

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 40 issue 8

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

August 2011

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting AND ICE
CREAM SOCIAL!**

August 18, At Lafayette
Ice cream at 6:30
Meeting at 7PM

**Park Point
Food and Garden Festival**
August 19, noon – 3PM
At Lafayette

**Edible Garden Harvest
Pot-luck Supper**
September 19
6-8PM
at Lafayette

National Food Day
October 24th

(It's all about food this month!)

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

Neighborhood Night Out



Park Point neighbors crowded around a table laden with good food at a neighborhood night out gathering at Lafayette on August 2nd. This party, put on by the Lafayette Edible Garden Club was just one of several along Park Point

John Pegg manned one of two grills cooking up hot dogs and brats for all attendees. Thanks to all who helped out with set-up, cooking and clean up. As well as everyone who brought dishes to share!



Scare Crow and Scare Crime?

Carol Kondrath sent me this picture of our new Community Patrol Office Nick Lukovsky hanging with a friend at the Lafayette gathering. Nick mixed with the neighbors, introducing himself and getting to know Park Pointers

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is September 2nd
for the September 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
peggriggs@clearwire.net

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

From The President

The Bear is apparently gone, where, how and when, no one knows. It was last seen about three weeks ago in a tree at 36th Street by the postman. I hope it is OK.

The 501 C-3 papers have all been submitted. I had to do everything over after the IRS agent told me, "fire your attorney". The original work and their follow up was done all wrong, as per the IRS and MN sec. of State. We have to the 26th of August to receive a positive reply. The IRS gave us a 90 day extension to correct our application. The 501 C-3 will be a completely separate organization, if completed.

The beaches are busy at a near record level. The two porta-potties we have supplied are being used a lot, but are just a small part of what is needed.

The Summer Youth Program is has ended with another successful year and a lot of happy kids. Joy does a great job.

When you see people breaking the law, please don't call me, dial 911, the police need to know what is going on down here.

Please come to the next meeting, I hear there will be ice cream!
Dick

Kudos to the City

Thanks to the city for repairing the storm sewer grate at the s-curve. This deeply sunken grate was a real obstacle for bicyclists, inline skaters and others, and was located right at a spot where they (we) try to hug the curb, to avoid cars cutting the corner. I know it was the cause of at least one accident, and numerous close calls. Now it's raised up to street surface level, providing for much safer travel.

Park Point Garden Club

The Park Point Garden Club meets monthly on the fourth Thursday.

Join us at our meetings and in our upkeep of the flower garden at LaFayette.

Email Pam at: peggriggs@clearwire.net or

Phone: 727 2158 for time and place.

Lafayette Rentals

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

The Rental fees are as follows:

up to 50 people - \$100.00

50-100 people - \$200.00

100-125 people - \$300.00

There is a Damage Deposit of \$100.00, which is refundable, after cleaning & inspection.

The hours available are from 8:00 am until 10:00 pm

Missy Steichen is our rental agent. You can reach her by phone at 218-208-9545 or by e-mail at ppccdhlh@gmail.com

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Catholic Church**
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Fr. John Petrich

Give Witness to Jesus

Quite some years ago, a husband and wife were watching Bishop Fulton Sheen's television show. This particular evening, a man knocked at the door, came in and said, "Oh! I see you have Bishop Sheen on. May I join you, for I enjoy him so much?" When the show ended, he tied them up and ransacked the house. Surely the couple felt betrayed.

Imagine the disappointment our Lord must have felt. His close friends, those he shared his life with, deserted Him. Peter goes as far as to deny Him three times. How could they after they had seen so much? But how can we live as if we do not know Jesus? Does my life give witness to Jesus? Do people, by knowing me, catch a glimpse of Jesus? Maybe this summer is the time to live what we profess.

Faithful Father, help me to live my faith. I am so often intimidated, embarrassed or ashamed of my faith. Give me the courage I need in Jesus' name, Amen

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

Is a **Reverse Mortgage**
something *you*
should consider?



A checklist to see if a **Reverse Mortgage** might make sense for you.

- ☒ Could you use extra cash or monthly income?
- ☒ Do you have quite a bit of equity in your home?
- ☒ Do you want to remain living in your home for as long as possible?
- ☒ Are there repairs or improvements you would like to make to your home?
- ☒ Are there extra things you would like to do for yourself and your loved ones?

If you are 62 or older, find out how much tax-free cash you qualify for. Call WesternBank - your locally owned hometown bank since 1904.

WesternBank

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lynnbentfield@edinausalt.com



Duluth Office
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Duluth, MN 55812



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Larkan8@clearwire.net

July 21, 2011 Park Point Community Club Meeting

Meeting was called to order by club president, Richard Gould at 7:00pm. There were 16 people in attendance.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the June, 2011 minutes.

Treasurer's Report

2011 beginning balance \$43,026

2011 June 1 balance \$61,291

 \$ 3,170 Income

 \$12,241 expense

2011 July 1 balance \$53,592

Environmental Committee Nothing to report

Breeze Alan Dartanyan reported the Breeze newspaper is up to 12 pages. This was not a problem but he wanted the club to know the size of the paper for printing.

Membership Committee Liz Mackay said there were 267 members this year.

Sunshine Committee Nothing to report

Garden Committee Nothing to report

Art & Rummage Sale Both were a success. Minor adjustments needed for next year.

S curve sign update David Johnson said he had the ideas but no firm decision.

501C3 Close to being completed

Park Point Bear Trap was pulled 7/20/2011. It appears the bear has left the point . The trapper was paid for his time trying to get the bear trapped and moved.

Please do not feed the bear, fox, & etc

Summer Youth Program Program going well. 36 participants.

New locks @ Lafayette New locks have been installed @ Lafayette on all the doors

Gates locked

Gates to Lafayette playing field should remain locked. People using the Lafayette Square for rentals and people using the ball field should park in the lot.

Unsanitary conditions

Due to the lack of outdoor toilets along the Point, people are relieving themselves where they may. Discussion was made to get estimates to rent 2 more toilets for Park Point Beach.

Helicopter Rides

Lake Superior Helicopters are doing aerial runs this summer. Eric from that organization explained their flight pattern. Should not experience excess noise from their runs. He encouraged people to call if excess noise is a problem.

Camping

Club president, Dick Gould, checked the beach area at the end of the point. It was noted that there have been campers there. Due to no toilets, garbage cans & etc. the area was a littered. There should not be any camping at this time on the end of the Point.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting @ 8:10pm.

Lafayette Summer Youth Update.....

Vrooom Vrooomand we're off! With our tummy tanks full and our 3 D glasses on, we toured the world while glowing in the dark with our glow in the dark bracelets. We climbed the Himalayas, peaked inside Egyptian Pyramids, visited the Queens Palace, circled the Eiffel Tower, raced through the Desert, froze in the Arctic..... all the while never leaving our seats at Duluth 10 Theatre. With wind in our hair and popcorn kernels in our teeth, we wore goose bumps while being pirates and sailing the Tall Ships into the Harbor. Our Master Chefs have been busy opening new restaurants on the beach, forever creating and serving their fine cuisine. We have dined on Drift Wood Delight, Seagull Scoop, Loon-a Lefsa, Lady Bug Late', Sand Castle Crunch and many other delicious items.....all very tasty but a bit grainy. With sunshine on our shoulders and a good coat of sunscreen, we have become floating caterpillars with our inner tubes and noodles, chased a few run-away beach balls, waded on our knees and found a few buried shoes. Lego Ville has reached its completionawaiting the demolition team so we can re-build. We have worn white frosting mustaches and sang Happy Birthday to ourselves and played hockey with the Mighty Ducks, hoping this would cool us off on the hottest day of the year. We have hooped and hollered at the Library Kids Programs, checked out enough books to open a shop and paid enough over due fines to break the bank.....oops! We have traumatized our neighbors gardens with stray tennis balls and for that we apologize. We have found lost library cards, mystery lunches, misplaced swimsuits and towels in the most interesting places and gone through more Balsa Planes than the flight school participants as the skies have been very turbulent and accuracy is something we have not mastered. We have been silly with Dilly Bars from DQ on hot summer days and wetted our whistle with the cold Water Cooler water. We have jumped through the fountains in Canal Park and walked the Lake Walk. We are forever building towns, cities and water ways on the playground, putting the PVC pipe to good use. We have done soo much and have soo much left to do, please stop down and join in the fun. We are open 10:00 to 4:00, Monday thru Thursday.

Happy Days to all.....

Thanks, Joy

Park Point.....naturally

I have yet to talk to someone who has actually seen a water shrew in the waters of our bay, but it's virtually certain this unique little animal lives here....unique because it's the only mammal in the world that can "walk" on the water! Actually, it rapidly skitters across the surface of calm water while using the stiff hairs on its legs and toes to keep from sinking. The fact that even the largest of them weighs less than an ounce helps it stay on the surface.

Our habitat, though now limited, is ideal, especially in places such as Southworth Marsh and the east side of Hearding Island. This shrew emulates the skill of a mink when it spots a minnow. It then dives and swiftly pursues its prey with the chase usually ending successfully for the predator. It also feeds on other small aquatic life. They have silky black fur on the upper parts of their body and silver hair on their under side.

It's quite likely their numbers here were much greater when the bay was populated by floating islands. That environment disappeared when the ship canal was built and the islands escaped into the open water of Lake Superior where storms shattered the floating mats of vegetation.

In my years of wandering in the wilderness I've seen a water shrew only once and that one appeared beneath my feet as I walked on a tiny frozen pond. It moved remarkably fast under the clear ice of the pond. If you should be lucky enough to spot one on the Point, I would like to hear from you.

There's another tiny resident here that you might have seen but didn't realize what you were looking at. Your cat or dog might have brought you what you believed was a chubby little mouse but was, in fact, a southern bog lemming. I know they live in our boggy locations because I saw a mounted specimen in the biology department at UMD and was told it was trapped on the Point. Slightly larger than the water shrew, the lemming is a relative of the suicidal lemmings of Scandinavia but they don't drown themselves when starvation threatens their survival.

The local lemming prefers a bog-like habitat that affords them unlimited amounts of grass. They harvest the long stems and stack them in small piles along the runways they create and line their above or below ground nests with straw. There they produce two or three litters a year.

These little fur balls have ears so tiny they are hidden by their abundant brownish fur. If you find one and aren't hesitant to do so, examine its front feet...you'll know it's a lemming if it has only four toes.

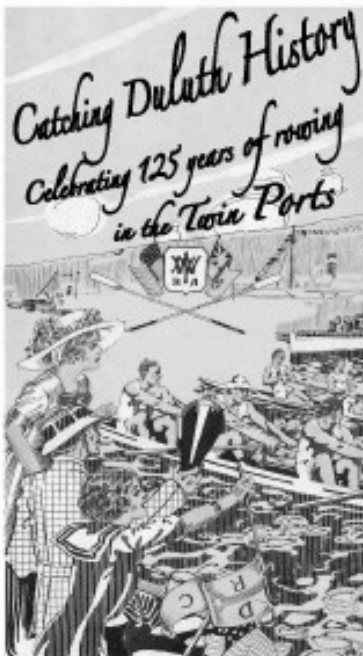
Unless you had a high powered telescope and frequently scanned the water on the lake side, chances are that you didn't see the rarely present red throated loons. Thanks to the persistence of veteran birder Tanya Barcikowski and her "scope" I saw a couple of the several dozen reported at this end of the lake. It's too late to look for them now. After an inordinate length of delay before heading for Arctic breeding grounds, the attractive waterfowl left us. Our native common black and white species will stick around the bay for weeks to come.

One of the two does that have taken up residence on the Point still makes it nightly visit to my neighbor's bird feeder to access the crushed corn by sticking its tongue into the small openings meant only for the birds. It appeared that she was carrying a fawn but haven't heard of anyone seeing the offspring.

Perhaps she hid the little one on the western tip of Hearding Island as I watched (and video taped) her as she beat the heat wave by taking a neck-deep swim off the sandbar.

If you have encountered rare or especially interesting wildlife on Park Point, please call me at 727-4554 or e-mail <Glenn319@Charter-com>

Thank you, Glenn Maxham



St. Louis County Historical Society
 &
 Duluth Rowing Club
 invite you to a celebration of 125 years
 September 16, 2011 • 7:00 p.m.
 The Depot
 5th Avenue West & Michigan Street
 Appetizers • Cash Bar • Entertainment
 For information, call 218-355-0677
 \$20.00 per person

DULUTH ROWING CLUB NEWS

The Duluth Rowing Club took 2nd place at the annual Duluth International Regatta's 125th Anniversary event on July 9th. Many thanks to all that helped out, rowed, contributed, or volunteered in some capacity for this every-year regatta. Along with the generous contribution from the Park Point Community Club and many others, two new quad shells were purchased. One of them, the Jim Martyn, was helped to victory in its first ever race by two Park Pointers in the four member crew!

The 108th running of the Northwest Championship Regatta will be hosted by the Duluth Rowing Club on August 19 and 20. This will involve teams from much of Canada, and many rowing clubs in the Upper Midwest of the United States. Two years ago it was on Lake Elmo, near the Twin Cities, and last year's event was held in Kenora, Ontario.

Even if you don't row, but would still like to do a fun race involving the silent sports of canoeing or kayaking, then **Death Row, September 18th**, might be something for your fall activities. This is a 25 kilometer "race" from the Rowing Club Boathouse up the St. Louis River to Mike Cochran's house. It can be as competitive or relaxing as one wants to make it, with a big spaghetti "feed" after you finish.

Mark your calendar for the social event of the summer. Check out the notice, at left, of the **125th celebration of the Duluth Rowing Club**, in conjunction with the St. Louis County Historical Society. Tickets will be sold in advance. Please feel free to call the number for more info. Everyone is invited, so let's see how man Pointers and ex-rowers will be there to tell stories from "back in the day....."



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References available

Call Now

Dave. 218-340-3426

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

A big “Thank You” goes out to all the Park Point families who contributed to the success of the National Night Out on August 2 and the Park Point Garden and Food Festival on August 19. Our community’s volunteerism shows through with the many volunteer hours contributed and the goods donated to make these events fun and profitable.

Over 50 people attended the National Night Out potluck dinner, which was sponsored and organized by the Lafayette Summer Youth Program and members of the Lafayette Community Edible Garden. We feasted on garden-fresh side dishes and brats off the grills, with buns procured from our new source of food and fun on The Point: Lord Muse.

Sponsors for the August 19, Park Point Garden and Food Festival come from far beyond our fair sandbar. Locally they include Duluth Grill, Canal Park Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Whole Foods Co-Op, Husby Pottery, Prairie Kitchen Specialty Foods, and the Duluth Community Garden Program. Our regional and national sponsors are Byerly’s, the Minneapolis chapter of Les Dames D’Escoffier and Cabot Creamery of Vermont. Funds raised at this event will sustain and improve our lovely community garden at Lafayette Square.

Upcoming Events:

Friday, August 19, noon to 3pm, Park Point Garden and Food Festival at Lafayette Square. Free admission.

Monday, September 19, 6 to 8pm, Harvest Potluck Supper at Lafayette Square. All members of the community are invited to participate. For more information about our events or garden membership, contact Coral, 727-6455

Saturday September 24, Urban Farm Tour put on by the Duluth Community Garden Program. For info check out www.duluthcommunitygarden.org

Monday, October 24, in celebration of National Food Day, we will combine forces with the Duluth Community Garden Program for a potluck feast at Lafayette Square. Expect lots of kale on the menu. More details soon.

An open letter to the Mayor

Dear Mayor Ness,

Not all residents of Park Point, where I have lived for 66 years, are against Joel Johnson's hotel and the boost it will give Duluth's economy, increase employment and the tax base. At Joel Johnson's presentation months ago at our Park Point Community Club there was a large majority in favor of Joel's plan to build a hotel with a convenience store. It seems the only people who get press on this matter are some residents who live near the Marina who have been very vocal and act like they are the voice of Park Point. We never see these people at Community Club meetings because most of them have not joined the Community Club. (Dues are a whopping \$3 per person). There is even a facebook site, "Save Park Point," that was initiated by somebody who lives out of town but owns property down here. People move down here and right away they don't want anything to change now that they are living here. Many of us have lived down here a long time. My family moved to Park Point in 1918. We respect Joel, his late father Clarence "Johnnie" Johnson, and his family, and everything they have done for the residents on Park Point in the past. We just want you to know there is another side to the coin.

By the way - We realize neither you or any of our councilors attend our Park Point Community Club meetings and never get a feel for what the whole community wants or needs. We are a very diverse community with many diverse opinions on any subject regarding the Point. As an old Park Pointer once said - "If you can find any two people on the Point who can agree on the same subject at the same time, you've really got something".

Captain Tom Mackay (Ret.) Park Point's Affluent Poor
Elizabeth Mackay - VP of Park Point Community Club
2233 Minnesota Ave
722-1834

Black Helicopters?

Representatives of Superior Helicopters attended the July Community Club meeting. These are the guys offering helicopter rides at Sky Harbor Airport. They explained their efforts to minimize noise and disturbance over Park Point, such as operating above 1000 feet - except when taking off and landing, of course. And flying a pattern that takes them over the bay, (normally downwind of Park Point), and over industrial areas. They said if anyone has complaints about the operation of any helicopters, whether theirs or others, to try to get the tail number, and give them a call at 218-213-7095.

One interesting thing they told us. Most Park Pointers no doubt noticed all the helicopter activity over the Tall Ships when they were here in July. This was not Superior Helicopters. They were not operating over the harbor during the Maritime Festival. So who was it? I'm thinking Homeland Security might have been worried about "loose cannons" out there.

Editor's Corner

As our stretch of hot weather has sent crowds of people streaming to the beach, with the increased concerns about parties and sanitation issues, I have a couple of observations I'd like to make.

We live on 16th Street, which is a public beach access – perhaps not an advertised one, but a marked one, well known to people on and off the Point. This always meant a lot of trash, both on the beach and in neighbors yards. The people who their trash back from the beach, finding no place to dispose of it, left it for us residents to deal with. As the city was unwilling to provide a trash can, we decided to put in one of our own. It's just a painted 55 gallon drum, with a lid, chained to a log along the path to the beach. And you know what? It worked. The amount of trash on the beach and in our yards has dropped dramatically. People see the can on their way to the beach, know there's a place to put their trash, and so are more willing to carry it back and dispose of it. People even seem more willing to pick up after their dogs, if they've got some place to dispose of the little bags of "doo" once they pick it up. My observation: People will do the right thing, providing you make it convenient for them to do so.

My second observation is related, but a little different. One of the jobs I've appointed myself to is gloving up and digging through that trash can, sorting out the recyclables, so I don't have to empty the whole can as often. This, of course, means picking out lots of empty beer cans and bottles. Now I remember beach parties when I was young. It usually meant buying large quantities of the cheapest beer available, and drinking it rapidly. The trash shows that there's still some of this going on. But more and more I'm finding empty bottles of different beers – call them micro-brews, craft beers, regional brews, whatever. These kinds of beers are a little different. First of all, they're more expensive, and usually sold in just 6 or even 4 packs. And they're meant to be drunk more slowly, sipped and enjoyed, rather than slammed in pursuit of inebriation. Yet, the people partying on the beach haven't changed much. It's still the same young (hopefully) adults, college-age 20-somethings. So my observation concerns these young people: they're drinking better beer. And that has to be a positive sign for the future.

Lord Muse

I want to personally thank the entire Park Point Community for their continued support. I am ready to help serve our community and local artists needs.

Hours of Operation:

Mon. – Fri. 3p.m. - 7 p

Saturday Noon – 4p.m.

Closed Sundays

There will be fresh produce available: Milk, Butter, some soda, bread various meats (turkey burger, hot dogs, brats) toilet paper

I am also looking for suggestions on what the community would like Lord Muse to carry on a consistent basis. Please stop by or drop a note/letter in the lower mail box.

Call to Artists, Bakers, or anyone who is creative.

I would like to support your gifts as you have supported me. Please stop by if you would like to have your creations available to the public. Lord Muse only takes 25% commission. If you know anyone who has a gift please direct them to Lord Muse LLC, 723 South Lake Avenue

Anyone who is interested in making a sign please go for it!

Join Club Muse for \$5.00 a year
Spend \$20 on groceries receive a \$2.50 voucher to use at your discretion (on grocery items only)

I look forward to helping our community connect

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: Community Police Officer Nick Lukovsky 730-5646. Nlukovsky@duluth.mn.gov. 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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