

# ***PARK POINT BREEZE***

*November 1997*

## **Happy Thanksgiving from the Lafayette Summer Youth Program**

*by Candy Brown*

The warm, breezy days of summer are now just a memory! However, the Community Club's gratitude to parents and community members who so generously volunteered their time and talents during the summer youth program remains.

Thank you to: Phil Coffman for joining us on beach and Senior Bingo Days, Marketta Mannoja Sobczak and Brett for the 4th of July party cake, Tom Sobczak for all his work around the park, Tim Sobczak for our awards lunch ice cream, Joy and Jeffery Fouts for the 2nd annual Lafayette Watermelon, John Hunn, Park Point resident Mailman, for the terrific juggling display. June Jentoft for always being there with a helping hand and keys, The Monday card ladies and the Senior Bingo players for saying such nice things about the children and their behavior. Kyle Elden, our summer youth worker. The PPCC for its generous financial support. The children of the summer program for taking pride in their park and cheerfully picking up litter when asked.

The turnout of Art Fair popcorn volunteers was great. Thank you to these hard-working folks:

Brian Pollard, Phil Coffman Tim Sobczak, Candace and Isaac Ginsberg, Travis Brown, Steve Harris, Andrea Zabloski and Ariel, Dan and Camille Solon, Jan and Jordan Pollard, Candace and Hannah, Megan and Noah Pauley, Carrie, Steve and Stevie Sola, Lance Bujold and Joy Fouts, Sue, Glenn, Ericka and Andy Solin, Ann and Jamie Price, Linda and Libby Talbot, Ashley Skadsberg, Debbie Robb, Lyle and Hannah Newman, Margie, Britney and Lindsay Van Dyke, Dave Wiesen, Tahirih Bushey, and John and Joan Hunn.

Thanks also to everyone who landscaped, spread gravel and put up the little kids' basketball net at the July 19 workday at Lafayette.

To all volunteers: Your presence and generous donation of personal time in a busy world remains most sincerely appreciated. It is through the efforts of all that a sense of community and place will be passed on to the next generation of Park Pointers.

## **Virtual Committee**

The Virtual Committee has been picking up members slowly but surely. This has the potential for having the greatest participation of any other committee! It can also be the most efficient and easiest way to "meet". Please mail, phone or e-mail me your news, and it will go out to all Internet-connected folks.

There are many services in town that can get you online and connected. If you have been holding back, wary of the technology, perhaps attend one or more of the classes held at any of the "tech" schools. Topics include; WWW Basics, Internet introduction, Create Your Own Web Page, and even the basics like Windows 95 and How to E-mail.

Contact me if you would like to be on the mailing list for the Virtual Committee. Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255 <kkstauber@aol.com>.

## **Park Point Community Club October Meeting Highlights**

A plan brought before the Community Club by the Duluth Rowing Club for the purchase of 12 sweep oars received a hearty endorsement from the club at the October meeting. The plan, outlined in previous issues of the Breeze, exchanges a contribution of \$2760 from the club for 50 DRC youth memberships to be dispersed as the PPCC wishes. This was the second vote on the contribution, as required by club bylaws.

The club also voted to increase the budget for the Halloween Party by an additional \$300. The money was used to improve the party, and for the purchase of lasting decorations. (It's too much fun not to do it every year!) Photos of that event will be on display at the November meeting. Our thanks to

Andrea Zabloski, Marketta Mannoja-Sobczak and their volunteer team for putting together a superb and enchanting carnival.

**The November meeting of the Park Point Community Club will be held Thursday, Nov. 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Lafayette Square.**

*PARK POINT BREEZE* is published 10-12 times annually by volunteers for the Park Point Community Club, 3026 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth, MN 55802. All material c 1997.

**In Memory of Nancy Vienneau**

Nancy died October 22nd after a long bout with lung cancer. At her memorial service and during the many days before and after her death, it was apparent she was loved by many people, for she was a person who had good things to say about everyone. She was a devoted mother and made raising her four boys her very highest priority. During her last days her sons Tim, Gary, Steven and Nick, and her husband of 37 years, Lloyd, were by her side at St. Mary's. Her family and freinds will miss her greatly.

Thank you to the many, many Pointers who remembered Nancy, and to the Community Club and the Garden Club.

*Lloyd Vienneau*

**Park District Meeting**

Plan on attending "our" district meeting on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at Washington Center. This is an opportunity to tell the city what you think about maintenance of our public parks.

This is the second round of these meetings, so it is important that we show our concerns. City contacts; Sue Moyer at 723-3612, Dick Larson at 723-3320 or

Bill Majewski at 723-3328. Park Point contacts; Dave Johnson at 722-9764 or Kinnan Stauber at 722-6255.

## **Buoys & Gulls Seniors' Club**

The Buoys & Gulls Christmas Party will be

held in Lafayette Square on Tuesday, December 2,

1997. The party will begin at 12 noon. Cost is \$6

per person.

Membership dues in Buoys & Gulls is just \$2 a year. If you're interested, call 727-8691. Please make reservations by November 24th for the Christmas Party.

### ***Park Point Profile:***

## **Catherine Koemptgen**

*by Liz Wilson*

Almost every woman alive has had experience with the complex, wonderful, difficult, joyful, exacerbating relationship between mothers and daughters. And yet it is difficult sometimes to step back and appreciate the unique beauty and universality of this relationship. How fortunate it is, then, that Catherine Koemptgen, one of our Park Point neighbors, has published a stunning book of black-and-white photographs of mothers and daughters, accompanied by their written reflections.

In a very essential way, "Connections & Reflections" is a Duluth-Superior project. 41 of the 65 portraits are of mothers and daughters from all over this region, including Park Pointers, and the book was published by Pfeifer-Hamilton here in Duluth. "Connections & Reflections" is being favorably received well beyond our local area, however, and deservedly so! It is a beautiful book.

Catherine and her husband Joel have lived most of the last 17 years here in Duluth, the last seven on the Point. After living in dozens of locations earlier in her life, Catherine treasures the sense of "home" and "place" that we share here. People can be private, and yet easily get to know next-door neighbors and other Park Pointers. Lake

Superior, for her, is a powerful source of inspiration and renewal.

As an artist and photographer, she has focused mainly on women, because it is what she knows best. This particular project had its seed in the period of transition when her youngest daughter left home for good. She began to think about the mother-daughter dynamic and the effect it has on all women's lives. What began as a small project photographing the mothers and daughters among her family and friends blossomed into a 1995 exhibition at the Depot. The extraordinary interest in the exhibition prompted Catherine to consider something she had never done before-- a book. The mothers and daughters were very much collaborators with her, not merely "subjects", and Catherine was daily touched by their honesty and expressiveness.

Where is Catherine Koemptgen heading as a photographer now that this project is finished? She has been pleasantly surprised that "Connections & Reflections" has touched so many hearts. She does not plan any further explorations of the motherdaughter theme at this time, but she knows that a new project she can be passionate about is out there, waiting for the right moment.