

**CALENDAR SNAPSHOT****November**

- 4—Future Planning, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom
- 6—Harvest Dinner, 3–5:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 7—Fall *Talkoo*, 10:00 a.m., *Kentta*
- 10—Sisterhood, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom
- 13—“All Things Scandinavian,” 10 a.m.–4 p.m.,
Finnish Center Association
- 14—Forest Management, 10 a.m., pole barn
- 15—Newsletter Items Due
- 21—Board meeting, 10:00 a.m., visitors at noon

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Not all events are listed on this and other DFCSA calendars. If you are planning an event and wish to check the availability of a specific facility on a certain date, please check with Karen Pype (248-926-6219).

Fall Talkoo

The fall *talkoo* (work session) is the Finn Camp’s annual tradition of members coming together to help prepare the grounds for the winter. Please come out for this special event. All ages are encouraged to join in. Free *mojakka* and a complimentary sauna are available for workers when the work is completed. Join us Sunday, November 7, at 10 a.m., at the *kentta*.

Harvest Dinner

This fall’s Harvest Dinner will be held November 6 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Clubroom. Turkey, salads and potatoes will be provided. Please bring a veggie or dessert dish. Come join the Bar Committee for this annual event.

“All Things Scandinavian”

The Finnish Center Association’s 2010 Scandinavian Bazaar will be held Saturday, November 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Center, 35200 West Eight Mile Road in Farmington Hills. This event will be a real treat: Live ethnic music by the Swedish Club and the FCA’s own Soittoniekat and other groups will hover in the air surrounding the Bazaar—as will Santa, scheduled to make a special appearance from 1:00 to 2:00. And the food! Freshly made Danish pancakes, Swedish baked goods and imports, jam in waffle hearts, plus meatballs, red cabbage and more from the Nordak Lodge. You can also watch a cooking demonstration at this booth. The FCA’s Women’s Club Bakers will be selling fresh *pulla* (*nissua*) bread, tarts and blueberry pies as well as UP pasties (frozen). And the Bazaar will be prime territory for Christmas ideas: from the ever-popular Iitala products, holiday candies and clothing to knitted and crocheted items, handmade Finn Weavers rugs, plus an assortment of Scandinavian-inspired sweatshirts, tees, sweaters, calendars, books and more from the Swedish Passport Shop in Norway (Michigan, that is).



The Finn Camp 2011 Calendar is in the making. We would like all committees to submit their event dates now, as far as they are known. This is a free service to committees. As in the past, members who would like their special dates to be listed in the calendar may do so, for a charge of \$2 each. These personalized calendars make great Christmas gifts! We will have calendars for sale at the children's Christmas party on December 5, but we are also taking prepaid orders again. (See ordering information below.)

Anyone with great photos they would like to contribute to the calendar is invited to send them to tammie@tammieking.com or call Tammie at 248-624-6691. And all children of the Finn Camp—we are having a contest for the most beautiful drawing, to be used in the 2011 calendar. A \$25 gift certificate to ToysRUs will be awarded to the winner. So take out your crayons, paints or colored pencils or whatever you choose and create something! The size must be 8½ by 11 inches. Submitted entries cannot be returned. The final deadline for submissions is November 15. The winner will be contacted. Would you like your dog's photo in the calendar? Call Dave Grogan at 248-632-4141 for an appointment to take your pet's photograph.

Pikku Joulu—“Little Christmas”: The

Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 5, 1:00–5:00 p.m. in the Clubroom.

Come and join the kids in our annual Christmas celebration! Bring a dish to pass for the potluck lunch, and enjoy traditional *riisi puuro* (rice pudding). New members or newcomers are asked to bring an unbreakable ornament to hang on the tree and add to our collection (one per family). Please label it with your family's name and “2010.”

Sing along with the kids to your favorite holiday carols as we anxiously await a visit from Santa! To participate in the kids' grab bag, bring a wrapped gift labeled with your child's name, to be put under the tree. Please limit the cost of your gift to \$10 to \$15.

Contact Robyn Jokinen at 810-287-4591 or email her at rbjokinen@gmail.com if you are interested in working some hours with set-up or clean-up. —*Sponsored by the Recreation Committee*

Association Christmas Card

An association Christmas card will again this year be mailed to all members. You can add your name(s) to this card for \$5 per entry. Print your entry as you would like it to appear on the card. (For example, Mr. & Mrs. S. Urho; Joe, Betty, Fred, Carol & Sam S. Isu.) The deadline is December 5 at Pikku Joulu. Mail your request with a check in the appropriate amount made out payable to:

DFCSCA
2545 Loon Lake Rd.
Wixom, MI 48393

Please write “Christmas card” on the lower left corner of your envelope. Anyone who might like to may submit a drawing of something appropriate for the front of the card. It must be camera-ready, in black & white. Any Finn Camp-associated scene shown decorated for the



holidays would be suitable. Use the same deadline and address as above. Thanks to all who participate. —Karen Pype

Adult Christmas Party

The adult Christmas Party, sponsored by the Board, is scheduled for Saturday, December 18, at 8:00 p.m. Bring a dish to pass and join the holiday fun.

Autumn Fest, with the Suomalainen Sisters, a Great Success

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee and the Five Finn Consortium—the Finn Camp, Finnish Center Association, Knights and Ladies of the Kaleva, Finnish American Cultural Corporation, and Finnish American Historical Society—we thank all who attended the annual *mojakka* cook-off and the Suomalainen Sisters' event for your participation on September 25! The Suomalainen Sisters were amazing; they gave a wonderful performance. We laughed at the loving way they poked fun at us and our Finnish traditions. After sauna, the Sisters joined us in the Clubroom to enjoy the *mojakka* and music by eight musicians Steve Niemi gathered in: Karin Arneson, on the *nyckelharpa*; Robert Ervin, guitar; Louise Hartung, alto flute; Roger Hewlett, accordion; Ron Karvonen, mandolin; Don Reinholm, accordion; Jack Wainio, two-row button accordion; and Steve himself, on guitar. The music itself was really a treat—the group played during dinner and continued on throughout the evening.

Kiitos to all the participants in the *mojakka* cook-off: the hungry crowd ate every last bit of your delicious homemade specialties. We needed your support this year, to benefit our scholarship recipients, and our 2010 fund beneficiaries will greatly appreciate it. Everything ran smoothly, thanks to the help of Tammie King, Nancy Yogus and Joan Amos. All the entries scored

within a point or two of each other, but there were winners. They included Markku Ketola, who fetched first prize (a \$50 restaurant certificate from Webco Machine Tool); Carol Melancon, second place (tickets to a performance at the Purple Rose Theatre); and Kirsti Niemi, third (a Home Depot gift card from Generated Gear). And this year we had a new title: the People's Choice Award, which was also won by Kirsti Niemi. The multiple items in this prize included handmade potholders, dishcloths and kitchen utensils from Katie Durham.

Also, we want to thank the Sisterhood for their \$75 donation toward the Finn Camp Scholarship Fund. And Hilikka Ketola of the Knights and Ladies of the Kaleva supplied a full basket that we raffled off, with the proceeds going toward our Scholarship Fund. The basket, stuffed with Finnish goodies, was won by Sherry Kurin's mom, Janet.

I was happy to have been involved in this event, as I think it is important that we support our Finn Camp kids and their goals for their future, so thank you again to all for attending and helping out. We hope to see you again next year!

—Millie Packard



The beginning—or was it the end?!—of the end-of-summer Camp Crawl Photo by David Hall

Famous Finns from A to Z

Another in our occasional series of not too Finnick looks into the names of noteworthy Finns.

Pelto. In Finnish, “field.” This newsletter’s ongoing chairperson and now production editor, Brian Pelto, admits that his great-grandparents did in fact have a farm in the Upper Peninsula. (The farm didn’t receive electricity until 1948, when his dad was about seventeen.) This name is also rendered in older forms as Peltoma and Peltomaa in Finland or as an alternate form in the United States—John Pelto of Chicago uses Peltoma professionally in his role as a dance instructor. Brian confirms the retention of the older forms in saying that “when my great-

grandparents first came over from Finland and settled in the UP their name was Peltomaa.” The Peltomaa spelling now occurs in 47 internet references, all in Finland. The Pelto form, with which we are most familiar, is perhaps even more common than we may realize. Our cultural Committee chair Carol Melancon’s maiden name is Pelto also, but in her case it was shortened from Peltonen (“dweller by the field”). Her grandfather, Johan Peltonen, changed his name to John Pelto after immigrating from Oulu, Finland, in 1912 and buying a farm in Chassell, in the UP.

Semiannual Membership Meeting

The semiannual membership meeting was held on Sunday, October 24, in the Clubroom, with a comfortable quorum of 42, well above the required 15 percent. The overall emphasis was on vibrant programs in the face of a needed budget austerity. Juhannus and Finn Fest, for example, each netted lower than in 2009, and the Board is facing the possibility of having to borrow from the Special Projects budget as a sort of bridge loan to carry operations until the February membership assessment. The assessment rate itself (which has not been increased in years) is under reconsideration by the Board, partly because of necessary capital improvements like \$11,050 spent recently on a new refrigerator.

The various committees and programs are being asked to reexamine their operating costs, and your Newsletter Committee is no exception. Of the Finn Camp’s 182 members, some 140 are still receiving mailed rather than emailed newsletters. This is the biggest reason behind this committee’s annual budget of \$1,825. We are now asking all members who can to change over from print to email service, which is the only form in color in any case. If not enough



savings occur this way, we may well find ourselves charging as much as \$15 per member per year to cover our costs of mailing print newsletters, a matter that will be taken up at the April annual meeting. To receive newsletters via email, email newsletter editor@finncamp.org and write "Subscribe to Newsletters" in the subject line. Give your first and last names. Finn Camp has long honored its senior members by letting its younger seniors pay only half their assessments and older ones pay nothing, but in order to continue this custom (laid out in the Blue Book in detail) we all need to help the association increase its income and decrease its expenses, so we are asking for all members' assistance in this matter.

Some Like It Hot . . .

But for the rest of us, a degree of moderation may be in order. In August, the Russian runner-up in the World Sauna Championships in Finland collapsed and later died from 230-degree-Fahrenheit heat. His Finnish rival and the ultimate winner, Timo Kaukonen, suffered severe burns. The two men withstood the heat for six minutes before the judges noticed anything amiss. One of the judges later noted that "it is not so unusual to have 110 degrees in a sauna." Indeed, our Finn Camp saunas have routinely reached this temperature in the recent past, with no ill effects reported. The event, which had over 130 participants from 15 countries, had been held since 1999. The organizers said it would never be held again.



Mike Honka, Sr., with great-grandson Ethan in sauna

Correction: Last month, the "Condolences" photo identification for Michael (R. V.) Honka, Sr., stated that he was pictured with his grandson, who was in fact his great-grandson Ethan.

BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

The Scholarship Committee is currently seeking applicants. Scholarship application forms are available at the beach, in the Clubroom and through Mattie O'Brien.

Just a reminder: Camp sales and transfers have to be done with the consent of the board.



BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Sunday, November 21, 10:00 a.m., Boardroom,
visitors at 12:00 noon

Future Planning Committee

Thursday, November 4, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom

Forest Management Committee

Sunday, November 14, meet at the pole barn,
10:00 a.m.

Sisterhood Committee

Wednesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom

Bar Committee

Saturday, December 18, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITORS

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Subscriptions: Free to all current Finn Camp members. To receive newsletters via email, the only version that is in color, email newsletter editor@finncamp.org and write "Subscribe to Newsletters" in the subject line. Give your first and last names. Newsletters are also viewable at the Finn Camp Web site, www.finncamp.org.

Or mail request to:

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
D.F.C.S.C.A.
2524 LOON LAKE RD.
WIXOM, MI 48393-1654

Or place request in mailbox in the Clubroom.

Event Notices

Calendar items should include a brief description of the particular upcoming event or meeting and full contact information.

Copy Deadline: All items for inclusion in future newsletters must be received by the 15th day of the month preceding the date of the issue being prepared. Email copy to: newsletter_editor@finncamp.org.

Notices of current or former Finn Camp members who have recently passed away are especially welcome if they can include a recent photo, or one dated as exactly as possible. All reasonable care will be taken with originals.



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 15th of each month.

FOR SALE

Cord of Firewood

\$50 for members, \$75 for nonmembers. Contact Mike Honka for more info. Ph. 248-860-5109.

House near the Finn Camp

Handy Man’s Dream. 1877 Bruce St. Wixom, MI. Contact Katri Pietila for more information. Ph. 810-421-4735.

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