

New Crown Cemetery Part of Indianapolis' Heritage

New Crown provides professional service to families in its community, and offers pre-arrangement plans for individuals, families and businesses. For more information, contact Advance Planning Manager Ron Kennedy at New Crown Cemetery, 317-784-4494 or email him at rkennedy@newcrown cemetery.com.

and resources needed for these important local businesses. Owned by David Shipper, a third generation cemetery and funeral home owner, IMG's mission is to better serve the communities in which we are located. The IMG senior management team has more than 100 years of experience that we bring to our communities every day, and more than 150 dedicated employees. Now with locations from Indianapolis to Muncie, Evansville to Valparaiso and places in between, IMG has more than \$20,000,000 in trust, and is a financially strong and well-managed group of funeral homes and cemeteries dedicated to warmly serving our communities.

About Indiana Memorial Group: IMG owns and operates 12 cemeteries and 6 funeral homes throughout Indiana. Established in 2000, IMG's goal is to bring family ownership values back to cemeteries and funeral homes formerly owned for the most part by large, multi-national, public companies that were unable to devote the time, energy



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Suppliers: Please contact Casey at 260-402-8555 if you are interested in advertising rates in the ICA's new website. www.indianacemeteryassociation.org

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VIEWPOINT

NEWSLETTER

www.indianacemeteryassociation.org

January 2007

A MESSAGE From ICA Vice-President John Dick.

Have you ever asked yourself why should I/we belong to the ICA? The response should be why shouldn't I/we belong to the ICA? I started in the cemetery business during August 1999 and attended the state convention in October 1999. I can honestly say that I've never failed to bring back something useful from one of our conventions, seminars, workshops, or field shows that hasn't benefited me to some degree to better accomplish a given task. What has always amazed me are the numbers of people taking advantage of these opportunities or equally not taking advantage of the opportunities.

Four years ago the Indiana Cemetery Association (ICA) paired up with the Kentucky Cemetery Association (KCA) each hosting joint conventions every

other year. Every convention has been outstanding, informative and entertaining not only for the conventioneer but their family as well. It will be my intention to keep nurturing this relationship on into the future. This continues to strengthen each organization and increase their effectiveness.

We are indeed fortunate in Indiana to have a Board of Directors, Officers and Executive Director that are very talented and proactive. This enables your thoughts and concerns to be addressed, evaluated and acted upon for the benefit of all the cemetery owners and operators. President Ray has set a standard with his efforts during his term especially in the legislative arena. I've never met a man so passionate in his beliefs but yet so considerate of others' concerns and thoughts.



I believe the answer to the original question is there is NO reason you should not belong to the ICA. Let me refer to it this way, it's kind of like eating broccoli, try it you might like it and besides it's good for you.

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With 2006 rapidly coming to a close and deep into the holiday season let's be compassionate with those who may be difficult, caring for those in suffering and sorrow and lend a helping hand to those less fortunate. Be thankful and supportive to our friends and be loving and supportive of our families. Let us pray for our soldiers in combat and finally, let's lead by example.

John W. Dick
Vice President



What's in a Name?

The newly named International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association has renamed its flagship publication... **International Cemetery & Funeral Management is now ICCFA Magazine!**

The association's new name reflects our mission to provide a full range of information and services to our members and to the profession as a whole, as well as our commitment to represent our industry with one strong, unified voice. ICCFA Magazine will continue to offer the most comprehensive coverage on every aspect of our profession: cemetery, funeral service, cremation and memorialization.

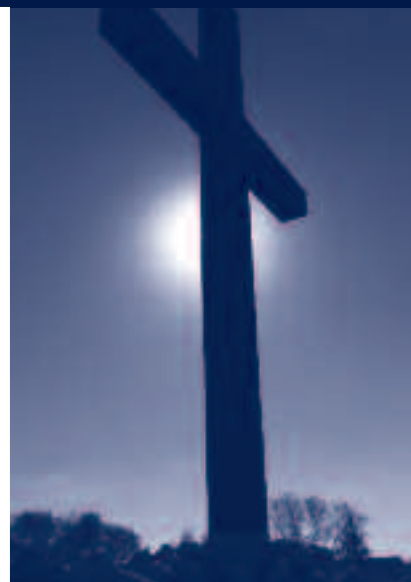
Winter 2007 Feature Cemetery:

New Crown Cemetery, located on the south side of Indianapolis at 2101 Churchman Ave., was established in 1900. By the time the cemetery was created at the turn of the 20th century, Indianapolis had grown from being a town to an industrialized city, and its population was 169,164. The city continued to grow and become what is now the twelfth largest city in the U.S. with a 2000 census population of 791,926, making it the third largest city in the Midwest after Chicago and Detroit.

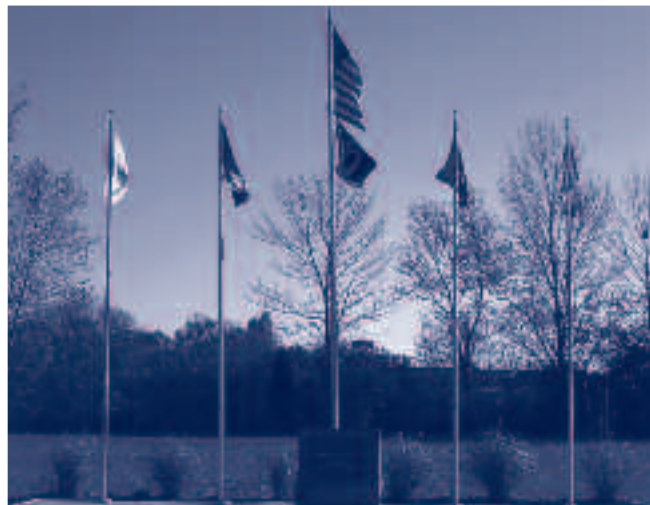
Managed by the Massey family for more than 75 years, New Crown was purchased by David J. Shipper in 2001, and is now part of the Indiana Memorial Group, which owns and operates cemeteries and funeral homes throughout the state.

Since IMG's acquisition of the cemetery, the property has taken on a new look with the construction of a beautiful mausoleum, The Chapel of Peace, as well as new fencing, new land development and the addition of several new garden sections.

The 106-year-old cemetery boasts interments of several famous people, including Indy Race Car Driver Billy Arnold and well-known musicians such as "Wes" Montgomery, "Yank" Rachell, and "Scrapper" Blackwell, whose names are synonymous with jazz music. New Crown has named roads within the cemetery in their honor.



Photos: Clockwise from top left; Heroes Garden Plaque, Old Rugged Cross Garden, New Crown Garden Mausoleum, Heroes Garden, and the Garden of Christus.



From the State Board of Funeral and Cemetery Service.

I hope the holiday season finds you happy and well! The end of the first year of bi-monthly State Board meetings has quickly passed. Fundamental changes in the administration of funeral director examinations and the annual review of the consumer protection fund are just a few of the more important items that were brought before the Board this year. The SBFCS has held multiple disciplinary hearings that resulted in license revocation to the dismissal of all charges.

Request for payment of absconded funds for pre-need arrangements continue to be a reoccurring agenda item. The Board considers each request on an individual basis and decides each claim based on evidence presented. On most occasions Board members provide very different opinions and this leads to healthy discussion and decision making. Additionally, the Board has been occupied with consumer complaints filed against various funeral home and

cemetery providers and wishes that the process proceeded more smoothly. The PLA have been hiring and training additional staff members to help alleviate this problem in the future.

The SBFCS is still receiving many complaints regarding non-conforming fees for services provided. Cemetery service charges need to be the same for those that purchase directly from the cemetery or from an outside vendor. Your ICA Board is currently working on addressing this issue legislatively to remove any ambiguity regarding this issue. This language change will facilitate the Attorney General's ability to hold accountable cemetery operators that unfairly charge consumers or outside vendors for similar services provided.

Have a great New Year!

John Gerlach
Chairman

A Little Funny.

An Illinois man left the snowballed streets of Chicago for a vacation in Florida. His wife was on a business trip and was planning to meet him there the next day. When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick e-mail.

Unable to find the scrap of paper on which he had written her e-mail address, he did his best to type it in from memory. Unfortunately, he missed one letter, and his note was directed instead to an elderly preacher's wife whose husband had passed away only the day before. When the grieving widow checked her e-mail,

she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream, and fell to the floor dead.

At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

Dearest Wife,

Just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow.

Your loving husband.

P.S. Sure is hot down here.