



AEPNA Association Newsletter

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President's Letter

Good Neighbors Work and Have Fun

AEPNA Officers initiated a Good Neighbor Award to recognize a neighbor who makes a significant difference in the neighborhood. Therese McGrath presented the award to Eileen Slane at the July meeting. Eileen has served AEPNA and the neighborhood selflessly for years, building relationships with the City of Omaha and neighbors to make things happen. In addition to serving as AEPNA's treasurer for several years, Eileen has been instrumental in raising money through grants and fundraising activities to support neighborhood improvement projects such as trees, doggie waste stations, painting park buildings and making sure that new equipment fits with our old park. The most recent project is the Schroeder/Vogel Park equipment and landscaping that we hope to start and finish this year. Thanks, Eileen, for being a good neighbor!

Aksarben RibFest is the best volunteer gig you could ever hope to land. You get to meet people and enjoy great food and music while working with your neighbors and it's right in your own back yard! Walk, ride or drive over to the RibFest to enjoy FREE admission to FREE blues music and fun. Five national rib vendors will be serving their best ribs, chicken and secret sauces.

Volunteer for a shift or two at the AEPNA beer tent or margarita and hard lemonade carts. AEPNA gets 20% of all the proceeds from the alcohol. We'll use the money for our Schroeder/Vogel Park improvement matching funds grant. Contact me at 402-554-2777 if you want to volunteer.

Come hungry; come thirsty, and look for me under the beer tent. (I'll be hard to miss in my neon green AEPNA T-shirt.) Hope to see you there!

Avery Schwer



Therese McGrath presents Good Neighbor Award to Eileen Slane

Next Meeting ...
Thursday, September 26
PICNIC
@ Elmwood Pavilion
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Main Dish - Catered
Sides – Potluck:
A-L: salad/veggies
N-Z: dessert

Saint Matthew Evangelical
 Lutheran Church
 1725 S. 60th Street
 3rd Thursday
 Every Other Month
 Bring a friend or two
 and join us!

Picnic September 26, Elmwood Park Pavilion 6:30 PM

Thankfully, we didn't have the AEPNA picnic in July! The night of our last meeting was scorching. Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 26, and cross your fingers for a beautiful evening. The main dish will be catered, so bring a side or dessert to share. We'll be celebrating progress on the Schroeder/Vogel Park project and to giving a report on the money raised at the August RibFest.

Please join us and bring a couple of neighbors along for the food, fun and fellowship.



Jerry & Kids at the Dessert Table



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**AkSarBen- Elmwood
Park
Neighborhood
Association**

Executive Board

President - Avery Schwer
402-554-2777

V.P.- Tom Prohaska
402- 554-1353

Secretary - Tim Potter
402-830-5694

Treasurer - Eileen Slane
402-553-5988

Committees:

Membership/Bylaws

Scott Swanson
402-553-1483

**Community Service and
Beautification**

Open

Social Activities

Open

Webmaster- Mike Kresnik

Facebook Maven

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Newsletter

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Talking Trash

One for the Road

I started noticing the bottles last fall, small plastic bottles along the curbs and in the grass along my walk routes. On a whim one Sunday, I picked up every bottle I saw on my regular walk and completely filled 2 of my doggie waste bags.

Forty-nine (just one less than 50) bottles of single serving alcohol on the curb, in the street and on the parking. Hmm. In volume, it may not measure up to many liters or six packs, but it's a LOT of hard alcohol that I assume is consumed while driving. It's marketed as an impulse purchase item at convenience store cash registers – "Let's see... gas – check; candy bar – check; lottery ticket – check; oh, and a shot for the road!"



This is an assumption on my part. Many of these "airport shots" are purchased for travel because they meet the TSA size restriction on carry-on liquids and save travelers from paying \$5 for a mixed drink. (A great idea!) And many are purchased for consumption at home, to try a new flavor without buying a whole bottle. (A frugal idea.) But the evidence at the curb points to a staggering amount of hard alcohol consumed in cars. (A bad idea...)

1 Sunday.
2 miles.
49 Bottles.
Can you beat that?

Count the bottles you see on your daily route – the same route that you jog every morning, your kids walk to school every day, and ride bikes every afternoon. How many bottles will it take to make you wonder about whether the clever package is a good thing or a real threat to your kids, your pets, and your property?

Alcohol is a legal product and the single servings are a profitable product or businesses wouldn't be selling them. As a customer with a stake in safe streets, encourage the businesses you patronize to take the "impulse" out of the purchase by moving displays away from the front counters. Better yet, ask them to think like a good neighbor and NOT offer the single servings. Then support the businesses that do act like good neighbors and tell others why you support them.

Colleen Ciciulla

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



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Omaha, NE 68106

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Check out that T-shirt!

AEPNA volunteers at the Aksarben RibFest are the most popular on site.

Some say it's the beer. We think it's the shirt.

If you want a shirt or a shirt, call Avery at 402-554-2777.

