



The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 41 issue 1

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

January 2012

Calendar

Park Point Community Club Annual Membership Meeting and Pizza Party!
January 19th, At Lafayette
Pizza at 6:30
Meeting at 7PM

Lafayette Edible Garden Pot-luck Dinner
Sunday, January 15th, 5-7PM
At Lafayette

Minnesota Precinct Caucuses
February 7th

The Postcard Arrives



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

I wanted to show both front and back views of the new “Postcard” sign at the s-curve, because it’s such a unique design. Read much about it in Dave Johnson’s article on page 8. Don’t like it? Don’t worry –both sides of this sign are changeable. What won’t change, of course, are Dave’s often head scratching – and groan-worthy – messages on the back.

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is February 3rd for the February 2012 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
ppcdlh@gmail.com

THE POSTCARD

Dave Johnson, 722-9764
amethyst@chartermi.net

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

Some things to be discussed for 2012 at the Jan meeting.

Membership is due, Liz is on the move!

PPCC and MPPS future association, 1939 land use decree, street repair, garbage cans, temp. toilets for the future, do we need a Co-op store committee, possible grant funded projects, (bring your ideas) Beach house takeover by the PPCC, (committee), Ice fishing contest/summer contest, regular 2012 events such as Rummage Sale, Art Fair, Rentals, Summer Youth Program, Community Garden, Winter Skating. What else?

Now the important part, PIZZA!

Much thanks to Dave Johnson and company. The sign is done and looks great, the City even seems satisfied.

Please come to this January meeting to help sort out and list projects, for the point, in an importance based order.

Thanks,

Dick

Membership Note:

Since vice-president Liz Mackay, who's in charge of our membership drive, won't be able to attend the January meeting (basking away in Arizona, I hear!), hospitality chair Diane Gould has volunteered to collect your membership forms and dues. She's also the one providing pizza at the meeting. Thanks, Diane!

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 ppcdlh@gmail.com



WWW.DULUTHWVP.COM

St. Andrews by the Lake Episcopal Church www.standrewsbythelake.org
218-727-1262

Holy Eucharist every Sunday: 9:45 am

On January 1 I had the pleasure of joining St. Andrew's as their interim priest while they go through a period of transition and discernment about who God is calling them to be in this next stage of their life. I am officiating at the church Wednesday afternoons through our Sunday morning service. If you're passing by, please stop in and introduce yourself and help me to know more about this great community. For my first *Breeze* outing and the start of a new year, here are two quotes on change:

Vincent van Gogh wrote: "It is true there is an ebb and flow, but the sea remains the sea." Dear Lord, you are the sea. Although I experience great shifts and changes in my inner life, you remain the same. Your sameness is not the sameness of a rock, but the sameness of a faithful lover.

Out of your love I came to life, by your love I am sustained, and to your love I am always called back. There are days of sadness and days of joy, there are feelings of guilt and feelings of gratitude, there are moments of failure and moments of success, but all of them are embraced by your unwavering love. (Thomas Merton, *A Cry for Mercy*)

We are all of us all the time coming together and falling apart. The point is, we are not rocks. Who wants to be one anyway, impermeable, unchanging, our history already played out.... (John Rosenthal, *Insisting on Love*)

Fr. Theo Park, Interim Vicar, St. Andrew's-by-the-Lake

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

Fr. John Petrich,

Be Still and Listen

A troubled man went to visit his physician with a list of anxieties and fears. The wise doctor told his patient to take a day off from work and visit the beach. At the end of the consultation, the physician placed in his hand an envelope with instructions to open it when he reached his destination. The man found a quiet spot on the beach and opened the envelope. On the small piece of paper he read the words, "Listen carefully." Later he told of the rewards of hearing for the first time in years the lapping of waves, the birds chirping and the wind whistling.

When troubled, Jesus went to the desert. Where do you go?? We would all benefit in giving ourselves in few minutes of quiet, of being still and listening to the Lord. You don't have to go into the desert or the beach, but find a quiet place right in your house. Listen to the Lord.

Father of Peace, grant my soul the calm and tranquility that comes from being still before you. In Jesus' name, Amen

Services

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

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

- Could you use extra cash or monthly income?
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- 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?

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Park Point Community Club Membership Drive 2012

The Park Point Community Club is conducting its annual membership drive. The club gives the community a common voice on issues, aids youth programs, manages the annual Park Point Art Fair and Rummage Sale, works on environmental projects and publishes The Breeze monthly.

Individual memberships are \$5 a year and allow one vote at meetings. If more than one family member wishes to have a vote please buy additional memberships. Membership is limited to Park Point residents 18 years or older.

Mail your memberships to the Park Point Community Club, P.O. Box 16326, Duluth, MN 55816-0326. Or bring them to any Community Club meeting, which are held the 3rd Thursday of each month, at Lafayette Community Center. Meetings start at 7PM

Membership Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

E-Mail address _____

Number of Memberships _____ **X \$5.00=** _____

Please Mail Checks to:

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

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Welcome to the New Year. If you haven't already made a resolution for 2012, maybe you'll consider this to be the year you plant something in the ground – preferably something edible. We are lucky in our region in that a resolution like this only needs to be honored for part of the year, from about May to October.

If you have never planted a fruit or vegetable before and want to learn how, join us in the Lafayette Community Edible Garden at Lafayette Square. We'll help you get started and we'll all have a good time doing it. Time commitments to our community garden are minimal - a few hours each month - and work schedules are very flexible, so they fit into our busy lifestyles.

Join us at one of our upcoming potluck dinners to learn more about our local community garden. All Park Pointers are welcome: you don't have to be a member of the community garden to dine with us and enjoy our programs. For more information about our potluck dinners or the Lafayette Community Edible Garden, contact Coral at 727-6455.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, January 15, 5 to 7 p.m., Potluck Supper at Lafayette Square. Our program for this event will be a presentation by two garden members who recently traveled to Cuba with a Witness for Peace delegation to look at Cuba's sustainable urban farming.

On February, 19 - We hope to have someone talk about pruning fruit trees and in March, we will learn about making fresh mozzarella cheese.

Breeze Financial Report 2011

Income

Ads: \$3160
Subscriptions: \$ 20
\$3180

Expenses

Printing: \$4384.02
Stamps : \$ 132.00
\$4516.02

Cost to club: \$4516.02
-\$3180.00
\$1336.02

That's actually a substantial improvement over last year, when the cost to the Club was \$2042.96. I wish I could say it was because I cut costs, or aggressively sold more advertising. But I didn't do either one. It was more a matter of late 2010 payments arriving in 2011, and 2011 bills being paid on time. Either way, if my figures are right – and I don't guarantee them, that's for the treasurer to do – we had a pretty good year.

Alan Dartanyan
Breeze Editor

Park Point.....Naturally

If you're among the seniors reading this column you likely remember a line from an old song attributed to sailors that goes something like If I can't be near the girl I love, I'll love the girl I'm near. So it is with me in these winter months when odds are zero of seeing an exotic migrant, perhaps one making a stop here to eat and rest while going north or south. Instead, I have to be satisfied to find the usual mix of native species that now become more attractive and worth a second glance...at least until the spring migration.

It's my guess that even the Pointers professing little or no interest in bird life can identify a crow, mallard or lingering gull, often the only birds we may presently see here on any given day. If it were not for the owner of private property at the water's edge off 19th and Minnesota, it's unlikely we would have our flock of over-wintering mallards. Credit is also due those who keep the mallards fat and happy with a generous supply of food.

As I drove past the location every winter day it had always seemed odd that only the one tiny area of the bay remained ice free, no matter how cold it may get. A friend said he had heard that it was not a freakish act of nature but that the fire department had a hand, indirectly, in seeing that this special duck pond stays open. The motivation for this situation was a very practical one. It has nothing to do with the fact that a couple of dozen mallards claim it daily as their place to loaf, socialize, take an occasional swim and, on clear days, bask in the sun away from the wind.

An urge to satisfy my curiosity led me to call the fire department (on the non-emergency line) to learn where it fit into the picture. I was told an ordinance demanded that the location a builder chose for a multiple dwelling must install and maintain a bubbler machine in the bay immediately next to his property. It would serve as a back up water source in the event the city's water line couldn't provide the volume needed in a major emergency. If necessary, a fire department unit may quickly connect a hose to a pipe on shore next to the bubbler....a so-called "dry hydrant... the only one of its kind in the city.

As for the ducks, I had seen mallards since I was a toddler living on the shores of the Mississippi near Winona and collected the curly tail feathers from the drakes shot by my father. In recent research I found this species is probably the best, most widely known and distributed waterfowl in the world. Its kind can be seen in every state in America and in Europe from England across the continent to Siberia.

Though it's mid-winter, the drakes around the bubbler are already resplendent in their mating colors featuring the dazzling green head. They and the hens paired up last October or November. Only recently did I realize that the drakes and hens have a somewhat different voice. His is described as nasal with a high pitched whistle. Hers is a deeper quack that we associate as a typical duck expression.

Come spring, some of the birds languishing at the bubbler pond will no doubt stay and nest on the Point...if not eaten by a fox, their main enemy, or grabbed by one of our resident eagles, hawks, or snatched by a northern when the bay opens. The hen will lose more than half of her body weight in laying from eight to thirteen eggs. The drake generally stays with her through the nesting period to be available to fertilize her again if the first clutch of eggs are destroyed by a predator.

I'll bet almost everyone reading the Breeze would agree the newly hatched mallard ducklings rank among the cutest of all young wildlife sharing our unique peninsula.

Glenn Maxham

Doesn't look as impressive in black and white, but here's a picture of the mallards gathering around the one bit of open water on the bay.



Notes on a Postcard

On behalf of Santa Claus and his Postcard Elves, I'd like to offer up a few words of thanks to the volunteers and community members who pitched in on the Park Point Postcard sign project.

Let's start this way: Central to the design of the sign are big, changeable art panels inside the first (Welcome to Park Point) side. Created by local artists, these panels will give the Postcard variety through the seasons and holidays. Our premier art panel, a superb "group photo" of Park Point wildlife, was painted by Tom Rauschenfels, who knows a thing or two about wild life on the Point. If you have an opportunity to stop and see the sign up close, please do so, because Tom's eye for detail is wonderful. We're proud to have him on board, and delighted by his first contribution. He has other ideas as well, but I won't tip his hand. Thanks, Tom!

Here is the volunteer build team (digging and heavy lifting too) along with other folks who helped us out. Some contributed construction materials, others had inspiration or ideas.... Boomer Brown, Mike Seely, David Haavik, Isaac Pettis, Denny Hoelscher, Gail & Dave Johnson, Jake Kapsner, Ken Carson (in faraway Florida!), LeAnne & Bruce Rutherford, Erik Olson, Nate Stauber, Dan O'Neill, Diane & Dick Gould, Al Robins, Carla Tamburro, Mark Elden, and Ellen Dunlap. Duluth artist (and Park Point Art Fair exhibitor) Jeff Ruprecht provided some terrific lettering artwork. Special thanks are in order for the great job done by Alex Deters at Elite Graphics. He's another talented artist we got to work with, and if you ever need a big, cool decal, go see him. Thanks to all involved for your time, efforts, creativity and contributions. And thanks to the Park Point Community Club for trusting us with money and sharp tools. As we built it we joked that the Postcard would be agreeable to Park Pointers at least for two reasons: It didn't cost much, and it can stop a Buick. (This is an estimate, not a dare; please leave your neighbor's LeSabre alone.) Still, we want this to be something Park Pointers and visitors will enjoy, take pride in and feel a part of. Artwork, for example, won't be store-bought; instead, we'll be tapping the talents of local artists. In addition to the big art panels, the Postcard's stamp is changeable, and tailored to fit an old record album cover. (Kids, ask your grandparents about old record albums. And about following the Grateful Dead on tour.) Finally on our list, the letter board is more visible; now it's much easier to read our ding-a-ling jokes.

So there's the Park Point Postcard. Doesn't that name tumble off your tongue better than "The S-curve Sign?" (I always thought that sounded ominous, like something a Disney serpent would hiss.) Our team is always open to suggestions and ideas. We have adjustments and improvements already in the works, and we'll do our best to keep up with maintenance. If the Postcard looks incomplete at those times, just think of it as a slow page download. (Grandparents! Ask your grandkids about download speeds.) Thanks for the incredible show of support we've had; this project has been pretty cool.

Cordially, Dave Johnson



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

Cell: 218-464-3790
Direct: 218-728-7702
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Editor's Corner

It's another month where I'm just going to shrink my column down to make room for more important stuff.

Foremost of these is the PPCC Membership form on page 5. We're starting our 2012 membership drive with a pizza party at the January meeting on the 19th. Please note that the cost of memberships has climbed all the way up to \$5! Got to pay for those pizzas somehow.

Speaking of paying for things, what really pays for most everything the Community Club does is the Park Point Art Fair, and below on this page is the annual call for artists. Whether you're an artist or just an art lover, prepare to get involved in this, our signature event.

Precinct Caucus Reminder

I know nobody wants to hear it, but it is an election year again. And you know what that means – the mud slinging, the attack ads, the endless hot-air blowing – and that's just for the community club offices! (Just kidding there, we're pretty civil these days. We've had training!)

But seriously, it IS an election year, and in a reminder that all politics is – or at least begins – at the local level, precinct caucuses for Minnesota's political parties will be held next month, on February 7th. I've been told that the Republican Party is gathering at Bayshore Health Center, but I'm not sure where the DFL – or the Greens - are meeting. There's a caucus finder link on the Minnesota Secretary of State's website, but it's not active yet. Check with it later this month to find out where you can go to get involved.

CALL FOR ARTISTS TO ENTER 42nd ANNUAL PARK POINT ART FAIR

Applications due March 1, 2012

DULUTH, Minn. Dec. 1, 2010) -- Artists are invited to apply for entry into the 41st annual Park Point Art Fair, which features 120 visual artists exhibiting and selling their work June 23 and 24, 2012 at the Park Point Recreation Area in Duluth, Minn. Applications are due (postmarked) March 1.

This is a juried art fair of original, handmade work in clay, jewelry, glass, fiber, sculpture, photography, wood, painting, leather, 2D & 3D mixed media. Not accepted: kits, patterns, buy/sell or country crafts. Applicants submit four electronic samples (jpeg) representing the work they will show and sell. A jury of three art professionals will judge the slides based on craftsmanship and originality, design and continuity. The highest scores in each category are then selected to attend the two-day event, where more than \$1,000 in cash awards, including a \$300 Best of Show, are bestowed upon artists.

In 2011, 120 artists were selected from a pool of local, regional and national applicants. The free event attracted an estimated 8,000 - 10,000 visitors for its fine arts and crafts, food court, live music, interactive arts for children, storytelling and more.

CONTACT: Carla Tamburro, coordinator
218-428-1916 coordinator@parkpointartfair.org
parkpointartfair.org

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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