



# Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2021

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## 2021 Annual Meeting - May 15

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 15, 2021 in the large Community Center Room at the Minnetonka Community Center at 10:00 AM. We are pleased to announce that Angela Woosley will be our speaker. She is with Inspired Journeys MN, the Midwest's first woman-owned and family-centered natural death care provider. They offer end-of-life doula services, home funeral education and celebrant services. Their goal is to empower families and give you control at the end of life.

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. Door prizes will be awarded. Masks required!

The Community Center is located just north of Minnetonka Blvd. at Williston Road and has plenty of parking. Come in the entrance by the fountain and the large Community Center room is straight ahead on main floor.



## Memorial Day Monday, May 31st

Our Memorial Day service will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Legion Post 259 at 9:00 a.m. sharp on Monday, May 31. Our guest speaker will be State Representative, Dr. Kelly Morrison. We invite you, your family, friends and neighbors to celebrate the day. 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 our approximately 330 veterans.

Please note, there will be NO refreshments this year for COVID safety reasons. Both events will follow the current standard COVID measures of wearing masks and social distancing.



## From the President

The COVID outbreak stopped or slowed some of our activities in the last year, but not sales and burials, which were both up. Our balance sheet is strong and we managed to increase our financial reserves to over \$200,000. We also completed a \$20,000+ landscape project during the year. Since CDC and Minnesota guidelines for crowd gatherings are getting more favorable, we expect that we will hold both our Annual Membership Meeting on May 15 and our Memorial Day flag ceremony on May 31.

The cemetery board is also continuing to find ways to increase the number of burials we can accommodate in our limited area:

1) We have decided to use the area along the Woodlawn Avenue fence closest to Minnetonka Boulevard, and have hired a surveyor to plot another 140+ cremation graves there, similar to the graves we are already using along the fence in the central part of the cemetery. These should be available for sale later this summer.

2) We have also commissioned an attorney to explore reclaiming previously sold but never used graves in the oldest part of the cemetery. Most of these empty graves were sold in the 19th century and can be legally reclaimed by the cemetery, after following some standard attempts to locate descendants of the original owners who may be legally entitled to the use of these graves.

3) We are also keeping the possibility of a columbarium open, to allow for above ground cremation burials.

4) We continue to allow multiple burials—up to 3 cremation burials and one full body burial on each of our full-size graves.

All of these activities are needed to stretch the use of our “land-locked” cemetery and to keep it viable. We’re very proud of our cemetery and your participation in it. Thank you for your interest in and your voluntary contributions to Groveland Cemetery.

*Dennis Cerkvenik, President*

## Groveland Cemetery Landscape Enhancements – Phase II

Phase II of the Groveland Cemetery landscape plan was completed in August by the Axel Landscape Company. The project needed approval by

the City of Minnetonka as well as Hennepin County, which delayed completion until August. This new landscaping significantly improves curb appeal as seen from Minnetonka Blvd.



Phase II included removing plantings at the corner of Minnetonka Boulevard and Woodland Avenue. Plantings that could be transplanted to another area were saved. A block retaining wall was added to the slope to facilitate drainage. New low maintenance and low water perennials including grasses, ground cover junipers and several shrubs were planted to enhance the corner. Woodchips were applied to help keep the weeds at bay.



Phase II also included new landscaping along the west fence area, Section 6, from the storage area to the north driveway. The existing trees and shrubs along the fence facing Groveland School were removed and area sprayed for weeds. Some of the existing plantings were transplanted at

family requests. After the area was completely cleared new soil was applied: a mixture of shrubs, grasses, low maintenance perennials were planted. Woodchips were put down to keep the weeds from growing.

It was noted when the Board did the annual June cemetery landscape walk through that the area extending along the fence in section 8, north of the driveway had an abundance of weeds, buckthorn etc. That area was sprayed and cleared too. The lilies that were saved were then transplanted in that area and woodchips applied.



The area along the fence in sections 1 and 2 will be seeded this Spring. The plan is to see how the grass grows this summer before determining any future landscape requirements. The board will further evaluate landscape needs during the annual walk through at the June meeting.

We want to thank everyone who helped with the weeding and clearing of debris to facilitate the landscape project. Volunteers are always welcome to help with cemetery garden maintenance. Please contact Shelley Duoos if you are interested in volunteering.

*Sue Jerutis, Trustee*

## From the Administrator...

During this crazy COVID year, the cemetery was a safe and calming place to be for many people. The flowers and mini-gardens looked their best ever! Thank you for beautifying Groveland. Last Memorial Day the American Legion still came for their short program, and about ten of us were there despite the inclement weather.

The cemetery had (43) burials this year, (14) traditional and (29) cremation, which is thirteen more than last year. We had lot sales of (42) (29 regular and 13 cremation graves), compared to (28) total for last year.

The landscaping projects of Phase II were completed.

In November our utility trailer was stolen from the enclosure. It was reported to the police and we have checked social media sites, but it was never found. We have purchased another trailer with a better locking system. The trailer is used to bring brush and yard waste to the city recycling center. You may leave your own brown yard bag with cemetery yard waste in the trailer – do not use the garbage bins for yard waste.

A school group will be visiting the end of April as they

are learning about ancestry and the role cemeteries play in aiding research. They will have a short tour and the opportunity to clean up some headstones and areas around the monuments.

Some reminders:

- Fresh flowers only, no artificial items or glass
- Watch for and report ground bees and sunken holes

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*

## Treasurer's Report



The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2020 and will end April 30, 2021. 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 very good year and estimate a net income of \$16,000.

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 \$31,000 if we did not make this change in reporting.

Our investments have changed in value; last year they were \$132,499.15. This year we added \$40,000 to our investments and they are approximately \$218,000 after increases in the market. 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 greatly exceeded budgeted income due to grave sales, while expenses were slightly above budget. The result was net income that was approximately \$23,000 over budget. While income is unpredictable, expenses are managed by the Board and our administrator, Shelley Duoos.

Donations are very vital and much appreciated. These funds enable us to make improvements (like landscaping). Since we have no perpetual care fund, expenses must be closely managed while making the cemetery attractive.

Detailed financial reports will be handed out at the annual

meeting and are available on request. We operate on a cash basis.

*Joe Dzurik, Treasurer*

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## Erik Larson Joins Cemetery Board

Introducing new Board Member, Erik Larson.



I'm pleased to introduce myself as one of the new members of Groveland Cemetery Board of Directors, joining in August of 2020. I look forward to supporting this fine community asset.

My wife, Denise, and I have resided in Minnetonka for the past 40 years. We live only four blocks from the cemetery, and I would often run on the cemetery driveways while I was out jogging. I would also walk through the cemetery and observe the headstones, which have always fascinated me. Many headstones are from long ago, while others are recent. Many remembered long

lives, while some were short. What was I doing at the age (or in the specific year) when this person was born, or passed away?

So I decided that volunteering to be a board member would be an excellent way to contribute to making Groveland Cemetery a nice place for many years to come. Groveland Cemetery is a beautiful, calming location, and I will do my best, along with the other board members, to maintain it that way for you, and others, to enjoy.

*Erik Larson, Trustee*

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## Lois Kamerud Joins Cemetery Board

My name is Lois Kamerud and I am pleased to be one of the newest members of the Board of Trustees.



After my husband's retirement from General Motors, we moved to the Twin Cities in 2011, having lived away for 41 years. We located in the Deephaven area to be centrally located to his family in Chaska and mine in the Plymouth area. We loved the area as soon as we started driving around looking for a house. We quickly discovered friends from our college years lived close by and, thus began the start of a wonderful retirement.

In 2015, life threw us a curve and my husband was diagnosed with a terminal illness and passed away in April 2016. He is buried at Groveland Cemetery. Being a smaller cemetery with an unpretentious feeling was perfect for my husband's resting place. He also loved the sound of the kids playing at the school nearby our home, so the fact that he is in a spot close to a school made it special. The history, the size and the maintenance also made my decision very easy. I love being close by and the intimate feeling of the grounds. I am looking forward to helping with whatever projects arise and doing what I can to help maintain the special place that is Groveland Cemetery.

*Lois Kamerud, Trustee*

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## Groveland F.A.Q.'s

frequently

asked questions

We frequently get questions about different things involving the cemetery.

### Where can I find current information about Groveland?

We maintain a website which includes many items that people ask about, including our rules, burials and more. Visit:

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

If you can't find what you are looking for on the website, use the "Contact Us" link.



[www.facebook.com/Groveland1871](http://www.facebook.com/Groveland1871)

**When I originally purchased my graves, only "ground level" markers were permitted. Now that upright markers are being used all over Groveland, may I switch to a vertical headstone?**

Yes. Vertical markers are now permitted. If you want to change headstones to a dif-

ferent style, please work with the administrator and submit drawings from the headstone provider and photos of the existing marker. In most cases, you will be permitted to make the change. You are responsible for all costs to remove and dispose of the old marker, as well as the cost of the updated marker. Fees will apply when making the conversion.

### Will Groveland water the flower pots that we place on the graves?

Groveland does not have any employees. It is up to the family to take care of any flowers or plants that are placed by the graves. A neighborly way to help each other is to consider carrying extra water for any flowers that you might pass on the way to watering the plants at your family gravesite.

## Consider Groveland Cemetery in your Will or Trust

We greatly 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 Elections

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

Running for re-election are:

- Joe Dzurik
- Robert Nash;
- Mark Peterson;
- Lois Kamerud

We currently have eight members on the board, and by-laws provide that the board can consist of five to eight members. We occasionally have open positions. Please let us know if you are interested in serving when an opening becomes available.

## Groveland Gazette Available by Email

The Gazette can be emailed to Cemetery members. If you would prefer to receive your Groveland Gazette via email, 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 will respond with a test copy of this Gazette, and then send future issues only by email 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.

## Passings

(Since 5/1/20)

Lynn Bechtol	82
Wesley Bishop	97
Frances Blair	79
Carole Bovitz	75
Christine Buisman	71
Carl Challgren Jr.	79
Gary Charleston	72
Douglas Davidson	70
Donald C. Deakyne	91
Shirlee Feay	97
Trisha A Haapoja	45
Ruth Haney	87
Donna Hasek-Meinhardt	89
Bonnie Heglund	65
Cynthia Hultner	74
Steven Johns	66
Elizabeth "Lissie" Kaufman	55
Betty Peterson Kinney	96
Lauren Koffi-n'guessan	22
Jon D. Kauffmann	40
Stephen Lee	69
Nancy Lofquist	86
Stacy Lundberg	56
George Masko	96
Katherine Meyer	70
Steven Mwangelwa	40
Nancy Nicholson-Johns	39
Jack Oberg	79
Michael Oien	67
Eugene "Gene" Overline	62
Reuben Palm Jr.	92
James Pedersen	78
Geraldine Pedersen	82
Nancy Popp	89
Patricia Rey craft	81
Phillip Tullbane	74
Ronald Vanek	76
Samuel Watson	24
Henrietta Wenz	83
Andrea Wenz	53
Rossmar V. Olson	92
James C. Madsen	60
Helen C. Helmrich	96
Average:	72

## New Owners

Welcome to new owners since the last newsletter:

- Brooke & Samuel Flood
- Lester & Patricia Dunsmore
- Max & Della Wilhelm
- Jerry & Mary Griffin
- Neil Heglund
- William Meinhardt
- Carolyn Meinhardt
- Eldon & Eva Lou Aanenson
- Gloria Aanenson
- Jacqueline Davidson
- Ann Brackett
- Kimberly Banyard
- Anne C. Fifer
- Carly Eichhorst & Matt Lee
- Jason Beck
- Mary Tullbane
- Robert & June Pickering Sr.
- Christine Johnson Koshiol
- Connie & Ben Raby
- Bradley Slater
- Matthew Haapoja
- Cynthia Niemi
- Bob & Tamara Mecum
- John & Joanne Boyer
- James & Jane Kaufman
- Galina Pruchnik
- Nyambe Nambula
- Neeley Kauffmann
- Deborah Gramling



## Board of Directors

### President:

Dennis F. Cerkenik,  
952-473-4376

### Vice President:

Jeff H. Walton,  
952-943-2064

### Treasurer:

Joseph W. Dzurik,  
763-688-5680

### Secretary:

Sue Jerutis,  
612-961-7536

### Trustee:

Robert F. Nash,  
952-476-0434

### Trustee:

Lois Kamerud,  
313-300-9814

### Trustee:

Erik Larson,  
952-475-2471

### Trustee:

Mark Peterson,  
612-990-0428

## Groveland Staff

### Administrator:

Shelley Duos,  
952-847-0011

### Caretaker:

Ronald Horn,  
612-859-3066



## VOLUNTARY DONATION / 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 and maintain 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

