



DETROIT FINNISH COOPERATIVE SUMMER CAMP ASSOCIATION

FINN CAMP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017



Aerial view of Sun Lake - Drone photo by Austin Matero

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 248-882-4626

Finn Camp Christmas Card

An association Christmas card will be mailed to all members and we need you to design it! Please submit card designs no later than December 3. Cards should be on 8.5" × 11" paper, folded in half. Designs should be mailed to the Finn Camp address (2524 Loon Lake Road, Wixom 48393), attention: Christmas Card or email to treasurer@finncamp.org.

Anyone who would like their name in the Christmas card this year is required to pay \$5.00 by Sunday, December 3. Please contact Amber Martin with any questions or to make payment: 248-770-9994 or treasurer@finncamp.org. Kiitos!

CALENDAR

December

- 7—Future Planning meeting, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom
- 9—**Finland Centennial Celebration & Pikku Joulu & Board Sponsored Christmas Party**, clubroom
- 10—Forest Management Committee, meet at pole barn at 10:00 a.m.
- 31—**New Year's Eve Party**, 9:00 p.m., Clubroom

January

- 4—Future Planning meeting, 7:30 p.m., Boardroom
- 7—Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m., visitors at 12:00 noon
- 14—Forest Management Committee, meet at pole barn at 10:00 a.m.
- 19—**Family Game Night and Potluck**, 7:00 p.m. Clubroom

Clubroom: Open Fridays, Saturdays, 7:00 p.m. to close

Sauna Hours:

Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday - 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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



Celebrate Finland's 100 years of independence and the holiday season together at this year's combined

Pikku Joulu Finland Centennial Celebration
Adult Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9, 2017 3:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Everyone is encouraged to dress in blue and white or in Finnish national attire. Share your favorite Finnish appetizer, side dish, soup, or dessert for the Finnish potluck. (Check out these Websites for recipe ideas: <https://finland.fi/christmas/christmas-cookbook/> and <https://www.yummly.com/recipes/finnish-desserts>.) Non-Finnish dishes and snacks for the kids are welcome, too. **New members!** Bring one unbreakable ornament with your name(s) and "2017" to hang on the Christmas tree. **This is a members-only event.**



Schedule of Activities

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Kids' Crafts & Snacks in the Clubroom |
| 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm | Children's Christmas Carol Sing-Along & surprise visit from Santa (*Bring a wrapped gift with child's name for Santa's gift bag—limit cost to \$10 to \$15.) |
| 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Santa's Reindeer (<i>Shh . . . it's a secret.</i>) |
| 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm | Finn Folk Live Music |
| 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm | Finnish Potluck |
| 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm | Finland's Centennial Program |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeting--Robert O'Brien • Finland's 100 Years of Independence--Steven Niemi • Sibelius' Finlandia--Donald Reinholm |
| 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm | Makkara & Hotdog Roast |

For more information or to work hours, contact Robyn Jokinen at 810-287-4591 or rbjokinen@gmail.com or Carol Melancon at 734-261-3889 or finnculture@yahoo.com. Sponsored by Board of Directors and Recreation & Cultural Committees.

Uudenvuodenaatto, New Year's Eve

Our traditional New Year's Eve party will begin in the Clubroom at 9:00 p.m. on December 31. Please bring a dish to share. This event is open to adults and children. Celebrate the beginning of the year with your fellow Finn Campers!

Lapland Adventures

Ever consider dog-sledding over snowy hills while northern lights dance across the sky. Picturesque, right? A perfect December getaway for family and friends alike. Dog sledding is a favorite pastime with ancient roots in Finland. *Hetta huskies* or sled dogs, served as a way of life for many Lapland communities, starting hundreds of years ago. Transportation, hunting, and life-saving endeavors all required dog power, given the eight plus months of snowfall. Strength or survival of the fittest was necessary as dogs fought and naturally selected their leader – an innate process that still rings true for packs today. Recreational dog-sledding has become increasingly popular during the winter months, with tour locations spread across the northern regions. Evening excursions make it more appealing, since the sun sits below the horizon in the winter and northern lights appear. High arctic exploration has also grown in importance due to climate change and curiosity. A homestead located out of Cape Lapland breeds huskies for this exact reason. Scientists as well as visitors can journey for extended periods far into the untouched tundra. More information about such expeditions can be found at <http://www.hettahuskies.com/en> Dog sledding holds special meaning for me. Ten Christmases ago, we traveled to Montebello, Quebec where we first rode on a dog sled. Since then, we have gone twice more. We plan to take our son with us on our next trip.



Fairmont Montebello Christmas 2007, Kai & Naomi ~Naomi Petäinen

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 for fit.) The deadline is the same as the date for newsletter copy: the 15th of each month.

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
Suppliers to the Finn Camp
Fishing Derby

New Member Profile



A big Finn Camp welcome to new members and camp owners Jennifer, Justin & Grayson Mundy. The Mundy's found out about the Finn Camp through member Kevin Homola who had done some work with Justin. Justin owns a construction company and Jennifer is a Human Resource Manager for an automotive supplier. Jennifer's Grandfather was Finnish and grew up in the mining community near Houghton and Hancock in the U.P. Her maiden name is Kaiponen. Justin grew up in Livonia, where they now make their home. The Mundy's hobbies include reading and spending time with family as well as snowmobiling. They've been together for nine years, married for three and welcomed their son Grayson in July 2016. Their favorite Finn Camp event so far was the Halloween party for kids held in October. Welcome Mundy Family!

Family Night and Potluck

The bar committee will be hosting a Family Night and Potluck on Friday, January 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the clubroom. Euchre tournament will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. Please bring any card and board games that you don't mind sharing and something for the food table.

Need a Seamstress?

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

Affinity Promotions

Do you have an upcoming family reunion that you need t-shirts or little gifts? Are you a business that has a trade show coming up and you need booth giveaways or a unique item to hand out to prospective clients? We can help with all of the above and more. Give me a call at 248-640-0481 or visit my website and let me help you with your marketing needs. Denise Niemasz

www.AffinityPromos.net

Cords of Firewood for Sale

\$55 for members, \$65 nonmembers.

Delivery extra. For security reasons contact Mike Honka at 248-860-5109 to schedule loading and pick up. Please do not help yourself to the firewood.

Contact Mike Honka,
ph. 248-860-5109



Don, Wendy and their grandson Matt at Finn Fest about fifteen years ago.

Condolences

Gertie Jackson passed away on November 11, 2017. Gertie and husband, Don Jackson who passed in 2011 used camp #3. Gertie was born in 1930 in Tapiola, MI. the youngest of seven children of Hilda and Adolph Tauriainen. They had three children, Wendy, Don and David. Gertie and Don were married for 58 years. They both loved the time they spent at the Finn Camp. There will be a small private family service. She will be joining her husband at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

Semiannual Membership Meeting

The semiannual meeting was held on Sunday, October 29, in the Clubroom. Sixty-three members were in attendance. Many items were discussed. Several motions were presented and passed. Motions to repair the Sun Lake tower and install LED lighting throughout the camp were passed. A motion to rename the scholarship fund to the "Edwin Elkhill Memorial Scholarship Fund" was also passed.

Finn Camp Store



Do your Christmas shopping at the Finn Camp store. Lots of new tee shirts, mugs, hats and back packs.

Everything is available next weekend during clubroom hours and also during the Christmas party on Saturday, December 9.

For access to the store during off hours, call Patti Leppi,
Ph: 248-921-1432, or email,
Store@finncamp.org.

2017 – 2018 Scholarship Recipients

William Allen - University of Michigan
Raelyn Aro,
Kristine Barie
Caroline Barrett - Adrian College
Same Barrett
Colton Bretscheinder - Michigan State University
Berkley Bretscheinder – Grand Valley State
Rob Foxworthy
Daniel Gieselman – Michigan State University
Michael Gieselman – Michigan State University
Alex Holm
Josh Homola – Oakland University
Rebecca Jokinen - Arizona State University
Olivia McKeever
Mackenzie McKeever – Grand Valley State
Steven O’Brien – DePaul University
Drew Pye – Michigan State University
Joe Solin
Holly Mimi Taipala
Taylor Ziegler - Michigan State University
Jaymie Ziegler - Wayne State University

Scholarship Recipient Colton Bretschneider -My Finnish Heritage

Growing up my family has been very interested in their Finnish heritage. I always remember the story about my great-great grandparents Magno and Aino Sorvari and how they were founding members of the Finn camp. I have always found it interesting that only my Finnish ancestors have taken the time and effort to pass down their heritage. It makes me believe that their traditions were valuable enough for them to teach and pass on. I also enjoy hearing the stories my grandfather would tell me about growing up in the Finn Camp and how they still have friends out there. The Finn Camp has taught me what Sisu is. It might just be a word to express courage but I will always remember learning the meaning when I overcame my fear of jumping off the tower when I was ten years old. I have kept Sisu very close to me in times of adversity in my life. I also enjoy whenever my family makes pulla bread and Finnish pancakes for breakfast. I will always have the great memories of participating in the plays when I was younger and how much fun I had during children's weekend, Juhannus and Finn Fest. There are many things that make me proud of my Finnish heritage and I owe all of that to the Finn Camp. If it weren't for the Finn camp I might have no idea about my Finnish heritage. I feel truly blessed to have been able to grow up with the Finn Camp and all of the experiences it has given me.

Looking to express yourself creatively? Want to talk about something Finnish? Have writing or technical skills? Come try out the Newsletter and Web Site committee.

We are welcoming any Finn Camp member to become a part of our team.

For details contact Erick Leskinen, 248-387-9409

erick_leskinen@finncamp.org

or Brian Pelto 734-658-8804
bpelto@ohiogratings.com

Newsletter Notice

Committee chairperson and event coordinators please submit your event notice by the 15th of the previous month. The sooner the better so we can help promote your event.

newsletter_editor@finncamp.org



Scholarship Recipient Josh Homola

I feel fortunate to have joined the Finn Camp all those years ago. I have benefited tenfold. My work ethic became more developed in Finn Camp since I was given the uncommon opportunity to rake camps at an early age. I learned a lot starting with using my Dad's truck to haul leaves and buying a four wheeler and bungee cords to haul leaves by myself. This unique opportunity furthered and solidified my dream to become a businessman and entrepreneur. Finn camp has also provided activities for me to join such as acting and swimming. Acting for one made me improve my confidence in speaking in front of crowds and improved my memorization skills. Also Finn Camp's swim club resulted in a passion for the water. I swam at Finn Camp several years and then joined the middle school and high school swim teams. I am grateful to have been able to swim at Finn Camp first so I could obtain the skills I needed for the swim program at school. What's more I had friends from Finn Camp on the swim team. Finn Camp has not only provided me with activities, friends and work but also a better understanding of what it means to be Finnish. I have learned about the trait common among Finns: Sisu. I believe Sisu is one of most important traits to have since it represents determination, perseverance and strength of will. I am grateful to the Finn Camp for providing me with all these experiences and lessons, I am better for a successful and fulfilling future.

Sekahedelmakeitto

My first *Joulu* (Christmas) with Kai, we celebrated with his Finnish family. They welcomed me with a traditional *Joulu* treat called *sekahedelmäkeitto* or mixed fruit soup. It is served cold over hot *riisipuuro* (rice porridge) where inside a single almond is hidden. Similar to a bride throwing her bouquet, I learned, after finding the almond, that I would tie-the-knot next. Quite fitting, since Kai and I married less than two years later. I decided I liked *sekahedelmäkeitto*. This cinnamon infused fruit soup now reminds me of Christmas. So spice up your holiday. Check out the recipe below. Recipe courtesy of Beatrice Ojakangas', Finnish Cookbook

Sekahedelmäkeitto

1 pound of dried mixed fruit (apricots, peaches, pears, prunes, apples & raisins)
2.5 quarts of water
2 tbsp of potato starch
1 cup of sugar
1 cinnamon stick

Rinse the fruit. Boil the water, fruit, sugar and cinnamon stick for an hour. Gently lift the fruit from the pot into a bowl. Boil the liquid in the pot with 2 tbsp of water and 2 tbsp of potato starch, stirring until thickened. Pour that atop the fruit. Sprinkle extra sugar over the soup to prevent a skin from forming. Let it cool.

Riisipuuro

1 quart water, 1½ cups white rice, 3 cups milk, ½ tsp salt
Place rice in hot water, bring to boil and let simmer. Add milk and bring to boil, then let simmer till very soft and sticky, at least one hour. Stir often to avoid scorching. Add salt. Serve hot topped with cold *sekahedelmäkeitto*. Enjoy! ~Naomi Petäinen



BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

The Board would like to thank all of the volunteers that came out to help at the Fall Talkoo. There is a lot of work that needs to be done to prepare the grounds for winter and unfortunately due to lack of participation we were unable to complete all of our tasks. Please remember that this is a COOPERATIVE and not a resort. It takes help from all members and young adults to take care of our property. Kiitos to those members that gave their time and effort to work. We urge all members to make time in the Spring to support their association by participating in the Spring Talkoo.

The Finn Camp has a member's only group on Facebook. If you are not a member of the group and would like to be added, contact Linda Gooden at gooden_71@hotmail.com with your email address and she will add you to the group. This group will include private members only events, work projects and be just another form of communication to our members.

You can now transfer money to pay your Finn Camp bill online using PayPal by using "treasurer@finncamp.org" on PayPal "Pay for goods and service" page, <https://www.paypal.com/myaccount/transfer/buy>.

At the sauna building do not park along side of the building adjacent to the outdoor men's changing area as this is a fire lane. In case of an incident an emergency vehicle will need to have access to this area.

If you have an address or phone number change please email us at bookkeeper@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. Note: There is no rental fee for committee sponsored events. You will need to go through the social director however to ensure the venue is available.

Members with suggestions, comments or board-related business are asked to e-mail board@finncamp.org. General questions may be answered by visiting www.finncamp.org.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors

There is no board meeting scheduled in December. The next board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m. Visitors at 12:00 noon.

Future Planning Committee

Thursday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m., Boardroom

Finn Camp Newsletter

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

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