



The Park Bench

AEPNA Association Newsletter

Visit us online at aepna.org

President's Letter

Success Breeds Success - AEPNA Excellence Recognized

AEPNA has raised the \$50,000 needed for our matching funds grant and we raised the money in just half the time allowed! The Peter Kiewit Foundation awarded us a grant for the last \$9,000 we needed, so groundbreaking will start this spring! Thanks to everyone who helped with the grant-work and the grunt-work involved in raising these funds.

We are the only association to have met the Omaha Parks Foundation matching funds goal through grassroots fundraising activities (Elmwood met its match through a single donor's gift), so we are a bit of a darling with the City of Omaha and the Foundation. We have proven that we can be trusted, that we meet our commitments and that the AEPNA community is a force to be reckoned with!

We won't be resting on our laurels, however. We're already looking ahead to the next big projects – signs to identify our historic neighborhood and a community garden – and lots of regular activities, like S/V Park spring cleanup on 3 Saturday mornings (4/12, 5/3 & 5/17). Volunteers with a shared vision never really stop moving...

The candidate forum AEPNA hosted in March drew a full house and spurred several first-time attendees to become members and get involved. One of the new members, Trina Westman, works in the City's Planning Department and said that the department has completed historic studies of all neighborhoods east of 72nd Street EXCEPT Aksarben. They're starting to study the Aksarben area now, and she's agreed to talk about that at our next meeting. History buffs and longtime residents will want to attend.

I'll see you at the meeting and around the neighborhood!

Avery Schwer



New members Bill & Sally Duckworth

Next Meeting...

May 15th

6:30 – 8:30 PM

CSO –Combined Sanitary

Overflow update

City Planning Dept.: Historic

Study of Aksarben

Neighborhood

Saint Matthew Evangelical

Lutheran Church

1725 S. 60th Street

3rd Thursday

Every Other Month

Bring a friend or two
and join us!

Garage Sales are Serious Business

Where would Pinterest be without all the great finds at garage sales? And where would garage sales be without all the great ideas on Pinterest? Feed your Pinterest addiction and find out how to stage your sale to make the most money possible in the AEPNA area garage sales on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 1, 2 & 3. Or feed that addiction by finding AMAAAZING gems at your neighbor's sale...

"We count on that garage sale! We use the money from the sale for our annual Fall Festival!" Jen Kresnik

Register by Thursday, April 24, to get some marketing perks. Go to AEPNA.org to fill out the registration form to have your sale included in the list of the Askarben/Elmwood Park garage sales. Contact jenkresnik@gmail.com for information.





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?



A BRANCH OF SECURITY STATE BANK | MEMBER FDIC

50th and Underwood dundeebanking.com

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER.

Securities offered through Securities America Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Securities America Advisors, Inc. Dundee Bank dba Dundee Financial Services and the Securities America companies are unaffiliated.

NOT A DEPOSIT. NOT FDIC INSURED. NOT INSURED BY ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY. NOT BANK GUARANTEED. MAY LOSE VALUE.

Coffee with a Cop

**AkSarBen- Elmwood
Park
Neighborhood
Association
Executive Board**

President - Avery Schwer
402-554-2777

V.P.- Angie Podoll
402-699-0300

Secretary - Tim Potter
402-830-5694

Treasurer - Eileen Slane
402-553-5988

Committees:

Membership Director

Scott Swanson
402-553-1483

**Community Service and
Beautification**

Open

Social Director

Lois Ourada

Media Director

Mike Kresnik

Communications Director

Therese McGrath
tmcgra@creighton.edu

The Hy Vee was crawling with cops...in a good way. At least a dozen officers and staff from the Omaha Police Department and City of Omaha mingled with people in the restaurant and answered questions about crime in the Southwest precinct. These informal meetings are a way to build relationships in the community.

Neighborhood associations were specifically invited as a way to get the word out. So in addition to the Hy Vee breakfast "regulars", the event drew representatives from several surrounding neighborhood associations – even from as far away as Bellevue. While uniformed officers generally are involved in calls dispatched through the 911 system, the detectives were the ones who answered questions that started with "Whatever happened to ...?"

The fire engine parked out front beside the Crime Stoppers Camaro was pure bonus. The firefighters weren't a planned part of the event; they were just getting groceries and stopped for the free coffee!



Thanks to Hy Vee for hosting this event. Check out more mug shots on AEPNA.org or our Facebook page.

Mug Shot from Coffee with a Cop

Newsletter

Publisher, Ellen Shurson
402-714-1016

ellenshurson@gmail.com

The Aksarben Elmwood Park Association Newsletter is published monthly by Shurson Publishing. Direct all advertising inquires to 402-714-1016. Send all articles for submission and press releases to Shurson Publishing, 131 N. 31 Avenue, Omaha, NE 68131, e-mail to ellenshurson@gmail.com to arrive by the 1st of the month of publication. Content may be edited for clarity and space considerations. No warranties of the products or services printed herein are expressed or implied by either the Association or Shurson Publishing.

Garden Walk Fundraiser

The AEPNA Garden Walk will show off neighborhood gardens that include the farm-to-table variety (with livestock!) and idyllic escapes with ponds and exotic trees. Garden Walk hours are 9 AM to 3 PM on Saturday, June 7. Come and get ideas for your own garden or just enjoy someone else's hard work!

We still need another garden and volunteers to take and to sell tickets. If you would like share your garden or your time, please contact Scott Swanson at scooter755@cox.net. Thank you!



Walk a Mile in Someone Else's Garden

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

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Omaha, NE
Permit 1638

See your business here!
Join or renew
using the form on page 3!

Dates to Remember –

See AEPNA.org for details on these events

April 24 – registration for Garage Sale (if you want the marketing perks!)

May 1, 2 & 3 (Thurs. - Sat.) – AEPNA Garage Sale – look for the yellow signs and the great deals!

May 3 - Dumpster Day – Hertz Equipment Rental parking lot on 56th & Center; S/V Park Cleanup Day

May 17 – S/V Park Cleanup Day 9 AM – 1 PM

June 7 - Garden Walk (rain or shine)

AEPNA Business Members

- Anderson Industrial Engines Co. ■ Bailey's Landscape & Design ■ Broadmoor ■ Canvas and Cabernet in Aksarben Village ■ Cars R'Us Auto Body ■ Circle Theater ■ Clooty Tree Massage, LLC ■ Courtyard by Marriott at Aksarben ■ Elmwood Tower ■ Godfather's Pizza Aksarben Village ■ Hertz Equipment Rental
- Hy Vee ■ j.coco ■ Learning Headquarters ■ LIV Lounge ■ Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church & School
- Noddle Companies ■ Olsson Associates ■ O.F.D. Education Station #10 - David Mann ■ Pinhook Flats
- Pruitt Outdoor Power ■ Security National Bank AkSarBen Village ■ Shurson Publishing
- Spruce Interiors & Gifts ■ St. Matthew Lutheran Church ■ Tasty Pastry ■ Tracks
- UNO College of Business Pacific Campus ■ University of NE Board of Regents-Bob Whitehouse