



WOODMERE  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Summer 2007

**Officers**

**Sam Whatley**  
President  
Sallsbury Pl  
396-7840

**Gerry Shook**  
1st Vice President  
Sallsbury Pl  
277-7138

**Melissa Martin**  
2nd Vice President  
Queen Elizabeth Ct  
324-4540

**Charles Collins**  
Treasurer  
Queen Elizabeth Ct  
244-9419

# Woodmere News

## President's Commentary

Our next general meeting is at the Museum of Fine Arts, Thursday, August 9th at 6:30 pm. Our main speaker, Mayor Bobby Bright, will discuss his vision of the future of Blount Cultural Park. The museum director, Mark Johnson, and City Councilman Charles Jinright will add their perspectives. This program could answer your questions about the beautiful park and cultural amenities next door.

The drought of late spring and early summer finally ended in July. And the yellowing grass turned green again. But the lasting effects of being 15 inches short of our normal rainfall for the year are hiding just under the surface. Sidewalks are cracked, lakes are down and many of the vegetables we usually enjoy are in short supply.

Our neighborhood association is a little like that too. After being quite active at the start of this decade we endured a severe drop in participation for awhile. Then, two years ago, we made a swing back in the right direction. But we are still shy of where we need to be. We have an immediate need for a secretary, members for our Streets and Sidewalks Committee, a newsletter editor, and a zone coordinator for Zone 6. Our water table is down. We need your help. E-mail [info@woodmeremontgomery.com](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.com) or give us a call to volunteer your time and ideas.

We want to thank Ted and Barbara Hailes for giving their Gateway computer to WNA for use with the newsletter and records keeping.

Let's enhance Blount Cultural Park by keeping Woodmere the best place to live. Maintain and protect your property. Join the 130 families who currently support WNA.



Sam Whatley  
President

Woodmere Neighborhood  
Association  
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Montgomery, Alabama 36123  
[www.woodmeremontgomery.com](http://www.woodmeremontgomery.com)  
[info@woodmeremontgomery.com](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.com)

**Neighborhood Association Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 9, 2007**  
**6:30 P.M.**

**Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Mayor Bobby Bright, Councilman Charles Jinright,  
Museum Director Mark Johnson**

**Everyone Welcome - Please Attend**

The WOODMERE NEWS is the official publication of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association, PO Box 231473, Montgomery, Alabama 36123.

Website:  
www.woodmeremontgomery.com.

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**City Contacts**

**Mayor's Office**  
**241-2000**

**City Council**  
**241-2097**

**Animal Control**  
**241-2970**

**Police**  
**241-2651**

**Fire**  
**241-2400**

**Recycling**  
**241-2925**

**For all emergencies, please call 911.**

**WNA General Meeting Minutes: May 24, 2007**

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association met on Thursday, May 24, 2007 for its quarterly meeting at the Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium. President Sam Whatley called the meeting to order. The guest speakers were Councilman Charles Jinright, Probate Judge Reese McKinney, Montgomery County Elections Director Trey Granger and David Seward of Brinks Home Security.

Councilman Jinright discussed the projects going on in downtown Montgomery including the new hotel, the fountain roundabout, and the convention center. He also discussed how streets are chosen to be repaved and asked that any requests for repaving to be turned in to him. District 20, which includes Woodmere, has \$100,000 per year allocated for repaving.

Trey Granger and Judge Reese McKinney discussed the special election scheduled for June 5 and briefly summarized the two amendments to appear on the ballot.

David Seward of Brinks Home Security offered advice on things that can be done to discourage burglars and outlined the differences and features of various home security systems. Most home break-in's are now occurring during the daytime. He said that for each Brinks system placed in Woodmere, WNA will receive a \$50.00 referral fee.

In the business session, Treasurer Charles Collins reported that as of April 30, 2007 the WNA account balance was \$3010.60 with \$270.00 received in the month of April for membership dues, etc.

Jimmy Gunn, Parks Committee Chairman, reported that during the March 24th Clean-Up Campaign, 18 people collected 60 bags of trash from the Woodmere Park, berms and common areas. Lunch for the workers was provided by Jim Sadie of Sadie's Deli. We hope to have another park clean-up day in September. Come out and join us.

A report was presented by Jessie Donaldson concerning the Long Range Planning Taskforce Nominating Committee. The proposed mission statement was presented and adopted.

Sam Whatley reported that the WNA had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt on April 7th and we extend thanks to Frieda Dority and her committee for all of their hard work.

In new business, it was reported that WNA has joined the new East Montgomery Neighborhood Alliance with Michaela Hutcheson serving as Woodmere's representative. The cost was \$50.00 to join and \$25.00 dues per year. There are 27 neighborhood associations East of Perry Hill Road who are members of the Alliance.

Woodmere now has three members who are serving as Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS). WNA can have a police car for the VIPS to patrol the neighborhood. Montgomery Police officers on bicycles are now patrolling Woodmere. If you see them in the neighborhood, be sure to tell them you appreciate them being here.

WNA Secretary Peggy Agent has resigned due to health problems. We are in need of a volunteer to fill this position until elections in November. We also need a Newsletter Editor and a Chairman for the Streets and Sidewalks Committee. If you know of anyone who would be willing to serve in these positions, please contact Sam Whatley.

## Maxwell OTS Cleans Up In Woodmere Park



On June 30, Susan Carmichael of the Montgomery Clean City Commission arranged to have 12 individuals from the Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base come out to clean up the berms and pond in Woodmere Park. Part of the requirements for completion of the training is to do a certain number of hours of community service. The OTS individuals picked up 25 bags of trash from the pond and the berms. They did an excellent job and their efforts are much appreciated. We hope to have them back later this year.



Left to right: Kelon Simon, Felicia Simon, Sonya Mayo, Lashasta Smith & Charles Wortman. Kneeling in front: Bonita Johnson



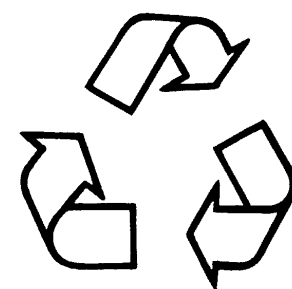
Left to right: Jen Coughlin & Nicole Humphrey



Left to right: Sass Johnson & Sydney Coughlin



C. J. Mayo



**Always Recycle**



Sydney Coughlin

**ARE YOU READY?**

By Jimmy W. Gunn  
Chairperson  
Parks Committee

I would like to remind everyone of two very important events that will occur in the neighborhood in the near future. September 22, 2007 will be the Fall Cleanup of the neighborhood. We are working closely with the city forester to put new tree growth in the park and to renew the plant and trees in the berms on Woodmere Drive and Carmichael Road. This is long overdue and we need your support to make this happen. October 6, 2007 will be the Day in the Park in the west park. This is a good time to come out and meet your neighbors and have some fun. Please mark your calendars now.

I was recently asked by Councilman Charles Jinright to serve on the Montgomery Clean City Commission. This appointment is for a three (3) year term and I am looking forward to being a member of this team.

November 9, 2007 we will elect new officers for the association. I have been asked to serve as chairman of the nominating committee. Some of you will be asked to serve as an officer of this association in the near future. Please volunteer for one of these important positions. For the association to stay strong, we have to have volunteers to work and continue the projects already started. Your association makes a difference at city hall and also makes the Woodmere neighborhood a safe and great place to live.

We need for you to become a member of the association by paying the \$25.00 membership fee and attending the General Meetings every three (3) months. The August 9th meeting will feature Mayor Bobby Bright and we need to fill the Museum auditorium. This would be a good time to tell your mayor of concerns that you have and also to learn from him what is happening in this great city of ours. You live in the best subdivision in Montgomery. Support it by becoming a member of the association and participating in its activities.

We must welcome the future, remembering that soon it will be the past; and we must respect the past, remembering that it was once all that was possible. - George Santayana

**If You Don't Have Your Woodmere Neighborhood Association T-Shirt Yet There Are A Few Still Available.**

**Only \$10 Each!!  
Contact Sam Whatley Or Charles Collins For Details.**



Shirts will be on sale at the August 9 General Meeting.

**COMING EVENTS**

**August 7 - National Night Out  
Be Sure To Turn On Your Porch Lights!**

**August 9 - WNA Quarterly Meeting -  
6:30 P.M. Fine Arts Museum**

**August 28 - City Elections**

**September 22 - Fall Clean-Up Day**

**October 6 - Day In The Park  
Food And Fun For Everyone!**



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## Membership

By Charles Collins  
Treasurer

In December of 2006 the Board of Directors approved a 2007 budget for the Woodmere Neighborhood Association of \$4650.00. Eighty-one percent or \$3750.00 of that budget income was to come from membership dues. A conservative goal of 150 memberships was thought to be a goal easily reached since it was only 20 percent of the neighborhood households. Through the first half of the fiscal (calendar) year our membership total was 117. By July 19th, we had 134 members, 17% of the households in Woodmere. We may still reach our initial goal of 150 members or 20 percent. Only time will tell. If our neighborhood folks really believe in the neighborhood where they live and believe in what the association is attempting to do, they will support it with their membership plus their presence when required. The association has achieved some things to make the neighborhood safer and more beautiful as well as conducting activities for children and adults. There are many more projects that need attention. Where do you stand in respect to this issue of membership? Please tell us.



Bobby Bright  
Mayor

### Be Sure To Attend The Woodmere Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting On August 9

**Our Guest Speaker Will Be Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright**

**6:30 P.M. Fine Arts Museum Auditorium. Everyone Welcome!**



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 pets while you are away?  
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**Over 130 families Have Joined The  
 Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
 Since January 2007. Make Your Voice  
 Heard. Stand Up For Your  
 Neighborhood.**

**JOIN NOW!**

**To Become A Member, Fill Out The  
 Application On The Back Of This  
 Issue.**

## Financial Report

By Charles Collins  
Treasurer

<b>Income:</b>	Proposed Budget	Jan.1 - Mar. 31	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30
Beginning Balance		\$2035.10	\$2740.60
Membership Dues For 2007 (Goal 150)	\$3750.00	1240.00	350.00
Advertisements (Hand Book)	500.00		260.00
T-Shirts (Goal 40)	400.00	40.00	40.00
Donation			50.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4650</b>	<b>1280.00</b>	<b>700.00</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
Newsletters (4 Per Year - 850 Copies)	1400	324.50	546.70
Day In The Park	1200.00		
Administrative Expenses	203.00		124.32
Museum Rental Fees (4 Times Per Year)	200.00	50.00	100.00
Website	75.00		
Post Office Box Rental	72.00		
Easter Egg Hunt (April)	250.00	200.00	
Yard Sale (June)	300.00		310.68
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	100.00		
Neighborhood Handbook	500.00		
Crime Prevention Program	200.00		
Street & Sidewalk Committee	150.00		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$4650.00</b>	<b>574.50</b>	<b>1081.70</b>
Ending Balance		\$2740.60	\$2358.90

## Childhood Summers

I can still remember  
summers as a child,  
when the days were hot  
and the nights were mild.

Those sunny afternoons  
spent looking at the sky,  
lying on my back  
watching clouds float by.

Then later in the evening  
it gave me such a thrill,  
when everything was quiet  
and I heard a whippoorwill.

Sitting on the porch  
wishing on a star,  
playing chase in the dark  
catching fireflies in a jar.

Often in my mind  
I go back to those days,  
of living free and easy  
in the summer haze.

Copyright  
Linda S. Donaldson

## Neighborhood Yard Sale

The day of the inaugural Woodmere Neighborhood Yard Sale dawned with cooperative weather and interested shoppers. Approximately 45 homes participated and balloons tied to mailboxes marked those with wares for sale. Traffic was initially light but picked up as the morning wore on and many vehicles were seen driving off with full trunks and truck beds. The most frequently overheard comment made by those participating was how easy it was to sell their items. "I didn't have to do any of the advertising. I just put my things out and the people showed up! It was the easiest yard sale I've ever had!"

Credit and many thanks for the excellent advertising goes to Linda Mitchell for her hard work in spreading the word! Hopefully next year, the Yard Sale will see growth and expansion as more neighbors enjoy the benefits of our Association's advertising and participate in cleaning out their closets!

By  
Pam Rhodes  
Committee Chairperson

## Antarctica - The South Pole

written by Ms. Don Drenth, a Woodmere resident and a freelancer.

As Alabama temperatures hit 100 degrees, Antarctica dips to -100 degrees. Our winter temperatures are often warmer than Antarctic summer highs of 45 degrees. Even in summer (January-March) it snows in Antarctica. Yet the entire continent receives less than 5 inches of snow annually. It is technically a desert even though 98% of the continent is covered in ice. It is the coldest, driest of all the continents on earth.

No people or mammals live on the continent permanently. During summer months personnel at scientific and military sites rotate and cruise ships visit select coastal ports and islands. Visiting Antarctica with several scientists was a thrill I experienced in 2004. We were lucky to see whales and seals summering there, but I was most fascinated by the four species of penguins we saw. Penguins live only in the southern hemisphere as far north as the Galapagos; penguins don't live in the Arctic.

When the weather cooperated, we boarded rubber zodiacs and landed along the Antarctica Peninsula to watch penguins. Penguins build their nests with pebbles carried to the nest one by one. Any penguin that attempts to steal the odd pebble from another nest will reap the wrath of other penguins. Penguin colonies or "rookeries" are very noisy, but they are also communities of law and order! All species hatch one or two eggs. Most species will opt to feed only the stronger of two chicks, but all work hard to feed and protect their babies. While we watched the penguins, the penguins "people watched". We were not allowed to approach closer than 6 feet and directed to move back if the penguins seemed agitated. That doesn't prevent them from coming closer to inspect the traveler. Penguins may deposit regurgitated red krel on the tourist. They can spit and defecate six feet arcs simultaneously. No matter which end it comes from, this krel "souvenir" is quite unpleasant. Krel, a tiny crustacean, provides the primary food source

Paradise Harbour, a Chilean outpost, was the only opportunity to land on the Antarctic continent. It was also our chance to have our passports stamped with the Antarctica stamp. Whalebones dotted the landscape, but the Gentoo penguins were the main attraction. In contrast to other penguin rookeries, Gentoo colonies are sedate. Gentoos are unique, as mating pairs tend to stay together all year. They are the shyest of the Antarctic penguins but no less curious. One Gentoo was attracted to my red rubber boots and followed me until I re-boarded the zodiac.

The antics of the penguins and the pristine beauty are beckoning again, so I plan another trip. Both the Antarctic continent and the wildlife population are shrinking. Calving has damaged parts of the coast in the past two years. Sadly, pollution is also increasing. I want to see the effect of these changes for myself.

**Going on vacation?**  
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pet, plants or house?



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Housesitter  
Available  
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or [house.pethelp@gmail.com](mailto:house.pethelp@gmail.com)





# 2007 Membership Form

Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 231473  
Montgomery, Alabama 36123  
www.woodmeremontgomery.com  
info@woodmeremontgomery.com

Please list all individuals in the household.

NAME

NAME

NAME

NAME

STREET

HOME PHONE

WORK PHONE (HIS)

WORK PHONE (HERS)

EMAIL (HIS)

EMAIL (HERS)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

New Association Member     Renewal

Please indicate your preference for receiving correspondence from the Association for such items as the newsletter, meeting notices, etc.

Email     Door mail

Association dues are \$25 annually. All memberships expire on December 31.

The Association is always looking for volunteers. Please indicate areas of interest below:

- Membership
- Special Events
- Crime Watch
- Newsletter
- Newsletter Distribution
- Block Captain
- Other skills/interests \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check payable to:  
Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 231473  
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

For MMA Use Only
Check No. _____
Amount: _____
Date: _____