Woodland Events

Select tours and special events at Woodland in Fall 2018

Let’s Talk Trees Arboretum Tour
September 12 and October 10
Tours begin at 10:00 a.m.

140th Anniversary of the Burial of Matilda Stanley, Queen of the Gypsies
Saturday, September 15
Program and ceremony begins at 5:00 p.m.

Woodland Bird Walks
Fall Migration - September 22
Tour begin at 9:00 a.m.

Discover Woodland Days
Sunday, October 7
Tours begin 12, 12:30 and 1 p.m.

Indoor Mausoleum Tour
October 11, November 8 and December 13 at 9:00 am

Holiday Remembrance Service
Friday, December 7
Program begins at 6:00 p.m.

2018 Summer Projects Issue

This issue of Woodland Wire highlights many of the service projects worked by individuals and community groups in 2018. We hope that the next time you visit Woodland that you will make note to visit the areas where these volunteers and workers have spent countless hours to make Woodland beautiful and timeless.

The Cleaning of the Daniel Cooper Monument

On a warm July afternoon, members of the Daniel Cooper Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) met at Woodland Cemetery. The DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women’s service organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America’s future through better education and promoting patriotism. Seven members: Carol Flowers, Debra Beebe, JoAnn Collins, Kathy Hodges, Liz Lowrey, Stephanie McKenzie and Judy Hoover met with Misti Spellman, a Woodland volunteer, to experience the skill of proper preservation of grave markers. At the close of the groups cleaning efforts, a wreath was placed at the gravesite of Daniel Cooper to honor the 200th anniversary of his death.

Judy Hoover of the Daniel Cooper Chapter, NSDAR said that the group was grateful for the experience to learn how to properly clean the grave marker and said that they were very appreciative to serve Woodland Cemetery in this small way.

What if Dayton had been named Cooperstown?

Seventeen days after the signing of the Treaty of Greenville, Judge Cleves Symmes of New Jersey, sold the seventh and eight ranges of his vast land holdings, between the Great Miami and Mad Rivers on one side and the Little Miami on the other to Governor Arthur St. Clair, General Jonathan Dayton, General James Wilkinson, and Colonel Israel Ludlow. Gen. St. Clair employed Benjamin VanCleve and Daniel C. Cooper, a surveyor, to be their agent. Cooper blazed the trail from Fort Hamilton up the east bank of the Miami River to the mouth of the Mad River. The next expedition was conducted personally by Colonel Ludlow on November 4, 1795.

(Continued on page 4)
Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum Summer Projects 2018

Summer Work, Earn and Learn Program

For the third year in a row, Woodland offered select high school students the opportunity to work up to 16 hours per week for 8 to 10 weeks this summer in a work, earn and learn program. The students worked on various garden and landscaping projects in the cemetery under the guidance of several groundskeepers at Woodland. The group of students ranged from sophomores to seniors from the following schools: Northmont, Ponitz Career Center, Miami Valley School, Belmont, Fairmont, Oakwood and one who is homeschooled. The team worked on Wednesday’s and Thursday’s to establish a new landscaped garden in Section 309. They drew the plans for the garden, selected the plants and flowers, prepared the ground for planting, and worked together to make a visual impact in that part of the cemetery.

Additionally, the students also worked on the restoration and preservation of several historic monuments and were given the Historic Tour of the cemetery where they were introduced to many of Dayton’s notable residents and learned how their contributions made it great in Dayton. The students participated in several special events at the cemetery including the 175th Anniversary of the first burial in the cemetery on July 11th. By August, the team wrapped up their gardening and landscaping work and provided a tour of their completed projects and history of Woodland to their parents and invited guests.

“This program continues to grow each year with the number of qualified students who come to Woodland to seek more than just a summer job,” said Sean O’Regan, President and CEO of Woodland. “We are pleased to see the enthusiasm and hard work put in by these students and are fortunate to have their hands that created a beautiful garden for the visitors and families that we serve. It is our hope to continue the program as long as we have students willing to learn about horticulture care and the history of Dayton.”

John Siskaninetz, a junior at Oakwood High School said that he applied for the position because gardening was one of his favorite hobbies and that he wants to possibly pursue a career in either Environmental or Conservation Science. He also stated that he hoped to transfer the skills he learned from the program to use with the Ecology Club he belongs to at school. John said that it would be an honor to help beautify Woodland Cemetery.

Eric Franklin, a junior at Fairmont High School said that he wanted to get experience in different types of career fields and wanted to get a feeling of what the work environment was like. He also said that he is interested in Dayton’s history and was looking forward to learning more about the people who invented many of the items we use today.

Liberty Endres, a junior at the Miami Valley School said that she often visits Woodland and is amazed by how well-kept and beautiful the cemetery is and she wanted to have the opportunity to be a part of making that happen for all to see. She thought the program would help her gain experience in caring for the community.

Isaiah Harding, a junior at Ponitz Career Center applied because he thought it would be a great opportunity as his first work experience. He too was interested in the opportunity to learn more about Dayton’s history as he and most of his family are all from Dayton.
Sinclair Community College Summer Bridge Community Engagement Program

The Summer Bridge program is a weeklong orientation for first year students attending Sinclair College in the fall semester. The idea behind the community engagement track is to spark engaged citizenship of the students and to show them the best that Dayton has to offer.

Mary Rospert, the program coordinator, and seven students arrived on July 19th ready to work. Mary and the students worked on the cleaning and restoration of the George Schantz Mausoleum while learning a little history about George and his family.

George Schantz, with his brother Adam, opened the Riverside Brewery in 1882. After selling his interest to his brother, he opened the Schantz and Schwind Brewing Company in Dayton and later merged that company with The Dayton Breweries Company becoming vice-president of that firm until his death in 1917.

Ocean Birdson, a Mound Street Academy 2018 graduate, will be a first year Creative Arts major at Sinclair in the fall. He said he chose to participate at Woodland to get out of his comfort zone and explore the area. He was open to adventure and learning new things.

After their hard work, the students were led on a guided tour through Woodland stopping at the gravesites of the many notables including the Wright Brothers, Paul Laurence Dunbar, John Van Cleve, George Newcom, and Daniel Beckel just to name a few. All of the students then took in the scenic view of the Gem City at Lookout Point.

Woodland is grateful for all of the schools and universities that use its grounds as a teaching and learning opportunity. Woodland is a unique cultural, botanical and educational resource not only in Dayton but for the entire southwest region of Ohio. If your classroom is interested in participating in a like project, call us at 937-228-3221 to set up a consultation of projects and activities available.

Cleaning and Restoration of Historic Headstones and Monuments at Woodland Cemetery

In the next issue of Woodland Wire we will feature a story on volunteer Misti Spillman and her passion for cleaning and restoring headstones and markers in cemeteries.

Here is a sneak peek of Misti at work on the David Ziegler ledger and the “before and after” photos of George Newcom’s headstone.
Continued from page 1

During the winter of 1796, forty-six men in Cincinnati agreed to settle in the new town but when the time came, only nineteen responded. William Hamer and George Newcom were in charge of the two overland parties, which would follow the trail laid out previously by Cooper.

Newcom’s party, walked the distance of 55 miles, taking two weeks to make the journey. The Samuel Thompson party made the journey in ten days, by pirogue on the river. Benjamin VanCleve was one that helped propel the boat.

Newcom’s Tavern was the first cabin erected, and soon the town was well under way, but trouble soon erupted in 1800, and the town nearly folded. Judge Cleves Symmes had not made good on his government land contract. The U. S. Government decided to increase their demand for payment from the original 68 cents per acre to 2 dollars per acre. Some of the Dayton settlers left town in disgust. In 1802, only five families remained in Dayton.

It was Daniel C. Cooper who came to the aid of the settlers. A petition from his own hand was dispatched to Congress telling them what a hard time the Dayton people were having, how faithfully they had worked and how cruel it would be to dispossess them after such a good start. Cooper then took over, on his own responsibility, the title risk and bought outright from each settler his holdings, until practically the whole town of Dayton was under his name. Because of Cooper’s generosity, the town was forever free of invalid titles and all future arrivals had their titles secured. Cooper donated land areas for churches, schools and businesses and even two burying grounds.

On the morning of July 13, 1818, Cooper fetched a wheelbarrow from his barn and pushed it to the Phillips Store on the southeast corner of Second and Main where he was to pick up a bell and deliver it to the church. The bell was heavy, and he tugged and pulled and strained to hoist it into the barrow. The veins on his forehead head stood out as the blood rushed through them as he struggled. Finally with the bell in the wheelbarrow, he started for the church.

He started down Second Street, but before he had gone very far, his hands lost their grasp on the barrow handles and he fell over in the street.

Daniel Cooper was dead. A blood vessel in his brain had burst.

When he died, Cooper was 45 and the leading citizen of Dayton. He had a beautiful wife and a 6-year-old son. His death stunned the community.

Of all the land that Cooper gave to the city, only the plot he gave "for a public walk forever" still remains. The Dayton Metro Library was built on the land, and for a few years the surrounding area was called Library Park. Eventually the city fathers passed a resolution that it should be called Cooper Park.

Daniel Cooper died on July 13, 1818. He was the 28th interment at Woodland Cemetery having been removed from the old 5th Street Cemetery to Woodland on May 4, 1844. He is located in Section 55 Lot 1.

July 13th, 2018 marked the 200th Anniversary of the death of Daniel Cooper. We hope you will come out to pay a visit to the “Father of Dayton” and thank him for putting the Gem City on the map.

In honor of another 140th Anniversary of the burial of Matilda Stanley, Queen of the Gypsies, in Woodland Cemetery, we encourage you to donate $140 or more. We hope you will consider upgrading your yearly membership donation or make an additional donation in honor of Queen Matilda who was laid to rest on September 15, 1878 at the age of 56.

Each donor making a donation of $140 or more from August 15th through September 30th will receive a set of ceramic Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum coasters.

Your donation of any amount can be designated to go towards the repair and restoration of the Levi and Matilda Stanley monument.
Thank you for your donation to Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum.

**Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum**  
118 Woodland Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45409  
937-228-3221

**Woodland Arboretum Foundation**  
(Return this card with your check)

*Your gift is a tax deductible donation to a 501(c)3 public charity.*

Please make your check payable to:

**Woodland Arboretum Foundation**

Please make your check payable to:

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Membership Level

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Gifts of $140 or more received through September 30, 2018 will receive a set of Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum coasters. Foundation members will receive our quarterly newsletter, *Woodland Wire*, and invitation to member events.

Please accept (my)(our) GIFT for 2018 in the amount of $

____________________________________________

Apply my gift to the:

- [ ] Horticulture Fund
- [ ] Arboretum Foundation
- [ ] Chapel Restoration
- [ ] Stanley Restoration

Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.

(please indicate above how you wish to be recognized)

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Address

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□ My gift is to be made in the memory of: ________________________________________________

Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum!

Go to krogercommunityrewards.com and link your Kroger Plus Card to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum #28721.

Go to dorothylane.com/ClubDLM/goodneighbor and link your ClubDLM Card to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum #821

Our Foundation continues to focus on the restoration, preservation, horticultural and educational projects needed to keep Woodland a cultural resource for Dayton and Ohio. Thank you for your continued support!

Prefer to make a donation online or over the phone? Go to our website at woodlandcemetery.org and select the “Donate” bar on the left side of the page. You can donate through our secure and universally recognized PayPal account. You can also make a donation with your credit card by calling our office at 937-228-3221.

*Beautiful, Timeless and Still Available...*
Remembering Matilda ... Queen of the Gypsies
A Celebration of Gypsy culture and heritage

We hope you will join us in support of a special fundraising event to repair and restore the Stanley Family monument located in Section 102. Current conditions of the monument will lead to the dismantling of the structure out of safety concerns for visitors. It is our hope that we can do the repairs to the monument while it is still standing and in place without the removal from the gravesite.

A special celebration is planned for September 15, 2018 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the 140th Anniversary of the burial of Matilda Stanley.

Activities will include a gypsy-like menu of food entrees, musical entertainment by Tiempo Perdido, fortune tellers and tarot card readers, a historic candlelight walk tracing the original steps of the burial procession for Matilda, laying of wreaths and flowers for the Gypsy Queen at her grave site, singing on one of the original hymns from her graveside service, re-blessing of the grounds and prayers for the Stanley Family members buried at Woodland.

For ticketing and event registration, go online to bit.ly/WoodlandCemetery.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, September 15, 2018 5:00—8:00 pm at Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum 118 Woodland Avenue in Dayton