

Inside This Issue! The photo that has Park Point talking! A rare white Elgin Pelican pays us a visit!

The Breeze

Of Park Point

August 2006 Vol.35 issue 8

Calendar

Twin Ports Lighthouse Days August 4-13, 2006

Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center, Canal Park,

Park Point Community Club Meeting August 17, 7PM Lafayette Square **Ice Cream Social 6:30**

Buoys and Gulls Club Meeting **Tuesday Sept 5th 1PM** At Lafavette **Bingo every Thursday** 11:00 AM **Bring your lunch** Coffee is served

> **Beach Sweep** September 9th 10 AM - 2 PM

The mission of the Breeze is to serve the community by:

- 1) Publishing the minutes and financial statements of the Park Point Community Club
- Informing the community of upcoming meetings, events, happenings and projects
- Providing a forum for Park Point residents to air their concerns
- Sharing the history. stories and anecdotes that make Park Point a unique place to live

48th International Rowing Regatta

The Duluth Rowing Club hosted its 48th International Rowing Regatta on Saturday, July 8, 2006 with over 300 competitors attending in the Junior, Open, and Master's categories. The regatta was delayed in starting because of a thunderstorm rolling through the area. Due to westerly winds, the regatta was moved from the St. Louis Bay to the Lake side of Park Point. The regatta started about 10:00 a.m. with the first event.



A steady stream of rowers and helpers hauled boats and gear across the street to the lake side.

Here are the clubs' total points:

1.	Minneapolis Rowing Club	501
2.	Minnesota Boat Club (St. Paul)	191
3.	Thunder Bay Rowing Club	117
4.	Duluth Rowing Club	81
5.	Midwest Development	68
6.	Rochester Rowing Club	47
7.	Camp Randall	32
8.	Wilmington Rowing Club (DE)	10

Minneapolis Rowing Club won the Rheinberger Trophy for total points. A shield will be placed on the trophy to commemorate this year's Club's total point's regatta winner.



A Duluth Fours crew rows out the starting line

Everyone enjoyed racing on Lake Superior and enjoying Duluth's beautiful beach. Special thanks to Minnesota Power, the DRC International Regatta's major sponsor, to the Fransciscan Health Center for allowing the participants of the regatta to enjoy their backyard, and to the DRC's neighbors and friends on Park Point being patient with the extra traffic and people.

The Duluth Rowing Club is a non-profit organization with a commitment to share the sport of rowing with any one who is interested. Visit duluthrowing.org for more information.

Claire Smith, DRC Regatta Chair

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan 726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is September 1st for the September 2006 issue. Please send submissions to Alan Dartanyan at

<u>breezeditor@msn.com</u> by e-mail or deliver to 1540 Minnesota Ave.

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Open

Vice President: Dave Poulin 3101 S. Lake Ave. 722-1511

Secretary: Dave Johnson 722-98764

Treasurer: Chuck Flaig 1511 Minnesota Ave. 727-2814

Committees

ART FAIR

Carla Tamburro 727-2661

ENVIRONMENTAL

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

HOSPITALITY

Diane Gould, 727-4067

LAFAYETTE SQUARE RENTALS

Barb Greene 940-2613 Barbinha69@aol.com

S-CURVE SIGN Dave Johnson, 722-9764

SUNSHINE

Pam Griggs 727-2158

Park Point Community Club P.O. Box 16326 Duluth, MN 55816-0326 www.

parkpointcommunityclub.org

Ice Cream Social!

August 17, 6:30 PM

Prior to the August Community Club Meeting

This event is open to all PPCC members, though I doubt anyone will be checking the rolls too closely. And if you wish to join that night, it's still only \$3 per person. So come, make yourself a sundae, and visit with your neighbors. We'll try to keep the meeting short (really), but nobody will mind if you slip out early. If you have issues, put them on the agenda for the September meeting. This one's just for fun!

Save the domes

I'm sure most Park Pointers are aware of the devastating fire that on July 12th virtually destroyed the Trela-Dome, Joe Trela's distinctive double geodesic dome home on 25th and Minnesota. It appears that dome one, nearest the street, will be able to be saved, though it sustained considerable smoke damage. The large, back dome, however, will have to come down, and as the structure was uninsured, Joe's friends and co-workers are raising money to help fund demolition and reconstruction.

The Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club is raffling off a Specialized Stumpjumper mountain bike to help with the costs.. Tickets are just \$5 and are available at the Ski Hut. The Ski Hut has also set up a bank account at The North Shore Bank where direct donations can be made. The Account number is 5800198. Donations should simply be marked Donation to Joe Trela

BRIDGED, the cookbook, is still available. They make great gifts for all occasions. We have a new supply and in addition to the regular outlets, you can get them by calling Diane at 727-4067. To date we have contributed about \$15,000 to the Park Point Community Club for projects benefiting the entire community.

A Big Thank You to Cliff Tchida, who has served the Community Club as City Council Liaison for nearly a decade. A long time Park Pointer, Cliff has now moved to the mainland, and his gruff, no nonsense voice will be missed at club meetings, just as the Bah Humbug sign in front of his house will be missed at Christmas. Thanks for your service, Cliff

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HISTORICAL FACT:

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Park Point Community Club July 20, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Merciful heavens, it was hot in the graceful old meeting hall this night. The cool waters of Lake Superior beckoned close by, but first the Community Club had work to do! The meeting was called to order by acting Club president Dave Poulin at 7:07. June minutes were approved. Treasurer Chuck Flaig quickly gave an informal report; little had changed from last month. Dave Poulin added that plans for the standard audit are still underway as well.

Police Report: Officer Mike Tinsley offered up his monthly statistics report, which prompted Club discussion on our usual summer problems with traffic and obnoxious parties. Mike noted that there are fewer cops this year for enforcement. That means he's been alone when responding to parties of 20 or more people. Other "public party" sites all through Duluth are being overused. On busy nights citizens can expect longer waits after 911 calls; the average could be 20-25 minutes. There was discussion about making violators participate in beach clean-ups; perhaps chained together and singing. Mike also said the Police Department plans to change up his schedule. If anyone needs further information on any ongoing investigation, contact Gordon Ramsey.

Guest Speaker: Erin Zoellick, from the Great Lakes Aquarium, spoke about the annual Worldwide Beach Sweep coming on September 9. This effort is conducted in over 100 countries, including our own lil' stretch of paradise. The Club generated a list of Park Point sites that always need help. The litter will also be identified; listed as a part of an ongoing survey. As the guest speaker shifted from foot to foot, the Club chewed over the dry bones of what is wrong with the City of Duluth; their lack of resources for simple things like trash pick-ups and permanent public toilets and such. Eventually Miss Zoellick pried a screen off a window and made good her escape.

Bylaws change: Dave Poulin called for the second vote on the bylaws change approved last month. **Motion:** Article 20 (B) requiring two signatures on every check over \$100 shall be removed from the bylaws. **Motion Carried.**

Committee Reports

Art Fair: Dave Johnson relayed tonight's report for Jake Kapsner. The Art Fair went spectacularly well. A downpour during Friday evening's check-in got all the bad weather out of the way for an outstanding weekend. Carla and Jake once again express their gratitude to all the volunteers.

Breeze: Alan Dartanyan gave another positive report on how the Breeze is getting along. It's a challenge for him, but he continues to almost enjoy it. Problems he'd like to solve involve distribution, such as where to leave the Breezes at secured condos. "Every household on Park Point should get a hand-delivered Breeze." A fine motto, Alan!

Youth: Grandpa Tom Lyle gave this month's report. 49 kids were registered for the Summer Youth Program at Lafayette. The Community Picnic was a great success. (Leftovers were devoured by the kids.) They will be collecting for the Food Shelf through the second week of August, and with a Pet Day still coming up, they were making lapel pins to benefit the Animal Shelter. The program averages 15-20 kids a day; the final day is August 18. Club discussion followed regarding the Club's intent to surprise Joy with an honorarium "in appreciation for the volunteer contributions and extra efforts she put forth in behalf of the Park Point kids." That "honorarium", approved at the June meeting, shall henceforth be called an "honorarium", and by "honorarium" shall it ever be known. Environmental: Taking his second turn at annoying the Club members, Dave Johnson spoke briefly about the S-curve project's first moves following Labor Day: Wide cement slab for a portable toilet on the lake side of the parking lot. After that, one line of fencing will run north from that slab to the corner of the park property, then east over the dune, just as we've done throughout the Barrens. We are also requesting a speed bump at the entrance to the lot. A very serious topic: A grassfire started behind Lafayette Square on the night of July 4. Pines and shrubs planted by volunteers were destroyed. This led to a truly productive discussion (really!) about fire protection on Park Point, fire threats around Lafayette, and the tragedy of the Trela's geodesic domes.

(Minutes Continued)

Quality of Life: Dennis Hoelscher talked about the plan to paint curbs yellow through the S-curve, and the need to stripe the biking/parking lanes from the Aerial Bridge to 13th Street with extra width. This led to a discussion about traffic and pedestrian patterns. It is understood the City does NOT want to put crosswalks if there is no accompanying stop sign for traffic. The yellow curbs also may be a "no-go" from traffic engineers. John Bray (Minnesota Dept. of Transportation) was a handy reference to have sitting in our midst.

Motion: That a letter be sent from the Club to Dick Larson, City of Duluth's director of public utilities, giving Club endorsement to wide parking lanes (bridge to 13th), yellow curbs through the S-curve and a crosswalk across the curve at 12th. These requests are made as an effort to improve safety awareness at a very dangerous site. **Motion Passed.**

City Council Liaison: There was applause and praise for Cliff Tchida as he stepped down from a post he's served in for 10 years. He addressed the Club, and his advice is worth following. Park Point needs organized, active committee participation to deal with the City and the City Council. And this: "Don't ever let rumors get the best of ya."

New Business: John Hunn spoke with the heartfelt concern we all feel for the Trela family on the loss of their sweet pup and their unique home. Tragedies ripple through neighborhoods; we find ourselves unsure of what to say, or where we can serve best. How can we help out?

This returned the Club to the topic of emergency preparedness on Park Point. John Bray noted that the door on Fire Hall 5 barely accommodates the fire truck.

Ice Cream Social! Alan Dartanyan proposed a dandy idea for a hot August night. He suggested an old-fashioned ice cream social to be held before the August Community Club meeting. We hope all the new residents on Park Point will attend as a way for us to welcome you all here. (Sorry about the fingerprinting.) The idea was confirmed by club **motion of acclaim.** The meeting adjourned at 9:07. Longtime Park Pointers quickly stripped to their skivvies and ran yodeling into the water; a sight none of us will forget no matter how hard we pray.

Bespectacly submitted,

Dave Johnson, Club Secretary



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Have you seen this white Elgin Pelican?



Minnesota Point is well known as an important link in bird migration routes around Lake Superior. One special visitor this summer was this rare white Elgin Pelican, photographed by amateur birdwatcher and Park Point resident Dave Johnson.

"I was playing Frisbee at Lafayette Square. I looked towards the bay, and there it was, just standing out on the street," he recounted, still awed by the experience. "The pelican was bigger than I expected; skittish with a call as loud as a honking horn when I tried to approach it. I was able to identify it by the distinctive markings and unusual spinning plumage. It seemed so clumsy on land. Honestly, I don't know how these things catch fish."



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(Final installment of) Miss Lynch---A Wisconsin Point teacher 1914

These storms on Allouez Bay were odd. They were not really rainstorms. In fact most of the time there was no rain, only wind. It was a really strong wind from the north that pushed water in from Lake Superior through the channel. This upset the bay so much that it was almost impossible to handle a small boat.

I thought my pupils were doing very well. They behaved well, studied their books, stood up to recite, and appreciated my explanations when they found anything confusing. The school was getting colder though as fall moved toward winter. We had a big stove but no fuel. For some reason the school board had not sent over any wood. I had walked down to Lake Superior the first day of school and was amazed at the mass of wood that had collected on the beach. There were trees and broken boards all nicely dried out and ready to be burned in the stove. The children were thrilled when I suggested that we give our books a rest for a day while we gathered wood to make our school nice and warm. I worked along with them gathering big boards and dead trees. By noon we had a huge pile of wood and the lighthouse boys brought saws, axes, and little wagons for hauling. We got all the wood cut and stored in the empty wood shed. I gave the boys a little party with extra apples, oranges, and some pop I brought along. Everything turned out well and the next day was wonderful since we were warm.

The LaVerge family invited me to spend Thanksgiving with me at their hunting camp at the mouth of the Amnicon River. My brothers Tom and Halsy were also invited so my mother put together a good supply of fruit, sandwiches, and cake. John, Pete, and Mary LaVerge also had a big pack of food. We felt that we would surely be welcomed, and were. The hunters (the two older LaVerge boys) were just about out of everything but venison. Along with our supplies they roasted a big piece of venison for a fine Thanksgiving dinner. At about four o'clock we started back. This time my brothers and I left our Wisconsin Point friends at Moccasin Mike Road. We followed that road to Allouez where we caught the streetcar home.

The school board finally sent us a load of wood so we now had no worries about the upcoming cold weather. About this time a new student joined us. Dick Boushay lived at the very end of the Point and had not come to school up to this point since walking in the sand was so difficult. Now that the sand was hard and covered with snow he said he could manage. Dick was a very sociable boy. He would talk to me at recess. He told me that he had a sister that could not walk and would like to see what a teacher was like. I was pleased to be asked to their home that Friday. I went long with Dick and brought some fruit for his sister. She was a charming child and I loved her. I continued to go to her home whenever I had time for a little visit.

After the school year was over I realized that I would be leaving the Wisconsin Point School for good since no one was ever asked to teach there for more than one year. My next assignment was at Lincoln school in Superior Wisconsin where I taught until I married. As years went by, my job changed and I became a bookkeeper at the Pontiac Garage.

I was several year since I had taught at the Wisconsin Point school and had been at the Pontiac Garage for some time when on my way to the bank one day met a familiar looking man. As we stood on the corner of Tower and Broad he said, "You are Miss Lynch, my teacher. I am Dick Boushay. My sister will be very anxious to see you. You were very kind to her when she was younger. You were also very kind to me. Please meet me here tomorrow and I will bring my sister. We live upstairs in this building. As you remember, Helen is crippled."

The next day both former students were waiting. Helen was in a mobile chair. I took them to the little restaurant on Broadway. It was a happy occasion for all of us.



As a new Park Point homeowner, I'm looking forward to getting to know my neighbors. If you want to know about home, auto or any other personal insurance products, please give me a call.

And while the sand is great, if you have any tips on how to keep it outside—I'd love to hear them.



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Editor's Corner

Another busy Park Point Summer is quickly rushing by us, with the warmest July on record, and some of the warmest water temperatures in memory. If this keeps up, perhaps our environmental committee will soon be planting palm trees rather than pines in the barrens.

In an effort to cool things off, the community club is hosting an ice cream social prior to the August meeting on the 17th. This is open to club members, wanna-be members, useta be members, thinking about it members, trying to avoid it members, whatever. If you show up, we won't turn you away.

The August meeting has always been a slow one. In fact it's often been cancelled due to so many people being on vacation. But with this kind of weather, who wants to leave the Point? So come on down and make yourself a sundae. If the wind switches, we'll add hot fudge!

Beach Sweep 2006 September 9, 10 a.m. 'til 2 p.m.

Beach Sweep is Minnesota's contribution to International Coastal Cleanup (ICC), an annual and international event organized by The Ocean Conservancy. ICC is celebrating it's 20th year of keeping the world's waterways cleaner. To date, 6.2 million volunteers have removed a grand total of 109 million pounds of debris from the world's beaches and waterways. These shorelines have spanned 179 million miles in 127 different nations.

In Minnesota, the 2005 cleanup resulted in 17,663 debris items collected off the beaches. 10,279 of those items were cigarette butts. A total of 275 volunteers gathered 1,723 pounds of trash from 38 miles of Minnesota shorelines.

Come join the clean-up on Park Point. There will be a staging area in the Parking lot by Lafayette, where Lloyd Vienneau will be the site captain, and if another captain can be found, there will be a second area at 12th Street (Franklin Park). All material will be provided: gloves, trash bags, and pencils and sheets for keeping track of what you find. This year there's even a contest. Whoever finds the most cigarette butts wins a gift certificate to Grandma's! You can clean as big or as small an area as you like. You don't have to sign up in advance, but if you have a group that's interested in helping, or want to clean a particular area or even if you want to be a site captain, contact Erin Zoellick, at Great Lakes Aquarium, 740-3474 ext. 1027

Dear Park Pointers.

First of all, thank you Jody Berquist, for all your special efforts to try to save "Jackie." Secondly, to all my neighbors here and all those throughout the area who sent in donations to help pay for that valiant effort-- thank you.

And to my neighbors, friends, and acquaintances on Park Point, thank you for your condolences, good wishes, and support at this crossroads in my life.

Joe Trela 2505 Minnesota Ave

FAREWELL MONSEIGNOR PATRICK MCDOWELL.

We say farewell to Monsignor Patrick McDowell this month. Msgr has lived on Park Point for several years in the rectory of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, serving as pastor of Our Lady of Mercy and also St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church and St. Peters. Msgr. will be living at Lakeshore Assisted Living Home at 4002 London Road, beginning September 1.

On Sunday, August 27, 2006 there will be a Retirement Party in his honor at Holy Family Catholic Church 2430 West 3rd St. from 1-5 PM. Everyone is welcome to come share memories with him and wish him well.

We, our Park Point Community, we say to Msgr: "Once a Park Pointer, always a Park Pointer". May you enjoy your new home as much as we know you have enjoyed your home on Park Point. We will miss not seeing you in your green van or sitting in your chair as we go by.

The Breeze

Park Point Community Club P.O. Box 16326 Duluth, MN 55816-0326



Park Point Resident

Parks Maintenance Numbers

If you see a problem such as overflowing trash cans or porta-potties, or any issue concerning our park facilities, you can contact the Parks Maintenance Division of the Public Works Department at 723-3425, Monday thru Friday from 7 AM to 3 PM. Weekends and after hours call 723-3333



