

Solway Section Lines

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2013

Happy New Year

The Solway Town Board wishes each of you and yours a blessed and prosperous New Year! May you enjoy the support of friends, love of family and an abundance of good health.

2013 Citizen of the Year Award Nomination

Each year we welcome nominations for the Solway Citizen of the Year Award. Criteria for the award include the nominee being a township resident/property owner, 18 years of age or older and has donated considerable time and talent to the betterment of our community as a volunteer.

The winner of the award is honored for his/her contributions at the Township Annual Meeting in March. The recipient receives a personal plaque of recognition. In addition, the winner's name is added to the hall of fame plaque at the town hall which honors all previous winners of the award. Please submit your nominations to the town office by the first of March.

Past recipients of the award are: Axel Carlson 1992, Valeria Witte 1993, Katherine Miller 1994, Kenneth Hayes 1995, Walt Carlson 1996, Winifred Freed 1997, Centennial Committee 1998, Arnie Whiting 1999, Mary Busch 2000, Jim Miller 2001, Betty Everett 2002, Karen and Rick Flesvig 2003, Isabelle Callahan 2006, Wayne Suliin 2008, John Childers 2009, Joan Gajewski 2010 and Larry Shelton 2011.

Annual Meeting & Township Elections, March 12, 2013

The Election polls will be open from NOON to 8:00 PM to elect one supervisor for a three-year term. The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:30 PM to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

Some of the agenda items to be discussed at the Annual Meeting are as follows:

- 2013 Citizen of the Year
- Report of the 2012 Receipts and Disbursements
- Review of Town Hall rental fees
- Review of Cemetery regulations
- Fire Department Report
- Proposed Budget and Levy for 2014

In case of bad weather, the Annual Town Meeting and Election will be held at the same time and place on the third Tuesday of March.

Filing for Township Election

Filing for Town Office will be held for a two week period beginning Jan. 1, 2013. Filing will close on January 15, 2013 at 5:00 PM. The filing fee is \$2.00. Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed with the Town Clerk at Solway Town Hall, 4029 Munger Shaw Road, Cloquet, MN during this period of time. Township office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM. To file, come to the town office during office hours or contact the Town Clerk at 729-5134 to set an appointment. Office to be filled at the March Annual Election is: 1 Supervisor (three-year term).

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SOLWAY TOWN BOARD

Chairperson:
Ron Gajewski

Supervisors:
Clare Stromlund and
Scott Welsh

Clerk: Regena Merritt

Treasurer: Cindy Moe

Office Hours: M, T, Th 9-3

For Hall Rentals call 729-5134, leave your name, number and date wanted.

Phone: 218-729-5134
Fax: 218-729-5651
Township website:
solwaytownship-mn.gov

Email:
solwayclerk@hotmail.com

2012 Accomplishments

Looking to 2013, your Township Board reviews the accomplishments of 2012. Some of them are listed below:

- WLSSD grant awarded for our recycling shed operations
- Completed scheduled road improvements, dust control, roadside mowing and brushing
- Hosted household hazardous waste collection day
- Hosted Bill Pelto's monthly Country Music Shows
- Completed storm damage repairs on roads and school site soccer field – funds reimbursed from FEMA
- Cemetery patio, landscaping, tree and hedge planting completed
- Hall's upstairs bathroom remodeled; stage carpeting replaced
- Fire department – 800 MHz radio system operational
- Crack sealing of hall parking lot
- Blacktop overlay applied to North Jeffrey Road between Maple Grove Road and barrow pit.
- New roof and overhead doors on our maintenance/equipment storage garage
- Hosted recognition dinner for current and former firefighters and Flamettes.
- Hosted two WLSSD Electronics Collection Days
- Special Events Committee: Winter Fun Day, Halloween Carnival, National Night Out
- Continued maintenance of town hall and facilities for residents use

If you have suggestions for improvements you would like the Town Board to pursue, give us a call or bring your ideas to a board meeting.

Winter Fun Day: "Free For All"

Our winter fun day is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 1:00 to 6:00 PM. This FREE event is sponsored by Solway Township's Special Events Committee for all township residents/property owners so remind your friends and neighbors.

Activities planned at the writing of this article include hayrides, skating, sliding, bonfire, bingo and free food: coffee, hot chocolate, hot dogs, chips, cookies and bars. Food is served all afternoon so come for lunch and stay for supper. The Special Events Committee is picking up the tab.

Free bingo will run 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Each player may play up to four free cards at a time to vie for a \$10 winner's pot. If an individual wants to play more than the four free cards they may do so for 25 cents per extra card. The extra money will be added to the pot.

A Special Events Committee meeting is being held Wednesday, January 2nd at 6:30 PM to complete planning for the day. New faces and ideas are always welcome so if you'd like to help, come to this meeting at the Town Hall.

Recycling Shed Hours

Wednesday 3:30 to 6:30 PM
Saturday 7:00 AM to 12:00 noon

If schools or businesses are closed because of bad weather or the temperature is -20 degrees or colder, the recycling shed will also be closed.

Skating Fun

At the writing of this newsletter, our rink has already been flooded—and melted. Our volunteer firefighters will continue working to get usable ice laid. Hopefully the weather will cooperate. When the rink is ready to open, it will be posted on the township sign. Feel free to use the rink anytime at your family's convenience. The rink is lighted from dusk to 10:00 PM everyday.

For your comfort the warming house will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. During this time a township staff member will be available to sell hot chocolate and assorted goodies. Staff will be manning the counter and not be in a position to provide supervision on the rink so it's important if your children are of an age needing supervision that you or another adult will be present. Needless to say if we have bad weather on the weekend the warming house will be closed, as skaters won't be expected to be out. Enjoy!

Country Music Continues in 2013

Bill Pelto and his entourage of singers and musicians continue their country music shows at the town hall. The show is the second Saturday of each month. First quarter dates are January 12th, February 9th and March 9th. The music starts at 6:00 PM and runs till about 9:15 PM. A potluck (bring a food dish to share) starts at 5:00 PM prior to the music show for those wishing to participate.

None of the performers are paid as they volunteer their time and talent. A free will offering is appreciated to cover show production expenses. Let's all support the show so we can keep live music performances at the town hall. Bring your dancing shoes!

Firefighters Easter Bingo

Yes, there will be an Easter Bingo! Due to a scheduling calendar conflict the date is not yet finalized but watch for the Township Sign and flyers that will be advertising the March date.

Community Club News...

Flamettes

We had a good year. Thanks to all who supported our fund raisers for the Fire Department. Our next meeting will be Monday February 4th at 7:00PM. We will be helping with the Easter Bingo in March so come and have a night of fun. Watch the flyers and the Township sign for the exact date.

The Annual Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday April 28th.

Monday Bunch

Hope your Holiday was enjoyable! We meet every Monday 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM. We do our crafts and have a potluck at 2:00 PM. Come join us. We will have a craft sale on Saturday May 4th 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The cost for a table is \$10.00. To reserve a table call 729-8382.

This year we donated \$25.00 to the Special Evens Halloween Carnival and \$150.00 to the Proctor Food Shelf from our table rentals.

Fair Board

We will be going to the Annual Convention on January 18, 19, & 20th and hope to get new ideas and finalize some of our dates. The Fair will be July 10–15 and Entry Day will be July 9th. We have applied for a \$50,000 grant to put up an open pavilion for entertainment and 4-H Shows.

Maple Grove 4-H Club

The Maple Grove 4-H Club held their Family Night in November. A delicious potluck was served. Valerie Fox presented a wonderful demonstration on dog training. The dogs enjoyed it as much as the 4-H ers. Members walked the dogs and learned how to do "sit". Due to a busy schedule the Christmas party was cancelled and they will enjoy the Winter Fun Day.

Lakehead Harvest Reunion

The Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will be in February. We meet the first Monday of each month at 7:30 PM downstairs of the Solway Town Hall.

Notary Service

Your town clerk is a State Licensed Notary. If you have documents that need your signature notarized call the town office at 729-5134 and arrange a time to meet. This service is free of charge.

2012 Halloween Carnival – Review

Ghosts, pirates, super heroes, princesses – we had them all and more at the Carnival held October 26. People of all ages – kids to seniors – enjoyed the fun and excitement of skill games, cake walk, bingo and winning raffle prizes. There was good food, conversations and fellowship for all who came. It was your coming that made the carnival such a huge success once again.

Nothing just happens and it took dozens of individuals – adults and students alike – to organize, prepare and work the carnival. We thank each and everyone of you for sharing your time and talents. The Solway Special Events Committee would like to thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals who contributed to the 2012 Munger Halloween Carnival. Without their support the event would not be possible. Please offer them your support.

2012 Halloween Carnival Donations from Heidi Hanson – Leon and Mary Forstrom – Super One – Hermantown Wal-Mart – Dry Dock – Widdes Feed & Farm – Wok 'N Grill – Proctor Journal – Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa – New London Corporation – Blackwoods Bar and Grill Gift Certificate – Shirley Nylund – Betty Everett – L & M Supply – DNS Development – Mary Busch – Bernick's Pepsi – Lakehead Harvest Reunion – Matthew D Jugovich, D.D.S. – Shelton Excavating – Frank & Bonnie Siiro – Solway Senior Citizens – Mark & Sharon Kivi – Munger Tavern – Morin's Siding and Window – Proctor Federal Credit Union – James Grussendorf – Elaine and James Lindquist – Valeria Witte – Midway Clark – Boundary Avenue Mobil Mart – LTC Prescription Providers, Inc. – Moe and Sons Body Company – Maple Grove Homemakers – Solway Monday Bunch – North State Services – Pike Lake Dairy Queen – Cub Foods – Perkins-Jim & Darlene Miller were deeply appreciated.

Monies raised by the Halloween Carnival will fund our free Winter Fun Day to be held Saturday, January 26 from 1 to 6PM. Come, leave your money at home, and have a family day with us!

Bookmobile 2012

The Arrowhead Library System plans on continuing their Bookmobile service to our community this year.

The Bookmobile comes every three weeks on Thursdays 3:00 to 3:45 PM. The scheduled Thursdays during the first quarter of 2013 are Jan 10th, 31st, Feb 21st and March 14th.

St. Louis County Snow Plow Policy

- Goal is to maintain a safe and consistent level of service with available funding and manpower levels
- Use overtime only when snow reaches 2" depth on blacktop or 4" depth on gravel roads
- Right size our staff to use only what is necessary to handle the current situation
- Spring and Fall, consider forecasted high temperatures for the day to allow for melting verses plowing
- Our policy for Township roads is the same as we do our secondary roads. (County gravel roads and Township roads are plowed at the same time).
- Your roads are going to be treated the same as ours on OT as well as regular time. You will not have to wait until all our roads are done for us to start on yours.

Recycling Shed Receivables Updates

Mixed paper:

Pressboard boxes	Magazines
Paper of any color	Phone books
Junk mail	Shredded paper
Manila folders or envelopes	
Envelopes with or without self adhesive	

Newspaper:

Newsprint and advertisements –no paper bags

Corrugated Cardboard

Cardboard with a wavy layer between two pieces of thick paper
 No waxed cardboard
 Paper bags
Labels do not need to be removed from metal cans

Mixed Containers

Plastic #1-7
 No FILM or FOAM including Styrofoam and plastic bags
 No plastic cups, plates, or utensils
 No buckets
 No motor oil or antifreeze containers

Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship

The Minnesota association of Townships Scholarship Program will award up to four \$1,000 scholarships in 2013. Winners will be chosen based on a written essay. All applications for the awards given in 2013 must be submitted by **May 1, 2013**.

Continued in next column

All Minnesota High School principals have been notified of our program and have been sent application forms, along with posters describing the program. This year's topic is: Invasive plants and animals threaten Minnesota's recreational and agricultural economies, Townships can play a role in protecting rural Minnesota from these threats by enacting local ordinances for the public's health, safety and welfare. **What type of local ordinances could be helpful in combating invasive species and what role should township residents play in enacting and funding local ordinances?** You can find the application form on our website or call our office. www.mntownships.org

Eligibility

All students currently enrolled in the 11th grade and attending a Minnesota public, private, or parochial high school or a home study program **and** plan to further their education at a college, university, or vocational school are eligible for the program. Families of MAT directors and staff are not eligible.

Requirements

- Applicants must complete an application form and submit it along with a written essay discussing this year's topic.
- Essays must be between 450 and 500 words, and must be typed with double spacing.
- Applicants should not name themselves, their school, their town or city, or their local officials in the essay.

Along with the completed application and written essay, students must submit:

- Current high school transcript.
- Letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor.
- All items must be submitted in one envelope and mailed to: Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 267, St. Michael, MN 55376 and postmarked by May 1, 2013.
- Incomplete applications or applications postmarked after May 1, 2013 will not be accepted.

Research Tips: View MAT DVD "Square One" which is available at the Solway Town Office. Visit the MAT website. If you do research on the web or in your local library—be sure to look for Minnesota (or MN) townships so you are finding relevant information.

Each essay will be judged by an independent panel based upon originality, knowledge of subject matter in relationship to the title, and supporting statements, as well as correct spelling and punctuation. The judging will be completed by October 1, 2013.

Fire Department News

It is hard to believe that 2012 is coming to an end already. Looking back at the year it has been a very busy and productive year. At this point, since January 1st the fire department has responded to 79 calls for assistance with both fire and medical emergencies.

In early 2012 the department took delivery of a 2005 Chevrolet extended cab pick-up truck donated by Enbridge Corporation. The truck was converted into a grass fire/rescue vehicle that is now in operation. The truck replaced a 1985 Army Surplus vehicle from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

A state of Minnesota mandate required all emergency radio communications to switch to a 800 megahertz system this year. The department received seven truck and 20 portable radios paid for by grant monies from St. Louis County. After four hours of training on the new radios and system, the firefighters were ready for the new systems activation on November 15, 2012.

During December the department held its election of officers for 2013. Listed are current department firefighters with their positions designated:

Alan Mitchell, Fire Chief
 Wayne Suliin, Asst Chief
 Jim Johnson, 1st Captain
 Casey Modich, 2nd Captain
 Jeff Nelson, 3rd Captain and Treasurer
 Chris Tverberg, Fire Marshall
 Bill Mulek, Fire Training Officer
 Nick Priolo, Medical Training Officer
 Gordy Jensen, President
 Boo Hanson, Vice-President
 Michelle Haltli, Secretary
 Josh Hughes, Firefighter
 Shawn Monson, Firefighter
 Eric Monson, Firefighter
 Jeff Keppers, Firefighter
 Jed Wolf, Firefighter
 Nick Hite, Firefighter
 Frank Kermend, Firefighter
 Marcus Taylor, Firefighter
 Bob Priolo, Firefighter

As we celebrate the holiday season we would like to remind people of a few fire safety tips:

- If you are using a real Christmas tree, keep it watered so it doesn't dry out and become a fire hazard.
- Inspect your lights for frayed wires, bare spots, cracked sockets, etc. before using. Replace the lights if they are worn.
- Remember to not overload your electrical outlets
- Do not leave your holiday lights on unattended.
- Never put wrapping paper in a fireplace as it can throw off sparks and embers.

- If you are using candles; make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they can't be easily knocked down.
- Never put lit candles on a Christmas tree!
 Make sure your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms have fresh batteries and are functional by testing them.

Lastly, the members of the fire department would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Septic System Management

** Information from the St. Louis County Environmental Services Department On-site Waste Water Division*

Septic systems protect human health and the environment by safely recycling wastewater and returning it to the natural environment. It is your job as the homeowner to be sure this happens effectively and safely. As with your car, regular maintenance and attention is needed to keep it operating efficiently in a cost effective manner.

Best Management practices:

- Maintain vegetative cover (turf, grass, native grasses, flower). Mow, but do not fertilize, burn or over-water.
- Keep all vehicles, bikes, snowmobiles, etc. off.
- Do not plant trees or shrubs near drain field.
- Inspect for cracked, missing inspection pipe covers.
- Follow practices to prevent freezing, including mulching the entire system if needed.

Inside your home:

- Repair all leaking faucets, toilets, fixtures.
- Change to low flow toilets, showerheads.
- Replace appliances with low water use models.
- Spread water uses evenly throughout the day and week.
- Re-route clean water sources: water softener, treatment unit recharge water, high efficiency furnace drip, sump pumps to separate drainage area.

Watch what goes down the drain:

- The toilet is not a garbage can—nothing should be flushed except human waste and toilet paper.
- Excess medications—return to pharmacy or land-fill.
- Limit or eliminate drain cleaner use.
- Do not use automatic toilet cleaners, disposable brushes.
- Do not use every-use or automatic shower cleaners.
- No hazardous waste, paints, solvents, chemicals.
- Eliminate or limit use of garbage disposal.
- No chlorine treated water such as from hot tubs.

Town Office
4029 Munger Shaw Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Phone: 218-729-5134
Fax: 218-729-5651
Email: solwayclerk@hotmail.com

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Solway Section Lines

Township Events Calendar

Jan. 8..... Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Jan. 12Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
Jan. 10Bookmobile 3:00 pm
Jan. 26Winter Fun Day 1:00 to 6:00 pm
Jan. 31Bookmobile 3:00pm
Feb. 9Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
Feb. 12..... Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Feb. 21.....Bookmobile 3:00 pm
Mar. 9.....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
Mar. 12Township Elections noon to 8:00 pm
Mar. 12 Annual Meeting 8:30 pm
Mar. 14Bookmobile 3:00 pm
Watch flyers for date Easter Bingo 7:00 pm