

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 37 issue 6

June 2008

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting**
June 19th, 7PM
At Lafayette

Buoys & Gulls
July 1st--6PM
(Note --Evening Mtg)
Pot Luck Dinner
Baypoint Estates

Bingo continues
Thursdays @ 11AM
Also @ Baypoint Estates

Park Point Rummage Sale
June 13th & 14th

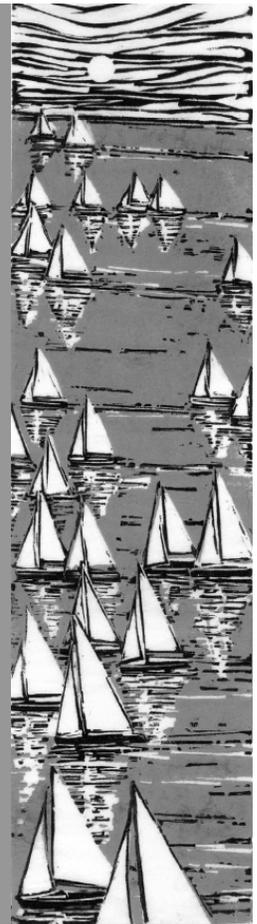
Park Point Art Fair
June 28th & 29th

The Park Point Art Fair needs you!
For volunteer opportunities see
page 2

38th annual

Park Point Art Fair

10 am - 5 pm
June 28 & 29



20
08

Park Point Recreation Area
Duluth, MN

*115 of the region's
finest artists*

live music • food

family art activity

free entry & parking

Linocut prints by Tom Raushenfels

Presented by the Park Point Community Club in cooperation with the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation

parkpointcommunityclub.org

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 July 4th for the July 2008 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: Dave Poulin
3101 S. Lake Ave.
722-1511

Vice President: Liz Mackay
2233 Minnesota Ave
722-1834

Secretary: Dawn Buck
3105 Minnesota Ave.
525-1764

Treasurer: Chuck Flaig
1511 Minnesota Ave.
727-2814

Committees

ART FAIR

Carla Tamburro
727-2661

Rummage Sale

Charlene Shimmin
722-6828

ENVIRONMENTAL

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

HOSPITALITY

Diane Gould, 727-4067

LAFAYETTE SQUARE

RENTALS

Barb Flaig 940-2613
barbaraflaig@yahoo.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

Art Fair volunteers needed!

Here's a fun easy way to get to know your neighbors-while supporting a 38 year tradition on the Point. Volunteers are needed before during and after the Park Point Art Fair, June 28 and 29, to help set-up, clean-up, greet visitors and supervise the art making area. Please contact Diane Gould if you are willing to volunteer the day of the fair.

Volunteers are also need to distribute posters and bookmarks to area businesses RIGHT AWAY!!! If you are willing to display one poster at the garage sale and then find a home for it afterwards or perhaps you want to go the extra mile and drive/walk around an area of town and hang some posters with a friend, it would be very much appreciated. This is our main means to 'get the word out' and leftover posters and bookmarks at my house don't do us any good, so come on down the morning of the garage sale or anytime and pick-up one or more posters. PLEASE, contact Carla Tamburro, 218-428-1916 or visit 2810 Minnesota Ave. if you are willing to help distribute posters.

The event raises money that the Community Club uses to support environmental efforts and youth programs at Lafayette as well as other community rooted endeavors. Sign up to share as much or as little time as you can offer. In addition to the good karma volunteers gain an invite to an exclusive, yet highly inclusive, artist dinner catered by the Duluth Athletic Club in the recreation area on Saturday evening!

For 37 years, volunteers have made the art fair successful. Here's your chance to help make a successful 38th. Again if you wish to volunteer for the weekend of the fair call Diane Gould at 727-4067. If you wish to help with poster distribution call Carla at 218-428-1916 right away!

Carla Tamburro
PPAF Coordinator

27th ANNUAL PARK POINT RUMMAGE SALE

FRI JUNE 13 & SAT JUNE 14

8 AM - 5 PM

For more info call 722-6828

Please NO Garage Sales on Art Fair weekend

KDAL Morning Show with Johnny Lee Walker and Pat Cadigan have agreed to broadcast their Friday morning show, live from the Park Point Rummage Sale. 5:30- 9 AM. Everyone is invited to stop by at my house 2801 Minnesota Ave during the broadcast.

Charlene Shimmin,
Rummage Sale Coordinator

St. Andrew's by the Lake Episcopal Church
 2802 Minnesota Avenue (Temporarily at 45th and
 Glenwood) www.standrewsbythelake.org 727-1262

We may not be as visible as usual, being out in Lakeside, but life in the community is vital and energetic. The youth groups are very busy in the summer: meeting for Confirmation preparation, taking camping trips together (Moose Lake State Park and Madeline Island), doing fund raisers (the Brat Sale at the Rummage Sale and a Popcorn Stand at the Art Fair). Support them if you are able, as the money they raise goes to future service projects and their Pilgrimage in 2010. In early June we celebrated with our Senior High grads, John Brakke and Jaina Thompson. Both graduated from Central High School. We have runners in the Marathon, and people in the parish support the group with pledges that go to the Gabriel Project, which is part of CHUM. Plans are underway for the 5K walk/run that will raise money for world-wide outreach projects. And the Beachcombers Softball team is ready to begin summer play against other churches in town.

Our loan for the renovation project is about in place, so construction should begin in June and hopefully finish about five months later. The Spirit is alive and present in the community - and - we're looking forward to coming home. Peace to all.

"Our goal in life is to convert ourselves from the small agenda that is the self to an awareness of God's goodness present in the other."

Sister Joan Chittister, OSB

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 after mass

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Church Office 722-3078

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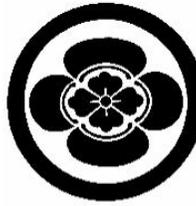
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Park Point Community Club May 15, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Lafayette Square was busy tonight. Community Club members had once again been lured in by the offer of free food; always an effective trap for the easily spooked and skittish wild club members that live in the woods behind the community center. Grilled hot dogs and the presence of City of Duluth officials heightened the sense of electricity that filled the room, though that also could have been caused by wiring problems in the old building. Dave Poulin opened the meeting promptly at 7 pm, reasoning that all the food would be making members sleepy soon if he didn't spur things along. Minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Flaig began his report with good news: The Club treasury tonight stands at \$62,498. A tidy sum, though Chuck was careful to point out this is likely to be the high for the year. All the coming Art Fair expenses will cut that total substantially. Club memberships are down from last year, but Chuck has a master list of all dues-paying members. Park Pointers in arrears on their dues will be tracked down by trained dogs and executed. Ok, maybe not executed. Dave Poulin reported that our taxes for last year have been filed on time; there were no penalties and the tax accountant didn't charge us an outrageous amount for the work.

Police Report: Mike Tinsley brought in a trainee (Craig Lindberg) in order to acquaint the rookie with Park Point's troublemakers, riffraff and persons of ill repute that always show up at our Community Club meetings. Mike said he'll soon be back on regular summer patrols down here. In a brief question-and-answer session, he noted that smelters must have fishing licenses; that a "speed trailer" will be used on Minnesota Avenue sometime over the summer; that he's happy to take more citizens with him on "ride alongs" during his patrol shifts; and that he'll be on the peninsula for both the rummage sale and the Art Fair. He again cautioned residents to keep their vehicles locked, and empty of valuables.

Tonight's Guest Speaker: The Club once again welcomed City of Duluth Architect Terry Groshong to a club meeting. Joining him were several members of his staff, as well as Duluth Fire Chief John Strongitharm and other firefighters. The topic was Firehall 5. The building is facing a major renovation this summer. One year ago preliminary discussions for Park Point's new fire hall allowed public input from the community. Alternatives that had been under consideration included attaching the new fire hall to Lafayette Square or to the proposed boat club site. After all that froth, the current site was found to be workable. As explained by the City's architects in tonight's PowerPoint presentation, the new building design keeps the old look of the fire hall intact. They even found archival photos to use for inspiration. This emphasis on the "historic look and cultural significance" of the structure will ensure the new fire hall will fit the neighborhood. Inside the building, the garage area will be converted to living quarters and office space; the new garage (sorry, "apparatus bay") will be built on the back end of the building. A new fire truck will eventually be stationed in the remodeled facility. Groshong went into detail about the problems plaguing the fire hall now; they're familiar to anyone owning an old house on the Point, from wood rot to lousy plumbing. As things stand today, the fire truck won't squeeze through the existing garage door unless the fire fighters smear butter on the truck fenders. This is time-consuming in an emergency, and the City has reduced their butter-buying budget. The proposed construction has no starting date assigned yet, but it will take place this summer for sure.

This led to a discussion on financing the new construction. Club members made it nearly a half-hour into the meeting before someone pointed out that the City of Duluth is broke. This economic truth may still mean changes to the fire hall blueprints before they are finalized. One example of this: Architect Groshong would like to make the building friendly to the environment, but as Kermit the Frog stated, "It's not easy being thermally efficient."

The next part of the fire hall discussion focused on the impact the proposed new construction would have on the surrounding neighborhood; the streets, snow removal, utilities and parking. These are not easy

questions to answer. Property owners wanted to know if adjoining neighbors would get "socked" in assessments for the street improvements. The City is researching different funding sources to make sure this won't happen (much). There will not be any public bathrooms at the new facility.

Questions about emergency responses came next in the discussion. Club members and fire fighters discussed whether volunteers could be used to supplement the fire hall staff. Fire department officials didn't dismiss the idea, but did point out a number of practical obstacles to it. They also explained emergency response policies. Fire responses from Firehall 5 receive automatic backup from the downtown fire hall; response times are actually very good, unless the bridge is up. Captain Strongitharm spoke about the new early-warning system the City had recently tested. The system uses recorded voice warnings in addition to sirens; it is very effective at scaring the bejeebers out of dogs.

Chad Rindahl, one of the firemen stationed at Firehall 5, reviewed their response statistics for 2007. There were 61 response runs last year; only 6 were for fires (fewer than in any other part of the city.) Most of the calls were medical responses.

The group briefly touched on Lafayette's many condition issues. The City still intends to replace the roof on the building this summer, only a mere ten years after a hailstorm messed it up. Plans may change because the City of Duluth is broke. Community Club members are circulating a rumor that there are untapped oil reserves under Lafayette's hockey rink; it is hoped that the federal government will first invade us, then rebuild everything.

Club Elections: After a brief pause for still more food, the Club turned its attention to elections of club officers. Working at a pace that would make national presidential candidates envious, it took only a few minutes for the vote. Here is the new slate of officers: President: Dave Poulin; Vice-President: Liz Mackay; Treasurer: Chuck Flaig; Secretary: Dawn Buck. They were voted in to wild acclaim, under a shimmering cascade of balloons and confetti. A triumphant parade will be held later.

Art Fair (June 28 & 29): Carla Tamburro gave an update on planning for this year's fair. The City of Duluth requires a contract between the Community Club and the Parks & Rec. Department. Wording on that contract had been ironed out over the past few months; this week the contract received the approval of the Duluth City Council. Among other details, the contract sets the rate for our park rental fee at \$1500/year for the next five years. No bargain, but it could have been worse. Carla passed out 2008 Art Fair bookmarks and postcards that will be used in the upcoming advertising push. Posters are nearly finished; she'd like some assistance from volunteers when the posters are distributed to area businesses. About half of this year's artists will be new to the fair; there should be about 123 artists and 7 food vendors. The food vendors will be moved to a different area at the Fair; the Club will be renting a commercial generator to provide them with electricity. Carla ended her summary with a request for volunteers willing to help at the event.

Youth Committee: The City of Duluth is broke. Ok, this has been well-established, but in the discussion about the Lafayette Summer Youth Program, it illustrates how the City's precarious finances affect Park Point. **The Lafayette Summer Youth program starts June 16 and ends August 15.** The City plans called for a cutback; the program was only going to be open four days a week. Club members were vocal in their dismay about this, and were quick to find a solution. It led to this **Motion:** The PPCC will contribute an additional \$750 to the \$1500 already pledged for the support of the Summer Youth Program. This money is earmarked to provide for an additional day per week, so that the program will be 5 days/week as usual.

Motion carried. As this technically is a donation to the City of Duluth Parks & Rec. Department, the contribution will need a second vote in June as required by Club bylaws.

Environmental Committee: It's planting season here on the Point. Volunteers can help every Saturday in May, from 9 a.m. to noon. The wet, cool spring weather may be unpleasant for us, but it's ideal for tree planting. Teams will also do maintenance on our boardwalks and fencing. The 12th Street Beach project still has no contract with the City of Duluth; consequently our reimbursement from St. Louis County for money already spent is still on hold. It would be nice to get reimbursed for lumber before it disappears under the

sand or vandals burn it all. Plans for the new S-curve sign (part of that county grant) shift into gear following the Art Fair; look for changes to begin in July.

Old Business: At our April meeting, the Park Point Community Club voted their approval of a \$200 donation to the Harrison Community Club in West Duluth. Their clubhouse was destroyed by an arson fire, and the club has been working to raise money that will help offset their insurance deductibles. As this is a donation, Club bylaws require a second vote, which led to this **Motion:** The PPCC will donate \$200 to the Harrison Community Center. **Motion carried.**

An eerie silence swept through the room. Could it really be this easy to accomplish things? Before anyone else could start another argument, complain about our broke city government or otherwise throw a wrench into the works, Club members quickly called for adjournment. Dave Poulin happily agreed. He brought down the gavel at 9:06.

Finally submitted,
Dave Johnson, Idiot Secretary....

....who wants to add this: As any of my friends would testify, I'm not good at multi-tasking. One thing at a time, that's my motto (or should be). With that in mind I have declined the opportunity to continue on as club secretary. This will enable me to focus all my energy on being a complete idiot. Thank you very much for your patience.... Your chum, Dave.

As our annual membership drive winds down, Treasure Chuck Flaig pointed out that memberships are off substantially from last year. So, did we do something to offend you? We are trying to be nicer now. More likely, without a major issue to draw you in, you simply forgot. Or maybe you thought you sent in your dues, but really didn't. I doubt it's a money issue – annual memberships are only \$3 a person. Feel free to call and check on your membership status with Chuck at 340-8871. Membership does have its advantages, even if you rarely attend meetings. It allows you to vote when an issue does come up, and higher membership rolls give the Club a little more clout when dealing with the city.
p.s. We've already selected officers for the next two years, so you won't be drafted!

Corps of Engineers Dredging.

The Duluth Area Office, Detroit District, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers will be administering two dredging projects of the federally authorized navigation channel at the Duluth/Superior Harbor in 2008. The areas to be dredged are the Superior Entry, the Superior Harbor Basin, The Duluth Harbor Basin, the West Gate Basin and the South Channel Eastern Section at Superior, Wisconsin and Duluth, Minnesota.

This year's projects consist of two distinct forms of dredging and disposal. The following is a brief description of each project:

Project 1: This project consists of maintenance dredging of approximately 190,000 cubic yards of materials from within Superior Harbor Basin and Superior Entry by hydraulic methods with placement along Minnesota Point. The placement area begins at a point just west of the Superior Entry North Breakwater and extends west along the lakeward side of Minnesota Point for a distance of 3000 feet. Within these limits the dredge materials will be evenly distributed along the entire length of the placement area parallel to the Lake Superior shoreline. Placement will take place within an area bounded by the +2.0 feet elevation and the most landward 4.0 feet depth contour. The maximum elevation of placed materials will not exceed +2.0 feet above the low water datum (L.W.D.). Drainage will be maintained lakeward across the placed materials at all times. The dredge materials will be placed in such a manner which will not block or interfere with natural drainage into the lake. During placement operations, care will be taken to minimize erosion of existing shoreline sediments. Direct placement of dredge materials will not be permitted within 300 feet on any side of the existing USS Essex Shipwreck. Efforts shall be made during installation and removal of the discharge pipe on Minnesota Point to minimize impacts to the Beach Heather.

Project 2: This project consists of maintenance dredging of approximately 100,000 cubic yards of materials from the Duluth Harbor Basin, the West Gate Basin and the South Channel Eastern Section by mechanical methods with placement at the Erie Pier Confined Disposal Facility.

If you have any questions you can contact Mr. John Larson at 218-720-5260 extension 35263

Dear Park Point Residents,

We are new to the “Point” and would like to take this opportunity to introduce our family and new business to the community. We are long-time Duluth residents, originally from Michigan. We have had our eye out for the right Park Point property for several years and recently found it with the March purchase of the Hom house at 3604 Minnesota Ave. We love the location, the house, and our neighbors are all fantastic. They have made us feel very welcome and for that we are truly grateful. We feel like we have the opportunity to raise our children in a “real” neighborhood. My wife (Cathy) and I created a blended family 12 years ago and between us have 5 children. Our youngest (our love child) is 8. He enjoys many sports and hobbies but fishing and baseball top his list of favorites. Our oldest (23) is on his own and working toward his MBA at The College of St. Scholastica. Three girls round out the middle at 15, 18, and 20. They are looking forward to getting in some beach time this summer and of course, boy watching. We are extremely proud of them all.

Cathy is the Director of Catering at Barkers Island Inn across the bay and I owned two businesses in Duluth for 13 years. Mobile Fleet Mechanix, a service business contracted to Qwest Communications to repair and maintain their vehicles and related equipment, and Bacchus Automotive, a full service auto repair facility located in Rice Lake Township. I decided to take a sabbatical in 2006 to attend UWS and spend more time with my family. I am now ready to start another business doing what I love, fixing things!

“My Handyman” is a service geared specifically for Park Point residents. In this way I will always be close by when needed and able to respond promptly. I perform all jobs considered too small or not profitable for large licensed contractors. If you can think of it, I can probably do it for you. I have performed a few “extreme home makeovers” for my own properties, the HOM house being my latest work in progress, and truly love the challenges and satisfaction of each completed project. I haven’t found anything that I can’t do well skill-wise and hope I never do. I think we are all good at what we enjoy doing. I can fix your lawn mower, mow your lawn with it then build a cool shed to park it in! Need a fancy dog house? A new light fixture or appliance installed? How about a jump-start or a flat tire fixed? Need a new closet system or kitchen cabinets tuned up? Do you want to tile that bathroom but can’t find time? Does the deck need stain or paint? Want to organize your garage or basement? Would a shelf somewhere make life easier? Would a grab bar in the bath make life safer? Did I mention that I also work on boats? My rates are reasonable and I quote a free written estimate for the job, not by how long it takes me. So if I spend an hour changing out a light bulb it just means that you have good coffee not deep pockets! I will always be upfront with you and tell you if I don’t have any experience with a particular project. If I can’t, I know someone who can!

I am restricted by law on what I can and cannot do without the proper contractor’s license such as major electrical rewiring, new plumbing systems, and roofing so I have developed a contractor referral list with professionals I have worked with in the past or know personally, trust their workmanship, and have the proper credentials. I will be taking the Minnesota remodeling contractor license exams this summer and don’t want anyone in the Duluth building department mad at me for exceeding the legal limits (the big fine \$\$\$ doesn’t strike me as a positive thing either). Until then I am working under a state certificate of exemption which allows me to legally perform work in specific skill areas until my income reaches a certain level. I guarantee all my work and will bend over backwards to meet your expectations and 110% satisfaction. I will do everything in my power to ensure that happens because that’s just how I am. I also have 5 expensive kids and the Hom house to finish, remember!

Thank you in advance for your future business. Please feel free to call or e-mail me anytime, especially if you get stuck on a “do-it-yourself” project, need a hand with the “honey-do” list, or just want to meet for coffee and get to know me first! All calls will be answered by a human (me) or returned promptly if my voice mail grabs your call first. I’m eager to introduce my professional workmanship to every one of you and develop, long term, quality relationships.

Sincerely,

David Bacchus



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Editor's Corner

Even if attendance was light at the May Community club meeting, it was an interesting and productive night. There were a couple of pieces of good news concerning the Art Fair, such as the signing of a 5-year, fixed rate contract with the city, and securing the use of a portable generator to run the vendor and music area. A presentation from City Architect Terry Groshong on the plans for remodeling Firehall 55 on 22nd Street was also very informative.

But it's a couple of smaller items that really showed the character of the Park Point Community Club. It was learned that the City Parks and Rec Department intended to cut back the Summer Youth Programs city-wide, reducing it from 5 days a week to 4. The Community Club has long been a supporter youth on Park Point, and a member called the city to find out what it would take to restore Park Point's program to its former level. When it was learned that \$750 was all that was needed, the Club unanimously voted to donate the additional funds – on top of the \$1500 we had previously donated to the program.

Then there is the action of the PPCC's Environmental Committee. This group of volunteers has labored for years to restore Park Point's ravaged dunes, planting trees, shrubs and beach grass, and building walkways over the dunes. A number of work days were scheduled, and I've learned that all plants purchased this spring have been planted, and a great deal of cleanup and repair work done as well. Though the Rummage Sale and Art Fair will dominate the next few weeks, more work is planned. Join in to help make Park Point a better community.



Park Point Garden Club participated in the Duluth Garden Flower Society annual plant sale held at the Rose Garden parking lot on May 24. Proceeds from the sale, will be used to purchase flowers for the Park Point Memorial Garden at Lafayette, 31st Street near the walkway to the beach. Everyone is encouraged to stop by and see the garden. Members pictured are Charlene Shimmin, Liz Mackay, Pat Olson, Diane Gould, Elisa Troiani, and Julie Calligure. Thanks to all that donated plants!



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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's some numbers you can use: Parks Maintenance Division: 723-3425 (after hours 723-33330)

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

Community Police Officer Mike Tinsley: 390-2863



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