

Elvehjem Echo

Elvehjem Neighborhood Association
Volume 44 Issue 2
February 2012

Founded March 1968
Our Association's 44th Year



"Prez Sez"

Many of you may have seen my Facebook post in January about the great board meeting we had on the fourth. It was 'great' because during this meeting, we began work on several new proposals and projects that should all take effect this year. These include start-up work on a community garden, new goals to improve the content on our already excellent web site, a volunteer 'sign-up' event sponsored by the board, and a neighborhood wide survey to learn from *YOU* about the future projects and programs you want to see in Elvehjem! It's going to be a busy year, but also a productive one with plenty of new and fun things to do!

Our next 'event' is the association's Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 10, from 10:00 AM until Noon in the Madison East Police Station 'Community Room.' Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. At this meeting we will present and approve the association budget for the year; hear from our City Alder, County Board Supervisor and Madison East Police Lieutenant about issues and statistics affecting our neighborhood; and have an opportunity to offer your direct input and suggestions to the board. In addition, you can save \$2.00 off your annual membership dues by renewing at this meeting: pay just **\$10.00** for the year instead of \$12! Join us, Saturday, March 10.

"2012 is going to be a GREAT Year for the ENA! Get involved, be informed!"

Mike Dignan, ENA President

About the Good Neighbor Award: Good neighbors are people who have reached out to help others, volunteered for a neighborhood event, or implemented a neighborhood improvement project. Good neighbors increase the quality of life in our neighborhood and make it an even better place to live! Great Dane is the official sponsor of the Good Neighbor Award. Winners receive a \$10 gift certificate to Great Dane. If you know a good neighbor, submit your nomination by March 1 to ENA Secretary Tiffani Roltgen at tif-fani@elvehjemneighborhood.org or 608-513-9433.

CALENDAR

- ◆ **February 1, 2012** **Monthly Board Meeting**
7:00 PM East Precinct Police Station
- ◆ **March 7, 2012** **Monthly Board Meeting**
7:00 PM East Precinct Police Station
- ◆ **March 10, 2012** **Annual Meeting**
10 AM—Noon East Precinct Police Station

Contact a Board member with your comments or questions concerning a subject affecting our neighborhood.

The ENA Board is working to create a community garden for our neighborhood. Details are forthcoming. However, if you are interested in learning more, please contact Lynn

Munsinger-Brown at

lynn@elvehjemneighborhood.org

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE A 246-POUND SUCCESS!



Congrats Elvehjem Neighborhood! Between November 24 and December 17, neighbors donated 246 pounds of food for Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to our Holiday Food Drive! We hope to make this event an annual neighborhood tradition.

ENA Board Meeting

Minutes—January 4, 2012

Present: Lynn Munsinger Brown, Mike Digman, Justin Martin, Ryan McKee, Ted Perttunen, and Tiffani Roltgen

Absent: Tim Duffy, Greg Goke, and Christina McKee

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Mike.

Secretary's Minutes: The December minutes were approved electronically prior to the meeting.

ECHO Deadline: The deadline for submission of articles and advertisements for the February ECHO is January 15. Please have all information to Christina before that time.

Treasurer's Report: See balance sheet. The treasurer's report was approved as submitted prior to the meeting. Mike Roltgen will finish the quarterly audit of the financial records.

Old Business: Holiday Lights Contest: Ryan reported there were a large number of households that took part in the lights contest this year. The judges had a difficult time, but winners were chosen and awarded prizes. It was suggested to consider "categories" for next year, such as most creative, classic, modern, etc. Thank you to all who participated! **Holiday Food Drive Report:** Thank you to all neighbors who contributed so generously! We collected and donated 246 pounds of non-perishable food and consumables to Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. Next year, we will need two collection barrels at the 5K Turkey Trot. Due to special contracts with food companies, Second Harvest is able to maximize donated money and purchase larger quantities of food for families in need. We may want to consider soliciting and encouraging monetary donations, as well as actual food items. **Volunteer Position Descriptions:** Mike will continue to revise this document and have it ready for presentation at the Annual Meeting.

New Business: Treasurer Transition: Mike, Justin, and Doug DeVilbiss will be meeting to transfer the software and documents. **2012 Budget Draft:** E-mail any recommendations or requests to Mike by January 25. **Community Garden:** Lynn has begun to research possibilities for a community garden in our neighborhood. She will be attending the City of Madison Neighborhood Grant Program informational meeting on January 11 at Goodman Library. **Liability Insurance:** Mike is shopping around for a better rate. We are currently insured at the \$1 million policy level for \$608/year. Mike will be completing a questionnaire and consulting with an agent to ensure the policy adequately covers our

current activities. **Categories:** It was suggested to add an office/organization category in the amount of \$50. **Storage:** Mike has researched area facilities and recommends staying with our current provider due to security and location. He will inquire about a long-term discount for a one-year contract.

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting is Saturday, March 10, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the East Precinct Police Station. Mike has begun to contact speakers and will report at the February meeting.

Membership Drive: Ryan suggested creating a special mailing and membership insert to be included in the April ECHO in lieu of sending the block captains door to door this year. Ryan and Christina will research the increased mailing costs for this idea and present the information to the board at the February meeting. If approved, this will be conducted on a one-year trial basis followed by analysis of membership numbers and revenue. **Website Updates:** Lynn created a mock-up for the website through GoDaddy. She highlighted various features, problems, and possible solutions. Lynn and Ryan will work through the issues in consultation with webmaster Tom Murray. **Easter Egg Hunt:** Tiffani will contact the East Buckeye Neighborhood Association to gauge their interest in hosting a joint neighborhood event, possibly to be held at Droster Park. **Earth Day Clean-up:** Mike will check the City of Madison website for updated Earth Day clean-up sign-up information. **Tabled:** Club sponsorship and funding discussion (Mike and Tiffani), ECHO policy for elected official announcements (Mike and Christina), and neighborhood survey (Mike). **Building the Future:** Throughout the meeting, ideas and discussion topics for the future were voiced. **Next Month (February):** Treasurer transition (Justin and Mike); Annual Meeting (Mike); Volunteer position descriptions (Mike); Neighborhood survey (Mike); Membership drive and special mailing (Ryan, Christina, and Greg); Earth Day Clean-Up/Garlic Mustard Pull (Mike); Easter Egg Hunt/East Buckeye Neighborhood Outreach (Tiffani); Website mock-up (Lynn and Ryan); Spring Slow Down Campaign (TBD); **Next Quarter (March through May):** 4th of July Celebration early donation requests; Executive officer elections; Volunteer Recruitment Social planning; Day at the Zoo planning; 4th of July Celebration planning; Neighborhood garage sale planning; **Sometime in the Future:** Online meetings; "Helping Hands Grant" Fund Committee; Archivist; Neighborhood Plan; Directory.

Next Meeting: The next ENA Board meeting will be February 1 at 7 p.m. at the East Precinct Police Station. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Submitted by Tiffani Roltgen

How to Improve Your Neighborhood Right Now

The Echo will feature monthly ideas in how to improve our great neighborhood.

Take Away the Opportunity for Crime. Think about your home, your car, and even your lifestyle and ask what you could change to take away the opportunity for crime. Lock your car and never leave valuables, even for a few minutes, in your car where would-be thieves might see them. Trim bushes or trees on your property that offer convenient hiding places. Also, make your front porch visible and make sure your home looks like it has its “eyes” (windows) open.

Source: <http://www.ci.green-bay.wi.us/neighborhoods/forms/12WaysImproveYourNeighborhood.pdf>

Great Dane Good Neighbor Award Goes To.... Theresa J. Ellis!

Congratulations to our February 2012 Great Dane Good Neighbor Award winner, Theresa J. Ellis! Theresa has lived in the neighborhood for 26 years and is currently the steward of the first “Little Library” in Elvehjem Neighborhood, which arrived in May 2011 on the corner of East Buckeye Road and Tarragon Drive. This free resource promotes reading and literacy, encourages book sharing, and provides valuable library access “right around the corner.” Theresa soon realized that one Little Library was not enough. She has now added another, designed to house picture and oversized books. The Elvehjem Neighborhood Little Libraries are officially registered with the “Little Free Library” movement (<http://www.littlefreelibrary.org/>).

Theresa offers her thanks to the many neighbors who have kept the libraries well stocked. Little Libraries are not affiliated with the Madison Public Library and rely on individuals to keep the supply of books circulating. Donations of gently loved, family-friendly books for all ages are welcome.

The Elvehjem Neighborhood Little Library was built by Theresa’s son, Daniel, and his woodworking buddy, Tom. Daniel is a young adult with cognitive disabilities who met Tom through Living Our Visions, Inc.

(www.lovdane.org), a family-based organization working to create inclusive community for all. Theresa notes “the project has turned out to be a blessing to me, as well. I have met and talked with more of the extended neighborhood since the first library went up than I have in the 26 years we have lived here!” At first, Theresa fielded many “what is it” questions about the Little Library, but she now sees folks browsing and dropping off loads of “new” books for the shelves.

Theresa and her husband Nate have three grown children: Matthew, Jenny, and Daniel. Theresa enjoys reading, gardening, and walking her dog. Thank you, Theresa, for your dedication to increasing literacy and access to books in our neighborhood. You are truly a good neighbor!



BREAKING NEWS!!

ENA Running Club

1 Year... 1,094.99 Miles

The ENA Running Club finished its first year by logging 1094.99 miles, which would have taken us just past Dallas, Texas! In addition to miles, members enjoyed lost pounds, decreased waistlines, health improvements, personal running records, and new friendships. Can you help us run our second 1,000 miles? All ages, paces, and abilities are welcome. We'll help you stay focused on your wellness goals for 2012, whether you are a beginner or a seasoned runner.

For our winter runs, we have chosen routes close to home to welcome newcomers to the group. We'll share our favorite routes, secret paths, and beautiful views as our weekly leaders guide the way. Dress in layers, and avoid cotton close to the skin. Invest in a pair of running tights, a headband or hat, and gloves. Consider Yaktrax or other traction devices. *Remember, there's never bad weather, only inappropriate clothing!*

Visit http://www.elvehjemneighborhood.org/files/ENA_Running_Club_January_February_Schedule_2012.pdf for our January/February 2012 schedule. Hope to see you Sunday, February 5, at 2 p.m. Meet at 5306 East Buckeye Road by the wooden stairs.



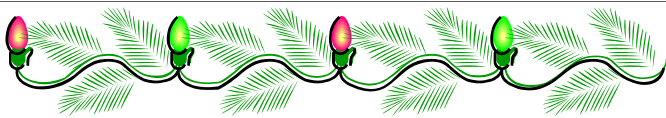
Builder Daniel Ellis shows off Elvehjem Neighborhood’s Little Libraries on the corner of East Buckeye and Tarragon Drive

Member Corner

Notices are limited to 40 words and run on a first come, first-served, space-available basis. Youth ads are good for 3 months; all others are 1 month per request. ENA member notices have priority. Notices may be edited. Send requests to ENA, PO Box 14625, Madison, 53708-0625; or deposit in the Echo mailbox at 4503 Deerwood Drive, or email your request to newsletter@elvehjemneighborhood.org.

Babysitter Available—I am responsible, reliable, fun babysitter and have 7 years of experience with children from infants to age 10. I live in the Elvehjem Neighborhood and am 14 years old. References available. Call Gracie at 608-222-3242.

Piano Lessons - Lessons taught in your home! Experienced neighborhood-resident teacher with agendas customized to a student's level and ambitions. Member of Madison Area Piano Teacher Association since 2003. Friendly approach, and recitals included. Contact Mr. Brian Hagen at 608-223-1677 and bdhagen@jvl.net.



Congratulations to the 2011 Holiday Lights Contest Winners

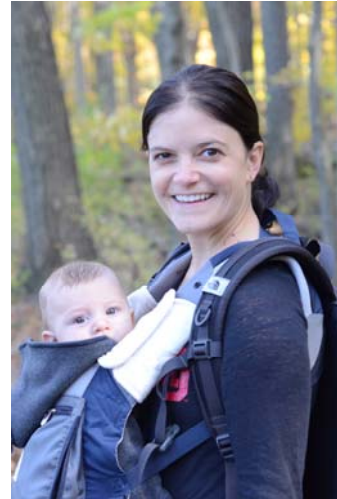
First Place—5606 Kalas

Second Place—4713 Meredith

Third Place—5410 Painted Post



The ENA Board Welcomes Lynn Munsinger-Brown!



Lynn Munsinger Brown moved to Wisconsin and the Elvehjem Neighborhood in the Fall of 2009. She has lived in several different states but is a Midwest gal by birth and at heart. Her husband Craig was born and raised in Elvehjem, and has always lived in our fair neighborhood except during his University years. They are the proud parents of a six-month old son, Martin, and they can be seen walking cute little Martin or chasing their ill-behaved dog, Athena around the neighborhood. Lynn works from home for Oracle Corporation and enjoys practicing yoga, taking photographs of her family, and cooking healthy foods in her spare time.

responsibl**e**ducation

Free Power Tomorrow Workshop

High heating bills? Ice dams? Drafty rooms?

Talk to the energy experts from MGE. Learn about the Green Madison program and how you can get a Focus on Energy home energy evaluation to identify the causes of these problems.

Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa St.

Free refreshments • Free-energy saving gift • Door prizes

Please register in advance:

- Online at mge.com/workshops, or
- By phone, leave a message at 252-5671.



GS1276 11/07/2011

Elvehjem Neighborhood Association Balance Sheet As of November 30, 2011

	Nov 30, 11
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Cash	
Checking	3,159.54
Money Market	6,292.66
Total Cash	9,452.20
Total Checking/Savings	9,452.20
Total Current Assets	9,452.20
TOTAL ASSETS	9,452.20
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	9,160.17
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,808.80
Net Income	-1,316.77
Total Equity	9,452.20
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	9,452.20



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

**VFW DAY POST 7591
& LADIES AUXILIARY**

301 Cottage Grove Road, Madison
221-9326

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Friday Fish Fry 5-8 pm (Carry-outs available)

Omelet Breakfast 3rd Sunday of month
(October-June), 8:30-noon

Bar (Chili, hot dogs, BBQ)
Burgers, snacks, M-Th, 4-7 pm

Music & Dancing: Wed. 5-9;
Fri., 7:30-11:30; Sun., 4-9 pm

Tuesday Bingo, 6:30 pm

Reception Hall for Rent
(accommodates up to 500 people)



The ENA board wishes to recognize ***Doug DeVilbiss*** for his service as Treasurer for the past two years.
Thank you, Doug
for all your great work!