



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

August 2016

Officers

Jimmy Gunn
President
Woodmere Dr.
277-7667

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

Wil Glasgow
2nd Vice President
Green Way Dr.

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr.
260-2941

Phyllis Tillery
Treasurer
Woodmere Loop
270-1430

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

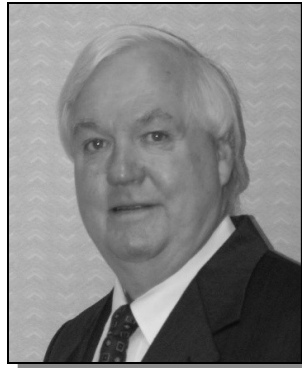
www.woodmeremontgomery.com

info@woodmeremontgomery.com

On Facebook at
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Woodmere News

President's Commentary



Jimmy Gunn, WNA President



Robert Smith
Director of Planning
For Montgomery

The WNA Board of Directors is charged with protecting, preserving and enhancing the common assets of the Woodmere community. This is not an easy task, considering the difficulty we have getting all 792 households in Woodmere to take an active role in the affairs of our neighborhood. Currently we have 111 paid members for the 2016 year. This represents 14% of the residents in Woodmere. Of the 111 paid members, we thank you for your support. Of the remaining 681 unpaid members of our neighborhood, I would ask, why would you not want to support your neighborhood and make sure that we have the most beautiful, safest and cleanest subdivision in Montgomery? We need everyone on board to make all of this happen. I would ask that you fill out the membership application at the back of the newsletter and send in your \$25.00. You need to join a committee, be a Zone Coordinator, a Block Captain or an Officer. You need to do everything you can to assist the board in accomplishing their goals. After all, if the WNA Board of Directors does it's job, we all benefit. Just think what would happen to our neighborhood if the WNA went away and there was no one out there looking to protect your interest and concerns. Come on neighbor, get on board.

Please take a good look at your sidewalks. We have many residents who enjoy running or walking in Woodmere, but nothing spoils this activity more than stubbing a toe, turning an ankle, or taking a fall. The city of Montgomery is responsive to sidewalk repair requests, so please call 311 when your sidewalk becomes a hazard to pedestrian traffic.

Litter continues to be an unsightly issue in our neighborhood. We all have to make sure that we pick up all litter and trash around our homes and on our streets. As you take your walk or run through Woodmere, please be on the lookout for litter and trash and pick it up. If we all do our part, we can keep Woodmere clean. *Continued on page 3*

Woodmere Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

Speaker: Robert Smith

Director of Montgomery Planning and Development

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.

This issue was edited by Sam Whatley and Jessie Donaldson

City Contacts

Mayor's Office
625-2000

City Council
625-2097

Animal Control
625-2970

Police
625-2651

Fire
625-2400

Ordinance Violations
311

For all emergencies, call
911.

Financial Report

Phyllis Tillery, Treasurer

	April	May	June	2016	Budget
Beginning Balance	2,533.64	2,085.71	2,593.73	2,810.07	
Income					
Membership Dues, Plus Online Dues	40.00	1,265.00	273.97	2,328.97	3,750.00
Advertisements	60.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Handbooks	65.00	35.00	40.00	140.00	0.00
Total Income	165.00	1300.00	313.97	2528.97	3,750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	0.00	385.00	0.00	781.00	1500.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Office Supplies	395.30	32.98	.00	453.28	805.00
Meeting Room	120.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	200.00
Printing Handbooks	97.63	0.00	97.63	195.26	0.0
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Postage	0.00	374.00	0.00	374.00	200.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	0.00	155.85	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	.00	51.00	70.00
Total Expenses	612.93	791.98	97.63	2130.39	3,750.00
Ending Balance	2,085.71	2,593.73	2,810.07	2,923.65	

Visit us online at www.woodmeremontgomery.com

At Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts July 2nd through September 18th



Women's Work: Prints from the MMFA Collection. Women began receiving recognition as professional artists in the 20th century. This exhibit showcases 42 works from 20 women. Come see etchings, lithography, screen prints, and mixed media in a variety of styles that reflect their times.

President's Commentary *continued from p. 1*

There are a lot of cable lines throughout Woodmere that have not been buried and remain above ground. If you have a cable line in your yard and it is above ground, please contact your cable provider and have them come out to your home and bury it. This can be a safety matter and could open yourself up to some liability if someone trips over these cable lines.

Thanks go out to Charles Jinright, our councilman, and Wil Glasgow, Parks Committee Chairperson, for getting the walking paths in East Woodmere Park resurfaced. Work has begun and the project will be completed within the next couple of weeks based on what the weather looks like. Also the Arlene Gomez Memorial Park Bench in East Woodmere Park installed by Boy Scout Travis Moody has been finished and it is beautiful. Please take a look at this. Dedication of the park bench will be held later this summer.

Our next WNA General Meeting will be on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 6:30PM at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts in Blount Cultural Park. We will have Charles Jinright, City Council President, and Robert Smith, Director of Planning at the Department of Planning and Development, as our speakers. There will also be representation from the Montgomery Police Department. Make plans to attend and see what is going on in Montgomery and in the Woodmere neighborhood. See you there.

Meet Robert Smith

Director of Planning for Montgomery

Education:

- Bachelor, History—Stillman College
- Master's, Public Administration—Troy University
- Bachelor, Geography/Urban Planning—University of Alabama

Responsibilities:

- Community Development
- Geographical Information System
- Long Range Planning
- Planning Controls
- Transportation Planning

Within his scope of responsibilities lie such things as Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, Historic Ordinance, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, Historic Preservation Commission, Architectural Review Board, Urban Forestry, and others. Obviously, he wears many hats.



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Cell: (334) 301-4283



At Alabama Shakespeare Festival August 13, 2016 only. Scot Bruce as Elvis Presley. Songs from the early years. Featuring songs such as Hound Dog, Burnin' Love, Jailhouse Rock, Love Me Tender, Suspicious Minds and more.

Paul Wise, WNA Streets and Sidewalks Chairman, invites you to call 311 to report streets or sidewalks that need repair. If that fails, call him at 244-0079 or email him at paulwise@charter.net.

Nextdoor

The City of Montgomery is now on Nextdoor. City departments, including the Police Department, will now be able to post bulletins and announcements on the Nextdoor blog. You can read their posts but they can not read our posts.

Chasing Our Tales, Part XV

Welcome to our 15th visit here with Chasing Our Tales. We pick up right where we left off from our last visit with Chasing Our Tales XIV.

It is a hot, humid day on August 30, 1813 and the 550 people within Ft. Mims in South Alabama Territory are about to experience a horror beyond belief. Nearly 1,000 hostile Red Stick Creek warriors are hidden in a ravine within 400 yards of the fort. At least twice that morning, the commander of the fort, Major Beasley, was warned of the impending attack. At least twice he dismissed the warnings as being false. The main gate to the fort is jammed and cannot be fully closed because of shifting sand. A new shipment of rum has arrived and Major Beasley has been sampling the shipment to the point of intoxication.

We are nearing the noon hour at which time a drum sounds to indicate the time for the noon meal. A state of relaxation arrives at the fort. The settlers and friendly Indians within the fort stop their chores and begin to make their way toward the food. Dozens of happy children visit from door to door and tent to tent. The soldiers on guard duty relax and walk away from their posts to take their noon meal. Several card games break out in various spots.

At that instant, the Red Sticks attack with loud war screams. With the Red Sticks are William Weatherford (Red Eagle - one of the planners of the attack), Peter McQueen, Paddy Welch, Far Off Warrior, Josiah Francis (the prophet), High Head Jim, Hannah Moniac (sister of Sam Moniac), and others. Within the fort are William Weatherford's sister, Weatherford's brother, Weatherford's half-brother, David Tate, David Tate's first wife, Mary Randon, with two of her daughters and many others related to members of the Red Stick war party.

Prior to this date, a second defensive wall had been constructed inside the fort a few yards inside the main outer wall. Within this inner enclosure were several buildings including a blockhouse. The outer wall featured several firing loopholes from which the defenders could fire their weapons in defense of the fort.

Instant panic strikes the people within the fort. Women and children begin screaming. A mad scramble occurs as people try to make their way inside the inner defensive wall. Major Beasley, recognizing the emergency in spite of his condition, drew his sword and, with help, fought valiantly to close the outer gate against the sand. He was quickly clubbed to death by the attackers. Four Red Sticks rushed to enter the opening at the main gate. Three of these were shot down within seconds. Other Red Sticks were able to reach the firing loopholes outside the outer wall where they immediately began a murderous fire as they cut down troops and people trying to rush to safety inside.

Dixon Bailey, veteran of the Burnt Corn Creek Battle (Chasing Our Tales XIV), assumed command of the troops. Led by Bailey, a group of soldiers took command of some of the firing loopholes not occupied by the Indians to establish a defensive fire. Other soldiers established a defense behind the inner wall and among the buildings inside. By the element of surprise and sheer numbers, the Red Sticks quickly established a foothold inside the outer walls of the fort and all of the settlers and soldiers were pushed back inside the inner defensive walls. The soldiers and settlers began an intensive defensive fire upon the attackers from inside these inner walls.

Although the Red Sticks had a tremendous advantage in numbers, most of the hostiles were only armed with tomahawks, war clubs, knives, and bow and arrows. The Red Sticks began to accumulate heavy losses. In spite of this, nearly 100 of the defenders were killed in the first few minutes of the battle. More were being killed as the Indians fired through the loopholes in the defensive walls. Most of the buildings inside the inner walls were set on fire by fire arrows. Many people burned alive. The fort's powder magazine inside one of the inner cabins was ignited and exploded.

By 3:00 p. m., the battle was still not decided and raged on. The Red Sticks were exhausted and many were ready to quit the battle and retreat into the woods. Upon seeing their comrades beginning to falter, the Red Stick leaders began to rally their warriors and whip them into a new frenzy. Most of the defenders of Ft. Mims had sought refuge inside two buildings inside the inner walls where they were determinedly holding out. Now these two buildings were set on fire. Some people died in these fires, but most were forced out to meet their fate at the hands of the warriors. Dixon Bailey was killed in these closing moments of the battle.

Now the slaughter was on. Many people fell to the terrible war clubs of the Red Sticks. Some people were scalped before they were killed. Women and children were brutalized and killed. Those wounded and many of the



dead were thrown into the fires of the burning buildings. Unbelievably, not all of the Red Sticks participated in this slaughter. One of the survivors of the battle reported seeing a Creek named Johomobtee shoot and kill three Red Sticks that were killing women.

Another survivor watched her husband being killed and, then, took the hands of her two children and marched into the middle of the carnage to meet her fate. Surprisingly, she encountered a young warrior named Dog Warrior whom she had befriended when he was a child. Dog Warrior led her and her children to safety outside the fort.

Supposedly William Weatherford was horrified by the carnage and tried to stop the slaughter, but the warriors had their blood up in anger at the deaths of so many comrades and the killing frenzy could not be stopped. A surviving slave told authorities he and others including Dixon Bailey's sister were in the Mims' cabin when the hostiles entered the building. A warrior asked Bailey's sister if she was related to anyone in the fort. She pointed to the body of Bailey and said "I am the sister of that man you have murdered there" upon which she was immediately struck down and mutilated.

By 5:00 p. m., the battle was over and the Red Sticks with their captives left the burning fort and the dead behind. Exact casualty figures do not exist but estimates are that about 400 of the people at Ft. Mims lost their lives. The Red Sticks spared the lives of many of the slaves at the fort and took them as captives. Three weeks after the battle, Major Kennedy of the Militia commanded a detachment sent to the fort to bury the dead. The detachment was horrified to find flocks of vultures and packs of wild dogs which had been attracted to the bodies. About 100 Indians were found buried in the woods nearby. Estimates are that the Red Sticks may have lost 300 to 400 warriors in the battle.

The events at Ft. Mims and the prior events at Burnt Corn Creek began the struggle known as the First Creek War which would rage until March, 1814 when General Jackson defeated the Creeks at the Battle at Horseshoe Bend on the Tallapoosa River near present day Dadeville, Alabama. What happened next is a matter of history and we will cover details of that next time we visit with Chasing Our Tales.

IMAGINATION

**To be a cloud up in the sky
And play with angels way up high.**

**Hold lots of stars in my hand
Play with tigers in fantasy land.**

**Run on the beach with wind in my hair
Build sand castles without a care.**

**Seeing the sun at dawn's first light
Catching fireflies late at night.**

**To sleep at night with pleasant dreams
All these things are impossible, it seems.**

**But in my thoughts and in my mind
I can play and leave behind...**

**All the fears and worries here
For in my world, there's only cheer.**



NEW MPD APP AVAILABLE

There is a new Montgomery Police Department app available for your smart phone or tablet. The app is free and can be easily downloaded from your App Store or Play Store. The new app allows phone contact with the police without having to dial and allows citizens to submit tips or alerts directly to the police department from within the app.

Have You Been to the Cloverdale Playhouse?

By Pat Thornton

There's an exciting theatre venue down in Cloverdale with roots right here in Woodmere. Its premiere artistic director was Greg Thornton, a popular ASF actor in years past and still a Woodmere neighbor. Now in its 5th season, the Cloverdale Playhouse is situated in a former church building and was recently named a *This Place Matters* treasure as part of the Montgomery Landmark Foundation's Campaign.

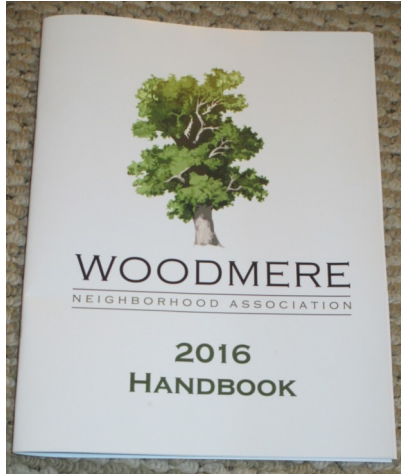
Current artistic director, Sarah Thornton, is the product of Baldwin, BTW, and ASF's theatre programs. She started her acting career with the other neighborhood children in her Woodmere dining room and graduated to the ASF stage as one of its child actors. After many years in NYC, where she helped found the BAMA Theatre Company, she returned to MGM and took up the reins at the Playhouse. She's encouraging you to join her there to help bring more stories to life.

The Playhouse offers an affordable live theatre experience – only \$18 for full length plays with student discounts available. The offerings are funny, edgy, and thoughtful and are usually plays you won't see anywhere else in the Montgomery area. The current season, for instance, has already presented a Christopher Durang play, *Vanya and Sonia and Sasha and Spike*, that's all the rage around the rest of the country and sent some pretty lively discussions into the neighboring Cloverdale restaurants.

The Playhouse's June offering, *Strip Talk on the Boulevard*, was a world premiere of a play that may well make it to Broadway down the road. Its author, Donna Spector, submitted it to the Playhouse's competitive "Page to Stage" program which netted 180 submissions from all over the U.S.A. last year. "Page to Stage" was designed to encourage new works and give playwrights a chance to be heard as well as read. Guidelines are available on the Playhouse website.

One of CP's most loved offerings is the Third Tuesday "Guitar Pull" every month. Along the lines of a house concert, each "Pull" brings in three or four singer-songwriters who illustrate stories about their craft with the songs they produce along the way. Songwriters from as far away as Nashville, Atlanta and New Orleans vie for spots on the Pull schedules along with Montgomery's homegrown talent. And now, on the beautiful summer or fall Third Tuesday, the Guitar Pull is set under the stars on the Playhouse's new outdoor Courtyard Stage.

Lest Montgomery's younger artists be overlooked, the Playhouse also offers The Playhouse Troupe with special plays for kids performed by kids. The Troupe will present *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* on July 29- 31st. Theatre classes (for kids of almost ALL ages) and student camp sessions run during the school year and in July sessions. Special adult workshops in movement, auditioning, and other creative endeavors pop up as qualified teachers become available. Registering on the website for announcements is a good idea if you think you might want to dip your toe into the pool.



Introducing the Woodmere Neighborhood Association 2016 Handbook.

What's in it? Things like:

- ◆ Maps of Woodmere including the entire area and all 6 zones with actual block numbers for every one of the 792 houses.
- ◆ Shading to show every block captain's assigned streets.
- ◆ A listing of all officers, members of the Board of Directors, zone coordinators, and chairs of committees.
- ◆ A history of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association.
- ◆ The WNA By-laws.
- ◆ Up to date City Ordinances that affect you such as:
 - Trash pickups, Cutting grass, Abandoned cars, Parking on your lawn
- ◆ Internet and phone contacts for major city offices such as police, fire, city council, mayor, animal control, parks and recreation etc.
- ◆ Information about Blount Cultural Park, ASF, and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. Get your WNA 2016 Handbook at the meeting August 11.

Order your 2016 Handbook today by adding \$5.00 to your \$25.00 membership on page 8, or by paying \$5.00 at the meeting August 11th.

HELPING THE MONTGOMERY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Waldo Spencer , Arnold Thompson, and Gerry Shook are members of the WNA who have volunteered a combined total of 23 years with the Montgomery Police Department. There are approximately 65 active Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) who have saved the city over \$300,000 last year and have put in over 2500 hours per year for the 12 years that the program has been in Montgomery.

Duties vary among the volunteers including: checking homes of residents who are on vacation, assisting the MPD at headquarters and other MPD locations, and helping with special events. Are you 55 years old or older? Can you give at least 4 hours per week to help the MPD? Contact Community Policing at 240-4800 for information.



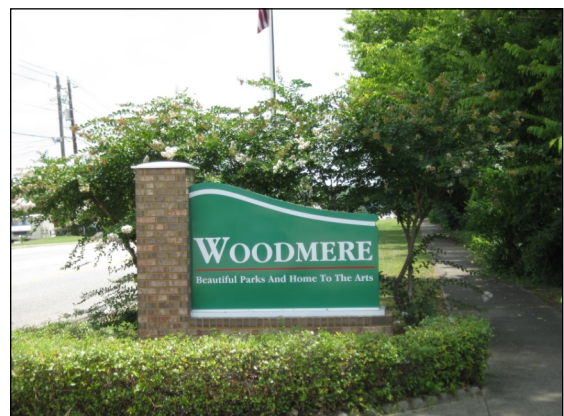
Find us on
Facebook

**Clean Up
Your
Neighborhood**

Thanks Neighbors

Kudos to the several residents of the neighborhood seen lately carrying garbage bags with them and picking up trash on the streets in Woodmere. It is people like you that help make a neighborhood a great place to live.

If you see trash, pick it up. Help keep our neighborhood clean and neat. If we will all follow the example set by a few, the entire neighborhood will benefit.





WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2016 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.

Woodmere Neighborhood Association 2016 **Handbooks are available for \$5.00.** Add this to your \$25.00 membership and mail today.

The Association is always looking for indicate areas of interest:

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



volunteers. Please

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 or \$30 (for handbook) check payable to:
Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

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