

News In Our Town

Town of Byron, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin

May 2017



Upcoming Meetings and Events

Town Board Meetings

(second Tuesday of the month)

June 13th ~ 7 pm

July 11th ~ 7 pm

August 8th ~ 7 pm

Veteran's Committee

(first Wednesday of the month)

June 7th ~ 6:30 pm

July 5th ~ 6:30 pm

August 2nd ~ 6:30 pm

Byron Historical Society

(third Monday of the month)

June 19th ~ 7 pm

July 17th ~ 7 pm

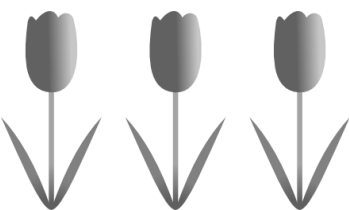
August 21st ~ 7 pm

Community Events

May 29th ~ Memorial Day
Open House 8:00-11:00 am
Program at 9:30 am

June 14th ~ Regular trash
and recyclable pick up
ALL DAY

June 15th ~ Bulk waste pick
up
ALL DAY



Simon Says....

by Bob Simon

Well, another year has come and gone and it's been a very busy one at that! The city/town border agreement with the city of Fond du Lac is in its final stage after 3 years of meetings and negotiations.

The plan commission has been working on the Town of Byron Comprehensive plan update for over a year with help from East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC). It's been 10 years since the last comprehensive plan was created. The current plan is being developed at a reduced cost to the town because Fond du Lac County is a member of ECWRPC. Beginning at the end of April, ECWRPC will also be doing an inventory of road signs in the township at no cost to us. Ron has been busy putting up new signs before the inventory starts.

One great accomplishment is the railroad crossing on Lost Arrow Road has finally been repaired. Persistence does pay off!

Some of you may already be aware of the weight restriction posting on Lost Arrow Road between Hickory Road and River Road. The bridge over Parsons Creek was evaluated after a concerned citizen noticed deterioration while trout fishing. It was determined the bridge is in need of immediate repair. The town hired the engineering firm of Gremmer and Associates to handle all the permits, DNR contact, and structural designs. They will also be helping prepare the posting for bids that will be going out soon so work can begin early this summer. Estimated cost is \$100,000 to \$150,000 which is a major portion of our highway funds. Because of this expense, other road repairs will be at a minimum this year. We plan to do some culvert replacement, shoulder work, ditching, and crack filling.

Last year we pulverized Mill Pond Road from Oakfield town line south to River Road. The cost was \$113,385, of which \$23,978 was received from LRIP funds from the Fond du Lac County Highway Department.

We also had to do an emergency culvert replacement this past year on Brookside when a citizen reported a sink hole in the middle of the road caused by erosion in the existing rusty culvert. Many of the culverts in the town are old and starting to rust through and some are filling with dirt. One of the next major culvert replacements will be on Lost Arrow Road just east of River Road. This can not be done at the same time as the bridge over Parsons Creek, which means Lost Arrow Road will be shut down to thru traffic a couple of times this summer. I thank you in advance for your patience during these inconveniences.

Our two supervisors Dustin Westphal and Kay Murre spent a lot of last year

going to seminars, conferences, training and meetings and doing a great job getting more informed. They have both been very receptive to accepting more responsibilities.

Dustin has been doing a great job dealing with contracts and services provided by the 4 fire departments that serve the Town of Byron. His position as Assistant Chief of the Brownsville Fire Company helps greatly in this role. Dustin has agreed to take over supervision of roads, maintenance and any related issues.

Ron Wendler who is our “hands-on, do-it-all road guy” will continue to be the one who keeps the roads clean, ditches mowed, signs installed, and countless other jobs that make Byron a great township. Thanks, Ron; keep up the good work. Dustin and Ron have been working together recently, and I am sure they will make a great team. If you have any road concerns, Dustin can be reached at 920-960-8186.

Kay will continue to be the Animal Control contact. She has also agreed to take over as the contact for Advance Disposal. She will oversee missed pickups and cart deliveries as well as any other issues with waste disposal. Kay can be reached at 920-921-5999. I hope you all have a safe, healthy and fun summer. Remember, winter is only 7 months away!

Clerk's Corner



By Mary Laudolff

It's been a busy year in the Town as Bob Simon's letter has conveyed. In the clerk's office, we have been busy with four elections and a recount this past year. A big thank you to the poll workers as they did an awesome job!

We have updated our website with a new look and it should be more informative and easier to use. The site will offer election information, fees and application forms for permits, town ordinances, zoning and town contacts. One of the new features is the opportunity for our town's citizens to subscribe to e-mails from the town regarding notices, meeting agendas, minutes etc. for Town Board, Plan Commission and Board of Appeals meetings. It will enable the town to better communicate with its citizens on matters that are important to you. I would encourage you to check us out at www.townofbyron.com and subscribe to our e-mails. The site should be available by May 1st.

Important Dates to remember:

- Bulky waste pick-up will be held June 15, 2017. Please have your waste items at the road by 6:00 am that day. Please see page 5 for lists of accepted and excluded materials.
- Board of Review will be held May 23rd. Anyone with questions about his/her assessed value should contact Borree Appraisal Services at 920-766-9166. You may also attend the “Open Book” on May 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The “Open Book” is an informal time when you can view the tax roll and ask questions. The Board of Review will be held the same day from 10:00 a.m. until noon. The Board of Review is a recorded meeting with testimony given by the assessor and the homeowner. At this meeting the Town Board is to assume the assessor is correct unless the homeowner can prove differently. An “Objection Form” has to be filed with the clerk 48 hours prior to attending the Board of Review. My suggestion would be to talk to the assessor before it gets to that point.

For your information:

- Kay Murre is the Town's contact for residential garbage questions and requests. Her contact number is 920-921-5999. Garbage pick-up can occur any time after 6:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, so, if necessary, put your items out the night before. Also, when a week has a holiday in it, your pick up will be a day later on Thursday. Businesses are responsible for their own disposal.
- Dustin Westphal will be the Town's contact for road issues. You can reach him at 920-960-8186.

Citizens of the Year



Left to right: Tim Kelley, Karen Kelley, Bob Simon

This year Karen and Tim Kelley are honored as the Town of Byron Citizens of the Year.

They are lifelong residents of the Town of Byron. Tim and Karen operate their dairy farm as the 6th generation with 156 years of family ties. They support many local groups and charities with generous donations. Karen is a member of HCE (Home/Community/Education) among other various community activities. They are also gracious enough to allow the Town of Byron to put a posting board in their parking lot.

And then there is that little venture they call Kelley Country Creamery. When they first proposed the idea of an ice cream shop overlooking their farm people would ask, "You want to put What? Where?"

In a few short years Karen, Tim and family have made an appearance on "Good Morning America," been featured on the PBS show, "Around the Corner with John McGivern," and won numerous awards for their ice cream. With more than 350 flavors available, it's no wonder the long lines of satisfied customers of all ages have helped proclaim Kelleys Country Creamery the best ice cream shop in the middle of nowhere. The Kelleys have truly put Byron on the map. Congratulations, Karen and Tim!

From the Treasurer

By Wendy Giese

The 1st installment of property tax collection came to a close by the end of January. However, the 2nd installment for taxes to be paid is due by July 31st, 2017. Check your 2016 property tax bill for the 2nd installment amounts. Payments should be submitted to the Fond du Lac County Treasurer. For property tax collection information associated with the 2nd half installment, you can access the Fond du Lac County Property Tax Information site at:

www.fdlco.wi.gov/departments/departments-n-z/treasurer/real-estate-tax-information

Make check payable and mail to:
FOND DU LAC COUNTY TREASURER
160 SOUTH MACY STREET
P.O. BOX 1515
FOND DU LAC, WI 54936-1515



A few issues encountered while processing the tax bills included:

- Escrow checks not mailed to the appropriate town treasurer. If at all possible, contact your escrow company to make sure that they did indeed mail out the escrow check and that it was mailed to the Town of Byron Treasurer at the address on your property tax bill.
- If an escrow check is payable to the property owner and the Town of Byron Treasurer, both parties must sign the back of the check.

- Make sure the amount you enter in the box on the right hand side of the check, written in numerical form coincides with the same amount you write out in words below "Pay To The Order Of."
- Include the payment stub along with the payment so there isn't any confusion as to which parcel the taxes should be applied.
- Please be aware of submitting payments in a timely manner. There are specific deadlines for tax collection.

Veterans Report

by Tom Kelroy

The annual St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner and raffle was held Sunday, March 19, at the Lomira Legion Hall. We served 118 dinners for a net profit of \$181.21. The 50/50 raffle netted \$1,475. We also received \$524 in donations from several very generous donors. We thank everyone for this continued support. As of April 5, there is a checkbook balance of \$4,591.35. Following are the raffle winners:

\$300	Margaret Schmitz*	Wayne King	Bob Pelletier	Jerry Eaton
\$200	Ron Rose	Mary Ann Scott	Bruce Dilling	Hunter Schaumberg
\$100	Sharon Zinke	Gene Phalzgraf	Paul Birschbach	Sarah Lloren
\$50	Alan Feucht	Larry Wilhelm (2)	Wings Over Wisconsin (2)	Dick Waechter*
		Jim Sabel*	Janet Hafemann	*Donated back ♥

On Memorial Day, May 29, at 9:30 a.m., we will again honor our town's deceased veterans with a salute and unveiling of new veterans' names to be added to the Memorial in front of the Town Hall. All Byron residents and friends are encouraged to attend. Color Guards from Oakfield VFW Post #8092 and Lomira American Legion Post #347 will combine for a salute to our fallen veterans.



The Town of Byron Animal Control Ordinance Requires All Dogs in the Town of Byron To Be Licensed

Dog Licenses are a requirement by State Statute Chapter 174 Dogs, specifically 174.05. Dog License Tax requires the owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1 of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year to annually pay the dog license tax and obtain a license. The minimum license fee for each neutered male or spayed female dog shall be \$3.00. The minimum license fee for each unneutered male or unspayed female dog shall be \$8.00. In addition to the established license fee, a late fee of \$5.00 shall be assessed and collected from every owner of a dog over the age of five months who fails to obtain a license prior to April 1 of each year, or within 30 days of inquiring ownership of a licensable dog or if the owner fails to obtain a license on or before the dog reaches licensable age. All late fees collected shall be paid to the Town Treasurer.



When requesting a license, the following information should be submitted to the Town Treasurer: Name and address of the applicant, description of the animal (name of animal, color, breed and sex), the appropriate fee, certification by a licensed veterinarian that the animal is neutered or spayed (if applicable), and certification by a licensed veterinarian that the animal has received current immunization for rabies (a copy of the rabies vaccination). Kennel Licenses: Every person who owns or operates a kennel shall apply for a kennel permit. Kennel permit fees are as follows: \$30.00 for a kennel of 12 or fewer dogs; \$3.00 for each additional dog over 12. For each dog license issued the Town Treasurer will issue a license tag and a receipt for payment. Note: a condition of our Animal Control Ordinance is that no person shall own or keep a "Pit Bull" in the Town.

Cooperative Border Plan with City of Fond du Lac

At its February 2017 meeting, the Town of Byron Town Board gave final approval to a Cooperative Plan Boundary Agreement involving the Towns of Byron, Empire, Fond du Lac, and Friendship as well as the City of Fond du Lac. The purpose of the Plan is to regulate the growth of the City into the surrounding towns, including Byron. Without the Plan, the City would be free to annex any territory adjacent to its boundaries upon a proper petition. However, under the Plan, the Town was able to establish "City Growth Areas," which are areas identified for potential future development within the City, as well as "Town Growth Areas," which are areas protected from annexation.



The portion of the City Growth Area within the Town of Byron is bounded on the north by the town line, on the south by Lost Arrow Road, on the east by Martin Road, and on the west by Hickory Road. The Plan also creates an intergovernmental advisory committee consisting of two representatives from each municipality for the purpose of jointly planning development within the area governed by the Plan. The Plan is the successor to a 1996 boundary agreement that was successful in preventing boundary litigation, facilitating municipal planning, and fostering good intergovernmental relationships.

The Town hopes to carry these successes forward under the new Plan. The Plan is currently pending before the Wisconsin Department of Administration for final state approval. Upon that approval, the Plan will remain in effect for 24 years.

Comprehensive Plan Update

During the past year, the Town has been working with East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to update its 2006 Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan Update inventories and analyzes the Town's physical setting, natural features, land use, population figures, economics, housing stock, transportation, and community facilities. It provides a guide as to where future growth and development should occur in the Town of Byron over the next 20 years.

A public hearing on the draft comprehensive plan is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 24**, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Byron Town Hall at N3097 Hwy 175, Byron WI. The Byron Town Board will take action on the proposed adoption of the Town of Byron Comprehensive Plan Update 2040 at their monthly board meeting on June 13, 2017. Copies of the draft plan are available at the following locations: the Byron Town Hall, N3097 Hwy 175, Byron WI; the Fond du Lac Public Library, 32 Sheboygan St., Fond du Lac, WI 54935; the Brownsville Public Library, 379 W Main St, Brownsville, WI 53006; the Lomira Quad/Graphics Community Library, 427 South Water Street, Lomira WI 53048; the Oakfield Public Library, 130 N. Main Street, Oakfield, WI 53065; and on the Comprehensive Plan Website at <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/comprehensive-planning/town-of-byron/>. For additional information, please contact Mary Laudolff, Town Clerk at (920) 3756119 or by email at clerk@townofbyron.com. Written comments can be submitted to Mary Laudolff, Town Clerk at N3438 Maple Lane Fond du Lac, WI 54937 before or at the public hearing.

Bulk Waste Pick-Up: June 15

Bulk Waste Materials Accepted:

- Furniture
- Rolled carpeting (4 ft. max length)
- Lumber (4 ft. max length)
- Cabinets & countertops
- Mattresses & bed springs
- Non-metal doors
- Wood windows



Bulk Waste Materials Excluded:

- Large appliances (stoves, washers, dryers, furnaces, water heaters)
- Freon-containing appliances (refrigerators, AC units, dehumidifiers)
- Tires and used oil, batteries
- Electronics (TV's, DVD players, VCR's, stereos, computers and office equipment)



Remember Our Veterans

at the

**Annual Memorial Day Observance on May 29, 2017
Byron Town Hall Ceremony at 9:30 a.m.**

Open House and Exhibit 8 a.m.—11 a.m.

2016 Speakers

BHS members enjoyed two fascinating presentations in 2016.



Margaret Hicken (pictured above) and Jane McCullen joined us in June and described their reactions to becoming the subject of a book written by their childhood friend, Mary Silgen Vogt. *The Leaf House* was published in 2010 and showcased life in 1950's Fond du Lac as seen through the eyes of these three young girls. Margaret and Jane reflected on the simpler times and a loving, enduring friendship.



Beloved local newspaper columnist, Linus Doll (above), spoke at our December meeting about his "accidental career" as a writer. What started as a response to an article in the Fond du Lac Reporter about a snow storm became a regular piece now

numbering over 100 charming and insightful commentaries on our Midwestern life.

Looking Ahead

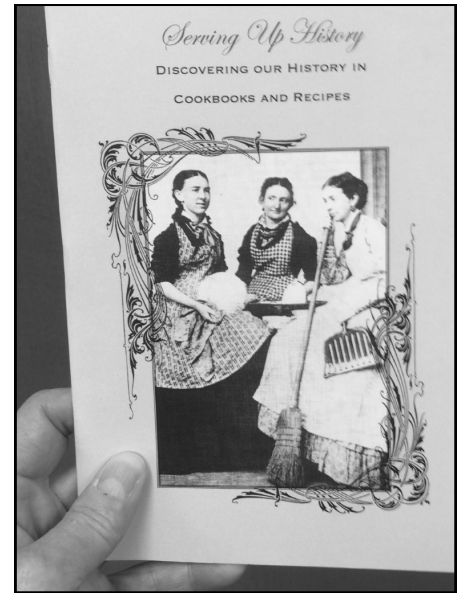
In the fall of 2016, BHS members were surveyed about their experiences with and thoughts about our organization. Key findings included requests for more speakers and the development of a permanent exhibit area within the Town of Byron Town Hall.

BHS leadership followed up by securing permission from the Town Board for space along the east wall for a display. We are in the process now of assessing the best options for cabinetry, lighting and other details. Leadership will undertake the development of a capital campaign and evaluate other fund-raising ideas to help us realize this exciting goal.

The State Historical Association has published a list of available speakers which has been distributed to members in attendance at the February meeting. QuadGraphics Printing Company has offered to loan us their auditorium if we believe we need more space for any of the given speakers.

Serving Up History

At the annual conference of the Wisconsin Historical Society in October, the Neenah Historical Society described an interactive program that combines historical research with cooking!

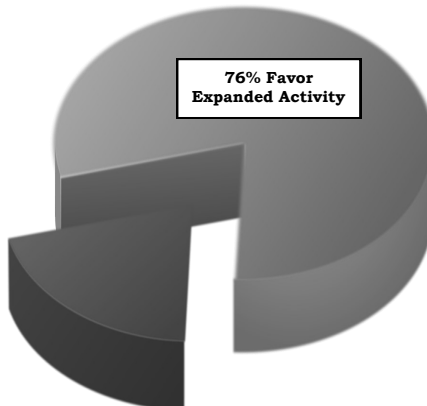


Participants select "family recipes" that are cooked and served. Biographies of the authors of the recipes are developed and published in a booklet.

BHS is in the process of determining how we might execute a similar program involving, as Neenah does, high school students.

2018 Souvenir Calendar

The theme of our 2018 calendar is "Byron in the Great War," and we invite you to share photographs and stories. The deadline for submitting your photographs and stories is **August 31, 2017**, though early submissions are greatly appreciated. Contact us by email at byronhistorical@att.net or by calling 920 922 5351. Thank you!



Membership Application, Renewal and Calendar Sales

Byron Historical Society

P.O. Box 466, Byron WI 53006

Founded March 2006

Administrative Use Only	
Expires on _____	
Membership Type _____	
Dues Paid _____	
Payment Method: _____	
Check No. _____	

Application Date: _____

Name _____
 Last _____ First _____

Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

<i>Item</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Price Each</i>	<i>Total</i>
BYRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP			
• Individual		\$ 10.00	
• Family		\$ 25.00	
• Business		\$ 50.00	
• Junior (up to age 17)		\$ 5.00	
• Lifetime		\$200.00	
SOUVENIR CALENDARS			
• 2017 Calendar: Great Adventures		\$10.00	
• 2016 Calendar: Pastimes and Pets		\$ 5.00	
• 2015 Calendar: Holidays and Celebrations		\$ 5.00	
• 2014 Calendar: Rails, Roads, and Trails:		\$ 5.00	
• 2013 Calendar: Veils and Vows: Weddings		\$ 5.00	
• 2012 Calendar: Reflections on Youth: Youth		\$ 5.00	
• 2011 Calendar: Neighbors in the News		\$ 5.00	
• 2010 Calendar: Crossroads of Commerce: Businesses		\$ 5.00	
• 2009 Calendar: Steeples and Stones: Churches and Cemeteries		\$ 5.00	
• 2008 Calendar: Recalling Farms, Fields and Family Agriculture		\$ 5.00	
• 2007 Calendar: Gone but not Forgotten: Schools		\$ 5.00	
Shipping for calendars		\$ 3.00	
BYRON HISTORICAL COMMUNITY EXHIBIT DONATION			
GRAND TOTAL			
Send check or money order to: Byron Historical Society P.O. Box 466, Byron WI 53006			

2017-18 BHS Officers

President: Maureen Betz 920 922 5351 Vice President: Nancy More 920 960 4591
 Treasurer: Ervin Kraft 920 583 4273 Secretary: Jackie Hansen 920 583 3083

e-mail: byronhistorical@att.net

Website: www.townofbyron.com/historical-society

Town of Byron

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