



# The Breeze

## OF PARK POINT

Vol. 39 issue 9

[www.parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://www.parkpointcommunityclub.org)

September 2010

### Calendar

**Park Point Community  
Club Meeting  
September 16th  
7PM at Lafayette**

**Death Row Regatta  
September 19**

**Minnesota Beach Sweep  
September 25<sup>th</sup>**

**GET TO THE POINT  
Awesome Art & Gift Fair,  
Oct. 9 (SAT), 10-3 p.m.  
At Lafayette**

**Bridge to Peace 5k  
November 6th**

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

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

### Sacred Place



It's just recently gotten more attention in our local "Major Media", but the conflicts between Sky Harbor Airport and the Minnesota Point Pine Forest has been one of the longest running issues for the Park Point Community Club. And in this famously contentious body, the issue where we come closest to consensus. And it's not all "anti-airport" – we include pilots and aviation supporters as well as "tree huggers". It's simply a widely held belief that this small, rare and fragile forest is a special place, and holds a value that can't be measured simply in dollars. As we work with both governmental entities and environmental groups to find a final solution to the conflict, it's important that it's true value is taken into account. If the airport is a bit of a "sacred cow", then the pine forest must be considered a sacred place.

# *The Breeze*

**Editor: Alan Dartanyan**  
**726-0110**

## **Submissions**

The deadline is September 30th  
for the October 2010 issue.  
Please send submissions to  
Alan Dartanyan at  
[breezeditor@msn.com](mailto:breezeditor@msn.com) by e-mail  
or deliver to 1540 Minnesota Ave.

## **Park Point Community Club Officers:**

**President:** Dick Gould  
3003 Minnesota Ave.  
727-4067

**Vice President:** Liz Mackay  
2233 Minnesota Ave.  
722-1834

**Secretary:** Sheryl Robins  
722 Minnesota Ave.  
720-6518

**Treasurer:** Al Robins  
722 Minnesota Ave.  
720-6518

## **Committees**

### **ART FAIR**

Carla Tamburro  
727-2661

### **Rummage Sale**

Charlene Shimmin 722-6828  
Dave Lavamaki 729-8925

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

### **HOSPITALITY**

Diane Gould, 727-4067

## **LAFAYETTE SQUARE RENTALS**

Barb Flaig 727-2814  
[lafayette.ppcc@yahoo.com](mailto:lafayette.ppcc@yahoo.com)

### **S-CURVE SIGN**

Dave Johnson, 722-9764

### **SUNSHINE**

Pam Griggs  
727-2158  
[peggriggs@clearwire.net](mailto:peggriggs@clearwire.net)

## **Park Point Community Club**

**P.O. Box 16326**

**Duluth, MN 55816-0326**

**www.**

[parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://parkpointcommunityclub.org)

## **From The President:**

Help, the summer youth program and the Lafayette downstairs needs basic kitchen cupboards, counter tops and a stainless steel sink to replace those that are very much used up. If anyone is remodeling a kitchen and can donate used equipment please let me know, a receipt will follow.

The initial plans for the remote campground at the end of the point seems to be pretty much complete and will be forwarded to the City Parks Dept. and then to the City Council.

The 501-C-3 project is progressing.

I will not be at the Sept. meeting so the meeting will be conducted by Liz Mackay, VP, please forward your questions or concerns to her.

Thanks,

Dick

## **A Co-op Grocery Store at Bayside? Could we? Should we?**

It's been bandied about before – the idea of the community operating the former Bayside Market as a co-operative. The building and business have been for sale since well before the store closed. As time passes and the building remains vacant, long time storekeeper Dick Gajewski is open to other options.

While the demographics of Park Point make a co-op feasible, the question remains: is there enough interest, enough people willing to contribute money and time to make it work?

If you have any interest or ideas, contact Dick Gould at 727-4067 or [rpgould@charter.net](mailto:rpgould@charter.net). Or write him a note, or send a letter to The Breeze. We're just trying to get a feel for this.

(editor's note: Though Dick Gould is currently president of the PPCC, this would have to be a community, not Community Club, effort)

## **PARK POINT GARDEN CLUB**

The Duluth Garden Flower Society gave \$4000 in grants to organizations that would beautify the City of Duluth. Katherine Jacobs wrote a grant application for the Park Point Garden Club to re-vamp, repair and amend our garden at Lafayette. The largest grant given was \$500 and we received a grant of \$350.

The Duluth Garden Flower Society also sponsored a Garden's n Display contest and the Park Point Garden Club won 2nd place in the Master Garden Club division.

Everyone should come and view the gardens and while at Lafayette you should also see the progress at the Lafayette Edible Garden.

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**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**  
**Sunday, October 3, 2010**  
**3:30 p.m.**  
**Gather in the Mission Hall**

*All animals welcome, along with human companions.*  
*Treats for all -- people and people companions (pets)*  
**Please have all pet companions on leads.**  
(as is appropriate)

**A Prayer for Animals**

Faithful One, please be with all animals who are  
suffering . All animals who have been abandoned  
All animals who do not know love.  
Holy Presence, increase our love.  
Help us to be faithful to our animal companions  
and help us to care for all animals. Amen

Remember the **Bridge to Peace 5K, November 6, 2010.**  
You can sign up to walk or run. Online registration open.  
\$25 entry fee. Proceeds will be matched. Funds go to  
help establish peace in Afghanistan and  
Pakistan through building schools for villages.

**Our Lady of Mercy**  
**Catholic Church**  
**2002 Minnesota Ave**  
**722-3078**

Priests:  
Fr. John Petrich, Fr. Tom Foster and Fr. John Golobich

**Holding Our Tongues**

All of us probably remember the news stories about Fr. Judge, the firefighters' chaplain who gave his life while ministering to victims of the Twin Towers attack on that fateful Sept. 11, 2001. One of the Franciscan friars, of which he was a member, described Fr. Judge as anything but judgmental, noting that he never spoke "an unkind word against another friar" and never judged or condemned anyone.

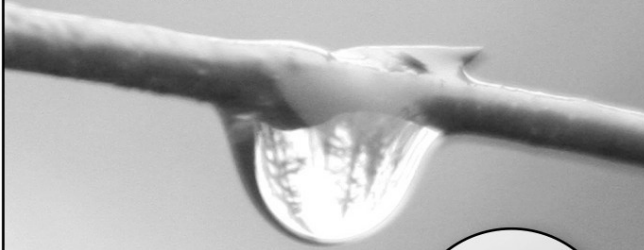
Most of us will not have the opportunity to perform the heroic. Our life for the most part is "ordinary," yet we can be "extraordinary." The extraordinary task of our daily routine with all its demands can be just as challenging. Holding our tongue in the face of struggles, unkindness and vindictiveness is much closer to the heroic than we assume.

*O God, help me to realize how my tongue can bless or curse. Too easily I slip and forget the harm I can cause by my speech. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit may I use my tongue for good and holy purposes. In Jesus' name, Amen*

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**Park Point Community Club Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2010**

**President Richard Gould called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm.**

**Treasurer's Report.** Al Robins reported the beginning balance for the month of July-\$63,962. During the month of July, \$652 was taken in with expenses of \$4702. Balance at the end of July per UBS - \$56,166.

**Diane Gould made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Don Freimuth seconded the motion.**

**Officer Tinsley report.** There were 108 police calls since the July meeting. There has been an increase in burglaries within vehicles. Officer Tinsley said to use common sense when leaving valuables in the seat. When asked about the dog issue, he said he did not know if the problem had been taken care of as Animal Control handled the problem.

**Old Business.**

**501C - Dick Gould updated the club on the status of the 501C. A purpose of goals for the Park Point Community Club would go to the attorney. After it had been approved, the application would go to the IRS. The 501C status should start at the year's end.**

**As an update to the campground at the end of the point, Dick Gould felt the idea could be fizzling out due to too many obstacles.**

**Firehall issue has been put on hold until a study is done.**

**Sunshine Committee. 2 cards sent**

**Membership Committee. Elizabeth MacKay reported we had 269 members**

**Counselor Sharla Gardner.** Someone from the street maintenance dept. will be at the next Park Point Community Club meeting to discuss streets and sewer improvements. Questions were asked about the revenue Sky Harbor airport brought to the city. Number of flights in and out of the airport. Low flying planes & etc were also discussed.

**It was suggested a calendar be used regularly to report who is renting the building, when and for what price. The posting should be done prior to the actual rental event.**

**Parks and Recreation Committee - It was strongly recommended a person from Park Point volunteer for the Parks and Rec committee position.**

**The sign at the S curve was in need of paint. Motion was made and seconded to have the work completed. Vote was taken. All ayes. No nays.**

**The street light project was refused by the city. It was recommended that each family on Park Point be charged \$50. This would fund the purchase of LED street**

**lights for the entire Point. In return, the city was asked to drop the \$3.50 per month utility bill charge. The City refused.**

**New Business. Dick Gould suggested the officers of the club be elected for a two year term. Each year, there would only be a need to replace two of the officers and the next year the other two officer positions would be up for election. This way all four positions would not come up at the same and therefore there would be at least two seasoned people on the board.**

**Lynn Bentfield said the garden project as the S turn is looking for nautical pieces for the park.**

**Chuck Flaig asked the status of the Watch Committee. It is currently not active. The Watch Committee is a group set up to watch the city counsel, zoning & etc. Motion was made and seconded for Chuck to head this committee.**

**Scott Wolf made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Johnson seconded.**

#### **News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden**

Who could have asked for more picture-perfect weather to enjoy our 2010 Park Point Secret Garden Tour on August 22? Our thanks go out to the following Park Point families who opened their gardens for this successful fundraising event: Mary & Brian Grover, Susan Schmidt and Jerry Hadland, Lynn & Bill Ziemski, Jenny & Greg Peterson, Heather & David Solon, Mary Courage & Dave Anderson, and Mary Braun-Kapsner.

On September 19 we'll be hosting a fall harvest potluck dinner at the Lafayette Community Center from 5 to 7 p.m. For an entrée we'll serve barbecued pulled pork, made from local pork produced by the Willow Sedge Farm in Palisade, MN. We're hoping to have the farmers, Jane and Joe Jewett, with us to share stories about their farming experiences and their views on sustainable agriculture. To help offset the cost of the pork, we'll be passing the hat for contributions. If you are interested in more information about Willow Sedge Farm or buying meat directly from this producer, visit [www.janesfarm.com](http://www.janesfarm.com).

All Park Pointers are welcome to join us at our family-oriented potluck dinners. If you plan to participate in this month's feast, please bring a side dish or dessert to pass, along with your own plates and utensils. You'll find this convivial event a great way to meet new people and catch up with old friends.

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### **A thank you is due.....**

To coach Dana Moore and the St. Scholastica Girls Volleyball Team. It's an ongoing problem: the wind blows, the sand drifts, and it covers the wood boardwalk at 12<sup>th</sup> Street Beach. Last Spring it was the fire department that cleared it off with their fire hoses. This time, it was the women of St. Scholastica who shoveled it off by hand. A big thank you for all your effort.

## What's That Smell!?!?

*By Chris Kleist*

The City of Duluth fields many constituent calls about various topics every day. Every call or inquiry receives staff attention. The City was contacted recently about unpleasant odors coming from the area near Southworth Marsh on Park Point. Because the City of Duluth operates the storm and sanitary sewer systems in Duluth, citizen reports of potential problems that may impact the quality of our natural resources are very important and always appreciated.

The Utility Operations Department conducted a thorough investigation into the sanitary sewer system and lift stations to determine the cause of the odor. City maintenance crews and Water Quality Specialists have investigated each area and have determined that there is not (and has not been) a sewage spill on Park Point.

After further review, city staff determined that the odors, in this case, are produced by the decomposition of organic material in the shallow water in and around the marsh. Organic material includes weeds, algae, and waste from waterfowl that washes up in the bay and collects along the shoreline. The shallow water in the area heats up quickly, which speeds up the decomposition process of the organic material that has been deposited by wind and waves.

Natural wetlands and decomposing organics play a vital role in the Earth's ecosystem. Wetlands such as Southworth Marsh are a haven for many species of plants and animals, which rely on the area for food, shelter, and nesting habitat.

Although the odor can be unpleasant, it is a result of a natural process and habitat, which should not be disturbed by human hands. Southworth Marsh is a wonderful area for people to enjoy the unique plant and animal life that abound from this rich and fertile area.

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## Editor's Corner

As noted on the front page, the conflict between the Airport and the Pine Forest has gotten some attention in the media lately. Why now? Well, a major part of it is just where things are in the efforts to find a solution. A study has been completed, options laid out, recommendations made. But most of this could have occurred kind of behind the scenes, as many previous developments at the airport have. What is different now, in my opinion, is that the Pine Forest has a champion on the City Council. Councilor Sharla Gardner, "our" councilor, has really brought this issue to the forefront, asking questions, questioning assertions, and showing a passion for the Pine Forest that is equal to our own. This is truly representing Park Point.

Now to turn to another of my passions – Bayside Market. I'm one of those lucky enough to live close enough to Bayside that I could easily walk there. For 20 years that forgotten grocery item, sausage for the grill or even just an ice cream sandwich on a hot summer day, was just a short walk or bike ride away. And I HATE having to go across the bridge and out to the plaza or up the hill every time I need something.

I don't know if a co-op would work, whether there's enough interest – or money - out there. But if there is one thing that could improve my quality of life on Park Point, it would be having a local market again.

Besides, it was the best place to leave those extra copies of the Breeze, in case you didn't get yours

## A Park Point Vacation

Every summer, a friend teases: *So I suppose you are headed up to Duluth' again. When are you guys ever going to take a real vacation - like Italy or Provence or even Iceland, for goodness' sake!* My friend guessed right: three weeks ago today, I headed to Duluth for what has become my annual pilgrimage to Park Point.

I greet this favorite destination in two stages. Both include the Aerial Bridge.

My heart quickens when I see it, as it does with each winter's first snowfall. Approaching Duluth on 35 from the south, the geometry of its silver iconic architecture appears against the background of Lake Superior stretching to the horizon. *Wise men say that every soul needs a horizon and this one is definitely mine.*

As I approach The Bridge, I smile at my good fortune when I hear the formalized exchange of lift signals -- 1 long, 1 short, 1 long, 1 short -- the alto-range tone from the bridge echoed by the bass-range tone from the vessel. The traffic light turns red. I shut off the engine and hurry to the channel to see a 1,000 foot laker plow through on its way to the open lake. I inhale my first deep breath of what feels like pure Lake Superior oxygen. I feel the soothing moist air on my face and all of my senses begin to register the lake environment: cloudy with a light breeze off the lake, about 75 degrees.

When the laker is 3/4 of its way under the bridge, I head back to the car and the next stage of arrival: my personal "crossing." The bridge deck lowers, the light turns green and - one in a line of cars, I drive across. I roll down the window and listen for the sound of car wheels on the metal, honey-combed grid: a beehive buzz and hum of dissonant yet soothing notes of varying pitch.

I complete my crossing as I drive onto the crumbling asphalt of Minnesota Avenue, and feel a metaphorical drawbridge pull up gently behind me. I have reached my destination, the island of Park Point. Three weeks of glorious, outside of time, vacation are officially here.

Time inevitably passes and the three weeks come to an end. Departure time: noon tomorrow. Although with some things it feels as if there can never be enough, I have done everything on my simple wish list: swimming, walking the beach, walking the old growth forest at the end of the point, reading, reconnecting and celebrating friendships, getting too full of fresh herring and smoked whitefish, watching boat traffic, listening to the Lake Superior surf, and relishing fog, summer storms, the night sky, sunrises and sunsets. I head home with gratitude, feeling more sound of body and grounded in spirit. Thank you, Park Point, for these simple gifts and invisible riches.

Will we head up to Duluth' again next year? *Don't bet against it!*

(Gail Gabrielson Watson currently resides in Minneapolis. She considers herself fortunate to have been born and raised in Duluth and dreams of one day becoming a "Park Pointer.")

## *The Breeze*

Park Point Community Club

P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326



### **Park Point Resident**

#### **Numbers you can use**

Got (non-emergency) issues you'd like to discuss, but don't know whom to call? Here's some numbers you can use: Parks Maintenance Division: 730-4491 (after hours 730-4150)

Fire station #5 (Park Point): 723-3215 Community Police Officer Mike Tinsley: 218-730-5684.

City Councilor Sharla Gardner: 724-4701 [sharla.gardner@gmail.com](mailto:sharla.gardner@gmail.com)



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