

# Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2014

3300 Woodlawn Avenue, Wayzata, MN 55391-2821 Phone: 952-847-0011  
E-mail: [info@grovelandcemetery.org](mailto:info@grovelandcemetery.org) Website: [www.grovelandcemetery.org](http://www.grovelandcemetery.org)

## 2014 Annual Meeting May 17<sup>th</sup>

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 17, 2014 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 to the right on the first floor.

## Memorial Day is May 26<sup>th</sup> This Year

Once again, our Memorial Day service will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Le-

gion Post 259 at 9:00 A.M. sharp. This year we are thrilled to have Jan Callison, Hennepin County Commissioner of the 6<sup>th</sup> District as our guest speaker. We are inviting you, your family, friends and neighbors to come early to enjoy the fellowship, conversations and refreshments with everyone, as well as after the service. Park in the Groveland School east lot and enter the cemetery through the gate near our utility building. We are looking forward to seeing you on this very special occasion.

## Captain Dudley Chase Memorial Event

Last year, the Governor's 150th Anniversary of the Civil War Task Force recognized Captain Chase in Groveland Cemetery. Chase was a Union Sharpshooter who died May 9, 1863 at age 45 after suffering fatal injuries during the Battle of Chancellorsville. A new

granite headstone was installed next to his existing leaning and weathered marker in Section 1 near the arched sign in the SE corner. Stan Frear, the great-grandson of Chase, and his daughter were in attendance for the event, along with the Captain's rifle on loan from the museum at Fort Ripley. Civil War history actors were dressed in period clothing and provided insight into the time and burial traditions of 1863.



Additional photos of this special event can be found on our website:

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

## Presidents Report

At the August, 2013 Groveland Cemetery Board meeting Bob Nash stepped down from his role as President of the board and I was elected to that position. Bob served as president for 6 years and guided the board through a number of major changes, including managing the replacement of Art Nicol who had served as the caretaker for the previous 40 years, dealing with the widening of Minnetonka boulevard and the loss of the cemetery's South entrance and its old arched entryway sign, and purchasing of the Canon property on the north side of the cemetery and removal of the buildings to allow for another 700 gravesites. We thank Bob for his years of leadership and are delighted that he remains on the board as Vice-President.



*Dennis Cerkvenik, President*

FYI, I have been on the board since 2008 and have taken on the role of managing the computer data base, the cemetery web page, and the computer based plot maps that we now use. My working background was at Cargill, Inc, where I had a 32 year career in Information System management. My wife Kay and I live in the Groveland neighborhood across Minnetonka Boulevard, and I believe I hold the record for most walkthroughs of the cemetery in the last 42 years that we've been there! It's a beautiful piece of God's earth and a lovely place to visit, and I fully expect that we'll keep it that way.

I'm pleased to report that the cemetery is being managed by a great group of dedicated board members who are actively involved in its care. New to the group this year is Jeff Walton who brings with him a wealth of experience in general management and city administration. In new positions this year are Joe Dzurik, former Secretary who is now the Treasurer, and Liz Blaufuss, our board Secretary. Our other Trustees, Lowell Kleppe, Paul Englund, and Art Johnsen, bring backgrounds that add experience, talent, and depth to our board undertakings.

Along with Shelley Duoos, our superbly capable Administrator, and our new Caretaker,

Tery Rolek, we will strive to keep the cemetery "a place of beauty and solace", as our Mission states, and to continue to make it look even better. To do so, of course, requires funding. The voluntary contribution procedures that Bob Nash set up a year ago have provided us with well over \$2,000 in less than a year. This money is being directed to cemetery upkeep only. THANK YOU VERY MUCH for all of your contributions. They make our job much more manageable. I'm pleased to report that our financial picture is looking up, with a healthy cash balance, and good progress toward a goal of paying off the last \$45,000 of our loan balance in the next two years. Thank you for your interest in and support of our Groveland Cemetery.

*Dennis Cerkvenik, President*

## From Administrator Shelley...

Groveland Cemetery started the year in May with the Dudley Chase ceremony, followed by the Annual Meeting and Memorial Day. The warm dry summer was hard on our grass, but progress was made by seeding sparse areas and continuing the fertilizing and weed control through NatureScape. Brush

was removed in Section 8 along the school fence and several trees were trimmed. New bushes were planted at the driveway entrances, and additional flowers were planted in many of the cemetery planters. Many of these activities were made possible by the generous support of your donations.

In September I attended the annual MN Association of Cemeteries conference held at Breezy Point. This was a great learning experience with knowledgeable speakers, round table discussions and hearing from other administrators.

Do you have a will? If you do, have you looked at it recently? Does it need updating? How about a Health Care Directive? It is especially important for young families to have plans in place to care for their children. A few news articles have been added to our website to get you and your extended families thinking about getting your affairs in order. Plans may also include stating your wishes for your funeral and burial. This is hard to think about and may be even harder to verbalize, but pre-planning is a gift to your family. Having an estate plan in place can give you peace of mind. At Groveland, we do allow up to 4 burials per grave, so if your parents or grandparents are buried here,

it is possible you can be also. Please contact me for information about your specific situation. I want to say a special Thank You to our wonderful Board of Directors who so generously volunteer their time and talents. Each one has taken on a special area of expertise that enhances the cemetery and makes my job so much easier.

Please introduce yourself when you see me on the grounds, and feel free to call me at 952-847-0011 or email:

[info@grovelandcemetery.org](mailto:info@grovelandcemetery.org)

*Shelley Duoos, Administrator*



**Here lies Lester Moore  
Shot to death with a 44  
Alas! No Les, No Moore**



## **Introducing: Jeff Walton, Our Newest Trustee**

I joined the Board in October 2013, and my wife Chris and I have been property holders since 1996. I have served on numerous Boards and was a Mayor and Councilmember of Maple Plain, MN for 18 years. This is my first exposure to the operation of a cemetery and I appreciate the civic efforts of those that have been the cur-

rent and previous stewards of Groveland. My Mother, Des-sie L. Walton, is buried in Groveland Cemetery and I appreciate the opportunity to honor her memory. I hope to contribute with my experience in managing budgets, long-term financial planning, and understanding the working relationships needed with municipal government.



*Jeff Walton, Trustee*

I have degrees in Electrical Engineering and Business Administration from the University of Minnesota. My wife and I are “empty nesters” living in Eden Prairie and have one grown son that lives in Minneapolis. An item of trivia: fellow Trustee Lowell Kleppe was my 9<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher!

*Jeff Walton, Trustee*



## Plants, Wreaths & Headstones

Groveland is one of the few cemeteries in Minnesota that allows flowers in pots or in the ground. Please take note of these few reminders:



- Make sure your pot fits the plant stand. If the pot is too small, it blows over in the wind. If you put a pot out in the spring, make an effort to stop by once a week to water it, or remove it. **Do not set pots on the marker or ground.** They must be in a stand – we have extra stands in the fenced enclosure for your use. Decorations other than flowers are strongly discouraged. Remember, artificial flowers of any kind are not permitted and will be removed. Plants in the ground may need less watering, but they do require care; trimming down in the fall or cutting off in the spring to allow for new

growth, and weeding. All edging must be flat with the ground.



- Families are also responsible for caring for headstones: trimming overgrown grass and leveling. Tips for cleaning headstones can be found on our website. Professional cleaning can be done by a local company, Soda Restoration, 763-479-5800 for approximately \$75.
- Wreath stands need to be firmly pushed into the ground before it freezes and wreaths need to be tied on the stand in 3 places to withstand the strong west winds.
- Be a friend of the cemetery and water other plants near your site that need attention, if possible. Volunteers are also welcome to beautify several cement planters in the cemetery by planting flowers and caring for them.

*Shelley Duoos, Administrator*

## New Owners

New owners since the last newsletter include the following individuals:

- Charles Foty
- Mike Krasnopivtsev
- Patricia Thompson
- Jake Bromley
- James & Janice Fallon
- Joseph & Patricia Reycraft
- Cynthia Hultner
- Bonnie Quirk
- Susan Jerutis
- Theodore & Carol Kemna
- Dale Brakemeier
- Kathleen Casmer
- Joan Danielson
- Georgette Christiansen
- John Page
- Richard Toy
- Mary & William Denton
- Bruce & Carol Rorem
- Garrett Rorem
- Cindy Dukatz
- Carol Allis
- Jerilynne & Richard Bergeson
- Roger W. Jacobs
- Justin Dick



## Board Elections

Five trustees' two year terms will expire with the annual meeting. Running for re-election are: Liz Blaufus, Dennis Cerkvenik, Lowell Kleppe, and Jeff Walton. Paul Englund is not running for re-election. We currently have eight members on the board, and by-laws provide that the board can consist of five to eight members.



## Treasurer's Report



The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2013 and ends April 30, 2014. We had a great year and ended with a net income of \$14,460.71. This report is preliminary, so if there are any changes by April 30, they will be reported at the Annual Meeting in May.

When we purchased the 7/8 acre on the north side of the cemetery, we added over 600 gravesites, but took out a loan to pay for the property. Over the last fiscal year, we paid monthly payments of \$1190.32 and extra payments of \$8,000, resulting in a loan balance of \$45,363.55. We hope to pay off the loan in the next 2-3 years, funds permitting.

Our investments are a safety net in case we run low on operating funds. Currently the investments total \$52,121.82. This compares to \$54,373.72 for last year; we did withdraw \$6,000 but growth in investments has regained almost all of the withdrawal. For the first time in a few years, the value of investments is greater than our loan balance!

We use a budget to estimate income and expenses monthly. While income is not really predictable, the expenses are under our control and we stayed close to the budget for

overall expenses; we did spend more on maintenance this last fiscal year than expected, but it was necessary. We appreciate the donations received for maintenance which were over \$2,000! We did exceed the budgeted Net Income by \$4,647.

Detailed financial reports will be handed out at the annual meeting in May and are available on request. We operate on a cash basis accounting option.

*Joe Dzurik, Treasurer*



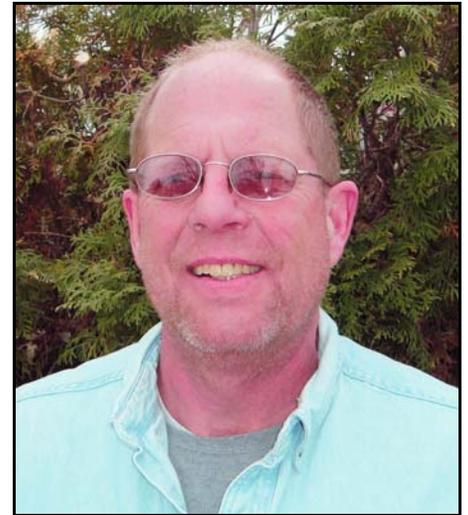
## Cemetery Facts and Figures

- ◆ There are 2,249 people buried in Groveland Cemetery
- ◆ 450 of the burials are cremation burials.
- ◆ We have 697 graves available for sale in the cemetery.
- ◆ In the past year we buried (32) people: (22) of these were cremation burials.
- ◆ This last year we sold (32) new graves; (22) were regular graves and (10) were cremation graves.
- ◆ We have 836 current owners in our cemetery address list.
- ◆ Of those who receive a copy of the Gazette, we delivered (534) Gazettes by U.S. Mail and another (76) via e-mail. (Please keep us updated with your current address).



## Introducing Tery Rolek, our new caretaker

Last summer Tim Perkins resigned to spend more time on his video business. He had his friend, Tery Rolek, help us in getting the grounds prepared for the Dudley Chase event in early May. Now we have hired Tery to be responsible for laying sod, seeding, and watering new graves and markers. He also takes care of the weekly garbage, trimming bushes, snow blowing the sidewalk and removal of wreaths and flowers.



*Tery Rolek, Caretaker*

Tery and his wife Kris have 4 grown children. He also works at Dufner's Deli in Plymouth, so he will be found working in the cemetery after 3:00 during the week and on weekends. In his leisure time, Tery enjoys fishing and deer hunting.



## Groveland Gazette Available by Email

This Gazette is being emailed to Cemetery members who have requested this service. If you would like to receive your Groveland Gazette via email rather than by postal mail, we would be happy to accommodate you, and you would save the cemetery the cost of postage and handling, and the electronic version is in color. Please email us at:

[info@grovelandcemetery.org](mailto:info@grovelandcemetery.org)

Include 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.



**"I just started working the graveyard shift at the cemetery. Come to think of it, every shift at the cemetery is the graveyard shift."**

— Jarod Kintz



## Board of Directors

**President:**

Dennis F. Cerkvenik,  
952-473-4376

**Vice President:**

Robert F. Nash,  
952-476-0434

**Secretary:**

Elizabeth Blaufuss,  
952-449-9887

**Treasurer:**

Joseph W. Dzurik,  
952-417-6251

**Trustee:**

Arthur L. Johnsen,  
952-473-2491

**Trustee:**

Lowell M. Kleppe,  
763-473-9744

**Trustee:**

Paul Englund,  
952-545-7468

**Trustee:**

Jeff H. Walton,  
952-943-2064

## Groveland Staff

**Administrator:**

Shelley Duoos  
952-847-0011

**Caretaker:**

Tery Rolek,  
651-395-8401

## Sharing A Loved Ones Biography

Every one of us has an interesting story, and every one buried in our cemetery has a story. We have added a section to our website of short biographies of some of our residents. If you have some information on some of the early pioneers that are buried in Groveland Cemetery we'd be interested in including this information also. Let us know in 500 words or less what special talent, career, or memory you would like to share about your loved one. Sending us a word document to:

[info@grovelandcemetery.org](mailto:info@grovelandcemetery.org)

is the most convenient way or if you do not have computer access, just send us a typed page. You may also send a picture digitally or a non-returnable picture in the mail. Two examples have been recently added to our website. This is one way we can all remember and honor the memories of our loved ones and neighbors.



**Here lies Ripley... Believe it or not**

---



## CONTRIBUTION FORM

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS:** (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**In order to help with the maintenance of the Cemetery grounds, we would like to make the following voluntary contribution to be used to improve the conditions in the cemetery:**

**AMOUNT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this form and your check payable to the Groveland Cemetery Association to:**



**Groveland Cemetery Association**  
**3300 Woodlawn Avenue**  
**Wayzata, MN 55391-2821**  
*Attn: Joe Dzurik, Treasurer*

**Any amount will be greatly appreciated.**

**Thank you!**  
**Your Cemetery Board**





**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

