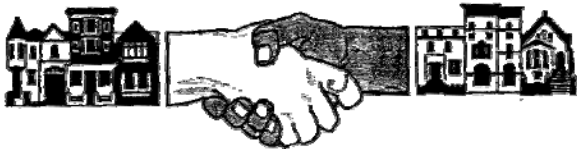


Nelson News



Downtown and Proud
A quarterly publication informing and encouraging
the residents of Nelson Neighborhood, Muskegon, MI

Office - 1330 Fifth St.

Winter 2008

<http://nelson.rinsema-sybenga.com>

Contacting NNIA

President

Larry Spataro (725-9384)

Membership Committee

Dollie Hippchen (726-4890)

Activities Committee

Marcia Hovey-Wright (726-4929)

Communication Committee

Dan Rinsema-Sybenga (286-8608)

Finance Committee

Bill Wright

Block Groups

Greg Borgman (206-1938)

NNIA Mission

Nelson Neighborhood Improvement Association, as a community-based organization, is an agent of change empowering the community to maintain and improve the quality of life, plan for the future, and encourage good relationships among residents, agencies, churches and businesses of our neighborhood and other neighborhoods.

NNIA Boundaries

The NNIA boundaries are Muskegon Lake, Terrace St, Peck St, Laketon Avenue, and Seaway Drive.

Crime in Nelson Continues to Decline

On January 14 the Muskegon Police Department released some important statistics about crime in the city of Muskegon and Nelson Neighborhood. The were delighted to report that crime has declined more than 15% in the neighborhood and the city,

across all reporting categories. Also, not a single murder took place within the city limits during 2007. Chief Kliebecker noted the persistent work of neighborhood groups, such as the NNIA, in impacting this important aspect of community life. The willingness of citizens to get

involved in groups that provide resources and encouragement about how to address issues on their blocks was also cited by the Chief. Finally, an active community policing strategy, such as Nelson's Community Officer Scott Vanderwier, also play a role in a safer Nelson.

Community Garden to Sprout this Spring

Even though there is 12 inches of snow on the ground its not too early to start thinking about building a community garden. Community gardens are a great way to interact with neighborhs and beautify your community. Anyone who lives in Nelson Neighborhood who wants to help build this garden or wants to have a plot in the

garden should contact Mike Miller at 903-2636 or mjmuskegon@yahoo.com. If you know a good spot for a large garden in the neighborhood please contact Mike as soon as possible.

We are also looking for donations of any left over flower or vegetable seed packets you may have from last year to help get the garden started indoors and to share with neighbors.

Don't throw these seeds away as they last a long time.



Membership information

NNIA is supported through dues paid by its members. If you are not a member, we would welcome your participation. Being a member ensures that you will be notified by email of all meetings, NNIA events, and other special notices and also allows you to vote for board members at the annual meeting. The NNIA membership year is from January through December, so memberships are renewed in Jan.

Yes! I want to join the NNIA!

Name _____ Address _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____ Other _____

Email _____

Annual Dues:

____ Resident(s) (\$ 5.00 each) ____ Supporting Individual (\$ 10.00) ____ Supporting Org/Business (\$20.00) Free will Donation \$ ____

Make Checks Payable to Nelson Neighborhood Improvement Association or NNIA .

Detach this panel and mail, with payment, to Membership Chair:

Dollie Hippchen, 325 Houston Ave, Muskegon, MI 49441

Holiday Home Tour Recap

The NNIA Activities Committee was delighted with the third annual Holiday Heritage Home Tour that took place on December 8, 2007. The success of the tour exceeded expectations, with over 500 people visiting the downtown Muskegon area and enjoying the great homes of our neighborhood. The event raised over \$4,000 for the NNIA. We are very grateful for all of our neighbors who participated and contributed to the success of this event. To take part in the 2008 Holiday Heritage Home tour, contact Marcia Hovey-Wright at 231.726.4929.

Annual Meeting to Feature Healthy Communities

The Muskegon County Health Department (HD) has targeted Nelson Neighborhood for a planning and implementation process to improve the health of the community. Prior to February 22 the HD is performing a scan of the neighborhood to assess its availability of Health related amenities, such as healthy food stores, proximity to health education opportunities and infrastructures such as parks and trails that promote healthy living. Their research to this point and ideas for implementation will be discussed at the NNIA Annual

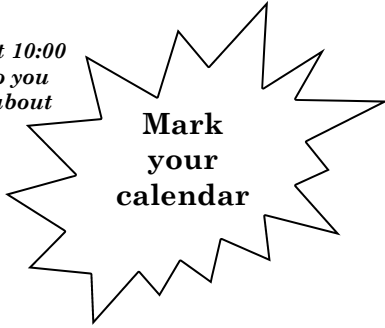
Meeting set for 10:00 a.m. on February 23 at the New Central Fire Station.

The annual meeting also provides an opportunity for all Nelson residents to hear about the work of the NNIA over the last year. In addition, current members (see calendar below for details) are permitted to vote to choose board members for those positions where the term has expired. Nelson neighborhood is on the move and we encourage you to come out and get involved in your community.

JOIN US @ANNUAL MEETING
Sat February 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Nelson Neighborhood Events

- February 20, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- February 23, 2008 - Annual meeting at 770 Terrace St. (New Central Fire Station) at 10:00 a.m.—Make sure your membership is renewed for 2008 prior to, or at, the meeting so you will be able to help select new NNIA board members. Enjoy refreshments and hear about the work of the Association in 2007 and our goals for 2008.*
- March 19, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- April 16, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- May 17, 2008 - Dumpster Day/Plant Sale/Beautification Day @ Craig School 8 – noon.*
- May 21, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- June 18, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- July 16, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- August 20, 2008 - Monthly meeting at 1330 Fifth St. at 6:00 p.m.*
- December 6, 2008 - Holiday Heritage Home Tour*
- December 17, 2008 - Nelson Neighborhood Holiday Potluck at 6:00 p.m.*



**2008 is an Election Year
 Are you Registered to Vote?
 Watch for an NNIA Voter
 Registration DRIVE!!**

Resident
 <Address>
 <City>, <ST> <ZIP>

Nelson Neighborhood Improvement Association
 1330 Fifth St.
 Muskegon, MI
 49441



Postage
 Here