

Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2016

3300 Woodlawn Avenue, Wayzata, MN 55391-2821 Phone: 952-847-0011
E-mail: info@grovelandcemetery.org Website: www.grovelandcemetery.org

2016 Annual Meeting May 21st

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 21, 2016 at the Minnetonka Community Center starting at 10:00 AM.

Owners of gravesites, survivors and next of kin, 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. Refreshments will be served.

Memorial Day is May 30th This Year

Once again, Our Memorial Day service will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Legion Post 259 at 9:00 A.M. Monday, May 30. Our guest speaker will be Linda McCollough, an Associate Pastor at Excelsior United Methodist Church.

Since the spring of 2012 Linda has been working in the areas of Community Outreach and Family Ministries. We invite you, your family, friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the fellowship, conversations and refreshments with everyone before and after the service. Park in the Groveland School east parking lot and enter the cemetery through the gate near our utility building. We are looking forward to seeing you on this very special occasion. Flags mark the graves of all of our veterans.

New Garden Planned

Sue Jerutis and Shelley Duoos met in the beginning of March to look at the location for a potential butterfly garden in the southwest corner of the cemetery by the fence along Minnetonka Blvd. We are looking at approximately 20 feet long and 4-foot deep area. Weather permitting the area will be prepped and prepared for planting prior to the Memorial Day Service. Any volunteers who would

like to help with planting and maintenance of the garden please contact Shelley or Sue. The plan is to use native plants that are butterfly and bee friendly. The garden will be a lovely addition to this beautiful cemetery.



President's Report

In the 2015-2016 year we continued to make good progress in the management of Groveland Cemetery:

- ◆ Our major step forward was the pay off and retirement of our loan taken out to purchase the property now known as sections 7 and 8 on the north side of the cemetery. In 2008 we purchased this property for \$300,000 and spent \$50,000 to demolish the buildings and prepare and landscape it to be suit-

able for a cemetery. We took out a mortgage at that time and have made regular payments plus occasional extra payments from our income and investments. In 2013 we refinanced the loan and set a goal of paying it off by the summer of 2016. We actually paid it all off in November of 2015. Our current cash flow now gives us the ability to increase our investments as well as to cover on-going expenses.

- ◆ We are now in a better financial position to keep up and improve the appearance of our cemetery grounds and we are actively doing so. In the past year we have re-tilled and sodded a major portion of section 7, and we will soon do the same in section 1. We continue to raise sunken gravestones on a regular basis. We have established a schedule of grass mowing that allows for a thicker lawn and better weed control. We removed several trees along the west fence in section 8 that were diseased or dying. In addition to these beautification efforts we also addressed a safety hazard in our equipment shed by installing an air circulation system in our well pit. Our caretaker, Robert Peterson, has been very active in our landscaping activity and we are very happy with his work.

- ◆ We added a new board member, Sue Jerutis in August. Sue is a co-president of

a Garden Club and will bring an experienced, enthusiastic voice to our cemetery beautification effort. You can read Sue's biographical information in her article in this Gazette. Also, watch for the garden that Sue and our administrator, Shelley Duoos, are planning for the southwest corner of the cemetery this spring.

- ◆ Our current cemetery board membership, Vice-President Bob Nash, Secretary Jeff Walton, Treasurer Joe Dzurik, and Trustees Lowell Kleppe, Kathy Casmer, and Sue Jerutis, continue to be very active, contributing members. In the near future we will be conducting a long-range planning meeting to discuss topics such as: estimates of future income and review of our pricing structure; portfolio review and investment policy; board membership and structure, and review of by-laws; water supply and well; future possibility of a columbarium; and long-range upkeep of the cemetery including driveways, equipment shed, and landscaping. If any cemetery association members have comments on any of these items feel free to contact me with your input.

- ◆ Please join us for the Groveland Cemetery Annual Membership meeting on May 21st at 10 AM in the Minnetonka City Hall and the

Memorial Day Service on May 30th at 9 AM at the cemetery.

Dennis Cerkvenik- President



From Administrator Shelley...

Groveland Cemetery started the year last May with the Annual Meeting. Joe Kittock, our grave digger, was our speaker telling stories from many years in the business. As a Deacon in his church, he shared that as he is on his knees filling in a grave, he always says a prayer for the deceased. Our well-attended Memorial Day Ceremony featured Mark Wheaton as our speaker. He also included his sons Winston and William in reciting the famous WWII poem "In Flanders Fields".

The cemetery had 33 burials this year, 11 traditional and 22 cremations. I was very busy with a record high lot sales of 42 (38 regular and 4 cremation graves), compared to 21 total for last year.

We continued the lawn fertilizing and weed control program through NatureScape and feel we are making progress on a more lush lawn. Buckthorn and dead trees were removed from the school fence area in Section 8 and wood chips were spread to really clean up that space. These activities were

made possible by the generous support of your donations.

In September, I once again attended the annual MN Association of Cemeteries conference held in Hinckley. This was a great learning experience with knowledgeable speakers and round table discussions with other administrators.

Last summer we cut the grass longer in an attempt to allow it to become more dense and survive drought better. Mother Nature had other ideas though and provided us with more rain than ever, so it was hard to keep the length manageable. We will try harder to mow more appropriately this summer, working with Joe and his schedule. Robert sprayed the crabapple trees for apple scab fungus last season and it seemed to work well, so that will be continued this spring.

The plans for this year include digging up the former driveway in Section 1, filling it with good black dirt and laying new sod, as we did in Sec. 7 with great success. Reseeding sparse areas is an ongoing project. We also plan to add a butterfly garden along the Minnetonka Boulevard fence.

I want to say a special thank you to our wonderful Board of Directors who so generously volunteer their time and talents all year long. Special kudos from me to Sue Jerutis who donated several workers on the mulching project and to Bob

Nash who filled in for me on the spur of the moment to sell an at-need grave while I was out of town.

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

Shelley Duoos, Administrator

Sue Jerutis Joins Cemetery Board

I have resided in the community for 35 years. Several years ago I asked Shelley Duoos, a friend from my book club, if she would give us a tour of the cemetery.



Sue Jerutis, Trustee

I loved the location and its uniqueness since we lived in Deephaven. When my husband, Ron passed away unexpectedly in August 2013, I knew exactly where I would like him to be at peace. Shelley helped me and my children

choose a lovely site, for his resting place, which we can visit frequently. I was honored to join the Groveland Cemetery Board and put my volunteer skills to work to serve the community.

Sue Jerutis, Trustee

Plants, Wreaths & Headstones

Groveland is one of the few cemeteries to allow flowers to be planted in the ground.



Pots in stands are allowed, preferably placed to the left and in line with the marker. 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 – stands can be purchased at Tonkadale Greenhouse for \$35. Please

mark them with your name. Other decorations such as balloons, ceramic figurines, and solar lights are strongly discouraged. Remember, artificial flowers and glass are not allowed at any time 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.

◆ 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

Welcome to new owners since the last newsletter:

- Jie Cheng
- Kathryn Page
- Peggy & Jerry Cox
- Joanne & Donald Frost
- David & Lois Benton
- Melinda & Michael Bonfig
- Jan Wing
- James & June VanValkenburg
- Kenneth Murray
- David G. Herzig
- Sarah Williams
- Wayne & Lois Engelman
- Robert & Ruth Peterson
- Kimberly Swenson Zakula
- Mary A. LeMieux
- Michael Buettner
- P. Colleen Herrmann
- John Allen & Vernetta Eng
- Joan K. Warner
- Barbara & Leslie E. Hexum
- Jeff & Jeannie Hagen
- Ralph & Carol Nordquist
- Charlotte Bjorlin
- Kenneth & Darlene Finnermore
- Liliane Omar
- Miriam Nugent
- Holly Godfrey & Tom McMullin



Board Elections

Four trustees' two year terms will expire with the annual meeting.

Running for re-election are: Dennis Cerkvnik, Jeff Walton, Lowell Kleppe and Sue Jerutis.

We currently have seven members on the board, and by-laws provide that the board can consist of five to eight members.

Please let us know if you are interested in serving in one of the available positions on our Board.



Treasurer's Report



The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2015 and ended April 30, 2016. This report is being written before the numbers are finalized to meet the Gazette mailing schedule, so the following numbers are approximate. Final numbers will be available at the annual meeting. We had a great year and estimate the net income at \$31,000.

When we purchased the 7/8 acre on the north side of the old cemetery in 2008, known as Cannon Property (now Sections 7 and 8), we added about

600 grave sites, but took out a loan to pay for the property. Over the last year, our loan balance has been fully paid off!

Our investments have increased from \$48,549.05 to an estimated \$53,000, which includes \$4,000 added to Fidelity Mortgage investment this year. We retain these funds as a reserve in the event of shortfalls in operating funds.

The Board reviews our financial situation monthly and compares it to a budget. This past year we greatly exceeded the income budget and were slightly higher than the expense budget. While income is unpredictable, expenses are well managed by Board and administrator, Shelley Duoos. Donations continue and are used for improvements or needed maintenance. This past year we used the donations to improve the appearance of the northwest border of the cemetery by removing dead trees, unsightly buckthorn, and trimming trees. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Joe Dzurik, Treasurer

“Being President is like running a cemetery: You’ve got a lot of people under you and nobody’s listening.”

-Former President Bill Clinton

Cemetery Facts and Figures

- ◆ There are 2,318 people buried in Groveland Cemetery, 51.5% are male, 48.5% are female.
- ◆ 469 of the burials were cremation.
- ◆ We have 624 graves available for sale in the cemetery.
- ◆ In the past year we buried 33 people: 22 were cremation burials.
- ◆ We sold (42) new graves; (38) traditional & (4) cremation graves.
- ◆ The average age of interments during the last fiscal year was 76.
- ◆ We have 912 current owners in our cemetery address list.
- ◆ Of those who receive a copy of the Gazette, we sent out 626 Gazettes by US Mail and another 147 by Email. (Please keep us updated with your current address).



Memorial Day Volunteers: Twin Grandsons!

About 19 years ago, Val Dzurik, wife of Board member Joe Dzurik, took over serving refreshments for the Memorial Day service. She asked her twin grandsons, Alex and Ben Dzurik, 5 years old, if they would help serve donuts, cookies, juice and coffee. They did help and every year since then, Alex and Ben have been there to help serve and visit with people who attended. Even when they were away at college, they made it a point to be here in MN and help on Memorial Day.



The Twins, Age 12 – 2003

They have fun and bring their enthusiasm and fun spirit every year.



The Twins, Age 24 – 2015

Now at age 24, they are realtors working in the area for Keller Williams. The cemetery Board is very grateful to Val, Alex and Ben and all volunteers who help in cemetery activities.



Road Reconstruction

The city plans to start reconstruction of Woodlawn Avenue the end of July and apply the first layer of pavement in October. Street parking will not be allowed during this time and some of our entrances may not be accessible. The final paving will be done in June 2017. We will work with the city Project Manager to coordinate burials during the road construction. Please check this website for details: <http://eminnetonka.com/libbslakeproject>



Groveland Gazette Available by Email

This Gazette is also 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. 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

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.

2015-16 Burials

Caryl D. Vanzo	90
H. Diane McClellan	79
Marjorie L. Garner	95
John A. Robertsen	88
Kenneth P. Manick	87
A. Verner Mikkelsen	85
Orville E. Fisher, Jr. (Chip)	71
Jimmy D. Shadler	56
Christopher J. Charleston	57
Jerika E. Van Valkenburg	26
Sue Murray	76
Rosemary J. Halleck	86
Carol J. Kenma	79
Margo Hedlund Gosen	75
Changyu Piao	71
Elisabeth "Bette" Flanders	92
Jamie Zakula	56
Maxine L. Fenton	86
Lizabeth J. Buettner	58
Mary Kathy Kirchner	76
Charlotte J. Emick	88
Robert B. Sumpter	86
Helen S. Guenther	72
Vicki L. Siegfried	64
Darlene M. Griffiths	82
Norman L. Haedtke	84
Marvin B. Bjorlin	90
Arturo Cabrera Ortiz	74
Bradley M. Nugent	38
Albert Lloyd Lehman	88
Mary "Kay" Hill	84
Shirley M Lavanger	89



Board of Directors

President:

Dennis F. Cerkvenik,
952-473-4376

Vice President:

Robert F. Nash,
952-476-0434

Secretary:

Jeff H. Walton,
952-943-2064

Treasurer:

Joseph W. Dzurik,
952-417-6251

Trustee:

Kathy Casmer,
612-670-8571

Trustee:

Sue Jerutis,
952-473-3183

Trustee:

Lowell M. Kleppe,
763-473-9744

Groveland Staff

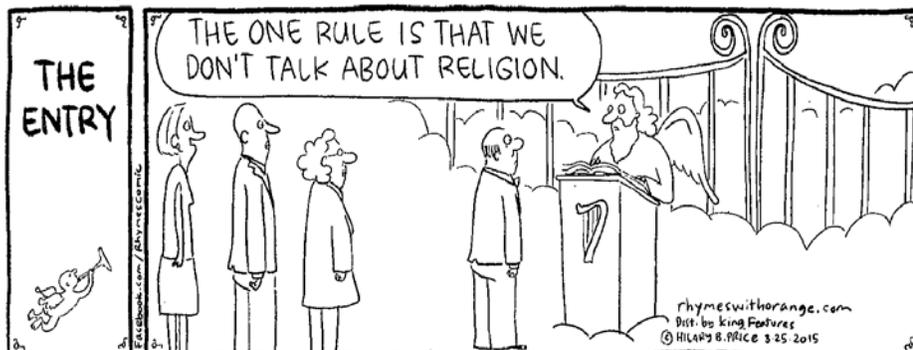
Administrator:

Shelley Duoos
952-847-0011

Caretaker:

Robert Peterson,
952-393-3554

RHYMES WITH ORANGE HILARY PRICE





CONTRIBUTION FORM

YOUR NAME: _____

YOUR ADDRESS: _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: (optional) _____

Groveland Cemetery Association is a volunteer organization. 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

