



The cast of "Music Music Music," a children's play.

Photo by Erick Leskinen.

The month of August was very busy for the members of the Finn Camp, with a Camp Crawl, Children's Weekend, Finn Fest and the play *Kalevala: Land of Heroes*. Thank you to all the members who helped make all of it possible.

Children's Play

The children's play was held on Saturday, August 8. This priceless event is part of the annual children's weekend. The weekend also included a swim meet at the beach on Saturday, dinner at the Ravintola Saturday night, breakfast Sunday morning and a track meet on Sunday afternoon at the "A" field.



Photo by Erick Leskinen.

From the Recreation Committee

Children's Weekend ... the tradition continues, thanks to your support! I would like to thank all of the parents and everyone else who helped out with all of the weekend events. A special thanks goes out to Angie Wendolowski, our awesome swim instructor; Dick Pype, our wonderful director; Jason Evans, our spectacular grill master and all of the dads for a delicious

breakfast on Sunday morning! Thanks again to everyone who helped out during the weekend—it is very much appreciated!

Thirty-third Annual Finn Fest Weekend

Finn Fest was held the weekend of August 14-16. Great food, fun and softball were enjoyed by all. A DJ spun tunes Friday night in the Clubroom. Saturday night's music was provided by an excellent rock-'n'-roll band, which kicked out the jams in the Dance Hall.

The softball teams finished as follows:

- 1st Place—Up & Running Computers
- 2nd Place—Bayside Regulators
- 3rd Place—Katz Roofing & Siding Finn Fest



Photo by Erick Leskinen.

A couple of clouds passed through on Sunday afternoon and dropped some rain for a few minutes, but otherwise—once again—the weather was great for Finn Fest weekend.



Special thanks to Robyn Jokinen, Finn Fest Chairman!



Bob Ervin, Don Reinholm and Steve Niemi perform during Finn Fest weekend.



Softball spectators enjoy the games

Photos by Erick Leskinen.

My First Finn Fest as a Member

By Sherry Kurin

Although Finn Fest 2009 was not my first Finn Fest, it was my first as a member. I was actually at the very first Finn Fest in 1977 when the Red Oaks men's softball team took home the first trophy. It was a fun and exciting time, especially as I had never been to the Finn Camp until then. At that time I thought it was an awesome place and something my family would enjoy. Well, as things sometimes go, that was not to be our time. It took about 30 years before I became a member last August. When the umpire calls "" "Play ball!" the sound of the ball hitting the mitt

and the thwack of the bat cracking the ball all make for an exciting softball game. The VFW flag raising, the horseshoe tournament, the raffle tickets being sold, and cooking breakfast at 7:45 a.m. (Sorry, Greg, I know I was 15 minutes late!) all make for an exciting weekend. The dunk tank was a huge success (Don Matt unfortunately cut his foot, and I missed my chance—oh well, there's always next year), as were the bouncy toys for the kids young and old and dancing in the Clubroom on Friday and to Buck Nekkid in the newly renovated Dance Hall on Saturday, awesome as usual. The crowds, the fun, the friendships and most importantly the one tie that binds us all together: being Finnish, or really wanting to be. Finally, a big thank you to Wayne and Shirley Jokinen for taking a chance and signing my application during last year's Finn Fest. I am proud to be a Finnish Girl!

Kalevala: Land of Heroes



Kalevala: Land of Heroes play.

Both performances of the play *Kalevala: Land of Heroes* were full. The weather was cool, making the Dance Hall pleasant, and everyone enjoyed the play. Thank you to the Peninsula Arts Appreciation Council (PAAC), the Knights and Ladies of the Kaleva, and the Finnish Center Association, for sponsoring this important Finnish cultural event.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Pajama Party

It's almost pajama party time again: Saturday, September 5, starting at 9 p.m. in the Clubroom. Look for flyers posted around the camp for details.

The D.F.C.S.C.A.'s Annual Golf Tournament

Sunday, September 6, 2009, at Hickory Hills Golf Course. Register 11:30 a.m.

The D.F.C.S.C.A. Annual Labor Day Adult Open Invitational Golf Tournament will be a scrambles tournament with tee times still available. Tee times are from 12 to 2 p.m. Nominal entry fees plus greens fees and optional cart rental. Open to all members. Call Mary and Rob Johnson for more details and to sign up, at 248-624-4568.

Camper's Picnic will be Saturday, September 19 from 7 to 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome to the hot dog roast along with two drink coupons per membership.

Autumn Fest and Mojakka Cook-off

The Finn Camp Scholarship Committee's Autumn Fest and Mojakka Cook-off will be Saturday, October 3, from 3 to 10 p.m. Finnish and Finnish American Music by Steve Niemi and Friends will be highlighted.

Adults are \$5, children 5 to 17 are \$3, and families are \$15 (parents and children ages 5 to 17). Wear your favorite Finn Camp shirt or hat and you'll be entered into a raffle. Come see apple cider in the making too. Please enter the *mojakka* contest by sending an email to finnculture@yahoo.com no later than Friday, October 2. Include the type of *mojakka* (e.g., beef, fish, pork, chicken, vegetarian). The *mojakka* must be in a crockpot or microwave/oven-safe container and dropped off at the Ravintola by 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 3. Judging will be from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund, so *come hungry!*

Semiannual Membership Meeting

Sunday, October 25

Registration starts at 11 a.m.

Meeting begins promptly at noon.

All members are encouraged to attend this very important annual meeting. Many important issues are discussed and voted on at this meeting. If you wish to have your voice heard, you need to attend this meeting. We are a cooperative organization and thus need everyone to contribute in discussions and votes to make the Finn Camp a better place.

Children's Halloween Fun Night

Sponsored by the Recreation Committee

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Trick or Treat in West Side camp country from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Bring treats to pass out to all the little ghosts and goblins! Wear a costume if you dare! If you don't own a camp, haunt an empty one ... just beware! (West Side camps only, please, so the kids do not have to cross Loon Lake Road.) Meet in the Clubroom for a potluck dinner at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your favorite freaky food for the buffet table.

Volunteers are needed to organize and direct games—no volunteers, no games!

Volunteers are also needed to help organize the hayride.

If you would like to volunteer, please call Jennifer Barrett at 248-669-4674.

Second Annual Sisterhood Wine Tasting

Friday, October 2, 2009, 8-10:00 p.m.

Come enjoy wines from around the world, with light hors d'oeuvres.

Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reserve your seat with Joni Sennhenn by September 25 at 248-882-4626 or jsennhenn@comcast.net. Featuring music by Bruce Foxworthy, plus a white elephant sale.



BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

The board apologizes for any confusion created for some members who were asked to remove lights strung across their area. Lights may remain on at their respective camps. Please reference Blue Book rule 203.2.3.6.5 regarding outside lighting.

Thank you,
The D.F.C.S.C.A. Board

One reminder: Renters have full privileges of the Finn Camp and lakes but cannot bring guests into the Sun Lake area.

All work hours need to be completed and cards turned in by October 31, 2009. Any required work hours that are not turned in by due date will be charged at the rate of \$15 per hour. If you still need to earn work hours, please contact one of the works administrators: Ralph Heikkinen, Don Matt, or Steve Melancon. Some of the projects are sauna rehab (Steve Melancon), rebuilding the stairs at the caretakers' home, plenty of painting, the garage, the summer kitchen and more.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Visitors must sign in at the Clubroom at noon.

New members can visit at any meeting.

Sunday, September 13, 10 a.m., visitors at noon.

Sunday, October 11, 10 a.m., visitors at noon.

Future Planning Committee

Thursday, September 3, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom

Sisterhood Committee

Wednesday, September 16, 6:30 p.m.

FOR SALE

Camp

West side camp in great shape. Includes "Michigan basement." One-bedroom camp with

twin bed, additional sleeper sofa, fridge, microwave and custom bar with stools. New electric, roof and drywall. Spectacular views and large lot. Price: First-time buyer credit. \$3,900 to \$4,900. Contact Kevin Pelto, 248-767-3577.

Wanted to Buy: Elliptical Trainer

Rey Mustonen, 248-624-1679 or email menesininen9@att.net.

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Get Your Newsletter by Email

To sign up to receive newsletters via email *only*, send us an email giving your first and last names, saying "Subscribe to Newsletters" in the subject line, to: newsletter_editor@finncamp.org. The emailed version is now the only way to see your newsletter in color.

Newsletter Items

Finn Camp members are welcome to submit items of news to be published in the newsletter. Calendar items should include a brief description of the particular upcoming event or meeting and full contact information.

Items for the next newsletter are due by September 15. Email copy to:

newsletter_editor@finncamp.org.

Or mail it to:

Newsletter Editor

c/o DFCSCA

2524 Loon Lake Rd.

Wixom, MI 48393-1654

Or place items in the Clubroom mailbox.

Newsletter Committee Members

David Hall, Sherry Kurin, Erick Leskinen,

Brian Pelto, Jeff Pye and Kathy Bretschneider.

Board of Directors

President: Greg Pelto

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Treasurer: Dick Pye

Secretary: Millie Packard

Works Administrators: Ralph Heikkinen,

Don Matt, Steve Melancon



SERVICES OFFERED

Free “Services Offered” Section

All members are invited to list here any services—for pay or barter—that they would like to advertise. Whether it’s a service such as handyman or seamstress or pet care, or seasonal activities like garage sales, we will be listing these in upcoming newsletters. All you have to do is provide—via your business card or information you supply by mail or email to the newsletter editor (see “Newsletter Items,” above) the following information: The Type of Service Offered; A Description of Just What You Do as the Service Provider; Your Price (Hourly Rate, Job Rate, To Be Negotiated, or whatever); Your Name; and Your Contact Information (Preferred Method and Times: Phone, Email, etc.). Total length, including spaces, should not exceed 50 words, not counting the headings. (Overlength copy will be edited for fit.) The deadline is the same as the date for newsletter copy: the fifteenth of each month.

Erick Leskinen—Photographer

Would you like a portrait of your family, photograph of your children at the beach or playing ball? I am up to the challenge of getting photographs you will cherish for a lifetime. Email: erick@ErickLeskinen.com or call 248-624-6188.

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