

Woodmere News

WOODMERE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION . . . BEAUTIFUL PARKS AND HOME TO THE ARTS

Volume XIII, Issue 2

Spring 2010

President's Commentary

During the month of May, we would invite all of the residents of the Woodmere community to join the Neighborhood Association for the 2010 year. So far, we have a total of 141 paid members. The Woodmere Neighborhood Association is just that, a neighborhood association. Membership is open to anyone who lives in Woodmere, regardless of whether you own or rent the home. The dues are only \$25.00 per year.

If you are like us, you chose to live in Woodmere because of its quiet residential lifestyle. We have beautiful parks and are home to the arts. We are looking to you to increase membership in this neighborhood association. Your support is needed to continue to promote, preserve and improve the quality of life in Woodmere.

Strong vibrant neighborhoods like Woodmere don't just happen. They're the results of hard work and effort from volunteers just like you and me. The Woodmere Neighborhood Association has invested time and money in building and strengthening our neighborhood and fostering involvement in our community. Together, we provide a unified and respected front at City Hall and elsewhere. We know which meetings to attend, when to write letters or make phone calls and what to say to whom. We're far stronger than any homeowner acting individually.

We publish an informative newsletter each quarter, plan events throughout the year, look after each other's best interest and work together on common projects and goals. Although our unpaid board members and volunteers donate hundreds of hours each year to service, we still have expenses. By taking a moment to support the Woodmere Neighborhood Association, you give us the means necessary to protect our mutual interests. The more support we have, the stronger we are, and the better the job we can do. So, write that check today. You won't be sorry.

Jimmy Gunn



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Officers

Jimmy Gunn
President
Woodmere Dr.
277-7667

Wil Glasgow
1st Vice President
Greenway Dr.
271-2466

Jessie Donaldson
2nd Vice President
Forest Grove Ct.
271-4428

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr.
260-2941

Melissa Martin
Treasurer
Queen Elizabeth Ct.
324-4540

Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, May 13, 2010

6:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker - Ken Reynolds

Retail Development Coordinator for the city of Montgomery

If you have a question for Mr. Reynolds, please email your question, even if you are planning on attending, to info@woodmeremontgomery.com by May 11. We want your questions asked and answered!

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

www.woodmeremontgomery.com

info@woodmeremontgomery.com

City Contacts

Mayor's Office
241-2000

City Council
241-2097

Animal Control
241-2970

Police
241-2651

Fire
241-2400

Recycling
241-2925

Housing Code
Enforcement
241-2068

For all emergencies,
please call 911.

For ordinances:
www.montgomeryal.gov

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

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.

Website: www.woodmeremontgomery.com

Financial Report

Melissa Martin, Treasurer

	January	February	March	Year to Date	Budget
Beginning Balance	3392.42	3643.02	3793.02	3392.42	
Income					
Membership Dues	625.00	200.00	325.00	1150.00	3750.00
Advertisements	60.00	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	0.00	0.00
Total Income	685.00	200.00	325.00	1210.00	3750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	363.00	0.00	0.00	363.00	1400.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1200.00
Administrative Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	203.00
Meeting Room	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	200.00
Website	71.40	0.00	0.00	71.40	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Crime Prevention	0.00	0.00	410.00	410.00	200.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	450.00	450.00	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.00
Total Expenses	434.40	50.00	860.00	1344.40	3750.00
Ending Balance	3643.02	3793.02	3258.02	3258.02	

Quarterly Meeting Minutes - February 11, 2010

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association met on Thursday, February 12 for its quarterly meeting at the Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium. President Jimmy Gunn called the meeting to order. The guest speaker for the evening was Officer Petaway with the city's animal control division. Officer Petaway gave attendees a brief overview of what the animal control division does and provided phone numbers for residents to call if they had a problem with an animal. He also gave attendees the opportunity to ask questions.

Following Officer Petaway's presentation, the business session began. During the business session, reports were heard from the Crime Prevention Chair Arlene Gomez as well as Streets and Sidewalks Chair Pam Rhodes. Following the reports, there was a brief question and answer session from the audience.

The next quarterly meeting will be on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts and the guest speaker will be Mr. Ken Reynolds, Retail Development Coordinator, for the city of Montgomery. All are invited to attend.





Tuesday, August 3, 2010

Woodmere Park

RECYCLING OPTIONS

Recycling can be dropped off on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at one of seven recycling drop-off sites located around Montgomery:

Halcyon Elementary • Goodwyn Jr. High
Dannelly Elementary • Wares Ferry Elementary
Peter Crump Elementary • Bellingrath Jr. High
Southlawn Middle School

Place your aluminum, paper, and cardboard only in a plastic bag, paper bag or cardboard box and drop it off at one of these sites between 9 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

The following locations are available for dropping off your recycling at any time:

McInnis Recycling Center at 4341 Norman Bridge Rd
Mount Scrap at 824 North Decatur Street

Recycling bins are also located at:
Garrett Elementary • Capital Heights Jr. High
Maggie St. Baptist Church • Bellingrath Jr. High
McKee Elementary • Floyd Middle Magnet
Jeff Davis High School • Frazer Memorial UMC

Bins collect different materials; please call 241-2925 for specifics. More bins to be added shortly.



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A Note from the Editor....

We try to put information that is useful to our residents in our quarterly newsletters. What I find interesting, you might not find interesting. Send me an email and let me know what type of articles you would like to see in our newsletter. If you have an article that you would like to submit, please send me an email at this email address:
info@woodmeremontgomery.com.
The account is checked daily.



Woodmere
Neighborhood
Yard Sale

Saturday, May 22

Locks Only Keep Honest People Honest

Matthew Morrow

My dad used to tell me all the time that, "Locks only keep honest people honest." Just an easy way to say that if you have something someone else wants, they can take it from you a lot easier than earning it for themselves. In all parts of the world, in all communities, for as long as people have lived, there have been thieves. Throughout the world, "Don't covet your neighbors stuff", "Do not steal", "If it ain't yours, don't touch it" and my personal favorite "No Touchy!" are embedded in us from the time we are babies. It is unfortunately a reality in every neighborhood in the nation. It makes sense, doesn't it? You go where the stuff is to steal, right?

I had \$12,000 worth of stuff stolen in 2005, a bike and gas cans in 2007, and my front door kicked in 2009. Thankfully I have a security system that is loud enough and nothing inside my house has been stolen. First off, this is a terrible feeling, but I must say that I have received much encouragement from people in different communities across our great city and it happens everywhere, not just here. Neighbors are brought closer. We look out for each other's homes. We talk to each other when strange cars are in their driveways and we let each other know when we will be out of town. As frustrating as the thefts have been, I have gotten to know lots of people on my street, as well as in the Woodmere Association.

What can we do? We can look after our neighbor's place. Have friends house-sit when we aren't home. Have a security system and make sure to post the signs in the yard and on windows and doors. Have either timed or light sensitive lights so that your lights come on at dark. Keep your hedges and yard manageable. When you buy new items like TV's, DVD's, etc., do not put the box out on the street. Take it to a weekend recycler or break down the box yourself. Otherwise, you just announced to the passers, by that you got a new plasma TV. Have a dog inside or in the yard. And, last but not least, get to know your neighbors, so that they will have greater reasons to look after your stuff as well as their own. It was never said as true as when it was said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

In the end, the reasons I moved to Woodmere are still the same. I love that we are in the dead center of town and pretty much only about ten minutes from everywhere. We have two great parks in Shakespeare & Woodmere. We have a great neighborhood association that works hard for its members. For me... Woodmere is home!

A Mother's Love

A little child
Afraid at night,
Then gentle hands
That calmed the fright.

The soft sweet voice
That filled the room
Brought such peace
And lifted gloom.

The healing kiss
On an injured knee,
And the great big hug
That set us free...

To run about
Again and play,
In a great big world
For another day.

There are many gifts
From God above,
But none so precious
As a Mother's love.

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what matters most!**

Summertime Energy-Saving Tips

These tips are designed to help you choose effective ways to reduce your energy bills. Below are some fast and free tips to save on your power bill.

- **Be a speedy chef.** Nothing is more energy efficient for cooking than your microwave. It uses two-thirds less energy than your stove.
- **Push a button to wash your dishes.** Your dishwasher uses less water than washing dishes by hand. Then let dishes air-dry to save even more!
- **Fill up the fridge.** Having lots of food in your fridge keeps it from warming up too fast when the door is open. So your fridge doesn't have to work as hard to stay cool.
- **Turn up your thermostat.** Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home and 85 degrees or off when you are away. Using ceiling or room fans allows you to set the thermostat higher because the air movement will cool the room. Always take into account health considerations and be sure to drink plenty of fluids in warm weather.
- **Use your appliances wisely.** Do your laundry efficiently by using the warm (not hot) or cold water setting for washing your clothes. Always use cold water to rinse clothes.
- **Line dry clothes whenever you can.** When you need to use the dryer, run full loads, use the moisture-sensing setting, and clean the clothes dryer lint trap after each use.
- **Turn it off.** Turn off appliances, lights and equipment when not in use. Unplug electronic devices and chargers when they aren't in use-most new electronics use electricity even when switched "off." Turn computers and printers off at the power strip.
- **Do a filter check.** Replace dirty air conditioner filters.

Woodmere Neighborhood Cleanup

Jimmy Gunn, Parks Chair

The annual spring cleanup for the neighborhood was held on Saturday, April 10, 2010, from 8-4. We had residents who turned out to help spruce up throughout the Woodmere area. We all had a good time and picked up a lot of trash and litter. I noticed that a lot of people did yard work around their own homes, and this really made a difference as to the appearance of the entire subdivision. We had some neighbors that worked on the common areas prior to the cleanup, which made a big difference. The flag pole and American flag have been put back up at the entrance on Carmichael Road. We ask that all of you do your part in keeping the neighborhood attractive and free from trash. Thanks to everyone who came and enjoyed the fun and exercise. You are making our neighborhood a safe and beautiful area to live in.

**United wants to join with
your community
to serve you.**

UNITED
HEAT A/C PLUMBING

Don Armstrong
Vice President, Residential Sales

3045 Mobile Highway
Montgomery, AL 36108
Phone: (334) 558-0889
Cell: 657-4717

FAX: (334) 262-0244
Email: don@unitedheating.net
www.unitedheating.net

**Please see Woodmere
website for offer to residents,
or call Don at 657-4717**

THANK YOU

Matthew Morrow did an outstanding job cleaning up the berm between Limestone and Cobblestone. This area has been an eyesore for years . Thanks Matthew, for a job well done.

MPD Neighborhood Watch Liaison

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association board of directors were pleased to meet and hear from Cpl. Nichols at our last board meeting. Cpl. Nichols is our neighborhood watch liaison with MPD. She has been with the department for 7 years.

Cpl. Nichols spoke to neighborhood and home safety issues. She informed us of a free home security check that the police department offers. Simply call 240-4800 to arrange for Cpl. Nichols to come and survey your yard and home.

Cpl. Nichols will also handle problems that occur between neighbors. If you don't care to involve yourself in a situation, call Cpl. Nichols. Again, that number is 240-4800. If she is not available, leave a message and she will return your call as soon as possible.

We were also reminded to call the non-emergency number, 241-2651 when something just doesn't look "right" in your neighborhood. The police will respond, interview and record any contacts they make as the result of your call.

Some of the home safety tips provided by Cpl. Nichols are listed below:

- Trim bushes and hedges back so they don't provide hiding places.
- Have motion or permanent nighttime lighting so both your house and property are well lit.
- Make sure your address is visible ...front and back for fire and /or police emergencies.
- Robbers like quick, easy access. You may want to install an extended strike plate on all doors, making forced entry into your home harder.
- A security system is a great investment, but nothing can replace a good, alert neighbor..

National Night Out - August 3, 2010

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Woodmere will be participating in National Night Out on August 3. Watch for more details on our website at www.woodmeremontgomery.com and in the next newsletter.



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Tips for Preventing the Loss of a Pet

If your pet is a regular Houdini, then you should not ask "How" he gets out, but "Why." When you find out "why" he escapes, then you can stop the problem.

Place a secure collar and tag on all your pets. At the very least, have a current rabies tag on your pet. In fact, the law requires that all pets wear a current rabies tag. Pair the rabies tag with an I.D. tag with your name and phone number.

Spay or neuter your pets. When an animal is not spayed or neutered, the drive to find a mate is overwhelming. They will continue to run away every chance they get. Not only are you losing a pet, but by allowing your pet to breed indiscriminately, you are killing thousands of unwanted pets every year.

Keep animals indoors when you are not home to supervise. Outdoor animals run a higher risk of becoming lost or stolen. A cat that has free run outdoors can easily wander away and get into traffic. Even a dog "secured" in a fenced yard can get out of the fence and quickly become lost. Be sure to lock the gate of your fence to prevent both accidental opening by your dog and easy access for someone interested in stealing your pet.

Bring your "outside" dog in. "Backyard" dogs rarely receive any attention. Being pack animals, they crave companionship and often get bored spending long days with nothing to do. What dog wouldn't want to escape to play with the neighborhood kids, chase cars (and squirrels!), and generally have a great time. Consider making your dog a part of the family and bring him inside. With a little training, you can have a great dog that the whole family enjoys, which is really the reason you got a dog, isn't it? Inside dogs are more comfortable and usually a lot happier. If it is impossible to bring your dog inside, start getting creative. Find interactive toys for your dog to play with. Hire someone to stop by during the day and play with your dog. By keeping your dog busy, you'll keep him from looking for better yards to play in.

Natural Home Composted

Each summer we cut our grass, in the fall we rake leaves. Most of the time the grass clippings and leaves go to the landfill where they take up more and more space, shortening the life of the landfill. But they don't have to. There is another solution to your yard waste that keeps it out of the landfill and produces some of the best plant food there is: composting. And you don't have to stop at yard waste; you can toss in some food waste, keeping yet more out of the landfill. It's a win-win situation. The EPA has information on composting, including a page that provides information on building a compost bin in your yard (http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservation/rrr/composting/by_compost.htm). If all you want is a quick introduction, check out <http://www.epa.gov/osw/wycd/catbook/compost.htm>.

Besides keeping material out of the landfill, compost has several benefits to the user. It helps suppress plant diseases and pests, reduces or eliminates the need for chemical fertilizers, and promotes a higher yield of crops. You can compost leaves, grass and yard clippings, vacuum and dryer lint, wool and cotton rags, sawdust, shredded newspaper and fireplace ashes. Food items that can be composted include, but are not limited to, vegetable trimmings, egg shells, coffee grounds with filters, and tea bags. You can find a more detailed listing in the composting section of the EPS site, along with all the other support information there. DO NOT compost meats, dairy foods, or any fats, oil, or grease, because they can attract pests.

Even if you don't want to compost your leaves, you should know that bagging your own leaves saves the City of Montgomery money. When you bag it yourself, it takes fewer people less time to remove the leaves from the curb.

Be a good citizen and bag you own leaves.

Did You Know You Can Skip the Bottled Water?

Americans drank more than 8.25 billion gallons of bottled water in 2006. Production and transport of these bottles equals 4,000 tons of CO₂ generated each year, the equivalent of 700 cars. Less than one quarter of these bottles are recycled, leaving 2 billion pounds to clog landfills. Montgomery tap water meets or exceeds the quality of most bottled waters, so "tap" into green.

Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale

It's that time of year again! It is time to clean out your home of unwanted things and see if you can make a little money, too. The Annual Woodmere Neighborhood Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 22nd, from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. If you don't feel you have enough items to sell, team up with one of your neighbors to make it a bigger sale, which will draw more interest to your things. Everyone who participates in the sale will be given balloons to place on your mailbox or at the end of your drive, so that your house will be marked for the sale. Arrangements are being made with a local charity to pick up any unwanted items after the sale. Items will only need to be boxed up and left on the curb for pick-up. The items will only be picked up from the homes which participate. To participate in the Woodmere Neighborhood Yard Sale, have items picked up from your home or for more information, contact Shelby Hutcheson at 239-5588 or via email at supershelby69@hotmail.com by **Wednesday, May 19 at 5 p.m.** The Woodmere Neighborhood Yard Sale has been very successful in past years, and we hope to see you out selling and buying on May 22!

Shelby Hutcheson

Five Essential Summer Garden Tips

Here is a list of some easy things to do to help keep your garden under control and looking good throughout the summer season.

1. Beware of insects such as aphids or white flies that become rampant as our plants grow larger and have less circulation between them. Remember to spray both upper and lower leaves with neem or pyola oil on a seven to 10 day cycle to keep these critters from destroying your plants. Also, order some beneficial insects such as ladybugs to help keep these insects under control. (Try Gardeners.com or GardensAlive.com.)
2. Prune back your rose bushes after the first bloom. You can either deadhead the spent blooms or do a major cutting back to keep them tame and under control. I tend to do the latter. Cut back all weak and dead wood as well. Lastly, clean up all spent leaves—especially if they suffered from black spot. Plus, if black spot is a problem, use this homemade formula: Mix one tablespoon of baking soda and a 1/4 teaspoon of dishwashing detergent in one gallon of water.
3. Continue to pinch back all late summer and fall perennials to keep them bushy and healthy and to stagger blooming times.
4. Finish pruning all spring blooming bushes such as azaleas, rhododendrons, and lilacs by mid-summer so that they can begin their new growth for next spring.
5. It is still not too late to plant summer blooming bulbs like dahlias or cannas. It's also not too late to plant quick-blooming summer seeds such as sunflowers, nasturtiums and cosmos.

Enjoy and have patience during the ensuing hot summer months!



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2010 Membership Form

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

Date: _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

PHONE _____

CELL _____

WORK _____

EMAIL 1 _____

EMAIL 2 _____

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 your interest below:

- Parks Committee
- Streets and Sidewalks Committee
- Crime Prevention Committee
- Newsletter
- Newsletter Distribution
- Block Captain
- Other skills/interests _____

Please note: We send out a monthly newsletter , the *Woodmere eNews*. If you provide your email address(es), you will receive this newsletter. We also send out notices about lost and found pets. If you have any questions or concerns, please send us an email.

Please send your check payable to: **Woodmere Neighborhood Association**

For WNA Use Only
Check No. _____
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Date: _____