



Ferncliff

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

May - July 2022

Cliffside Clean-Up

The recent Cliffside clean-up is nearly complete thanks to the efforts of many, including our Grounds Director, Casey Hupman, and Arborist, Mark Goheen.

Additional assistance was provided by Tree Care Inc. who removed trees, stumps, and overgrowth. Throughout the process of the area's renewal, much thought and care ensured that the cliffs were maintained as a habitat for wildlife and the beautiful flora that make Ferncliff their home.

The founders of Ferncliff recognized the unparalleled natural beauty of the cliffs that defined the historic main entrance to the cemetery.

These cliffs, with their fern outcroppings, clearly help present the beauty of this magnificent space and offer the symbolic *Welcome to Ferncliff*.

BEFORE



AFTER

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

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

Getting to Know our Board Members: Dr. Richard Umbaugh

In each issue of The Ferncliff Newsletter, we include a brief introduction to one of our Board Members. We are extremely proud of each member of our Board and the contributions they make in strengthening our mission to serve our community with affordable, inclusive, end of life services.

This month, we would like to introduce you to Board Trustee and Treasurer, Dr. Richard "Dick" Umbaugh. Dick was born and raised in Springfield, OH, where he attended Springfield High School. Following graduation, Dick studied at The Ohio State University where he received his undergraduate degree as well as his DDS from The Ohio State University College of Dentistry.

From 1956-1958, Dick served his country as a dental resident in the United States Air Force. While stationed at Ladd Air Force Base in Fairbanks, Alaska, he met his future wife, Darlene Thoreson Umbaugh. After spending two winters there, he exclaims, "I've never seen freezing temperatures like I did in Alaska!" Following his military service, Dick returned to Ohio with his beloved bride, and he obtained his specialty in Orthodontics. In 1961, Dick joined his father's orthodontic practice, and following his father's retirement, he took over the business. Eventually, Dick's brother-in-law joined the practice and after 42 years of practicing orthodontics, Dick retired in the summer of 1998.

After retirement, Dick continued his service to the community of Springfield and states that he "really likes to give back to the community." He has served on The Springfield City Schools Board of Education, The JVS (CTC) Board of Education, The Springfield Parks and Recreation Board, The Jaycees, Rotary Club, Trustee at Clark State College, and a member of The Chamber of Commerce. Dick currently serves on the Springfield City Schools Alumni of Distinction Award Committee, The Greater Springfield Moving Forward Parks & Green Spaces Committee, and of course is a Trustee and Treasurer of The Springfield Cemetery Association.

Dick was blessed to have shared 61 years with his beloved wife Darlene, who passed in 2019. When not serving his community, Dick likes to dabble in gardening and is an avid reader. Additionally, Dick enjoys visiting with his son and daughter-in-law in Denver, a daughter and son-in-law in Findlay, and his six grandchildren.

Dick feels honored to give back to Springfield and regarding Ferncliff, he shares these thoughts: "Ferncliff is a special place. Many people spent a great deal of time developing these historic grounds and it is a pleasure to keep it going."

We are so fortunate to have Dick Umbaugh's service as a board member and we thank him for his time and commitment in ensuring Ferncliff's future.

Welcome to Our New Association Members

On January 18, 2022, the Board of Trustees endorsed five individuals to serve as new members of the **Springfield Cemetery Association**, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the corporation.

The Association voted by ballot to approve the appointments. An orientation has occurred to help offer important background information.

The following members will be serving on the Association:

John Detrick
Sharon Evans
Dale Henry
Ed Leventhal
Laurel Shoumlin.

We welcome the new members and thank them for their service.

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 - Griffith Foos Arrives

One of the earliest pioneers to settle in what is now present day Springfield, Ohio was Griffith Foos. In 1801, Foos, along with his family and several others, moved into the Ohio Territory from Kentucky. Initially, they settled the Scioto Valley in the small town of Franklinton, west of Columbus. However, they found the area to be quite "malarious." Upon advice from several area hunters, Foos and a few other men traveled westward on horseback following Native American trails until they reached the Mad River Valley. Weary from their journey, they rested in an area where they found refreshing spring water. Today, that is the southwest corner of East Main and Spring Streets where the Sibcy-Cline Realty has an office in the former Tuttle Brothers Auto Supply store.

Instead of exploring the valley, they followed an eastern branch of the Mad River called Lagonda Creek (Buck Creek today). Eventually, Foos and his men found James Demint's cabin on the bluffs above the creek. They enjoyed Demint's fine hospitality for several days and learned that he planned to establish a town in the area. As their friendship developed, Foos followed through with Demint's offer to buy property at a reduced rate in the area of what would become the original 1801 city plat. Foos bought the property that he first rested upon during his initial trip to the area. There he built a double log cabin that also served as a tavern. This was the first home/business building located in the original village limits. In the meantime, Foos returned to Franklinton to bring his family to this budding community.

In June 1801, he opened his tavern for business. At times his establishment served as the local gathering place for Sunday worship until a permanent building for church services could be constructed. Foos closed the tavern on May 10, 1814, and retired to his farm east of town. Noted local historian, Anne Benston, said of Foos, "In 1817, he built and operated a small oil mill on the corner of Linden and Monroe Streets, remaining active in public affairs." Griffith Foos passed away on Thursday, May 5, 1859.

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
- John Detrick
- Sharon Evans
- Martha Glendenin
- Harold Goodrich
- Dale Henry
- Ed Leventhal
- Larry McCoy
- Julie McGregor
- Daniel McGregor
- Steve Schumaker
- Laurel Shouplin
- 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 Brougher
- Kevin Rose
- Dr. Paul "Ski" Schanher, *President*
- Myles Trempe, *Treasurer*

Creekside Columbarium

At Ferncliff, we believe everyone should have the opportunity to be laid to rest in a peaceful, calm, and respectful manner. As cremation becomes an increasingly popular choice, many families are drawn to Ferncliff for permanent placement of their loved one's urn.

If you or your loved one would like to choose cremation, our staff can help you select one of our most popular options – a niche in our beautiful, Creekside setting.

Our Creekside Columbarium is nestled in a beautiful, natural setting surrounded by the serenity of trees, lakes, and wildlife.



Pet Cemetery

At Ferncliff Pet Services, we understand how important a pet is to their human families and how deeply the loss is felt when they cross the Rainbow Bridge.

Our dedicated team is available to assist you every step of the way with your pet's final resting arrangements. We offer our own pet cemetery for the interment of pets and animals, as well as pet cremation, including pick-up either from your veterinarian's office or your home.

Call Ferncliff Pet Cemetery & Crematory at 937-460-7826 for additional information

LOOKING BACK



Snowhill School has a long history

The original Snowhill School, called Snowhill District No. 1, was located at the McCreight Avenue entrance to Ferncliff Cemetery and used until 1890, when a new Snow Hill School was erected on Saint Paris Pike across the street from the present Snowhill Elementary location. The original "little red schoolhouse" was one of the few remaining in the area when it was torn down in 1930 to allow for construction of the Gothic stone building that replaced it as Ferncliff's new office. From 1916 until it was removed in 1930, the building was used as the office for Ferncliff. A new Snowhill Elementary was built in 1951 on West Harding Road and it was rebuilt in 2006. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CLARK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



A Little Birdie Told Me...

New Summer Gate Hours

Due to community feedback, we will be extending our gate hours this summer, beginning Memorial Day weekend, to 7:00 PM daily.

Both Plum Street gates will be open:

7:30 am – 4:30 pm

Main McCreight Street gate will be open:

7:30 am – 7:00 pm

As the day cools and the sun lowers, our deer come out. Come visit and maybe you'll catch a peek!



Springfield Farmers Market



Ferncliff is proud to help sponsor this summer's Springfield Farmers Market which runs every Saturday 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, from June through September.

Ferncliff will be in the sponsor tent on Saturday, July 23. Come join us!

2022 Buck Creek Boom

The 2022 Buck Creek Boom will take place this year on Sunday, July 3. The fireworks display is a collaboration with the National Trail Parks & Recreation District and Ferncliff. Our staff and Board are both excited to support this community event which allows for an atypical use of our space while connecting and engaging with local residents. We are planning for the same location within Ferncliff as last year. It worked well for the fireworks crew and the Springfield Fire Division. Launching the fireworks from our grounds made for great viewing from many locations in Springfield.

Lunch and Learn July 21, 2022 at 12:00^{pm}

We are very excited to host the monthly Lunch and Learn event on Thursday, July 21 at 12:00 pm at United Senior Services, 125 W. Main St. There will be a slide presentation with a look at Ferncliff's history presented by Marilyn Knize, some of it's prominent people, what's available now, and where we're headed.

Questions will be encouraged, and lunch will be provided. **Reservations will be required**, so plan to contact USS at 937-323-4948 in July, and we hope to see you there.



Ferncliff

501 W. McCreight Ave.
Springfield, OH 45504

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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.



A grandmother's advice

My grandmother once gave me a tip:

In difficult times, you move forward in small steps.

Do what you have to do, but little by little.

Remove the dust.

Write a letter.

Make a soup.

You see?

You are advancing step by step.

Take a step and stop.

Rest a little.

Praise yourself.

Take another step.

Then another.

You won't notice, but your steps will grow more and more.

And the time will come when you can think about the

future without crying.

- Elena Mikhailkova