

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM



# Did You Know: May is National Preservation Month!

National Preservation Month; also called Historic Preservation Month, encourages us to celebrate our heritage through preserving historic places. Whether your interest is in touring historical sites or helping to preserve local history, Woodland has something for everyone!

Not only are places like Woodland worth preserving—their stories are too. For as long as we've been looking, we've found more to discover. Whether the story is found in our archives or carved in stone, peeling back the layers of time helps us understand



our shared past.

A walk through the cemetery provides a rich and surprisingly lively history of people who lived and died here in Dayton. The more we work to preserve their memories, the better we can imagine their hardships, what they valued, and the kinds of decisions they made.

If you're itching to get hands-on with preservation, Woodland is pleased to announce the return of our gravestone preservation workshops this summer! Conducted by our manager of preservation, Misti Spillman, this workshop will focus on cleaning and preserving historic grave markers.

Participants will receive a gravestonecleaning starter kit including all the tools they'll need, and learn proper techniques for cleaning away years of discoloration and repairing broken stones.

For more information, click here.

# May 4th is National Weather Observer's Day

Weather observers are a valuable resource for our community—these hobbyists often assist the National Weather Service by acting as storm spotters.

Dayton's first official weather observer was Mrs. Edith Boyer, who began studying the local weather in 1882.

We honor her on National Weather Observers' Day by taking a moment to learn a little bit about the weather, the history of weather tracking, and the people who make it all possible!



Mrs. Edith Boyer began recording temperature, precipitation, and barometric pressure from the roof of her home on Findlay St., sharing the data with local newspapers. When she was officially recognized by the state in 1911, she was paid \$36 a year for her services—about \$1,211 today. Edith then paid her son, Alexander G.L. Boyer, 10 cents per day to deliver the reports to the post office downtown.

Interest in science, not the money, intrigued her. Many years after an official weather station was established, Edith was still keeping a record of Dayton's weather by using the meteorological instruments she kept in her home.

Edith rests beside her husband, Israel Boyer, in section 103, lot 1977 at Woodland Cemetery.

# Symbols of the Season

One of the earliest woody plants to produce leaves in spring and the last to drop their leaves in autumn, willows have been one of humanity's favorite trees for a long, long time.

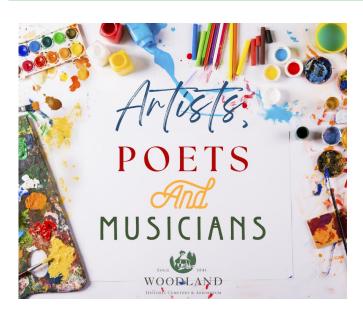
The generic name, Salix, was adopted by the Romans to refer to various types of willow. One theory is that the word was originally from a Celtic language; sal meaning 'near' and lis meaning 'water'—referring to the willow's preference for moist habitats.

The willow tree's bent shape is a natural analogy to human grief, making it one of the most popular gravestone decorations of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Willow Tree
Salix alba



# **Upcoming Events!**



Artists, Poets & Musicians Tour:

Thomas Sylvanda Sylva

Women of Woodland:

Meet some of the most interesting and exciting women in Dayton's history.

Remembering members of the Arts

community of the Greater Miami Valley Area who are resting peacefully at Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum.

**Upcoming Tours:** 

5/3 @ 10 am

Click here to register!

You'll hear about homemaker turned author, Erma Bombeck; madam and real estate owner, Lib Hedges; a visionary for the physically handicapped and disabled, Anna Barney Gorman; Queen of the Gypsies, Matilda Stanley; librarian innovator, Electra C. Doren; Dayton historical author, Charlotte Reeve Conover; rodeo rider, Marguerite Doane; famous actress and woman scorned, Mrs. Leslie Carter and many, many more.

**Upcoming Tours:** 

5/14 @ 2 pm

Click <u>here</u> to register!



Mother's Day 5/11 & Memorial Day 5/26

### 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!

#### <u>Key</u>:

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

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!

### Volunteer opportunities

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

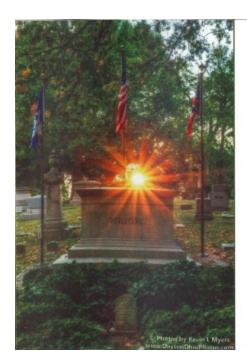
Not into public speaking? Consider getting involved with our horticulture team, or assisting with special events & research projects.

\*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 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)





HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

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