



Next WNA meeting

Monday, November 11, 7:00pm

Redeemer Lutheran Church library
1500 W. Anderson (Burrell Drive side)

Agenda will include:

- Redistricting news
- Tree Day in the park
- Safety and crime

President's letter

Dear Neighbors,

I am happy to serve as the Wooten Neighborhood Association President for the coming year. My wife Sarah and I have lived in Wooten since 2009, and we hope to be here for many years to come.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this newsletter. As you know, this is an exciting time of growth for all of Austin, and especially for our area. With this growth comes change, and it is important that we stay informed and involved so that we are able to play a positive role as Austin and Wooten continue to evolve.

My hope is that over the course of this year, we can work together as a community to help support the outstanding work of Laura Tomlinson and Joanne Garrett in [beautifying Wooten Park \(PDF\)](#), as well as work with our new Austin Police Department District Representative, Officer Joe Hebbe, to continue to help make Wooten a safe place to live and raise families.

I am also committed to being involved with local neighborhood leaders as Austin's 10-1 redistricting plan (Proposition 3) takes shape. It is important that Wooten has a voice in this process.

Thank you again for being a part of this great neighborhood, and for being involved, whether it's through WNA meetings, Facebook, the listserv, or simply by being a good neighbor to those around you. You are appreciated. —Chris Gregory

WANTED: Neighborhood Watch leader

As our fledgling neighborhood watch program finds its wings, it needs a new leader.

Founding chairman Burton Anderson is stepping down, so the watch committee is looking for someone (or a couple of someones) to lead this important effort.

This job can be as simple or as involved as you see fit. Responsibilities could include:

- Recruit members and run meetings of the Neighborhood Watch Working Group
- Act as a liaison with our Austin Police Department (APD) District Representative
- Coordinate activities and sharing information with other nearby neighborhood watch leaders (such as Crestview and Allandale)
- Attend APD Commander's Forum meetings
- Create reports of local crime statistics and trends
- Raise awareness of criminal activity and crime prevention by conducting regular training sessions
- Lead local National Night Out
- Coordinate with the city about the placement of neighborhood watch signs every year (including grant approval and property owner signatures)
- Recruit and support the establishment of neighborhood watch block captains and patrols
- Report on neighborhood watch status and activities on a regular basis to the neighborhood association

To get involved, contact watch@wootenna.com

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SPEAK UP FOR THE FUTURE.

WNA members help decide what's next for Wooten—join now. Bring \$5 to the meeting or mail it to: **WNA / Box 10171 / Austin TX 78766**. Annual membership period is Oct 1 - Sept 30.

Name: _____

Neighborhood interests and concerns: _____

e-mail: _____

Wooten address: _____

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Help prevent crime in Wooten

We have had several incidents in the neighborhood recently. To stay ahead, neighbors must be vigilant and aware, and call the police when they see something suspicious.

At the core of a successful Neighborhood Watch program is getting know your neighbors—starting with those who live on each side of you and the three across the street. Become familiar with their vehicles, schedules and frequent visitors so you'll recognize out-of-the-norm activity around their homes.

If you see anything suspicious, **call 911** immediately. Don't be shy. APD relies on us to be their eyes and ears and to call when we see something suspicious.

Train yourself to note details:

- **Personal:** gender, race, age, height, weight, hair color, facial hair, clothing
- **Vehicle** if present: make, model, color, license plate number and any other distinguishing marks such as dents or broken lights
- **Direction:** which way did they go when leaving the scene?

Several common sense reminders:

- Lock your doors as soon as you get into the car. When arriving home, survey your surroundings before getting out of your car.
- Don't leave exposed valuables in your car. Remember, **LOCK, TAKE and HIDE.**
- Keep your home's doors and windows locked, especially during cooler weather or if you've had people working in your home. Lock backyard gates. Make sure storage sheds are locked and garage doors aren't left up when you're not outside.
- Don't display your valuables from the street. Keep your blinds and curtains closed, especially when you're away and at night when lights are on inside the house.

—Joanne Garrett

NeighborWood free tree program

Wooten was chosen for eligibility in the free tree program to help shade our streets and sidewalks. If Tree Folks left a flag in your yard and an order form on your front door, be sure to reserve your tree and commit to watering it.

The sooner you order, the sooner you will receive your tree. Trees are delivered through March as supplies last. Orders received after the first week of March will be delivered next October. For more information, visit treefolks.org/neighborwoods/

Victor's flora and fauna

Ever notice those chirping sounds at night—short, squeaky chirps? The culprits are small frogs called cliff chirping frogs, *Eleutherodactylus marnockii*. Cliff chirping frogs are native to the Hill Country and the Edwards Plateau.

They prefer limestone habitats with cracks and crevices where they can hide and access adequate moisture. They're attracted to springs, but not rivers, lakes, and ponds. Recently, they seem to have been expanding their range within the Austin city limits, taking advantage of moisture provided by homeowners who maintain their yards.

Unlike many other frogs, they don't require pooled water for their eggs—merely adequate moisture. They will breed throughout the year except the coldest winter months. Other amphibians in our area include various frogs, toads, and salamanders (see herpssoftexas.org).

—Victor Engel

Citizen Observer

CitizenObserver is a web-based notification tool that enables citizens to receive and respond to text, email and web alerts from your law enforcement agency. To learn more about the Austin Police Department's Citizen Alert Network, visit tinyurl.com/austinCAN

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Friends of Wooten: Mi Tiendita on Ohlen & 183

Syed and Asif Shamsie have a long-time connection to and love of Austin, Texas. Their uncle came to UT to college decades ago and stayed, and the rest is Texas history. The Shamsie family has kept a home base here since then although the brothers lived in other places before settling down here and opening Mi Tiendita.

Syed (Shamsie, as he likes to be called) worked in Manhattan and St. Thomas primarily as a hotel bartender, and in Puerto Rico, where he had a semi-precious stone jewelry business.

Asif lived and worked in Chicago for many years, where he and his wife raised twin sons and a daughter.

Soon after Shamsie returned to New York, Asif told him about a store in Austin and Shamsie returned to help Asif. Now Mi Tiendita has been on Ohlen just west of 183 for 19 years. The brothers also own Mi Tienda Super Market at Gessner and 183.

Mi Tiendita and El Pollo Regio appreciate their neighborhood clientele, including the APD officers who consider the stores a favorite dinner spot.

The brothers generously support Wooten projects and provide beverages and snacks. Shamsie says that he and his brother had no idea what a neighborhood association was and what purpose it serves until he attended a meeting.

He joined Wooten Neighborhood Association immediately as a business member, impressed with the clout a neighborhood association can have, especially if it is resident- and business-member strong.

—Michel Munguia

TAKE A WALK.

Help distribute our newsletter.
An hour or less, every three months.
Info: newsletter@wootenna.com

Austin Table Tennis

At Wooten's northern edge, just west of the railroad tracks, a sign on the 183 access road points the way to the Austin Table Tennis Association. Don't be fooled by the storage-unit location: Inside the two-story headquarters, 16 tables are ready for play most days of the year.

Players at all skill levels are welcomed, and the nonprofit rents and sells equipment, offers coaching and supports a youth group. For prices, directions and details, call (512) 491-7664 or visit austintabletennis.com

Box Tops earn cash for Wooten Elementary

Buy your favorite Box Tops products and earn cash for Wooten Elementary School—each is worth 10¢ for classroom supplies, field trips, teacher appreciation and more.

Cut out the Box Top from each package and send them to school. You can drop them off in the front office for the PTA.

Look for the pink Box Top on hundreds of participating products such as Ziploc, Kleenex, Hefty and more. Check btfe.com/products for a complete list of participating box tops products. You can also shop in their online store and donate those points to the Wooten Elementary PTA.



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Drought-proof your yard

Recent rains notwithstanding, Texas has a long way to go to make up for our persistent drought. We're still under Stage 2 restrictions for water use, and population continues to grow.

Here are some ways to protect the green in your yard and your house's foundation in drought and deluge:

- Landscape/xeriscape with drought-tolerant perennials, annuals and grass
- Keep your foundation watered, and install root barriers to protect it from water-seeking tree roots
- Install gutters and rain barrels to prevent our occasional downpours from eroding the soil.

Livestrong services

The LIVESTRONG Foundation Cancer Navigation Center provides free, personalized services to anyone affected by cancer. The center provides assistance in a variety of categories, such as insurance challenges, fertility preservation, treatment concerns and emotional and peer support, in person, online or on the phone.

Information: livestrong.org/we-can-help

Fall Artisans and Crafters Fair

This is a fundraiser and outreach effort for First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin's Alternative Space Gallery.

- Nov. 17th 2013
 - First UU Church of Austin
4700 Grover Ave.
One block east of 49th and Burnet Rd.
- Information: 512-870-7306



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LEARN. ASK. SHARE.

For fresher neighborhood news,
join your neighbors online.

Yahoo!Groups: wootenna
Facebook: Wooten Neighborhood

Free teen programs at Northwest Recreation Center

2913 Northland Drive
Information: 512-974-6972

Totally Cool Totally Art (TCTA)
Make art with friends! Much more than an arts and crafts program, this community-based arts education program has six different sessions: Monster Making, Short Film, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Culinary and Drawing/Painting.

- November 2013-May 2014 (Session 1: 11/4-12/5)
- Tuesday and Thursday
- 6:00-8:30 pm
- Ages: 7th-12th grade

Teen Club

Hang out with teens just like you! This program encourages academic success, community involvement and friendship building. Share experiences and gain new ones through games, movies, cooking, cultural events, community service and field trips all over Austin.

- November 2013-April 2014
- 1st and 3rd Friday of every month (occasional Saturday event may replace a Friday)
- 6:00-9:30 pm
- Ages: 7th-9th grade

Weekend farmer's markets

- Funkytonk Farmer's Market
Saturdays, 9am to 1pm
6701 Burnet Road between Justin and 2222
Local produce, live music, vintage and collectibles market. funkytonkfarmersmarket.com
- Highland Mall Farmer's Market
Sundays, 10am to 2pm
Highland Mall parking lot, 6001 Airport Blvd
Yelp review: <http://is.gd/HMFM>



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