

# GRAVE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES  
21813 170TH ST. BIRMINGHAM, IOWA 52535  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~iasapc/>

VOLUME 19 ISSUE #2

April, May, June, 2014

SAPIC will meet in Jefferson, Iowa, on Saturday, July 12, 10:30 a.m. at the Uptown Cafe, 108 W. State. Coffee will be served 9:30 - 10:30 courtesy of the Greene County Genealogical Society. Lunch from the menu (on your own) following the meeting. After lunch, the Greene County Pioneer Cemetery will either tell about some of their work at the Old Rippey Cemetery - or tour it - depending on the weather. Contact person: Valerie Heater Ogren [vjogren@netins.net](mailto:vjogren@netins.net)

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"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

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If you would consider receiving your issue of Grave News electronically (via e-mail) in the future, please let Pat Shaw or Steve Story know. This would reduce mailing costs to SAPIC considerably. Thanks!

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Two Air Force Pilots, Major Howard V. Andre Jr. and Major James E. Sizemore, were recently buried at Arlington National Cemetery and were honored with a flyover by civilian pilots. The Air Force pilots were Killed In Action over Laos during the Vietnam War and their remains were only recently discovered and returned for proper burial at Arlington. This Flight of Honor was truly awesome for the other pilots to plan and conduct it.

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**COINS LEFT ON TOMBSTONES** While visiting some cemeteries you may notice that headstones marking certain graves have coins on them, left by previous visitors to the grave. These coins have distinct meanings when left on the headstones of those who gave their life while serving in America's military, and these meanings vary depending on the denomination of coin. A coin left on a headstone or at the grave site is meant as a message to the deceased soldier's family that someone else has visited the grave to pay respect. Leaving a penny at the grave

means simply that you visited. A nickel indicates that you and the deceased trained at boot camp together, while a dime means you served with him in some capacity. By leaving a quarter at the grave, you are telling the family that you were with the soldier when he was killed.

According to tradition, the money left at graves in national cemeteries and state veterans cemeteries is eventually collected, and the funds are put toward maintaining the cemetery or paying burial costs for indigent veterans.

In the US, this practice became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide in the country over the war; leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war.

Some Vietnam veterans would leave coins as a "down payment" to buy their fallen comrades a beer or play a hand of cards when they would finally be reunited.

The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military men and women can be traced to as far back as the Roman Empire.

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From the IGS e-newsletter:

**Some info extracted from: Cemetery stories Posted October 09, 2013 in Des Moines West The history behind local final resting spots By Melissa Walker - See more at:**

<http://www.iowalivingmagazines.com/2013/10/09/cemetery-stories-4/#sthash.4F2lldv5.dpuf>

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Seen on Twitter: "Don't take anything for granite!"

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According to the Winterset Madisionan, the first Winterset Cemetery burial was a small child, and the first adult burial was John Moon. Moon is believed to have died in early fall of 1850, from overeating green corn and watermelons (1 1/2 doz. ears of corn, 2 watermelons and 1 gal. buttermilk).

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## SAPIC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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## 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:** Materials Cooperation,  
1-800-425-2214 (Wisconsin); Granite City Tool Co., 1-800-328-7094 (Minnesota); 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 jheider@mchsi.com

Note: SAPIC does not endorse products. Contact John Heider if you have questions.

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

Dues for 2014 can be paid now.

## THANKS FOR SUPPORTING SAPIC!

SAPIC tee-shirts are available from Jean Ann Ripley or from information on the SAPIC Facebook page.

STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATIONS  
OF IOWA CEMETERIES

The regular quarterly (April) meeting of SAPIC was held Saturday April 12, 2014 at the Prairie Trails Museum of Wayne County, Corydon Iowa, called to order by president, Steve Story at 10:30 am.

Self introduction of the 32 persons present was conducted.

**Agenda:** motion to approve by Gene Davis, seconded by Mike Magee, **Approved.**

**Minutes of January 9-12, 2014 e-mail meeting read,** Motion to approve by Larry Davis, seconded by Rosalie Mulinix, **Passed.**

**Treasurer's report:** submitted by Valerie Ogren read and approved for file for audit.

Business:

1. Updating SAPIC website: Need to know the officers of each Cemetery Commission (Total 28). Hopefully can get from County auditors. How many cemeteries in county and number of pioneer with coordinates of the cemeteries. Desire to know persons buried in that county. Also how many people in the work crew.
2. SAPIC newsletter by e-mail suggested by Pat Shaw. Motion to put newsletter on e-mail by Larry Davis, seconded by Mike Magee. **Passed** Will send out printed copies to those without e-mail.
3. Grant application and procedures on website. Encourage application as there are 5 available (one for youth projects) at \$200 each. If money left after July deadline, grants can be given later in year.
4. John Heider reported on Cemetery Work Shop for May 17 & 18. Classroom on Sat. 9:30 am to 12:00 noon with W/S at city cemetery in the afternoon. Other half Sunday afternoon. Currently have 25 signed up at \$35.00 each and \$60.00 for a couple. Will receive a workbook.
5. Tom Gaard noted that there is a Civil War stained glass window in this museum. Would like to know where others are. One reported in Olen which is of Abraham Lincoln. There will be a dedication of three, sons of government issued, at 1:00 pm the 26th of May, 2014 in Pella.
6. Mike Magee reported on Mary Virden's gravesite situation in Blackhawk County. HyVee doesn't want a burial marker. Suggestion that HyVee be approached to financially support the cost of a marker next to the parents' grave. Mike will check into it.
7. County Supervisors State-wide meeting was in March. Jeff Kaufmann will try to get SAPIC on the agenda for next year to encourage counties to form Cemetery commissions to help them meet their responsibilities.
8. With County Homes going out of business there is concern for care of cemeteries associated with the facility. Members present reported on their counties.
9. Photographing assessment, and locating of Iowa Governors, Lt. Governors, U.S. cabinet members from Iowa burial sites: A list of those needed to be photographed was handed out and volunteers encouraged to sign up to photograph them.. Donna Story related how they are to be pictured. Send then to her and Steve, please... These are for assessment. Do not repair them as later the legislature is to be allotting finances for repair. There are 3 in Washington DC, 1 KY, 1 OH, 3 CA in case you are traveling those directions. Get locations from Donna. Thanks. Tom Gaard reported that Sen. Denis Black has asked for allegation of funds to repair Merrill (civil War) monument in Des Moines.

10. Bill Reedy reported on legislation and general issues. Burial sites without a deed raises question of how we establish as a permanent record when there is no stone or marker. Need to sign an affidavit and attach to the abstract. Legislation - no interest can be charged on money set aside to use for burial.

11. Asking for meeting sites for July 12, 2014 and Oct. 11, 2014. Valerie Ogren asked if we wanted to consider joining the genealogy society in Oct. in Des Moines?

12. January meeting: moved by Mike Magee that we again have an email/Face book meeting in January, seconded by Ben Mayer. **Passed**

13. Hand-outs: 6 maps of country cemeteries were on the table: Lee, Des Moines, Winneshiek, Fayette, Jones, and Benton. Map of Iowa counties with public supported Pioneer Cemetery commissions which included two counties, Shelby and Harrison, which are maintaining pioneer cemeteries without a commission.

14. Other: Let Pat Shaw know what your commissions are doing, Mike had a two hour meeting with an Eagle Scout applicant. Geo cashing in Fayette County is going well. Jean Ripley made a motion that SAPIC encourage members to attend workshop and pay \$200 to Buchanan Historical Society in support of the Cemetery workshop in May, seconded by Ben Mayer, **Passed**. Jean Ripley showed the SAPIC T-shirt and reported that she has one order so far. May is Cemetery Appreciation Month proclaimed by Terry Branstad, Governor of Iowa so spread the word.

15. Motion to adjourn by Bill Reedy, seconded by Mike Magee, President Steve Story adjourned meeting at 12:10 pm.

Submitted by Frieda Davis, Secretary.

We thank Wayne County Cemetery commission for the delicious treats and drink before the meeting and for arranging for pizza for lunch.

**STATE ASSOCIATION for the PRESERVATION of IOWA CEMETERIES**

Treasurer's Report for 1st Quarter – January 1, 2014 thru March 31, 2014

Balance in "Working Account" 31 December 2013, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$ 4,230.83

Income

	Dues	\$ 545.00	
	Interest 1/31/14	.35	
	Interest 2/28/14		
33	Interest 3/31/14		
37	Total Income		\$
546.05			

Expense

	Ck #282 – Pat Shaw – newsletter postage	\$ 35.96	
	Total Expense		
35.96			
	Balance in "Working Account" 31 March 2014		\$ 4,740.92

Balance in "Reserve Account" 31 December 2013, Home State Bank, Jefferson \$ 3,728.39

	1/15 – Life Membership – La Verna Moser	\$100.00	
	2/14 – Life Membership – Karen King	\$100.00	

Balance in "Reserve Account" 31 March 2014 \$ 3,928.39

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 December 2013 \$ 8,669.31

**Plus additional funds:**

A CD in the amount of \$5,831.45  
Rate of interest is 1.41% - matures 6/24/2014

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Ogren, Treasurer  
108 N. Oak  
Jefferson IA 50129-1841  
Ph 1-515-386-4784  
E-mail: [vjogren@netins.net](mailto:vjogren@netins.net)

Tuesday, April 08, 2014

Check out the digital library of the University of Iowa  
<http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm/search/collection/iowatowns>

This would be a great place to store images, both old and new, of your county historic buildings, including sites of former villages (many of them had cemeteries nearby and that is all that is left of the town). For sure it would be insurance that there would be images if a local historical society (heaven forbid) would suffer from a fire or tornado, far into the future. Just thought you would appreciate this knowledge! -- Steve Hanken

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The Burying in Woollen Acts of 1666-80 were designed to promote the wool industry, but ended up stimulating the rise in newspaper circulation. People were generally buried in linen before 1666. The statute insisted everyone be buried in a woolen shroud of English manufacture or risk a fine of 5 pounds (about 650 pounds in today's money). Newspapers were made from recycled cloth until 1870 (hence the use of the word "rag" as a term of derision). By demanding the use of wool, the Act saved 200,000 pounds of linen rags, which were recycled into newsprint.

— From *1,339 QI Facts to Make Your Jaw Drop*, by John Lloyd, John Mitchinson, & James Harkin is available from Telegraph Books.

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From the *Van Buren County Register*, May 1, 2014: "Cemetery Appreciation Month." The proclamation from the Office of the Governor of Iowa is printed that proclaims the Month of May as "Cemetery Appreciation Month" in Iowa. The Van Buren County Supervisors also declared May as "National Preservation Month," stating "It is important to celebrate the role of history in our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of the heritage that has shaped us as a people. Historic preservation is an effective tool for managing growth and sustainable development, revitalizing neighborhoods, fostering local pride and maintaining community character while enhancing livability."

From the *Van Buren County Register*, May 1, 2014: Letter to the Editor – Cemetery Appreciation Month. Included is a quote from a New York Times Editorial stating, "We will probably be judged not by the monuments we build but by those we have destroyed." Readers are urged to look around their neighborhoods for the remnants of a pioneer burial site that needs attention and to tackle the rewarding experience of restoring it.

From *The American Legion* magazine, May, 2014, p.34-40: "Last Rites," by Ken Olsen. As demand at national veterans cemeteries soars, VA scrambles to add burial space – and one community takes matters into its own hands. Tens of thousands of veterans' families are determined to bury their loved ones in revered national burial grounds. "A national cemetery is maintained at a very high level," says Ami Neiberger-Miller of Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS). "It honors service and sacrifice in a way that is very beautiful for families." An aging veterans population and increasing awareness of burial benefits have the VA scrambling to add cemetery space at the fastest pace since the Civil War. Demand has tripled in the past 20 years and isn't expected to peak until 2017. Nearly 4 million veterans from every conflict since the Revolutionary War are interred in 131 national veterans cemeteries run the VA in the United States and Puerto Rico. Since many veterans do not live close to a national cemetery, many states have established state veterans cemeteries. One such example is in Carlsbad, NM where a cemetery is being built to national standards, in the hopes that it will be named a national cemetery. Locate the nearest national veterans cemetery at: [gravelocator.cem.va.gov](http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov)

## COUNTY REPORTS

### ADAMS

From the *Adams County Free Press*, September 27, 1919: "A letter to the trustees of the Nodaway Cemetery," by Addie M. Narigon. She states, "It is a most shameful and deplorable truth the conditions that exist at Riverside cemetery. The weeds and grass has grown up to at least two feet in height in different sections. The gates are standing open half of the time. The north half of the south gate is broken and hanging on one hinge. At different times we have seen cattle grazing and trampling over the graves that were not inclosed." The writer offers to pay for a secure lock and hinge for the gates.

### ALLAMAKEE

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 17, 2014: "Lack of charges in Effigy Mounds damage upsets some." Watchdogs are outraged that prosecutors filed no charges against National Park Service officials responsible for \$3 million in illegal projects that damaged a sacred American Indian burial ground at the Effigy Mounds National Monument on the Mississippi River near McGregor. Former superintendent Phyllis Ewing and maintenance director Tom Sinclair built boardwalks, trails and a maintenance shed without following federal laws that required consultation with 12 tribes

and reviews by state archaeologists before approval, investigation documents show.

### BLACK HAWK

From the *Waterloo Semi Weekly Courier*, December 20, 1898: Robert Anderson post, G.A.R. will take charge of the body of Miller, the old soldier who died from strangulation, at the Sherman house, and give it decent burial. The burial will be in the soldiers lot in Fairview cemetery and this body of a stranger, a man unknown by all, but wearing that insignia of honor, a G.A.R. button, will be the first given interment in the beautiful plat.

From the *State Reporter*, Waterloo, IA, September 16, 1896: On Thursday last while workmen were engaged in digging a ditch for a sewer at W. S. Pilcher's they unearthed a small coffin containing the remains of an infant. Coroner Ball was notified and after making an examination he ordered the coffin and its contents reburied. He said the coffin contained the remains of a child about five months old, which were wrapped up in small woolen blanket.

From the *Cedar Falls Semi Weekly Gazette*, March 29, 1901: The Greenwood Cemetery Improvement Association will have a sunbonnet and apron sale, also serve a New England dinner on Saturday, March 30th, at C.A. Wise & Sons old stand. Bill of fare: Roast beef, Roast Pork, Tomato Sauce, Apple sauce, Boston Baked Beans, Brown bread, Light biscuit, Doughnuts, Cream and Pumpkin Pies, Pickles, Jelly, Tea, Coffee. Dinner 25 cents.

### BREMER

On Monday, Memorial Day, May 26th, SAPIC member Mike Magee assisted a Boy Scout, Seth Van Rosendaal, with his project to become an Eagle Scout at Oakland Cemetery in Bremer County, Iowa. His group arrived about 9:30 am and they cleaned and repaired many grave markers.

From the *Sumner Gazette*, January 10, 1907: It has been ascertained that the skeleton of a child unearthed by the excavating for the foundation of the sugar beet factory at Waverly were the remains of a daughter of John Hazlett, and that they were buried there fifty years ago. Her sister, Mrs. E. M. Case had the remains reburied in the Hazlett lot in Nashua.

### CLINTON

From the *American Legion of Iowa*, March 7, 2014: "WWII MIA Pilot Returns Home Flags Ordered to Half-Staff."

Gov. Terry Branstad has ordered flags to be flown at half-staff in Iowa from 5 PM, Friday, April 11, 2014 until 8 AM, Monday, April 14, 2014 in honor of 1st Lt. Louis L. Longman formerly of

Clinton, Iowa.

Longman, a 26-year old Clinton, Iowa native serving with the 433rd Fighter Squadron, 475th Fighter Group, 5th Air Force, U.S. Army Air Corps, was last seen April 16, 1944 as his unit returned from a B-25 bomber escort mission over Hollandia, New Guinea. A Lockheed P-38 "Lightning" fighter pilot, Longman was on the return leg of the mission in a P-38J aircraft when his unit encountered severe weather in the Markham Valley. Longman's last reported location was in the vicinity of Bogadjim, New Guinea, as his formation broke up. The 5th Air Force lost 53 pilots and crewmen that day in what became known as "Black Sunday."

Longman was officially declared deceased on Feb. 27, 1946, but his remains were never recovered. In February 2005, the Joint Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command - Central Identification Laboratory (JPAC) received information of a possible aircraft crash site in Madang province, Papua New Guinea. In August 2007, human remains, as well as parts of a U.S. P-38J aircraft were recovered by a JPAC Investigation Team. Additional remains and physical evidence were also recovered in 2009 and 2010 by JPAC personnel.

A memorial service and interment was held at the Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill. on April 12, 2014 at 1 p.m., with full military honors provided by the Iowa National Guard.

### DECATUR

From the *Roland Record*, July 25, 1895: "Tombstone Falls on Lad; Causes Instant Death." Dan McBroom, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn McBroom, aged ten or twelve years, was killed Sunday by the weight of a tombstone or monument which fell upon him in a country cemetery northwest of Garden Grove. With his cousin Donald McBroom, he was roving around and they stopped at the cemetery known as Winters or Pettis graveyard where Dan stepped on the base of a monument. The stone toppled and carried him backward to the ground crushing his chest and breaking one leg in two places.

### DELAWARE

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, September 4, 1955: "Pioneer Cemetery Fixed Up." Work is done by Masonville Grange people. Pictured are members of the Masonville Grange who maintain the Baker's Cemetery located four miles northwest of Manchester. Some of the earliest settlers of Delaware County are buried there. The cemetery was in shambles until the Grange took it upon themselves to make it one of most attractive in the community.

## DES MOINES

Paul French, a member of the DMC Pioneer Cemetery Commission, has prepared a map of all the cemeteries in Des Moines County, including GPS Coordinates. Ten cemeteries within the Iowa Army Ammunitions Plant are identified.

From the *Davenport Weekly Leader*, December 18, 1900: "Another Soldier." William Blair, a Revolutionary soldier who lived near Kossuth, is buried in Round Prairie cemetery not far from that village. His son, Thomas Blair, represented Des Moines County in the Iowa legislature.

William Ross, an ensign in an English regiment, served on the British side for seven years. He returned to England after the war, but resigned from the army and came to Lancaster, Pa, and eventually to Burlington, Iowa where he died. His burial was in a private cemetery on a farm four miles from Burlington.

## DICKINSON

From the *Our Iowa* magazine, February/March, 2014, p. 66: "Living Legacy." Pictured are Arline Nasby photographed in 1917 with her parents, four grandparents and eight great-grandparents. All but Arline are buried in our county's State Line Cemetery.

## FAYETTE

From the *Elgin Echo*, August 24, 1922: "Illyria Gets Monument." The beautiful Highland Cemetery in Illyria township on the Elkader road, is to have a fine \$2,500 soldiers' monument before snow flies. The monument will be made from a richly colored granite, all polished. It will be surmounted by a life sized figure of a soldier. Upon the face of the die will be a bronze tablet showing figures of soldiers of the Revolutionary, Civil and World wars in bold relief. Upon one of the bases will appear the words, "A Tribute to our Nation's Defenders." The total height will be fourteen feet. The design is a creation by H. Prior of Postville.

## FREMONT

From the *Mason City Globe*, Aug. 14, 1930: "Would Restore Cemetery." FARRAGUT - Residents of Farragut and the D.A.R. of Shenandoah are cooperating in the restoration of the historic Mormon cemetery in the Manti woods near here. The cemetery was established shortly after Edmund Fisher settled here in 1852. The first person buried in it was Fisher's youngest child.

## HENRY

From the *Correctionville Sioux Valley News*, December 27, 1894: "A Pennsylvania Soldier." Charles Shepherd served as a private in the

Pennsylvania troops. His record as a soldier is meager, but it is certain that the record was good for in 1818 he applied for a pension and received an allowance of \$8 a month which he continued to receive until the time of his death. In 1837 he came to the then territory of Wisconsin, soon after made the territory of Iowa and settled in Henry county. He died in 1845 and lies buried in a private cemetery on the farm that is not well cared for. A movement was started to locate the grave and erect a monument, but nothing came of it.

## IOWA

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, September 10, 1962: A number of gravestones can be found in a small plot in a cornfield not far from the Wayne Dolmage farm home south of Victor. It is believed that the graves might represent the final resting places of a number of Mormons who died during what was known as the Mormon hand-cart expedition across the state in about 1860.

## JACKSON

From the *Davenport Democrat and Leader*, May 20, 1929: "Pioneer Burial Lot for Jackson Legion Charge." A score of Legionaries of the county gathered at the Cottonville Cemetery south of Andrew where they spent the day putting the old burial ground lots into condition for Memorial Day. The cemetery probably contains 20 Civil War veterans.

## JASPER

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, May 25, 1989: "Push on to save forgotten Iowa cemeteries," by Donna Lee Olson. Pictured is Loren Horton, as he led tours of the Newton Union Cemetery during a state seminar aimed at improving preservation of the state's cemeteries and pioneer gravestones. Horton and others want legislation to fund a state cemetery commission and set laws to protect burial sites threatened by land development. "Protecting an (Iowa) resource," as Horton said. Iowa's first county cemetery commission was formed in Jasper County in 1984. Among the skills taught at the seminar was the art of repairing the stone shafts and slabs that are tilting or toppled and "witching" for graves.

## JOHNSON

From the WordPress weblog for Benton, Iowa and Poweshiek Counties, May 20, 2014: "Guided tour will explore history of Tiffin via Oak Hill Cemetery," by Brathjen. A cemetery walk conducted by Loren Horton, retired State Historical Society of Iowa senior historian, was held on June 1. Notable cemetery residents include the Honorable Robert Walker, Yale



Hamilton and Mary A. Hamilton, who served as the first justice of the peace in the new Iowa territory. A free will donation benefitted the Springmier Community Library and the Tiffin community Fund.

### JONES

From the *Monticello Express*, October 30, 1890: Erhard Burk, Jr. of Co. II, 14th Iowa Vols., who died from a gunshot wound received at the battle of Shiloh, and who was buried near Prairieburg, will soon be taken up and buried near the Reformed church across the Buffalo where his father who died at the age of 80, was buried. Also the remains of the wife of the aged man will be reburied at the same time near him.

### LEE

The Lee County Veterans Project sponsored a ceremony at the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk, Iowa, on April 26, 2014 remembering William W. Jones, a Keokuk Civil War veteran who served with the 70th Regular Illinois Volunteer Infantry and the 145th Regular Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He died September 10, 1909 in Keokuk. The program included remarks by Alan Ourth, of the Southeast Iowa Civil War Roundtable. The flag was presented to Helen Boddy, granddaughter of William W. Jones, The 2nd Battery of the Iowa Light Artillery provided the Honor Guard.

From the *Daily Gate City*, April 23, 2014: "Civil War veteran's granddaughter to receive flag during ceremony at Oakland Cemetery." Many Civil War veterans are buried in the Keokuk National Cemetery, and 350 are buried in nearby Oakland Cemetery. Members of the Veterans Project will place American Flags on all of the known graves of Civil War veterans.

From the *Daily Gate City*, May 7, 2014: "Lee County Veterans Project pays tribute to Civil War Vet," by Cindy Iutzi. Pictured are reenactors with the 2nd Battery Iowa Light Artillery, as they fire three rounds from a canon at a tribute to Civil War veterans. Streets to the National and Oakland cemeteries were lined with more than 100 American flags provided by the Patriot Flag Crew of Bushnell, Ill.

From the *Daily Gate City*, May 14, 2014: "Cemetery Appreciation Month." Pictured are Paul George, supervisor of the Keokuk National Cemetery, Terry Altheide of the Lee County Veterans Project, and Marion and Joyce Cowles of the Lee County Pioneer Cemetery Association. Keokuk Mayor Tom Marion also signed a proclamation for Cemetery Appreciation Month.

Paul French of Burlington prepared a map of Lee County showing all of its cemeteries along with their GPS locations.

### LINN

A SAPIC member recently inquired about a cemetery in Linn County that may have been in danger of being lost to construction. This is the response from the Office of the State Archaeologist. The cemetery is believed to be the Lucore Cemetery.

Here's the abstract of the 1995 report on what I believe is the cemetery in question:

This project was conducted to more precisely locate an unmarked historic cemetery near the SE corner of the NE? of Section 19, T84N-R6W, Linn County, Iowa. This work was done on behalf of the Hunters Ridge Development Company so that construction plans could be altered, if necessary, in order to avoid impacting the site. A cemetery is illustrated in this location on plat maps dating from 1869, 1895, and probably 1859. Local informants indicated that at least some of the burials had been removed from this cemetery many years ago. At the same time, the lack of detailed documentation regarding this cemetery makes it highly probable that some human remains still exist there. The fieldwork conducted for this project resulted in the identification of two previously unrecorded archaeological sites, designated 13LN578 and 13LN579. Site 13LN578 is represented by a surface scatter of historic debris related to a schoolhouse illustrated on the 1869 plat. Site 13LN579 is the unmarked historic cemetery, located to the south of the schoolhouse, as illustrated on the 1869 map. The cemetery was identified by mechanically removing the plow zone and searching for exposed grave features. A total of 14 individual grave features were identified. These graves are contained within an area that measures approximately 13 m (42.7 feet) north-south by 12 m (39.4 feet) east-west. This project did not ascertain whether any of the graves still contain human remains. This historic cemetery lies within a proposed block of townhouses in the Hunters Ridge development. Recommendations regarding the treatment of this cemetery are provided. In particular, it is advised that design plans be modified to avoid any subsurface impacts to the cemetery. Further, companies which may install utilities to the development should

be instructed not to excavate or drill in the vicinity of the cemetery

The plans for the development were modified and the cemetery area included in a green space.

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From KCRG-TV9/Cedar Rapids, Iowa News, Sports, and Weather, April 22, 2014:  
"Headstones Vandalized at Historic Linn county Cemetery," by Brady Smith. Approximately 60 headstones in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Central City were knocked over or torn out of the ground on April 12th resulting in \$3,000 in damage. Three children, ages 6 and 7, confessed to the crime. The cemetery's board of trustees are working to repair the damage as soon as possible and are working with the parents of the children. No charges will be filed.

### MAHASKA

From the *Mason City Globe*, July 13, 1940:  
"Grave Robbers Strip Lead from Monuments." Sheriff Fritz Vangenderen said that grave robbers have literally stripped five rural cemeteries here of lead which monument makers insert between grave stones and their bases.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 22, 2014:  
"Veterans monument to be dedicated in Kirkville," by Lori Faybik. Pictured are the Kirkville mayor and city council with the new veterans monument dedicated at Kirkville City Hall for Memorial Day. The 3-foot by 5-foot black granite monument has plaques for all branches of the service and reads "City of Kirkville honors all veterans past, present and future. Thank you for your service." The display also includes 3 flags and landscaping.

From the *Oskaloosa Herald*, August 7, 1890:  
For many years the remains of mother Jones and two children have rested on the Elmer Mosteller farm in Madison township, but on Thursday they were taken up removed to Forest cemetery, and reburied by the side of the father, who died almost ten years ago. Thus is a family reunited in death.

### MARION

From the *Hawkeye Heritage* Volume 47, Issue 3 Fall 2013, by Carl Nollan. (Excerpt)

When I joined the Marion County Pioneer

Cemetery Commission a few years ago, I made it a goal to visit every cemetery in the county. When I came across the Stanford Doud Cemetery north of Bussey, I noticed a gravestone, a memorial actually, which reads, "IN MEMORY OF STANFORD DOUD BORN IN PA. 1804. DIED AND BURIED AT ELDON, IA IN 1891. HE HOMESTEADED HERE IN 1843. THIS IS 1<sup>ST</sup> CEM. IN LIBERTY TWP. HE WAS ELECTED 1<sup>ST</sup> CO. SURVEYOR AND CLERK OF 1<sup>ST</sup> COMM. COURT. HE MARRIED 3 TIMES AND WAS FATHER OF 33 CHILDREN." This piqued my interest. What kind of family was this? As it turns out, much has been written about the Doud people by relatives. Dedicated descendants restored this cemetery. In the 1950's it was totally neglected, even though it lay alongside a road. "It was a wilderness of vines, dead trees, underbrush, logs and saplings. No stones remained standing. Many were broken and some illegible. Some buried under three and four inches of dirt." In 1954 Lloyd Godfrey and his sister, Mae Gladson, descendants of Stanford Doud, began steps to restore this site. Before and after photographs show how this cemetery was restored. Thirteen new granite markers were set and three old marble gravestones were reset. On Memorial Day, 1963, a memorial service was held attended by approximately 40 descendants.

From the minutes of the May 27 meeting of the Marion County Pioneer Cemetery Commission: Carlisle Cemetery - Kent had contacted Mark Vos about sandblasting the arch for the cemetery, but Mr. Vos has health issues. Kent will contact someone else to do the sandblasting. Price Cemetery - Larry Davis will begin work on the first part of the bid which is 40 stones to repair next week.

Mikesell Cemetery - Larry Davis will give a quote to Val on Mikesell Cemetery.

Parsons/DeHamer Cemetery - John Renaud gave a quote of \$1,200-\$1,500 to fix the wall and pull tree at cemetery. John was not sure of how much mortar and more stones it would take. John has worked for

projects at Central College. Carla made a motion to have John Renaud to repair the wall at Parsons/DeHamer Cemetery for \$1,200-\$1,500 and seconded by Janet. All ayes

VandeKamp (Old Ruckman) Cemetery - Val reported that she had heard that the fence had been replaced. Bellamy Cemetery - Janet reported that she had visited with Jim Peterson and he would like the new fence to be 15 feet wide and 24 feet long, with wooden posts (4 x 4 8 ft. post) and fence with 5 ft. gate. Janet will let Jim know to order the supplies. We will work on the fence Saturday, June 28, 2014. Meet at the WalMart parking lot in Knoxville at 8:30 a.m.

Val reported that people are looking at the MCPCC site and asking for information.

Sweem Cemetery - Arleen Ensor told Val that her renter had hit the sign and fence at the Sweem Cemetery. She is willing to pay for the repairs. Val is ordering a new sign.

Discussion was held on people being buried in the green, pine box or wrapped in a sheet. It was decided that this was up to the individual pioneer cemeteries.

Election of new Vicar - Kent nominated Steve Klein to fill the term of John Thomsen as Vicar. Steve accepted the position. Val will send his name to the Marion County Supervisors to approve.

From the *Pella Chronicle*, June 22, 1905: Cornelius Van den Berg died at the home of his daughter last evening at the age of eighty years and eight months. The deceased is one of the oldest settlers in this part of the state. The remains will be laid to rest

in a private cemetery near Fifield.

#### MARSHALL

Newspaper and year unknown: "A Dastard's Deed." Marshalltown. July 24 -- Some unknown miscreant entered the cemetery of the Iowa Soldier's Home and with a sledge hammer deliberately defaced and broke off at the ground forty-six marble head stones placed by the government at the heads of graves of the graves of veterans buried there. The damage will be nearly \$1,000. An inmate recently discharged for petty thieving is suspected.

#### MILLS

From the *Mills county Tribune*, August 24, 1893: The correspondent from Hillsdale mentioned the woefully neglected condition of their cemetery and urged those interested to take some steps toward putting it in shape.

From the *Malvern Leader*, May 20, 1971: "Will Remove Remains from Unmarked Pioneer Cemetery." A district judge directed that unidentified human remains in a pioneer cemetery near the old Pacific community be removed and reinterred in the Glenwood Cemetery. The court's order followed application made by the Iowa State highway commission and the State Archaeologist. The commission was unable to find any next of kin. The gravesite does not contain any pre-historic, archaeological, or other significance.

#### MONROE

From the *Our Iowa* magazine, February/March, 2014, p.17-18: "Road Trip," by Jerry and Paula Wiebel. A trip to Albia to attend its annual Victorian Stroll included seeing the "Welcome Home Soldier Memorial" under construction west of town along U. S. 34. The memorial consists of 21 white

marble crosses leading up to a granite wall where veterans can have their names inscribed. The next phase of the construction will be the erection of flagpoles for 100 U.S. flags and 50 Iowa flags on what will be called "Humble Hero Hill." Pictured is the rural Hickory Grove Cemetery that contains three pyramids built by eccentric newspaper man Axel Peterson who won his printing press in a card game. When he died, he wanted to be buried sitting at his desk in the largest one, but his family refused.

### POLK

#### **From the Iowa Genealogical Society**

**eNews** Volume 6 Issue 5 May 2014

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

#### **Woodland Cemetery Tour Celebrate the History of Des Moines**

A walk through Woodland Cemetery is a step through the history of the city of Des Moines. With more than 80,000 graves covering 69 acres, most of the city's founding fathers are buried in the cemetery. There are recognizable names like Fleur, Hubbell, Perkins, Sherman, Weitz, Merrill, Younker and Savery and many more. Many of the more prominent ones have schools, streets or other buildings named after them.

Five Civil War generals are buried in the cemetery, which Gerald LaBlanc has said "no other cemetery can match.

For decades, Gerald LaBlanc has brought attention to the history most Iowans pass by on their way down Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway in Des Moines. For many years he has given tours through Woodland cemetery but age has forced him to retire from that activity.

Luckily, Archie Cook, a history teacher at North High School in Des Moines, has spent many hours researching the cemetery's history and the lives of those buried there. Cook now gives walking history tours of the cemetery. In addition to his own research, much of what he has learned came from LaBlanc. Cook's tour includes almost 30 stops, where he details the lives of the individuals buried there.

If you would like to schedule a historical Woodland cemetery tour, contact Archie Cook.

Phone: 515 266-1627 or e-mail:

[archiecook@email.com](mailto:archiecook@email.com)

### SCOTT

From the *Davenport Tribune*, July 29, 1886:  
Tuesday afternoon the grass in Pine Hill cemetery was discovered to be on fire, destroying the

fences about two lots and a large amount of shrubbery and a number of trees. The fire is supposed to have been started by a lighted cigar stump thrown down by one of the party who had just been visiting the grounds.

### VAN BUREN

From the *Van Buren County Register*, April 3, 2014: "Dedication held for historic site," by Rusty Ebert, Editor. A dedication program naming Richardson's Point as an historic site was held on March 25 near Milton. Richardson's Point is the spot the vanguard company of Mormon Pioneers who left Nauvoo, Illinois, in February 1846, camped for two weeks in March due to heavy rain and mud. It is where the first deaths and burials along the Mormon Trail occurred. Leon Wilkinson of Bloomfield, president of the Iowa Mormon Trails Association, was involved in putting up a fence and signage, along with benches at the Richardson's Point site. During the time the Mormons camped there, several babies were born and the deaths of Edwin Little and James M. Tanner occurred. Edwin, nephew to church leader Brigham Young, died on March 18, 1846 after falling into the icy waters of the Mississippi while helping wagons ford the river. James M. Tanner was the 15-month old son of Sidney and Louisa Tanner. Pictured with the full page article include Wilkinson, grave markers, owner of the land, Brad Klodt. The program featured period music by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and an address by Susan Easton Durrant, retired professor at Brigham Young University. She has authored 134 books, traveled the world and spoken in all 50 states.

From the *Van Buren County Register*, June 5, 2014: "Jones Cemetery repairs made by work crew," by Don Aldrich. The Van Buren County Genealogical Pioneer Gravestone work crew ventured into Jones Cemetery on May 27 after being on a waiting list for four years. The cemetery contains 15 burials, the first in 1853 and the last in 1964. Exploratory digging was done, drainage basins dug in, rock placed and tamped, and epoxy work was completed. One stone was badly deteriorated and was brought into town to be pinned.

Pat Shaw presented a program about the founding of SAPIC and its goals and accomplishments to the Selma Alumni on June 7, 2014. The last graduating class at Selma, Iowa, was in 1965.

### WAPELLO

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, April 10, 2014: "Young Ottumwans show their green thumbs," by Josh Vardaman. Pictured are students from the JROTC class at Ottumwa High School as they planted 55 trees at several of the cemeteries around Ottumwa. Lucas Lunsford who is working on his Eagle Scout badge, also planted trees at local parks where storms had wiped out trees a few years ago.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, April, 2014: "Those who came before," by Mark Newman. Family History Fair will provide direction, resources. Beverly

Bethune spoke about how to preserve pioneer cemeteries at a Family History Fair sponsored by the Wapello County Genealogical Society and the Ottumwa Family History Center on May 3. The importance of preserving information found on tombstones before the writing is washed away was stressed.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 22, 2014: "Confusion laid to rest," by Mark Newman. Pictured is the Shrine of Memories Funeral Home in Ottumwa that some believed has closed. Some services are just temporarily unavailable while they look for a new licensed funeral director.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 24, 2014: "Canine remembrance," by Tracy Goldizen. Pictured is the dog statue that sits in the Ottumwa Cemetery decorated with American flags and flowers in honor of Memorial Day.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 27, 2014: "Spiritual nourishment," by Wanda Moeller. Pictured is the Mt. Olivet Cemetery located on the grounds of Indian Hills Community College and is the final resting site for the Sisters of the Humility of Mary who celebrated its 150th anniversary with a reunion in May.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, May 27, 2014: "Monument dedicated on Memorial Day," by Josh Vardaman. Pictured are members of the Ottumwa VFW and American Legion as they wait for a Civil War Monument Dedication to begin. The monument was a unique wood carving of a Civil War soldier that was completed by chain saw sculptor Gary Keenam in November. The monument was carved from an oak tree that had stood in the cemetery for years. The event included Civil War reenactors on horses, a speech by Mayor Tom Lazio and a history of the project by the Ottumwa Area Arts Council president.

## WASHINGTON

Washington, Ia., Aug. 21 (no newspaper or year given): "Grave of Veteran Found." Soldier of Revolutionary War and One of the Five Buried in Iowa. In an old cemetery near here, now used for a cow pasture, were found the remains of Timothy Brown, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, who came to Iowa in 1848. A granddaughter, Martha Keating, found the grave assisted by the Timothy Brown American Revolution Association. The Association will ask the Iowa Legislature to appropriate funds to erect a monument to his memory.

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, May 30, 1967: "Forgotten Cemetery Tells Tale Out of Iowa History," by Ellen Feon. Not all solitary graves and country cemeteries are cared for and remembered on Memorial day. Many have been forgotten as relatives have moved on. On a lonely windswept hill guarded only by a secured fence, lie markers denoting that somewhere close by are the remains of no one knows for certain how many men, women and children out of Iowa's past. Names on the stones in the neglected

burial site located southeast of Washington include Moore, Corbin, Tucker, Williams, and Loy.

## WAYNE

From the blog of Frank Myers who writes a great article about the SAPIC meeting that was held at the Prairie Trails Museum last April. He relates the founding and history of SAPIC, its mission, and covers the actions taken in the meeting. In a later blog, he tells of the visit of SAPIC member Steve Hanken to the cemeteries in the area.

[lucascountyan.blogspot.com](http://lucascountyan.blogspot.com)

## OUT OF IOWA

### FLORIDA

From the Today.com web site, March 20, 2014: "Grief and healing: Mom adds sandbox to baby's grave so son can 'play' with brother. Pictured is Tucker Jolley as he plays at the grave site of his brother, Ryan Michael Jolley, that was made into a sandbox. Tucker's mother, Ashlee, wanted him to feel more comfortable about visiting the resting place of his brother who died at the age of 5 days. For information about helping kids cope with grief, visit The National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

### ILLINOIS

From Herald-Review.com Angie Johnson from Berment has made it her mission to chronicle the lost and forgotten cemeteries of Illinois, along with all the others, and to restore those cities of the dead in grave peril from being buried alive by encroaching weeds, trees and neglect.

[http://herald-review.com/lifestyles/berment-s-angie-johnson-digs-graveyards/article\\_4080cc67-b56b-5a4b-b77c-26167b198e9d.html](http://herald-review.com/lifestyles/berment-s-angie-johnson-digs-graveyards/article_4080cc67-b56b-5a4b-b77c-26167b198e9d.html)

### LOUISIANA

New Orleans's most famous cemetery is St. Louis No. 1. It's only one square block, but as each tomb allows for more than one burial, there's almost no telling how many souls are resting here. After a body has been laid to rest for no less than (but possibly longer than) a year and a day (for it would be rude to kick them out on the anniversary of their demise), their remains are removed from the coffin and shoved into something called a caveau, essentially a hole, at the back of the tomb. Then in goes the next resident. Always room for more. Marie Laveau, the famous Voodoo Queen, is buried here, and her tomb is draped in beads, and people leave offerings for her in the hopes she will intercede in their problems. Nicholas

Cage, the actor, is apparently quite taken with New Orleans and has had his future tomb built here. The cemetery is the oldest in New Orleans, dating back to the 1780's. There are all types of tombs – step tombs, oven wall tombs, and large tombs built by various Societies for their members. There was even a table tomb, which looks like a concrete table. Families used to visit the cemetery on All Saints Day, and have a picnic.

### NEW YORK

From the *New York Times OP-ED*, March 19, 2014: "The Graves of Forgotten New Yorkers," by Bess Lovejoy and Allison C. Meier. Hart Island near the Bronx is said to be the largest active potter's field in America containing about a million bodies spread out over 101 acres. Until recently, it was off-limits to most visitors. It was controlled by the city's Department of Corrections who used inmates from Riker's Island to bury the dead. Last March, the New York City Council transferred ownership of Hart Island to the Department of Parks and Recreation and will establish regular public ferry service to the island so anyone can visit. The change has come in large part to the efforts of Melinda Hunt, a local artist, who has been pushing for years to open up the island cemetery. A short history of the cemeteries of New York is related, including the fact that many of New York City's parks are former cemeteries.

### PENNSYLVANIA

From [profserv.com/magazine/](http://profserv.com/magazine/) Dr. Ann Knowles, a professor of geography at Middlebury College in Vermont, is fascinated with maps and specializes in historical GIS. She is using modern technology to analyze how it would have affected life back then if the strategists had had more accurate and detailed maps of the Battle of Gettysburg. Her students in the History of Cartography class reenact part of the battle on a full-size copy of the original manuscript Warren map.

### ISRAEL

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, April 1, 2014: "Ancient burial boxes recovered in Israel."

Pictured is a 2,000 year-old Jewish burial box that is on display in Jerusalem. The Israeli Antiquities Authority said the boxes were recovered last March when police observed a suspicious nighttime transaction involving two cars, four individuals and the 11 boxes. It is unclear how the suspects got hold of the boxes. The boxes date to around the time of Jesus and include a pair of ossuaries believed to contain the remains of two noblemen who lived in Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago. Some are engraved with designs and even names, giving clues to their origin and contents.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, April 17, 2014: "Rare sarcophagus, Egyptian scarab found in Israel." Israeli archaeologists have unearthed a rare sarcophagus featuring a slender face and a scarab ring inscribed with the name of an Egyptian pharaoh, according to Israel's Antiquities Authority. The skeleton found inside the sarcophagus was most likely a local Canaanite official in the service of ancient Egypt. The sarcophagus was found at Tel Shadud, an archaeological mound in the Jezreel Valley.

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This will be the last issue of Grave News that will be sent by U.S. Mail in this format. Those with valid e-mail addresses will receive the newsletter of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries electronically in the future. Those who do not have e-mail capabilities or who specifically request a printed copy of Grave News will receive the newsletter by mail. Thank you for understanding in this matter. Sending the newsletter electronically will be economically beneficial to SAPIC, as it will eliminate the cost of a bulk mailing permit (\$190.00 annually), plus the cost of envelopes and labels.

CD North America NT 2013, 30 (Annun)