THE TRADITION

FALL 2011

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY AND FOUNDATION

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY IS A NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION OF LOT OWNERS WHOSE REVENUES FROM SALES & SERVICES ARE USED TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE OUR GROUNDS.

NEW VETERANS SECTION

We are thrilled to announce the opening of a new area in the cemetery reserved specifically for U.S. Veterans and their loved ones. This area is along the Willowdale Ave. border of the cemetery in Section 31. All graves will be companion graves – 2 burials will be permitted in each space, one on top of each other. All of the headstones will be the government provided Veterans Administration headstones. There will also be in-ground burial spaces for cremated remains. Along with all of this, we are providing special pricing for this area only. In essence, the Veteran will not have to pay for his/her grave space with the Companion purchase! Call or stop in for all the details.

JAZZ FESTIVAL

Coming on Sunday, September 18 we will be holding our first ever Jazz Festival. It will start at 2:00pm at our Historic Chapel with a New Orleans style jazz ensemble leading us in a procession down our Centennial Drive to the Circle where the Cemetery was dedicated in 1876 by U.S. President-elect Rutherford B. Hayes. This event is free to the public. We will have seating available as well as water. Additionally, there will be a horse-drawn carriage available for rides around the cemetery. Come out and enjoy an afternoon of New Orleans Style Jazz!

NEW MASONIC SECTION

We are also pleased to announce the opening of a new area in the cemetery reserved exclusively for Masons and their families. This area is along the Willowdale Ave. border of the cemetery in Section 31. Choice lots can be purchased now. The first burial was completed earlier this season, and we are looking forward to servicing this part of our community with this special area.

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY FOUNDATION

In our summer issue of this newsletter, we identified a very special need we have currently to address some badly needed roadway resurfacing, primarily in some of the oldest and most historical areas of our proud Cemetery. Our Phase I priority would be the beautiful tree lined Centennial (center) Drive which extends from our Chapel to the memorial circle site of our 1876 public dedication ceremonies. The total cost for all of our targeted resurfacing areas will be close to $50,000, and that is well outside of our general operating budget needs. So, we have designated a special account within our Foundation to seek funding for this important undertaking. In conjunction with this action, we are requesting that those who are interested and able to help us consider a memorial or personal tax deductible gift to this roadway fund.

We expect we’ll have to divide this work in multiple phases depending on the level of support we are fortunate to receive from our valued families and friends. Several have already responded for which we are most grateful, and we hope others will also want to share in this important project which will benefit everyone visiting our historical Cemetery.

Contributions payable to the Riverside Cemetery Foundation can be sent to the office address. All gifts will be appropriately receipted and acknowledged in our newsletter. (see the back side of this edition for contributors since February, 2011)

FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE TRADITION

REMINDER: Wherever possible, we would like to e-mail The Tradition so please either send us an e-mail to riverside_cemetery@att.net or call the office at 216-351-4800 so we can include you in future e-mailings.
BREWERS AND NOTABLES TOUR

A reminder that the annual Brewers and Notables Tour will be on Saturday, August 13th, starting at 9:00 am. We will first meet in the Cemetery Chapel for orientation and then proceed with a walking tour through our oldest and most historical grounds. We should conclude by noon.

Doug Kusak, Metroparks Outdoor Education Division's Historical Interpreter, will discuss six of our eight brewing families and businesses at their respective gravesites while former General Manager, Bill Halley, will introduce you to many of the most notable persons resting eternally at Riverside.

There is no charge for this comfortable casual dress event. Reservations, while not required, are appreciated if possible, to assist us in our planning. You can email the office at Riverside_Cemetery@att.net or call 216-351-4800.

GENERAL MANAGER’S MESSAGE

Almost daily, people tell us that they had no idea that Riverside was so big or so beautiful. This is the message we are trying to get out to the community, and that there is still plenty of room for burials for decades to come. This is the perfect time to select your family’s lot. We have opened up new areas which have been highlighted in this, and our last edition of The Tradition. Our prices are among the lowest in the area, and our value is among the highest. What do I mean by “highest value”? Well, along with the lowest costs, we also allow the most liberal decorating, planting (in certain areas), or marking policies of any cemetery, and we believe that we maintain the cemetery grounds as well or better than other cemeteries in the area. Also, we have interest-free payment plans available. When you add this all up, you'll agree that our value is the best in the area.

Speaking of decorations, we want to take this opportunity to remind you that our cemetery-wide semi-annual clean off day is fast approaching on October 15. If there is anything on your graves that you want to keep, or place back on the grave, it must be removed before October 15. (You may leave shepherd's hooks and wooden crosses only) Items can be placed back on the graves a few days after that, keeping in mind that the items need to be limited to three per grave and placed at the headstone area.

We do have headstones available in the office, along with silk flowers, wreaths at Christmas time, and engravable Memorial Bricks in our patio to commemorate a loved one's life.