

East Lawrence News

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 442393 Lawrence, Kansas - eastlawrence@yahoo.com
www.eastlawrence.com

January 2014



ELNA

General Meeting

Monday, January 6th,
7-9pm

New York School Library

Agenda:

Special Guests –

Mark Theil, of Lawrence Public Works, and representative's from Freedom's Frontier

Board Contacts

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Welcome Neighbors to 2014!

This year ELNA had so many good people interested in serving on the neighborhood board that some long-term members took a break and made room. Please join me in welcoming new board members Adam, Eric, John, Pam, and Sara.

While we continue to engage with outside pressures of new developments it is important for the neighborhood to put energy into proactive activities that define us. For some that is simply gardening, walking your dog, building a chicken coop, or making ice cream for the neighbor kids.

In December ELNA took some time to brainstorm special projects ELNA would like to take on this year. I've listed some of them out below, but I want to draw special attention to the subject of oral histories, as two events are happening in January.

The first is a presentation and brainstorm with Freedom's Frontier at our January 6th ELNA general meeting. Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area is dedicated to building awareness of the struggles for freedom in western Missouri and eastern Kansas. A partnership between East Lawrence and Freedom's Frontier could work to capture the oral histories of our neighborhood's own past struggle for freedom.

Later, on January 21st New York elementary school students will be collecting oral histories at the MLK chili feed. You can read more about it later in the newsletter. If oral histories are what keep you warm on a winter's night – you'll not want to miss the ELNA meeting or the MLK chili feed.

Other projects we hope to work on are:

The completion of the Burroughs Creek Trail

Making recommendations on how to further connect the car-less routes in East Lawrence

Creating an emergency contact list / neighborhood calling tree

Pursuing downtown design guidelines – created with input from area residents and businesses.

If you have interest in any of the above or want to champion another cause I encourage you to bring your ideas to ELNA and let us work together for a better future. Feel free to email me, aaronpaden@gmail.com or call me at 785 840-6400.

Be on the lookout for public NY elementary school expansion meetings – many new and exciting developments will be happening at our neighborhood school.

Happy New Year to you all!

Aaron

aaronpaden@gmail.com

785 840-6400

Cultural District Update

In Feb of 2013 the Lawrence City Commission created a cultural district that runs from 15th street on the south, Kentucky street on the west, the Kansas river on the north and the Burroughs creek trail on the east. A Cultural District Task Force was selected to research and report on how we can coordinate and strengthen the cities assets while creating valuable new public and private arts and culture investment. KT Walsh, Brenda Nunez and Jacki Becker were the elected East Lawrence members, in addition, Grace Peterson, who was at the time an ELNA board member, was the chosen representative of Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission.

On Tuesday Dec. 10 the Cultural District Task Force gave a presentation to the City Commission. There were nine recommendations given to the City Commission. The first charge was to hire a City Director of Arts and Culture. This paid city employee would then be in charge of creating a community-wide cultural plan. The plan requested infrastructure improvements including improved sidewalks, increased bike lanes, better lighting, and the completion of the Burroughs Creek Trail extension. In addition more public art, affordable works space for artists, maintaining and preserving of the character of the district were also priorities once a Director is hired.

The City Commission unanimously agreed to accept the proposal. Currently they are working on a grant from the State of Kansas Department of Commerce to fund a City Director of Arts & Culture for 2014. The City has agreed to some form of matching of the grant.

Studies have shown when a community commits to arts, kids do better in school, neighborhoods are safer and quality of life increases. Hiring a director of arts and culture to implement the cities cultural plan is the first step in the continued enhancement of Lawrence Kansas as a place to artistically work and live.

-- Jacki Becker, ELNA Board member,
Cultural District Task Force member

ELNA Merch!

Wear your eastside pride!

We have black and grey unisex t-shirts, blue unisex tank tops, heather green and heather brown ladies tees, a few random ladies tshirts and tanks, and heather grey baby onesies for sale, all \$15 each. We've got stickers, too, for \$2.00 a piece! They're even small enough to fit on your bike, in case you were wondering. Look on our website, eastlawrence.org, for the order form or email Christine Kosirog ckosirog@yahoo.com with questions.

January February Calendar

Jan 5th 3-4:30pm 7th and NY Street Depot Clean Up
Jan 6th Classes Resume USD 497
Jan 6th by 6am City Tree-Cycling – pick up at curb or alley
Jan 6th 7-9pm ELNA Meeting @ NYSchool library
Jan 20th No School USD 497
Jan 21st 5-7pm NYSchool MLK Chili Feed @
NYSchool gym
Jan 28th 6:30pm Free Film @ NYSchool gym

Feb 2nd 3-4:30 7th and NY Street Depot Clean Up
Feb 3rd 7-9pm ELNA Meeting @ NYSchool library
Feb 7th No School Pre-K-5 USD 497
Feb 13th, 14th No School Pre-K-5 USD 497
Feb 25th 6:30 Free Film @ NYSchool gym

Save the Date! ELNA Yart Sale

ELNA will hold it's annual yard and art sale – Yart! – fundraiser again this year on Saturday, March 29th 2014 from 8:00am to 1:00pm at the New York Elementary gym. This year, the sale will be the weekend after USD 497's Spring Break, so you'll have lots of time to clean out your spaces and collect those useful and unique items to donate to our sale. Check our March/April paper newsletter, enews, website, facebook, and twitter for details later. Plan to come!

New and Returning Members September, October, November 2013

Kelley Hurst
Raymond Hall
Pam Blackburn
Mick Palmer
Judy Romero
Ramon Romero Jr
Tony Romero
Lupe Romero-Kosa
Mike Romero
Virginia Romero
Burton Parker
April and Ben Sikes
Chris Lempa
Rachel Vaughn
Brad Eldridge
Evie Schliffe
Josh Meyer
Bill Dodd

Clayton McHenry
Sarah Wallace
Carrie James
Rex Brandt
Dawn Hawkins
Skylar Adamson
Katie Keating
James C Dunn
Chris Sorrentino
Staci Ahlvers
Megan and Alex Hawman
Jessica Bergin
Justin Bergin
Kristina and Michael Davis
Cindy Suenram
Arch Naramore
Martha Thorpe

Adopt –a –Family Thanks



Adopted Family 2013

ELNA has adopted a family for the holidays through the Ballard Center for the last 3 years. Maybe longer, but for the past 3 years I have had the pleasure of organizing it. As a neighborhood with a wide array of budgets and resources this is a risky project to take on, and this year we also had the added pressure of a short deadline to contend with - 3 weeks from the time we got our family's wish list to the time the gifts needed to be dropped off at Penn House for pick up by the family. This year, like every year, I thought "there is no way we're gonna pull this off." But, like every year, we did. We provided a family in our neighborhood with \$100 in gift certificates for a holiday meal and over \$500 in gifts. Generosity poured in from neighbors, friends of the neighborhood and even people who have moved 1000 miles away but still consider East Lawrence home. I am proud to be rooted in this quirky, historic yet ever-changing place I call home on a daily basis. But this year, when I filled up my car with gifts, I was inspired and humbled by the support and unquestioning love that my neighborhood showed. Anonymous acts of love and community. What a great way to end the year. Thanks East Lawrence!

East Lawrence Free Film Series

Spread the warmth by joining as a community to explore issues of human equality with three inspiring, educational films! This winter, New York Elementary PTO and Site Council will partner to bring you the first of what we hope becomes a winter tradition for the East Lawrence Neighborhood. All films are family friendly, although they deal with complicated issues that may be better understood by older children. Childcare will be provided. Refreshments will be available for purchase as fundraiser for NYE.

Tues. Jan 28th – Race: The Power of Illusion

Tues. Feb 25th – Girl Rising

Tues. Mar 25th – We Were Children

All films will be shown at 6:30pm in the New York Elementary gym.

If you or your group would like to volunteer to help with the film series or to suggest movies for next year, please contact Lilly Mason at lillymason@gmail.com.

ELNA is on Facebook!

Like our fan page at <http://www.facebook.com/eastlawrence> and look for updates regarding neighborhood events.

We have a Twitter too!

Get your neighborhood news short and sweet. Follow us, ELNAks, on Twitter.



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*Appreciating
Older Homes*

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**1832 Massachusetts Street
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hardware@sunflower.com
<http://cottinshardware.com>

Store Hours
Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Cottin's Hardware Farmers Market – Indoors!
 Thursdays (through April)
 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
 Located inside Cottin's Hardware & Rental



AARON PADEN

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? 8 years

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? This is my fourth year

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? Because I lack the ability to say “no” and there’s work to be done.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? I always enjoy the activities that bring the neighborhood together such as the block party and the yard sale. I will continue to focus my energies on those things that bring us together as a community.

Tell us a secret? They are my secrets and you can’t have them.



ADAM SMITH

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? Five glorious years.

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? One month!

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? I wanted to be more involved in my neighborhood community.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? I'm very interested in protecting the history, structure and residents of our neighborhood during this period of development. We live in the heart of Lawrence, I love it here. Change is inevitable, I am excited to see things change for the better.

Tell us a secret? I saw ten bears in the wild this year, a couple closer than I cared to.



CHRISTINE KOSIROG

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? 12 years

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? 5 or 6 years, can't remember for sure

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? The community. I love that so many different people come together regularly for the sake of our neighborhood and I love our neighborhood for being home to so many different people. It's a beautiful thing.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service?

This year I am interested in exploring the potential that our neighborhood holds for creativity, finding a way to support the safety of our neighbors in case of an emergency and, finally, in meeting more people in our ever-changing 'hood.

Tell us a secret? Hmmm, let me think on that one. How about I'm a doting, loving mother who never shares chocolate with her kids? Or, my children spent the first 5 years of life believing that if the ice cream truck's bell was ringing that meant they were sold out of ice cream? I don't know, not too many juicy secrets that I'd be willing to share.



BRENDA NUNEZ

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? Since 1958

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? Many years

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? I love East Lawrence
What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? Right now, the bus hub.
Tell us a secret? no

LESLIE SODEN

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? Since 2003

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? Since 2003

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? Because I care about our neighborhood, and the need to keep it a special part of Lawrence is very important to me.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? Helping to make sure that the newly designated Cultural District doesn't become something that drives gentrification or change what makes our neighborhood special.

Tell us a secret? Sorry, you didn't give the secret password.



PAM BLACKBURN



How long have you lived in East Lawrence?

I have lived in East Lawrence for 8 months. I moved my family from Shawnee in May after 20 years there. The house was too big and the Johnson county suburbs were too spread out. I chose Lawrence because it has diverse activities that are easily accessible. I chose East Lawrence because I can walk just about anywhere I want to go!

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? I have just joined the Board.

Why did you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? I want to be part of the solution to improve the neighborhood and get support from the city. Now that my family and I are settling into our new house (we will be unpacking for another 6 months, downsizing is no fun!), I am worried about many of my neighbors' homes. These homes have stood for many, many years. The city seems to be expanding the downtown area and I am concerned that many more of the neighborhood homes will be destroyed either by neglect or by downtown progress.

What kinds of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? Sidewalks. Other projects to help the viability of the neighborhood.

Tell us a secret? I was very active in community theater in Johnson County. I costumed 13 years at The Theatre in the Park and have also worked on 6 or so shows at the Barn Players in Mission. I am looking forward to getting involved in the theater groups here in Lawrence.

JOSH DAVIS

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? 14 years

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? 5 years?

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? I love the neighborhood and try to be useful.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? I would like to see a Burroughs Creek Trail extension and though not a project that needs work anymore, I'm looking forward to seeing our new addition to New York School.

Tell us a secret? Well then, it wouldn't be a secret anymore would it?



KT WALSH

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? 36 years!

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? Off and on forever

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? You get to work with really smart, funny, and engaged people who are committed to our wonderful neighborhood.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? Doing a mural about the history of New York School with the 3rd and 4th grade kids, getting East Lawrence properties on the state, national, and local historic registries, working on the Cultural District, etc, etc, etc.

Tell us a secret? I'm so Irish, it hurts. I bleed green.



LANE EISENBART

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? Eight years, give or take a summer or two.

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? I am not a member of the ELNA board. I am ELNA's only employee.

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? I choose to work for ELNA because I love my neighborhood, and I like the idea of using my skills to help the people I care most about, who care about and help me.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? I'll work on whatever projects the board tells me to. ☺ But, I am very interested in seeing what comes of the Cultural District, the Burroughs Creek Trail expansion, and the Compton developments.

Tell us a secret? I make whiney yucky baby faces and noises whenever I have to take my vitamins. Every time. Like a whiney baby.



JACKI BECKER

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? Ten years in 2014!

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? 4 or 5, one more than last year

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? Deron Belt made me. But, really, I love where I live in Lawrence, and want to continue to make sure our neighborhood stays the fantastic place it is.

Tell us a secret? Hmm, I have so many... I was a swimmer at KU. I really dislike the smell of bacon. Garlic is my favorite food.

KH

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? 21 1/2 years

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? Been on the board as Treasurer for 1 1/2 yrs

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? It seems that there are a lot of changes facing E. Lawrence in the next few years, the changes at 9th and New Hampshire being the bellwether. I'm concerned about keeping E. Lawrence the lovely, neighborly, funky place that it is, while accommodating change. Not all changes are progress.

Tell us a secret? Not so secret, I tell bad jokes.



JOHN GASCON

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? We bought our house in July of 2012, but had to wait until December to move in, as we renovated the interior. That makes it technically a year.

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? This will be my first time. I heard if you look away, it won't hurt as bad.

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? My wife and I moved to Lawrence from Seattle and specifically chose East Lawrence for it's location and charm. As a former architect, I'm very interested in improving our neighborhood for the better, and I hope my past experience can be of use to my neighbors.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? I am most interested in the impact of the Cultural Arts district and how that will shape the development of infrastructure in our neighborhood, especially 9th Street, the Arts District, New York School, and the Burroughs Creek Trail.

Tell us a secret? We discovered a rare Jimi Hendrix 8-track cassette, several small mammal bones, and a vintage my little pony buried in the walls of our house.



More Board Member Interviews



PHIL COLLISON

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? I have lived in East Lawrence since 2004, and off and on over the 27 years prior to that.

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? I think this is my 8th or 9th consecutive year.

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? I want to have an impact on things happening in my ‘hood. And help quiet voices get heard.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? East Lawrence/ Downtown connection

Tell us a secret? I try and use my superpowers for good!



SARA MINGES

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? In June 2012 I moved from North Lawrence to East Lawrence.

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? In November 2013, I accepted a vacant ELNA

Board position.

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? Recently I attended an East Lawrence Neighborhood Association meeting and decided I wanted to get involved. Several of my friends and neighbors were board members and I was interested in the community improvement projects discussed at the meeting. I also wanted my vote to count.

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? I want to help residents of East Lawrence feel better physically and emotionally, enjoy their neighborhood and all it has to offer and connect with their neighbors.

Tell us a secret? During a game of UNO, my cousin and I convinced his friend that I lived in Madrid and was in the States visiting family. Months later he still believed our “story.”



ERIC JAY

How long have you lived in East Lawrence? I haven’t physically lived in East Lawrence quite yet, but soon. I have been building our house at 8th and New Jersey for the past year, and hope to be living there within a few months. I have co-owned an East Lawrence

business for over five years, and, sometimes, it feels like I live there.

How long have you been on the ELNA Board? ONE MONTH

Why do you choose to serve on the ELNA Board? To be more involved in neighborhood issues and to meet new neighbors

What kind of projects/causes are you interested in working on in this year of service? Historic Preservation, Cultural Arts District, sidewalks

Tell us a secret? I bleed purple.

New York Elementary’s Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Chili Feed

New York Elementary will host the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Chili Feed on Tuesday, January 21st from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the New York School gymnasium. The public is invited to this community celebration of the life of Dr. King. Come join your neighbors and support New York Elementary by enjoying a bowl of chili (there will be a vegetarian option), crackers, carrot/celery, dessert and drinks. There is no set cost. Instead, diners will be asked for a donation. Bring something relevant to your own experience at New York, a story, a picture, a small artifact, if you’re so inclined, for the New York School history project detailed below.

New York School Turns 145 Years Old In 2014

New York Elementary is gathering information, pictures and small artifacts from former and current students, teachers, parents and community members about our school and the East Lawrence neighborhood. We are hoping you will come the Dr. Martin Luther King chili feed on January 21st and share your story with us. With the help of some tech savvy students we will have an area set up for you to record your 2-3 minute remembrance about our school. You can also bring your pictures and small artifacts to the chili feed. Pictures and artifacts will not be returned to you. You may want to make a copy before giving a picture to us. If you would rather just write your story, that would be great, too! We want everyone to share. If you love history and want to help us with this project, we would appreciate volunteers to help organize the stories, pictures and small artifacts we gather during this time. If you have questions, please call the school at 832-5780 and ask to speak with Mrs. DeGarmo.

We would like to Thank the Van Go JAMS class prior to 2008 for the art work in the corner of our yard at 12th and New York.

Arch Naramore and Cindy Suenram

www.eastlawrence.com

There's a new preschool classroom opening in your neighborhood!

The Douglas County Child Development Association is happy to announce the opening of our early education site on Lawrence's East side. Positive Bright Start, as we are calling it, is a single preschool classroom located at the Edgewood housing community at 1600 Haskell St. The Positive Bright Start classroom will host a maximum of 12 children between the ages of 3 and 5 years, and will be operational by the end January 2014. Care will be provided from 7:30am to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday, year round. The cost of tuition at Positive Bright Start is \$600 per month before DCF assistance. Full and part time openings are available.

Positive Bright Start will operate under the belief that all children have special needs and special strengths. And, in the appropriate learning environment, all children can learn, from their peers as well as from their teachers. With these principles in mind, the Positive Bright Start classroom will include children determined to have specialized developmental or mental health needs as well as peer models. Positive Bright Start will utilize the Positive Behavior Support problem solving model and the Creative Curriculum project-based investigations approach to promote social and emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development for school readiness.

We are currently seeking peer models for our classroom. If you are interested in applying for your child to attend Positive Bright Start as a peer model, you must first fill out an application form and return it to DCCDA. After your application has been received, you will be contacted

about visiting Positive Bright Start for an interview where you can see the classroom, meet some of the teachers, and fill out a questionnaire designed to gauge your child's suitability as a peer model. After interviews, applicant families will then be asked to attend a Preschool Round-Up that will likely be held at the Positive Bright Start classroom in the second or third week of January, from 8:30-9:30am. At this Round-Up, your child will be further screened to assess their classroom needs. When all applicants have been screened, the PBS staff will select a roster of best-fit students, and notify families. Families will then be asked to confirm enrollment in Positive Bright Start, and tuition arrangements will be made.

If you think your child, or a child in your care, would be a good peer model for this exciting new classroom, please contact us to request an enrollment application. Or if you have further questions about the enrollment process and admission policies, licensing, our philosophy, or just general information, please contact the Positive Bright Start Director Emily Hilding emilyjane@dccda.org, DCCDA's PBS Administrator Marci Ramsay marci@dccda.org, or the Positive Bright Start Service Coordinator Michelle Needham michelle@dccda.org. Emily, Marci, and Michelle can also be reached at (785) 842-9679.

Please visit our website www.dccda.org for even more information on what the Douglas County Child Development Association does.

We look forward to serving your neighborhood!

City announces arts grant program for 2014

The Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission (LCAC) is again offering their Annual Community Arts Grant Program. The deadline to submit applications is 4 p.m., Monday, March 24, 2014. The goals of this program are to promote awareness of and appreciation for the arts in Lawrence and encourage arts collaborations within the community.

The City of Lawrence recognizes that art enriches the quality of life in the community, and that collaboration among artists, arts organizations, and other community institutions and businesses is critical to the success of Lawrence as a 'City of the Arts'. Therefore, the city offers grants totaling \$7,000 through the LCAC grant program to support excellent collaborative projects in the arts that will benefit the citizens of Lawrence.

Proposals requesting grants for projects or activities that address these goals are welcome from applicants with

Lawrence addresses who propose projects to be executed within the Lawrence city limits. The grant application instructions and forms are available for download at: <http://www.lawrenceks.org/artgrants>.

Applicants also can pick up materials at City Hall, the Lawrence Public Library, and the Lawrence Arts Center during regular business hours.

Proposals will be reviewed by the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission, which will make recommendations for awards to the Lawrence City Commission. The City Commission will then provide final approval and award the grants.

Questions regarding the grant program should be directed to: Diane Stoddard, City of Lawrence at (785) 832-3413 or dstoddard@lawrence.ks.org.

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
PO Box 442393
Lawrence Kansas 66044-2393

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Join ELNA for \$1.00

HELP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD – GET A BIG BANG FOR A BUCK!

Your \$1.00 membership in ELNA and contact information help us represent East Lawrence in our city and county government and to meet the needs of our neighborhood. Please note, memberships are per individual, not per household.

Support us. Let us support you.

\$1.00 for in-neighborhood individuals \$5.00 for out-of-neighborhood individuals
\$10.00 for in-neighborhood non-profit entities \$20.00 for in-neighborhood businesses
\$100.00 lifetime individual membership

Date: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

- We print the names of new and returning members in the bimonthly paper newsletter. Check here if it's OK to print your name.
- We're working on creating a block-by-block calling/ check-in network of neighbors to contact in the event of an emergency. It's a work in progress. Check here if you'd like to be part of the East Lawrence Safety Network Calling Tree.
- Check here if you'd like to be added to our ELNA Yahoo group. An e-vite will be sent to you.
- Check here if you'd like to be added to our "Thursday ELNA News" weekly e-newsletter email list.
- Check here if you do not want to be included in email messages.
- Check here if you would like your address removed from our paper mailing list.

Send this form and your check payable to ELNA to:
ELNA, PO Box 442393 Lawrence KS 66044

*Plus! Visit ELNA's website for information on *new* tshirts and merchandise!
Click the paypal button to donate securely there!*

ELNA Needs Your Help! Please Volunteer!

Mark what ELNA events/skills you would like to volunteer for:

- Work Days
- YART (Yard/Art) Sale
- Block Party
- Adopt-A-Family
- Art
- Music
- Photography
- Gardening
- Grilling
- Fund Raising
- Historic Preservation
- Serving on the ELNA Board
- Website/Technical Management
- Baking/Cooking
- Other: _____