THE TRADITION
SUMMER 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.
Riverside Cemetery Office
AD 1896
Phone 216.351.4800
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H-MAIL riverside_cemetery@att.net
Website www.riversidecemeterycleveland.org
William R. Halley Chapel
AD 1876

BREWERS AND NOTABLES TOUR

Our popular annual Brewers and Notables Tour is scheduled for Saturday, August 13th. This event is led by Metro Parks Outdoor Education Division's Historical Interpreter, Doug Kusak, and Riverside's former General Manager, Bill Halley. We begin with an orientation about Riverside's founding and character in the Chapel at 9:00 am. This is followed by a walking tour through some of our most historical areas where you will learn about six of our eight brewing families and many of the most notable persons resting eternally here.

Reservations, while not required, are appreciated to assist us in our planning. You can email the office at riverside_cemetery@att.net or call 216-351-4800.

NEW JAZZ FESTIVAL

We are planning a jazz festival for later in this summer or early fall. This is to honor some jazz greats that are buried here at Riverside, including Robert Lockwood, Roberto O'Casio, and Robert "Skeets" Ross. The concert will be outside at our "Centennial Circle" just down the street from our Chapel. Bring your own chairs or blankets and a picnic lunch and enjoy the music. Additionally, we are planning on having a horse-drawn carriage available for taking guests on a short tour around the cemetery. (small fee for this activity may apply). The final details will be available in the next edition of The Tradition.

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

On Thursday, May 12 we hosted the annual Memorial Service for those people who donated their bodies to Case Western Reserve Medical School. It is a privilege for us to host this beautiful service for those who "gave in death for those in life". Their grave is located in Section 19, Lot 1.

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY FOUNDATION

The Riverside Cemetery Foundation, 501(c)(3), was established in 1992. Initially, it was intended as a resource for interested persons and Foundations to offer funding for the total restoration of our treasured, Nationally Registered Chapel. Since that project's very successful completion in 1998, the continued thoughtful support of our Foundation by our many families and friends has provided much needed assistance in addressing other ongoing, special needs within our 1876 Cleveland Landmark cemetery. We have also been able to sponsor some community and educational program services as well.

We currently have to address some long overdue and badly needed roadway resurfacing, primarily in some of the oldest and most historic areas of our beautiful park. The significant cost required for such a project (at least $50,000) is well outside our general operating budget needs, so we have designated a special account within our Foundation for this critical restoration. In conjunction with this action, we are requesting that those who are interested and able to help us, consider a memorial or personal gift to this roadway fund. The extent to which we can accomplish our objectives in this task will depend upon the level of support we are fortunate in receiving from our valued families and friends.

Contributions payable to the Riverside Cemetery Foundation should be sent to the office address. All gifts will be appropriately receipted and gratefully acknowledged in our Newsletter.

"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle"
Father James Keller (1900-1977)
"Typical Private Cemetery?"

Recently, there have been several ads in the Cleveland Plain Dealer comparing prices of a "Typical Private Cemetery" to those at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery (OWRNC). While it is true that there are no costs associated with the OWRNC, the prices listed are in no means accurate as far as prices at Riverside Cemetery are concerned. We are definitely NOT your "Typical Private Cemetery". The ad stated that you would pay "$11,345.00" for comparable services at a "Typical Private Cemetery" versus $0.00 at OWRNC. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you that for comparable accommodations and services at Riverside Cemetery, you would pay $1,890, not $11,345 as the ad suggested. The breakdown is as follows:

First Grave (double deep) $475.00
Opening/closing $515.00
Concrete Grave Liner Purchased at Funeral Home
Second Grave (top of double deep) $-0-
Second Opening/Closing $700.00
Second Concrete Grave Liner Purchased at Funeral Home
Military Marker No charge, except for Foundation-$200

You pay: $1,890.00
Even if you add in the Funeral Home charge for a Concrete Grave Liner (1 each) at an average cost of $1,000, then the total cost for cemetery needs, is $3,890.00, but again, the vault or grave liner is purchased from your local Funeral Director.

So, as you can see, Riverside Cemetery is far from "Typical". Also, these costs are the same whether or not a person is a Veteran. The only difference is they would not be provided a headstone from the government, and would have to purchase one separately, the cost of which starts around $495. We also have many more options for grave purchases and memorials (and costs can be more), but this is comparing apples-to-apples to what is provided at a National Cemetery. For any information, please contact us in the office.

QUESTION???

Once a headstone or monument is delivered to the cemetery, to whom does it belong? (See answer in next column)
Message from the Foremen
We are trying to keep up with the weather, but we haven’t been winning that battle. You can help us by following a few simple rules. PLEASE:

✓ Do not drive or park on the grass anywhere.
✓ Limit your decorations to 3 items per grave. (Excess decorations will be removed)
✓ NO glass, porcelain, stones, rocks, marbles, or fences at any time.
✓ Be aware that Styrofoam decorations often get blown away.
✓ If your Section allows plantings, please keep them within the bounds of your lot.
✓ Be considerate of others.

We planted more flowers this year and despite the bad weather, many have bloomed and are adding to the beauty of the cemetery. We are constantly trying to beautify the grounds and with your help we can continue to keep Riverside looking as nice as possible. Have a great summer!

The Administration Building History
Every year, many visitors admire and ask about our beautiful 19th Century red brownstone Administrative Building. It is now approximately 115 years old; was created a Cleveland Landmark in 1977; and became a part of the National Register of Historic Buildings and places in 1987. Its massive, castle-like Romanesque design has become a very recognizable architectural sentinel greeting our many thousands of visitors annually.

Our original office was a small, wooden cottage-style structure built in late 1875. As our need for larger quarters became increasingly apparent, the subject of a new office building was formally introduced at a Trustee meeting on 12/9/1895. Following approval, the architectural sketches of Charles W. Hopkinson were accepted on 5/4/1896 and the present site was chosen. Red brownstone was chosen over granite because of the prohibitive cost of the granite. The red colored brownstone came from the Long Meadow Mass. Quarry. The sum of the accepted bids for the project was $17,360. The construction began shortly after 6/30/1896 with all the major outside structural work probably completed by year-end and finishing touches being done during early 1897.

The interior first floor contains a two-story high great room with an inlaid oak wood ceiling above walls of 1 ½” thick yellow roman bricks. There is a single story high inner working office with originally plastered walls, but now paneled with an acoustical drop ceiling. There is an attic over the Great Room, a meeting room over the office area, and a record storage room under the open, circular, corner tower. There is also a full basement and three fireplaces. Initial lighting was apparently done with gas fixtures and eventually replaced by electricity. Three entrances off the triple-sided porch have now been reduced to one on the west facing.

The offices were opened by spring of 1897 and the first Trustee meeting in the new Administration Building was held on Monday, June 28, 1897. Among the sixteen trustees present at that meeting were such prominent persons as Trustee Vice-President Samuel Sessions (Lamson & Sessions), Frederick Pelton (Cleveland Mayor 1871-1873), Leonard Schlather (Brewery owner) and Robert Wallace (Executive with American Shipbuilding and a Masonic leader). Trustee meetings have been held here since.

POEM OF LIFE
Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what’s to be,
A resting place along the road,
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know,
For some the journey’s quicker,
For some the journey’s slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We’ll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.
A DEMOLAY TRIBUTE TO MOTHERHOOD

After being a very active member and officer of DeMolay during his teen years, our former General Manager, William R. Halley served as an adult advisor for his home Chapter for over 30 years. Twenty-two of those years were as the Chapter Advisor where he worked directly with the top elected officers who changed semi-annually. During his years of service, he earned many recognitions including the Order’s highest adult honor, the Legion of Honor.

DeMolay is an international leadership and character building fraternal organization sponsored by Masonry for boys 12-21 years. Among their several public presentations is one for honoring mothers. The DeMolay Tribute To Motherhood was written over 60 years ago by one of their own local members, the now late Rev. E. Robert Shamble. When presented, usually at open officer installations or on special occasions where women are present, an active member circles the room reciting the beautiful words of the following poem from memory while single roses are given to each mother as they’re standing for recognition. Mr. Halley had the privilege of giving this Tribute on many occasions, and he wanted to share it with all of our mothers, living and at rest, as a tribute for Mother’s Day.

“DeMolay Tribute to Motherhood”

GOD THOUGHT TO GIVE THE SWEETEST THING
IN HIS ALMIGHTY POWER,
TO EARTH. — AND DEEPLY WONDERING
WHAT IT SHOULD BE — ONE HOUR.

IN FONDEST JOY AND LOVE OF HEART
OUTWEIGHING EVERY OTHER,
HE MOVED THE GATES OF HEAVEN APART
AND GAVE TO EARTH A MOTHER!

WHY,
FOR SAVE IN “HEAVEN”
THERE’S NOT A NAME SO SWEET,
SO HALLOWED, DEEP
FROM THE HEART IT LEAPS.

IT SPRINGS, SOFTLY HOVERS ON THE LIPS,
AND SINGS OF LOVE AND HAPPINESS AND JOY.
THERE’S NEVER A HEARTBEAT OUT OF TIME.
NEVER A NATURE OUT OF RHYME,
WITH MOTHER.

THE MOTHER SENDING FORTH HER CHILD
TO MEET WITH CARES AND STRIFE,
BREATHE THROUGH HER TEARS, HER HOPE, HER FEARS,
FOR THAT LOVED ONE’S FUTURE LIFE.

NO COLD "ADIEU" OR "FAREWELL" LIVES
BENEATH HER CHOKING SIGHS,
BUT THE DEEPEST STORY OF ANGUISH GIVES
“GOD BLESS THEE, SON. GOOD BYE!”

SO, YOU SEE,
THERE ARE MANY, MANY REASONS
WHY WE LOVE YOU MOTHER DEAR,
THOUGHT TONIGHT WE'RE NOT REPETING
ALL WE’VE TOLD YOU THROUGH THE YEAR.

BUT OUR EVER-LOVING WISHES
AND OUR THOUGHTS SO FOND AND TRUE
WILL BE IN OUR HEARTS FOR ALWAYS
JUST BECAUSE DEARS, YOU ARE YOU.

FOR THERE’S A WELL-WORN PATH
AND IT LEADS STRAIGHT THROUGH
THE LANES OF OUR HEARTS,
TILL IT COMES — TO YOU.

AND THE VINES OF LOVE
AND THE FLOWERS OF CHEER
GROW THERE ALL SEASONS
OF THE YEAR.

BUT ON THIS NIGHT
THEY BLOOM AGAIN,
WITH THE BEST OF WISHES
ALL FOR YOU.

SO, COUNT YOUR GARDEN BY THE FLOWERS
AND NEVER BY THE LEAVES THAT FALL,
COUNT YOUR DAYS BY GOLDEN HOURS
AND DON'T REMEMBER CLOUDS AT ALL.

COUNT YOUR NIGHTS BY STARS, NOT SHADOWS,
COUNT YOUR LIFE WITH SMILES, NOT TEARS.
AND, TONIGHT WHEN YOU WE HONOR
COUNT YOUR AGE BY FRIENDS, NOT YEARS.

FOR GOD HAS NOT PROMISED SKIES ALWAYS BLUE,
OR FLOWER-STREWN PATHWAYS ALL OUR LIVES THROUGH.
NO, HE PROMISED YOU A RAIN WITHOUT SORROW, OR PAIN.

BUT GOD HAS PROMISED STRENGTH FOR THE DAY,
REST FOR THE LABORER, LIGHT ON THE WAY,
GRACE FOR YOUR TRIALS, AND HELP FROM ABOVE,
HIS UNFADING SYMPATHY, HIS UNDYING LOVE.

SO, MOTHERS,
JUST FOR YOURSELVES WERE THESE THOUGHTS TONIGHT,
FOR YOU, AND YOU ONLY DEARS,
The hopes that are known in our hearts alone,
And the love that we're sending here.

AND JUST FOR YOURSELVES IS THIS ONE LOVING WISH—
THAT ALL THAT IS FINE AND TRUE
MAY BLESS YOU AS TRUELY AS WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED
BY THE GIFT OF YOUR LOVE AND BY YOU.