

The Breeze

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Submissions for the
October issue are due by
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Vol. 63 Issue 10

Of Park Point

October 2025

Upcoming Events

**Lafayette
Community
Edible Garden
Potluck
October 13th
6-8 PM at
Lafayette**

**Park Point
Community
Club
October 21st
6:45 social
7PM meeting
at Lafayette**

**Park Point
Flower
Garden Club
contact
Sue Solin
218-349-0682**

**It's
October:
time to prep
for Winter**



For those of us lucky enough to call Park Point home, the Aerial Lift Bridge is more than a landmark, it's part of our daily life. Every time my tires hum across those grates, I feel that familiar vibration and know I'm home. That moment is a little victory, a reminder that we are some of the rare people who get to cross one of the most iconic structures in the state just to get to our houses.

Recently, I had the incredible privilege of going 135 feet up on the bridge itself. From that bird's-eye view, I could see the whole Point stretched out below, our neighborhood surrounded by water. It made me appreciate just how special this place is, and just how important our "metal friend" is to our way of life.

Talking with the bridge operator and Mayor Reinert, I learned a few things I think every Pointer should know. The bridge lifts about 4,000 times each year, at its busiest, back in 1978, it went up about 7,500 times! And because it's above a federal waterway, if the bridge were to have a major mechanical issue, the Coast Guard would require it to stay raised until repairs were made. In other words, keeping this bridge well maintained is about more than convenience, it's about staying connected to our homes.

Yes, even with the occasional 2 a.m. horn, I wouldn't trade this life for anything. Few neighborhoods in the world have a front door as grand as ours, a working lift bridge that connects us to the rest of city. That's something worth celebrating every single day.

By: Vibe with Mike

President's Report

Hi Neighbors,

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 21. 645pm is a good time to say hi to neighbors; the meeting starts at 7pm.

Hoping your colorful and pleasant fall season is off to a good start and you are getting ready to jot down the winter prep checklist. This warmer stretch of summer extension has allowed the opportunity to get a few home projects completed; good luck with your projects.

I have had a few notices from neighbors who have had prowlers or strangers pounding on their doors. Officer Jeremy O'Connor from the Duluth Police Department came to our last meeting and shared ideas and strategies on crime prevention. Getting to know your neighbors and your neighborhood made the list plus using lighting, cameras, locking up, getting a dog, stowing valuables, getting a good description of people, vehicles, plate numbers etc. Remember to call 911 right away if you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress. If you notice items are missing, call 911 and file a report. The monthly Lafayette Community Edible Garden Potlucks offer a great way to connect with Park Pointers. 2nd Monday of the month, 6-8pm, Lafayette Community Center. Bring a dish to share, your own place settings, silverware, and a drink. On Oct 13 - share squash recipes & brainstorm for the December holiday party. Come with your ideas! All Park Pointers are welcome to attend. I had a note last week from Councilor Roz Randorf with the news that Jim Filby Williams has resigned from his position with the City of Duluth effective Oct. 1. Jim is the Director of Properties, Parks and Libraries with the City of Duluth and attended our September meeting (reporting feeling a huge wave of empathy after experiencing a double bridging enroute to our meeting :) with an update on the USACE's Section 111 study. He, along with Councilor Randorf were invited to attend the original call with USACE's Nick Zager way back on March 9 2021 to ask about the possibility of requesting a third Sect. 111 Study. This call, set up by Park Pointers and scientific advisors Willis Mattison and Brad Gausman, put the wheels in motion to take us where we are today. Our work will continue and we are grateful for the amount of time Jim has devoted to learning more about the complex and sometimes divisive issues at hand on Minnesota Point, the reality of the consequences of past decisions, and the need for effective collaboration and long term, strategic planning. Thank you, Jim, for your service to our entire community. We wish you well & hope you will visit Park Point often; I will see if I can find you a Tunnel Pass.

Volunteers will be needed to install a second row of fence to block the blowing sand from the bridge to the S Curve. Watch for details on a date and what to bring. The letter from the City with updates on the blowing sand dilemma is posted on the Club's website. Here is the link. <https://parkpointcommunityclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Windblown-Sand-update-from-Parks-and-Rec-9.15.2025.pdf>

Hope to see you out and about on these glorious fall days!

Dawn and Zion, fierce fly hunting Giant Schnauzer

MP5 2025-2026 Action Plan Summary

The MP50 Board has agreed to focus on the following ten program areas in which to support and participate in actions over the next year that build the resilience of Minnesota Point.

1. Convene Minnesota Point partner organizations to engage in action planning and reporting.
2. Recommend zoning and permitting policies to the City of Duluth that preserve the affordability and character of Park Point.
3. Document and advocate for the implementation of recommended changes that improve traffic and safety on Park Point.
4. Write and distribute the Minnesota Point Visitors Guide, Park Point Property Owner's Guide, and instructional materials about resilience of Minnesota Point.
5. Develop a visual way of tracking and monitoring key measures of resilience of Minnesota Point.
6. Promote knowledge sharing through the Minnesota Point Community of Practice.
7. Partner with Tribal nations with connections to Minnesota Point to re-introduce the use of fire to establish healthy forests on Minnesota Point.
8. Enhance and protect public Minnesota Point beaches and parks through ongoing projects such as Section 111, Recreation Area, and north end dune restoration.
9. Work with the City of Duluth and the US Army Corps of Engineers to reduce long-term shoreline erosion and flooding.
10. Build MP50 to be a well-funded and staffed non-profit organization.

MP50 is a non-profit organization leading efforts to ensure the ecological, cultural, and economic resilience of Minnesota Point. Visit us at: <https://minnesotapoint50.org>

Park Point Community Club Minutes

The September 2025 monthly meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President on September 16th, 2025, at 7:01 pm. Dawn welcomed members and guests to the meeting and thanked the hospitality committee for setting up coffee and supplying treats.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Motion was approved to accept the minutes. All in attendance voted aye.

Treasurers Report -Mary Treuer

Current balance – \$36,900 – Membership is lower this year than last year. Finance report was approved.

Guest Speaker Jeremy O'Connor from the DPD gave updates on incidents on the point over the past months.

Next speaker was Jim Filby-Williams. He provided a historical background on the Section 111 study. For further information regarding the Study, please reference notes by Paul Treuer

Environmental Committee – Dick Gould

No report

Art Fair – Carla Tamburro

Carla gave a brief presentation on the 2025 Art Fair and thanked everyone, from volunteers to participants, for another successful year. She encouraged those that would like to be involved in the future to contact Diane, and an additional financial report will be available at the next meeting. Planning starts next month for the 2026 Art Fair so please reach out if interested in volunteering.

Watch Committee – That's us

Please continue to monitor activity that seems suspicious as well as traffic concerns and report to 911. There has been an increase in car prowls this summer so please lock your homes and cars to prevent further issues.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

2 Get Well and 1 birthday card were sent.

High Water & Erosion – Hamilton Smith

No Report

Edible Garden - Coral McDonnell

It was a great year in the garden! Thank You to all who participated this year and please join us at the potluck dinners.

Summer Youth Program – Carolyn Kerns

There will be an update provided at the next meeting.

Rummage Sale - Deb Strange

No report.

Program Committee – Dave Poulin

No report

Traffic Safety – Pat Sterner

No report. Remember to call 911 if you observe illegal driving, speeding, or other violations. Email issues to ParkPointTrafficSafety@gmail.com.

MP50: Paul Treuer & Pat Sterner To stay up to date on MP50, please go to Minnesota Point 50 (MP50) If you have any questions, please contact Pat or Paul directly at paul.treuer@gmail.com

The Breeze - Alan Dartanyan

No report. Please continue to submit items of interest.

A motion was made to approve a request of \$200 for the Community Service Officer's pizza party. Motion approved.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Rory Strange

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

September was a busy month. We tried to tame the weeds so we could see the bountiful harvest. However, the rain kept coming and all the plants kept growing, weeds included. We had to dig deep to find summer squash, but the tomatoes were easy to spot. And, there were loads of them. Once each garden member loaded up, the extras were taken to St. Francis Apartments and the soup kitchen at the Damiano Center.

St. Francis Apartments, along with the Steve O'Neil Apartments, are operated by CHUM and provide longer-term housing for individuals transitioning from homelessness. They are devoted to giving folks the comforts of being in their own space and working toward finding permanent housing. Part of the mission of the Lafayette Community Edible Garden is to share our produce with CHUM's.

At the September potluck dinner meeting we reviewed the 2025 garden successes and failures. Big successes included the abundant tomatoes and spinach, the "best ever" melons, the many varieties of potatoes, and the herbs that spread like weeds and have blossoms that welcome the pollinators. Less successful were this year's crop of yellow and green beans that got eaten by critters, the broccoli that produces little useable florets, and the garlic that was blighted. At the October potluck dinner, we will decide whether to plant garlic again next year at great expense, or just skip a year. Also at the September meeting, the potluck offerings were impressive; from handmade tamales by Aaron Prim to delicious candied walnuts made by Joanne Ellison.

Want more information about the gardening fun? Missy King is the contact person for folks interested in membership in the community garden and potluck dinner info. She can be contacted at 515-991-7280, mjking@siu.edu. Our monthly potluck dinners are FREE and open to all Park Pointers. They take place at the Lafayette Community Club. Please bring your own plates, silverware, beverage and a dish to share. We will continue to have our monthly potluck dinner meetings on the second Monday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.

Compost Update:

Missy says, "When bringing kitchen scraps to the compost piles, please try to avoid the melon plants and cover your scraps. Please smash the egg shells and chop up large pieces such as watermelon rinds."

Upcoming Potluck Dinner Meetings:

October 13, 6 to 8 p.m., All about squash. Bring your favorite squash recipe to share along with recipes and ideas and tips for preparing squash. We will discuss plans for our December holiday party.

Candied Walnuts Recipe

Joanne Ellison made this recipe for the September potluck dinner meeting. It is adapted from a recipe she found online at a website called Gimme Some Oven.

1 egg white
1/4 Cup to 1/2 Cup brown sugar, depending on how sweet you like it.
1/8 to 1/4 Teaspoon ground cinnamon
Pinch of salt
Pinch of cayenne pepper
A drop of vanilla extract
2 Cups raw walnut or pecan halves

In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together the egg white, brown sugar, cinnamon, salt, cayenne and vanilla until frothy.

Then add the nuts and toss until they are evenly coated.

Spread the nuts out on a parchment-covered baking sheet in a single layer (try to avoid much overlapping) and bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes, removing the baking sheet halfway through to give the nuts a brief stir. Remove from the oven and let cool for about 10 minutes or so.

These candied nuts are best served fresh while they are perfectly warm and crispy. They can also be stored in a sealed container for up to two weeks, or frozen for up to 2 months.

-Susan Peters

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Park Point
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Blessing of the Animals

St. Andrew's by the Lake
Sunday, October 5
9:45 a.m.



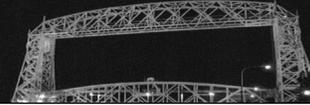
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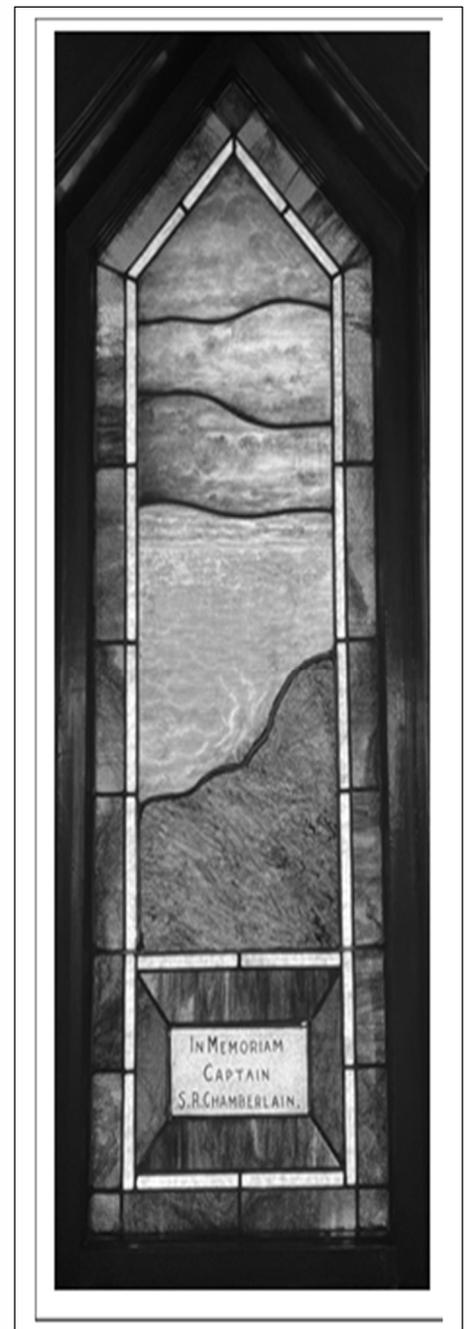
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LYNN BENTFIELD  GRADUATE
REALTOR
INSTITUTE

Captain Chamberlain's Window

Although the passage of time has erased memories of past parishioners, the stained glass windows at St. Andrew's by the Lake Episcopal Church is a reminder of those who were once valued members of St. Andrews and the Park Point Community. These people are memorialized by families who dedicate the windows in their honor. The story behind one of the windows is that of Captain Chamberlain, a Park Point resident. His name is inscribed on one of the windows in the sanctuary and has a tragic story that goes back to December 1908 when the steamer D.M. Clemson was lost on Lake Superior. The final voyage of the year had the Clemson locked through the Soo Locks into Lake Superior the morning of November 30 1908 with a cargo of coal loaded two day prior in Lorain Ohio consigned to Duluth. She was under the command of Captain Samuel R. Chamberlain who was scheduled to retire after D.M. Clemson's trip ended. He chose to take his vessel on the southernmost route to Duluth which required passage via the Portage Canal through the Keweenaw peninsula. She was accompanied by the freighter J.J.H. Brown until Whitefish Point when a powerful snow storm descended upon the eastern end of Lake Superior. Sometime after that she sank with the loss of her entire crew. Within a few days, wreckage began to wash ashore between Crisp Point and Grand Marais, Michigan. Debris confirmed that she was the missing vessel D.M. Clemson. Contemporary sources speculated that she was lost shortly after entering the storm due to either structural or mechanical failure or the loss of her hatch covers. Despite repeated searches by the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society, the wreck of the D.M. Clemson has never been found. Her captain, Samuel R. Chamberlain, and crew of 24 were all lost. The officers, including Samuel R. Chamberlain were from Duluth.

Arlene Renken

Edited by Ellie Alspach



Invasive plants that hurt humans

Many Minnesotans are becoming more aware of the ecological harm that native plants can do. It may come as a surprise that some invasive plants can also hurt people who come into contact with them. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture warns that many of the invasive plants listed on [Minnesota's Noxious Weed List](#) can be harmful or toxic to humans and animals, as well as to our ecosystems. For example, sap from wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*), an invasive plant commonly found on roadsides and grasslands, causes burns and blisters to skin. Wild parsnip is related to wild carrot, also known as Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*), which can also cause uncomfortable skin irritation.

Common and cutleaf teasels (*Dipsacus fullonum* and *D. laciniatus*), hooked hair hops (*Humulus japonicus*), and Canada and plumeless thistles (*Cirsium arvense*; *Carduus acanthoides*) all have sharp prickles on the stems and leaves that can cause painful scratches and inflammation.

Several noxious weeds can be toxic if ingested. Grecian foxglove (*Digitalis plantaginaceae*) toxicity can cause abnormal heart rhythms and can be toxic to livestock. Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) is toxic if ingested or if its sap is absorbed through skin. Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) toxicity can cause liver and brain damage.

Invasive plants don't just affect humans and livestock. Two species on the noxious weed list are also toxic to monarch butterflies. Black and pale swallow-wort (*Cynanchum louiseae*; *Cynanchum rossicum*) are two vining milkweeds that are found in very small populations in Minnesota. Though they are related to our native milkweeds, they are toxic to monarch caterpillars, and eggs that are laid on their leaves will not survive.

You can learn more about invasive plants from the noxious weed list at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's [Noxious Weed List](#) webpage. If you need help identifying a species, you can create a report through the Department of Agriculture's [Report A Pest](#) form. For information about livestock toxicity, the University of Minnesota maintains a webpage of [Plants Poisonous to Livestock](#).

You can help preserve Minnesota's rich ecological diversity by being a good land steward, dealing with invasive plants on your land promptly and carefully.

Stephanie

Hemphill

duluth-cisma@stewardshipnetwork.org

Thank You UPS Rich For Your Service

The United Parcel Service driver who has served the Canal Park and Park Point communities is retiring on October 17, 2025. Rich Garay has worked this route for more than eleven years and has been with UPS for 35 years. Although Rich and I are supposed to be competitors, we became friends while delivering on Park Point. He is funny, smart, and very dedicated to serving UPS customers. Together, we have experienced the biggest surge in package deliveries during the pandemic and dealt with staffing shortages.

Our first interaction was back in January 2019, after the Christmas delivery rush. He walked by and said, "I am so sick of packages. Aren't you?" I burst out laughing, and that is how our friendship started. Rich often cares that UPS customers are satisfied. For example, a Park Point customer had a package marked delivered but never received it. Rich looked up the tracking number and found that the package was delivered downtown. He retrieved it and delivered it the next day. Rich and I have socialized and included our wives over the years. During the summer, we attended the Hairball concert at Bayfront Park. When we got together, the wives got along better than we do! Rich and Mary have volunteered with Teresa and me for several special events, especially the food drive. They have been great at picking up food in Park Point while I managed the Food Drive at the Main Post Office in West Duluth. Additionally, Rich and Mary helped at Grandma's Marathon Mile 20 water station for the first time. Rich told me after both events, "That was great! I want to do this again next year!" After Rich retires, I plan to meet up with him, as we look forward to continuing our social outings. What will be missed is the positive presence he brought to Park Point. I look forward to the new person who takes his delivery route in January 2026 and will likely say, "I am so sick of packages. Aren't you?" Thank you, Rich, for your help and service to the Canal Park and Park Point communities. Cheers to you, and enjoy your retirement!

George Rennan

USPS Letter Carrier



Left to right is Rich, his wife Mary, me, and my wife Teresa.

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Dawn Buck parkpointcc@gmail.com 218-525-1764 **Vice President: Tom Griggs** Thom0313@gmail.com
Secretary: Rory Strange rstrange3@icloud.com 218-340-7220 **Treasurer: Mary Treuer** mbtreuer@gmail.com
Art Fair coordinator: Carla Tamburro coordinator@parkpointartfair.org 218-348-7338
Rummage Sale committee: Deb Strange debstrange2008@icloud.com
Hospitality committee: Diane Gould 218- 727-4067 **Ted Buck** 218- 525-1764
The Postcard (S-curve sign): Dawn Buck parkpointcc@gmail.com
Sunshine committee: Pam Griggs pamgriggs101@gmail.com
Website: www.parkpointcommunityclub.org
Lafayette Square Rentals: Chris Seversen, Parks Permit Coordinator 218-730-4305
www.duluthmn.gov/parks/registration
The Breeze editor: Alan Dartanyan 218 726-0110 breezeditor@msn.com

Numbers you can use

Got (non-emergency) issues you'd like to discuss, but don't know whom to call?

Here are some helpful contacts

Public Works and Utilities 24 hr. emergency contact numbers:

Natural Gas 730-4100, Streets, Water & Sewer 730-4000

Lift Bridge Supervisor Dave Campbell 723-3387

Community Police Officer Jeremy O'Connor JOconnor@duluthmn.gov

PP water Quality issues: Chris Kleist, ckleist@duluthmn.gov, office 218-730-4063 and 218-355-0598

Parking Services 218-730-5470

Parks & Rec: afornear@duluthmn.gov

Animal Control 218-730-4846

City Councilor Roz Randorf rrandorf@duluthmn.gov 218-443-8364

City of Duluth/home 218-730-5000

duluthmn.gov/contact



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the Lake.**

Looking for a bit of exercise combined with socialization? Join us in learning to dance to traditional Scottish reels, jigs and strathspey reel tunes. More closely related to ballroom dancing than 'folk' dance', Scottish Country Dancing became popular in the 18th Century as a relief from more formal 'court' dances.

Classes will begin Tuesday evenings in November, and run from 6:30-8 pm. The first classes will include basic stretches to protect dancers from injury. Wear comfortable clothing and flexible-type shoes (casual tennis shoes will work to start). While generally danced in pairs, we encourage singles to join. This is all in fun!

