



Ferncliff

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

August - September 2021

Springfield Burying Ground

A project of important historic significance has been launched in Springfield. Under the leadership of new non-profit corporation, the Springfield Burying Ground will benefit from a total renewal and will revitalize an important connection in our community. It will honor the lives of some of our earliest city founders, including veterans from the American Revolution and the War of 1812. This is the oldest cemetery in the city of Springfield and was planned in the formation and platting of our city.

The cemetery is located on West Columbia Street, near the downtown area. The professional services of MKSK of Columbus, Ohio are involved

in the evaluation and planning that will guide the work of a dedicated Board of Directors. The Board membership includes Tim Bode, Bryan Heck, Bob Hulsizer, Darrell Kitchen, Tom Loftis, Barry Reich, Sonya Ryhal, Kevin Rose, Paul "Ski" Schanher, Ted Vander Roest, and Al Wansing.

The fundraising efforts for this project continue to be in process with some early success to report. The base of donors has included interested citizens, several foundations, and others. We look forward to seeing this physical transformation and revitalization that will enrich our history and help stabilize this property for future generations.



As cremation becomes an increasingly popular choice, many families ask about the many options available here at Ferncliff. Our new Creekside Columbarium area at the south end of our grounds, is becoming a popular choice for cremation interments. Offering both above-ground granite niches and in-ground bronze memorials, Creekside is surrounded by the beauty and serenity of nature.

Our Mission: Ferncliff serves its community with supportive, affordable, and inclusive end of life services in a beautiful, historic environment in perpetuity.

501 W. McCreight Ave. Springfield, OH 45504 | Phone: 937.322.3491 | Fax: 937.322.3452

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:00AM - 4:30PM | ferncliffcemetery.org

In Memoriam



Springfield Cemetery Association Member, Edward Urbanek, passed away on Sunday, January 31, 2021. He was born in Washington, Pennsylvania to parents Edward & Helen (Uram) Urbanek. In 1951 Ed's family relocated to the Cleveland, Ohio area. He graduated from Wickliffe High School in 1964. Ed received

postsecondary degrees from Lakeland Community College, John Carroll University, Chandler Technical School and The Ohio State University. His degrees included ET, AAS, BS, MS in fields Electronics, Physics, Digital Systems and Computer Information Science.

Ed started his professional career as an engineer with Bailey Meter Company. In 1998, Ed retired from Bell Laboratories where he worked in Research and Development in both New Jersey and Ohio. After retirement, Ed worked for OSMI, EDS, HP, TIBCO-Foresight, AFRL at Wright Patterson AFB, Caresource, Human IT Solutions, Radiance Technologies as well

as being an independent contractor owning Urbanek Enterprises.

Ed was a member of Grace Lutheran Church where he served as an Usher. He was a lifelong learner and loved studying anything about computer information systems. He will be fondly remembered for his 4th of July celebrations and firework displays. Ed loved spending time with his friends and family. His kind heart, listening ear and supportive advice will be missed.

Ed is survived by his wife, Shari Knight, children Chris Urbanek of Lexington, KY, Kari (Jay) Jenkins of Canal Winchester, Ohio, and step-children Robert (Jamie) Knight of Springfield, Ohio, Kristi (Rod) Craddock of Springfield, Ohio. He was a proud grandparent of Blake Urbanek, Kathryn Urbanek, Audrey Jenkins, Matthew Jenkins, Andrew Craddock, Tyler Craddock, and Louie Knight.

Ed served the Springfield Cemetery Association for many years up until his recent death. We give thanks for his service and offer our sympathy to his family and friends.



Did you miss this delightful picture of the baby screech owl?

Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter or Instagram to keep up with the latest news and photos.

 [@FernciffCemeteryArboretum](https://www.facebook.com/FernciffCemeteryArboretum)

 [@FernciffOhio](https://twitter.com/FernciffOhio)

 [fernciffcemeteryohio](https://www.instagram.com/fernciffcemeteryohio)

The Governing Body of Ferncliff

The governing body of Ferncliff Cemetery is a non-profit, volunteer organization. The Springfield Cemetery Association is comprised of not more than twenty-five members from our community. The Association elects nine of their members to serve as Trustees. In addition, the Ferncliff Funeral Home, operating as an autonomous organization, includes their own board members.

Current Association Members

- Pamela Bennett
- James Campbell
- Darnell Carter
- Martha Glendenin
- Harold Goodrich
- Larry McCoy
- Julie McGregor
- Daniel McGregor
- Steve Schumaker
- Jon Sterling

Association Members Elected to Serve on the Board of Trustees

- Roger Evans
- Deborah Hill, *President*
- David Martin, *Secretary*
- Dale Miller
- Sheila Rice
- Reed Robertson
- Dr. Paul "Ski" Schanher, *Vice President*
- Dr. Richard Umbaugh, *Treasurer*
- Chester Walthall, *Immediate Past President*

Funeral Home Board of Directors

- Deanna Brouger
- Dale Henry
- Kevin Rose
- Dr. Paul "Ski" Schanher, *President*
- Myles Trempe, *Treasurer*

Please Welcome our New Associates

Ferncliff welcomes several new people to our team. David, Lance and Michael have joined our Grounds services staff, and Pam and Jennifer are new additions to our office Family Services team..



David Roderick, Lance Jenkins, Michael Pelfrey, Pam Johns, Jennifer Brown

David Roderick, 24, received his Bachelor's degree from Columbus College of Art & Design with a passion for animating.

Lance Jenkins, 34, is a proud father of four children. Lance graduated from the University of Northwestern Ohio, majoring in Mechanics.

Michael Pelfrey, 27, is a graduate of Triad High School. He loves being an uncle to five nieces and nephews and enjoys working out at the end of the day.

Pamela Johns joined Ferncliff Cemetery as a Family Services Advisor in April. A native of Springfield, Pam graduated from North High School in 1993. She received her Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Butler University. Committed to excellence, and inspired to help others, Pam has served in various functional and leadership positions throughout her career. In her free time, she enjoys reading and spending time with family and friends.

Jennifer Brown joined the Ferncliff team on March 15, 2021, as Manager of Office Services. Jennifer spent 9 years with Park National Bank, most recently as the manager of the Downtown office. She and her husband, Mark, have 3 children, Chloe, Carter and Sadie. Jennifer loves to spend time in Northern Michigan, surrounded by the water and natural beauty.

Grounds Staffing

Like many organizations, Ferncliff has experienced the challenges of a diminished labor pool. We remain hopeful that this is a temporary condition that will be resolved soon. Our grounds team has seven full-time positions who support the internments and related family service operations on the grounds. There are presently two openings for qualified candidates.

In addition, Ferncliff maintains an outside contract relationship for seasonal labor that includes eight people to support the care of our 240-acre complex. Even when fully staffed, we experienced times when the eight seasonal employees worked 240 hours from the 320 hours that could have been available. We would like to have more hours and more people to properly supplement our team.

If you are aware of an experienced and qualified candidate, their application can be submitted to our Administrative Services Office at 501 West McCreight Avenue, Springfield, OH 45504

Ferncliff is not alone in managing this labor shortage and our hope is that we can have the patience and understanding from the community we serve. This is a high priority. We care!

*Thank You For
Your Patience*

Did you know...?

We often hear someone say that they were told by their family member that "everything was taken care of". Having a space at Ferncliff is not, "everything". We also have an interment fee (often called the opening/closing) that needs to be paid prior to any interment. But the good news is you can prepay this and lock in today's prices. Call the office for more information.

Historical Series with Dr. Schanher

Dr. Paul W. "Ski" Schanher III has been a devoted member of the Springfield Cemetery Association and serves on the Board of Trustees. "Ski" has recently retired as a prominent local dentist and is an active and respected member of the historical community in Springfield and Clark County.

The article below is next in the series written by Dr. Schanher.

Our Continuing Saga

James Demint, the founder of Springfield, was a visionary with dreams of surveying and developing his vast land investment into a town. Although recognized for his many good qualities and as a "rough and fearless" man, Demint was "much given to intemperance though possessing a good heart."

In 1801, another Kentuckian Griffith Foos, had settled with his family in Franklinton, a village thirty miles east of Demint's cabin. Finding that area unsuitable, Foos traveled west and stopped for water from an underground spring that was located on the southwest corner of modern-day Spring and Main Streets. From there Foos and his party traveled west following Native American paths to Mad River and followed Lagonda Creek (Buck Creek) until they found Demint's double log cabin.

James Demint encouraged Foos to "settle in the neighborhood" as he had planned to establish a town. As an incentive, he offered Foos valuable tracts of land at low prices. Shortly thereafter, John Daugherty, a knowledgeable surveyor also from Kentucky, found Demint's cabin. After enjoying his family's fine hospitality, Daugherty suggested that he could begin to survey Demint's holdings immediately. The work began on March 17, 1801.

The town plat was bounded on the south by South Street, now Main Street; on the east by East Street, now Spring Street; on the north by North Street, still named the same; and on the west by West Street, now Fountain Avenue. Main Street, now Columbia Street, intersected with a "public square" in the center of town.

The number of lots in the addition was about 82. Urban legend indicated that either Mrs. James Demint or Mrs. Simon Kenton suggested the name Springfield due to its many underground springs in the area. Springfield had already received its name when the plat was certified by James Demint on September 5, 1803.

Getting to Know our Board Members: David Martin

With each issue of the Ferncliff newsletter, we endeavor to introduce a member of our Board. For this issue, we interviewed Trustee David Martin. What follows, so to speak, is the story of David.

David is a Springfielder born and bred. He received his Juris Doctorate Degree from Denver College of Law and also served 4 years in the U.S. Air Force. After completing his higher education and military enlistment, David returned to Springfield. In 1975 he began practicing law ("and one of these days I'll get it right!"). That same year he married his wife Judi Reed, and they have a son Scott, who lives in Chicago with his wife Angie, and their children Sienna and Reed.

David's community memberships include past Director of the Springfield Rotary Club, past President of the Clark County Bar Association, past Board Chairman of the Mercy Foundation, past Board Chairman of the Springfield Museum of Art, and past Board Chairman of the Clark County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

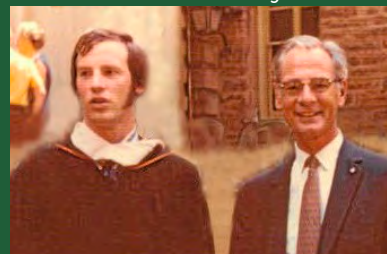
David's father, Oscar T. Martin II, was on the Ferncliff Board of Trustees for many years, and in 1987 he suggested to David that he join the Association.

David did so that year and then became a Trustee in 1991. David's philosophy of life is "to whom much is given, much will be required." He believes "If we are blessed with talents, knowledge, time and the like, it is expected that we use these well to benefit others." As Winston Churchill aptly observed, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Regarding Ferncliff, David shared these thoughts: "We nine Trustees have a fiduciary duty to exercise the utmost good faith in preserving Ferncliff Cemetery's legacy, which harkens back to July 4, 1863. Our function is to perform cemetery governance and steadfastly serve the community. Towards this end we will

ensure that the loved ones' resting place is dignified, beautiful and peaceful."

Ferncliff sincerely thanks David for his time, commitment, and service to the cemetery.



David Martin at his graduation from Princeton University, with his father, Oscar Martin

Ferncliff Funeral Home

News and Notes

In 2016, 4 years after establishing a crematory on the 158-year-old campus of Ferncliff Cemetery and Arboretum, we became licensed as a funeral home. Despite the 5 years since the funeral home's inception, we were surprised to learn that some Clark County residents are not aware we offer this service and operate as a turn-key provider for end-of-life matters all on the grounds of Ferncliff Cemetery and Arboretum in Springfield.

Ferncliff's funeral home and funeral directors are available 24 – 7 to meet and fulfill the needs of a family who has experienced the loss of a loved one. We will transport the deceased into our care, provide embalming (if desired or required), arrange and coordinate all the details of the funeral, complete and file the death certificate, and assist in writing the obituary. We will also work with your clergy (or suggest one), musicians and pallbearers as well as conduct the ceremony itself. Our funeral directors stand ready to guide and assist. Whether a celebration of life, memorial ceremony or traditional funeral service is desired, our spacious chapel is available to accommodate. Or we can conduct the event at a church or other facility of your choosing at no additional cost. *

With nearly 50 years of combined experience working in the profession, our funeral directors stand ready to assist with the personal and unique needs and requests you may have for your end of life wishes.

For a no-cost or obligation consultation with our funeral directors, please call (937) 207-0309 or visit our website at www.FerncliffCemetery.org

**An additional fee may apply if the ceremony is held outside of Clark County.*

New App Launched

The Ferncliff website now has a new app that can be downloaded to take you directly to the location of your loved one, featuring turn-by-turn Google directions.



Find a Loved One

Use our mobile app to find your loved one.

Scan the QR code or visit ferncliffcemetery.org.

USCT MONUMENT DEDICATION



On Friday, September 3, 2021 a collaboration between the George & Sarah Gammon House and Ferncliff Cemetery will be dedicating a monument to the 139 United States Colored Troops buried in Ferncliff Cemetery. These men were primarily former

slaves and freemen who fought for the cause of freedom and equality.

This significant moment in history relating to the honor and distinguished contributions made by these veterans will be commemorated by a dedication ceremony. The program starts at 10:30 AM on the Civil War Veteran's Mound.

Please consider that 44 of those names engraved on this monument, marked by an asterisk, were present at the surrenders that ended the Civil War. Additionally, Charles Gammon, one of the Gammon sons, died in the battle on James Island depicted in the movie, "Glory".

Please help us recognize these veterans who have served in more ways than we can imagine and, whose stories would amaze us.

Springfield Farmers Market At the Heritage Center



Proud to be a sponsor of the Farmers Market.

117 S. Fountain Ave. Springfield, OH 45502



Ferncliff

501 W. McCreight Ave.
Springfield, OH 45504

We want your photos!!

If you have a good shot you'd like to share, please feel free to post on our Facebook page, or better yet, send a jpeg image to mknize@ferncliffcemetery.org.



Are you thinking about purchasing space at Ferncliff? Perhaps near a loved one? Call about availability of spaces in some of our older sections.

"Summertime is always the best of what might be."
- Charles Bowden