



THE TRADITION

Fall 2017



A Publication of the Riverside Cemetery Association and Foundation

ISSUE NUMBER 46

Greetings and Introduction

The Tradition newsletter is a publication designed to introduce families new to Riverside Cemetery and to keep members informed of the current happenings around the grounds. Riverside Cemetery is a non-profit association of lot owners. Revenues from sales and services are used to fund day-to-day operations of this active and historic Cemetery. If you wish to be added or removed from the newsletter mailing or emailing list, or have any questions regarding Riverside Cemetery, please let us know. See page 4 for Contact Information and Cemetery Hours.



HOLIDAY WREATHS & BOUQUETS

NOW AVAILABLE

Wreaths – \$42

5 styles available. Price includes tax, easel-stand & installation

Poinsettia Bouquet – \$30

Price includes tax, cone-shaped vase & installation

Placement in early December. Items will remain on graves until the spring clean-off which starts March 1st.

**WHILE THEY LAST!
SEE ORDER FORM FOR SELECTION AND DETAILS**

Riverside Cemetery: Past & Present

When spending time on the grounds at Riverside Cemetery, you'll find the names of industrialists and families involved in establishing the city of Cleveland in its early years. Considering how different the world was in 1876, some may be curious as to *how* a cemetery was maintained without the advantage of computers, engines, and vehicles, and how much has and hasn't changed.



A horse drawn hearse accompanied on foot by a procession of mourners as they move through Riverside to the burial site.

Today, the funeral procession usually involves escorting cars from a funeral home to the cemetery. Prior to motorized vehicles, horse-drawn carriages and hearses were used to carry a deceased person to the final resting place. By the time Riverside was established, train cars were also in use for processions. Tracks ran right in front of the cemetery on "Pearl Street," carrying the deceased and mourners in from residencies in the city. Once the procession was dropped off at the gates, the train car would move to a 180-degree turntable located at the present-day intersection of Pearl Road and Denison Avenue, where it would return to the gate to pick up its passengers.

Besides using horses for carriages, they were also needed for grounds keeping.

Riverside kept a fully-stocked stable. These horses would pull a buckboard baring the casket from the gates to the grave. They also pulled the mowers...
(continued on page 2).

The Riverside Cemetery Gatehouse in its early years. To the left looking into the cemetery, you may see the towering "Branch" monument is already in place, as yet surrounded by little else.



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(continued from page 1) ... that kept the cemetery grass trimmed until the introduction of modern push and riding mowers.

Man-power was used when it came to precision work, such as trimming the grass around headstones. Handheld cycles were used to trim what mowers couldn't reach. The graves were hand-dug by a team of three, two to dig and one to keep dirt moving in a wheelbarrow. In earlier days, a brick burial vault might be built right into the ground once the grave was opened, whereas today, Riverside's vaults are most often delivered and installed the day of the burial. All graves at Riverside were dug by hand until our first backhoe in the 1970's, and in some situations even today, the accuracy and versatility of hand-digging is required.



Above: A team of Workers preparing a full-size grave for burial. The hand-digging process took about 4 hours.
Below: Crew sickling the grass around the headstones.



The landscape is yet another aspect that has been changing throughout the years. The Cuyahoga River once had a bend that ran east of the cemetery border (presumably where the name "Riverside" comes from). Later, as the steel and shipping industries grew, the river itself was moved and shortened, eliminating the bend that ran alongside our property to create a straight-way for the large, slow-turning ships.

As some of our own families remember, Riverside once had a small body of water running through what is now our valley area. There was a large bridge that spanned the valley, connecting section 11 and 14. You can still see the foundations in these sections. When it was decided to develop the valley, the water was drained into the Cuyahoga, appropriate draining was installed to prevent its return, and the hillsides were reconfigured and some fill dirt was brought in on a temporary train track. The bridge and the tracks used in this work are all visible in the photo above.

These are just a few of the ways Riverside has changed in its 141-year history. If you have questions or stories, please don't hesitate to share them with us, and don't forget to keep an eye on our summer tours to learn even more about these historic grounds.



Above: One of Riverside's original maintenance buildings which is no longer standing. This was the stable that housed Riverside's horses.

Below: The valley mid-way through the process of preparing the land to receive burial. The bridge has since been taken down.



Consider Riverside Cemetery For Preplanned or At-Need Arrangements

FULL SIZE LOT GRAVES

Starting at \$725 each*

URN GARDEN GRAVES

Starting at \$370 each*

SINGLE GRAVE & BURIAL PACKAGES

Starting at \$1000*

Take Advantage of...

- Affordable Prepayment Plans
- Interest Free Accounts
- Pay-in-Full to Lock in Pricing

*Prices exclude burial charge (except Single Package), headstone and headstone setting fee, Preneed Set-Up Fee, and Funeral Home charges such as casket, vault, etc.

Dia de Muertos is October 31- November 2! Did you know...?

- The holiday celebrates and honors a person's deceased ancestors and originates from ancient Aztec traditions that would begin yearly around August 1st, lasting almost a month.
- Dia de Muertos is celebrated world-wide in the Americas, Europe, India, Australia, Indonesia, and Fiji to name a few places.
- Home-made alters are decorated with belongings, items of interest, and food, not only to remember those who have passed, but to invite the souls to return to visit and guide family and friends who are still living.
- Dia de Muertos was added by UNESCO to the *Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity* in 2008
- Similar celebrations include Allhallowtide, the Qingming Festival (China), Gai Jatra (Nepal), and various cultural celebrations throughout Africa.
- The Gordan Square Arts District (Detroit Road, CLE) is hosting their 13th Annual Dia de Muerto Ohio celebration and parade October 28th.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY!!



The Tradition Fall 2017

Your Generous Contributions
Support Our Community Events, Education Programs,
And Historic Preservation Efforts
Thank You!



(Donations Received 4/1/2017 – 8/15/2017)

Richard and Sally Hollington, Jr.
Julius G. Kanyok
In Memory of Barbara, John & Michael Kanyok

Art Bakalar
In Memory of Eleanor S. Bakalar

Albert Wilhelmy III
In Memory of Albert Wilhelmy Family

Teresa & Robert Polk

Jean Wolske
In Memory of Michael Wolske

Charles & Helen Brown Memorial Foundation

Grace E. Green
In Memory of Baby Boy Green

Fortuna Funeral Home
In Memory of Joseph L. Fortuna

Everett L. O'Dell
In Memory of Oda O'Dell

Alexander E. Lancaster, Jr.
In Memory of the Lancaster Family

Hector N. & Cruz M. Vega
In Memory of Edwin Vega

Deloris Hamilton
In Memory of Tom - Dawny Chapel Sons

Gary & Linda Spiros
In Memory of Olivia Augustus Spiros, Gust Spiros, August Alber & Johanna Alber, and Maimu Alber (matching gift with CATechnologies)

Raymond I. & Betty J. White
In Memory of Troy Christopher White

Herbert F. Leisy, Jr.

Rita J. Novak

David Bishara

Nelson Corporan
In Memory of Family at Riverside

Eric Townsend
In Memory of Townsend and Beach Family

Don Hultzman
In Memory of the Hultzman, Florian, Rechnitzer, and Kroehle Families

Robin Weaver
In Memory of Grace Dix Townes

William & Dixie Greenfield
In Memory of Jack T. & Norine Greenfield, and William & Haltie Springelt

Lea K. Junkers
In Memory of Ilmar, Natalie, Olev and Karin Kupp

Nory E. Maldonado
In Memory of Felix & Maria Gonzalez and Eradin Maldonado

Charlotte J. Jennings
In Memory of John L. Jennings

Mary Lou Prager
In Memory of Thomas A. Prager

Anonymous
Music Festival Donations

SUMMER 2017: EVENTS REVIEW

Cemetery events are made possible by the hard work of volunteers and staff, and in part by the generous contributions such as those made by the people listed above. Thank you for your support!

- June 10th ~ Our **Annual Brewers & Notables Tour**, guided by Bill Halley, retired Riverside Cemetery General Manager and Doug Kusak of the Metroparks Outdoor Historical Education Division, hosted several dozen visitors and toured historic our Victorian Chapel and the grounds for most of the morning. This enjoyable, educational event is hosted by Riverside every June.
- July 17th ~ Our **7th Annual Music Festival** is a free public event that brings a variety of local art and talent to neighborhood. This year's performance featured The Bluescasters, The Larry Patch Quintet, and Steve Ostrow Dixie Jazz band, with several vendors for visitors to browse and shop. The event was a success with an estimated 150 visitors in attendance. Special thanks to Leonard DiCosimo & the Cleveland Federation of Musicians, the Local 4 Music Fund & Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, the musicians, sponsors & vendors, the Riverside staff and crew, Linda Spiros of Wild Moose Communications, and all else who's volunteer assistance continues to make this event a growing success.

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY
HOURS OF OPERATION
AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Cemetery Gates

October – March 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
April – September 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Office Hours

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday – Saturday
(Closed Holidays)

Grave Clean-off Dates

(Weather permitting)
March 1st & October 15th

3607 Pearl Road
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-351-4800

Email: riverside.cemetery@att.net
Website: www.riversidecemeterycleveland.org

To be added or removed from our Newsletter mailing list or email list, please call or email the office.



**MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR!**

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018
6:30 a.m.
In the William R. Halley Chapel
at
Riverside Cemetery



From the Foreman

The Seasons are changing and it is almost time for the colder weather. Here are a few friendly reminders:

Since Oct. 15th is on a Sunday this year, clean off will be Monday, Oct. 16th (weather permitting). Please remember not to decorate graves with glass, porcelain, or rocks, and please limit to 3 items per grave. Any extras will be removed and discarded. We also ask to have respect for others visiting and keep noise levels down.

Thank you for your cooperation with these matters. It will help to keep a beautiful and safe place to visit our loved ones. Have a safe and healthy holiday season. Stay warm!

Administrative Staff and Grounds Keepers

Mark Craig
General Manager

Brianna Owens
Administrative Assistant

Scott Halley
President

Bill Halley
Retired General Manager
Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Langley
Assistant General Foreman

Shirley Bill
General Foreman