



Ferncliff

W I N T E R NEWSLETTER

January - March 2021

Ferncliff Partners with Westcott Center and Turner Foundation to Launch Virtual Visits

Ferncliff launched its YouTube channel last fall with our inaugural video, Virtual Ferncliff Experience – Fall 2020. After its success, we have since added to our gallery of videos on our website Gallery page: <https://www.ferncliffcemetery.org/video-gallery> and our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5sSIgLkqpFRAJYBWIVicWQ/featured?view_as=subscriber

- Ferncliff has partnered with The Westcott Center for Architecture + Design and the Turner Foundation on a series of mini-documentaries about the history and architecture of Ferncliff's many beautiful mausoleums. These short 5-6 minute films, are written and produced by Kevin Rose, with photography and video by Rob Hatfield and Brain Taylor at Hatch New Media. Featuring the Bushnell, McGilvray, and Bookwalter/Leffel buildings, these videos capture the history of these families and their roles in Springfield history.



- Angels and Guardians of Ferncliff launched in December and was one of our highest viewed Facebook posts.
- January 5 was National Bird Day and the Birds of Ferncliff video was released. Our thanks go out to Nature Shots by Terri and David Norris for their gracious sharing of their amazing images.

Video Gallery



New Signs Coming Soon!



As you drive through the cemetery, you may notice our new directional signs. The signs were designed by The MacRay Company to aid in locating buildings and features, as well as compliment the beauty of the grounds.

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](https://www.ferncliffcemetery.org)

In Memoriam

William "Bill" Lambacher, 94, passed away on September 26, 2020. Born in Cleveland, Bill served in the US Navy during WWII. Mr. Lambacher served as the president of the former Springfield Bank and Society National Bank of Springfield.

Today, the banking system remains active in the area and is known as Key Bank. He retired in 1987 and was actively involved in many area organizations including Community Hospital, Springfield Rotary Club, and the Springfield Arts Center.

Bill also served as a member of the Springfield Cemetery Association and Ferncliff is grateful for his many years of service and his interest in our commitment to the community.



Thank You

Richard "Dick" Brougher



Following many years of service, Richard "Dick" Brougher has stepped down from his position as Vice President of the Board of Directors of Ferncliff Funeral Home. Dick was one of the original members and his service is appreciated. His nephew, William

"Bill" Brougher, serves on the Springfield Cemetery Association and his niece, Deanna Brougher is a member of the Funeral Home Board.

Dick grew up in Springfield, Ohio and graduated from Wittenberg University. He and his wife, Janet, enjoyed raising three children in Springfield...Jill, Andy and Joy. They also have 9 grandchildren and have delighted in being an instrumental part of their lives.

Dick was Co-Owner and an Executive with Eagle Tool and Machine Company for 50 plus years. He has always been an avid Wittenberg supporter and fan. Janet and Dick have proudly supported numerous community organizations and endeavors over the years. Dick's blood donation record is legendary.

In retirement, Janet and Dick enjoy traveling with family and friends. He also has enjoyed numerous rounds of golf and still enjoys frequent hands of poker with his buddies.

We wish to thank Dick for his leadership and his service to the funeral home board.

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 of our community. In addition, the Ferncliff Funeral Home, operating as an autonomous organization, includes the following board members.

Current Association Members

- Pamela Bennett
- Bill Brougher
- Jim Campbell
- Darnell Carter
- Martha Glendenin
- Harold Goodrich
- Larry McCoy
- Julie McGregor
- Daniel McGregor
- Plato Pavlatos
- Steve Schumaker
- Jon Sterling
- Ed Urbanek

Association Members Elected to Serve on the Board of Trustees

- Roger Evans
- Deborah Hill, *President*
- Atty. 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

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

NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

Retirement Announced

Longtime employee, Robert D. Hayes Sr., has announced his retirement as Grounds Foreman, effective February 28, 2021.

Bob has been working at Ferncliff Cemetery since 1977 and has played a significant role in many changes on the Ferncliff grounds. During the past 44 years these changes include the construction of Mausoleum 3, the Niche Garden and our newest Creekside Columbarium. Projects also include the development of new sections, the creation of Benston-Dick Lakes, and building new roadways.

One particularly vivid memory is clearing the land around the current House of Reflections and the development of Section 25-E. Bob says that area around the house was heavily wooded. The current upper Plum Street gate was closed off and not used. Taking out the trees, running gas lines, and preparing the ground to be ready for burials was a lot of difficult work.

Ferncliff is proud to have had Bob as such a caring, loyal, and hard-working employee. His love for Ferncliff will continue to surround us as his contributions and dedication are an integral part of our legacy. We wish him well but will miss him greatly. Thanks Bob.

New Arborist Joins Our Team

Casey Hupman, the director of buildings and grounds announced that Mark Goheen has joined the Ferncliff team as a certified arborist. Mark is a Springfield native, attended the Springfield City Schools, and was a student of the Horticultural program at the (former) Joint Vocational School, where he was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2012.

Mark earned a degree in Turf and Landscaping from Clark State Community College and in 1982 joined Wittenberg University where he served for many years as the Superintendent of Grounds. His certification from the International Society of Arboriculture was earned in 2007. Ferncliff looks forward to his work with Casey as we strive to maintain and make Ferncliff a beautiful place.

New Grounds Employee Added To Full Time Staff

Matt Henson has been hired as a grounds associate. Matt is a Clark County native and a graduate of Kenton Ridge H.S. He recently graduated Wright State University with a degree in history. Having worked at Ferncliff as a seasonal employee, he became acquainted with the culture and work.

Matt enjoys working in the outdoors, though he says he enjoys it more in the summers than he does in the winter. Matt is engaged to be married in June 2021. We welcome Matt to our grounds team and look forward to his continued service.

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Ferncliff is a great place to work and we have open positions in our grounds area.

Ferncliff is committed to customer service and the beautification of our grounds. We place great value in the community and the diversity and inclusion of all people is a critical element that we endeavor to put in place. If anyone is interested in maintaining beautiful grounds and serving our community, and would like to apply, please let us know.

Did you know...?

If you own spaces at Ferncliff that are not designated for someone specific at the time of your death, each of your surviving children have equal say in who can use any remaining spaces. These rights pass down each generation to the next. If you have any questions on this, or other policies at the cemetery, give us a call.

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" is 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

In August 1799, a group of six to twelve families from Kentucky, traveling the river systems, led by Simon Kenton and John Humphreys, arrived near the confluence of the Mad River and Lagonda Creek (Buck Creek). They moved to the high ground where the modern-day Masonic Home stands in the west end of Springfield and built a fort to protect them from Native Americans as well as fourteen log cabins. This became the first permanent settlement in what would become Clark County.

James Demint, considered by most local historians past and present to be the founder of Springfield, arrived with his family in 1799, holding a deed for 640 parcels of land procured from a real estate agent John Cleve Symmes of Cincinnati. A Kentuckian by birth, Demint was no stranger to wilderness wanderings. Upon arriving to the same confluence that Kenton did, Demint followed the Lagonda Creek eastward until he found a suitable place to settle. He and his family built a double log cabin above the cliffs that now overlook the Springfield Art Center and Buck Creek. Today, a large rock with an inscribed plaque situated in the front yard of the former William Toy Board of Education building on College Avenue, between North Fountain Avenue and North Limestone Street, marks the approximate position of Demint's cabin, the first house built within the current Springfield city limits.

Our next adventure into the Clark County and Springfield story will look into those who made a difference.

Getting to Know our Board Members

With each issue of The Ferncliff Newsletter, we hope to include a brief introduction to our Board members. We are extremely proud of each member of our Board and want the community to see why we feel so blessed to have the benefit of their service.

Please say hello, to Mr. Reed Robertson. Reed is a devoted member of the Springfield Cemetery Association and serves on the Board of Trustees. Reed is a very young 93 and is the longest serving member of our Association and Board. He has been a Springfield resident since the age of 8.

He joined the Association in 1982 when he was an executive at the Robertson Can Company. He is an active and respected member of our community and he has contributed in many

ways. His service has included 13 years on the Board of Directors of Springfield's City Hospital, the Springfield Foundation, and the Springfield Parks and Recreation Board for 25 years, respectively. Reed is an avid reader and enjoys playing golf.

Reed highly values the importance of Ferncliff and how we serve our community. He has been a consistent champion of fair pricing and is especially focused on the strategic obligation for the perpetual care of the cemetery, arboretum, and our preneed obligations. Reed Robertson's service continues to have a positive impact at Ferncliff, and we are pleased he chooses to invest his time, talents, and ideas to ensure our success. Thank you, Reed.

Ferncliff Funeral Home News and Notes

With the challenges faced by the COVID-19 pandemic and its subsequent restrictions, people of all ages are discovering the value of live streaming which allows others to receive live video and audio over the internet.

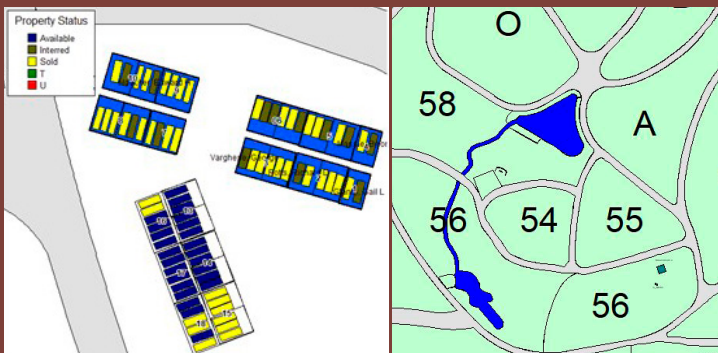
Funerals and memorial ceremonies are no exception to this demand. Ferncliff Funeral Home & Crematory offers live streaming of services and special events arranged through us. Family members of the deceased are given a webpage address which, in conjunction with a private password, allows a ceremony to be seen and heard by family and friends anywhere in the world.

For more information, contact Ferncliff Funeral Home today at **(937) 207-0309**. Additionally, as you prepare your own advance funeral needs, be sure to mention your desire for this important streaming service for the benefit of your survivors and friends near and far.

New Spaces Added In Section 56

New spaces have been added to the southernmost section of the cemetery, near the Benston-Dick Lakes and the Creekside developments. The new spaces are available for both monumental lots and flat marker spaces.

Please call now to make an appointment to tour or purchase spaces in this popular and highly desirable location.



Planning Ahead with Ferncliff Pet Cemetery & Services

The loss of a loved one, whether human or pet, is never easy. However, planning ahead for that death has many advantages. Just to name a few, planning ahead can relieve unnecessary burdens and stress at an emotional time, can provide for rising costs in the future, and can assure no important detail is forgotten and specific wishes are honored.

Ferncliff Pet Cemetery and Services, operated by two Ohio licensed funeral directors, offers pre-planning for your pets' burial, cremation and memorial. Call **937-207-0309** or email **LHeatherman@FerncliffCemetery.org** today to learn more. There is no cost or obligation required.

Celebrating Black History Month – February

In February, we will honor and highlight several African American individuals and families interred at Ferncliff. Check our social media pages through the month for more articles and stories. These selected persons are an integral part of our city's rich history.

Broadwell Chinn was born a slave in Lexington, KY around 1855. His large family came to Springfield in the 1870's when his father, William, opened a grocery store on Center Street.

Chinn attended primary school, but was denied admission to public high school due to his race. The principal and several teachers took exception and tutored him allowing Chinn to qualify for a high school diploma. He applied to Wittenberg in 1874, but again, a vote of the student body denied him admission. Wittenberg's Board of Directors reversed the vote allowing him admission.

Mr. Chinn, became the first African American to graduate from Springfield High School and Wittenberg College. He further broke racial barriers as a member of the Clark County Bar Association.

On September 11, 1889 Broadwell died from consumption. He is buried in Ferncliff in Section F. When we found there was no stone to mark his grave, many Ferncliff employees contributed to cover the cost of adding a marker to honor his life.

Today, Wittenberg awards the Broadwell Chinn Scholarship to students of diversity. His legacy lives on at the university and in our community.



Ferncliff

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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.

- Amanda Gorman's "The Hill We Climb," First National Youth Poet Laureate

"For there is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it"