

GRAVE NEWS

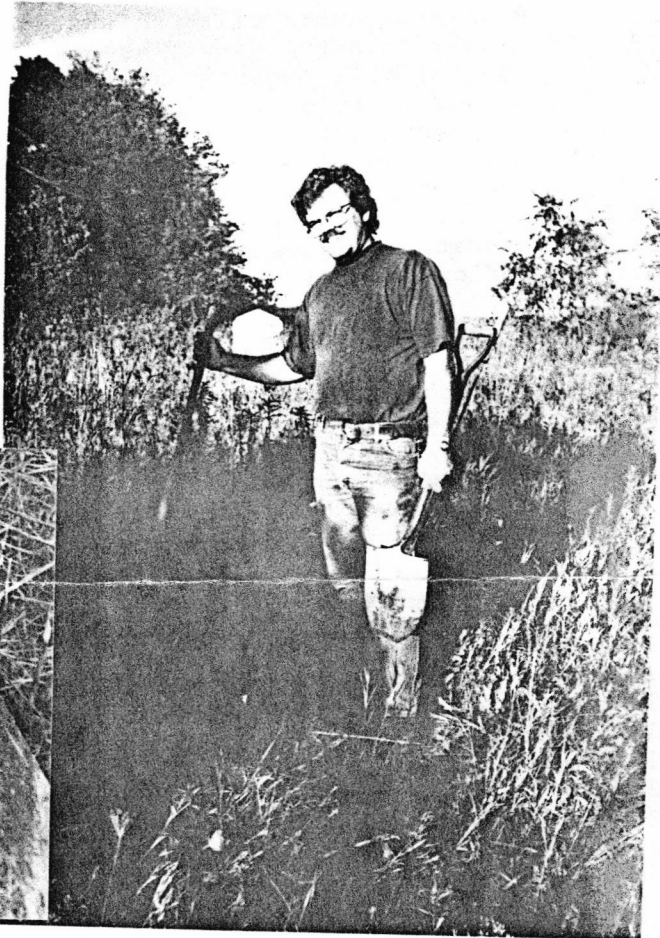
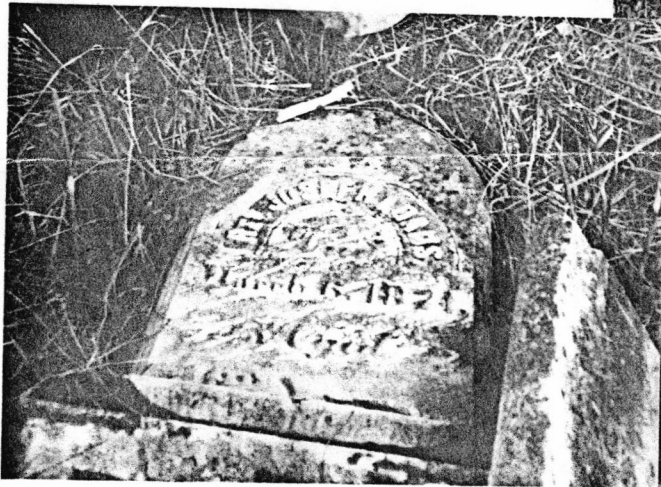
NEWSLETTER OF STATE ASSOCIATION
for
PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES

Vol. I Issue 3

Date. Oct. 31, 1996

On the right is pictured Kevin Lee of Freeport, IA hunting for gravemarkers in the Pagin Cemetery in rural Winneshiek County. Do cemeteries in YOUR county look like this? Are your Supervisors or Trustees doing their job? Can YOU help???

The broken stone is for:
REV. JOSEPH ADAMS-Mar. 6,
1824.



WHAT CAN WE DO?

Suggestions made by Bill Lemke were to seek support from the following groups: 1. Farm Bureau Women's division as a project; 2. Federated Women's Clubs project--Rural Women's Study Clubs project; 3. League of Women Voters project; 4. 4-H, FFA, Boys and Girls Scouts groups as a citizenship project; 5. County Conservation Organization; 6. County Agents--support and information; 7. County Tourism groups--historic old cemeteries; 8. County officials--Supervisors-Auditor-Recorder or other like-minded officials; 9. Various Historical groups--genealogy, historic preservation, tourism, conservationists; 10. ASCS government officials--often very supportive; and 11. Senior Citizens--they are active groups, for example-retired teachers.

The above are suggestions from Bill--can you think of other groups that could at least clean up the cemetery, no matter how small or large---no matter how forgotten and neglected?

Editorial office 507 Jefferson, Decorah, Iowa 52101-1711

(This is the law Dean Gipple worked so long and hard for us to get passed. He deserves our applause!)

HF 2491

PAG LIN

1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 331.325 CONTROL AND MAINTENANCE
1 2 OF PIONEER CEMETERIES – CEMETERY COMMISSION.

1 3 1. As used in this section, "pioneer cemetery" means a
1 4 cemetery where there have been six or fewer burials in the
1 5 preceding fifty years.

* 1 6 2. Each county board of supervisors may adopt an ordinance
1 7 assuming jurisdiction and control of pioneer cemeteries in the
1 8 county. The board shall exercise the powers and duties of
1 9 township trustees relating to the maintenance and repair of
1 10 cemeteries in the county as provided in sections 359.28
1 11 through 359.41 except that the board shall not certify a tax
1 12 levy pursuant to section 359.30 or 359.33 and except that the
1 13 maintenance and repair of all cemeteries under the
1 14 jurisdiction of the county including pioneer cemeteries shall
1 15 be paid from the county general fund. The maintenance and
1 16 improvement program for a pioneer cemetery may include
1 17 restoration and management of native prairie grasses and
1 18 wildflowers.

* 1 19 3. In lieu of management of the cemeteries, the board of
1 20 supervisors may create, by ordinance, a cemetery commission to
1 21 assume jurisdiction and management of the pioneer cemeteries
1 22 in the county. The ordinance shall delineate the number of
1 23 commissioners, the appointing authority, the term of office,
1 24 officers, employees, organizational matters, rules of
1 25 procedure, compensation and expenses, and other matters deemed
1 26 pertinent by the board. The board may delegate any power and
1 27 duties relating to cemeteries which may otherwise be exercised
1 28 by township trustees pursuant to sections 359.28 through
1 29 359.41 to the cemetery commission except the commission shall
1 30 not certify a tax levy pursuant to section 359.30 or 359.33
1 31 and except that the expenses of the cemetery commission shall
1 32 be paid from the county general fund.

1 33 4. Notwithstanding sections 359.30 and 359.33, the costs
1 34 of management, repair, and maintenance of pioneer cemeteries
1 35 shall be paid from the county general fund.

2 1 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 331.424B CEMETERY LEVY.

2 2 The board may levy annually a tax not to exceed six and
2 3 three-fourths cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value
2 4 of all taxable property in the county to repair and maintain
2 5 all cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the board including
2 6 pioneer cemeteries and to pay other expenses of the board or
2 7 the cemetery commission as provided in section 331.325. The
2 8 proceeds of the tax levy shall be credited to the county
2 9 general fund. Sections 444.25A and 444.25B do not apply to
2 10 the property tax levied or expended for cemeteries pursuant to
2 11 section 331.325.

2 12 Sec. 3. Section 359.28, Code 1995, is amended to read as
2 13 follows:

2 14 359.28 CONDEMNATION.

2 15 The township trustees are hereby empowered to condemn, or
2 16 purchase and pay for out of the general fund, or the specific
2 17 fund voted for such purpose, and enter upon and take, any
2 18 lands within the territorial limits of such township for the
2 19 use of cemeteries, a community center or juvenile playgrounds,
2 20 in the same manner as is now provided for cities. However,
2 21 the board of supervisors or a cemetery commission appointed by
2 22 the board of supervisors shall control and maintain pioneer
2 23 cemeteries as defined in section 331.325.

2 24 HF 2491

SECTIONS OF THE IOWA CODE RELATING TO BURIALS AND CEMETERIES

Chapter 6A Eminent Domain Law (Condemnation)

6A.7 Cemetery Lands

Chapter 16 Iowa Finance Authority

16.4 Guiding Principles

Chapter 22 Examination of Public Records - Open Records

22.7 Confidential Records

Chapter 35B County Commissions of Veteran Affairs

35B.13 Burial Expenses

35B.15 Expenses and Audit

35B.17 Maintenance of Graves

35B.19 Burial Records

Chapter 85 Worker's Compensation

85.29 Liability in case of no dependents

Chapter 135 Department of Public Health

135.11 Duties of Department

Chapter 141 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

141.25 Rules for Enforcement - Contagious & Infectious Diseases

Chapter 142 Dead Bodies for Scientific Purposes

142.1 Delivery of Bodies

142.2 Furnished to Physicians

142.3 Notification of Department

142.4 Surrender to Relatives

142.5 Disposition after Dissection

142.6 Record of Receipt

142.7 Record and Bodies

142.8 Purpose for which Body Used

142.9 Failure to Deliver Dead Body

142.10 Use Without Proper Record

142.11 Penalties

142.13 Burial in Private Cemetery Lot

Chapter 142A Uniform Anatomical Gift Act

142A.1 Definitions

Chapter 144 Vital Statistics

144.1 Definitions

144.6 Registration Districts

144.7 Local Registrars

144.8 Duties

144.9 Clerk of Court as Registrar

144.10 Fees

144.26 Death Certificate

144.27 Funeral Director's Duty

144.28 Medical Certificate

144.29 Fetal Deaths

144.30 Funeral Director's Duty

144.31 Medical Certificate

144.32 Burial-Transit Permit

144.33 Bodies Brought Into State

144.34 Disinterment - Permit

144.35 Extension of Time by Rules

144.49 Additional Record by Funeral Director

144.52 Unlawful Acts - Punishment

144.53 Misdemeanors

Chapter 156 Funeral Directing and Mortuary Science

156.1 Definitions

156.2 Persons Excluded

156.4 Funeral Directors

156.10 Inspection

Chapter 167 Use and Disposal of Dead Animals

167.4 Application for License

167.12 Disposing of Bodies

167.18 Duty to Dispose of Dead Bodies

Chapter 207 Coal Mining

207.8 Determining if Land is Unsuited for Mining

Chapter 263B State Archaeologist

263B.1 Appointment

263B.2 Duties

263B.5 State Department of Transportation Contracts

263B.7 Ancient Remains

263B.8 Cemetery for Ancient Remains

263B.9 Authority to Deny Permission to Disinter Human Remains

263B.10 Confidentiality of Archaeological Locations and Information

Chapter 303 Department of Cultural Affairs

303.1 Department of Cultural Affairs

303.2 Division Responsibilities

303.3 Cultural Grant Programs

303.5 Powers and Duties of State Historical Society Administrator

303.8 Powers and Duties of Board and Division

303.9 Funds Received by Department

303.11 Gifts

303.16 Historical Resource Development Program

Chapter 306 Establishment, Alteration and Vacation of Highways

306.20 Cemeteries

Chapter 314 Administrative Provisions for Highways

314.24 Natural and Historic Preservation

Chapter 317 Weeds

317.4 Direction and Control

317.5 Weeds in Abandoned Cemeteries

317.9 Duty of Board to Enforce

Chapter 321 Motor Vehicles and the Law of the Road Powers of Local Authorities

321.248 Parks and Cemeteries

Chapter 331 County Home Rule Implementation

331.325 Pioneer Cemeteries

331.424B Cemetery Levy

331.801 County Medical Examiner - Appointment, Qualifications and Assistants

331.802 Deaths - Reported and Investigated

331.803 Examination Certificate - Fee

331.804 Disposition of Body and Other Property

331.805 Prohibited Actions - Cremation Permit - Penalties

Chapter 350 County Conservation Boards

350.4 Powers and Duties

Chapter 354 Platting - Division and Subdivision of Land

354.22 Vacation of Official Plats

Chapter 357 Water Districts

357.2 Territory Included

Chapter 359 Townships and Township Officers Public Grounds or Buildings

359.21 Receipt and Custody of Funds

359.28 Condemnation

359.29 Gifts and Donations

359.30 Cemetery and Park Tax

359.31 Power and Control

359.34 Scope of Levy

359.35 Cemetery Funds - Use

359.37 Regulations

359.40 Cemeteries - Plats - Records

359.41 Conveyance of Lots

Chapter 427 Property Exempt and Taxable

427.1 Exemptions

427.3 Military Service - Exemptions

427.7 Penalty

427.10 Abatement

427.16 Historic Property - Rehabilitation Tax Exemption - Application

Chapter 448 Tax Deeds

448.3 Execution and Effect of Deed

Chapter 455A Department of Natural Resources

455A.5 Natural Resource Commission - Appointment and Duties

Chapter 456B Special Provisions - Natural Resources Department

456B.11 Agricultural Drainage Wells - Wetlands - Conservation Easements

Chapter 457A Conservation Easements

457A.1 Acquisition by Other than Condemnation

457A.2 Definitions

457A.3 Recording

457A.4 Statement of Extent

457A.8 Privately Held Easements

Chapter 461A Public Lands and Waters

461A.11 Gifts - Jurisdiction over Dedicated Lands - Plan

Chapter 461C Public Use of Private Lands and Waters

461C.1 Purpose

Chapter 462B Protected Water Area System

462B.1 Definitions

462B.12 Local Tax Reimbursement

Chapter 465B Recreation Trails

465B.1 Statement of Purpose - Intent

Chapter 465C State Preserves

465C.1 Definitions

465C.2 Advisory Board

465C.3 Membership

465C.4 Expenses

465C.8 Powers and Duties

Chapter 480 Underground Facilities Information

480.1 Definitions

Chapter 537 Consumer Credit Code

537.1301 General Definitions

Chapter 564A Access to Solar Energy

564A.8 Restrictive Covenants

Chapter 566 Cemetery Management - Management by Trustee

566.1 Trustee Appointed - Trust Funds

566.20 Reversion

566.21 Presumption of Abandonment

566.23 Service of Notice

566.31 Burial Sites

566.32 Disturbance of Burial Sites - Penalty

566.33 Protection and Preservation of Burial Sites

566.34 Confiscation and Return of Memorials

Chapter 566A Cemetery Regulation

566A.1 Applicability of Chapter - Requirements for Certain Organizations

566A.8 Discrimination Prohibited

Chapter 657 Nuisances

657.2 What Deemed Nuisances

657.3 Penalty - Abatement

Chapter 716 Damage and Trespass to Property

716.5 Criminal Mischief in the 3rd Degree

716.6 Criminal Mischief in the 4th and 5th Degree

716.7 Trespass Defined

716.8 Penalties

Chapter 903 Misdemeanors

903.1 Maximum Sentence for Misdemeanants

Dean Gipple's random thoughts re work of Committee for Pioneer Cemeteries:

9/25/96

We as individuals need to aggressively state our goals, and take the calculated risk of rejection. I realize we have opened the gate for much legislative concern on pioneer cemeteries and others. As you know, I get impatient waiting on a committee to reach an agreement. This is why I took the problem to the Legislature by myself. But if one man can achieve what I did, think what an organized committee could do.

I am in agreement with you that we need to keep the pressure on. However, I was reluctant to stir up too much until we got the pioneer cemeteries taken care of.

The Number 1 project is to check the law for available egress to the cemeteries. I have had much correspondence on this subject this year. I have had calls from Kentucky, Wisconsin and Illinois. My solution to the overall picture: Cities have incorporated their cemeteries and are doing as good a job as can be done. The remaining township cemeteries should all be under the management of individual "cemetery boards or associations". They should be funded from the "general county budget" rather than just the ag land. This is the basis of my complaint that the city should share the cost of the care of the cemeteries. The association should submit a complete financial statement and projected care and custody goals to the County Supervisors. They should have final say on any action.

I believe the majority of the cemeteries are under "association" care, but remember we are changing a 150-year-old law and organizing perpetual care.

Who would serve on these associations? I would start with reliable township trustees if they are interested. I would draw up legal procedures as a statewide requirement!

We as a committee can contribute nothing by having random, haphazard meetings. I believe we should have an executive board at least to have regular meetings.

Were the political science departments of colleges notified of research into solutions? I believe some plan should be presented to the Legislature the next year just to keep the subject alive.

Finances: I would hope there is grant dollars somewhere we could get to supplement the membership dues. I probably spent over \$2000 last winter putting the bill through. The motel, stamps and pictures came to \$866.00. I would like to be reimbursed for this amount. I am willing to pay the rest of it myself. If necessary that I spent time in Des Moines for further legislation, I think it no more than fair that at least motel expenses be paid by State Cemetery Assn. Money is the grease that makes the political machine move, and I was not reluctant to take care of this, but it was cash and shall not be accounted.

Respectively,

DHG

Photo by Quad-City Times



Volunteers 'Dig In' to Save Country Cemeteries

"OUR CHURCH CEMETERY just hadn't been taken care of," recalls Dean Gipple (pictured above) of Columbus Junction, Iowa. Little did he know when he started this labor of love to fix up the local cemetery that it would lead to a three-year campaign to pass legislation preserving pioneer cemeteries throughout the state of Iowa.

Dean's story is one of many we've heard about since our article in the May/June issue of FARMING posed the question: Who will be the caretaker of America's Rural Cemeteries? From the letters we've received, we've come to conclude that there are many volunteers hard at work preserving these sacred links with the past. But there is still much hard work to do.

The legislation that Dean initiated—and was passed and signed into law this year—shifts responsibility for the upkeep of pioneer cemeteries from township trustees to the county supervisors. The county supervisors can then appoint a county cemetery commission that will supervise and care for the pioneer cemeteries in their county.

A pioneer cemetery, by definition, is one which has had six or fewer burials in the preceding fifty years. Dean figures there are at least 3,000 in Iowa alone—many of them abandoned and lying in ruin.

Formerly, only the agricultural land in the state was taxed to care for these cemeteries. That's because when the law was established, the people whose

ancestors were buried there lived mostly in rural areas.

But says Dean, "Over time, many of them moved to the cities and were no longer being taxed. Basically, in Iowa, we were operating under a law that was 150 years old!"

The new law changes that. It enables county supervisors to levy up to 6 3/4 cents per \$1,000 in property value on all property in the county—not just farmland. "We're about fifty years late in getting this law through," Dean says. "This is our history. They're not just cemeteries!"

"I've shown it can be done, and I'm hoping other states will pick it up. People are interested. You've just got to show them the way."

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to get things done," he adds.

In spite of heart problems and bouts with cancer, the 78-year-old cemetery champion has also spent time working with local 4-H clubs and FFA chapters to clean up rural cemeteries. With each cemetery that is restored, he recognizes the volunteers who help and agree to the upkeep with a bronze plaque (paid for out of his own pocket). To date, he figures he and the youth groups have repaired more than 200 tombstones.

Charles "Butch" Tharp and his brother Robert are volunteering time to restore the Farmer City Cemetery in Farmer City, Illinois. "A year ago in July, my brother and I went to a seminar on restoration of cemeteries. From that

point on we were hooked!" says Butch.

"Unless it's raining, you'll usually find me up at the cemetery!" Butch adds. He's disabled and the cemetery has become a hobby to stay busy.

"The condition of the cemetery was very sad. There were a lot of stones broken, fallen over, and leaning," he continues. So he and Robert spend much of their time cleaning stones and piecing them back together. They have also re-engraved some of the original pioneer stones that were nearly unreadable.

"You know, John Deere and Toro are responsible for some of the damage," Butch jokes. Careless mowing contributes to fallen and broken stones just as much as vandalism. Neglect, however, is still the main cause for the state of the cemeteries.

Epoxy to repair the stones is their biggest expense. Butch says, "If you want it to last for years, you have to use the good stuff." Unfortunately, the "good stuff" runs them more than \$400 per case.

But, that's where donations come in. "You might be surprised how people will respond when they know what you are doing," he continues. "People hear about it and say, 'Hey I've got relatives out there and I'd like for you to look at their stones'."

"It's kind of nice to have people walk up and say you're doing a good job. It makes you feel good," he adds.

Photo by Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette



Butch Tharp cleaning a headstone in the Farmer City, Illinois, cemetery. He and his brother Robert went to a cemetery restoration seminar. "From that point on, we were hooked," Butch says.

3367 Hanover Court
Iowa City, Iowa 52245-4016

25 September 1996

TO: All Board members of the Society for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries

FROM: Loren N. Horton *Loren Horton*

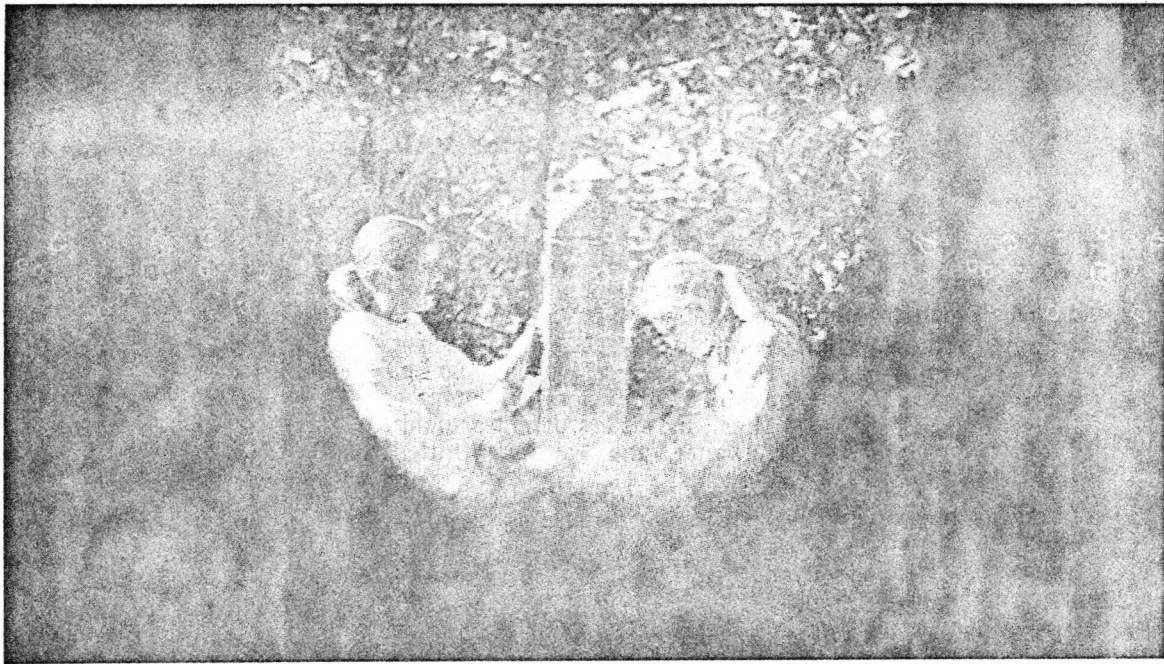
RE: Annual meeting

At the Board meeting in Des Moines on 7 June 1996 it was assigned to me to find a place to hold the annual meeting, which was planned to coincide with the annual meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society in Iowa City. I was not able to get a meeting place at the Iowa Memorial Union, where the actual sessions of the IGS will be held. Instead, I have arranged for the SAPIC annual meeting to be held at the Country Kitchen Restaurant at 2208 North Dodge Street, Iowa City. This restaurant is located just south of the intersection of Interstate 80 and Iowa highway 1, and is in the old Howard Johnson's building. It is adjacent to the Country Inn, one of the alternative lodging places noted in the publicity for the IGS meeting. To reach the restaurant from the Interstate, take the Iowa highway 1 exit towards town. You will then pass an athletic club on the right and American College Testing on the left. Turn right and you will be in the parking lot of the Country Kitchen Restaurant and the Country Inn motel. There is plenty of parking. I have reserved a private room for us with a seating capacity of about 25. Of course it is possible that we will have more people in attendance than that. We will have to decide at that time what to do about accommodating a larger attendance. This room is available at no cost to us if the amount of food ordered amounts to \$25.00 or more.

I realize this arrangement will work a hardship on SAPIC members who are also IGS members and are staying at the Iowa House, adjacent to the Iowa Memorial Union. But the cost of using rooms at the Union were prohibitive for our group. The SAPIC meeting will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 A.M. on Saturday morning, on October 12. Please note that this will be on the second day of the IGS meeting. In fact, the IGS banquet on Friday evening, prior to our meeting, will be the time when the SAPIC will present the first ROBERT L. CARTER MEMORIAL AWARD. Those SAPIC members who wish to attend the banquet must register with the IGS. For attendance at the banquet only, the IGS cost is \$20 plus \$10 late charge. Please contact the Iowa Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 7735, Des Moines, Iowa 50322-7735 for tickets to the banquet or any other information about the IGS meeting.

The Robert L. Carter Memorial Award Selection Committee met on 23 September 1996, drafted criteria for the award, and selected the first winner, as instructed by the Board at the June meeting. The award will be made at the IGS banquet on Friday evening, October 11, and the draft criteria will be presented to the Board and membership at the SAPIC annual meeting on Saturday morning, October 12.

If anyone has any questions about any of the above information, please call me at my home telephone, 319-351-5842. I will post notices about the place of our meeting at the IGS meeting on Friday, and I will announce the place of our meeting at the banquet on Friday evening. In the meantime, if you are in contact with any of the SAPIC members, individual or organizations, please let them know where and when our annual meeting will be. If we run into a real problem about the size of the meeting room, capacity about 25, you can blame me and then never ever trust me to do anything again. It was the best I could do.



Leisa Thompson/QUAD-CITY TIMES

The Fenno Cemetery along Belmont Road in the Pleasant Valley, Iowa, area is getting some badly needed restorative care from Bettendorf High School students, including freshmen Sara Kamp, left, and Heather Schutman, who were brushing up a gravestone Friday afternoon.

Students make 'pioneer' effort

■ Bettendorf teens clean up cemetery

By Jennifer DeWitt
QUAD-CITY TIMES
Bettendorf reporter

Young hands are giving old tombstones new life.

Marred by years of neglect, the stones are being cleared, repaired and positioned where they will remind future generations of the Iowans who came before them.

About 20 Bettendorf High School Key Club members gave up their day off from school Friday, and more will return today to continue the work of clearing branches and weeds and planting a memorial garden at the half-acre Fenno Cemetery.

Katie Walker, the president of the club, a Kiwanis group for high school students, said members decided to lend a hand because it was something unusual. "We don't have an opportunity to help a lot with cemetery restoration. We felt we owed it to these families," she said.

When the students arrived at the cemetery near Valley Drive and Belmont Road, they discovered fallen tree branches had knocked over some headstones. Some had been broken and thrown into piles. Others had

been leaned against trees.

That was the same sight that appalled Mary Louise Speer, who coordinated the cleanup after discovering the situation during her research for an article in the *Bettendorf News*. "It's a sad thing to see so many headstones out of place or broken. We're doing the best we can to honor these people who were the settlers of Pleasant Valley."

To assist in the project, Speer contacted Tom Amling, one of the founders of the Clayton County (Iowa) Cemetery Restoration Committee. As a hobby, the Elkport, Iowa, man travels the state, helping restore headstones in pioneer cemeteries.

"I've done close to 100 restorations, about 60 in Iowa, mostly in Clayton County," he said. "This one was pretty rough. What it needs is a lot of new bases."

While this task is not usually kids' work because of the stones' weight, Amling said he was impressed by the students. "I like working with them. They're actually more enthused."

He added that interest in pioneer cemeteries has been heightened among Iowans the past two years by the Iowa Sesquicentennial. However, he added, "You don't get interest from the governor. Politicians don't get behind it because you don't get votes

from dead people."

But the project raised the interest of the students and some neighbors.

As Stephanie Mahlstedt and Amy Kamp used a wire brush to clean a pair of headstones, they surmised what had happened to the mother and two children. Likening the task to a puzzle, Mahlstedt said it was difficult to determine which broken pieces went together.

Neighbor Priscilla Anderson stopped by, fearing that some developer had bought the ground. "I was worried, I just thought this place is special. It's nice to see it's getting fixed.

"From time to time, various Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops have tried to fix it up," she recalled. "But overall, it's been let go."

Speer said that 25 years ago, Girl Scout Troop 1099 "went in the cemetery for what they thought would be a one afternoon project." The troop spent years there, cutting weeds, mowing, digging out buried tombstones and collecting the history on the cemetery's 45 people.

"The Girl Scouts unearthed a lot of the stones you see today and put a book together," she said. "They did a wonderful job, but the headstones were still waiting to be put together."

The following people attended the October 13, 1996 meeting of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries held at the Country Kitchen Inn on Dodge St., Iowa City:

Mike Magee
Keith Street
Michael Zahs
Betty Tylee, Chickasaw Co. Gen. Soc.
Jeanette Kottke, Chickasaw Co. Gen. Soc.
Carol Battin, Chickasaw Co Gen. Soc.
Harley E. Crain (Crain Cem., Malaska Co.)
Ken Marlin
* Larry Allan, 2806 Rutland Ave., Des Moines, IA 50311-4014
Phyllis Rathlauf, Burlington, Des Moines Co.
Rosemary Wade, Burlington, IA Des Moines Co.
Dean H. Gipple
Bill Lemke, Waterloo
John Dundee, Brodhead WI
Paul E. Maddy, Perry, IA
Calvin & Ethel McVay, Winterset, IA
Pat Shaw, Anamosa, IA
Margaret Crain Ballinger, LaMesa, CA
Loren Horton, Iowa City
Ted Sieks
Fran & * Stan Jeffers (Stan also represents Decorah Gen. Assoc.)
* (New Members)

(The address for Richard W. Sorenson was not listed on the membership list received last Newsletter issue. It is as follows: 307 W. Pleasant, Maquoketa, IA 52060-2945--tel. 319-652-2187)

The Minutes of the Oct. 13, 1996
of the
STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION
of
IOWA CEMETERIES

The October 13 meeting of the St. Assoc. for the Pres. of IA Cemeteries was called to order at 7:15 AM by Pres. Ted Sieks at the Country Village Inn, Dodge St., Iowa City. The President reviewed the Association status. The minutes of the June 7, 1996 meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$1061.36 with 58 members. There are outstanding bills--the Newsletter, Banquet Award, Loren Horton, and Reimbursement to Dean Gipple. Dues notices will go out in the next newsletter. Payment now will allow you to be listed as a charter member until Dec. 31, 1996. Our fiscal year will begin Jan. 1, 1997 and end Dec. 31, 1997. Bill Lemke introduced Dean Gipple to the new attendees. The Association acknowledged its appreciation of Dean's Legislative work. Dean credited Senator Mary Lundby for helping Dean get the legislation regarding cemeteries passed. Dean also gave a legislative update. M/S/P to reimburse Dean \$500 now. Balance to his expenses to be paid when a complete bill is submitted. There was a general discussion of Dean's report and outstanding work. The group acknowledged the need for more publicity. Dean explained

Minutes cont'd

some of the existing laws regarding cemeteries: ie.--access cannot be denied, and cemeteries are exempt from all encroachments. Paul Maddy was introduced. He explained: Common Law, Support of cemeteries, access one rod wide, cemeteries have preference over roads, and roads CAN be set aside.

M/S/P to have quarterly meetings: October, January, April and June to be held in various locations.

Nominations reported by Pres. Sieks that Paul Maddy, Bill Lemke, Mike Magee and Ted Sieks be re-elected to the board for 2 years. M/S/P. He also nominated himself for another term as President and Loren Horton as Vice-President. M/S/P.

NOTICE!

The next meeting will be January 18th in Story City at the ***Valhalla, 1513 East Broad St, across from the Viking at 10:30 AM.

NEEDED: PR from people concerned about cemetery projects, Maddy's activities, and county supervisors that have assumed responsibility for assigning cemetery care.

A general discussion was carried on about: resurveying cemeteries; court decisions, need for information packets--packets to have news articles, laws pertaining to cemetery care, action being taken by various counties or townships, etc.

Loren reported on Robert L. Carter Memorial Award and the criteria used. The first award will go to Dean Gipple.

Consensus--Newsletter should be sent to county supervisors and the IA Genealogical Society regional representatives..

Discussion was held regarding possible newsletter items; activities on Veterans' Day; involvement of schools, scouts, 4-H clubs, etc; and community service activities such as farm bureau groups have.

M/S/P to establish an Education Committee. Send nominees to Pres. Ted Sieks, P.O. Box 283, Irwin, IA 51446.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted

(The following offered to speak to a

Frances M. Jeffers, Secy.

group or class about cemetery care, and possibly take them to a cemetery to point out factors relating to their care--to instill respect for ancestors of all: Loren Horton, Mike Zahs, Mike Magee and Larry Allan.)

PLEASE NOTIFY PRES. TED SIEKS IF YOU CAN OR CANNOT ATTEND THE JANUARY 18th MEETING IN STORY CITY AT THE VALHALLA. Ted's address is: Ted Sieck, Box 283, Irwin, IA 51446. PLEASE respond by January 10, 1997. (Lunch will be off the menu.)

Membership dues for the STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES---Jan. 1, 1997 - Dec. 31, 1997 is \$20.00

NAME _____ Dues for '97 _____

ADDRESS _____
Street _____ City _____ State & zip _____

Check one _____ Individual member _____ Association member (One vote)

Mail to Keith Street, 325 Franklin, Wapello, IA 52175

(If you want to be considered a charter member, dues of \$20 for 1996 will be accepted until December 31, 1996. These are NOT the dues for 1997.)

ADDRESS
JERRY DAVIS
5716 KINKADEE AVE
DES MOINES, IA 50311

SAPIC
Fran Jeffers, Secy/Editor
507 Jefferson St.
Decorah, IA 52101-1711



JANUARY 18, 1997 meeting of the ST. ASSOC for the PRESERVATION of IOWA CEMETERIES will be held at STORY CITY, IA at VALHALLA, (across from the Viking) 1513 E. Broad St. at 10:30 A.M. (Lunch may be ordered off the menu.) Please notify Pres. Ted. Sieck P.O. Box 283, Irwin, IA 51446 if you can OR cannot be present. Next meeting will be in April.