



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 2013

Officers

Jimmy Gunn
President
Woodmere Dr.
277-7667

Jessie Donaldson
1st Vice President
Forest Grove Ct.
271-4428

2nd Vice President
Volunteer Needed

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr.
260-2941

Melissa Martin
Treasurer
Queen Elizabeth Ct.
324-4540

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

www.woodmeremontgomery.com

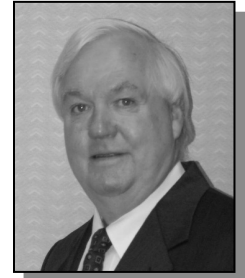
info@woodmeremontgomery.com

On Facebook at
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Woodmere News

President's Commentary

Jimmy Gunn



Dear WNA Neighbors:

May is the month for the Woodmere Neighborhood Association membership drive and we would like to ask all of the residents of the Woodmere community to join the Neighborhood Association for the 2013 year. Currently, we have 67 paid members out of a total of 793 homes located throughout the subdivision. Just think what a difference could be made in Woodmere if just half of us would join this year and become active in the association. We hope you will note the membership drive signs throughout the neighborhood and consider joining this year. Whether you own or rent your home, you have an investment in Woodmere. This is your home and our home and your neighbor's home. We should all take pride in our homes.

We need to make a point to get out in the neighborhood next month, introduce ourselves to our neighbors and ask them to join. A start would be to introduce yourself to those in your immediate area and then the entire block. You might just be surprised to see who lives around you. Volunteer to be a Block Captain and make a difference on your street. Join a committee and make changes to the neighborhood. We need to start building a database of phone numbers and email addresses in Woodmere so we can let folks know about current crime in the area, lost dogs, upcoming WNA events and other matters of interest. One way to do that is to fill out the membership form on the last page of this newsletter and provide that information. A "better-informed" neighbor makes for a more vibrant and friendlier neighborhood. Your board continues to look after the best interest of Woodmere. Come to the Association general meetings and keep informed.

Let's all work together this year to make Woodmere more safe, more beautiful and a

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Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2013

6:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

Speaker: Chad Emerson

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Website:
www.woodmeremontgomery.com.

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This issue was edited by Sam Whatley

City Contacts

Mayor's Office
241-2000

City Council
241-2097

Animal Control
241-2970

Police
241-2651

Fire
241-2400

Ordinance Violations
311

For all emergencies, call
911.

Financial Report

Melissa Martin, Treasurer

	January	February	March	Year to Date	Budget
Beginning Balance	1,542.59	2346.19	2897.19		
Income					
Membership Dues	475.00	975.00	250.00	1700.00	3750.00
Advertisements	0.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
T-Shirts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00
Total Income	875.00	975.00	310.00	2160.00	3750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	0.00	374.00	0.00	374.00	1500.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Administrative Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	805.00
Meeting Room	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	200.00
Entrance Signs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Website	71.40	0.00	0.00	71.40	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Crime Prevention	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00
Total Expenses	71.40	424.00	0.00	495.40	3750.00
Ending Balance	2,346.19	2897.19	3207.19	3207.19	



40th Montgomery Art Guild Museum Exhibition

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts April 6 through June 2

This collaboration between Montgomery's finest visual artists and Alabama's oldest art museum has been a mutually beneficial relationship for a half a century. A juror will select between 60 and 80 works from approximately 350 entries by about a hundred artists. This art, in a wide range of media and with diverse subject matter, will provide a sample of the best contemporary art in the River Region. Come see why Woodmere is home to the arts.

President's Commentary *continued from page 1*

great place to live. By joining the WNA for the 2013 year and paying the \$25.00 membership fee, you are saying that you want the best for Woodmere and are willing to work to make it happen. Nothing comes easy. Go to the back of the newsletter and return the attached membership form. Join the WNA team. You will not regret it.



SPRINGTIME DREAMS

**Standing at the window
On this beautiful day,
I close my eyes and wander
To places far away.**

**And times of long ago
Yet always in my mind,
When childhood was free and fun
And the world back then was kind.**

**I looked forward to the season
When springtime would be here,
The sun shone bright and warm
And the sky was blue and clear.**

**The grass turned green and soft
And I'd sit gazing at the sky,
Watching while fluffy clouds
As they drifted lazily by.**

**Robins sang a happy song
Somewhere in the blossoming trees,
As I let my mind go wandering
Away on the gentle breeze.**

**Then I turn away from the window
To work, which never ends it seems,
Looking forward to the time
When I return to my springtime dreams.**

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Cell: (334) 301-4283

Streets and Sidewalks

By Paul Wise, WNA Streets and Sidewalks Chairman

The residents who live in Woodmere know that the soil expands and contracts with the weather. If you see a street or sidewalk in serious need of repair you can call 311 to report the problem directly to the city or contact me at 334-244-0079 or email paulwise@charter.net. I will make a concerted effort to be sure the city is aware of the need. Together we are striving to make sure Woodmere remains "the best place to live."

At Our Theatre

Around the World in 80 Days is at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival April 19 – May 19. This play written by Mark Brown based on the novel by Jules Verne is the ultimate amazing race. Charging elephants, raging typhoons and runaway trains challenge Phineas Fogg in his race against time. Will he circumnavigate the globe in 80 days or will the cunning Detective Fix dash his hopes? For ticket information call 1-800-841-4273 or visit www.asf.net or go to the box office at 1 Festival Drive in Blount Cultural Park.



Genealogy or Chasing Our Tales, Part II by Jessie Donaldson

In this edition, let me clarify the title of this series of articles. *Chasing Our Tales* is not an original title. It is a term or statement used frequently in the hobby of genealogy numerous times by numerous authors. However, the content of these articles is based on my research and my writing. 'Nuff said.

In this article, and for those of us whose family trees are rooted in the State of Alabama, I want to trace how many of our ancestors happened to arrive in Central and South Alabama. After the Revolutionary War, the young United States government established laws dealing with the surveying and selling of land acquired from England. In 1804, U.S. Land Offices were established in specific locations to sell land in the area that was to become Alabama. At this time, this area was still part of the Mississippi Territory and was largely occupied by the Creek Indians. Very little of the land was cleared and it was mostly dense wilderness with few trails.

Then, in 1812, the United States found themselves at war with England again. As most of us are aware, the War of 1812 was followed almost immediately by the Creek War. In 1814, General Andrew Jackson defeated the Creeks at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. He then forced the Creeks into a treaty signed at Fort Jackson (Fort Toulouse) ceding 14,000 square miles of territory to the United States. This would open up about three-fourths of the present state to settlement. However, many hardy settlers arrived in the area before the land could be surveyed and bought. These early settlers braved the Indians, picked a spot, built a cabin, cleared fields and established residence. Still others claimed land by English or Spanish land grants by right of pre-emption.

In 1817, the area became a separate entity known as the Alabama Territory. Land could be bought for \$10 per acre and less desirable land was auctioned for as little as \$2 per acre with a 160 acre minimum. Land sales were ... *Continued on page 7*



CHAD EMERSON

Come to the WNA Meeting May 9, 2013 at 6:30 PM

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts to hear

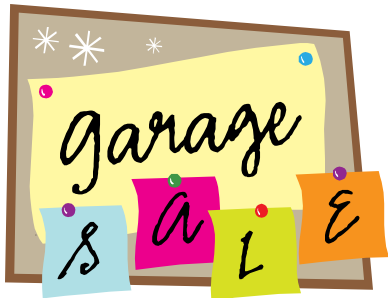
Chad Emerson, Director of City Development

Chad Emerson is the Director of Development for the City of Montgomery where he leads the City's redevelopment efforts throughout key growth areas of the City. Since moving to Montgomery, Chad has served in a variety of local, statewide, and national roles advocating for sustainable and strategic development practices. He is the author of publications related to sustainable development and has lectured across the country on related topics. He and his wife, Betsy, have four children: Owen, Dawson, Cullen, and Addison.

Visit us online at www.woodmeremontgomery.com

Woodmere Neighborhood Yard Sale

On June 8th you are invited to have your own yard sale at your house, driveway, or carport. All participants are welcome. This event will be advertised with banners and newspaper ads. Folks will come in droves. Take time to meet your neighbors and see how much money you can make or what bargains you can bring home.



Public Shredding Event

Do you have old financial documents cluttering up your house? The City of Montgomery has a program to help the public shred documents and sensitive papers. Twice a year trucks are available at Patterson Field, 1225 Madison Avenue, to accept papers to be shredded. The April 19th shredding event was cancelled due to storms. It has been rescheduled for **May 3rd from 7 am - 1 pm**. The city asks that you bring a few cans of nonperishable food to donate to the Montgomery Food Bank when you come. It's free; it's green. It's the right thing to do.



Find us on
Facebook

Just search for Woodmere
Neighborhood Association!

**To submit an article, letter to the editor, poem or suggestion,
email it to info@woodmeremontgomery.com.**

Flag Etiquette by Jessie Donaldson

Ideally, an American flag on your house should hang from a staff that angles out from the front wall, a windowsill or a balcony. It is a good idea to screw a bracket made for holding the flagstaff to the trim or anchor it solidly to the brick. Fasten it securely so it won't become soiled or damaged. Never allow the flag to touch the ground, floor, water or anything else beneath it. It is also appropriate and acceptable to hang the flag from a horizontal staff.

Whether the flag hangs from an angled or horizontal staff, be sure the union or the rectangle with the stars is at the peak of the staff. Hanging the flag with the union down signals extreme distress. When the flag is supposed to be flown at half-mast, if you have a flag bracket that allows moving the staff from an angled position to a horizontal position, this is an acceptable way of acknowledging the occasion.

When the flag is displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should always be to the top and to the left. If the flag is displayed in a window, the union should be to the top and to the left as viewed from the street.

The American flag is meant to be a flag; don't use it for any other purpose. Do not use the flag as drapery, ceiling decoration, or as a bed spread. And never use the flag as a receptacle for carrying or holding anything. The American flag is not meant to be a piece of apparel. Don't wear clothing made from the flag. If you wear a patriotic symbol of the flag in the manner of a stick pin or lapel pin, it should always be worn on the left side or the left lapel near your heart.

Though it is customary to fly the flag from sunrise to sunset, the U. S. Code says that when a patriotic effect is desired, you can display it around the clock. If possible, it should be illuminated in some manner. The flags at the entrances to Woodmere are illuminated by the existing street lights.

When displayed from a car, the flagstaff should be fixed or clamped firmly to the vehicle, ideally on the right side. The flag should never be draped across the hood, top, sides, or back of the vehicle. The same holds true for a flag displayed on a float in a parade. Don't carry the flag flat or horizontally.

When folding the flag, fold the flag in half width-wise. Then fold it in half again the same way. Now fold up a triangle starting with the striped end and repeat until only the end of the union is exposed. Now fold down the square into a triangle and tuck the corner inside the folds. It is that simple to fold the flag properly.

Why bother with all of this detail about flag etiquette? Consider this – for more than two hundred years, our country's military, fireman, police and other service personnel have practiced these etiquette details faithfully treating our flag with the highest respect. They have carried the flag with them to the remote corners of the globe and defended it with their lives when needed. This is but one small way we can show respect and meet the high standard they have set.



Memorial Day will be observed May 27th



Chasing Our Tales Part II *continued from page 4*

sanctioned through U. S. land offices established at St. Stephens (near Mobile), Huntsville (transferred from Nashville in 1811) and Milledgeville, Georgia. Later, additional land offices were opened and some were transferred, but these were the three original ones dealing with Alabama land at the time of the establishment of the Territory.

When these land offices were closed, their records were sent to the Washington, D.C. office and photocopies of the original records can still be requested from the Washington National Reference Center in Suitland, Maryland. Additional records are available from the Bureau of Land Management at www.glorerecords.blm.gov, the Alabama Department of Archives and History, the office of the Alabama Secretary of State and the University of Alabama's library of special collections.

Construction began in 1811 on a road to connect Fort Stoddert, Alabama with Fort Wilkinson, Georgia. Fort Stoddert was located in Mobile County and Fort Wilkinson was located near Milledgeville, Georgia. The road was ordered built because the government feared another war with England was on the horizon and the road was needed to be able to move troops quickly in order to protect the U.S. Gulf Coast. This road became known as the Federal Road and connected several early U.S. forts in Creek lands and the Mississippi Territory. Two centuries later portions of the Old Federal Road are still visible in Alabama, particularly in Butler and Monroe counties.

With the defeat of the Creeks, the opening of the new Territory and the construction of the Federal Road, people began to pour out of the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia and Kentucky in what was called "Alabama Fever" to obtain land in what Andrew Jackson called "the best unsettled country in America". These people were true pioneers and they were embarking on a journey by covered wagon pulled by oxen into what was known as the Old Southwest of that time. Many families made the journey together because there was safety in numbers.

The Old Federal Road was the main route for families acquiring land in central and south Alabama. The road began at Milledgeville, Georgia which happened to be the state capitol of Georgia at that time and the location of a land office and the location of Fort Wilkinson so it was the logical starting point for people making the journey from Georgia and the Carolinas. The road continued across Georgia to the Chattahoochee River at Fort Mitchell. Fort Mitchell was located a little south of present day Phenix City. From there, the road ran almost parallel but a little south of present day U.S. Highway 80. When the road neared what is now Mt. Meigs, it began a more southwest route and actually crossed what is now Taylor Road somewhere between the intersection with Vaughn Road and U. S. Highway 231. The road crossed though southern Lowndes County and closely paralleled the route of U. S. Highway 31 south passing directly through Ft. Deposit and on down through Butler County near Greenville. Most of these pioneers making this journey from the Carolinas and Virginia passed though the small town of Edgefield, South Carolina and on to Milledgeville. Edgefield became known as the "Jumping Off" place because the town is located on an old Cherokee trail, it sits on the route to Augusta with its' river crossing, plus any wagon trains not wanting to cross the Appalachian Mountains would choose this route. In some ways, Edgefield was the gateway to the west in the early 1800's.

In the next edition, we will take a look at what some of these pioneer families may have encountered and the difficulties of tracing your ancestors back to these early days as Alabama neared statehood. Don't miss the next WNA newsletter when we will discuss more details of the hobby of genealogy and the pitfalls plus rewards as you sift through your family history and continue in Chasing Our Tales.



2013 Membership Form

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

NAME

NAME

NAME

NAME

STREET

HOME PHONE

WORK/CELL PHONE

WORK/CELL PHONE

EMAIL

EMAIL

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:

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

Please note:

We send out neighborhood notices via email. If you provide your email address, you will receive these notices. We also send out emails about lost and found pets. If you have any questions or concerns, please send us an email.

Please send your \$25 check payable to:
Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

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