

Elvehjem Echo

Elvehjem Neighborhood Association

Vol. 46, Issue 1

Founded March 1968

February-March 2014

Our Association's 46th Year



Words from the Wooden Steps: If You Believe, Belong!

-If you BELIEVE that working together as Elvehjem Neighborhood Association, we build relationships and community that make our neighborhood smaller, safer, and more welcoming, JOIN ENA!

-If you BELIEVE that a strong Elvehjem Neighborhood Association gives greater voice to our issues with the City of Madison, elected officials, police and fire, and other groups, JOIN ENA!

-If you BELIEVE that neighbors who are connected and informed by the neighborhood Facebook page, newsletter, and website improve our community, JOIN ENA!

-If you BELIEVE that \$15/year, or just over \$1/month, is a small price to pay to allow our dedicated force of Board members and volunteers offer events for all ages, JOIN ENA!

Our 2014 Elvehjem Neighborhood Association Membership Drive goal is 400 households. I extend a warm invitation for your household to BELIEVE, BELONG, and help us reach our goal!

Tiff Roltgen
Elvehjem Neighborhood Association President

[608-513-9433](tel:608-513-9433)

tiffani@elvehjemneighborhood.org

2014 "March Madness" Membership Drive and Last Call for Block Captains!

We are still looking for additional block captains to take responsibility for their street of residence for our 2014 "March Madness" Membership Drive. The time commitment is approximately one afternoon between March 15 and April 15 spent knocking on doors, delivering pre-assembled membership packets, and talking to neighbors, as well as a 30-minute training meeting on Saturday, March 15, from 9 to 9:30 a.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church (5202 Cottage Grove Road), just prior to the ENA Annual Meeting at 10 a.m. *Many hands make light work!* Please contact ENA Vice President Mike Digman (mike@elvehjemneighborhood.org or 608-469-8182) to volunteer. Block sizes can be adjusted based on your availability and mobility.



CALENDAR

February 5	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00 PM East District Police Station
February 22-March 1	Elvehjem to Wellvehjem Week See this newsletter and web site for more details.
March 5	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00 PM East District Police Station
March 14	Wooden Steps Running Club Pi(e) Run 6:00-8:00 PM 5306 East Buckeye Road
March 15	Block Captain Meeting 9:00-9:30 AM Messiah Lutheran Church
	Neighborhood Social 9:30-10:00 AM Messiah Lutheran Church
	Annual Meeting 10:00 a.m.-12:00 PM Messiah Lutheran Church
March 15-April 15	March Madness Membership Drive
March 22	Community Garden Registration Day 1:00-3:00 PM East District Police Station

Secretary's Corner

By Jamie Meise

Welcome to the Secretary's Corner! Below are a few highlights from recent ENA Board meetings, not covered elsewhere in the newsletter:

Elvehjem and East Buckeye neighborhoods joined together to celebrate the holiday season at the first cosponsored Holiday in the Park event in early December. Despite the cold weather everyone had a great time mingling around the roaring bonfire, sipping on hot chocolate, and visiting with Santa.

ENA Secretary and Babysitter coordinator Jamie Meise is putting together a list of neighborhood babysitters to be shared on the ENA website, on the ENA Facebook group, and printed in the Echo. To be included in the list please send the babysitter's name, age, parents name, phone number, and experience/certifications to Jamie@elvehjemneighborhood.org

The Madison City Parks Department has hosted two public meetings regarding playground equipment updates at Drosster Park. The chosen equipment is slated for installation in spring of 2014.

To access the minutes in full, please visit <http://www.elvehjemneighborhood.org/minutes.html> or if you would prefer to have a printed copy mailed to your home, contact ENA Secretary Jamie Meise at secretary@elvehjemneighborhood.org or 608-477-3955.

Vote on Proposed Bylaw Changes at the March 15 Annual Membership Meeting

The ENA Bylaws Committee has been hard at work bringing the Association's bylaws up to date. Similar to other organizations, ENA's bylaws are rules intended to provide a framework for the Association's functions and activities. The last update to the bylaws was in 2004. The primary motivation to draft the latest updates was to bring the bylaws in line with the Association's current practices. The updates are also intended to make sure the bylaws are as clear as possible and use proper terminology.

In order to go into effect, the updates must be approved by two-thirds of those voting at the Annual Membership Meeting. Association Members may review the proposed changes on the ENA website at www.elvehjemneighborhood.org. Anyone who prefers to receive a hard copy may contact ENA Board member Betsy Winterhack at 608-445-7961 or betsy@elvehjemneighborhood.org. Hard copies will also be available at the Annual Membership Meeting. The Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on March 15 at Messiah Lutheran Church.

VOLUNTEER BAKERS NEEDED!

The Neighborhood Welcome Committee is seeking bakers. If you would be willing to bake and donate 2-3 dozen cookies or other baked goodies from time to time, we would love to include your sweet treats as part of our welcome package to new residents of the neighborhood. Please express your interest to Isaac Semrow via email: isaac@elvehjemneighborhood.org or phone: (920) 420-5677

Treasurer's Corner

By Justin Martin

treasurer@elvehjemneighborhood.org

This time of year is fairly quiet in terms of Treasurer's Reports. The last few months of 2013 saw a handful of membership dues payments, and the printing and mailing expenses for the November/December issue of the Echo. We have, however, started the process of preparing a budget for 2014, which will be submitted for approval at the annual meeting in March. The Budget Committee, which met in November, recommended a modest increase in the dues amount, which the Board approved, from \$12 annually to \$15. Reduced dues for those paying at the Annual Meeting will remain at \$10. It was a difficult decision for us to make, but in the end it was necessary. Membership dues are our primary source of revenue, yet the number of dues-paying households continues to decline. ENA has already reduced our main expense, the cost of publishing the Echo, by limiting publication to six issues per year, down from ten. While that limits the Board's ability to communicate directly with our neighbors, it became necessary after consecutive years of significant financial losses. In the end, our goal is to be zero-profit, zero-loss, and to continue sponsoring great neighborhood events throughout the year without risking the long-term sustainability of the association. We hope that no further cuts will be necessary, and that starts with our members. When our membership drive starts up again this March, please consider joining ENA. To those who have year-in and year-out supported our mission by joining—some even by sponsoring us with additional donations—thank you. We couldn't do it without you.

WELL-V-M Movie Night

Tuesday, February 25, 6 p.m.
1614 South Thompson Drive

In celebration of Elvehjem to Wellvehjem Week, we will be watching the film *Forks Over Knives*, a must-see documentary which examines the profound claim that most, if not all, of the degenerative diseases that afflict us can be controlled, or even reversed, by rejecting animal-based and processed foods. Please RSVP by February 21 to Jamie Meise at 608-477-3955 or jamie@elvehjemneighborhood.org. Light snacks and refreshments will be served. Childcare will be offered; please let us know if you will be bringing your little ones so we can make proper arrangements.



New Neighbor Spotlight

Welcome to Elvehjem Neighborhood, Juliet and Marlo!

Juliet Darken and Marlo Dobrient bought their first home together on E. Buckeye Rd and they are excited to be here in Elvehjem Neighborhood! Juliet is a freelance illustrator making lino-cut prints that can be found at Hatch Art House (hatcharthouse.com). She is also seeking her Master's in Education at Edgewood College hoping to be a high school English teacher by this time next year. Marlo is a Client Service Coordinator for Covance Labs working in Nutritional Chemistry and Food Safety. She is also a private drum instructor (mmdobrient@gmail.com) and member of local all-female surf punk band Venus in Furs (venusinfursband.com). Juliet enjoys the Sundance movie theatre, walking, biking, yoga and acupuncture while Marlo likes gardening, playing drums and biking to work. Together they love to attend American Players Theatre and music shows. In their words: "There is always something going on in and around Madison. We love the wealth of local music and art, festivals, fairs, and great food." They are looking forward to attending some ENA events throughout the year and are especially interested in swapping plants and veggies with fellow neighbors. Another wonderful addition to our neighborhood, here we grow again!



Grace Bible Church
1309 Painted Post Drive
Madison
608-222-2205

www.gracebiblechurchmadison.org

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

*Bring the family to learn more about
God's grace*

WELL-V-M Grocery Store Nutrition Tour and Discussion

Sunday, February 23, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Woodman's, 3817 Milwaukee Street



Are you familiar with "clean eating?" Maybe you are already well on your way to eating naturally and making healthy, non-processed food choices. As part of Elvehjem

to Wellvehjem Week, the Wooden Steps Running Club will be hosting a Grocery Store Nutrition Tour and Discussion. Whether new to clean eating or a seasoned pro, come tour and discuss as we explore: "What's in Your Cart? 20 Clean Foods & 14 Healthy Recipes for 2014." Meet at Woodman's inside the west entrance by the liquor department (not part of the tour!). Wooden Steps Running Club members will depart at 7:30 a.m. from 5306 East Buckeye Road and run to Woodman's to meet the tour group. If interested, optional recommended reading includes: "Salt Sugar Fat: How the Food Giants Hooked Us" by Michael Moss and "Food Rules: An Eater's Manual" by Michael Pollan. RSVP by February 19 to Tiff Roltgen at tiffani@elvehjemneighborhood.org or 608-513-9433.

ELVEHJEM SCHOOL 4K & 5K KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

DATE: February 3, 2014

TIME: 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Computer lab (LMC wing)



4K & Kindergarten Registration

Enrollment is on line. www.mmsd.org. If you have a computer at home, log in to mmsdenroll.org. Print the pages when you're done and bring them to registration. If you don't have a computer at home, you can enroll at school during registration hours. You are required to show your child's proof of age (birth certificate, baptismal record or medical assistance card,) proof of residency (utility bill, lease or mortgage) and an immunization record. Call the school office at 204-1400 if you have any questions about this information.

2013 ENA HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST WINNERS

This year our neighborhood was well lit with holiday cheer! The winners of the 2013 Elvehjem Neighborhood Association Holiday Lights Contest are 9 Vinje Ct for "classic" lights, 1425 Ellen Circle for "inflatables", and 1614 Homburg Ln for "contemporary" lights. Honorable Mentions go to 1730 Grafton Rd, 1176 Fleetwood Ave, 4710 Academy Dr, 4717 Steinhauer Trl, and 4813 Meredith Ave. Congratulations to all!



responsibl**e**nergy

turn it down when
you're not around



Save energy and money this winter. Turn back your thermostat while asleep or at work. Each degree can save 1% on your heating bill. If we all set back 1°, we'll save enough gas for 3,100 homes. Bigger setbacks save even more. That's the power of working together.

Visit mge.com/setback or call 252-7117.



GS1181 10/31/2006

NEW ECHO EDITOR

If you've noticed a slightly different look to this edition of the Echo, it's because this is the first edition compiled by its new editor, Rod Gennrich. I and my wife, Jamie, have lived in the neighborhood for just over a year on Woodvale Dr. along with our dog, Marley. I am a supervisor in the Worker's Compensation division for the state of Wisconsin, and Jamie is a supervisor for Dane County Human Services. We are expecting our first child in mid-April.

If you have any comments or concerns regarding the Echo, please contact me at rod@elvehjemneighborhood.org.



Thank You!

The ENA board would like to thank Ted Perttunen for his 4 years of service as a board member. The time and energy you put in to making the Elvehjem Neighborhood a great place to live is greatly appreciated.

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE LINE WARRANTY PROGRAM

Homeowners are responsible for the maintenance and repair of the private sewer service line that extends from their home to the point where the line connects to the public sewer mains under the street. Most homeowners insurance **does not cover** this repair.

In the past, if this line was damaged, the City of Madison would repair the line at a fixed cost of \$4,500 and offer homeowners a 5 year payment plan to cover the cost of the repair.

Wisconsin Act 32 now prohibits the City from performing construction work on private property. Instead, the homeowner will have to hire a private contractor to do the repair. Depending on the extent of damage the costs could easily exceed \$4,500.

A Sewer Line Warranty Program is now available to City of Madison homeowners to provide up to \$10,000 of insurance to help offset the expense of repairing a sewer line failure. Premiums for the insurance can be paid monthly or annually.

The insurance is optional. Homeowners are **not** required to buy it. However, it is recommended that you consider the age of your home and sewer line, the number and type of trees above the sewer line and any history of previous damage and/or severe sewer line blockage when making your decision.

For more details and answers to FAQ's follow these links: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/SanitarySewerServiceWarrantyProgram.cfm> <http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/documents/CitystakeholderFAQ.PDF>

Congratulations to our 2013 Turkey Trot Winners!



Overall Male: Ron Oftsun (19:57)
Overall Female: Sara Monson (21:18)

Age Division Winners:

- Female Kid: Lucy Murphy (33:33)
- Male Kid: Gabe Murphy (25:55)
- Male 13-39: Michael Hammond (20:15)
- Female 13-39: Pam Rivera (22:58)
- Male 40-59: Jay Anderson (21:11)
- Female 40-59: Laura Clark-Taylor (26:16)
- Male Masters: Joel Stone (25:42)
- Female Masters: None

The 2013 Turkey Trot would have not have been possible without the support of our outstanding, talented, and generous neighbors. Thank you so much for your contributions to an event that promotes a healthy start to Thanksgiving Day! We look forward to your involvement in 2014 for our 5th Anniversary Celebration.

Outstanding Volunteers: Craig, Lynn, and Martin Brown; Katie Christianson; Paul Cusick; Mona Everett; Jamie Gennrich; Darin Kalisak; Emily (race director) and Karl Leas; Jessica Murphy; Georgine Price; Jeanne Rotter; Heather Sokasits; Kari Stokosa; Joel Stone; Steve and Danielle Taber; Gene Taylor; Betsy Winterhack; and Tracie Zoll

Talented Finish Line Goodie Contributors: Bonnie Benson, Mike Digman, Rod Gennrich, Isaac Semrow, Jessica Kennedy, Jamie Meise, and Tiff Roltgen

Generous Sponsors: Tom and Donna Berg, Heather and Steve Sokasits, Team Luna Chix Cycling, Berkeley Running Company, Culvers, Fleet Feet, and Road ID

Elvehjem Neighborhood Wooden Steps Running Club Logs 3000+ Miles in 2013

The Elvehjem Neighborhood Association "Wooden Steps" Running Club has been meeting since December 2010, and during our first year, we logged **1094.99 miles**, which kept us stateside, as we ran the equivalent of the distance from Madison to just past Dallas, Texas.

In 2012, we headed to the land down under and logged **2,568 miles**, equivalent to crossing the continent of Australia from east to west. In 2013, we ventured to South America and ran **3076.58 miles**, just over the distance from Caracas, Venezuela, to Santiago, Chile. Next year, we have our sights set on an African safari, as we hope to log **4000 miles** and cross the continent from north to south, running from Libya to South Africa. In 2014, we'd also like to encourage walkers to join the fun, so we are in need of a leader to coordinate weekly walks. To volunteer as the walking club leader or find out more information about weekly group runs, including our Pi(e) Run on 3/14, contact Running Club Leaders Tom Berg (221-1892) and Tiff Roltgen (513-9433) at run@elvehjemneighborhood.org. Hope to see you at the wooden steps and on the road!

Neighborhood Watch Exploratory Meeting Held

On October 12th the Elvehjem Neighborhood Association (ENA) conducted a meeting to explore the possibility of a neighborhood initiative for a neighborhood watch. This meeting was attended by three board members and eight neighbors not on the ENA board. There were also two neighbors interested but were not able to attend the meeting as scheduled. The meeting included a presentation of what a neighborhood watch is and is not, review of national neighborhood watch documents and guidelines and questions and answers about how to implement a watch in the Elvehjem neighborhood. At the end of the presentation, there was a call for the neighbors present to commit to further work on establishing and working on a watch initiative. Only three people were committed to working further on a watch.

I discussed the meeting with the ENA board on November 6. I also recommended that there was not enough interest to warrant additional commitment from the board to further a watch initiative at an ENA level. I recommended that if individuals wished to organize on a smaller level with a few neighbors, that is certainly possible, however a watch under the auspices of the ENA was not realistic due to the small number of people expressing interest at the meeting. Therefore, the board decided not to pursue an ENA neighborhood watch at this time. If there is any further interest by other neighbors in the future, this matter may be considered again.

The Madison Police Department's Crime Prevention Office have developed what they call the "Nine House Model" concept for getting to know and watch out for your neighbors. This resource is defined as:

The Nine House Model involves the homes that are within your natural line-eye sight; the homes you see when you are at home. Envision a tic-tac-toe board. Your home is the free space (x). Numbers 1, 2, and 3 are behind yours; numbers 4 and 6 are your side yard neighbors; and 7, 8, and 9 are across the street. By exchanging contact information with these neighbors, you will have enhanced a perimeter of safety by expanding by 8 the number of eyes and ears around your home.

This concept is presented as a resource for neighbors.

Submitted by Steve Johnson, ENA Board Member

EXCEPTIONAL NEIGHBORS

Do you know a neighbor deserving to be acknowledged in the Echo for community efforts? Please give the information to any board member.



Elvehjem Neighborhood Association
PO Box 14625
Madison, Wisconsin
53708-0625

CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK

Elvehjem Community Garden—*Join us as we get ready for Spring!*
 Elvehjem Neighborhood—*Connect with neighbors and share concerns.*
 Elvehjem to Wellvehjem—*Join us as we improve neighborhood wellness.*
 Wooden Steps Running Club—*Come talk all things running with us.*
 If you are interested in helping with Elvehjem Neighborhood Association (ENA) social media, please contact President Tiff Roltgen at tiffani@elvehjemneighborhood.org or 608-513-9433. This would be a work-from-home, on-your-own-time volunteer role based on your availability!



Elvehjem Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting
SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014
Messiah Lutheran Church Upper Level Community Room
5202 Cottage Grove Road (across from Elvehjem Sanctuary)

Block Captain Meeting 9:00-9:30 a.m.
Neighborhood Social 9:30-10:00 a.m.
Annual Business Meeting 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

2013 ENA HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

This falls under the better late than never category, but here are last year’s winners of our Halloween decorating contest. First place 4810 Steinhauer, second place 1605 National, and third place 5110 Starker. Thanks to all everyone that participated and special thanks to our judges Juliet Darken, Marlo Dobrient, Mona Everett, and Justin Martin.



SPECIAL INCENTIVE: Attendees can renew their ENA membership dues for only \$10 (save \$5). Hope to see you there!