

# THE Volker News

May-June 2019 -- Volker Neighborhood Association—VolkerKCMO.org

## **NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS/EVENTS**

May 9-Neighborhood Meeting  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
*Bell & Westport Road*

June 1-Volker Garage Sale

June 13-Neighborhood Meeting  
Jacob's Well Church  
*Wyoming and 42nd Street*

June 22-Dumpster Day

July 13-Volker Picnic

*Details below. Please join us!*

## ***Volker Neighborhood Spring Cleanup Success! (p. 4)***

### **Neighborhood Meeting: May 9th**

Elect Nominating Committee for June VNA Board Elections; Meet Volker's at-large City Council Candidates; neighborhood news and planning for summer events.

6:30 pm Social / 7:00 pm Program *Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1700 Westport Rd - Bell Street Entrance.*

### **Neighborhood Meeting: June 13th**

VNA Bi-annual Board Election; Meet Volker's in-district City Council Candidates; neighborhood news and planning.

6:30 pm Social / 7:00 pm Program

NOTE LOCATION CHANGE: *Jacob's Well Church Wyoming and 42nd Street (In the New Addition on Wyoming. Accessible entrance from Genessee) June meeting only.*

### **Volker Neighborhood Garage Sales:**

**June 1st** This is a great chance to get rid of stuff you don't need and meet neighbors! VNA runs the KC Star ad, posts on Craigs List, and sets out signs.

### **Dumpster Day: June 22nd**

8:00 am until full (usually between 10 and 11:30 am)

*Westport Roanoke Community Center Parking Lot*

This year we have 2 dumpsters for trash and one for yard waste. Please *do not* bring bulky items such as

sofas (call 311 to have them picked up from your curb). Check "Volker Neighborhood Association" on Facebook or sign up for email notices at [www.volkerkcmo.org](http://www.volkerkcmo.org) for details not yet available about recycling electronic items.

### **Volker Picnic: July 13th**

Save the date! In Roanoke Park, hamburgers, hotdogs and veggie burgers grilled by your neighbors. You bring sides or desserts to share. Relax and enjoy this time in the park with neighbors. Details to come. To volunteer, sign-up at a meeting or text Amy Cook 913-306-4334

### ***We're All Volker Neighbors!***

Members of Volker Neighborhood Association (VNA) and Volker Neighborhood Discussion, a Facebook group (VND), are having a great time getting to know each other while attending events of the two groups.

VND organizes a Neighbor Dinner monthly at an area restaurant—just for fun! All Volker residents are welcome to attend. Please RSVP the Facebook event or text organizer Stephanie Anderson (913-961-0962). Next dinner May 23rd.

Several VND members also attended VNA's April general meeting, and they all volunteered to help out in some way! Several helped with the Spring

Cleanup, and one has offered to bring his grill and cook for the Volker Picnic in July!

Anna Nedea is the founder of VND, the Facebook group where members discuss “concerns, ideas, and other creative thoughts about living in the Volker community.” Although the VNA also has a Facebook page, it is an organization with regular meetings and events, a board, bylaws, website and a newsletter focused on interaction with the City and its resources to resolve issues as well as social events and community.

The overlap between these groups includes many of the same concerns and a strong spirit of community. We are happy to be meeting new friends and sharing in a larger Volker community! Join us soon at a Neighbor Dinner, a Neighborhood Meeting or event!

## Development News

**Action Needed! Please support New Ordinance that is Good for Neighborhoods!** Proposed Code Amendment to the Public Engagement Process for Development – Ordinance 88-505-12. Currently, there is no guarantee that a developer will contact neighborhoods about projects in their area at a meaningful point in the planning process. Sometimes the neighborhood doesn’t hear about a project until the first Public Hearing is scheduled with typical notification from the City about 10 days before the hearing. By that point, months and possibly years have gone into project planning and the developer is unable or unwilling to make changes. Proposed Ordinance 88-505-12 would *require* developers to engage with neighborhoods early in the development process. Developers would be required to reach out to neighborhoods and meet with residents. This requirement would apply to applications for rezoning, special uses, platting, and major development plans. The ordinance is in the public review period, meaning the City is seeking your input, at least until the public hearing scheduled for May 21.

PLEASE READ, COMMENT ON and SUPPORT this proposed code amendment at <http://kcmo.gov/planning/public-engagement-process> It’s quick and easy!

**Rezoning request: 40<sup>th</sup> and Clark Avenue (Near SW Trafficway)** Research and contacts made by Volker’s Development Awareness Committee and VNA Board members relieved concerned tenants of four apartment buildings at this location in Volker. Currently zoned R-5, owners had requested rezoning to R-0.75. It turned out the building owners needed rezoning to bring the buildings into compliance with zoning law and enable them to be fully insured. If rezoned, the four properties would each be able to add units, but this is impractical given the limitations of the existing buildings. There is no intent to redevelop.

## William Volker Biography: E-published!

The biography of William Volker, titled *Mr. Anonymous*, has long been out-of-print, but VNA recently obtained permission to e-publish, and it is now available free of charge in PDF format on the Volker Neighborhood Association website: [www.volkerkcmo.org](http://www.volkerkcmo.org).

Written shortly after Volker’s death and published in 1951, many personal details provided by his widow and family truly flesh out this remarkable man. Please enjoy the story of William Volker!

*Thanks to Scott Randolph and MJ Poehler for creating the PDF, to Aaron Barnhart for advice about obtaining permission to publish, and Patrick Faltico for website posting.*



## Got Scraps?

**Got too much *stuff*? Don't we *all*?**

A wonderful 501(c)3 organization called Scraps KC is located right here in Volker! (Well, almost—it’s actually in Roanoke at 3269 Roanoke Rd.) I visited their business with some friends recently and was blown away! Their warehouse is full of donated items ranging from—well, you name it! There are many items for sewing and craft projects, books and DVDs, some kitchenware—and much more. These donated items are then sold at hugely reduced prices. There is a program for teachers who can purchase school supplies at very low prices. (It’s open to the public but call first.)

These folks have so much going on: they hold a number of different classes, they help the homeless

## Vintage Volker



This 1940 tax photo features the building next door west of last month's featured building. Back then, the addresses were 1131 and 1133 West 41<sup>st</sup> Street. (The street numbers are now 1135 and 1137) Today there appear to be two side-by-side apartment units occupying both first and second floors. In 1940, a barbershop occupied the east side of the building and the Neubert Grocery Co. occupied the west side. The stone slab above the awning reads: High Grade Food Stores. This must have been a grocery chain as the same name was on the building at 35th Terrace and

Genessee, featured in the very first Vintage Volker article published in November 2011! Note the Holly Street sign in the far left of the photo.

*Ideas for future Vintage Volker articles would be appreciated! Please contact me at the email on p. 4. -Diane Capps*

who volunteer for a couple of hours in the warehouse in exchange for a meal.....and so much more!

Just go their website: [ScrapsKC.org](http://ScrapsKC.org) and check it out. The executive director is Brenda Mott; she can be contacted at [brenda@scrapskc.org](mailto:brenda@scrapskc.org) or 816-522-4305. And- they are having a very unique fashion show on Saturday October 12th-see website!

Donations of volunteerism are welcome, too!

*-Diane Capps*

### VNA Board Elections

If you are interested in getting involved in your neighborhood association, now's the time to run for the board or otherwise get involved as a volunteer. Learn more about how the City works and be a part of solving problems and making things happen in Volker! Want to serve on the 3-member Nominating Committee? Members will be nominated and voted on at the May 9th Volker meeting, with the election of board members at the June 13th meeting.

All board positions are up for election or re-election. Current board members may run again, but others are welcome to throw their hats into the ring. The current president is retiring. Vice President Patrick Faltico plans to run for President.

**Your VNA membership dues must be paid for 2019 at least two months in advance for eligibility to vote.**

### Note from the outgoing President Thanks...It's been fun!

It's been a pleasure and an honor to serve as president of Volker Neighborhood Association for the last 6 years (3 terms). Meeting so many of you has been a joy! I'm proud to leave a strong VNA in the good hands of competent board members, many who are willing to continue serving along with all the other volunteers who widen the reach of neighborhood efforts.

Take a look at your accomplishments!

- Downzoning North Volker
- Replacing Neighborhood Banners
- Obtaining PIAC grants to address Traffic issues. Working with KCMO and the CID to implement solutions
- Providing info and support on Resident Permit Parking.
- Established Development Awareness Ad Hoc Committee on response process to development projects.
- Maintaining a working relationship with KU for addressing resident issues and construction updates.
- Two Volker Fests, Porch Parties, Picnics, Thanksgiving potlucks, Dumpster Days, and monthly meetings.
- Newsletters published and reliably delivered.

None would have been possible without the immense contributions of volunteers too numerous to count. This is what makes the Volker Neighborhood a great community! Thanks to you all!

*-Susan Kysela*

**Please turn the page for more news!**

## Volker Neighborhood Spring Cleanup is a Big Success!

Thanks to everyone who came out to help! With many helping hands and terrific weather, more than 60 blue bags of litter and trash were removed from Volker Neighborhood streets, sidewalks and right of ways!

Special thanks to Volker resident Lindsay Hummer for organizing this event and the following who led area cleanup teams: Stephanie Anderson, Amy Cook, Anna Ne-deau, George Niewrzzel, and Mark Rodriguez.



A similar cleanup is planned in the Fall. Watch for announcements to get in on the fun next time!

For more info, contact Lindsay at [lindsayhummer@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayhummer@gmail.com) or 816-262-8854.

Some of the South Volker volunteers gathered in Guardian Angels parking lot.

*Volker Neighborhood Association meets the **SECOND THURSDAY** of the month—except in July, August and December,*

If you have questions about real estate or personal property taxes, or an issue related to Jackson County gov't, call:

**Scott Burnett**  
1st District Jackson County Legislator  
**816-365-6664 (cell)**  
[burnett.scott@gmail.com](mailto:burnett.scott@gmail.com)

## VNA Membership Application

Membership is based on the calendar year.

We encourage residents and businesses to join in shaping Volker's future.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Household

2nd Member: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\*EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\*SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NOTICES AT: [www.VolkerKCMO.org](http://www.VolkerKCMO.org)

I AM INTERESTED IN WORKING ON VOLKER PROJECTS ☐

MAIL TO: DIANE CAPPS, 3535 GENESSEE ST.  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

JOIN ONLINE: [www.VolkerKCMO.org](http://www.VolkerKCMO.org)

### PLEASE SELECT MEMBERSHIP TYPE

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15  
☐ SENIOR 60+ \$10  
☐ HOUSEHOLD \$20  
☐ BUSINESS \$25

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE  
CHECKS PAYABLE  
TO V. N. A.

## VNA Board

*We're All Volunteers!*

### President

Susan Kysela  
816 809-2557  
[president@volkerna.org](mailto:president@volkerna.org)

### Vice President

Patrick Faltico  
816 379-6119  
[vice-president@volkerna.org](mailto:vice-president@volkerna.org)

### Treasurer

Steve Davis  
816 753-6559  
[treasurer@volkerna.org](mailto:treasurer@volkerna.org)

### Secretary

M.J. Poehler  
816 231-8322  
[secretary@volkerna.org](mailto:secretary@volkerna.org)

### Membership

Diane Capps  
816 753-0909  
[rep2-N@volkerna.org](mailto:rep2-N@volkerna.org)

### North Area Reps

Jim Peters  
816 561-1492  
[rep1-N@volkerna.org](mailto:rep1-N@volkerna.org)

Diane Capps  
816 753-0909  
[rep2-N@volkerna.org](mailto:rep2-N@volkerna.org)

### Southeast Area Reps

Nathan Jurey  
785-672-7887  
[Rep2-SE@volkerna.org](mailto:Rep2-SE@volkerna.org)

John (Coach) Comstock  
816 674-5646  
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### Southwest Area Reps

John Meetz  
316 655-3624  
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Brian Jackson  
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