

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 (202) 667-0676

Spring

Newsletter

2009

President's Message . . .

**LOT OWNER'S RELATIVE PRAISES OUR SUPERINTENDENT
FOR HIS COURTESY, CARE AND SERVICE**

What a joy it was to read an e-mail from a relative of a lot owner buried earlier this year at our beloved cemetery. It did my heart good having so much praise bestowed upon our superintendent Joe Connell for his assistance during the interment process. I'd like to share her sentiments with all of you, with her permission of course. Here is the e-mail I received from Eileen Phelps concerning the burial of her aunt Hulda Louise Coomes, 89.

Today was the burial of my aunt at Prospect Hill Cemetery. I found your email in the holiday newsletter and wanted to share my experience.

Having heard from family members who had visited the cemetery four years ago that it was not a nice place, we were not looking forward to our visit.

My husband works for the funeral home that was handling my aunt's burial, so we visited the cemetery yesterday to check things out. Mr. Joe Connell and his son were busy picking up tree branches from the violent wind storm on New Year's Eve. He escorted us to my aunt's grave and instructed my husband how to bring the procession into the cemetery with the easiest access to the grave.

Today Mr. Connell met us at the gate as we arrived. He was waiting for us at the top of the hill as we exited our cars; he educated us about the cemetery and answered all our questions; he provided us with contact people for engraving the marker; he kindly escorted relatives to the rest room and offered assistance with the casket. And there was not a downed tree limb to be seen!

My husband and I have been to many cemeteries and have never experienced the attention and kindness Mr. Connell gave to us. He is the reason Prospect Hill is the beautiful cemetery it is today! I believe he truly loves Prospect Hill. We can't wait to return in the spring, when it's not freezing cold, and walk the beautiful grounds.

**Sincerely,
Eileen Phelps**

Many thanks, Mrs. Phelps, for those kind words concerning Mr. Connell and our cemetery. And to help make

your springtime wish come true you are cordially invited to attend our annual lot owners meeting on Saturday, May 30, when the chairpersons of our various committees give their annual reports and you can explore “the beautiful grounds” of our historic cemetery.

Let's Hear from You, Too

Let's hear from more of you concerning our cemetery. What do you like, or dislike, about it? Any concerns, complaints or more compliments? Or ideas for improving or beautifying the grounds? Send me an e-mail or write me in care of the cemetery.

Your Generosity Was Outstanding

Many thanks, too, to all of you wonderful people, who made donations to Prospect Hill during the past year. (The 2008 list of donors can be found in this issue of the Newsletter.) Despite the critical financial situation today your overwhelming generosity proved your love and support for our dear cemetery. What a wonderful way to honor your departed relatives and friends. Your contributions will go a long way toward the upkeep and expenses of our cemetery and gatehouse. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

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

**ANNUAL LOT OWNERS MEETING IS MAY 30. Y'ALL COME
AND SEE OUR BEAUTIFUL CEMETERY IN THE SPRINGTIME**

If you plan to honor your deceased loved ones this Memorial Day season, why not schedule your visit for Saturday, May 30, around 11 a.m. That's when the annual lot owners meeting will be held on the cemetery grounds. All are welcome. Bring a friend. (Please note that this date is the Saturday AFTER this year's Memorial Day Weekend.)

Meet all of your Board of Trustees members who will give reports on the various cemetery committees. Get to know and chat with other lot owners and friends. Then stay and enjoy the delicious luncheon refreshments.

You'll see how well kept our cemetery is, thanks to Superintendent Joe Connell. You might want to tour the cemetery grounds and experience the real beauty of our Prospect Hill Cemetery. Make a day of it.

If it's a nice spring day the meeting will be held on the site of the old chapel at the top of the hill. If the weather is threatening, we'll meet on the roadway by the gatehouse. If real bad weather occurs call the office, 202-667-0676, for the final decision.

FLAGS WILL AGAIN FLY OVER GRAVES OF U. S. VETERANS

As in the past, Superintendent Connell and members of our 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 23-25. It is a ritual similar to that at Arlington and other national cemeteries.

Many veterans' gravestones, such as those from the Civil War, give information only about military service. Others, usually in family plots, do not. To make certain we do not miss your ancestors or family members who were U. S. veterans, please mail the form on the last page of this newsletter indicating on whose grave(s) you would like flags placed.

PLEASE CALL FIRST AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

At times, folks have entered the cemetery unannounced seeking help or direction from Superintendent Connell, and found no one home. Since he is our only employee, sometimes his duties take him away from the cemetery. He suggests you call first and **make an appointment**. This way he can prepare for your visit and give you his undivided attention. He will be glad to help you in any way. The office number is 202-667-0676.

ONLY SEVEN BURIALS WERE PERFORMED LAST YEAR

Superintendent Connell oversaw only seven burials at Prospect Hill last year, one more than in 2007. Four of the seven were the result of cremations, which require far less effort than ordinary burials. Cost for the interment of cremation ashes is also much less. Only four burial plots were sold in 2008.

Names of the deceased, ages and burial dates of their cremains:

Herta, 97, and Hugo Mueller, 93, May 13 (transfer);
Lucienne Strocker, 97, November 25;
Norio Shiozaki, 74, December 14.

Names of the deceased, ages and date of their ordinary burials:

Jane Irene Barclift, 89, April 28;
Mary Elizabeth Schaffert, 89, May 24;
Luise Opperman, 95, May 29.

Burials and the sale of plots are the main sources of income in most cemeteries. But as you can see, that is not the case at Prospect Hill. Donations are the main source. We continue to rely heavily on the generosity of our remaining lot owners as our major source of income. But you must realize the remaining living lot owners are becoming a fading family themselves.

Sadly, most of the sites at Prospect Hill have no known living owners or caretakers, so we must rely greatly on the current generation of relatives and friends for donations, and our devoted superintendent, Joe Connell, for the cemetery's upkeep.

HER LOVE FOR HER DECEASED BROTHER LIVED ON EVEN IN HER DEATH

It was a fitting closure to true brotherly love.

Your Board of Trustees learned recently of a final wish come true for former trustee Lucienne Strocker, whose ashes were put to rest at Prospect Hill Cemetery last year.

Her only brother, Albert, who died at an early age, was Lucienne's pride and joy. She loved him so much she requested that a favorite portrait of him be burned and buried along with her so that they could remain together in death as in life. This story was revealed by one of Lucienne's close friends, Robert Leardo.

Upon her death, Lu (as she was called by friends) was 97, a native Washingtonian who graduated from Central High School in 1928 and who lived alone, a little on the reclusive side, in a rowhouse on P Street, NW, right off of Dupont Circle. She willed a sizable monetary gift to Prospect Hill Cemetery.

RESULTS OF 2008 CONTRIBUTIONS CAMPAIGNS

Your Board of Trustees once again deeply appreciates the many contributions made to the end-of-the-year Holiday Memorial Fundraising Campaign and other special monetary gifts received throughout the year. These donations go entirely for the upkeep of your cemetery and our superintendent's gatehouse residence.

We sincerely thank you and hope you will continue to support our/your cemetery in future donations campaigns. A list of year 2008 contributors follows.

Memorial Gifts

Ackad, Abdon
 Adams, John and Dorothy
 Anderson, Ruth T
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 Larson, Mr. and Mrs. William H
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 Little, Elizabeth
 MacDonald, Nancy J.

In Memory of

Abdon and Janet Ached
 Walter C. and Dorothy A. Allen, Maria T. Allen
 August and Sophie Johnson
 Mrs. Jane Barclift
 Milton and Emma Erhardt, John and Mary Erhardt
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 Adam Joseph and Monika Droll de Moll
 The Horgan and Putsche families
 The Holtz and Behrens families
 Stutz and Emch families
 The Thour family
 His parents, grandparents and sister, all buried in Prospect Hill
 Irene Baulsir Gavin; the Baier and Baulsir families
 Grandparents, aunt and uncle — Larson and Mostyn
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 Larson and Mostyn family
 Viedt and Zeh families
 The Letts family
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 Pauline Schenkel MacDonald

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Winters, Elizabeth W.	The Wiegand family
Ziese, Frederick H.	Adolph and Henny Ziese
Ziese, William C.	Adolph and Henny Ziese
Zink, Mr. and Mrs. Charles	Mr. and Mrs. Karl K. Keller, Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Butt

Other Donations

A. D. N. and L. J. B.	Dean, Dallas P.	Finn, Patricia A.
Abner, Francis E.	DeMoll, Harry T.	Fisher, George H.
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Halusa, Karsten
Halusa, Kirsten
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Marianna
Kneessi, Steward and Ella
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Krumwiede, Wayne and Grace

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Lee, Robert
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Lindner, Werner and Christa
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Mesrobian, Ara
Meyer, Herman M.
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Plitt, W. H. and E. R.
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Radisch, Virginia
Reisinger, Carl H.
Reitz, Albert
Ries, —
Rodda, Mary A.
Rossmiller, Wallace H.

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Sampson, Charles E.
Sass, Hans-Martin
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Schulze, Hugo
Sheetz, C. Kenneth
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Vondracek, Elisabeth
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Watson, Gudrun
Wenzel, Alwin and Renate
Wetzel, —
Wheeler, Patricia A.
Whitcomb, Mary Ellen
White, Marjorie
Wiemer, H. P. and Nadine

*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

Order Form

Your gifts are very important to the operation of the Cemetery. Each donation, no matter how large or small, makes a difference. We will work to keep expenses down, and with your help we'll continue to have a beautiful historic cemetery. One of the nicest things you can give to your ancestors is a donation to Prospect Hill Cemetery for the maintenance and upkeep of their final resting place. Thank you for your love and concern.

My donation for the maintenance and operation of the Cemetery \$ _____

I would like American flags placed on the following grave sites (no charge):

Books for sale

of books

_____ *The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill* (\$30) \$ _____

_____ *Families of Prospect Hill* (\$20) \$ _____

_____ *Prospect Hill Cemetery Adult Burial List* (\$35) \$ _____

_____ *Prospect Hill Cemetery Children's Burial List* (\$20) \$ _____

Total number of books \$ _____

\$5 postage times number of books \$ _____

Total amount of order and donation \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Make checks payable to Prospect Hill Cemetery, and mail this full sheet with your donation, flag requests and book order to:

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

All correspondence should be made to the address above. Thank you for your support of Prospect Hill.