



Heritage

The Newsletter of Green Lawn Cemetery
Spring 2014

As you browse the tombstones at Green Lawn Cemetery, imagining the former lives of its residents, keep in mind that some of their names are hidden from view. Tucked away in Section 59 of the cemetery, with no tombstone to mark her grave, is Alice Kemp, a veteran of the vaudeville stage.



During her career of more than three decades, Alice performed for nine years with the Marks Brothers, who toured widely across the U.S. and Canada. Not to be confused with Groucho's later generation of Marx Brothers, this popular, Canadian-born theatrical troupe was known for their family-friendly mix of melodrama, comedy, and music.

A variety of news accounts described Alice Kemp as a dashing, versatile, clever, and popular actress and singer who had "won innumerable laurels," was a "brilliant star," offered "a full rich voice," and was "the best actress that has ever appeared before a Rhinebeck [New York] audience."

Alice was born in 1855, the daughter of Rufus Kemp, a Manhattan auctioneer, in a family that could afford servants in their home. By the age of 18, she had followed her older sister, Annie (Kemp) Bowler, a celebrated contralto singer, into the entertainment business.

By 1887, Alice was savvy enough as a business woman to take the lead in organizing an American theatrical group herself, advertising for actors wanted for "Kemp's People's Theater Co." She promised salaries that were "low but sure."

Alice spent the last night of her life on the stage in London, Ontario, Canada in May 1907. Diagnosed with stomach cancer only two days before her death, she must have been in great pain. Yet she completed her performance with the Earl Burgess Stock Company and passed away at a hospital overnight.

Alice Kemp almost always performed under her maiden name, though it appears she was married five times. She was buried with the name of her fourth husband, McKinley. Alice's work was also a family affair — at least three of her husbands were actors with whom she toured, and her two young daughters joined her on stage as "Little Florinne" and "Little Fannie."

While Alice probably never lived in Ohio, she was likely buried at Green Lawn by her daughter, Florinne (Burton) Miller, who lived in Columbus around that period.

— This article was contributed by Michael Sullivan, Volunteer.

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President's Message

After the longest, coldest winter in memory, the migrating birds have arrived at Green Lawn for their annual Spring Break. And the hungry deer, full-time residents who bedded down in the snow each night behind the office while awaiting the staff's morning hand-out of 50-pounds of corn, are grateful for the spring thaw.

Green Lawn will soon welcome more than 2,000 friends and family members who visit over Memorial Day. Though it is one of the most beautiful weekends of the year to enjoy Green Lawn's 360 outdoor acres, I encourage everyone to include one inside stop to see the beautiful rotunda in the architecturally renowned Huntington Chapel. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of Green Lawn and many months of renovation, the rotunda has been carefully restored by expert craftsmen and freshly painted sky-blue. Please note the list of Fall 2013 Annual Campaign donors in this issue. My personal thanks to each of you for your continued investment!

The talent and energy of people pulling together – volunteers, board of directors, committees, community partners and staff – make it possible to meet the needs of our families, educate the next generation and build for the future at Green Lawn. It is my privilege to serve as board president and I will do my best to honor the combined wishes of so many and keep you well informed. So, for my first "President's Message" I am pleased to let you know that Green Lawn has purchased our very own watering truck. For those of you who have donated and nurtured the young trees at Green Lawn – especially our Little Garden Club friends – this will be a very welcome announcement! Stay tuned.

I hope that you will have time to spend a morning or an afternoon walking or biking through our Very Special Park this spring.

Sincerely,

Geoff Arthur
President

**Please review our Events Calendar on our website at
www.greenlawncemetery.org**

Green Lawn 2013-14 Annual Campaign

We gratefully acknowledge the Fall 2013 donors to the 2013-2014 Annual Campaign, and want you to know that we appreciate each of you for your generous support! If your name is not among the following list of donations (as of February 28, 2014), we will be writing to you during the spring portion of the annual campaign and thank you in advance for your commitment to Green Lawn. Wherever you are in the seasonal giving cycle, we want you to know that we really do count on your investment in this Very Special Park!

For questions about making an Annual Campaign donation, a gift to the Endowment Fund or a Planned Gift for Green Lawn Cemetery, please contact Jack Lee-Harris, General Manager, at 614-444-1123 or jleeharris@greenlawncolumbus.org.

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Mr. Robert S. Thorn and Ms. Dianna Fowler
Ms. Susan I. Trent
Mr. and Mrs. Brendan J. Ware

January 4, 2014 - First Saturday Program
The importance of Genealogy

Julie Callahan, who works in the History, Biography, Travel, and Genealogy section of the Columbus Metropolitan Library, shared the importance of genealogy and provided how to get started in genealogy.



February 1, 2014 - First Saturday Program
Dr. William Awl and the Central Ohio Psychiatric Hospital

Gary L. Carter from the Hilltop shared experiences of his 31 years as an employee at the facility and its presence in the Westside community.



March 1, 2014 - First Saturday Program
Arthur Boke

Bea Murphy from Franklinton Historical Society talked about her research on Boke, the first African-American born in Franklinton and his contributions with the Sullivant family.



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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Green-Lawn-Cemetery/381128311903707>

2013 Photo Contest Winners

There were over a dozen different entries submitted in the annual 2013 Photo Contest in which area residents took photos at central Ohio's largest cemetery. Area residents submitted photos by the end of December, which had been taken throughout the year. Entries were judged and the top three winners were given their awards at the January First Saturday Program at Green Lawn.

This year included a panel of judges who had the very difficult task to choose the winners of this year's contest. The panel included Green Lawn Volunteers and Administrative Staff.

Our first place entry this year is Robert Wells whose photo is titled "A Thin Blanket". Joy Rector entered the winning second place photo titled "Not Forgotten". Third place went to Karen Wells' entry that is titled "Peaceful Green". Congratulations to all.

All photos submitted in the contest are on display at Green Lawn for the rest of the month and then will be available for display at libraries, senior centers and recreation centers throughout Franklin County on a monthly basis.

Photos are also used in our annual calendar that Green Lawn volunteers sell as a fund-raising project and have often been used in cemetery promotions.

We thank all of our entrants from this years' contest, and we look forward to and expect another fine class for the 2014 Photo Contest.

Sincerely,

Jack Lee-Harris



1st place Robert Wells

Heritage

2nd place Joy Rector



3rd place Karen Wells



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November-March
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
April-October
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM



OFFICE
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8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Saturday
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday
Noon to 4:00 PM



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Sunday
Noon to 4 PM



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Green Lawn Heritage Newsletter

Green Lawn Staff, *Volunteer Editor*

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