



The Breeze of Park Point

Lafayette Edible Garden

No meeting in August

Park Point Community Club Meeting

Tuesday, August 15th,
6:30 p.m. Coffee Social

7:00 p.m. PPCC monthly meeting

Park Point Garden Club

Thursday, August 24th

7:00 p.m.

Contact: Liz Mackay
722-1834

National Night Out a Huge Success!

Among the many National Night Out events held on Park Point this year, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church welcomed almost 250 neighbors and friends on a beautiful, warm, summer evening. Four police officers - including two from the bicycle patrol and two from the Mounted Patrol, with their beautiful horses, Maggie and Jimmy - spent over an hour visiting, as did six Park Rangers and two members of the Duluth Police Civilian Staff. City Council member Em Westerlund and County Commissioner Frank Jewell also spent time socializing. Maria, who lives on Harbor Point, brought containers of her homemade Carrot Ginger Soup to add to the food table, and by 7p.m. it was all gone. I personally enjoyed seeing so many familiar faces and hearing lots of stories. Thanks for making this evening a great success.

There are many pictures posted on the St. Andrew's Facebook page for you to view.

Submitted by Sandra Carlson



Big Water Blue Band at 18th street

The Breeze

Managing Editor:

Natalija Walbridge

Submissions for the September issue are due by Sunday, 8/27/17.

Send to: ppbreezeeditor@gmail.com

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Dawn Buck

parkpointcc@gmail.com

525-1764

Vice President: Tom Griggs

3429 Minnesota Ave.

Thomg0313@gmail.com

Secretary: Sheryl Robins

722 Minnesota Ave.

720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robins

722 Minnesota Ave.

720-6518

Committees:

Art Fair: Carla Tamburro

coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

218-428-1916

Rummage Sale:

Dave Lavamaki

pointer12@q.com

729-8925

Environmental: Dick Gould

727-4067

Hospitality:

Diane Gould

727-4067

Ted Buck

525-1764

Lafayette Square Rentals:

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ppccdhlh@gmail.com

218-208-9545

The Postcard: Dawn Buck

parkpoincc@gmail.com

Sunshine: Pam Griggs

pamgriggs101@gmail.com

218-260-6032

Park Point Community Club

P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

Letter from the PPCC President

Hi Neighbors,

Hoping to see you at our next meeting on Tuesday, August 15th, at Lafayette. A representative from the engineering firm SEH will be in attendance to present an update on the Sky Harbor Airport re-alignment project, and will outline their timeline for construction during the months ahead. Also, mark your calendar for September 24th for a fun community event at Lafayette.

The beachside Lafayette restroom project will move forward; I will share the new plans on our website. Thank you to the City of Duluth Facilities project managers who re-crafted the plans with the architect in order to meet the requirements of the granting agency and the City Council at the "final hour" of funding opportunity. With the recent perfect beach days (a.k.a "PBD"), the Lafayette beach has been seeing a lot of activity. Thanks to everyone who is picking up any trash left behind. A big thank you to the approximately twenty-five teens from the St. Paul's Episcopal Church "Hands Across Duluth" program, who cleaned up a stretch of the beach near Lafayette on July 17th. I challenged them to see how many bits of plastic they could find and pick up, and urged them to check out the studies by Dr. Lorena Rios and her students on the harmful effects of plastics in the Great Lakes. Have you observed the seagulls ingesting plastic wrappers on the beach? That is the macro problem; the larger question is how microplastic contamination affects the environment and human health. Read more on the research here: <https://www.uwsuper.edu/lorena-rios/plasticresearch/index.cfm>. Thanks again to the young caregivers of our lake. Our July guest from Beijing loved our island, and noted the very clean air and water. "Very beautiful."

The Minnesota Point Preservation Society volunteers started addressing the sand "blow hole" in the Art Fair grounds by putting up fencing on the beach. A couple of years ago, cars were driving up this sand build-up to get onto the beach at this site. If you go down near the beach house, check it out; also check out the new blue recycling bins near the garbage cans in the park.

While I was mowing yesterday, I encountered not one, but two very springy little leopard frogs in my grass. This was a new phenomenon for me, and the visiting granddaughter was thrilled with the frogs who I had a hard time catching, as one was particularly athletic.

Hoping your summer days are memorable; may there be many more PBDs before the season is over!

Here's to the good life on Park Point,
Dawn & Klaus, canine companion

PPCC Meeting Notes July 2017

The July 18th, 2017 Park Point Community Club meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Dawn Buck.

Minutes from June PPCC meeting: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes for the June 20th meeting, as they appeared in the Breeze. Membership voted all ayes.

A question was brought up as to why, on the individual committee reports, the phrase 'Nothing new to report' is often listed. This term is simply used when no reports have been presented about that particular committee for the prior month; it does not signal a lack of activity.

Treasurer's Report – Al Robins

6/01/2017 beginning balance	\$43,507
6/30/2017 Ending balance	\$39,116

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Membership voted all ayes.

Committee Reports

Art Fair – Carla Tamburro

Final reports on financials should be available at the August, 2017 PPCC meeting. Diane Gould thanked all the volunteers for their work at the Art Fair.

Breeze – Natalija Walbridge

Diane Gould is asking for someone who will deliver the Breeze in the 1600, 1700 and 1800 blocks of the Point. The person presently delivering the Breeze has moved and a replacement is needed. Any volunteer is welcome; there is no requirement that someone live in that section. Diane can be reached at 727-4067.

PPCC Meeting Notes July 2017, continued

Environmental – Dick Gould

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church sponsored 27 youths and chaperones to help clean up the beach area for 'Care of Earth' week. The Minnesota Point Preservation Society has been working on a project involving installation of posts and fencing at several locations near the end of the Point, in order to prevent sand from blowing into the park area. Gary Glass would like to secure funding for this project. Dawn said she would send out an email for funding of materials and/or other costs. Should anyone have posts they would like to donate, please contact her.

There is an abundance of mice, moles and voles on the Point this summer. Suggestions were given for several varieties of chemicals that could be put down the rodents' holes. The geese have also been a problem this year, as many have been reported soiling yards. Dick Gould suggested using fox decoys, as the geese will not come close to these decoys. Moving decoys tend to frighten the geese.

Hospitality – Diane Gould and Ted Buck

Iced cream treats were provided for the meeting. Thank you.

Neighborhood Watch – All of us

Speeding continues to be a problem on the Point. Campers have also been reported sleeping on the beach, and needles have been found. Again, in order for the police department to do anything about the situation, they must be informed. CALL 911.

Program Committee – David Poulin

No programs have been scheduled during the summer months. The programs will start up again in September.

Rummage Sale – David Lavamaki

Nothing new reported.

Summer Youth Program – Sally Buck and Rhonda Strum

Great reports on the program this summer by the attendees. Participating children have been exposed to artwork, numerous field trips, working in our vegetable gardens, etc.

Sunshine – Pam Griggs

7 sympathy cards and 2 get well cards were sent during the month of June.

Old Business

Correspondence received from Dennis Hoelscher concerning **dust coming from the grain elevator area**. He called the DNR and was told that he should call 911 if he sees this situation in the future. 911 operators will call the DNR, who will dispatch a person to that area.

City Councilor Em Westerlund informed Dawn that she will be attending the August PPCC meeting to give us an update on the restroom construction issues.

The **Community Club website** is in need of a person to manage the site. If anyone would be interested in this project, please call Dawn Buck at 525-1764. The person who has maintained it up to now will no longer be available to do this.

Tom Rauschenfels gave us information about the recent **rowing regatta** held on the Point. There were 316 competitors representing seven different rowing clubs from around the region. The boat house funding campaign has attained 86% of its \$1,000,000 goal.

A Park Point Family Fun event is being planned for September. Charlene Shimmin asked that anyone who would be willing to help please contact her. (See note below more information.)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church will be hosting one of Park Point's **National Night Out** celebrations on August 1st, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Thank you to St. Andrew's for sharing with Park Point neighbors this year.

New Business

Coral McDonnell, a close neighbor to Lafayette Square, reported that the Club **building has been left unlocked** on two occasions that she knew of. When leaving the building, please be certain that it is locked; if you find it open, please report it immediately to Dawn or another board member.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Membership votes were all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Sheryl Robins

Please text, email or call if you can help out with any of these activities:
Softball game, other games, set-up, clean-up...Other ideas???

Save the Date:

Community Fall Fest

with food, music and fun for all

Sunday, September 24th, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Lafayette Community Center

If you want to play softball please contact Charlene so we can determine if there are enough players for a Bay Side vs Lake Side game.

Mary Kapsner - (218) 213-4077

Charlene Shimmin - (218) 722-6828 or parkpointer@gmail.com

Submitted by Judy Dwyer and Charlene Shimmin

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

At our July 17th potluck dinner meeting, several members presented useful bits of knowledge pertinent to our garden. Ellie Alspach filled us in on the patch of Egyptian walking onions in our garden. She said we should not pick the aerial, shallot-like onions growing atop the tall stems, but rather leave them for the fall harvesters to replant, in order to build a bigger crop next year. Joanne Ellison shared information she learned about bees at a recent Master Gardener's meeting. Also, Denny Johnson reminded us to water our gardens from below the plants' leaf structures so as not to create conditions that would promote mildew on the plants. We were entertained with another delicious spread of victuals and serenaded by Kris and Abby Jo of Mama's Stolen Horses.

There will be no potluck dinner meeting in August, but September's harvest dinner is sure to be another evening of feasting, education and fun. Remember, all Park Pointers are invited to join in at the potluck dinners. For more information about those or the Lafayette Community Edible Garden in general, contact Coral at 727-6455.

Still looking for compost:

Your home yard debris (small stuff) is needed to fill our compost bins. Just fill a plastic bag and set it inside the garden gate, located in the former hockey rink at Lafayette Square.

Submitted by Susan Peters



We Need You!

We are looking for a new volunteer to deliver the Breeze for the 1600-1800 blocks.

It only takes about 30 minutes once a month to deliver for an area of 2 blocks.

For questions or to sign up, please contact Diane Gould at 218-727-4067 or rgould@chartermi.net

Thank you!

Lafayette Rentals

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

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.

Hours available are 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Contact: Missy LePage at
218-208-9545 or by e-mail at
ppccdlh@gmail.com



Take the Survey

Attention Paddlers, Sailors and Anglers

Port of Duluth-Superior Recreational Boaters Survey

<http://bit.ly/BoaterSurvey>
Minnesota Sea Grant | Summer 2017

If you use the Port of Duluth-Superior harbor for recreation purposes, whether only once or regularly, Minnesota Sea Grant would like to hear your perceptions of boater safety in the harbor. The survey is anonymous and should take about 5 to 10 minutes.

Survey responses will be used to develop a recreational boating safety guide for the Port of Duluth-Superior and other Great Lakes working harbors.

Please complete this survey by August 25, 2017



Questions?
Tom Beery | tbeery@d.umn.edu | 218.726.7677
Minnesota Sea Grant, Coastal Resilience Extension Educator

Minnesota Sea Grant | www.seagrant.umn.edu

Minnesota Sea Grant is collaborating on this project with the Great Lakes Fleet, Duluth Seaway Port Authority, City of Duluth, City of Superior, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and other community organizations.

July 2017



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Beach Restoration

Every year, the recreational use of the Park Point beach results in dune grass trampling and leaves multiple pathways where the underlying sand can become wind-blown, causing “blow-holes” in the dunes. Currently, the largest examples of this action are found at 19th St. and in the Recreational Area adjacent to Sky Harbor Airport on the Point.

Each year, the asphalt roadway utilized by the Park Point Community Club for the Art Fair has significant wind-blown sand deposits from such a sand dune “blow-hole” that has been years in the making, and every year Community Club members say something needs to be done about fixing this problem. The fix is relatively simple and has been proven by strategically placing green plastic snow fencing across the gaps in the dunes where dune grass has been trampled, yet still leaving a pathway for beach users to pass through.

The Park Point Community Club members of the Minnesota Point Preservation Society are planning a demonstration project this year to begin the process of healing this blow-hole through the dunes. We plan to install two lines of fencing; one at the beginning of the blow-hole on the beach, where the dune grass is absent, and the second line inland where the tree-line begins. Since this blow-hole extends through the tree line, third and fourth lines of fencing may be required to stem the flow of sand already in route through the trees.

We have procured the fence posts and fencing and plan to install the first two fence lines as soon as possible, to stop the flow. We have shown previously that this process is effective at 12th Street and at the end of the Pine Forest area, and simply needs to be installed and maintained for a number of years while the dune grass re-grows, without further stress.

The first fence line was installed July 11th, and the second will be installed as soon as we have contributions for another 100 feet of fencing and posts. Helping to maintain the quality environment is necessary to support the annual flood of tourists to our city and to Park Point for the myriad of quality recreational opportunities they experience.

Sincerely,
Gary Glass
218-391-4242

Co-Chair, Minnesota Point Preservation Society, and Member, Park Point Community Club.

Site of planned sand-erosion remediation control project, Park Point Recreational Area:





*A people on the Way
to knowing, loving and serving God.*

"Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King! Let every heart prepare Him room..."
Christmas in July! Christ with us always. This August, as the greenery is crowding the paths (just try to walk to the lake by St. Andrew's), may there be a space for knowing God with, and hearts that are living in Christ's love and compassion.

There is a new service at St. Andrew's! It is simple contemplative worship, no music. And it is Saturday nights at 5 p.m.

Peace be with you.

Sunday Eucharist Service at 9:45 a.m.

The Rev. Marta Maddy

standrewsbythelake.org

2802 Minnesota Ave 218-727-1262

standrewsbythelakeduluth@gmail.com

Need music? Call: (218) 606-1670



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A Look Back on Park Point's History

Now almost two decades ago, dozens of Park Point volunteers came together to work on what many consider to have been its most ambitious project ever. Led by Project Manager Kinnan Stauber under the direction and assistance of what eventually became the PPCC Long-Range Planning Committee, the group sought and successfully obtained funding from the State of Minnesota's Legislative Committee on Minnesota Resources to identify, catalog and ultimately develop a plan for management of the Point's cherished natural resources. Among other achievements, the team's efforts resulted in a nearly 350-page document known as The Minnesota Point Environmental Management Plan, a project that could not have been achieved without the legislative assistance of Park Point's own State Rep. Mike Jaros, late legislators Willard Munger and Sam Solon, and the service of Pointer Noel Knutson, who acted as Legislative Liaison. More on this extensive project will be discussed in later issues of the Breeze...hopefully with input and/or articles by some of the principals involved. (Hint, hint!)

Included within the Management Plan was a section entitled and also published separately as The Minnesota Point Time Line, assembled and written by Park Point's Janet E. Olson. This work documented moments of significance over many centuries involving the physical, cultural and social history of our extraordinary island. Both volumes were published in 1999. Having obtained Jan's permission, I'll be pulling pieces from the Time Line over the next several months, ranging from natural history to the environmental efforts of the team to the just plain fun. All of us who live here, as well as people throughout the state and nation, owe all involved a tremendous debt of gratitude for their work.

c. 1200, BCE - Present Lake Superior begins to be defined, after a series of geological events result in a drop of the lake level by some 596 feet. Sand bars form by the present-day Nemadji and St. Louis rivers. Over time they combine, along with Wisconsin Point, to form the longest freshwater sand spit in the world. [Note: the longest saltwater sand spit, FYI, is located in Crimea...imagine Park Point with street signs written in the Cyrillic alphabet! (ead)]

1679 - Daniel Greysolon, Sieur du Lhut, lands on Minnesota Point, calls it by its Native American name, Oigumins, or "Little Portage." Dakota and Anishinaabe tribes have used the Point as summer grounds for hunting and fishing for many centuries; du Lhut's arrival begins a period of commerce with the Anishinaabe that includes extensive fur trading.

1854-57 - Lots are selling for \$25 each; townsites of Lower Duluth (base of the Point), Middleton (midway) and Fremont are established; 1.83 acres platted for Duluth's first park, LaFayette Square, and 1.10 acres for Franklin Park (12th St.); original land survey notes several "dwellings and buildings" at the end of the Point.

1877 - Duluth gives up its charter due to financial crisis and cuts the Point off from the city; residents talk of annexing to Wisconsin, where they might be treated more fairly.

1897 - First Coast Guard station established on both sides of 12th Street, now Franklin Park.

1907 - Fire Hall #5 reopens at 1900 Minnesota in a donated building; an electric rail car is equipped for running to fires. Streetcar delivers coal, wood, groceries and furniture to residents, who are responsible for doing their own unloading.

1937 - A 657-foot dock is constructed at 43rd St.

1946 - Three firms ask for different sites for proposed airports: 16th St. on the bay; the "barrens," south of the Recreation Area, and a man-made island near 24th St. The Community Club voices its approval of a seaplane base only; the City's Zoning board is in favor of building at 16th St.

1967 - Death of a 9-year-old bicyclist spurs residents to urge a traffic crackdown.

1977 - A winter storm produces 90mph winds in February. Mysterious movement occurs on the Point on three occasions; some residents believe an earthquake has occurred. The City makes a decision on creating bike lanes, plans to stripe 10-ft. lanes on either side of the street and print "bikes only" on the lake side.

1987 - MN State Horticultural Society hold its annual convention in Duluth, with tours and a reception hosted by the Park Point Garden Club. Jeri & Gale Kerns win the flower garden award; Lynn & Bill Ziernski win the flower box award.

1997 - The LCMR Committee looks into the possibility of protecting the "swamp" between 40th and 43rd Streets with the goal of creating a protected natural area to be known as Southworth Marsh, in honor of beloved Duluth teacher Mira Southworth, who lived directly across the street for more than forty years in a home she called "Outermost House."

Extracted and condensed by Ellen Dunlap from the work of Jan Olson and the LCMR Committee

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 are some helpful contacts:

Lift Bridge Supervisor: Dave Campbell 723-3387

Community Police Officers: 218-730-5656 or email at cnagorski@duluthmn.gov

Dog issues: clane@duluthmn.gov

City Councilor Em Westerlund: (218) 355-1137 ewesterlund@duluthmn.gov



Anishinaabe birch bark canoe c.1910.



The Minnesota Point Light house and Keeper's house c.1870s.



Duluth South Pier Front Lighthouse in 1893.



Rocks dropped from loaded barges into the water, Duluth ship canal c.1900.

Photos: Minnesota Historical Society