



AD 1896

Nationally Registered



AD 1876



# THE TRADITION

## RIVERSIDE CEMETERY AND FOUNDATION

3607 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109

SPRING 2003

Phone (216) 351-4800

### WHY DO WE CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY?

In the Civil War, Americans fought each other to see if the United States would remain one country. The Civil War started in 1861 and lasted four long years. Thousands of men were killed. To honor them, people in little towns all over the United States, decorated the soldiers' graves, had parades and picnics. Today, we remember the dead from all the wars. Prior to 1971, it was observed on May 30<sup>th</sup> annually, and was not a National Holiday although most states observed it accordingly. In 1971, President Nixon made it a National Holiday, and fixed the last Monday in May as the day of observance.

Today, Memorial Day is the Holiday when we remember all of our relatives who have died, even if they were not soldiers. It is important to learn about our family. Memories are tucked away in all parts of the human brain, which record everything we see, hear, touch and do. Ask your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles how they celebrated Memorial Day. Do they have any old pictures, newspaper articles, medals or uniforms to show you? Their memories can bring to life family members you do not know. Record their stories on a cassette so that you can keep them forever. You can share them with your children and have your own Memorial Day Celebration of Memories!

*Information obtained from book, "Memorial Day"  
by Geoffrey Scott*



### SPECIAL THEATER EVENT

The outdoor touring show of Cleveland's Charenton Theater Co., under the artistic direction of James Mango, will open its 2003 summer season production entitled *SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY* at Riverside Cemetery on Friday and Saturday, July 11,12. Performances both nights will begin at 8:00 p.m.

*SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY* is a collection of monologues encapsulating a small community and the interconnectedness of life through the story of these past souls. It is a wonderfully human and artistic portrayal of life as seen from the eyes of those who have left it. Each show lasts about 1½ hours.

Performances will be held in the open directly south of our Administration Bldg. Parking is along the frontal roadways, and the restroom within the office will be available. This event is free and open to the public. Attendees need to bring their own chairs or sit on the ground. If it rains, the show will be cancelled.

Additional performances will be given on other weekends through August 16 at other Cemetery locations. Persons need to consult the theatre arts listings in their local newspapers for actual dates and locations.

## REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

THE FIRST ISSUE OF *THE TRADITION* WAS IN THE FALL OF 1996. IN THAT AND OTHERS OF OUR BEGINNING, WE DISCUSSED THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PROUD CEMETERY. SINCE WE NOW HAVE MANY NEW RECIPIENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER, WE WOULD LIKE TO REPEAT SOME OF THIS INFORMATION FOR THESE PEOPLE.

In early October 1875, an initial meeting was held to establish the first major-sized Cemetery Association on the west side of the Cuyahoga River. This led to the legal organization of The Riverside Cemetery Association on November 15, 1875, with the election of its first Board of Trustees, chaired by the respected Ohio City leader, Mr. Josiah Barber.

These twenty founders accepted the 102 1/2 acres offered by Titus Brainard from his farm in the area of Pearl and Scranton Roads. This property was originally purchased by his Grandfather, Asa, in 1814, and we assume the seller was Lords & Barber Land Co. The high land overlooked the Cuyahoga River and a valley of farms bordering it which suggested the name RIVERSIDE. Mr. E. O. Schwagerl, an accomplished landscape architect and engineer, made a topographical survey and prepared a design. Ground was broken in April 1876. In November a dedication ceremony occurred with Gov. and President-elect Rutherford B. Hayes participating.

Riverside Cemetery is included in the designated Historical District within the Brooklyn Centre neighborhood. Both our Administration Building (1896) and our Stone Chapel (1876) are Nationally Registered buildings. Many of Greater Cleveland's notable industrialists, land developers, commercial building designers, local political, cultural and economic forefathers have their resting places within our scenic grounds. The many and varied century-old, granite and marble monuments and headstones are an awesome and unique attraction not found in most newer Cemeteries established since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

A tranquil valley with gently sloping hillsides divides the cemetery north and south. A vast array of trees and floriculture adorn our grounds, while a wide variety of wildlife finds sanctuary among our rustically wooded hillsides.

Tours of the grounds are available with advance arrangements. Our alphabetical cemetery records, complete from April 1876, provide a valuable resource for genealogical research.

## GENEALOGISTS

We are frequently complimented on our very accommodating assistance to family researchers and the detailed data available on our record cards. Apparently many Cemeteries are very restrictive with their burial records and many only give grave locations of specific requests.

At Riverside, all of our interments since 4/14/1876 are recorded on alphabetized cards similar to those once used for registered voters. Genealogists need to give us a correct individual name(s) or surname. Yes, persons sometimes come not knowing how to spell a last name and do not know a first name. We have over 49,000 cards and a few interchanged letters can create problems finding your requests. Also, we have forms, which can be used to record pertinent information from the cards.

Drawing books showing grave positioning on larger lots and other persons included are also available to see. The best research hours are 8-10 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. daily. Any Saturday research must be arranged in advance.

### 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 are open 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. everyday.  
Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Monday – Saturday  
(except holidays)

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

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.*



## Explore Riverside Cemetery With Cleveland Metro Parks

Cleveland Metroparks staff will be conducting two tours of Riverside Cemetery in June. June 19 will be with a Naturalist and a Historian on the history and nature of the Cemetery. The tour on June 28 focuses on the brewing history of Cleveland through the several major brewers buried at the Cemetery. These tours are very popular and fill quickly, so they are by *reservation only*. Call 216/206-1000 for information. (All Cleveland Metroparks events are published monthly in the Emerald Necklace Newsletter which we mail to your home free of charge if you are a Cuyahoga County/Hinckley Twp. Resident.)

### **LEST WE FORGET...**

#### **Noteworthy Persons Within Our Cemetery**

**WILLIAM J. O. ASTRUP  
1845 - 1915**

William J.O. Astrup, a Danish sailmaker, began making sails, awnings and canvas products on Pearl St. in Cleveland, the center of Marine business on the lakes. In the early 1890's, tents were added to the line. To meet his own needs, Astrup designed the first awning hardware, and was soon supplying other companies with products that numbered in the thousands a half century later. In 1909 the Astrup Co. was incorporated. When William J.O. Astrup died May 4, 1915, the company was taken over by his sons William E., who died the following year, and Walter C. who became president in 1917. A modern factory was built in 1924 at 2937 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street. Astrup had become a leading name in awning manufacture, its gaily striped tents and awnings making up a large export business.

William J.O. Astrup is buried next to his wife Margaret on the family lot in Section 6.

### **"SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT"**

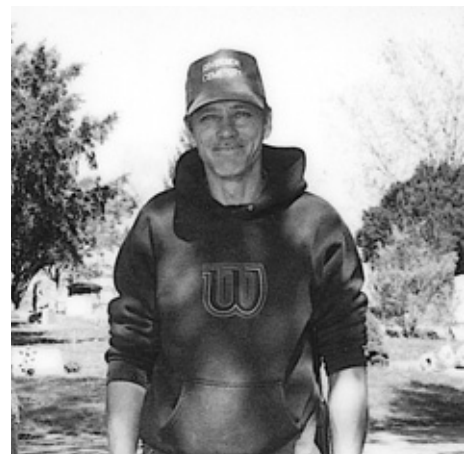
*We are pleased to announce the recent promotion of Shirley Bill to General Foreman. She has been a dedicated, concienious, and very capable member of our grounds crew for over 20 years.*

*Kenneth Langley, a 10-year member of our staff, was appointed Asst. General Foreman. These fine professional persons are always very active and visible, and would welcome the opportunity to assist any of our valued families and friends.*

**Shirley Bill**



**Kenneth Langley**





## Questions & Answers

Q-My family member was buried recently and when I revisited the gravesite, it appeared like someone had removed some of the soil or someone has disturbed the grave.

A-An average soil fill on a single-depth burial is 24"-30". This is all loose ground which needs to recompact. In so doing, it shrinks and settles downward leaving a rectangular cavity which needs to be replenished with additional soil. During the winter months, some of the ground might have larger frozen soil pieces which don't thaw and break up until temperatures moderate and rains occur.

If we have a large number of new interments during dry summer periods or very cold winter times, followed by a drenching rain or quick thaw, we will have a large number of graves to level up. Unfortunately, most of our distress calls about settled graves occur during or immediately following rains and thaws before we've had adequate time to make the needed corrections, or a remote gravesite was unintentionally missed.

Please be patient. If you want to advise us of your settled gravesite, be polite and we'll gladly initiate a Work Order to expedite your request. Be assured, the problem is a natural happening and has not been desecrated in any way.

Q-Don't we have to wait several months for a grave to settle before a headstone can be installed?

A-The Answer is yes and no. Where a single-deep burial vault is present, our single headstone foundation is underblocked from the head-end of this unit to the near ground surface to support the memorial. These can be installed anytime after the interment.

In the minimum funds section, the ground needs to be settled and graded before the headstone can be installed permanently. However, we will accept a new memorial here anytime and place it on top of the ground in front of the grave number pin. Depending on its arrival time, it may have to wait a little longer than other sections before installation can take place.

Q- Can you explain your credit arrangements for pre-need grave purchases.

A-If one purchases a future-need gravesite(s), either in conjunction with an at-need burial or without any death occurring, payment can be made with monthly increments, without interest. To receive this no-penalty consideration one is expected to maintain dependable monthly payment activity.

The amount paid each month is determined by the buyer, at or greater than our \$10 minimum, and we will send an invoice reminder around the first of each month.

If pre-need graves are purchased on time payments without a death and burial, a downpayment of 20% is required. If a needed-for-burial space is purchased in addition to future accommodations, the at-need payment alone will open the account.

If you become delinquent in your payment activity, and fail to respond to our reminder alerts, you could lose the unpaid graves through reclaim by the Cemetery.

Q- If I'm not sure about future grave purchase needs, can I put a hold on specific sites and what are the time limits?

A- We will hold specific gravespaces 30 days without obligation. If one needs more time to consider a decision, we need to be so notified and we'll extend the option within reason. After the "hold" has expired, we will withdraw it from our records. Persons making reservation requests should not think that those gravespaces will be held without valid payment arrangements indefinitely.

## FROM THE GROUNDS SUPERVISORS

It has really been a difficult winter for our staff and we, like you, are very glad to see it behind us. We had hoped to get our grass seed planted in late March to early April, but the continued snowfall and freezing temperatures pushed us back into mid April. Hopefully we'll have enough rain in May to stimulate a nice growth of grass before Memorial Day.

Please observe the signs at each entrance and lower valley reminding you about our **3 ITEM** limit per grave. Most of our families have observed this request most faithfully, and the resulting improvement in the overall appearance of the Cemetery should be very noticeable to all of you. To those exceptions continuing to ignore our 3-item guideline, our staff will have to remove and dispose of the extras.

If you plant in-ground flowers in sections which permit them, please remember it is your responsibility to keep them weeded. Some persons plant in May and never return. By mid-summer the plants are totally consumed in large weeds and necessitate our trimming them out.

Glass and porcelain items as well as rocks or pebbles around headstones can not be placed. These items present safety risks to our trimming and mowing staff, and must not be placed on graves.



### CEMETERY SYMBOLISM "Pegasus"

The winged horse Pegasus is often seen as a symbol of intellectual and poetic creativity. In Greek mythology there were 3 ugly sisters, Euryale, Stheno and Medusa, whose hair was composed of snakes. Looking upon them turned the viewer to stone. When Perseus decapitated Medusa, Pegasus sprang from her severed head. Another part of the legend of Pegasus states that the sacred spring Hippocrene arose from the marks left by its hooves. Thus, in a cemetery Pegasus may symbolize resurrection, renewal and rebirth.



## FOUNDATION EDUCATION PROGRAM

On Monday, May 12, Manager Bill Halley will address the Ohio Cemetery Preservation Society's local Chapter in Independence, Ohio. This educational program, entitled *The Historic Riverside Cemetery*, is sponsored by the Cemetery Foundation. The place is the Independence Civic Center-Willow Room and the time is 7:00 p

This Society is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of our many historic Cemeteries which embrace and protect the memories of those who contributed to our Nation's valued heritage. Mr. Halley's talk will provide the chronology of our founding and include a narrated slide tour of notable burial sites and special areas within his 127 year-old scenic Burial Park. Guests are most welcome to attend.

### IN MEMORIAM

*The Board of Trustees and Cemetery Staff extend deepest sympathy to our President Don R. Kuschel on the unexpected loss of his wife, Marion, on October 27. It was just two years before that they lost their only daughter, Laura, at age 34. Mrs. Kuschel was also a High School classmate and long-time friend of Manager Bill Halley and his wife Marijane. Funeral services were held in our Chapel on November 1<sup>st</sup>.*

# In Grateful Appreciation

## New Contributors and Additional Gifts To Our Foundation Since Fall Issue

<p>Marijane &amp; Bill Halley <i>In memory of Marion Kuschel</i></p> <p>Valere &amp; Bill Craig <i>In memory of Marion Kuschel</i></p> <p>Sally &amp; Greg Kapcar <i>In memory of Marion Kuschel</i></p> <p>Kathleen Karrick</p> <p>Vicki Vigil</p> <p>Michelle Day</p> <p>Cuyahoga Valley Geneological Society</p> <p>North Star Lodge #638 F. &amp; A.M. <i>Thank you freewill offering for Sts. John Day Chapel Service</i></p> <p>Carey Funeral Home <i>In memory of all those persons whom we have served</i></p> <p>Robert E. Seelbach</p> <p>Gratian &amp; Richard Nugent <i>In memory of Pearl &amp; Rev. W. Carl Nugent</i></p> <p>Herbert Leisy Jr.</p>	<p>Thomas Baran</p> <p>Timothy Zens <i>In memory of William, Dorothy, &amp; Beverly Donley</i></p> <p>Janis &amp; Charles Feazel <i>In memory of Annie, Colby, &amp; Christine Whipple</i></p> <p>Elsie Johnson <i>In memory of Wanda &amp; Otto Klee</i></p> <p>Robert Glatz <i>In memory of Amelia, Henry, Stella, &amp; Lt. Wilbert Glatz</i></p> <p>Anita &amp; Richard Wright <i>In memory of Mary &amp; Eugene Bauman</i></p> <p>Wilma &amp; Wm. Svec <i>In memory of Donald Svec</i></p> <p>Jean Barnes <i>In memory of My Ancestors</i></p> <p>Normand Thomas <i>In memory of Brig. Gen. David Thomas</i></p> <p>Thomas Brandt</p> <p>Grace Green</p> <p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Charles Williams <i>In memory of Amy &amp; Earl Williamson</i></p>	<p>Carol Ann &amp; Anthony Schick</p> <p>Evelyn Kubic <i>In memory of Lyn White &amp; Michael Kubik Jr.</i></p> <p>Louise &amp; Vernon Kroehle</p> <p>Fred Brunner <i>In memory of Jimmy Joe Gibson</i></p> <p>Cora D'Amore</p> <p>Arlene Kadel <i>In memory of the Kadel Family</i></p> <p>Joel Ager <i>In memory of Elizabeth Ager</i></p> <p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Richard Hollington Jr. <i>In memory Florence &amp; Dr. Robert Stecher</i></p> <p>Reno Marini <i>In memory of Mary Marini</i></p> <p>Alex E. Lancaster Jr. <i>In memory of Anne &amp; Wm. Lancaster Sr. &amp; Jr.</i></p> <p>Walda W. Otankis</p> <p>Lenore Maxa</p>	<p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Geroge Cain <i>In memory of Raymond J. Griffin</i></p> <p>Irene Saathoff</p> <p>Shirlie G. Wozniak <i>In memory of Lt. W.E. Glatz &amp; Thaddeus Wozniak</i></p> <p>Virginia Hanrahan <i>In memory of James, Brian &amp; Donald Hanrahan</i></p> <p>David Bishara</p> <p>Betty Wells <i>In memory of Arthur Wells</i></p> <p>Laverne &amp; Edgar Buesch</p> <p>Dolores Valachovic <i>In memory of Paul Valachovic Jr. &amp; Sophia Stepanik</i></p> <p>Susan &amp; Earl Feierabend <i>In memory of Agnes &amp; George Feierabend</i></p> <p>Lawrence Boroviak <i>In memory of Mary &amp; Florian Borowiak &amp; Barbara Kopacko</i></p>
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**RIVERSIDE CEMETERY FOUNDATION**

3607 Pearl Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

**Telephone (216) 351-4800**

Please accept this gift for 2003 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
**RIVERSIDE CEMETERY FOUNDATION**

(Your gift is Tax Deductible to the Extent Provided by Law)

From: Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms., \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU**