

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 41 issue 11

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

November 2012

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting**
November 15th, 7PM
at Lafayette

**Edible Garden Potluck
and Birthday Dinner**
November 11th, 5-7PM
At Lafayette

Spirit of the Lights
Opening
November 30th
3739 Lake Ave. S

Making a Sami Lavvu



Nancy Olson and her niece, Marie Olson, utilized the space at Lafayette to design, cut, and sew a Lavvu. A Lavvu is similar to a Native American Tipi. The Sami Reindeer Herders of the Arctic Circle followed the reindeer and lived in their portable Lavvu.

With Marie's architect expertise and Nancy's sewing skills, they collaborated to construct the Lavvu. It will be displayed at the Vesterheim Norwegian Museum in Decorah, Iowa for one year. The exhibit features the story of Sami people bringing reindeer from Scandinavia to Alaska in the early 1900's and teaching the Native Alaskans reindeer herding skills. At that time the Native Alaskans were starving due to a decline in the Caribou population.

Marie and Nancy pushed 8 banquet tables together to layout the canvas and work on the project. It was completed in six days, using 17 yards of canvas. Using a CAD program on her computer Marie modified the design as needed. The Lavvu is 8 feet tall, 17.5 feet at its widest point, with a diameter of 10 feet. It will be assembled using 15 poplar poles, 14 feet long. The unique feature of a Sami Lavvu is that 3 poles with "Y" forks are interlocked at the top to enable it to withstand the Arctic winds.

Nancy expresses: "Thank you to all Park Point community members who encouraged and helped us with this endeavor. We all learned how important the community fosters our community."

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 November 30th for the December 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: Dawn Buck
parkpointcc@gmail.com
525-1764

Vice President: Jake Kapsner
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jakekapsner@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sheryl Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Committees

ART FAIR

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218-428-1916
coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

Rummage Sale

Charlene Shimmin 722-6828

ENVIRONMENTAL

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

HOSPITALITY

Diane Gould, 727-4067

LAFAYETTE SQUARE RENTALS

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SUNSHINE

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Park Point Community Club
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Duluth, MN 55816-0326
www.
parkpointcommunityclub.org

From The President

As I walk with Klaus on the damp and cold beach, clad in extra layers of Smartwool, I often think of my grandma as a strong, young woman gathering and hauling logs and driftwood home for the stove. Hauling logs given up by the lake during the Depression was a means of survival.

One time an old neighbor lady angrily stomped over to my grandparent's house to demand "her" logs back. This neighbor claimed that since she had pulled the logs up onto the beach from the lake, they were **her** logs. She demanded that my grandma surrender the logs. This "neighborly" encounter must have caused significant trauma because Grandma told me this story for 40 plus years.

I am very thankful that I am not wrecking my bad back hauling logs home for fuel. (No wonder my grandma did suffer from a bad back in her later years.)

My grandma's stories often remind me of how good we have it now.

I wish all of my Park Point neighbors a wonderful Thanksgiving!

See you on the beach, dress warmly and stay away from my logs.

Dawn

PPCC President, November 2012

See you on November 15th for holiday light swap, beer naming, ice luminary crafting and more!

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

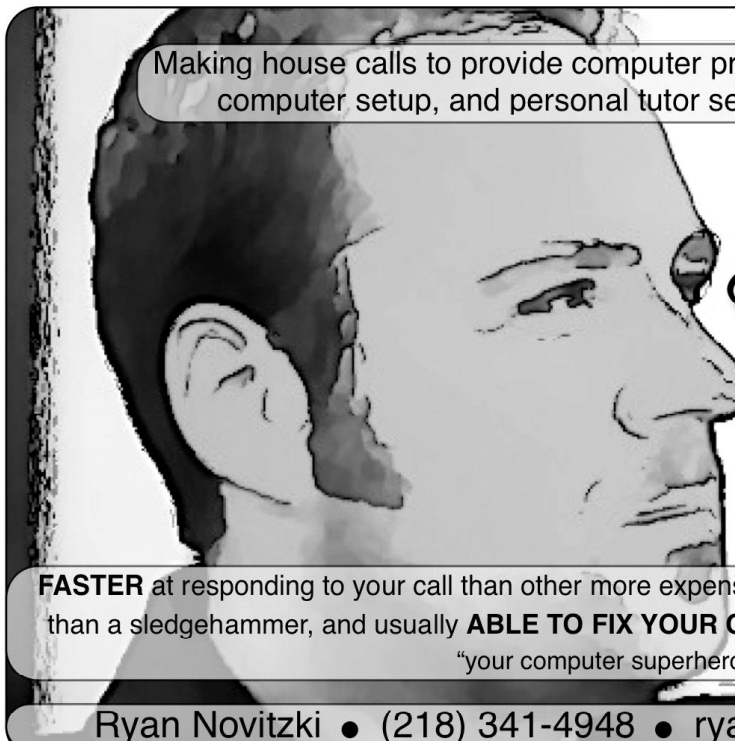
50-100 people - \$200.00

100-125 people - \$300.00

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

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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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Holy Eucharist, Sundays, 9:45 am

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
(Ps. 42:1-2; NRSV)

Deep in the forest, a deer stepped into the shallow of a crystal-clear lake to drink some water. As he looked at himself mirrored in the still water, he proudly admired his graceful antlers but he was very ashamed of his spindly legs. "How can it be," he sighed, "that my legs are so ugly when I have such lovely antlers?" Suddenly, the deer scented something in the distance. It was a wolf approaching. The deer jumped and ran through the forest with the wolf hard at his heels. The deer ran as fast as his legs allowed him to, but his antlers became entangled in the branches of the trees and slowed him down so that he was overtaken by the wolf. As the deer was brought down, he thought to himself, "How ashamed I am of myself for despising the legs that would have saved me had it not been for the useless antlers in which I took such pride."

**We are a People on the Way
to Knowing, Loving, and serving God.
Come and See!**

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

2002 Minnesota Ave

722-3078

Fr. John Petrich,

YEAR OF FAITH

October 11, 2012 - November 24, 2013

The Year of Faith was announced by Pope Benedict XVI last year in his apostolic letter *Porta Fidei*. It will begin on October 11, 2012, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. It also coincides with the 20th anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The year will end on November 24, 2013, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King. During the Year of Faith, Catholics are asked to study and reflect on the documents of Vatican II and the Catechism so that they may deepen their knowledge of the faith. Learn more: www.usccb.org

**Mass 8:00 AM every Sunday with
confessions at 7:40**

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?

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Park Point Community Club
10/18/2012 meeting minutes

Social began at 6:30 pm with the hospitality committee - Diane Gould and Ted Buck - serving wonderful treats.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Park Point Community Club President, Dawn Buck.

A motion was made to suspend the rules for the program portion. There was an informational update on the Sky Harbor environmental review process.

Brian Madsen, Sky Harbor Manager, Tom Warner, Executive Director of the Duluth Airport Authority, Allyz Kramer, Senior Biologist, and Kaci Nowicki, Airport planner spoke to the Park Point Community Club. Tom Warner has been working on the environmental assessment process. Allyz Kramer did the study on the impact on the land with the work proposed for the Sky Harbor Airport. Kaci Nowicki looked at design of the airport and she was also working on the environmental side. Kaci is knowledgeable on the requirements needed to have a legitimate airport. A copy of the 'Obstruction Removal and Environmental Review Process' was given out to the attendees of the meeting and is posted on our website parkpointcommunityclub.org

Next speaker was Pam Page, a Parks and Recreation specialist from the City of Duluth. Her position is primarily providing programs for the youth. She is the middle person to bring suggestions to the head of the department. She has worked with Joy for the Park Point Community Club. She provided Joy with craft ideas, supplies & etc. Thank you to Pam for attending!

Secretary's Report - Sheryl Robins

Question was asked if the minutes for the September, 2012 should be approved. Dennis Hoelscher said a correction needed to be made concerning the grant approval of the new toilets at Lafayette Square. That decision had not been approved as erroneously stated in the September, 2012 minutes. Correction made. Tom Ward made the motion to accept the corrected minutes. Diane Gould seconded the motion. Club votes were all affirmative.

Treasurer's Report, Al Robins

Beginning balance 9/1/2012	\$36,687
Income	\$ 310
Expenses	\$ 1,546
Ending balance 9/30/2012	\$34,835

Committee Reports:

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

Two sympathy cards were sent
One welcome letter delivered

Hospitality Committee - Diane Gould and Ted Buck

Thank you for organizing our social time before the meeting.

Program Committee -

Bob Pokorney spoke on the 12th St. beach area. The cleanliness this summer was a big problem. Safety was the worst summer for EMT calls with the majority of the calls going to the 12th St. beach access area. Bob suggested a solution for volunteer life guards at this area. First aid classes could be offered. Also, rescue boards could be available for surf rescue. Memorial Day to Labor Day would be the time volunteers would be used.

Rory Strange reminded community members to call Dawn Buck for messages for the S Curve sign. A challenge was given to the club to name a new beer for Park Point area. Suggestions should be forwarded to Dawn Buck, parkpointcc@gmail.com. Once the beer has a name, then a label will need to be designed. Prizes will be given for both the name and then the label design.

Watch Committee:

Nothing new to report

Art Fair Committee:

Jake Kapsner said the approval for the grant for the Art Fair should be known by the November meeting. The budget for next year's Art Fair will be given at the November meeting.

Breeze Committee:

Nothing new to report

Youth Committee:

Nothing new to report

Environmental Committee:

Sky Harbor Airport information (see info above)

Rummage Sale Committee:

Nothing new to report

Discussion and Action on Unfinished Business:

Polling place for the November 6th election will remain at Lafayette. Railing and lighting have been improved for the building use.

Pay attention to the County Land Sale. Contact Frank Jewell, 726-2450, with your questions or concerns.

Vacation rental information is posted on the Park Point Community website.

Per Dawn Buck via Tari Rayala, the new communications tower will not have guy wires or lights. This is good news for the bird survival rates.

A motion for a second vote approval for the extra expense of \$358 on the Youth Program was made by Diane Gould. A seconded motion was made by Lynn Bentfield. Vote of the club resulted in all affirmatives.

Discussion and Action on New Business:

David Lavamaki has offered to flood the skating rink this winter. He will need help with this project. Please let him know if you are able to help flood the rink. Thank you, Dave!

Marcia Hales has asked for help this year with her lighting display. She needs help pouring cider, giving out cookies and tending the fires. Diane Gould made a motion for the Park Point Community Club to give Marcia \$300 towards her expenses. Pat Olson seconded the motion. Club vote resulted in all affirmatives. A second vote will be taken during the November, 2012 meeting.

Bruce Rutherford made a motion that the Park Point Community Club donate \$5000 to the Duluth Boat Club for the construction of their project at the end of Park Point. (Where DSSA operates their program now.) The donation will be given after final approval from the city and all permits have been obtained. The purpose of this project is to involve more people (youth and families) in water activities in this area. Lynn Bentfield seconded the motion.

Club vote resulted in 14 ayes, 4 nays. Motion passed. A second vote will be needed at the November 15 meeting.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting at 8:45 pm. Coral McDonnell made motion. Lynn Bentfield seconded the motion.



African Violets



Do you want to see flowers in the winter? A good choice would be African violets. Purchase one from a greenhouse or if you know someone who has an African violet, you can beg for a leaf. Put the leaf stem in a glass of water and wait for roots to grow, creating a good start. Purchase a small bag of violet potting soil and a pot 5 inches across that has drainage in the bottom. If you could find a double pot, the plant would be very happy. Then you wouldn't risk getting water on the leaves, which will spot them. Otherwise, you can water the plant from the bottom, which they prefer. They do not like to be dry and *especially* do not like to sit in water. Touch the dirt with your finger to determine moistness of the soil. It is important to remember that African violets need at least eight hours of darkness each day in order to bloom. If African violets do not get enough light, they will stop flowering and its leaves will begin to turn yellow.

It will be worth the wait when you see the buds come up. Learn more from violet expert, Donna, and attend the next meeting of the Park Point Garden Club, November 15. Call Pam Griggs, President, 727-2158.

Park Point.....Naturally!
Historically speaking, the impact of the June flood on the Point might have been a disaster had it happened before 1871. This became clear to me when researching the devious 11th hour action by fifty resolute workers who, with shovels, picks, and wheelbarrows grubbed out the ship canal! Only a few hours later a court injunction requested by Superior would have prevented their action.

The bay, until then, drained excess water from the St. Louis River only through the Superior ship canal. The hasty digging by the Duluth workers would have been futile had the bay water level not been six inches higher than that of Lake Superior. Its pressure to flow to the lower level of the big lake burst through the tiny man-made channel, rapidly widened and deepened it, thus equalizing the bay and lake levels.

The millions of gallons of floodwater last June, without the canal as an outlet, would have doubtlessly inundated the lower land on the Point before exiting the bay via the Superior opening.

Incidentally, the honor of being the first watercraft through the Duluth canal went to a man in a rowboat. He was followed by the tug Fero. Captain Sherwood celebrated the event by blowing the boat's whistle from start to finish as a victory salute.

At last I have seen something good come of the flood debris that came to rest on many places on the shore of the bay...good, at least, for our wildlife. On most mornings, as dawn breaks, a pair of mallards hop on a derelict trunk of a small aspen. For the next quarter hour, they carry out the daily routine of waterproofing and realigning their feathers.

Nearby, a naked limb arches over a tiny cove created when wind and waves formed a little dam of sticks. Minnows seek refuge in the pool to avoid becoming a snack for a northern. The water is too shallow for big fish to penetrate. But that fact suits a kingfisher just fine as it sits motionless on the dead branch arching two feet or so above the pool. As the kingfisher watches for a stray minnow, I watch the feathered angler. Usually in less than a few minutes, it makes a headfirst dive, deftly extracts the fish, and immediately flies on to the next perch.

The kingfisher is seen more frequently along the shores of Wisconsin Point, perhaps because that area is closer to the red clay banks of the Nemadji River. These fish eaters must have an embankment of soft soil to excavate a burrow; usually a tunnel of six feet but the ambitious birds may dig as deep as fifteen feet. It must be a smelly shaft. The adults line it with fish bones.

The balance of nature rarely stays absolutely stable and that is well illustrated on the Point where the fox/rabbit ratio is concerned. On an almost daily basis I see a fox---sometimes two at a time---but I've not seen the native cottontails for many months! No doubt it will stay that way unless residents quit putting out scraps for the predator. It appears that foxes have created a "handout" route along much of the inhabited length of the Point. Over the summer a well-worn path of beaten-down grass abutting the growth of wild raspberry bushes and tansy stems close to shore was formed by the feet of the fox family

I have no clear idea how many of them frequent the Point but there are obviously three or more. One of them wears the "typical" outfit with lots of red fur while the other two that I see most often are almost blond by comparison.

The migration from the far north and Arctic appears to be at an end...haven't seen the warblers for about two weeks, gulls are hanging on and will likely remain until the freeze up, as will the hundreds of Canada geese. When their food sources disappear under the ice and the snow and cold comes for a long stay they, too, will abandon us---leaving the crows to take control.

Glenn Maxham

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Happy Birthday

It's the community garden's third birthday and we intend to celebrate it at our November meeting. Join us for our potluck happy birthday dinner November 11. In addition to eating cake, we'll also brainstorm ideas and take suggestions for next year's garden.

In October, we hosted the Duluth Community Garden Program's annual feast to celebrate the year's harvest. Our potluck dinner was filled with good food, good company and lots of beets, the 2012 Duluth Vegetable of the Year. Stay tuned to find out what the 2013 Vegetable of the Year will be.

As we prepare our 2013 schedule of potlucks and programs, we would like to know what our Park Point gardening friends would like to learn about. It's part of our mission to provide educational opportunities to the community and we do that at our monthly meetings/potlucks. If there is a food, gardening, or sustainability subject you would like to hear about, let us know and we'll try to find a local expert and get the topic on our lineup of programs. Alternately, if you or someone you know is knowledgeable about these subjects and would be a good speaker, tell us!

For information about our monthly dinners or garden membership, contact Coral 218-727-6455.

Leaves Wanted:

Save your falling leaves and bring them to the community garden for composting. You can just leave them in plastic garbage bags inside the garden gate and we'll use them as needed in our compost bins.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, November 11, 5 to 7 p.m. Monthly potluck dinner at Lafayette Community Center. We will celebrate the community garden's third birthday. We will also celebrate everyone in attendance who admits to having a birthday in 2012. Bring a dish to pass and your own plates, silverware and napkins. That will help keep disposable products out of the garbage.

NOTE: There will be no dinner in December. Happy Holidays.

Light Up the Point this year.

What better way to welcome people to the Point than to light the way to one of the best light displays in the City of Duluth. Let's encourage our neighbors and ourselves to provide some light this Holiday Season. To coincide with the start of Marci Hales' light display (3800 block) we are hoping that December 1st will be the day that we light up the Point.

The ideal would be to have every household on the Point provide some illumination for this coming Holiday Season. To assist in this endeavor please come to the Light Exchange at the next Community Club meeting November 17th at 6 P: M Lafayette Square for the LIGHT EXCHANGE and then stay for our Special Social Hour where we tap into Our Own Park Point Brew. Our light exchange is for those that would be willing to help out neighbors and others that may not have lights and need some or for others that have extra that they are willing to donate. Or maybe you just want to try something different. Any lights not claimed or used will be donated to Damiano and other programs that provide Holiday baskets, and decorations. Our only request is that lights be in working order. Any questions about the light exchange, call 340-7220. We will also have a presentation from Marcia on how to make those Amazing Ice Candles. Join us for a fun time and bring in those lights!

Editor's Corner

I love it when my front page gets handed to me. I was messing with some other stuff, trying to fit in a scan of the airport proposals, when I received a couple pictures of the Sami Lavvu project. I'd never heard about this so I asked for some details about it. Got back a great description from Nancy Olsen, pasted it under a picture, and my work was done! A lot easier than Nancy and her niece's part, too. This was a big project, and a great use for Lafayette

Ok, it's been a couple months since I nagged everybody about trimming their trees and shrubs that overhang the sidewalks. Now it's the season to think about SNOW SHOVELING! Especially with alternate side parking going into effect November 1st, it's important to have safe shoveled and sanded walks for people to walk on. And just because you're going somewhere warm for the winter – or even just part of it - you're responsibility for keeping your sidewalks clear doesn't end. You need to make arrangements to have your sidewalks maintained while you're gone. Whether you hire a service or just promise your neighbor cookies when you get back, just make sure you're not the one everybody's cussing at when they have to walk out in the street!

I'm not really supposed to mention it, but rumor has it there will be some special libations to sample at the November Community Club meeting. You might want to check it out. But remember, you didn't hear it from me.

It just wouldn't be the holidays without Marcia Hales "Spirit of the Lights". You'll find a call for volunteers to help out down there in this issue – along with an article urging everyone to help "Light up the Point".

VOLUNTEERS WOULD BE APPRECIATED

TO POUR CIDER AND TEND THE FIRE PIT AT MARCIA HALES "SPIRIT OF THE LIGHTS" 3739 LAKE AVENUE SOUTH FROM NOVEMBER 30, 2012 TO DECEMBER 29, 2012. MARCIA'S "HOME OF THE WISHING PENGUIN" HAS BEEN PROVIDING A FREE SPECTACULAR LIGHTING DISPLAY SINCE 1998. LIGHTS ARE ON FROM 5-9 PM MONDAY THRU THURSDAY AND 5-10 ON WEEKENDS. SANTA VISITS ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. COME ON DOWN TO HELP POUR CIDER, TEND THE FIRE PIT AND HAVE A GOOD TIME CHATTING WITH FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND VISITORS. CALL MARCIA @ 727-4527 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT!

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Duluth Native
Park Point
Resident
22 years
experience

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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