Introducing Our New
Manager

Mark Craig has joined the proud and devoted
team at Riverside Cemetery as the General
Manager in March 2017.

Mark’s history at Riverside goes back to his teenage years
working alongside the grounds crew. During that time, he learned and
performed all facets of the daily ground-keeping responsibilities. Mark
credits the laborious yet rewarding duties encountered at that time as
essential building blocks to the person he is today. The Riverside family
helped him to understand the importance of honesty and commitment to
all ventures of life. Many of the same faces from his time here in the
1990’s are still present today and the great relationships developed then
have pleasantly picked up right where they left off.

During this eighteen-year sabbatical for Mark, he has obtained
many additional skills and trades which will help him in his management
position. For several years, he left the Cleveland area with his wife Iulia
to pursue career opportunities in Florida. During this time, they had their
first child Derek. It was two years later that they came to the decision that
Cleveland was home and they wanted Derek to grow up closer to family.
Their second child Kylie was born shortly after their return home. This
summer the children will be turning six and nine years old. They’ve made
a happy home here in the Cleveland area, renewing friendships with their
family and friends.

Mark has kept the memories of Riverside close to his heart and
stayed in touch throughout the years, coming to visit the grounds and his
coworkers whenever in the neighborhood. When the position of General
Manager opened, he came to us expressing a great enthusiasm for the
position, which is appreciated by our Association.

We welcome Mark back and are excited to have him join the
Cemetery’s team as General Manager.
IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of the late Ray Pianka, a valued member of our Board of Trustees since 2010. As the Housing Court Judge of Cleveland for the past 21 years, he was also a former Cleveland City Councilman, founding Executive Director of the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, and member of the Sons of The American Revolution. His important counsel and always dedicated support of our historic Cleveland landmark Cemetery was greatly appreciated, and his regular presence among us will be greatly missed.

One of Judge Painka’s passions was researching many of the early settler families of the Ohio City Community which so often led him to our Cemetery as their place of eternal rest. He encouraged and assisted in the planning of our Summer Music Festivals which we’ve held on the grounds in recent years. Judge Pianka was a man of high ethical principles and character, a person of great faith, an individual who was proud of his lifelong Cleveland roots, and who was passionate about his city’s long historic legacy. He always personified a profound and deep dedication to his professional responsibilities on behalf of the city and especially the persons whose housing concerns he tried so fairly to resolve.

On behalf of our Trustees and Administrative Staff, we extend our deepest condolences to his beloved wife Karen, daughter Kirsten, and family. We were honored to have had the blessing of his association with our Cemetery and Foundation.
ANNUAL BREWERS & NOTABLES TOUR

Join us Saturday, June 10, 2017, for this popular tour that highlights the lives and histories at the gravesites of several local Brewer families in Ohio City during the late 1800/early 1900 era. This will also include information about a number of industrialists, land developers, building designers, local government officials, musicians, playwrights, and business persons as we visit their eternal resting places along the walking route. Their life stories, including many others, focus heavily on the history and development of Cleveland, West of the Cuyahoga River.

Our speakers Doug Kusak from the Metroparks Outdoor Historical Education Division, and Bill Halley, former Riverside General Manager, will join together to take you on an interesting journey among the beautiful landscape, monuments, and headstones of our 140-year-old landmark Cemetery and tell the storied history of our community’s fascinating legacy.

We will begin the tour with background orientation in our Nationally Registered, 1876 Victorian Stone Chapel at 8:30 a.m. Signs will direct you to its location. There is no charge for this event, but if you plan to attend, an advanced reservation email to riverside.cemetery@att.net or office call to 216-351-4800 will help our preparation.

From the Foreman:

We have a few reminders to help keep our Cemetery looking nice.

Please take a few minutes to read the signs. Remember to limit your items to 3 per grave. Any more than 3 will be removed and discarded.

Before planting any flowers, please confirm with the Office Staff that you are able to do so in that section. Not all sections are permitted to have in ground planting.

We ask to please park on the roads, not on the grass or in the sections. Also, no bikes are allowed. If you have a bike you must walk the bike while on the grounds. This is for your own safety.

Another reminder, especially for this time of year, please do not put any glass or porcelain items out. They are a safety hazard to our crew and to the families walking in the sections. If any of these items are found, they will be thrown away.

One final reminder, our Clean-Off days are March 1 and October 15. This year October 15 falls on a Sunday, so Clean-Off will be on October 16.

Keeping within the rules helps out greatly and makes it much easier to keep our Cemetery looking nice. Thank you very much and have a great Spring and Summer.

Administrative Staff & Crew

Mark Craig
General Manager

Brianna Owens
Administrative Assistant

Shirley Bill
General Foreman

Kenneth Langley
Assistant General Foreman

Mara Craig
Office Assistant

Bill Halley
Retired General Manager
Secretary-Treasurer
Your Generous Contributions

Support Our Community Events, Education Programs,

And Historic Preservation Efforts

Thank You!

(Donations received 10/1/16 – 3/31/17)

Mrs. Alexandra Braun
In Memory of Serhij & Katharina Terentiuk

Fred Brunner
In Memory of Jimmy Gibson

Robin Weaver
In Memory of Grace Dix Townes

Ronald D. Eyring
In Memory of The Links, Gideon, & Eyring Families

Julius G. Kanyok
In Memory of Barbara, John & Michael Kanyok

George & Linda Kapcar
In Honor of Greg & Sally Kapcar

Gregory & Sally Kapcar
In Memory of Don Kuschel & Judge Ray Pianka
(Riverside Cemetery Trustees)

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

Gwendolyn R. Golden
In Memory of Ruth Campbell & Archie Parker

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

Thomas A. Brandt
In Memory of Three generations of The Brandt Family
at Riverside Cemetery

Ms. Valda Otankis
In Memory of her Parents & Grandparents

Valere Craig
In Memory of All The Family at Riverside

CA Technology
Employee Match for Gary Spiros

Mrs. Donald Barta
In Memory of Stanley & Mattie Barta & Donald Barta

June Travis
In Memory of John E. & Catherine A. Joplin
& Oscar & Emilia Barth

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

Albert Wilhelmy III
In Memory of The Albert Wilhelmy Family

Don & Mary Ann Obert
In Memory of All Family Members buried at Riverside

Bernard L. & Marian E. Buckner
In Memory of Ruth P. Buckner

Byron & Suzy Foster
In Memory of The Foster Family
(Foster Family Foundation)

Teresa & Robert Polk
In Memory of The Stuewe Family

Eric Townsend
In Memory of The Townsend & Beach Families

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

Jean Wolske
In Memory of Michael Wolske

Charles & Helen
Brown Memorial Foundation

Lenore E. Maxa
In Memory of The Forschner, Schneider,
Guentzler & Brugge Families

Mike Sosenko Jr.
In Memory of John Sosenko & Michael J. Sosenko

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

Mrs. Nadia Aziz
In Memory of Fakri Aziz