



# Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2018

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## 2018 Annual Meeting May 19<sup>th</sup>

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 19, 2018 in The Shady Oak Room at the Minnetonka Community Center starting at 10:00 AM. Joe Kittok, our grave digger and a deacon of the Catholic Church, will be our speaker.

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 Shady Oak Room is located on the second floor with elevator service available. Refreshments will be served.



## Memorial Day and Service: May 28<sup>th</sup>

Our annual Memorial Day service will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Legion Post 259/VFW 5919 at 9:00 A.M. Monday, May 28. Our guest speaker will be Meta



Herrick Carlson, the Minnetonka Campus Pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Twin Cities. She began parish ministry 12 years ago in Arizona working with veterans and survivors of sexual violence.

We invite you, your family, friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the fellowship, conversation and refreshments with everyone before and after the service. Parking is available in the Groveland School east lot. Enter the cemetery through the east gate near our utility building. We are looking forward to seeing you on this very special occasion. Flags will mark the graves of all of our approximately 300 veterans.



## Construction Nearing Completion

After two years of disruption in the neighborhood, the construction of the new road in front of Groveland Cemetery is nearly completed. The improvements included water and sewer lines, the addition of curb and gutters and the addition of some parking along the front of the cemetery on the “city park side” of the street. The road was lowered for better line of sight and drainage, which required some additional work on our southern and center driveways to match with the new levels. The Metropolitan Sewer interceptor line project that runs along the north border of Groveland was also completed so that their pipes and equipment are finally gone. It does not affect any of the current gravesite areas.

The neighboring Groveland School gymnasium construction is also scheduled to be finished this summer and new fencing will finish off the boundaries with the cemetery.



## President's Report

The Groveland Cemetery Board of Directors has five regularly scheduled meetings each year starting in April and continuing every other month through December. One of the standing agenda items each year at our December board meeting is to review costs and prices. This last December we had to weigh the effect of rising caretaking costs against our mission of offering affordable grave sites, while continuing to provide for a long-term financially sustainable cemetery future. The board unanimously decided to increase the purchase cost of a full size grave from \$1,200 to \$1,300 effective January 1 of this year. We did this after an internal review of local cemetery pricing, where we found that our prices are at the low to middle range against these other cemeteries.

Here's some historical information on Groveland's pricing of full-size graves over the years: Before 1900 (the cemetery was incorporated in 1872) you could buy a grave for \$2.50, and they were largely sold in groups of 4 for \$10. The price went up to \$6.25 per grave in 1917 and over the years went to \$10, \$18.75, \$20, \$25, \$37.50,

\$43.75, and \$50 in 1960. By 1990 the price was \$300. The price went up quickly between 1990 and 2002, to \$350, \$575, \$600, \$700, \$900, \$1,000, and to \$1,200 in 2002. The price has not changed since 2002 until this year.

Of course, prices for cremation graves, burial fees, and inurnment fees have gone up over the years also. The board will continue to monitor these prices and adjust them as necessary in the future as these are our primary income generators. This pricing review process is an important one of many in the overall management of Groveland Cemetery.

Please feel free to contact me for any comments or questions on our management of Groveland Cemetery, and thank you for your continued ownership and interest in the cemetery.

◆ Please join us for the Groveland Cemetery Annual Membership meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in the Minnetonka City Hall and the Memorial Day Service on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM at the cemetery.

*Dennis Cerkvenik - President*



## Groveland Cemetery Association Mission Statement

Reflecting the community leaders' vision of 1871, Groveland Cemetery Association, a non-profit, non-denominational cemetery association, has the following Mission:

- To provide memorialization of the deceased in a place of beauty and solace; giving consolation to families and individuals by meeting their final needs with compassion and dignity;
- To preserve, protect and strengthen all of the Association assets in order to share its rich history and beautiful landscape for future generations;
- To perpetuate an active cemetery by offering innovative, affordable forms of traditional and alternative memorialization that will serve the public, while conserving and protecting the character of its landscape; and
- To participate within the community and the industry as an advocate for memorialization that serves all.

## From Administrator Shelley...

Groveland Cemetery is continuing to enjoy a stable and well-charted course. Thank you to the Board of Directors for their wisdom and hard work providing the necessary direction.

The cemetery had 38 burials this year, 11 traditional and 30 cremation, which is 15 more than last year. We had lot sales of 34 (26 regular and 8 cremation graves), compared to 36 total for last year. I want to remind owners to let their loved ones know where their important information and documents are stored. This should include the Certificate of Ownership for your graves and if you are a veteran, your Honorable Discharge papers. These papers are needed for military honors at your burial if desired. You may also pre-purchase your headstone. This can be installed in the cemetery now and the final dates added later, or some companies will store the headstone until the time of need. Any pre-planning done now will be much appreciated by your loved ones later.

The school district plans to replace the fence along our western border this summer as a conclusion to their building addition. This fence will match what they have in their back parking area. After installation, the Board will de-

cide if other plantings are needed. We also plan to add a few new trees to replace some that had to be taken down. We continue with fertilizing the grass and spraying the apple trees. I attended the MN Cemetery Convention in September, which is always a good learning experience.

Feel free to call me anytime with questions. Our website continues to be a great source of information also. 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*



## 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.

- ◆ 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*



## Treasurer's Report



The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2017 and ended April 30, 2018. This report is being prepared before the numbers are finalized in order to meet the Gazette mailing schedule, so they are approximate. Final numbers will be available at the annual meeting. We had a good year and estimate the net income at \$16,000.

When we purchased the 7/8 acre on the north side of the old cemetery in 2008, sections 7 & 8, we added over \$300,000 to the fixed asset value on the balance sheet. While the loan for the purchase of the property was paid off last year, we did not reduce the asset value when lots in these sections were sold. Starting this fiscal year, the Board decided to reduce the asset value of lots when they are sold to more accurately reflect fixed assets. This change reduces the net income reported, but does not affect the cash in the checking account. The net income would have increased by about \$12,000 if we did not make this change in reporting. Our investments have increased by about \$33,000 this year to \$120,000. These investments were made in accordance with the investment

policy. The Board also decided to hire an outside investment advisor to maximize investments in the future. 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 exceeded the net income. While income is unpredictable, expenses are managed by the Board and our administrator, Shelley Duoos. When our contractor for lawn, snow and leaf removal stopped providing these services early in 2017, a new contractor was hired at increased cost, which will affect our operating expenses in the coming years. Competitive quotes were received and the cost of services for quality care has increased faster than our previous contractor's prices. We were fortunate to have received such friendly pricing for so many years.

Donations are very vital and are much appreciated. They were used to trim/remove trees, fertilize the lawn, and other needed maintenance. Donations are also needed to

finish the block wall that was installed by a contractor when the road was re-paved. 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*



## Board Elections

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

Running for re-election are:

- Dennis Cerkvenik;
- Jeff Walton;
- Lowell Kleppe
- Sue Jerutis.

We currently have six 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.



## Groveland F.A.Q.'s

### frequently

### asked questions

We frequently get questions about different things involving the cemetery.

#### **Is there a list of names of people buried at Groveland?**

We maintain a website which includes many items that people ask about, including a downloadable list of everyone buried at Groveland. Visit at: [www.grovelandcemetery.org](http://www.grovelandcemetery.org) and click on "List of Burial Names". Another good reference is the website: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com). Often, photos can be found here. Volunteers upload this information.

#### **I would like to document where our grave site is located within the cemetery. Can I get a map?**

Our website contains a downloadable map that shows all of the plots by section. Click on the "Plot Map" link on the left menu.

#### **My spouse and I each purchased full sized graves many years ago for a traditional burial. Now we are considering cremation. Do we have to use one plot for each burial?**

Groveland Cemetery allows traditional or cremation burials. In fact, for a full size grave, interment of up to 4 cremation urns may be placed in one full sized grave. A grave that already has a casket may also have up to 3

cremation urns in addition to the casket. Contact us if you have specific questions.

#### **We have relocated out of state and no longer want our graves at Groveland. Can we sell them?**

Yes, as long as the Cemetery is informed of the sale AND the change of ownership is formally recorded in our records. A certificate of ownership is issued for each lot. Groveland will occasionally repurchase a vacant grave(s) (at our option) for a mutually agreed to price that will not exceed the original sale price.

#### **I want to plant a tree at a family gravesite. Can I bring in my own tree and do it myself?**

No, we require all trees to be planted by a professional nursery and of an acceptable type. The type and locations of trees can vary within different sections of the cemetery. All tree/shrub plantings require PRIOR approval by Groveland. Once an approval is granted for a tree of approved type, the original buyer will be responsible for the first year of maintenance and watering. The cemetery will assume responsibility after that. Groveland has a tree and shrub policy as well as a listing of approved and climate-suitable tree species which is available from the administrator.

#### **The family gravestone has become very dark and covered with algae. Why doesn't Groveland keep it clean?**

Headstones require occasional care and maintenance that is

the responsibility of the owner. Groveland does not provide this service but monument companies can often provide or recommend treatments to restore a marker to better condition. Some tips for owners include annual cutting away of any grass or growth that has begun to cover a flat marker or cement base. Darkened or stained markers may be cleaned using a dish soap like Dawn mixed with water and scrubbed with a fiber or plastic brush (NEVER use a steel brush) and rinse when completed. Bear in mind that the water available in Groveland is high in iron and can stain some types of stone, so consider bringing a jug of clear water from home if staining is a concern. Be careful when using bleach solutions to control mold or algae growth as it can kill the grass. Rinse thoroughly!

#### **When I come to regularly visit a gravesite, I would like to be able to sit. Can a bench be installed?**

Visitors are frequent at Groveland and we would encourage anyone visiting regularly to bring a small, portable chair if you need to spend time at a particular location. Installation of a permanent bench would only be possible if someone wants to work with Groveland to donate and install an acceptable bench in a location that is approved by the Board.



## New Owners

Welcome to new owners since the last newsletter:

- Patty Acomb
- Pete & Mary Anderson
- Sabina Bahmanova
- Bruce & Julia Barnheiser
- Suzanne & Michael Berge
- Carol A. Graham
- John Grecula
- Wade K. Halvorson III
- Roger L. & Lois A. Helm
- Elaine M. Johnson
- Robert G. Johnson
- Donna M. Krafve
- Timothy & Suzanne Lane
- Nancy Phillips Leskee
- Janice A. Mozey
- Elizabeth Myhran
- Alan I. Opheim
- Steven & Janann Opheim
- Sandra Peterson
- Colleen Puzak
- Melanie Robertson
- Janice & Clyde Severson
- Tatiana G. Vickman
- Douglas Wilder

## Passings

	AGE
Larisa K. Bahmanova	70
Barbara Ann (Johnson) Beck	70
Helen Marie Berg	74
Jillian Patricia Berge	26
Karen Jean Bren	76
Craig William Bye	62
Kathleen M. Casmer	69
Colleen Rae Clark	74
William Clark	81
Charles Foty	93
Gerald "Jerry" C Fox	69
Stephen Charles Graham	59
Julie Anne Halvorson	51
Robert Eugene Harris	87
Geraldine Hedlund	92
Gerald Richard Johnson	86
Richard Dennis Kantrud	83

Marvin Earl Krafve	89
Lorraine Esther Larson	99
Margaret Ann Leeder	86
June Doust McNea	94
Estelle "Bee" Melby	93
Harold O. Melby	93
Frank Elery Merry	96
John Douglas Mozey	78
Brady John Muelken	31
Brooks Dean Myhran	56
Elizabeth "Ann" Nelson	82
Audrey Adele Nicol	96
James Maurice Nielsen	69
Sandra Sue Parks	66
Warren Elder Phillips	90
Arlene Loven Phillips	90
Gerald Roger Robertson	76
Barbara Ann Olson Rye	82
John Calvin Scott	94
Stanley W. Siu	61
Judy Albina Slavik	66
Sharon Lynn Stodola	79
Earl A. Sween	97
Muriel Jane Thimsen	97
Darren Kenneth Whitby	25
Charles Richard Wright	83
Marjorie Yvonne Wright	84
Average	~77

## Groveland Gazette Available by Email

The Gazette can be emailed to Cemetery members. If you would like to receive your Groveland Gazette via email rather than by postal mail, let us know. 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.

## 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:*

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

## 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

