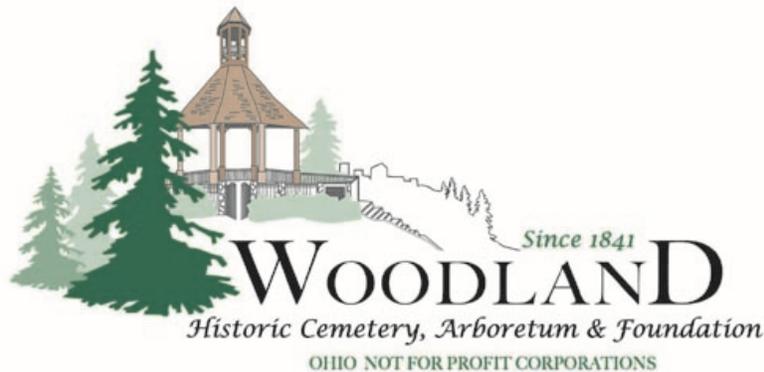


**Beautiful. Timeless. Still Available...**



### ***The History of Woodland Cemetery***

The town of Dayton, Ohio, in 1840, boasted a population of 6,000. The travel accommodations were managed by stagecoach service, and merchants and manufacturers received and delivered goods by way of canal boats from Dayton to Cincinnati.

In a small booklet, authored by Robert W. Steele, and published on the occasion of the Cemetery's Triennial Meeting in February 1875, he wrote the following: "In 1840 a movement was made to establish a rural cemetery where every possible safeguard should be thrown around the resting place of the dead. Mr. John Van Cleve took the initiative in the movement ..."

The first graveyard was established at the northeast corner of Third and Main Streets, land donated by Daniel Cooper. A few years later, it was evident that the town was growing more rapidly than had been anticipated. Mr. Cooper once again donated land on the south side of Fifth Street between Ludlow and Wilkinson, for a new cemetery. In less than thirty years, its burial space was diminishing. Mr. Van Cleve took on the task to find a large area at a reasonable price to avoid another miscalculation. About a mile south of town, Augustus George had a large tract of land that had not yet been cleared of timber and was crisscrossed by steep hills and ravines, that he was willing to sell; forty acres in all, at sixty dollars per acre.

Van Cleve calculated that he would need fifty subscribers who were willing to invest one hundred dollars each, to form an organization, purchase the property, and still have money in the bank for labor and materials. Van Cleve himself would see to the surveying, the platting, and the preparation of necessary business records. He would also author the Articles of Association.

The first official written record of proceedings of the cemetery are as follows: Fifty subscribers having been obtained to the Articles of Association for the government, management and regulation of The Woodland Cemetery Association of Dayton, and

said Articles thereby becoming valid and binding upon each of the said subscribers, and the Association having been thereby legally constituted, according to the provisions of the said Articles, notice was given to the subscribers to meet at the office of the Firemen's Insurance Company in Dayton. On Thursday evening, February 18, 1841, for the election of the officers of the Association. Thirty-one subscribers attended the meeting and the following men were elected as Officers: Trustees: Job Haines, James Perrine, Edward Davies, J. D. Phillips and John Van Cleve; Robert C. Schenck, Secretary; David Z. Pierce, Treasurer.

On February 27, 1841, John Van Cleve was elected President of the Association. A deed to the George property was received in April and work began on May 17, 1841. The preparation of the ground was, in the beginning, arduous, as the work was accomplished by means of axes, crosscut and buck saws, picks and shovels, mauls and wedges, gangs of laborers and powerful animals.

The initial projects in 1841 were: clear the brush and timber in the areas chosen for initial sale, build a fence to enclose the grounds, and build a sexton's house.

The Woodland Charter was passed by the Ohio General Assembly on February 28, 1842 and adopted by the Association on April 10, 1842. Woodland Trustees gave public notice that the cemetery would be open for the sale of burial lots on June 7, 1843.

On June 21, 1843, a ceremony was held to officially dedicate the cemetery. The opening prayer was given by the Reverend James Barnes of the First Presbyterian Church; an address was delivered by Reverend J. W. Hall of the Third Street Presbyterian Church; the dedication and closing prayer were given by Reverend Ethan Allen of the Episcopal Church.

"Unfinished work" was the subject of an entry into the ledgers on February 17, 1844. It was noted that "it will be proper to construct a receiving vault within the cemetery. No arrangements have been made for that purpose."

However it seems that arrangements were made or the construction was completed for mention of it was made in the Minutes of the regular Triennial Meeting of February 17, 1847, when the expense of \$471.63½ appeared for Receiving Vault. Built in the "theme of Thebes and Karnac." It was built to receive caskets, that, for whatever reason, could not be interred immediately. It was most frequently used during the severe winter months when the ground was frozen as to prohibit digging.

On May 22, 1849, 19-year old William Munday died of cholera. By June 13, Dayton had an epidemic on its hands. It is estimated that 225 deaths occurred and of those 225, 53 were interred in Woodland.

In 1850, the Trustees desired to enclose the cemetery with a stone fence. The stones were to be "not less than six inches nor more than eight inches thick, to be not less than three feet wide, with parallel sides, and not to be less than nine feet long on both sides." By 1861, the project "was found to be impractical and hard to procure." It was once said that "it did look pretty good on paper."

John Van Cleve died on September 6, 1858 and had served as Woodland's first

President for 17 years. Robert W. Steele was then elected as President and he continued the work that had been begun by Van Cleve. Both men had the same interest in education and horticulture, and the same pride in the care of Woodland.

Additional land was secured in the 1850s from the heirs of Augustus George as well as from Nathaniel Hart extending the boundaries of the cemetery to Wyoming Street.

Samuel Forrer, an engineer and canal expert, was hired to lay out roads and survey the new ground. Adolph Strauch, a highly regarded landscape gardener was hired to assist Mr. Forrer in regard to improvements to the new area. Mr. Strauch applied his expertise by highlighting unusual features of the topography, by making use of the natural flora as scenic backdrops, arranging lots in such a manner as to be easily accessible and complementary to the whole. This was a drastic departure from the early regimen of church burial grounds and was the forerunner of the landscaped, garden-style cemetery movement.

By 1867, the grounds of Woodland Cemetery had attracted many visitors. It was the place to go for a Sunday stroll. There were beautifully landscaped areas: flowers, and ferns, and great iron urns filled with exotic plants, and wire and wrought iron benches on which to rest and contemplate. The popularity of Woodland led many people to take advantage of the open hospitality offered. So, in 1867, this entry appeared in the Minute Book: "Complaints having been made of the large number of persons visiting the cemetery on Sundays. And the disorder, and injury to flowers and shrubbery resulting there from, it was, on motion, Resolved: No person excepting Lot Owners and their families, and those attending funerals, be admitted to the grounds on Sunday, and that tickets be provided and furnished to Lot Owners on application to the Superintendent at the gate."

How long this restriction was in force is not clear. There are passes in the historical records bearing the date of August 16, 1926.

As you can imagine, 175 years of continuous service has take its toll on this venerable institution and the resources required for maintaining this beautiful destination are significant. We ask that you please join us in supporting the restoration and preservation of our historic Dayton treasure, Historic Woodland Chapel, so that future generations can enjoy the beauty and history of Woodland for another 175 years.

The Historic Woodland Chapel was originally completed in 1887. The building contract was let on November 8, 1886. The designers were Peters, Burns and Pretzinger Architects of Dayton. The price mentioned on October 9, 1894 was \$7,920 and there were six different subcontractors involved.

The size of the original building was less than it is now. The Chapel extended only to the point where the sanctuary widens and the back wall was at that point. The winter use of the Chapel was enhanced through the addition of steam heat radiators in 1896. The steam was piped underground into the Chapel from a wood fired boiler in the basement of the office

In 1898, the Chapel was enlarged to its present size and a basement was included which became the receiving vault replacing the old subterranean vault, built in 1847 by James Wuichet and located in cemetery section 62. After chapel services, the receiving vault was accessed through the use of a hand-operated elevator which can

still be seen in front of the alter. The casket usually rested on a bier which was in fact the elevator raised to a convenient height. At the conclusion of the service, the casket was lowered into the basement by using the elevator and then it was stored until removed for its burial or final disposition.

In 1904, Henry C. Lowe of Dayton provided \$10,000 to fund a memorial in honor of his daughter Marianna who had died in September 1903. "Miss Marianna Lowe had been in failing health for some time and went to Colorado in quest of improved health at Colorado Springs. She was 26 years of age. Her mother died when she was quite young and she was a close companion of her father." Tiffany Studios of New York was hired to redesign the interior of the Chapel. A Tiffany window was purchased by the Cemetery Board of Trustees at a cost of \$1,050. The Tiffany window was installed by Heinke & Bowen, who were operatives of Tiffany Studios of New York, owned by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The new stained glass window featured a pastoral scene in the arts and crafts style. Additionally installed were a row of eight Tiffany stained glass windows on the east and west sides of the Chapel which are paired with Byzantine columns and sunburst mosaic arched transoms. Tiffany also installed a hand-cut tile floor, frescoed wall surfaces and ornate lighting sconces. A copy of an original invoice was found in the Woodland archives to confirm the Tiffany re-designs.

The Historic Chapel was used for services until 1969 when the present Woodland Mausoleum was opened with its beautiful modern Chapel. From this time until 1991, the structure was used very little and became a storage facility. The Chapel, Front Gates and Administration building were placed on the National Register of Historic Buildings in 1979. In 1991, the Historic Chapel and Administration Office underwent a renovation and the Chapel was converted into a more functional condition with the addition of carpeting and new lighting fixtures. It was determined that the new space could be used to house the counselors and some administration activities such as the counseling of families in need of cemetery and/or mausoleum spaces and memorial stones and urns. The Historic Chapel provided a quiet, dignified retreat for persons to discuss their needs with their counselors.

Today, the Historic Chapel houses six staff members including Family Service Representatives, Memorial Design Administrator and Development Manager. The Historic Chapel is open six days a week during business hours. Guests and visitors are encouraged to stop by and visit the Historic Chapel, take photos of the Tiffany windows and decor and learn more about the history of Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum.

## ***Upcoming Tours and Events***

### **Black History Month - A Year Long Celebration at Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum**

Thursday, February 11

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Northmont Public Library

333 W. National Rd., Englewood

This program honors the lives of African Americans whose final resting place is in Dayton, Ohio. Some of the featured notables are: freed slave, Jordan Anderson; mayor, James H. McGee; politician, C. J. McLin; southpaw pitcher, William G. Sloan; educator, Louisa Troy and trombonist, Mitchell "Booty" Wood, just to name a few.

Presentation provided by Angie Hoschouer. For questions or more information, please call the Northmont Public Library at (937) 463-2665. Program is free and open to the public.

### **End of Winter Bird Walk**

Saturday, March 12

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum

If you missed the New Year's bird walk, there's still a chance to see some of the winter bird residents and possibly even some early spring migrants. Join nature guide, Amanda Lawson, an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist on a walk through Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum. Be on the lookout for year-round residents along with Tree Sparrows, White-throated Sparrows, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and the possibility of early spring migrants like Tree Swallows and Eastern Phoebes.

This walk is mostly slow-paced with the possibility of some hill climbing depending on where the birds lead you. Bring your binoculars and dress for the weather. The walk is from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and leaves from the main entrance of the cemetery. To make a reservation or for more information, call 937-228-3221.

### **History, Mystery, Mayhem & Murder**

Monday, March 21

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Vandalia Historical Society

This presentation will keep you on the edge of your seat as tales of Dayton's own bank robbers, counterfeiters and murderers are told. Who confessed on their deathbed of murdering pretty 18 year old Christine Kett? Did Rose Shafor really dress up as a man to help her lover commit a crime? Who killed Julius Kruse? And was the "Cincinnati Ripper" living in Dayton? These stories and more are told in this chilling presentation.

Please note that this program is the actual accounts of murders that took place in Dayton. Graphic details are given and may not be appropriate for all audiences. Presentation provided by Angie Hoschouer for the Vandalia Historical

Society at the Vandalia Senior Center located at 21 Tionda Dr. S., Vandalia, OH 45377. For questions or more information, please visit the Vandalia Historical Society website at [www.historicalsocietyvandalia-butler.org](http://www.historicalsocietyvandalia-butler.org). Program is free and open to the public.

### **Dayton's Walk of Fame and Woodland Residents**

Thursday, March 24

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Northmont Public Library

333 W. National Rd., Englewood

Dayton's Walk of Fame was created in 1996 as part of the City of Dayton's Bicentennial Celebration. Many of those inducted into the walk are resting peacefully at Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum. Some of the featured inductees include: David Albritton, Loren M. Berry, George C. Cooper, Levitt Luzern Custer, Dr. August F. Foerste, Jacob O. Joyce, Frederick Rike, and many more.

Presentation provided by Angie Hoschouer. For questions or more information, please call the Northmont Public Library at (937) 463-2665. Program is free and open to the public.

### **Women of Woodland**

Tuesday, March 29

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Brookville Public Library

425 Rona Parkway Dr., Brookville

Meet some of Dayton's most interesting and exciting women in history. Hear about homemaker turned author, Erma Bombeck; madam and real estate owner, Lib Hedges; a visionary for the physically handicapped and disabled, Anna Barney Gorman; Queen of the Gypsies, Matilda Stanley; librarian and creator of the Bookmobile, Electra C. Doren; Dayton historical author, Charlotte Reeve Conover; rodeo rider Marquerite Doane; famous actress and woman scorned, Mrs. Leslie Carter; youngest Miss America in history, Marion Bergeron Ruhlman Setzer and many more. Woodland honors them all.

Presentation provided by Angie Hoschouer. For questions and more information, please call the Brookville Public Library at (937) 463-2665. Program is free and open to the public.

### **Woodland Mausoleums**

Thursday, April 21

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Northmont Public Library

333 W. National Rd., Englewood

As you drive through Woodland Cemetery you will see magnificent structures with family names carved into the stonework. These family mausoleums not only reflect the men who commissioned the work but the industry in which they served. We'll explore

the architecture and styling of the mausoleum and learn more about the lives lived by the men and women entombed within. Some of the families featured are: Huffman, Gagel, Talbott, DeWeese, Schantz, Lowes, Ritty, Nevin, Estabrook, Berk, Turner and Price.

Presentation provided by Angie Hoschouer. For questions or more information, please call the Northmont Public Library at (937) 463-2665. Program is free and open to the public.

### **Sports Legends**

Monday, April 25

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Vandalia Public Library

500 S. Dixie Dr., Vandalia

Everyone loves a good sports story and we have plenty with these legends resting at Woodland: Sprint Car racer, Johnny Shackelford; inventor of the metal baseball bat, William Shroyer; founder of McGregor Golf Club Co., Ziba Crawford; cyclist and race car driver, Earl Kiser; UD Basketball Coach, Tom Blackburn; former Harlem Globetrotter, Al Tucker, Sr.; 1936 Silver Medalist in High Jump, David Albritton and UD and NBA basketball player, Donald E. Smith plus many more.

Presentation provided by Angie Hoschouer. For questions and more information, please call the Vandalia Public Library at (937) 463-2665. Program is free and open to the public.

### **Spring Migration Bird Walk**

Saturday, May 7

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Woodland Cemetery

118 Woodland Ave., Dayton

Join us for a morning bird walk on International Migratory Bird Day. Every spring, millions of migrating birds are passing over us at night, stopping to rest and refuel during the day, and many of them utilize Woodland's many acres as a stopover every year. This mostly slow-paced walk will wind through the grounds, with the possibility of hills, depending on where the birds lead us. Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, Amanda Lawson, will be your nature guide. Along with the many year-round resident birds, we may also see vividly-colored birds like Blackburnian Warblers, Baltimore Orioles, Scarlet Tanagers, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. Bring your binoculars and dress for the weather.

The walk is from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and leaves from the main entrance of the cemetery. Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum is located at 118 Woodland Ave. off of Brown Street near the UD Campus. To make a reservation or for more information, call 937-228-3221.

## ***Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum at local Grocery Stores!***

Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum!

- ◆ Are you a ClubDLM or Kroger Plus Card holder? Would you like to support the Woodland Arboretum Foundation by doing your normal grocery shopping? You can when you register your shopping card to our organization!
- ◆ Go to [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com) and link your Kroger Plus Card to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum #28721. Check the bottom of your Kroger receipt to make sure your Kroger Community Rewards are going to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum.

**You must sign up each year for your PlusCard purchases to count towards Woodland's fundraising account.**

- ◆ Go to [dorothylane.com/ClubDLM](http://dorothylane.com/ClubDLM) and link your ClubDLM number to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum #821.

Our Foundation continues to focus on the restoration, preservation, horticultural and educational projects needed to keep Woodland a cultural resource for Dayton and Ohio.

## Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum!

Thank you for your donation to Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum.

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum  
118 Woodland Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45409  
937-228-3221

Please make your check payable to:  
Woodland Arboretum Foundation

Your gift is a tax deductible donation to a 501(c)3 public charity.

### Membership Level

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Friend      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Supporter      \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Sponsor  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Contributor      \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Associate      \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 Patron  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other      \_\_\_\_\_ **\$175 Anniversary Club\***

\*Special recognition will be given to those contributing \$175 or more in 2016.

Foundation members will receive a Woodland Schedule of Events, our quarterly newsletter, *Woodland Wire*, and invitation to member events.

Please accept (my)(our) GIFT for 2016 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Apply my gift to the:

Horticulture Fund     Arboretum Foundation     Capital Campaign

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(please indicate above how you wish to be recognized)

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CC Woodland Wire February 2016

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum

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