

# GRAVE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES  
21813 170TH ST. BIRMINGHAM, IOWA 52535  
VOLUME 17 ISSUE #2

www.rootsweb.com/iasapc/  
April, 2012

The July 14 SAPIC meeting will be held in Albia, Iowa hosted by the Monroe County Pioneer Cemetery Commission. Meet at Kendall place anytime after 9 a.m. Saturday, July 14th. Kendall place is east side of Library 1 1/2 blocks on Benton Ave East, off the NE corner of square. Parking can be used along west side of Library, turn left off Benton on to 2nd Ave.

9:30 to 10:00 a.m. sign in  
10:00 a.m. business meeting.

Following that a power point of our cleaned and restored cemeteries - 20 to 30 minutes.

Plan to invite some landowners whose land we need to cross to get to cemeteries, want to recognize them at some point after power point. Have asked the Board of Supervisors to come and want to touch on their help as they have always supported our commission.

Lunch at 12 noon. It will be catered by Jim & Charlie's, local grocery store that does a lot of catering.

Menu - Pulled pork, baked beans, a vegetable and cookie or bar. Coffee, tea and water. Coffee will be ready in the morning when folks arrive.

rice \$7 or \$8. - pay when signing in -

After lunch, take a tour of our museum (school house & trains) which is in walking distance.

Contact person: Rosalie Mullinix

E-Mail: [rosaliem@iowaTelecom.net](mailto:rosaliem@iowaTelecom.net)

Telephone: 641-932-5085

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## AN EXPENSIVE FUNERAL

From the *Jones County Historical Society* newsletter, April 11, 2012:

The following incident is taken from the *Anamosa Eureka* of February 24, 1860: Last week, a man hailing from Washington Township, in this county, called on the County Judge and presented a bill of \$26 for burying a pauper. The judge remarked that he thought the bill rather high, and asked for the items.

The man said he paid \$10 for the coffin, \$2 for the shroud and \$1.50 for digging the grave.

"What other expenses were there?" asked the Judge.

"We bought three gallons of whiskey, some tobacco, coffee, tea and sugar."

"Well," said the Judge, "I will allow you the amount of your claim for the coffin, shroud and digging the grave, but the other things cannot

be paid for by the county."

The applicant replied that he was authorized by the Township Trustees to purchase the whiskey and other articles for a wake, and he thought the county ought to pay the claims.

The Judge refused to make the allowance and the claimant departed, threatening to sue the Trustees for the amount.

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Ben Mayer Custom Stone Carving and  
Monument Repair  
website:

[www.benmayercustomcarving.com](http://www.benmayercustomcarving.com)

e-mail: [mayer\\_ben@yahoo.com](mailto:mayer_ben@yahoo.com)

Cell: 515-462-7033

Home: 515-462-5841

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Court Stahr has a write up and photos from an event held at Upper Iowa on April 27 that included The Governor's Own Iowa Rifles: <http://www.iowavalor.com/>

The May issue of *Hawkeye Heritage*, a publication of the Iowa Genealogical Society, contains information about Iowa's two national cemeteries located at Van Meter and Keokuk. Included is a great deal of information about the military veterans whose graves are located in Iowa.

Funding in the amount of \$320,000 to the Dept. of Cultural Affairs for a "pass through" to some entity at Vicksburg for the restoration of the Iowa monument has been signed into law by Governor Branstad. The money will be available on July 1, a month from now. Thanks to Senator Dennis Black, the Civil War groups, and the State Historical Society for securing this funding.

## SAPIC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Mike Magee  
638 Englewood  
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319-232-8762                      Digger4045@yahoo.com

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319-293-3899                      patshaw@netins.net

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5716 Kingman Ave.  
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Board member (2012): Gene Davis  
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Board Member (2012): Julie A. Eckenrod  
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Board Member (2013): Steve Story  
18883 250th St.  
Hawkeye, IA 52147  
563-427-5354                      dstory@netins.net

Board Member (2012): Carol Hoffman  
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641-226-3093                      wilcar@netins.net

Board Member (2014): Vera Heck  
4256 235th St.  
Guernsey, IA 52221  
319-685-4366                      vmheck@netins.net

Board Member (2013) and Web Page: Tony Bengston  
1006 150th St.  
Fairbank, IA 50629-8611  
319-415-1175                      tonybengston@yahoo.com

## WHERE TO GET SUPPLIES

**Probes:** Farm Supply Store or a Forestry Supply --  
Suggest length 48 inches  
**Basic Stone Cleaners:** Ammonia (non-scented) --  
purchase locally  
**Biological Cleaners:** Cathedral Stone Products, Inc.  
1-410-782-9150  
**R.I.P., Ltd.,** 1-217-898-2422  
**Scrub Brushes (white-soft, bristle):** -- purchase  
locally  
**Epoxy: (clear-knife grade)** Miles Supply, St. Cloud,  
MN, 1-800-789-0815  
**Setting Compound: (light grey)** Miles Supply  
**Setting Cushions: (1/16 inch)** Miles Supply  
-- Suggestions by John Heider

A lending library of books and other materials related  
to cemetery preservation can be found on the SAPIC  
web site.

## 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/>  
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  
E-Mail: Dennis.Britson@iid.iowa.gov  
(515) 281-5705 or toll-free (877)-955-1212

## 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

## SAPIC dues:

Individual for one year: \$10.00  
Household for one year: \$15.00  
Business or organization for one year: \$20.00  
Lifetime individual: \$100.00  
Donations welcome and tax deductible.  
Send dues to Valerie Ogren, 108 N. Oak  
Jefferson, IA 50129-1841

STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES

The regular quarterly meeting of SAPIC met Saturday, April 28, 2012 at the Colfax Community Center, Colfax, IA.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Mike Magee, President.

Self introductions were made by the 30 persons present.

Minutes: from October 8, 2011 read and corrected to read "Treasures report accepted and filed for audit", motion to approve by Bill Ponder, seconded by John Heider, Passed.

Treasurer Report: distributed and reviewed. Motion to accept and file for audit by Marilyn Schmidt, seconded by Bruce Hoffman, Passed.

Old Business:

- Legislative report by Steve Story. There were no bills introduced concerning cemeteries. Farm Bureau indicated they have no problem concerning cemeteries.
- Oak Grove cemetery near Lehigh, IA report by Mike Magee. Bill Reedy and Mike spent one day helping with work in restoring the cemetery. It is located by a gully and was being washed away with some graves beginning to be exposed. Several graves had to be moved to another location in the cemetery, with one being moved elsewhere. A retaining wall was erected and the cemetery is considered secure at present.
- Cemetery appreciation month proclamation was signed by Governors office. Pat Shaw jumped the hoops to get it signed for the month of May. Mike encouraged those present to write letters to paper or put articles in paper.
- Grants for cemetery restoration are available with applications due in July. There are five available at \$200 each. Two applications have been received.
- Larry Davis is now on an advisory committee for the State Preservation Plan for the State Historical Association and Pat Shaw is an area representative of the Iowa Genealogical Society for SE Iowa.

New Business:

- Robert & Phyllis Carter Award explained by Pat Shaw. Application is on the website.
- John Heider Explained that he has the SAPIC library and what can be found there. He also mentioned several workshops being offered in Indiana and Illinois.
- Future meetings: Discussed possibility of holding October meeting at the state Historical Building or Iowa Genealogical Society building or Masonic Lodge. Pat and others will investigate.
- Danville Congregational Church Cemetery in Des Moines County, IA. Pat Shaw presented how the cemetery was slowly being destroyed and the commission

has finally gotten the cemetery restored. Pat Shaw has the newspaper article.

- Ford/Swanstrom Cemetery in Keokuk County. Peggy Patrick presented began interest when researching an American Indian in her family. Cemetery located in middle of a farmer's field. She did find her ancestor's stone face down.

- Cottonwood Cemetery in Calhoun County presented by Shirley Duel Miller as member of the Cottonwood Cemetery Preservation Association. Have had ongoing project in trying to preserve the cemetery as a gravel company is encroaching very close and causing much dust and debris on the stones. They have gone to court and have made some progress. Owner of gravel-pit company has promised many things but nothing has happened as yet.

- Lacy Cemetery in Warren County. Karen King and La Vern Velau described the overgrown condition they found. There were 44 stones in 1970. Have found 17 stones. Asked for suggestions on how to begin restoring it. Many given

- SAPIC is listed as one of the charities on the web site [GoodSearch.com](http://GoodSearch.com).

- Radio Program Pioneer Cemeteries of Marion County, IA -- interview was done with Valerie Van Kooten. This is one way to publicize SAPIC.

- County Reports: Steve Story reported dedication on Sat. May 26 of Ostego Cemetery in Fayette Co. where four new civil war stones have been placed.. Also reported on case where a granddaughter wanted her cremans placed on top of her grandmother's grave. After seeking permits from all necessary parties it will be accomplished.

Tony Bengston reported veterans' markers being sold at auction he attended. He contacted auctioneer about legality of selling them.

Chickasaw Co Commission has placed newspaper article asking for help in working on cemeteries.

Mike Magee has been asked to speak at a Black Hawk County meeting. Next meeting will be July 14, 2012 at Albia Iowa.

Motion to adjourn by Gene Davis, seconded by John Heider, Passed  
Meeting adjourned at 12:05pm by Mike Magee, President

*STATE ASSOCIATION for the PRESERVATION of IOWA CEMETERIES*

Treasurer's Report for 1st Quarter – 1 January 2012 thru 31 March 2012

(Note: A quarterly report even though our meeting date is later in the month. Since 1 April, deposits have been \$60, expenses have been nil.)

Balance in "Working Account" 31 December 2011, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$ 3,227.48

Income

Dues \$ 550.00

Interest 1/31/12 .69

Interest 2/29/12 .64

Interest 3/31/12 .68

Total Income \$ 552.01

Expense

Ck #256 – Colfax Community Center \$ 50.00

Ck #257 – Patricia Shaw – newsletter 59.74

Total Expense \$ 109.74

Balance in "Working Account" 31 March 2012 \$ 3,669.75

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Balance in "Reserve Account" 31 December 2011, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$ 4,628.39

(No deposits or withdrawals)

Balance in "Reserve Account" 31 March 2012 \$ 4,628.39

I am keeping an accounting of the amounts 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 31 March 2012 \$ 8,298.14

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**Plus additional funds:**

A CD in the amount of \$5,766.69

Rate of interest was 1.10% until 1/16/2012

On that date, I took advantage of a "Raise Your Rate" 29 month option @ 1.41%. The way interest rates have dropped in recent months, it appears to be a good decision. I could have gotten a higher rate at 5 years, but some objected thinking the interest rates would go up. (Dream on!) So, the CD amount on 1/24/2012 was \$5,831.45. Interest will be added semi-annually. It will mature on 6/24/2014, so we will need to decide at our April 2014 meeting what to do after that.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Valerie Ogren, Treasurer*  
108 N. Oak  
Jefferson IA 50129-1841  
Ph 1-515-386-4784

Iowa Code  
Pioneer Cemeteries

Under Iowa Code 331.325 the county board of supervisors controls and maintains pioneer cemeteries. Counties also have the option of creating a cemetery commission by ordinance under 331.325.

A county has the responsibility to "preserve and protect the cemetery or burial site as necessary to restore or maintain its physical integrity as a cemetery or burial site." In addition to forming a cemetery commission, a county may enter into an agreement with a private or public organization to accomplish this objective.

Iowa's cemetery laws were re-written in 2005 and 2006 and consolidated into the new Iowa Code 532I.316. These changes increased the protections for pioneer cemeteries, increased the criminal penalty for those who don't protect pioneer cemeteries, increased the landowner's responsibility, and continue to give reasonable ingress and egress to visit a person's relative.

A "burial site" is "any area, except a cemetery, that is used to inter or scatter remains." Given these definitions, a "burial site" includes a burial site located within a pioneer cemetery. A "pioneer cemetery" is already functionally included within the definition of "burial site."

**Iowa Code 532I.316**

- Creates a duty for a government subdivision to "preserve and protect the cemetery or burial site as necessary to restore or maintain its physical integrity as a cemetery or burial site." This duty exists for all counties, regardless of whether they have formed a cemetery commission or not. This is very similar to old § 566.33 except the new section also includes much more detail and process in addition to this basic duty.
- The landowner's responsibility was expanded; it changed from prohibiting the removal, destruction or disturbance of a burial site for which the landowner received notice to prohibiting damage, defacement, destruction or other disturbance of an interment space regardless of notice.
- Increases the criminal penalty from a simple misdemeanor to an aggravated misdemeanor for a person who damages, defaces, destroys or otherwise disturbs an interment space.
- Requires a landowner to provide a person "reasonable ingress and egress for the purposes of visiting the burial site of the person's relative."
- Requires a government subdivision to notify the owner of a "marked burial site that is not located in a dedicated cemetery"
- Gives express authority to a law enforcement officer to confiscate a memorial and return it to an interment space.
- Requires a person discovering human remains to notify the county, state medical examiner or law enforcement agency of the discovery of human remains.

### Cemetery Vandalism

The act of vandalism is a crime that affects society in many ways. It also has a variety of federal, state, and local legal descriptions, however the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) defines vandalism as, "...the willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement, or defacement of any public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or persons having custody or control." An internet search ranks cemetery vandalism third behind school and library vandalism;

#### Number of Hits

Schools: 2,700,000

Libraries: 1,400,000

Cemeteries: 350,000

Cemetery vandalism usually means pushing over grave markers, breakage, or graffiti and the people who commit this crime fall into the following categories:

- Age from 12 to 28 years
- Predominately male
- Usually in groups of two to eight people
- Incidents on weekends
- Alcohol or drugs influenced
- Peer pressure
- Damage after sundown

#### Apprehension Results

Notification of vandalism within 24-48 hours

Quick response by law enforcement (rather than just taking a report)

Reward offered (typically \$1,000)

Information provided through school resource officers, neighborhood watch groups, or tip hot lines (like Crime Stoppers)

#### Prevention

Make the cemetery visible and provide the appearance of perpetual care

Quickly repair damaged grave markers

Provide maintenance and stability to loose or tall markers

Request extra police patrols, especially during long week-ends, holidays, Halloween

Create a neighborhood cemetery watch group

Develop related educational programs in schools

STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES  
AWARD CRITERIA

1. The award shall be called the Robert L. and Phyllis Carter Award.
2. The Robert L. and Phyllis Carter Memorial Award shall be given only once each year.
3. The State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries President shall appoint an Ad Hoc committee of the Board of Trustees to act as an Awards Selection Committee. This Awards Selection Committee shall serve a term of one year, although individual Board members may be appointed to it for succeeding years.
4. The Award Selection Committee shall come to a decision prior to each State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries' annual meeting as to whether or not an award shall be given that year, and if so, to whom and what.
5. The Award Selection Committee shall make its recommendation to the full Board of Trustees at the Board meeting immediately preceding the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries' annual meeting.
6. Eligibility for the Robert L. and Phyllis Carter Memorial Award:
  - a. any individual, group, association, organization, institution, or governmental agency or unit is eligible for consideration.
  - b. to be considered for the award, a nominee must have demonstrated an achievement or activity above and beyond what is expected under ordinary circumstances.
  - c. a nominee must have been involved in or responsible for an achievement or activity that significantly extends or expands the education about preservation, protection, maintenance, appreciation, or understanding of Iowa cemeteries, graveyards, burying grounds, single burials, monuments, tombs, mausoleums, grave markers, or other aspects of material culture related to or associated with Iowa cemeteries.
  - d. one award may be given for service; one award for cemetery education.
7. Any member of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries, including Board members, may nominate persons or other eligible recipients as described in 6a.
8. Members of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries, including Board members, are eligible to receive the Robert L. and Phyllis Carter Memorial Award.
9. Nominations for the Robert L. and Phyllis Carter Memorial Award shall include in order to be eligible:
  - a. a letter naming the nominee that summarizes the relevant achievement or activity, and signed by the nominator.
  - b. at least one letter of support from a person or group other than a member of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries.
  - c. appropriate supporting materials such as photographs, newspaper articles, printed matter, or other documentation explaining the relevant achievement or activity and its significance.
10. Nominations must be in the hands of the Award Selection Committee no later than 90 days prior to the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries' annual meeting.
11. The Robert L. and Phyllis Carter Memorial Award shall be presented to the recipient at the annual meeting of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries, or at another time deemed appropriate.

Adopted at the July 10, 1999 Meeting. Criteria prepared by Loren Horton



Nominate a deserving cemetery volunteer for the Robert & Phyllis Carter Award given annually by the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa cemeteries. Criteria for the award can be found in this newsletter. Submissions for consideration should be mailed to president Mike Magee and received no later than July 12.

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"It was here that I first saw the light of day; here I received my bride, here my dead lie pillowed on the loving breast of our eternal hills." (This quote was part of a short speech given by Calvin Coolidge in 1928 titled "Vermont Is a State I Love.")

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#### ENDOWED FACULTY CHAIR RECEPTION

The Endowed Faculty Chair Reception was on Wednesday, April 11, in the Iowa Hall Iowa Rooms from 2:30-4 p.m. at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids. One of this year's projects was:

**Gail Brown "Historic GIS: Mapping Pioneer Cemeteries"**

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From: *Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library*, No. 98, April 30, 201  
Dead Folks Moving! – Relocation of Cemeteries by Delia Bourne

We like to think that once our ancestors died, they stopped moving around, but due to a variety of factors, sometimes even the deceased seem to have wanderlust. Reasons for grave removals vary. For example, the Point a la Hache Cemetery in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, was moved in 1946 due to Mississippi River shifts. Other cemeteries have been relocated to make room for civic improvements, as with the expansion of the Kansas City International Airport in 2006. But most have been moved when towns and farms were flooded in the creation of dams and reservoirs for flood control, electrical power and recreation.

When seeking ancestors' gravestones, be sure to read local histories to determine if any cemetery relocation projects have occurred in the area. The Genealogy Center has various resources for

finding information about relocated cemeteries. Search first in The Genealogy Center book catalog by the name of the place and the word "cemeteries." One example of a useful source is Darlene Sizemore's "Cemetery Relocations, 1962 Buckhorn Dam, Kentucky, Perry/Leslie County" (976.901 L555sia). It includes maps of the disinterment and reinterment sites with gravestone abstracts, and notes that the information was taken from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers real estate maps. Another is "Cemetery Relocations by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas" (977 St22c), published by the St. Louis Genealogical Society. The foreword in this volume praises the Corps for their efforts to identify those buried in small burial grounds or in single graves.

Records of many displaced cemeteries have been included in periodicals, so the "Periodical Source Index" (PERSI) is a valuable resource for locating those transcriptions. You may search by location (state and county), adding the keyword "Cemeteries." Search results will include title and citation (date, volume and number or issue) for the periodical in which the information was published. For example, the Winter 1989 (Volume 10, Number 1) issue of "Hear Ye, Hear Ye," the journal of the Rochester (NY) Genealogical Society, included an article about Monroe County cemeteries that had been destroyed and the efforts to reconstruct the records of those who had been buried in them. Many articles detail cemetery relocation due to planned flooding. One such article lists the graves relocated from several small cemeteries displaced by the creation of Calaveras Lake in Bexar County, Texas, and appeared in "Our Heritage," Volume 47, Numbers 1-2, Fall 2005.

It is also best to remember that sometimes a gravestone may have been moved, but the casket and its human contents left behind, long since having fallen to dust in the original resting place. Nevertheless, this kind of search can provide a fascinating addition to the life, and death, stories of our ancestors.

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The June, 2012 issue of *Sojourners* magazine, contains a meditation on the righteous, emotionally intense work of those who descend into Guatemala's "bone wells" to identify and properly lay to rest the bodies of those murdered during the country's civil war.

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## Cemetery Research (Slideshows)

1. Cemetery #1: Anatomy of a Military Headstone
- 2.. Cemetery #2: Cemetery symbolism - The Evolution of U.S. Military Gravestones
- 3.. Cemetery #3: Symbolism on U.S. Veteran Graves

[MyGenShare.com](http://MyGenShare.com) | P.O. Box 1228 | Riverton, UT 84065

## COUNTY REPORTS

### ADAIR

From WHO-TV, Des Moines, May 20, 2012:

Using a rock as his canvas, an Iowa painter is honoring the men and women of the military. Ray "Bubba" Sorensen is putting the finishing touches on a 12 foot, 90 ton rock. Each side of The Freedom Rock tells a story.

"It's kind of like a jigsaw puzzle and I just like to tell a bunch of stories and as a whole it's always a thank you to veterans," says Sorensen who is finishing his 14th mural.

The Huey helicopter is the only thing that stays the same.

"It always stays because it has the ashes of 30 different Vietnam veterans mixed into the paint and I add more ashes every year," he says.

"People send them their ashes and bone fragments so they can paint them into the rock. Now that is something. That is so sentimental," says Mike Smith of Mason City.

Visitors travel hundreds of miles to see the tribute to the men and women in uniform.

"On the south side is the Sullivan brothers and this is the ship, the USS Juneau that went down and they were all five lost in World War Two," says Sorensen. A steady line of people came early to beat the Memorial Day crowd.

"All you gotta be to appreciate this is a person who appreciates their freedom. That's all it takes. The sacrifices and the suffering so we can do something like this on a windy day," says Lowell Forristall of Carson. Sorensen isn't finished yet. He plans to add a few final touches before putting down his paint brush for another year.

"I'm glad that I've put in that time, that effort and people are getting what's in my head that I'm putting on canvas or rock" he says.

Sorensen will officially unveil The Freedom Rock on Memorial Day. You can check it out for yourself. Just take I-80 to the Greenfield-Guthrie Center exit. It's just about a mile south of the Interstate.

### ADAMS

From the *Adams County Free Press*, July 14, 1977: "Tombstone tales 'surface' -- evidence

points to former cemetery," by Chuck Norman. Pictured is Clarence Kline, 87, as he points to the spot on the county map where a cemetery was located when he was a boy. A county road crew uncovered three stones in the same area. Clarence also remembers very large stones, also. He says the operator of the adjoining farm cleared the cemetery of stones and plowed it for farm use. Another longtime resident, Mrs. Gibson, remembers the stones were buried because the owner was trying to sell the farm and the wife objected to a graveyard within sight of the house.

### BUCHANAN

Members of the Buchanan County Pioneer Cemetery Commission recently took their annual tour to visit nearly 20 cemeteries. Pictured in a news article are members of the Commission, along with SAPIC members, and a county supervisor, who inspected a fence and culvert at Greenwood and spent a couple of days at St. Michael's.

### DES MOINES

From the *Burlington Hawk Eye*, April 11, 2012: "Cemetery Ownership resolved," by Michael Anderson. The dispute about the ownership of the Old Danville Cemetery that has raged for decades may soon come to a close. Herb Price of the Des Moines County Pioneer Cemetery Commission informed the board of supervisors that a deal has been brokered with owner and former mayor of Danville Leroy Lippert to quit claim the cemetery to the county. Lippert also agreed to allow a 14-foot easement over the property along the southern fence line. Lippert's deed clearly states the cemetery is not included in his property. He previously stored equipment on the land and used it as farmland.

### DUBUQUE

From the *Dubuque Daily Herald*, September 21, 1869: "Jackson Square." During a meeting of the city council, Mr. Rebman was called on to provide an explanation of charges against him that referred to the disposal of

human remains. Several citizens stated that bones of human remains were left exposed where excavation and filling were taking place on Iowa Street/Jackson Square. Mr. Rebman thought the matter should have been taken care of many years ago, that the square had been washed out by floods, nobody cared, and no money was expended for the burial of the remains. The matter was referred to the committee on public grounds and buildings.

From the *Iowa Griot, The Newsletter of the African American Museum of Iowa*, Volume 12, Issue 1, Spring 2012, p. 8-9: "To Go Free: The Case of Ralph, A Former Slave," by Richard, Lord Acton. There were slaves in early Iowa. The first star-spangled banner ever hoisted at Dubuque, on the 4th of July, 1834, was made by a black slave woman. Sixteen slaves, all at Dubuque, were counted in the Iowa census of 1840, compared to 172 "free colored persons." The previous year one former slave was dramatically judged to belong in the ranks of the free. His name was Ralph. Ralph was born a slave in Virginia, about 1795, under the name of "Rafe Nelson" and later given the name of Ralph Montgomery. Ralph eventually worked in a lead mine west of Dubuque in 1835 to get enough money to buy his freedom. His owner in Missouri sent his agents to return Ralph to him when he experienced financial trouble. Ralph was rescued from the boat at Bellevue that was to return him to Missouri and his case was eventually heard in the Supreme Court of the Territory of Iowa, where he was "discharged from further duress and restraint, and that he go hence." Ralph continued his mining in Dubuque and on July 22, 1870, "Old Rafe" died in the pesthouse of small pox and was buried in Linwood Cemetery, Dubuque.

#### FAYETTE

The rededication of Otsego-Union Cemetery (SE of Oelwein, IA) was held Saturday May 26, 2012 at 2:00 pm. SAPIC President Mike Magee spoke a few words on behalf of SAPIC. State Senator Brian

Schoenjahn of Arlington, IA was the featured speaker. Otsego has a brand new appearance, including stones, number of stones, size of stones, fence, gate, hitching posts, brand-new (and large) reflective cross. This has now been a four year project and is finished. It was an emotional day as well, as the driving force - Jefferson Township Clerk Dorothy Gosse who persuaded our Pioneer Cemetery Commission to take on the task even before the '12 in the last 50' came into being - died in February, 2012. An appropriate ceremony for Civil War veteran William Crofoot, who never had a memorial veteran's stone (but does now!), was held.

#### FREMONT

From the *Tabor Historical Society* newsletter, Volume 13, June, 2012, p.2: Pictured is the Gates family plot located in the Tabor Cemetery. Young James Gates was ill when his family landed at Civil Bend in 1853. Within a few days he died and was taken to Tabor for burial, the first burial in Tabor. A year later William and Emily Gates lost an infant daughter and she is also buried at Tabor. There are some unmarked graves in the plot. William and Emily joined the Tabor Congregational Church in 1853. This fall the members of that church will celebrate its 160th birthday.

#### HAMILTON

Tues. morning I'll be taking part at our County Court House where the supervisors will be signing a proclamation in regards to May being cemetery appreciation month & announcing our newly formed Pioneer Cemetery Committee. I dropped off some of the info I received in Colfax for one of our leaders, Doug Bailey, who sits on the Hamilton Co. Board of Supervisors, to look thru. Another leader John Laird is a Park Ranger/Naturalist here in our county. And our other leader is Catherine Bergman with Hamilton Co. Seed, who wasn't able to make our meeting in March. I look forward to our first cemetery cleaning on June 19.

--Jean Ripley

## HUMBOLDT

From the *Humboldt Independent*, Jan. 26, 1974: "Cemeteries trace pioneer lives" and "Indians fight near Gotch Park." The two articles are reprinted from the *REPUBLICAN's Centennial Edition* to help in preparing a six-county regional history book. Interesting facts and the historical significance of the Oakwood, Union, and Indian Mound Cemeteries are given. Indian Mound contains the grave of Mrs. Christian Lorbear, the first white settler to be buried in the cemetery in 1870. Hundreds of human bones were found by workmen at a gravel pit in the vicinity of the forks of the Des Moines River in 1932 where a bloody encounter between the Pottawattamies and the Sioux Indians took place in 1850.

## IOWA

From KCRG-TV9, Cedar Rapids, Iowa News, Sports, and Weather: "36 Headstones Disrupted at Millersburg Cemetery," by Kara Kelly, June 19, 2012. The Iowa County Sheriff's Office is investigating the vandalism of 36 headstones at the Millersburg Cemetery. According to the Sheriff's Office, the headstones were either knocked over or removed from their locations. Lt. Tim Walters said the case is open and no one is in custody. At this time there is no estimated dollar amount for the damage. Investigators believe the vandalism happened sometime over last weekend, as it was discovered on Sunday afternoon. The Iowa County Sheriff's Office is urging anyone with information in the case to come forward.

## JOHNSON

From the *Cedar Valley Times*, July 19, 1969: "Coralville Gets a New Cemetery." Pictured is the Oakhill Cemetery during its first weeks after coffins were reburied there after removal from an older cemetery in 1908. George Carson deeded three acres of ground to Coralville to use as a burial ground and bodies were moved there from an older cemetery used from 1838-1908 that is now nearly covered by Interstate 80. All the graves

but one, the grave of Mrs. John Davis, were moved. Her family preferred that her remains stay within the iron fence, under the gnarled trees which marked the family plot. Her grave lies there today, almost taunting the onlooker to make of it a symbol of a dead age.

## LEE

A Civil War ceremony honoring veterans from that conflict buried in Keokuk's Oakland Cemetery was held on April 28th at 9 a.m. in that cemetery. This year the ceremony was held at the grave of John Ferguson. Over 325 Civil War veterans are buried in the cemetery. We conduct the ceremony to go along with Keokuk's annual Civil War reenactment.

Our cemetery tour was held on May 12th. We highlighted 10 individuals buried in both the Oakland & National cemeteries. It started at 1 p.m. and cost \$7 per person. Buses transported those attending every hour upon the hour 1,2,3 with the last bus leaving at 4 o'clock.

From *American Profiles* magazine, June, 2012: "Chief Black Hawk Monument Dedication." Join in this event in Ft. Madison on June 30 to memorialize the site of the American Indian leader's 1838 farewell speech with Indian drummers, singers and dancers, Indian crafts and a band concert at Old Settlers Park. For more information: (319)316-9221.

## Louisa County

E-mail message dated April 19, 2012:

GREETINGS TO ALL,  
IT WITH A SAD BUT JOYFUL HEART THAT I  
NEED TO INFORM YOU OF MOTHER  
TAKING THAT FINAL STEP INTO THE  
PROMISE LAND THIS AFTERNOON AT 5:00  
PM. THIS ENDS HER PAINFUL JOURNEY  
WHICH SHE HAS ENDURED THRU HER  
FAITH IN GOD. SHE STARTED HER  
JOURNEY TUESDAY WHEN SHE STOPPED

EATING AND DRINKING AND BECAME UNCONSCIOUS. SHE WENT PEACEFULLY IN HER SLEEP. LAURA, RENEE, AND I (BRIAN) WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR PRAYERS, WELL WISHES, PHONE CALLS, CARDS AND CONCERNS. THEY WERE ALL GREATLY APPRECIATED. WE WILL ALL MISS HER ALONG WITH THAT BEAUTIFUL SMILE THAT SHE HAD UP UNTIL HER LAST CONSCIOUS DAY. SHE PUT UP A VERY LONG AND COURAGEOUS BATTLE THE PAST 6 MONTHS AS SHE GRADUALLY DECLINED IN THE PAST 3 MONTHS. GOD'S BLESSINGS TO EVERYONE,

-- From Eleanor's Children

(Eleanor Jones was a member of the Louisa County Pioneer Cemetery Commission and SAPIC)

### MARION

The Marion County Pioneer Cemetery Commission (MCPCC) was formed in June 2011. Several projects were done last summer and fall, including clearing brush, mowing, stone repair and fence building at Gibbens Cemetery in Otley, brush clearing and mowing at Mormon/Attica Cemetery in Attica and Shirey Cemetery in Knoxville. The Commission is off for the winter months. We met again in January to begin plans for 2012. First work meeting was held March 26, 2012. We scheduled our first work day for Saturday, April 25, 2012. Members came to Shirey Cemetery, Union Twp, Knoxville to begin additional clearing, tearing out of old fence and building a new fence complete with two gates. Work crew started at 4:30 p.m. with work completed in just under four hours. Stone repairs will be made and a sign put up in this cemetery later this fall after crops are out for the year. Earlier the same day members of our Commission along with a group of students, seniors from Pella High, did the same transformation work at Pendroy Cemetery west of Otley which included clearing brush and building a new fence. Our next work project this year is a fence building day down at Mormon/Attica Cemetery in Attica on May 19th at 8:30 a.m.

Our Commission membership is open to all. Meetings are held the last Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Knoxville Volunteer Fire Department in Knoxville, March - November. Exception is our May meeting which will be held May 29th at 7:00 due to Memorial Day holiday. The Commission's main focus is the location and restoration of Pioneer Cemeteries in Marion County. These are cemeteries which have had fewer than twelve burials in the past 50 years.

We do not have the funds or manpower at this time, to mow and maintain these cemeteries on a regular basis and are always looking for groups or individuals who wish to volunteer to do the regular upkeep once we have them restored in cases where they are not maintained by the townships. Questions can be directed to MCPCC president, Valerie Van Kooten, e-mail [VanKootenV@central.edu](mailto:VanKootenV@central.edu)

Ten people cleaned and fenced the Mormon/Attica Cemetery in Attica on May 19th. Stone repairs will be done by Larry Davis after Memorial Day.

From grateful landowners:

Thanks for the photos. Thanks again to everyone for their hard work on Sat. at our cemetery. We are pleased with the way it looks now and do appreciate the Pioneer Cemetery Commission's work and cost in fixing it up for our property. It is a vision we had long thought of but never done. Many thanks again.

-- John & Bobbi Bassett

From the *Adams County Free Press*, November 1, 1919: Knoxville Express -- Did you ever visit the old cemetery east of town? If not, just cross the Q. Bridge over Competine, walk three or four rods along the track, turn north and crawl through a couple of barb-wire fences and you are there. A barb-wire entanglement has nothing on the thick-growing shrubbery in this old-time city of the dead; and the shrubs are of one variety, locust sprouts, with thorns that have barb wire points distanced. Many of the bodies have been removed with their tombstones; but quite a number still sleep there. No doubt when they were laid there, fifty to seventy years ago it was by the reverent hands of friends and relatives. One can imagine the procession as it wound along the hillside and stopped in the enclosure wellfilled with the small white marble slabs universal in that day. Every neglected grave, every sunken place in the ground on that hillside was a great event in the new town in the 50's and 60's, and a five-net tragedy in some home. Here were buried many victims of the great cholera plague which raged sixty years ago, and here, too, were borne many who had laid down their lives for their country in the war between the states. Probably none who laid their loved ones there supposed they would in fifty years be forgotten, their tombstones fallen and broken, their grave little sinkholes in the earth, overgrown with a dense bramble of thorny locust saplings, their hopes and fears and loves and hates and even their names passed from human memory. As the Spanish say, "Quien sabe?" Even so it may be with those who lie today in the

trim lots in Graceland cemetery, and the rest of us who are hastening in that direction. The old cemetery on Competine is a sermon on the text, "How soon we are forgotten when we are gone!"

### MITCHELL

From the *Press News (Osage, Iowa)*, June 21, 1956: "Pioneers Had Few Cemeteries at First; Buried Dead Along Route to New Homes." When the pioneers first came to this territory they had no time to think about cemeteries. Instead, they buried their dead on their own land or along the tedious route to their future homes. Graves were dug by friends or neighbors and often were left unmarked and uncared for. But as the pioneers began to settle closer together and towns began to grow, the dead were buried in one central place. In the early days around Osage it was customary to plant a cedar tree to mark the graves. When stones were used they had to be hauled by horse or oxen from Janesville, Wisconsin. These stones were about two inches thick. Many times the early markers recorded some outstanding event in the life of the deceased. When the railroad came to Osage, transportation was easier and the gravestones began to look more like small monuments. Several of these large stones were quite ornate. Examples of family burial plots and history of the first cemetery in Osage are noted in the article. The Ladies' Cemetery association was formed in 1893 and this group took over the care of the cemetery. They charged \$1.00 per lot owner per year for upkeep. They also canvassed for donations, kept a "mite" box in the hotel, sold food at the fairground, and sold grass from unused parts of the cemetery. They eventually had to raise the maintenance fee to \$25.00. In 1896, two antique muzzle-loading cannons were placed on the G.A.R. lot. Wives of the G.A.R. members bought the old "town bell" and gave it to the cemetery for a flower urn. The Ladies' Cemetery association improved the water system and sponsored the building of a chapel. Eventually a general tax on all city property was passed to help supplement the dwindling funds of the association. In the early 1900's the association turned the care of the cemetery back to the city.

### MONROE

Our Commission has a new member, Nancy McDonald was accepted and appointed by the Board of Supervisors to replace Kenny Williams who retired. We continue to clear our cemeteries and repair stones. We have thirty cemeteries with only five left to clean but more in which to repair stones. The Watson cemetery has been located and will be

fenced by the landowner. The Manley cemetery was cleaned but mowers are needed to keep the grass down and to repair stones. We have three cemeteries which we're trying to locate, Fraker, Fall and the Poor Farm.

Our two repair guys took advantage of the repair class held last fall and now are repairing stones with confidence of doing it right.

Our Buxton cemetery is still the most popular with frequent visitors to it.

-- Rosalie Mullinix <rosaliem@iowatelecom.net>

*Note: Be sure to attend the next SAPIC meeting in Monroe County!*

### MUSCATINE

From the *Davenport Democrat and Leader*, December 16, 1925: Mrs. Aruba Nye was the first white female settler in Muscatine County. She died in the original home at the mouth of Pine Creek on March 4, 1879 and the old graveyard where she was buried beside her husband on the hillside with the rest of the pioneers is a neglected spot. The fence enclosing the Nye family has long fallen and gone to decay. A few broken down pine trees mark the graves and the broken and fallen tombstones, the result of cattle, horses and sheep running over the graves. This sacred spot should not be forgotten.

### POCAHONTAS

From the *Rolfe Arrow*, September 29, 1983: "Cemetery Farming." Responding to a question, Robert E. Schoon, chairman of the supervisors board, said that County Attorney H. Dale Huffman had presented no information to the board since he received an opinion from the Iowa Attorney General's Office which held that a township can't farm land which has been deeded to it for use as a cemetery. The opinion was requested in June after supervisors met with members of the Dover Township Cemetery Trustees relative to complaints that a cemetery land was being farmed. At that time Huffman declined to answer some of the supervisors' questions on the grounds that it would present a conflict of interest

since he was also serving as attorney for the cemetery trustees. At the June meeting, Florence MacVey, president of the Pocahontas County Historical Society, said the five-acre site should be restored, provided with access, and properly signed.

#### POLK

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, April 21, 2012: "Remains of Iowa soldier being returned for burial." SWAN (AP) The remains of a central Iowa Soldier killed in the Korean War have been identified as Sgt. 1st Class Edris "Eddie" Viers, of Swan. The remains were recovered in 1951 from a military cemetery in Masan, South Korea and were interred at a cemetery in Honolulu. Those remains were tested last year and determined to be those of Viers. A memorial service is scheduled for April 27 at Mason Funeral Home in Pleasantville.

From the *Iowa Legionnaire* magazine, Summer, 2012: "Iowa Veterans Cemetery accepts Legion Monument." The American Legion of Iowa family hosted a dedication ceremony commemorating the Legion Monument at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery, a project which had been in the works for nearly two years. The ceremony took place on May 5, 2012 at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter, Iowa. The monument was designed by West Union High School senior, Sara Biver, who was present at the dedication ceremony.

#### SCOTT

From the *Davenport Democrat and Leader*, February 26, 1925: "She Wanted to Bury Him Good (Husband No. 7): Suit arises over payment for grave." "He was the best husband I ever had, and I wanted to bury him good," Mrs. May Hoyt, reputed to be on her ninth marriage contract, is alleged to have said at the time she ordered a coffin and made burial arrangements for husband No. 7 when she was Mrs. Breathitt in August 1924. In a suit filed in the court of Justice of the Peace Merle F. Wells, the

cemetery association brought suit to recover the cost of the cemetery lot in the amount of \$75. Mrs. Breathitt (now Mrs. Hoyt) explained to the court that she had chosen Fairmont Cemetery because she had 2 other husbands buried there. Justice Wells awarded judgment in the sum of \$75 and costs to the cemetery association.

#### TAMA

Our most recent project is to put an Oak Tree in the new addition. It's Oak Hill Cemetery, but there is no oak in it! At one time, there was a band of oaks across the north part of the town, but they were all cut down at the cemetery, but the name stayed! Anyway, we have a plan of putting a seating area around the oak, so that in years to come, people can sit and relax. These plans are still on the drawing board,

-- Ann Michael

#### VAN BUREN

From the *Van Buren County Register*, May 24, 2012: Pictured are Kenny Wells and Don Aldrich with a small gravestone that they repaired in the Groves Cemetery, located northwest of Lebanon. Also pictured are Mike Johnston and Kenny Wells with a larger stone that suffered two breaks, one at the base and one about half way up. The stones were examples of several that were repaired in the cemetery during a break in the wet, cool weather that kept the cemetery work crew at home. The Groves Cemetery is one of the county's 74 pioneer cemeteries, but is mowed and trimmed.

#### WAYNE

On April 18 a group of 48 Wayne Community High School Seniors arrived at Big Springs Cemetery for a community service work day. A few weeks prior the Wayne County Pioneer Cemetery Commission members spent a few hours cutting brush and trees near the entrance of

the cemetery. This cemetery is in the southwest part of Wayne County in south central Iowa.

A small settlement was established in the 1870's that included dwellings, a blacksmith shop, store, and church. Around that time a cemetery was began behind the church. All the buildings are long gone, including the church, though some of the church foundation remains all these years later. The area around the gravestones is mostly clear but the perimeters and entrance of the cemetery was overgrown with trees, multiflora rose, and vines.

Work accomplished by the high school students and commission members has greatly improved the cemetery but there is much work yet to be done. The group got a sense of what early pioneers must have felt when first clearing this land. The task of today was made somewhat easier with power chain saws and other modern tools. What a task our forefathers had!

Amazing what a group of over 50 people can accomplish in a few hours! The teachers reported the students could really see what their efforts had accomplished and were excited about the project. The local newspaper reporter came to the cemetery and photos and a short story appeared on the front page a few days later.

For pictures, contact Brenda Devore or Pat Shaw.  
Brenda DeVore <devogas@iowatelecom.net>

#### WEBSTER

From the *Ft. Dodge Messenger*, June 6, 2012: "Just outside Lehigh, an old cemetery that has been plagued by erosion is freshly troubled," by Emilie Nelson. In November 2011, Vincent contractor Tim Schultz donated his labor to build an 18-foot-tall retaining wall along the west edge of

the Oak Grove Cemetery, with the intention of preventing further damage due to erosion in 2009-10. However, the middle section of the modular plastic landscaping has collapsed and the wall, turf, and fencing is sinking. Some graves were moved last November, so there are no graves exposed this time. No one is certain what has caused the failure of the wall system.

#### OUT OF IOWA CONNECTICUT

From the *Cedar Falls Gazette*, June 23, 1871: "Three wives in twelve months." A quote from the *Waterbury, Conn. American* says that in the historical sketches of the town, can be found the following records:

"Died, Jan. 14, 1813, Betsey, second wife of James Merriam; Died, Nov. . 17, 1813, Abigail, third wife of Jas. Merriam." An informant recalls that Mr. Merriam lived with the three wives within twelve months.

In the same article, in a cemetery in New London county, it is written that there is a lot with five graves, one in the center, the others nearby at the four points of the compass. The inscription of the latter read respectively, after the names of the deceased, : "My I Wife," "My II Wife," "My III Wife," "My IIII Wife," while the central stone bears the brief but eloquent expression, "Our Husband."

#### MINNESOTA

Archaeology in Minnesota  
Annual Report of the State Archaeologist  
Fiscal Year 2011

Page 43: Investigating Unrecorded Historic Cemeteries in Minnesota

Purpose: To summarize what is known about unrecorded historic cemeteries, to update the state Archaeologist's site file with regard to such cemeteries, and to conduct limited field work to determine the status of unrecorded cemeteries in Dakota, Redwood, and Washington counties. Under Minnesota Statutes 307.08, the State Archaeologist is charged with authenticating unrecorded historic (over 50 years) cemeteries and has certain management responsibilities for those unrecorded cemeteries that are authenticated



as non-Indian. One of the recommendations in the report is that state law should include a revised definition of the term recorded cemetery.

### OHIO

From the *Columbus Dispatch*, May 28, 2012: "Blue among gray?" by Jeb Phillips. Pictured is the Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery where a marker for John Kennedy, a Union soldier, was recently discovered along with five other probable Union soldiers. Kennedy also has a marker at Green Lawn Cemetery. It's still unclear what will be done to correct the information on the stones, but it's likely the stones will remain at Camp Chase.

### VIRGINIA

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 25, 2012: Pictured is Air Force Major Terry Dutcher, of Hill Air Force Base, Utah, as she visits the grave of her son, Army Corporal Michael Avery Pursel, who died serving in Iraq in 2007 at age 19. Flags are placed by soldiers at each grave for the annual "Flags-In" in honor of Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA. Also pictured is Ami Neiberger-Miller, whose brother, Army Spc. Christopher Neiberger, was killed in Iraq on Aug. 6, 2007. She has since become a spokeswoman for TAPS, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, the Washington-based nonprofit that offers support to anyone who lost a loved one in the Armed Forces. About 2.2 million U.S. service members have seen duty in the Middle Eastern war zones, many of them veterans of multiple tours. And more than 6,330 have died --nearly 4,500 in Iraq, and more than 1,840 in Afghanistan.

### WASHINGTON

From the *Lions International* magazine, May, 2012, p. 5: An eighty-seven high granite and basalt memorial will be erected for the 87 airman killed in a crash on the way home for Christmas from Larson Air Force Base (since renamed) in Washington. Spearheaded by the Moses Lake Lions, the memorial will be 52

inches wide. The crash occurred in 1952.

### WASHINGTON D.C.

From the *Washington Times*, June 11, 2012: "23 gravestones go missing from D.C. Civil War cemetery," by Luke Rosiak. Hidden from view in a forest on the campus of the nation's best-known psychiatric institute rest at least 300 fallen Civil War soldiers from the Confederacy, Union, both white and black. For years this secret cemetery, St. Elizabeth's, has been closed to the public. Recently, 23 historic gravestones have gone missing under the stewardship of the federal government and one massive granite marker was found in the home of an employee of the U.S. Government. As many as 450 military burials occurred there. Last summer, when Guy L. Schultz, a government employee, died, an auctioneer found the gravestone of Jordon Mann who died in 1864, in Schultz's garage. Four Sales, the Virginia estate-sale company that found the gravestone, realized that it is illegal to sell a gravestone and returned it. An elaborate ceremony was held on Nov. 7 to commemorate the return of the gravestone. The Department of Homeland Security is moving into the West Campus that contains the cemetery, retrofitting the historic buildings.

### FRANCE

From the *American Legion* magazine, May 2012, p. 21: "Sealed in Blood -- Memorial Day at Belleau Wood highlights bonds forged on the battlefield." Belleau Wood was the scene of one of World War I's ugliest battles. At the Aisne-Marne cemetery, Marines have a special attachment to the burial ground, as this is where the modern Marine Corp was born on June 6, 1918. The Marines lost more men there than it had in its entire history up to that point. The cemetery also contains the graves of U. S. soldiers and sailors. On Memorial Day, they are remembered and celebrated. Beside each headstone, in addition to a U. S. flag, is a French flag placed there by local schoolchildren.

To learn more about American War Memorials overseas: [www.uswarmemorials.org](http://www.uswarmemorials.org)

WIPCA along with the following community leaders/  
members have made this event possible:

WIPCA Members-Volunteers  
email us at [wipcass@gmail.com](mailto:wipcass@gmail.com)

Harrison County Genealogical Society  
[www.hcgs.info](http://www.hcgs.info)

Shelby County Historical Society  
[www.schmuseum.org](http://www.schmuseum.org)

Panama Historic One Room School House Museum  
205 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> \* Panama, IA \* 712-489-2736

Mormon Trail Center at Historic Winter Quarters  
[HSWinter@ldschurch.org](mailto:HSWinter@ldschurch.org)

Midwest Monument Company  
707 Hill Street \* Harlan, IA 51537 \* 712-755-3137

RLDS Church – (now Community of Christ Church)

Flowers by Diane Mumm – Picket Fence Greenhouse

Rodger Galland and  
Hamblen Family

Historical Pioneer Research Group, Inc.  
<http://www.earlylds.com>

Boy Scout Troop #85 \* Magnolia, IA  
Cub Scout Pack #660 \* Council Bluffs, IA

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War  
[www.suvcw.org](http://www.suvcw.org)

American Legion Groups

Western Iowa Pioneer Cemetery Association

Presents

The Abel Galland Memorial Cemetery  
Unveiling

June 24, 2012



Amy (Furby) Galland  
7/12/1789 – 7/30/1877

Abraham "Abel" Galland  
3/9/1787 -6/22/1857

## Obituary

Abel Galland was born in the state of New Jersey. He served in the War of 1812. Abel came to Kaneshville with the Mormons in 1846. In the fall of 1846, Abel followed an Indian trail, northeast of Kaneshville, now eastern Council Bluffs, parallel to the Mosquito Creek, to a location called "Six Bee Tree Grove" just north of the present day Manteno Park. Since the pioneers in place of sugar, used honey, honey trees that is, trees in which bees store honey were highly prized.

In 1847, Abel returned to Kaneshville with a wagon load of honey after the local people heard about the trees, honey and the opportunity for religious freedom, they followed him back to the Galland's Grove area.

In 1848, Abel Galland and his son-in-law; William Jordan, built the first log cabin in Shelby County. Abel died June 22, 1857. Abel is buried in Galland's Grove.

Abel Galland, Early Shelby County Pioneer as reprinted in the Harlan News Advertiser - June 29, 2007

Abel Galland and Amy Furby were married in Washington County, Ohio on 11/28/1808.

## CEREMONY AGENDA

June 24, 2012 2pm

Invocation	
Presentation of the Flag	Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Song – Star Spangled Banner	All
Galland Story	Linda (Smith) Dickman and Elaine (Smith) Ehlert
Song – Come Come Ye All Saints	Sister Coats and Sister Baker
Proclamation	Mike Roley
1812 Veterans Stories of the Civil War	Sons of Union Veterans
Cannon	Discharge by Lynn Kelly
Salute Civil War	Sons of Union Veterans of the
Benediction	Elder John Watson

