



CALENDAR SNAPSHOT

December

- 4—**Pikku Joulu, “Little Christmas”** Children’s Christmas Party. 1:00–5:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 11—Forest Management, pole barn, 10:00 a.m.
- 14—Sisterhood, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom
- 15—Newsletter copy due
- 17—Board meeting, 7:00 p.m., Boardroom, no visitors
- 17—**Adult Christmas Party**, 8:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 31—**New Year’s Eve Party**, 9:00 p.m., Clubroom

January

- 5—Future Planning, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom
- 8—Forest Management, pole barn, 10:00 a.m.
- 11—Sisterhood, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom
- 21—**Sisterhood Bowling Outing**, 1–4 p.m., Langan Lanes, Walled Lake
- 22—Board meeting, 10:00 a.m., Boardroom, 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 Pye (248-926-6219) or email us at EventCoordinator@finncamp.org.

Pikku Joulu Practice

On Saturday, December 3, 1:00–3:00, in the Clubroom, the kids will have a chance to refresh their skills with the Finnish Christmas songs we sang last year and hold a Christmas craft event after the practice. If you have questions, contact Angie Wendolowski at 248-880-3967 or PikkuJoulu@finncamp.org. We look forward to a fun afternoon.

Pikku Joulu, “Little Christmas”

The annual Children’s Christmas celebration will be Sunday, December 4, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Clubroom. Bring a dish to pass for the potluck lunch, and enjoy traditional *riisi puuro* (rice pudding). New members are asked to bring an unbreakable ornament, labeled with your name(s) and “2011,” to hang on the tree and add to our collection (one per family, please). Join the kids in a sing-along of our favorite holiday carols as we anxiously await a visit from Santa! For your child



to participate in Santa’s gift bag, bring a wrapped gift with your child’s name, to be put under the tree. Please limit the cost of your gift to \$10–\$15.

Each family is asked to bring either three nonperishable food or toiletry items to donate to Hospitality House or a toy to help with their Christmas toy drive.

For further information or to earn some hours in setup or cleanup, contact Robyn Jokinen at 810-287-4591 or by email at PikkuJoulu@finncamp.org.

—Sponsored by the Recreation Committee

Adult Christmas Party

The adult Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 17, at 8:00 p.m. in the Clubroom. Please bring a passing dish or dessert and join in the holiday fun. Deli trays, condiments and coffee will be provided. A DJ will play Christmas music during dinner, then kick it up a notch afterward! —Sponsored by the Board

Uudenvuodenaatto, New Year's Eve

Our traditional New Year's Eve party will begin in the Clubroom at 9:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. Celebrate the beginning of the year with your fellow Finn Campers!



Finn Camp Sisterhood Bowling Outing

Saturday, January 21, 1:00-4:00 p.m.,
Langan Lanes, 257 Ladd Road, Walled Lake.
Come one, come all! Adults and children.



Adults are \$15.00 each.

Includes: 3 games, shoe rental, 2 slices of pizza, 2 pops, plus prizes.

Children are \$10 each.

Includes: 2 games, shoe rental, 1 slice of pizza, 1 pop, plus prizes.

Prizes will be given out for high game, high series and mystery game!

Preregistration is required to reserve lanes.

Deadline to register and pay is January 2. Make checks payable to DFCSCA Sisterhood. Contact Tammie King at 248-624-6691 or bowling@finncamp.org. We hope to see you there!

Independence Day

The Finnish American Historical Society is inviting us to celebrate Finland's 94th year of independence at the Finnish Cultural Center, on Sunday, December 4, at 2:00 p.m.

The presenter, Mr. Jim Kurtti, will come from Hancock, where he wears many hats: director of the Finnish American Heritage Center associated with Finlandia University; editor of the *Finnish American Reporter*; Honorary Finnish Consul for the UP; and organizer of Finn Fest USA 2013.



Mr. Kurtti's presentation will include a description of the Finnish American Heritage Center: how it functions, the types of collections it houses and how people can access them for research, what types of items people may donate to ensure their preservation, and the strange and fascinating requests people bring to him. He will also give a sneak peak at the plans for Finn Fest USA 2013, to be held in Hancock June 19-23.



Afterward, people will have an opportunity to donate Finnish heritage items to the FAHC or discuss with Mr. Kurtti how they may donate items at a later date. Open-face sandwiches, mulled apple cider, *pulla*, delicious desserts and of course hot coffee will be provided. Music will be provided by Soittoniekat/FinnFolk before and after the program. Admission is \$10, with children and students free. Proceeds will benefit the Finnish Center Association.



Finncamp Singers, 1978: *Top row, left to right*—Jim Dernberger, Hank Mack, Jake Jacobson, Rey Mustonen, Mike Honka, Sr., Toivo Rentola. *Bottom row*—Irma Eklund, Hazel Santti, Aune Klemola, Siiri Haverstick, Marie Fredrickson, Norma “Sam” Dernberger, Rita Honka, Helen Sikkila, *Conductor*—Irja Connolly.

Heikinpäivä—A Midwinter Finnish-American Festival



In 1999, the Finnish Theme Committee of Hancock, Michigan, created a new Finnish-American celebration, Heikinpäivä. The event’s themes are taken from Finnish folk sayings associated with the name day for Heikki, or Henrik, January 19. The 2012 celebration will be held on January 28.

Finns make up by far the largest ethnic group of Michigan’s Copper Country. Approximately 40 percent of Hancock’s population claimed Finnish ancestry in the most recent federal census. Finnish-speaking residents of the Copper Country still recall the proverbs their parents and grandparents brought with them from Finland. In particular, the weather proverbs connected with St. Henrik’s Day have been retained in the Hancock area, where

huge amounts of winter snow are the norm: “*Karhukylkeänsäkääntää*” (“The bear rolls onto his other side”), “*Heikkiheinätjakaa*” (“Heikki divides the hay”) and “*Talvenselkäpoikki*” (“Winter’s back is broken”). *Heikinpäivä* organizers keep a watchful eye on the celebration’s uniquely ethnic flavor. Finnish crafts, music, food, films and games provide something for everyone. For further information, visit pasty.com/heikki/.

Get Your Winter Hats Out for Winterfest 2012



Winterfest is Saturday, February 4. Festivities will be held at the Sun Lake beach with Polar Dip’n, Ice Fish’n and more. More details will be in the next newsletter.

Many workers are needed to help make this year’s Winterfest a success. Contact Sherry Kurin at 248-535-6022 or email WinterFest@finncamp.org.



The work crew for Japanese bittersweet eradication and the regular Forest Management Committee was well attended on Sunday, November 13. They got a lot of work done. The photo above shows only some of the members who worked that day.

Woods Committee Thank You

We had a great turnout for eradicating bittersweet in conjunction with the woods committee meeting on November 13. There were six of us, and we were able to get quite a large area cleared down by the sauna parking lot. I hope we can get as many or more to come on the December woods committee meeting. I would suggest, however, that you bring something to drink for yourself. Thanks so much to those who came out: Dave Hall, Lauri Taipala, Lori Aro, Raelyn Aro, and Steve Niemi.

—Sam Dernberger

“Escanaba in Da Moonlight” Bus Trip Recap

Finn Camp members and guests filled up a charter bus and traveled from the Finn Camp to the Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea on Saturday November 18 to see the play “Escanaba in Da Moonlight.” The theatre, which is owned by actor Jeff Daniels, seats about 250, in which the

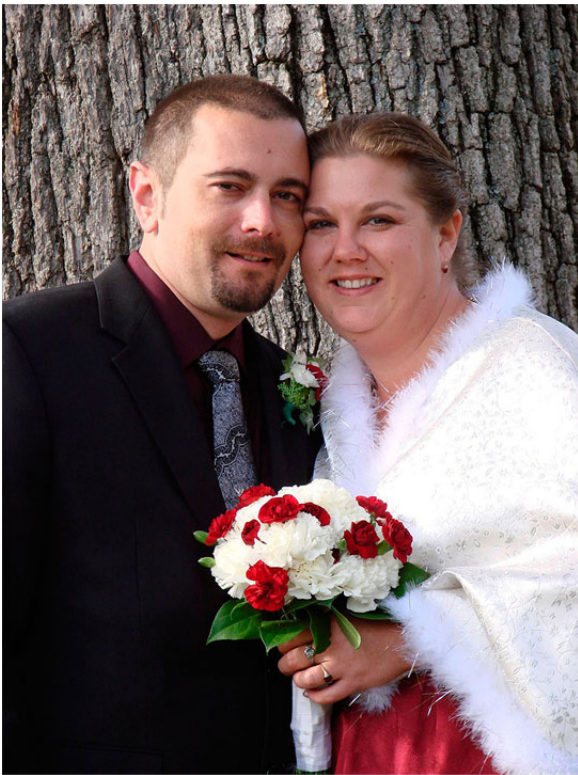
Finn Camp audience numbered about fifty. After the play, which is written about a deer camp in the UP, Daniels and his cast came on stage and spoke to the audience for about fifteen minutes. The Finn Camp theatergoers then returned safely by bus to the camp and some stayed at the Clubroom to continue the festivities. A good time was had by all. Thanks to the Finn Camp Cultural Committee for sponsoring this great event. And special thanks to Carol Melancon for setting up the event and her husband, Steve, for driving and bringing everyone home safely. Great job!

—Greg Pelto

Condolences

The Finn Camp family extends condolences to the following members who have recently lost loved ones: Karina Garland, on the loss of her father, Mike; Michael Torvinen, on the loss of his father; and Ralph Heikkinen on the loss of his grandfather.

Newlyweds



Chuck Rudzki and Jody Dernberger.

Chuck and Jody Dernberger, whose family have long been members, were married on October 15 at Gilbert Willis Park by Wixom mayor Kevin W. Hinkley. Chuck and Jody grew up in Wixom and have known each other since the second grade. The newly married would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate their special day.

Piano Appeal



Bruce Foxworthy plays the piano during last year's *Pikku Joulu*, "Little Christmas."

At the October 30 Semiannual Membership Meeting, we heard that \$2,000 is needed to renovate the Clubroom's 1920s'-vintage upright piano. Bruce Foxworthy, our resident pianist so to speak, has spent some \$4,000 of his own money over the last few years on a new electronic keyboard for the Dance Hall and to keep our Clubroom piano going. Now he has appealed to members to donate toward the goal of \$2,000 for much-needed repairs of this basically "sound" instrument.

After the meeting, an anonymous donor came forward to match whatever amount can be provided by the members. So the total now that must be raised in smaller contributions by the April general meeting will not exceed \$1,000.

There are several ways you can make your own contribution toward maintaining this important and entertaining Finn Camp tradition. One is to place your donation in the Clubroom's Piano Appeal box. Or send your check, made out to the D.F.C.S.C.A., to Bruce Foxworthy at 1945 Twin Sun Circle, Walled Lake, MI 48390. Any contributions made before December 31 are deductible within this tax year. And thank you very much!

Semiannual Membership Meeting

At noon on Sunday, October 30, the Association held its fall membership meeting, attended by 47 shareholders in good standing, well beyond the 20 required for a quorum. There are now 180 members, including the following who have joined since the last business meeting, in April: Patricia AlFaiz (by transfer from her father, Wayne Cobb), George Anders (via transfer from Billie Aho), Joyce Chichila, Kevin Cline, Tiffany

Duffney, Christopher Eilola, Rita Honka (by transfer from her deceased husband Mike Honka, Sr.) and Kurtis Peurasaari (brother of Belinda Arbogast). Two memberships in good standing were turned in; there were none returned not in good standing or terminated. A moment of silence was held for deceased members Konrad Kasparchuster and Andrew Pelto.

Works projects achieved since the last membership meeting include new toilets in the women's room at the Clubroom and emergency plumbing repairs to the kitchen. Major renovation of the kitchen is awaiting the low-use period from New Year's to Winterfest. Also upcoming this winter is installation of four donated steel beams to replace existing ones supporting the swimming dock.

Through August 31, the Finn Camp's investment program beat the standard indexes like the Dow Jones industrials and the S&P 500. Juhannus, Finn Fest and the Bar Committee showed improved results this year. And Clubroom/Dance Hall rentals, plus summer camp use fees, from both the Association's own camp and members' own, improved year-on-year. The popular Friday night grill accompanying the softball games was a bright spot financially also. The fact that sauna prices haven't been keeping up with costs has become a topic for ongoing discussion, however. The various program committees reported an active year, from merchandising and children's activities to an upcoming theatre trip by bus. The meeting concluded after two and a half hours, which included a generous lunch break.

BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

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 4 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 and 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 participants.

—Karen Pype

The board would like to remind members once again that the annual assessment will become \$250, starting this February, as passed during this April's annual meeting.

New Sauna Rates

After studying the past ten years of costs associated with the sauna, the board has had to make a difficult decision to raise rates to help offset some of the costs. Effective January 1, the new sauna rates are as follows:

Beach and Sauna Admission Rates

Eligible members over 75 years of age	Free
Members	\$3
Member/Jr. Associate Card	\$15
Member's child under 12 years of age	Free
Guests and renters over 18 years of age	\$6
Guests and renters under 18	\$3
Picnicking guests over 60 years of age	Free

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Future Planning Committee

No meeting scheduled for December. Next meeting is Thursday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom.

Sisterhood

Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom.

Forest Management Committee

Sunday, December 11, 10:00 a.m. at the pole barn. The committee is looking for new members.

Board of Directors

Saturday, December 17, 7:00 p.m. Boardroom, no visitors.

Finn Camp Newsletter (ISSN 2154-5545) is published the first of each month by the Detroit Finnish Cooperative Rd., Wixom, MI 48393-1654. Contents copyright © 2011 D.F.C.S.C.A. All rights reserved. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part, in any form, is forbidden without prior written permission.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Camp for Sale

Number 127, West Side. New Pergo floor, cabinets and counter. Painted two years ago. \$4,000.

Contact Kevin (248-224-2446) or
Sue Foster (248-224-6801).

Cords of Firewood for Sale

\$50 for members and nonmembers.
Delivery extra. Contact Mike Honka,
ph. 248-860-5109.

Beverly Jokinen—Graphic Artist

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special DFCSA rates.

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Free "CLASSIFIEDS" 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 "Subscriptions," in the box 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.