



The adult Christmas party was a great success. *Photo by Sherry Martin.*

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 248-926-6219.

Clubroom News

The Clubroom will be closed on Fridays for January and February. We will resume Friday hours beginning March 3. The next Bar Committee meeting will be February 18, at 6:30 p.m.

Family Game Nights Are Back

The Bar Committee is sponsoring the first Game Night of 2017, on Saturday, January 21. The Clubroom opens at 7:00 p.m. and the euchre tournament will begin at 8:00 p.m. sharp. Please bring board and card games to share and a snack for the food table. The second game night of the year is scheduled for Saturday, February 18.

Winterfest 2017

Mark your calendars. Winterfest will be held Saturday, February 4, 2017. The day will start with polar dipping and ice fishing from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Sun Lake and a Chili Cook-off beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by dancing. If you would like to get an early start on your work hours, please contact Linda Gooden (gooden_71@hotmail.com) to sign up to help. I am looking for a button maker, button seller, 50/50 and raffle ticket sellers, chili judges, a sauna master and helpers at the beach and Clubroom.

CALENDAR

January

- 7—**Edwin Elkhill memorial**, 1:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 8—Forest Management Committee, meet at pole barn at 10:00 a.m.
- 15—Board meeting, 10:00 a.m., visitors at noon
- 21—**Family Game Night**, 7:00 p.m., Clubroom

February

- 4—**Winterfest**
- 12—Forest Management Committee, meet at pole barn at 10:00 a.m.
- 18—Bar Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 18—**Family Game Night**, 7:00 p.m., Clubroom

Other

Clubroom: Open Saturdays, 7:00 p.m. to close. Clubroom closed Fridays until March 3.

Sauna Hours:

Wed., 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. (when volunteer available)
Sat.—3:00—9:00 p.m.

All newsletter material is due on the 15th of the previous month.



The bar in the Clubroom will open at 4:00 p.m. It's time to pull out your recipes to make an award-winning chili!

Epiphany

Most people consider an epiphany to be a revelation or sudden discovery. But in Finland, Epiphany, or *Loppiainen*, is a Lutheran holiday celebrated every January 13. The missionary work that is a vital part of this day is likened to the Wiseman narrative from the Christmas story. Finnish gingerbread, called *Piparkakut*, in the shape of stars, is also served. One breaks these stars in the palm of the hand and makes a silent wish. It is said that if the star breaks into three pieces and is eaten without a word, the wish will come true.

—Naomi Petainen

Condolences: Edwin Johannes Elkhill



Many of us Finn Campers have known Edwin as a long-time member (since 1953) and for his work with the Tax committee (chairman since 1996) and Audit committee (member since 2000). He died December 19. But perhaps you don't know the story about Edwin's last name.

Camps for Sale

Nyt on oikea aika ostaa leiri.
Now is the time to buy a camp.

Camp 106, west side
New roof, many extras
Call Tom:
586-770-2156



Camp 99, west side



Everything in the camp goes with it.
\$3,000, or best offer.
For more information, call
248-941-9412.

It doesn't sound very Finnish. Years ago, Edwin's grandfather and great-uncle were in the tombstone-polishing business in Quincy, Mass. Many of their Irish and Italian customers had a hard time pronouncing their Finnish last name, Hirvimäki. So they changed it to Elkhill, from the Finnish *hirvi* meaning "elk" and *mäki* ("hill").

Edwin was born in Highland Park, Mich., on May 6, 1933, to John ("Toivo") and Hanna Elkhill. His parents were Finn Camp founding members who built camp 118 in the 1940s. Edwin is said by others to have spoken fluent Finnish, though he didn't make this claim for himself.

Edwin graduated from Northwest High School in 1952, following which he attended what was then Lawrence Institute of Technology, at Woodward and Puritan in Highland Park, before being drafted into the army in 1956 and serving in the Yukon Command at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska. After

being discharged, he served in the reserves at Fort Wayne, Mich., and continued his studies at Acme School of Design Engineering in Highland Park. Edwin worked for many years in the automotive industry, for Stellar Engineering in Warren and James Tanuery Associates in Troy. These firms worked closely with Fisher Body, then General Motors in their body shops. Edwin's functions included serving as senior checker, writing engineering summaries, performing cost studies, monitoring tooling operations and reviewing and writing specifications for body shop operations in the assembly plants. Edwin served on the Wixom senior citizens commission as well as doing all he did at Finn Camp, where he was known for being an avid swimmer. **A memorial will be held at Finn Camp on January 7 at 1:00 p.m. in the Clubroom.** Gary's Catering is supplying the meal & it will be open bar, bring a desert if you like.

Five Things You May Not Have Known about Finn Camp *An Expansive Future*

Within the archive display at the Clubroom is an undated map rendering what members would think Finn Camp would look like in the 2000s. In it were plans for year-round cabins, a dock connecting the swimming and fishing docks of Sun Lake, and a boulevard entrance to the sauna with two adjoining parking lots. Not to mention a tennis court!

A Wartime Shelter

During World War Two, in June 1942, the Association's board passed a resolution that Finn Camp was to "offer refuge in event of an air raid." In the same month, the Manhattan Project began developing nuclear weapons and the Battle of Midway left the Japanese naval fleet crippled. The committee later said that "the Board of Directors are directed to cooperate with the proper officials in fulfilling this edict."

The Right to Hunt

In 1943, the board gave members the right during hunting season "to hunt rabbits on the grounds of the Finnish Summer Camp." It also gave members the right to "shoot abandoned dogs" on sight.

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. All you have to do is provide 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.) The deadline is the 15th of each month.

Sewing Lessons

Beginner to Intermediate.
Clothing/Quilts and Crafts
Contact Lori Aro for class times:
248-321-6828

Need a Seamstress?

Call Cindi Maddick for all your alterations, custom work and mending at
248-303-7337

Beverly Jokinen Graphic Artist

Websites and Print Graphics—
Creative ideas, personalized attention, special DFCSCA rates.
See portfolio: www.bcpreview.com.
Email: Beverly@bcpreview.com
or call 248-207-1850

Auto Mechanic

Mechanic for all makes and models of cars. Email make/model/job needed to [Matthew Wendolowski](mailto:MatthewWendolowski99@gmail.com) at MattWendolowski99@gmail.com to negotiate price. Looking for more small jobs: oil changes, brake repairs like new calipers, headlights, engine light check, etc.

Non-Finns welcome?

In a questionnaire from 1975, the board entertained the idea of “associate memberships” for non-Finnish descendants, citing declining membership and revenue as things that would be remedied by letting in outsiders.

Aromatic Saunas

In 1926, the board agreed to furnish the sauna with “non-poisonous steam bath brooms.” This meant that Finn Camp would provide small eucalyptus and birch tree brooms for Finns to gently beat themselves with during sauna to stimulate their skin. The Finnish word for these steam bath brooms is *vihtas*. —Mary and Dennis Burck

From the Auditors

The Finn Camp Store, Recreation Committee and Sisu Sisters are required to turn in their financial records for the year to any one of the auditors (Greg Peltó, Mary Johnson, Sam Dernberger), or give them to a board member to put on the Boardroom table. We need the inventory from the store and the cash records from both the Sisu Sisters and the Recreation Committee by February 28. The year’s reports should be submitted no later than March 31. We will have them back to you as soon as we can. Thank you for your cooperation.

—Sam Dernberger

Newsletter Chairperson Retires

Thanks to David Hall for serving on the Newsletter and Website committee for the past seven years! The first combined newsletter and website committee was formed in 2008 and published the first electronic issue in January 2009. David having a career as a professional copywriter insured the newsletter grammar and content was top notch. Thanks again and enjoy your retirement!

A THANK YOU

The family of Maryann Solin would like to thank all who attended and assisted with her memorial service.

BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

The board is accepting sealed bids on camp 76. Your bid can be mailed or dropped off at the Clubroom. Please write on the outside of the envelope “Sealed Bid Camp 76.” All bids will be opened at the February board meeting.

If you have an address or phone number change, please email us at bookkeeper@finncamp.org.

If you notice any dangerous trees or limbs on the property, please contact the board.

Cords of Firewood for Sale

\$55 for members, \$65
nonmembers.
Delivery extra.

Contact Mike Honka,
ph. 248-860-5109

Lakes Area Bait Shop

Live Bait. Reloading.
Supplies for Fishing,
including Bowfishing. Hunting,
Camping, Archery
2600 Benstein Rd.,
Wolverine Lake
(south of Glengary Rd.)
Ph.: 248-624-3333
[LakesAreaBaitShop@
Yahoo.com](mailto:LakesAreaBaitShop@yahoo.com)
Suppliers to the Finn Camp
Fishing Derby



Shop the Finn Camp Store, in the Clubroom, whatever the season! We have t-shirts, hats, hoodies, koozies, and Finnish CDs. For access to the store during off hours, call Patti Leppi, at 248-921-1432, or email her at Store@finncamp.org.

The Finn Camp membership form can be found at www.finncamp.org at the top, right corner of page 1. The camp social director is Joni Sennhenn. Please contact her at 248-882-4626 if you would like to make a reservation for the beach and sauna area, the *Kenttä*, Dance Hall or Clubroom.

Members with suggestions, comments or board-related business are asked to e-mail board@finncamp.org. Those looking to add to their work hours should email the Works Administrators at work@finncamp.org. General questions may be answered by visiting www.finncamp.org.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Sunday, January 15, 10:00 a.m., visitors at noon

Forest Management Committee

Sunday, January 8, 10:00 a.m., pole barn

Finn Camp Newsletter

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All material for newsletter articles is due by the 15th of the month of the month preceding publication.

Please visit the Finn Camp website at www.finncamp.org.