



# Heritage

The Newsletters of Green Lawn Cemetery  
Spring 2012

## *The Legacy Outlives the Man*

The legacy that John Jacob Lentz left the city of Columbus is far more known than the gentleman himself.

Lentz grew up in Belmont County in eastern Ohio and taught school for a few years before attending National Normal University in Lebanon in southwestern Ohio. He also attended Wooster, the University of Michigan, and Columbia University where he obtained his law degree.

Returning to his native Ohio, he was admitted to the bar in Columbus in October 1883. He was a Democrat and elected to two terms as a U.S. Representative—from 1897 to 1901—and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1908.

In 1894 he founded his legacy—the American Insurance Union and served as its president until his death in 1931.

But Lentz had a vision—that of erecting an exquisite building for his insurance company. It was destined to be the tallest building in the Midwest, six inches taller than the Washington Monument. Caissons, similar to what were constructed to anchor the Brooklyn Bridge in New York, went down to bedrock to build a solid foundation.

This building, called the American Union Insurance Citadel for its strong and enduring qualities, has two levels—a 19-floor portion on the east side, and a 46-floor tower section on the west side.

The building opened Sept. 20, 1927, but the ravages of The Depression in the next decade sent the insurance company into bankruptcy.

The Art Deco style building was purchased by John Lincoln and Leslie LeVeque and became known as the Lincoln-LeVeque Tower. LeVeque, known for the design of the automatic pinsetter in bowling, was killed in a plane crash in 1947. His son Frederick later purchased the building, but he, too, was killed in a plane crash in 1975.

The building held the distinction of the tallest building in the city until the Rhodes Office Tower was erected in 1974. It is currently undergoing an extensive renovation.

Lentz is buried in Section 64, Lot 73, here at Green Lawn. Leslie LeVeque is in the Huntington Chapel.

*Editors Note: An image of the Leveque Tower can be seen on Page 6*

## *Puzzle*

A lot of art work is on display at Green Lawn. During your visits to Green Lawn, have you stopped by this marker to view the surroundings? Check page 7 to see if you are correct.



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## President's Message



Our Board is proud to be collaborating with community partners in recognition of the 200 Columbus Celebration, the city's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday, and we are excited to read the personal stories of historic persons and events that are running in *The Columbus Dispatch's* Columbus Mileposts series. You may have noticed the one thing most of these truly unforgettable characters have in common — they are buried at Green Lawn Cemetery. And they are the most recent reminders of Green Lawn's cultural, historical and educational importance in the development of the City of Columbus from a frontier town to a modern metropolis.

The commitment of our volunteers, donors, board and staff is helping to keep 164 years of Columbus history alive for the entire community — from *Columbus Dispatch* readers to elementary school students, to the 2,000 plus friends and family members who will visit Green Lawn during Memorial Day, always the busiest weekend of the year. We will continue working diligently on behalf of Green Lawn's families to protect and enhance the cemetery's natural environment and care for all those in our trust.

Thanks to all of you — the Friends of Green Lawn — for your time, expertise and financial contributions. Spring is finally in the air at Green Lawn, and I hope to see you at one of our many educational events or simply enjoying a walk through this Very Special Park.

Sincerely,  
Christina Brown, President

## *An Earth Day Gift for Green Lawn!*

When Ahlum & Arbor crews were removing invasive plant species at Green Lawn, the workers were amazed at Green Lawn's arboreal diversity — number of species represented, as well as the age of many of the oaks on the ridge and in the older sections of the cemetery. So much so that the entire staff of Ahlum & Arbor is volunteering a day of work on trees at Green Lawn on Friday, April 20! Their gift to the cemetery is in honor of Earth Day 2012. We very much appreciate their time, expertise and generosity!

## Remembering Molly Morris

The following donors made gifts in memory of Molly Richardson Morris, whose leadership as President of the Green Lawn Cemetery Foundation was surpassed only by her devotion to friends and family. Memorial gifts as of March 10, 2012:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alexander  
Ms. Deborah M. Anderson  
Ms. Carol J. Andreae and  
Mr. James Garland  
Mr. and Mrs. David Burns  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Clovis  
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Copeland  
Mr. Donald G. Dunn  
Mr. and Mrs. John X. Farrar IV  
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Mrs. Roy L. Hilburn  
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Ms. Joyce R. Poole  
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Porter II  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Priest  
Ms. Cordelia Robinson and  
Dr. Grant Morrow  
Mrs. Richard M. Ross  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Shackelford  
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Taylor  
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Ward  
Mr. and Mrs. Brendan J. Ware  
Ms. Lisa Westwater  
Mrs. William K. Westwater

## *Green Lawn 2011-12 Annual Campaign*

We gratefully acknowledge the Fall 2011 donors in the 2011-2012 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 March 15, 2012), 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!

### **OAK — \$5,000 and above**

Anonymous  
Ms. Lynne M. Jeffrey  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Jeffrey  
Ms. Nancy Jeffrey Kingsley  
Little Garden Club of Columbus

### **SYCAMORE — \$2,500 - \$4,999**

Mrs. Richard M. Ross  
The Chester Family Foundation

### **MAPLE — \$1,000 - \$2,499**

Ms. Suzanne Paul Beachy  
Mrs. Nancy Casto Benson  
Ms. Elizabeth Crane and  
Mr. Richard McKee  
Ms. Babette T. Gorman  
The Hildreth Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jeffrey Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Wheatley McDowell  
Mr. and Mrs. S. Noel Melvin

### **FIR — \$500 - \$999**

Anonymous  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Addison  
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Andreae  
The Beck Foundation  
Ms. Marcia R. Blackburn  
Mrs. John B. Gerlach  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Horner  
Mr. Charles Evans Kilbourne III  
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Lindemann  
Mr. and Mrs. John B. McCoy  
Mr. and Mrs. George R. L. Meiling  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Morris Jr.  
Ms. Karen Okeefe  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome F. Page  
Mr. and Mrs. F.P. Schoedinger Jr.  
Mr. Michael J. Shannon  
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Taylor

### **SPRUCE — \$250 - \$499**

Ms. Katherine W. Addison  
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Balderston  
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Mr. and Mrs. Peter B. Halliday  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan D. Iten  
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Ms. Cordelia Robinson  
Dr. and Mrs. Michael R. Murnane  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark D. O'Neil  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry W. Sanford  
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Mr. and Mrs. Webb I. Vorys  
Mr. David A. Voyles  
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Ward  
Mrs. William K. Westwater  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Williams  
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Wolfe  
Ms. Tanya Yepsen

### **JUNIPER — \$100 - \$249**

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Mr. and Mrs. James F. Boggs  
Dr. Walter C. Buchsieb Sr.  
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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Cartwright  
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Crane  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Davidson  
Ms. Christine Heer Dill  
Ms. Virginia K. Ebinger  
Mr. Mark Feinknopf  
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy C. Hester  
Ms. Margo V. House  
Mr. and Mrs. Darrell A. Hutchinson  
*Continued on Page 4*

## More 2011-2012 Donors

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart R. Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. Benton F. Kauffman  
Mr. Andrew I. Klein  
Mrs. Arthur Kobacker  
Mr. and Mrs. Tahlman Krumm Jr.  
Ms. Elinor V. Matchneer  
Ms. Georgeann O. McCall  
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Royer  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Sanford  
Mr. and Mrs. John Sauer  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Saup  
Mrs. Betty T. Schiff

*Continued in next column*

## Architect Remembered

Nathan Kelley, the architect who oversaw the completion of the Ohio Statehouse, now has a marker. His grave in Section I at Green Lawn had been unmarked since his death in 1871. During the renovations of the Statehouse some 15 years ago, a slab of limestone was found. It was turned into a marker for this remarkable Ohioan. This marker can easily be seen from the yellow line on a drive through the cemetery.



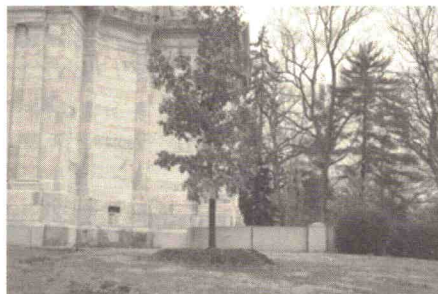
## More 2011-2012 Donors

Mr. William O. Schoedinger  
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley D. Sells  
Ms. Antoinette Farrar Seymour  
Ms. Helen M. Vorys  
Dr. and Mrs. Nichols Vorys  
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Mr. Robert Wells  
Mr. Roderick H. Willcox  
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Mr. Stephen S. Wittmann

## DOGWOOD — up to \$100

Anonymous  
Mrs. Robert H. Bremner  
Ms. Karen W. Gardner  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Grimm  
Mr. Robert P. Grinch  
Mr. Steven J. Grossman  
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Hejtmancik  
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Mr. Philip W. Stichter  
Mr. Robert S. Thorn and Ms. Dianna Fowler  
Ms. Susan I. Trent  
Mr. and Mrs. Brendan J. Ware  
Mrs. J.W. Wolfe  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Woodruff

For questions about making an Annual Campaign donation, a gift to the Endowment Fund or a Planned Gift for Green Lawn Cemetery, please contact Linda Burkey, General Manager, by phone at 614-444-1123 or by email at [lburkey@greenlawncolumbus.org](mailto:lburkey@greenlawncolumbus.org)



## ***Little Garden Club Update: Honeysuckle Removed; Oaks and Shrubs Planted***

This past fall Ahlum & Arbor crews selectively removed invasive honeysuckle from around the pond and along both approaches to the historic bridge in the central-western part of the Cemetery. As you can see from the photos, that removal opened up wonderful vistas and accentuated the beauty of both of these natural areas.

Immediately following, David Voyles and Wild Flower Farm crews planted 200 native shrubs to replace the honeysuckle, and planted 14 lovely native Ohio oak trees to honor the founders of the Little Garden Club of Columbus, through whose generosity and partnership these renovations were made possible.

We are so eager to see the new shrubs come out of their winter dormancy this year and to watch them mature along with the native oaks in the future! We invite all of our readers to come out this spring to walk, enjoy the birding and check out our “new additions” surrounding the pond and bridge. Thank you again to the Little Garden Club of Columbus for recognizing the significance of Green Lawn Cemetery with their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Grant!

## *Columbus200 Historical Tour*

Green Lawn is proud to join with the Columbus Landmarks Foundation for historical bicentennial tours on Sunday, June 3.

The free tours will take visitors to graves of founders of Columbus, and interpreters will share the histories of those people.

It will be a self-guided tour with the presentations repeated three times an hour at each site. That way visitors can hear as many stories as they like and set their own pace.

Directions for the tour will be available at the Huntington Chapel between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on the day of the tour.

## *Memorial Day Programs*

Memorial Day is the busiest weekend of the year at Green Lawn.

Many families stop by to visit graves of loved ones while others visit for the special programs.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War put flags on graves of the Civil War veterans on Friday, May 25. Their program the following day at 11 a.m. features the reading of General Logan's order calling for a day of decoration.

On Memorial Day, May 28, the American Legion program will be held at 11 a.m. on Section 104.

American Legion Post 1 is working with Boy Scout troops to place flags at veterans' graves.

The public is invited to attend both of these ceremonies.

## *What our Guests are Saying*

At the end of the February First Saturday program, the guests were talking with the presenters and their family, looking at the displays, and enjoying refreshments. One guest approached the Volunteer Coordinator who puts the programs together and said:

"I like history. You have a way of making it interesting."

Our First Saturday programs delve into the lives of people buried at Green Lawn. Presenters tell what these people did during their lifetime, how they made a living and could afford a big marker, and what legacy they left the central Ohio community.

Programs are free and open to the public, and start at 11 a.m. in the Huntington Chapel.

Programs in July and August are planned for outdoors, but will be moved indoors.



*An image of the Leveque Tower as it appeared on a cake at the Columbus Bicentennial Party in February*

## Calendar of Events

*First Saturday at Green Lawn, held the first Saturday of every month at 11 a.m. in the Huntington Chapel, takes a look at the lives of people interred here. Programs are free and open to the public*

**April 21** — National Day of Volunteering. Call 614-266-5218 to see how you can become involved.

**April 21** — Earth Day. Call 614-266-5218 to see how you can become involved.

**May 5** — Join Hands Day, a day of multi-generational volunteering. Call 614-266-5218 to see how you can participate.

**May 5** — First Saturday at Green Lawn. *Henry Howe*. Carol Arille will talk about her great grandfather, historian Henry Howe.

**May 26** — Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War program at Circle M. 11 a.m.

**May 28** — American Legion Memorial Day program at Section 104. 11 a.m.

**June 2** — First Saturday at Green Lawn. *The John Bricker Family*. Carol Arille will share stories from Christmas Eves of long past that her family shared with former Gov. John Bricker.

**June 3** — Columbus200 Historic Tour with Columbus Landmarks Foundation, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tours begin at the Huntington Chapel.

**July 7** — First Saturday at Green Lawn. *BINGO Tours*. Guided tours of sections B, I, N, G, and O.

**Aug. 2** — Green Lawn's 164th anniversary.

**Aug. 4** — First Saturday at Green Lawn. Annual treasure hunt tour of Green Lawn.

**Sept. 1** — First Saturday at Green Lawn. *Music of the Civil War*. Steve Bell from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will play music of the era. The public is invited to sing along.



## Answer to Puzzle

The 'art work' is from the bench at the John Hancock Klippart lot in Section B. Klippart was secretary of the Ohio State Fair Board for some 20 years, and his daughter Josephine was an artist and founded the Ohio Watercolor Society

## Schedule for photo display

Photos submitted in the 2011 Green Lawn photo contest are on display in the community. Visit the display when it comes near you

April: Grove City YMCA

May: Whetstone Community Center

July: Dodge Recreation Center

September: Third floor, history and biography section, Columbus Metropolitan Library

November: Canal Winchester Community Center

December: Columbus Cultural Arts Center

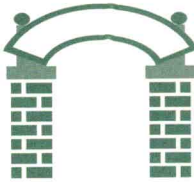
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[www.greenlawncolumbus.org](http://www.greenlawncolumbus.org).



**CEMETERY GATES**  
Open 7 Days/Week  
November-March  
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
April-October  
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM



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



**CHAPEL**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Saturday  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Sunday



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