

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 40 issue 10

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

October 2011

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting**
October 20th, 7PM
At Lafayette

**Pumpkin Patch Pumpkin
Sale at Our Lady of
Mercy Catholic Church**
Oct. 9 - 31

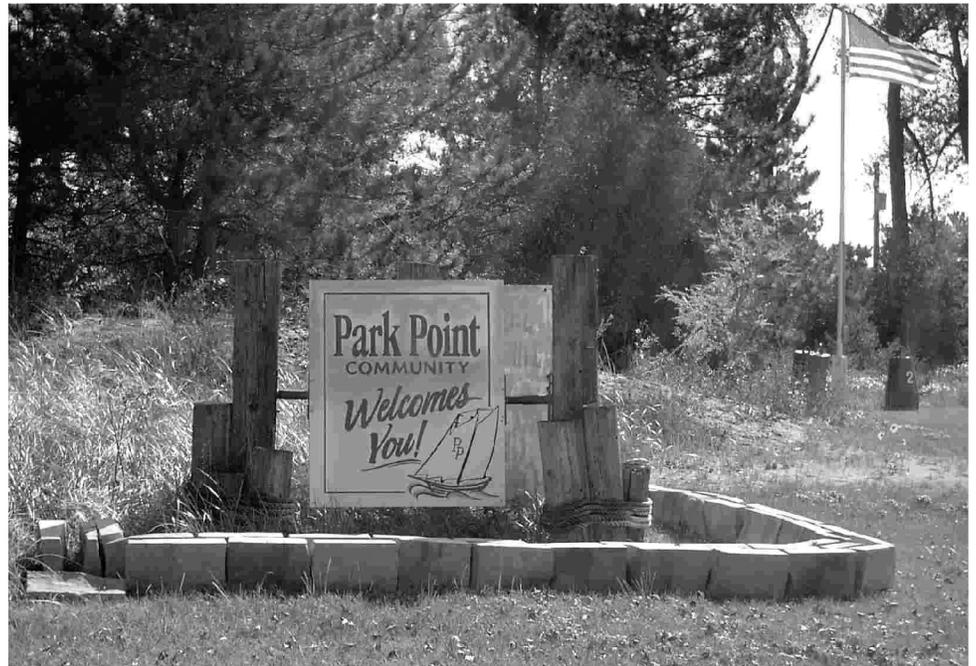
National Food Day!
**Edible Garden
Potluck Supper**
October 24th
6-8PM
at Lafayette

**Lake Superior Marine
Museum Association**
**“Gales of November”
Conference and
fundraiser**
Nov. 4-5

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

Coming Soon: A Postcard from Park Point



Practicing my best “ambush journalism”, I accosted sign guru Dave Johnson as he was walking to his truck, asking, “So, when are you going to start on the new s-curve sign?” His ever so civil reply was “I’m going to kill the next person who asks me that!”

Digging deeper, however, Dave revealed that work has already begun on the project. Materials have been purchased, and parts are being built off-site, so that the actual erection of the sign is a simple assembly project – with a bit of hand shoveling and heavy lifting, of course.

Dave showed me what he called his “cocktail napkin designs” which are actually quite detailed plans for what he’s named “The Postcard”, a welcome sign that may well become a landmark in itself. That’s on the incoming, or “tourist” side of the sign, while the other side will be a much easier to use and read message board for us Park Pointers. Look for the new sign to appear soon. Or should I say “expect a postcard soon.”

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is November 4th for the November 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

The MN Pt Preservation Society 501C-3 is now in existence and needs some grant ideas as well as a board of directors and by-laws. Help! Come to the October meeting with your ideas and thoughts. Jake and Carla are pursuing grant monies for the Art Fair.

Dave Lavamaki will not be able to oversee the rink this winter, so if you want ice and a changing area open at times, volunteer! We can make keys for Lafayette available if you would like to help.

In spite of the dry summer the trees we planted this spring seem to be doing pretty well. Those we planted many years ago are doing the job of stabilizing some of the blowing sand that is exposed by the low lake water.

Rentals continue to do well.

Dick

Duluth Boat Club at October PPCC meeting

The Duluth Boat Club would like to talk at Park Point Community Club's October 20th Meeting about it's plans for improving and developing facilities for sailing and paddling programs at the Park Point Recreation Center. The Duluth Boat Club is an umbrella organization that coordinates activities between many area boating organizations, such as the Duluth Yacht Club, Duluth Superior Sailing Association, Duluth Sail and Power Squadron, Duluth Rowing Club, Courage Duluth and UMD Boating Programs. Existing uses of the area by others would remain unaffected.

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 LePage 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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YOU ARE INVITED

NEW ART EXHIBIT OPENS OCTOBER 23, 2011

After worship on October 23rd, we will have a viewing of our new art exhibit. The art medium is *photography*. The theme is: **Stewardship**. We enjoy celebrating the work of the artists in our community.

People have been invited to take pictures of what they think 'Stewardship' is all about, then write a short paragraph of why their photo expresses stewardship. At St. Andrew's we teach that stewardship is about caring for all of creation. How do we reverence everything - people, animals, creation, the material things entrusted to us - as holy? How do we touch everything as though it were a sacred vessel on the altar? The photos will depict the artist's response to these questions. Our guest artist is *Henry Roberts*, who is a gifted photographer.

Some of his work will be present for you to see.

The exhibit opens at 11:00 a.m. on Oct. 23. Come and worship with us and stay for the opening and refreshments - or just come for the opening and refreshments. If you can't make it on the 23rd,

the exhibit will be on display for several months to come. You are welcome to come see it any time the church is open.

We are a people on the Way to knowing, loving and serving God.

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

Fr. John Petrich

Our Lady of Mercy and St. Mary Star of the Sea churches will be hosting a Pumpkin Patch at 2002 Minnesota Ave.

Park Point

Dates: October 9th thru October 31st.

Monday-Friday – 3:00PM – 7:00PM

Saturday – 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Sundays – 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

All sizes of pumpkins will be sold along with other items. Fund raiser put on by youth of Center City Catholic

**Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations
Every Sunday at 8:00 AM**

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.



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September 15, 2011 Park Point Community Club

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by club president, Dick Gould at 7:05 pm. There were 22 people in attendance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written in the Breeze.

Treasurer's Report

2011 beginning balance \$43,026

July 1, 2011 balance \$53,592

July income \$3,118

July expenses \$6,646

July 31, 2011 ending balance \$49,642

The meeting was suspended for **Speakers**.

Cindy Hakala and Austin Lesmeister came from the MN Department of Health, Infectious Disease Epidemiology Prevention & Control Division. They are responsible for the beach monitoring program and they described their work and answered questions. Park Point beaches are monitored twice a week. Lafayette beach has had only 1 bad test in the last 4 years. The two problem areas are behind Herding Island and near the Boat Club.

A Captain from the Fire Department discussed their concerns that many houses on Park Point do not have their address on the house where they can be easily seen from the road. This is especially difficult for Station 5 since there is only one person in the rig. They are urging all residents to check and make sure their address can be clearly seen from the street, this is a safety issue.

Pamela from the Parks and Rec Department introduced herself. She is the last Recreation Specialist in the City. She praised our use of Lafayette and our Club's involvement in the community. She is available to answer question and can be contacted at the Parks and Rec. building.

Communications

1. We received a letter from a pleased renter who praised Missy's care of Lafayette.
2. We received a letter from the American Red Cross who would like to use Lafayette as a part of the American Red Cross community response by allowing them to use our facility in the event of a large scale disaster for a shelter or service center. The Club felt this was a good use of our facility and will contact the Red Cross.
3. On August 23, 2011 we received a letter from the IRS informing us that upon

review of our application they determined that The Minnesota Point Preservation Society, Inc. is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3).

Committee Reports

Membership: 270 as of Sept. 15, 2011

Art Fair: Carla and Jake reported that this years Art Fair went well with artist and art goers very pleased. The days went smoothly due to all the great volunteers. They are already working on next year fair and are looking at possible grants to help defer some of the costs.

S-Curve: Second vote was taken to approve up to \$500 for the construction of the new sign. Dave Johnson hopes to begin working on the sign late September. Dennis Hoelscher made a motion to purchase about 45 sandstone bricks to be use at the curve for approximately \$200. The motion was seconded and discussion included how this would help with the planned gardens and enhance the look of the area. A vote was taken and passed.

Old Business

We did not received the Grant we applied for with the City to carpet the lower level of Lafayette.

New Business

Dave Lavamaki will not be able to work with the winter skating program because of further pending surgery on his foot. If anyone is interested in helping to maintain the skating rink this winter contact Dick Gould.

Now that we have achieved our 501 c 3 status we need a Board of Directors for the Minnesota Point Preservation Society, Inc. Several people have express interest and if you are interested contact Dick Gould.

Doug Aretz informed us that Ecumen Bay Shore Health Center was named one of the top places to work in MN. right behind Mayo Clinic. We should feel proud to have them as apart of our community.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:30.
by Diane Gould for Sheryl Robins

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Need tools for your fall garden clean-up?

The Neighborhood Housing Service (NHS) Duluth Community Tool Lending Library has a wide array of gardening and landscaping tools available to residents of Duluth free of charge. Tools can be checked out for up to one week, but can be extended if others are not waiting to use the borrowed tools. Stop by the office at 224 E 4th St or call 218- 727-8604 for more information. If you have tools you would like to donate to the library, please contact Cliff Knettel. The NHS Tool Lending Library is made possible by a grant from the Home Depot Foundation.

Wanted: Grass Clippings & leaves:

We are ready to take your chemical-free grass clippings and leaves to add to our compost bins in the community garden. Please place your bags of contributions near the compost bins on the Minnesota Avenue end of the garden. Do not dump any debris on the ground around the fruit trees.

Too much extra produce?

If your garden has provided you with more edibles than you can eat, please remember the Soup Kitchen at Damiano Center and the CHUM food shelf are always in need of fresh produce.

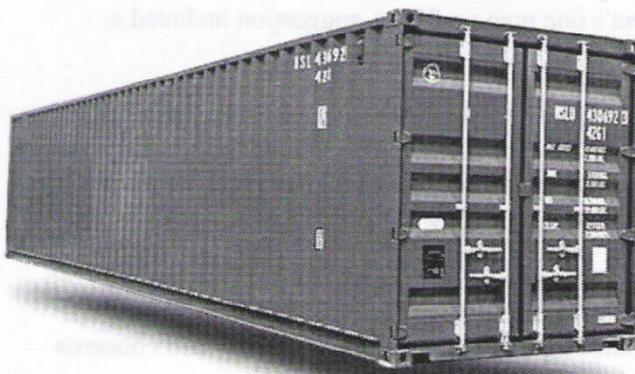
Upcoming Events:

Monday, October 24, 6 to 8pm: 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. This will be your chance to make suggestions for next year's vegetable choice for the Duluth Community Garden Programs One City One Vegetable initiative. This dinner is open to anyone who would like to attend. Just bring a dish to pass, your own plates and silverware, and something to drink. For more information, contact Coral at 727-6455.

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Park Point.....naturally.

Our wildlife is not only the source of fascination and admiration, on rare occasion a nuisance. They can also be funny and entertaining. The doe that comes to neighbor George's feeder gives me a hoot many evenings after dark when she works her tongue over the bird-size openings in the tube feeder to feast on the seeds. Now she brings her half-grown fawns. They are not tall enough to follow her example...still have the vestiges of fawn spots on their flanks.

The doe has a routine of getting what it can from the slits on either side of the mini-log cabin feeder. When waiting for more seeds to drop into the trays, she turns to the tube feeder and starts it swinging wildly when probing the tiny openings with her tongue folded lengthwise.

I'm mystified as one of her fawns wades alone just off shore, pausing frequently to watch for something on the darkened shore. I've seen this odd behavior on several nights recently.

Checking the shore in the late night hours (while answering the call nature imposes on men my age) I find that the night-fishing blue heron shows it isn't yet ready to migrate. It will stick around until ice forms, harassing the minnows as it silently moves with stealth in search of a snack.

The mallards replace the gangly fish-eater at dawn and take over the same stretch of shore. They are vegetarians and proceed on a stop-and-go routine while dipping their heads to grab an underwater morsel here and there. They also move quietly, the infrequent quacking done only by the hen. The drake must have nothing to say.

A few days ago the sun had just begun to lay its golden glow of morning on the land and the glossy bay water when one of our resident bald eagles loomed into view. The brilliant white head gleaming in the sun's rays, it was coming directly from the vicinity of the grain elevators while on course for Hearing Island. Seeing eagles here is no longer a sensation but the flight of this bird in such a lovely setting was exhilarating to follow.

It was moving without great haste just inches above the glassy surface. It flew within a few feet of a party of mallards then, finding none spooked by its imposing presence, gained altitude and perched in a dead birch to monitor the rest of the bay.

Those who feel we have many more resident gulls than we need (and may agree with those regarding these birds as "flying rats") will be heartened with a report from my neighbor, Chuck Sullivan, that he has watched eagles snatch a gull in flight over the Bay.

I hear a lot of stories about the five friendly foxes roaming the Point. Some claiming they have become so fearless they walk within an arm's length if tempted with food. Not a good idea to coax them so close...while our population appears to be healthy, foxes are known to be among the mammals that can become rabid. On returning one night recently to the basement garage in my apartment building, I found a half-dozen men searching among ten or more cars parked in their stalls.

They were trying to locate and evict a juvenile fox that apparently had followed behind a car after the driver opened the overhead door. I joined the "hunt" and saw it slip into a two car stall but it hid so well I was unable to scare it into making an exit. Realizing the animal was too frightened to move while we were in pursuit, we all left. Some minutes later it was seen trotting along the shore.

Glenn Maxham



Lynn Bentfield
Realtor, GRI
Duluth Native
Park Point Resident
20 yrs. experience

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Editor's Corner

October! Yes!! The tourists are gone, and the beach is ours again!

Not that there aren't still things happening on Park Point. We've got the "Pumpkin Patch" at Our Lady of Mercy Church, and the "Get to the Point" art and gift fair at Lafayette, as well as a "big" pot-luck at Lafayette, with the our own Lafayette Community Edible Garden group teaming up with the Duluth Community Garden Program to celebrate National Food Day. Always something going on..

We should soon see a new welcome sign at the S-curve. Dave Johnson reports that things are coming together "better than expected." You've no doubt noticed the sandstone blocks, which the Club purchased, and are now arrayed around the existing sign. When the new sign is installed, these can be used as features in the hoped-for landscaped gardens at the s-curve. (Dave stresses that this is not his department – he's the sign guru, not the gardener. So gardeners, prepare to step up!)

The GET TO THE POINT Awesome Art & Gift Fair

will be held Saturday, **October 15 (Sat), 2011** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lafayette Square Community Building, 3026 Minnesota Ave, Park Point DULUTH

Awesome things made in the region. Local-made jewelry, garden stones, soap, pottery, driftwood items, glass items, and more will be featured in this historic building 2 miles past the Lift Bridge.

This is the fourth year for the fair.

For more information, contact 525-5098 WendyUpNorth.com

Tour stop on Park Point



The Northern Communities Land Trusts "Tour of Contemporary Living Spaces" made a stop on Park Point on October 1st. The tour was a fundraiser for the land trust, and included a couple downtown lofts as well as this Park Point home. The Northern Communities Land Trust works to create a high quality, permanently affordable stock of homes in Duluth and surrounding communities for purchase by individuals and families with low to moderate incomes. Their current focus is on rehabbing the many foreclosed homes that are on the market.

The homes on the tour were definitely not among their "affordable stock", but rather architecturally designed and renovated living spaces that were simply - stunning.

Skating Rink News

I regret to inform Park Point skaters that I will be unable to work on and maintain the Lafayette Skating Rink this season. As you read this, I will have just had some major foot surgery completed (Ankle Joint Fusion Procedure) and will spend the fall and winter recovering & rehabbing. Hopefully the city will be able to provide some tank truck flooding and sweeping as they have done in the past, which will provide a good usable skating surface. Bob Boynton will continue to plow the snow as needed. I plan to resume my usual maintenance schedule in the 2012-2013 season. Don't forget the Bay Ice if we get the right conditions and remember that Bayfront Park is a good Rink.

Dave Lavamaki 729-8925

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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