



# 2012 Memorial Day Newsletter



www.woodlandcemetery.org 937-222-1431

## Weekend Activities

Gates Open: 8:00am—7:00pm  
Office Open: 8:00am—4:00pm

### Memorial Floral Display - Community Mausoleum

**Flag Setting: Saturday 10:00am**  
Main Gate Drive  
American Legion Post 675

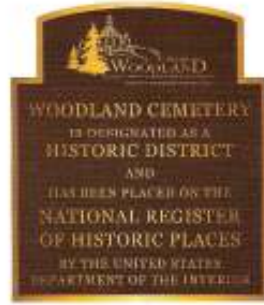
### Monday Programs

**Memorial Service:** 2:00pm in the Civil War Section  
Veterans of Foreign War Post 657 & Sons of Union Veterans of Civil War W.S. Sherman Camp #93

**Main Gate Office:** Information, Maps

**Main Gate Chapel:** Presidential Certificate/Markers/Monuments/Veteran Packages

**Main Gate Drive:** Monument/Marker Display, Flower Shop (Sunday & Monday Only)



## Woodland Honored.

On November 22, 2011 the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service approved Woodland's Nomination by the Ohio Historical Society to be designated as a "Historic District" on the National Register of Historic Places.

The borders of the "Historic District" are the 105 acres that comprised the Victorian sections of the cemetery within its 1912 borders and includes 25 "Contributing" structures to the historic significance of the District, including such structures as its 1847 Receiving Vault, the Johnny Morehouse Monument, the Dunbar Gravesite, the Wright Brothers Burial Site and the "Soldier Section", donated to

the G.A.R. in 1870 with over 600 Civil War type marble headstones.

Woodland's Historic Administration Building, Entry Gate and Tiffany Chapel were added to the National Register in 1979, but this attests to the historic significance of the entire Victorian District. "This honor is important to both Woodland and the region," said Woodland Officials. "It enhances Dayton's reputation and adds another reason for locals and tourists to visit the National Aviation Heritage Area and the Aviation Trail."

## Son's of Veterans Group Donates Flag and Flag Pole Dedication Monday at 2:00pm

Woodland Cemetery has a special dedication as part of its traditional Memorial Day Services on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 2:00PM in the Civil War section.

Following Woodland's Memorial Day Tribute and Patriotic Readings, Dayton's Major General William T. Sherman Camp #93, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be presenting and dedicating the new American Flag and Flag Pole they donated to Woodland. This dedication will follow with the placement of 2 wreaths. One in remembrance of those who gave their lives for their country and one for the wives, mothers and sweethearts of those lost. The ceremony will conclude with a 21 gun salute by Veterans of Foreign Wars members and the playing of taps.

Let us remember many significant Civil War veterans who are buried at Woodland. In Section 34 rests Major General Robert Schenck who valiantly commanded the Union Army rear guard following the Battle of First Bull Run. In Section 87 is the resting place of Colonel Hiram Strong killed during the Battle of Chickamauga while commanding Montgomery County's 93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. In Section 103 rests Chaplain William Earnshaw who established several of the nation's first national military cemeteries, including Dayton's, and later was Commander-in-Chief of the GAR. In Section 109 is the grave of Private George Washington Fair, model for Montgomery County's Civil War Monument in downtown Dayton. In the GAR Section alongside fellow veterans are Privates Edward Taylor and Henry Vincent, 27th U.S. Colored Infantry, two of Ohio's 320,000 soldiers who fought to preserve the nation and to end slavery in all the United States.



## New Arrangements Center



Construction has commenced on a 1330 sq. ft. addition to the Administration Building designed to provide clients with a more spacious and quieter arrangements environment. A new entrance will be constructed on the corner where the historic Administration Building joins its 1990 addition. A reception area with 2 adjoining arrangements offices will provide more space and less traffic for arranging families. The current entry door will continue to service families requiring interment location "Look Ups," maps and general and tour information. New offices for the entire Family Service Staff will also be located in the new Arrangements Center.

"We felt like it was important to provide more spacious private arrangements space for our families, and by moving the staff out of the Tiffany Chapel, it clears the way for eventual use of the Historic Chapel for funeral and committal services. We plan to renovate the Chapel interior and exterior in the next couple of years," said Bob Laing, Board Chairman.

*Tear off and Leave in Box at Exit*

### Comments, Concerns, Compliments, Information Needed:

Dear Woodland:

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### Contact Info

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Name

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Address

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City State Zip

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Phone

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Email

*If you forget to drop in box, please place in envelope and mail to Woodland.  
118 Woodland Avenue • Dayton, OH • 45409*

## FitzSimmons to Retire in June



### Farewell Message

Dear Woodland Friends,

*It has been my honor to serve the Woodland community for the fastest 7 years of my life. Not many people get to lead a revered non-profit that survives and prospers after 171 years of continuous service to the public. I was so honored.*

*I'd like to thank the entire Woodland Community for making my tenure at Woodland such a rewarding personal experience. The Trustees have their hearts in precisely the right place. So do our Managers and Staff. I'd like to give a special shout out to our Volunteer Corps of over 40 Tour Guides, event helpers, gardeners, trenchers and drenchers (they saved our Ash Trees), data collection and research leaders, as well as our Speaker's Bureau members. All of these people, both paid and volunteer, care deeply about Woodland's place in history, its current place in service to the Dayton Community, and its future position as we fast forward 50 or 100 years. I too, care deeply about Woodland's past and present and hope that I have contributed to its future wellbeing.*

*During my tenure, we tried every day to serve you well and to prudently manage Woodland's resources. I hope that we did both well.*

*Blessings to you all!*

*Dave FitzSimmons - President/CEO  
2005 - 2012*

## Meet Our New President/CEO



Dayton, Ohio, May 02, 2012 - Woodland Cemetery, one of the nation's oldest rural garden cemeteries and a cultural, botanical, and educational resource for the Dayton community announced today that it has named Sean O'Regan as its new President and CEO. O'Regan, Vice President of Cemetery Services and Operations of Mount Auburn Cemetery in Massachusetts, will succeed David

FitzSimmons, who will be retiring after seven successful years leading Woodland.

O'Regan brings 25 years of extensive leadership experience to Woodland Cemetery. As Vice President of Mount Auburn's Services and Operations, he managed the sales, client service, cremation, and operation teams. Before coming to Mount Auburn, he worked in the software and internet space primarily in leadership roles for sales and client service. Sean also worked with a number of cemeteries and cultural institutions on the digitization of historical documents, including the Ellis Island Foundation and Catholic Cemeteries, Arch Diocese of Newark.

"I am personally thrilled with Sean's appointment," said Robert S. Laing, Jr. Chairman of Woodland's Board of Trustees. "We have spent considerable time and effort establishing Woodland's Historic Cemetery credentials, integrity, and brand in the community. Sean's appointment ensures that we will have a President from within the Historic Cemetery community who understands the mission and who will continue to reinforce that which makes Woodland so special. I believe that beyond that, Sean will elevate Woodland to a higher level, and secure Woodland's future through planning and execution."

O'Regan is quite enthusiastic to take on a new leadership role at such a celebrated institution. "I am honored to be joining Woodland Cemetery as President and CEO," said Sean O'Regan. "Woodland Cemetery is one of the leading historic landscapes in the country. The leadership, staff, and Trustees of Woodland have done an outstanding job providing cemetery services with care and dignity, maintaining the beauty of the landscape, and implementing innovative projects such as the Lookout. I look forward to working with the staff and Trustees to build upon 170 years of success of this vibrant cultural institution - Woodland, the Jewel of the Gem City."

While this marks a new chapter in O'Regan's career, it ends his time at Mount Auburn, where he has become part of the close-knit staff, referred to often by their President, Dave Barnett, as more of a family than just colleagues. "Sean's energy, innovative leadership, and infallible sense of humor will be missed, but I am very happy for him because this is a wonderful opportunity, and I know he will have the

## Wilbur Wright Graveside Memorial Service

June 1, 2012 - 3:00 PM



To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Wilbur Wright's death and burial at Woodland Cemetery, the entire Dayton aviation and historic community will conduct a graveside Memorial Service, to which all are invited. Representatives of WPAFB and the United Theological Seminary will join Wright Family members in the Service of Remembrance, which will include a city wide Moment of Silence and church bell ringing, replicating those events of the 1912 funeral and burial.

## Moment of Silence

June 1, 2012 - 3:30 PM

Please join us on that day and time, either here personally or by honoring the Moment of Silence wherever you are.

In 1912, at 3:30pm the flags at NCR were at half mast, all retail establishments were closed; street cars, railroads and telephone service all ceased and church bells rang for a moment of respect during Wilbur's funeral. Woodland, along with the entire Aviation and Historic Community, have asked the City Government, Businesses and WPAFB to observe a Moment of Silence while the commemorative graveside service is being conducted.



## Woodland Voted "Jewel of the Gem City"

Induction: June 2, 2012 - 6:00 PM

Woodland was pleased to learn of our selection as a 2012 Jewel of the Gem City historic organization. Woodland was selected for induction from among 60 nominees along with Preservation Dayton and John Gower. The First Place award recognizes Woodland's leadership in preservation, restoration and education in the Miami Valley and is sponsored by the Dayton Women's Club, The Engineers Club and The Friends of the Arcade. The 3 inductees will be honored at a dinner at 6:00pm on June 2, 2012. For tickets: call Dottie Moyhan at 937-369-5116. Our thanks to Barbara O'Hara who nominated Woodland for the award.

## Volunteers Honored

The Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum held its Annual recognition luncheon at Ladder 11, and named Cindy Schurr its Volunteer of the Year for 2011. Cindy has dedicated her time to introducing Woodland and the wonderful history it holds to multiple groups and individuals. Also honored was Don Erisman, Volunteer Coordinator who was named Woodland's Employee of the Year for 2011.



Woodland has about 40 trained volunteer tour guides, who assisted on 139 events throughout the year. The volunteers also treated 182 ash trees, hoping they will resist the Emerald Ash Borer Blight that's killing millions of trees in the Miami Valley. To join the Volunteer Corps, call Debra Mescher at 937-228-3221.

same positive impact at Woodland as he did at Mount Auburn," said Dave Barnett, President and CEO of Mount Auburn Cemetery. "I am also happy for my friend and colleague Dave FitzSimmons because now he can retire with one more reason to be proud of what he has accomplished at Woodland. It is a great reassurance to know that I will continue to have Sean as a valued colleague in the world of historic cemeteries."

Sean currently lives in Wayland, MA with his wife Suzanne and their three sons. Suzanne is a licensed psychotherapist with a successful private practice. Tyler is a sophomore at Villanova University School of Business in Pennsylvania. Connor is a senior at Wayland High School and plans on attending Catholic University School of Architecture in Washington, DC. Drew is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at the Wayland Middle School.

Woodland is open for both self-guided and guided tours throughout the year. Its most popular tour is the 2 hour 'Historic' tour, but "Aviation Heroes," "Famous Women of Woodland," "Windows," "Upper Loop Historic," "Sports Legends" & Historic tours with Segways are also available. A new driving tour, "The Private Mausoleums of Woodland," will be inaugurated this June 14th at Noon.

For historic or tour information, call Woodland Cemetery at 937.228.3221 or visit [www.woodlandcemetery.org](http://www.woodlandcemetery.org).