

Village of Solomon Box 2053 Nome AK 99762 phone (907) 443-4985 facsimile (907) 443-5189

Solomon's Annual Meeting Set for September 26, 2014 in Nome

The tribal council selected Friday, September 26th to have the annual meeting this year here in Nome at the XYZ Senior Center.

During the annual meeting tribal members will hear reports from the tribal council and VOS staff. Results of elections will also be announced.

Dinner will be provided at 5 PM and the meeting will begin at 6 PM. Teleconference lines will be available to those that wish to attend telephonically and every tribal member 18 and over will receive a meeting stipend of \$100 dollars. An agenda and teleconference information will be mailed separately.

Emergency Shelter Cabin Funded

In May 2014 Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation's (NSEDC) Outside Entity Funding Program partially funded Village of Solomon's grant application for the construction of an emergency shelter cabin in the Solomon area. The cabin will be used as a safety dwelling and as a base for a satellite phone for use in case of an emergency. VOS collaborated with the Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center's (NACTEC) summer high school carpentry class in the construction of the cabin. It is located at mile 31 of the Nome Council highway.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Tribal Membership Meeting is Scheduled in Anchorage October 19, 2014 at the Courtyard by Marriot Hotel 3:30—5:30 PM

Inside this issue:

President's Report	2
VOS Cruiser Funded by Rasmuson Foundation	3
Environmental Coordinator Report	4
Environmental Planning Team Meets Twice	5
Solomon Youth and Elders Camp	6
Available Housing Programs	8
FAI Elders and Youth Conference	10



President's Report by Kirsten Timbers

2013-2014 AT A GLANCE

The Village of Solomon has concluded another very exciting year! We have for the fourth year in a row held our tribal youth spirit camp in Solomon with the help of Helen Bohn and Jennifer Curran as our camp coordinators. And, we held our third Anchorage based Solomon Tribal Membership meeting during December of last year. We were able to visit with tribal members, provide door prizes and give brief reports from the IGAP program with Richard Schulling, a report from Vice President Brian James on the B&B operation and Kirsten Timbers on VOS in general including Kawerak, ICWA and BSRHA.

LEDP Commitment

We have also been working diligently on meeting the needs in our LEDP. Our first priority was to hold more tribal gatherings. We held one in June here in Nome, another in Solomon in celebration of another successful youth camp in August and our last gathering of the year will be held in October this year in Anchorage. We are entering our third year of a 3 year grant with EPA, the Environmental Protection Agency. This grant funds our Environmental Coordinator position occupied by Deilah Johnson. Deilah Johnson has also been employed this past year through Kawerak's Grant Writer Program. She has been working diligently on applying for a variety of grants on our behalf to meet our LEDP. Between the IGAP position and the grant writer position we have met a number of our LEDP priorities including;

- 1. More Solomon Gatherings and Involvement-4 each year (3 in Nome and 1 in Anchorage)**
- 2. Waste Management –IGAP funded Bear Proof garbage cans for the B&B and other tribal members who camp at Solomon**
- 3. Emergency Communication – NSEDC funded the construction of the Okitkon shelter cabin which will open in October to the public with access to a SAT phone for Emergencies**
- 4. Community Potable Water- IGAP funded the purchase of a 200 gallon potable water tank for tribal members use at the B&B.**
- 5. Salmon Enhancement (Is being addressed currently by SNC, NSEDC in an agreement with SNC is rehabilitating chum salmon in Solomon River, Fish & Game counting towers to track number of salmon yearly)**

Conclusion

Thank you all for your continued support and commitment to the VOS. I look forward to the coming year and providing continued service to our members.



Home Energy Saving Tips

Look for the ENERGY STAR® label on light bulbs, home appliances, electronics, and other products. ENERGY STAR products meet strict efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy

Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes.

Air dry clothes.

Turn things off when you are not in the room such as lights, TVs, entertainment systems, and your computer and monitor.

Plug home electronics, such as TVs and DVD players, into power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use -- TVs and DVDs in standby mode still use several watts of power.

The water heater is the 2nd largest energy user in most homes.

Set the thermostat on your water heater to 120F.

Install low-flow showerheads. They use one-third to one-half the water that regular showerheads use and still provide adequate water pressure.

Fix leaky water faucets and running toilets. Thirty drops of water per minute can waste up to 19 gallons of water per month.

Install low-flow aerators on faucets. Maintain your water heater.

If recommended by the manufacturer, install an insulating blanket.

Do not block air vents, radiators, fans, air exchangers or registers.

Caulk cracks and gaps less than ¼ inch wide.

Check your refrigerator temperature. Keep your fridge between 36F and 38F. Set your freezer between 0F and 5F, you'll lose money if you keep it too cold.

Keep the freezer full. Works more efficiently full than empty.

Clean the coils. Most older fridges have exposed coils where dust can build up and lower the efficiency, you can use a coil brush to clean these.

Monitor your usage. Look at your energy bill each month. Compare to past bills. Become aware of your habits and usage.

Resources: <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-savers-guide-tips-saving-money-and-energy-home>

“Energy Savers Tips for Alaska Second Edition 2011,” by Rebekah Luhrs.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation offers energy efficiency and conservation programs that serve Alaskan families and homes.

‘VOS Cruiser’ Funded by Rasmuson Foundation



VOS was pleased to receive a \$25,000 grant from the Rasmuson Foundation for the purchase of a 15 passenger van replacing our old van that was mainly used for transportation during our annual youth camp. For the past two summers, our youth held a car wash during youth camp as their contribution to the purchase of the van. Several Tribal Council members donated their monthly meeting stipend to help cover the shipping costs.

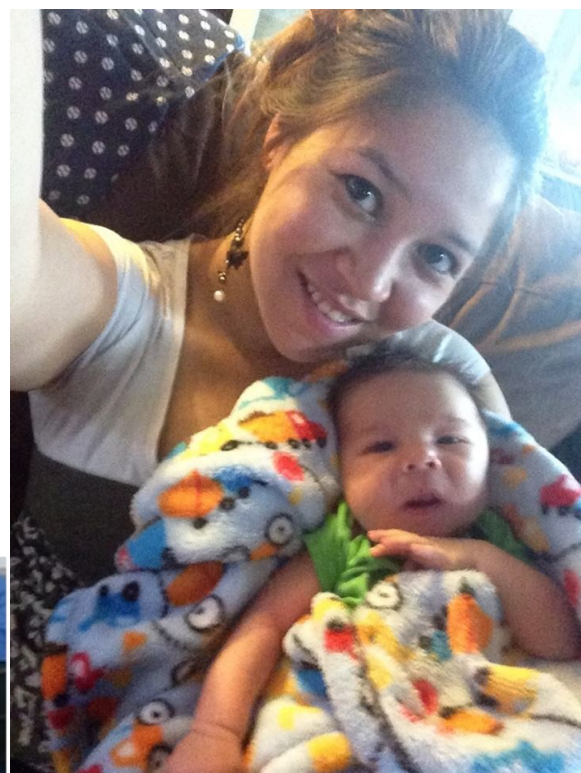
The tribe should receive their van, pictured at left, by the end of September.

Village of Solomon Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (IGAP) Update

The Village of Solomon has hired a new Environmental Coordinator, Deilah Johnson, who will carry-out the remainder of the EPA IGAP grant.

Invitations were sent out to create a short term Environmental Planning Team. We now have a 5 member planning team charged to review the results of last year's assessment and brainstorm ideas for long term and short term solutions within a period of 4 meetings.

Pictured to the right is Deilah at home holding her newborn son, Tristan Hudson. Below is the watertank and trash container.



With this IGAP grant the Village of Solomon has been able to order a 200 gallon water tank and 5 bear resistant trash containers. The water tank will be stationed down by the Community Center provided for tribal members to use as potable water when the Solomon Community Center is closed.

There are 5 bear resistant trash containers, 32 gallons in size that look similar to residential trash containers. The difference is that these are made of hard plastic and have locking lids that have been tested. There will be 3 for the Solomon Community Center to use, 1 for Frances Wright's camp and 1 for Kirsten Timber's camp.

DON'T FORGET TO

RECYCLE

REUSE

REDUCE



Solomon's Environmental Planning Team Meets

VOS's Environmental Coordinator conducted an environmental assessment in April of this year. The assessment was designed to obtain tribal members input to develop the tribe's village environmental plan. The goal is to make our community a healthier place to camp and subsist.

These assessments will assist us in reaching our vision and defining our community's needs. The next step is to find possible solutions.

A Committee was formed on June 25th, 2014. This committee is comprised of 5 members. They represent different parts of our community. Their job was to make sure that our plan fits our community and will work best for our community. Between two meetings, their IDEAS included:

§ Making sure that we find solutions that are environmentally safe, economical and effective to benefit the whole community.

§ Creating a solid waste management program by purchasing a trailer to haul gathered waste using the bear safe trash cans that were purchased under the IGAP grant. User policies will be signed in order to receive a trash bin to ensure clean organized trash disposal.

§ Recycling program. Crushing our aluminum cans to combine with home recycled aluminum cans. The plan is to send the cans using our Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling (ALPAR) account for free on Northern Air Cargo to Anchorage and get paid \$0.35/lb. Proceeds will go to trash collectors.

§ To purchase clean up supplies for a fall and spring clean-up. It is suggested that VOS provides lunch.

§ Work closely with NSEDC's program to increase salmon counts. SNC has been working with NSEDC and Alaska Department of Fish & Game for the last few years on chum rehabilitation. VOS plans to follow updates and offer support in ways they can.

§ To fill our existing 200 gallon potable water tank purchased through the IGAP grant and to keep that

maintained. The long term idea is to insulate a 500 gallon potable water tank and bury it in Solomon, and to refill an empty tank to haul back and forth.

These ideas were in response to the 2 community surveys collected in 2013.

The top 5 environmental issues were:

- Lack of waste disposal resources which has caused trash to fly around the Village. Waste material has not been disposed of properly.
- Unsafe drinking water
- Decrease in salmon population in our Solomon River. Salmon has always been a very active healthy part of Solomon's subsistence way of living. Old broken down equipment left all over the village is a risk for contaminants in the soil and River.
- Gravesite land bank erosion
- Landfill dumpsite – Waste management has become obsolete.

The committee will meet two more times. The following people have served on our committee:

§ Grace Davenport, Tribal member

§ Cheryl Komakhuk, Tribal member

§ Greg Timbers, President & CEO of SNC, Tribal member

§ Deilah Johnson, Environmental Coordinator

Amber Gray is the Winner of \$100!!

Last year the tribal membership was given an opportunity to fill out a family tree chart. All members that submitted the chart to VOS were entered in a drawing to win \$100. The winner was Amber Gray. She is the daughter of Cynthia Olanna and niece of our tribal coordinator Liz Johnson. Congrats to our lucky winner Amber!

Solomon Youth & Elder Camp 2014 by Jennifer Curran

This year's Solomon Youth Camp was another great success! Jennifer Curran was able to return to help Helen Bohn as a co-camp coordinator. We had 6 campers, all who had attended the camp in previous years. The weather was great most of the week. It led to lots of swimming and water activities. This year we were lucky to have three sewing machines at camp and the campers were able to pick out their own fabric from the King Island fabric store to design their own kuspuks. Making the kuspuks proved to take more time than was expected, but the campers were proud of the work they put into it and some even made other sewing projects with their leftover fabric. We had no luck catching fish, but had lots of fun in the water swimming and collecting treasures on the beaches. Elder member, Helen Larsen joined us during most of the camp and offered some stories of her time growing up in Solomon. The campers made drawings for the annual calendar about ways to conserve energy and in being more environmentally responsible. We discussed the importance of recycling and conserving energy as a way to save our planet and resources for future generations. The campers enjoyed making various crafts like stepping stones, friendship bracelets, tie dye shirts, and buttons.

We presented some of the completed crafts to tribal



Above is Jennifer Curran holding a walrus ivory tusk.

Below left is Solomon's youth camp kids participating in "how to save the environment" exercise.



members at the tribal gathering on Saturday. During the gathering we offered time for socializing and then played a Solomon History version of Jeopardy. Tribal members and campers really enjoyed learning more about Solomon and had many laughs answering questions during the game. Categories for the game included Settlement, School Days, Sustainance, Splashworthy, and Say it don't Spray it. The most challenging questions included "What name was Solomon originally noted as on the map?" "This creek has a huge fun name...it leads to a gold mine that was active until 2008" and "What is the native Inupiaq word for family?" All the campers expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to camp and can't wait to return next year.

They asked if we could charter a plane to explore more of the Solomon land to do more sight seeing. The also expressed wanting to get on a real dredge to see how it works. Their favorite activities were swimming, fishing, and making the kuspuks. We had a great time and are counting down the days until the 2015 camp!!!



Clockwise starting L: Derek Henry helping in the kitchen, Helen Bohn holding Tristan Hudson, Deilah, Amy and Autumn Johnson and Bronson Bohn with his eye on the camera.



\$2 Nome Cab Vouchers

Purchase a voucher from XYZ for \$2 and get your discounted cab ride for appointments, community events, or other transportation needs. Eligible Applicants include:

People with Disabilities

Senior Citizen

People with low income (\$20,000 and under)

For more information stop by XYZ between 12pm—3pm or call:

Tabitha Patino 443-5238 or Audrey Aanes at Arctic Access in Anchorage at 1-877-442-2393. Sponsored by Arctic Access and Nome Community Center

VOS Office Recycles & Reuses

Village of Solomon's office started recycling its paper products and aluminum cans by separating using recycling bins.

Copier paper is used as scratch paper and sometimes reused for the fax machine. Once both sides of paper is used, it is tossed into the recycle bin for paper products.

President Kirsten Timbers, Vice President Brian James also started recycling at home using the same bins for paper and aluminum products.

The office has a few bins to provide to any tribal members who wish to recycle. Contact the environmental coordinator at 443-4985 if interested.

A simple solution for keeping batteries from polluting the landfill is to reuse the plastic coffee cans.

For the most up to date storage and collection information contact Total Reclaim in Anchorage or visit <http://www.totalreclaim.com/alaska.html>

BSRHA's Housing Preservation Program Available

The Housing Preservation Program provides a loan to fund services to repair or renovate housing owned by low income qualified families having substandard housing or housing and have no other source of funding the work.

The program is set up as a loan to be repaid over a five (5) year period, however if the family continues to occupy the housing there is a forgiveness of the payment based on 20% for each year the family occupies the home. Should the family move from the property prior to the end of the five-year period, the Housing Authority may require the family to pay any unpaid outstanding balance.

The maximum loan award will be up \$5,000.00 to \$25,000.00 for materials, shipping, and labor. Labor must be paid at the Davis-bacon wage scale. For small purchases of \$5,000 or less, the grant will have no repayment provisions as long as it is for materials and freight.

Important Exceptions: Priority is given to Tribal Members of Solomon, King Island, Council and Marys Igloo who reside in the Bering Straits Region and are eligible to apply no matter where they live in the state.

To apply for this program, a person may use one of the following as an application for this program:

a BSRHA Housing Preservation Application, a HIP application for Kawerak Inc., a Weatherization Program from RuralCap, or the USDA Rural Housing Services application for their preservation grant program. The application must be completed, signed, dated and sent to BSRHA.

Other programs BSRHA offers are Emergency Utility Voucher assistance, Substance Abuse youth grant, housing management—in Bering Strait villages and Nome; and Down Payment/Closing Cost assistance.

For more information please contact BSRHA administrative office at 443-5256.

Recycling Facts & Tips



Recycling is the process of turning used waste and materials into new products. This prevents potentially useful materials from being wasted as well as reducing energy use and pollution.

US citizens use 4 million plastic bottle every hour! However, only 25% of these plastic bottles are used for plastic recycling.

Did you know that, over 46,000 pieces of plastic debris float on every square mile of the ocean? How often are we eating food directly from the ocean?

Around 80% of energy gets saved when plastic is created from waste plastic, rather than the raw materials.

Recycling 1 ton of aluminum cans, saves up to 27 cubic yards of landfill space.

Did you know that recycling aluminum can save up to 95% of energy which is required to make aluminum from bauxite ore? Bauxite is the first step in producing aluminum.

Recycling one ton of paper saves around 17 trees, 463 gallons of oil, 6,953 gallons of water, and 3 cubic yards of landfill space.

Glass can be reused infinitely if recycled.

Inconvenience and being too lazy to put forth the effort is one of the biggest reasons people choose to not recycle. It doesn't take too much of your time, it's rewarding in the end.

RECYCLING NEAR YOU:

Anchorage Recycling Center, Location: 6161 Rosewood Street, Anchorage. Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; regular weekday business hours for redemption of aluminum cans. Accepts: Aluminum cans, steel cans, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, #1 PET plastic bottles, #2 HDPE plastic jugs, plastic bags and film, glass bottles and jars

Anchorage Regional Landfill Recycling Area. Location: Hiland Road, Eagle River. Hours: During regular landfill hours; Mon.-Fri. 7:30am - 5pm, Sat. 8am - 5pm. Sun closed. Accepts: Aluminum cans, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, #1 PET plastic bottles, #2 HDPE plastic jugs, glass bottles and jars. The Municipality is evaluating the need to establish additional community recycling centers, potentially on the east side of Anchorage and Girdwood. Other drop-off locations for specific items exist throughout Anchorage. For More information call: (907) 343-6262 (customer service line)

Nome City Recycle Center. Located on Warren Place. Open 24/7. Accepts: Newspapers, Lead-acid batteries, cardboard, glass, Electronics, aluminum cans. Does not accept, tin cans, plastics, Styrofoam or fluids of any kind. Please be courteous when dropping off recyclables by putting your items in appropriate piles for organization.

Nome City Landfill, located at 3.0 mile Beam Road, open every Saturday. Winter Hours: 11-4 pm, Summer hours: 9-4pm. segregated piles and bins at landfill for: wood, glass, metals, copper, aluminum cans, electronic waste, cardboard and burnables, refrigerators and freezers.

For folks in the Lower 48, go to <http://www.call2recycle.org/locator/> and type in your zip code for a list of recycling center locations.

Remember the 3 R's-----à REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE



2014 First Alaskan's Institute (FAI) Elders & Youth Conference

The Village of Solomon's tribal council is pleased to invite Solomon's youth and elders to attend the annual Elders and Youth conference this year. The dates of the conference are: October 20-22, 2014.

The conference stimulates dialogue between young people and Elders and encourages them to maintain traditional Native values and practices while thriving in the modern world.

2014 marks the 30th anniversary of the Elders & Youth Conference, and the 10th year that the Institute will support and manage the event.

The 2014 conference theme is "Get Up! Stand Up!" and is focused on catalyzing and growing the voice and spirit of our youth and our Elders as critical leaders in our communities. The theme calls to inspire and engage participants to elevate solutions they create to the challenges of our time by amplifying and utilizing our Native knowledge, cultures, and values. This is a movement to strengthen our advocacy for one another, empower our collective voice, and celebrate the vibrancy of who we are as indigenous peoples!

ICWA Services Available

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was passed in 1978 in response to the high number of Native children who were removed from their families and tribes by non-tribal public and private agencies, and placed in non-Native foster homes or made available for non-Native adoption.

How does ICWA work? The main goal of ICWA is the protection of Native children. ICWA applies when a state court determines that a Native child is involved in a proceeding. This includes child custody proceedings, foster care placement, termination of parental rights, pre-adoptive and adoptive placements. A tribal court or tribe may properly exercise their rights in any and all of these types of proceedings. For ICWA services, please contact the VOS office at 443-4985 or email to tc.sol@kawerak.org.

Limited travel funds are available for 2 youth and 2 elders that require travel to attend.

VOS considers youth to be 13-18 years old and elders 55 and older.

Please submit a letter of interest to VOS by emailing Liz Johnson, Tribal Coordinator at tc.sol@kawerak.org by October 1, 2014.

Solomon's Roy Kenick Passes

Roy Kenick was born on February 19, 1945 at Mekoryuk, Alaska. As a young man, Roy enlisted in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. After military service, he worked for the State of Alaska Employment Rights Division as well as AVCP Incorporated.

Roy was sensitive and kind to others and he did whatever he could to help others in need. He lived in Nome, Bethel, and Anchorage and he enjoyed the outdoors fishing and hunting. He died on February 3, 2014 at his home and leaves his loving family.

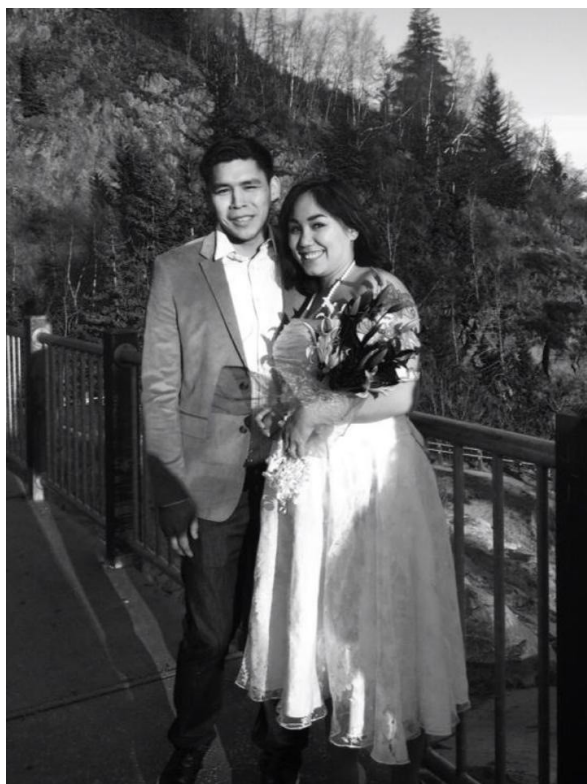
He served on the Solomon Native Corporation board, its first board of directors back in the early 80's and was a tribal member of the Village of Solomon.

Roy is survived by his loving wife, Mary Kenick, children Julie, Angelina, Robert, and Andrew Kenick, Chris Parkhurst (step-son), and grandson Cade Kenick. He leaves his sisters, - Leora, Ethel, and Lydia; and nephew Jacob Kenick and Stosh Labinski. He's preceded in death by his parents, Timothy Kenick and Della (Hendrickson) Kenick, Dora, Timothy Jr, and Hilma Kenick.





Sara James, daughter of Brian and Donna James, at the Solomon playground displaying a bag, a door prize she won during one of Solomon’s tribal gatherings. This bag was handmade by Helen Bohn aka “Pretty One Bags and Sew Much More”



Above: Sarah Huntsman marries Manuel Tumalak on April 14, 2014.

Below: L to R: Franklin Okitkon, Walter Kalerak and Garfield Okitkon standing in front of Solomon’s old BIA school. Solomon’s Shelter cabin is named the “Okitkon Shelter” in honor and memory of Garfield Okitkon. (photo taken in early 1970’s)



Mia Piscocya, daughter of Benny and Jackie Piscocya, making fry bread with Luella Tumalak, Sarah Huntsman’s daughter.



Welcome New Tribal Member

Carol Vickie Lee Olson, Alice Kalerak’s grand daughter



Village of Solomon
Box 2053
Nome, Alaska 99762

Save the Date!!

**The Village of Solomon is hosting a tribal
membership meeting in Anchorage on
Sunday, October 19, 2014**

3:30-5:30 PM

**at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Meeting
Room "A" located at 4901 Spenard Road.**