

Prospect Hill Cemetery

Our Nation's Capital's German-American Cemetery
Established 1858

2201 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-1103 (202) 667-0676

Spring

Newsletter

2007

2006 CONTRIBUTIONS CAMPAIGNS TOTAL \$25,319

Your Board of Trustees once again deeply appreciates the contributions made last year to the year-end memorial campaign and other special donations for the beautification and upkeep of your Cemetery and its residence. Contributions for the year 2006 totaled \$25,319.

We sincerely thank you and hope you will continue to support our/your Cemetery in future donations campaigns. A list of year 2006 contributors begins on Page 2.

PICKUP TRUCK BOUGHT FOR HAULING BRUSH

Our search for a pickup truck to be used exclusively in the Cemetery for gathering and hauling tree limbs and branches and other brush is over. Superintendent Joe Connell contacted a mechanic friend in Fredericksburg, Va., who located a 1985 Ford 250 model in good shape and "just what we needed" despite 134,000+ miles on the odometer.

Board of Trustees President Rudy Becker, who lives near Fredericksburg, test-drove the truck and said it was in good running condition and a good buy.

Your Board of Trustees agreed on the \$600 price. The truck is now serving the Cemetery well.

OUR "ANTIQUÉ" COMPUTER TO BE REPLACED

The "antique" outdated computer in the Cemetery office is being replaced with an updated one that includes many modern technologies.

It will include record-keeping, historical and genealogical information, and website information. The internet address for our Cemetery is www.geocities.com/Prospecthillcem. Questions may be asked on the internet; answers will be provided through e-mail.

FLAGS WILL COMMEMORATE OUR UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERANS

Again this year Superintendent Connell and members of the Board of Trustees will honor former United States military veterans buried in our Cemetery by placing American flags on their graves for the Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28.

Many gravestones in the Cemetery give information about military service; however, some do not. To make certain we do not miss your ancestors who were U. S. veterans, please mail to the Cemetery the form on the inside of this newsletter indicating where you would like flags placed. There is no charge for this service.

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Memorial Gifts

Given in memory of . . .

Theodore and Wilhelmine Abner; Frederick Abner
Theodore and Wilhelmine Abner
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Karl and Katherine Egolf
the Holtz and Behrens families
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Anders and Lylia Enstam
his parents, sister, and grandparents,
all buried at Prospect Hill
Larson and Mostyn families
Frederick and Annie Lehnert
the Weber and Mills families
Carl W., Esther S., and Otto W. Benson
Christian and Annie Laura Sellner
Annie Henning and Herbert Henning Gordon
William H. Grass
General Joseph Gerhardt and family

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Howard J. Hinkle	Eugenia Petersen, Anna Fredricka Nicolson
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Patricia Jeffries	Christian and Emily Kronenbitter
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Elaine C. Johnson	Ernst, Anna and Ernest Loffler
Ernestelle L. Kilbourne	Mildred A. Kettler Twilley
Edwin J. Klopfer, Jr.	great-grandparents Mr. and Mrs. George F. Meyer; Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Kraffthofer
George F. Kraffthofer	Wunder-Benedikt family
Gerhard W. Laue	Friedrich and Wilhelmine Laue
Hilda Lawrence	Lt. Julius Viedt; Viedt and Zeh families
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the Ribnitzki family
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Ignatius and Maria Nau
William and Josephine Stadler
Hannah Bartz
John Weber
Ernest and Marie Opperman
Julius and Eleanor Petsch
James S. and Thelma S. Walker
the Widmer family
the Stahl family
the Wiegand and Tripp family
Adolph and Henny Ziese

Honorary Gift

Wade and Patrice Alley

in honor of Wade Alley, Sr.

Other Donors During the Year

Harry and Ruth Anderson
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Frederick H. Ziese

*The Newsletter is produced by the Board of Trustees of Prospect Hill Cemetery
2201 North Capitol St., NE, Washington, DC 20002
Henry Fankhauser, Editor*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In this issue, and in future newsletters, Rudy Becker, President of Our/Your Board of Trustees will give a monthly overall report on the status of the Cemetery

Your Board of Trustees continues to focus on capital improvements at the Cemetery. Those include the gatehouse roof replacement, repair of exterior wood trim and interior ceiling repair due to water leakage, repointing of stone walls along Lincoln Road, V Street, North Capitol Street and along roadways on Cemetery grounds, and uprighting of fallen tombstones. Combined estimated cost for these is \$80,000. We hope to develop a plan of attack over the next several months. If anyone has suggestions on resolution of these issues, please let us know. (See related story on Page 6.)

The neighborhood adjacent to the Cemetery is undergoing considerable revitalization, particularly on the west side of North Capitol Street. Our new superintendent, Joe Connell, conceived an approach to increasing community involvement and exposure by opening the Cemetery grounds to the new people moving into the area. He has removed the "No Trespassing" signs and keeps the Cemetery gates open during daylight hours on most days.

As a result, he has noticed an increase in the number of people, mostly young professionals, taking advantage of the bucolic environment the Cemetery grounds provide. Joe feels that well-groomed grounds will encourage visitor enjoyment and discourage misuse. Anyone who visits the Cemetery will notice how well-kept it is due to Joe's efforts. We encourage lot owners to visit often.

We now have a new website in place. It can be found at: www.geocities.com/prospecthillcem. Please visit and let us know what you think about it. If you would like to be informed when the site is updated, please send your email address to our secretary, Mary Ann Probus, at mappie4@verizon.net, or me at: rbecker2004@yahoo.com. We appreciate your continued support.

MEET OUR NEW SUPERINTENDENT JOE CONNELL

He loves our Cemetery and enjoys keeping it in good shape. That's what our new superintendent, Joseph "Joe" Connell, says. And from the well-kept appearance of our Cemetery grounds he means it.

Joe has been working at Prospect Hill full time since October 2006. His duties include overseeing burials, maintaining the grounds, and providing security for the Cemetery. Landscaping is nothing new to Joe. He held several such jobs during the summers while attending George Mason University.

Joe is of German-Irish descent. He enjoys reading history and being involved with music in his free time.

Joe is delighted to be at Prospect Hill and looks forward to meeting you when you come by to visit.

Prospect Hill's trustees are convinced their choice of Joe Connell was the right decision. He has already proved it by arranging and supervising four burials, sawing up and disposing of another fallen tree, repairing a lawn mower and continuing to keep our historic Cemetery looking beautiful.

Joe's March report to the Board of Trustees included the following: shoveled snow; bought electric hedge trimmer and trimmed juniper bushes in front of gatehouse; removed fallen tree with chainsaw in the back circle where the chapel once stood; answered correspondence; picked up and removed fallen branches and trimmed the tree limbs.

Also filled with gravel a pothole by the tool shed; cleaned tool shed and storage shed; primed and painted metal wastebaskets outside; took inventory of fallen stones; contacted backhoe representative about setting stones and grading corner of section D and removing fallen statues and concrete; called a lawn and power company to pick up mowers, give them a tune-up and replace blades and tires.

Welcome, Joe, to the Prospect Hill family!

CEMETERY GATEHOUSE ROOF AND CEILINGS PLUS ALL STONE WALLS ARE IN NEED OF REPAIR

Expenses continue to pile up in our 149-year old Cemetery.

The clay tile roof of the 80-year old gatehouse needs extensive work — repair broken tiles, re-anchor displaced tiles, re-seal tiles, and repaint the entire roof to achieve a uniform appearance.

The defects on the roof have created a leakage in the ceilings of the upstairs bedrooms of the gatehouse. This also needs to be repaired and repainted.

The stone walls surrounding the Cemetery are also showing their age. Some mortar joints in the large walls on Lincoln Road, V Street and North Capitol Street are deteriorating. And several stones need to be replaced.

Also, several feet of the retaining stone wall inside the Cemetery, on the hill after entering, have to be repaired, reset or replaced.

Your Board of Trustees is considering several proposals from area construction and roofing firms and will make a decision soon. These projects will cost thousands of dollars.

Since Prospect Hill Cemetery has been named a DC Historic Landmark by the DC Historic Preservation Board any repairs or remodeling must sharply resemble features of the original structure. That's why a different type roof cannot be applied.

PROSPECT HILL HAS FOUR BURIALS IN LATE 2006

In the last two months of 2006, four persons associated with Prospect Hill were laid to rest. In November Madge Bertram and Martha Latterner were buried. Emma Ida Dauber and Karl Gabsch were interred in December.

Our sympathy is extended to members of the families of these four persons.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

Have any ideas or suggestions (or complaints) concerning the upkeep, expenses, marketing or beautification of our Cemetery? We'd like to hear from you. Write us at the Cemetery's address or e-mail us at rbecker2004@yahoo.com. All messages will be considered. Some worthwhile ones will be published in our newsletter. Donations are always welcome!

Prospect Hill Cemetery

Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

1. I wish to give a memorial donation in memory of:

Amount of donation \$ _____

2. I wish to make a financial support donation of:

\$ _____

3. I wish to have American flags placed on the graves of the following persons:

4. I would like to order the following book(s):

___ copies, *The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill* \$ _____
(\$30 plus \$5 postage each)

___ copies, *Families of Prospect Hill* (\$40 plus \$5 postage each) \$ _____

___ copies, *Prospect Hill Cemetery Adult Burial List* (\$35 plus \$5 postage each) \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please pay for your card(s) and book(s) with a separate check as these purchases are not tax deductible. And please write "book" in the lower left corner of your check.

Please make all checks payable to Prospect Hill Cemetery, and mail this full sheet to:

Prospect Hill Cemetery
c/o Carol Holler, Treasurer
8810 Side Saddle Road
Springfield, VA 22152

Thank you for your support of Prospect Hill Cemetery.