

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 40 issue 6

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

June 2011

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting**
June 16th, 7PM
At Lafayette

Park Point Rummage Sale
June 10th & 11th

**Edible Garden Potluck
And Summer Solstice
Gathering in the Garden**
June 21st
5:30-7:30

Park Point Art Fair
June 25th & 26th



It's an event that evolved from a neighborhood gathering 41 years ago into the region's premiere outdoor visual arts showcase. And it's coming to a sandbar near you.

The 41st annual Park Point Art Fair returns June 25-26 to the Park Point Recreation Area in Duluth. Admission and parking is free at the nonprofit-coordinated event, which supports local ecological and civic initiatives.

Featuring the juried fine art and craft of 120 premiere artists from the local area, upper Midwest and beyond, the Park Point Art Fair also offers live performances, music, food, children's activities and more—all in a stunning natural setting. An estimated 8,000-10,000 visitors have attended the annual weekend festival in recent years.

Artists display and sell work in media such as clay, fiber, glass, painting, photography, jewelry, woodwork and sculpture. And while visual art is the showcase, there's more to experience during the fair, where you can stroll a pine-lined path tucked between Lake Superior and the Superior Bay:

- Live performance area, featuring music by award-winning performer Michael Monroe;
- Food vendors selling everything from BBQ and gyros to kettle corn and ice cream;
- A family make-and-take art area where visitors can delve into the fun;
- Artist demonstrations that offer a closer look at forming hot glass, wood turning and other processes.

The art fair is presented by the Park Point Community Club, a nonprofit volunteer organization that uses event proceeds to support a summer youth program, environmental initiatives and other community-rooted efforts. Participating artists in 2011 were juried from a pool of 165+ applicants by a panel of art professionals who selected artists on the basis of craftsmanship and originality.

"Each year, the art fair brings people together—as visitors, artists and volunteers—in a unique setting on the shores of Lake Superior. Artists and patrons of the arts praise the consistently high quality of this show, and appreciate that it's a grass-roots effort for a good cause," said Carla Tamburro, Park Point Art Fair coordinator. "Park Point is an inspiring setting. And as a community of volunteers giving back to sustain this environment, we welcome everyone to join us in celebrating this Duluth gem."

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

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is July 1st for the July 2011 issue. Please send submissions to Alan Dartanyan at 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

Missy Steichen 218-208-9545
ppccdhlh@gmail.com

S-CURVE SIGN

Dave Johnson, 722-9764

SUNSHINE

Pam Griggs
727-2158
pegriggs@clearwire.net

Park Point Community Club
P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.

parkpointcommunityclub.org

From The President

Rummage sale, art fair, a busy month is June. I have been hiding from most of it by purging the Lafayette building and finding many treasures. Darn near filled the dumpster. Thanks to Al and Sheryl Robins the far back office room was painted and I had a place to begin moving the old records and filing cabinets. Is there anyone out there who might be interested in possibly re-organizing these records and possibly finding a way of electronically recording them? Help! Also I have found many treasures amongst the junk, such as a box full of long sought after keys for just about everything in the building, missing doggie bags with keys, a long missing flag, ect.. There is a tremendous amount of Park Point school history with many class photos and records, this could be organized and recorded as well.

I hope everyone has a great summer, if it has finally arrived. Volunteers are still needed for the Art Fair, call Diane or Carla.
Dick

Need Volunteers for the Park Point Art Fair

Please share a few hours volunteering for the Art Fair June 25 & 26. This is the fund raiser that helps support every project that the PPCC does, including the Summer Youth Program and environmental projects. Help set up or clean up. We also need people to greet the visitors and relieve the artist if they need a quick break the days of the Art Fair. This is usually a 2 hour block of time and those of you who look forward to doing this every year call to get your special time. Volunteers are also invited to the dinner on Saturday night. Please contact Diane Gould at 727-4067 or Carla Tamburro at 218-428-1916.

Lafayette Rentals

Lafayette is a great place to hold weddings, reunions, parties, meetings, etc...

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Winter is okay - but I really love spring and summer. I tend to hibernate in the winter. Give me a book and a chair - and I'm a happy camper. But summer - there's softball, golf, fishing, all kinds of water sports, hiking, camping, biking, county and state fairs. There's just something about summer. What a gift from God to be enjoyed.

One of the things I appreciate about the particular Christian tradition I practice is that it's so 'incarnational' -- that sense that God is present all around, in all, and everywhere. Jesus is like a 'signpost' -- pointing in so many different ways to the nature of the Divine One - the Holy One. It doesn't make a difference what season of the year we're in -- God is.....Guess I don't need to add more words to that!

We have just observed some of the Rogation Days on our church calendar -- days when we 'ask' God (which is what Rogation means) for seeds to be fruitful, for weather to be seasonable, for creation to be cared for and appreciated by all. One Sunday we were outside going to all four corners of the parish property - facing in the four directions - and offering praise to God for all the beauty that surrounds us. 'Gratefulness' is a good word to describe that kind of worship. Let me leave you with some quotes to mull as we move further into this time of year:

Every creature is a word of God. (Meister Eckhart)

The fullness of Joy is to behold God in everything. (Julian of Norwich)

Look deep into nature and then you will understand everything better. (Albert Einstein)

Summer blessings to all. Cindy Peterson-Wlosinski + (Vicar, St. Andrew's)

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

Fr. John Petrich

Reclaiming Sundays

Every Sunday at 5 a.m. a dog named Preta heads out of her owner's home in Sobrada, Portugal. The dog walks the 16 miles alone to a church and takes her usual place, next to the altar in time for the 7:30 a.m. Mass. Whenever worshippers stand up or sit down, Preta does the same.

Have we lost something in our religious observance that even this dog knows is important? I think we have. We have forgotten the Lord's command to keep Sunday as a special day for honoring the Lord. Worship and rest have been abandoned for such activities as hectic trips to the mall.

Has the significance of Sunday slipped for you? Or worse, lost all significance or any special significance? Now is a good time to reclaim Sundays. Commit yourself to the Lord -- and make that day a delight once again.

Father, we have allowed ourselves to be consumed by the affairs of the world. We have pushed you back and back and back, again and again. Reclaim us, Lord, so that we may reclaim you. May we once again make your day holy and a delight. We pray in Jesus' name, the Lord of the Sabbath. Amen.

Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations
Every Sunday at **8:00 A. M.**

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May 19, 2011 Park Point Community Club Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with 19 members in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance for April, 2011	\$59,231
Income for the month	3,615
Expenses for the month	1,222

Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report

Breeze Report

Nothing new to report

Art Fair Report

Carla Tamburro, Art Fair Coordinator, said there was a list of artists on the ParkPointArtFair.org website. She had bookmarks available. Posters should be available next week. It was suggested a delivery system be used to deliver posters. Carla talked briefly about how the Art Fair particulars were coming together. Food, exhibitors & etc.

Fire Department Report

Nothing new to report

Rummage Sale Report

Nothing new to report

Membership Report

256 Members have paid their yearly dues. It was discussed briefly about increasing membership to \$5 next year

Environmental Report

Nothing new to report on the airport

Hospitality Report

Nothing new to report

Sunshine Committee

Nothing new to report

Garden Club Report

Coral McDonnell spoke about the Community Garden Club. She said the plants should be planted by 5/20/2011. She said there were spaces available. The group is open to new members.

Rummage Sale

Scheduled for June 10th and June 11th, 2011.

Communication Report

S Curve Sign in need of repair. Dave Johnson talked about the design of the sign. At present, there was no estimate of cost. Dave will let Dick Gould know prior to the executive board meeting.

IRS update. Tax forms had not been filed on time. Club no longer had tax exempt status. Dick heard from IRS and the club has been put back on tax exempt status, but on probation. It was determined the Park Point Community Club does not qualify for a pro bono attorney. We need a tax attorney. David Poulin motioned that we authorize up to \$2500 available for attorney fees. Dave Johnson seconded.

Elizabeth Mackay made a motion for a second vote to authorize up to \$8000 for summer youth program expenses. David Poulin seconded.

Tree planting on 5/21/2011 @ 10:00AM. If it rains, the time will be noon on Sunday, 5/22/2011.

City has agreed to change locks on the Community Club building. The locks will be the card type locks.

Community Club Building rentals - Missy Steithen is doing a good job on the rentals.

James Campbell opening a tea room and grocery store at 723 Lake Ave. South on May 17, 2011.

Thomas Mackay noted the dip caused by a patch on the road in the 900 block of Lake Ave South is getting larger. Also, 1900 Minnesota Ave where there is a crosswalk, the crosswalk stripes need to be repainted. It was also noted that a section of the road between 37 & 38th St where a strip of road was torn up and the blacktop was not replaced.

David Poulin made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 8:30pm. David Johnson seconded.

Park Point: Wildlife Watchers Paradise

By Glenn Maxham

Much to my delight I have accumulated an awesome collection of video clips on the stunning variety of mammals and bird life that appear on and along the bay at the foot of 19th and St. Louis Avenue next to my apartment. When I moved from Lakewood Township eleven years ago I knew I would be watching some gulls, tame and domestic rabbits and, of course, a fleet of Canada geese...but watching an otter feeding on the remnants of a huge northern stone's-throw from my window?

I could not imagine I would ever see a flock of alabaster-white pelicans basking in the rays of the morning sun when I looked out to the long sandbar attached to the west end of Hearing Island as I did on May 15th.

Then there was the mystifying acrobatics of a dozen or so geese that gathered in the sun-heated shallows near shore, entertaining me with their constant backflipping! Yes. They went belly up@...a 360 degree flip and did so for at least twenty minutes. Were they just enjoying a warm bath or perhaps performing a rite of spring? When their show ended, the same spot was taken over by an equal number of ring-billed gulls. They beat the water with their wings, squawked a lot, dipped a bit under the surface, swam in tight circles but seemed unable to flip over.

One day in early April I spied on a handsome red fox as it worked over a rotting driftwood log, pulling it apart as it tried to flush a pair of field mice and then deftly snapped them up as they attempted to escape.

Last winter I had my camera running as a fox struggled to free a tidbit that was frozen in the ice near shore. Two crows eyed the same morsel and tried to "out fox" the fox to steal the prize. The birds would alternately land a few feet from the mammal and feint a move toward the food. The fox would chase after it as the second crow swooped in from the opposite side to try to swipe the bait...a wonderful example of strategy by the birds. The imbedded goodie proved to be too deep under the ice. Both the birds and the animal finally gave up. (After the resident foxes wiped out the native and domestic rabbits the predators were forced to change their diet)

Two winters ago I frequently caught sight of some members of a five member coyote pack roaming the bay surface and managed to get just enough video to verify their presence. (some neighbors were sure we were being invaded by wolves.)

Elsewhere in Duluth it's hardly unusual to see white tailed deer, in fact many residents would rather not see them, especially when the animals eat flowers and clean out vegetable gardens....not so on Park Point. I very rarely see them here and I fully enjoyed watching a sleek pair of does as they waded along the shore at sunset. They paused for a long time at a bird feeder, curled their tongues and inserted them into the tiny openings in the tube-type feeder to get at the cracked corn.

Recent non-human traffic below my window included the meandering muskrat that dawdled along in the two or three inches of water closest to the shore as it sought some emerging greenery but found precious little. I expect again this summer to focus my video camera on a slow swimming beaver as it tows an aspen sapling from a grove north of my building to some unknown destination I presume is on or near Hearing Island. It has no river to dam---unless it could build a long, long one across the bay to the Port Terminal. More likely it's a "bank beaver" that burrowed a tunnel in the sandy soil.

(Wildlife, continued)

Most spectacular of all among our wildlife behavior that I witnessed involved our national symbol, a mature bald eagle, perhaps the same one I see most early mornings as it perches on a favored limb in a birch tree. Around noon on a day in early May I routinely glanced out of my west-facing window when the action of something struggling in the water to the south captured my attention.

It was clearly not a person, could have been a big retriever but was making very little progress in reaching shore a few yards away. Leaving camera and tripod behind in a race to my south window, I got a bit closer to the action and was too awestruck to go back for the camera until minutes later.

The creature morphed into a wildly thrashing bald eagle, wings alternately opening and then closing cup-like in a clownish attempt at swimming! It made no more sense than would the sight of a mallard swooping down on a fleeing rabbit. I couldn't move until I found the reason for the regal bird to be far from its airborne element soaring in the skies overhead.

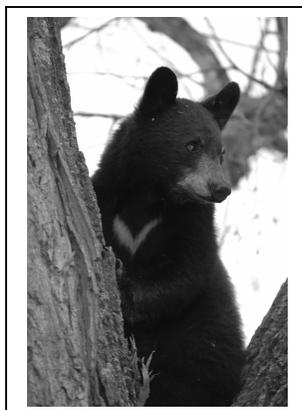
When it finally worked its way to ankle-deep water its wings were above the surface and, with vigorous wing flapping, hauled itself on shore. Still clamped in its talons was the answer to the mystery of the dunking. It became quickly obvious that the raptor had made the mistake of sinking its talons into the back of a fish too large for it to lift clear. It couldn't simply open its claws and fly away. Eagle talons, I've been told, lock onto their prey and the predator can't release its hold until it has a solid surface beneath its feet. It literally had to swim or sink and drown!

Much to my disgust I didn't get any of the most exciting action on video but I got a lot of fascinating footage once the eagle was standing on the sand and gorging on what appeared from my view to be a fair sized northern, a just end for the cause of the eagle's near-death battle. Its feathers, not oiled like those of a water bird, the eagle appeared totally disheveled, bedraggled beyond anything I had ever seen in this species before. All the feathers on its underside were sopping wet and dripping but that didn't seem to matter as it ravenously gobbled up its prey, denying so much as a beak full to the crows that circled the diner in hopes of joining the feast.

At last it hobbled away from the scant remains of its dinner, its belly distended with the fish dinner and its body still supporting at least a quart of bay water. It would be a while before drying enough to lift off and reach its perching tree, leaving only a skeleton, a bit of skin and scales to the crows.

Finally, on Sunday, May 15th, I saw an awesome sight scrunched down in the crotch of tree that I never expected to be a resident on our long, narrow peninsula; a young black bear! If anyone can tell me how it got here I would be grateful...couldn't have walked across the ice because it would have been confined by hibernation until spring. The Superior canal entry might have been crossed though it wouldn't have been an easy swim. This past weekend the bear covered the 21 blocks to 19th and showed up on the beach where it fed on the remains of a deer that washed ashore on the shore of the bay. If you doubt the veracity of the above, I can prove it on my video tape... except for the bear. I had left my camera home and missed that one!

Living on the Point for more than a decade, I love the idea of living rural while attached to an urban setting...especially when I hear the lonesome trill from the loon pair now living here and frequently appearing on my video tape.



I just had to squeeze in this picture of a bear, taken by Tom Mackay. Maybe Glenn didn't get him on video, but plenty of people got him on camera. I'm no expert at identifying bears, but from the pictures I've seen it looks like there's been more than one bruin foraging on Park point this spring.
The Editor

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Welcome New Garden Members: Rene Krenelka, Kate Cartier, Scott Wolff, and Beth Hall

K-A-L-E: Kale seems to be the word on many Duluth gardeners' lips this summer, as we learned from Michael Gabler, Jahn Hibbs, and Kristen Stuchis, all Kale Ambassadors representing the Duluth Community Garden Program's "One Vegetable, One Community" push for kale as Duluth's vegetable of the year. Inspired by their presentation at our May potluck dinner, many of us went home and promptly planted a patch of kale in our own yards, as well as in our community garden. The idea is to unite the community through growing a sustainable crop that we can enjoy for its culinary uses and its visual beauty in our yards. Praised for its nutritional value (kale is listed as one of the top 20 "Superfoods"), and its cancer fighting properties, kale actually tastes pretty good, too. We'll find out this fall when members of all of Duluth's community gardens converge on Lafayette Square for a kale harvest dinner.

In addition to the kale planted in the garden, come take a look at all the garden beds that are filled with all manner of edible goodies. The garlic has sprouted, seedlings have been planted and the fruit trees bear flowers, all harbingers of good things to come.

Duluth's New Orchard: Thanks to all the Duluthians who so diligently voted every day for the chance for our community to win a 50+ tree apple orchard in the "Communities Take Root" contest sponsored by Edy's Fruit Bars. Reports indicate that Duluth will be one of the first five communities in the USA to receive an orchard. The University of Minnesota Duluth turned over an abandoned five acre apple orchard for this Sustainable Agriculture Project, which will be known as the UMD Heritage Orchard. More news to follow soon...

Hunter Angler Gardener Cook: If any of these four words describe you, then you are in the good company of Hank Shaw, whose award winning blog www.honest-food.net is chock-full of useful info and great recipes for preparing everything from Rabbit Stew with Wild Mushrooms to Italian-style Cauliflower Pickles.

Compost Status: No more leaves/garden debris is needed at this time – please wait until your fall clean up to bring more. Our coffee grounds brigade is in full force managing twice-daily pickups of spent grounds from Caribou Coffee in Canal Park.

Upcoming Events:

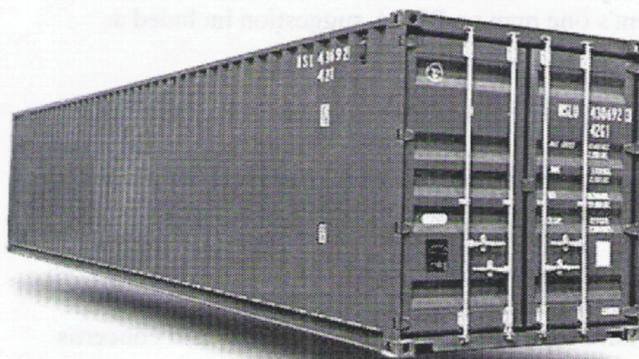
Tuesday, June 21, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This will be our summer solstice potluck dinner. We hope to be gathering in the garden, weather permitting. Anyone can join us at our monthly dinners and meetings. For more info, call Coral at 727-6455.

Friday, August 19, noon to 3 p.m. Save the date for the 2011 Lafayette Community Edible Garden fundraiser. Lafayette Square will welcome Park Point's first Food and Garden Festival, featuring award-winning Minnesota cookbook authors selling & signing their books, cooking demos, a culinary flea market, and skilled and master gardeners on hand for personal garden therapy sessions. This event is free to the public. Stop by to sample good things to eat while learning a thing or two.

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Editor's Corner

Ah, summer on Park Point! As usual, this issue should come out just in time for the Park Point Rummage Sale. Maybe you'll have your issue before it, maybe your delivery person will be too busy selling and/or shopping to get their route done. It's a matter of priorities.

Along with the rummage sale, there's another event on Park Point this weekend. The grand opening of Lord Muse Tea Room. It's going to be in that Scandinavian-looking building at 723 S. Lake Avenue, where Country by the Lake used to be. I don't know a lot about it, but supposed to have locally produced coffee and tea, works by local artists, and maybe, just maybe, some locally produced grocery items, like milk and bread and meat. Wouldn't it be great to be able to buy a loaf of bread without having to go over the bridge again?

As you can see from the front page, this is also my annual Art Fair issue. It's an easy front page for me. The picture is from the art fair postcard, the text from the press release Carla and Jake put out. But the Park Point Art Fair is no easy production. It takes a lot of work, and a lot of volunteers, to make it go. And this is the main source of funding for most everything the Park Point community Club does. So be there. Volunteer. We need you.

And one of the main things we do with that money is fund the Summer Youth Program at Lafayette. Since the City stopped funding it, the community club has picked up the full load. We've authorized up to \$8000 for it this year. It begins June 13th, runs for 9 weeks, and can handle up to 40 kids. It's a great program, and deserves our support.

I don't know about you, but as a runner and biker I really miss the painted lines on the sides of Minnesota Avenue. Dick Gould asked councilor Sharla Gardner to look into this. She did, and the reply from public works was that the lines would be painted as soon as the contractor who did the paving completes some required "finishing touches", hopefully in early June.



PARK POINT GARDEN CLUB

On the 1st and 2nd of June the Park Point Garden Club transplanted tomatoes with the children at Nettleton School. For 6 years we have been involved with this program. This year we worked with 20 classrooms or about 400 students from pre-school thru 4th grade. Each child gets a tomato to take home and nurture. In the fall the school holds a Fall Fest and the children either bring in a story about their tomato, pictures or the tomato itself. These displays will be judged and each child gets a ribbon. The program, now called Ray's Tomatoes, is in memory of Ray Picconatto who grew all the tomatoes used in the school. This year the Duluth Secondary Technical Campus grew most of the plants we used. This program is sponsored by the Duluth Garden Flower Society and the City of Duluth. Each year we have a great time and enjoy the reading the thank you notes we receive. We are known as "the tomato ladies".

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The Breeze

Park Point Community Club
P.O. Box 16326
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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

City Councilor Sharla Gardner: 724-4701 sharla.gardner@gmail.com



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