



A VERY SPECIAL PARK

Heritage

The Newsletter of Green Lawn Cemetery
Summer 2019

Welcome Memorial Properties!

A New Operator and a New Energy

The Nikola family has been in the cemetery business in New Jersey for over 40 years.

Kyle Nikola graduated from OSU in 2009, and afterwards opened a new branch of the family business in Savannah, Georgia, eventually building it to 5 cemeteries in and four funeral homes. In spite of this success, he always wanted a chance to return to Columbus for OSU home games.

Green Lawn Cemetery has become that opportunity!

In addition to his success in Savannah, Kyle has also served as president of both the Georgia Cemetery Association and the Southern Cemetery Cremation and Funeral Association, and is currently on the board of the International Cemetery Cremation and Funeral Association and a member of the Ohio Cemetery Association.



Mr. Kyle Nikola
Owner, Memorial Properties of Ohio



MEMORIAL PROPERTIES

Kyle brings a fresh perspective and new goals to our cemetery. Perhaps most important is what he likes to call his, “Wildly Important Goal”, which is to take the customer experience at Green Lawn to a new level of excellence.

To achieve this, he has recruited a top management team both locally and nationally.

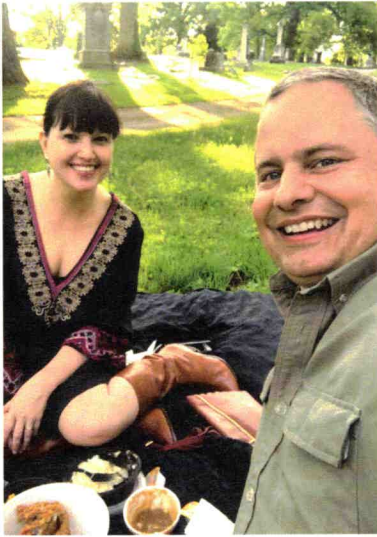
Elissa Leach rejoins the Green Lawn team as the new cemetery Administrator, Mitch Foreman joins us from Texas as the new Sales Manager, and Frank Taylor comes to us from Kyle’s properties in Savannah to be our new Grounds Superintendent.

Welcome to Green Lawn and Columbus!

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President's Message

Greetings Green Lawn Family!



Doreen and I recently enjoyed a summer picnic on our lot near the pond.

The exciting news is found in our lead story—after ten years of partnership, the Green Lawn Cemetery Association severed ties with StoneMor and can now welcome Memorial Properties of Ohio as the new operator of the cemetery.

We chose Memorial Properties because they share our vision of Green Lawn—they are a family-centered company with established success, and they bring a commitment to the property, the community, and our families.

It should also be noted that unlike with StoneMor, where essentially a license to operate the cemetery was purchased, the agreement with Memorial Properties is a long term mutually beneficial partnership.

I am very excited with what this means for the cemetery! I recently watched a video from 1998 where my predecessor expressed a vision for Green Lawn that included restoration, development, community involvement, and financial stability. Over the last 20 years we have taken two huge steps towards that future, and now I believe we have taken the third step and the one that puts us firmly on our path to achieving that vision.

Randy Rogers, President and Executive Director
Green Lawn Cemetery Association

Wildlife Story



Once again this spring featured baby red foxes at Green Lawn. A special thanks goes out to Chris Brinkman for helping us keep an eye on them and providing this wonderful picture. Three kits survived and have left the den, the fourth kit is one of the reasons we are trying to be more diligent about enforcing our regulation that all dogs must be kept on leash while visiting Green Lawn!

Memorial Day Winner!

Congratulations to Mrs. Trudy Woolridge, the winner of our Memorial Weekend raffle. Enjoy summer grilling!



Charles Hayden Mausoleum Placed on Columbus Most Endangered Buildings List

Charles Hayden, a second generation business and banking magnate, commissioned notable Columbus architect Frank Packard to design a family mausoleum in 1904. The resulting building is the largest single family mausoleum in central Ohio and a true gem of Green Lawn Cemetery. The classical granite structure is topped by a tiled dome with a stained glass top—the dome itself was intended to evoke a sunflower pattern from above. The interior rotunda features a circle of 12 marble sarcophagi around a central font. The dome is plastered and features classical murals said to resemble some of the family members.

The first internments were made in 1907, Charles died in 1920, and the final family member was interred in 1979. In 1946, Charles' estate provided \$12,000 (nearly \$160,000 in 2019 dollars) for perpetual care.



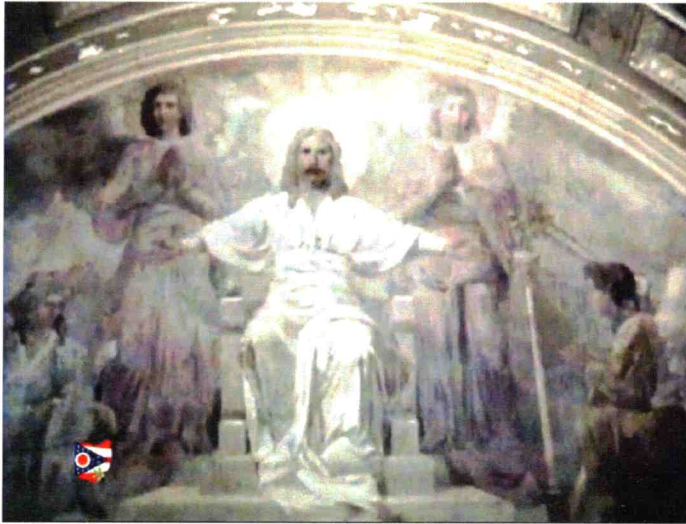
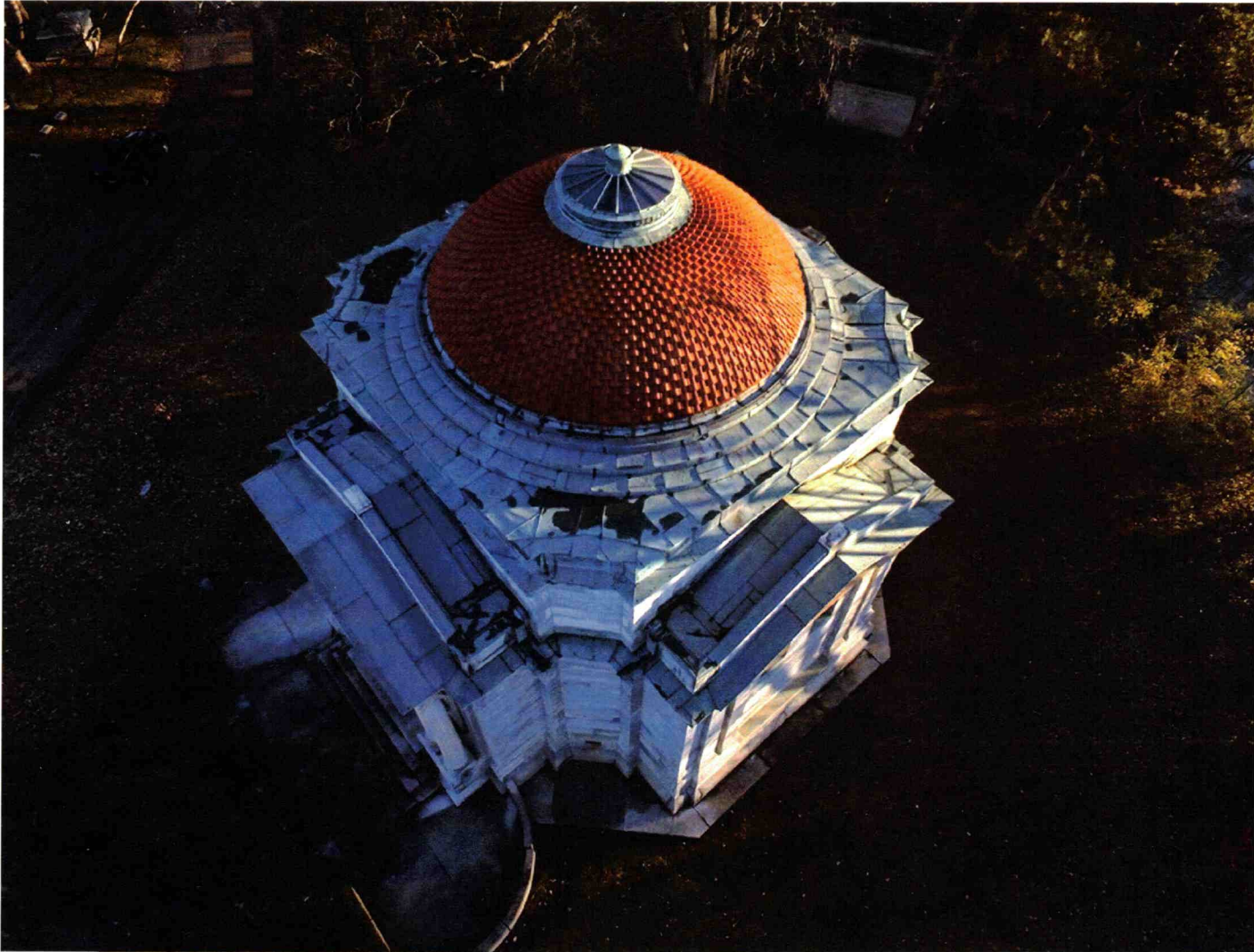
Unfortunately even this significant provision has proven inadequate. Perpetual care funds are invested to provide conservative interest payments for upkeep—in this case since 1946 about \$17,000 was generated, which was used for repairs over the years. Now the building has suffered significant damage from weather, vandals that broke in in 2012, and the accumulation of wear and tear. The cemetery has been tracking these issues for several years, and anticipates that a critical roof restoration of \$500,000 and subsequent full restoration of another \$1,500,000 is needed. Lacking remaining direct family, this restoration can only be achieved through donations.

This spring the cemetery nominated Hayden Mausoleum for both the Ohio and Columbus lists of “Most Endangered Buildings”. So far it has been accepted on the Columbus list maintained by Columbus Landmarks Foundation, and we hope that the visibility will generate donations and momentum to save this important part of our history.

A fund has been established at the cemetery using the remaining interest from the perpetual care account, and a team of restoration experts is being assembled to raise funds and manage the project.

Restoring Hayden Mausoleum is going to be a long and massive effort and require the expertise and financial support of many people, but it is an effort that must be started before the building suffers catastrophic damage that could preclude it being saved. Historically, architecturally, and artistically, saving the Hayden Mausoleum is a worthy project and although it will be a long hard path, it will ultimately be a rewarding journey that carries this centerpiece of Green Lawn to future generations.

For information about making an Annual Campaign donation, a gift to the Endowment Fund, or a Planned Gift for Green Lawn Cemetery, please contact Randel Rogers, Executive Director, at 614-271-8600 or by email at: greenlawncemeteryassoc@gmail.com.



Civil War Veterans' Markers Corrected

We have known for some time that four Union soldiers in Circle M were placed under incorrect markers that identified them as Confederate soldiers.

The soldiers in question were members of Tennessee units that were incorrectly assumed to be Confederate but after Tennessee was recaptured in 1862 a number of Union units were recruited, some that shared the same unit designations (2nd TN Cavalry, for example).

All of the soldiers in Circle M were Union soldiers who died either while in town recuperating from wounds or disease, died while assigned to the recruiting or supply depots, or while assigned as guards at Camp Chase.

Over the winter we started communicating this issue to Congressman Steve Stivers, who has helped us with military and VA related issues in the past, and his office assisted in completing the research to document the errors and order new markers.

On Memorial weekend, Steve showed up to help finish the installation and dedicate the new markers with assistance from the Sons of Union Veterans. He has offered to help us with two more projects—one to correct names on some markers and another to install markers for the approximately 100 Union veterans at Green Lawn who never had a marker installed. A special thanks to Steve and the Sons of Union Veterans!



Left: the slight point at the top and the engraved Southern Cross denotes a Confederate maker. Private Hudson also had a mistake in his unit and name—probably from transcribing old hand written records. Congressman Stivers' office was especially helpful in verifying the corrected information.

Right: a corrected marker for Private Hudson with the correct rounded top denoting a Union soldier.



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Upcoming 2019 Green Lawn Cemetery Programs

Most Events are Free, and All are Family-Friendly

- *June 1st: “Family Bicycle Tour & Picnic”:** Bring your family, your bicycles, a blanket and a picnic lunch, as we escape the hectic techno-world we all now live in, and learn how Columbus’ 19th century residents once escaped from their grueling smokestack-belching, manure-covered streets “City Life” with a peaceful picnic in Green Lawn Cemetery.
- *July 6th: 11:00am-1:00pm: “170th Grand Opening Anniversary”:** Meet our new operator and help us welcome Kyle Nikola and his team to Green Lawn with a cook out and short walking tours of the older part of the cemetery. Free hotdogs and beverages, west end of Section G (off main white-line road). Walking tours will launch at 11:00 and noon.
- **July 28th: 2:00pm-4:00pm: “Summer Walk at Green Lawn Cemetery”:** Held in partnership with Columbus Landmarks Foundation, we will have a guided walking tour of historic Green Lawn Cemetery. Tour will be led by Randy Rogers, executive director and naturalist of Green Lawn, and Doreen Uhas-Sauer, Education and Outreach Coordinator for Columbus Landmarks Foundation. This two hour tour begins at the Huntington Chapel. Tickets required, available at the event, or visit Columbus Landmarks Foundation website: www.columbuslandmarks.org/event/ or call Columbus Landmarks at 614-221-0227. This walk will include some early Columbus suffragettes.
- *September 7th: “Intro to Genealogy Research”:** Interested in researching your ancestors? Curious what free resources are available? Back by popular demand, Russ Pollitt of the Columbus Metropolitan Library will introduce us to the services offered by the Local History & Genealogy division of the Main Library.
- *First Saturday event; free and runs from 11:00am until noon inside the Huntington Chapel unless noted otherwise.**
- **Partnering For Our Community event; free unless noted otherwise.**

Submit event suggestions by email: contactus@greenlawncemetery.org, or phone: (614) 444-1123.

Providing Photos for Find-a-Grave.com Turns Into a Fulfilling Hobby

By: Patty Dell Eberts, Volunteer

I began searching for the burial locations of my ancestors over six years ago. I wanted to take photos of their gravestones for my family tree information. Eventually, I would visit most cemeteries in Franklin County as well as in and around Chillicothe and as far away as Versailles, Kentucky.

I discovered not all cemeteries would easily provide burial information. Privacy acts, REALLY? I found that Green Lawn



Cemetery management was willing to go above and beyond with helping me find grave locations. (Thank you to all of the Green Lawn Cemetery employees in the office and on the grounds, past and present, that have helped me.)

During my research, I came across the website Find-a-Grave.com. Find-a-Grave provides a service for

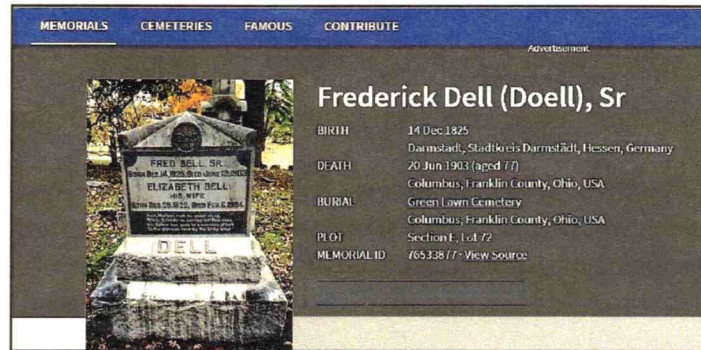
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A Fulfilling Hobby ...

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people who would like a photo of a gravestone but due to distance or other factors, are unable to come to the cemetery. The person desiring the photo creates a "photo request" at the Find-a-Grave website.

Volunteers called "contributors" fulfill the request by traveling to the cemetery, locating the grave, and taking a photo. As I gathered photos for my own family tree information, I got the bug and started helping others by fulfilling photo requests at Find-a-Grave.



With the help of Green Lawn Cemetery, centralohiograveseach.com, and familysearch.org, I am able to locate and then take photos of gravestones for others. I treasure the detective work, the feeling that I am walking through history, the knowledge that I am helping others, and I enjoy the fresh air and exercise and admire the architecture. I try to get to Green Lawn as often as possible to walk where others have come to bury their loved ones in this beautiful place, and as they return to pay their respects.

There are many contributors like me who work hard to fulfill requests for Find-a-Grave members so photos can be added to their family trees and saved for future generations. When I became a contributor at Find-a-Grave, there were over 1,600 requests for gravestone photos at Green Lawn Cemetery. Now, there are less than 50.

In addition, there were some requests for graves that were either not at Green Lawn Cemetery or the records were incomplete and did not show the burial location. I have been able to relocate over 50 photo requests to other cemeteries that were not for Green Lawn Cemetery in Columbus Ohio but for other cemeteries with similar names. In these cases, I use search tools on the internet and visit the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Ohio History Connection, and the Ohio Department of Health to discover the actual burial locations.

There is no fee for this service. The thanks we get and the knowledge we are helping other people keeps us going. What started as a search for the gravestones of my ancestors has become an enjoyable hobby. I look forward to continuing this adventure.

Did you Know?

Searching for a grave location?

Sign up at Find-a-Grave.com, and add your photo request at Find-a-Grave.com/cemetery/109024/green-lawn-cemetery

There is no fee for this service.

Email: pjeberz1948@gmail.com Patty Dell Eberts

1000 Greenlawn Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43223

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Saturday
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
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By appointment



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Phone: (614) 444-1123
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Green Lawn Heritage Newsletter
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Volunteers**

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