

# The Legacy

East Cleveland Township Cemetery Foundation

April, 2016

## *2015— What a great year it was!!!*

It was another exciting year at the cemetery. We have been forward looking this past year in addition to the care and maintenance of the chapel and cemetery grounds. We continue to utilize Apartment Services for lawn mowing which continues to leave us time to focus on other tasks.

The Board is focused on the future and making certain the funds are available to continue to maintain the cemetery. Over the past year we have had initial conversations with a cemetery planner and are working on raising the funds to implement a plan that will provide revenue for the cemetery well into the future with the sale of cremation niches. We are in the process of identifying open land where columbariums can be placed that will hold potentially 20 to 30 niches. We will share more information on this as it becomes available and plans are finalized.

The picture to the right shows the four of us that are at the cemetery each Sunday—from right to left: Wayne Rhine, Amy Rhine, Nancy Adams and Dave Adams. If you stop out on a Sunday please stop by and introduce yourselves.

Springtime is back at the cemetery and the daffodils are in full bloom and we are looking forward to another fun filled and productive year.

We can't thank each of you enough for your on-going support and words of encouragement. Each time we see flowers on a grave where we have not seen them before or a wreath at the holidays—it brings us so much happiness to know that you are coming to visit!!



Thank you again!

Regards ~ Nancy Adams



# *Headstone Repairs*

One of the projects that is always on our minds is trying to right the headstones that have sunk due to the sandy soil and is to repair some of the very hold stones that have broken apart. We got back to that project this past year and it is so nice to see these very old headstones that have taken a beating due to the weather and just age be put back as much as possible to their original form.

The first two pictures below document one such marker that the face had literally cracked and fallen off. The two parts were put back together using an epoxy glue. Wayne Rhine has been initiating the talent of putting these headstones back together again.

The bottom picture documents where this small marker for a baby separated from its base and the metal rods needed to be put back in the base to support the small marker on top and then using the epoxy glue again to attach the headstone and base.



# *Headstone Repairs*

Its many of the headstones for babies that were small and made of sandstone that have become separated from their bases. The picture below is a marker that we brought the base back above ground and Wayne Rhine was able to put it back together again.



When we talk about bringing the base of these markers back above ground we literally mean they have sunk in the sandy soil sometimes a foot or more. Some of these bases can weigh in excess of 50 pounds depending on their size.



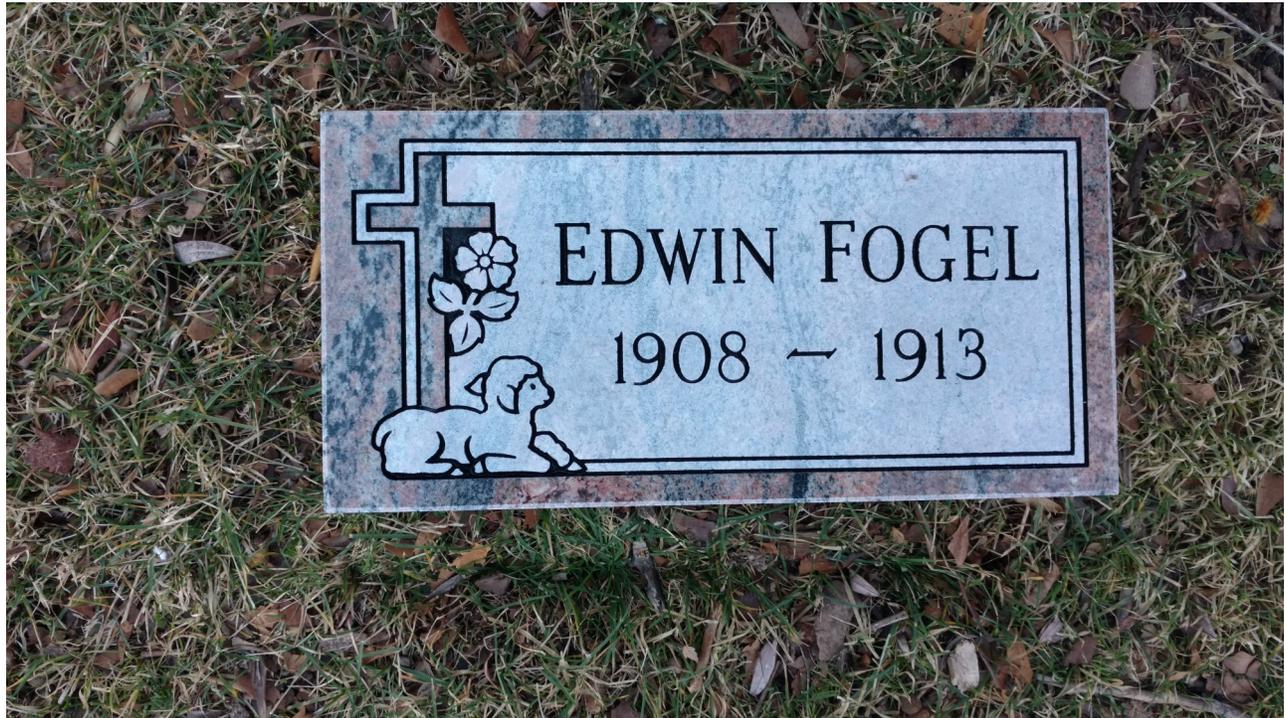
## *Helping with Unmarked Graves*

Due to the time period in which some of our permanent residents passed away there are many who do not have headstones. Family members have asked us over the years if we can assist with helping obtain a headstone for an unmarked grave and we would refer to various local monument companies.

After some research the Foundation has now contracted a monument vendor and can help you design a marker for your family member, select the type of granite you would like to utilize for the headstone and customize the message you want that headstone to reflect.

Nancy Adams one of our Trustees had been wanting to get a marker for her 1st cousin twice removed who passed away in 1913 at the age of 4. It wasn't uncommon for children's graves to be unmarked. Using our new design process, she designed the marker that is now going to mark this cousin's unmarked grave.

Do you have a family member(s) that needs a headstone? Let us help you design the headstone. Call us to schedule an appointment at 216.536.7432.



# *Memorial Day*

Each year on the Saturday before Memorial Day we place flags on each of the veteran graves in the cemetery. The Boy Scouts come to help along with other members of the community. Part of the tradition we established for this day is lowering the flag that has flown at the entrance of the cemetery during the previous year and replacing that flag. It is a great opportunity for new Scouts to learn the proper way to fold and retire a flag and to raise the new one.



## *Memorial Day—Continued*



The Scouts are learning about our and why it is important to fly our flag proudly which is why after being flown all year long it is important to replace it with a fresh flag to reflect our pride in our country.

Flags that can no longer be repaired or used, must be destroyed in a dignified manner, such as burning. The Foundation follows this protocol for both the flag that we fly on the flag pole as well as the small flags we place on each of the Veteran graves each Memorial Day.



# *Grounds Maintenance*

The grounds maintenance is never ending. With 187 trees there are always branches to pick up. Our new neighbors up the street help as they walk their dogs daily which is very much appreciated.

Our focus is also around the chapel and maintaining the gardens and bushes up by the chapel.



## *Chapel Repairs*

We completed the painting of the exterior of the chapel including the portico floors. The back door to the chapel has been on the to do list for some time and it was replaced this year as well. We went with a more energy efficient door but maintained the style that was original to the design.



Once the weather turned and the leaves were all cleaned up (more to follow on this accomplishment) we needed to refinish the hard wood floors in the chapel. With several hundred people participating in each of our annual events the floors were in much need of some attention. The floors were finally finished in early March 2016.



# *2015 Halloween Tour*

We held our 5th annual Halloween Tour on Saturday, October 24th. Despite the pouring down rain all evening we had a record turnout and did three tours.

This is a really fun event that we enjoy putting together each year, please come join us on Saturday, October 29th for this year's tours.



# *2015 Yard Charge - They came, they saw, they conquered!!!*

## *Thank you!*

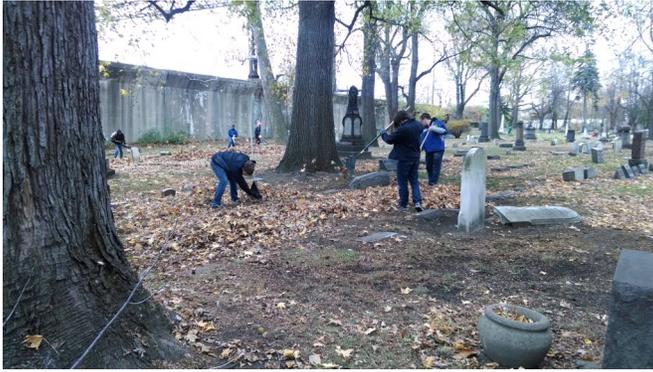
The Scouts came out in full force this year along with Theta Chi Fraternity at Case Western Reserve University. They came with one goal on their minds and that was to clear the cemetery of leaves in one day! They had come close in previous years but this year they were determined to win the battle of the leaves and **win** they did! In one day all the leaves were raked, blown and otherwise moved to the interior road so that they could be vacuumed and removed.



**The leaders of this amazing feat!  
Thank you for all you do!!!**

# *2015 Yard Charge - They came, they saw, they conquered!!!*

## *Continued*



## *Our Birds*

One of our new neighbors Ken Vinciguerra is an avid bird watcher. He and his wife live in one of the new townhomes that were built facing the cemetery. Ken created a survey of the birds that were observed in the cemetery in 2015 and taught us all much about the birds that we share the cemetery with that included unique nesting habits along with just being able to identify some of the birds. We knew that once the trees were pruned several years ago that we had many more birds in the cemetery, we just didn't realize how many species.

Ken identified the following species actually breeding in the cemetery:

- ◆ *Red-bellied Woodpecker*
- ◆ *Downy Woodpecker*
- ◆ *Northern Flicker*
- ◆ *Eastern Wood-Pewee*
- ◆ *Great Crested Flycatcher*
- ◆ *Red-eyed Vireo*
- ◆ *Blue Jay*
- ◆ *White-breasted Nuthatch*
- ◆ *American Robin*
- ◆ *Gray Catbird*
- ◆ *European Starling*
- ◆ *Chipping Sparrow*
- ◆ *Northern Cardinal*
- ◆ *Brown-headed Cowbird*
- ◆ *House Finch*
- ◆ *American Goldfinch*
- ◆ *House Sparrow*



**Wayne and Nancy spotted the hawk above when we were picking up branches inside the cemetery. The hawk just sat there and watched us as we were watching him/her hunting for at least 15 minutes.**

A complete inventory of the birds sited in the cemetery with pictures can be found on our website at: [http://www.ectcf.org/news/2015\\_ECTC\\_Bird\\_Survey\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.ectcf.org/news/2015_ECTC_Bird_Survey_Summary.pdf)

# *2015 Calendar of Events*

## **Memorial Day, Saturday, May 28th at 10:00 AM**

ECTCF will host our 12th annual tradition of placing flags on the graves of the 435+ veterans in the cemetery. The activity begins at 10:00 AM and takes only a couple hours to complete. We invite those assisting to join us for hamburgers and hot dogs after we complete the placement of the flags. This time is used to remember and honor our veterans. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 216-536-7432 otherwise we look forward to seeing you again!

## **Two Centuries, Two Cemeteries, One City—Sunday, October 23rd—2:30 PM**

This NEW tour tells the stories of East Cleveland as told by the cities two most historic cemeteries: Lake View Cemetery and East Cleveland Township Cemetery. Tour on Lolly the Trolley, some walking is optional. Reservations required. Package includes tour followed by light refreshments. Tour begins at Lake View Cemetery office, just inside the Euclid gate. Cost is \$35, there are 38 spaces available. You can register on Lake View Cemetery's website at:

<http://www.webcemeteries.com/lakeviewcemetery/events.asp?itemno=E124>

## **Halloween Tour , Saturday, October 29th**

ECTCF will host the 6th annual Halloween tour on Saturday, October 29th with tours starting at 7:00 PM and 8:30 PM. The walking tour will begin at the cemetery chapel, please bring a flash light; dressing in costume is optional.

# *ECTCF—Memberships/Donations*

The on-going maintenance of the cemetery grounds including the office/chapel and gardens generates on-going expenses that include utilities, equipment maintenance, supplies, etc. None of the Board members are paid for the hours of work we put into the foundation/cemetery every year. We donate our time and resources.

We count on donations from the families of our permanent residents and others who enjoy the urban park we have created and those that participate in our tours. We are excited about our annual newsletter that lets us share with you everything that has occurred over the past year, however, there are costs associated with the newsletter as well. With a mailing of nearly 500 newsletters this cost is substantial. We want to continue to share our successes with you and are therefore initiating an annual membership to the East Cleveland Township Cemetery Foundation that includes the receipt of the annual newsletter and continued notification of our annual events. We have several levels of membership:

**Individual**—\$25.00—Includes annual newsletter that includes advance notification of all events.

**Sustaining**—\$50.00—Includes annual newsletter, advance notification of all events and helps to support the on-going preservation of this historical site.

**Patron**—\$75.00—Includes annual newsletter, advance notification of all events, supports the on-going preservation of this historical site and includes a free copy of the book: *To Dwell With Fellow Clay, The Story of East Cleveland Township Cemetery* .

**Lifetime**—\$250.00—Includes annual newsletter, advance notification of all events, supports the on-going preservation of this historical site and includes a free copy of the book: *To Dwell With Fellow Clay, The Story of East Cleveland Township Cemetery* along with a new updated East Cleveland Township Cemetery t-shirt.

Because of the Foundation's non-profit status (501(c)3) status your membership is tax-deductible and allows you to continue support to preserve the pioneer Victorian legacy for your children and grandchildren. Please utilize the enclosed form to submit your membership application.

We thank you for your on-going support of us and the East Cleveland Township Cemetery!

**Trustees/Officers**

Allen H. Ford  
Chairman  
Bracy E. Lewis  
President  
Nancy L. Adams  
Vice President & Secretary  
William L. Garrison  
Vice President & Treasurer  
J. Wayne Rhine  
Vice President, Operations  
William J. Culbertson  
Trustee  
Murray M. Davidson, Deceased  
Trustee  
Mark Derrickson  
Trustee  
Roy G. Harley, Deceased  
Trustee  
Hunter S. Havens  
Trustee  
Marlin Wiley  
Trustee



*The mission of East Cleveland Township Cemetery Foundation is to provide educational and patriotic events for the community in an urban park setting that demonstrates the honor and respect due the early pioneer settlers of the Western Reserve.*

*The East Cleveland Township Cemetery Foundation's vision is to restore and maintain the East Cleveland Township Cemetery as a historic landmark, creating an urban park where the community can relax, reflect, and discover the historical significance of the area, and to build a solid financial foundation for its future.*

*East Cleveland  
Township Cemetery  
Foundation*  
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