



# The Park Bench

AEPNA Association Newsletter

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

## President's Letter

### Neighborhood Needs

In looking at the minutes from the AEPNA officers meeting, I kept seeing the word "need".

■ **We need a new fundraiser.** RibFest is not scheduled for 2014. That was a great event for us; we raised a lot of money in a few days, and got to show off a vital part of the neighborhood. It was a lot of fun and close to home. We need another event that will be as successful for us and a good fit for the neighborhood. We've sold ice cream, pancakes and beer. If you ask me, beer is the most profit for the least effort, but we're open to ideas... If you've got an idea that you want to make a reality or if you've got connections with companies or events that are looking for reliable volunteer partners in exchange for a donation to AEPNA, please let me know!

We need an organizer for the Garage Sale; last year's coordinator is unavailable this year. The coordinator handles the publicity for the event: from preparing the list of participating addresses to putting an ad in the Omaha World Herald. This person also hands out the nice AEPNA signs for the event. Contact Eileen Slane if you can coordinate this.

■ **We need volunteers for Dumpster Day** on Saturday, May 3 from 9 AM - 2 PM at the Hertz Equipment Rental parking lot on 56th & Center. Contact Tim Potter to help out.

■ **We need gardens for the Garden Walk** on Saturday, June 7. We're looking for 5 gardens where visitors can see how to make the most of shade, slopes, swampy ground and so on. Contact Scott Swanson if you want to help as a volunteer for the walk or if you have a garden to share.

■ **We need you.** If you want to contribute to the strength and vitality of our neighborhood, please join AEPNA to share your ideas, your time and your energy with others in your community.

I'll see you around the neighborhood!

Avery Schwer



The Almgrens shared their wonderful garden in the 2012 Walk

#### Next Meeting...

March 20th  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Candidate Forum for  
City, County &  
State Offices  
Before May Primary

It'll be a full house!

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

Bring a friend or two  
and join us!

## Angie Podoll Named Vice-President

Angie Podoll will be assuming the office of Vice-President of AEPNA. Tom Prohaska asked to step down because AEPNA board meetings conflict with those of another board on which he actively serves. After the January meeting when the current slate of officers was re-elected, Angie stepped forward and volunteered to serve. We'll miss Tom at the meetings, but he will remain active in the neighborhood and will continue to serve whenever needed. Thanks for your years of service, Tom! And thanks for stepping up, Angie!



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# Adopt an Island

**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**  
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The small traffic island at 57th & Marcy Streets is close enough to Leavenworth to mark the boundary between the Aksarben and Elmwood neighborhoods.

A neighbor to the east, Craig Anderson, had put a flag on the pole some time ago. The winter winds shredded it and tied it in knots, so with the help of another neighbor, Craig took it down and will replace it. Thank you, Craig!

Right now, the island looks like a neglected piece of ground surrounded by cement. But with a little love and manure, it could be a sweet spot with flowers and greenery around the flagpole. And with a little money, it could have a spotlight on the flag. If you want to spruce up the island or help maintain the flag and pole, contact Angie Po



Island at 57& Marcy Streets



Local watering hole supports local playground.

## Tips from Tracks

During the soft opening of Tracks, Anne Konen (owner) placed a jar/bucket/bowl on the bar and told people that this was for the Schroder/Vogel Park playground equipment. Her thoughtful gesture raised \$100.

When Scott Swanson, AEPNA's Membership Director, stopped by Tracks on opening night for the public, Anne presented the monies to him and told him what she had done. Thanks, Anne!

(Avery may be onto something when he says beer is an easy way to raise money...)

### 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

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Omaha, NE

Permit 1638

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

### **Dates to Remember**

**March 20** - Candidate Forum at AEPNA meeting

**May 3** - Dumpster Day – Hertz Equipment  
Rental parking lot on 56th & Center

**May 8-10** - (tentative) – Garage Sale

**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 ■ Clouty 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 ■ Noodle 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
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