

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 42 issue 1

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

January 2013

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting
January 17th 7PM
At Lafayette**

**Lafayette Edible Garden
Potluck and Movie
January 20th, 5-7PM
At Lafayette**

**Park Point Art Fair
June 29 - 30**

New Year's Lake



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 was kind of at a loss as to what to use for a front page picture on the January Breeze. It seemed like I'd already done all the "winter" stories. The skating rink at Lafayette? Thanks to Dave Lavamaki, the city water trucks, and of course Mother Nature, we've got good ice again. And I've seen people using it, both kids and young adults. But I've done that story before. Same with the ice fishing villages that "pop up" on the bay as soon as the ice is safe. (Sometimes even sooner!) And yes, they've been out there already. I haven't gone out to join them yet (I like to wait until it REALLY safe!) Besides, I've done that story before, too.

We haven't had any of the big "snow events" that make for spectacular pictures. And I guess it's a little early for the big ice build up along the beach. No ice caves, mountains or stacked up ice floes. But on the morning of New Years Day I took my camera and walked out to the beach. The sun was shining brightly, and as the (relatively) warm water met the cold air, a layer of condensation fog formed over the lake. Lake Superior always has something to show us. Yes, it was cold, but January in Duluth is supposed to be cold. The beach was empty, the wind not too strong, and all was right with the world.+

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is February 1st for the February 2013 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
2810 Minnesota Ave.
jakekapsner@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sheryl Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Committees

ART FAIR

Carla Tamburro
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

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

THE POSTCARD

Dawn Buck
parkpoincc@gmail.com

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

Neighbors, Happy New Year!

I carefully opened an interesting package, a very unique gift, on Christmas day—a thick accordion folder packed tightly with pristine copies of the Breeze dating back to 1993. That particular yellowed newsprint edition features an old picture of some folks and their dog fishing something out of the water at the Oatka Boat Storage and Dance Hall. Margaret McGillis submitted the photo. The accompanying story was by Liz Olson, “The Oatka: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow.” The hot topic of the day was a proposal to ban parking on the street to facilitate rollerblading and cycling. The look of the Breeze has changed over the years but the vibe seems the same—one of community. Jan Olson summed it up nicely twenty years ago, “We are fortunate in that the uniqueness of this sandy spit makes it one long and narrow community where folks on one end call folks on the other neighbor. Occasionally this connectedness makes things too close for comfort, but generally we look out for each other, care for each other and, in hard times, come to each other’s aid.”

Please consider joining the Park Point Community Club this year. We had some fun last year with a beach glass show, a beer naming contest & a sand-point “primer.” We hosted a candidate’s forum and co-hosted an awesome Neighbor’s Night Out with the Lafayette Edible Community Garden. We have some new opportunities for grant writing with our sister 501c3, the MPPS (Minnesota Point Preservation Society). Ongoing topics for community involvement include: Tax forfeit land for sale by County, Park Point Small Area Plan & Sky Harbor Airport.

We would love to have you join us. Please fill out the form in the Breeze and bring it to the Membership Drive Pizza Party on Thursday, January 17th at 6:30pm.

Membership has its privileges- you’ll have the opportunity to stay on my email list and keep up with the latest happenings on Park Point. See you on the 17th at 6:30! Remember to bring your membership form! Dawn

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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fall in light, fall in light.
 feel no shame for what you are
 as you now are in your heart
 fall in light
 feel no shame for what you are
 feel it as a waterfall
 fall in light, grow in light.
 stand absolved behind your electric chair, dancing.
 past the sound within the sound.
 past the voice within the voice.
 ah. ah. ah.
 leave your office, run past your funeral,
 leave your home, car, leave your pulpit.
 join us in the streets where we don't belong...
 you and the stars throwing light.
 fall in light. grow in light.

Jeff Buckley's *New Year's Prayer*; abridged lyrics

**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,

Courage Amid Rejection

It was bedtime and the four-year-old Lillian complained that she didn't want to go to sleep. Her mom explained that when she was born, God gave her the job of taking care of her, making sure she ate right, dressed well and had enough sleep. "I'm not trying to be mean," her mom told her, "but it is the job that God gave me." Lillian pronounced, "Then you're fired!"

Just because you do the right thing, that doesn't mean people will accept you. Actually the opposite may very well happen. It happened to Jesus and it happened to his followers. Are you afraid of rejection? Are you worried about being different than others? Don't be, for if you are rejected you are in good company: our Lord's

Gracious Father, too often I worry what others may say or think about me, so much so that I do not live as I should. Help me, by the grace of your spirit, to be courageous./ I pray in Jesus' name, the Fearless One. Amen
.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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Larry L. Leege Attorney At Law

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2013 Membership Drive: please join the Community Club

HOW

Just fill out the Membership Form in this month's Breeze, enclose your dues and mail to the Club. Or even better: bring it to the monthly Community meeting January 17 at LaFayette Community Center.

WHY JOIN

Your neighbors welcome and value your participation. It gives you a vote in all Park Point Community Club (PPCC) matters. And this Club matters: for decades, people like you have helped the PPCC do amazing things:

- protect and care for our local parks and unique Park Point ecology
- host a premiere annual Art Fair that draws 10,000+ visitors
- offer a Summer Youth Program
- host an annual Rummage Sale (Duluth's largest)
- create a stronger political voice on a range of issues
- publish the Breeze newsletter 12 times/year, maintain parkpointcommunityclub.org and the S-Curve "postcard" message board
- much more, from sharing educational forums, gardening and neighborhood watch to welcoming new residents and renting LaFayette Community Center

Have other ideas? As a member you can help shape the Club while supporting a non-profit 501c4 that keeps neighbors connected to each other and this place we call home.

More ways to get involved

1.Help recruit members on your block. Just grab some member forms and start door knocking. Contact jakekapsner@yahoo.com for more info.

2.Join a PPCC Committee. See the list of committees on page 2. It's easy, informal and really helps. We particularly need Youth Program involvement.

Thank you—and may you have a healthy, involved New Year!

Jake Kapsner, PPCC Vice President

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

2013 marks the fourth year that the Lafayette Community Edible Garden will be planted on Park Point. There is still room for more garden members, so if growing your own food is on this year's to-do list, come join us. Our co-operative gardening methods divide up the work and make gardening a fun, social activity.

We diligent gardeners hope that by now all Park Pointers have had a chance to visit the garden, attend a monthly potluck dinner, or participate in one of our special events. If not, make this the year to meet your green-thumbed neighbors and have a taste of truly local food.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, January 20, 5 to 7 p.m., Potluck Dinner and a Movie. Pack up a stick-to-the-ribs hotdish to share and be ready to enjoy an evening of good company and inspiring filmmaking. We'll watch the 2008 Oscar-nominated film "The Garden," Scott Hamilton Kennedy's politically charged documentary that follows a group of low-income families struggling to protect a 14-acre urban farm in the middle of South Central Los Angeles from bureaucratic real estate developers.

Breeze financial Report

Ok, since I don't have any minutes to print, and the membership form only takes one page, I'll print my annual Breeze financial report. It's pretty simple, and I think it's pretty accurate, but it's up to the treasurer to keep me honest. Here it is:

<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Advertising: \$2500	Printing: \$4382.83
	Postage: <u>\$153.00</u>
	Total: \$4535.83
\$4535.83	
<u>-\$2500.00</u>	
\$2035.83 Total cost to PPCC	

That cost is up quite a bit from last year, when it only cost the club \$1336.02 to put out the Breeze. But it's a little better than 2010, when it cost us \$2042.96. As I explained in last year's report, the fluctuation is basically just a matter of when the bills and payments come in. There haven't been any big changes in expenses or advertising in the last few years. I haven't really pushed anything. But if anybody thinks they can do better.....

PARK POINT.....NATURALLY

Judging from the reader feedback I've received on the pigeon/Aerial Bridge story in last month's edition of the "Breeze," that "'dirty bird" does not enjoy a good reputation on the Point.

Forgive me for once again writing about the distasteful subject of pigeon do do, but you should know why we need to quit feeding them. And there is an obvious need to greatly reduce their numbers to eliminate their droppings and the fungus and bacteria could contain if in dust form. Don't panic, but do take seriously fact that they could be the source of histoplasmosis that causes blindness and cryptococcosis resulting in a lung infection, possibly a fatal illness if left untreated.



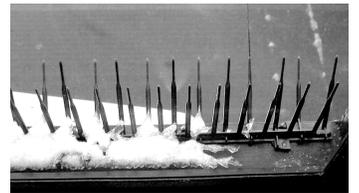
they the

Prompted by a suggestion from Pointer Jan Karon (who has her own pigeon problem on her deck), I went on-line to gather data on diseases one may get from these bird droppings. Though the chances of this happening are slim, we should be aware of the health problems the bird could pose, especially if there's a population explosion. (I have not counted noses---I mean beaks---so I don't know how many more of them would constitute an "explosion" though their numbers continue to increase on the Point)

As for suggestions on ways to keep the fowl from fouling the bridge, and personal property, I found a wealth of ideas on the internet; some of them are downright hilarious if applied to the bridge. One entry advised getting a cat to scare away the birds...that's fine if limited to a home setting but to be effective on the bridge, a single cat could hardly do the job. Or would a dozen or so be required? That conjures up a ridiculous scene in my mind. Imagine the cartoon-like picture unfolding before your eyes while "waiting for the bridge" and watching as cats scurry up, down and around the beams as the birds attempt to land. One can't deny it would at least prevent boredom for us ...but perhaps create a loss of sanity for the bridge operators if they had to catch the litters of kittens that would surely result! And would their tails get caught in the bridge's lifting system?



A second on-line suggestion was to make a mixture of vinegar and crushed hot chili peppers, let it sit in the sun for a week to ferment, buy a super squirt gun to hold the fluid and then shoot the liquid on the pigeons, thus driving them away, never to return! A third idea listed was to paint circles on Christmas tree ball ornaments to look like owl eyes and hang them at roosting locations on the span. If done collectively, the bridge would surely become an object of entertainment for people on the canal.



Roberta Komrska took this photo on the skywalk between St. Mary's and Miller- Dwan hospitals where porcupine spikes eliminated the bird problem. They have nowhere to perch.

Finally, another of those magical interludes exclusive to the Point: As the last full moon of the year was settling down below the hill next to Enger Tower, it illuminated the frozen bay just enough for me to watch a red fox amble across the ice from the Port Terminal to the woods of Hearing Island...a mid-winter scenic delight. *Glenn Maxham*

CALL FOR ARTISTS TO ENTER 44th ANNUAL PARK POINT ART FAIR

Applications due March 1, 2013

DULUTH, Minn. (Jan. 1 2013) -- Artists are invited to apply for entry into the 44th annual Park Point Art Fair, which features 120 visual artists exhibiting and selling their work June 29 and 30, 2013 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.

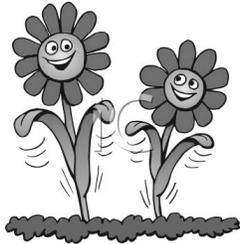
In 2012, 120 artists were selected from a pool of local, regional and national applicants. The free event attracted an estimated 10,000 visitors for its fine arts and crafts, food court, live music, interactive arts, children's activities and more.

For an application, more information and a complete list of 2012 artists, visit www.parkpointartfair.org. Applications are in a quick links section on the home page. Double click on the words '2013 Artist Application Form' in the Quick Links on the home page. Or, contact coordinator Carla Tamburro at coordinator@parkpointartfair.org or 218-428-1916. Mailing address: Park Point Art Fair 2013, P.O. Box 16326 Duluth, MN 55816-0326

44th PARK POINT ART FAIR, at a glance:

- 10am - 5pm, June 29 and 30, 2013, Park Point Recreation Area, Duluth, MN.
- 120 artists in variety of media, food, live music, children's activities.
- Artist applications due March 1, 2013; online at www.parkpointartfair.org.

**Feel it?
They amended the soil!**



You will see a new tree, Dwarf Korean Lilac, and a weigela shrub at the Lafayette flower garden. With 150 cultivars, weigela shrubs are low maintenance with some pruning to keep them from becoming scraggly. They are deciduous, very hardy, have few pests, and flower in spring and early summer. Their leaves can be variegated which adds interest to landscaping. It grows best in full sun to light shaded areas. Thanks to a Duluth Garden Flower Society grant awarded to PPGC we will have these two additions and an opportunity to amend the soil.

Why amend soil? The goal is to provide a better environment for roots. Soil amendments increase water- and nutrient-holding capacity and improve aeration and water infiltration. The Ph can change over time and the soil may need more nutrients. You can send a soil sample for testing to University of Minnesota Extension www.soiltest.cfans.umn.edu. Next PPCG meeting is June 28, 6pm at Edelweiss Garden Center, 5175 Washburn Road, Duluth. New members and visitors are welcomed. Pam Griggs, President, 727-2158.

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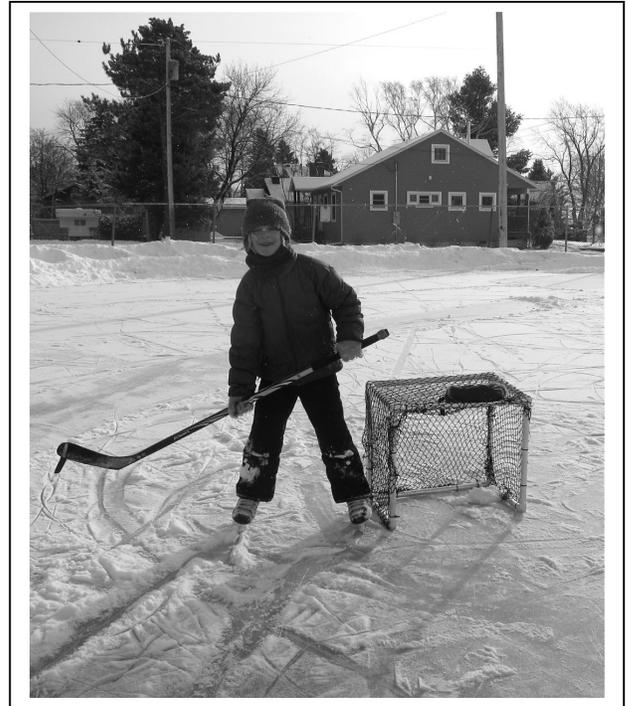
Thinking of a remodeling project in the New Year?
 Check out the gorgeous, non-toxic, environmentally friendly products we have available for your home or office remodeling or building project. Maybe you could use a new colorful wool rug, cozy cork flooring, recycled glass countertops, or fresh new cabinetry. Have our professional designer bring your ideas to life for that perfect kitchen, bath, office, mud room, or whichever room you'd like to update.



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Winter Fun



Since I had the room I just had to include these pictures of the Ouray kids skating at Lafayette. This is why we still love our rink!

Editor's Corner

Kicking off the New Year with the Park Point Community Club's annual membership drive. You'll find a membership form on page 5 of this issue, along with an article by PPCC vice president and membership committee chair Jake Kapsner, giving not just the how but why to join the club. I will no doubt be printing the membership list in future issues of the Breeze, and you want to be sure you're on it. You don't want to be stuck behind the velvet ropes, when the bouncer checks and says "sorry, you're not on the list...." (Ok, we don't have a bouncer, or velvet ropes – and you don't even have to be a member to come to the PPCC meetings. But you should join, anyway)

I'm printing the call to artists for the Park Point Art Fair in this issue as well. This continues to be the community club's signature event. Besides being a great event in itself, it underwrites almost everything we do as a club. Including printing the Breeze, as you'll see from the Breeze financial report I've also included.

You'll also find a call for volunteers for the PPCC's youth committee, to assist with the Summer Youth Program. This has also been primarily funded by the Art Fair profits, but this year we received a grant from the city to assist with the program. This is a real opportunity to make a great youth program even better.

And I want to add my voice, along with the editors of that "other" newspaper, when it addressed the sale of Fire Hall #5. Much as I hate losing it as an active Fire Hall, I'm glad it fell into the hands Park Pointers, who intend to save the building and respect its history.

Youth Committee Needs Your Voice

This fall, the Club applied for and received a \$3,200 grant from the city of Duluth in support of the LaFayette Summer Youth Program. It's a great opportunity for kids—notably those who otherwise couldn't be involved—and the programming we offer them. Here's why: the Club has typically subsidized the summer program costs (approximately 75% annually) by raising money through the Art Fair, with the remainder of the Youth Program budget coming from user fees. PPCC contracts a Youth Coordinator who runs the daily program, but we rely on our volunteer executive board for program oversight. With more a robust and active group of Youth Committee volunteers, we believe we can offer an even better experience, and create footing to continue this program in future years. We're looking for a handful of people-- parents, guardians or concerned neighbors-- who want to work with others on a small oversight group. **To join:** please contact me at jakekapsner@yahoo.com or President Dawn Buck at parkpointcc@gmail.com

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.

Parks Maintenance Division: 730-4491 (after hours 730-4150)

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



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