Strandén, Kaisa 1991. Kodin juhlat. Jyväskylä, Gummerus Kirjapaino Oy.

Swahn Jan-Öivind, Bergman Anne, Ekrem Carola, Simonsen Michèle, Hodne Bjarne & Mágnusson Finnur 2000. Folk I fest –traditioner i Norden. Globograf för Föreningen Norden.

The city of Vaasa. Liikunta- ja vapaa-aikavirasto 2009. Information package of Villa Hietalahti.

Viitala Mikael, 30th Nov, 2009. Student association of Vaasa University, Student house, Vaasa. Interview.

Wasa Segelförening, 2009. Restaurang Seglis [online] Available in www-form: <URL: <http://www.wasasegelforening.com/Default.aspx?id=303431> > [referenced 24th Nov 2009]

Wasa Sångargille, 2009. Presentation of the house Cantare [online] Available in www-form: <URL:<http://www.cantare.fi/index.php?pID=2>> [referenced 15th Oct 2009]

Zhandr Nadia, secretary of Mira-association, 5th Nov, 2009. Mira house, Vaasa. Interview.

APPENDIX 1

Hei,

olen Vaasan Ammattikorkeakoulun neljännen vuoden restonomi-opiskelija. Opintoni ovat loppusuoralla ja tällä hetkellä aherran lopputyötäni suomalaisten perhejuhlien vietosta ja juhlatiloista. Työtäni varten haluaisin tutustua Vaasan erilaisiin juhlatiloihin ja analysoida niitä. Tämän vuoksi haluaisin tutustua myös Teidän välittämäänne juhlatilaan, ajankohtana joka teille parhaiten sopii. Työhöni minun on tarkoitus liittää juhlatilasta taustatietoa ja hieman historiaa, tilan kuvaus, tiedot vuokrauksesta ja asiaan liittyvistä seikoista. Tavoitteeni on saada työni kirjoitettua joulukuun mennessä. Ammattikorkeakoulujen opinnäytetyöt ovat julkisia dokumentteja, joten tarvitsen myös suostumuksenne liittää tiedot juhlatilasta opinnäytteeseeni.

Toivottavasti löydämme jonkin yhteisen ajan, jolloin voisin tulla tutustumaan välittämäänne juhlatilaan ja esittämään muutamia kysymyksiä.

Terveisin Heli Pakkanen

Translated with apologies to the abovementioned

Hello,

I am a fourth year hospitality management- student of Vaasa University of Applied Sciences. At the moment I am near of graduating and I am working on my final thesis about Finnish family traditions and festival venues. For my final thesis I would like to visit the festival venues of Vaasa and analyze them. This is why I would also like to visit the venue that You are representing. The possible meeting could be scheduled to a time which best suites You. My aim is to get information and history of the venue, description on the festival hall, information on the rental of the house and additional related information. I aim to finish my work by Christmas. The final thesis in Universities of applied sciences is a public document and for this reason Your consent to add the information of the venue is needed.

I hope that we can find a suitable time for both of us when we could meet and I could come and get to know Your venue and ask few questions.

Best regards, Heli Pakkanen

APPENDIX 2

Questions for venue visits

1. What is this house built for, when and what kind of history does it have?
 - a. Has the house served as a festival hall from the beginning?
 - b. Is there other kind of usage?
2. How big are the whole venue and the main festival hall (m²)?
3. Number of tables and chairs at the venue.
 - a. How many people can be seated at the venue?
4. Kitchen and crockery.
 - a. What is in use of customers in the kitchen?
 - b. What is the number of items (plates, glasses, cutlery)?
 - c. Are they in use of the customer with a separate rate or is it included in the rent?
 - d. Does the venue have table cloths to rent?
5. Any additional services that can be used or rented at the venue?
6. Can the place be freely decorated and furniture moved?
7. What is to be done after the party by the customer?
 - a. What kind of cleaning should be performed?
 - b. Is there cleaning equipment available to use at the venue?
8. Who owns the building and takes care of the renting?
 - a. Main rules and regulations for the users.
 - b. Is the contract made in writing? Does it have rules about cancellation?
 - c. Does the customer get a key or does someone come to open and close the doors?
9. Is the house rented per hour/ per day/ the whole weekend and on what rate?
10. Do you have statistics on how many occasions and of what sort are held here during one year?

APPENDIX 3

FESTIVAL VENUE	Rent for half a day	Rent for a day	Rent for weekend day (if differs)	Rent for the whole weekend
Arbeters vännar	90 €	120 €	170 €	
Arbis festival hall	150 €	300 €		
Association house of Palosaari		200 €		250 €
Cantare		150 €	300 €	360 €
Community hall of Kotiranta	200 €	235 €		300 €
Community hall of Palosaari				300 €
EFÖ festival hall	105 €	166 €		266 €
Guild house of Vaasa	100/150 €	350 €		500 €
Mira-house	260 €	340 €		420 €
Pohjanniehet	50 €	150 €	150 €	
Sundom UF		150 €		350 €
Vaasan Merenkylmäjäät-paviljon				350 €
Villa Hietalahdi	216 €	432 €		445 €
Wärtsilä festival hall		320 €	480 €	720 €
Sumpu		155 €		
Sunhouse		155 €		
Suviboxi		155 €		300 €
Villa Gerby		175 €		412 €