

# The Breeze

Of  
Park Point

March 2007

Vol.36 issue 3

## Calendar

**Park Point Community Club Meeting**  
March 15th, 7PM  
At Lafayette

**Buoys and Gulls Club Mtg**  
Tuesday April 3rd @ 1PM  
**BAYPOINT ESTATES**  
**APT BLDG**  
1902 St. Louis Ave  
(Use lower East entrance)  
**Bingo every Thursday**  
11 AM  
**Bring your lunch-**  
**Coffee is provided**  
(Also moved to Baypoint Estates)  
**Everyone 55 and older is invited!**

**Park Point Rummage Sale**  
June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

**Grandma's Marathon**  
June 16<sup>th</sup>

**Park Point Art Fair**  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

## Winter Returns



First it was the deep freeze, creating the unusual clear ice conditions on Lake Superior, and then came the snow – and more snow. And did I mention the wind? For the first time in twenty years we got the treatment Park Point was once famous for – the Blizzard of '07 was one we can tell our grandkids about.

## Sign the Petition!

### Protect Park Point's Pines!

A Citizen's Petition to the Federal Aviation Administration is now being circulated, not just on Park Point, but throughout the City of Duluth, and indeed the region, in response to the FAA's ruling that many of the old growth trees in the Minnesota Point Pine Forest need to be cut back to allow safe clearance for aircraft arriving and departing Sky Harbor Airport. The petition itself is simple, stating only **"We the undersigned want the Minnesota Point Pine Forest protected from cutting and clearing planned by Sky Harbor Airport."** It also states further: **"This Petition is intended to halt planned cutting of old-growth pines in the Minnesota Point Pine forest, a State of Minnesota protected resource, by the Duluth Airport Authority for Sky Harbor Airport on Minnesota Point."**

This petition is not aimed at Sky Harbor Airport, or the Airport authority. Indeed, Airport Director Brian Ryks has voiced his opposition to the extensive cutting the FAA has proscribed. The petition is aimed at the FAA, and takes no position as to how the situation is addressed – only that the pines be protected.

There are a number of copies of the petition being circulated – I know there's one at Bayside – so be sure you find one and sign. Petition deadline is March 21<sup>st</sup>.

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 March 30th for the April 2007 issue. Please send submissions to Alan Dartanyan at [breezeditor@msn.com](mailto:breezeditor@msn.com) by e-mail or deliver to 1540 Minnesota Ave.

## **Park Point Community Club Officers:**

President: Open

Vice President: Dave Poulin  
3101 S. Lake Ave.  
722-1511

Secretary: Dave Johnson  
722-98764

Treasurer: Chuck Flaig  
1511 Minnesota Ave.  
727-2814

## **Committees**

### **ART FAIR**

Carla Tamburro  
727-2661

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

### **HOSPITALITY**

Diane Gould, 727-4067

### **LAFAYETTE SQUARE**

#### **RENTALS**

Barb Greene 940-2613  
Barbinha69@aol.com

#### **S-CURVE SIGN**

Dave Johnson, 722-9764

#### **SUNSHINE**

Pam Griggs  
727-2158

### **Park Point Community Club**

**P.O. Box 16326**

**Duluth, MN 55816-0326**

**www.**

[parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://parkpointcommunityclub.org)

Swing Dance at Lafayette Square March 25<sup>th</sup> Everyone Welcome!

Like to have fun and support a good cause at the same time?  
Please join the Senior High Youth Group of St. Andrew's Church  
For an evening of swing, ballroom and deserts and  
Help raise funds for our August Pilgrimage to Washington D.C.

*The Pilgrimage begins from Duluth on August 6<sup>th</sup>.  
We will travel through Amish Country on our way. Then we  
will visit the Holocaust Museum, the National Cathedral,  
and the Burton Parish in Williamsburg and return the 16<sup>th</sup>.*

So, dust off your old saddle shoes, dig out the poodle skirt or prom dress, or just wear your favorite faded blue jeans and please bring your favorite dance partner along with all of your other friends and family to:

Lafayette Square  
March 25, 2007  
7:00 – 10:00 PM  
Dance lesson from 7:00 – 7:30  
Dance 7:30 - 10:00  
Swing and Ballroom music provided  
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Tickets: \$10 per person

For advanced tickets call:  
Thompsons @ 722-0848 or  
Brakkes @ 722-3931

Contributions for the Pilgrimage can be written to: St. Andrew's By the Lake c/o Youth Pilgrimage, 2802 MN. Ave., Duluth, MN 55802

## **PARK POINT RUMMAGE SALE JUNE 8TH & 9TH FRIDAY - SATURDAY 8-5**

Less than 3 months until the 27th Annual Garage Sale.  
Yards are needed for food vendors. If you are interested in having a vendor set up in your yard please call. You will be paid by the vendor. Also, if you are planning to have a vendor in your yard let us know what kind of food they will be selling. It is our goal to somewhat space the vendors out long the point. Remember all food vendors must be licensed.

Be sure to tell your friends about the Greatest 4 mile Rummage Sale.

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2802 Minnesota Avenue  
standrewsbtl.org 727-1262

Keep us, O God, from all pettiness.

Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed. Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off all self-seeking.

May we put away all pretense and meet each other face-to-face, without self-pity and without prejudice. Grant that we may realize that it is the little things of life that create differences, that in the big things of life we're as one. And, O God, let us not forget to be kind.

*from the prayer of Queen Mary Stuart*

During Lent, the church is open for quiet prayer and meditation on Saturdays (March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31) from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. All are welcome to stop for some quiet and a cup of coffee or tea.

Worship is on Sunday, 9:45 a.m.

Nursery care is available.

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Visit our website for latest newsletter and calendar of events.

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## Duluth Mystery from the Deep

The photo at right, taken with an underwater camera, shows part of what appears to be an uncharted wreck just off Park Point Beach near 26<sup>th</sup> St.. The wreckage was clearly visible to ice anglers and skaters taking advantage of the unusual ice conditions on Lake Superior. Story Below



**2/22 – Duluth.** Ice anglers walking off the sand beach of Duluth’s Park Point have found what may be an uncharted wreck of a Lake Superior vessel.

The outline of the wreckage was first spotted Sunday through the 10 inches of crystal-clear ice that now covers much of Lake Superior off Duluth. It sits about 150 feet out from the shoreline off the 2600 block of Minnesota Avenue, in water 10 feet deep. Other anglers have drilled holes in the ice and lowered an underwater video camera to take a closer look.

Maritime historians say it’s not clear if the finding is a discovery of an uncharted wreck or if it’s a documented wreck that somehow was moved by currents or shifting sands. Shipwreck maps document several sunken vessels off Duluth, but all are closer either to the Duluth Ship Canal or to Superior Entry. It’s also possible that sand covering the wreckage had been moved off the area and that the near-record low Lake Superior water level may have made the wreckage easier to see. Either way, it seems astonishing that no one has ever noticed the wreck before. And it seems even stranger that anything that substantial could have moved very far.

“I’ve boated over that spot and swam over it and never saw it before,” said Isaac Ginsberg of Duluth. Ginsberg, a professional photographer, happened on the anglers who found the wreck. He took still photographs of the underwater camera’s monitor. The photos show the outline of a large wooden vessel and a driveshaft. “We could also see the propeller, and it was big... maybe three feet across,” Ginsberg said, adding that it appeared too big to move much. “Maybe they beached it and burned it or something.”

Thom Holden, director of the Lake Superior Maritime Visitors Center in Duluth, said he knew of no wreck in that area. He noted that chunks of wrecks, along with other items — such as the mystery crib recently washed ashore in Duluth — have surprised Lake Superior buffs before.

“There’s nothing I could find that’s supposed to be in that spot. How it got there, or why no one ever noticed it before, who knows?” Holden said.

After happening upon the wreckage, Sola retrieved a small underwater camera used for fishing. The camera revealed the decking timbers and propeller blades sticking out of the sand. “It’s amazingly clear,” he said. “It was like a PBS special.” After consulting some charts and other ship resources, Sola said he thinks it might be the City of Winnipeg, a wooden passenger ship built in 1870. The Minnesota

(Continued on page 7)

## **Park Point Community Club February 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

Here's a tip for anyone planning a meeting in sub-zero winter conditions: Offer free pizza and Park Pointers will be there. So it was for this night. A biting wind blew straight from the North Pole to Lafayette Square, but inside the cozy old building the tang of pepperoni lingered in the air. Cheerful community club members readied themselves for the meeting; watching the scene from the head table, Dave Poulin reluctantly set his own plate aside, reached for the gavel and tapped the meeting to order. It was 7:02. Minutes of the last meeting were quickly approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chuck Flaig had a few points to note. Club treasury currently stands at \$40,465.89. Membership money is coming in; Art Fair entry money is coming in as well. Art Fair jury fees will begin in March. Dave Poulin spoke about the status of the audit; finding an auditor between now and April 15 will be difficult.

**Correspondence:** Dave Poulin read a lengthy letter from Carl Seehus (from the City of Duluth) urging the Park Point Community Club to continue its involvement with the Adopt-a-Parks program. There was very little discussion about which park Park Pointers were expected to adopt. **Motion:** To continue with Adopt-a-Park. **Motion carried.**

### **Committee Reports:**

**Art Fair:** Jake Kapsner, surprised by Dave Poulin as he tried to sneak another slice of pizza, delivered an upbeat assessment of progress for the 2007 Art Fair. He and Art Fair director Carla Tamburro have been busy as the tempo of work picks up. Mailings are out; entries are coming in. Technology is helping, from our web presence to artists submitting CD's of their work. Charlene Shimmin raised her very strong concern about the Art Fair banquet the Community Club sponsors for the artists. Beer and wine is offered at the banquet; Charlene wants the Club to explore our liability if something happens because of that. Legally, the Club has always been in full compliance for permits and other requirements, but hospitality carries responsibilities, too.

**Breeze:** Alan Dartanyan is working to lock a few more ads down from the Canal Park businesses. Club members were quick to praise Alan for the appearance of the Breeze; it presents a very professional face as it represents our community.

**Youth:** Several club members filed a combined report on how things have been going with the winter program downstairs at Lafayette. "It's been ungodly cold" but there have still been good crowds out skating. Volunteers have been very cooperative in keeping things scheduled, or at least unlocked with lights on. On behalf of the Community Club, sincere thanks go to all volunteers involved with this year's Lafayette skating nights. They did so without any City staff, in brutally cold conditions, often without pizza.

**Environmental:** Singing a dinner-theater duet, Dave Poulin and Dave Johnson did their best to explain progress that was being made for the preservation of the Minnesota Point Pine Forest. The two were well-prepared, but had also been caught off guard by an announcement by Congressman James Oberstar this very day that mentioned moving Sky Harbor Airport to the Morgan Park steel plant site. Mr. Oberstar also said he did not want the trees to be cut. **Petition Drive:** A Citizens' Petition to the Federal Aviation Administration has been prepared; it was circulated for any final comments from club members before it was released. Using the FAA's own criteria, the Club and everyone else who loves the Pine Forest can show support for it by signing the petition. This is Step One: Keep the trees from being cut. This leaves three options. Move the airport, close the runway or move the runway farther out into Superior Bay. This third option seems most promising; Club members have already spoken with officials throughout government as well as a long list of environmental and civic groups. Again the mood of the Club was united; lifelong Park Point residents and newcomers alike! The trees are of lasting importance and are worth every protection we can afford them. Cap'n Tom Mackay stressed that the size of the entire forest could be measured in blocks, not miles, and that this very small area isn't too much to ask to

(Continued Next Page)

(minutes, continued)

be spared. The Community Club voted to endorse any effort Congressman Oberstar might make to move Sky Harbor to the steel plant site. It was a verbal vote, apparently unanimous, and given with the understanding that it can't change Step One.

**Buoys & Gulls:** Elaine Edwardson, from the Buoys & Gulls Seniors' Club, announced their club's intent to move from Lafayette to the Bay Point Estates apartment building, where they've been offered use of a meeting hall. The key is accessibility; many club members live in the apartments, and getting into Lafayette can mean a steep climb even on the ramp. They would like to take the bingo machine with them to the new site. **Motion:** The Park Point Community Club shall retain ownership of the bingo machine, and shall loan it on a long-term basis to the Buoys & Gulls Club. This was thought to be acceptable to both clubs. **Motion carried.**

This opened a discussion about Lafayette, and whether it was an appropriate site for public-access events such as voting. Charlene Shimmin suggested other sites here on the Point might be better for senior citizens on Election Day.

Community Club meetings have often been notorious for their length, but this night leftover pizza was still warm in cardboard boxes, calling out from Lafayette's kitchen to Club members with a siren song of mozzarella and sauce. Scarcely more than an hour after it began, Dave Poulin adjourned the meeting and happily reached for his plate.

Reflexively Submitted,

Dave Johnson, Idiot Secretary

## **Just a thought**

**As I was out wandering about in the aftermath of the storm, I was struck by how many people, myself included, were snapping pictures. There must be a thousand pictures out there, of drifts, buried cars, snowplows at work, etc. And I thought, wouldn't it be great to put out a special edition of the Breeze, just of pictures and quotes on the Blizzard of '07? I'm thinking a limited run, maybe 8 pages, probably 30 – 40 pictures. I'd have to clear the extra expense with the community club, and I'd need a little help from my printers at Shel-Don Reproductions. And I don't think I'd ask my delivery people to deliver it. It will be enough of a job just to get this edition to people's doors. But it would be fun to see all the pictures (though no doubt hard to choose which ones to print) So what d'ya think? Should I go for it? The Editor**

(Wreckage, from page 4)

Historical Society's list of shipwrecks said the City of Winnipeg was partially burned in a fire in 1881 and scuttled at an unknown location in 1898.

Conditions on the ice are unpredictable and can become dangerous quickly. Efforts by a News Tribune reporter and photographer to visit the site Tuesday afternoon were thwarted by a pressure ridge that appeared to have caused a rift of open water.

Jan Saillard, owner of Innerspace Scuba in Duluth's West End, said he hadn't heard of any wreckage in that area known to divers but speculated it might be a scuttled boat. "They scuttled tugboats off the point and it might be one of those where the sand shifted recently and exposed something," he said.

While it's not unusual for the western tip of Lake Superior to freeze enough for anglers to walk out on the lake, it is unusual for the lake to freeze this smooth and clear, and to have little or no snow covering the ice. It's possible to see through the ice and clear water to objects on the bottom 20 or more feet below.

**Capt. Tom Mackay**



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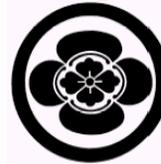
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### Editor's Corner

It's been an interesting stretch here on Park Point. After the brown holidays and mild January, we fell into the deep freeze in February. Though many of us dealt with frozen water lines under the uninsulated ground, it also gave us those wonderful ice conditions out on the lake. I've never seen so many people out on the ice, skating, fishing, or just wandering around. I know of at least one Park Pointer who skated from the point all the way to the Lester River. And of course it was the clear ice that led to the discovery of the as yet unidentified shipwreck off 26<sup>th</sup> street.

But the big story has to be the back to back snow storms, including what will no doubt go down as the Blizzard of '07.

In my nearly 20 years here on Park Point this was the best – or worst I've ever seen. No, it didn't have the snow totals of the Halloween megastorm, but the wind, peaking at 66mph at Sky Harbor, left drifts that had to be seen to be believed. That's why, over the past couple days, most of Duluth seems to have come down here, creeping along Minnesota Avenue, which is still single lane in places, staring out their car windows and snapping pictures.

Oh yeah, I did it too. After shoveling a path to the street on Friday, long before the bridge reopened to traffic, we set off on a pilgrimage to Canal Park for coffee. It was amazing how many people we met, some on skis and snowshoes, others just trudging along, marveling at the drifts and taking pictures. And everyone seemed to be in a good mood, the kids free from school, adults free from work, enjoying a gift from Mother Nature. Oh yeah, we knew there'd be plenty of work to do, once the plows came through, and we had to free our vehicles from those awe inspiring drifts. But for now, we were just wandering around, talking to neighbors, sharing stories of this and other storms. After all, this is what we live here for!

**Hello to the breeze**, and all my friends on park point beach. Miss you all, but not the cold.

I have taken a leave, to travel, yes to Hawaii to work as a traveling nurse here for 3 months. I will be home just in time for the park point rummage sale.

Say hello to all the folks at Franciscan Health Care, and all the park point community club friends. This is such a great opportunity.

Dave was here for 3 weeks, if you see him at the bay side, ask him how Kona coffee is.

I am staying in Hilo , the east side of the Big Island. I would love to have a 20 min. talk and video about the volcano I am filming, when I return,( NOT.)

Wish you were here!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Miss the beach, but not the snow.

Aloha , MARY OF HILO

I would like to extend an invitation to all Park Point Residents 55 years of age or older to come and join us, Buoys and Gulls Club. We meet the first Tuesday of the month in the community room of Baypoint Estates, 1902 St Louis Ave. Each month we have speakers and/or entertainment at our meetings. We have a yearly bus trip and we play Bingo every Thursday at 11AM. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the game. Our annual dues are \$2 plus a \$5 donation for our no-bake Bake Sale. Come and meet your neighbors. If you have any questions call Elaine Edwardson, President at 279-3955. We look forward to seeing you. Also, the Buoys and Gulls Club would like to thank the Park Point Community Club for the use of the Bingo machine for our Thursday Bingo sessions.

## *The Breeze*

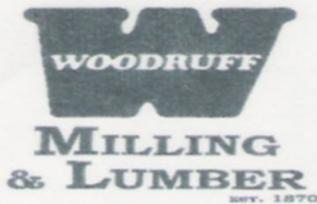
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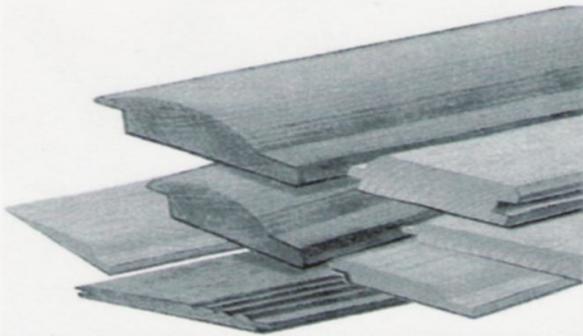
## **Park Point Resident**

### **Parks Maintenance Numbers**

If you see a problem such as overflowing trash cans or porta-potties, or any issue concerning our park facilities, you can contact the Parks Maintenance Division of the Public Works Department at 723-3425, Monday thru Friday from 7 AM to 3 PM. Weekends and after hours call 723-3333



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