



A VERY SPECIAL PARK

Heritage

The Newsletter of Green Lawn Cemetery
Summer 2022

Protecting and Serving Green Lawn

It is an unfortunate truth that all cemeteries suffer from crime such as vandalism or theft. Green Lawn has had its share over the years, and protecting our “very special park” is one of the trustees’ top concerns.

Green Lawn is a difficult place to keep an eye on! There are 360 acres over which winding roads, rolling hills, 7,000 trees, and 155,000 monuments, limit the line of site to just a few adjacent gardens. There is also a 3.5 mile perimeter and 70 acres of woods, all of which is surrounded by the inner city.

Alarm systems, cameras, and an alert staff combine to help keep Green Lawn from harm, but experience has shown that the best protection is a highly visible physical patrol.

To that end Green Lawn is the only cemetery in Ohio that utilizes an obscure provision in Ohio law that allows cemeteries to have staff commissioned as police officers. Yes, the cemetery has its own police, similar to the constables or marshals once prevalent in small towns.

Meeting minutes as early as the 1870’s provide for paying the “cemetery policemen”. There are also notes to add additional “watchmen” to protect evergreens along Greenlawn Avenue during the Christmas season and for other special events.

Garver Asset Protection, a local security company, provides officers and a marked patrol car to fill this role. Each officer must appear before a judge to be sworn in and within the cemetery has full police powers to detain, ticket, or even arrest.

Their emphasis is to simply be visible and approach this role much like a park ranger - to be a helpful and friendly face giving directions, helping with vehicles that are locked or won’t start, and alerting the staff to downed limbs or other maintenance issues they find.

Common policing consist of asking drivers to slow down, turning away would-be explorers at night, and helping with parking and traffic for big events.

Simple security could provide these services, but their commissions as full police allow them to handle the rare occurrences of more significant issues.

For example, as a police officer they have the ability to detain, identify, ticket, or arrest for misdemeanor offenses such as trespass, vandalism, petty theft, and various lewd or disorderly conduct where a “security officer” would lack authority.

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President's Message

Greetings to the Green Lawn Family!



Kelly Casto, President GLCA

Hello!

I am thrilled to be writing my first Presidents Message with the welcoming of the Summer Sunshine!

My name is Kelly Casto, and after 7 years of serving on the Green Lawn Cemetery Board of Directors, I am pleased to be taking the reigns from my predecessor, Kevin Schoedinger, as the incoming President. Since 1895, generations of my family have been memorialized at Green Lawn, and my young boys never get tired of visiting and 'scavenger hunting' for our ancestors' around the property. Throughout my years on the Board, it has been such a pleasure to see the variety of enriching events & activities Green Lawn offers the Community. My personal favorite is the Day of the Dead festivities in October, but the Summers offer many happenings such as bicycle tours & bird walks that I'm looking forward to checking out.

As I transition to President, my fellow Board members and I are thrilled to announce the addition of two fabulous new Board Members!

Carrie Morrow is the Assistant Resource Manager for the Columbus and Franklin County MetroParks since 2000 and has worked for the parks since 1997. She lives in Grove City with her husband, two children, and two rescued dogs.

Priscilla Tyson recently retired after 14 years on City Council. Prior to that she worked in banking and healthcare. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Franklin University. She and her husband reside in Eastmoor and are the proud parents of five grown children.

Welcome Carrie and Priscilla!

Wildlife Stories



Our security cameras recently caught this red fox violating cemetery rules against climbing monuments.

Another camera captured two coyotes patrolling Greenlawn Avenue - trespassers beware!



Protecting and Serving Green Lawn

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They also have the authority to submit evidence to the state crime lab, including fingerprints from a recent monument that was pushed over.

Visible patrols have reduced even minor issues to a small number each year, but realistically we know that problems will occur and that neighboring police departments simply can't spend all of their time in the cemetery.

The program has had some notable successes.

When our monument company down the street was broken into, it was the Green Lawn Police who

identified the suspect from security video. Later that week an officer observed him in the neighborhood, called the Sheriff's Office and guided their detective to him, and working with the detective took him into custody. Our property was recovered and the suspect charged.

More recently, after observing unusual behavior, one of the officers initiated a welfare check that resulted in the recovery of a missing adult that required immediate medical assistance.

The cemetery recently increased the hours of coverage so that now there is either staff, police, or both in the cemetery at all times. There is no guarantee that we can prevent all problems, but having the cemetery police provides the best deterrence available and also increases the chances that when there is a problem it will be limited.

We wish them many quiet and boring shifts!



Night patrol at Green Lawn...

Volunteers Make Green Lawn Cemetery Greener



Volunteers showed up in force on Saturday, April 23rd for a cemetery litter cleanup as a part of Earth Day Columbus, the largest volunteer-driven service event for Earth Day in the country.

Thanks to the over 30 volunteers who dedicated their Saturday morning to making a difference, Green Lawn Cemetery is a whole lot cleaner and more dignified. Volunteers focused on the approach to the cemetery along Green Lawn Avenue as well as cemetery's extensive perimeter where litter tends to collect.

Approximately 60 bags of litter were removed!

Artist Brett Affrunti Provides an Impression of Green Lawn



Last fall Columbus Monthly published an image of the Hayden Mausoleum by New York artist Brett Affrunti.

When contacted by the cemetery, he was happy to allow us a license to the image, and also willing to create a companion piece featuring the Huntington Chapel.

Heritage readers are getting a “first look” at these brilliant images - enjoy!



Restoration Projects

Clockwise from right:

The Beal monument is our largest “white bronze”, or zinc, monument, but a combination of woodchuck holes and a loose stone base had caused it to tilt and start to deform. The Special Perpetual Care Fund was used to have the monument taken to a conservation lab and repaired while the cemetery staff poured a new concrete base so that now it is ready for the next 120 years.

The cemetery association recently funded the repair of 15 historic markers that had been vandalized over the years. These technical repairs were completed by Gravestone Guardians of Ohio.

The second of the Arthur Thomas murals from the Charles Hayden mausoleum has been restored thanks to the Friends of Green Lawn Annual Campaign. “Jesus Resurrected” joins “Jesus Teaching” in the completed hopper, and the lab is now working on the third of the four murals.



News from Memorial Properties

Operating Green Lawn Since 2019!



Memorial Properties is pleased to welcome new General Manager Kevin Boudle to Green Lawn.

Long time readers will know we have not had a true GM since 2009, and the return of this key position is a significant step.

Kevin comes to us from Greenville, SC, where he was General Manager of a combination funeral home/cemetery. He has been involved with the industry for 30 years in various capacities and currently holds a funeral director license in South Carolina.

Kevin is married (Donna) and they have two children.

He views Green Lawn as the next great challenge in his career and is committed to improving all aspects of the cemetery, but especially the experience of our families.



Mr. Zander Goshay (right) won our Mothers' Day raffle and received a certificate good for a free headstone cleaning.



Memorial Day was a busy day, and one lucky visitor won a new Char-Broil grill in our raffle! Congratulations Mr. Tyrone Truss (left), - enjoy your summer cooking out!

Upcoming Green Lawn Cemetery Events

July 24, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Columbus Landmarks Summer Walk.

Join us on the path less traveled as Randy Rogers and Doreen Uhas Sauer visit many of the brewers and noteworthy madams that contributed to the 19th century economy of a growing American city. You won't want to miss this one! The tour begins at the Huntington Chapel. Register at www.columbuslandmarks.org

August 27, 1:00-3:00pm: Green Lawn Cemetery Bike Tour. Green Lawn partners with Outdoor Pursuits to offer guided bike tours narrated by Matt Wolf and Randy Rogers. Tours begin and end at Green Lawn Abbey at 700 Greenlawn Avenue. Bring your own bike or Outdoor Pursuits can provide one. Register at: <https://app.donorview.com/v7RW9>

September 13, 11:30am-1:00pm: Preplanning Lunch & Learn Seminar. Join us for a free lunch at Schmidt's Sausage Haus in the historic German Village neighborhood of Columbus. This is an opportunity to learn about many benefits of preplanning and all that Green Lawn Cemetery has to offer. Reservations required by calling 614-444-1123.

October 8, 10:00am-7:00pm: Day of the Dead/El Dia de los Muertos. A festival to celebrate life and to remember family and friends who have passed from this life. This free family event will feature art exhibitions, poetry readings, storytelling, kids' activities, music, crafts, and food trucks serving authentic Mexican food.

October 22, 5:00pm-7:00pm: Walking with the Dead 10K, 5K and 1-Mile Walk/Run. Come join us for a fun, safe Halloween weekend in-person run and walk! Columbus Rotary and CD102.5, The Alternative Station are co-hosting the event. All proceeds go to maintain Green Lawn Cemetery. Participants may choose from a list of starting wave times. Costumes are encouraged. To register visit <https://raceroster.com/events/2020/34546/walking-with-the-dead-10k-5k-and-1-mile-runwalk>

Latest Events and Updates

Website: <https://www.greenlawncemetery.org/events/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GreenLawnCemeteryColumbus>



A Belated Thank You....

In our last edition we neglected to note that in addition to the Annual Campaign donation from his family fund, Louis Sanford also made a personal donation at the Sassafras giving level. Thanks again to Louis and all our wonderful supporters!

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**Special Thanks to our Green Lawn Trustees and
Volunteers**

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