

# The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 36 issue 9

September 2007

## Calendar

**Park Point Community Club Meeting**  
September 20, 7Pm  
at Lafayette

**Great Lakes Beach Sweep**  
September 22 - 11-4 pm

**Buoys and Gulls**  
October 2nd--  
See enclosed article  
On page 9  
Bingo--every Thursday  
11AM @ Baypoint Estates  
Everyone invited.>

## Politics and Ice Cream



**Above left, Park Pointers line up for a turn at the ice cream bar. Above right, mayoral candidate Greg Gilbert addresses a packed house.**

Was it the ice cream or the politics that brought a standing room only crowd to the August Community Club meeting at Lafayette Square? Maybe it was the ice cream that brought the politicians, as over a dozen candidates for Mayor, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Council and Council at Large put in an appearance. The Community Club quickly dealt with essential business, then turned the floor over to the candidates. Each candidate was given 5 minutes to speak, and the forum proceeded smoothly and civilly. The candidates presented their platforms and made pleas for support, generally adhering to the time limits, and the audience listened respectfully, holding their questions until all candidates had spoken their piece. Even the question and answer period was cordial, with none of acrimony that usually surfaces when we have politicians to roast.

The candidate turnout, on short notice, speaks well of the Park Point community, and it's history of high voter turnout. And the large community turnout, also with little advertisement, demonstrates the high level of civic involvement on Park Point. Or maybe it was just the ice cream.....

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](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)

## A Different Kind of Community Club

Did you hear? We almost had a president. After more than a year with the position vacant, and Vice President Dave Poulan pulling double duty, a long time Park Pointer and Community Club veteran stepped forward and offered his name for consideration. He came before a hastily called Executive Board meeting, and was greeted by such a hailstorm of personal invective from one of our "dominant personalities" that he immediately withdrew his offer. And we continue on our headless way.

What made this particularly disheartening was that it came right on the heels of the smoothly run and civil candidates forum. But what appears to me to be the difference between things like the candidate's forum and the many issues upon which we stumble and quarrel, is the level of expectations. At the forum, there were none. No one, neither candidates nor club members, expected us to endorse a candidate, demand promises, or require candidates to sign off on a list of agenda items. We were just there to listen to what the candidates had to say, then go home, make our own decisions and deliver them in the voting booth. It's when we expect the community club to take action, as opposed to doing it as individuals, that we run into problems. For everyone seems to have their own opinion of what the Community Club needs to do. As for me, I believe the Community Club needs to...**get over itself!**

As I've stated before, there are some things the Park Point Community Club does very well. Number one, we put on a great Art Fair. And the proceeds from that allow us to fund a number of worthwhile projects, such as the Environmental Committees spring plantings, the organization the Park Point Rummage Sale, pay for the printing of the Breeze, and make a substantial annual donation to the Summer Youth Program. And there's still enough left over for the occasional ice cream social or pizza party. These are things that help build community.

Oh there are other things the club can do, such as arranging the candidate's forum, and inviting public officials to come speak. I love it when our community police officer comes and brings us statistics and talks about law enforcement issues on the Point. And our fine firefighters from Fire Hall 5 have been very good about keeping us up to date on developments there. These things help keep the community informed.

Now I know that people down here have strong feelings on issues, and some of those issues are very important. And if an issue is important to you, and you wish to form a group of like-minded people to work on it, certainly the Breeze can help facilitate that. And Lafayette is available as a meeting space. But a community club needs to be open to people of all opinions, not just yours. And if you believe an angry letter needs to be sent, write it yourself!

Alan Dartanyan

**St. Andrews By The Lake  
Episcopal Church  
2802 Minnesota Avenue  
standrewsbtl.org 727-1262**

Tomorrow, possibly.....

One day, for each of us,  
the sun will rise for the last time.

Light, my sister,  
can there not be some way of warning me  
that my last day has come?

But still the gospel precept is the best:  
to live each day as if my last, or, better still,  
as if always my first. Dom Helder Camara

**UP COMING EVENTS AT ST. ANDREWS**

September 9th - Bishop's Visit, Picnic, All Parish Meeting  
September 16th - Baptism, Senior High Youth Group meets  
September 18th - Men's Group at Jitters (6:45 am)  
September 22 -- Godly Play Workshop (10-4)  
October 2nd - Men's Group (Jitters - 6:45 am)  
October 4th - Safe Church Training (5 pm)  
October 8th - Bishop's Committee meets (5:30 pm)

ALL ARE WELCOME. WORSHIP BEGINS AT 9:45  
am on SUNDAY. NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED.  
CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES BEGIN  
SEPTEMBER 9th AND CONTINUE TO MEET  
THROUGH MAY.



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**218-727-7635**

**1901 Minnesota Avenue**

just one mile south of the Aerial Bridge

## SARCOPTIC MANGE ON THE RISE ON PARK POINT

JAN OLSON

The delightful red fox families that have taken up residence on the Point may also be the carriers of a very nasty disease, Sarcoptic Mange, which is showing up on local dogs. My husband and I learned about the disease when our 11-year old Mountain Feist, Piney, began to shake his head after one of his many dips in the lake. Thinking he'd gotten water in an ear, I treated him for that problem. After a few days the head shaking increased. This was followed by severe scratching of other body parts and something that the vet called "corn cobbing", where the dog actually gnaws at his legs. He suddenly became possessed by scratching; he couldn't relax or sleep and refused to eat. We got him to the vet quickly. After hearing a description of his behavior and learning where we live, the vet told us about at least 4 or 5 cases of Sarcoptic Mange diagnosed in Park Point dogs. She believes the disease has been triggered by the increased fox population.

According to research, Sarcoptic Mange, caused by the mite *Sarcoptes scabiei*, is a major disease of red foxes in the United States. Since foxes and the environment in which they may spend a large amount of time can transmit the mite to dogs it is suggested that dog owners keep dogs away from foxes and from the areas they inhabit.

Sarcoptic Mange is a serious disease. Infections can result in drastic changes in the skin and evidence of ill health in the host. The disease seems particularly pathologic to foxes, especially in pups in the summer. The disease is often fatal to red foxes. Elimination of mangy animals to reduce opportunities for transmission of the parasite is sometimes suggested. The effectiveness of this procedure is questionable, because the parasite is likely widespread before infestations become obvious.

*Sarcoptes Scabiei* are mites that like to tunnel in the upper layers of the skin. When they do so they cause the host to become sensitized and an intense inflammatory reaction occurs. This results in an aggravating itch for the infested host. The constant scratching results in hair loss and damage to the skin by self-mutilation. Although the lesions start on the thinly haired areas such as the ears, muzzle and around the eyes, if let go the condition can spread over the entire body. Serum (the clear component of blood) seeps out of the tunnels to the surface of the skin and causes thick scabs to form. Secondary bacterial infection usually occurs causing pus to accompany the scabs.

How do we think Piney contracted the disease? Since fox families are residing close to us he could have come in contact with an area where the foxes sleep, urinate or defecate. Direct contact with a fox is not necessary.

Do cats get Sarcoptic mange? Rarely. Cats have their own version called Notoedric Mange.

What about humans? If the variety of mange mite that affects dogs or cats gets on a human it can cause a nasty red welt just like a mosquito bite. Several of these bites can be rather troublesome. Since these varieties are not well adapted to humans, they do not produce the extensive tunnels and cause the advanced lesions and scabs over the skin surface. They just burrow in a short distance and die. This causes inflammation and the resulting welt.

The fox families that have settled on the Point this summer are a delight to see. However, we must remember they are wild animals. We should not be feeding them. The more we encourage their presence the more our canine friends are at risk of contracting a potentially fatal disease.

If our pets contract the disease and are not treated they can also become carriers. The disease is not easy to diagnose early on. Be aware that when your dog appears to be scratching more than usual, it could be a sign of Sarcoptic Mange.

The good news is that when we get a hard frost, the mites will be killed off in areas the foxes have visited. The bad news is that the mites will continue to live on the host animals.

Piney is lucky and so are we. We caught the problem early. It does not appear that he will lose any hair. The itching is all but gone. He has had one shot of Ivermectin, is scheduled for another, and is finishing a course of amoxicillin for infection.

For more information call your vet and/or check out the following websites:

[www.thepetcenter.com/exa/mites.html](http://www.thepetcenter.com/exa/mites.html)

[www.dr-dan.com/sarcopt.htm](http://www.dr-dan.com/sarcopt.htm)

[www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/htm/bc/72005.htm](http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/htm/bc/72005.htm)

## **Park Point Community Club August 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

Lafayette Square was crowded and already uncomfortably stuffy on this August evening. Combining an ice-cream social with a candidates' forum had paid off well. Dave Poulin smiled at the sight of everyone laughing and enjoying their sundaes; everyone but the club secretary, uncharacteristically quiet at the side table. Reluctantly Dave turned to him as the secretary sighed deeply.

"Troubles?" Dave asked, hoping the secretary wouldn't answer.

"I'm a dead man. I'm a goner," came the unexpected reply. "You'll have to get a new secretary." (Hope fluttered into Poulin's heart as the secretary continued): "This hot spell, this humidity, it's killing me. I even went to my doctor, and he confirmed it. He said I have an overheated imagination, and it's only a matter of time before I'm a complete burn out." He sighed again, picturing his own funeral.

Poulin nodded sympathetically, though his sympathies were with the doctor. "You don't have a second to spare!" he said, doing his best to sound alarmed. "Get your internal temperature down! Ice cream, lots of ice cream!" The secretary, clinging to Poulin's wrist, was already rising.

"Yes, that's it, of course! You've saved me, good sir!" He dashed off for the kitchen, and Dave started the meeting without him. It was 7:07. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

**Financial Report:** The independent review of the Club treasury has been concluded; all required tax forms have been filed, and the bank account (all Club funds are now held in our UBS account) is in order. All club financial records are open for review.

**Firehall 5:** Firefighter Carmine Langlois detailed the past month of calls they responded to here on the Point: medical emergencies, fireworks and accidents top the list. Due to the drought conditions, a citywide burning ban begins tomorrow. The much-anticipated refurbishing of the fire hall will take place from April to November of 2008. Langlois was questioned about a recent incident at Sky Harbor; a small plane flipped over and some fuel was spilled.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Quality of Life:** Dennis Hoelscher suspended his report to accommodate candidates.

**Art Fair:** The final profit netted by the Club for the 2007 Art Fair is just over \$9000.

**Breeze:** Still no calls from the Pulitzer committee; otherwise, everything's fine.

**Youth:** The Lafayette Summer Program is drawing to a close, but it has been popular with the kids all summer long, and it certainly justifies the money the Club devotes to it.

**Environmental:** Evidence of global warming is all around us. This year's drought has parched our tree-planting areas, but it has given us bumper crops of invasive species like poison ivy, purple loosestrife and tourists.

It was at this point the Club paused to prepare for the Candidates' Forum. Dave Poulin checked on the club secretary, who was well into a giant bowl of strawberry ice cream. The secretary said: "When I eat the ice cream too fast, it gives me a headache."

"That's how you know it's working," Poulin replied smoothly. "Faster the better, that's your only hope!" He turned back to the meeting.

### **Candidates' Forum:**

Word-of-the-night was 'infrastructure.' (Sounds fancier than 'potholes'.) All candidates thanked the community for hosting the event, though they might have been referring to the free ice cream. Each candidate was allowed three minutes to summarize their campaign themes, and each had their say on the same intractable Park Point issues the community club rhythmically chants about, such as traffic and vandalism. Each candidate spoke about the City's financial woes. All of the candidates are against bad things and have apparently done good things. Hooray good things. Boo bad things. All have extensive resumes in public service or community work.

(Continued on next page)

(Minutes, continued)

**Mayoral Candidates: Charlie Bell** stressed his experience in neighborhood and community development in West Duluth and Spirit Valley. A lifelong Duluth resident, Bell was earnest and serious, and if he becomes our mayor, he'd be like the Professor on Gilligan's Island.... **Reiner Nelson** was a self-described "regular guy from West Duluth" with thinning hair and a short-sleeved polo shirt. He must believe in the right to bare arms. An honest fellow, frustrated with the direction Duluth is headed.... **Greg Gilbert** reviewed his long resume and list of endorsements. His legal training was evident; he was detailed in his remarks, and he pronounced the word "infrastructure" better than the other candidates did.... **Meg Bye** understands the average Duluth citizen wants change; throughout her campaign people have told her the City doesn't listen to its people. She made two promises: First, she'd solve the 12th Street gate debate within one month of taking office, and second, she would have 2 firefighters per shift at our Firehall 5 within one year of her taking office.

"And that," she said, "you can put in your club minutes." All the Club members turned as one to look over at the secretary, who was frantically eating chocolate ice cream from a bowl he'd snatched away from a small child. As he ate he would slap his own forehead to quell the ice cream headache he was giving himself with every spoonful. Dave Poulin sighed as he watched. Maybe the candidates would never read the minutes....

Incumbent Mayor **Herb Bergson** spoke next. The crisis with the City's health care contracts have plainly become the sharpest tack on the mayor's chair; he opened his remarks with the topic, and he showed exasperation at its dominance over everything else he'd like to do. Still, he's "working his tail off to fix it." He brightened when he brought up a few successes, and was unapologetic about "saying no to stupid projects and unwelcome developments".... **Joanne Fay** talked about her experience as a St. Louis County Commissioner, and spoke with passion about her love for the outdoors and Northern Minnesota. She also feels it is important to utilize all our city's resources if we're to find prosperity as a community.... **Todd Gremmels** is young and rumped, with a Buddy Holly look and a demonstrative, arm-waving style of speaking. Much of what he said came in the form of very good questions about ideas Duluth could or should be pursuing: "How come we don't have windmills around here?"

**City Council Third District: Heather Rand** has served on the Duluth Planning Commission, and is a strong supporter of the city's comprehensive plan, community policing and core services. She is clearly schooled in contemporary government language, saying she wants to "dialog with you".... **Sharla Gardner** talked about "the special and unique community of Park Point." She is concerned about yupification, diminishing green space and soaring homestead taxes, and wants to be a progressive voice (certainly a talkative one) for Duluth.... **John Rathe** is serious and bearded. He spoke about the need to keep special interests out of Duluth's decision-making processes using a back-to-basics approach towards city obligations. Good luck with that.

**City Council At-Large: Jeff Anderson** had the polished delivery of a professional communicator, which is fancy-talk for disc jockey. He stressed jobs, job growth, streets and infrastructure.... **John Donahue** would be like having football coach John Madden on the City Council. Expressive, excitable; he said "Duluth can't be Camp Giveaway".... **Tony Cuneo** is committed, involved, boldly liberal and angular; kind of a younger, whiter, local Barack Obama.

A few questions followed, then (finally) a move to adjourn. As the meeting drew to a close, the club secretary approached Dave Poulin. "I feel restored to health, thanks to you and ice cream," he said. "What a grueling experience. There may be some imprecision in my notes as a result."

"Don't worry," Dave replied. "If past experience is any guide, after the election we'll never see any of them - losers or winners - again." It was 9:05.

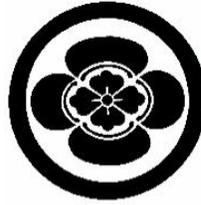
Respectacularly submitted.... Dave Johnson, Idiot Secretary

## Yoga and Tai Chi at Lafayette

Yoga begins Mon. Oct. 15, 7PM

Tai Chi begins Wed. Oct. 17, 7PM

5 – class card - \$30.00



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# Crime on Park Point

Community Police Officer Mike Tinsley provided us with this breakdown of police activity on Park Point during the first 7 months of 2007. I hope I've put it in a format that everyone can understand. Even a quick glance can show how busy the summer months can be. (Check out "Park Rules Enforcement", for example). If you have any questions, you can contact Officer Tinsley at 218-390-2863 or [mtinsley@ci.duluth.mn.us](mailto:mtinsley@ci.duluth.mn.us)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Accidents		1	1			1	2
Animal Disturbances	3	3	3	1		4	3
AOA					1		1
Attempt to Locate		1	2	3	4	8	8
Burglaries			1		1		1
Chase							
Check Welfare		2	1	1	2	1	1
Child Neglect							2
Damage to property							1
Details		1					
Disturbances	2	1			3	3	7
Domestics		1	1	2			
Drug Incidents							2
Drunks		1		2		1	2
Alarms or Fire Alarms	6	2	3	1	1	3	2
Fire Cracker Call					1	1	4
Fires Outside					2		3
Forgery	2	2		1		2	
Hazard				1	1		2
Hit/Run							1
Hotrodders			1	2	1	1	3
Information call	3	1	2	1		10	7
Kid Trouble		1		1	1	1	6
Lost Person							
Loud Parties	1			1	3	4	9
Medicals	9	4	7	4	5	13	15
Misc			1		1	3	

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Neighbor Trouble			1		1		
Onviews	2	1	2	2			6
Park Rules Enforcement				1	3	23	34
Parking Problems	2	2	8	3	3	6	11
Permit to Acquire/Carry Person with Weapons	1	1	1	1			2
Phone Harassment			1			1	
Prowler/Peepers							2
Public Assist	1		1	3	1		1
Pysch Issues					1	1	
Recovered Property				1	1		3
Robbery						1	
Suspicious Persons			1	2	1	1	2
Suspicious Vehicles	1	1		2			
Thefts			1	1	1	3	4
Threats					1		1
Traffic Stops Advised	8	5	3	9	2	9	13
Traffic Stops Tagged	3	1	1	6	2	3	1
Extra Traffic Control			2	6	3	7	2
Trouble Unknown		1				1	2
Unwants						3	1
Vehicle Damage							5
Vehicle Prowls		1				2	2
Vehicle Thefts						1	
VOP		1					
Warrants					1		
Water Emergency	1						
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>176</b>

## Editor's Corner

Do you like the new Breeze masthead? It was designed by Harvey Sandstrom, who's daughter Sarah lives here on Park Point. He thought my old one was to generic.

Went we bought our house here on Park Point 20 years ago, one of our first bits of landscaping was planting a scraggly evergreen in the corner of our yard. Little did we think we would wind up cutting back the branches every year where they overhang the side walk. This is a "growing" problem along Park Point, and it's a good time of year to check your trees and shrubs to see that they don't obstruct the sidewalk. Evergreens are particularly troublesome, as when the boughs are weighted down with -dare I say it? - Snow!, even branches that appear too high hang down at face level. Please be sure your trees aren't part of the problem.

I'd like to say a belated congratulations to Park Pointer Keith Stauber and the crew of Papa Gaucho for their victory in the Trans Superior Sailboat Race last month.

I saw in the Duluth News-tribune that the former crewmembers of the aircraft carrier U.S.S Oriskany, now the world's largest man-made reef, (yes, they sank it on purpose) are holding a reunion in Duluth. You can be that Park Point's own Captain Tom McKay had more than a little to do with that.

You'll note in the calendar on the front page that the Great Lakes Beach Sweep is being held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> this year. I don't have a lot of details at this time, so keep your eye out for more information.

## Buoys and Gulls Club

Hi,

I am Elaine Edwardson, President of the Buoys and Gulls Club of Park Point. I would like to invite everyone age 55 or older to become a member of our club. We meet at the Baypoint Estates Apartments Club Room, 1902 St. Louis Avenue, on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m.

Our membership luncheon will be at Barker's Island on Tuesday Oct 2, 2007 at 1 p.m. If you would like to join our group, the membership is \$3.00 per year per person. We would be happy to see you at our luncheon. (Luncheon cost is on your own) Just give me a call at 279-3955 if you will be joining us for lunch so we can include you in our reservations and also call if you have any questions about our club.

Our club is a friendly social club, we like having new members and at our meetings we have had various speakers and entertainment. We have taken bus trips to Chanhassen and Naniboujou Lodge for dinner, stopping in Grand Marais and Betty's Pies along the way. Our programs for the upcoming year look to be quite interesting. A local author will talk about her book. Another guest will speak about Tai Chi, and we will be planning another trip for the spring, possibly sooner. Buoys and Gulls Club is always open to new ideas for programs. Our meetings usually end by 2 pm, giving us a nice little break in the day. Come and join us and meet some new friends.

We also play BINGO every Thursday at 11:30 am. Come at 11:00 with a bag lunch and join us for lunch beforehand. We always have the coffee on!

## Park Point Rummage Sale

The Park Point Garage is schedule for next June 13 & 14, if we get help in the planning this great annual event. Volunteer Co Chairs & committee are now needed. As Chair for the past few years I am have decided if a committee is not in place by November 15, I will no longer serve. The tasks are easy and fun. Most of the work is done just a couple months before the sale. Planning is needed to start soon.

Please call and offer your services. It would be greatly appreciated.

Charlene Shimmin 722-6828

## ***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



## **Painting By Dave**



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References available

Call now, Dave. **218-340-3426**

**3052 Devonshire St. Duluth**