

VIEWPOINT

NEWSLETTER

www.indianacemeteryassociation.org

Spring 2007

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE

ICA/KCA CONVENTION 2007

JUNE 23-27, 2007
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY

6th ANNUAL INDIANA/KENTUCKY CEMETERY ASSOCIATIONS' CONVENTION

ideas • innovation • industry • interaction • improvement

- Annual Golf Challenge Thursday
- Board Meetings & Supplier Setup Thurs. 6pm
- Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction
- Dinner on your own Friday evening
- Convention adjourns Saturday 12pm

**Make your reservations at the
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ICA/KCA Room Block held until May 31st
Call 1-800-EMBASSY or (859) 261-8400 to
book your suite. (Mention "ICA/KCA Cemetery")



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A Little Funny.

An elderly couple was driving across country. The woman was driving when she got pulled over by the highway patrol. The officer said, "Ma'am did you know you were speeding?"

The woman, hard of hearing, turns to her husband and asks, "What did he say?" The old man yells, "He says you were speeding!"

The patrolman says, "May I see your license?"

The woman turns to her husband and asks again, "What did he say?" The old man yells, "He wants to see your license!"

The patrolman says, "I see you are from Arkansas. I spent some time there once and went on a blind date with the ugliest woman I've ever seen." The woman turned to her husband and asked, "What did he say?"

And the old man yells, "He said he knows you!"

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Spring 2007

Feature Cemetery:

Oak Hill Cemetery

LEBANON, INDIANA



...and renamed the cemetery "Oak Hill" honoring a very old white oak tree that was growing on one of the knolls on the grounds.

Oak Hill Cemetery is located at 935 E. Washington Street in Lebanon, Boone County, Indiana. The cemetery was founded by Samuel Rodefer on March 28, 1872 as Rodefer Cemetery. On May 17, 1899 Oak Hill Cemetery Association purchased it and renamed the cemetery "Oak Hill" honoring a very old white oak tree that was growing on one of the knolls on the grounds.

In 1949 the cemetery became incorporated as a non-profit corporation.

The cemetery offers a monument-marker section, a "garden" design for memorial flush with the turf, two mausoleums for above ground crypts and a sacred chapel designed for services of all faiths with a columbarium in the rear. It also has nine crypts for use in emergencies or awaiting the erection of a private sarcophagus.

At the present Oak Hill has 55 acres that are platted and developed and another 60 acres that is farm land to be developed in the future. There are

14,386 people entombed or interred in Oak Hill.

Oak Hill Cemetery sits at the east edge of Lebanon nine blocks from the center of town and the Boone County Courthouse. The main entrance is on Washington Street with the second entrance at the end of Main Street.

There are numerous local citizens buried in Oak Hill as well as former state leaders. General Reuben Kise was elected Indiana's Secretary of State in 1870 and Judge Stephen Neal, a friend of Abraham Lincoln's, was credited with writing the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. There are numerous Civil War veterans, World War I, II and Korean and Vietnam veterans, as well as a few Spanish-American War veterans. Also, Lutheran V. Rice, who built the famous Ferris Wheel, as well as Governor Samuel M. Ralston 1912-1917. The one person that we are asked about the most is Sylvia Likens who was killed by horrific torture in Indianapolis on October 26, 1965. Oak Hill is unique in the fact that

artificial flowers are only allowed between November 1st and April 15th and the Saturday preceding Memorial Day and the week following. Fresh or cut flowers and plants must be the decoration of choice the rest of the year.

Oak Hill has a flower program where we sell flower urns (cement) to the families and they can have us plant the flowers and water them for a fee or they can plant their flowers in an urn and have us water them for a smaller fee. If the family wants, they can take care of the flowers themselves. The flower urns are supposed to be filled by Memorial Day.

Our personnel takes care of over 1,000 urns each summer watering three times a week and we plant geraniums or begonias and a few fern or spike in each of these urns. We receive numerous compliments each year on how beautiful our cemetery is.

Susan K. Luse is the Secretary-Treasurer to the Directors of which

there are seven. Susan has held that office since June 1992 and became general manager in 1994. During the winter, there are two full-time men and two office employees, but in the summer, there are two employees hired as part-time help in addition to the full-time personnel on the grounds. Our grave openings total approximately 150 each year.

We love to have visitors in the cemetery and during the summer there are a lot of walkers and joggers.

If anyone would like more information concerning Oak Hill Cemetery, they can contact Susan K. Luse, P.O. Box 226, Lebanon, Indiana, 46052, or phone 765-482-4140.



Starting with the summer newsletter...

Do you have a legal question that you would like answered at absolutely no cost?

Great, then simply forward your inquiry to Cmillergreenlawn@verizon.net or to 13219 Drayton Parkway, Fort Wayne, IN 46845 and ICA attorney Bill Keowan will give his response and be published in the summer issue. Go ahead and fire off a question because chances are that other cemeterians may need the same information. This is just another way to get more out of your membership so send your question today!