



Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2019

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E-mail: info@grovelandcemetery.org Website: www.grovelandcemetery.org

2019 Annual Meeting May 18th

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 18, 2019 in the Shady Oak Room at the Minnetonka Community Center at 10:00 AM. We are very honored to have Ron Gjerde be our speaker. He recently retired as the President of Lakewood Cemetery and will speak about cemetery trends in Minnesota and take questions from the audience. He began working at Lakewood when he was still in high school on the grounds crew and remained for his entire career of 50 years.

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 Shady Oak room is on the upper level with elevator service. Refreshments will be served and door prizes awarded.



Memorial Day and Service: May 27th

Our Memorial Day service will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Legion Post 259 at 9:00 A.M. Monday, May 27. Our guest speaker will be Laurie Pryor, the MN House Representative for District 48A, which includes Minnetonka and Eden Prairie. 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 and enter the cemetery through the 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.

President's Report

Minnesota Statute 525.14 defines who becomes the owner of a cemetery lot if the owner dies without assigning ownership to someone else. The law states: The lot goes first to the decedent's surviving spouse, next, if the spouse is not living, to the decedent's oldest surviving child, then, if there are no surviving children, to the decedent's youngest surviving sibling. If there is no surviving spouse, child, or sibling, the lot goes to the cemetery association in trust as a burial lot for the decedent and such of the decedent's relatives as the cemetery association shall deem proper.

At Groveland Cemetery, we try to be proactive in assigning a new owner whenever a current owner dies. The person - if there is one - designated by the decedent, or the next owner in order of succession according to the paragraph above is given ownership, which is documented with a Certificate of Ownership and a notation in the cemetery records. If you



are an owner and you wish to designate a different person as the new owner upon your death you need only contact the Cemetery Administrator, or you may specify that information in your will.

Note that a cemetery lot may remain in the hands of a family member even after someone is buried in that lot. In order to conserve cemetery space and to make burials less expensive for family members we encourage lot owners to bury others in currently used lots. Our cemetery rules—which can be found on the Groveland Cemetery website—state that up to four burials, one casket burial and three cremation burials or four cremation burials, may be done in one full-sized lot, and two cremation burials may be done in one cremation lot. The current owner of a lot determines who will be buried there.

Statute 306.242 describes how “abandoned lots” may be handled: This law states (paraphrased): If the lot does not contain a burial and is not assigned to someone for 60 years, the cemetery association can do a search for surviving dependents of the decedent, and if none are found can assume ownership of the lot and sell or use it as they see fit.

In practice Groveland Cemetery has never resold abandoned empty lots though we

considered it when we were running out of available lots in 2007 before the purchase of the property now containing Sections 7 and 8. In 2017 members of a family who were descendants of a pioneer Minnetonka family asked about purchasing some empty lots next to their ancestors. We determined that their ancestors purchased the lots - over 150 years ago - and we were happy to transfer the lots to them.

Dennis Cerkvenik - President



Groveland Cemetery Landscape Enhancements

The Groveland Cemetery Board adopted a landscape plan to enhance the cemetery beginning in the spring of 2019, weather permitting. After contacting several landscape businesses the board decided to accept the proposal from Axel Landscape, the company that installed the stone entrance after the completion of the road work along Woodlawn Avenue.

The landscape plan will be completed in stages due to the overall estimated cost of the plan, \$25,000, not including a new entrance sign. First, a paver walkway will be installed from the Groveland School entrance for easier access from

the school parking. The wooden Groveland Cemetery sign at the main entrance will be removed and a new sign with cemetery information will be moved to the green shed.



A permanent, more attractive entrance sign on a boulder or monument tablet with cemetery name and address are being considered as a replacement for the current wooden entrance sign. The immediate plan also includes new shrubs and plants at the three entrances along Woodlawn Avenue.

As the budget allows, or through additional donations, the next area designated as priority is the area north of the central entrance and storage shed along the school fencing. The area needs to be scraped and prepped for plantings of shrubs along the fence boarding the Groveland School parking lot. This will also provide more privacy for the cemetery.

The last area in the plan runs from the southwest corner of the cemetery beginning at Minnetonka Boulevard along the new fence to the entrance gate from the Groveland School parking lot. That area needs significant preparation due to the old fence posts and roots left from the tree removal when new fence installation by the school.

The new landscape plan in-

clude bushes, shrubs and trees that are hardy, bring beauty to the cemetery and require a minimum of maintenance. As stated in the Groveland Cemetery Mission Statement “To, preserve, protect and strengthen all of the Association assets in order to share its rich history and beautiful landscape for future generations “, the board feels it is time to invest in the proposed landscape plan.

Sue Jerutis, Trustee

From Administrator Shelley...

I want to say a special **Thank You** to our wonderful Board of Directors who so generously volunteer their time and talents.

The cemetery had 49 burials this year, 13 traditional and 36 cremations, which is 8 more than last year. We had lot sales of 32 (26 regular and 6 cremation graves), compared to 34 total for last year.

I want to remind owners to check our rules before placing items on your loved ones graves. Do not leave anything of sentimental value. Items left sitting on the ground or headstone may be removed, such as flower pots, pumpkins, rain gauges. Keep in mind the mowers may hit anything left on the ground. Unsuitable items will be removed and discarded.

With last spring's late snow

and cold weather, we had to scramble to get the cemetery ready for Memorial Day. Autumn came early with the cold, rainy weather in October so fall clean-up was also challenging. Please bear with us as we work on repairing the winter burials this spring. The school district replaced the fence along our western border last summer and we removed an area of storage in Section 8. The main entrance retaining walls were also extended to complete a more finished look. We continue fertilizing the grass and spraying the apple trees. We are monitoring our ash trees for the emerald ash borer and are hopeful that our famous polar vortex really did kill 90% of the larvae.

I attended the MN Cemetery Convention again in September, and learned about celebrants. A funeral and burial celebrant is a non-clergy professional committed to preparing and delivering high quality funeral and/or burial ceremonies. The two women we met are committed to personalizing a ceremony and have a love of various rituals. They can meet with families to prepare for a full service, or have a phone consult for a short burial service. Their prices range from \$60/hour to \$400 for a complete funeral. Often times families ask me what to do once they arrive for the burial, especially if

they are from out-of-town. This is a great option to consider for a memorable event. 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

Treasurer's Report



The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2018 and ended April 30, 2019. 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 a net income of \$14,000.

In recent years, the Board decided to reduce fixed assets when we sell graves to more accurately reflect fixed assets. While this does not affect cash in the checking account, it reduces net income. The net income would have been \$13,000 more if we did not make this change in reporting. Our investments have increased by about \$18,000, with a total of \$138,000. The

investments complied with the investment policy and were made following recommendations of the outside advisor. We retain these funds as a reserve in the event of future shortfalls in operating funds.

The Board reviews our financial situation monthly and compares it to a budget. The past year we exceeded budgeted net income. While income is unpredictable, expenses are managed by the Board and our administrator, Shelley Duoos. Income was higher than budgeted due to more interments and donations. Expenses were close to budgeted amounts.

Donations are very vital and much appreciated. These funds enable us to make improvements (like the wall at the main entrance) and expenses like tree removal and removal of the unsightly storage area near the “green door” storage area. Since we have no perpetual care fund, expenses must be closely managed while making the cemetery attractive.

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

Joe Dzurik, Treasurer

Board Elections

Your trustees’ two year terms will expire with this year’s annual meeting.

Running for re-election are:

- Robert Nash
- Joe Dzurik
- Mark Peterson

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.



Meet Trustee Mark Peterson

Hello! My name is Mark Peterson, and I am the newest Trustee to the Board of Directors of the Groveland Cemetery. Having grown up a little over a mile from the Groveland Cemetery, I have a soft spot in my heart for it. As a kid attending Groveland Elementary School, we played right next to the cemetery on our playground. Occasionally, one of the red kick balls would “accidentally” get kicked over the fence into the cemetery. Nobody dared go in there to



Mark Peterson, Trustee

retrieve it because we were too scared!

My view of cemeteries has since changed. I have always loved the small, local cemetery that is Groveland Cemetery, and a little over a year ago, my wife and I bought a plot there. And it’s right along the playground fence!

Shelley Duoos told me, while we were signing our papers, that they were looking for another Trustee to be on the Board. While I have been on many “committees” over the years, I had never been on a “Board of Directors” before. Long story short, here I am! I am SO excited to be a part of this special and important part of my hometown, Minnetonka, and I look forward to serving the families of this wonderful cemetery for years to come!



Groveland F.A.Q.'s

frequently

asked questions

We frequently get questions about different things involving the cemetery.

Is there a printable list of rules for Groveland Cemetery?

We maintain a website which includes many items that people ask about, including our rules, burials and more. Visit: www.grovelandcemetery.org and click on "Rules". For other items that are not found on the website, use the "Contact Us" link.

Is there still available space in Groveland Cemetery?

We have available space for near term needs. The City of Minnetonka and Groveland have a timetable for new parts of the cemetery north end to become available over the next 20 years. There is limited availability throughout the newer and older sections for cremation and traditional burials. As burial practices evolve, we may need to adjust our offerings to permit additional availability.

Is there anywhere within Groveland where scattering of ashes is permitted?

Groveland Cemetery does not have any areas for this purpose and scattering is not permitted on the grounds. We currently allow and encourage

burial of cremation ashes but they must be placed in cremation urns and coordinated with the cemetery and recorded. Families with traditional plots may place up to (4) urns within a plot. The marker for the plot may contain multiple names for all that rest therein.

Why is there an additional charge for "opening" the plot for each burial? Didn't the original payment cover this?

The original purchase grants the individual or family the right to burial in the location selected. The fees for opening/closing are charged for recording the placement, physical earthwork and long term maintenance. All fees collected by Groveland Cemetery are for the maintenance and operation of the cemetery. Groveland is a non-profit organization and our mission includes current and long-term upkeep of the final resting places.

I want to design a really unique and unusual marker. Are there limitations to size and shape?

Markers must meet the standards, described in detail, in the Groveland Rules. Sizes, materials, locations and other details are specified. All markers must be approved by Groveland prior to purchase and installed only by an approved monument company. The guidelines are for safety, longevity, maintenance and more. For additional detail, please download the rules

from the Groveland website at: www.grovelandcemetery.org



New Owners

Welcome to new owners since the last newsletter:

- Margaret J Hillesheim
- Jeff Kraft
- Elizabeth P. Kaye
- David & Brodie Wheaton
- John & Erin Wheaton
- Min Shing
- Sandy Lostetter
- Janet Evans
- Neil & Candace O'Connor
- Richard & Judy Wilson
- Shelley Holzemer & Leonardus Loos
- William (Bill) & Karen Jackson
- John L. & Faith Peterson
- Deborah A. Donaghy
- Kathy Aanenson
- William P. Frantzich
- Janet Evans
- Lester & Darlene Swenson
- Jacqueline Reese & Michael Chowen
- Susan A. Hanner
- Donna R. Jameson
- Gary & Anne Nalevanko
- Jennifer A. Partridge
- Lai & Opeyemi Agbolla
- Michael Huttner



Passings

(In order since 5/1/18)

| | AGE |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Dean Francis Hillesheim | 69 |
| Charles Kipling Phillips | 61 |
| Janet Anne Herrmann | 60 |
| Betty Jane Roberts | 91 |
| German M. Alakshin | 90 |
| Marilyn Jean Huttner | 78 |
| Robert Kurt Zschocher | 75 |

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Anna Berger | 88 |
| Betty Hornung | 94 |
| Charles Foty | 93 |
| Yongyuan Sheng | 86 |
| Weiwei Ding | 55 |
| Elva "Eve" Ann Rutter | 91 |
| Thomas Wiley Rutter | 90 |
| Romaine Kay H. Shank | 92 |
| Ben Zigler Shank Jr. | 97 |
| Richard Allen Diercks Jr. | 76 |
| Suzanne Catherine Lund | 86 |
| Irma Josephine Gager | 95 |
| Nathalie Joan Pickering | 84 |
| Sandra Marilyn Kraft | 76 |
| Joan Dorothea LaPorte | 88 |
| Evelyn Fredericksen | 93 |
| Rolland "Ron" Anderson | 82 |
| John Patrick Caye Sr. | 86 |
| James Frederick Caye | 50 |
| Ronald Albert Johnsen | 78 |
| William Arthur Johnson | 91 |
| David Curtis Aanenson | 61 |
| Jean Ellen Tjornhom Rud | 93 |
| Elizabeth "Betty" Johnson | 87 |
| Saundra "Sunny" Frantzich | 79 |
| Joan Lois Sumpter | 87 |
| Jodi Kay Hexum | 53 |
| Marion Helen Wills | 87 |
| Estelle "Bee" Melby | 93 |
| Harold O. Melby | 93 |
| Chong Suk Shin | 74 |
| Paul Edward Johnson | 77 |
| LaVonne Ann Hoof | 85 |
| Helen Elizabeth Dunn | 83 |
| Richard Eliot Dunn | 89 |
| Minnie Ann Klone | 82 |
| Elton Oliver Folkerts | 84 |
| Willis George Anderson | 94 |
| Anne Louise Nalevanko | 61 |
| Patricia Conley Butzow | 89 |
| Coleman Arlen Berge | 90 |
| Barbara Jean DeFore | 87 |

Average: 82

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

Include the message "Please send my Gazette by email". We will 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.

Consider Groveland Cemetery in your Will or Trust

We appreciate all donations and use the funds to beautify our cemetery. Since we have no perpetual care fund, we rely on donations to add to the income received from other sources.

Please consider adding Groveland Cemetery in your will or trust fund as a way to ensure the cemetery will remain attractive in years to come. We are a non-profit Cemetery Association so your donation is tax-deductible.

Board of Directors

President:

Dennis F. Cerkvenik,
952-473-4376

Vice President:

Robert F. Nash,
952-476-0434

Treasurer:

Joseph W. Dzurik,
763-688-5680

Secretary:

Jeff H. Walton,
952-943-2064

Trustee:

Sue Jerutis,
612-961-7536

Trustee:

Lowell M. Kleppe,
763-473-9744

Trustee:

Mark Peterson,
612-990-0428

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 and non-profit organization. In order to help with the maintenance of the Cemetery grounds, we would like to make a 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

