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# THE TRADITION

## RIVERSIDE CEMETERY AND FOUNDATION

3607 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109

FALL 2006

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### RIVERSIDE ON THE WEB

Upon your receipt of this fall 2006 Newsletter, our long-awaited Web Site should be posted on the internet. We had hoped it would be earlier in the summer, as indicated in our spring Newsletter, but the opportunity to expand on our information and pictures has prolonged our construction time. It will be accessible at:

[www.riversidecemeterycleveland.org](http://www.riversidecemeterycleveland.org)

We again want to thank our Webmaster, Kotowski Graphics Design, and Marijane Halley of our staff for their significant efforts assembling and formatting the vast amount of data we offer. We hope you will be enlightened and impressed with the extensive current and historical information being offered. Also, we hope it will dispel any misinformation you may have received or harbored about our grounds, legacy, and future. And, we are confident you will find our accommodations, prices, and Administrative philosophy to be attractive, competitively favorable, and quite reassuring.

If you know of someone notable or special who rests eternally within our Cemetery of whom we are probably not aware, we would appreciate your information on them. We will review and consider it for inclusion on our Site and possibly as a stop in our walking tours.



Your comments and any questions about the Web Site are welcome.



### CEMETERY ROADWAYS

Riverside Cemetery has several miles of roadways. Generally, their condition is average to good considering the many decades of seasonal changes, salting, and traffic. However, we are trying to maintain an ongoing program of resurfacing and are focusing on our more challenged and deteriorated roads first. The valley hills, for instance, are heavily salted throughout the winter and naturally are affected more severely so there has been more concentrated recent work done on them.

Because of the high priced petroleum base within asphalt paving products, the cost of road restoration has increased significantly. This greatly affects the amount of paving work we can consider in our general operating budget. However, roadway restoration can also be covered by our Foundation, and if anyone would like to help us in our paving program, they can do so with a designated gift to that entity.



Yesterday is history and  
Tomorrow a mystery.  
Today is a gift and  
That's why it's called the present.

## *Pledge of Allegiance*

*I pledge allegiance to the Flag  
Of the United States of America*

*And to the Republic*

*For which it stands,*

*One Nation under God,*

*Indivisible, with liberty*

*and justice for all.*

*Francis Bellamy wrote the original Pledge in August of 1892. It initiated a campaign to establish a national holiday on October 12<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the discovery of America. This day is now called Columbus Day. Bellamy envisioned that flags would be flown over every schoolhouse and public building from coast to coast. Thus, on Columbus Day in October 1892, millions of public school children first repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*The Pledge has been modified three times: In 1923 the words "the flag of the United States" were substituted for "my flag". In 1924 the words "of America" were added. On Flag Day in 1954 the words "under God" became a part of the Pledge.*



## Tour Volunteers

For several years, we have provided walking tours in our Cemetery which have introduced many old and new friends and guests to our vast number of notable gravesites, our very interesting legacy, and the Administrative character of our proud, landmark Cemetery. With some valued involvement by local historians, these events have generally been conducted by our General Manager, Bill Halley. On a few occasions in-door 'tours' with the assistance of slides have also been presented by him. These programs were provided by our Foundation as a part of its educational focus.

We would like to offer some expansion of these enlightening programs, but we'll need the assistance of some volunteers to meet that expectation. Most historical Cemeteries, like ourselves, have volunteers providing such services, and we're hopeful some qualified friends, who share our passion for this fine Cemetery, will be interested in helping us to tell our colorful story. Interested persons are welcome to discuss this request with Mr. Halley.

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

William Halley.....General Manager  
Valere Craig .....Adm. Asst.  
Marijane Halley.....Adm. Asst.  
Shirley Bill .....General Foreman  
Kenneth Langley.....Asst. General Foreman

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

Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Monday – Saturday  
(except holidays)

**CEMETERY GRAVE CLEAN-OFF DATES  
MARCH 1 & OCTOBER 15**

**PLEASE NO GLASS OR PORCELAIN ITEMS AT ANYTIME.**

**NAME CROSSES IN FLAT STONE AREAS PERMITTED  
NOV. 1 – APR. 1 ONLY**

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



## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

***Q-When I've attended funerals at other Cemeteries, I notice a car escorts us to the gravesite, the driver receives some paperwork from the Director, and usually leaves the area soon thereafter. At Riverside, it seems different; can you explain your procedure in this regard.***

**A-**The arrival of a funeral at our Cemetery is a very sacred and important happening for us. Your procession, or the Funeral Director alone if no others are accompanying him or her, is met at the entrance by the General Manager or Administrative Assistant who personally provides escort to the gravesite. On rare occasions of multiple arrivals at the same time, the General Foreman will provide this supervisory service.

The person escorting the funeral stays with the Funeral Director throughout the committal and will also witness the interment following. The only rare exception to the latter would be the necessity to escort another procession which is due or has entered the gates at the same time. We consider a funeral at our Cemetery to be of the highest priority requiring the direct personal involvement of our top Administrative Staff. This long standing tradition here is a major factor in the valued reputation we have earned among our grateful families and the funeral professionals we are privileged to serve.

***Q-When are new graves seeded in grass?***

**A-**In general, January through May burials are seeded in the early fall. Interments from June through December are scheduled for early spring.

None of our recent graves are tamped or watered down during the backfilling process. We depend solely upon nature to settle and re-compact the loose soil used to close the new burial. If we have normal seasonal precipitation, the above schedule will work effectively. A very dry summer or winter will affect the settling adversely and necessitate its being re-done the following cut-off time.

In conjunction with this, we periodically need to fill in settled graves, with or without grass. This doesn't mean anyone is disturbing the burial; it merely indicates we're trying to maintain the respectful appearance of the gravesite. Also, if you see concrete block showing at the head-end of the grave where soil had dropped or eroded, it is only the headstone's foundation material which is waiting for a future or supporting a present grave memorial.



***Q-When we were looking at monuments and headstones while walking through Riverside recently we saw a very unusual marking on a monument. It looked like three legs with feet in a triangle formation. Do you have any idea what this marking is? We've never seen anything like that.***

**A-**It is the symbol which represents the Isle of Mann. This island is the largest island off the English coastline and is located in the Irish Sea between Great Britain and Ireland. Its history is very long and is recorded back to the time it was a Viking outpost.

The marking you saw is the symbol of the Isle. It is the ancient Triskelion and has three bent legs, each with a spur, joined at the thigh. This symbol relates to the island's motto: "Withersoever you throw it, it will stand". It is depicted on the Flag and the Coat of Arms.

Interpretations of the motto often stress stability and robustness in the Manx character. Many schools on the island have adopted the motto to promote perseverance and hard work.



## Christmas Wreaths

We are again offering a nice selection of artificial circular Christmas Wreaths and trees at a cost of \$38. A few cross-style wreaths are available at a charge of \$43. A sample of each wreath will be on display in the Office in early October. We will also offer a poinsettia arrangement in a plastic vase for \$30. All costs are inclusive of sales tax.

Enclosed with some of these Newsletters are pictures of our wreaths and bouquet featured on our Order Form. If your selection is no longer available when received by us, a similarly designed substitute will be selected

Wreaths purchased before Thanksgiving will be placed at your designated grave(s) on a sturdy stand during the first week of December.

If you choose to purchase a wreath elsewhere, be sure it comes with a sturdy steel stand. The flimsy, cheap wire ones that are stapled in the boxes collapse easily and dislodge your tribute. Then they blow away, and we do not know where they belong. If you need a steel stand, they are available free at the Office.

Also, please DO NOT USE STYROFOAM items. They will not hold together in challenging weather, and we are constantly having to pick up their scattered debris.

## FROM THE FOREMEN



BY SHIRLEY & KEN



The fall is upon us again. We would like to thank everybody who planted their lots and kept them weeded. This helps make our Cemetery look much nicer.

This year we would like to thank the many people who did keep their loose items per grave down to 3; but there were still many who didn't. This makes it much harder for us to do our job, plus we have to take a critical time out to walk through and clear off the extras. Please keep your loose items to **three per grave!** This doesn't mean per person buried in the grave, but only the grave itself.

We also ask that when parking to visit, **please stay on the road.** The roads are wide enough for two lanes so that you don't have to pull off the road and park on the grass. And, the new "keep off grass" signs refer to vehicles, not persons.

We would also like to remind you that fall clean-off begins on October 15<sup>th</sup> and winter on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The Shepherd's hooks will stay, but everything on them will be removed. If there is anything you wish to keep, please take it off **before** the 15<sup>th</sup> or the 1<sup>st</sup> as applicable.

Your cooperation in these matters will be greatly appreciated by your conscientious grounds maintenance staff.

*Have a warm and safe Holiday season.*

### **SUCCESS**

**Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles that one has overcome while trying to succeed.**

**Booker T. Washington**

## REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST



### **JOHN GOULD JENNINGS 1856 – 1937**

He was the son of John Giles Jennings for whom the familiar Jennings Road was named. He graduated from Central High School in Cleveland, was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Yale University, and a classmate of William Howard Taft. In 1884 he married the daughter of Isaac Lamson, co-founder of the Lamson & Sessions Corp., maker of bolts, nuts, coppers and wire rope where he was employed as a bookkeeper.

Eventually he advanced to the Presidency of Lamson & Sessions and held that position for many years before ascending to the Chairman of the Board. He still held the latter position at his sudden death from a heart attack on Nov. 21, 1937 while traveling by train for a winter vacation in St. Petersburg, FL. He was also a Vice-President of the Johnston & Jennings Co. of Cleveland which operated four plants in three states which manufactured forges and foundry machines.

He was a life-long and very active member of Pilgrim Congregational (UCC) Church throughout his life. In 1929, at the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Church, he was presented a special testimonial signed by many hundred persons. It read in part: "Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil." Job 1:8. He was a Trustee of the Church from 1896 until his death, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and Founder/Director of a church orchestra where he played the saxophone and flute. He contributed generously to the development and growth of this landmark Parish.

He was fluent in German, French and Spanish and attended a Polyglot Club luncheon six days a week speaking a different language each day. He

had membership in the Union Club, Shaker Hts. Country Club, Clifton Club and the Westwood Country Club. He was a Director of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, a Trustee of Jones Home for 50 years, Cleveland Welfare Foundation, Riverside Cemetery, the City Mission, and an active worker in the Central YMCA.

Funeral Services were held at Pilgrim Church followed by interment in the large Lamson & Sessions family lot in Section 28 of Riverside Cemetery.

### **MATTHEW FREDERICK BRAMLEY 1868 - 1941**

He was born in Independence, Ohio, lived on a farm, and attended Cleveland Public Schools. At age 19, he drove a horse team for various paving contractors and learned considerably about the business. Eventually, he became a foreman for the Clafin Paving Co. and later for J.F. Siegenthaler Co. after marrying the owner's daughter in 1891. Soon after, he moved to Cleveland where he worked at the Produce Bank. While there, his continued interest in paving resulted in his obtaining contracts from three paving companies. This ultimately led to his founding the Trinidad Paving Co. in 1894, and as its President this company eventually became the largest paving Corporation in the world.

In 1910, he became the original investor and owner of Luna Park Amusement Co. which thrived in this area at that time until the Depression forced it to close in 1930. Also in 1910, he founded and managed Templar Motors, an automobile manufacturer. During WWI, it became an ammunitions factory; after the war, the facility was converted into one of Ohio's largest high rise furniture storage buildings called Bramley Storage. He was a State Representative. (1898-1902), City Hall Commissioner (1898-1908) and served on the Cuyahoga County Building Commission (1905-1908). He is buried on his family lot in Section 23.



LUNA Amusement Park

# IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

*New Contributors and Additional Gifts To Our Foundation Since the Spring Issue*

David Bishara  
Computer Association International  
*In memory of  
Olivia Augustus Spiros*

Pearl Burrows  
*In memory of Ben Burrows &  
Ellen & John Salzer*

Alex Lancaster Jr.  
*In memory of William Sr.  
William Jr. and Anne Lancaster*

Felix Moran  
*In memory of Inocencia Garcia*

Fred Brunner  
*In memory of Jimmy Gibson*

Steven McQuillin

Charles Johnson  
*In memory of Helen  
& Philip Grosscross*

George & Mike Kanyok  
*In memory of Barbara  
& John Kanyok*

William Dunbar  
*In memory of Cynthia  
& Cynthia Diane Dunbar*

Grace Green  
*In memory of Baby Green*

James Michael

Robin McArdle  
*In memory of Mark McArdle*

Troy Memorials

Mary Benyo  
*In memory of Michael Benyo*

Blythe Gehring  
*In memory of C.E. Gehring Sr.  
& C.E. Gehring Jr.*

Normand Thomas  
*In memory of all  
Military Service Members  
Both past & present*

Dolores Valachovic  
*In memory of Sophia Stepanik  
& Paul Valachovic Jr.*

Katie Carter  
*In memory of Phyllis & John Porter  
& Helen Kari*

Susan & Earl Feierabend  
*In memory of Agnes  
& George Feierabend*

Elizabeth Brown  
*In memory of Anna B. Easterly*

Zoraida Rosario Family  
*In memory of Teresa, Luis,  
& Juan Rosario*

Janice & Tony Fletcher  
*In memory of Frances, Gordon,  
Roberta, & Roland Baster*

Brenda & John Rocheck

Barbara & Robert Oldenburg

Ronald Eyring

Anonymous attending our Brewer's Tour

Thelma & Joseph Haven  
*In memory of  
William Dee Haven Sr.*

Riverview Church  
Novelty, Ohio