



RUTHERFORD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

February 2010

General Information

email: RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com

phone: 651-430-2669 (Ron Johnson)

future website: www.RutherfordCemetery.org

Everyone with email: please add the Association email to your contact list to ensure you do not miss any important emails. We will use email more and more in the future.
RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com



A message from our president, David Stone

Warm Greetings to Everyone,

The care and keeping of a cemetery may seem routine to most people but to Rutherford Cemetery Association members this is exciting stuff. I'm enthusiastic about our accomplishments over the past year and would like to share some of them with you.

- ✧ Darrell Benson created and installed great looking railings for our newly constructed steps.
- ✧ We had several loads of dirt dumped in the northeast corner to raise the ground level to give us room for future expansion.
- ✧ We now have water connected to the cemetery through the generosity of our wonderful neighbors, Stillwater Evangelical Free Church.

- ✧ Ron Johnson, grounds committee chair, reported six trees had to be removed and the stumps ground out. We paid for the tree removal and stump grinding but cleanup, hole filling and grass planting was done by association members.
- ✧ Joe Joslin is heading up the development of a website - very exciting.
- ✧ A historical committee was formed which identified records of no historical value that could be destroyed. The committee will continue their efforts in recording those documents of historical value.
- ✧ Cleanup day last May was attended by over 20 members of all ages resulting in beautiful grounds for Memorial Day when we were proud to welcome members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 323 for a brief ceremony to honor our many veterans.

Last but certainly not least, I want to acknowledge and thank all of you who have shared time and talent for the benefit of Rutherford Cemetery. It is because of your physical care of the grounds and your attention to the cemetery's financial well-being that Rutherford Cemetery has avoided being on the list of Minnesota's abandoned cemeteries.

We can't thank you enough.

David Stone
President

2010 Annual Meeting
Tuesday, 7:00pm
April 13, 2010

Members of the Rutherford Cemetery Association, friends and the public are invited to the annual meeting of the Rutherford Cemetery Association. The meeting will be held next door to the cemetery, at the Stillwater Evangelical Free Church. Pot luck snacks will be served after the meeting.

Stillwater Evangelical Free Church
7671 Manning Ave N
Stillwater, MN 55082

Web Site coming

Exciting news The Rutherford Cemetery Association is entering the 21st Century and we'll soon have our own web site. Our sincere thanks to Joe Joslin for his generosity as he will be funding the web site as a memorial to his Mother. It's still in the early stages, but looks great - check it out - go to www.RutherfordCemetery.org



Need Information?

If you are interested in a cemetery lot or just want some information, your source would be the team of Ron Johnson and Kathy Henke. Ron, our vice president/ grounds chairperson/ lot salesman, has been involved with Rutherford

Cemetery for many years. He is assisted by Kathy, our secretary and an Australian native. Kathy is an executive assistant with a Minnesota-based international company and we are fortunate to have her organizational skills and expertise.



Burial Lot Rates

New brochures have been printed and there is a supply kept in the stand at the front of the cemetery. This information will also be kept updated on our web site.

Lot Prices:

Full Burial	\$ 575.00
Cremation	\$ 575.00
Columbarium	\$1,500.00
(includes first internment)	
2nd Internment in a single niche....	\$ 250.00

Opening/ Closing Charges:.....*Summer* *Winter*

Full Burial	\$575.00	\$725.00
Cremation	\$375.00	\$400.00
Cremation with vault	\$575.00	\$575.00

There are no additional fees for a weekend burial/ cremation.

Columbarium Perspective



Spring is far far away ... but...

Just a reminder: flowers and plants may not be planted on grave sites and no artificial plants are permitted. It is important that everyone is aware of the governing rules of the Rutherford Cemetery Association. You'll find a copy of the current Rules & Regulations and By-Laws on pages 7 & 8. These will be posted on the website or if you ever need another copy we will mail it to you. Call Kathy Henke, 651-481-4021 and leave your name and address or you may e-mail us at RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com



Honoring our Veterans



We are honored that Rutherford Cemetery is the resting place for veterans dating from the Civil War and we want to make sure all veterans are acknowledged. On page 6 is the current list of Veterans - please let us know if you have any updated information. Call 651-481-4021 (Kathy Henke) or email RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com. A bronze flag holder will be provided for a Memorial Day flag.



Help keep our records current

In an effort to keep our records up to date, we would be grateful to hear from members when they have a change of address, phone or email.

Please note that any newsletters returned which had no forwarding address will be removed from the mailing list for future notifications. If you know of members who have had changes, please ask them to contact the secretary, or perhaps you could make the contact in order to keep our records accurate. Updates can be sent to the secretary at RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com or by phone to Kathy Henke 651-481-4021.

Remember to add this email address to your email contacts to ensure delivery

Monuments

As I'm sure everyone is aware, the Association Rules and Regulations state that a headstone or marker must be placed within twelve months of burial. Links will be included on our web site to monument suppliers we've used in the past. These companies are familiar with the styles found within Rutherford Cemetery and can advise you of a variety of options. One such company is Melgard Monument located in River Falls WI. Phone: 715-425-5656
www.melgardmonument.com



The Spring Clean-Up Day Saturday May 8, 2010

As the president has mentioned, a very successful annual spring cleanup day was held in May. The 2010 Annual Clean Up day is set for **Saturday May 8** with a **backup date of May 22** depending on weather. We gather at 9 a.m. There is always something for everyone, so please come along and join your fellow members in giving the area a good sprucing up. We will have several tools and supplies available, but buckets, rakes, shovels and gloves will no doubt come in handy. If you have questions regarding this day, please contact **Ron Johnson, 651-430-2669** or e-mail us for further details.



Can you help your Association become financially sound?

Absolutely!

Rutherford Cemetery was originally organized and recorded at the court house as the Home Cemetery Association. The oldest marked grave is that of Charity Jose Ramsden who died on April 2, 1851. In 1939, the cemetery was renamed Rutherford Cemetery as this was the name most familiar to people.

Through the years, all care and maintenance of the cemetery was provided personally by dedicated family members. Funds were raised through lot sales, donations, bequests, gifts and fund raisers such as ice cream socials. Until about 10 years ago, the lawn care and general maintenance was handled completely by volunteers.

Through the years, however, there have always been financial concerns. Today, our source of income remains the same, minus the ice cream socials. Unfortunately, we now have expenses never imagined by those early caretakers which include burning permit fees, grass cutting and tree trimming costs, liability insurance premiums, postage, Minnesota Cemetery Association dues, improvements (steps), plus driveway maintenance and plowing costs to name just a few. In addition, there is no question that we will need to remove several trees because of the Emerald Ash Borer.

We respectfully call this to your attention with the hope that you may consider a donation to the Rutherford Cemetery Association. All donations are tax deductible and would be very much appreciated.

*A sincere thank you to those who have
generously donated to the Association - both in
the past and in the future.*



Green Burials Did you know..

The following information was provided by RCA board member Betty Welke. Information was provided by the Green Burial Council. More information can be found at Greenburials.org.

What is GREEN BURIAL?

Also known as natural burial, a green burial ensures that the site remains as natural as possible. There is no embalming fluid or concrete vaults and interment of the body is in a bio-degradable casket. In other words, green burial uses less energy and creates less waste than traditional burial.

Why?

Everything is recycled. Nature has intended that our bodies be reunited with the earth. Microbial activity in soil breaks everything down only to be recycled into new life. A green cemetery encourages nature to take its course. No herbicides or pesticides are used and native trees and wild flowers are planted, often in a loved one's honor.



Green burials often relieve the family of making difficult and costly decisions.

Benefits

Natural burial takes place in a natural environment where wildlife and native flora flourish. It is also a habitat for animals and birds.

Conservation easements ensure no further development will be allowed on the land and that it will be protected forever. Most counties require a minimum number of acres and often the filing of a plot map.



Note: Rutherford Cemetery is interested in pursuing green burials as an option and will be discussing this in the future.

Emerald Ash Borer

The following information is taken from the *MAC Quarterly*, a publication of the Minnesota Association of Cemeteries. Jim Ostvig, Ostvig Tree, Inc. (www.ostvigtreetree.com), spoke at the MAC Annual Convention this past October.

Perhaps you've heard of this little green fiend, first discovered in Detroit in 2002 and found in Minnesota in May 2009. It appeared in St. Paul's Longfellow neighborhood necessitating the removal of 60 trees which were found to be infested.

The Emerald Ash Borer gets its name from its emerald green color. It's a "boring" insect, about a half-inch long, native to China. It is believed to have come to the United States via China's freight shipments – wooden crates made of dead ash

trees which were infested with the insect. Trees are killed by larvae feeding in the bark between the which disrupts transport of and water in eventually branches and entire tree to die. According to Jim Ostvig, we are just now seeing infected trees because it takes three to five years for the insect population to build (hundreds of thousands of larvae are needed to disrupt the tree's vascular system).



Several treatment options have been in trials at Michigan State and Ohio State Universities however all current treatments are for prevention only as there currently is no cure once a tree is infested. The treatments are very expensive, are not guaranteed, and some need to be repeated every year.

When a tree is identified by city foresters as being infested, it is marked and must be removed within two to four weeks. The wood must be burned or chipped into small enough pieces so that the insects are destroyed. Note that a declining-looking ash tree is thought to be infested. The tree will be marked even if no bugs are discovered.



Rutherford Cemetery has its share of ash trees so the association will likely face removal costs. When the time comes, Jim Ostvig recommends planting a good mix of tree species. He cited the Dutch Elm disease experience as an example of a devastating tree epidemic. Twelve years after Dutch Elm disease was discovered in 1964, the city of Minneapolis had removed 50,000 elm trees. He noted that Dutch elm trees were heavily replaced with ash trees.

Web sites FYI:

Multi-agency Emerald Ash Borer:

www.emeraldashborer.info

USDA Forest Service: www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/

USDA Plant and Animal Health Inspection Service:
www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/

In Closing....

Each of us has an opportunity to serve our association, to create a cemetery that helps to heal our losses, to celebrate life and to preserve our heritage.

If you are interested in taking a more active part in the Rutherford Cemetery Association, please contact any one of the board members listed below or email us at: RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com

The Current Board

David Stone President 2007-2010
Ronald Johnson ... Vice-President 2008-2011
Julie LeMoine Treasurer 2008-2011
Kathy Henke Secretary 2009-2012

TRUSTEES

Iona Holsten, Past President 2007-2010
Joe Joslin 2007-2010
Pat DeMars 2008-2011
Barbara Ramsden 2008-2011
Kahl Slayhi 2008-2011
Maxine Enfield 2009-2012
Elizabeth (Betty) Welke 2009-2012

Committees

Brochures: Ute and Chuck Buehler
Joe Joslin
Long Range Planning: Ron Johnson (Chair)
Joe Joslin
David Stone
Grounds Committee: Ron Johnson (Chair)
Robert Wilfer
Membership: Kathy Henke
Family Burial Historian: Kathy Henke
Veterans Update: Iona Holsten
Newsletter: Kathy Henke
Iona Holsten
Judy Stone
Historical Committee: Ruth Guse
Ron Johnson
David Marshall
Bruce Ramsden
Joy Schilling
Gaylen Schilling
Margaret Seiffert

Apologies if you volunteered for one of the committees and your name is not listed – please email or call with your details and the list will be updated. Contact

Kathy Henke ph: 651-481-4021 or by email to RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com



Our Veterans

CIVIL WAR	
Fairbanks, Joseph N.	CO D 28 ME INF
Hall, Watson W.	GAR -- Co. E. 113 ILL. INF
Keene, John M.	CO C 16th Maine Vol.
Powell, Stephen W.	GAR MN 24th INF 1861-1865
Ramsden, Thomas P.	CO B 11 MN INF
Rutherford, Wm. H.	CO K 13th Reg MN Vol. (in WWI & WWII)
SPANISH AMERICAN	
Hall, Cora	WRC
Masterman, Joseph	Cpt.
Rutherford, Wm. H.	CO K 13th MN INF (in WWI & WWII)
WORLD WAR I	
Beecroft, Albert	MN PFC Signal Corps
Ramsden, Charles J.	
Seifert, Frank L.	MN Sgt 161 Depot Brigade
WORLD WAR II	
Benson, Ronald	US Army
Brosious, James E.	US ARMY
Brosious, William	US Army
Gimmestad, Richard A.	US NAVY
Grund, Robert	US NAVY
Guse, Wm.	Tech 4 US ARMY
Jordan, Robert	US NAVY
Kruger, Fred	US Navy, Seabee
Marshall, Warren	US NAVY
Masterman, Royal James	US NAVY
Michaletz, Raymond H.	Seabee
Peterson, David LeRoy	AVCAD US NAVY
Schilling, Clinton John	PFC US ARMY
Schoonover, Charles	MN SF 2 USNR
Stone, George D	US COAST GUARD
Stone, Ronald S.	Navy Seal
MERCHANT MARINE	
Carlson, Dale	
KOREAN WAR	
Brosious, William	US Army
Kruger, Roland	US Army
Speltz, Donald	
VIETNAM WAR	
Michaletz, Raymond A.	US Army
Welke, Harold "Skip"	US Army
Others	
Haire, Gerald	US Navy (dates unknown)
Masterman, Daniel	
Others	
Veterans – but not deceased	
Benson, Darryl	No details provided
Conklin, Raymond	No details provided
Dahler, Jodi	UA Air Force
Johnson, Ronald	US Navy

This is the current list of Veterans.

If you can provide any additional information or if you know of any incorrect information, please contact the Secretary with updates.

Contact:
Kathy Henke
Email:

RutherfordCemeteryAssociation@hotmail.com
Phone: 651-481-4021



Rutherford Cemetery Association - Rules

1. All graves must be ground level.
2. All headstones must be level with the ground.
3. Monuments are no longer allowed on the old cemetery area. A family marker or monument, if used in the new cemetery area, is to be placed on the east end of the family lot with a ground level footing of light material extending a minimum of four inches beyond the marker on all sides.
4. A head stone or marker must be placed within twelve months after burial. A lot must be paid in full before a head stone or marker is placed.
5. All headstone bases shall be predrilled to accommodate urn stands. All urn stands must be placed in predrilled holes or adjacent to the head stone.
6. In case of vandalism, damage caused by the elements, common enemy, thieves, malicious mischief makers, explosions, invasion, insurrections, riots, etc. in Rutherford Cemetery, lot owners or their descendant shall be responsible for any damage incurred. If a lot owner is deceased and there are not direct descendants, Rutherford Cemetery Association will attempt to repair the damage.
7. Casket burial vaults shall be required in Rutherford Cemetery. They must be made of cement or a material approved by the cemetery association.
8. Two overburials of cremains in approved caskets or three urns will be allowed on an existing grave. No more than two cremain caskets or three urns will be allowed per burial lot. The top of said container(s) shall be no less than 18 inches from ground surface.
9. Burial prices: refer to Lot Salesman for current rates
10. Rutherford Cemetery will assess a \$15.00 transfer fee if a person sells (or gives) a lot to another person.
11. Twenty five percent (25%) of this amount is designated to the permanent care fund.
12. No flowers or plants are to be planted on the graves. The cemetery grounds committee reserves the right to remove any tree, shrub, vine, plant, flower, or any other object which may become unsightly, dangerous, or not in keeping with the landscape design of the cemetery. This also includes the placing of vases or other containers for flowers at ground level.
13. Annual salaries to be paid are:
 - ~ Lot Salesperson \$100.00
 - ~ Treasurer \$100.00
 - ~ Secretary \$50.00
14. A fall meeting of the Board shall be held at the discretion of the President.
15. Definitions:
 - ~ A family marker or monument is a stone designating a family lot of four contiguous lots.
 - ~ A monument is a stone greater than two feet high that can be used either as a family lot marker or a headstone.
 - ~ A marker is a stone of two feet wide and eighteen inches high that can be used either as a family lot marker or headstone.
 - ~ A headstone is flush with the ground and will designate an individual lot but may contain multiple names.

Rutherford Cemetery Association - By-Laws

ARTICLE I

Section 1: The name of the association shall be Rutherford Cemetery Association.

Section 2: The purposes are:

- a: To procure and hold or sell lots exclusively for the purposes of a public cemetery.
- b: To manage all real or personal property, necessary or proper for the establishment, embellishment, care, and management of a cemetery.
- c: To sell and convey cemetery lots in the manner provided by law, and convey real and personal property lawfully acquired by the Association, but not needed for cemetery purposes.
- d: Upon adoption of these by-laws a permanent care fund will be established.

Section 3: The Board of Directors of said Association shall consist of President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven (7) Trustees.

Section 4: Members of said Association shall consist of lot owners and their respective families.

Section 5: All members present at Annual meetings are eligible to vote for elections and bylaws.

Section 6: The Annual meeting of said Association is to be held in April. Time, place, and purpose of meeting is to be published in the Gazette paper not later than two week previous to the meeting.

Section 7: Election:

- a: Quorum. Nine (9) members shall be required for a quorum at the annual meeting of members of said Association.
- b: Vote required. A plurality vote shall be required to carry an election. A simple majority of votes cast shall be required to carry a motion.
- c: Election shall be by ballot when there is more than one nominee for office.
- d: Term of office shall be three (3) years.
- e: Officers shall be elected at the Annual meeting.
- f: The President and Vice-President shall not be eligible for re-election immediately following a three (3) year term. The outgoing President shall automatically become the seventh (7) Trustee for a three (3) year term.
- g: The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be eligible for re-election immediately following a three (3) year term.
- h: Trustee election. At each Annual meeting there shall be two (2) Trustees elected.
- i: No Trustee, President, or Vice-President, after serving for a period of three (3) years by election, or who has served or filled out one and one-half (1½) years or more of an unexpired term, shall be re-elected to the same office until one (1) year has elapsed.

Section 8: Vacancies, which may occur by resignation or other causes, shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

Section 9: Power to change By-Laws: The By-Laws, or any part of them may be changed by amendment or repeal, and adoption of new Articles at any Annual meeting thereof, providing notice of such amendment, repeal, or adoption had been stated in the published notice of Annual meeting in the Stillwater Gazette paper.

ARTICLE II

Section 1: The President shall:

- a: Preside at all meetings of members and at all meetings of the Board of Directors.
- b: Appoint all committees and be a member ex-officio of all committees.
- c: Call all special meetings.
- d: Prepare an agenda for each meeting.
- e: Perform all other duties pertaining to this office.

Section 2: The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president.

- a: Vice-President is chairperson of the Grounds and Improvement committee and shall appoint at least two (2) members to serve on the committee.

Section 3: The Secretary shall:

- a: Keep a correct record of all meetings and all board meetings of the Association.
- b: Prepare all notices of annual or special meetings for publication and arrange for same in Stillwater Gazette newspaper.
- c: Mail notice of Annual meeting to all members.
- d: Keep record of all burial and cremation permits.
- e: Perform all other duties pertaining to this office.

Section 4: Treasurer shall:

- a: Receive all money of said Association.
- b: Keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures.
- c: Pay all bills approved by the Board of Directors
- d: Shall preserve and file all papers relating to the financial affairs of said Association.
- e: Make a full report of amount and location and status of Permanent Care Fund, receipts and expenditures of Operating Fund for current year, and where and how it is kept.
- f: Have record open for inspection at all times.
- g: Perform any other duties in the interest of said Association which belong to this office.

Section 5: Board of Directors

- a: Meet at President's call to meetings.
- b: Meet at least two (2) weeks before the Annual meeting.
- c: Act as nominating committee and prepare a slate of nominees for all vacancies occurring at Annual meetings.
- d: Secure an outside-accredited accountant to audit the Treasurer's books the terminating year of the Treasurer's term of office, prior to Board meeting.
- e: Authorize investment of Permanent Care Fund.
- f: Authorize and secure gravediggers, and establish the cost of grave-digging each year.

- g: Designate the bank location of Operating Fund.
- h: Preserve and protect the Permanent Care Fund in its perpetuity.
- i: Quorum of the Board shall be six (6).
- j: Appoint Lot Salesman.

Section 6: Ground & Improvement Committee: Shall consist of at least three (3) members including the Vice-President.

- a: Shall make survey of desired improvement for Annual Clean-up Day(s).
- b: See that materials, such as sod, seed, and other materials and equipment are on hand to execute a desired project.
- c: Make certain grave sites are sodded within reasonable length of time after burials.
- d: Supervise any landscaping.
- e: Supervise any removal of trees.
- f: Supervise any erection or markers of monuments.

Section 7: Lot Salesman

- a: Shall keep accurate record of all past and present burial sites.
- b: Shall keep accurate map of cemetery and records that pertain to it.
- c: Meet with perspective buyers as needed.
- d: After purchase, locate and record on map. Make a deed and mail to client. Get payment to treasurer.
- e: When contacted by funeral home of a death, locate grave space and mark it for the burial.
- f: Contact gravedigger and make arrangements for the grave opening if it is a regular burial. If cremation, arrange for someone to do the opening.
- g: On day of burial for cremation, lay out green carpet over the opening. Wait at cemetery until family leaves and urn is turned over to the cemetery. Cover opening and place flowers on grave.