



FINN CAMP NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019



Carol Melancon giving a cultural committee report at the semi-annual meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Not all events are listed on this and other DFCSCA calendars. If you are planning an event check availability of the specific facility on a certain date, please call 248-882-4626

Fall Talkoo November 3

The fall *talkoo* is Finn Camp's annual tradition of its members coming together to prepare the grounds for the winter. Please come out for this event, which is a sociable occasion as well as being task oriented. All ages are invited to join in. Free *mojakka* and a complimentary sauna will be provided for the workers. This year's *talkoo* will be held on Sunday, November 3, starting at 10:00 a.m. Sign in at the Clubroom upon arrival.



CALENDAR

November

- 1—Work Hour cards due
- 2—**Harvest Dinner**, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 3—**Annual Fall Talkoo**, 10:00 a.m., Meet at the Clubroom
- 7—Future Planning Committee, 6:30 p.m., boardroom
- 10—Forest Management committee, meet at the pole barn. 10:00 a.m.
- 15—**Sisu Sisters Spa Night, Cancelled**
- 17—Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m., visitors at 11:00 a.m.
- 20, 21—**Holiday Extravaganza**, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., clubroom

December

- 5—Future Planning Committee, 6:30 p.m., boardroom
- 8—**Pikku Joul**, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., clubroom
- 8—Forest Management committee, meet at the pole barn. 10:00 a.m.
- 7—**Adult Christmas Party**, 7:00 p.m., Clubroom
- 3—**New Years Eve Party**, 9:00 p.m., clubroom

Upcoming Events:

Winterfest, February 1, 2020
St. Uhro's, March 14, 2020

Clubroom: Open Friday and Saturday, 7:00 p.m. to close

Sauna Hours:

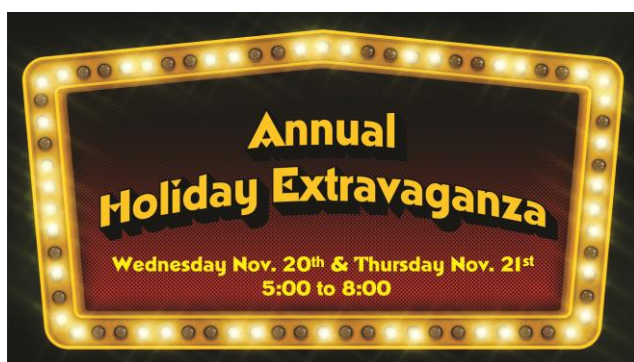
Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday - 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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



Annual Harvest Dinner

Please join the Bar Committee for this annual event on Saturday, November 2, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the clubroom. We provide the turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and salad. Bring your appetite and a passing dish or dessert.



Annual Holiday Extravaganza

Come one come all to the annual holiday extravaganza at the clubroom on Wednesday, November 20 and Thursday, November 21, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. See handmade items from more than 20 local artists. Items including Finnish baked goods, hot or frozen pasties, piirakka, pulla, DoTerra essential oils, candles, fragrances, soaps, jewelry, scarves, upcycled wool mittens, clothing and accessories, pet collars and pet treats, artificial wreaths, garland, floral arrangements for indoors or outdoors and other various crafts. Please contact Kari Aro for details. Ph: 248-217-5467

Rising Price Tags

Brexit; it will soon affect Finnish consumers as well. Finlanders planning to visit the UK anytime after October thirty-first can expect a hike on their costs. This will include flights, busses, trains, boats, any method you choose will experience an increased price tag. Be watching for this if you have any future European travel planned. - Naomi Petäinen

Fun With Reading

Being a writer and a mother of a young child, I'm always on the hunt for good books especially as winter hits. A few Finnish authors I've come across include: Tove Janson's *Moomin Comic Strip* books, great for children, Emmi Itäranta's *Memory of Water*, a young adult book discussing a society stricken by water loss, and Maria Peura's *At the Edge of Light*, a girl's coming of age story set in Northern Lapland. Reading can be a great adventure during these cooler November months. Instead of screen time, encourage your children to read, and pick out a great book yourself. Sit down as I will, maybe in front of my bay window where I can view fall colors while transporting myself to a new place. ~ 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.

WIN A TRIP TO FINLAND!

Commemorate the 100th anniversary of Finland/US diplomatic relations and acquire a chance for a trip to Finland!

Each button purchased will give you a chance to win a trip to Finland to attend the 2020 FinnFest in Joensuu, Finland . . . *the first of several ways FinnFest USA will offer to make the 2020 festival affordable for folks.* Use these buttons as Thanksgiving dinner favors or as stocking stuffers for Christmas!

Purchase a \$5 button, or 5 for \$20, at Finn Camp's Semi-Annual Membership Meeting or by contacting Carol Melancon at finnculture@yahoo.com. Cash – or - check payable to FINNFEST USA.



Finn Camp Christmas Card

It's easy to let your Finn Camp family know you are thinking of them this Christmas by having your name included on the Finn Camp Christmas card. This one-of-a-kind card will be designed by one of our very own and mailed to all members of our association. If you would like your name included, deadline is December 8th. Cost is \$5 per family. Mail checks to DFCSCA, include X-Mas card on the memo or envelope as well as your name(s) as you would like them to appear on the card. Please help us keep this tradition alive with your support! Contact Amber Martin at 248-770-9994 (text messages preferably).

Adult Christmas Party

The Adult Christmas Party will be on December 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Clubroom. The Board will provide a deli tray. Please bring a dish to pass.

Screenwriting Consulting

Have you ever wanted to learn screenwriting? One hour consults-everything you need to know to begin your story. If you enjoy it and want to continue, we can add more hours. 15 years and 17 screenplays of experience along with former consulting experience for a production company. Could be scheduled on sauna days or done online. Connie - cclynny@aol.com
1-313-492-8862

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



Opt for Outside

As fall bursts Michigan trees to color, vivid hues also appear in Finland. White birch trees being the most common Finnish tree, their vibrant red, yellow and orange leaves come as a result of cold temperatures dipping low and fast. Autumn enthusiasts might enjoy a color tour of scenic Puumalan Lake. One could either view its dense forest by boat, or by car. Rowing the lake, though, offers visitors a panoramic vista with better chance of wildlife sightings. Other Finnish parks autumn enthusiasts might like include: Korelia National park, known for its clifftop vistas, Oulanka National Park, relished by adventure seekers, and Coastal National park, frequented by bird watchers and those who want a mix of forest and seaside. Whichever park you choose to explore, even if it's in Michigan, fall leaves will greet you. Add a little color to your life and opt for outside. More information on Finnish National Parks can be found here –

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/finland/articles/10-of-finlands-stunning-national-parks/> ~ Naomi Petäinen

Pikku Joulu

The children's Pikku Joulu this year is scheduled for Sunday, December 8 in the clubroom from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please bring a potluck dish, (side dish or dessert), and one wrapped gift, \$10.00 to \$15.00 for each of your children to place under the tree. For work hours contact Robyn Jokinen, Cell # 810.287.4591 or email to rbjokinen@gmail.com. Thank you!!



Finland/USA Commemorate 100th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations

2019 marks the third of three significant 100th anniversaries for Finland, this time the start of Finland/USA diplomatic relations. The first, in 2017, commemorated the Declaration of Independence. The second, in 2018, commemorated the divisive civil war fought in three major battles in Helsinki, Vyborg, and Tampere. The third, this year, features the start of Finnish diplomatic relations with the USA. Yes, Finland declared independence in 1917, but the USA did not recognize Finland officially as a nation state until 1919. That declaration created the right for Finland to open an embassy in Washington DC and maintain consulates elsewhere in the USA. Finnish immigrants from that point on were defined as Finnish citizens living in America. FinnFest USA has been marking these anniversaries, starting in 2017 when President Sauli Niinistö attended its festival held in Minneapolis. In 2018, FinnFest USA, held in Tampere, Finland, visited the Tampere cemetery with its two Civil War monuments. This year, FinnFest USA 2019 included programming explaining what this achievement made possible: a friendship and a partnership now 100 years strong, surviving both the wars fought in the 1940's and the Cold War that followed.



Finn Fest USA 2019 Recap



FinnFest USA 2019 was a huge success! About 250 of the more than 700 festivalgoers attended events and activities organized by the Finn Camp with some returning for a tour on Sunday. A very special thank you to FinnFest USA board president, Marianne Wargelin, and to the FinnFest USA organizers for inviting Finn Camp to be a part of this year's festival.

Special kiitos to:

- Robyn Jokinen and Bob O'Brien for co-chairing this event.
- Greg Peltó for preparing traditional Finnish and Finnish American food for the weekend's events, receiving lots of compliments!
- Erick Leskinen who took on several projects, including ensuring the new sound system was ready.
- Steve Niemi who collaborated with the festival's music curator in choosing the perfect musical events for Finn Camp and for being host to musicians staying in camps and RVs.
- Connie York and Erick Leskinen for making a Finn Camp video, debuting it at Sunday's Fun Day.
- Gavin Wing, Jr. for going over and above his caretaker duties.
- Tammie King for the new English/Finnish building signs and for organizing work projects.
- Harry Kansman and Bob O'Brien for their presentation at the Sheraton, "The Kesämökki Writ Large: The Finnish Cooperative Camp of Detroit." (*Maybe they'll do it again for Finn Camp members.*)

Kiitos also to:

- Robyn Jokinen and Kayla Jokinen for welcoming Finnish language students and instructors with hot coffee and fresh baked pulla. One student commented that the lunch of pea soup and pannukaku, prepared by Greg Peltó and Pat Alfaiz, was alone worth the \$90!
- Tori booth managers—Patti Leppi, Lori Aro and Kari Aro—for ensuring Finn Camp was well represented. (*Several people were spotted during FinnFest wearing Finn Camp t-shirts.*)
- Friday's sauna workers—Joyce Chichilla and Karl Aro—for keeping the sauna open an hour longer after an area power outage caused a few late arrivals. (*The weather was perfect for sauna and swim.*)
- FinnFolk for their beautiful tribute to Viola Turpeinen whose music was enjoyed by over 100 folks. The evening became even more memorable when, halfway through the concert, Jim Kurtti accepted Laila Auvinen's gift of a watercolor portrait of Viola Turpeinen on behalf of the Finnish American Heritage Center. The portrait, painted by Laila's father, was on display during the concert.
- Finn Hall and the music jammers who played until midnight! About 150 pre-concert mojakka and pasty suppers were served. (*The ticket glitch was handled perfectly!*)
- FinnLeo representative, Craig Lahti, for his presentation about the benefits of sauna—at the sauna.
- Beverly Jokinen for designing a new Finn Camp brochure and full-page ad for the FinnFest program; to Gina O'Neil for her narrative contribution; and, to Dick Pye for working with the printer.
- Mary Burck and Mattie O'Brien for the clubroom cabinet displays; and, to Reino Solin for installing cabinet locks and a spotlight to show everything off.
- Sunday Family Fun Day volunteers—Jouni, Hanna, Lilli & Viljami Virtamo, Sam Dernberger, Mary Burck, Mattie & Bob O'Brien, and Amber Martin—for helping with Finnish games, tours of the Finn Camp, kids' crafts, dance lessons, a log cabin presentation and much more.
- Erick Leskinen and Becky Wendela (sound); Linda VanMeer, Ken Hellonen, Joan Amos, Millie Packard and the Recreation Committee (kitchen); Pat Alfaiz and Michelle Ebel (pulla); Millie & Steve Packard and Beverly & Mike Jokinen (tickets); Mary Burck and David Hall (camp owner-loaners); Larry Gooden (parking/setup); Steve Melancon (husband); Bar Committee; and, the Board of Directors for their support. . . . and, 'thank you' to all Finn Camp members who worked throughout the year preparing the grounds and buildings for our FinnFest USA guests. Finn Camp's cooperative spirit and welcoming hospitality were on full display and was much appreciated.

Carol Melancon, Cultural Committee



Condolences

Kirsti Maria Bucht Niemi (November 22, 1926-October 23, 2019)

Kirsti was born at home in Detroit Michigan, the only child of Frans Mattias and Saimi (Mikkola) Bucht. Her parents were recent immigrants from Sweden and Finland, who met each other in Detroit's Woodrow Wilson area, where many similar Finnish-Americans lived. Like others, she grew up often visiting the Detroit Finnish Cooperative Summer Camp in Wixom Michigan, where her father eventually built a cottage home. Kirsti met her future husband, Walter Niemi, at one of the Finn Camp's regular Saturday-night dances. They were married in 1948. Kirsti and Walt had four children, who valued their Finnish heritage and continued involvement at Finn Camp.

Kirsti attended Commerce High School in Detroit and graduated from Wayne University (now Wayne State University). A stay-at-home Mom until her children were old enough to take care of themselves, she then began working to contribute financially to the family and helping her children to attend college.

After working sales and clerical jobs, she passed the civil service exam to become social worker for the State of Michigan, attending to the needs of dependent children and senior citizens in Detroit.

A month away from her 93rd birthday, she died peacefully in her sleep, in her own home, of natural causes. She is survived by her four children: Karen Riley (husband Neil), Barbara Niemi, Steve Niemi, Dave Niemi (wife Kiya), and her grandchildren Matt Riley (wife Toni), and Lara Riley.

Kirsti was a beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, devoted to her family. She leaves a legacy of kindness and compassion for others with a strong attachment to her Finnish-Swedish roots. Kirsti's smile will be missed by all who knew her. Rest in Peace.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dementia Society of America (dementiasociety.org) or the Residential Hospice Foundation (residentialhealthcaregroup.com).

The family will welcome friends Saturday, November 2, from 1-5 PM at Kirsti's home:

28212 Greencastle Road, Farmington Hills.

BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

Work hour cards are due by Friday, November 1.



The Board is accepting sealed bids for the John Deere 25A Flail mower. Bids must start at \$2,000 and will be accepted until November 30.

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.

Attention all committees: The Board would like for you to communicate with us regarding projects and fundraisers you are planning. We would like to support your endeavors and projects and would like to make sure that multiple committees are not planning on tackling the same area to prevent overlapping, or we can connect those committees so they can work together.

The board would like to remind members that Michigan law prohibits anyone under the age of 21 to consume **alcohol** and to have any amount of **alcohol** in their body. The **law** prohibits the attempt to possess or consume **alcohol** by an **underage** person as well. It is not permitted for anyone under the age of 21 to sell, use, possess, and attempt to possess, deliver, or be under any degree of influence (legal intoxication not required) of any alcoholic beverages on DFCSCA grounds.

Finn Camp Store



Come shop at the Finn Camp store. Lots of new tee shirts, mugs, hats and back packs. For access to the store during off hours, call Patti Leppi, Ph: 248-921-1432, or email, Store@finncamp.org.

Cords of Firewood For sale

\$55 for members, \$65 for non-members. Delivery is extra. Call or text Mike Honka at 248-860-5109 to schedule loading and pick up. Please do not help yourself to the firewood.

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

Trash Rules: Dumpsters are for members use only! Do not put in large or long items that may wedge or jam the dumpster when being tipped into the garbage truck. No major dumping on festival weekends. No overfilling. No furniture, propane tanks, wood, construction materials or other large items are to be left in, by or around the dumpster. Large items can be placed at roadside near the tractor garage on Tuesdays for Wednesday pickup. Finn Camp or member construction materials can be placed in the dumpster by the pole barn.

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 can be another form of communication to our members.

You can now pay your Finn Camp bill online with PayPal by using treasurer@finncamp.org. You must select "Transfer to friends & family" and pay directly from your PayPal or bank account to avoid a fee. All fees incurred by Finn Camp will be charged to that member's account. Fees will be charged if paying with a credit card or selecting "transfer for goods or services."

The camp social director is Joni Sennhenn. Please contact Joni at 248-882-4626 to make a reservations 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.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Sunday, November 17, 9:00 a.m., visitors at 11:00 a.m.

Future Planning

Thursday, November 7, 6:30 p.m., boardroom

Forest Management

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

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.