

The Breeze

Of
Park Point

August 2007

Vol.36 issue 8

Calendar

Park Point Community Club Meeting

August 16th, 7PM
At Lafayette

Ice Cream Social
6:30 PM

Twin Ports Lighthouse Days

August 4 - 12

Witness for Peace Benefit

August 19th
at Lafayette

Buoys & Gulls Club

Tuesday Sept 4th 1PM
Baypoint Estates
Bingo every Thursday
11:00 AM

The Heart of Park Point



What is the heart of Park Point? That could argued, but perhaps it's best known location (I'm 5 blocks past the store....when you get to the store just...etc) and they place we all turn to for necessities and information, is Bayside Market. And for the past 35 years, that "heart" has belonged to Dick Gajewski. Now Dick may dispute this: He contends that "Bayside isn't my store, it's Park Point's store". Nevertheless, I recently sat down with Dick and Melinda to discuss the past and future of Bayside.

Dick has been a professional meat cutter and sausage maker since he was 18 years old. He began working for his father at the Community Market on Mesaba and 8th St., which later moved to 60th Ave. E. and Superior Street. Then in 1972 Dick bought the former Clem's Market on 1901 Minnesota Avenue, changing the name to Bayside Market. Dick moved with his family into what was then a small apartment above the store.

Now at one time there had been at least a half dozen stores on Park Point, but by 1972 nearly all of them had closed, the buildings converted – and rezoned – to residential. Dick recalls that Ann's Store still hung on for a few more years, but that was basically just a candy shop. Older residents will remember this as the site of the beauty shop, which has since been torn down.

One of Dick's first moves after buying the market was to replace the 6 foot meat counter that Clem's had with a 16 foot meat and deli counter, and it was upon his meats and sausages that Bayside's reputation was built. For the next 35 years, Bayside has been both his home and his life's work, where he raised his family, employing them - and many young Park Point residents - behind the counters of the store. (continued on page 8)

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 August 31st for the September 2007 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: 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

Rhythms of Justice and Peace

Sunday, August 19th, 2007

4:30 - *Canine Heartsounds*,
prog. rock

6:00 - *Clear*, inspirational
rhythm & blues

8:00 - *Max Dakota and
Modern Life*, reggae

Multicultural Silent Auction

Food and refreshments available by
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30th block, Minnesota Ave., Park
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**\$10/adult, \$5/student, no charge for
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WORSHIP - 9:45 a.m. Sundays
(Nursery care for children under 3)
ALL ARE WELCOME

It is not you who shapes God, it is God who shapes you. If then you are the work of God, await the hand of the artist, Who does all things in due season. Offer God your heart, soft and tractable. And keep the form in which the artist has fashioned you. Let your clay be moist, Lest you grow hard and lose the imprint of God's fingers.

Irenaeus (2nd Century Bishop)



Bay Side Market

"Convenience Plus"

Summer Hours: 7am – 9pm

Winter Hours: 7am – 8pm

18 foot fresh Meat Case with:

- **Steaks**
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- **Homemade sausages**
- **Hot dogs**
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- **Ice**
- **Newspapers**
- **Film**
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- **ATM**
- **Pet food**
- **Ice cream**
- **Gas**
- **Lunch meats**
- **Cheese**
- **Bread & buns**

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The "Nina", docked at Lakehead Boat Basin

Spanish caravel visits Duluth

The "Nina", billed as "the first truly historically correct replica of a Spanish Caravel," docked at Lakehead Boat Basin on Park Point, drawing hundreds of visitors, and a few protestors. The boat is a replica of Christopher Columbus' ship of the same name. Personally, as she sailed away, I thought we missed an opportunity. We could have refloated the Viking ship from Leif Erickson Park, and set up a match race. See who's the first one back to the "Old World"

Twin Ports Lighthouse Days

August 4-12, 2007 Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center, Canal Park, Duluth

The Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center's "Twin Ports Lighthouse Days", run from Saturday, August 4th through Sunday, August 12th, featuring an array of lighthouse programs both inside the museum and outside in the park from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM each day. All programs are free and open to the public. There is no admission charge to the Visitor Center operated by the Corps of Engineers in Canal Park, Duluth.

"Twin Ports Lighthouse Days" is a celebration of the Twin Ports' five distinctive lighthouses as well as those around the Lake Superior. This annual event is held around the anniversary of August 7, 1789, the date President George Washington signed the Ninth Act of Congress federalizing our nation's lighthouses.

For those with a Lighthouse Passport Book, we will have available five different lighthouse rubber stamps to make new entries for the Twin Ports lights -- an excellent opportunity to add to your collection. There will be demonstrations, history walks, films, live programs, and the possibility of a chance meeting with Mrs. Ella Luick, wife of Emmanuel Luick the Sand Island lighthouse keeper between 1892 and 1921. Mrs. Luick's character is portrayed by Gina Templeton Rhodes "from the present era."

Park Point Community Club July 19, 2007 Meeting Minutes

"Kinda warm for a parrot costume, don't you think?" Dave Poulin eyed the club secretary with suspicion. The secretary pulled off the costume's huge cartoon parrot head, shrugged his giant colorful wings and leaned in close to Poulin, a move that would have made Dave apprehensive with or without the parrot plumage.

"I'm the new mascot for the Park Point Pirates," the secretary said with gleeful pride. "I came right here from the baseball stadium," he confided, then fluttered over to his usual perch at the side table.

"I thought they played in Bemidji tonight," Dave muttered under his breath, and opened the meeting. It was 7:07. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Treasurer Chuck Flaig wasn't at tonight's meeting, but the Club still had plenty of business to attend to. Club members discussed hiring a bookkeeper on a part-time basis. Duties assigned would include tax filings, membership enrollment and the paperwork involved with changing the Club's non-profit status to a higher (501-3-C) level, if the Club meets the criteria for the upgrade. Donations to the Club would then be tax-deductible, and there may be more grants available for projects like Lafayette's roof. The nucleus of a financial committee is forming, but more volunteers are necessary and shall be recruited from the community. Club members requested a September deadline for the first committee meeting. This re-focusing of the club's finances first requires a consolidation of accounts, and that led to the following **Motion:** The PPCC bank account at the Proctor Credit Union is to be closed directly; all funds shall be transferred to the UBS account in downtown Duluth. **Motion carried.** A meeting of the Club's Executive Board was scheduled for next week to continue this important work.

Correspondence: The Club has a strong policy of dismissing unsigned letters. Despite that, and over howls of protest, Dave Poulin read one aloud anyway, just to keep the secretary in line.

Two letters arrived from the City of Duluth Parks & Rec. Department. The first, from the now-retired Carl Seehus, thanks the Club for our donations to the Lafayette Summer Youth and Winter Recreation programs. The second note promotes the availability of the City's new "Fun Wagon," which isn't as creepy as it sounds.

St. Andy's Church sent the Club \$100 for allowing them to set up their popcorn stand at the Art Fair. **Motion:** The Club wants the money (tactfully) returned to the church, to be used for an upcoming youth trip. **Motion carried.**

Committee Reports:

Art Fair: Director Carla Tamburro warmly thanked all the volunteers involved with the fair. The last straggling bills have been paid, and the final profit will be known soon. She's putting together a follow-up meeting for the committee.

Breeze: Editor Alan Dartanyan said he's always open for written contributions and other volunteer help. Regular contributions need to arrive on deadline. (He glared his regular deadline-glare at the secretary).

Youth: Neighborhood Grandpa Tom Lyle spoke about the superb work Joy Fouts is again doing with the Summer Youth Program. The kids are busy and involved, the outside area is clean, and only small cuts and scraped knees have been reported. Parents have contributed \$150 to the popular program.

Environmental: Dick Gould sadly reported the continuing drought and record-low water table has wreaked havoc on this season's tree-planting projects. Park Point volunteers (Dick Gould included) got poison ivy planting expensive trees that dried up or died off. The 12th Street project is on hold because of unreasonable City of Duluth demands. He also said there's a fungus attacking fruit trees, the Duluth Airport Authority was determined to destroy the Minnesota Point Pine Forest, and the world will undergo a severe economic downturn by 2009. His report was brought to an end by the scream of a terrified giant parrot.

(continued on next page)

(Minutes, continued)

Quality of Life: Dennis Hoelscher reported on another community club committee that could use volunteers. He's been doing research into getting timed lifts for the Aerial Bridge; scheduled lifts for non-commercial traffic such as sailboats. We'll see.... The gate across the 12th Street parking lot has a fresh coat of yellow paint. Half of the gate closes properly; the other side is messed up. This led to a short discussion about the gate. Neighbors dread the idea of having the gate closed and locked at night. In the past, vandals that have been denied access to the park have taken their anger out on the neighborhood..... Dennis continued his report with a follow-up on Firehall 5. Adequate staffing is still an issue, even as the City moves forward with plans to rebuild the existing station.... Behind Lafayette, the railings have all been repaired, and the City finally fixed the security lights.... Dennis concluded his report by pointing out that the upcoming election gives us an opportunity to push for our priorities with the candidates and with city officials new to their jobs.

New Business: Lois Shabatura spoke about the possible loss of Bay Side Market, Park Point's landmark grocery store. The store is up for sale, and the City of Duluth won't care whether we're inconvenienced by that or not. There are now only two neighborhood grocery stores left in the city. To no one's surprise, franchises have taken over. Alan Dartanyan spoke eloquently about the need to support local businesses; he pledged to buy supplies for an August ice-cream social at Bay Side.

Politics: Duluth mayoral candidate Meg Bye introduced herself to the club. She talked about her frustrations at seeing "the system" breaking down in the City of Duluth; a topic long familiar to Park Pointers. "Things are no longer integrated - - things aren't getting done," she said. Club members cheerfully elaborated on that topic for her.

Miscellany: The Aerial Bridge has had a new supervisor for nearly a year. The club will invite him down to a PPCC meeting this fall.... Several club members voiced their displeasure about construction crews blocking traffic and bike lanes in front of the newest development by the Sola family.... The worst road bump on Minnesota Avenue is between 24th and 25th, but the worst section of sidewalk is at 30th. Ribbons will be awarded.... **Motion:** The Club shall buy supplies for an ice-cream social to be held prior to the August club meeting. **Motion carried.**

With that, the meeting adjourned. The club secretary leapt to his feet. "Gotta go support the team," he said with bubbly enthusiasm. "If I hurry, I'll make it for the seventh inning!" He put the heavy parrot head on and dashed out the door. A new Park Point resident watched him go.

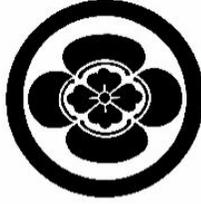
"He sure loves that baseball team," the newbie said to Dave Poulin.

"There is no baseball team," Dave replied. It was 8:40.

Respectically submitticent,
Dave Johnson, Idiot Secretary

Four-wheelers on the Beach

Beach goers may have seen or heard a pair of 4-wheel ATV's cruising along the Point of late. This is because the Police Department has taken a proactive stance on patrolling the beach. According to Community Police officer Mike Tinsley, the Duluth Police Department has 2-3 4-wheelers and use them when there are large crowds on the beach. Officers using the wheelers usually travel in single file so they don't leave too noticable a track, and carry garbage bags on the back rack. Usually, one trip down the beach results in a full bag of trash and glass. Officer Tinsley also stated "Sgt. Boese and I have zero tolerance for misuse of the 4-wheelers other than patrolling to make the area safer for beachgoers and residents." As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Officer Tinsley at 390-2863



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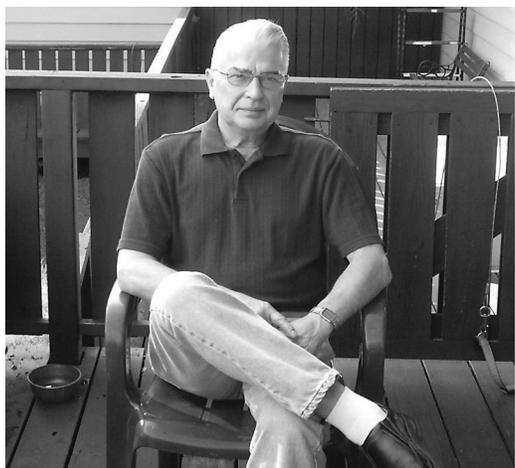
Thai Chicken with Sesame Dressing

Due to the overwhelming responses to Eating Fit, it is now going to stay on the main menu! Enjoy the flavors of Green Mill and be true to your commitment to eat healthy. Counting fats, calories or even dietary fiber? The Green Mill Eating Fit menu features healthier alternatives – many that meet the requirements of today's most popular diets.



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(Heart, from Page 1)



Dick Gajewski sits on his deck and discusses the past and future of Bayside Market

Now 68, Dick hopes to retire soon and move to Florida. But in order to do this, he must first sell Bayside Market. There's no retirement plan when you own your own small business. For Dick, the proceeds from the sale of the store will be his retirement.

Selling the property where Bayside sits wouldn't be difficult. Four centrally located commercially zoned lots would be very attractive to a developer wishing to build condos or apartments. But Dick would like Bayside to be sold to someone who will continue to operate it as a store. He feels that it is important to the Park Point community to have a neighborhood store. And this has proved a problem. When prospective buyers – and there have been several – approach the banks for financing, they've been turned down. They're told there's not enough cash flow to make it. Banks don't consider the needs of the community, they look at the bottom line. Nor do they figure in the countless virtually unpaid hours that Dick and Melinda themselves put into the store. (They estimate they each put in 70 hours a week during the summer months.)

To answer the bankers' concerns, Dick and Melinda recently invested \$25,000 to make operating the store more efficient. With the new changes Bayside no longer requires a full time meat cutter on duty, and during the slower times, the store can easily be operated by a single person. But even with these changes, Dick stresses that the store needs community support to stay open. A small community market can never compete with the big chains on prices, and Dick knows people are going to go to the supermarket, but, he pleads, "Save a little for us".

In talking to Dick, I learned a little about running a small store. For instance, those "convenience items" that we all stop in for: gas, bread and milk; are basically "loss leaders" sold with little or no profit margin. Gas was a real eye opener for me. With the high prices, you'd think this would be a real money maker, but actually profits for retailers have fallen as the price has gone up. And as credit card companies push you to buy your gas with their cards, the processing fees charged retailers are so high that they actually lose money on credit card gas sales.

Dick says there tends to be a perception in Duluth– and especially in government – that "If you're in business, you're rich" (You think your residential property taxes have gone up? You should see what's happened to commercial property). But he says you don't go into a business like this to get rich. You can make a living, raise your family, pay your bills and hopefully come out the other end with enough profit to retire on. And that's where he stands right now.

When Dick bought the store in 1972, there were still 25 small grocery stores in Duluth; now there are 2. And the other one, on 1st Avenue East and 4th Street, was recently bought by a community organization, which recognized how vital it was to the neighborhood. Something similar has been bandied about here on Park Point, and it may be the only way to keep Bayside open. But whoever ultimately buys the store, it will not survive unless the Park Point community embraces and supports it. So if you appreciate the convenience of a neighborhood store, and think it's an important asset to our community, stop in, buy a little something extra, and say thanks to Dick, Mel, Joan, Brady and Aleah for all they do.

Alan Dartanyan

Editor's Corner

I read an interesting article recently about why Duluth city officials were no longer regularly attending planning district meetings. It seems there was a concern that a few "dominant personalities" tended to take over the meetings, pushing issues and views that were not necessarily shared by the community as a whole. Well, that can happen in any organization, including Community Clubs. And while our current "Maximum Leader" has done a good job of seeing that rash talk does not result in rash action, there are still times at our monthly meetings when someone will go off on a personal rant, while less "dominant personalities" sit and quietly bang their heads against the table, as they've heard it all before.

That is why I launched my personal crusade against such diversions, using one of the most powerful weapons known to man: **Ice Cream!**

It's a proven scientific fact that no one can maintain an angry rant while shoveling spoonfuls of this cooling treat into their mouths. And the power of any oratory is greatly diminished by a bit of chocolate sauce clinging to the side of one's mouth – and even more so by a whipped cream mustache.

To this end, prior to the August 16th Community Club meeting, we will be holding the **2nd Annual Ice Cream Social** at Lafayette Square. So if you have issues, come early to the meeting, fill your bowl with ice cream, and quench the fire of your fervor.

And even (or especially) if you don't have issues, come enjoy a cool treat, socialize with your neighbors, and revel in Summer on Park Point.

Dear Park Pointers:

It's been half a year since all the beaver & otter—eight in all—were trapped from Herding Island. Back when it happened, the Monday after Thanksgiving, I spent several days on and off the phone with people from various DNR offices, the City, local marinas, etc. It took some time to determine who governs Herding Island and what the policy is toward trapping.

The upshot is, trapping is allowed on the Island—trapping for fox and mink as well as beaver and otter, with proper licenses and in season, of course.

Before trapping season comes round again, I thought I'd see if anyone else out there thinks this might not be the best management for such an urban property. My own interest is purely sentimental. We live directly across from the beaver lodge and enjoy the wildlife shows. However, many who run their dogs on Herding Island may have concern, too, about unsprung traps.

If you'd like to talk more about current management practices and what might be done to modify them, please contact me.

Lisa McKhann
722-6190
lulu@cpinternet.co

Just a few rich folks

(re Dick Gould's article)

A couple of things that kept me away from the Park Point Community Club (after attending a couple of meetings as a guest) were the finger pointing and possessiveness of the vocal members. It didn't feel like an inclusive organization, and life is too short to spend lovely evenings feeling like an outsider.

I am one of the pilots (and a Park Point Resident) who flies into our lovely Sky Harbor Airport. I've been flying into it for 20 years – not all of them as PIC (pilot in command.) It's a gem of a location and many of the pilots I've met there are responsible, generous people. Sort of like every where else.

Lumping people into categories (eg. "just a few rich folks") in order to dismiss them, leads to a narrow society. Who's next? Should we get rid of marinas because only a few rich folks can afford to use them? Or maybe we should do away with public beaches, since those folks who have too much time on their hands - enjoying the sun and sand.

Pilots have to maintain their airplanes every year (annual inspections) and have to demonstrate their ability to operate the aircraft every 2 years (biennial flight review) and have to have a medical inspection every 2 years. How many other sports insist on the capabilities of the operators? Even that doesn't guarantee that there won't be inconsiderate pilots. There are even non-pilots who are pretty inconsiderate.

Nancy Anderson

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 who to call? Here's some numbers you can use: Parks Maintenance Division : 723-3425 (after hours 723-3333)

Fire Station #5 (Park Point): 723-3215

Community Police Officer Mike Tinsley: 390-2863



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