

# GRAVE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES

1813 170TH ST.

BIRMINGHAM, IA 52535

[www.rootsweb.com/~iasapic/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~iasapic/)

VOLUME 12 ISSUE #4

October, 2007

The next SAPIC meeting will be January 12, 2008 at the Johnston Public Library, 6700 Merle Hay Road, Johnston, Iowa from 10:30 a.m. 'til 12:30 p.m.

Take the Merle Hay Road Exit # 131 off Interstate 35-80 (North side of Des Moines) and go north on Merle Hay Road for 2 miles. Turn left on Northglenn Drive and you will see the library. (North side of Johnston). Lunch: On your own.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Larry Davis: LD2mstone@aol.com  
Telephone: 515-277-4917

The Gold Star Museum at the National Guard Armory is in this area.

Address: Iowa Gold Star Museum  
7105 Northwest 70th Avenue  
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1824

Phone: 515-252-4531

[www.iowanationalguard.com/Museum/Museum.htm](http://www.iowanationalguard.com/Museum/Museum.htm)

Monday - Saturday

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. Free Admission

From SAPIC president, Steve Story:

Steve and Donna Story

18883 250<sup>th</sup> St

Hawkeye, Iowa 52147-8129

Phone 1-563-427-5354 - cell 563-380-8317

e-mail [dstory@netins.net](mailto:dstory@netins.net)

11/28/07

Dear SAPIC members and constituents-

It is an honor and responsibility to have been chosen as SAPIC President at the October 13, 2007 meeting at Belle Plaine. It was certainly inspiring to view Benton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission's restored Redman Cemetery and be hosted in the Belle Plaine Museum for the SAPIC meeting.

Pat Shaw, past SAPIC President, has graciously consented to continue to prepare the SAPIC Newsletter 'Grave News'. Pat has been a good friend and cemetery co-worker in Jones County with my wife Donna and me for many years.

I am a SAPIC Charter Member, but Donna and I started pioneer cemetery restoration before the legal term 'Pioneer Cemetery' existed. We started in June, 1980, at Madison Center in Jones County (the county of our birth)

with only the intention of restoring my great-great-grandfather's monument (grave stone). He was a War of 1812 veteran. After we restored that stone, we decided to restore the other stones in the cemetery, cut the overspreading brush, and make general improvements. Then, we decided to do genealogy on all persons interred there and publish the results.

As we were then both employed, our free time was somewhat limited. Madison Center took us six years from first repair to book publishing. Our second cemetery in Jones County was Pleasant Valley, larger and totally overgrown with brush. Nearly every stone was broken or well under the earth. From first clearing to book publishing took five years. During all of this time, we had lived in Fayette County since 1958. These cemeteries in Jones County are about 100 miles away from our Fayette County home.

Pat Shaw asked us to help with the newly established Jones County Pioneer Cemetery Commission in 1996-97 and we were asked in 1998 to help with the also newly established Fayette County Commission. We have met and worked with so many truly outstanding, hard working and dedicated people in Jones, Fayette and many other counties. One of our co-workers, who has served on many other city, county, and rural boards summed it up with these words "I have never served with so many fine people as serve on Pioneer Cemetery Boards and work crews"

Our Board members hope that you will be able to attend SAPIC meetings, continue to spread the news about Pioneer Cemetery work and encourage other counties to take up the cause. We hope you will work with our state legislators of both political parties and also enjoy the work that you are doing to restore and maintain the honored memory of our ancestors interred in the 'Land Between the Rivers'.

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**PLEASE RENEW YOUR SAPIC MEMBERSHIP  
FOR 2007 NOW! THANKS SO MUCH FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT!**

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NEW BOOK: *Do-it-yourself Tombstones* by Dale Power. This book provides you with the tools and techniques to create long lasting, beautiful stone monuments and markers with a sandblaster. \$39.95 1-800-789-9395  
<http://www.mhp-petcaskets.com/index.php>

## SAPIC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Steve Story  
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5630427-5354 dstory@netins.net

Vice-president: Willis Hoffman  
505 W. Chestnut St.  
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641-664-2852 wilcar@netins.net

Secretary: Larry Davis  
5716 Kingman Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50311-2006  
515-277-4917 LD2mstone@aol.com

Treasurer: Valerie Ogren  
108 N. Oak  
Jefferson, IA 50129-1845  
515-386-4784 vjogren@netins.net

Board Member (2010): Molly Beason  
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641-484-6061 mollyb@iowatelecom.net

Board Member (2010): Pat Shaw  
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319-293-3899 patshaw@netins.net

Board Member (2010): Jo Vernooy  
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Leighton, IA 50142  
641-673-8122 mahcem@kdsi.net

Board Member (2008) Ethel McVay  
1111 N. 8th Ave. Apt. #16  
Winterset, IA 50273-1089  
515-462-9802 emcvay38@msn.com

Board member (2009): Frieda Davis  
216 Riverview Dr.  
Vinton, IA 52349-2360  
319-472-5348 davisduo2@mebbs.com

Board Member (2009): Julie A. Eckenrod  
2211 Linn Ave.  
New Hampton, IA 50659  
641-394-3967 jjeck@myclearwave.net

Board Member (2009): Mike Magee  
638 Englewood  
Waterloo, IA 50701  
319-232-8762 Digger4045@yahoo.com

Board Member (2009): Marva Rowe  
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Board Member (2010): Tony Bengston  
1006 150th St.  
Fairbank, IA 50629-8611  
319-415-1175 tonybengston@yahoo.com

Web Page: Connie Street  
325 Franklin St.  
Wapello, IA 52653 -1515  
319-523-8164 ckcasey@louisacom.net

## WHERE TO GET PROBES

Agri-Drain  
340th St.  
Adair, IA 50002  
1-800-232-4743  
Sizes range from 4 1/2' to 8' -- \$18.50 and up

## WHERE TO GET EPOXY

GRANQUARTZ Stone Tools and Equipment  
P.O. Box 2206  
Tucker, GA 30085-2206  
1-800-458-6222  
http://www.granquartz.com

3-M 1838 B/A TAN EPOXY  
PRAXAIR - GENEX 1700 2nd Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50314  
515-244-3131

GCT Stone Epoxy and Hardener  
Granite City Tool Co.  
P.O. Box 411 11 Blackwell St.  
Barre, VT 05641 mkewinter@aol.com  
www.granitecitytoolvt.com

Superior Stone Products  
(quickset acrylic adhesive)  
8580 Byron Commerce Drive  
Byron Center, MI 49315  
800-493-5111 www.superiorstoneproducts.com

## WHERE TO GET SIGNS

Iowa Prison Industries  
Box B  
Anamosa, IA 52205  
1-800-336-5863 Ask for Tammy Deseberg

## VETERANS' HEADSTONES

http://www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm  
Telephone: 1-800-697-6947

## STATE CEMETERY REGULATOR

Dennis N. Britson, Director  
Regulated Industries Unit, Iowa Securities Bureau  
340 Maple St.  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
Dennis.Britson@comm6.state.ia.us  
515-281-4441

## OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

Shirley J. Schermer, Director of Burials Program  
700 Clinton Street Building  
Iowa City, IA 52242-1030  
319-384-0740 shirley-schermer@uiowa.edu

**State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2007**

President Pat Shaw called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. on October 13, 2007 at the Belle Plaine Museum in Belle Plaine, Iowa with 20 members and guests present.

The minutes of the July 14, 2007 meeting were read. Moved by Freida Davis that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Fred Reisner. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented illustrating a September 30, 2007 balance of \$10,758.35 consisting of \$1,729.96 in the "Working Account", \$4,028.39 in the "Reserve Account", and \$5,000.00 in Certificates of Deposit.

**Keith Street Memorial Award:** Connie Street presented the Keith Street Memorial Award to Jennifer Tupy from Winneshiek County for her work in gravestone repair.

**Robert and Phyllis Carter Service Award:** The Robert and Phyllis Carter Service Award was presented to Ed Strellner for his work in the restoration and preservation of Pioneer Cemeteries in Benton County. Mr. Strellner was not able to be present due to family illness and Gene Davis accepted the award on his behalf.

**Cemetery Reporting Forms:** Discussion was held on distribution of the neglected cemetery reporting forms prepared by Dennis Britson. It was suggested the forms be sent to the State Association of County Auditors in an effort to get them distributed to all county auditors.

**Legislative Priorities:** Bill Ready has been working on the adverse possession of real property topic as it relates to cemeteries, and making contacts with legislatures.

**Nominating Committee:** Mike Magee presented the Nominating Committee's slate of new officers for 2008:

President.....	Steve Story	Board Member.....	Molly Beason
Vice President.....	Willis Hoffman	Board Member.....	Pat Shaw
Secretary.....	Larry Davis	Board Member.....	Jo Vernooy
Treasurer.....	Valerie Ogren		

Moved by Mike Magee that the slate of candidates for 2008 as presented by the Nominating Committee be accepted and that a unanimous ballot be cast for their election. Seconded by Tony Bengston. Motion carried.

**Future Meeting Sites:** It was suggested that Black Hawk County be considered for a future meeting site and that Larry Davis investigate the possibility of a meeting room at the Urbandale, Iowa Public Library for the January 12, 2008 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Secretary  
Larry D. Davis

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***Cryptic Clues in the Bone Yard***, a rating and review by Kimberly Powell from the web site: [http://genealogy.about.com/library/reviews/aafprvideo\\_cemetery.htm](http://genealogy.about.com/library/reviews/aafprvideo_cemetery.htm)

The video features professional genealogist, Sharon DeBartoio Carmack, and is produced by The Studio of Hurricane, Utah. The 70-minute video includes the history and composition of grave markers through the ages, cemetery trivia and tombstone symbolism, tips for visiting and recording information in the cemetery, a checklist of things to take with you to the cemetery, how to take good photographs of tombstones, how to make tombstone rubbings, and how to turn the rubbings into lasting family artifacts. It sells for \$14.95 plus shipping and handling and can be purchased from 123 Genealogy from the web site above.

From: "Valerie Ogren" <vjogren@netins.net>  
 Subject: **SAPIC**  
 Date: October 12, 2007 3:46:57 PM CDT  
 To: "Pat I. Shaw" <patshaw@netins.net>

SAPIC Treasurer's Report for 3rd Quarter - 1 July thru 30 Sept. 2007

Balance in "Working Account" 30 June 2007, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$ 1,700.23

Income

Dues	\$ 120.00
Bumper Sticker	1.00
Interest 7/31/07	1.79
Interest 8/31/07	1.64
Interest 9/30/07	<u>1.53</u>
Total Income	\$125.96

Expense

Ck # 197 - Pat Shaw - Postage	\$ 11.55
Ck #200 - Pat Shaw - Newsletter 50.43, env. 19.95, misc. 14.30	<u>84.68</u>
Total Expense	\$ 96.23

Balance in "Working Account" 30 Sept. 2007 \$ 1,729.96

Balance in "Reserve Account" 30 June 2007, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$ 4,128.39

Income -

Greta McCarthy - Lifetime Membership	\$ 100.00
Keith Street Memorial	<u>200.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 300.00

Expense

Ck. # 198 - Louisa Co. Cem. Comm. Grant	\$(200.00)
Ck. # 199 - Johnson Co. Grant	<u>(200.00)</u>
Total Expense	\$(400.00)

Balance in "Reserve Account" 30 Sept. 2007 \$ 4,028.39

I am keeping an accounting of the amount which had been held in savings and have added Life Memberships and Memorials to it; however, all the money is in one account at the bank.

Combined Balance on Hand 30 Sept. 2007 \$5,758.35

Plus additional funds:

182 day CD - \$1,000.00 - 5% - matures 1/08 (renewed)  
 12 month CD - \$4,000.00 - 5.25% - matures 1/16/2008

Respectfully submitted,



\*How to Restore an Abandoned Cemetery:  
<http://colonialroots.net/category/cemeteries/>

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Manuscript Register

PAPERS OF THE FEDERAL WRITER'S PROJECT

Collection dates: 1923-1939

Held by the Special Collections Department, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1420. Phone 319-335-5921. E-mail: lib-spec@uiowa.edu

The first part of this collection was donated to the U. of Iowa by Mrs. Richard Fisher in 1973; the addendum was donated by Craig Schmidt in 1994.

Box 9 Mississippi River (2) includes Burials and Cemeteries, Aviation and Steamboating, Transportation History, Folklore (pamphlet for FWP -- instructions for collecting folklore), Fitch Co. and Jewelry Sale, and Home.

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From the *Iowa Legionnaire magazine*, November, 2007, page 16 and *Statehouse News* from Rep. Mary Gaskill, Ottumwa: IOWA VETERANS CEMETERY Iowa receives \$7.6 million grant for the first state-owned and operated veterans' cemetery in Iowa. The Veterans Cemetery will be located along Interstate 80 west of Des Moines in Dallas County near the community of Van Meter. The cemetery will serve the veteran population throughout Iowa and will provide sufficient burial space for more than 20 years in the first phase of the project. Any eligible veteran, their spouse and eligible dependents may be interred at the cemetery. A 7-ft. stone wall with black lettering will announce the site to travelers on I-80 heading east or west. [www.ialeion.org](http://www.ialeion.org)

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Black Light - Suggested by some, a black light bulb (75 watt or higher) can be used to make a worn inscription pop out. While an extension cord may be a problem in many cemeteries, you can find portable, battery-operated black light units in many party or novelty stores (they are especially popular around Halloween). Cast the light directly on the tombstone and the words just seem to pop right out at you. Black light works especially well when it is dark, but since cemeteries are not always the safest place to visit at night, try draping a large, dark blanket over both you and the tombstone while using the black light. This should create enough darkness for a very "illuminating inscription."

From Stan Culley <CULLEYS@FRONTIERNET.NET>

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Advocacy: It is for Everyone!  
By Gordon Hendrickson  
Department of Cultural Affairs, State Historical Society

Often hear constituents say they are reluctant to contact elected officials because they are not sure how to

approach them or how to express themselves to legislators. Legislators are just like you and me. They are not super-human. They do not walk on water. They are just like our neighbors. In fact, they **are** our neighbors! They want to hear about the issues that concern us. They want to know their work has an impact on us and our community.

I encourage you to have a conversation with your neighbor legislator. Talk about why you work with your local historical society or your local arts organization. Talk about your passion and the real accomplishments you see. Talk about the challenges you face. That's advocacy!

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Afterlife Insurance

From the *Star-Telegram*, Ft. Worth, TX, November 22, 2007: A good insurance policy will protect you from cradle to grave -- and then some.

A little-known feature of most homeowners policies is that they cover headstones, grave markers, monuments, and urns.

"That would be surprising to anyone," said Mike McCartin, an independent insurance agent in College Park, MD, who was surprised himself. "I've never had that question before, but it's covered. It's right there .... in bold print."

Headstones are generally covered under the contents portion of a homeowner's policy, State Farm spokesman Dick Luedke said. "Most people know that personal property refers to the things in a home, but gravestones you own are covered under that," he said.

Luedke said homeowners do not have to ask specifically for coverage; it is often included in standard policies. But homeowners do "have to consider value of those items when they're considering how much coverage they want," he said.

The insurance Service Organization, a private firm that does risk analysis and sets trends for insurance agents, recommends covering damage to grave markers up to \$5000 in its homeowners forms. Its coverage includes "loss caused by various perils," including "vandalism and malicious mischief."

Luedke said all types of funereal items are "covered against all the perils against which other contents are covered."

"Whatever your home is protected against: vandalism, theft, if a windstorm damaged it in some way, or hail," he said.

On the other hand, if you are not covered for floods, and a flood sweeps away a headstone, it might not fall under the policy.

-- Kate Prahlad, Capital News Service  
(Contributed by SAPIC member, Sidney Louis)

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Bounce fabric softener sheets tied through a belt loop can repel yellow jackets and mosquitoes in cemeteries.

## Scans reveal lost gravestone text

By Cristina Jimenez

### **Illegible words on church headstones could be read once more thanks to a scan technology developed in the US.**

Scientists at Carnegie Mellon university are making high resolution 3D scans of tombstones to reveal the carved patterns in the stone.

A computer matches the patterns to a database of signature carvings which reveals the words.

The technique could one day also be used by doctors to examine a patient's tongue for signs of illness.

Scientists often find it difficult to distinguish between natural phenomena and man-made art works carved into stone, due to the build-up of algae and surface dirt.

At the moment, archaeologists are forced to do hand-tracing work with plastic sheets and to examine objects first hand in order to decipher obscured writings.

### **Carved figures**

And sometimes, it is just impossible to read what lies beneath the dirt.

The new scanning method detects carved figures such as writings and drawings through 3D scans and computer analysis.

"This technology is expected to reduce guessing work in field inspection," said Dr Yang Cai, director of the Ambient Intelligence Lab at Carnegie Mellon Cylab.

In recent weeks, Dr Cai's research team have been testing the new technique at a 200-year-old cemetery close to the university in Pittsburgh.

The scientists have been scanning unreadable gravestones at Old St Luke's Church to help its Episcopal pastor identify all the names on the cemetery's tombstones.

The technology has been built on top of existing 3D reconstruction techniques. But the team at Carnegie Mellon is focusing on surface signatures.

"We have designed special filters of 3D data that can detect curvature or linear features on a surface," Dr Cai said.

The scientists scan the important areas in very high resolution and the rest in lower resolution, in order to avoid unmanageable digital file sizes.

"This is similar to the human visual experience - we usually see the gazed area in high resolution but the peripheral area in a blurred vision," Dr Cai said.

The team is also developing "template matching methods" to detect particular patterns such as carved shapes.

For example, tombstone carvings usually contain continuous lines for letters.

The new technique allows them to define patterns of "typical" lines and curves and store them in a database.

"If the computer finds the data matches the patterns in the database, then it will highlight the area," Dr

Cai said.

Experienced archaeologists have lots of accumulated pattern descriptions.

For example, natural holes on the rock normally have rounded edges but man-made carvings in rock usually have rather sharp edges around the holes. This knowledge can be encoded thanks to the new technique.

### **Digital cemetery**

The database of 3D scan data can also be mapped onto other datasets, such as geographical information systems, historical weather databases and high-fidelity models of archaeological sites.

In addition to discovering who is buried in the cemetery, Dr Cai's team is developing a digital cemetery for Old St. Luke's Church in order to help visualise the scanned data.

It will be available for internet browsers, on DVD and interactive computer demos.

The researchers believe the technology will also have practical applications in other industry sectors, such as the security and medical fields.

Dr Cai said: "We may use the technology for the future UAVs (Unmanned Aviation vehicles) to detect ground signatures of ancient ruins and help medical doctors to diagnose patients' well-being through tongue inspection."

The technology could also be used to predict a possible tsunami by examining the patterns on the surface of the world's oceans.

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Thanks to SAPIC member, Kevin Lee, who informs us that this technology has been developed in the Midwest:

This document is intended as an introduction to virtual reality and laser scanning technologies and applications. CTRE hosted a workshop in September 2001 to demonstrate the capabilities of VRAC and ISU's private-sector partners in these two areas and to generate discussion on possible future applications. An appendix to this document, including the Virtual Reality and Laser Scanning Workshop invitation, agenda, participant list, and discussion notes, is available upon request.

For additional information about laser scanning, the workshop, or this document, please contact

Dr. Edward Jaselskis  
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Ames, IA 50011  
Phone: 515-294-0250  
ejaselsk@iastate.edu

For additional information about virtual reality or the Virtual Reality Applications Center, please contact

Dr. Mark Bryden  
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Phone: 515-294-3092  
Fax: 515-294-5530  
vrac@iastate.edu  
www.vrac.iastate.edu

Thanks to Stan Culley from LeMars, Iowa who attended a cemetery workshop in Indianapolis last summer and shared his notes. <CULLEYS@FRONTIERNET.NET>

**PINNING, REPAIRING AND CLEANING A BROKEN HEADSTONE**

TO START REPAIRING A BROKEN STONE, ALIGN THE PIECES FACE DOWN AND DRAW PENCIL LINES ON BACK OF STONE TO MARK THE STONE DRY SO YOU KNOW HOW THE STONE GOES BACK TOGETHER. DRAW CROSS HAIRS ON THE EDGE OF THE STONE TO FIND THE CENTER OF THE STONE WHERE PINS WILL BE INSTALLED BEFORE DRILLING. PUT A CROSSHAIR ONE INCH IN FROM THE EDGE OF A TWO INCH THICK STONE. NOTE: DO NOT PUT PINS NEAR A VOID IN THE STONE. PINS WILL GIVE YOU A STRONGER STONE REPAIR; BUT A METAL THREE INCH PIN INSIDE CAN BLOW OUT THE STONE IF THE STONE IS BROKEN AGAIN. USE PINNING MAINLY ON MULTIPLE BREAKS IN A STONE AND USE  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCH OR  $\frac{5}{16}$  INCH RODS WITH 20 THREADS PER INCH WHEN USING NYLON RODS FOR PINNING. NYLON RODS IN FOUR FOOT LENGTHS ARE AVAILABLE FROM A COMPANY CALLED USP OR U.S. PLASTICS AND CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING INTERNET ADDRESS.

<http://www.usplastic.com/catalog/product.asp?catalog%5Fname=USPlastic&category%5Fname=75&product%5Fid=15529&cookie%5Ftest=1>

KEEP THE DRILL PLUMB WHEN DRILLING A  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCH DEEP HOLE FOR A 3 INCH PIN. PLACE A PIECE OF DUCT TAPE AROUND THE DRILL BIT AT A DISTANCE OF  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCHES FROM THE TIP OF THE DRILL FOR A DEPTH GAUGE. USE  $\frac{3}{16}$  INCH DRILL BIT FIRST THEN A  $\frac{5}{16}$  INCH BIT TO ENLARGE THE HOLE WHEN USING A  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCH PIN. BLOW THE DUST OUT OF THE HOLE AFTER DRILLING WHEN WORKING WITH A BROKEN STONE ALWAYS DRY FIT THE STONE FIRST, AFTER DRILLING AND PINNING; BUT BEFORE APPLYING THE EPOXY. USE A STRAIGHT EDGE TO RUN UP AND DOWN STONE WHERE THE STONE BREAK IS LOCATED TO MAKE SURE THE STONE IS SQUARE.

DRY FIT THE STONE AGAIN AFTER DRILLING - INSERT PINS TO SEE IF STONE EDGES MATCH UP - IF NOT YOU WILL NEED TO DRILL OUT THE

HOLES SLIGHTLY TO ENLARGE THEM. IF YOU PIN AND EPOXY THE STONE BEFORE DRY FITTING – YOU WILL HAVE A MESS IF THE STONE DOES NOT FIT TOGETHER WELL. MAKE SURE THE PINS THAT WERE DRY FITTED FOR EACH HOLE GO BACK IN THE SAME HOLE; SINCE A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE IN LENGTH MAY NOT ALLOW THE STONE TO FIT BACK TOGETHER AS IT WAS ORIGINALLY DRY FITTED.

IF YOU USE A BRASS ROD FOR A PIN, IT CAN TURN GREEN AND DISCOLOR A STONE OVER TIME. STAINLESS STEEL PINS ARE FINE TOO; BUT THE OPINION OF THE INSTRUCTOR WAS A STAINLESS STEEL PIN WOULD DO MORE DAMAGE TO THE STONE IF THE STONE WAS VANDALIZED AGAIN. A NYLON PIN WOULD BREAK AWAY AND CAUSE LESS DAMAGE IF THE STONE BROKE IN THE SAME LOCATION AS THE ORIGINAL BREAK.

CLEAN THE EDGE OF THE STONE THAT WILL BE EPOXIED WITH DENATURED ALCOHOL AND THEN ACETONE TO REMOVE ANY MOISTURE. ALWAYS WEAR RUBBER GLOVES AND EYE PROTECTION.

WHEN EPOXYING A STONE LAYING HORIZONTALLY – LAY THE STONE ON WAX PAPER OR USE DUCT TAPE ON ANY CLAMPING MATERIALS; SINCE EPOXY WILL NOT STICK TO EITHER; BUT IT WILL TO WOOD. DON'T USE A THIN EPOXY ON A ROUGH STONE BECAUSE ALL OF THE LITTLE VOIDS IN THE BREAK WILL NOT BE FILLED IN AND THE REPAIR WILL BE WEAKENED.

PROBLEMS USING EPOXY ARE USUALLY DUE TO A WET, DIRTY OR DUSTY STONE. SURFACES NEED TO BE CLEAN AND DRY. NOT ENOUGH STIRRING OF THE EPOXY IS ALSO ANOTHER PROBLEM. THE CHEMICAL REACTION BETWEEN THE EPOXY AND THE HARDENER MAY NOT TAKE PLACE. ALWAYS LEAVE A LITTLE EPOXY IN MIXING CUP SO YOU CAN TELL WHEN THE EPOXY IS STARTING TO SETUP. SOME EPOXIES WILL TE START TO SUFFER WITH SETUP TIME ABOVE 90 DEGREES AIR



TEMPERATURE. 65 – 70 DEGREES IS GOOD WORKING TEMPERATURE. WHEN WORKING IN HIGHER TEMPERATURES, LESSEN THE AMOUNT OF HARDER TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF SETUP TIME. IF YOU ARE USING A KNIFABLE EPOXY YOU CAN TRIM ANY EPOXY THAT OOZES OUT WITH KNIFE AFTER IT STARTS TO SETUP – IT WILL BECOME RUBBERY.

DO NOT USE ACETONE TO CLEAN OFF EXCESS EPOXY AS IT WILL THIN THE EPOXY IN THE STONE AND MAY EVEN STAIN THE OUTSIDE OF THE STONE DUE TO THE EXCESS EPOXY. A GOOD KNIFABLE CLEAR POYESTER RESIN EPOXY IS CALLED TENAX AND CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING INTERNET WEB SITE.

<http://www.granitecitytool.com/showitem.cfm?itemnum=370&catnum=0&pcatnum=80>

IF THERE IS SOME EXCESS EPOXY ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE STONE YOU CAN TAKE A HEAT GUN AND HEAT THE EXPOXY TO SOFTEN IT AND YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO REMOVE IT.

CLEANING A STONE CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH A MIXTURE OF ONE PART CLEAR AMONIA AND THREE PARTS WATER. A NYLOX WHEEL BRUSH WORKS GREAT FOR CLEANING A DIRTY STONE OR A SOFT NYLON BRISTLE BRUSH. ALWAYS MAKE SURE THAT THE STONE IS KEPT WET WITH THE AMONIA WATER WHEN CLEANING AND ALWAYS START CLEANING THE STONE FROM THE BOTTOM AND WORK UP, WHILE RINSING THE STONE WITH CLEAN WATER PERIODICALLY TO AVOID RE-STAINING THE STONE. NYLOX WHEEL BRUSHES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DICO OR ACE HARDWARE STORES OR HARBOR FREIGHT ALSO HAS A SIMILAR PRODUCT.

<http://www.dicoproducts.com/nyalox.html#grit>

AFTER YOU CLEAN A BROKEN STONE ALWAYS TRY TO MATCH THE MORTAR MIX TO THE COLOR OF THE STONE. THE MORTAR MIX SHOULD BE TWO PARTS WHITE PORTLAND AND FOUR PARTS WHITE HYDRATED LIME AND SEVEN PARTS AGREGATE. THE AMOUNT OF AGREGATE

SHOULD BE ADJUSTED TO MATCH THE STONE COLOR DESIRED. MIX A SMALL AMOUNT OF MORTAR TO MATCH THE APPROXIMATE COLOR AND DRY WITH A HAIR DRYER TO CHECK FOR A COLOR MATCH BEFORE APPLYING THE MORTAR. TO PROTECT THE STONE WHERE THE BREAK IS LOCATED, THE MORTAR MIX SHOULD BE ADDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OR THE STONE WILL START TO SUFFER FROM FREEZING AND THAWING WITHOUT THE MORTAR APPLIED OVER THE AREA OF THE BREAK IN THE STONE.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** AFTER THE MORTAR MIX IS APPLIED, SMOOTHED AND FINISHED, WIPE ANY EXCESS MATERIAL OFF WITH A DAMP SPONGE. WET THE STONE AND USE WET PAPER TOWELS OR SHOP TOWELS TO WRAP THE ENTIRE AREA THAT JUST HAD MORTAR APPLIED. THEN USE CELLOPHANE WRAP OR SARAN WRAP TO ENCASE THE WET TOWELS. THIS WILL KEEP THE MORTAR MIX MOIST FOR DAYS AND ALLOW A SLOW CURE OF THE MORTAR TO PREVENT CRACKING. AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF CURING – REMOVE THE CELLOPHANE AND TOWELS AND LIGHTLY SAND WITH A REAL FINE GRIT SANDPAPER TO SMOOTH THE MORTAR TO A DESIRED FINISH.

THE SAME MORTAR MIX USED ABOVE WILL ALSO WORK FOR FILLING IN LARGE VOIDS IN A STONE. ALSO WRAP THE VOID AS LISTED ABOVE TO PREVENT CRACKING.

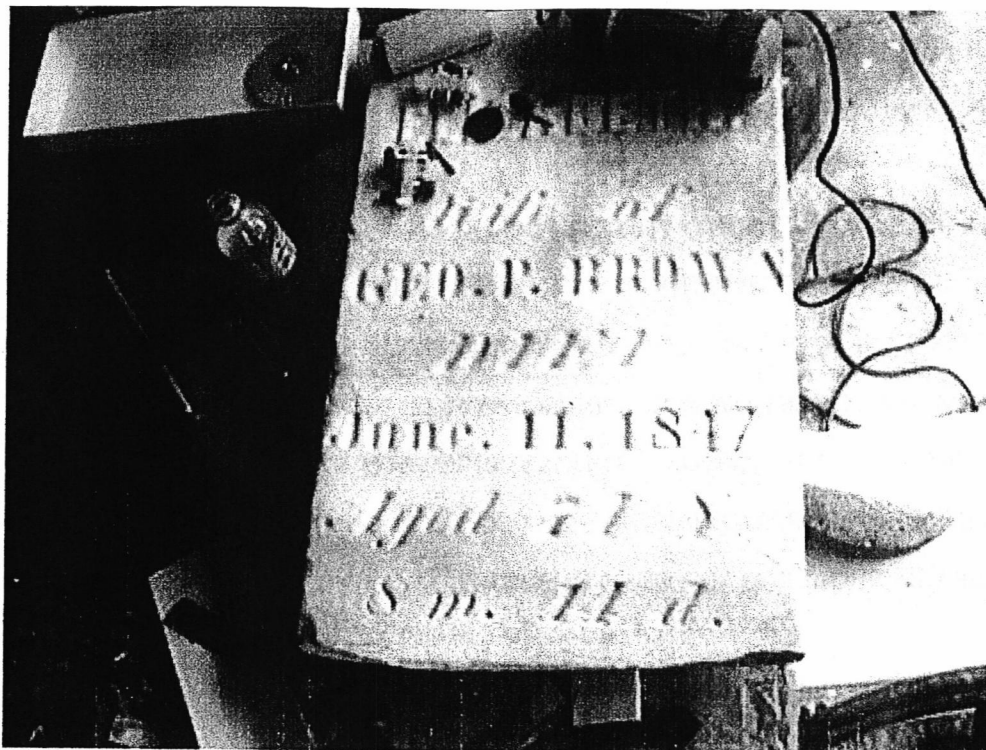
WHEN YOU ARE TRYING TO USE A NEW EPOXY – TEST IT FIRST ON A BRICK OR A PIECE OF A STONE THAT IS NOT PART OF A HEADSTONE UNTIL YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE USING THE EPOXY. HIT THE TEST STONES WITH A HAMMER OR A SLEDGE HAMMER TO SEE HOW WELL THE EPOXY IS GOING TO WORK BEFORE USING IT ON A HEADSTONE. IT IS CONSIDERED A KIND THING TO DO FOR THE NEXT RESTORATIONIST THAT MAY HAVE TO REPAIR THE STONE. ALL REPAIRS SHOULD ALSO BE DOCUMENTED.

THIS STONE WAS BROKEN AND HAD A LARGE VOID WITH THE DEATH DATE MISSING. THE STONE WAS REPAIRED, THE VOID FILLED, THE STONE CLEANED AND THEN PINNED AND EPOXIED WHERE THE BREAK WAS LOCATED AT THE CEMTERY.

STAN D.

CULLEY

Wanted you to see how the workshop knowledge is applied. I still have to hand sand the death date so it will look like it has weathered for 160 years but I am getting there.



Piece of stone missing for 35 years, now repaired. It was broken near the base

## REMINISCENCES ABOUT PHYLLIS AND ROBERT (BOB) CARTER

by Loren N. Horton

I first met Phyllis and Bob in 1989. That was the year that Michael Zahs and I began to teach the "Iowa: Eye To I" class for Iowa Wesleyan College. The Carters were students in that first class. Before you understand the significance of that, I will need to describe the class just a bit. It was (and is) a nine-day class, offering 3 college credits. The first day is spent in lectures at the College, usually during the third week of June. We have lectures on general subjects such as geology, archaeology, architecture, music, AND - MOST IMPORTANTLY - on grave marker symbolism. Then the class boards a bus for an eight-day tour of Iowa, with guest lecturers along the way, lots of ethnic meals, and experiences that the ordinary person cannot arrange for themselves. Phyllis and Bob enjoyed the class immensely, but what they seemed to have enjoyed most was the research that was possible in cemeteries. We visit lots of cemeteries, examining the symbolism on markers, the epitaphs, the carvers and dealers from where the markers came, the landscaping and vegetation in the cemeteries, materials from which the markers are made and where such materials came from, and how the cemeteries reflect the communities which they serve.

Both Carters became fascinated with a particular type of grave marker - known as the "tree stump" or the "tree trunk". These markers were common throughout the middle half of the United States from the mid-19th century until the early 20th century. Mostly they are carved from oolitic limestone found most abundantly in and around Bedford, Indiana. Generations of stone carvers in that area specialized in such markers, which were carved in a variety of styles, with the space for names and dates of deceased left blank. Then they were shipped to local marker dealers who added the particulars for the person who ordered the marker.

Phyllis and Bob became so fascinated with the "tree stump" markers that they began to travel throughout the midwest visiting cemeteries and photographing these particular markers. Phyllis developed a slide show about them, and subsequently gave that program dozens of times to all sorts of groups throughout Iowa and surrounding states. Bob became interested in the preservation and repair of grave markers, and together they became a formidable team in bringing to public attention the matter of cemeteries and grave markers in disrepair.

Partially because of their enthusiasm (in fact their insistence and demand), Michael Zahs and I developed five additional "Iowa: Eye To I" classes, focusing on parts of the state not visited during the longer June trip. These five additional classes occur in July, and are five days long. Phyllis and Bob took all five additional classes, always demanding that the bus stop at every interesting cemetery we passed. And according to the Carters, EVERY CEMETERY IS INTERESTING !!! They became so skilled at analyzing and interpreting cemeteries, that Michael and I could sit back and let them do the lecturing. And they made converts of almost all of the people to whom they talked. Their joy in the subject was contagious. The crowning touch to this story was when Bob offered to get Phyllis a "tree stump" marker for her Christmas



present one year. She was enthusiastically receptive about such a gift. A marker was ordered and carved, in Bedford, Indiana, and installed in the cemetery in Washington, Iowa, near where their farm was located. To dedicate it, a "Monumental Party" was held, to which many people came, and after the ceremony, the guests were treated to lemonade and pound cake, served on what had formerly been an embalming table. It was said locally at the time that it was the greatest social event of the year --- in the cemetery. Unfortunately Bob died unexpectedly less than two years after the party.

Phyllis was a teacher, and she enchanted her students with her knowledge and enthusiasm. She created teaching units and later she encouraged many other teachers to introduce their own students to cemetery study. Perhaps by so doing she has helped to ease the problem of vandalism by young people.

Phyllis's own death this year has closed the chapter on this couple, who became lovers of cemeteries and grave markers, and had the ability to transmit that love to other people. It is quite fitting that an award given by the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries should bear their name. They truly were remarkable people, whose knowledge of the value of cemeteries and grave markers worked much like a pebble tossed into a pond. The ripples from their own activities spread around them, and we can never know just how many people now appreciate cemeteries because of them. Certainly they had a significant impact on the preservation of cemeteries and ~~grave markers in Iowa.~~

*The Robert and Phyllis Carter Award is presented annually to a deserving person(s) who has made significant contributions to the restoration and preservation of one or more Iowa pioneer cemeteries in his/her area. The Award is sponsored by the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries (SAPIC).*



The 2007 Robert and Phyllis Carter Education Award was presented to Don Wentworth at the Reed Cemetery in Jackson County on Sept. 22.



Gene Davis presents an award to Ed Strellner, Van Horne, for Strellner's volunteer work in preserving pioneer cemeteries. (Submitted photo)



## COUNTY REPORTS

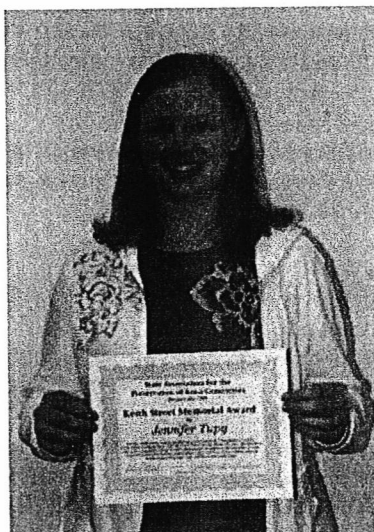
### BENTON

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, Sept. 25, 2007, "Grave markers damaged in Vinton," by Jeff Holmes. Pictured is evidence of vandalism at Evergreen Cemetery in Vinton that occurred after dark on the prior Saturday. Some three dozen markers, many dating to the 1870s were damaged. Sexton Tim Fuchs said a man walking his dog on Sunday afternoon reported the damage. Monday, Fuchs reported that some of the stones have been returned to their places but others might be damaged beyond repair. Similar stories were printed in the *Cedar Valley Times* and posted on the KWWL-TV (Waterloo) web site.

From the *Cedar Valley Times*, October 4, 2007: "Iowa Cemetery group to hold meeting in Benton County -- Redman Cemetery visit planned Oct. 13." The article tells of the ceremony to be held honoring Ed Strellner of Van Horne as the recipient of the Robert and Phyllis Carter Service Award and that the SAPIC business meeting will be held at the Belle Plaine Museum following the award presentation.

From the *South Benton Star-Press*, Oct. 24, 2007, "State Pioneer Cemetery group meets in Benton County, honors Ed Strellner." Pictured are members of the Benton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission in front of a large monument that had been broken in seven pieces. The Redman Cemetery where the Commission worked to repair that monument and others was scheduled to be the site of an award presented to Ed Strellner who used his talent and expertise as a lifelong masonry contractor in guiding the Commission in the proper use of adhesives and mortar, as well as furnishing names of suppliers for many products that would make their work easier and more successful. Due to his wife's illness, Ed was unable to attend, but Gene Davis accepted the Robert and Phyllis Carter Award for him later at the SAPIC business meeting. The article also mentions the winner of the first Keith Street Memorial Award that was presented to Jennifer Tupy of rural Cresco in Winneshiek County. Jennifer received a \$200 award presented by Connie Street for her photographs of more than 250 gravestones for the Iowa Gravestone Photo Project. Jennifer plans to use the money to raise and reset gravestones that she found half buried. The family of the late Keith Street of Wapello honors his memory with an annual \$200 award to a youth aged 13-20 who has shown interest in restoring, documenting or researching the history of cemeteries in Iowa. Keith Street was a teacher, avid genealogist and one of the founders of SAPIC. He was the first recipient of the Robert Carter Education Award. Also pictured with the news article is Molly Beason of Poweshiek County as she examines a monument in the Redman Cemetery.

A similar article by SAPIC member Frieda Davis was printed in the *Cedar Valley Times* on October 19, 2007.



Jennifer Tupy who received the Keith Street Memorial Award on October 13 in Benton County.

### BLACKHAWK

SAPIC member Mike Magee of Waterloo repaired six stones at the Spring Creek Township Cemetery on September 13. He noted that township trustees had removed a large pine tree that had blown down. Mike was presented the "Volunteer of the Year Award" by the Federation of Genealogical Societies by Allan Nordbrock, President of the Northeast Iowa Genealogical Society at its September 19, 2007 meeting in Waterloo. Mike assisted Fred Reisner at the Garden of Memories Cemetery west of Fredricksburg on October 29. He continues to work at Spring Creek.

From the *Waterloo Courier*, September 24, 2007: "Sullivan history in documentary in error," by Courier Staff. The first installment of Ken Burns' long awaited WWII documentary contained one error. Local viewers noted that the show stated that the 5 brothers who enlisted in 1941 and were killed Nov. 13, 1942 were from Fredricksburg instead of Waterloo. Mike Magee, who has done considerable research about the brothers, hopes that the producers can correct the error on subsequent airings of DVD releases. The graves of the parents of the Sullivan Brothers are located in the Waterloo Cemetery.

From Marilyn Davenport: <ronandmarilyn@mchsi.com> Friends of The German Burial Ground Association of Bennington Township are determined to preserve their heritage and honor their ancestors by maintaining the cemetery and potentially designating it as a historic site for later generations to visit. The names on the gravestones provide a good demographic study of the people who first settled this area.

Burk, Fritz, Funk, Reinhardt, Winegartner and Wetzel are names that dominate most of the markers and help tell the story of Bennington Township.

A stroll through the country cemetery northeast of Waterloo reveals some families with several generations buried there along with adult siblings and their spouses. Most of the "inhabitants" were early area farmers. There are some "inhabitants" for whom there is no known information on either their affiliation or their descendants, but Friends continue to work to obtain more information.

The German Burial ground Association of Bennington Township was officially incorporated in 1877 and grew from a need to provide a burial space for area settlers. Due to the tragedies suffered in World War I and the feelings toward Germany, the cemetery fell into disrepair. In 1924 the name was changed to Pioneer Cemetery and the grounds were restored and maintained again through the efforts of Augusta Burk and other community members. There were twenty five members in the revitalized association and the current "Pioneer Cemetery" sign over the gate was installed.

The German Burial Ground Association of Bennington Township officially became a tax-exempt organization recently, thanks to the efforts of Jerry and JoAnn Kramer and the legal staff at the University of Iowa Law School. Although this cemetery was then known as The Pioneer Cemetery of Bennington Township, in 2006 the Friends of the Cemetery decided to return to the original name under which the cemetery was organized. Obtaining tax exempt status was less cumbersome if the original name was retained for legal reasons, plus the name describes the cemetery's origins more accurately. Since there have been several burials in the last fifty years, the cemetery doesn't officially qualify as a "pioneer cemetery" even though its roots date to 1864.

A few years ago, the cemetery lost two large old trees, so some Friends of the cemetery donated several new trees to enhance the beauty of the grounds. The Board of The German Burial Ground Association of Bennington Township is currently developing plans for a Scattering Garden in one corner of the cemetery. Several current Friends of the Cemetery are interested in their remains being scattered near the burial site of their ancestors. Another proposed project is to create signage to explain the history of the cemetery and how it relates to the story of our area.

The past several years the Cedar Falls VFW Post and the Iowa Chapter #1 Rolling Thunder organization have presented a short program on the cemetery grounds on Memorial Day weekend. Those attending have enjoyed greeting old friends and relatives after the service at the nearby restored Bennington #4 School House. The school is a Silos and Smokestacks point of interest in the township that tells the story of American agriculture and its families.

The association currently mails an annual newsletter and contribution solicitation to 140 descendants of those buried in the cemetery grounds. The contributors have been increasing since many of the Friends have added aunts, uncles, cousins, children and grandchildren to the list of those receiving the annual mailing.

## CHICKASAW

From the *Chickasaw County Genealogical Society Quarterly*, Volume 24 Number 3, Third Quarter 2007, J.L. Kottke, Editor, pages 22 and 23: "Cemeteries of Chickasaw County Information Summary" and a CCGS Publications Order Form, containing many cemeteries within the county.

Fred Reisner and Mike Magee worked at the Garden of Memories Cemetery west of Fredricksburg on October 29. A local farmer volunteered to remove the fence, used a brush hog to go over the fence line, and saved the fence posts and antique gate to use with the replacement fence.

## CLINTON

A grass roots group met with Clinton County Attorney, Mike Walk, and others about the possibility of creating a pioneer cemetery commission in that county. Harold and Ruth Wilson are spearheading the group's efforts.

## DES MOINES

ANNUAL REPORT for DES MOINES COUNTY  
PIONEER CEMETERY COMMISSION YEAR 2006

Cemetery restorations and other activities accomplished during 2006:

A. Siefken Family Plot -- Pleasant Grove Twp

The Siefken Family Plot is located about 200 yards east of the road at 15881 Beaverdale Road. This cemetery contains 4 graves with a metal curb around each grave.

B. Dravis Cemetery -- Benton Twp

This cemetery is located about 1/8 of a mile west of the residence at 7074 188th St., on the south side of the road. This cemetery contains roughly 15 gravestones and the cleared area is about 7,000 Sq. Ft.

C. Linn Grove Cemetery -- Yellow Springs Twp

Linn Grove Cemetery is located on the northeast corner of 160th Ave. and Mediapolis Rd. The cemetery consists of approximately 69 burials and a few less markers. The commission contracted with Allen Gugelar for the installation of new bases and the resetting of seven (7) gravestones. The commission was very successful in straightening the old fence on the south and west side of the cemetery. One marker is to have a new base and reset within the next 6 months.

D. Covenant/Presbyterian -- Yellow Springs Twp

This cemetery is located on the northeast corner of 155 Ave. and Mediapolis Rd. This is a companion to the Linn Grove Cemetery. We understand that the original church congregation had a few disagreements thus the two cemeteries within spitting distance. We had been working with the Mediapolis Lions Club on this restoration. Four (4) stones require new bases and resetting with work scheduled for completion within the next 6 months.

E. Round Prairie Cemetery -- Yellow Springs Twp  
The Men's group at the Presbyterian Church in Mediapolis removed the old fence and replaced it with a new fence and gates. The commission purchased the materials but the men's groups did all the work. They are to be congratulated for their great job and for their past and ongoing efforts at the cemetery.

F. Franklin Mills/ Burrus Cemetery -- Franklin Twp  
Located about 1/2 mile east from 15218 on Highway 61 (North of Burlington). Two (2) stones will have new bases installed and be reset within the next 6 months.

G. Gallaher/Zion Cemetery -- Pleasant Grove Twp  
Cemetery is located about 1/4 mile north on a farm road from the west edge of the Flint River Bridge on Pleasant Grove Rd. A couple of stones are yet to be repaired and reset.

During the months of daylight savings time the Pioneer Cemetery Commission scheduled two work sessions each month. These work sessions were at 5:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. Our monthly meetings were held in conjunction with the 4th Thursday work session.

We continued to install signs at the pioneer cemeteries. The signs indicate the cemetery name along with "A Des Moines County Pioneer Cemetery." Signs are purchased from the Iowa Prison Industries in Anamosa, Iowa. We are fortunate to have been able to obtain several sign posts from the County Secondary Road Department. We have now installed signs at a total of 30 cemeteries. The signage project is ongoing with six (6) more on order that we hope to install in the next 3-6 months.

This year proved to be productive and enjoyable. We had good attendance from our members at the summer work sessions and the regular monthly meetings. We had two new folks join us on many outings and another is scheduled to join us in 2007. In 2007 we will continue our restoration efforts and we again plan to inspect the pioneer cemeteries located on the Iowa Ammunition Plant grounds.

In 2006 the Commission hired twelve (12) people to mow, trim and maintain 28 of our Pioneer Cemeteries on a regular basis. We have several cemeteries that, at this time, do not require mowing due to the size, location, and condition of the plots. We have about 48 cemeteries in the system.

For fiscal year 2005-2006 the Pioneer Cemetery budget was \$20,000. Of that amount \$18,725.17 was expended. For fiscal year 2006-2007 our budget is again \$20,000. To date we have expended \$7,010.01 with mowing contracts for the first half of 2006 expected to expend \$7,220.00 for a total of \$14,230.01. In addition to the normal expense for office supplies and restoration supplies we plan to

do some fencing and resetting of several large stones before the end of this fiscal year.

For the 2006 mowing season our mowing contracts were about 9% above the cost of the 2005 season. The 2005 mowing cost was about 2.5% above the cost of the 2004 season.

For the fiscal year 2007/2008 the Commission is asking for a budget of \$22,000.00 with \$15,700.00 allocated for maintenance, \$6000.00 for restoration and \$300.00 for office supplies and petty cash. This will be the first increase since fiscal year 2003/2004 when the budget was raised from \$19,450.00 to the current \$20,000.00. The 2003/2004 mowing cost was \$12,050.00. For the 2007/2008 mowing season our cost will most likely be around \$15,000.00.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Werner, Chairman

From *American Profiles* magazine, December 2-8, 2007: "Tidbits Did You Know..."  
IOWA -- Prugh funeral Service in Burlington (pop. 26,839) traces its roots to 1852, when Isaac Prugh began manufacturing coffins, furniture, and cabinetry. Today, a fifth-generation owner, Robert Burton Prugh Jr., operates the funeral home business.

### DUBUQUE

From the *Dubuque Telegraph Herald*, September 30, 2007: "Fighting to preserve the Pioneer Spirit," by Craig D. Reber, TH Staff Writer. Pictured is Reed's Chapel, a Methodist Church that was built in 1867 and demolished in the mid-1980's. A weathered cross and a "pioneer cemetery" remain at the site. Joan Hess, a neighbor, is concerned that the cemetery will also disappear if something isn't done soon. Roger and Jerry Beau, whose ancestor's grave is located in the cemetery, agree with Hess that there should be a sign denoting Reed's Chapel Methodist Cemetery, the cross should be put upright, and a pathway built for direct access to the site. "This is all part of history, even though we don't often think of it that way," Roger Beau said, "How a society is measured is what it does for the least of us. To me, here's really the least of us. Those who can do nothing about the situation are buried there. I'm sure after three generations, it's easy to forget. But is forgetting how we respect them? I don't think so."

From *The Witness* (Archdiocese of Dubuque), Vol. 87 No. 40, November 4, 2007: "Eagle Scout candidate .... Teen completes cemetery project," by Carol Hoverman, OSF Editor, *The Witness*. Pictured is Jesse Jaeger from Key West, Eagle Scout candidate from Troop 25 in Dubuque, along with several photos of the St. Raphael Section of the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Key West that he and his family and



friends restored during the summer months. Jesse's project was divided into 2 phases: Excavate, clean and restore about 35-40 headstones that had been moved to Mount Olivet in 1873 and add some landscaping features to draw attention to that part of the cemetery. About 200 hours were spent making concrete forms, washing and scrubbing headstones, putting up a flag pole, and landscaping. Two benches in memory of Jaeger's grandfathers were placed at the entrance. The project was completed by July 1. A memorial headstone noting Civil War veterans and designating the area as St. Raphael's Cemetery will be added in the future.

### FAYETTE

From the *Oelwein Daily Register*, October 20, 2007:

"Open forum -- Help needed for cemetery."

Jefferson Township clerk, Dorothy Gosse, gives a short history of the village of Otsego, located southeast of what is now Oelwein. In 1873, the post office and village moved to the new village of Oelwein leaving behind the cemetery with the remains of many of the area's earliest pioneers. She mentions the damaged and neglected state of the monuments and grounds and lists the surnames found on the gravestones. Otsego Cemetery will not qualify as a pioneer cemetery until 2011, but Steve Story of the Fayette County Pioneer Cemetery Commission has suggested that they ask the County Supervisors if a restoration project can be started in 2008. If there are no objections and the request is granted, an appeal is made for volunteer labor.

Steve Story has sent a copy of the By-laws for the Fayette County Cemetery Commission that were approved on 12/1/1999, along with a list of pioneer cemeteries that have been restored, names of Commission members and Advisory members. The Commission is based at 100 N. Walnut Street in West Union, Iowa 52175. (563)-422-5797

### HENRY

From the *Burlington Hawkeye*, October 1, 2007:

"Soldier Remembered as a hero," by Nicholas Bergin. Pictured in color are the third Iowa Cavalry re-enactors and mourning family members re-enactors as they listen to Major Randy Higginbotham of the 224 Engineer Battalion as he speaks to the crowd of people who attended the Medal of Honor dedication ceremony on September 30 for Army Pvt. John P. Yount at Oak Grove Cemetery in rural Henry County where Yount is buried. Yount was given the award on Nov. 13, 1871 and a special government headstone was placed at his grave in May. About 15 of his relatives attended the service.

### JACKSON

From the *Maquoketa Sentinel Press*, October 25, 2007: "Wentworth earns SAPIC recognition," by Kelly Gerlach. A background of Don Wentworth's activities in restoring, researching, and writing

about cemeteries in Jackson County is given. For his hard work, the rural Preston man received the 2007 Robert and Phyllis Carter Education Award in September in the middle of his great-great-grandparents' plot in the Reed Cemetery. Each of Don's four books in the "Stone Cities" anthology has been accepted by the Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Washington DC. His books and presentations accurately bring back to life the early pioneers of Jackson County. Pictured with Don at the restored North Bend Country School are JoAnn Caven and Earl Kilburg, members of the Jackson County Pioneer Cemetery Commission, and Pat Shaw representing SAPIC. A reception was held at the school following the award presentation.

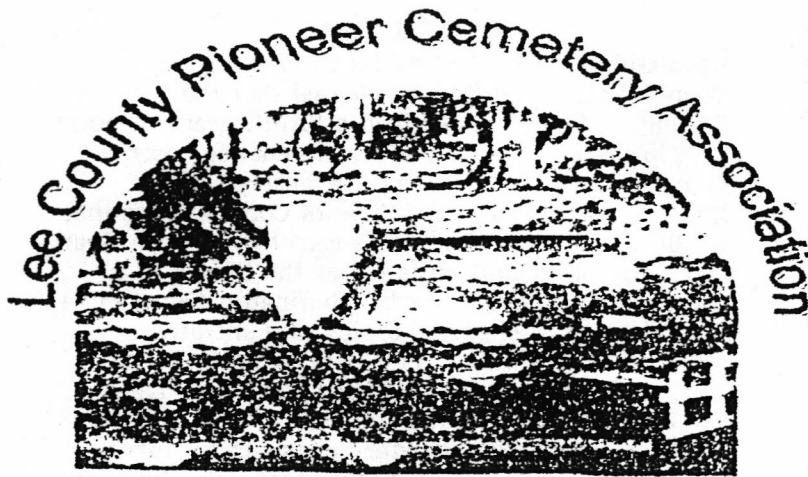
### LEE

Congratulations to the Lee County Pioneer Cemetery Association on its fifth year of existence! This group has accomplished much in that short span. All those who value the history and culture of our country, state, and Lee County should be very grateful for the preservation efforts of the members of this very active group. Their special efforts, such as honoring veterans' burial sites with a Patriot's Day, recognizing our ancestors' graves with Pioneer Parents' Day and other special events, make them unique among Iowans. They have worked very hard to restore neglected pioneer cemeteries in Lee County and to provide maintenance for these sites in order to respect the memories of those early settlers who suffered hardships and sacrificed so much for citizens of today. It is my earnest hope that the sincere and caring attitude of LCPCA members will influence the people of Lee County to continue to honor the past by preserving its pioneer cemeteries.

-- Pat Shaw

From the newsletter of LCPCA, *Preserving Our Past*, Number 15, Fall Issue, 2007: Pictured is Pat Shaw speaking at the first meeting of the LCPCA on September 30, 2002 in Donnellson, Iowa. Since that first meeting, over a hundred work dates have been scheduled with several cemeteries being cleaned and stones put back up. Nine ceremonies have been conducted honoring pioneer veterans and families. As LCPCA begins its sixth year, its members are looking forward to cleaning, maintaining and promoting the county's many historical graveyards. Also contained in the newsletter are congratulatory messages from several businesses and organizations in the area, an obituary of pioneer James Rudd, a photograph of Augustus Hoffmeister, photos of the Judy Cemetery restoration, poems, stories, and a list of upcoming events.

Four veterans whose graves are in Lee County cemeteries were honored on September 21 by the Sons of the American Legion and the citizens of Keokuk at the Calvert Stadium: Andrew Oilar (War of 1812), William Slee (WWII), Howard Piersee (Korean War), and Francis John Davis (Viet Nam).



508 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street

Keokuk, Iowa 52632

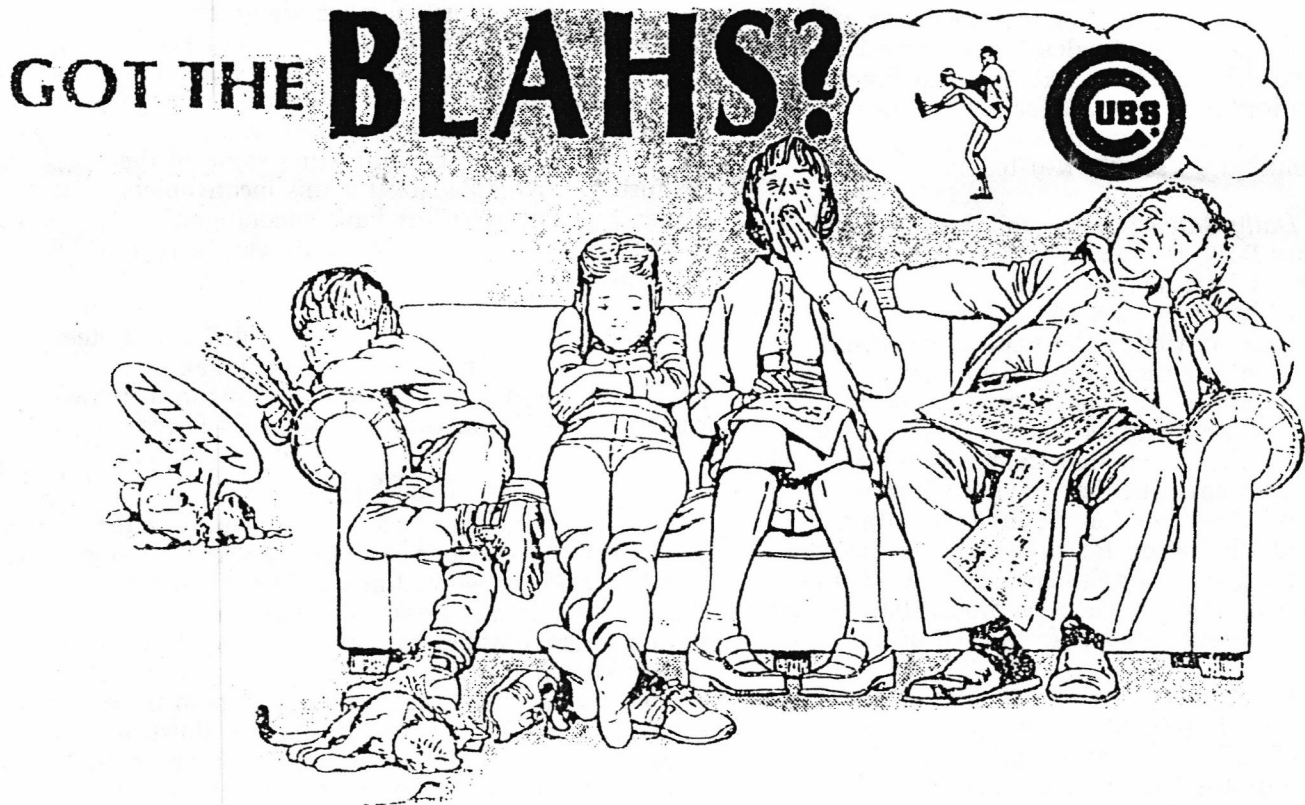
(319) 524-8772

e-mail:

[sweetpeaandbigun@msn.com](mailto:sweetpeaandbigun@msn.com)

Organized in 2002, the Lee County Pioneer Cemetery Association has as its objectives the preservation of pioneer cemeteries, listing of burials at each site, and obtaining the history of each graveyard. Its members share the knowledge of research and exchange historical information on an equitable basis.

“SOME CARVE THEIR LIVES, OTHERS JUST CHISEL.”



**LOOKING FOR A FAMILY ACTIVITY TO DO THIS SUMMER?  
VOLUNTEER TO HELP CLEAN A PIONEER CEMETERY.  
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO JOIN THE CEMETERY  
ASSOCIATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLEAN-UP.  
CONTACT TERRY ALTHEIDE AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE.**



From the *Daily Gate City* news, September 27, 2007: "Four Lee Countians saluted during Chiefs' game," by Terry Altheide. Terry writes about a ceremony held between the junior varsity and varsity football games on National POW/MIA Recognition Day to honor the four veterans mentioned above. Several details about the military career of William Slee including his participation in the infamous Bataan Death March in the Philippines during WWII, his imprisonment and eventual death at Cabanatuan Prison Camp, and burial of his remains in Sunset Memorial Park are given in the column. Piersee and Davis, whose remains were never recovered, are honored with memorial stones in other cemeteries. From *The Burlington Hawkeye*, September 29, 2007: "Pioneer day honors black soldier," by William Smith. On September 29, 2007, the Lee County Pioneer Cemetery Association presented Pioneer Patriot's Day at the Montrose Cemetery, honoring 19th century pioneer veterans. The ceremony took place at the gravesite of Cato Mead, believed to be the only Revolutionary War black soldier buried in Iowa. Although there has been a marker commemorating Mead in the cemetery for the past 40 years, the fact he was one of only about 5,000 soldiers of African descent who fought in the Revolutionary War wasn't discovered until 2005. Following the ceremony that included a 21-gun salute, Taps played by Bugles Across America, and patriotic speeches, William Hall of the Emergency K-9 Operations Search and Rescue of Clinton, Iowa spoke at Ogo's Restaurant in Montrose on search and rescue techniques used by K-9 teams.

From the *Daily Gate City*, November 2, 2007 and the *Ft. Madison Daily Democrat*, November 8, 2007: "These unpatriotic actions should enrage all Americans," by Terry Altheide. Terry is prompted to write of his convictions by news reports that leaders in San Francisco refused to allow a Marine Corps drill team to perform in the city and that photos of military men and women were removed from a post office in another California town. Terry passionately points out that today's all volunteer military and their families deserve our utmost respect and admiration for the sacrifices they are making. He gives examples from his own family as first-hand evidence of such sacrifices that requires encouragement and support from each of us.

From the *Burlington Hawkeye*, November 10, 2007: "WAR-TORN BROTHERS -- Cemetery discovery reveals siblings' Civil War story," by William Smith. <wsmith@thehawkeye.com> Pictured in color is the Hoffmeister Cemetery in Ft. Madison, Iowa that greets visitors with a statue of an angel and contains unique coffin-size gravestones dating to 1860. Research has revealed that Augustus Hoffmeister, a Ft. Madison doctor whose grave and those of his family are in the small cemetery, was a surgeon in the Union Army who treated his brother in the Confederate Army at the Battle of Shiloh.

## LOUISA

Dean Gipple, who now resides in Washington County, writes that he was pleased that the Buffington Cemetery received a SAPIC grant in 2007 to help with restoration and maintenance costs. Dean recounts that he found the abstract of a Buffington in Box 1 of the Clerk of Court's Office that established the location of the cemetery. When Dean had a marble plaque installed at the Spring Run Cemetery, he had the words, "Buffington Cemetery 1 1/2 miles north" engraved on it. He enclosed a photo of the Buffington Cemetery taken in June, 2007 with the notation, "Partly restored by Larry and Judy Prior." Dean recommends that those who are maintaining the cemetery consider getting a large boulder and imbed it in cement with the name of the cemetery and date of renovation.

Dean celebrated his 90th birthday on September 8.

## MADISON

In e-mail messages from Judy McClure and Ida Morse, they state that they continue to experience confusion with regard to which cemetery reporting forms to use. The Madison County Genealogical Society is diligently trying to report all cemeteries within the county for which we are grateful. It appears that the form for reporting neglected cemeteries created by State Cemetery Regulator Dennis Britson will no longer be in effect as of December 31 and will then be removed from the SAPIC web page, thus eliminating some of the confusion. We apologize for this inconvenience. Ida Morse and Beverly Cline have encouraged volunteers to use the new form developed by a SAPIC committee.

A member of the Society has assembled a volunteer crew that is working on digging up fallen gravestones and resetting other gravestones in two cemeteries -- Union Chapel South and Sayre.

## MARSHALL

In an e-mail message from Sharon Sturek dated November 10, she mentions that Wayne Blessing and Larry Ginter worked at the Price Cemetery during the previous week. They have reported finding more burials and sunken stones than were earlier known. This will necessitate the removal of the fence line further east to enclose them in the cemetery and also will require further dowsing. They will also try to make an accurate map of the burials and mark the unmarked graves in some way. Larry plans to cover some areas in the cemetery with straw and plastic to keep the ground warmer so they can continue to work in the winter. (Now that's dedication!) Wayne thinks it will be easier to define the location of graves when the ground freezes and indentations are more visible.

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN SAPIC NOW!**

## POLK

From the *Des Moines Register*, May 29, 2006: "Jewish veterans say they'll leave no stone unmarked," by Shirley Ragsdale. Pictured is Jerome Geller, 88, of Des Moines as he straightens an American flag at the Tifereth Israel and Beth El Jacob cemetery grounds at Glendale Cemetery. Geller and other Jewish military veterans in Des Moines are working to identify and honor Jewish men and women who served in the military. No registry exists for the grave sites of Des Moines-area Jewish veterans. Their campaign is aimed at preserving history and combating anti-Semitism. Another photo shows the Jewish tradition of placing stones on a gravestone to show that someone has visited a grave. Ted Block, a World War II veteran, states that "Jews fought in the Revolutionary War. In Des Moines' Jewish cemeteries there are graves of Jewish war veterans who fought in the Spanish-American War, WWI and II, Korea, and Vietnam. We served our country, and the record of that sacrifice should not be lost." The Des Moines Jewish Federation is creating an honor roll of Iowa's surviving and deceased Jewish veterans who served in the U.S. armed services. To submit the name of a veteran, contact the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, 910 Polk Blvd., Des Moines, IA 50312-2225. To learn more about the Jewish veterans honor guard, contact Mark Finkelstein at (515) 277-6321.

## SCOTT

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, November 28, 2007: "Davenport Boy Scout preserves environmentalist's grave," by John Willard, *Quad-City Times*. William Schwener, a 13-year-old Davenport boy, has completed an ambitious restoration of the gravesite of Davenport-born environmentalist Ernest Oberholtzer and has further plans to recognize the pioneer wilderness preservationist. Schwener took on the project as part of the requirements to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor in Boy Scouting. Oberholtzer is credited with saving Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the adjacent Quetico Provincial Park in Canada. He was an early scoutmaster in Davenport. For several weeks William and fellow Scouts of Troop 670 worked to bring dignity back to the Oberholtzer family plot at Oakdale Memorial Gardens. William also plans to nominate Oberholtzer for inclusion in the Hall of Honor at Davenport Central High School. William received a \$250 grant from the Ernest Oberholtzer Foundation in Marshall, Minn. along with other donated funds for materials and some equipment furnished by the cemetery.

## STORY

In an e-mail message from Michele Kalsem, Secretary of the Huxley Historical Society, dated October 14, 2007: In the minutes of the September 24

minutes, a question was asked about the stones in the Ballard Cemetery that are currently leaning against the fence. It was noted that Loren Larson should be asked his opinion on that a couple of suggestions were made including Vice-president Duncan storing them in his home. Secretary Kalsem noted an article about stone repairs that had been sent to her from the Pioneer Cemetery Association. Harriet Sheldahl will check on names and dates of those interred there, as she believes a relative by marriage may be buried there. Duncan stated that he would like to seek more stones in the spring to make sure all have been identified.

Note: The Huxley Historical Society and Loren Larson of Ames are restoring the Ballard Cemetery.

## VAN BUREN

From the *Van Buren County Register*, September 20, 2007: "Voices from the past..." by Don Aldrich. Pictured in the midst of setting gravestones at the Mathias Cemetery in Chequest Township are Richard Elliott, Tom Gould, Blaine DeHart, and Marvin Danniell. Not pictured was Warren Beatty. Don Aldrich, also part of the crew, was the only one who had previously visited the site. Don commented that he hoped he could find his way back this time. No stones remained standing at the cemetery and the remains of an iron-pipe fence were visible. The crew carried in about 1/3 ton of rock and sand, several 2X4's, and various tools. Battling tree roots, they removed broken stones bases, established drainage basins, and leveled and reset gravestones. It is suspected that other burials may exist outside the family enclosure as records indicate the cemetery originally contained about 5500 sq. ft. One thing for sure, Don says it does have plenty of chiggers, ticks, and poison ivy!

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 24, 2007: "Remembering an Iowa Rebel," by Matt Milner. Pictured are Civil War re-enactors who attended a ceremony honoring Confederate General Sullivan "Sul" Ross who was born in Bentonsport in 1838. Ross's ancestors founded the town, but moved the family to Texas when Ross was 2 years old. He later became a Confederate General in the Civil War and is believed to be the only Iowa native to do so. He also served two terms as Texas governor and president of Texas A&M. A massive marker 10 feet in diameter was placed at Bentonsport with a metal plaque on which is engraved a brief biography of Ross. Douds Stone and the Van Buren County engineer's office helped by donating and placing the stone. Sherman Lundy, a member of the Iowa Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans who coordinated the event along with the Texas SCV, noted the events in neighboring Davis County marking the Confederate raid into that county regarded as the northernmost clash of the war.

From the *Van Buren County Register*, September 27, 2007: "County's Civil War heritage comes to forefront this week -- Bentonsport monument dedicated to confederate general." Pictured is Lawrence Sullivan "Sul" Ross, lawman, statesman and Confederate brigadier general. This article mentions guest speaker, Dr. Douglas Guthrie, a Texas podiatrist and coordinator of the Civil War Round Table at Baylor University's Lifelong Learning program. Also pictured is the unveiling of the monument to Ross, a close-up of the plaque on the stone, men in Confederate and Union uniforms, and music provided by the local Tarnished Brass Band. Ross died in 1898 and is buried in Waco, Texas. The same week that the Confederate General was recognized, a room was opened in the Pearson House in Keosauqua that was a stop on the Underground Railroad. The house was built about 7 years after Ross's birth and is also pictured on the front page of the newspaper. Of special interest is a trap door in the floor of a small room adjoining the parlor which was used to hide fugitive slaves.

From the *Van Buren County Register* and the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 27, 2007: Letter to the Editor written by Hal Hotle, Bentonsport:

"While attending part of the event Saturday at Bentonsport that unveiled the confederate general's marker stone, I and others were shocked to see that the American flag had been taken down and replaced by the confederate flag -- shame!

Too much blood was lost putting right to how wrong those rebel people were to give them any honor. Shame!

This event was sponsored by Jim Settles, Van Buren County Conservation Commission, and Bill and Betty Printy. Listed as trustees. To what is unknown. Shame."

From the *Van Buren County Register*, October 11, 2007: *Voices from the past...* by Don Aldrich. "Gravestone Repair at Chequest Miller Cemetery." Through the web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~iavanbur/index.htm> that is coordinated by Rich Lowe, William Cox of Oklahoma inquired if he might visit the cemetery that contained the graves of his great grandparents Samuel and Elizabeth Spencer and help reset the gravestone. Don assured him the stone would be reset, but he didn't know when since the Chequest Spencer Cemetery can only be reached during dry weather as access is over a dirt road and by crossing a creek. It is located about six miles south of Douds. A work crew managed to find the location and set the large stone in place with the help of a tri-pod lift designed by Keith Webber of Stockport after Mr. Cox had returned to Oklahoma. Cox did, however, make a generous contribution to the Van Buren County Genealogical Society to show his appreciation. This Society funds the majority of expenses involved with cemetery restoration in Van Buren County and appreciates contributions of money or labor.

## WAPELLO

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 27, 2007: "A memory of a Victorian fence," by Sue Parrish. Pictured is the Dahlonga Cemetery: Cemetery of a disappeared town."

There is nothing that can evoke a more lonesome feeling than driving down a highway and noticing from a distance, a group of grave stones and one lone pine tree surrounded by an isolated fence in the middle of a field being worked by a farmer.

This is a sight that brings speculation of a number of possibilities: Is this a burial site for family members of a homestead long gone; the hallowed ground of a church site, whose structure has become part of the past, or is it the cemetery of an abandoned town, whose buildings have also returned to the dust? The farmer knows the answer to the question in our minds, as we speed on.

These cemeteries dot the countryside around the nation and are soon forgotten by the descendants of those buried there. Unless, other descendants searching for their roots traverse the country trying to locate these elusive ties to family trees.

They often find many pioneer burial grounds on private property with some so old, grave markers have long since disappeared and only by a tale told can one try to locate the spot. With the passage of time even these tales disappear and those resting beneath the sod are truly in a private place.

Abandoned town cemeteries slowly fall with the seasons and vandals until only a leaning stone is spotted here and there among the poison ivy and ancient varieties of yellow and purple iris which cradle the fallen monuments devoid of legible engravings. The embellished limestone is also giving up its weathered lambs and clasped hands. Only depressions in the sod reveal what may lie below.

Fifty years ago, under a mighty oak, there stood a Victorian iron fence giving witness to the life and death of a young mother who was lowered into the earth cradling her infant who, as was the fate of many, was carried into rest with her. All that remains today of this memorial to a broken family, is that depression in the earth, vandals having requisitioned the testament to Victoriana while the disappearance of the limestone monuments are held in secret by the song birds in residence.

Within another 50 years the memory of that iron fence will also have taken rest and there will be no one to tell a descending "branch" what a peaceful, restful sight it was.

## WASHINGTON

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 15, 2007: "Iowa Supreme court settles family fight over dead man's reburial." The court ruled that the wife of a man who died 2 years ago has the right to have him dug up and moved even though his first wife and 3 children don't want it. Alita Stark filed for a permit to move his body to Evergreen Cemetery.



## OUT OF IOWA

### CALIFORNIA

From the web site of the Biography Channel of A&E television Network: "The Young and the Dead." In 1997, the Hollywood Memorial Cemetery -- final resting place of countless screen immortals -- was in shambles. In 1998, Tyler Cassidy, a self-described "young cemeterian from the Midwest," purchased the 62-acre property located on a lot adjacent to the Paramount Pictures studio. He and several friends restored and transformed the cemetery into an interactive, state-of-the-art facility. A documentary film about the graveyard's metamorphosis of "Hollywood Forever," complete with talking kiosks, video memorials, and internet access tells the story.

### MASSACHUSETTS

From *American Profile* magazine, September 30-October 6, 2007: "A Bewitching Time," by Sean Conneely. For 25 years, Salem has hosted the Haunted Happenings, the city's month-long Halloween celebration. One activity offered is the Haunted Footsteps Ghost Tour that is held in one of America's oldest cemeteries. Pictured is a guide leading an educational and entertaining tour through one of Salem's historic cemeteries. The festival also includes costume parties and balls, haunted houses and storytelling.

Web site: [www.americanprofile.com](http://www.americanprofile.com)

### MISSOURI

From the *Deadbeat* magazine, Early Spring, 2007: "Old Cast-Iron Coffin Found," by Ben Wood, Town Krier News Service. A cast-iron coffin, believed to be from 1848-1854 in the Mechpela Cemetery in Lexington, Missouri, was found in February. A grave for Clemence Guegen Stewart was being dug when the coffin was unearthed and sent for analysis, including DNA testing to identify the decedent. The Stewart Family did not know who this was. The identification process is expected to take six months to a year. The coffin probably cost between \$40 and \$100, when typical coffins of the time cost \$2 or \$3.

From *Illinois Periodicals Online*, a digital imaging project at the Northern Illinois University Libraries funded by the Illinois State Library: "The Lost Tombstone," by Dennis L. Davenport. Pictured is the damaged tombstone of J. Milton Carr that was discovered when a homeowner was clearing away undergrowth in a St. Louis County backyard on November 22, 1996. The St. Louis Police Department seized the stone and held it as found property. The writer relates how, after being in a police property vault for 3 years, the headstone was slated for destruction, he undertook the task of tracing its origins with the help of the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in southwestern Missouri. The stone was

eventually placed at the Palmier Cemetery in Monroe County, Illinois, where it was originally placed by J. Milton Carr's family.

### NEBRASKA

From the *Omaha World Herald*, October 5, 2007: "This Halloween, try giving the dead a hand," by Robert Nelson. Pictured are Nick Rink and Roy Walters as they work on a gravestone at Fairview Cemetery in Council Bluffs, Iowa. They are part of a crew working to straighten or rebuild 100 markers. The city of Council Bluffs hired Bob Terry of Vinton, Iowa to repair stones that had been vandalized or tipped in the soft loess soil. The writer suggests that instead of watching horror flicks and eating candy this Halloween, maybe more of us could celebrate the holiday by giving the dead a hand. Maybe find an old or abandoned cemetery and volunteer to help restore the dignity of the place.

### NEW YORK

From the *Dallas Morning News*, October 6, 2007: "Forgotten once, buried slaves committed to memory in NYC." Pictured are Dr. Elombe Brath as he observes work of monument designer Rodney Leon at the African Burial Ground in lower Manhattan. The memorial to thousands of African slaves whose graves had been long forgotten was dedicated on October 5. The sunken court is engraved with a map of the lands and waters that once supported the slave trade, as well as the identifying details of some of the women, men, and children buried nearby.

### TEXAS

From the *Ft. Worth Star-Telegram*, October, 2007: "OAKWOOD CEMETERY TOUR -- Tales of saints and sinners." The unmarked grave of a "soiled dove" recalls life in Hell's Half Acre in the "Saints and Sinners" Tour at historic Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth. Pictured are 3 costumed tour guides who will take visitors to 4 unmarked graves that are part of Soiled Doves Row. The Event will benefit the North Fort Worth Historical Society and Oakwood Cemetery Association. Donna Donnell, a member of the Historical Society, hopes to find a means to mark their burial sites.

### VIRGINIA

From the *Dallas Morning News*, October 10, 2007: "Making more room for those who served." Pictured are the families of Staff Sgt. Harrison Brown, Pfc. David Neil Simmons and Pfc. Todd Andrew Singleton as they gathered for a joint funeral in September at Arlington National Cemetery. The soldiers in Iraq. The Cemetery is about to begin a \$35 million expansion that would push the ordered ranks of tombstones beyond its borders for the first time since the 1960s. The expansion included the transfer of 12 acres from the National Park Service.

The form developed by Dennis Britson of the Regulated Industries Unit, Iowa Securities Bureau to report neglected cemeteries in the state of Iowa will be in effect through the month of December, 2007 only. This form can be downloaded by most computers from the SAPIC web page. It was also printed in the April, 2007 issue of Grave News. A copy may be obtained from Pat Shaw. Some county genealogical societies and cemetery groups have diligently tried to report all the neglected cemeteries within their borders during this short time span. For example, Don Aldrich in Van Buren County sent reports for 39 neglected sites in Van Buren County to Dennis Britson's office. For the efforts of Don and others, SAPIC is very grateful. Please try to report as many neglected burial sites in your county as possible before the end of the year. Thank you!

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*Thanks to the Benton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission for hosting the October 13 meeting of SAPIC. In spite of the rain, many SAPIC members enjoyed visiting the Redman Cemetery prior to the meeting and viewing the outstanding restoration methods used by that Commission. The beautiful Belle Plaine Museum provided a great meeting site and members were grateful to be able to have a delicious lunch within that facility. Special thanks to Gene and Frieda Davis for making arrangements for this meeting!*

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You may renew your membership in the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries now for 2008. Your support is appreciated! The dues have not increased since SAPIC was founded in 1998, so it's a real bargain. Lifetime memberships and memorials are used to provide grants for the restoration of neglected cemeteries and other special projects.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$10 \_\_\_ Household \$15 \_\_\_ Organization \$20 \_\_\_ Lifetime \$100 \_\_\_

Donation or Memorial \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (List name of honoree, if desired) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to SAPIC, c/o Valerie Ogren, Treasurer; 108 N. Oak; Jefferson, IA 50129