



Greenwood Hills

CEMETERY

Portland, Oregon

Estab. 1882


Spring 2023

9002 SW Boones Ferry Road • Portland, OR 97219

Open 8:00am to Sunset

Did you know
Greenwood Hills
Cemetery has its own
Facebook page?



Search for us by name, then  Like
the page to share stories, news, photos,
and connect with the community of
people who care about this unique place.

**We've made it even easier to
donate to Greenwood Hills by
accepting  PayPal**

**Click the "Donate" link on
our website or Facebook page
to set up a one-time or
recurring donation to help
ensure the preservation of
this wonderful property.**

Need a Grave Marker?

Ordering through us helps
with the maintenance costs
of Greenwood Hills Cemetery.

We Offer These Services:

Our Archivist provides a quick and
courteous record search. Any
physical locating will be subject to a
fee, starting at \$50.

Interments in GHC are available to
those who hold deeds to family plots
with available space. River View is
our preferred provider of grave
marker and interment services. If we
are unavailable, call River View
directly at 503-246-4251.

Surprise in the Snow: One Board Member's Unexpected Discovery

Iris Murdock is a resident of Collins View and frequent walker in Greenwood Hills.

A surprising discovery there one day led her to become one of our newest maintenance association members. The day after Christmas 2021 was a snowy one and Iris was out exploring the winter wonderland in the cemetery grounds. In her words:

"As I wound my way around the property, I noticed a headstone that had not caught my attention previously. It was right next to the road in a line of low granite markers and while the rest were covered in snow, this one had gotten enough sun to have melted off to reveal the name William Ewing. I thought to myself 'Huh! Ewing. I've got Ewings,' so I stepped off the road and cleared the snow off the one next to it, which read Helen Macon Ewing. My paternal grandmother - whose maiden name was Helen Ewing - had grown up in SW Portland so I muttered 'Helen Ewing? What? Who else is here?!' and began clearing off the other markers. The next name Georgia Ewing didn't ring a bell but the last one did as I recognized the rather distinctive name of Gertrude McElfresh from a family tree that I had seen years prior. Chills ran up my spine and I remember exclaiming 'I'm standing on my ancestors!' and jumping back onto the road. I stood next to them for a good long while, took a few photos and had a small cry. Turns out, it's quite emotional to stumble across one's great-great grandparents at the historic cemetery up the street from your house."



On her way home, she texted the photos to her aunt, Margaret, who has been researching the family genealogy for years. Margaret was able to confirm that the grave markers were indeed in their lineage, and even asked if Iris had noticed the two, older, upright markers in the line of headstones. Iris says, "I hadn't at the time but those are the final resting places of two of William and

Helen's children, both of whom died within two days of each other in 1890: Bertha, just shy of 4 years old and Frank, just about to turn 9, presumably of disease. Hard to fathom that kind of catastrophic loss now but of course, a look around GHC or any historic cemetery will tell that story many times over."

Iris was eager to share this remarkable story with other patrons of the property and eventually it found its way to us at the GHCA, who invited Iris to the 2022 annual meeting. It was there, when it was announced we were currently a few members short of our preferred roster, that Iris volunteered to join. "I am now honored to be a part of the not-for-profit volunteer organization that manages the donation-funded maintenance of the beautiful property where my family members take their final rest," she says, "and I will still tell this story to anyone that will listen!"

Greenwood Hills Cemetery Maintenance Association is a volunteer organization dedicated to maintaining the grounds of Greenwood Hills Cemetery in a manner that respects the dead, honors the living, and preserves a valuable connection with our rich pioneer history. Through responsible stewardship of resources, we strive to maintain a safe and beautiful open space where people can come to remember the past and enjoy the natural world which we hold in sacred trust for the future.

Greenwood Hills Cemetery Maintenance Assoc. • PO Box 80701 Portland, Oregon 97280 • chair@greenwoodhillscemetery.com
www.greenwoodhillscemetery.org • Archivist/Chair: 503-781-1698 • Facebook: Greenwood Hills Cemetery

Mead Memorial Bench Update

The bench has been installed. It is in memory of Ken Mead and also honors his wife, Hattie, for their continued stewardship of Greenwood Hills Cemetery. The design is called a Klever bench and it was quarried in the state of Georgia. It is made of granite. The color is maple with black lettering. If you look closely, you can see the fishing hook for Ken and a Hibiscus blossom for Hattie. It also includes a depiction of a Shetland Sheep dog, of which Ken and Hattie rescued 7 over the years. It is the only bench you will find in GHC, and is placed above the pond which is often in the sun. Please come by and sit a spell. This bench would not have been possible except for the numerous people and very generous donations they gave toward this project. Thank you for helping us raise the funds.



Cleanup Day 2023: Come Volunteer!

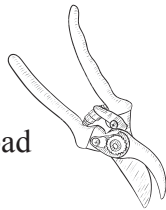
Mark your calendars for this year's Cleanup Day! Volunteers, family, friends, dog-walkers, and neighbors are welcome and encouraged to participate.

WHEN: Saturday, May 20th

WHERE: 9002 SW Boones Ferry Road

TIME: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

WHAT TO BRING: Pruning shears, loppers, brooms, gas string trimmers, rakes, tarps, gloves, a sack lunch or snacks, and a chair



Upcoming Holiday & Board Events

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Saturday - Monday

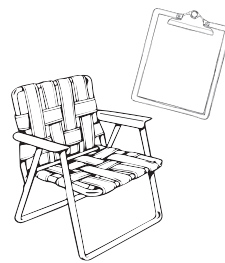
May 27th, 28th, 29th

10-4 pm



ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 21st | 6 pm



Contributions are Appreciated!

Greenwood Hills Cemetery relies on charitable gifts to maintain the cemetery and make necessary improvements. Please consider increasing your donation or including GHCMa in your charitable giving plans if you have not done so.



I want to help maintain and restore Greenwood Hills Cemetery!

NAME _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

ADDRESS _____

\$ _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

GHCMa Tax ID #94-3052123

Thank you! We truly appreciate your support.

Reply to:
GHC Maintenance Association
PO Box 80701
Portland, OR 97280