

Our Nation's Capital's German-American Cemetery

www.prospecthillcemetery.org

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

Holiday Season

Newsletter

2010

**NO INCENTIVE GIFTS GIVEN! YOUR YEAR-END MEMORIAL DONATIONS
HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES AND HELP PRESERVE OUR CEMETERY**

Times are tough, we know. The financial situation nationwide has been unstable for several years. All of us have been cautious about how we spend and donate our money.

Mail boxes get stuffed with pleas and holiday incentive gifts (address labels, calendars, wrapping paper, cards, note pads, etc.) from charities of all kinds seeking donations of all amounts. You wonder where they received your name and where the money really goes. Some charities repeat their pleas week after week.

But here at Prospect Hill the formula is different. We give no incentive holiday gifts and know exactly how and where our donations are spent.

As we have mentioned many times before, all contributions to our Year-End Holiday Memorial Fundraising Campaign go entirely toward the upkeep, expenses and beautification of our historic cemetery and the old stone house residence of Superintendent Joe Connell.

So we are appealing to you on a more personal basis. Let's not forget our own departed loved ones during this joyous holiday season when memories of happier days gone by keep filling our hearts and minds. Your donation to Prospect Hill is actually like a personal holiday present to your departed loved one.

Contributions have fallen in recent years partly because the list of faithful contributors continues to shrink. We continue to operate under financial pressure. Let's not let that continue!

If you wish to honor your departed loved one with a Year-End memorial donation, which we hope you do, please indicate it on the Order Form on page 7. A complete list of contributors and departed loved

one(s) they are honoring will be printed in the Spring, 2011 Newsletter. (The amount contributed will not be mentioned.)

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.

Thanks to all for your continued support of Prospect Hill.

OTHER WAYS TO HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

Another opportunity for you to honor your deceased loved ones and contribute to the upkeep of the cemetery is to transfer appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, etc.). You'll receive a federal tax deduction for the value of the security, and not have to pay a capital gains tax calculated on the original value of the security.

You might want to depart with a security(s) you feel is not producing the way you would like. Prospect Hill welcomes such "non-producers" with hopes they will turn around in the future, or may convert them to cash tax free.

Any number of shares may be transferred to our brokerage account and would be a most appreciated End-of-Year holiday gift to the cemetery.

Still another way you can help ensure the future 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. It is best that a bequest is "unrestricted" so the cemetery can use the funds to fulfill any of its needs.

Consult your attorney for more information on how you can transfer your securities or honor our cemetery with a bequest. Your Board of Trustees appreciates any such contributions that will help secure the future of our historic Prospect Hill Cemetery.

YOU CAN ALSO HONOR THEM ON OUR LARGE CHRISTMAS WREATH

Want to help beautify your cemetery in a different way this holiday season? Once again your Board of Trustees will place a large wreath on the porch of the gatehouse for you to decorate with special Christmas cards honoring your loved ones.

For an extra donation to the cemetery you may purchase one (or more) of these special cards that will give the names of those you wish to honor and also the name of the donor. This card (or cards) will be attached to the wreath which will remain on the porch door until after the first of the year.

Rain, sleet, snow all took their toll on individual wreaths offered in the past by your cemetery to buy and place on designated graves. The present wreath-on-porch idea has worked out well. Drop by the cemetery during Christmas week and see the Christmas wreath decorated with your cards.

Check the Order Form on the last page to receive your card application and record your donation.

TWO GENEROUS LOT OWNERS AGREE TO PAY FOR A NEW FLAG POLE AND FLAG

On your next visit to Prospect Hill Cemetery you may be “greeted” at the entrance by a new flag pole and American flag.

Paint has been chipping off the old pole for sometime and it has become rusty in spots. The flag was getting frayed and faded.

When hearing of this, two anonymous lot owners stepped forward and agreed to pay the entire cost of both pole and flag, removal of the old pole and installation of the new – a most generous contribution to the ongoing beautification of our historic cemetery.

The cost of the pole, flag, demolition and installation is approximately \$2000. The package includes all fittings, nylon internal rope and steel ground sleeve. The aluminum pole will be 25 feet tall. The flag will be 5-feet X 8-feet and will cost approximately \$50.

Many thanks to these wonderful, generous lot owners.

PROSPECT HILL’S NEIGHBORHOOD WAS FEATURED IN THE WASHINGTON POST’S REAL ESTATE COLUMN, “WHERE WE LIVE”

Earlier this year, The Washington Post in its weekly Saturday Real Estate column, “Where We Live,” featured the small community of Stronghold in which Prospect Hill Cemetery is a part of. Quotes from the writer were most enlightening.

-----“turning the seven square-block area (containing only six streets) into one of those places where everyone knows everyone else and neighbors genuinely take care of one another.”

-----“Think of it as an island of calm off North Capitol’s (street) busy axis. The streets are lined with Federal style row houses build around 1920, with ample yards and porches that get a good workout in the warm months.

-----“The Stronghold Civic Association is vibrant, meeting monthly to organize neighborhood cleanup days and an annual reunion for area residents.”

Tiny Stronghold’s boundaries are North Capitol Street to the west, Michigan Avenue to the north, Glenwood Cemetery to the east and Prospect Hill Cemetery to the south.

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 at home. Since he is our only employee, his duties sometimes 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.

FIERCE SUMMER WEATHER CAUSES MUCH DAMAGE AT PROSPECT HILL ROADS WERE BLOCKED, ANGEL STATUE TUMBLED DURING STORM

The extreme heat and destructive storms in July and August kept Superintendent Connell on the alert all summer long.

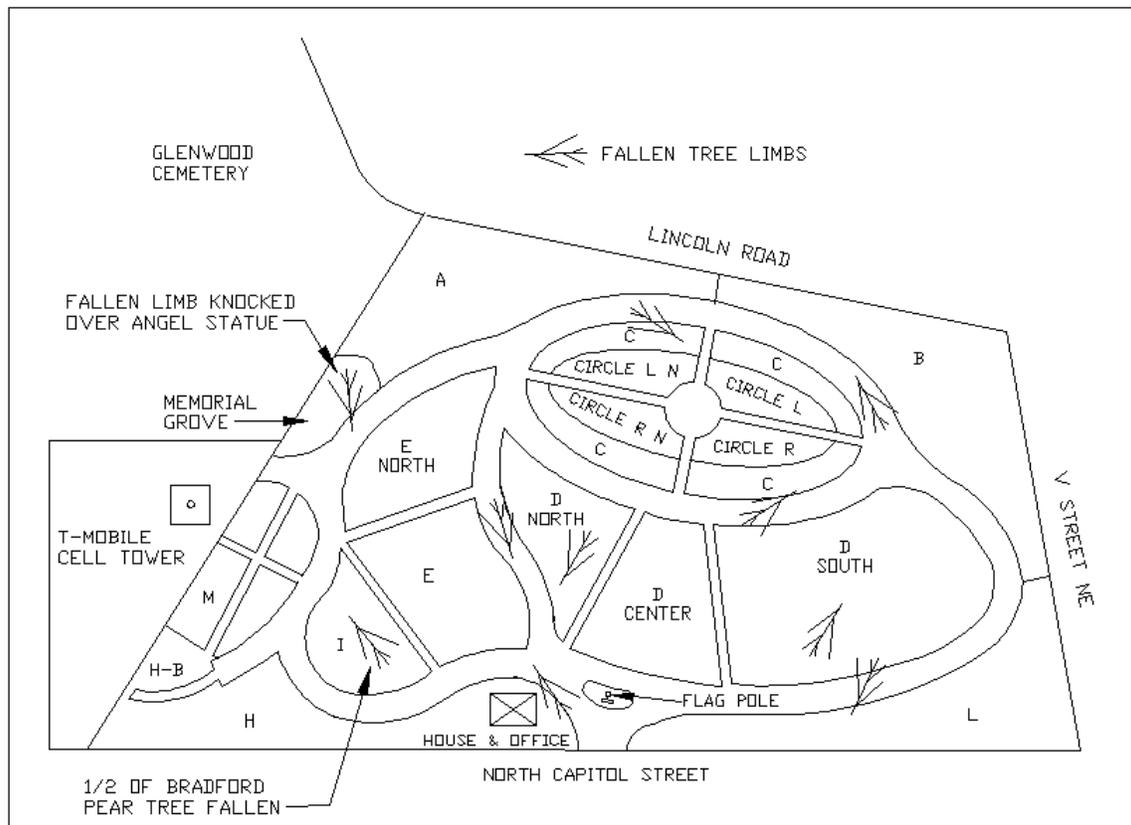
During one short and ferocious storm, large branches were ripped from trees and blocked the roadways at six different points (see the drawing below). One large branch, measuring about 25 feet long, fell on the angel statue “guarding” the new Memorial Grove and broke off one of its wings. One other headstone was knocked over.

“You would not believe the damage done to the cemetery in about 20 minutes,” said Connell. The debris was too much for Connell to clear away by himself so he called the always reliable R & R Tree Service of Silver Spring, MD. They arrived early the next day.

Connell also made several trips to Virginia Outdoor Power Co. of Fairfax to repair our chainsaw with a new chain and fuel filter, get a new blade installed on one mower and purchase a trimmer cord and fuel mix.

Besides trimming around headstones with a weed eater, Connell also cut down sucker trees and bushes around them with large hedge clippers and an ax. He also trimmed and cleaned trash from tree boxes on the North Capitol Street sidewalk.

Other summer duties performed by Connell are too numerous to mention. What would the cemetery do without our super superintendent?



A LETTER OF INTEREST

(Our thanks to Patricia S. Qualter of Exeter, New Hampshire, for taking time to write a most interesting letter to our treasurer Rudy Becker along with her donation to our Year-End 2009 Memorial Fundraiser. Edited excerpts from her letter follow.)

Dear Mr. Becker

My aunt, Margaret C. Hayes, was buried at Prospect Hill Cemetery in January next to her husband Francis X. Hayes. My grandparents, Michael and Gesine Sheehy, are buried in the same plot. I have enclosed the order form requesting a flag be placed on Frances X. Hayes's gravesite as he was in the service, and I think my aunt would have requested this be done as in the past.

When I was cleaning out my aunt's house I came across the book about the history of Prospect Hill and found it fascinating. I had no idea of the history associated with the cemetery.

I think that because I was not aware of the historical significance of the cemetery, many of my relatives are also unaware of it. If you would consider adding their names to your mailing list, I think your newsletter might be of interest to them and may generate some contributions in memory of the Sheehy and Hayes family.

When we attended my aunt's burial service at the cemetery many family members from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Virginia and Maryland were present. Everyone remarked what a lovely cemetery Prospect Hill is. I am enclosing names and addresses of relatives you may want to add to your mailing list.

Thank you for all you do for the cemetery. I have enclosed a donation to help keep it a beautiful final resting place.

PATRICIA S. QUALTER

(If you have any kind words, interesting facts or stories concerning Prospect Hill (or complaints) we'd like to hear from you. Send all correspondence to Rudolph Becker, 2608 Lakeview Parkway, Locust Grove, VA 22508, or email him at rbecker2004@yahoo.com.)

CEMETERY GATES WILL BE ON REGULAR SCHEDULE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Despite Christmas and New Year's falling on Saturday, there will be no change in the opening and closing of the cemetery gates during the holidays. They will be open Thursday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, which means they will also be open Thanksgiving Day.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND MANY THANKS

As we approach the upcoming holidays our thoughts naturally turn to memories of the good times spent with loved ones who have passed on. We'll also be thinking about the good times we anticipate celebrating with our current loved ones, families and friends – indulging in that annual Thanksgiving feast or opening surprise presents at Christmas time.

Let the good times roll, but let's not forget the true meaning of these joyous times. To be thankful to our Creator who gave us our life to live.

If you're thinking of something different to give as a gift, I have a suggestion. For folks who may not be familiar with our historic cemetery, or those who'd like to find out more about it, four books about Prospect Hill are available to purchase.

One is "The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill". Another is, "Families of Prospect Hill", short biographical sketches of 133 families interred at Prospect Hill with many photographs. The other two are the "Adult Burial List" and "Children's Burial List". Check the Order Form on page 7 for prices.

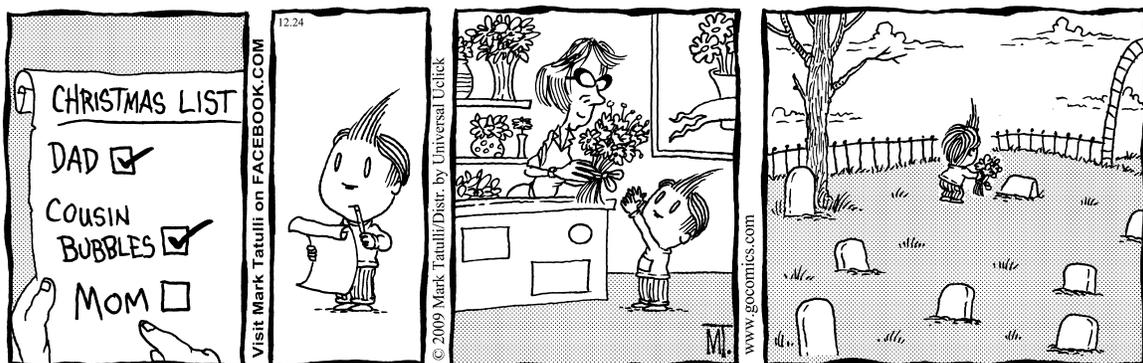
But what might be your most significant gift of all, one that honors your loved one(s) interred in our cemetery, is a contribution to our Year-End Holiday Memorial Fundraising Campaign. Or you might purchase a special memorial card to place on the Christmas wreath to be attached to the gate house front door. (See stories elsewhere in the Newsletter).

These contributions are like a personal gift to your deceased loved ones to keep their final resting place beautiful and preserved.

Your Board of Trustees and Superintendent Connell extend their heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all donors and volunteers who have given their time and generosity during the year to help in the upkeep and preservation of our beloved cemetery.

All of us wish all of you a prayerful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Carol Holler, President
Board of Trustees



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

Please fill out the form below completely so we can accurately account for your donation and purchases in the cemetery's financial records. Separate checks for donations and purchases are NOT required.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

1. I wish to give a Year-End Memorial donation in memory of or in honor of:

_____ Amount of Donation \$ _____

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

3. I wish to order _____ Christmas card(s) for the Christmas wreath:

In honor of (or) in memory of _____

Donor _____ Amount of donation \$ _____

4. I would like to order the following books:

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

_____ copies, Families of Prospect Hill (\$20) \$ _____

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

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

Total number of books _____ times \$5 each for postage \$ _____

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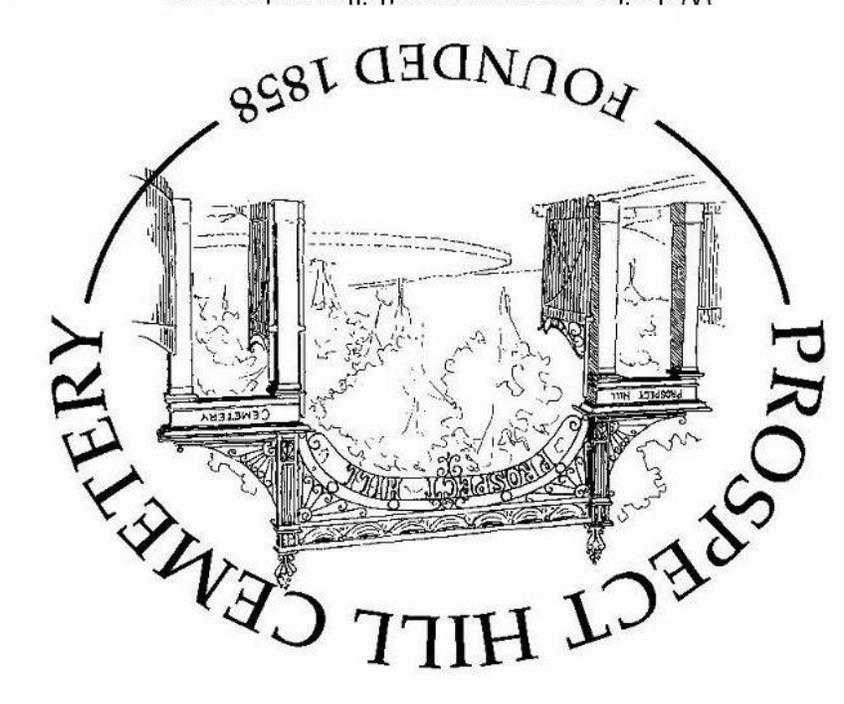
Total amount of donations, wreath and book order \$ _____

Make checks payable to **Prospect Hill Cemetery**, and mail this full sheet with your donation 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.

Phone: 202-667-0676

Website: www.prospecthillcemetery.org



PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY

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