



# The Park Bench

AEPNA Association Newsletter

Visit us online at [aepna.org](http://aepna.org)

## President's Letter

### Soup & Guilt-free Regifting at January Meeting

The AEPNA Board members will host a Soup Fest at our January meeting. We'll have taco soup, white chicken chili, chicken noodle, and a couple of other fabulous offerings. The colder it is outside, the better soup tastes, so don't let the cold or snow stop you. Bring your family and neighbors (and maybe a dessert). We'll have a free will offering for the soup, with the proceeds going to the Schroder/Vogel Park playground improvement project.



We'll also have a gift exchange to allow you to regift an item that you got over the holidays, but that someone else would enjoy more than you. "Wrap" your gift in a brown paper bag and everyone who brings a gift can take one. No hard feelings; no need for diplomatic thank you notes.

If you attended the October meeting and cast your votes (dots) for the different playground design options, you'll want to come to the January meeting. We've invited Pat Slavin from the Omaha Parks Foundation back to share what they've done with our input.

Did you make a New Year resolution? I'll share a short YouTube video that I hope will inspire us to improve our health and indirectly, our neighborhood.

You can also renew your membership and sign up for a committee or indicate an area of interest to pursue for 2013.

I hope you can join us!

Avery Schwer

**Next Meeting ...**  
**Thursday,**  
**January 17th**  
 6:30 – 8:30 PM

**Re-gifting Exchange:**  
 Bring a brown bag with  
 A white elephant gift

Saint Matthew Evangelical  
 Lutheran Church  
 1725 S. 60th Street  
 3rd Thursday  
 Every Other Month

### Soup & White Elephants

Soup provided by  
 AEPNA board members  
 Side dishes &  
 desserts welcome

Bring a friend or two  
 and join us!

## Wanted: A Sugar Daddy

You may have already heard that a single donor wrote a \$50,000 check to support Elmwood Park's fundraising efforts. Wow!



AEPNA is accepting applications for a Sugar Daddy to help us reach our \$50,000 goal for the Omaha Park Foundation's matching grant.

We're probably going to have to raise our money the old fashioned way – by working for it and getting donations a little at a time. With the proceeds from the pancake breakfast,

RibFest and other donations, we're close to reaching \$10,000 which qualifies for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Nebraska match, so we'll be at \$20,000. If you can't swing a big check for the remaining \$30,000, give what you can. Or volunteer your time and talents to help plan and/or staff fundraising events. Do you know how to

stage a Poker Run or host a Progressive Dinner Party? The neighborhood has plenty of great venues for those kind of events, but someone has to plan it and pull it off. If you're interested in events that will build relationships among neighbors and with local businesses, let Avery know.



your neighborhood bank  more

You may know us as the friendly, neighborhood bank. But there's more to the story than that. Here, you'll find mortgage experts to help with all of your purchasing, refinancing, and home equity loan needs. You'll find experienced financial advisors who can provide you with the custom planning and consultation you need to meet any dream. Plus, you'll find insurance experts who know how to save you money on anything from home, auto, and life to business and health insurance. Best of all, you can find it right here. In your neighborhood. What more could you ask for?



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AkSarBen- Elmwood  
Park  
Neighborhood  
Association

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402-554-2777

**V.P.**- Tom Prohaska

402- 554-1353

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**Community Service and  
Beautification**

Open

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Therese McGrath

tmcgra@creighton. edu

**Newsletter**

**Publisher**, Ellen Shurson

402-551-6787

ellenshurson@gmail.com

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# Small Wonders

## Time Travel Machine

This old phone booth is a time travel machine. It can transport you back to magical times when people shared phones – at home or in public spaces – and answered them without already knowing who was on the other end. When long distance was a luxury reserved for great love or great loss. When phone booths made us feel safe – a dime was all it took to get help in case of an emergency. When sometimes a man in a cape and tights would burst out of a booth in the service of truth, justice and the American way.

Next time you're out walking the neighborhood be on the lookout for hidden phone booths, phantom tollbooths, London police boxes or even a wardrobe that can transport you into worlds you can only imagine.



## Wanted: Treat Lady

The Treat Lady is retiring. Susan Prazen has organized treats for AEPNA meetings for the past few years. She's ready to pass the torch to someone who's been waiting for an opportunity to contribute in a low-key way. The January meeting is a great time to sign up to share your talents (whatever they are) with your neighbors. Thanks for all the treats, Susan!

## Time to Renew!

Please renew your membership so you can continue to receive the newsletter. Use the form below.

Consider a gift membership for a new or favorite neighbor!

### AEPNA Membership Form

New  Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one:                      Household              Business  
   \$10.00                      \$20.00

Please make check payable to:

Aksarben Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association

Mail to: 1302 South 56th Street Omaha, NE 68106



P.O. Box 6665  
Omaha, NE 68106

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using the form on page 3!