

# GRAVE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA  
CEMETERIES

31086 Crystal, Strawberry Point IA

<http://sapiciowa.org/>

Vol. 27 Issue # 3, July, August, September 2022



Next Meeting:

**Saturday, October 08, 2022, SAPIC meeting will be held at the Dallas County Forest Park Museum, 14581 K Avenue, Perry, Iowa, at the invitation of Pete Malmberg, Museum Director. Refreshments will be served at 9:00 AM prior to the 10:00 AM meeting. Would you enjoy a tour of a one-acre-pioneer cemetery with burials dated in the 1800 era? Deanette Snyder, a local cemetery restorer and historian, will guide you at the Meyers Pioneer Cemetery where important early Dallas County settlers are buried including a former slave who cooked for General Sherman's Army during the march across Georgia.**

**Please let us know you plan to attend to assist with planning by emailing Mary Richards at [mrichards@netins.net](mailto:mrichards@netins.net). We look forward to seeing you at the October 8<sup>th</sup> SAPIC meeting in Perry.**

**Directions to Dallas County Forest Park Museum in Perry, Iowa: A sign greets you on Highway 141, turn South off Hwy 141 onto K Avenue for one-half mile on a county blacktop. Will see Museum on west side of road,**

---

From President Bill Reedy ~

There have been some changes to the law regarding "pioneer sections" of active cemeteries, and the responsibility of commissions with regard to these newly-designated sections. These changes will be discussed in more detail at the October meeting.

---

# STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IOWA CEMETERIES

Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2022



The State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries met July 9, 2022, at the Guthrie Country Historical Society Village in Panora, Iowa. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Bill Reedy.

Secretary's Report: President Reedy stated the minutes of the previous meeting were printed in the Grave News newsletter. Moved by John Heider that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as printed in the Grave News newsletter. Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Brad Hughes. Funds on hand as of June 30, 2022, consisted of \$1,266.72 in a share draft (checking) account, \$510.00 in reserve savings accounts, and \$10,595.99 in time certificates of deposit. These funds total \$12,372.71 and are below balances on hand year-end 2021. Actual cash flow for year-to date 2022 is a negative \$1,989.55 compared to an annual budget deficit of \$2,243.24.

Total deposits have decreased from year-end 2021 primarily due to \$3,000 in grant outlays since the last meeting. Total deposit balances remain healthy. The negative budgeted cash flow for the entire year is greater than that experienced to date because \$500 budgeted for training has yet to be spent, Gross income thus far in 2022 appears on track to meet that projected for the entire year.

Grants: After considerable discussion, a motion was made to allow a Grant applicant to apply for a \$500 grant for a training workshop and a \$500 grant for gravestone repair and cemetery maintenance for a total of \$1,000. Motion was seconded and passed. Larry Davis, representing the Grant Committee, reported that the committee is in the process of updating the Grant application forms and urged members to read the summery reports of some of the past grant recipients in the last newsletter. Mary Richards reported there is interest in several western Iowa Counties about the Grant program and information on forming Pioneer Cemetery Commissions.

Preserve Iowa Summit: President Reedy and vice-president Heider attended the Reserve Iowa Summit in June of 2022 representing SAPIC and reported a good attendance and interest in SAPIC.

Newsletter e-mail editor: President Reedy reported that Donna Story, e-mail editor, has submitted her resignation. Donna states that she will still support SAPIC as her schedule permits.

Secretary and Treasurer: Larry Davis, secretary, and Brad Hughes, treasurer, have previously requested to be replaced. President Reedy asked if anyone was interested. There was no response.

General discussion over recent questions received:

1. Is there county financial support for upkeep of veterans' graves?

Yes, there is an annual amount through the Board of Supervisors.

2. How are members chosen for county Pioneer Cemetery Commissions?

The County Board of Supervisors appoint members to the Pioneer Cemetery Commissions.

3. Has there been any recent improvement in ability to access isolated cemeteries?

No, there has been not improvements.

Nominations Committee: President Reedy appointed the following persons to the nominations committee which will report at the October meeting.

Brad Hughes, Chairman, Mary Richards, Donna Story, Mike Magee, and Don Wentworth.

Terms ended in 2022:

President—term limit out

Vice-President—term limit out

Board members: Jean Ripley and Larry Davis

Future Meetings:

A motion was made and seconded that the October 2022 meeting be held at the Forest Park Museum in Perry Iowa, motion carried.

October 8, 2022—Forest Park Museum, Dallas County, Perry, Iowa

January 2023—E-mail Meeting

April 2023—Prairie Trails Museum, Corydon

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 12:00 PM.

Secretary, Larry Davis

*Submitted by Mary Richards*

The July 09, 2022, SAPIC meeting was held at the Guthrie County Historical Village (GCHV), 206 W South Street, Panora, Iowa at the invitation of Kristine Jurgenson, Museum Curator. Iced tea, coffee, water, sweets, and meats were served at 9:00 a.m. in the Museum with Jackie Peters, Jean Ripley and Mary Richards assisting Kristine. The 10:00 a.m. meeting in the air-conditioned 1913 church was called to order by President Bill Reedy. Kristine welcomed the SAPIC members and visitors. Seventeen people provided self-introductions. Secretary Larry Davis and Treasurer Brad Hughes reports were approved. Bill Reedy and John Heider reported on their well-attended presentation at the Preserve Iowa Summit. Information about the following cemeteries is available from Mary Richards: 1. Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery in Des Moines (restoring Tower); 2. Valley View Cemetery in Johnston; 3. Greenwood Friends Cemetery near Ankeny; 4. Rittgers Cemetery in Johnston; 5. Davis County Cemetery and Gravesite map. Following the adjourned meeting, Rod Stanley, chair of Guthrie County Cemetery



Preservation program, provided a tour of West Cemetery. Mary Richards delivered a hand-written thank you message to Kristine and her board members for graciously hosting SAPIC members and visitors. The October 8th meeting will be held at the Forest Park Museum in Perry, Iowa.



Mary Richards met with Governor Reynolds and Lt. Gov. for the Proclamation for May is Cemetery Appreciation Month signing and presented Gov. Reynolds with a hand-written letter of gratitude for her support of SAPIC.

*Submitted by Christy Rickers*

Hello All! This is Christy Rickers with the Crawford County Historic Preservation Commission. Each year we have a history-themed booth at our County Fair (July 20-24). This year our theme will be cemeteries. We have been doing research on cemeteries in our county - and learning only a drop in the bucket compared to all the history and information there is to be found!!



I just wanted to let you know that I grabbed about 10 SAPIC brochures at the Preserve Iowa Summit to put out at the fair booth. I hope this is OK. I also wish I had more. Could someone send me more or just send the file so I can print out more?

We plan to have information about symbolism, care and cleaning, history, etc. I have been doing a lot of research on a couple of lost cemeteries in the county - without much luck, I'm afraid. We have a pioneer cemetery with a woman and 2 children that a farmer has nearly obliterated on purpose. Very upsetting. I have also been trying to find another pioneer cemetery with possibly 3 graves. I have thoroughly researched it and had GPR done in one area. Still have not located it, but it is an ongoing project.



I also had a question about a particular symbol I saw on a few gravestones during my research. I have attached photos. I think it is a basket with some leaves coming out of it. I cannot find any references to this particular symbol in any books I have or online. Is anyone familiar with it?

This site was submitted by Donna Story to search symbols.

<https://familytreemagazine.com/cemeteries/hidden-meanings-gravestone-symbols/>

*Submitted by Judy Liddle*

## **Chickasaw County Cemetery Commission Report**

We have been working at Deerfield Cemetery. Here are a few pics. This first one was laying flat



on the ground and cemented in. The black stuff outlining the stone is cement. We dug it out and stood it up and cleaned it as best we could. A different grave had a bush planted on it. The first time we went to remove it there was a snake in it! Wally and Phil removed it later. Last week a couple drove up in a pickup and saw what we were doing. They told us they came all the way from Garner just to remove that bush! They saw the work we had done and saw the bush was gone and gave us a generous donation! We are still planning on getting into Cedar View when we finish



Deerfield. We contacted the Deerfield trustees and hired a guy to remove some trees out there already. Cedar View is going to take quite a while to finish.

*Submitted by Donna Story*

## **Fayette County**

### **Soldier's Lot Reimbursement**

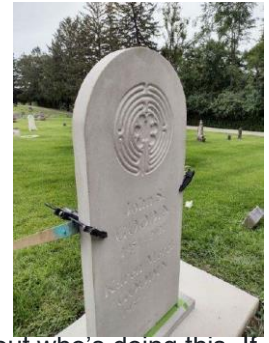
Ginger Wander, the new City Clerk in Elgin, Iowa investigated the Soldier's Lot Reimbursement. She was informed by the Fayette County Auditor's office that the list of veterans buried in cemeteries in the county gets updated every year or as needed with new veterans. The City Clerk sends a letter with the list of veterans buried at the City cemetery to the Fayette County Auditor right after the end of the calendar year. Then they send us a check for approximately \$4.00 each lot as reimbursement for maintaining and taking care of those lots.

The Township Clerk can do the same – send the list of veterans buried in each of the township cemeteries to the County Auditor for reimbursement for maintenance of each of the lots.

*Submitted by Michael Magee*

[https://www.milanomonuments.com/blog/why-you-should-invest-in-cemetery-restoration?hs\\_amp=true](https://www.milanomonuments.com/blog/why-you-should-invest-in-cemetery-restoration?hs_amp=true)

<https://decorahnews.com/news/5872/top-story-lutheran-cemetery-in-decorah-is-now-home-to-a-unique-gravestone/>



Question ~

*Submitting by Helen Schumacher*

I'm looking for a surveyor to mark plots in Mentor Cemetery, Leroy Township. The only existing map is from when the cemetery was first established. Several people wish to buy lots there and we need to determine what's available. I noticed in a SAPIC newsletter that a grant was awarded for surveying and marking plots, but I can't locate the name of a contact person to find out who's doing this. If you have any contact information, will you please let me know. [helen.schumacher@schumacherelevator.com](mailto:helen.schumacher@schumacherelevator.com)

## Grant Reports:

Thank you for the generous grant to St. Mary's Cemetery in Franklin Township, Greene County, IA.

We will be surveying the St. Mary's Cemetery soon. We have contacted an individual that will be recording the existing 'new' or western part of this cemetery. This is much needed, due to existing records are not complete. We will map out each lot and plot for recording, with pins used to mark each lot. Your \$500.00 grant will help us cover this expense. We anticipate that the surveying will be complete by fall. We will keep your board updated as we progress through this process.

Again, we appreciate this generous grant for this purpose. Thank you in helping us preserve St. Mary's Cemetery.

Franklin Township Trustees  
c/o Linda Tipton  
Franklin Township Clerk  
Email: [lindatimtipton@live.com](mailto:lindatimtipton@live.com)

With the 500.00 SAPIC grant that the Whitebreast Township received this year, we have repaired the majority of headstones down in Cochran cemetery due to the August 2019 tornado or old age. It's the right thing to do repairing this history and heritage of our local area and this grant helped us with this important work.

Thank-you,  
Dianne Chambers  
Whitebreast Township Clerk  
Warren County, Iowa

Your letter and \$500 check were received with sincere appreciation by our Cemetery Committee and also by our church council. Without funding for projects, we obviously would not be able to maintain and improve our cemetery. The congregation has been financially supportive and always encouraging, but there is a constant need for additional assistance.

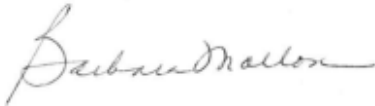
Our committee has a list of several activities that would benefit the cemetery. Deciding exactly which one(s) would be the best use of the money is harder than it sounds. In addition to our on-going task of re-setting and cleaning stones (and eliminating the ground squirrels), our list keeps growing as new needs surface. To date it includes:

- building a kiosk for a map of the cemetery
- marking the lanes within the cemetery to aid in a search
- using a drone to capture aerial photos of the lots and plots
- utilizing QR codes
- adding a small metal tag with name and date information to the back of weathered stones
- moving the military memorials to the base of the stones to keep them from getting damaged
- providing a repository for the genealogy of those buried in the cemetery

We will be pleased to send pictures of work and we will also let the local media know of your support through SAPIC.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,



Barbara Mallon



Barb Mallon, Joan Schoon and Dennis Mitchell inspect the progress of the project to clean and repair headstones at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Cemetery in Slater. RONNA FAARBOG/WJMS TRIBUNE

## Headstones at Slater cemetery 'adopted' by locals

Ronna Faarborg  
Ames Tribune  
USA TODAY NETWORK

When Dennis Mitchell discovered that his in-laws' headstone was sinking, it triggered a monumental project at Bethlehem Cemetery at the southeast edge of Slater.

"That's happened a lot down here. We have a lot of sinking going on," said Barb Mallon, one of the church mem-

bers who leads the committee to clean, lift and straighten the headstones at Bethlehem Cemetery.

Mitchell's brother-in-law contacted a contractor to raise and level the stone, which got the group thinking about taking care of the other stones that were showing the wear and tear of Iowa's weather.

With 50 headstones cleaned and straightened so far, this summer the group hopes to add a couple dozen more

to the list.

"Our cemetery committee has been working with a contractor to repair, raise and level headstones as a trusted duty to those who have been buried there," Mallon said. "The congregation and the church council have diligently funded the contractor expenses while volunteers have given their time and labor to the cleaning, landscaping and

See HEADSTONES, Page 2A

**LUTHER PAUL PUGH**

The son of Hugh and Mary Ann (Ferguson) Pugh, Luther Pugh was born in Ohio on February 7, 1843. A sister (Sarah) had been born in 1840 and another sister (Mary) was born in 1847 and a brother (Moris) in 1852 before the family moved to Clayton County, Iowa, in 1854. They made their home in what became known as Pugh Hollow (also known as Dutch Branch) a few miles south of Mederville where another sister (Alice) was born in 1858.

Two years later, during that fall's election campaigns, many in the South threatened to secede if Abraham Lincoln was elected, but the Clayton County Journal thought it was just politics as usual. "Our opponents, finding that their popular sovereignty humbug is about worn out, now resort to an old trick, which is peculiar to them every four years, namely, charging disunionism upon the opposition. They say that the Union will be divided if Lincoln is elected President. Indeed! because a majority of the voters of the United States are in favor of a certain man and invest him with the highest office in their gift, the Union is to be dissolved! Ridiculous!" "No one," it said, "anticipates such a result - This cry was invented only to frighten the people into voting for the Democratic candidate."

But, Lincoln was elected, Southern states did secede, and on April 12, 1861, General Beauregard's cannon fired on Fort Sumter. "If war they want, war they shall have," said the Journal. "We hope however our readers will not become too excited over this, because it is not worth while. There are men enough in Pennsylvania alone to subdue South Carolina without the aid of Iowa volunteers." The Journal was wrong and Iowa volunteers were rushed to the field, first ninety-day regiments, then three-year regiments and soon there were calls for more recruits to help fill the depleted Union ranks.

The 21st regiment of Iowa's volunteer infantry was organized in the state's northeastern counties, its third Congressional district. With a total of 985 men, it was mustered into service at Camp Franklin on Eagle Point in Dubuque on September 9, 1862, and left for war on the 16th. During the next three years, it served in Missouri, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas and Louisiana. Its most noteworthy service was during the 1863 Vicksburg Campaign. On April 30th, it was designated as the point regiment for General Grant's army as Union forces began crossing from Disharron's Plantation in Louisiana to Bruinsburg, Mississippi, and two weeks later, with the 23rd Iowa, led a successful assault on entrenched Confederates at the Big Black River.

Despite new recruits continuing to join the regiment, by 1865 it had only 655 men on the rolls and many were unfit for duty. With its final campaign of the war approaching, more men were needed, and on January 19th, Luther Pugh signed a one-year enlistment. Described as a 22-year-old, 5' 9½", farmer, Luther was assigned to Company B while, far to the south, the regiment was preparing to leave Louisiana for Alabama. Men boarded transports in New Orleans on February 5th, landed on Dolphin Island on the 7th, and camped near Fort Gaines at the entrance to Mobile Bay. They were still there on the 23rd when recruits Luther Pugh, James McLane and George Massey arrived. With them was Rev. Pearl Ingalls who was soliciting donations for an orphans' home.

On March 17th the able-bodied crossed the bay's entrance to Mobile Point and started a difficult march north along the east side of the bay. The ground was "exceedingly wet and marshy," said Lieutenant Colonel Van Anda. Under a surface that appeared firm, the subsoil was swampy, almost quicksand. "Every team seeking an untried path soon got mired, and wagons were seen in all directions sunk down to the hubs." Ropes "were made fast to the teams, and the soldiers with cheerfulness and alacrity, hauled both animals and wagons out of the mire." Soldiers worked day and night cutting pine trees to build corduroy roads, roads that often floated away while teams and wagons continued to flounder.

Gunboats and transports headed up the bay, but infantry continued to struggle as rain turned torrential. William Grannis said "the swamps were of such a nature that horses and mules could not be used so that the men had to cut and drag in place the timbers for causeways, that heavy rains fell, especially on the night of the 20th of March that the work was arduous and hard on the men; work all day in the mud and wet and then lie down at night in their wet clothes" As a result, said Grannis, most of the men caught colds and suffered from related illnesses for the rest of the campaign and



for many, including Luther Pugh, the rest of their lives. The Mobile Campaign was successful. Confederates under Dabney Maury abandoned the city on April 12th and federal troops moved in.

The 21st Iowa camped in nearby Spring Hill before leaving by transport on May 26th and heading for Louisiana. Many thought they were on their way home but, instead, they saw three weeks of service along the Red River before moving to Baton Rouge where most members of the regiment would be mustered out on July 15th. Since Luther and other recruits still had time to serve, they were transferred three days earlier to Iowa's 34th Infantry as "unassigned recruits" and transported to Texas. Almost as soon as they arrived, the government realized their services were no longer needed and on August 15th they were mustered out at Houston and started north to resume life as civilians.

On July 1, 1869, 25-year-old Luther was married to 20-year-old Julia Ann Sousley by a circuit judge in Elkader, a marriage that led to the birth of five children: Nellie in 1873, Wayne in 1876, Mark in 1879, Warner in 1883 and Milo in 1893.

Wartime statistics report deaths and wounds but rarely indicate the lifetime of suffering by many others. On May 21, 1886, Luther signed an application for an invalid pension based on health problems still existing from the march twenty-one years earlier that, he said, resulted in rheumatism and heart disease and decreased his ability to earn a living by manual labor. His comrade, James McLane, now married to Luther's sister, Mary, signed a supportive affidavit but pension surgeons said there were "no conditions present upon which to support a rating."

Undeterred, Luther secured affidavits from neighbors who knew him before and after his service as well as from his brother-in-law in Strawberry Point, a doctor in Brush Creek, the regimental doctor who had moved to Kansas, a comrade in Cox Creek and the company's former 1st Lieutenant who was now living in Strawberry Point. With their support, he applied again and in 1891, five years after he had first applied, he was granted \$4.00 monthly, payable quarterly through the pension agency in Des Moines. Three more applications were filed, pension surgeons said he was actually "so disabled from Graves disease as to be incapacitated from performing any manual labor" and an increase was granted for a goiter caused by the disease. In 1912 he moved from Strawberry Point to Mederville where his health continued to decline, his left knee swelled from the rheumatism and his goiter grew. Increases were granted to \$8.00, then \$10.00 and finally to \$19.00.

On October 8, 2014, Milo Pugh and his wife visited from Cedar Rapids "called here by the serious illness of the former's father." Two days later, Luther, "an old resident" of Mederville and "the last of the pioneers of that neighborhood," died. A funeral was held at his home and Luther was buried in Mederville Cemetery.

On the 24th, 65-year-old Anna, as she called herself, applied for a widow's pension. A certificate of her marriage to Luther and affidavits indicating there had been no separation or divorce and that Anna had not remarried, were filed and on February 16, 1915, a certificate was issued entitling Anna to a \$12.00 pension. As the years passed, her children visited frequently but by 1922 she was doing "very poorly" and became seriously ill. Edith Clinton assisted Anna "with her household duties" but on October 27, 1923, Anna "was found dead." She was survived by her five children, twelve grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren and was buried in Mederville Cemetery.

Carl has also done a complete bio for John Sterling Mather. However, due to technical difficulties, it's insertion in this issue wasn't possible. However, you may obtain it by email either Carl directly or the pdf file maybe forwarded by sending an email to [mmstewart.777@yahoo.com](mailto:mmstewart.777@yahoo.com).

---

### ALVA C. TANNER

Alva Tanner was born in 1834 to Abel and Harriet (Roberts) Tanner in New Dover, Union County, Ohio. His older siblings were Holley (1830) and Martha (1831); two sisters, Charlotte (1837) and Hannah (1840) were born later. The New Dover area saw significant immigration to Iowa in the pre-war years with Alva, five Mather brothers, Jim Bethard, and Joel

and Sarah Rice and their five children among those moving west. On May 12, 1859, Alva and eighteen-year-old Mary Ann Bolton were married by Rev. B. Holland in Mahaska County.

During the 1860 presidential campaign, many in the South threatened to secede if Abraham Lincoln won the election but most in the North were unconcerned and viewed these as hollow threats intended to secure more voters for Democratic candidates. When Lincoln was elected, Confederate cannon in South Carolina fired on Fort Sumter in Charleston's harbor on April 12, 1861. Three days later President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to augment the regular army. Throughout the North, volunteers answered the call but the war escalated and more were needed. On October 17, 1861, in Hopewell, Iowa, Alva, his cousin Walter Tanner and a friend, Amos Wymore, enlisted in what would be Company C of the state's 15th regiment of volunteer infantry. They were mustered into service on December 31st with Alva detailed as a wardmaster and nurse in the regimental hospital facilities for the first year of his service.

In April, near Pittsburg Landing in Tennessee, Alva was with the newly arrived 15th Iowa, unseasoned troops, many wearing "a big high hat with a large brass eagle on the side," eating breakfast when firing started "a long distance" away near the Shiloh Church. They had only recently received their arms, "had never had an opportunity of learning the use of them until they came on the battlefield" and would fight the enemy "without the support of artillery." Lieutenant Colonel William Dewey took "consolation through the neck of a pint bottle" that seemed to give him "a stronger flow of swear language than before" and moved the regiment to the front, across a field, through timber and down a hill. They met "shells, grape and canister" and many died but Alva was among the survivors. Amos Wymore, however, contracted chronic diarrhea and was discharged near Corinth in November.

On April 16, 1863, at the start of the Vicksburg Campaign, Alva was promoted from Private to 5th Corporal as General Grant's 30,000-man army was leaving Milliken's Bend, Louisiana. Staying west of the river, they moved slowly south along dirt roads, across plantations, through swamps and over bayous causing many to become ill. In the 21st Iowa, while serving in a corps led by General McClernand, Jim Bethard was one of many who, too sick to continue, were left behind at Ashwood Landing while their regiment moved on. Still there on May 18th, Jim wrote to his wife and said he had seen some of their Ohio classmates and "I also saw Alva Tanner a cousin to James he was also an old school mate."

On June 7, 1863, during the siege, Alva was promoted 1st Corporal, as Confederate troops under General Joe Johnston scouted the rear of the Union lines while the 15th Iowa and other Northern regiments monitored their movements. They were at Messenger's Ferry across the Big Black River when Vicksburg surrendered on July 4th and the next day they "were treated to whiskey and you never saw a more lively set in your life." Tents that had been left at Milliken's Bend arrived on July 29th and, a month later, a special order granted Alva a 30-day furlough to return to Oskaloosa.

As the year neared an end and three-year enlistments were coming to a close, the government offered incentives - furloughs and bonuses - to soldiers willing to continue their service as veterans. Alva was among the three-fourths of the regiment that elected to reenlist for another three years "or the war." On December 31st he was mustered out and on January 1st he was re-mustered as a veteran. In February he left on his veteran's furlough.

On their return, Alva was promoted to 3rd Sergeant as they joined General Sherman during his march into Alabama and Georgia. On August 9, 1864, Alva was in command of the company and serving as a picket near Atlanta when he was shot and killed. The company's 1st Sergeant wrote to Mary "with a heavy heart and much reluctance" to tell her of her husband's death. The musket ball had entered "near the right shoulder & it is supposed that the ball popped downwards through his lungs killing him instantly. He only said two or three words as I am told he spoke to James Hawkins and said, 'Jim I am shot.'" Alva was "one of the very best soldiers in the army," he said. "He was my best friend." After the war Alva was reburied in Marietta National Cemetery.

On September 13th, Mary signed an application for a widow's pension with Alva's older sister as one of the witnesses. On February 4, 1865, a certificate was mailed entitling Mary to \$8.00 monthly, payable quarterly through the Fairfield Agency, but her entitlement ended on May 11, 1866, when she married Alva's comrade, Amos Wymore. Mary had two children with Amos - Julian Finis Wymore in 1878 and Hattie Ellen Wymore in 1881.

On June 22, 1880, Amos applied for an invalid pension indicating the chronic diarrhea contracted seventeen years earlier was continuing. His application was supported by Oskaloosa doctor D. A. Hoffman and by friends and comrades. The claim was investigated and Amos was examined by a board of pension surgeons who felt he was partially disabled from earning his subsistence by manual labor. In 1887 Amos secured more supportive affidavits including one from a boyhood friend, R. T. Spates, who had served with Amos and "when he left us at Corinth Miss I did not expect to ever see him alive again." More medical evaluations and affidavits followed and eventually he was approved for an \$8.00 monthly pension. Amos died on March 9, 1900, and was buried in Wymore Cemetery in Rose Hill.

The following month, Mary applied for a pension as Amos' widow but the Bureau of Pensions was skeptical since the value of her assets - a span of mules, cows, pigs, a wagon, corn, hay, a mower, a cultivator, a plow, a sewing machine, other personal items and a one-third dower interest in 229 acres - seemed to indicate "she has a net annual income of more than two hundred and fifty dollars" and therefore was not a "dependent" under the law. She then applied for restoration of the pension she had received as Alva's widow. As the process dragged on, Mary moved in with Hattie and her husband, supportive affidavits were filed, and a Special Examiner deposed Mary, her son and several friends and neighbors. Finally, on November 30, 1908, more than eight years after she had applied, a certificate was issued entitling Mary to \$12.00 monthly. She died on June 14, 1920, and was buried in Wymore Cemetery.

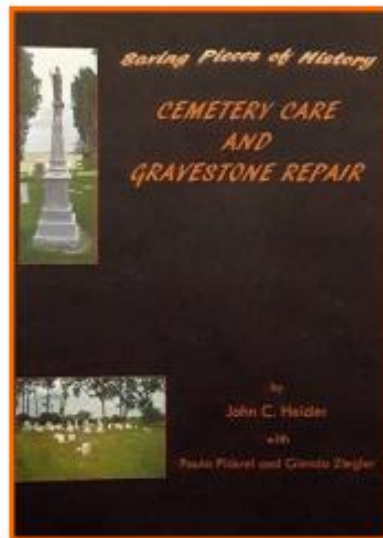
# "Cemetery Care and Gravestone Repair"

**Special Offer**  
**\$30.00**

Price Includes Shipping

Regular Retail Price  
\$40.00

Mail Payment to:  
R.I.P., Ltd.  
988 Iron Horse Place  
Monticello, IL 61856



This manual contains step-by-step instructions describing the many facets of cemetery preservation. Topics include planning and funding a project, how to complete simple and difficult repairs, gravestone cleaning and leveling, recipes for mixing mortars, and much, much more. Beautifully illustrated with over 100 color photographs and diagrams. The manual is sure to become an invaluable guide for cemetery maintenance. Cemetery board and staff, county and township personnel, and individuals or groups interested in cemetery preservation will significantly benefit when using this guidebook.

## Resources

VETERANS' HEADSTONES <http://www.cem.va.gov/> Telephone: 1-800-697-6947

### OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

Lara Noldner, Bioarchaeology Director 700 Clinton Street Building Iowa City, IA 52242-1030 319-384-0740  
[lara-noldner@uiowa.edu](mailto:lara-noldner@uiowa.edu)

### STATE CEMETERY REGULATOR (new address and phone numbers)

Andrew Hartnett, Bureau Chief Regulated Industries Unit, Iowa Securities Bureau 1963 Bell Ave, Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50315-1000 [andrew.hartnett@iid.iowa.gov](mailto:andrew.hartnett@iid.iowa.gov) (515) 654-6470 Fax: (515) 654-6500. Christina Hazelbaker [Christina.hazelbaker@iid.iowa.gov](mailto:Christina.hazelbaker@iid.iowa.gov) 515-654-6471.

### SAPIC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President (2022): William Reedy 3046 Everly Ave. Brandon, IA 52210 319-474-2443

Vice-president (2022): John Heider 988 Iron Horse Place Monticello, IL 61856 217-898-2422

Secretary (2022): Larry Davis 5716 Kingman Ave. Des Moines, IA 5031- 2006 515-277 4917

Treasurer (2024): Brad Hughes 308 Sunset Lane Grimes, IA 50111 319-269-8937

Board Member/ Grave News Editor (2024): Mildred Stewart 31086 Crystal, Strawberry Point, IA 52076  
[mmstewart.777@yahoo.com](mailto:mmstewart.777@yahoo.com)

Board Member (2024): Benjamin Mayer 317 E. Green St. Winterset, IA 50273 515-462-7033

Board Member (2022): Jean Ripley 2650 Inkpaduta Ave., Webster City, IA 50595 515-297-0741

Board Member (2023) Mary Richards 2201 R. Ave. Jamaica, IA 50128 515-386-4750

[Board Member \(2023\) Wally Boehmer](#) 1305 Falcon Trail, Alta Vista IA 50603 641-3654-6962

Board Member (2023) Russ Gardner 207 North 11th St., Cherokee 51012 712-309-1023

Board Member (2023) Kevin Lee 2526 173rd Ave., Decorah IA 54501 563-380-3375

Board Member (2024) and Web Page: Tony Bengston 1503 River Road Blvd. Independence, IA 50644 319-415-1175 [tonybengston@yahoo.com](mailto:tonybengston@yahoo.com)

Board Member (2024) Jody Holland 119 North Mill St. Apt. L Decorah, IA 52101 563-419-6487