



An archival photograph of the Finn Camp when the Dance Hall was still brand-new and the A Field not yet built.



St. Urho's New King and Queen

At the 2012 St. Urho's party held on Saturday, March 17, a new king and queen were crowned. Congratulations to Greg Pelto and Linda Gooden!

CALENDAR SNAPSHOT

April

- 5—Future Planning, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom
- 8—Forest Management, 10:00 a.m., pole barn. Bittersweet eradication.
- 11—Sisterhood, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom
- 14—Board meeting, 1:00 p.m., Boardroom. No visitors except membership applicants.
- 15—Calendar and newsletter items due
- 20—Voima Boys season opens; grill, 6:15 p.m.
- 21—Bar Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Clubroom
Spaghetti Dinner, 5–8:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 29—**Annual Membership Meeting**, Clubroom. Sign-up begins at 11:00 a.m. Meeting begins at noon.

May

- 3—Future Planning, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom
- 6—**Spring Talkoo**, 10:00 a.m.
- 9—Sisterhood, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom
- 13—Forest Management, 10:00 a.m., pole barn
- 19—**Finn Fiesta**, 7:30 p.m. Clubroom

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Finn Fiesta

The Bar Committee is sponsoring a Finn Fiesta, to be held on Saturday, May 19, starting at 7:30 in the Clubroom. Come enjoy the taco bar, sangria, Corona and Dos Equis. There will be a 50/50. Cost is \$10 for food and salsa dancing (or \$5 each if paid in advance). At the door it's \$14 (or \$7 and \$7). A salsa dance instructor will teach different Latin dances from 8:30 to 10:00. For more information contact Joni at 248-882-4626 or email her: jsennhenn@comcast.net.

Finnish Folk Music Camp Returns

Over July 17–19, Finlandia University in Hancock will host its second Finnish Folk Music Camp. This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone interested in Finnish folk music and other arts—including dancing, crafts and cooking—to share their interests and talents. Finn Campers may already know two of their newest faculty members. Steve Niemi will be teaching Accompaniment with Guitar, and our Juhannus accordion player Don Reinholm will be teaching keyboard-style accordion. The button-style accordion will also be taught, by Finlandia Foundation's previous Performer of the Year, Richard Koski. Last year, this two-and-a-half-day summer camp attracted musicians at all levels of playing, from “never played before but want to try it” novices to recorded professionals. All got together for lessons and informal jam sessions. People were able to make their own five-string *kantele* (one of the types of national musical instrument of Finland) or learn traditional fiddle playing—and even children were able to learn songs in the Finnish language. Concerts of live music will be performed daily and open to the public.

The Finnish Folk Music Camp was started by Dr. Carl Rahkonen, a musicologist at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, who is interested in Finnish-American musical history. He wanted to create an environment where people could learn about their musical heritage and pass on their knowledge to future generations. Like Louisiana's Cajun music or the Mississippi blues, the Midwest has its own regional folk music that was popular particularly in Finn halls throughout the country, such as our own dance hall. The Upper Peninsula remains a stronghold of this tradition, where people still dance the *raatikoo* and the *schottische* as their grandparents did. For further information about the Finnish Folk Music Camp, talk to Steve Niemi or go to the website of Finlandia University: <http://www.finlandia.edu/finnish-music-camp.html>.

Free “CLASSIFIED” Ads

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 the box on the last page) 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.

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We're Still Gaining Ground!



The Bittersweet Brigade (First Finnish Regiment) will be meeting again at the sauna parking lot, this time on April 8 at 10:00 a.m., coinciding with the regular work session of the Forest Management Committee. Come on out and see how much ground we keep regaining! Dress appropriately and bring loppers, pruners, bow saws or whatever you want to work with.

Annual Membership Meeting

The annual membership meeting will be held on Sunday, April 29, in the Clubroom. Sign-up begins at 11:00 a.m. and the meeting starts at 12:00 noon. Many important camp issues are discussed, and the various committees present information regarding their committee's work and events. All members are encouraged to attend this key meeting.

Bar Committee News

On April 1 the Clubroom will switch to summer hours. It will then be open Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 7:00 p.m. to close.

Spaghetti Dinner. Come to this all-you-can-eat feast on Saturday, April 21, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. This dinner will benefit the Piano Fund. The menu will include a spaghetti bar with meat in marinara and Alfredo sauces, a dinner salad and garlic bread, a dessert to pass and coffee. The cost for adults is only \$8, children under 12 just \$4. We have until the annual membership meeting April 29 to reach our goal of raising the \$2,000 needed to renovate the Clubroom's 1920s' vintage upright piano. If you can't make the spaghetti dinner, other ways to contribute to the piano fund are to place your donation in the Clubroom's Piano Appeal box, or send your check to the Association, made out to the D.F.C.S.C.A., at 2524 Loon Lake Road, Wixom, MI 48393.

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).

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Cords of Firewood for Sale

\$50 for members and non-
members.

Delivery extra. Contact Mike
Honka,
ph. 248-860-5109.

Wixom Household Hazardous Waste Day

In your spring cleaning are you finding household hazardous waste items like cleaners, paints, herbicides, insecticides, and solvents? You can safely dispose of such materials on April 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Wixom's Department of Public Works, 2041 Charms Road. Residents of member communities may also bring up to 100 pounds of sensitive documents to be shredded on site. For more information see <http://www.rrrasoc.org/RRRASOC/HazWaste.html>.

A Note from Our Departing President

Well, I cannot believe that I have been on the Board of Directors for four years! A lot has changed in the past four years, within our families, our communities, our state and our country.

I know that for some I am preaching to the choir, but being on the board is a huge undertaking and a big responsibility to the Finn Camp community. The seven of us on the board have worked together over the years, always keeping in mind what is best for the Finn Camp.

Over the past several years, I have been able to have the privilege and responsibility as your president of being involved in many decisions that affect your Finn Camp. Everyone on the board brings many gifts and talents, and we have all worked together for the betterment of the Finn Camp. We have grown close over the past several years, with many conversations and phone calls, along with meeting each month and working together on many complex issues. I want to personally thank my fellow board members for their commitment and countless hours of service. I will miss working directly with them all.

Also over these past several years I have seen the camaraderie and the fellowship of the Finn Camp community develop for many projects and events. I have seen a tight-knit community that comes along and lends a helping hand, gives an encouraging word and continues to work long after the required 24 work hours are up—trust me on that! And yes, I understand that some of you reading this are in the UP or out of state and cannot be here that often, but you are missing something very special.

Many of you have done this already, but I would encourage and challenge newer members, and perhaps some who have been around for a while, to look around and see what you can bring to the table. We have a beautiful place here that requires a huge amount of maintenance and upkeep, along with running all the cultural and social events that the Finn Camp puts on. Many committees' members are getting up there in age, and we are always looking for new talent and new ideas to make our facilities the best they can be. Ask yourself, "What can I do to help out?" In closing, I would like to thank all of you for allowing me the privilege of serving on the Board of Directors. —Greg Pelto

Articles Wanted— Member Spotlight

Do you have a favorite memory of growing up in the Finn Camp you'd like to share? Perhaps you have an interesting story of Finn Camp history. Member spotlight articles are especially interesting. Please send a few paragraphs, preferably with a photograph, to: newsletter_editor@finncamp.org

The committee is always seeking fun and interesting stories from members.

BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

Annual Membership Meeting

The annual membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, in the Clubroom. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. and the meeting begins at noon. All members are encouraged to mark this date and plan on attending. Many important Finn Camp issues are discussed and voted on. Your participation is most welcome and encouraged.

Applications Being Accepted

Applications are now being accepted by the board, until April 18, for the Beach Manager and Caretaker positions. Applications should be mailed or delivered to the boardroom.

To Committee and Events Chairs

Help make your events more successful by submitting the dates of those events to the Newsletter Committee now. We will post them on the online calendar for the year. Remember to submit a write-up describing the event at least two months before the event. So far, we have dates for only Juhannus (June 23), the Fishing Derby (June 24) and Finn Fest (August 10–12).

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Future Planning Committee

Thursday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m. in the boardroom.

Forest Management Committee

Sunday, April 8, 10:00 a.m. Meet at the pole barn.

Board of Directors

Saturday, April 14, 1:00 p.m., Boardroom. No visitors except applicants for membership.

Sisterhood

Wednesday, April 11, 6:30 p.m., Clubroom.

Bar Committee Meeting

April 21, 4:00 p.m., Clubroom

Sauna and Beach Admission Rates

Guest Category	Sauna	Beach Only
Eligible Members over 75	Free	Free
Member/Jr. Associate	\$3	Free
Sauna Card	\$15 for 6 punches	
Member's Child (12–17)	\$1	Free
Sauna Card	\$5 for 6 punches	Free
Member's Child (under 12)	Free	Free
Guests and Renters over 18	\$6	\$3
Guests and Renters under 18	\$2	\$1
Picnicking Guests over 60	\$6	Free

Finn Camp Newsletter

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