



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Winter 2008

Officers

Sam Whatley
President
Salisbury Pl
396-7840

Gerry Shook
1st Vice President
Salisbury Pl
277-7138

John Cannady
2nd Vice President
Dunwoody Ct
277-1725

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr
260-2941

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

As you will see from the Woodmere Calendar of Events in this issue, 2008 promises to be a busy year for our neighborhood. We are bringing back the Yard of the Month competition from years ago and this year December lighting displays are included. Look for the Spring and Fall Clean-Ups, the Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale, the Children's Spring Festival, National Night Out, and the Day in the Park.

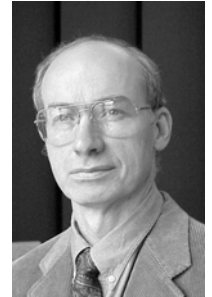
WNA's next general meeting will be at the Museum of Fine Arts, Thursday, January 31 at 6:30 pm. Mr. Buddy Morgan, Director of the Montgomery Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board, will explain how the drought has affected water usage and prices in our community. There are things you can do to be part of the solution to this problem. Come see what they are.

The Chairman of the Montgomery City Council, Mr. Charles Jinright, will be available to answer questions about city government and development. The January 31st meeting is also a great place to join the 44 families supporting WNA this year. See the back page of this newsletter for an application.

At our November meeting we elected officers for the next two years. New to us are John Cannady, who was elected Second Vice-President, and Mable Pryor, our new Secretary. Brenda Steele was elected Zone 6 Coordinator by the Board of Directors. Thanks to all who served as Block Captains last year. We still need several more.

Carolyn Blackstock is editing the *Woodmere News*, and Shelby Hutcheson is in charge of layout. Thanks also to those volunteers who are organizing the Long Range Task Force to help us envision Woodmere's future. Email info@woodmeremontgomery.com, or give us a call to volunteer your time and ideas.

Clean water is vital to our community. So are you. Join us as we move into 2008. Improve and protect your property. Support your association.



Sam Whatley
President

Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, January 31 2008

6:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

Guest Speaker:

Mr. Buddy Morgan, General Manager
Montgomery Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board
Topic: "How Drought Affects Montgomery's Water"

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

Website:
www.woodmeremontgomery.com.

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City Contacts

Mayor's Office
241-2000

City Council
241-2097

Animal Control
241-2970

Police
241-2651

Fire
241-2400

Recycling
241-2925

For all emergencies, please call 911.

New WNA Slate

Congratulations to the following new officers of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association elected for the 2008-2009 year:

President: Sam Whatley

First Vice-president: Gerry Shook

Second Vice-president: John Cannady

Secretary: Mable Pryor

Treasurer: Charles Collins

Other Positions:

Media Chair: Carolyn Blackstock

Woodmere News Editor: Carolyn Blackstock

Woodmere News Layout and Design Artist: Shelby Hutcheson

Why I Love Woodmere

By Carolyn Glenn Blackstock

I was told several weeks ago that the neighborhood of Woodmere, with Montgomery's growth toward the east, has now become the actual center of the city. When I started thinking about it, I realized that we symbolize the heart and soul of Montgomery. In reality, I think we represent the ideal neighborhood.

When I enumerate the advantages of living here to an outsider or prospective resident, I remind myself why I have remained here 11 years. I love it.

I love Woodmere because of its racial diversity. Blacks and whites, along with other races, live side by side in harmony, proving that we Southern neighbors with our civil rights and Confederate history can overcome differences and unite to form strong friendship ties.

I love Woodmere because of its natural beauty. Early in the morning, I can sit on my patio, drink my coffee and watch the sparrows, cardinals, bluejays and doves eat what I have thrown out for them. Overhead I can enjoy the awesome sight of a flock of Canadian geese flying from Blount Cultural Park to parts known only to them. Their skyline formations are a thing of beauty which brings peace to my heart.

One has only to walk a short distance to view Blount Cultural Park with its spectacular scenes of nature and architecture. Both Blount and Woodmere parks offer walking paths in an environment conducive to soothing the spirit and refreshing the soul.

I love Woodmere because of its proximity to some of the best restaurants in town. Three new Japanese eating establishments within walking distance tempt those with adventurous tastes. Good steak, Italian cuisine and seafood are just across the bypass.

I love Woodmere because it has an active neighborhood association dedicated to improving the quality of life for all of us who live here. Because of its efforts, Woodmere Park is well-lit. Before the installation of lights, some would gather in the dark for no good purpose. There, we now have lights, quiet and safety.

The association's efforts have resulted in a clean pond, a new walking trail, a more visible police presence, and a sense of community for its residents.

Thank you, WNA, for helping me to love Woodmere even more.

We need your input! Let us know what you would like to see in the Woodmere News!

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

Spring Cleanup in the Park

By Jimmy W. Gunn, Parks Committee Chair

Residents in the Woodmere community will be gathering for a spring cleanup in the park on March 29, 2008. We will meet at 9:00 AM at the park on Woodmere Drive. Neighbors are asked to bring high spirits, power tools, shovels, rakes, mowers and leaf blowers or any other garden or lawn tool that may come in handy. This is going to be a day to dig in and get dirty. So old work clothes are recommended.

Not only will we work in the park, but we will also concentrate on the common areas (berms, sidewalks, ditches, grass growing in the streets, distractions, and eyesores). We need to identify where new plant growth is needed, so we can plant and refurbish in the fall.



Home Security Tips

The following suggestions may keep your home secure and safe from potential break-ins.

Invest in a home security system.

- Make it a point to know your neighbors. They can be your eyes and ears when you are not at home.
- Get an automated timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home and to park in the driveway from time to time.
- Do not forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped if you will be travelling.
- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone is home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it is just for a few minutes.
- Trim overgrown shrubbery, which could be a hiding place for burglars.
- Have floodlights or motion-sensitive lighting on for the evening, regardless of whether someone is home or not.



*Purchase a WNA T-shirt!
\$10 each
Sizes M—L—XL are still available.
Contact Sam Whatley
or Charles Collins for more details.*

Get Involved in your Neighborhood

Recently several Woodmere neighbors noticed an unfamiliar car parked behind another resident's home. Noting that their neighbor was not home, six different individuals (unbeknownst to one another) called the police. Due to the number of calls received, three police cars arrived. Upon arrival and further investigation, one burglar was apprehended and the car was impounded.

Take a moment and get to know your neighbors. It certainly pays!

How to Increase the Value of Your Home and Your Neighborhood

All it takes to increase the value of your home and neighborhood are homeowners who want to maintain their investment and are willing to commit to it. For many of us, our home is our biggest asset so maintaining – or even improving – its value makes sense. Home improvements not only increase the value of your home, but they improve the quality of the neighborhood.

Whatever your budget, put a higher priority on improvements that can be easily seen. Use the following guidelines:

- Spend money on what can be seen vs. what can't be seen.
- Fix up the exterior first, then the interior
- Focus first on the clutter, trash and bad smells that drive down a home's value

There are many inexpensive projects that add value to your home. Below are a few examples.

- Add a fresh coat of interior paint.
- Eliminate the clutter inside the home
- Put up new curtains and blinds

- Clean the carpet
- Consider flooring options
- Install modern light switches and outlets
- Install ceiling fans
- Refinish kitchen cabinets



The exterior of your house is just as important as the interior, if not more important. The exterior of your home is the first thing people see. Does your home have a strong first impression? Following are a few examples that can help your home's curb appeal.

- Get rid of trash and yard waste.
- Prune and plant.
- Wash the siding
- Paint the exterior trim and shutters
- Green-up your lawn.
- Light the way with landscape lighting.

What does it take to improve the value of your home and neighborhood? The answer is quite simple. It takes people who are willing to work together.

New Trees for Woodmere Park

Jimmy W. Gunn Chairman—Parks Committee

Woodmere Park East will be getting 30 new trees along Woodmere Boulevard to replace the existing Bradford Pears that usually take a beating when we have high winds and heavy rains. The Bradford Pears will be replaced with more durable and stable trees. This replacement is happening due to the efforts of Charles Jinright, Montgomery City Council President, who is giving us \$1,000 toward the replanting project, and Russell Stringer, City Forester, who is handling the removal and planting of the new trees.

The Parks Committee is looking for ideas to restructure the football field and surrounding area to make it more family-oriented. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please contact me at 241-4196.

The Spring Clean-Up of the neighborhood is planned for Saturday, March 29, 2008. Let me know if you know of areas that need cleaning out or any eyesores that need to be removed. Let's all do our part to keep Woodmere an attractive and clean neighborhood.

**WOODMERE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2007
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM**

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association met on Thursday, November 8, 2007 for its quarterly meeting at the Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium. President Sam Whatley called the meeting to order. The invocation was presented by Mrs. Don Drenth. The guest speakers were Councilman Charles Jinright and Michael Vigilant, Chief Operating Officer for the Alabama Shakespeare Foundation.

Councilman Jinright spoke first and reported that the new convention center will be open soon. He expects the center to be one of the best.

Jinright said the Montgomery Police Department is doing its best to combat crime in our city. He stated that he thought our city was in very good condition. He went on to say he was very proud of the WNA and the communications we have with him.

Michael Vigilant said the number of people attending the Alabama Shakespeare Festival has been greater in the last two years. He expects "Peter Pan" to be the biggest show in the theater's history. Mr. Vigilant said the ASF was affiliated with the University of Alabama in teaching theater management. He said the ASF will be working with a Southern Writers Project, The Life of Paul "Bear" Bryant.

The cultural park will begin closing at midnight, and there will be extra security during shows. The park has 24 hour security now.

In the business session, it was announced that the minutes of the August 9th General meeting were published in the newsletter. The minutes were reviewed and approved.

The Treasurer's report was delivered by Sam Whatley. Sam announced that we had several new members that joined during the meeting. Sam also reported we had 150 members for 2007 at the time of the meeting, and we need more members to join before the New Year.

Jimmy Gunn, Parks Committee Chairman, reported that the Day in the Park was very successful. All the vendors did a great job.

In new business, it was announced that the 2008 budget was adopted at the November Board meeting. The budget was the same as the 2007, with the exception of there being no expense for handbooks.

The election of new officers for WNA was opened for nominations. A group of new officers for nomination was presented by the Nominating Committee Chairman, Jimmy Gunn. A motion was made to elect all officers as nominated by the committee. The new officers for 2008 as nominated were affirmed by majority vote of those in attendance.

An open petition letter for a 3-way stop sign at the intersection of Woodmere Boulevard and Woodmere Drive was read by President Sam Whatley. A committee is needed to get the petition started and completed. The petition needs to be done in the next two months.

Sam Whatley reported that crime reports have really decreased in Woodmere within the last year. Crime reports from the Montgomery Police Department can be accessed from the www.WoodmereMontgomery.com web site by clicking on a link.

Jimmy Gunn expressed thanks to the Board of Directors for their work and dedication to the neighborhood and encouraged more new memberships. Jimmy said there should be more participation in caring for the neighborhood and more pride in the neighborhood. He said everyone should take note of the better paving in the park that will be done and better lighting. The pear trees in the park will be replaced, the pond is cleaner and more beautiful, plus the new pond drain is done.

The next General Meeting to be held on January 31, due to scheduling conflicts with the Museum of Fine Arts for the auditorium.

Submitted by Linda Donaldson, Acting Secretary

Financial Report

By Charles Collins, Treasurer

WNA 4th Quarter Financial Report 2007

Income	Oct. 1-Dec. 31	2007 Annual
Beginning Balance.....	\$1548.50	
Membership Dues for 2007 (Goal 150)	750.00 *	3190.00
Advertisements (Handbook)		260.00
T-Shirts	100.00	208.00
Donation	5.00	55.00
Totals	\$ 855.00	\$ 3713.00

Disbursements

Newsletters (4 per Year – 850 copies)	350.90	1651.10
Day in the Park	1029.31	1029.31
Administrative Expenses	147.00	287.72
Museum Rental (4 Times Per Year)	50.00	200.00
Website		
Post Office Box Rental	68.00	68.00
Easter Egg Hunt (April).....		200.00
Yard Sale (June).....		310.68
Spring and Fall Clean-Ups		
Neighborhood Handbook.....		850.00
Crime Prevention Program		
Streets & Sidewalks Committee		
Non-Profit Status Application Fee.....		300.00
Totals	\$ 1577.21	\$ 4891.81
Ending Balance		\$ 826.29

- Dues paid in the last quarter of 2007 were for 2008 members.

Unanticipated Expenses included:

Non-Profit Application Fee	\$300.00
Expanded size of Handbook	375.00
Memorial for a Member.....	50.00
EMNA Membership and Renewal	75.00

Notice of Primary Election

*Feb. 5th is the Presidential Preference Primary. Our voting precinct is 1-C, located at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. Anyone needing to register to vote can call 832-7744 or go by the Election Center at 125 Washington Ave.
Please vote!*

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.

Spay—Neuter Tags Available

By Melon Robinson



Spay-Neuter license plates are now available for pre-sale orders. Visit your local county license plate-issuing office, complete a "Commitment to Purchase" application, and pay the additional \$50 fee. There must be 1000 tags pre-sold by November 1, 2008, for the tag to be produced.

The Alabama Animal Alliance low cost spay/neuter clinic is located at 5316 Atlanta Highway Montgomery, AL 36109. Call 334 239-PETS (7387) to schedule an appointment. For more information visit:

www.alabamaspayneuter.com.

The Alabama Veterinary Foundation appreciates your support of this program benefiting spay/neuter efforts in the state of Alabama.

**Mark Your Calendar!!****January -**

WNA Newsletter

WNA General Meeting - January 31

February -Presidential Preference Primary - February 5**March -**

Spring Clean-Up of the Neighborhood - March 29

April -Children's Spring Festival - **Volunteer Needed**

WNA Newsletter

May -

WNA General Meeting May 8

June -

Yard of the Month

Primary Election - June 32nd Annual Woodmere Yard Sale - June 7thFlag Day - June 14th**July -**

Yard of the Month

Primary Run-Off - July 15

WNA Newsletter

August -

Yard of the Month

National Night Out - August 5th

WNA General Meeting August 14

September -

Yard of the Month

October -Day in the Park - October 5th

WNA Newsletter

November -General Election - November 4

WNA General Meeting November 13

Fall Clean-Up - November 15th

December -

Yard of the Month - Holiday

Lighting Contest





2008 Membership Form

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

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 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 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: _____