

Woodlawn Word

Woodlawn Board of Directors

Raymond Alvarez·Bill Bickerstaff·Emily Bickerstaff·Nancy Bickerstaff·Kim Cox·Nancy Lawler·Brad Merrifield
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Spring/Summer at Woodlawn!

LOTS of projects have been completed at Woodlawn!

- ✓ The property along Maple Avenue has been brush hogged and cleaned up, which I am sure made the neighbors happy.
- ✓ The cul-de-sac has been mowed and looks wonderful.
- ✓ The property that exits from Section 10 has been opened for lot sales and looks awesome. There is a grassy circle there that needs a sign in case anyone would like to donate. Road improvements are still needed in that area.
- ✓ The blighted, old building that looked like a war zone has been torn down. This was accomplished by the City of Fairmont and a property owner. We are thrilled!
- ✓ Woodlawn paid to clean up and remove brush and trees on the fence line and Price Alley behind Woodlawn Manor. We found monuments that included a baby section and various markers of people who have been forgotten.

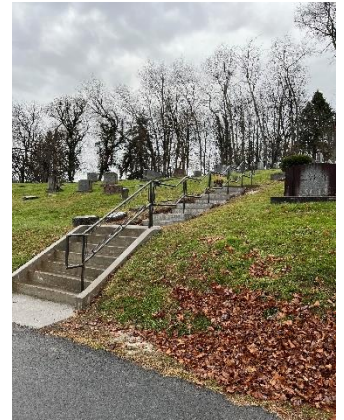
MOWING—The season has begun! The cost is \$1900 per week. This is a lot, but the cemetery is professionally done and looks great. Many have commented about the pristine condition. Additional donations for mowing would be appreciated. We are very transparent at Woodlawn—no secrets on our watch. We love Woodlawn and run everything with integrity. We rarely have complaints!

UPCOMING NEWS

- We still need a memorial service for the Fairmont Senior High School football player that I have told you about before. His marker has been installed and is lovely.
- Woodlawn Manor (Yellow House) continues to be used on a regular basis by the DAR and other organizations. We open the house for meetings and small events, provide volunteer help with coffee or other amenities. Groups may bring food if they desire. They seem to enjoy having the facility available and pay a stipend of \$100.
- Applause goes out to Frank Taylor, whose parents are buried at Woodlawn, for his donation of \$5000. We are also expecting grants from the County Commission and the City of Fairmont.
- My cousin, Makia Merriman, has volunteered to join our Board. Makia will donate her many social media talents in fundraising which is really needed for us to progress.
- We need your help with information on who is buried in the Abbey as the records are scarce. Please let us know if you know families who are buried there, who own crypts, or know of anyone who wants to sell their crypts in the Abbey.

It is a pleasure to keep you informed as Woodlawn Rolls On! Woodlawn is a huge business being run by volunteers who were never before involved in the cemetery business. We were told that it couldn't be done, but we have done it. If you like what you see, please donate. If you have ideas or suggestions, please share.

Have a wonderful summer,
Nancy Bickerstaff, President



Any family or individual who donates \$100 a year may be a Community Member. You are invited to attend our Annual Meeting in October. Woodlawn is a transparent 501-C-13 Non profit. If you have questions or concerns, please email Nancy Bickerstaff at nbicky5@yahoo.com.

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Woodlawn Projects

Here are updates on three ongoing historic projects at Woodlawn. These projects have been directed and coordinated by Raymond Alvarez, Woodlawn Board member and Marion City/County Historian. We thoroughly appreciate Raymond, the FSU students, and instructors, and the Marion County Visitor's Bureau for their leadership and expertise.

Cultural Tourism

Woodlawn received a grant of \$1,000 from the Marion County Convention and Visitor's Bureau to establish a formal training for docents for Woodlawn events. This will involve learning key historical information, the location of prominent burials, and details about the history of Woodlawn. We are hoping to train 10-15 docents. After training, we will plan various times that docents would be available for tours and special events. Dr. Raymond Alvarez is designing training manuals. The training will begin in the fall and will most likely be conducted in two workshop sessions and a walking tour. An application for training will be sent later this summer, and Dr. Alvarez and the members of the history committee will interview and determine the number for training. Of course, our target group includes our many friends of Woodlawn. Part of this will be a lesson plan for middle school WV history/social studies teachers.



QR CODES

QR code signs are now located around the cemetery. Try them out some time and listen to audio stories developed by Museum Studies students at Fairmont State University last year. Dr. Alvarez coordinated numerous student experiential learning projects benefitting Woodlawn during the past three years.

SURVEYING

The Fairmont State Surveying and Geomatics program students, under the leadership of Professor Don Teter, presented their findings earlier this month. The students were charged with surveying the approximately two-acre plot that formerly was a Fairmont City Cemetery. There are historic burials here including two black soldiers who served with the Union Army. There is additional work to be done, and a complete report will be shared with the Board in the near future. Students will continue to work on this project next year.

