

The Park Bench

AEPNA Newsletter

Visit us online at aepna.org or find us on Facebook at Aksarben Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association

President's Letter

2014: Call it Good

During this past year, AEPNA was instrumental in getting the new playground equipment and landscaping at Schroder/Vogel Park, breaking down a barrier between the neighborhood and Aksarben Village with an accessible walkway that extends from Woolworth Street to the campus. Our attendance at meetings and forums showed politicians and bureaucrats alike that this people who live in this neighborhood are engaged and informed citizens.

I have the honor of serving as the President of the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance (MNA) as well as serving as AEPNA's President and I hope that both groups will gain by continuing to work closely together for things that will improve our community. Through MNA, I have some leads on fundraising opportunities that can be very easy and effective for us. I'll share more information about that in the coming months.

These are exciting times in our neighborhood. Aksarben Village continues to grow and thrive and the hockey arena will bring additional vitality. We are blessed to have neighbors who are willing to give of themselves to keep our neighborhood vibrant, safe and welcoming. I'm looking forward to the coming year. And I'm looking forward to seeing you at the January meeting!

Avery Schwer



S/V Park playground equipment



UNO-Woolworth walkway

January
 Business Meeting
 & Soup Fest
 Thursday, Jan. 15
 6:30 PM

Guest speakers
 New Business:
 Tiffany Clifton –
 Gotta Be Me

Representative from
 UNO Hockey Arena

Status update
 on CSO project

Soup Fest Jan. 15 at AEPNA meeting
 Beat cabin fever by joining your neighbors for soup at the January meeting, on Thursday, Jan. 15. Several varieties of soups (ham & bean, split pea, white chicken chili, tomato and perhaps a surprise) will be provided. You bring sides, desserts & your neighbors.



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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Neighborhood Association**

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Crop Failure: The Ice Harvest in 1882

"There is a panic among the ice dealers, brewers, butchers and packers just now," said the *Omaha Daily Bee* on January 9, 1882, "and every sort of scheme is being devised to get ice for next season's use." Ice was "a necessary article of summer luxury" before the days of refrigeration, and a short ice crop was sure to cause problems for families and businesses.

The *Bee* said: "This time last year the ice houses were filled and running over while now, nearly the middle of January, only about three hundred tons in all, and that of six inch ice, has been put in, by way of experiment, on the bottom tier by R. Kimball & Co. and Paul Nelson. The damp, warm weather which set in last night blasted all hopes of an ice harvest which might have been entertained a few days ago and all the dealers are now figuring on getting ice the best they can. The trouble is that the weather at the cities all about Omaha is about the same as here, and the nearest known ice supply is at Manitoba.

"Tekamah folks have gathered a good supply of twelve-inch ice, and it is reported that the surface of a lake in that vicinity is frozen to the same thickness. An Omaha firm is looking out for that lake. Mayor [James E.] Boyd has built up additional ice house [capacity], which with the two he had[,] give him a storage capacity of 6,000 tons, the amount he needs. He hasn't 6,000 ounces yet. His [packing] houses are but 150 feet from the river bank and if ice ever does form he will rustle to gather it in. He has procured a set of ice tools to facilitate business, and Kimball & Co., have three sets.

"Boyd will possibly, in case the ice crop fails entirely, put in one of the cooling machines which blows cold air through the rooms, lessening the consumption of ice three-fourths at least. Such a machine costs about \$20,000, and it will only be taken as a last resort. Several parties have been figuring with the C. St. P. M. & O. (Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha) road to lay a track along Cut-Off lake, but the company can't see it, unless they are guaranteed a certain number of cars and \$5 a load. . . .

"There is an immense amount of ice consumed in this city and notwithstanding the amount that was housed last winter the supply was exhausted by September 1st and Blair and Council Bluffs drawn upon. Besides the ice required by brewers, packers, etc., the local trade, by delivery, is very heavy and the Union Pacific alone uses fifteen tons per day.

"There is still a hope that the mercury will go down below zero next month, and there are good reasons to believe that we may yet have plenty of this very necessary article of summer luxury."

Courtesy of Nebraska State Historical Society.

<http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/timeline>

Renew your AEPNA membership!

Consider a 3-year membership for just \$25.

AEPNA Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Household \$10/1 year; \$20/2 years; \$25/3 years

Business \$20/1 year; \$40/2 years; \$50/3 years

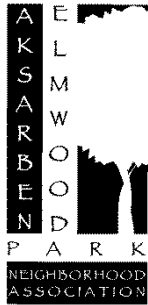
New Renewal Gift (great for your thoughtful neighbor!)

Please include me in the neighborhood roster Yes No

Please make check payable to Aksarben-Elmwood Park NA

Mail to: 1302 S. 56 St. Omaha, NE 68106

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“During the season 75 to 100 men were employed to cut and handle the ice. Ice was cut whenever the thickness reached ten or more inches.”

“As many as 100 [train] cars of ice were shipped daily from Crete during the ice cutting season.”

“Horsedrawn scoring knives and long ice saws, later replaced by power saws, cut the ice into squares.”

For more information on the natural ice industry and other facts about Nebraska, see the Nebraska State Historical Society’s Timeline articles at www.NebraskaHistory.org.



Underage drinking. Adult consequences.

“In Nebraska, adults who host an underage drinking party or provide or sell alcohol to minors can be held civilly liable if the intoxicated minor injures or kills someone or causes property damage.”

[ProjectExtra Mile.org](http://ProjectExtraMile.org)

AEPNA Business Members

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Godfather’s Pizza/Aksarben Village * Hertz Equipment Rental * JCoco * Kids DIY Studio
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