



Duluth Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org

November 2003

Thank you to all contributors to this issue: **Helen Hendrickson, Janis Hooley, Todd Lindahl, Officer Steve Peterson, Sherry Rovig, Mary Ann Sironen and Katie Sundstrom.** A special thanks to Babs Strom for providing the masthead for this month.

We need volunteers to do a sketch for the top of the January and March Newsletters! Call the editor (525-0103) if you have an idea or know someone who would do a drawing. *Both school age and adult artists are needed!*

- o -

Congratulations to Ann Cox, our Town Clerk and First Responder. Ann has been appointed to the St Louis County Rescue Squad, a volunteer affiliate of the Sheriff's Department. New members must have a high level of emergency-handling skill, energy and commitment. Only about 50 people are currently accepted as *Rescue Squad* members in all of St Louis County. You have seen news reports of their search and rescue work and public safety assistance. It is quite an honor to be selected. Ann is one of our Township's main First Responders. As many of our residents can attest, we are better off because of her committed quick response in medical and other emergencies. The *St Louis County Rescue Squad* has an unusually fine training program plus up-to-date emergency response equipment. This also benefits our Township. Recently Ann was a part of a training simulation of a crash situation. Thanks, Ann, for your continuing service to our Township and County.

Town Board Election. In March the Township will be voting on two positions. Those who wish to run for Board of Supervisor need to file an application form with the Town Clerk and pay a \$2.00 filing fee between December 30th and the deadline, January 13th.

Volunteer Fire/First Responder Auxiliary

Sherry Rovig

First Annual Harvest Dinner: It was a dark and stormy night...and the town hall was full – full of people, full of the aroma of home-cooked food, full of conversation and music, autumn decorations, and a sense of community and support for our local fire department. The first annual harvest dinner benefit was held Sat., Oct. 11th and enjoyed a successful debut. The contributions of produce from local farmers and

gardeners, desserts, door prizes, cooking and serving equipment, coffee from Alakef, music by the *Back Porch Quartet* (minus one player), signage, and many volunteer hours were abundant and very appreciated. Jeff Marino had the closest guess of the number of pieces of candy in the jar (one less!). Children had a chance to climb on the fire truck and try on turn-out gear, which they pronounced too heavy!"

Thanks to all who came out on such a rainy night to contribute. And thanks to the emergency service volunteers who serve our community. Keep your chimneys clean and keep warm!

Township Police Department

Shawn Padden, Chief.

The Duluth Township Police Department is investigating numerous reports the past two months of roofing nails intentionally being dropped on North Shore Drive. The nails that have been found are new roofing nails approximately 1/2" in length. There have been a number of our residents and visitors to the drive that have been picking up the nails and keeping us updated. Our latest report indicated that on September 19th anywhere from 500 to 700 of these nails were removed by either private individuals or the City of Duluth.

This has moved from being thought to be related to new construction in our area to the real possibility of someone or persons intentionally throwing the nails on the road. If anyone has information that may assist us, please contact us at 525-5705 or PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org.

E-mail Resident Alert List: In response to recent break-ins, the Township police are organizing an e-mail notice list as another way to keep residents informed. If you would like to receive these notices, send your e-mail address to: PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org.

In the latest alert, our officers note that areas surrounding Duluth Township have had a **rash of daytime residential burglaries**. Doors are pried or kicked open and money, jewelry and guns are taken. There appears to be more than one group of burglars. Officers suggest putting money you have in your "change can" in the bank, not your closet! Lock doors and windows. Call 911 if you see suspicious activity. Our police have increased their daytime patrol activity.

Mailed to 810 Duluth Township homes and businesses. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send your comments and suggestions to volunteer *Newsletter* editor Don McTavish at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 or in the *NewsBox* on the Town Hall porch. The Newsletter is printed locally by **BB&K Printing**, and mailed for us by **UDAC**.

THE HOMESTEADERS*Helen Hendrickson*

Nov 5th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. *Turkey Bingo!*

Dec 3rd, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Christmas Pot-Luck and entertainment by students from our North Shore Community School.

Jan 7th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Chris Porter will entertain with his magic and variety show.

Everyone is welcome. For information, call 525-4154.

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District*Mary Ann Sironen, D/NSSD Secretary*

The end of the 2003 summer construction season finds the D/NSSD sewer project essentially on budget and half way completed. Ayres Associates engineers report that by the end of the year the main line will be in the ground and tested with pump stations completed. Residents of the district have been patient and understanding with the inconvenience that construction brought to the Shore this summer. Based on feedback from customers, work went along with what appeared to be a tolerable amount of disruption and distress. Restoration of individual properties will be finished in the spring after the ground has settled.

Eric Appelwick of *Northeast Technical Services* was hired as the liaison between the Board, the engineers and the construction crews to address property owners concerns and problems. He is available at **624-8042** and will continue to be a source of information and conduit of problem solving for residents who need to address individual concerns.

A \$500,000 grant from the Army Corps of Engineers paid for the detention storage tank that will be used to hold back the flow from the DNSSD during high water events. As Duluth residents know, the city sewer system has a difficult time handling inflow and infiltration from the homes on its system during heavy rains. The end result has been sewage overflows into Duluth streets and on into the lake. DNSSD was required to be able to store 24 hours of its volume to reduce the stress on the city system. Intense work by former chair Nelson Thomas and the DNSSD Board in 2001 and 2002 procured the ACOE grant that met this need.

The Board is currently engaged in working out the financing and details of the *Extended Hook Up* program that will bring the sewer lines past the grinder pump right up to the wall of the buildings on the system. That project, along with work on the District's Ordinances and the refinement of rates and charges will continue into the winter. Watch the website: www.dnssd.org for current information.

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department*Jerry Simmons, Fire Chief*

We still do not have the final word on our ISO rating. When this information becomes available it will be posted and put in the Newsletter.

Be sure to renew batteries in your fire and smoke alarms. Check your wood stove chimneys for safety

Clifton 4-H

Secretary Katie Sundstrom reported on the 4-H meeting and its various projects. Among their community projects is work on the Township's *Palmers Lake View Cemetery*. A shrub will be replaced and they are working on wording of plaques for benches at the cemetery. They also provided a window display at our school and they are considering another community bingo event.

For information about 4-H and its activities, contact Katie Edblom at 525-1276.

Elections 2004*Ann Cox, Town Clerk*

Recently I attended a required election class put on by the St. Louis County Auditor's office, Election Division. Below are a few of the legislative changes and requirements we are to use in the 2004 Presidential elections.

- The Secretary of State, Election Division's web site www.sos.state.mn.us. This wweb site includes Absentee Ballot Applications for all elections except Township or School District elections. Township absentee ballot applications will be available at www.duluthtownship.org and at the Town Hall in time for our March elections.
- Registration Cards. Have you ever registered in one election and found your name omitted from the registration book at the next election? This might have happened for a number of reasons: 1. Did you write all information clearly? If they can't read the registration card, it will not be accepted. 2. Did you complete your card? If not, your card might be rejected for missing information. 3. Did you present proper identification, such as a current driver's license, utility bill (in your name) with your residence in the precinct or a receipt for a Minnesota driver's license or identification card? You may also use an ineffective or late registration notice received from the Auditor's Office or a registered voter in the precinct who is willing to sign a voucher.
- When may you register? Anytime by going to the St. Louis County Court House, room 214.
- 2004 Election: Presidential Election Year. Who is on the ballot? Not Senators (Dayton in 2006 and Coleman in 2008). House of Representatives – Oberstar. Commissioners for now: District 1 – Fink, 3 – Kron, 5 – Sweeney, and 7 – Raukar. All State Representatives will run in 2004. An assortment of judges from all levels and the Soil and Water District.
- Hours of voting for state primary and general electins are 7:00am to 8:00pm. A township with less than 500 inhabitants may pass a resolution at the annual town meeting setting the opening of polls as late as 10:00am. In all cases, closing remains at 8:00pm. For school districts, minimum hours are 5:00pm to 8:00pm, unless the election is in conjunction with a town/city election. In that case, polls must be open the longer hours (7am to 8pm or 10am to 8pm, etc.) (M>S> 204.05). (*This information was taken from the St Louis County Election Clerk Training Election Year 2003, St Louis County Auditor's Office, Gordon D. McFaul, County Auditor.*)

Summary of Town Board Meetings

(Official minutes are available at the Town Hall and on our Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org).

August 14th meeting. All Supervisors were present. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance, setting the agenda, audience concerns and approval of July minutes. Correspondence regarding Park Side Circle road was referred to Attorney Tim Strom for clarification. St Louis County Auditor notified the Township of 25% assessment increases for Timber and Agricultural land. The Treasurer reported deposits of \$19,390.95, expenses of \$43,334.91 and an ending balance of \$213,597.62.

Department reports were heard. Police Chief Padden reported that the family who left garbage at the recycle center had been identified and contacted. The Fire Department reported 4 medical, 4 fire calls plus a phone standby when 911 was down. Helicopter training was scheduled for September 3rd. The contract to provide fire service to Alden Township was received. Community Center: A survey will be sent out in the September Newsletter to determine community interest in various activities.

Phil Strom requested that the NSCS lease be negotiated in two respects: 1) to amend it to increase the rent by \$18,000/year reflecting the expenses related to the added temporary classroom space and its installation, and 2) to shift grounds maintenance to the Township. At the March Annual Meeting, \$10,000 was approved for mowing and snow removal for 2004. This was in conflict with the current lease that says the school is responsible for grounds maintenance (at the Annual Meeting it was erroneously stated that this was not in the lease). George Sundstrom feels the Township should cover grounds maintenance and will bring the issue to the 2004 Annual Meeting. Jeff Cook recommended getting the cost of mowing and snow plowing down. Motion by Corlis West based on Attorney Tim Strom's suggestion that in 2004, the school will arrange for mowing and snow removal and bill the Township (up to \$10,000). Motion was tabled until the September meeting.

Legal: An issue of taking over a road was raised but it was felt it was not in the Township's interest to do so at this time. Planning and Zoning: The Board of Adjustment membership is Jeff Cook, Board representative, Janet McTavish, Zoning Commission representative, and John Bowen as an "at large" member. Cemetery: It was moved that the Sextant's be paid \$35/month starting January 2004 for services in arranging burials, keeping accurate records, etc. There was no new business.

September 11th meeting. Supervisors Cook, Dahl, Sundstrom and Vice Chair West opened the meeting. Jeff Cook made a motion that a letter be sent to DNSSD asking that Township roads in the sewer area be brought to good condition by year's end and then again when they are completely finished with the project. Motion passed. The Board approved phone cable installation along the Alseth and West Knife River roads. George Sundstrom reported that information on per capita income and expenditures from the State Auditor indicated that Duluth Township was about half the average for Townships (\$185 vs. \$330 per capita).

(continued on page 4)

Township Calendar

See updates on www.duluthtownship.org.

November 2003

Nov 5, Wed, 12:30 **HOMESTEADER'S**, Town Hall
 Nov 5, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
Nov 5, Wed, 7:00 **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
 Nov 11, Tue, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran
 Nov 12, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: maintenance
Nov 13, Thu, 7:30pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
 Nov 18, Tue, 6:30pm NSCS members meeting, gym
 Nov 19, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: training
Nov 20, Thu, 7:30pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
 Nov 26, 27, 28 *No school* at NSCS

December 2003

Dec 1, Thu, 7:00 **Planning Commission** meeting, Town Hall, (ordinance work meeting).
 Dec 2, Tue, 7-9am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church Gathering House.
 Dec 3, Wed, 12:30 **HOMESTEADER'S** meet Town Hall
 Dec 3, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
 Dec 10, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: maintenance
Dec 11, Thu, 7:30pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
 Dec 16, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
 Dec 17, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: training
 Dec 18, Thu, NSCS Holiday Concert
 Dec 22-Jan 2, No school at NSCS – Holiday break.
 Dec 23, **Deadline** for news for the January *Newsletter*
 Dec 25, Thu, 7:30pm Planning Commission does not meet today.
 Dec 30, Tue, Start of the period for candidates for Town Board to file with the Town Clerk.

January 2004

Jan 7, Wed, 12:30 **HOMESTEADER'S** meet Town Hall
 Jan 7, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
 Jan 6, Tue, 7-9am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church Gathering House.
 Jan 13, Tues, Deadline for candidates for Town Board to file with the Town Clerk.
 Jan 14, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: maintenance
 Jan 15, Thu, Deadline for candidates for Town Board to withdraw.
Jan 9, Thu, 7:30pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
 Jan 20, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
 Jan 21, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept*: training
Jan 22, Thu, 7:30pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall

Message Board on the Township Website. You can post a message on the Township website. It is a fine way to communicate events, sales, greetings, etc. See www.duluthtownship.org and click on "messages". Thanks to the Township's Webmaster, Linda Hollinday. Note you can also send emails to Township officials from the website.

Treasurer Janet Johansen reported income of \$17,438.33, expenditures of \$34,555.38 and an ending balance of \$196,489.73. Department reports were reviewed. The faulty smoke detector alarm at the school will be checked. The motion to approve the addendum to the lease raising the rent by \$18,000 per year was passed (Sundstrom abstained). Motion to reimburse the school for mowing/snowplowing up to \$10,000/year was made and passed. Zoning: Scott McTavish conditional use for a wind generator was approved. Claudia Spees side yard variance on a garage was approved. Recycling: Not all costs of moving the south recycling shed have been covered by WLSSD. Jeff Cook will contact WLSSD to arrange for full payment. The community school will take the aluminum cans collected at our recycling centers. Logistics will be worked out. Asbestos removal at the old fire hall (near the McQuade harbor project) has been discussed with the DNR. The Township's share of the North Shore Management Board's funding will be raised at the 2004 Annual Meeting. Jeff Cook is a representative on the Management Board for the Township and Mary Ann Sironen is a member of their citizen's advisory committee. The meeting was adjourned noting two community events, the School Barbeque in September and the Fire Reserve's Harvest Festival in October.

October 9th meeting. Supervisors Cook, Dahl and Vice Chair West conducted the meeting. NSCS requested that a toner recycling container be placed in the Town Hall and both Recycling Centers. Motion approved. The State of Minnesota and St. Louis County notified the Township of a cut in the "Market Value Credit" (2% for 2003 and 3% for 2004) resulting in a shortfall in requested levies of \$12,573. The "Market Value Credit" is state/county funding that reduces the amount of property tax that would otherwise have to be collected to cover the budget we approve at our March Annual Meeting (this is different from the Homestead Credit that property owners may receive on their property tax statement).

Treasurer Johansen reported deposits of \$18,011.18, expenses of \$44,891.38 for a balance of \$169,609.53. Department reports were read. There was a false alarm and 3 medical calls. Four volunteers will be attending *Fire Fighter Essentials* training: Jody Anderson, Keith Darsow, Paulette MacIntosh, and Don Walli. Fireperson Robert Engelson recommended that the firefighter pension be raised from \$250 to \$400 per year of service. The increase can be handled under the current pension fund. Motion passed.

False smoke alarms at the school will be corrected. The new Town Hall furnace quit and has been repaired. Planning and Zoning is considering a general information booklet similar to the Lake County zoning booklet. Toni Fladmark has been asked to create a package for the Zoning Commission's approval. Plans for a collection storage for recycled aluminum cans for our NSCS were discussed. Greenwood road has been repaired as requested at the last meeting.

The Next Town Board meetings: (2nd Thursday) Nov. 13th and Dec. 11th at 7:30pm, Town Hall. Residents are urged to attend these public meetings.

North Shore Copper Mines

Todd Lindahl

Copper in the Lake Superior region was first mined by the Eastern Archaic people from 500 B. C. to around 1,500 B. C. These people were also known as the "old copper culture." Some of their pits and diggings on Isle Royale cover more than a square mile. Copper from this region passed through trade networks and has been found in places as far away as Montana, Georgia, and New York. For reasons unclear today the use of the metal by these ancient people ceased at the end of this period.

It did not take long before this important metal was noted by new arrivals from Europe. Jacques Cartier mentioned copper deposits somewhere up the St. Lawrence seaway as early as 1530. This was only 38 years after the arrival of Christopher Columbus! By the 1630's there were written accounts of native copper mines published in Europe. Sieur Des Grosseilliers observed the copper mines on Isle Royale in 1659. The presence of copper was in the back of everyone's mind from then on.

When the border between Canada and the United States was negotiated it was the possibility of copper deposits that caused the boundary to end up where it is today. Even after the north shore became part of the U. S. there was still an obstacle to mining exploration. The land still belonged to the Ojibwa tribe and they would allow no encroachment into their territory. In 1854 the Ojibwa ceded the land north of Lake Superior to the government at the treaty of La Pointe.

By 1857 a land office was established at Buchanan (Knife River) in Duluth Township to accommodate the expected rush of miners. The anticipated rush didn't happen and only a scattering of new mining companies actually began exploration. R. B. Carlton, an early settler at Fond du Lac, was an enthusiastic promoter who tried to interest new copper mining ventures. He formed the Carlton Land, Mineral, & Mining Company, which had mining claims along the French River. In 1863 one ton of copper had been shipped from the mines at French River. Both the French River Mining Company and the North Shore Mining Company also worked in this area. John Parry mined at Knife River from 1854 to 1856.

Another mine active in 1867 was located on the Sextus Anderson homestead on Knife River. During the summer of 1886 the Duluth & Iron Range Railway built the Lake Division track between Two Harbors and Duluth. They had to buy the right of way land from R. B. Carlton Land, Mineral, & Mining Co. and the French River Mining Co. since both companies were still in existence. E. P. Follet mined along Knife River in 1899 and for a while ran three shifts in his underground mine. Within two years all of the ore, probably a small quantity, had been removed and the mine closed.

Ed Hillyard mined at Knife River in 1900 and another shaft was sunk next to the church in the town. This shaft proved to be a dismal failure as no trace of copper was found. Farther up the shore the Walker Copper & Mining Co. sank a shaft near a small vein in 1893. The last major exploration was in 1928 when a Canadian company drilled 15 diamond drill holes and sank a shaft in section 26 Township 52 North - Range 12 West.

(continued on page 5)

The sum total of all this exploration resulted in only a small amount of copper being recovered, which was perhaps not more than a few tons altogether. Could there really be a large copper deposit hidden somewhere yet undiscovered? Most certainly, and where you have copper you also have the possibility of gold, silver, or a number of other valuable metals. Good luck prospecting.

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings
(Official minutes are available at the Town Hall)

September 25th meeting. Attending: Chair Sue Lawson, David Edblom, Toni Fladmark, Cindy Hale, and Adam Hendrickson. After approval of the August minutes, a variance hearing for Claudia Spees was held. The request was for a 5 foot rather than a 10 foot side yard setback in this Greenwood Beach lot so that a 2-car garage could replace a 1-car garage. Hale moved that this be approved. Motion carried.

There was a discussion of American Planning Association and a State of the Coast program of information for Planning Commission members.

A question was raised about whether two property owners could jointly build a garage. Wayne will follow up on a letter to the Barthell's regarding an illegal sign in the road Right of Way.

Work on the updated zoning ordinance is nearing completion. Following the lengthy citizen's Steering Committee deliberations, the Zoning Commission has been assembling parts of the zoning ordinance, working with the administrative details, and working with the Consultants on proper legal language. They expect that a working draft will be available at a public information meeting in January to review the new ordinance and ask questions. Then there will be a period for written public comments, which will be reviewed, and a final draft will be released and a formal public hearing held in February. Watch the January Newsletter for details.

Volunteers Needed: The Planning Commission will be looking for applicants to fill a vacancy expected in March. Watch the Town Hall for notification of openings.

Next Planning Commission meetings: (4th Thursday) Nov 20th, Dec 1st and Jan 22nd at 7:30pm, Town Hall. Residents are invited to attend these public meetings.

Results from our Community Center Activities Survey

Last month, at the request of the Town Board, the Newsletter included a questionnaire about interest in activities at our community center/school. The results are in for the 58 residents who responded (for comparison, 85 responded to the January 2003 resident feedback survey).

No one disagreed with the idea of having community activities at our community center/school. Responses to questions about interest in types of activities, likelihood of actually participating and how activities should be funded are shown in the tables below.

Classes and community events topped the list of preferences. Some 43% of respondents said they would try to attend some events (none said they were unlikely to

attend). Evenings and during the regular school year were the most popular time preferences. Over ninety percent felt that community center events should be covered by user fees and 63.8% would like to have the Township seek grants to cover costs.

Activities in which you would like to participate if offered at our school/community (check any that apply)	Percent
Classes on topics of community interest	82.8%
Community events	81.0%
Non-organized use of playground, grounds	72.4%
Community group meetings	62.1%
Scheduled community sports	51.7%
Public use of school library	37.9%
Public use of computers	24.1%
Other activities (e.g. exercise, theatre, volleyball)	22.4%

How likely are you to actually participate in these activities?	Percent
Unlikely to come to any of these events	0.0%
Might come to a special event of interest	27.6
Probably would try to come to some events	43.1
Definitely would try to participate in events	29.3
Total	100% (58)

Best times for events (check any that apply)	Percent
Evenings	74.1%
During the regular school year	69.0%
Summer	50.0%
Saturday	46.6%
Sunday	31.0%
Afternoons	22.4%
During holiday times	20.7%
Mornings	19.0%
Other times (including "any time")	17.2%

How should activities be paid for? (check all that apply)	Percent
Charge a fee to cover activity costs	91.4%
Outside grants that the Township seeks	63.8%
Township budget for community center activities	29.3%

Other comments included an appreciation that the Township was considering activities that might benefit older youth, excitement over community center possibilities and noting that the initial agreement in acquiring the school property was that it would not increase property taxes.

December 24, 1903 - A group of land lookers were looking at some land in the woods several miles west of Knife River along the stage road. They had just returned to the road and had gotten on their sleigh when they noticed a pack of black wolves that came out on the road some distance behind them. The men whipped the horses and were away down the road as fast as they could go. The wolf pack pursued them until just outside of Knife River where the pack gave up the chase. Todd E. Lindahl



Calendar of Events

- **Nov. 18, Annual Members' Meeting**
- **Nov. 19, End of First Trimester**
- **Nov. 21, Report cards go home**
- **Nov. 24 & 24, Conferences, 4—8 p.m.**
- **Nov. 26, NO SCHOOL, Conferences, 8 a.m.—Noon**
- **Nov. 27 & 28, NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Holiday**
- **Dec. 18, Holiday Concert**
- **Dec. 22—Jan. 2, NO SCHOOL, Holiday Break**
- **Jan. 5, School Resumes**



A School of Choice, A Tradition of Excellence

5926 Ryan Road, Duluth, MN

Phil Carlson, Director
B.J. Kohlstedt, Curriculum Coord.
Machelle Lampela, Assistant Business Mgr
Heidi Horoshak, Admin. Assistant

NSCS Board Members:

Phil Strom, chair
Leo Babeu David Sundberg
Sheri Camper Bob Sundstrom
Cathy Gunsolus George Sundstrom

The public is invited to attend North Shore Community School Board Meetings scheduled for 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the North Shore School.

We invite your questions and concerns. For more information, call 525-0663.

NSCS Board Chair Update:

Two Board Positions Open, Annual Members' Meeting set for Nov. 18

It seems hard to believe that North Shore Community School is almost two months into the 2003-2004 school year.

The portable classrooms have been completed aside from a few cosmetic touches that will be happening in the months ahead. As reported by both teachers and students, they are proving quite adequate to their role.

The nominating committee has been at work selecting a list of nominees for the two director positions which will be open in November and elected on Nov. 18. Only NSCS members may vote for board candidates. NSCS members are defined as all staff members employed at the school and all parents of children enrolled. A letter, which will give biographic sketches of the candidates and also explain the process for open nominations, will be mailed to all members.

All members are asked to vote on Nov. 18 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. A copy of the Annual Report will be available at the polling station in the cafeteria.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in

the NSCS gym on Nov. 18. We hope that you will attend.

A contractual requirement between NSCS and its Sponsor, Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, is that the Board reports to them on the school's current condition at their Annual Board Meeting in October.

It was on that mission that a delegation from NSCS set out for Wolf Ridge on the first Saturday of October. The delegation delivered copies of the NSCS Annual Report and made a short verbal update of current conditions and initiatives, and then were available for questions. The report was well received by Wolf Ridge Board members. This is an ever strengthening and improving partnership, working to the mutual benefit of both parties.

As the NSCS Board looks into the financial future over the next several years, it is a certainty that the challenges to meet our goals will become stiffer. The "start-up" funding that NSCS enjoys from both State and Federal sources will end at the tail end of this school

(Continued on page 2)

NSCS Fall BBQ brings together community supporters

Delicious food and great fellowship were combined with the opportunity to learn about the coming school year at the NSCS Fall BBQ.

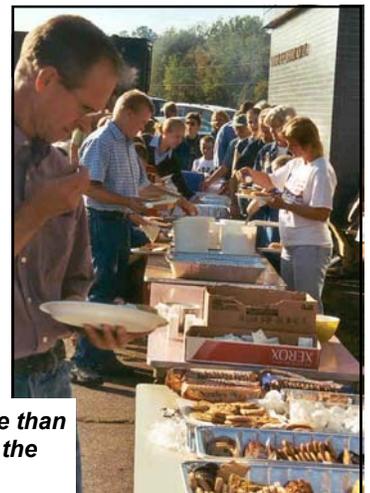
Under sunny skies, more than 350 people spread across the front lawn on Sept. 12 for the NSCS fall kick off event.

Deemed a success by organizers, the event was more than a BBQ feast. Those attending learned about how they can support the school through the endowment fund, met and were entertained by staff, and received an update on the school year from both NSCS Director Phil Carlson and Board Chair Phil Strom.

The event received \$821 in donations

from the community to allow it to continue in the coming years.

Thank you to all who came and contributed in any way.



BBQ fare satisfied more than 2350 hungry palates at the Sept. 12 NSCS event.

Training for NSCS teachers builds effective use of technology in the classroom

NSCS Teachers will be participating in technology training throughout the school year.

One of North Shore's non-academic charter goals involves effective use of technology for students.

These training sessions are very helpful for teachers' personal use of technology to enhance student learning, as well as direct instruction of technology to students.

This year, teachers have been able to choose levels of training that are appropriate for their needs. On Oct. 2, 14 and 30, teachers spent a half day in the computer lab learning keyboarding methods, beginning skills, advanced skills and/or Web-quest.

Substitute teachers are provided with NSCS staff development funds. Dave McCarthy from UMD is the instructor. There will also be staff training on Nov. 7 and 11 for advanced Word, Excel, and/or PowerPoint.

In addition to these trainings, Alisha Franckowiak spent one of the late start Wednesday mornings going over how to use the digital cameras and scanner. Alisha is the NSCS' Technology Coordinator as well as the Physical Education teacher.

We are very fortunate to have excellent equipment and a coordinator to train staff and help when there are problems.

-Sheri Camper

Bird watching fourth graders build critical thinking skills

Children weren't the only things seen flocking and scattering around North Shore Community School this fall.

On the first day at school, those who went on the nature trail were greeted by juncos and redstart warblers. Swainson's thrushes were hitting windows at a record rate.

A few weeks later, the topic of conversation was how many yellow-rumped warblers were seen on the roadways. Two weeks ago, it was flickers, the woodpeckers known for eating ants on the ground, and the honking of Canada geese that were commanding everyone's attention. And last weekend the snow buntings arrived, flashing white on their way from the open arctic to their winter vacation homes.

North Shore fourth graders are studying these birds to learn what makes them tick, and to answer the question "How do birds and people affect one another?"

The first step is to ask the students "What do we need to know to answer this question?" This inquiry-based approach is part of the NSCS EIC model that encourages critical thinking and problem solving skills in students, rather than a teacher-driven lesson plans.

Students listed what they wanted to know, like "What different kinds are birds are here? Where do they go? How to they fly?" The next teacher question is "How are we going to find out the answers?" Then they set to work.



North Shore fourth graders are studying birds to learn what makes them tick, and to answer the question, "How do birds and people affect one another?"

With the help of Nick Olson, a Wolf Ridge teacher who joins us at North Shore every Wednesday, students have started improving bird habitat outside their classroom windows to encourage bird visits and monitor species. They transplanted trees and shrubs, provided water and hung bird feeders.

They dressed up as birds to learn characteristics of birds and different adaptations of beaks, feet and wings. Stuffed birds were brought in to compare shapes, sizes and colors, and the role of habitat and behavior.

A migration map of North and South America showed where in the world these birds will be going on their journeys. Students select books about birds and their journeys during reading time.

Binoculars were used on the nature trail to find birds and examine them in their niche. Patient students holding bird seed have even been rewarded with birds eating out of their hands.

The classes will be making kites to answer one of their questions about how raptors soar without flapping their wings. There is even a live dove, living in the greenhouse, to watch, take care of and learn from.

All of these are ways to make learning come alive, by weaving science, language, math and social studies around a local topic that students can watch and explore, guided by their own curiosity. These critical thinking and problem solving skills will transfer to other learning situations that arise throughout their lives.

But in the meantime, if you have questions about the bald eagles soaring overhead, ask a fourth grader. They might be able to help you find the answers.

- B.J. Kohlstedt

From the NSCS Board Chair, cont. from page 1

year. The Board feels strongly that in order to maintain the programmatic and curricular excellence that we desire, new funding sources will need to be successfully pursued.

One of the most significant of these sources will be grants from the private sector. We think that we have a unique school, and we are ramping up our grant writing capabilities to tell our story in ways that will inspire some of these corporate foundations to ally with us. If

you have talent and skill in the grant writing arena, please leave word at the school office, or call me personally at 525-6200.

I continue to be excited about our school. More than ever, I am convinced that kids learn best in an environment where they feel secure, respected, and loved...and where they see first hand their parents and community are involved in their education.

- Phil Strom, Chairman

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

N O V E M B E R 2 0 0 3

Inside this Issue:

- Township **Calendar**
- *Town Board* meetings
- *Planning Commission* meetings
- *Fire and Police* news
- Community School news
- DNSSD sewer line update
- *The History Corner*
- *Copper mining*

Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

PRSRSTD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 721
DULUTH, MINN.

If your name and address are in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter Editor at the Town Hall (News box on the Town Hall porch). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

Duluth Township Information for 2003

Duluth Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804
Phone (218) 525-5705 (voice message), fax (218) 525-3845,
web site: www.duluthtownship.org, or
email: TownHall@duluthtownship.org

Town Office Hours: Tues. and Wed. 12:30-3:30
Thursday 9:00-12:00 and 4:00-7:00

Supervisors:

Bruce Aho 525-4033 or email:
BruceAho@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Board Chairman, roads, NSCS)

Jeff Cook 525-4010 or email:
JeffCook@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Planning Commission, DNSSD,
liaison to many area boards and agencies)

Stephen Dahl 525-4679 or email:
SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Town hall, NSCS)

George Sundstrom 525-5655 or email:
GeorgeSundstrom@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: cemetery, Police, DNSSD, mtgs)

Corlis West 525-7719 or email:
CorlisWest@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Fire Dept, Storm Water, other
meetings)

Clerk: **Ann Cox** 525-5705 (Town Hall)
or email: AnnCox@duluthtownship.org

Treasurer: **Janet Johansen** 525-5705 (Town Hall)
or email: JanetJohansen@duluthtownship.org

Attorney: **Tim Strom** 722-4766 (office)

or email: TimStrom@duluthtownship.org
Cemetery: **Denise Connolly** 525-7161 or 392-8511
or email: Cemetery@duluthtownship.org
Planning and Zoning Administrator: **Wayne Dahlberg**
728-4293 (office) or email:
WayneDahlberg@duluthtownship.org
Planning and Zoning Secretary: **Carolyn Marino**
email: CarolynMarino@duluthtownship.org
Planning and Zoning Committee: **Sue Lawson** (chair),
**David Edblom, Toni Fladmark, Cindy Hale, Adam
Hendrickson, Janet McTavish and Dave Miller.**
email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org
Peace Officers: **Chief Shawn Padden,**
Steve Peterson, Tom Wick
email: PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org
Fire Department: **Chief Jerry Simmons**
Assistant Chief Bill Cox
email: FireHall@duluthtownship.org
Note: Where possible, email is forwarded to the person,
otherwise it is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up.

Township Recycling Centers

North site – Town Hall, **Bob Abrahamson** staffs the
center *Tuesday 2-6pm and Saturday 8-12noon.*
South site – *McQuade & Scenic Hwy,* **Caroline Marino**
staffs the center *Tues 7:00-11:00, Thurs 3:00-7:00,*
and Sat 8:00-noon. (Phone: 525-4592)
(Leave items only when Recycling Centers are open.)