



# WootenNews

A newsletter serving the Wooten community

July 2011

Wooten Neighborhood Association • Box 10171 • Austin, Texas 78766 • blog: [wootenna.com](http://wootenna.com)

## ***Next WNA meeting: Monday, September 12, 7:00pm***

Redeemer Lutheran Church cafeteria  
1500 W. Anderson (Burrell Drive entrance)

### ***President's letter: Neighbors taking responsibility***

One of the pleasures in tracking what is happening in the neighborhood is learning when neighbors see a problem and then take individual action. So a big thank you to a few of these neighbors.

Chris Heidel got the City of Austin to come out and check the drainage of the ditch that runs by her house and improve the smell and reduce mosquitoes for the area. The engineers and mosquito people studied it and Chris is following up with repeated calls.

One neighbor noticed that the car lot on the corner of Burrell and Anderson was housing a chop shop. Through calls to code enforcement and the Environmental Protection Agency, the owners were notified and the lot was cleaned up.

Another neighbor got the attention of the city to bring action against a large business to retrofit their outdoor lights to be less invasive of the night skies.

Wooten people help make the neighborhood better for all of us by taking responsibility to improve their area and thus making it better for us all. If you know of something that someone has accomplished, please share on our Yahoo group or through this newsletter.

## **LEARN. ASK. SHARE.**

Join your neighbors online.

[groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/)

### ***Being on the board of WNA***

The WNA nominating committee is looking for individuals to serve the neighborhood as officers on the WNA board. Committee members will contact paid WNA members, but anyone may suggest nominees.

The WNA bylaws prevent any individual from holding the same office for longer than two years, which keeps focus on the community at large and prevents anyone from using office to serve personal interests.

This year, term limits and retirements have left all four offices (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer) open for the coming term. WNA members will vote at the September 12 meeting.

If you are interested in running for office, contact [nominations@wootenna.com](mailto:nominations@wootenna.com).

### **Offices**

- The president runs WNA meetings and arranges for guest speakers, attending other meetings occasionally when issues of concern (such as nearby development) come up in the larger community. Also receives mail from the city concerning nearby developments.
- The vice president fills in for the president when needed to run meetings and possibly attends other meetings to gather information.
- The treasurer collects dues, records attendance, invoices newsletter advertisers, and keeps our legal status with the state up-to-date.
- The secretary takes the minutes of the meetings and posts them to [WootenNA.com](http://WootenNA.com).

## Newsletter opportunities

The newsletter needs some additional hands.

**Content:** Report or write short items about neighbor news, events and other things going on nearby. Most of the content lately has been gathered from our Yahoo group, but much more is happening. We just need to find out about it and report it.

**Ads:** When I started working on this newsletter with help from our editor, Betsy Thaggard, and our treasurer, Opie Gonzalez, we had to scurry about in search of enough ads to support each issue. Now we have advertisers searching us out and each publication is much more assured. It would be nice to have someone help out the treasurer with notices and billings to continue this voice for Wooten.

**Distribution:** Pick up our quarterly newsletters from the printer on Burnet Road, bundle them into routes and notify the delivery team that the bundles are ready to be delivered.

With neighbors' help this newsletter will continue to inform, entertain and solidify Wooten's identity. Will you take part?

—Joy Roberts, WNA president

## Please report old Neighborhood Watch signs

Do you live near a rusty or damaged Neighborhood Watch sign? Please send its location to Marilyn Rogers, [rogers@wootenna.com](mailto:rogers@wootenna.com).

As some WNA members have learned by attending the Block Captain training offered by the police department, posted signs are a crime deterrent. They remind criminals that neighbors are looking out for one another. So let's be sure those signs keep sending a strong message.

## EYES OPEN. MIND ALERT.

Neighborhood watch begins with you.  
Thanks for noticing.

## Wooten Meetup Group

Here's a great way to get together with your neighbors for food and fun. Kelly and Joshua Merritt have started a Wooten Meetup Group to help make that happen.

Join the group and get details at:  
[meetup.com/Wooten-Neighborhood-Group/](http://meetup.com/Wooten-Neighborhood-Group/)



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## Neighborhood plan contact team

The Wooten Neighborhood Plan Contact Team was formed to protect the Wooten/Crestview Neighborhood Plan. Anyone who wants to change the basic land use allowable on a property must get the opinion of the Contact Team. The city of Austin makes the final decision on these issues, but usually they will not recommend against the will of a contact team without special reasons.

The team meets six times a year, one week after the Wooten Neighborhood Association meeting. On Monday Sept 19, we will elect a Secretary and of Record Keeper. To run or participate in the election of officers you must be a member of the Wooten Neighborhood Association, and either a resident (property owner or lessee) or a business operator within the neighborhood. —*Steve Rogers*



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## In memoriam

WNA sadly acknowledges the loss of Mary Jane "Janie" Riley, who died on May 24. Janie, mother of our former APD District Representative Jim Riley and wife of the late APD officer Albert Riley, was a long-time WNA member and past treasurer, and co-hosted National Night Out and holiday caroling parties. She will be sorely missed by family, friends and neighbors who greeted her on morning walks.

## Neighborhood Watch - Train the Trainer meetings

One of the best crime deterrents and safety efforts is having an active neighborhood watch program on your block.

If you're interested in learning how to set up a neighborhood watch program, attend the Train the Trainer meetings. The training involves three sessions, one month apart.

You can start any month—not necessarily with Part 1. Sessions run from 7:00p.m. - 8:30p.m.

- **Aug 9:** Part I – Introduction to Neighborhood Watch
- **Sept 13:** Part II – Physical Security
- **Oct 11:** Part III – James the Burglar Video and Region II Commanders Forum

Watch [WootenNA.com](http://WootenNA.com) for upcoming information.



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## Handy websites, helpful organizations and lots of ways to connect with your neighborhood online

Ever wanted a handy list with contact information for neighborhood concerns? Here's a start. For most non-emergency issues, you can **call 311**. If you prefer to go online, here are some addresses:

- **copLogic** is a new online reporting system to file non-emergency, low-priority reports—the kind you'd call 311 for. [apdonlinereporting.com](http://apdonlinereporting.com)
- **Region 2 police district homepage:** [www.ci.austin.tx.us/police/region2.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/police/region2.htm)  
APD district and crime information.
- **Austin City Connection** to various municipal departments: [austincityconnection.com/](http://austincityconnection.com/)
- **Public safety info:** [www.ci.austin.tx.us/site/public\\_safety\\_portal.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/site/public_safety_portal.htm)
- Austin Energy storm center - power outages: [my.austinenergy.com/outages/](http://my.austinenergy.com/outages/)
- Loose dogs, feral cats and other **pet concerns:** Austin Humane Society has a feral cat program: [austinhumanesociety.org/our-services](http://austinhumanesociety.org/our-services)  
If you can catch the animal safely, take it to any vet and ask them to scan for a chip ID.

Send suggestions for other handy websites to [newsletter@wootenna.com](mailto:newsletter@wootenna.com).

Join your neighbors online to stay informed and discuss topics from crime incidents to new local businesses to garage sales.

- Wooten's blog: [WootenNA.com](http://WootenNA.com)  
Includes this newsletter, with clickable links!
- Wooten Neighborhood newsgroup: [groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/)  
The fastest way to learn and share Wooten info.
- Wooten on Facebook: [tinyurl.com/28uoo34](http://tinyurl.com/28uoo34)
- Wooten Elementary PTA: [wootenpta.com](http://wootenpta.com)
- Gardening: [groups.google.com/group/crestview-gardeners](http://groups.google.com/group/crestview-gardeners)  
What's growing and how we grow it in the area.
- For Sale: [groups.yahoo.com/group/crestview\\_forsale/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crestview_forsale/)  
Items for sale, fundraisers and services offered in North Austin neighborhoods, including Wooten.
- Wooten weather station forecast (look for "Allandale North/Wooten"): [tinyurl.com/36js85](http://tinyurl.com/36js85)
- Wooten Weather history: [tinyurl.com/csvwfs](http://tinyurl.com/csvwfs)
- Searchable online crime reports: [krimelabb.com](http://krimelabb.com)



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## HAVE YOUR SAY.

WNA members have plenty to talk about—join the conversation. Bring \$5 to the next meeting or mail it to:

**WNA / Box 10171 / Austin TX 78766**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Wooten  
address: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood  
interests and  
concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual membership period is Oct 1 - Sept 30.