



**Ronald Bridges**  
President  
Heidi Pl.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Open

**John Cannady**  
2nd Vice President  
Dunwoody Ct.

**Bernice Blount**  
Secretary  
Queen Elizabeth Ct.

**Gary Matthews**  
Treasurer  
Pampas Dr.

## President's Commentary

This is my first year as President of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association after serving as a WNA Zone 2 Coordinator for a short time. The good news is that I have the backing and support of the entire Board of Directors: Second Vice President John Cannady, Secretary Bernice Blount, Treasurer Gary Matthews, Zone 4 Coordinator Carolyn Blackstock, and Parks Committee Chair Eunice Bridges. Eunice has also been my wife for 54 years. I find them all to be experienced, creative, problem solvers, and best of all, active! They are attentive and caring about our neighbors, with a solid interest in improving our neighborhood. Good stuff!



Though we have a strong and dedicated board, we need your help. Join the WNA. Dues are only \$35, once a year, so approximately \$2.9167 per month. These dues help WNA to accomplish many good things that benefit our homes and people who live in them. They provide our quarterly meeting space at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts so we can share information on events and problems that need to be addressed. Each meeting also hosts a speaker to inform us about what's happening in our city and county that impacts our neighborhood. The next quarterly meeting is February 12 at 6:30 PM and we'd be happy to meet and get to know you.

Among other benefits, past dues have contributed to the improvement of the entrance to our neighborhood, paved walking paths in our park, added 3 park benches, and installed multiple real-time traffic cameras connected to the police department. My personal favorite perk is the WNA web site. Have you explored it? It is amazing, packed with information about WNA, maps, Woodmere news, and, best of all, resources. When you click on resources, you can see all the city ordinances and neighborhood services. If you have a concern about violations of the city ordinances, you can call on the city for help with a 311 call or an email, helping to make our neighborhood cleaner, safer, and more beautiful. This helps to increase the value of our homes. Good stuff!

Meet us at our next quarterly meeting on February 12 at 6:30 PM at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. We'll be looking for you!

With regards, Ron Bridges

Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 231473  
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

[www.woodmeremontgomery.org](http://www.woodmeremontgomery.org)

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On Facebook at  
[facebook.com/woodmeremontgomery/](https://facebook.com/woodmeremontgomery/)

## Woodmere Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, February 12, 2026 6:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

Guest Speakers: MPD Officers

## Special Recognition of Retiring WNA Officers

### Jimmy Gunn and Sam Whatley

#### Jimmy Gunn



As our new WNA President, Ron Bridges, takes over the helm of the WNA, we want to pay tribute to our prior leaders, Jimmy Gunn and Sam Whatley, for their many years of leadership and service to Woodmere, its residents and the WNA. So please join us at our meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup> to help us show our appreciation for all their hard work in keeping the WNA organized and active, sometimes through difficult times.



Sam Whatley

If you look at the History section in the WNA Handbook or on the WNA website, you will see that Jimmy was involved from the beginning in establishing the WNA. In late 1978, the homeowners in Woodmere began to work toward organizing the WNA and in March 1979, incorporation papers were signed by a number of residents, including Jimmy, then filed and approved by the Alabama Secretary of State. Thereafter, Jimmy has served in various positions on the Board, from President to Committee Chairperson, Zone Coordinator and Block Captain, most of the time wearing all the hats at the same time.

Although Sam Whatley did not move to Woodmere until later, once he moved here, he became active in the WNA and took over as President of the organization, leading it when it was on the verge of disbanding. He served in that position until Jimmy later took over the position and held it until he retired last year. Like Jimmy, Sam has served in numerous positions on the Board: as First Vice President filling in for the President upon his absence, Media Chairperson to edit and publish the WNA Newsletter, Handbook, mailouts and other printed materials, Zone Coordinator and Block Captain.

Another responsibility that many may not be aware of, is that Jimmy and Sam often represented the WNA and other neighborhoods in the East Montgomery Neighborhood Alliance at city council and planning and zoning commission meetings, to oppose business applications/licenses that could create problems for neighborhoods. They also have met with business owners from around the Woodmere neighborhood to discuss and resolve problems.

Even though Jimmy's and Sam's responsibilities as officers of the WNA are ending, their commitment and support of the WNA and Woodmere will never end, as long as they live in Woodmere. This can also be said about many of our long-time WNA members who continue year after year to stay involved.

So please join with other members of the WNA at the February meeting to let Jimmy and Sam know your appreciation for all they have done to keep Woodmere a desirable place to live.

## Garbage Walking

Surely, you've seen one or two of us on the side of a neighborhood road, grabber stick and bucket or trash bag in hand. We're the WNA "garbage walkers" who volunteer for a half hour or so each week to intentionally clean up our Woodmere streets, effectively counteracting the thoughtless litterers who drive through.

"Embrace the chaos – life is messy," folks say. But trash is the first sign of a bad neighborhood and when we bought a house in Woodmere, we bought the neighborhood with it. A clean neighborhood reflects value and means that the people who live there see themselves as valuable as well. So, what does a trashy neighborhood reflect?

There are many different motivations for picking up after others: maintaining property values, basic human kindness, the fear that others will think less of you and your life choices, the chance to spot our neighborhood Guinea hens on the move... but my main motivation is animal welfare. I love animals, and I've read about the amazing amount of debris found in the stomachs of sick or dead animals by vets and wildlife biologists. When I see dogs limping from broken glass in their paws, birds trapped in a fast-food wrapper, or cats with a take-out bag stuck on their heads, it hurts. So, I travel Woodmere routes to pick up any trash that could cut or entrap wildlife or that an animal might mistake for food. We humans do enough damage to their environments and we shouldn't needlessly add to that.

There are other perks to "refuse collecting." It gets me off the couch and breathing fresh air. I'd like to think it's healthy for me. In reality, I too often find myself jumping out of the way of speeding cars with drivers on their phones or playing some kind of "scare the pedestrian" party game. Garbage walking always requires a heightened sense of surroundings and potential dangers.

The potential dangers aren't limited to the actual walking, either. The sheer number of liquor and beer bottles littering Woodmere Drive each week has made me a more defensive driver when I go out at night. There's a good chance that some of the people around me are drinking beverages that impact their judgment and driving skills.

So, what do we find besides wisdom in our walks? Plenty of the aforementioned bottles, often shattered, and cans get picked up, as well as paper scraps, fast food garbage, plastic straws and cup lids, grocery bags, flossing tools, and even the occasional coins. Children's items like glow sticks, balloons, and bead necklaces are common after Museum family events, as are balls and happy meal toys. You've got to wonder what parents are teaching their offspring.

I also found a single shoe and a t-shirt one day. Other days yielded an intact china plate, a phone charger, a woman's long black wig (completely blocking a street drain), medical grade rubber gloves, parts of cars and broken pieces of tools, ASF ticker envelopes, pieces of mail, and empty ammo casings. Once I even found a man's wallet, complete with his ID and personal mementos.

The good news is that you, too, can hunt such treasures by joining the garbage walk brigade! Just email the WNA Board members at [info@woodmeremontgomery.org](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.org) and let them know you want in. The CCC will provide you with a grabber in exchange for your commitment to a half hour per week. Head out to adventure on your own schedule – and show Montgomery that Woodmere takes pride in its appearance.



## Financial Report

|   | October          | November         | December        | 2025             | Budget          |
|---|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance</b>                  | <b>16,888.37</b> | <b>16,990.73</b> | <b>6,260.45</b> |                  |                 |
| <b>Income</b>                             |                  |                  |                 |                  |                 |
| Membership Dues<br>(Includes Online Dues) | 102.36           | 314.72           | 137.36          | 2,968.80         | 3,038.24        |
| Donations                                 | 0.00             | 2,000.00         | 0.00            | 2,035.00         | 0.00            |
| Cameras & Speed Humps                     | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 0.00             | 0.00            |
| Handbooks                                 | 0.00             | 5.00             | 0.00            | 54.10            | 385.00          |
| <b>Total Income</b>                       | <b>102.36</b>    | <b>2,319.72</b>  | <b>137.36</b>   | <b>5,057.90</b>  | <b>3,423.24</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                           |                  |                  |                 |                  |                 |
| Mailouts                                  | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 1,202.40         | 2,000.00        |
| Flock Safety Cameras                      | 0.00             | 13,000.00        | 0.00            | 13,000.00        | 0.00            |
| Flags                                     | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 203.85           | 0.00            |
| Meeting Rooms                             | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 770.00           | 720.00          |
| Printing Handbooks                        | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 0.00             | 0.00            |
| Website                                   | 0.00             | 0.00             | 100.00          | 253.05           | 141.00          |
| Signs & Repairs                           | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 82.50            | 0.00            |
| Postage                                   | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 140.40           | 0.00            |
| PO Box Rental                             | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00            | 244.00           | 232.00          |
| Admin Expenses                            | 0.00             | 50.00            | 0.00            | 200.00           | 330.24          |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                     | <b>0.00</b>      | <b>13,050.00</b> | <b>100.00</b>   | <b>16,096.20</b> | <b>3,423.24</b> |
| <b>Ending Balance</b>                     | <b>16,990.73</b> | <b>6,260.45</b>  | <b>6,297.81</b> |                  |                 |

|                     |           |           |           |  |  |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| <b>2025 Members</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>98</b> |  |  |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|

**Notes to the Financial Report:**

- 1 \$13,000 of the balance was used to pay for Flock safety cameras in November.
- 2 Membership dues were raised to \$35 starting in 2025.
- 3 Total memberships in 2025 were 98.

Visit us online at [www.woodmeremontgomery.org](http://www.woodmeremontgomery.org)

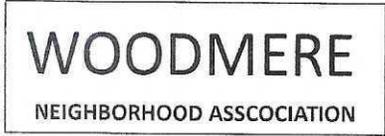
The WOODMERE eNEWSLETTER is an official publication of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association, PO Box 231473, Montgomery, Alabama 36123.

Website:  
[www.woodmeremontgomery.org](http://www.woodmeremontgomery.org).

The WOODMERE eNEWSLETTER is published four times a year. Any views and statements expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of every officer or member of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Opinions do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association.



**WNA Membership Form**  
 Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
 PO Box 231473  
 Montgomery, Alabama 36123  
[www.woodmeremontgomery.org](http://www.woodmeremontgomery.org)  
[info@woodmeremontgomery.org](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.org)



Please list individuals in the household:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

New Association Member

Renewal

Please note: We now send most neighborhood notices via email so please provide your email address. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at [info@woodmeremontgomery.org](mailto:info@woodmeremontgomery.org).

Also, the Association is always looking for volunteers. Please indicate your areas of interest below:

WNA Officer

Crime Prevention Committee

Zone Coordinator

Streets & Sidewalk Committee

Media Committee

Block Captain

Parks & Recreation Committee

Other skills or interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check payable to:

Woodmere Neighborhood Association  
 PO Box 231473  
 Montgomery, Alabama 36123

**Please note: Annual Memberships Dues are now \$35**

For WNA use only:

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



To pay online, scan this QR code: