



WOODMERE  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Spring 2006

### Officers

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

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

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

**Peggy Agent**  
Secretary  
Carmichael Rd  
270-3229

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

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

# Woodmere News

## President's Commentary

Spring is here and everything in Woodmere is in bloom, especially our neighborhood association. Eighty residents have joined the WNA since January, and no wonder. We have recently revitalized our five standing committees, improving our beautiful parks and home to the arts.

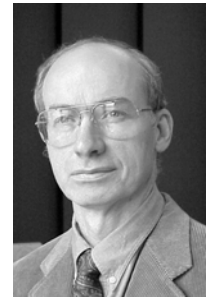
Jimmy Gunn, one of our original homeowners, has volunteered to chair our Parks Committee. Look elsewhere in this issue for his in-depth article concerning this committee's vision for the parks. John Leofsky chairs our Crime Prevention Committee, the liaison between our residents and the police department. Recently this committee brought quick action in resolving a situation on one of our streets.

Our Streets and Sidewalks Committee not only monitors things like traffic speed and noise violations, it will soon reinstate the Yard of the Month Awards, showcasing the beautiful yards

in Woodmere. Jim Sadie is our Streets and Sidewalks Chairman. Further in this issue look for Charles Collins' special report on Block Captains and the need for zone changes. Besides being our Treasurer, Charles serves as the Block Captain Committee Chairman.

As you might surmise, Melissa Martin, our second vice-president, newsletter editor, and webmaster, is also the Chair for the Media Committee.

These five volunteers (Jimmy, John, Jim, Charles, and Melissa) are bringing the WNA back to life. They need your help and support. Please call or email them at [info@woodmeremontgomery.com](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.com) to volunteer your time and talent. Bring new life to Woodmere this spring.



Sam Whatley  
President

Neighborhood Association Meeting  
Thursday, May 11, 2006  
6:30 p.m.  
Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

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

Website:  
www.woodmeremontgomery.com.

The WOODMERE NEWS is published four times a year. Views and conclusions expressed in articles herein are those of the authors, not necessarily those of the editors or officers of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Advertising: Inquiries should be directed to the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Rates will be furnished upon request. The Woodmere Neighborhood Association reserves the right to omit any advertising or editorial copy deemed to be unsuitable for publication. Publication herein does not necessarily imply endorsement of any product or service offered.

We need your input!

To submit an article, a letter to the editor or a suggestion, please contact Melissa Martin at 324-4540 or email at [melissajm@gmail.com](mailto:melissajm@gmail.com).



**WOODMERE**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Commentary

By Charles Jinright, City Council President

Thanks for being a part of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Your participation in this Association helps strengthen our city. I would like to thank Sam Whatley, your new president, and the Association Officers for their hard work and thankless hours they give to your Association because they care.

It's an exciting time to be a resident of Montgomery; our city is growing. We have the best financial rating of any city in Alabama. Our real estate values are some of the best in the southeast.

We are moving toward an improved

### WNA General Meeting Review: February 2, 2006

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association met on Thursday, February 2, 2006 for its quarterly meeting. President Sam Whatley called the meeting to order with about 72 people present.

Guest speakers were Councilman Charles Jinright, Corporal George Brooks and Corporal Fannin. Councilman Jinright gave attendees an update on the city and how well Montgomery is doing. Corporal Brooks explained the VIPS program and provided brochures to those who were interested. Corporal Brooks spoke about the Neighborhood Watch Program and ways to make our neighborhood safer.

Neighborhood surveys were given to attendees to be filled out and returned for compilation. This information will be used by the Crime Prevention Committee to focus on areas of need.

President Whatley shared some crime statistics for our area based on information he received from the MPD.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Museum of Fine Arts. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Currently 10% of our neighborhood are members of WNA, and that is not enough to be a viable Neighborhood Association. Dues are only \$10. Become a member today!

public education system, with a number of new and renovated schools starting this year.

Our new convention center and hotel will open in Fall 2007 and promises to be one of the finest in the Southeast. A 350 room 4-star hotel should attract a lot of new conventions to our city.

If you have any questions about the city, please call my office (272-1200) and I will try to help you. I look forward to seeing each of you at the next meeting on May 11, 2006 at the Museum of Fine Arts.

## A Walk in the Park

By Jimmy W. Gunn, Parks Committee Chair

When was the last time you took a walk in the Woodmere Park? You may not realize it, but your neighborhood is unique. It has a 33 acre park with a pond, walking/jogging trails, football/soccer field, park benches, picnic tables, exercise course and children's rides. How many other neighborhoods can say that? We are also very fortunate to have the Blount Cultural Park and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts as our neighbors.

The concern of the Parks Committee is to make sure the park is well-maintained, secure and remains a neighborhood park. Isn't that what we all want?

The Parks Committee is made up of Carolyn Blackstock, Wil Glasgow, Pete Miller, Hazel Pierce, Waldo Spencer, Melissa Martin and Jimmy Gunn. It is our desire to continue to upgrade and improve the park to make it the crown jewel of our neighborhood. The committee recently met for the first time, and we began the process of addressing the projects we want to undertake with the Parks and Recreation Department for improving the park areas on both sides of Woodmere Drive and abutting Woodmere Boulevard.

Some of the projects discussed were: 1) Security 2) Cleanliness 3) Lake development 4) Parking and Noise problems and 5) Neighborhood association activities in the park. Some of the projects can be put in place very

quickly while others will have to be budgeted by the city and WNA. Proposals will be submitted to the Executive Board for review and approval. Once this has been done, we will move forward with our plan.

We look forward to serving our membership with our time and efforts. We also need your help in the process. We are asking for your input as to what and how you want our park to develop. The park belongs to everyone who lives in the neighborhood. A well-maintained park can only help keep the real estate values high on your property.

If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact me at (W) 334-241-4197 or (H) 334-277-7667. To make the Woodmere Neighborhood Association a success, we need you to be a member. A strong association makes things happen at city hall and makes the neighborhood a safe, stable and desirable place to live. Isn't that what we all want? Send in your membership dues today. (\$10.00 a year) Get active in your association. Volunteer for a committee, be a Block Captain, or write an article for the Woodmere News. Get to know your neighbors and urge them to join you as a member of the WNA. A little money and a little time will go a long way in making Woodmere the place you want to call home.

### HERB DAY

Saturday, May 13, 2006  
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
at Old Alabama Town  
301 Columbus Street



## Old Alabama Town Herb Day

Come to the annual Old Alabama Town Herb Society's Herb Day on Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Alabama Old Town.

There's something for the whole family and attendance is FREE! There will be children's activities, food, music, crafts, exhibits and demonstrations. Of course, there will be plenty of herbal plants and products for sale! There will also be opportunities to talk with expert gardeners and crafts exhibitors to answer your gardening questions as well as a chance to see the various mini-herb gardens at Old Alabama Town.

Rose Shook, a WNA member, is a member of the Old Alabama Town Herb Society. You may call her at 277-7138 if you have any questions about this event or the Herb Society.

**City Contacts**

**Mayor's Office**  
241-2000

**City Council**  
241-2097

**Animal Control**  
241-2970

**Police**  
241-2651

**Fire**  
241-2400

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



**WOODMERE**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

**Financial Report**

By Charles Collins, Treasurer

Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
Financial Statement  
January 1, 2006 - March 31, 2006

Balance January 1, 2006		\$3040.46
Income:		
Membership Dues	\$800.00	
Crime Watch	135.00	
Total Income	\$935.00	\$3975.46
Expenditures:		
Website Hosting and Domain Name	\$ 87.35	
Museum Usage Fee	50.00	
Spring Newsletter	448.80	
Administrative Supplies	69.82	
Total Expenditures	\$655.97	
Balance March 31, 2006		\$3319.49

**June 6 Primary Election**

By Sam Whatley

June 6 voters in Alabama will select candidates to represent the major parties in the General Election in the fall. This year it is my privilege to serve as chief inspector for Precinct 01C which votes at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. We will see several changes in our voting experience this time around.

Voting will not be in the auditorium this year, but in another part of the museum. We will use different voting equipment. Gone are the bulky, stand-alone

voting booths. The new system will use an optical scan ballot, a ballot tabulator, and additional equipment to assist persons with a disability. Montgomery's equipment meets the standards of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

To get a preview, come to the WNA General Meeting, Thursday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. at the museum auditorium. You will see a live demonstration of these voter-friendly machines. County election

officials will be there to answer your questions. Everyone in Woodmere is welcome and encouraged to attend..



## Zone Changes

At their April 3 meeting, the WNA Board of Directors approved changes to the number of zones and the reconfiguration of three zones. Instead of nine zones making up the neighborhood, there will be six zones. Zones 1, 2 and 4 will remain the same. Zone 3 expanded to include Margo Place, Heidi Place, Greta Place and Helga Place. The former Zones 6, 7, 8 and 9 were reconfigured to make up the new Zones 5 and 6.

## The Role of the Block Captain

The WNA Board approved Guidelines for Block Captains. These guidelines offer Block Captains the knowledge of what is expected of them. Keep in mind that these are merely guidelines and can certainly be modified.

- Become familiar with neighbors. Secure the names, telephone numbers and email addresses of each resident.
- Distribute newsletters and other information as necessary.
- Encourage neighbors to join WNA and WNA committees and to attend neighborhood meetings.
- Encourage neighbors to report problems or incidents to you such as an illness, vacation, break-ins, burglaries, lost animals, etc.

By Charles Collins, Block Captain Committee Chair

New maps will be available online and at the General Meeting in May.

The difficulty in recruiting Zone Coordinators and the need to involve more neighbors as Block Captains made the changes necessary. Under the new plan Block Captains should be responsible for an average of 16 homes. In some cases it may be more and in other cases less.

- Know who is a WNA member on your block.
- Get to know the other Block Captains in your zone.
- Attend Block Captain meetings.
- Solicit articles for the newsletter.
- Encourage and support participation in special events.

If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain, please contact Charles Collins at 244-9419 or email [info@woodmeremontgomery.com](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.com)



Volunteers are needed to serve on committees, as block captains, distribute newsletters and many more things! If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the officers or email [info@woodmeremontgomery.com](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.com).

### The Importance of Long Term Care

#### **Comprehensive Coverage**

- Home Care
- Adult Day Care
- Assisted Living
- Nursing Facility Care
- Hospice Care
- Alternative Care

#### **Facts**


- 12 million Americans receive LTC services and over 40% are working age!
- 85% of LTC is provided in individuals' homes rather than a nursing facility.

Help Protect Your Savings and Financial Peace

For FREE Information Contact:  
**MATTHEW MORROW**  
*Long Term Care Agent Representative*

(334) 277-2449 • Cell: (334) 850-1208  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
Email: matthewmorrow@bellsouth.net  
www.morrowinsurancecompany.homestead.com

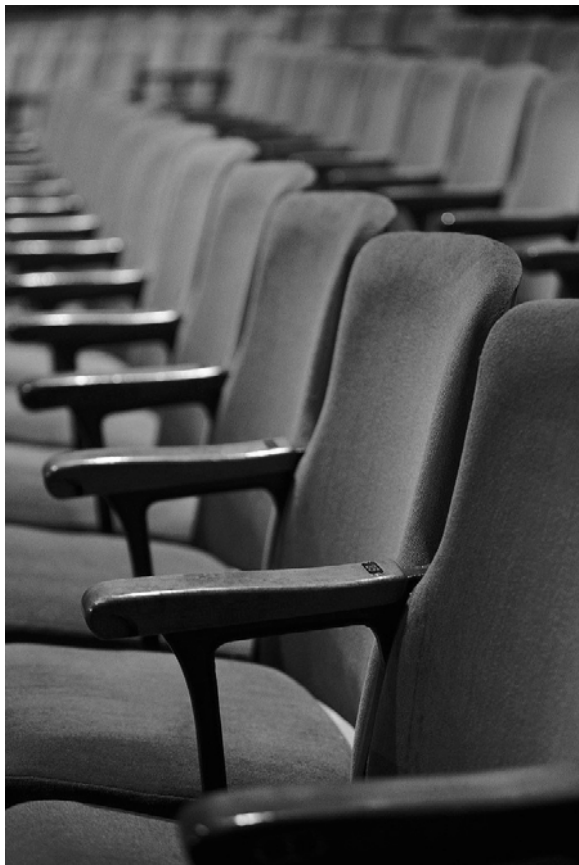
Look for the new Woodmere Neighborhood Association sign advertising the General Meeting in May. Let us know what you think!



**Cissy's Critters**  
*Need Someone to care for your pets while you are away?  
Reasonable Rates, Dependable Service  
and LOTS of Tender Loving Care!!!!*

(334) 271-6593

Cell: (334) 301-4283



## Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2006

6:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

### Guest Speakers

Councilman Charles Jinright  
Chairman of the Montgomery City Council

Montgomery Elections Official  
Trey Granger

Museum of Fine Arts Development Officer  
Molly Stone

### Woodmere Neighborhood Survey

The poll results have been tabulated, and it creates an interesting mosaic of beliefs about Woodmere. A neighborhood survey was conducted recently and the results show that speeding drivers are the major concern. The next items of concern in overall rank were: burglary, drugs, loud music, juveniles, other (littering, etc).

In a question about perceptions, one result was not amusing. Almost one in five respondents state they don't think neighbors would do anything if they saw someone else's house being burglarized; on the other hand 61% do believe neighbors would call the police. And, a low 6% perceive that a description and license plate would be taken.

Almost half (46%) of residents are aware of a Neighborhood Watch program on their block; slightly fewer (42%) do not perceive an active watch program and 12% did not know.

More residents in general feel our neighborhood is safe after dark but 10% fall into both category extremes of very safe/very unsafe. Almost half believe it is moderately safe or better. So many respondents

Report by John Leofsky based on results compiled by Melissa Martin

did not select any answer on this item that we cannot make any valid conclusions.

Significantly more residents (48%) believe that crime has increased than decreased (7%).

17% of respondents state that gangs or gang activity is a problem but more than four out of five profess it is not an issue. Three out of four (73%) of respondents would be willing to mentor a youth in our area.

The open ended questions had a broad range of issues ranging from apathy and loiterers to unfinished yard/home projects. Noise, speeding vehicles, and car break-ins were also concerns.

The most varied responses came on the last item about how to make this community safer. A common theme emerged – be active, get more involved with everyone, especially neighbors; and take initiative to solve problems. From “being alert” and “observing goings on” to “acknowledging and speaking with strangers and neighbors” respondents take a positive and proactive path to making Woodmere a healthy place to be.

### Museum of Fine Arts Opens New Education Wing

On March 2, 2006, the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) opened the doors of the new Education Wing and unveiled a commissioned window by Seattle glass artist Cappy Thompson. Located in the Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park, the Museum's now 73,000 square-foot facility features: a new grand exhibition gallery, a major addition to the ARTWORKS interactive gallery, two art studios, an orientation center, workrooms, staff offices, and a central plant, in addition to the already existing Permanent Collection Galleries, Young Gallery, Decorative Arts Gallery, Wilson Auditorium, Café M, and Museum Shop.

“The opening of this new Education Wing is the largest addition yet to the Museum and will greatly enhance the Museum's ability to serve its public,” said Mark Johnson, director. “This wonderful new facility provides extraordinary opportunities for new exhibitions and installations as well as significantly enhancing our education capacity.”

Founded in 1930, the MMFA is the oldest fine arts museum in Alabama and is noted for its outstanding collection of 19th and 20th century American paintings and sculpture, Old Master prints, Southern regional art, Studio Glass, and decorative arts. The Museum's permanent collection is complemented by an exciting array of traveling exhibitions and stimulating educational programs that examine the diverse facets of the world of fine arts.

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts is located in the Blount Cultural Park in Montgomery, Alabama. The Museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free but donations are welcome. For more information, call the MMFA at 334.240.4333 or visit the web site at [www.mmfa.org](http://www.mmfa.org).



# 2006 Membership Form

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

**WOODMERE**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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     New Crime Watch 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 \$10 annually. Crime Watch dues are \$5 are only paid once. If you are paying for both, you may send one check.

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 WNA Use Only
Check No. _____
Amount: _____
Date: _____