



FINN CAMP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020



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 6. Cost is \$5.00 per family. Cash accepted as well as Venmo (@kaylajokinen) or mail a check to DFCSA with Christmas card in the memo line. Please remember to include your name as you want it to appear on the card.

- Kayla Jokinen

Newsletter Committee News

The newsletter committee is seeking new members to join our team. The position of chairperson and contributors are available. A new chairperson is required by early January to start working with the committee to publish the February newsletter. The chairperson produces the newsletter drafts and final copy and the contributors help create articles and contact other Finn Camp committees to assist in promoting their committee news and events. For more information please contact newsletter_editor@finncamp.org

Clubroom and Sauna Update

The clubroom and sauna remain closed at this time. The Board will provide updates later this month when new opening information becomes available. Be sure to check your email or the Facebook member's only page for updates.

CALENDAR

December

2—Future Planning Committee,
7:00 p.m., clubroom

13—**Board Meeting**, 9:00 a.m.,
visitors at 11:00 a.m.

13—**Forest Management committee**
10:00 a.m., meet at the pole barn

January

6—Future Planning Committee,
7:00 p.m., clubroom

10—**Forest Management committee**
10:00 a.m., meet at the pole barn

Clubroom: Closed until further notice

Sauna Hours: Closed until further notice

UPCOMING EVENTS;

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

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

Event Cancellation Update

The children's Pikku Joulu party has been cancelled for this year.

The adult Christmas Party has been cancelled also.

Our traditional New Year's Eve party has been cancelled.

Project Updates

The men's sauna benches have been worked on by replacing deteriorated wood. Thank you to Reino Solin, Eric Solin and Neil Leskinen.



Clubroom Standby Generator

The standby generator purchased five years ago developed a problem and stopped running. A service company came out to review the problem but the quotes received were very expensive. Erick Leskinen ordered the parts and replaced them himself saving the Finn Camp over \$600. The generator is now working normally and Erick volunteered to maintain it moving forward.



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.



2020 Reflections, Loving Camp Country

“Though much is taken, much abides.” is a quote by Tennyson but this holiday, perhaps it has more meaning as most of our fun customs and events at the Finnish Camp have been canceled because of the Pandemic. So much seems to have been taken. The Harvest dinner was always a nice collaboration and a tasty way for some of us without immediate family to feel like we celebrated a traditional thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. Not held this year-too risky.

We sure will miss the Pikku Julu, with the children’s cute united voices singing loudly to summons Santa and Mrs. Claus. This event is especially fun for us campers whose kids are grown now, to relive for a few hours the excitement of the season through the eyes of the young, as they put their ornaments on the tree and get all serious on Santa’s knee.

Many of us will also miss the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Bazaar and seeing Artists like Kari Aro with her latest Christmas creations- lighted wreaths, mittens, felt scrap trees, etc. along with the other artisans who brought us jewelry, potholders, candles and all manner of Yuletide crafts. We all look forward to purchasing a hearty pasty and goodies made by keepers of the old tried and true Finnish recipes during this event, and things would sell out quick, causing many a Finnish swear word spoken for those arriving late. We aren’t able to see each other at Sauna like we used to- maybe one of the hardest truths to face. Many of us had a borderline addiction to weekly steam, and turning up the shower just doesn’t cut it. Our sauna bags sit forlorn -at the back of the closet now, perhaps the gorgeous wooden dipper hand crafted by Scott Taipala all dried out and awaiting use again someday.

Who can forget the game nights, euchre tournaments and New Year’s Eve parties at the bar where we all could gather without worries and enjoy a Liz’s special, laugh and ring the bell at midnight?

We all are grappling with the new normal and maybe asking ourselves, will things ever open again and go back to the way they were when this pandemic is over? Well Tennyson claims “Much Abides” and for now we will have to focus on all the good that has happened despite the limitations this pandemic has thrust upon us:

What a great sight to see when we all worked together in August to restore Leppi’s landing, young and old, weak and strong, experienced, and those new to bushwacking.

Look at the young people serving on boards and planning new things, stepping into the roles that so many of our old-timers used to have. The Finn Camp trails and grounds have never looked better, with the Butterfly garden peaking and a “Giving Herb garden” flush with exotic basil and pungent thyme. A new 3rd trail from Sun -Lake to the ballfield with steps will be a welcome addition for hikers.

It was heartwarming to see some kids looking at books from the Little lending library over on the West side in July. Those of us lucky enough to own camps enjoyed a true refuge and getaway when home life got stale. The Edwin Elkhill scholarships have been a true blessing to our college kids and they have shown a real appreciation this summer and a giving back of their time and talents.

Bluebirds were spotted on the west side, always a welcome sight and so nice to think we provide a healthy habitat for so many creatures. The fishing season yielded great results with healthy sized bass and pike to bolster many a fishing tale around the Kokko.

I guess what this all means is that everything we love about the Camp is still there, and will resume as it was and as it will be for generations of our Children’s children. All of our hopes are tucked in for a winter’s rest, but will Spring eternal in April/May when we once again open our gates. Though Covid has taken much, much abides and will always, as long as we all persevere using the mysterious power of collaboration and SISU-true grit! Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! - Mary Burck, Newsletter Committee



Season's Greetings Everyone,

With all the doom and gloom of 2020, on a bright note, Stone Calnen donated the cedar wood and built Eastern Bluebird Houses for work hours this year. We purchased one and he crafted three more to match. We will be placing them along the tree line at Loon Lake & Leppi's Landing in the spring 2021. Fingers crossed the Bluebirds will find their way back to that area. We are so thankful for all the members' talents and willingness to make our visions come true. Please be safe & stay healthy!

Hyvaa Joulua & Hyvaa Uutta Vuotta



Finn Fest USA News - Virtual Events for 2021

Finn Fest USA launches 2021 on-line lectures and musical events. See link below for more information.

<https://finnfest.us/pages/virtual-event>



Finn Camp Wildlife

A large white tail deer was sighted at the Finn Camp. This eight point buck was photographed by Amber Martin.

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

Need a Seamstress?

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

BOARD NOTES AND REMINDERS

Boats cannot be tied to the fishing or swimming docks at Loon Lake.

Campfires at individual camps must be monitored and completely extinguished when not in use. Campfires are only permitted in fire pits. No ground fires are permitted.

The Board would like to remind all members that the use of heavy equipment must only be done with approval of the mechanical committee. If you have any questions please contact Kevin Mack.

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 events, 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 social director should also be contacted prior to scheduling events to prevent conflicts with other events / activities.

According to Blue Book Rule 203.1.3: Animals are not permitted on the grounds unless properly leashed.

New work hour cards are now located at the sauna building and the clubroom.

There has been a large increase with non-members riding bikes, walking their dogs and running through Finn Camp. If you see people who do not look familiar please address them politely and ask them to leave.

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. The dumpster at Sun Lake is for Finn Camp projects only. No personal or camp debris is allowed.

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.

Automotive Repair

If you are looking for a great mechanic and want a fair price look no more. I am a certified automotive technician. If you are in need of light auto repairs please give me a call!

Rob Zewatsky 248-877-0601
Estimates will be provided with every request!

Cords of Firewood For sale

\$55 for 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.

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, December 13, 9:00 a.m., visitors at 11:00 a.m.

Future Planning

Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 p.m., clubroom

Forest Management

Sunday, December 13, 10:00 p.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.