

# Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2012

3300 Woodlawn Avenue, Wayzata, MN 55391-2821, Phone: 952-847-0011

E-mail: [info@grovelandcemetery.org](mailto:info@grovelandcemetery.org) Web Site Address: [grovelandcemetery.org](http://grovelandcemetery.org)

## Annual Meeting

May 19<sup>th</sup>



The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 19, 2012 in The Minnetonka Mills Craft Room at the Minnetonka Community Center starting at 10:00 AM. \_

Owners of gravesites, survivors and next of kin who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to attend and vote on business that may come before the meeting. The Community Center is located just north of Minnetonka Blvd. at Williston Road.

There is plenty of parking. Come in the entrance by the fountain. The Minnetonka Mills Room is located on the first floor, just to the right as you come in.

## Memorial Day is May 28<sup>th</sup> This Year

Our Memorial Day service will be observed this year beginning with the American Legion Post 259 at 9:00 A.M. (sharp), followed by a short talk by our guest speaker, **Lindy Purdy**, minister at Wayzata Community Church.

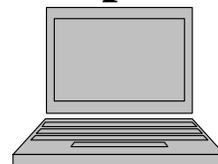


We hope you will come early to partake in the fellowship, conversations and refreshments with everyone, as well as to enjoy the same after the service

Park in the Groveland School lot and enter the Cemetery through the gate near our utility building. Don't forget flowers for the grave(s) and remember only living flowers are allowed (no artificial/plastic flowers).

*Art Johnsen, Vice President*

## Presidents Report



The past year has been one of continual improvement in Cemetery operations. Shelley Duoos, Cemetery Administrator, has been on the job for over a year and has responsibility for all day-to-day activities in the cemetery including sales and coordinating burials, among a few of her responsibilities. Shelley can be contacted with any questions at 952-847-0011.

Tim Perkins has been on the job nearly one year as well and does the so called "heavy lifting". He is responsible for general maintenance, seeding of grave sites and other trimming of bushes on the property. We are well pleased with his performance and have renewed his contract for an additional year.

There will be a Memorial service on Monday the 28th of May with Excelsior Legion participating as well as a speaker. The program starts at

9:00 A.M and last about 40 minutes.

The evergreens planted in the new section are doing nicely and add greenery to the cemetery grounds.

Art Nicol, longtime caretaker retired last year and passed away in December of 2011. A memorial to Art and Audrey is located on the path to the shed.

Weed killing and fertilizing continues with three applications scheduled for this year. We hope to see improvement in this area as we want all to be proud of conditions in the cemetery.

We have many grave sites available and hope that you will refer your friends and family for consultation with Shelley. We hope to see many of you at the annual meeting on Saturday, May 19th at the Minnetonka City Hall.

*Bob Nash, President*

## From the Administrator...

I have one year of service under my belt now, and I have learned so much and have enjoyed meeting many of you. It has been a busy year with 36 burials (12 traditional & 24 cremation), 23 lot sales, and 32 new headstones that were installed. I attended the fall MN Association of Cemeteries annual conference in Hinckley. I met many

more-seasoned colleagues and learned about the laws, care and administration pertaining to cemeteries. We even went on a field trip and toured two of the largest cemeteries in Duluth.

We are committed to maintaining our cemetery and its grounds. The trees were trimmed this winter, removing dead branches, raising some up and thinning out branches. Last summer we started a Lawn Care program with two applications from NatureScape. This summer three applications are planned in an attempt to get the dandelions under control.

In December the Minneapolis newspaper ran an article about rust from the water source staining tombstones. Groveland Cemetery gets its water from our own well and it does have mineral-rich water. We have suspended using sprinklers and plan to water the new graves and newly seeded areas by hand. Hopefully nature will help us out also. There is a local company called Soda Restoration that can clean your marker and cement border for approximately \$75. Their number is 763-479-5800.

I am looking forward to meeting more owners and continuing my educational journey. I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting on May 19, and the

Memorial Day ceremony on May 28. Please stop to introduce yourself if you see me on the grounds.

Sincerely,  
*Shelley Duoos, Administrator*

## Introducing Tim Perkins, our new Caretaker...



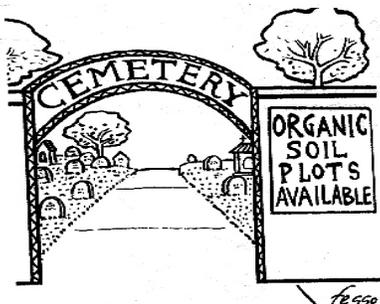
*Tim Perkins*

Join us in welcoming Tim to the cemetery. Tim began his new "career" on July 1, 2011. He is responsible for the care of new graves and areas around new markers: leveling, adding black dirt, seeding and watering. He also takes care of the weekly garbage, trimming bushes, fixing tree markers, shoveling the sidewalk, and helping to locate graves. He straightened the flag pole and the fence last fall, and removed the old light pole. Over the winter he built a new box over the light pole and installed an electrical outlet incorporating a place for watering cans to hang. This

summer Tim plans to use a slit seeder to fill in turf areas that are now bare after the weeds have died off from the lawn applications.

Tim began working in education with both the Minneapolis. Institute of Arts and Minneapolis. College of Art & Design. Following that experience, he owned a television and video production company for 22 years. He lives just a few blocks away from the cemetery with his wife, Susan. They have three grown children living in the Minneapolis area and one adorable grandchild. Nora, almost two years old, is the apple of their eye. He loves his new work with its flexible schedule and staying active with a physical job.

Tim will install bronze government markers for families who order direct from the VA. Upon request, he can also be hired to level and raise sunken markers, and add cement borders to older markers. Markers are the family's responsibility. He can be reached at 612-791-3901.



## Become a Friend of the Cemetery...

Several requests have come in asking how they could be of service to the cemetery, so a Friends of the Cemetery list has been started. The first volunteer was **Shirley Hammons**. She headed up the effort last August to beautify the corner steep hill of Woodlawn and Minnetonka Blvd that was an eyesore of weeds. With donated plants, many hosta and lilies were planted and mulch was laid. We are hoping they survived the winter and will come back strong this year.



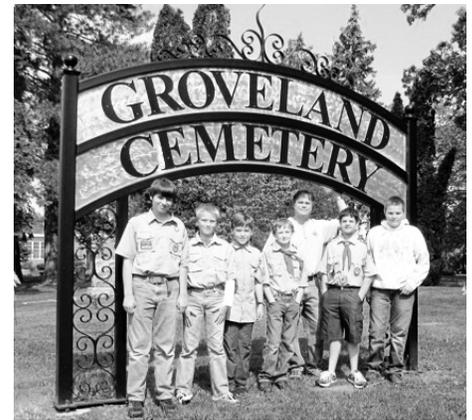
*Shirley Hammons with Shelley Duoos*

Other ideas for friends:

- We have several interesting cement flower planters in the cemetery. We invite you to

“Adopt a Vacant Planter”, fill them up with flowers and water them for the season.

- Tend flowers of older graves where families are no longer nearby to care for them.
- Water flowers in pots when you see they need it.
- Pick up garbage.
- Place a wreath on a grave or two in November.
- Tell your family and friends that we have graves available for sale – it is never too early to plan for the future.
- Make a tax-deductible donation to help defray the costs of caring for the grass, trees, fencing and shed.



*Boy Scouts who assisted with marking veteran's graves with flags.*

## Our sympathies are with the Nicol family...

**A**rthur J. Nicol, the caretaker and a Trustee of Groveland Cemetery for 42 years, passed away December 20, 2011 at age 93 from cancer. He had recently retired from his position on May 1.

Art originally got involved with the cemetery by attending Annual Meetings with his wife, Audrey Johnson Nicol, whose parents had owned several graves and were now in Audrey's name. Eventually he was nominated for the Board of Trustees. He took over the Secretary and Treasury positions and began working on entering the records into the computer. He also loved gardening, and he decided he could do a better job of restoring graves than the previous workers. Audrey said "It just sort of snowballed from there." He took over the caretaking jobs and together with Audrey, they ended up running the whole cemetery, including sales and burials.

Art felt the most satisfaction when he was helping families find the right grave site for them. His biggest frustration was discovering incomplete

information in the record keeping from previous decades. He was known for being meticulous in his grounds work and updating the cemetery records to today's standards.

A 1935 graduate of St. Paul Harding HS and a World War II Veteran, Art was one of the 3 known survivors of the original USAAF 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Unit. After the war he had a long career in the local commercial film industry. He was also an active volunteer with the Minnetonka Senior Computer Interest Group, Minnetonka Historical Society, and Trinity Episcopal Church and choir in Excelsior. He also served as Upper Midwest Region V.P. for Clan MacLeod USA (a Scottish group).

Art is survived by his wife of 68 years, Audrey, his son John and daughter Joan (Bob) Hoium. He is preceded in death by son Bruce. In his final act of volunteerism, he donated his body to the U of MN Medical School. He will eventually be buried next to his son in Section 1 near the arch.

Upon his retirement last summer, the current Board of Trustees honored Art and Audrey's long service with a black granite monument near

the tool shed. The Sun/Sailor newspaper ran this picture from the unveiling ceremony held August 18, 2011.



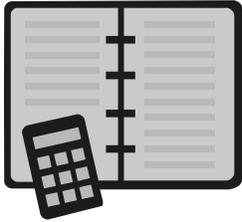
*L-R: John Nicol, Joan Nicol-Hoium, Audrey Nicol, and Art Nicol*

## Gazette by Email?

**T**his Gazette was mailed to approximately 570 Cemetery members. It is our way to keep in touch with our members and to let you know what's going on. Like most other publications, we could send out the Gazette by email but would do so only at your individual request. If you would like to receive your Groveland Gazette via email rather than by postal mail, we can now accommodate you, and you would save the cemetery the cost of postage and handling. Please email us at [info@grovelandcemetery.org](mailto:info@grovelandcemetery.org) with the message "Please send my Gazette by email". We'll respond with a test

copy of this Gazette, and then send future issues only by e-mail until you request us to stop or you close your email account. Receiving your Gazette by email will not remove your name from the mailing list or from our database.

## Treasurer's Report



The Groveland Cemetery accounting year end was April 30, 2012. We are in good financial condition, but did experience a small loss of about \$2,000. The exact amount of the loss is undetermined at the writing of this report and details will be released at our annual meeting in May. Capital improvements of over \$5,000 were expensed, causing the small loss. Total revenue was \$41,185 plus interest income of \$635.

We reduced the amount we owe on the M&I loan. When we purchased the adjoining 7/8 acre on the north side of the old cemetery we added about 600 gravesites. This loan balance was \$95,397 on April 30, 2011 and has been reduced \$16,815 during the

year by gains in income, selling investment assets and reducing a money market fund to better balance our long term cash needs.

Balance Sheet equity stayed about the same as last year. Detailed financial statements are available upon request and at the annual meeting.

Groveland Cemetery operates on a cash basis accounting option.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Charles Schelin, Treasurer*

## New Owners

New owners this year include the following: **Dorothy Welch, Robert Laketa, Wilbur and Dorothy Turner, Joseph and Pamela Dantzing, Barbara Colvin, William Trubeck, Clarice Stachour, Billie F. and Marcus O. Carter, Michael M. Heuer, Elizabeth Davies Schopf, Robert and Bonnie Chase, Richard D Kantrud and Sandra S Parks, Mary J. and Peter J. Studer, John F. and Dona S. Brown, Jay R. Swenson, Patricia Miller, Kay Engle, William and Helen Wolf, and Shelley Duos.**

## Elections

Three trustees' two year terms will expire with the annual meeting. They are

**Lowell M. Kleppe, Dennis Cerkvenik, and Paul Englund,** All will stand for re-election. We currently have seven members on the board, and since our by-laws state that the board can consist of seven to nine members, nominations from the floor will be welcome.

## Board of Directors

President: Robert F. Nash  
952-451-2197

Vice President: Arthur L. Johnsen, 952-473-2491

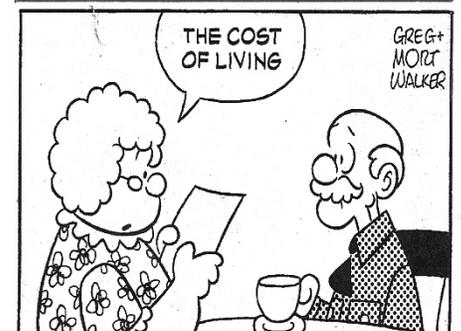
Secretary: Joseph W. Dzurik,  
763-420-7607

Treasurer: Charles J. Schelin,  
952-888-2863

Trustee: Lowell M Kleppe,  
763-473-9744

Trustee: Dennis F. Cerkvenik,  
952-473-4376

Trustee: Paul Englund, 952-945-7468



**Groveland Cemetery Association**  
**3300 Woodlawn Avenue**  
**Wayzata, MN 55391-2821**

**Address Service Requested**

**Groveland Cemetery Association**

3300 Woodlawn Avenue  
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-2821  
Phone: 952-847-0011

