



SINCE

1841

WOODLAND

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM



National Inventor's Month:

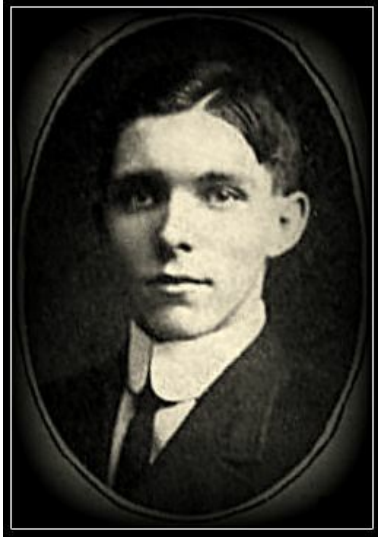
National Inventors Month recognizes the curiosity and imagination of the people who innovate and create.

In the years following the Civil War, Dayton grew from a place where things were made into a place where things were invented. By the early 1900s, Dayton had more patents per capita than any other U.S. city.

Today, some of these inventors rest in Woodland Cemetery—here are just a few of them!

Levitt Luzern Custer

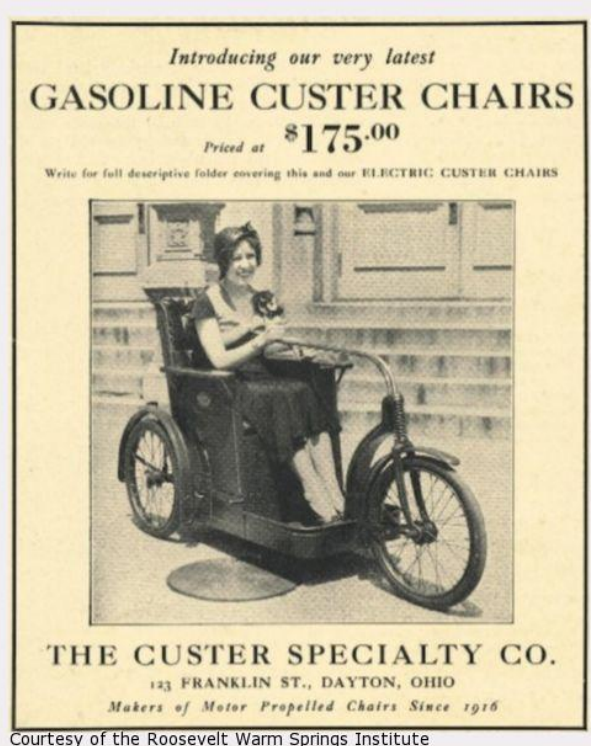
(7/27/1888 - 8/30/1962)



Levitt Luzern Custer graduated from Otterbein University in 1909 and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1913.

In 1919, he invented an early form of motorized wheelchair called the Custer Chair.

Levitt Luzern Custer & his father, Levitt E. Custer, rest in section 113, lot 338 at Woodland Cemetery.



Above: ad for the gasoline-powered Custer Chair, published by The Polio Chronicle, July 1933. Image courtesy of Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation Archives

Edith Boyer

(7/27/1888 - 8/30/1962)



Edith & her husband Israel were both mechanically minded.

Mr. Boyer died suddenly in 1899, as they were working on a tag making machine. Mrs. Boyer completed the machine, which took paper or cardboard tags and inserted a knotted

3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



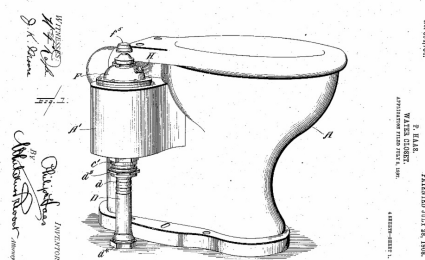
From 1910 until 1915, the Boyers' small factory produced about 20 million tags for many different companies.



(6/7/1874 - 9/30/1927)

Born in Germany, Philip Haas is sometimes known as the 'Father of the Modern Toilet'. Over the course of his career, he received 31 patents connected to plumbing innovation.

By inventing the flush rim toilet and developing a hydraulic flush valve—both features we'd recognize in our bathrooms at home, Philip Haas transformed the notoriously unreliable water closet into the modern commode.



Symbols of the Season:

Poppy:

Poppies have long been used as a symbol of sleep, peace, and death. During WWI, following trench warfare in Flanders, Belgium, the red-flowered corn poppy (or: *Papaver rhoeas*) became associated with the remembrance of soldiers who died in combat. This type of poppy is commonly found on many former battlefields, including at Flanders, which is the setting of John McCrae's famous poem "In Flanders Fields".

The association between poppies and sleep has a similarly long-standing history. On grave markers, the poppy traditionally represents the idea of 'eternal rest'; probably because opium (a sedative) is derived from a type of poppy. In Greek and Roman traditions, poppies were often chosen as offerings to the dead.



Photo (left): Josephine M. Carlisle's marker; cast in bronze, the left side and bottom edge depicts poppies & seedheads.

Photo (above): Poppies in the Sunset on Lake Geneva, by [Eric Hill](#) (2007).

Upcoming Events!



Memorial Day Service:

5/26/2025 @ 10 am

Join us on Memorial Day as we honor and remember those who have died during service in the U.S. military. It is a day of reflection, remembrance, and showing respect for the sacrifices of fallen service members. This program will take place at Woodland Cemetery in our Veteran's Lot at 10am and is presented by Sherman Camp No. 93, Dayton, Department of Ohio and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.



Historic Woodland Tour:

Founded in 1841, Woodland is one of the oldest rural cemeteries in the United States.

Explore the grounds and visit the final resting place of the Wright Brothers, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Erma Bombeck, James Ritty, the Stanley Family, the Mead Family, George Newcom and many other famous and infamous Daytonians.

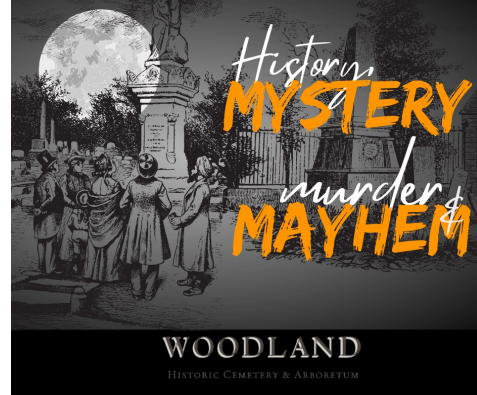
Upcoming Tours:

5/20 @ 10 am

5/22 @ 6 pm

5/28 @ 6 pm

Click [here](#) to register!



History Mystery Murder & Mayhem:

Who confessed on their deathbed of murdering 18-year-old Christine Kett? Did Rose Shafor really dress up as a man to help her lover commit a crime? Who killed Julius Kruse? And was the "Cincinnati Ripper" living in Dayton? These stories and more are told in this walk to the grave sites of a victim or perpetrator of a crime.

Please note that the tour relates the actual accounts of murders that took place in Dayton. Graphic details are given and may not be appropriate for all audiences.

This 2-hour tour may be deemed strenuous by some and is not recommended for young children, elderly patrons, or those who may have trouble walking long distances through hilly and uneven grassy areas.

Upcoming Tours:

5/21 @ 6 pm

5/22 @ 10 am

5/27 @ 6 pm

Click [here](#) to register!

Don't get caught by surprise:

The Easter/springtime decoration period ends April 26. Please be sure to bring home all decor items that you wish to keep. Adornment clean off begins April 28th!

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Mother's Day 5/11 & Memorial Day 5/26						

Key:

Dark Green = Weekly Clean Off
 Orange = Do Not Clean Off
 Soft Grey = At Woodland's Discretion

Support Woodland:

Woodland is proud to remain an active part of the Dayton community as a popular place to walk, relax and enjoy.

We invite you to contribute to the Woodland Arboretum Foundation to ensure that what's meaningful to you today, continues tomorrow! Your gift makes an immediate impact on the horticulture, arboriculture, and restoration efforts needed to maintain one of Dayton's most historic and beautiful outdoor museums.

Thank you for your generous support of Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum.

[DONATE ONLINE!](#)

Come Visit Us!



Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
 8am-5pm

Volunteer opportunities

Woodland is seeking volunteers to give presentations to community groups on subjects such as local history, notable biographies, and trees.

Not into public speaking? Consider getting involved with our horticulture team, or assisting with special events & research projects.

*If there is something you'd like to see here at Woodland please reach out to us & suggest it!

Tours & More:

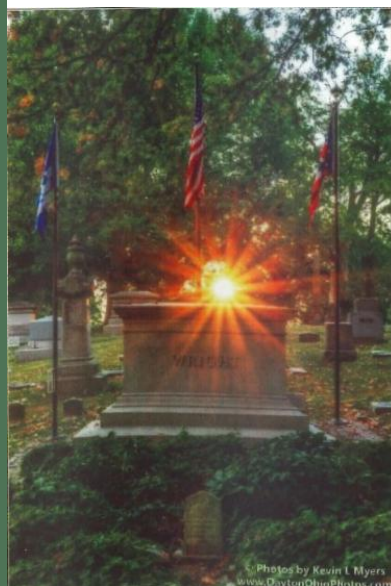
We welcome walkers, runners, and wanderers -- leashed dogs & school groups.

Register for a guided tour: visit the

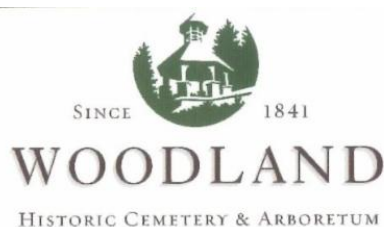
If you need help finding where someone is buried, need directions to a particular area, or have questions about pre-planning or funeral services, Woodland's Staff is here to assist you!

Woodland Cemetery website! Learn about fascinating Daytonians resting peacefully in one of America's oldest rural garden cemeteries!

Or check out our **virtual tours!** (if you really don't want to go outside)



Photos by Kevin L. Myers
www.DaytonOhioPhotos.com



Committed to providing dignified and caring funeral services and burial options to families of all faiths since 1841.

Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum
118 Woodland Ave.
Dayton, OH 45409
woodlandcemetery.org

Beautiful. Timeless. Still Available...



Discover the men and women who made it great in Dayton on a guided walking or bus tour. Self-guided tours are available on our mobile app.

For information call 937-228-3221 or e-mail info@woodlandcemetery.org

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum | [Visit our website!](#)

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum | 118 Woodland Ave. | Dayton, OH 45409 US

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