



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

November 2012

Officers

Jimmy Gunn
President
Woodmere Dr.
277-7667

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

Chris Brodie
2nd Vice President
Salisbury Pl.
277-5986

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr.
260-2941

Melissa Martin
Treasurer
Queen Elizabeth Ct.
324-4540

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On Facebook at
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Woodmere News

President's Commentary

Jimmy Gunn

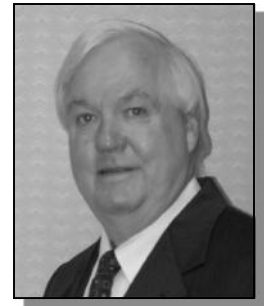
Dear WNA Neighbors:

One of our major interests as a Montgomery neighborhood association is the revitalization of the Eastern By-pass. It seems like every month there is a business that shuts its doors and moves further east, leaving vacant commercial buildings. We have to do whatever is necessary to make sure that quality businesses do not move from the Eastern Boulevard area.

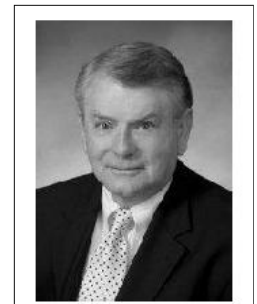
But not all is gloom and doom for the Eastern By-pass. The Quality Inn will reopen soon after remodeling and updates. There is a new Pep Boys going in on one end of the old Sam's Club building. The old Ramada Inn East has been leveled and the property is for sale as a vacant lot for new development. The old Montgomery Athletic Club will be converted into an indoor shooting range for handguns and archery. Another success story is the revitalization of the Stratford Shopping Center with Ace Bowling Lanes and other new businesses opening there.

Our guest speaker for the next Woodmere Neighborhood Association General Meeting will be Earl Martin. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. Earl is the owner of Intervest Realty Group. A long time commercial real estate broker in the Montgomery area, he had a lot to do with the revitalization of the Stratford Shopping Center. I ask that all Woodmere residents attend this meeting to hear more about the future of the Eastern By-pass and what businesses we can expect to see.

Also at this meeting we will elect officers for the next two years and discuss the 2013 budget. This is a night to get out, attend and get involved. Invite your neighbor. Show your pride in our neighborhood. We want to see everyone there.



Jimmy Gunn
President, WNA



Earl Martin
Guest Speaker

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Thursday, November 08, 2012
6:30 p.m.
Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

Guest Speaker: Earl Martin

Topic: "Eastern By-Pass Revitalization"

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

Website:
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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

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

	August	September	October	Year to Date	Budget
Beginning Balance	3215.85	3016.85	2216.76	2336.46	
Income					
Membership Dues	225.00	125.00	0.00	2724.00	3750.00
Advertisements	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
T-Shirts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
Total Income	225.00	125.00	0.00	2809.00	3750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	374.00	0.00	0.00	691.90	1500.00
Day in the Park	0.00	450.00	0.00	450.00	750.00
Administrative Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.07	805.00
Meeting Room	50.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	200.00
Entrance Signs	0.00	389.09	0.00	1465.23	0.00
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.50	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	86.00	0.00	86.00	70.00
Total Expenses	424.00	925.09	.00	2928.70	3750.00
Ending Balance	3016.85	2216.76	2216.76	2216.76	



Bylaws, Zone Coordinators, Board of Directors, Block Captains and You, the Woodmere Resident

By Jessie Donaldson, 1st Vice-President

Your Woodmere Neighborhood Association operates under a very strict and detailed set of bylaws that control everything the Association can and can not do. Article 1, Sections 1 thru 4, of the bylaws detail the name and purpose of the Association. Here, in Section 2, we see that the purpose of the Association **shall be to promote the welfare of its members** and to preserve Woodmere as an attractive residential area. Section 3 goes on to say that this association is not organized for the profit of its officers or members. Section 4 says the Association will neither sponsor nor endorse any political candidate, but **shall at all times** strive for the common good of its members.

In all, there are 13 articles with multiple sections to each article that control and direct the actions of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association and its board of directors. Contrary to some confusion that exists, there is not a single article, section or even a word of the Association bylaws that controls or directs the actions, behavior, activities or personal business of its members or residents. Rather, the Association exists to promote Woodmere, to promote the welfare of its members and residents and “shall at all times strive for the common good of its members”.

In Woodmere, if you are a member of the Association, you do not sign a covenant that dictates to you what color you can paint your house or where you can plant shrubs or any of the other minute details that homeowner associations may try to govern. As a matter of fact, you do not sign an agreement to do anything or to be governed by anybody. You join the Association simply because you care and you want to be a part of the neighborhood.

Block Captains in Woodmere are not “bouncers” or spies that try to catch you doing something wrong. Rather, they report problems with streets, sidewalks, or other infrastructure while assisting with any problems or situations their neighbors might have.

Block Captains report these situations to their respective Zone Coordinators. Zone Coordinators are responsible for several Block Captains within their zone. In turn, Zone Coordinators report these situations and the needs or problems of their zones to the Board of Directors.

Continued on page 4 under Bylaws

THE VETERAN

**With trembling hands
He touches the wall,
As he whispers each name
Their face he'll recall.**

**The veteran stands
With head bowed low,
Still feeling the pain
That he felt long ago...**

**As he watched old friends
Who once stood by his side,
Fall for their country
Not with fear but deep pride.**



**As his fingers caress
Each name one by one,
He thinks of a father,
Someone's brother or son.**

**They died not in vain
But that Old Glory could wave,
In the land of the free
And the home of the brave.**

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Veterans' Day will be celebrated
November 12th. Thank a vet for
serving our country.

Bylaws *continued from page 3*

The Zone Coordinators also serve on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of the Zone Coordinators plus any standing heads of certain committees plus the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers of the Association such as the President, Vice-President, etc. All of these are strictly voluntary positions that result in no benefits, no salaries and, usually no recognition for the services performed for the neighborhood. In fact, Article 3, Section 4 of the bylaws states that "officers and directors shall not benefit from gifts of any kind during or at the end of his/her term."

If you own property here or if you rent or lease property here, why would you not be interested in being part of a neighborhood association that promotes and encourages the welfare and common good of its residents and tries to maintain an attractive residential area? Preserving our property values and maintaining a neighborhood with an environment that promotes safety and security while presenting an attractive appearance is what we are all about.

Within the past few years, the Association has worked to get three-way stop signs installed on Woodmere Boulevard to slow traffic down. The Association has worked to get new entrance signs erected at the neighborhood entrances on Woodmere Boulevard and Carmichael Road. New flag poles were erected at both entrances by the Association. Recent efforts helped to clean up the problems with garbage cans parked near the entrance to the Blount Park of which 11 cans did not even belong to anyone in Woodmere. Neighborhood volunteers furnished the effort for these projects for which we should all be grateful.

New projects the Association will be working on will involve things like improving the berms in the park and common areas in the neighborhood. We are working with the U.S. Postal Service on a project to improve the cluster mailboxes near the garden homes and townhouses in the neighborhood. We are looking at the possibility of entrance signage at the back entrances into the neighborhood and working with the city to improve the striping on Carmichael Road and Woodmere Boulevard. Long range projects and problems include items like common driveway improvements, closer cooperation with adjacent neighborhoods, park improvements and many more. All of these things take labor and money.

In Woodmere, we simply try to live by local and state laws and comply with the existing Montgomery City ordinances. The Montgomery City ordinances govern how we will behave and how we will conduct ourselves as a city, as individuals, as a neighborhood and in our relationships to each other. Violations of ordinances can result in fines and legal actions by the city.

Woodmere Neighborhood Association needs you. We need for you to be a member. We need Block Captains. We need Zone Coordinators in several zones. We need volunteers. We need you to fill out an application form and join us in making Woodmere a safe, secure and attractive place to live. For just \$25 per year, you can do your part in refining, preserving and improving Woodmere. We need **you and your help** now! **Stand up for your neighborhood!**



October 16th was Neighborhood Night Out in Wil and Joyce Glasgow's backyard which opens out to Woodmere Park. Jessie Donaldson cooked hotdogs on the grill to round out the cookies and chips. Music was provided by Tom Sellers, who sang and played the keyboard while his son performed on the drums. Several dozen neighbors gathered to get to know each other and enjoy the weather. The event was sponsored by your Woodmere Neighborhood Association.

On the left, Taryn Brodie and her son Cutter enjoy the food and fun while meeting new neighbors. Her husband Chris has an article on page 6.

**WOODMERE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2012
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM**

The meeting was called to order with an invocation by Jimmy Gunn, President.

The speakers for the quarterly meeting were:

Ms. Marjorie Smith, Montgomery Election Center

Sergeant Payne, Corporal Watts, and Lieutenant Rucker, Montgomery Police Department.

Ms. Marjorie Smith: There are 46 polling places and 800 poll workers. There are two elections: September 18, 2012, (voting for an amendment), and November 6, 2012, (General Election). Absentee ballots are sent out 40 days prior to the election: August 9 for September 18, 2012, and September 27 for November 6, 2012. Absentee ballots are used by the elderly, homebound, the ill, college students, etc. Reasons must be given for absentee ballots. Ballots can be downloaded from the computer. Military ballots are mailed two weeks before other ballots. You may bring absentee ballot to the Election Center and vote, or mail the ballot. There are 27 kinds of I. D. accepted.

Lieutenant Rucker, Sergeant Payne, and Corporal Watts entertained questions:

(Q) When is bike patrol used?

(A) It is used in high profile areas when the need arises.

(Q) Is there a way we could be more informed about what's going on in the neighborhood?

(A) We can't discuss incidents under investigation. Officer Nichols with the neighborhood crime watch will brief you on your neighborhood.

(Q) What are the criteria for setting up check points?

(A) We are not using those currently. It would be based on multiple complaints and constant violations.

(Q) Is there a sign to show speed when passing?

(A) That would be traffic safety. They use a car that is equipped with video camera, etc.

(Q) What do you do if you are not satisfied with the answers that a policeman gives you?

(A) You should talk to his supervisor.

(Q) We have a 33 acre park. Cars are parked after dark in the parking spaces every night. Why do I have to call the police to report this?

(A) A third shift officer checks the park at least once each hour; I will speak to officer.

(Q) What happened in Eastdale Mall last Saturday?

(A) Multiple gunshots were said to be fired, but no guns were found. Youths were arrested and released to parents.

On Tuesdays and Fridays, Lieutenant Rucker will be working from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and can be reached at 850-1333.

Business meeting: President Jimmy Gunn presiding:

* Two Flags were stolen from the flag pole. A \$500 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person /persons who stole them. We will purchase a sleeve for \$300 to prevent the flag from being stolen again.

* Owners should be held accountable for the maintenance and upkeep of their property. If you see problem property or other problems, please call 311.

* Membership: 127 members. We are currently soliciting members. Please support your neighborhood association. Membership dues are only \$25.00 per year.

Submitted by Mable Pryor, Secretary



Vote Nov. 6th.
Don't Forget the
Amendments.
Your Vote
Counts!

City Ordinance Corner

by Chris Brodie, 2nd Vice-President

This Month:

Painting House Numbers on Your Curb

Have you ever thought about repainting the house number on your curb? If you are like the average person, you probably have no idea that there is a city ordinance that regulates the size and color of the numbers. The applicable ordinance provides specific requisites for this to be done properly.

Sec. 26-125. - Painting or marking curbs, curb returns or driveway approaches.

It shall be unlawful for any person to paint, delineate or otherwise mark or cause to be painted, delineated or otherwise marked any curb, curb return or driveway approach, except a property address may be painted on the front curb, with a white background not to exceed one foot in length and five inches in height, one-half inch from the top of the curb and one-half inch from the gutter line. The numbers shall be black in color, three inches in height and a minimum of 1½ inches in width. Copies of specifications are on file in the city clerk's office, the traffic engineer's office and the engineering department for public review.

(Code 1980, § 40-53; Ord. No. 26-96, 7-16-1996)

This is only one of many ordinances that most people are not usually aware of when maintaining and upgrading their property. When making any permanent changes around your home, consider reviewing the city ordinances beforehand. A copy of these can be found at: <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=11272>. A quick review while planning may save you a headache and/or money down the road.

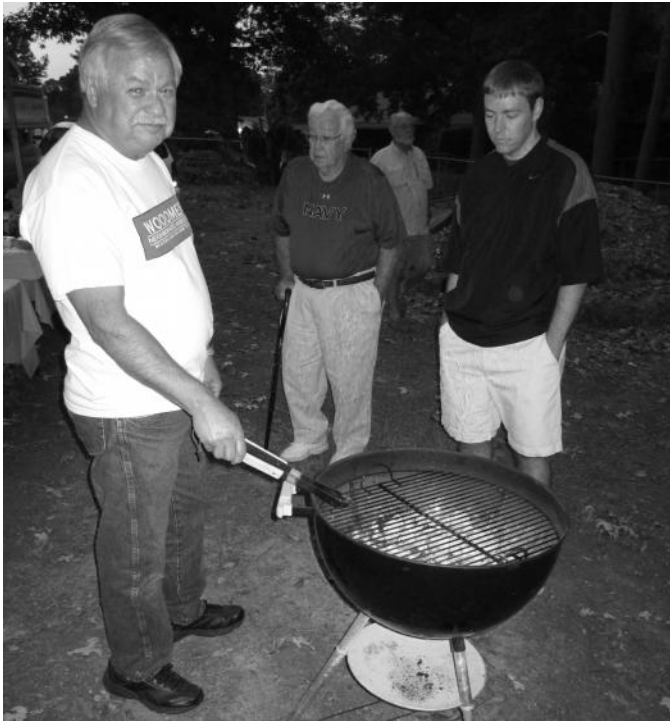
Chris Brodie is an Assistant Attorney General with the Alabama Medicaid Agency.

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

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.”




Jessie Donaldson is ready to grill. Where's the beef?



Tom Sellers at the keyboard live and in concert at the Woodmere Neighborhood Night in the Park. His son backed him up on the drums. The songs were nostalgic for those of us of a certain age.

REWARD

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association is offering a \$500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who stole the two 5 ft. x 8 ft. United States flags from the flag pole in Woodmere Park during the month of July, 2012. Any information will be kept strictly confidential.

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

WNA eNews

Check out the WNA eNews online at www.woodmeremontgomery.com under the Newsletter Section. If you wish to be included in the distribution list, email info@woodmeremontgomery.com.



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: _____