

2nd Annual Lumijuoksu

Hancock

January 24, 2009

Although the temperature was +2 F, the same as last year, it felt warmer because the wind chill was less. This year, the wind could be described as a light breeze compared to the wind which screamed from the west last year. Dozens of hardy souls lined up for the Lumijuoksu (Finnish for 'snow run') and the Heikinpaiva parade which followed the footsteps of the runners from the 'old Hotel Scott' to the festivities on the grounds of the former Hancock Central High School, most recently known as Hancock Middle School. The spirited events included wife-carrying and boot-throwing contests, steel runner sleds, in which the sledder stands on the runners and pushes with either foot, and a sled affixed to a cedar pole which is attached to an upright post to provide a sled merry-go-round. During the festivities, the enthusiastic announcer of the events urged the participants on and commented that the temperature on the Citizens Bank sign had risen to +4 degrees Fahrenheit and only one more notch upward was needed so that it 'would be as WARM as last year'. Winter is long in Finland and the Scandinavian countries, and also in the Copper Country of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan so it is best to get outside and enjoy it to the fullest. This was the 10th annual Heikinpaiva celebration in Hancock. Here's the results of the cold, icy, windy, hilly Lumijuoksu 5K run:

1. 19:40 Simon Carn, 37
2. 19:42 Nathan Manderfield, 18
3. 20:27 Jon Klimwicz, 23
4. 21:49 Margot Hutchins, 29 (1F)
5. 21:50 Willy Martin, 56
6. 22:27 Garrick Dixon, 21
7. 22:50 Rima Carlson, 34 (2F)
8. 22:58 Daniel Mizell, 19
9. 23:02 Ted Ahrenholtz, 46
10. 25:54 Charlie Martin, 28
11. 26:31 Mark Rowe, 35
12. 26:42 Bill Sved, 60,
13. 27:23 Dennis Gast, 56
14. Jeff Donegon, 21
15. Ryan Towles, 31
16. Becca Gast, 16 (3F)
17. Ann Vollrath, 45 (4F)
18. Laura Fredendall, 53 (5F)
19. Rosemary Smith, 62 (6F)
20. Charlie Smith, 63
21. Jenna Martin, 24 (7F)
22. Soup, 45 (8F)
23. Dorthy Jamison, 47 (9F)
24. Lauren Fry, 30 (10F)
25. Valerie Fuchs, 27 (11F) ?