

The Legacy

East Cleveland Township Cemetery Foundation

April, 2018

2017– A look back on all the fun!!

We have continued working on our long term plans for the on-going care and maintenance of the cemetery. And we continue to greatly appreciate each of your commitments to continue to help us with your financial donations and memberships. These funds go along way in assisting us with the current care and maintenance of the cemetery.

This past year we were invited to be the guest of Lake View Cemetery at the annual Ohio Cemetery Association meeting. It was a great opportunity to see what other cemeteries in Ohio are doing but we also had the opportunity to learn about new ideas and maintenance tips. You will see later in this newsletter how we started to clean some of the old white granite headstones and bring them back to looking like they did when they were first placed on the various graves. We will continue this effort this coming year. We also learned some new techniques for repairing some of the broken stones as part of the cleaning processes. We hope to make great strides in revitalizing the cemetery's look and feel this coming year. If you are interested in helping keep in mind we are there every Sunday starting at 9 AM and would be grateful for any assistance ~ we will train you!

Over the winter we had to have some repairs done to the basement walls due to scaling and deterioration of the mortar between the bricks. The Board all donated to cover the cost of this repair.

Spring clean up has already begun. Ardmore Tree Service has already been in and removed all the fallen branches and brush that accumulated over the winter. This was a huge help. **Thank you Mark and team!** Theta Chi Fraternity returns on April 28th to help with spring clean up and we will be doing mulch that weekend as well.

This past year we lost one of our very first volunteers, Merry Cerwin. Merry was in her 70s when she started coming by on Sundays in 2005 to help us. Her father was one of the early caretakers of the cemetery and they lived in the old caretakers house that is now where the garden is located next to the chapel. She would tell us stories how her and her sister would play hide and seek among the headstones. I found this picture of Merry which was back in the days when we hand raked the cemetery every fall. Merry always said she wanted to be buried in the cemetery by her mother and father and her family honored those wishes and brought her home to rest.



We can't thank each of you enough for your on-going support and words of encouragement. Please keep coming back for visits. We enjoy seeing that you have been there even when we are not there.

Thank you again!

Regards ~ Nancy Adams

Theta Chi Fraternity

Thank you!

Last year Theta Chi Fraternity at Case Western Reserve University officially adopted the Cemetery as its group service project. They come out in the Spring to help us clean up and again in the fall to help with leaves. They have purchased about a half dozen of their own backpack leaf blowers to help us with the clean up. *These guys are amazing and we can thank them enough for their on-going support.*



Watch those leaves fly with the team effort going on with this massive pile of leaves.



Memorial Day

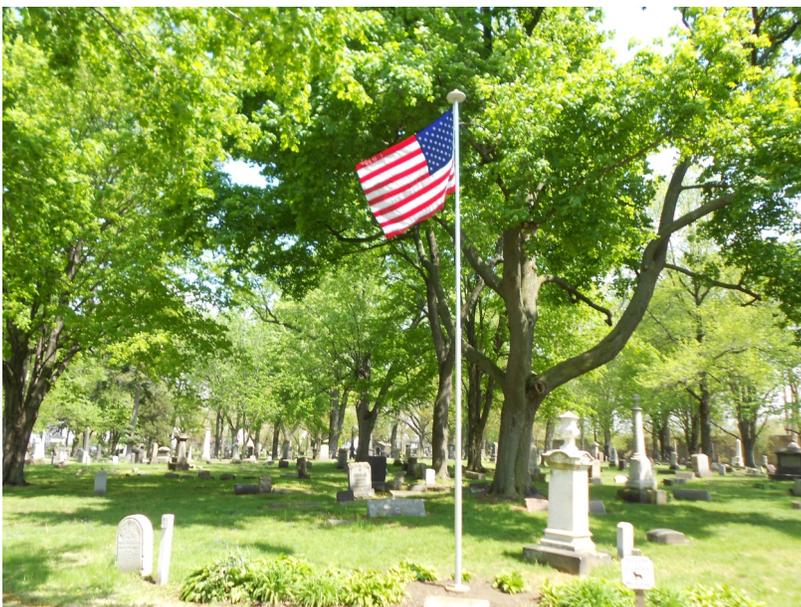
Each year on the Saturday before Memorial Day we place flags on each of the veteran graves in the cemetery. The Boy Scouts come to help along with other members of the community. Part of the tradition we established for this day is lowering the flag that has flown at the entrance of the cemetery during the previous year and replacing that flag. This year before Memorial Day we installed a new flag pole with solar lighting at the top to make certain the flag is always viewable.

**Thank you to all
our Veterans!**
Your service to our
country is
invaluable.



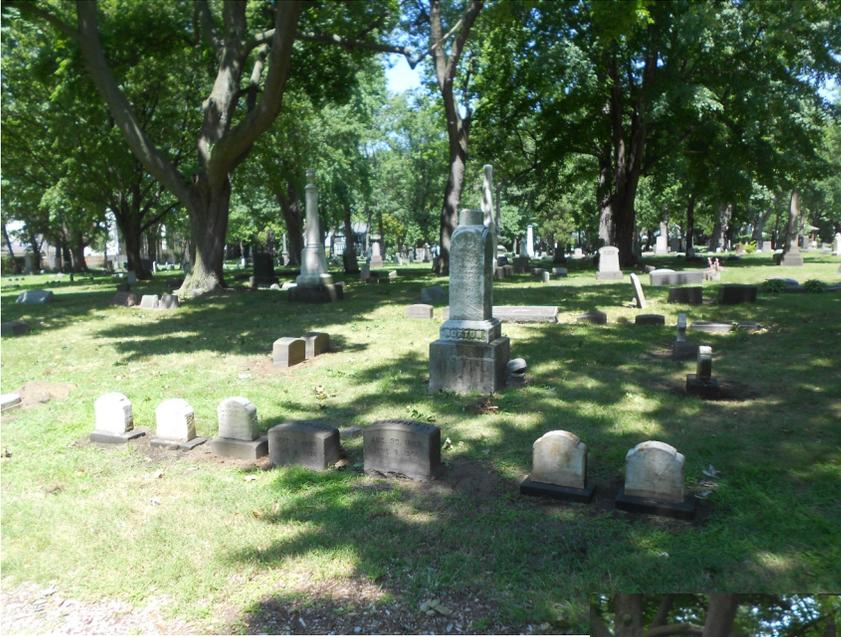
Flagpole Installation

First we had to remove the old flagpole including the old concrete before we could pour the concrete footer to install the new flag pole.



Headstone Restoration

To provide you with an example of our efforts for cleaning of the old white granite headstones/monuments. Below are before and after pictures of the Norton family lot below. The Norton family made a donation to the cemetery for us to reset a couple of the footstones. Since we were there doing that work what better place to start cleaning the headstones/monument. They look great!



Norton family monument and footstones before cleaning.

Norton family monument and footstones after cleaning.



Chapel Updates



We also started rebuilding the overhang for the back door to the chapel this past summer. The final trim will go up this spring as we had it custom made to exactly match what we took down.

Your Sunday maintenance crew, etc are in the picture to the right—Dave and Nancy Adams, Amy and Wayne Rhine. Stop by and say hello when you are in the neighborhood!



2017 Halloween Tour

We held our 7th annual Halloween Tour on Saturday, October 29th. And the rain held off for us this year.



2017 Graveyard Charge - The Scouts have this down to small science.

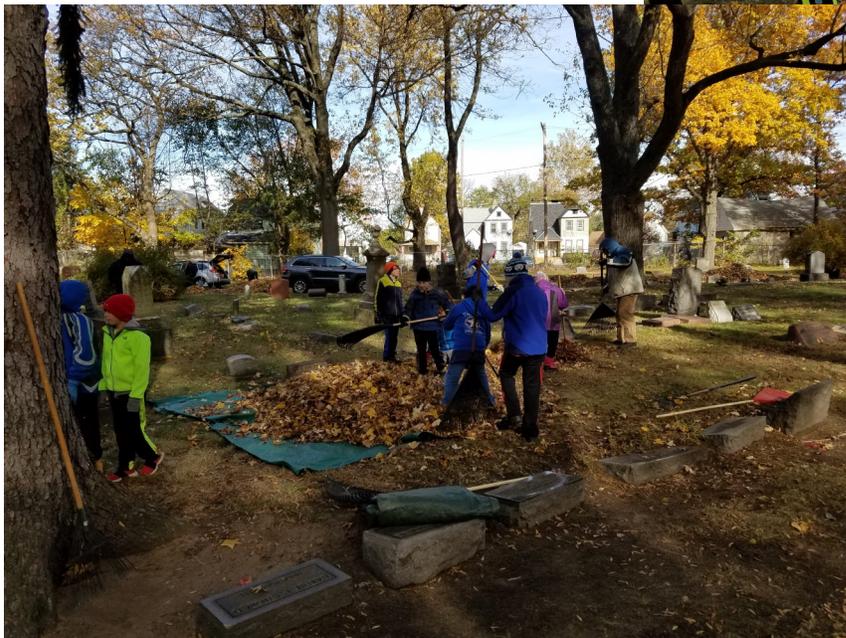
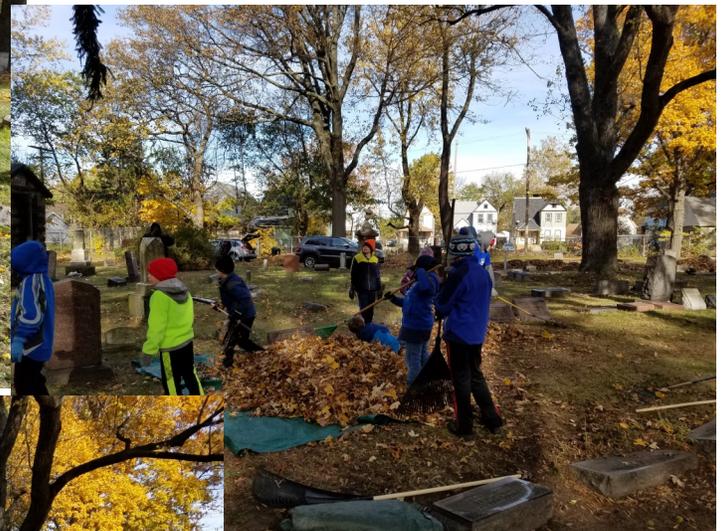
Thank you!

The Scouts came in November and moved all the leaves that had fallen by mid November to the side of the road. These folks have this down to a science, they come in, they are organized and spreadout throughout the cemetery and within a few short hours the entire cemetery has been raked.

The leaves came down this past year in waves so in December Theta Chi Fraternity came to the cemetery in December and eradicated the balance of the leaves that had fallen. Imagine the leaves from 187 trees falling in your back yard!



*We truly cannot thank all of
you enough!!!*



2018 Calendar of Events

Memorial Day, Saturday, May 26th at 10:00 AM

ECTCF will host our 14th 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!

Due to family events this summer and fall our normal tours will be placed on hold until 2019. Wayne and Amy's daughter and eldest son have weddings in July and August (Philadelphia) and Dave and Nancy have a family wedding in September in Delaware with Dave's eldest son's wedding in October. We will still be at the cemetery on Sundays but have decided to place tours on hold until next year. We are planning an ice cream social with tour in August next year along with the Halloween tour in October.

ECTCF—Memberships/Donations

The on-going maintenance of the cemetery grounds including the office/chapel and gardens generates on-going expense 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
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Foundation*
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