

Prospect Hill Cemetery
Our Nation's Capital's German-American Cemetery
Established 1858
www.prospecthillcemetery.org

2201 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-1103

phone: (202) 667-067

fax: (202) 667-0676

Holiday Season

Newsletter

2008

**CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON BY HONORING YOUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES
WITH A GIFT TO PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY**

Memories! Fond memories! Memories of years gone by. Memories of families and fun. Memories you cherish, that linger on, but remain just memories.

It's nearing that time again, the Holiday Season, when those fond memories of departed loved ones and years gone by are felt the most. When memories of past joyful days keep filling our hearts and minds.

How do we honor and pay homage, at this very emotional but happy time of the year, to those beloved family members and friends interred in our historic and beautiful Prospect Hill Cemetery.

One way, perhaps the best way, is a gift to our annual Year-End Memorial Fundraising Campaign. All contributions go entirely toward the upkeep, expenses and beautification of your loved one's final resting place.

In a sense, you would be giving a holiday gift to them.

As we have mentioned time and time again, our Prospect Hill Cemetery is privately owned by its lot owners and heirs of those buried there. And once again your Board of Trustees invites (and hopes) you will contribute to our annual Memorial Fund despite the difficult times of this Holiday Season.

If you wish to honor your departed loved one(s) with a memorial donation, and we hope you do, please indicate it on the Order Form in the back of this Newsletter. A complete list of contributors and the departed loved one(s) they are honoring will be printed in the Spring 2009 issue. (The amount contributed will not be published.)

If you do not wish to contribute a memorial donation please help us with an "End-of-Year" financial support donation, also indicated on the Order Form.

OTHER WAYS TO HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

Another opportunity for you to honor your loved ones and contribute to the upkeep of the cemetery is to transfer appreciated stocks. You will receive a federal tax deduction for the value of the stock(s), and will not have to pay a capital gains tax calculated on the original basis of the stock(s).

With the uncertain times experienced by the stock market today you might want to depart with a stock(s) you feel is not producing the way you would like. Prospect Hill welcomes such "non-producers" with hopes they will turn around in time.

One share, 10 shares, 100 shares (etc.) may be transferred to our brokerage account and would be a most appreciated end-of-year holiday gift to the cemetery and your departed loved ones.

Still another way you can help ensure the upkeep of our cemetery is to include it in your will (called a bequest). We have received several such bequests in the past and would welcome any in the future.

Consult your attorney for more information on how you can transfer your stocks or honor Prospect Hill with a charitable bequest in your will. Your kindness in respect to these gracious gifts will help secure the future, as stable as the past, at our historic and beautiful Prospect Hill Cemetery.

YOUR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE BEING PUT TO GOOD USE

Your Prospect Hill Board of Trustees has converted financial donations, received by the cemetery, to good use over the last 12 months. And it plans to continue doing so over the next 12 months.

If you haven't visited the cemetery recently you'll be surprised at how well kept it is. One of the major projects this year to help beautify our cemetery was repairing the retaining wall on the main driveway at the first turn. It had been gradually pushed down over the years by the spreading roots of a large tree. Cost: \$6,500.

Another project was the designing, making and installing of the attractive new sign in the flag circle as you enter the cemetery. Cost: \$900. When cleanup is complete from several large trees that were toppled by windstorms this spring and summer the estimated total cost will be \$3,300.

Your trustees are looking forward to future improvements. One being considered is resurfacing the roadway from the gate up the hill to the turn giving a favorable first impression for visitors entering the cemetery. Cost: Approximately \$15,000.

Another project under consideration is installing a sight barrier along the back fence adjoining Glenwood Cemetery's maintenance area. Cost: Approximately \$3,000.

These planned improvements, plus others, are in addition to the ongoing monthly and annual expenses for the old stone gatehouse such as utilities, upkeep, insurance, etc., plus equipment repair, administrative supplies, Superintendent Connell's salary, etc.

All of these expenses depend entirely on financial contributions. We receive little outside financial help. What we need desperately are some good sponsors or businesses to step forward and add Prospect Hill Cemetery to their annual charitable donations list for tax purposes.

With 2008 closing out and 2009 on the horizon, now would be an appropriate time for them to begin the new year with that annual charitable contribution gift.

And to our lot owners and friends, please be generous with your End-of-Year Memorial Fund contributions this Holiday Season.

PROSPECT HILL'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The cemetery gates are open on Thursday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The cemetery is ordinarily closed on Tuesday and Wednesday except for funerals, appointments, or special days.

During this holiday season the cemetery will be OPEN on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve (Wednesday), Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Drive slowly and cautiously when you visit. Be aware that if you park on the shoulder you could be on top of a grave. Please use common sense and courtesy.

PHOTOS AND HISTORIC ITEMS WANTED FOR PROSPECT HILL WEB SITE

If during visits to our beloved cemetery you've taken photos or snapshots of the grounds, grave stones or during special occasions such as the annual meeting, and would like to share them for display on our Web site (www.prospecthillcemetery.org) your Board of Trustees would be most appreciative. Please include a description of the scene and names of people in the photo.

Any historic documents, such as an old sales slip for a tombstone or gravesite, would also be interesting items for the Web site. Please send all items to Rudy Becker, 2608 Lakeview Parkway, Locust Grove, VA 22508. Or e-mail him at rbecker2004@yahoo.com.

SÄNGERBUND'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT TO BE HELD DECEMBER 21

This year the Sängerbund's traditional Christmas Concert will be given at the United Church (Concordia Kirche), 20th and G Streets, NW, in Washington, DC. The concert will begin at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, December 21, 2008. An offering will be taken to help those in need.

Following the concert by the German choral group, refreshments will be served in the church social hall downstairs. At that time the group's Christmas CD will also be available. The Saengerbund has performed at many special events at Prospect Hill.

BURIED IN HOMEWORK

In the children's sermon at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Austin Texas, the pastor was telling about the wonderful teachers he'd had, not only in public schools but also college and seminary. He paused and asked, "Does everyone know what a seminary is?"

Ezra, 5, raised his hand and shouted, "Yeah, that's where they put you when you die."

--Reprinted from *The Lutheran* magazine, Sept. 2008

* * * * *

President's Message . . .

A couple of reminders to our lot owners, relatives, and friends. The four books on Prospect Hill Cemetery are still available (see the order form), and remember our annual lot owners' meeting will again be held in the springtime next year. More of that in our spring issue of this newsletter.

On behalf of your Board of Trustees— Rudy Becker, Liz Becker, Jean Crabill, Henry Fankhauser, Maryanne Probus, and Al Reitz — and Superintendent Joe Connell I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of our donors and volunteers. Thank you for your kindness and generosity during this past year. Your help and donations are greatly appreciated.

Thoughts and cherished memories of loved ones interred in Prospect Hill Cemetery will be in our hearts and minds more than ever this Holiday Season.

All of us would like to wish all of you

a prayerful Thanksgiving,

a Merry Christmas

and

a Happy New Year.

Carol Holler, President
Phone: 703-451-0836
Email: cmcholler@msn.com

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

**Prospect Hill Cemetery
Washington, DC**

Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Amount of donation: \$ _____

2. I wish to make an end-of-year financial support donation of: \$ _____

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

____ copies, *The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill* (\$35 each, including postage) \$ _____

____ copies, *Families of Prospect Hill* (\$25 each, including postage) \$ _____

____ copies, *Prospect Hill Cemetery Adult Burial List* (\$40 each, including postage) \$ _____

____ copies, *Prospect Hill Cemetery Children's Burial List* (\$25 each, including postage) \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please pay for your book(s) with a separate check, since these purchases are not tax deductible.
Please make all checks payable to Prospect Hill Cemetery, and mail this full sheet to:

Prospect Hill Cemetery
c/o Rudolph Becker, Treasurer
2608 Lakeview Parkway
Locust Grove, VA 22508