



Lillian Lehto

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**A RASCAL'S CRAFT CAPTURES
TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY IMMIGRANT LIFE**
**Unique poetry book depicts experience of moving
from Finland to America**

ROYAL OAK, Mich., July 22, 2010 – The poetry of Eelu Kiviranta, who emigrated from Finland to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan at the turn of the 20th century to seek a better life, has been compiled and translated into English in a newly released book, *A Rascal's Craft: Musings of a Finnish-American Immigrant*.

This one-of-a-kind book, presented in both Finnish and English, offers a glimpse into the immigrant experience through the Finnish storytelling tradition of *arkkiveisu*. Kiviranta's engaging poetry describes a variety of contemporary events – from what it was like to work in Michigan's copper mines, to the Temperance Movement, to commentary on America's new-found obsession with the horseless carriage.

This book marks the first time Kiviranta's poems have been translated into English. His granddaughter, Lillian Lehto, took up the challenge as a labor of love after professional translators said it would be too daunting a task. Her translations remain true to the poems' style and enchanting rhyme, providing for a unique and enjoyable cultural experience.

Publication of *A Rascal's Craft* was made possible in part by support from the Finlandia Foundation National. Kiviranta's great-grandson, attorney and award-winning author Steve Lehto, is a contributor to the book and wrote its introduction.



Steve Lehto

James N. Kurtti, director of the Finnish American Heritage Center, wrote the book's foreword. "I trust I speak for the Finnish-American community when I express gratitude that the works of Eelu Kiviranta have been taken from 'the cold' and shared with us," Kurtti writes.

Steve and Lillian Lehto will be giving a presentation on the book Saturday, July 31, 2010, at the Finn Grand Fest in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The event will take place at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Delta Sault Ste. Marie Waterfront Hotel and Conference Centre. The two will also be signing copies of their book following their presentation. For more information

visit <http://www.finngrandfest2010.com/events.html>.

A Rascal's Craft is available for purchase at www.momentumbooks.com or by calling 248-589-2170. 128 pages, trade paperback, US \$19.95.

About Momentum Books LLC

Royal Oak-based Momentum Books, the book publishing division of Hour Media LLC, is the publisher of A Rascal's Craft and other regional non-fiction titles. For more information, visit www.momentumbooks.com