



A VERY SPECIAL PARK

Heritage

The Newsletter of Green Lawn Cemetery
Spring 2023

Green Lawn Cemetery Grows Greener

Sustainability at cemeteries is becoming increasingly important. Green Lawn Cemetery had a head start being designed in the mid-19th century as part of the Rural Cemetery movement. This design concept, executed by landscape architect Howard Daniels at Green Lawn, preserved many of the natural features and the native mixed oak forest.

Today, as central Ohio grapples with the challenges of steady population growth, urbanization, and impacts of climate change, Green Lawn Cemetery is evolving. We not only function as an operating cemetery, but as one of the best preserved green spaces near downtown Columbus.

Spanning over 300 acres Green Lawn is also an arboretum with many trees over 200 years old. An ambitious replanting project was completed in 2021 adding over 2300 young trees to the cemetery grounds. This project significantly increased Green Lawn’s tree density and has ensured a steadily expanding tree canopy for decades to come.

This “green investment” will pay dividends to our community through cleaner air, reduced runoff, captured carbon, and cooler temperatures for surrounding neighborhoods. After all, trees are nature’s economical air conditioner. And they don’t send you an electric bill.

Our recently launched **green tree burial** option promises to add even more trees and offset the environmental impacts of cremation, which emits carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Cremated remains are placed in a biodegradable pod in the ground, with a memorial tree planted on top. Celebrating a life by feeding a tree leaves a positive environmental legacy.

Reduced waste and recycling has become a priority as Ohio strives to extend the life of its landfills.

Green Lawn minimizes the application of pesticides and fertilizers, reducing the impact on wildlife and pollinators. Leaves and grass are mulched, rather than removed, continuing the cycle of organic soil enrichment. Our thriving native prairie enhances ecological richness and provides a natural option for spreading cremated remains.

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Volunteers help remove litter along the fence.

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President's Message



*Kelly Casto, President,
Green Lawn Cemetery Association*

Spring Greetings to the Green Lawn Family!

Spring is a time of both hard work and a chance to pause and give thanks to the many friends who support the cemetery.

This year a lot of work has been going on at Huntington Chapel including a new roof and new skylights over the north room, repairing water damage and painting the ceilings, and replacing the 1979 light over the entrance with a more appropriate vintage chandelier. Thanks to a grant from Huntington Bank, we are also replacing the non-working 1961 carillon system to return bells and chimes to the grounds!

In the summer Heritage, we will reveal the return of the iconic elk to Elk's Rest, and I am also happy to report progress on restoring the iron and wood doors to the Hayden mausoleum and a new sign commemorating the consecration of the grounds in 1849.

All of this and so much more is possible because of the support we receive from all of you! The 2023 Annual Letter Campaign raised nearly \$149,000 - which contributed to these and other projects as well as increasing the cemetery's endowment by \$25,000.

Thank you so much for your continued support, and I hope you all have opportunity to visit and see some of these exciting projects in person.

Out in the Gardens....



This new sign marks the area where Green Lawn got it's start and is part of our efforts this year and next to commemorate our founding and our consecration and grand opening 175 years ago.

Green Lawn Cemetery Grows Greener *(Continued)*

Green Lawn has removed over 350 illegally dumped tires from wooded cemetery-owned lands and the surrounding neighborhood, and is a partner with Columbus GreenSpot and Columbus Audubon.

Green Lawn Cemetery is more than just a final resting place. It is also a place where we celebrate life and community, participate in events and hobbies, view wildlife, and enjoy peaceful reflection.

With care, Green Lawn will serve and nurture our community for generations.



Volunteers from the Ohio Dept. of Forestry plant an elm tree.

News from Memorial Properties *Operating Green Lawn since 2019!*

We are pleased to announce the availability of **two newly available companion crypts** for full body interment in the stunning north wing of Huntington Chapel. These are the last two currently available.

The historic Huntington Chapel was constructed in 1903 with mausoleum additions added in 1961 and 1979, and is adorned with Tiffany & Co. stained glass windows and art glass murals.

Several projects have been completed or are in the works at the chapel. Recently we painted the back of the building and the interior ceilings, replaced the roofs and skylights on the west and north rooms, replaced the 1980s entry chandelier with a vintage chandelier, and added a circa 1900 cast iron bench believed to have come from the cemetery grounds.



We recovered this bench at an auction - it is believed to be one of the benches shown in early Green Lawn postcard images.

Soon we will be adding a decorative wall mural to the west room, and we are in the process of replacing the carillon system and returning chimes and bells to both the chapel and the grounds.

The chapel offers **glass fronted niches** as an elegant option for the placement of cremation urns and personal mementos.

Stop by the office during your next visit for access to see this Green Lawn gem!



Our "new" chandelier (donated by Leticia Vazquez-Smith), we also repainted the metallic domed ceiling above the entry.

Thank You!

Dear Friends of Green Lawn,

Spring is the most beautiful time of the year at Green Lawn, and I hope that you will have the opportunity to walk or drive through the cemetery in the coming weeks. The migrating birds and flowering trees will be too lovely to miss!

Thank you for your contributions to the annual campaign. Your generous giving in 2022—coupled with the time and talent of our volunteers and partners—will fund the following projects approved for Green Lawn in the coming year. These restoration projects are both significant and very visible to the public:

- ❖ Addition of a whimsical tribute to birdwatching in the ravine
- ❖ Restoration of the final of four murals saved from the Hayden Mausoleum
- ❖ Replacement of carillon system and other work in Huntington Chapel
- ❖ Funding a major addition to the grounds to commemorate our 175th anniversary next year

In addition, we continue to host historic walks and special events and programs through the year and support research into our deep history.

The Friends Advisory Committee members— Trip Lazarus, Susy Meiling, Jane Mykrantz, Randy Rogers, and Anne Wright join me in thanking you for your commitment. This spring, we are recognizing our most devoted Friends of Green Lawn and welcoming a new generation of donors. We depend on you and truly appreciate your partnership!

Like you, my family members and many dear friends are buried at Green Lawn. It is a privilege to join you in honoring those we love by taking good care of this very special park.

Lynne M. Jeffrey
President
Green Lawn Cemetery Foundation



For more 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 at greenlawncemeteryassoc@gmail.com.

Green Lawn 2022 Annual Campaign Donors

We gratefully acknowledge donors to the 2022 Annual Campaign. We appreciate each of you for your partnership in maintaining the architectural treasures and natural environment at Green Lawn. Thank you for your investment in this Very Special Park!

WHITE OAK—\$10,000 and above

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Gay for Good
Ohio History Connection
Ohio Humanities Council
The Columbus Foundation
Latino Arts for the Humanities



Upcoming Green Lawn Events

Saturday, April 15, 2pm-4m: “Green Lawn Cemetery Bike Tour”: Join us for a fully guided bike tour narrated by Randy Rogers and Matt Wolf. The tour starts at Green Lawn Abbey then rides deep into the cemetery to explore notable graves, unique sculptures, interesting history, and the historic Huntington chapel. Bring your bike or Outdoor Pursuits can provide one. This is a fundraiser. \$35/rider. You must register in advance at: <https://app.donorview.com/wkX4O>

Saturday, April 22, 10am-12pm: “Green Lawn Cemetery Litter Cleanup”: Help us keep Green Lawn green, clean, and dignified. Volunteers needed to help pick up litter. All supplies provided. Held in partnership with Earth Day Columbus!

Sunday, April 30, 2pm-4pm: “Spring Walking Tour”: Join Randy Rogers & author Doreen Uhas Sauer on the path less traveled. The tour begins at Huntington Chapel near the middle of Green Lawn Cemetery. We’ll meander outside to unique monuments, notable graves, and features that make Green Lawn Cemetery one of the finest examples of the rural cemetery movement. 2 hours. This is a fundraiser. \$25/person. Register at: <https://app.donorview.com/AZwEy>

Sunday, May 14, 9am-3pm: Mother’s Day at Green Lawn. Pick up a complimentary carnation in honor of Mothers who are missed and remembered on this special day. Carnations are a symbol of the purity, strength, and endurance of a Mother’s love. The Huntington Chapel will be open for visitation.

Saturday, May 27, 11am-12pm: Memorial Day Program: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) will hold a special Memorial Day service to honor Civil War Veterans. This free event will be held inside the historic Huntington Chapel.

Monday, May 29, 9am-3pm: Memorial Day Open House. Hosted by Green Lawn Abbey and Green Lawn Cemetery. Join us for refreshments at The Abbey and a lunch cookout in front of Huntington Chapel in Green Lawn Cemetery. Guided tours of Green Lawn Abbey and the historic Huntington Chapel are planned.

[More Events & Updates](#)

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

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

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

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Green Lawn Heritage, 1000 Greenlawn Avenue,
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Phone: (614) 444-1123
Fax: (614) 444-9815
Email: greenlawncemeteryassoc@gmail.com
website: greenlawncemetery.org
Facebook: facebook.com/GreenLawnCemeteryColumbus