

# 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 #4

October, November, December 2014

## January SAPIC Meeting

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I think there's a mythology that if you want to change the world, you have to be sainted, like Mother Teresa or Nelson Mandela or Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Ordinary people with lives that go up and down and around in circles can still contribute to change.

**-Jody Williams**



Mother Teresa of Calcutta

By previous SAPIC board decisions, our first meeting of 2015 is an e-mail meeting. We will follow the procedure used on January 9-12, 2014 .

The following 'rules and procedures' help insure a worthy meeting, with sufficient advance time to become involved.

(1) The President asks members and pioneer cemetery friends to submit/suggest agenda items to the President well in advance of the meeting... These could be actual motions, suggestions or questions. **These should be e-mailed to me on or before Monday Jan. 5, 2015. You can start now, if you wish.**

(2) Please feel free to pass this e-mail on to other Pioneer Cemetery friends who may have items for consideration for the e-mail meeting,

(3) **The President sends the completed agenda to you by e-mail on or before January 8, 2015.** All agenda items will be numbered by the President for easier discussion.

(4) The October 11, 2014 business meeting minutes at Johnston previously been submitted and approved.

(5) **Treasurer Valerie Ogren may submit her report at any point before the meeting or use the e-mail dates to send to all Board members.**

(6) Thank you and if you have questions, please let me know. Steve Story, President (563) 380-8317 cellphone.

## Grave News by e-mail

Grave News will be sent by e-mail to as many SAPIC members as possible in the future. Please send your e-mail address to Pat Shaw at

[patshaw@netins.net](mailto:patshaw@netins.net) However, you may still receive the printed version of the newsletter in the U.S. Mail, if you prefer or if you don't have e-mail. If you wish to donate money to help with mailing expense, please send to Valerie Ogren, Treasurer. Thanks!

## Military Grave Markers

From Congressman Dave Loebsack, October 27, 2014: I just spoke to Gina White @ D.C. Dept. Veterans' Affairs for Headstones and Grave Markers Department.

She said in 2009 a law was passed that said only family members could continue to request these grave identifiers However, since then, there have been so many complaints that October 1st of this year, a proposal was placed in the **Federal Register (CFR 38.632)** that is opened for public comments to change the regulation- **RIN # 29-AO95**; it is opened for comments for only 60 days to strike this regulation. See web site [www.regulation.gov](http://www.regulation.gov) -

national cemeteries. It will take a few months after the closing before they will start taking applications again. I suggest everyone who is involved in the Pioneer Cemeteries (sic) make a comment.

There will not be notifications sent, people will have to be responsible to keep check when applications will be approved again.

## Cemeteries as a Research Tool

*Cemeteries: Research Tools for The Past* by Loren N. Horton. No. 2 in the Idea Series, Practical Guides for the Historian. This 6-page leaflet gives you some idea of the enormous amount of historical information one can find in a cemetery. For a copy, contact Pat Shaw. Loren Horton, who was a senior historian at the State Historical Society of Iowa, was one of the founders of SAPIC.



### Ron chamberlain receives Carter Award for starting WIPCA

Ron Chamberlain of Shelby County, Iowa received the Robert & Phyllis Carter Award that is presented by the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries to a deserving individual who has done outstanding work in the preservation of Iowa's historic pioneer cemeteries.

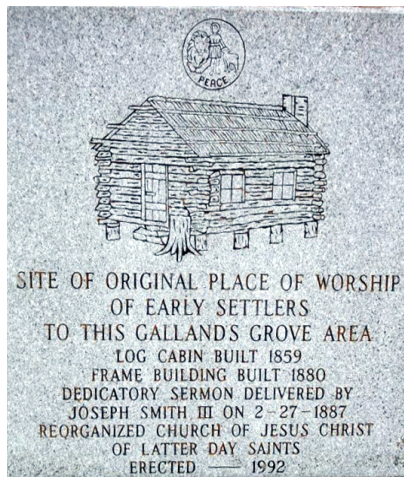
In 2010 Ron began discussion with individuals and groups resulting in the formation of the Western Iowa Pioneer Cemetery Association (WIPCA). Ron was elected the first Chairman. The fledgling group partnered with the Historical Pioneer Research Group and Community of Christ Church to establish the Abel Galland Memorial Cemetery in Grove Township where the RLDS church and the small cemetery were located very early in county history.

The cemetery dedication was held in June 2012 with

over 200 in attendance.

Ron Chamberlain selected Corley cemetery in Shelby County to receive the Phyllis and Robert Carter grant of \$200.00 for cemetery restoration. There were approximately 75 people present at the ceremony, held in the Shelby County Historical Museum in Harlan at 1:30 pm on October 26, 2014.

CONGRATULATIONS, RON!



### Important Legal News

The situation of township trustees and cemeteries, especially pioneer cemeteries, has changed since State v. Terry (1995.) Although trustees still have the same responsibilities and options toward active cemeteries, responsibility for pioneer cemeteries has been transferred to county supervisors. The trustees are no longer responsible for pioneer cemeteries within their jurisdictions, unless they own those cemeteries. In such a case, the situation is not entirely clear, or, at least, there has been no adjudication on the matter. The owner of a cemetery has obligations with regard to its care, and those obligations may require trustees to maintain a pioneer cemetery if they own it.

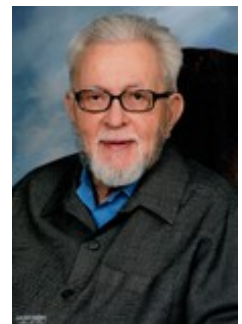
-- Bill Reedy

Web site for the State vs.

Terry case: [http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_case?case=1529722878550091686](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=1529722878550091686)

[7&q=townships+in+lowa+cemetery+care&hl=en&as\\_sdt=1000006](http://www.sdsu.edu/~townships+in+lowa+cemetery+care&hl=en&as_sdt=1000006)

One of the founders of SAPIC, **Paul Maddy** died November 27, 2014 in Perry, Iowa. He was 94. During a 25-year career in the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), Paul and his wife, Joyce, spent time in Israel, Nigeria, Sudan, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Liberia in agriculturally related activities that helped millions of starving people get food. In Washington, D. C., Paul was involved in a series of (eventually successful) interventions to prevent damage that mowers caused at Arlington National Cemetery. After returning to Iowa, he began studying laws applying to old cemeteries and experimenting with how volunteers could make repairs. Over the next ten years, he demonstrated his expertise through workshops presented to various civic groups in the Midwest. Along with other persons interested in the preservation of pioneer cemeteries, he was one of the founders of the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries. In 1997, he was the recipient of the Robert Carter Award for his work in the preservation of pioneer cemeteries in Iowa.



## Out Of Iowa



### ILLINOIS

From the *Daily Buzz Live*, October 10, 2014: *A woman buried alive.*

A Chicago family who went to the cemetery to mourn the loss of their son 15 minutes after his burial, heard screams coming from his grave. They ran to get help and when firefighters arrived, they discovered 34-year-old Linda Lynch inside the coffin. After the funeral of the person who was supposed to be buried in the coffin, the funeral director, Harold Lynch, drugged his estranged wife and placed her in the coffin. The young man's body was found wrapped in a blanket in the funeral home basement. Lynch's wife was hospitalized in stable condition and he was charged with attempted murder. The Chicago family has properly buried their son.



### KENTUCKY

From the *Waterloo Daily Courier*, November 5, 1933: *Find Forgotten Grave of Baby Brother of Abe'.*

In a little family cemetery near where Abraham Lincoln lived as a boy, workers on a county unemployed relief crew discovered the grave of little Tommy Lincoln, infant brother of Abraham, who died three days after his birth. No mention of the baby is found in Lincoln's biographies. The grave was found on the plot of George Redmond, who was a neighbor of the Lincolns. A descendant of Redmond recalled having heard that he had buried a Lincoln child. The plot is now a deserted shambles on an almost inaccessible knoll overlooking Rolling Fork river halfway between Hodgenville and New Haven



### NORTH CAROLINA

From *American Profile* magazine, October 11, 2014: "Hauntings with Attitude." The annual Ghostwalk held from October 23-25 at New Bern, NC featured actors portraying local ghosts who emerged from the shadows to share spirited stories from the town's past. Events were held in the Cedar Grove Cemetery and a stop at the Jesse Claypoole House, which looks hauntingly similar to the house in *Amityville Horror* and featured the spirit of North Carolina first lady Margaret Tryon. The event was an annual fundraiser for the historical society.

### WASHINGTON D.C.

From *Parade* magazine, Oct. 10, 2014: "American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial." A tranquil new monument near the Capitol is the first-ever public tribute to the more than 4 million disabled veterans in America. It features a

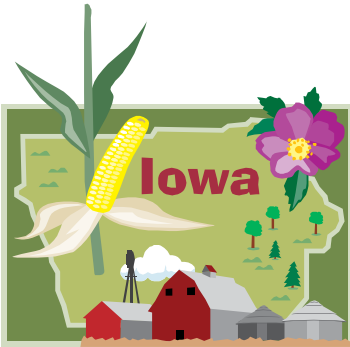
reflecting pool and a ceremonial flame. From the American Legion web site: "Legion family big part of Wreaths Across America Day," by Andrea C. Dickerson, Dec. 15, 2014. Pictured are the rows of graves at Arlington National Cemetery, each with a memorial wreath in front. More than 25,000 volunteers gathered at Arlington on December 13 to participate in Wreaths Across America Day, an event held in remembrance of



the veterans laid to rest at veterans cemeteries across the nation. A significant milestone was reached by laying the 2 millionth wreath nationwide in memory of Pvt. William Christman, the first soldier buried at the cemetery. Legionnaire, Bill Gilbert, a member of Post 87 in Dansville, NY, said he found inspiration in the meaning of the event -- "Remember, Honor, Teach." Since 1992, Morrill Worchester, owner of Worcestor Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, and his family have been laying wreaths at the resting places of veterans across the nation. <http://www.legion.org/print/225489>



## County Reports



### BENTON

From the *Vinton Eagle*, September 16, 2014: "Vinton Cemetery damaged over weekend," by Angie McFarland.

For the second time in less than two months, Evergreen Cemetery was hit by vandals. In late July, a four foot high angel monument in the eastern section of the cemetery was broken when the bottom portion of both wings were snapped off. During the overnight hours of September 14, vandals again desecrated the cemetery. According to sexton, Tim Fuchs, 22 headstones were vandalized. There was very little physical evidence left behind either time, but the cemetery board is determined to do what they can to find out who caused the damage. There is a reward being offered for the arrest and conviction of the person/persons who committed the vandalism. An entire page of pictures in color was included with the news article.

[news@vintonnewspapers.com](mailto:news@vintonnewspapers.com)



### BLACK HAWK

From the *Water Cedar Falls Courier*, October 18, 2014: "Cemetery stroll offers history and heart," by Christina Crippes. Pictured in color is Nick Erickson as he portrays Horace Boies, a former Iowa Governor from 1890-1894 who moved his law office to Iowa from New York after meeting his second wife. The Grout Museum in Waterloo presented its annual "Strolling with the Spirits" through Elmwood Cemetery where "ghosts" of Waterloo's notables shared their history. Included in the tour was Dennis Downs who portrayed Dr. Edward Rohlf who was laid to rest in 1970. Among the 30 attendees, were Dr. Rohlf's daughters, one of whom is also a doctor. An evening performance is expected to draw about double the attendance. Sara Nefzger, a Grout Museum assistant, said, "You get to learn a little bit about Waterloo's history, which is the fun part."

From the *Waterloo Times Tribune*, June 26, 1912: "Hidden Grave Contained Corpse in a Beer Case." A city fireman, John Foutch, stumbled upon a newly made grave about three miles up the Cedar a week ago. The grave had the appearance of having been made only a short time and bouquets of flowers were strewn about, while at the head had been placed a stone bearing the words, "Sweet Mind at Rest." The site has reported to Chief Leighton who, with Fireman Foutch and Judge Meyers, proceeded to the scene to unearth the possibility of some horrible mystery. They discovered that fresh flowers had been placed on the grave again and the exhuming of the contents began. About two feet below the

surface, a beer case was struck and the lid was tenderly and gingerly removed and inside was -- a dog! The little party lost no time in replacing the improvised coffin, carefully covering it up and hurrying back to the city.

### BOONE

From the *Waterloo evening Courier*, August 26, 1913: "Railroad Moves Ancient Cemetery." The bones of eighty-three bodies were transferred to the Linwood Park cemetery in Madrid and other sacred spots. The cemetery was sliding away by the cutting of a grade made by the recent straightening of the Milwaukee main line to its high bridge and across the river. It cost the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad \$4,000 to remove the bodies, but the company has done it carefully, sparing no expense. W. H. Mahaffie, who had charge of the work, said that most of the bodies were disintegrated beyond human semblance, with a few exceptions. A special permit from the state board of health was necessary for the removal of bodies and relics.

### CALHOUN

E-mail message from SAPIC member Shirley Miller, Chairman of the Cottonwood Cemetery Preservation Association, October 10, 2014: "I wanted to contact SAPIC to let you know of our sad news that our dear Secretary/ Journalist Sandra Somers passed away suddenly September 14, 2014. She was such an integral part of Cottonwood Cemetery Preservation Assn and her absence has affected us all deeply." Shirley included a link to the Lampe Funeral Home in Lake City where Sandra's obituary can be found. Sandra loved the sound of wind through the cottonwood trees

outside her door, and wrote of the beauty yet fleetingness of life in a poem that ended: *Free spirits must ever strike out, one supposes, Leave behind the security leafhood imposes, So here in the backyard I salute these three: Autumn leaves, brief flights, the bare cottonwood tree.* Memorials were directed to the Cottonwood Cemetery.

### CARROLL

From the *Carroll Daily Herald*, October 20, 1933: Legal Notices. In a receivership filed by the American Savings Bank of Carroll, Iowa, a land description is given that excludes a tract of land containing 1.34 acres reserved for a cemetery.

### CASS

From the *Atlantic Evening News*, March 28, 1910: "Fire in Cemetery at Anita." Fire, which caught from the spark from a passing engine, burned some of the grass and shrubbery at the cemetery here today, doing not a great deal of damage however.

### CEDAR

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, May 30, 1959: "Iowa's 'Unknown Soldier'," by Grant White. The article tells of the unusual grave marker that is an iron cover over the grave about the size of the top of a casket. In the middle is an oval cut out so grass can grow. There is no stone, no other marker except the flag which is placed over the grave each Memorial Day. The grave is some distance away from other graves in the historic South Bethel Cemetery south of Tipton. Indications are that the burial may have been made before the cemetery opened in 1863, since no records have been found to

## County Reports continued

identify the soldier buried there. The cemetery is the resting place for many Cedar county pioneers who came to the county as early as 1801.

Note from SAPIC member Jeff Kaufmann: They now know the identity of the soldier and he has a government veterans marker.

### CERRO GORDO

From the *Mason City Globe Gazette*, August 1, 1957: From the column, "Straws," written by E.A.N. One morning last week a Mason City resident stepped from his front porch and found a crude gravestone sitting on his front lawn. On one side of the concrete block was the inscription: Charlotte Jackson Cook, Died 1930. The stone was brought to the police station to see if the police could locate any living relatives. Records in the courthouse failed to reveal any person by that name. Police believe that some prankster picked up the gravestone somewhere in a small community or churchyard in the area. The stone still remains at the station.

### CHICKASAW

From the *Chickasaw County Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Volume 31, 2014: "Crane Valley Baptist Cemetery Renovation and Rededication," by Jeanette Kottke. Pictured in color is the cemetery with its new sign: "Crane Valley Baptist Cemetery 1859-1910 Pioneer Cemetery Renovated 2014." A crowd of fifty-four Chickasaw County Cemetery Commission members and guests met at the cemetery on October 12th and participated in a dedication of the renovated cemetery located in Jacksonville Township. The program was led by Chickasaw County Cemetery Commis-

sion President Wally Boehmer. Rev. Connie Markle, fifth generation descendant of Frederick Markle, who donated the ground for the cemetery, attended the ceremony and led the crowd rededicating the area to the memory of her ancestors and area pioneers.

Steve Story, president of SAPIC, was present and spoke of the statewide activities. He also congratulated all who helped in the renovation project. County Supervisor Rick Holthaus expressed thanks to all who have contributed their time and resources to the renovation project. Also present were SAPIC member Mike Magee and William Youngblut of Waterloo who have given many hours of labor toward many renovation projects in area cemeteries including this cemetery. Many other volunteers have spent more than three thousand hours renovating the grounds and monuments. Ada Lee of New Hampton gave a history of the area, including surnames of twenty-three recorded burials in the cemetery. The Crane Valley Baptist Cemetery is the seventh one completed since the Cemetery Commission was organized on August 8, 2000. A history of the area and the cemetery is provided. For a copy of this publication and others in Chickasaw County, contact the CCGS, PO 434, New Hampton, IA 50659-0434.

Ada Lee had the good fortune of obtaining a booklet that contains the map, deed, and information about Crane Valley Cemetery aka Yankee Cemetery aka Baptist Cemetery in Chickasaw County. She was able to borrow the book from a descendant of a person who is buried at this cemetery. Its contents were photocopied. The cemetery is

currently under restoration by the Chickasaw County Cemetery Commission. The information in the book was very helpful in finding the proper place for grave markers there. Also included was a photograph of the Baptist church that once existed nearby.

### DES MOINES

From *The Hawk Eye*, October 12, 2014, "Respecting the long dead," by William



Smith. Pictured on the front page are Bill Walker and Fred Wetzell setting an old tombstone on the site of the Old Danville Cemetery on September 4 in Danville. Also pictured are Bill Walker and Herb Price beside a large sign that displays a list of known family names of those interred at the cemetery. The landlocked cemetery which sits behind the property owned by former Danville mayor, Leroy Lippert, served as farmland for a number of years before the Des Moines County Pioneer Cemetery Commission reclaimed it and cleaned it up. Since the first burial was made in 1842, the exact perimeters of the cemetery were unknown, so the Commission paid \$2,000 to have it surveyed in 2012. An aerial view made of Iowa in the 1930s plainly showed the cemetery. Construction of concrete pads for the existing stones cost the Commission a little more than \$6,000 and was completed this summer. With the new sign up and the remaining stones put together, the Commission can finally close the book on a project that has dragged on

for more than a decade. Members of the Commission agree that a great part of their success is due to the help of Joy Lynn Conwell whose ancestors' graves are in the cemetery. Conwell, who works in the special collections section of the Chadwick Library at Iowa Wesleyan College, has amassed a treasure trove of data on Danville's early history. Conwell and the Commission members also gave much credit to the work and research of the late John Weyrick, who dedicated much of his time to reclaiming the Old Danville Cemetery. Conwell's history of the cemetery and the history of the formation of the Commission are provided in the article.

We in Des Moines County have been trying to do what we can to document the Des Moines County Home burial site but have failed to make much progress. We have the names of a handful of reported burials at the site but little else. I wanted to visit the site this Spring before the field crops came up but was unable to do so. The site is inside the IAAP and the Army restricts access to the site but has been willing to accommodate our requests so far.

--E-mail from Herbert Price, July 6, 2014

The commission received a thank you card from the Des Moines chapter of the DAR after their members read about our efforts recovering Old Danville in the *Des Moines Register*. The card was mailed to PO Box 493 and opened by the DMC Genealogy Society but later passed on to me. I will bring the card to our commission meeting Nov. 24. So far I know the story written by *The HawkEye* has appeared in abbreviated form in the Ot-

## County Reports continued

tumwa and Marshalltown papers. As far as I know only a photo was in the Des Moines paper. —Herb Price, Chairman

The *Burlington Hawkeye* Article was also picked up by the *Des Moines Register*, the *Council Bluffs Nonpareil*; the *Sioux City Journal*; *Audubon County Advocate Journal*; *Davenport Quad City Times*; *Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier*; the *Danbury (Connecticut) News-Times*; the *Greenwich (Connecticut) Citizen*; the *Greenwich (Connecticut) Time*; the *Stamford (Connecticut) Advocate*; the *Wichita (Kansas) Eagle*; and the *Miami (Florida) Herald*—that I know of. The article and pictures were picked up by the Associated Press (AP) and broadcast over the wire.

“What you all did has set a bar for other cemetery recoveries....what the channel 8 news tonight....they are making an effort now to recover a cemetery up at the Quad Cities.....Thanks for all you have done. You will probably never realize how your commitment and example has inspired others to preserve these sacred spaces.” Thanks....Joy Lynn Conwell

### DICKINSON

From the *Spirit Lake Beacon*, May 10, 1917: It looks too bad to see cattle in the Milford Cemetery the way they have been this spring. There ought to be some one interested enough to see that the last resting place of loved ones are not so neglected.

From the *Spirit Lake Beacon*, March 16, 1939: “Several Unknown Burials Found in Local Cemetery.” Mrs. Amanda Swailes has been busy for a long time collecting data for the Iowa Grave Registration project, a

State and Federal WPA project, for the purpose of completing burial records of war veterans. One of the mysteries she has uncovered in her research is a grave at Lakeview cemetery that was found by a grave digger in 1934 when he discovered a body on the Stoddard Brothers lot. No information could be found to identify the body. The grave was covered and another one dug before the Stoddard family arrived for the service. Mrs. Swailes has discovered other unidentified graves that are listed in the article, including the names of several veterans for which there are no proper markers.

### FAYETTE

From the *Oelwein Daily Register*, October 19, 1974: Pictured are the second grade science students of Mrs. McDermott's and Mrs. Bayles' classes who were on a field trip to the City Park where they discovered a partially covered gravestone. The words “Our baby infant son of H. C. and Emma Parker, died July 6, 1891” were engraved on the stone. No record in any Oelwein cemetery could be found of the family. School officials speculated that it could have been placed there by vandals.

From KCRG-TV9 in Cedar Rapids, September 14, 2014: “Vandals tip over 74



tombstones in Oelwein Cemetery,” by Jill Kasparie. Of the 74 stones tipped, 38 are broken or cracked. The damage comes just days before the yearly walk through the ceme-

tery grounds, when library director Susan Macken explains how those buried there have helped shape Oelwein's history. Among those damaged are ones belonging to the Oelwein family. The walk was held as scheduled.

Update, September 18, 2014: 7 juveniles, ranging in age from 12 to 16 years of age, have been charged with damaging more than 70 gravestones at Oelwein. The damage is estimated at \$4,200. <http://dmreg.co/IudX12T>

### FRANKLIN

From the *Alden Times*, July 26, 1907: For Sale. The hay in the Cemetery which is now ready to cut, inquire of the secretary, Mrs. Crosser.

### FREMONT

From the *Carroll Daily Herald*, October 28, 1930: “Waubonsie's Grave” A state park near Sidney has been established at the location of a former Indian burial ground that was recently discovered while road builders were excavating for highway No. 3. The tribe was ruled by Chief Waubonsie and where he had been buried 65 years ago. Parts of skeletons, arrow heads, pieces of arrows and a stone for grinding corn were found. An aged man named Shirley claims that he witnessed the burial of Waubonsie when he was 12 years old.

### GREENE

From the *Jefferson Bee*, September 27, 2014: “Old cemetery in Jackson Township,” by Will I. Lyon. Many old burying grounds are listed that are still used occasionally, but one just east of Jackson hill in southwest Jefferson has been farmed and the markers

lost. Another old-time burying ground is to be found on the Glenn Taylor farm on a hilltop south of the river. That site contains six markers, some broken and lying on the ground due to the fact that hogs and cattle have upset and trampled them for nearly a century. The dates and inscriptions are listed. The writer speculates about the death of a woman and her infant son who died on the same day in 1874.

### HAMILTON

From KQRadio, July 18, 2014: The Hamilton County Cemetery Preservation Society welcomed over 20 visitors to Hetland Cemetery southeast of Ellsworth on July 16 during a tour of the pioneer cemetery. One of the tour guides was Jean Ripley as she talked about the Berve family grave site. The cemetery held its first burial in 1882. The latest burial was 30 years ago in December, 1984 when Arthur Neubauer was buried. Visitors watched a demonstration by Chad Eels on cleaning and repairing a gravestone. The society schedules a walk through these cemeteries each year with the focus on the six pioneer cemeteries across the county. If you would like to know about the cemetery preservation society contact either members Jackie Frederick in Jewell or Linda Wild in Randall.

### HANCOCK

From the *Hancock Herald*, April 18, 1885: “The Cemetery Muddle.” The trouble over the location of a new cemetery has been at a fever heat for two or three weeks past. People living in the area of a proposed new 40-acre cemetery have protested due to concerns that their water

will be contaminated. They have sent threatening letters, torn down the cemetery fence, filled up newly made graves and hauled a dead animal into the enclosure. Some proposals and compromises were suggested at a meeting of citizens and owners of the cemetery land.

### HENRY

The second annual Pioneer Cemetery Day honoring early settlers and veterans was held on September 13, 2014 at the Oak Grove Cemetery north of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. The event, sponsored by the Henry County Pioneer Cemetery Commission, honored fourteen veterans whose graves are in the cemetery, including John P. Yount, Medal of Honor recipient during the Indian Wars. Stan Hill presented a history of the Commission and Pat White presented a brief history of the Oak Grove Church and Cemetery, highlighting veterans. Carol Klopfenstein read a poem titled, "The Little brick church at Oak Grove."

### JACKSON

From the *Monticello Express* July 21, 1927:

Workmen grading along the Maquoketa river at Lake Hurst, near Maquoketa, last Friday, uncovered a family graveyard. The grader scraped a headstone inscribed with the name Ida J. Cleveland who died March 1, 1865, at the age of 1 year and three months. It is recalled that a Mr. Cleveland worked at the Nickerson mill, which burned in 1870, so the grave had probably been uncared for for half a century. They were covered by several feet of dirt. A fence has been constructed around the plot and workmen are leaving it as it is.

### KOSSUTH

From the *Algona Courier*, July 23, 1909: Mr. Sigsby who lives north of Burt met with an accident while raking hay in the cemetery adjoining his place. The rake collided with the fence, causing a jerk that threw Mr. Sigsby from his seat on the rake and against the wire. His face and neck were pretty badly cut and the team ran away with the rake attached to them and broke down about a dozen of the monuments in the cemetery.

### JEFFERSON

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, October 25, 2014: "Cemetery tour Sunday." The clipping states that there are many ways to learn about history. You can read a biography, visit a museum or join Michael Zahs and Loren Horton for a walk through the Fairfield Cemetery for a unique way to look back in time. "Messages in Stone" was held October 26, 2014 and included the history behind our final resting places, the symbolism of Victorian grave markers and the origins of tree stump tombstones and white bronze markers. The event was sponsored by the Jefferson County Conservation Board.

### JONES

From the *Jones County Historical Society* newsletter, October 7, 2014: "Olin was town's 4th Name," by Mrs. Harry Hoisington. A history of the town of Olin that was printed in the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* on March 20, 1960 is provided including former names, schools, newspaper, banking, and the creation of a water system. Mentioned in the article is a history of the Olin cemetery in which the first burials were made in the 1840s. The Olin Cemetery Assn was formed in 1881. In 1907, a new fence was built

around the grounds and in the same year the arch was placed over the gateway.

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, November 12, 1978: "Bertha 'digs' Jones County Graves," by John Carlson. Pictured is Bertha Stimson whose hobby has been traipsing through the 63 cemeteries in Jones County since she was a little girl. She has records that pre-date 1880 and gets inquiries from around the nation. In addition to the bare facts, she also records interesting stories about the persons buried in the cemeteries.

### LEE

From the *Pella Press*, July 28, 1927: "An Historical Grave at Fort Madison." A daughter of Betsy Ross, known to history as the maker of the first American flag, lies buried in the cemetery at Ft. Madison. Her grave, marked by a single slab of marble, is in the old cemetery in sight of the Mississippi River. On the stone is the inscription, "Clarissa S. Wilson, born April 3, 1785, in Philadelphia. Pa. Died July 10, 1864, aged 79 years, 3 months." Beside her grave is her daughter, Rachel J. W. Albright, who passed away at the age of 92 years. During a visit to Mrs. Albright's daughter, Mrs. Kate Robison, the writer had the rare pleasure of hearing from Betsy Ross's great granddaughter the story of how Betsy happened to make the first American flag.

From the *Bonny Buyer South*, October 7, 2014: "Honoring Lee County's pioneers, fighting

men." Pictured are members of the Old Fort honor guard, Stark's company 1st Infantry Regiment, as they fire three volleys from their muskets to honor Andrew Oilar's service to his country. More than 30 people traveled along an old wagon path for a quarter of a mile and then up a small hill to the grave of Andrew Oilar, veteran of the War of 1812, a British prisoner of war at age 16 and a cousin of Abraham Lincoln. Andrew's mother Elizabeth and Lincoln's mother Nancy were sisters. Andrew died March 30, 1857. Speaking at the 12th annual Pioneer Patriot's Day was Dr. Eugene Watkins, site manager for the Old Fort Madison historical site. His remarks included, "One could easily imagine the trials he faced in dealing with the weather, poor food, the boredom of garrison duty, the stress and fear of combat and loss of friends." After the Honor Guard volley, William Hall of Clinton, a member of Bugles Across America, played Taps in his ninth appearance at the annual ceremony. Biographical information was furnished by the late Emma Smith of Luray, Missouri who was Andrew's great great granddaughter.

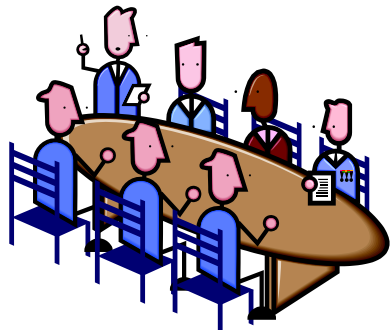
From the *Daily Gate City*, September 25, 2014: "POW ceremony salutes Montrose native," by Mary Sue Chatfield. Pictured are Helen Fowler as she accepts an American flag from Daniel Laton of the Iowa Honor Guard in honor of her father, Ivor Fowler, a prisoner of war for two years during World War II. Also pictured is the grave of Fowler at the Montrose Cemetery. The National POW/MIA Day honoring Fowler was observed on September 20, 2014.

**Continued on page 10**



## SAPIC OCTOBER 11, 2014 MEETING REPORT

### PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES—Minutes of meeting October 11, 2014



The regular quarterly October meeting of SAPIC was held Saturday October 11, 2014, at the Johnston, Iowa, Library. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by Steve Story, Chairman. Self introductions were made by the 14 persons present with Steve introducing Jonas Cutler.

Treasurer's report by Valerie Ogren. Will be filed for audit.

Minutes from July 12 with corrections of 1) Valerie Ogren, President of Greene Co. *Genealogical Society*, 2) Minutes – motion by *Mike Magee*. 3) *Eslinger Cemetery*. Motion to accept by Mike Magee, seconded by Donna Story **Passed**.

#### Business:

Young Mary Virden case – report by Mike Magee. Contacting descendant in California for permission to place a marker for Mary by her grand parents markers in Fairview Cemetery, Waterloo

Carter Award. Person receiving will be given a plaque and a lifetime membership to SAPIC. Motion made by Donna Story and seconded by Pat Shaw to give privilege of person given the Carter award to select which cemetery to receive grant money of \$200. **Passed**. Motion by Karon King that this policy begin now. Seconded by Valerie Ogren, **Passed**.

“**Amazon Smiles**” explained by Pat Shaw. They will give a percentage of your purchase price to charity organizations of your choice. Need more information as you must give them your bank number.

SAPIC Website needs updates. Please send items to Tony Bengston. He will be adding Cedar County as new Commission.

Chickasaw County, Crain Valley Cemetery, aka three other names, re dedication October 12. Mike Magee reports work has been completed except for some tree trimming.

Meeting in governor's Office concerning photographic project which is now completed. Steve reporting. How to proceed? Next meeting after election.'

Attorney Jonas Cutler reporting on severe damage to mausoleum of Governor Merrell in Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines. A tree had fallen on it. Pictures passed around. Contractor contacted with \$50,000 possible cost to repair. The Bureau of Cultural Affairs must give permission to put Seal of Iowa Plaque on governor;s markers.

Bill Reedy and Steve Story have received complaints about unwillingness of legislator, trustees, supervisor and county attorneys to permit or assist restoration. The problem is not lack of laws but getting laws enforced. We need to remind supervisors of the law and they are responsible even though they are reluctant to act because of public opinion.

Tom Gaard reported three unmarked Civil War have been marked. Ceremony Memorial Day. One unmarked in western Iowa was completed.

Program this afternoon at Iowa Genealogy Conference – Bill Reedy, Pat Shaw, Steve Story will be presenters.

Email/Newsletter report by Pat Shaw. Discussion. Amended motion: to notify everyone who has email that they will be receiving the newsletter that way and paper copy is ending unless you do not have email. Motion by Karon King, seconded by Bill Reedy. **Passed** Discussion about accepting donations from those who want to continue paper copy. Notice will be in the next *Grave News*.

Nomination committee: need someone to fill secretary and two board member positions.

January meeting will be held by email.

Thanks to Pat for doughnuts and juice.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Duane Ogren, seconded by Gene Davis. **Passed** Meeting adjourned by Steve Story at 12:00 noon

Submitted by Frieda Davis, Secretary



### Treasurer's Report for 3rd quarter -- July 1, 2014 thru September 30, 2014:



Balance in "Working Account" 30 June 2014, Home State Bank, Jefferson, Iowa: \$4,897.22.

Income: \$221.03

Expense: \$163.49

Balance in "Working Account" 30 September 2014: \$4,954.76

Balance in "Reserve Account" 30 June, 2014: \$3,728.39

Income: \$100.00 (life member)

Expense: \$1,000.00 (grants)

Balance in "Reserve Account" 30 September, 2014: \$2,828.39

Combined Balance on Hand: \$7,783.15

Additional Funds: CD in the amount of \$6,031.41.

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



### **DAYLILY CONTROL**

Orange daylilies are familiar flowers in cemeteries and they were planted because of their beauty and required little care. Both reasons still hold true today but because of these motives, a third element has been added — time. Once established and left unchecked, daylilies pose a threat to a cemetery and its gravestones.

#### **Daylily effects may include:**

- 1) Cover large areas.
- 2) Completely cover and hide a grave marker.
- 3) Conceal information.
- 4) Retain moisture around the stone.
- 5) Difficult to control.
- 6) Added maintenance cost.



#### **How to Control this Species:**

- 1) By using a shovel, they can be physically dug up. This method is labor intensive and not always successful. Any tubers missed will often re-sprout.
- 2) Heavy concentrations can be controlled by mowing at the machine's lowest possible setting. Immediately cover the plant with a thick mulch or heavy black plastic. Maintain cover for an entire growing season. This choice requires constant monitoring and may be unsightly.
- 3) Use a systemic herbicide. Glyphosate (Roundup) with a surfactant (Dawn soap) will kill the entire plant. Treatment has more impact if done in late fall when plant resources are being sent to its roots and most non-target species are dormant. Follow manufacturer's label directions and protect the grave marker from chemical contact.

Besides its gravestones, a cemetery's fabric includes grass, trees, shrubs, and flowers. All of which at some point require attention and, if allowed to grow unchecked, each one will affect the cemetery in some fashion.

## County Reports continued

An invocation was given by Rev. Dawn Butler of the Sandusky and Melrose Methodist Churches. Fowler belonged to the Sandusky church in his youth. Participants in the ceremony were Fowler's great great nephews and niece. His sister, 101-year-old Ruth Fowler Davis, was present and witnessed the ceremony. Mr. Fowler passed away February 6, 1983.

### LINN

From the *Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette*, November 8, 1913: "Tombstone Unearthed." While workmen were tearing down an old shed at the Rock Island shops, they found a gravestone inscribed, "E. Van Horn died

April 1, 1874 Aged 48 years, three months and 20 days." It is white marble, about three feet high and fourteen inches wide, on the top of which is a hand pointing upward. It is believed it may have been dumped out of a car and brought into the shed, where it was covered up with rubbish and forgotten.

From the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, May 27, 1984: "Ely Legion Post won't let War of 1812 vet be forgotten," by Tom Fruehling. Pictured is Lumir Biderman, a member of the Ely American Legion, placing a flag on the grave of John Kirkpatrick, a War of 1812 veteran buried in a tiny cemetery near Ely, containing his grave and two family members. The Legionnaires have installed a new government marker, constructed a 20-ft. white picket fence, kept the site mowed and have placed a flag on the grave since



Thomas Littleton's gravestone in the Andersonville National Cemetery.

discovering it a few years ago. Kirkpatrick died in August of 1860.

### LOUISA

From *The Gazette*, September 23, 2014: "Civil War memorial to honor brothers," by Alison Gowans. Pictured is the proposed monument to the six Littleton brothers of Toolesboro, who all sacrificed their lives fighting for the North in the Civil War. Their story, which was lost to history until a few years ago, is remarkable in many ways, said Tom Woodruff, a member of the Louisa County Historical Society. "As far as we know, it's the largest loss of life in one immediate family in any U.S. war." Brothers Thomas, William, George, John, Kendall and Noah all enlisted and died from wounds, disease or other calamities during the war. A plot of land has been donated in Toolesboro, on the Great River Road adjacent to the Toolesboro Indian Mounds, as a site for a permanent memorial to the Littleton's family's sacrifice. Plans for a documentary, a book and a play are in the works. An event in September, at-

tended by first lady Christine Branstad, kicked off a major fundraising effort to raise \$250,000. Donations can be sent to the Littleton Fund, P.O. Box 302, Wapello, IA 52653.

*The Civil War Picket*, September 23, 2014

### LYON

From the *LeMars Daily Sentinel*, May 8, 1973: "Ireton," by Mrs. Gale Bergsma. Farmers in the area of Doon, and the board of supervisors are investigating a now unused cemetery with the purpose in mind of adding it to cornland. The oldest marked grave was dated December 26, 1870. Overgrown with weeds, some of the markers were found to be mostly children of folks who settled there before the town of Doon was established. Presently the pioneer cemetery is 103 years old and many graves are unmarked and what markers are there are difficult to find as they are overgrown with weeds, wild grass and flowers.

From the *Des Moines Register*, February 7, 1977: "Pioneer's grave forgotten no more," by Jonathan Engel. Landowner Jack Zoet heard the tale of a Mr. Thomas from old-timers in the neighborhood who related that Thomas had been buried, at his request, near the intersection of two county roads. When Lyon County officials decided to widen the county roads at the corner of Zoet's land -- near where Thomas was buried -- Zoet cried "foul." He led county officials to the grave and they agreed to mark it with a brass marker. They are awaiting information about Thomas's first name and dates of his birth and death,

if possible, before engraving the marker. Thomas's apparent relatives are located three miles east in the Doon pioneer cemetery.

### MADISON

I did a workshop for the trustees of the Indianapolis Cemetery located near What Cheer in NE Monroe Township, in NE Mahaska County on the 20th. It rained that morning, but they have a building there, and from inside looking out at windows I was able to give them lots of dos and don'ts, instruction on the use of materials, what types of inappropriate repairs they'll find and how to deal with them, etc., etc..

I also this month carved two tablet gravestones for the Webb Cemetery located just south of Norwalk, IA. The larger one for William Ratliff is to replace one that was too far gone to repair and was sugaring beyond recognition. I did my best to copy it. The smaller one, for Susan Shelton, is to replace one found discovered, presumed stolen. Luckily, they had a photograph of it that I could scale off of and work with. Attached are photos. I used 3" thick Indiana Limestone rather than marble for greater durability and the obvious cost benefits. Susan Shelton was the first burial at this cemetery, and Wm. Ratliff was the second or third. I included photos of the old stones, and the new ones I carved after installation.

-- From SAPIC member Ben Mayer

Contact Ben Mayer for photographs of the stones: [mayben@yahoo.com](mailto:mayben@yahoo.com)

MARION

E-mail dated October 4, 2014: Larry Davis has finished work at Mikesell; I'm eager to get out there and see how it looks.

We had a problem at Price a month or two ago...someone actually dug up one of the graves (or at least, they dug down about 4 feet until they hit roots). The sheriff's office contacted me after one of the neighbors was walking out there and saw it. Their best guess is that someone was using a metal detector and started digging. Since the grave was from 1889, it's hard to tell if they hit anything. Anyway, Josh Schneider, our resident grave digger, came up and filled it in. We're hoping this was a one-time fluke incident and not going to be an ongoing problem.

--Valerie Van Kooten

Carlisle Arch is in place. This was put up on Aug. 13. Janet will get the bills for the arch to Larry Fudge, who will then present them to the Indiana Township trustees to see if they will pay some or all of the expense.

Price Cemetery stone repair (First Phase) is finished and paid. A motion was made by Dixie to ask Larry Davis to put us on the list to begin Phase Two next spring. This was seconded by Howard. All ayes.

Work on Parsons/DeHamer has stalled as John Renaud is waiting for the landowner, Steve Vander Hart, to come in with equipment and do dirt work.

Caulkins-Davies will be worked on again once the crops are out there. The land is in the process of being sold and the new owners want to be able to bury

someone there. The Knoxville Trustees will work with them on this.

Bellamy Cemetery was repaired by James Petersen and looks good. The cemetery still needs a gate.

Sweem Cemetery had a fence and sign replaced when the renters of that property hit the cemetery with their farm equipment. The renters paid the expenses for this.

Val spoke at the Iowa Economic Development Authority's Preserve Iowa Summit in Cedar Rapids on Aug. 21 and noted what some other counties are doing in preservation of their pioneer cemeteries.

Val was interviewed by Dr. Bob Leonard about the MCPCC. This was aired on Aug. 21.

MARSHALL

From the Associated Press, October 11, 2014: "New sign at Marshalltown cemetery."

Pictured are members of the Marietta Club beside the sign, "Marshall County Home Cemetery," that was erected as part of the project to renovate the cemetery and raise awareness of

the many poor people who lived in the county home in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Parts of the cemetery were overlooked for decades until 2000. More than 160 people are buried in the cemetery and the group hopes to add their names to a plaque.

SAPIC member and recipient of the Robert Carter Award, Wayne Blessing of Zearing, Iowa, has made a donation to promote education and other goals of the organization. Wayne was honored in 2008 for his restoration work at the Price Cemetery.

O'BRIEN

From the *Alton Democrat*, October 21, 1911: Mrs. Treleven, who owns an old unused cemetery south of Sheldon, has brought suit in the O'Brien County court for the dissolution of the cemetery association because of failure to use the franchise. She offers to remove the few bodies and prays that the title to the land be quieted to her.

O'BRIEN

From the *Alton Democrat*, October 21,

1911: Mrs. Treleven, who owns an old unused cemetery south of Sheldon, has brought suit in the O'Brien County court for the dissolution of the cemetery association because of failure to use the franchise. She offers to remove the few bodies and prays that the title to the land be quieted to her.

PAGE

From the *Kossuth County Advance*, February 14, 1917: "I had heard that there was an old cemetery in that locality (Shenandoah), and, after a long search, finally found it. It was in a small grove of trees, alongside a cornfield. The owner of the land had had the decency to plow around it, but the trees were being cut down for fuel. There were perhaps a dozen graves, but only one stone was left standing, most of the others having been piled alongside the fence, and some having been nearly covered by the ground. There was no way of locating or identifying the graves. I was reminded of Bryant's lines: "Yon field that gives the harvest, where the plow Strikes the white bone, is all that tells their story now."



## County Reports continued

### POLK

From the *Des Moines Daily News*, March 29, 1900: "Fire in Cemetery." Superintendent Hogan of St. Ambrose cemetery, which lies just north of Woodland, reports great loss to the cemetery by fire. He says the flowers, shrubs, grass and various frame work and other wooden and wire improvements and adornments have either been burned to the ground or badly damaged. Some of the marble and granite slabs were also damaged by the heat.

### SHELBY

On October 26, Ron Chamberlain of Harlan, Iowa was the recipient of the Robert & Phyllis Carter Award for his leadership in the formation of the Western Iowa Pioneer Cemetery Association and the reclamation of the Abel Galland Memorial Cemetery in Grove Township. Steve and Donna Story attended the event and presented the award to Ron.

### STORY

From the *Waterloo Courier*, February 28, 1905: "A mysterious Grave." The Loring neighborhood is somewhat agitated over a mysterious grave that has made its appearance in the Mt. Zion cemetery, a country church yard. The grave, placed in the area known as potter's field, is unknown to the sexton, trustees or anyone in the neighborhood. At a depth of only three feet, one can detect an object, apparently a box. A feeling of unrest will not subside until an investigation reveals the secret hidden by this particular six feet of earth. From the *Ames Tribune*, October 10, 2014: "Lohr finishes map of Ames gravestones." Jim Lohr has completed a project

of mapping the gravestones at Ames' five cemeteries, including nearly 11,000 photographs and has submitted the information to the BillionGraves website. During the five-month adventure, Lohr said he has a grown respect for the 'giants' who founded Ames and those who have contributed through the years.

### TAYLOR

From the *North Taylor Review*, May 31, 1917: "Memorial Services at Old Lexington Cemetery." Old Lexington is the oldest cemetery in Taylor County and many of the early settlers, soldiers and old residents of the area are buried there. It is the site of an annual memorial service that descendants of those buried there look forward to each year.

### VAN BUREN

From the *Van Buren County Register*, December 4, 2014: "A 112-year-old mystery solved," by Rusty Ebert. A gravestone which served as a cornerstone for an Ottumwa home for nearly 100 years, has made its way to its original intended resting place in a Van Buren County cemetery. With that, a mystery was solved, thanks to investigative work by the Iowa Department of Transportation and genealogist Don Aldrich of Keosauqua. In February, 1902, Alonzo Greenup died of bronchitis and was buried in White Chapel Cemetery in Lick Creek Township near his parents' farm. Shortly after, the Greenups moved to Ottumwa and built a house on the city's east side. For some reason, Alonzo's monument was not put at the grave site, but was used as a cornerstone of their new house. In 2000, the Iowa DOT was doing preliminary

work on the new Highway 34 bypass and purchased right-of-way where the Greenup house stood. Only the foundation was there containing the grave marker. The DOT needed to investigate, in case there was a burial there. No records could be found to indicate a burial or where the stone belonged, so the grave marker was put in storage. Because of information that has been put on the Internet since 2000, a connection to Van Buren County was discovered. Jon Finney, Van Buren County Auditor, and Don Aldrich of the Van Buren County Genealogical Society were contacted, and Don was able to find the cemetery in which Alonzo was buried. Although the exact site could not be determined, they decided that after 100 years without a stone, they would give him a place of prominence underneath the flag pole that had been installed when the pioneer cemetery was renovated in 1999. A history of the White Chapel Cemetery is printed with the story, including mention of the great-great grandparents of actor Tom Arnold whose graves are there.

### WAPELLO

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 18, 2014: "Freedom Rock Arrives in Ottumwa." by Laura Carrell. Pictured in color is the 11 1/2 ton rock sitting on a flatbed truck in the parking lot of Bridge View Center. It will be turned into a Freedom Rock by Ray Sorensen as a tribute to the community's veterans. Sorensen has a vision of a Freedom Rock Tribute to veterans in all 99 counties in Iowa, similar to the original Freedom Rock he created in Adair County in 1999. It is a project of the Ottumwa Area Arts Council.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 24, 2014: "Freedom Rock started in gratitude to veterans," by Mark Newman. Pictured in color is muralist and rock artist, Ray "Bubba" Sorensen as he works on Ottumwa's Freedom Rock. It will be the 23rd Freedom Rock in the state. The centerpiece of the boulder is an American bald eagle. After an 8-foot thick cement pad is cured, the 11-ton rock will be lowered onto it.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, September 30, 2014: "Freedom Rock," by Patrick Shelby. Another image that has been painted on the Freedom Rock is pictured in color, as the artist wrapped up his work that depicted Wapello County's distinguished military history. The rock will rest underneath the Veteran's Memorial Flag at the Bridgeview Center.

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

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, October 3, 2014: "Whose responsibility is this veteran's grave?" by Matt Milner. Pictured is the lone grave of Curtis King who is recognized as the oldest man to serve in the Union Army. He mustered in as a private on Nov. 9, 1862, at age 80 and was a member of the 37th Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He left the army in 1863 and died later that year. The grave site, located near Chillicothe, was fenced by the Ottumwa Civil War Roundtable and mowed by a volunteer until this year. The county supervisors are trying to determine who is responsible for maintenance.

From the *Ottumwa Courier*, October 7, 2014: "Cemetery buried no more," by Matt Milner. Curtis King's grave located along Highway 163 near Chillicothe was reported as being a "lone grave" in a previous news article, but

several readers reported that it is, in fact, part of the Williams Cemetery that contains at least a dozen more graves. Since King's grave is fenced separately and can be accessed easily, the question of how to obtain an easement for maintenance of the other graves has arisen. The Comstock Cemetery, also nearby, may have been discovered recently by a mushroom hunter. The county is trying to obtain easements to both sites. Several examples of other cemeteries that have been "lost" are given in the article.

From the Ottumwa Courier, October 21, 2014: "Civil War heroes from Iowa tell their stories," by Laura Carrell. Pictured is Kaylaine Bunnell portraying Civil War spy Margaret Vincent Kirkpatrick during Main Street Ottumwa's History Walk in Central Park. Also portraying Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood in his recruitment of troops for the Civil War was Richard Gaumer. Other reenactments included the wife of Curtis King, the oldest known enlisted soldier in the Civil War, Dr. Lafayette Campbell and Colonel Charles W. Kittridge.

From the Ottumwa Courier, November 5, 2014: "Veterans recognition, Freedom Rock dedication set for Tuesday." Veterans were recognized and thanked for their military service on Veteran's Day at the Wapello County Freedom Rock dedication ceremony at Bridge View Center. The Patriot Guard Riders, OHS JROTC and Boy Scout Troop 11 all took part in the indoor portion of the ceremony. Music was provided by Les Thostensen and Mayor Tom Lazio welcomed the attendees. Key-note speaker was Dan Maeder. The Veterans of Foreign Wars provided a 21-gun salute and Taps for the outdoor portion of the cere-

mony where the Freedom Rock was dedicated. The Rock, painted by Ray "Bubba" Sorensen, included images of a Gold Star Banner, American flag, bald eagle, the Tuskegee Airmen, National Guard Unit 833rd and the Naval Air Station near Ottumwa.

From the Ottumwa Courier, November 7, 2014: "Honoring those who served us -- we salute Gary Oldenburger." Oldenburger, who served in the USAF, is now Wapello County Attorney. His military history is given, including a fond memory of being assigned to straighten the headstones at the base cemetery of Offutt AFB, Nebraska. There were headstones there back as far as 1896, when it was an Army outpost called Fort Crook. Many stones had sunk into the ground and were leaning. Oldenburger and his crew built foundations and set the stones up straight. When he returned several years later, he was gratified to see them standing as straight as the day they set them. Many relatives of those buried there expressed their appreciation. Oldenburger states that is is the one project that he is most proud of because it gave him the opportunity to honor those fallen soldiers and Airmen.

From the Ottumwa Courier, November 11, 2014: "The Battlefield," by Russell Allen Weeks, Ottumwa. A poem containing six verses honored the veterans who have given their lives and those who have been wounded. The last verse is printed here -- for a copy of the entire poem, contact Pat Shaw.

"Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed ground!"

Here where so many soldiers fell down.

Honor that soldier, who will never go home,

Honor that boy that will never grow old.

Like the blood that was on the cross and thorny crown,

The soldier's blood sanctifies this ground.

Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed ground."

#### WRIGHT

From the Ottumwa Courier, October 18, 2014: "Flags at half-staff Monday for WWII airman." Governor Terry Branstad ordered flags to be flown at half-staff in Iowa from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in honor of Staff Sgt. Maurice L. Fevold, formerly of Badger/Eagle Grove. Fevold was assigned to the 599th bomber Squadron, 397th Bomber Group (Medium), U.S. Army Air Corps on Dec. 23, 1944, the first day of aviation operations for the Battle of the Bulge. His aircraft was shot down near Seffern, Germany which borders Belgium. His remains, along with the entire crew, were not found until November 2006, when the Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command -- Central Identification Laboratory (JPAC) received information of a possible aircraft crash site near Allmuthen, Belgium. In March, 2007, the team recovered physical evidence that identified the

remains. His military awards include the Purple Heart, Air Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Presidential Unit Citation and the Enlisted Aircrew Member Wings.

#### **What 's its Name?**

Providing visual identification to a "what's its name" cemetery is a worthwhile community service project. Consider installing a primary sign or replacing an old one.

All material is pressure treated wood

Individual sign boards are 2" x 8" x 48"

Letter size is 4" and 6", routed 1/4" deep, and painted black

Boards are bolted to posts that are 4" x 4" x 96"

Cost of materials--\$30.00

Individual boards are replaceable

With luck, sign should last 40-50 years and after that, someone may put up a new one! For an illustration of the sign, contact Pat Shaw.

-- Suggestions from John Heider



## SAPIC

21813 170th St. Birmingham, Iowa,  
52535 (newsletter)  
18883 250th St. Hawkeye, Iowa  
52147 (President SAPIC)

## SAPIC [State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries]

Were on the web!

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

Visit us on Facebook at  
[www.Facebook.com/](http://www.Facebook.com/)

### 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 2015 /2016 can be paid now.**



**White Portland Cement:** Local Building Materials Supplier (may require special order)

**Hydrated Lime (Type S):** Local Building Materials Supplier

**Hydraulic Lime:** Virginia Lime Works, P.O. Box 516, Monroe, VA 24574, 1-434-929-8113

--Suggestions by:

John Heider [jheider@mchsi.com](mailto:jheider@mchsi.com), 217-898-2422

Note: SAPIC does **not** endorse products.

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

### 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](mailto:Dennis.Britson@iid.iowa.gov)  
(515) 281-5705 or toll-free  
(877)-955-1212

### OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

Lara Noldner, Bioarchaeology Director  
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Iowa City, IA 52242-1030  
319-384-0740 [lara-noldner@uiowa.edu](mailto:lara-noldner@uiowa.edu)

**Casting concrete gravestones** for about \$30.00:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZjvFQQWmSI>

### Hoisting gravestones:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KK3DMn\\_Z-pY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KK3DMn_Z-pY)

## SAPIC's PURPOSE

SAPIC was organized in 1996 with the following goals:

- A. To identify all cemeteries in Iowa.
- B. To take such measures as are necessary, possible and reasonable to protect these cemeteries, and the monuments contained in them, from danger due to natural causes or from human encroachment.
- C. To provide guidance and educational materials for use by the people entrusted with the preservation of these cemeteries and monuments contained in them.
- D. To compile and distribute information about the proper maintenance techniques for these cemeteries and the monuments contained in them.
- E. To provide advice and information to legislative bodies empowered to pass legislation creating a legal framework for the protection, the preservation and maintenance of these cemeteries and the monuments contained in them are enforced.
- F. To act as a monitor of the administrative and management personnel of these cemeteries, to ensure that the legal measures for the protection, preservation and maintenance of the cemeteries and the monuments in them are enforced.

## SAPIC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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319-685-4366 [vmheck@netins.net](mailto:vmheck@netins.net)

Board Member (2015): Benjamin Mayer  
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Board Member (2016) Gene Davis  
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Vinton, IA 52349-2360

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**Web Page:** Tony Bengston  
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### WHERE TO GET SUPPLIES

**Probes:** Farm Supply Store or a Forestry Supply -- Suggest length 48 inches

**Biological Cleaners:** Miles Supply, Rockville, MN, 1-800-789-0815;

**KEYSTONE** (generic equivalent to D2), R.I.P., Ltd., 988 Iron Horse Place, Monticello, IL, 1-217-898-2422

**Scrub Brushes** (white-soft, bristle): -- purchase locally

**Injection Grout (IG 10):** U. S. Heritage Group, Inc., 3516 N. Kostner Ave., Chicago, IL 60641, 1-773-286-2100; [www.usheritage.com](http://www.usheritage.com)

**Grout Tints:** Lowes Building Supplies (Spectra [Part B], Qt. size container)

**Epoxy:** (Tenax, clear, knife-grade): Miles Supply

**Setting Compound:** (light grey): Miles Supply

**Setting Cushions:** (1/16 inch): Miles Supply