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# Historic Elmwood Foundation Board of Directors

Terry P. Book *President* 

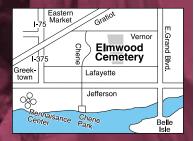
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Joan Frear Capuano
Executive Director



1200 Elmwood Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48207 Phone: 313-567-3453 Fax: 313-567-8861 www.elmwoodhistoriccemetery.org

#### **Office Hours**

Mon - Fri: 9am — 4pm Sat: 9am — noon

# NEWSLETTER

# Message from Sandy McMillan, President Board of Trustees

Dear Friends,

2007 has been a year of continued enhancement at Elmwood Cemetery. The Board of Trustees works diligently with the Cemetery staff and Foundation to achieve an even better Elmwood experience for you and your loved ones.

Through the generous donations of our community, we completed the interior renovation of the historic Chapel. New lighting, ceramic tile flooring, ceiling fans, refinished hardwood flooring at the altar and interior painting have brightened the building. Our Chapel is available for your services. Two years ago, we were delighted to have a beautiful wedding.



FALL 2007

This summer, we began the road restructuring program. We envision a five phase approach to redoing all the Cemetery roads – approximately five miles from end to end! We finished the first phase along the southern section of the Cemetery, which includes a new roadway and added curbing. We apologize to those who may have been inconvenienced by the trucks and road work during this month-long process. I believe you will agree though, that this new section of roadway greatly improves the environment.

We expanded our visiting hours this summer for your convenience. The Elmwood gates were open until 7:00 p.m. through September. The expanded hours were very successful. We have found that many enjoy visiting their loved ones in the early evening on the way home from work. They are joined by the runners and walkers who regularly visit the cemetery grounds. We look forward to extended hours beginning again in May 2008.

Following the successful launch of our grave blanket and wreath sale last fall, we instituted a flower program. At the request of many families, hundreds of begonias, geraniums and impatiens were planted at grave sites and then watered regularly by our ever-hardworking grounds crew. The crew was also responsible for significantly expanding the color near the gatehouse. Just recently, they started planting gravesite mums, again at the request of our families.

Please take a look at our Foundation page for an update on our various projects. Your Trustees thank you for your continued support of the Foundation.

We encourage you to visit the Cemetery and see the improvements yourself. We welcome your ideas and will readily address any concerns you may have. It is our honor to serve you.

## Winter Floral Blankets and Wreaths Now Available



Adorn your loved one's grave with a grave blanket or wreath this holiday season. All grave blankets and wreaths are made from natural, freshly cut evergreen boughs decorated in seasonal colors and trimmed with a beautiful all weather bow. Wreaths are 18" in diameter with a red bow and 5 pine cones, on a stand, for \$20. Grave blankets include 6 poinsettia blooms in red and white for \$40. Weather permitting, placement begins on November 1st. Removal begins March 1st. All orders must be pre-paid by cash, check, money order, Visa or MasterCard. Please call the office staff at 313/567-3453 to place your order, or download an order form from our website.

#### **Staff Members**

Joseph Malburg

Director of Operations

jmalburg@elmcem.org

Allen Barksdale, Jr.

Director of Customer Service
abarksdale@elmcem.org

Bonita Smith Memorial Advisor bsmith@elmcem.org

Cheryl Barksdale

Administrator

cbarksdale@elmcem.org

# **Please Remember**

To help keep Elmwood enjoyable for all, we ask everyone - lot owners, families and visitors - to follow these important rules and regulations. The complete Rules and Regulations pamphlet is available from our office or as a download off our website.

- 1. Visiting hours for the Cemetery are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every day.
- 2. The speed limit within the Cemetery is fifteen (15) miles per hour. Parking or driving on any gardens or grassy areas is prohibited.
- 3. Dogs must be kept on a leash or in a vehicle at all times.
- 4. Special rules apply to the planting of fresh flowers and placement of tributes throughout the Cemetery. Please keep in mind that the Cemetery shall have the right to remove all objects whose appearance and condition warrant removal and/or violate the Cemetery's rules and regulations. Please contact our office or refer to the complete list of rules and regulations if you have any questions on items allowed.
- 5. Fresh floral tributes are welcomed in all outdoor areas. Our office supplies temporary metal vases, free of charge, for your use. Artificial flowers are allowed only in our mausoleums.
- 6. For safety, glass containers are not permitted in any part of the Cemetery.

# Message from Joseph Malburg, Director of Operations



Cheryl, Allen, Bonita and Joseph

You already may have taken steps to prepare for a death in the family by making a will and taking out a life insurance policy. You may have spoken with your family members about your wishes. We recommend that you take an additional step and consider pre-planning your memorialization. Pre-planning your final arrangements is one of the most considerate and practical steps you can take. During your family's time of grief, you have eliminated any uncertainty about whether or not they are following your wishes.

Pre-planning allows you to make the choices that are right for you. You make the important decision regarding traditional burial, above ground entombment, mausoleum niche or cremation. You choose the location. You control the cost, spending as much or as little as you deem necessary.

Finally, pre-planning will save your family money. It helps avoid "emotional overspending," a costly situation many families face when they need to make immediate decisions at a highly stressful time. You plan ahead and you pay today's prices instead of those that will be in effect in five, ten or even fifty years from now. Further, pre-planning discounts are available with no interest financing.

A memorial is a personal reflection of your life. Pre-planning for yourself or your loved ones gives you and your family the time to think about and discuss the memorialization that will be the most meaningful to you. If you might be interested in pre-planning, please contact either of our memorial advisors, Mr. Allen Barksdale, Jr. or Ms. Bonita Smith. They will be able to answer your questions directly and clearly and show you the many locations still available throughout Elmwood Cemetery.

# Beautiful and Tranquil Lots Available

From traditional burial in our gardens to above ground entombment in our mausoleum, and to an array of niche selections for those choosing cremation, Elmwood presents the finest and most dignified burial options, all at a price with which you'll feel comfortable. Please call our office staff for more information or to schedule a meeting.

# **Cemetery Tours**

Tours are available on a regular basis. The cemetery is steeped in history, art and natural beauty. Please join the hundreds of people each year who tour the Cemetery grounds. Recent tour participants included seniors, school and community groups, garden clubs, history buffs, religious organizations and special interest groups. We would be pleased to tailor a tour to your particular interests. Elmwood tours have been developed to explore specific themes, including: Michigan Governors, Michigan Senators, Detroit Mayors, Civil War Generals, Black Heritage Leaders, Underground Railroad, Memorial Art and Symbolism, and Detroit's Who's Who.

Typically, our tours are held in all weather and are walking. Bus tours of forty individuals or less can also be accommodated. Advance reservations are required for all tours. We would greatly appreciate a donation to the Historic Elmwood Foundation. Please contact the office staff to arrange your tour.

## **Tune Into Our Website**

Discover more of everything about Elmwood! We regularly update the website with the latest news on our Foundation projects, biographies of those who are laid to rest here, new happenings at the Cemetery and upcoming events. The website also offers links to other Detroit and national programs of interest. Visit www.elmwoodhistoriccemetery.org



#### **Historic Elmwood Foundation**

The Historic Elmwood Foundation's mission is to enhance and preserve the Cemetery grounds, the history and memory of those laid to rest here, and to develop educational and cultural programs that will benefit the community. This year the Foundation Board chose to pursue funding for seven distinct projects to support our mission. Some highlights are noted below.

- **Chapel Restoration.** In 2007, we moved forward with the renovation of the interior of the Chapel. Since the spring newsletter, we have replaced exterior wood, where necessary, and painted. We removed the iron screens from over the stained glass windows. We hope to obtain funding for masonry work and refinishing the doors.
- Tree Reforestation. We have worked with an arborist to identify the different species presently on the grounds and where we may have voids. This fall we will begin planting.

• Wildflowers and Gardens. The grounds crew worked diligently to expand the color around the gatehouse area. This fall we will prepare additional locations throughout the Cemetery for planting. Landscape architect Candy Sweeny has identified various additional locations for wildflowers. Bulbs will be planted this fall in several locations.

• **Road Restoration.** This summer we completed the first phase of our road restoration program. Along the southern section of the Cemetery, we have added great appeal with completely new roads and curbing. The curbs will prevent water and soil run off on to the roads and provided a very finished look to the Cemetery. The first phase impacts sections 10, 11, B, C and D.

Please check the Cemetery's website, www.elmwoodhistoriccemetery.org, for additional information and photos on the Foundation projects. The Foundation Board thanks you for your prompt and generous response to our annual fundraising drive. A complete list of all 2007 donors will be included in our spring newsletter and noted on our website in February 2008.





# PLEASE JOIN US TODAY!

You are cordially invited to become a member of the Historic Elmwood Foundation

The Foundation's Board of Directors – civic, cultural, educational and religious leaders –welcomes your participation. All members will receive a copy of the bi-annual newsletter and will be listed on the Elmwood website. Those contributing \$250 or more will also receive a commemorative poster.

Just fill out and send the member card below along with your check.

Your fully tax deductible donation will go toward Board identified projects that further the mission of the Foundation. Past projects have included the Chapel restoration, bench installation and ground beautification. Please contact Joan Capuano at 313-567-3453 for additional information.

Enroll me at the following level:	
[] Patron	\$5,000
[] Benefactor	\$1,000
[] Sponsor	\$500
[] Donor	\$250
[] Friend	\$100
[] Contributor	\$50
[] Member	\$25

[] My check is enclosed, payable to Historic Elmwood Foundation.

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Signature:		
Name:		
Street:		
City:		Zip:
Phone:		
E-mail:		

[] Please note my updated address

[] I would like to know more about joining the Corp of Volunteers to help with tours, educational and/or community programs.



# Request For Updated Contact Information

It is important that we know how to reach our lot owners and friends. We know you want to be kept informed on rule changes or development issues that affect your lot as well as information about Cemetery activities. If you have a new address, phone number or e-mail address, please let us know by phone, mail or e-mail.

Elmwood Cemetery 1200 Elmwood Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48207-3897

Return Service Requested

Artists are encouraged to come and enjoy the many sculptures in the Cemetery. Keep an eye out for our spring newsletter and information about our 2008 artists' competition.

# Bird watchers will delight in the varied species found here at Elmwood. Recently, we added feeding stations near the pond. Relax in our peaceful environment with your binoculars and bird watching guide. Please let us know if you find any unusual birds!

Runners, walkers and bikers – explore Elmwood's terrain!

# **Upcoming Activities at Elmwood Cemetery**

#### **Tabloid Tour -- Elmwood Gatehouse**

October 14 90 minute walking tour, 1:00 p.m., \*\$8.00 per person

October 28 3 hour walking tour, 1:00 p.m.,

\*\$10.00 per person

Registration will begin at noon. Please join us for a glass of cider and our walking tour. Cemetery Director Joseph Malburg will delight you with some of the

more scandalous stories behind those who rest here at Elmwood. Advance reservations are recommended. All proceeds will benefit the Historic Elmwood Foundation. \*Foundation members receive one free admission.



**October 30**, 10 a.m., Elmwood Gatehouse Please join us as we get ready for spring color by planting bulbs in various locations in the Cemetery. The office staff will direct you to the planting sites. If your garden club would like to be responsible for a particular area, please contact Joan Capuano.

#### **All Saints' Day Service**

**November 1**, 10 a.m., Historic Elmwood Chapel. Please join Reverend Father Steven Kelly for this annual service honoring All Saints' Day. Fr. Kelly is the pastor at St. John's Episcopal Church of Detroit, located at Woodward and the Fisher Freeway. He also serves as a Director of the Historic Elmwood Foundation.



November 11, 10 a.m., Civil War Lot, Section S. Elmwood's annual Veteran's Day celebration has become a great tradition. This is the 23rd year that long-time Cemetery supporter Mrs. Beulah Hamilton will organize the event. Hundreds will be here to honor our country's veterans. Many ROTC

contingents are slated to come as well as the Martin Luther King High School marching band. The celebration is held at the Elmwood Civil War lot, where special wreaths commemorating the occasion will be placed. American flags will adorn the graves of those who fought in the many wars for our liberty. We hope you will be able to join us.