



FINN CAMP NEWSLETTER

October 2021



Ghostly Greetings, it's haunting season!
Adult Halloween Party
Saturday, 23rd, 8:00 PM in the clubroom.

Please bring a contribution for the booffet table to
feed the evil spirits. Eat, drink & be scary
We'll do the Monster mash, & have Prizes for best
costumes.

It's gonna be fang-tastic! No scaredy cats allowed
RIP Scary Sherry
A bar committee event

Semiannual Membership Meeting

Attention all members: Please attend the Semi-Annual all-membership meeting on Sunday, October 24th, inside the Dancehall beginning at 12:00 noon. Registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. so please arrive early to check in. Speakers will be set up outside so anyone who feels more comfortable can attend the meeting and sit outside the dancehall. The Board is asking for all committees to email their reports and for all members who would like to submit a motion to email them to board@finncamp.org prior to October 15th so packets can be assembled. To download the Motion Form go to:

<https://finncamp.org/forms/Motion-Form-Semiannual-Meeting-2021.pdf>

A copy of all motions and written committee reports will be provided at the meeting. This meeting is an opportunity for all standing committees and groups to report on their activities since the annual meeting in April. Many important issues are decided upon at this official gathering. This is an excellent chance to have your work hours cards signed and submitted. Motions to spend special projects money will be proposed and needs to be voted on to replace the roof on the sauna building and to upgrade the East and Westside camp bathrooms to natural gas (replacing the propane).

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AND FREE SAUNA
PROVIDED TO ALL WHO ATTEND!

CALENDAR

October

3—Co-Ed Golf Outing 9AM
10—Board Meeting 9AM, Visitors at 11:00
23—Adult Halloween Party
24—Semi-Annual Meeting
27—Future Planning Committee 6:30PM, Sun Lake
30—Kid's Halloween Party

November

6—Harvest Dinner 4PM, Clubroom
17—18 Holiday Extravaganza 5-8pm
7— Fall Talkoo
Board Meeting TBD

The Clubroom is now open
to Members & Guests
Friday & Saturday Nights, 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

• Sauna Hours •

Saturdays & Sundays:

1-3pm for Seniors & High Health Risk
Individuals. 3-9pm is open for anyone.

Wednesdays: 6pm-9pm for anyone
(there are no senior hours on Wednesdays)

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 each month.**

The FINN CAMP
Co-Ed, Fall
Golf Outing Closer



Sunday, Oct 3rd Riverbank Golf Course

9AM Shotgun Start • \$10 kickers
Optional \$10 skins

Please register early

by e-mailing Chris Nordin

Chris@chrismnordinstudios.com

Or text your group's names to 313-683-3363



My Aunt Selma "published" a weekly newsletter for three summers [1933-1935], documenting her observations at the the family farm in Bruce Crossing in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In this insightful collection about rural life in a Finnish community, she describes her favorite time of year [besides Christmas]: haying! Haying--the process where hay is mowed, raked and baled--was a time of lively activity and conversation when neighbors from surrounding farms gathered, tractors' motors purred and thrashers tumbled over the fields, as the farmers took the hay off the land. It was "talkoot" time, a longstanding Finnish tradition. Once the work was completed at one farm, men and equipment moved on to the next.

This same Finnish tradition of *talkoot* was brought to Finn Camp by its founders, and members through the last century have all profited from their hard communal labor--from building saunas, the Clubhouse and *ravintola* to digging the trench by hand [true *Voima Boys!*] between Sun Lake and Loon Lake. Nearly 100 years later, this custom of communal work is carried on each year, as we prepare for the opening in the spring and the closing in the fall. Until the pandemic, *mojakka* was the after-*talkoo* treat.

Words carrying the meaning of *talkoot* are at least 2000 years old and appear in Lithuanian, Latvian and German. One early appearance of this concept describes agricultural work completed in groups in what is now eastern Finland. Hosting *talkoot* back then provided the manpower needed to get the hay off the fields quickly, so that the cows could be returned to the pastures. What better way to get it done efficiently than to work together? People volunteered their services for the good of the whole, using their particular gifts and skills. Everybody benefited.

This effective method of communal work wasn't limited to harvesting hay and grains; it was also used to build new barns and buildings [much

like the Amish' barn-raising in America]. Each *talkoo* had an organizer; a foreman who divided the work, as defined by participants' skills; *talkoot* varied in length, depending on the task to be done: it could last a few hours, a few days, or a few weeks. And since food is a great motivator, volunteers were rewarded with ample amounts of hearty food during and after the *talkoot*, and often a sauna was offered as a thank-you. *Kahvipausi* [coffee break] created an opportunity for conversation and a chance to get to know your neighbors better... sometimes it even led to romance!



Early *talkoot* at Finn Camp!

With the advent of technology in farming, fewer *talkoot* are held in rural areas, but they are still used for projects and events at public buildings, like libraries, churches and museums. *Talkoot* are also popular in Finland for conserving the environment: for clean-up, maintenance and practices that protect animals at local parks. [We see similar volunteer organizations in the US, like the hundreds of volunteers who help keep Belle Isle clean or plant gigantic gardens there.]

In a few more weeks we'll have *talkoot* here at Finn Camp: there'll be leaves to rake, furniture to be stored, gardens to be put to bed! See you there!

by Madeline Salonen





Bruce and Michele Foxworthy donated \$5,000 for restoration of the piano, that Bruce originally bought for the Finn Camp a while ago. Because of the corona virus pandemic and the Finn Camp activities were cancelled for over a year, this was a good time to do the restoration that took about a year to complete. The work was done by piano technician Scott Nelson. Therefore, a big THANK YOU for keeping the Finn Camp piano maintained and tuned for our enjoyment of music.



Harvest Dinner



The Bar Committee is organizing the Harvest Dinner

Saturday, November 6th 4-6PM
in the clubroom.

This annual event is sponsored by the Bar Committee who provides turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Bring a side dish or dessert to pass. Thank you, Wayne Jokinen.



Halloween Children's Party October 30th!

More details to come on Facebook.

- Trick or Treating - 6PM
- Party 7-9PM
- Hayride 7:45PM

The trick or treating will be in West Camp Country and the party will be at Leppi's Landing (Loon Lake), with the Dancehall being a back-up in case of inclement weather.

- Hours Opportunity •

I am in need of helpers. I am looking for 4-6 people to help plan and prepare a low budget activity for the party. I am looking for these people to plan, make, set up, and host the activity of their choice (hoping most won't need an actual host but just be a self serve opportunity at the party).

I am also looking for 3 people to sign up to help decorate and/or make decorations.

- Please reach out directly to Jordyn if you are interested! 248-807-3091.



Save the date for our annual Holiday Extravaganza Wed Nov 17 & Thur Nov 18 from 5-8 pm.

Hand made items from over 20 local vendors. Items including Finnish baked goods, hot and frozen pasties, piirakka, pulla, doterra essential oils, candles, soaps, jewelry, upcycled mittens, artificial wreaths, garlands, floral arrangements for inside and out plus other various crafts.

Questions call Kari Aro 248-217-5467



We've all seen the video clips of a stocky, muscular man carrying a woman over his shoulders, climbing a wall, trudging through water, and other obstacles. That is the sport of Wife Carrying. Just how did this originate and who invented it? Well, it has deep roots in the Finnish culture.

Wife Carrying, Eukonkanto in Finnish, had its rather inauspicious origins in the late 1800's. A local fellow named Herkko Rosvo-Ronkainen lived in the forest around the village of Sonkajaervi, Finland. He was known to the locals as "Ronkainen the Robber" and had some similarities to the legendary Robin Hood. He lived in a forest, he associated with a gang, hardly merry men, and he stole from the villagers, mainly food. However he was more famous for abducting women, mostly married, from their homes and carrying them off in hopes of marrying them. He would also train his "gang" by having them carry large, heavy rucksacks, or backpacks so that they would become "faster and stronger." His escape routes were often hilly and entailed jumping fences and walls as well as wading across rivers and streams.

The legacy of Ronkainen the Robber was dormant for a century until 1992, when the locals decided to have a competition that would duplicate the route of the Robber. Their course was set at 253 meters (278 yds.) with two dry tracks, uphill and down, each with a wall or fence to climb, and a water obstacle a full meter deep. Each man would have to carry his or his neighbor's wife across this course in the fastest time. The woman had to weigh at least 49 kg. (108 lbs.) and had to be at least 17 years old. The only equipment allowed was a belt worn by the man, and a helmet worn by the woman. Ya' think? Secondary prizes would be awarded to the most entertaining, best costume, and strongest

man. The grand prize award would be the woman's weight in beer! There were different ways of carrying the woman. The traditional piggy back, the Fireman's rescue (over the shoulder), and the most favored style, the Estonian, with the wife upside down, her legs draped over the man's shoulders. This enables the man to pump his arms while running.

The most storied Champion Wife Carrier is Finland's own Taisto Miettinen with his partner Kristiina Haapanen who are 6-time champs, 2009-13, 2017. The world record, 56.9 secs., was set by Estonian Margo Uusorg, a 5 time champ with 3 different partners. Miettinen also is a champion in a few other curious sports: Water running (2004), Iron bar walking (2012), and Bog snorkeling (2012). He is also the oldest Champ at 52 years old.

There is also an event held the 2nd weekend of July, the St. Urho Wife Carrying for Charity in Menahga, MN., as well as one in the Upper Peninsula in Marquette, MI.



Looking for something to do!

Well, Pickleball is it!

We have several paddles and balls available in the shed by the ball field.

The net is always up and ready to play.

Go and enjoy one of the fastest growing games in the USA!





BOARD NOTES & REMINDERS

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

The Board would like to remind all members that the use of heavy equipment must only be done with approval of the mechanical committee. Rob Zewatsky is the mechanical committee chair. Contact Rob or the board for permission to use the equipment.

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 fund-raises 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 or activities.

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.

Facility Reservations: Any member interested in renting the clubroom, dancehall, ravintola, or beach should contact the social director, Joni Sennhenn, at 248-882-4626. Also, all committees should verify venue availability with the social director prior to scheduling events as private rentals may conflict.

Camp rentals are handled through the Board of Directors. Any member looking to rent their camp

should complete a camp rental form and submit it to the Board prior to the rental date.

Email board@finncamp.org.

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."

Work Administrators Update



There are still plenty of projects for work hours. Work hour inquiries can be directed to any of the work administrators: Tony Koski 616-813-5656, Mike Niemasz 248-240-0480 and Becky Wendela 248-762-7282. We are actively trying to increase transparency of projects and project status. Until then please do not hesitate to reach out.

Need tools or supplies? We often have supplies available. If not, we will purchase them or can help to approve costs so you can get what you need to complete the projects. If you see something around the property that needs to be done or you have specialized skills and willing to help with special projects please let us know.

Property Work Needs:

- The bricks of the outdoor dressing room at sun lake need to be cleaned and painted both outside and inside.
- Prepping and painting the indoor sauna dressing room ceiling on the men's side due to paint chipping
- The grills at sun lake need to be cleaned and painted. One grill is broken and we are working on a fix for this grill.
- Sun lake and sauna - outdoor dressing rooms need weed whacking as well as overall

The Sauna will be Open for Normal Operation after Labor Day

Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm-9pm
(Seniors and high risk only from 1pm-3pm) and on
Wednesdays from 6pm-9pm (no senior hours).

Sunday Saunas will be open only if we have a volunteer to run it. *Do not attend sauna if you are sick, have any COVID-19 symptoms, or have had close contact (within 6ft for 15 minutes) within 14 days of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. If you test positive for COVID-19 and were recently on Finn Camp property, please inform the Board of Directors at board@finncamp.org so we can take the necessary precautions. It is the responsibility of each member to make good choices to help keep everyone safe.*

You can sign up to run the sauna for work hours using the links below.

Wednesday Sauna Work Hours:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094bada728abf58-wednesday>

Sunday Sauna Work Hours:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094bada728abf58-sunday20>

Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Work Administrators Update

Continued

grounds clean-up such as weeding around the trees and areas that are overgrown.

- Scraping off algæ that has accumulated on the ladders and platform at Sun Lake.
- Outside the rav and around the grounds needs weed whacking
- Outside the rav ball field bleachers weed whacking and weed control on both home and visitor sides as well as dugouts and around fence behind home base
- There is some caulking work that needs to be done around the inside entrance to clubroom on the main entry side
- Steps outside dance hall need to be power washed and safety treads need to be placed on the steps to avoid slipping.
- Many picnic tables and benches need to be scrapped and new varnish applied. Small fixes to many are also needed. It would be great to complete this before we put them away for winter storage.
- The clubroom kitchen can be cleaned and organized as well as the back hall in back of the kitchen by the board room
- The vestibules entering the clubroom can also be cleaned.

The woods committee meets regularly and always needs extra people. Contact Mike Honka for special projects relating to woods committee.

Thank you to everyone who keeps this place running all year long!

In Finland



Finns love to drink milk

The Finns absolutely love milk and dairy products.

The annual milk consumption per person is 34 gallons, making Finland the worlds highest milk consuming nation. They consume milk in both liquid form, like sour milk or curd milk, and as other dairy products like ice cream, cheese and yogurt.

Your Classified Ad could be here

If you're a member it's free to run a Classified Ad
See the last page of this newsletter for details

Need a Seamstress?

For All Your Alterations
Custom Work & Mending

Call Cindi Maddick at 248-303-7337



see page one for details

Finn Camp Adult Halloween Party



*Sue Anne
Photography*

Looking for a photographer to capture special memories for you and your family? Let me take care of all your photography needs. I offer many different types of sessions. Email me to book yours today!

SueAnnePhotography@hotmail.com



Find me on Facebook and Instagram
[@sueannephotography](https://www.instagram.com/sueannephotography)





Hei Finn Campers,
There are alot of herbs to harvest. Please help yourself.



Dry them out for a few weeks. You will have wonderful herbs for cooking, throughout the winter months.

We have some new spring bulbs to plant in a couple locations. We are looking for helpers to move some Tiger Lillie's to a new location. We could also use some assistants with breaking down the Butterfly Gardens for the winter. Get some work hours at your convenience.

We are also in need of someone to maintain 3 Purple Martin houses throughout the property. It would be wonderful to have a new one built for Leppi's Landing. There is an existing pole by the benches close to the Loon Lake. Purple Martins love to eat Mosquito's. We could really use some help with that! We can set you up with everything you need to complete the project.

Please let us know if your interested.

Thank you everyone for always being so cooperative and helpful.
Contact Tammie King at:
tammie@tammieking.com
or call 248-624-6691 to make a plan.



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I'm Looking for a Handy-Person



*I'd like some help with
a few projects on my camp*

Contact Connie for details: 313-492-8862
or e-mail at: cclynny@aol.com
It's camp #154, Thank You.

Cords of Firewood For sale \$55 for members.

*Delivery is extra
to schedule loading and pick up.
Call or text Mike Honka at
248-860-5109
Please do not help yourself to the
firewood.*



Lakes Area Bait Shop

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2600 Benstien Rd. Wolverine Lake
We're just south of Glengary Road
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BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Future Planning

Wednesday, October 27, 6:30 PM, Sun Lake

Board of Directors

Sunday, October 10, 11:00 AM

Finn Camp Store



Come shop at the Finn Camp store.

Lots of new tee shirts, mugs, hats & backpacks.

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

New Store Items:

Baseball Cap in 2 sizes, \$25.00

Finn Camp Diving Tower Shirt - \$20

Finn Camp bag, water proof lining, Also in khaki \$25



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. (Over 50 word copy will be edited to fit.)
- The deadline is the same as the date for newsletter copy: the 15th of each month.



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.

The Finn Camp Co-Ed Fall Golf Outing Closer

is Sunday Oct 3rd, see page 1 for details