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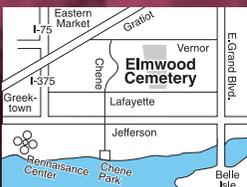
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Office Hours

Mon.- Fri: 9am — 4pm
Sat: 9am — noon

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2007

Message from Francis W. “Sandy” McMillan *President – Elmwood Cemetery*

In recent weeks, a number of cemeteries in the Detroit area have been in the news. The State Attorney General has secured a court order to place these cemeteries under the control of a conservator to protect the assets of the cemeteries. We are pleased the regulators have stepped in to protect and assist the lot holders in these cemeteries.

We want to assure you that Historic Elmwood is NOT one of the cemeteries subject to the Attorney General's court order. Our financial reports are entirely in order and we have the resources necessary to maintain Elmwood at the highest standards. We are very proud of the art, architecture, history and horticulture within our grounds. We are fully aware of our responsibility to preserve memories for all of our lot holders perpetually.

Please feel free to call or visit our offices with any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have regarding your lot or the cemetery generally. We deeply appreciate your trust in Elmwood.

Upcoming Activities

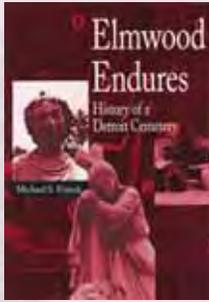
- ***This month, Allen Barksdale, Jr. hosts an informative Underground Railroad Tour.*** He will highlight those interred at Elmwood who were instrumental in helping slaves achieve their freedom. If you are interested in joining a tour, please call the office for available times. It is a walking tour, so please be prepared for Michigan winter weather.
- ***Spring planting.*** If you, your friends or garden club are interested in adding to the beauty of the cemetery, there are many areas that will be available for flowers. Please call Joan Capuano for more information.
- ***Do you enjoy running, walking, or biking*** with a group of friends? Please consider using Elmwood's pathways. The office staff would be happy to make arrangements for a time that best works for you.
- ***Artists*** are encouraged to come and sketch the many sculptures in the cemetery. In the past, rubbings have been made from some of the ledger tablets. The office staff can help you identify where you might pursue either of these endeavors.
- ***Bird watchers*** will find a bevy of different breeds to follow in the Cemetery. The peacefulness of the Cemetery makes it a wonderful spot to sit and watch the birds. Due to a generous donation, we now have benches positioned in various locations. Bring your binoculars and bird watching guide. We hope to establish feeding stations in the future.
- ***Horticulturists*** will be delighted by the variety of trees and plantings on the Cemetery grounds. We are establishing a tree identification program and hope to be able to place markers throughout the Cemetery that note the many varieties by both their scientific and common names.



- ***Tours of the Cemetery*** are available on a regular basis. Elmwood Cemetery is steeped in history, art and natural beauty. We host hundreds of people each year for tours including school groups, seniors, community groups, religious organizations and special interest groups. Theme tours are available or we can tailor a tour specifically for your group. Walking tours may be scheduled for groups of ten or more. Bus tours, as well as school tours, of forty individuals or less, can also be accommodated. Advance reservations are required for all group tours. Please contact Joan Capuano to arrange a tour. Elmwood Tours have been developed to explore specific themes including: Michigan Governors, Michigan Senators, Past Detroit Mayors, Civil War Generals, Black Heritage Leaders, Underground Railroad, Detroit's Who's Who, Memorial Art and Symbolism, and Trees.

Elmwood Endures

If you are interested in purchasing Michael Franks' wonderful book about the history of Elmwood Cemetery and many of the people buried here, please contact the office. A few books remain, both hard-cover and soft. The hard-cover book is available for \$40. The soft cover book is available for \$25.



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 and/or driving on any gardens or grassy areas are 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 – Elmwood Cemetery

In 2006, Elmwood Cemetery served hundreds of families, and I wish to recognize our Grounds and Office Staff for doing an outstanding job throughout the year.

We have added to the number of services we now offer by also providing monuments, markers and outside burial containers. In addition, there are more locations available throughout Elmwood's beautiful grounds, for individual and family lots. Now, we have a wider selection of areas where you have the option of placing a family monument, upright "slant" marker or lawn-level marker. These memorials also may be engraved or have a laser-etched portrait of your loved one.

Our program of Cemetery improvements will continue this year. Our Gatehouse has been beautifully restored. Our Grounds Maintenance Center has a new roof and presently the Historic Chapel is being renovated. We also plan to begin road paving and curb restoration this year.

Regrettably, scores of large and beautiful ash trees have been removed over the past two years due to the Emerald Ash Borer infestation. We are developing plans to add replacement trees throughout the Cemetery.

Please contact our office with any questions, comments or requests. You can be assured that we will do our utmost to assist you. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your family.



Grounds Maintenance Crew

Meet the Staff –

Joseph Malburg In his role as Director of Operations, Joe's day-to-day responsibilities include supervising ground maintenance as well as accounting functions. Joe has been with Elmwood Cemetery since November, 1980. He is a graduate of Macomb Community College and Walsh College.

Allen Barksdale, Jr. Allen has been an Elmwood Advisor for over ten years. In his position as Director of Customer Service, Allen oversees all aspects of service to families while still making himself available to help families suffering a recent loss or those interested in preplanning their memorialization. Allen has focused a special interest on the genealogy and history of many families associated with Elmwood. Thanks to his research, the Black Heritage Tour literature has been expanded. Allen is a lifelong resident of Detroit.

Bonita Smith Joining Elmwood in 2004, Bonita brings over a decade of experience in the funeral home industry to her position. An experienced Advisor, her mission is to assist families with the important decisions they need to make about how to memorialize the life of a loved one or themselves. Having worked with virtually every family preference, she is knowledgeable in all types of burial and memorialization options, which she fully and clearly explains, helping guide families through the process. Bonita is a Detroit native.

Cheryl Barksdale As the Administrative Staff person, Cheryl is responsible for correspondence with the public seeking historical information on Elmwood, archival information on burials and genealogy research. She is also the assistant to Mr. Malburg and Mrs. Capuano and serves as primary contact for the Foundation Board and Cemetery trustees on routine matters. Cheryl is a lifelong resident of Detroit.



Cheryl, Allen, Bonita and Joseph

Knowledgeable, Caring Guidance – The Goal Of Elmwood's Memorial Advisors.

Regrettably, the need to decide on burial arrangements is sometimes immediate and at a very difficult time for many families. Elmwood's memorial advisors are here to help families.

Becoming quite common is a family's decision to pre-plan final arrangements. It is simply one of the most considerate and practical plans you can make. As an important part of your estate plan, it's a very wise financial decision. Pre-planning your memorialization provides emotional and financial security for your family similar to making a will or buying life insurance. Planning now protects your family from unnecessary burdens at their time of grief and ensures your wishes are followed.

Regardless of what circumstances bring you to Elmwood, you will receive tailored assistance with individual choices. Our memorial advisors are knowledgeable, experienced and caring professionals who will fully and clearly explain all of your options. Having worked with virtually every family preference and individual situation, they will guide you through the selection process so you will feel certain you've made the correct choices.

Please call us at 313/567-3453, one of our memorial advisors is ready to meet with you at your convenience.

Historic Elmwood Foundation



HISTORIC ELMWOOD Foundation

Where Detroit's History Endures

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Executive Director



Message from Terry Book, *President – Historic Elmwood Foundation*

The Historic Elmwood Foundation recently made some changes to its organization. This past Fall, two of our founding Directors, Mrs. Cynthia Baubie Gullickson and Mrs. Christine Finkenstaedt resigned from the Foundation Board due to commitments they had elsewhere. On behalf of the Trustees and the Directors, I thank Cyndie and Chrissie for the commitment,

enthusiasm and energy they shared with the Foundation Board. We also appreciate greatly their offers to continue to help the Historic Elmwood Foundation as the need arises.

We are very pleased to welcome Joan Frear Capuano as our Executive Director and James Deutchman as a new Foundation Board member.

Joan will ensure that our fundraising is successful and targeted toward projects that will enhance the Cemetery grounds and facilities. She will also increase the awareness of Elmwood. You may not know that in the 1800s and early 1900s, people utilized cemetery grounds as they would public parks. Cemeteries are quiet places and Elmwood also has beautiful grounds – the trees, valleys, pond, and architectural delights. We are pleased to have

many individuals and groups who choose to spend their time enjoying Elmwood. Some come for a quiet lunch, while others bike, skate, run or walk the grounds. We also encourage history buffs and artists to visit.

Jim Deutchman has a wealth of experience in the business world. Jim is a CPA and real estate developer by trade but devotes much of his "free" time to his position as Chair of the Congregation Beth El cemeteries, consisting of four cemeteries located in southeast Michigan. Elmwood Cemetery is proud to include one of these cemeteries, the "Lafayette Cemetery", as part of its community. Lafayette is the oldest Jewish cemetery in Detroit. This cemetery is in the southeast corner of the Elmwood property. If you would like to visit Lafayette, access is through the main gate. The office staff will be happy to provide a map. I look forward to Jim's participation on the Board. I value highly his experience and feel that it will help move the Historic Elmwood Foundation forward.

I am pleased also to announce that current Board member Eileen McCarthy has agreed to serve as the Foundation Board's Vice President. Eileen has had a very active role on the Board and by agreeing to assume this position, we will work closely together to ensure that the Board continues to focus on issues important to the Elmwood community. Eileen's background as a general contractor will be vital to Elmwood as we begin the restoration of the Chapel.

Garden Reception

Over 50 people attended this Fall's garden reception adjacent to the pond at Elmwood. Operations Director, Joe Malburg led a very interesting tour of some of the historic figures buried at Elmwood. He stumped tour attendees with questions to which we should have known answers and rewarded those who were true history buffs. Trustee Allen Ledyard went home with two candy coffins for his sharp responses!



Message from Joan Frear Capuano, *Executive Director – Historic Elmwood Foundation*

Being a part of the Elmwood community has been a wonderful experience for me. When I was first approached about the position, I must admit that I hesitated a bit; I had not worked for a cemetery before. In fact, my business experience, for the most part, stemmed from my long career with the local phone company. My last position with them was as Director of Strategic Planning and Administration. I made a personal decision a few years ago to stay at home with my four young children. I began to devote myself to volunteering at their school and in the community with the same vigor with which I had once worked. In June, I finished my third year as chair of the St. Paul Catholic School Committee.

But, I digress. I hesitated to consider the position because my only cemetery exposure had been at burials – not exactly an uplifting time for me. What I have discovered, though, is a peaceful environment with beautiful sculptures, architectural interests and wonderful people. The staff here at Elmwood is exceptional: Joe Malburg, Allen Barksdale, Jr., Bonita Smith, Cheryl Barksdale, and the grounds men Lou, Dave, Bob, and Mike. Together the staff has devoted more than 75 years caring for Elmwood and many of these individuals worked at other cemeteries

before joining us. Under their guardianship, our historic treasure will continue to prosper. They care sincerely about those interred, the families and the grounds. Personally, I also enjoy their quick wit and rapport!

We are also blessed to have a terrific group of individuals who serve as Trustees of the Cemetery and Directors of the Foundation Board. These hardworking men and women devote many hours each month guiding us and encouraging us to do our best. Some of them, Mr. Sandy McMillan, Mr. Allen Ledyard, Mr. John Snyder and Ms. Terry Book have family members buried at Elmwood. Others, Mr. Mike Bernard, Fr. Steven Kelly, Mr. John LesCallett, Mrs. Eileen McCarthy and now Mr. Jim Deutchman, serve due to their personal commitment to Elmwood. All of them share their business expertise to the benefit of the Elmwood Community. Future newsletters will provide a more in depth look at the Trustees and Directors.

I am so very glad to have opened my mind to this opportunity. I look forward to assisting you with whatever you may need. Please do not hesitate to contact me.



Foundation Projects



Chapel Restoration Fund

We cannot thank you enough for your tremendous response to our fundraising effort. Our goal was to raise \$75,000 to restore the historic Chapel. We are delighted to report that your contributions have achieved 90% of this goal; we have raised \$67,959 as of January 15, 2007! A few significant donations merit special mention: Mrs. Edward I. Book, a former Elmwood Cemetery Trustee and now an honorary member, donated \$5,000;

The Ralph Wilson, Jr. Foundation donated \$10,000; and the Warren, Elizabeth & Alger Shelden Foundation donated \$25,000. We thank these individuals and trustees for their support of Elmwood. These donations made it possible for us to accelerate our timeline for the Chapel restoration. As this newsletter goes to print, roofers are laying the foundation for the new chapel roof.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of all donors. This year brought 48 individuals who donated to Elmwood for the first time. Thank you for choosing to support Elmwood. Additionally, many of our long-time supporters increased the level of their donations. Whether you supported Elmwood with a large or small donation, we could not do without it. It took many donations to raise \$68,000. Again, we thank you for your commitment to Elmwood. We always endeavor to make you proud of our treasure.



Chapel Restoration

In 1855, the Trustees of Elmwood Cemetery commissioned church architects Albert and Octavius Jordan to design a small Chapel for use in burial ceremonies. The Chapel denotes the Norman Gothic Revival period and was completed in 1856. The Chapel was remodeled in the 1960s and then rebuilt following a fire in 1976. The Chapel requires preservation and in 2006, the Foundation Board chose the Chapel as its' top priority. The Chapel Restoration began with removal of our existing roof and sub-structure (pictured). Our contractors will focus on solving the condensation problem that caused the deterioration and mold. They will lay a new substructure, increase venting, and lay a new roof.

Prudent management of the restoration has permitted us to expand the project. We will lay new tile flooring to replace the formica, replace rusted ceiling fans, update necessary electrical, paint the interior and exterior of the chapel and install new gutters. If the budget further permits, we hope to add cleaning and tuck pointing of the exterior stone.

The website will be updated regularly with photos of the work. Please check in. You should also feel free to come by the cemetery and watch the work in progress. The office staff is able to tell you the best time to come. Please be sure to keep a safe distance away from the construction site.



Featured Biographies

Leaders of the Underground Railroad

William Lambert

He's been called "the conductor" of the Underground Railroad, but an interview William Lambert gave to the Detroit Tribune in 1886, just 4 years before his death, shows that he was more aptly a member of its board of directors.

Lambert, who came to Detroit as a cabin boy on a steamboat, was characterized as a man of education, wide reading, rare argumentative power, the founder of a church and a leader of his race.

He created the "African American Mysteries; the Order of the Men of Oppression," a complicated set of rituals that protected the very existence of the Underground Railroad.

Lambert was a friend and confidant of well known abolitionist John Brown, who Lambert insisted was a sane and reasonable man who voluntarily sacrificed himself to fan the flames of liberty.

In an 1890 article in the Detroit Free Press, Lambert was called an indefatigable worker in the cause of anti-slavery and it was at his house that many meetings were held by John Brown and his followers.

At his funeral later that year, the Tribune reported that the church was filled, that many prominent people were present, and that his "remains found their last resting place in Elmwood Cemetery."

Born: Circa 1817
Died: April 28, 1890
Buried: Section G, Lot 90

Veterans' Day Tribute

Our annual Veterans' Day tribute is a great tradition. Long-time cemetery supporter Mrs. Beulah Hamilton has organized the event for the past 22 years.

The rainy weather on the most recent Veterans' Day did not deter the hundreds who came out to honor our country's veterans. Elmwood's Allen Barksdale, Jr. welcomed the attendees to the ceremony. Members representing the Native American troops and Canadian troops who fought for our country also spoke. As we celebrated all our veterans, members of the Martin Luther King High School marching band played and many ROTC contingents also participated. Flowers and American flags were placed on the graves.

The event was held in Elmwood's Civil War section, where special wreaths were positioned at our Flag post – one of the few authorized to fly, without being lit, 24 hours a day. This is where many members of what was known as the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops rest. According to a Michigan Historical Marker at the Duffield School in Detroit, the 102nd was the First Michigan Colored Regiment, organized at Camp Ward from August through October of 1863. That was a year of draft riots and protests against the war, yet the regiment was composed entirely of volunteers. A regimental band was formed, and toured southern Michigan to recruit additional volunteers. The 900-man unit left Detroit in late March 1864 for service in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. During its 19 months in the field, more than 1400 men served in the regiment, and 140 died in service.



Courtesy Archives of Michigan

George DeBaptiste

DeBaptiste, after being forced to leave Indiana because of his antislavery activities, became the personal valet of General William Henry Harrison, whom he accompanied to the White House as a steward.

When he came to Detroit in 1846, he found success as a merchant, and continued to further the cause of freedom as a "the superintendent" of the Underground Railroad, using his ships to transport runaways to freedom in Canada. At the same time he served as a delegate to the Cleveland National Convention of Colored Citizens, and as an agent for the Freedman's Aid Commission. He worked closely with William Lambert in furthering the fight for equality, attending meetings with John Brown, Frederick Douglass and other leaders.



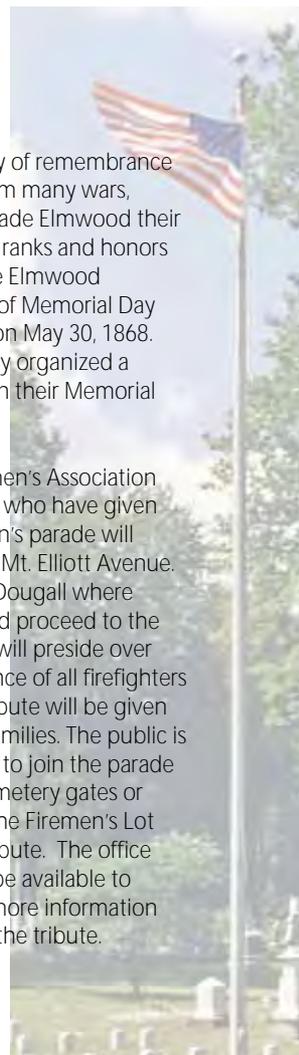
During the Civil War, he served as an organizer of Michigan's Colored Regiment, and served as provisioner during its campaigns in the South. DeBaptiste died in 1875, and reposes at Elmwood next to his brother, Benjamin, who fought in Company K, 54th Massachusetts Infantry, the regiment immortalized in the movie "Glory."

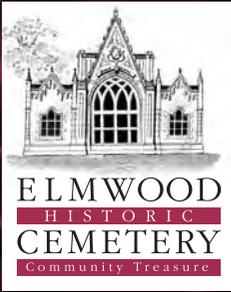
Born: Circa 1818
Died: February 22, 1875
Buried: Section C, Lot 24

Memorial Day Tribute

Memorial Day has always been an important day of remembrance at Elmwood Cemetery. Heroes and veterans from many wars, dating back to the American Revolution have made Elmwood their final resting place. From privates to generals, all ranks and honors are remembered. A fact little known outside the Elmwood community is that the first national observance of Memorial Day actually took place here at Elmwood Cemetery on May 30, 1868. With only three days' notice, the staff very quickly organized a simple yet meaningful event. Most others began their Memorial Day celebrations the following year, in 1869.

Mark your calendars for the annual Detroit Firemen's Association Memorial Day Tribute! In honor of local firemen who have given their lives in service to our community, a Firemen's parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the corner of Lafayette and Mt. Elliott Avenue. The parade will continue down Lafayette to McDougall where participants will enter the Cemetery grounds and proceed to the Firemen's Lot. Detroit Fire Department officials will preside over the ceremony. A bell will be rung in remembrance of all firefighters who have died over the past year and a floral tribute will be given to their families. The public is welcome to join the parade at the cemetery gates or meet at the Firemen's Lot for the tribute. The office staff will be available to provide more information closer to the tribute.





Elmwood Cemetery
 1200 Elmwood Avenue
 Detroit, Michigan 48207-3897
Return Service Requested



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.

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 pre-planning meeting.



FLORAL & HOLIDAY TRIBUTES

Commemorate the memories of your loved one's personal events – birthdays, anniversaries and other special life moments, as well as national holidays and the winter season -- with special grave decorations at Elmwood.

Floral Tributes

This summer we will offer floral tributes. Please contact Allen Barksdale, Jr. if you would like to receive more information on this new service.

Independence Day Holidays. Flags should be kept to a maximum of 12" X 18", and are available in our office, free of charge, to everyone who would like to place them at a memorial during this time. Flags are subject to removal by the Cemetery within ten (10) days of the Holiday.



We continue to welcome fresh floral tributes in all outdoor areas. At our office, you can obtain temporary metal vases for your use, free of charge. No glass containers, please. Artificial flowers are only allowed in our mausoleums.

Holiday Tributes

There's nothing more appropriate than seeing the Stars and Stripes decorating graves during the Memorial Day and

Winter Blankets

This past Christmas, Elmwood introduced the sale of grave blankets and wreaths, and well over 100 families took advantage of the opportunity to beautify their loved one's resting places. We will offer this service again next Fall, along with some new items.

If you visited Elmwood this winter season, you saw what a beautiful way this is to keep the warmth of nature present during the chill of winter.

They're made to order from natural, freshly cut evergreen boughs, decorated in seasonal colors and trimmed with a beautiful all weather bow. The blanket features six red and white poinsettia blooms and the 18" diameter wreath is adorned with five pinecones.