



2201 North Capitol Street, NE,
Washington, DC 20002-1103
www.prospecthillcemetery.org
Telephone: (202) 667-0676

Prospect Hill Cemetery

Our Nation's Capital's German-American Cemetery

Summer-Fall

Newsletter

2017

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

May 29, 2017 was a perfect day to celebrate Memorial Day at Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Many lot owners and both old and new friends of PHC were in attendance, and the Washington Saengerbund's music spread throughout the cemetery grounds and surrounding environs.



The Washington Saengerbund under the direction of Nicholas Alexander Brown
with Shuai Wang accompanist



Pastor Tabea Muenz of the United Church was the homilist. She reminded us of why we honor the fallen soldiers buried at PHC.

This was her final homily at Prospect Hill as she is returning to her native Germany with her new family.

She has served as the Pastor of the German Community at the United Church since 2010, and participated in many Memorial Day services at Prospect Hill.

We will miss her.

Attendees and participants enjoy refreshments after the service, provided by board secretary Edith Gill and husband John.

Friends rekindled relationships, and prospective new lot owners were introduced to the cemetery. Superintendent Connell provided tours of areas where cemetery lots are still available.



LOT OWNERS MEETING

The 2017 lot owners meeting preceded the Memorial Day Service. Although the 13 lot owners in attendance was an increase from previous years, this did not meet the required 15 for a quorum, and no official business could be transacted. The trustees each presented reports, however.

President Carol Holler opened the meeting and introduced the board members: Edith Gill, Secretary; Rudolph Becker, Treasurer; Eva Brandt, Gerd Halusa, Gerhard Meinzer and Albert Rietz, Trustees.

After a recitation of the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States by all in attendance, trustee Halusa offered a reading from the Psalms of David.

Secretary Gill read the minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting.

Superintendent Connell reported on his activities during the past year

Treasurer Rudy Becker reported on financial activities in 2016. Donations totaled \$ 27,400. A grant of \$11,000 was received from the Phase Foundation for roadway improvements. Investment income totaled \$ 27,000, and other income totaled \$ 27,800. Expenses were \$ 90,100 and net proceeds for the year were (\$ 4,900).

Major expenditures during 2016 included a new mower, preventive tree trimming and storm damage cleanup, insurance, salaries and payroll taxes, and utilities.



President Holler thanks Superintendent Connell for all his hard work



Lot owners listen to board reports

CLEAN UP DAY AT PROSPECT HILL

Lot owners and friends of Prospect Hill met at the cemetery on Saturday, May20, 2017 to spruce up the place for the upcoming lot owners meeting and Memorial Day service.

This year the group removed leaves which had accumulated in the rock spillway controlling storm water runoff from adjacent Glenwood Cemetery.

Refreshments and snacks were provided for all to enjoy. The weather was perfect for working at the cemetery.



Leaves in the spillway



Cleaned spillway ready for summer rains



The intrepid volunteers
Lot owners Christine Hambach & Bernd Wenzel
Trustee Eva Brandt & President Carol Holler

CEMETERY PLOT MARKERS AVAILABLE

Several lot owners suggested that markers be made available to lot owners so that the exact location of their plots could be identified. They felt it would be particularly useful for owners and heirs of owners whose plots are not otherwise marked with headstones, to make the plots easier to find during visits to the cemetery.

The Plot ID number contains the Section ID for the plot, and a map of the cemetery on the website shows the locations of the several sections. Visitors may need to contact the office for the general area within a section where the plot is located.

These markers should be particularly useful for out-of-towners who, knowing the plot number and the area within a section where the plot is located, can visit the cemetery at their own convenience on the days it is open, and find the plot.



Recently purchased plot markers.

Plot markers can be ordered on the Order Form on page 7. Price is \$25.00 each, installed.

WATER BILL

The water and sewer service fees charged by DC Water in 2016 were \$17,000, an increase of \$4,000 or 30% from 2015. They will increase to about 20,000 in 2017 and are expected to increase by about \$3,000 per year for at least the next 5 years. We're not confident that they will ever decline.

The reason for these charges is to pay for the Clean Rivers Project being undertaken by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Department to comply with federal EPA prohibition of discharges from the city's combined sewer and storm water collection system into area rivers and streams. The discharges result from storm water which falls on impervious areas (roads, sidewalks, parking lots, etc.).

Private, historic cemeteries are particularly hard hit by these charges due to the large quantity of impervious areas they contain and the fact that most of their income is from donations and cemetery lot sales. The normal usages of these funds are for historic preservation. But, with the ever-increasing water and sewer charges, many cemeteries are having to expend perpetual care funds.

To find a solution to this problem, several historic cemeteries including Prospect Hill met in early June 2017 to share experiences and map out a plan of attack for fixing the problem. One solution is to embark on a letter writing campaign in support of legislation aimed at reducing the financial impact of the Clean Rivers Project on historic cemeteries in DC. It is expected that the campaign would be kicked off in late summer/early fall of this year.

STORM DAMAGE

On the afternoon of July 3, 2017, a thunderstorm blew through DC and across Prospect Hill. A large tree was felled by the resulting high winds. It blocked the main cemetery roadway along the south side above V Street.



After the storm



After the clean up

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank everyone for attending this year's Annual Meeting. It was another beautiful day and it was great to catch up with everyone.

The Memorial Day service presented by the Saengerbund singers and the United Church was awe inspiring with the pastor's message and beautiful voices.

Kudos also to our superintendent-caretaker Joe Connell. He outdid himself in getting the cemetery looking in tip-top shape for the annual meeting. Many thanks to the faithful board of trustees who are always ready to tackle any problems that come our way.

The cemetery always looks wonderful so come and visit anytime when the cemetery is open: Thursdays thru Mondays, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Old and new friends are always welcome.

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

*Rudolph Becker, Editor
Memorial Day Photography: Gerd Halusa*

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 preservation, maintenance and operation of the cemetery \$ _____

Books for sale

of books:

_____ *The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill* (\$35) \$ _____

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

_____ *Prospect Hill Cemetery Adult Burial List – 1858 thru 2003* (\$35) \$ _____

_____ *Prospect Hill Cemetery Children's Burial List – 1858 thru 2003* (\$20) \$ _____

Total number of books _____

\$5 postage for each book purchased \$ _____

Plot Markers for sale – indicate the name as it is to appear on the marker – one name per marker
See photos on page 5.

_____ @ \$25 ea. \$ _____
of markers Name Name Name

Total amount of book order, plot markers and/or donation \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email address: _____

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

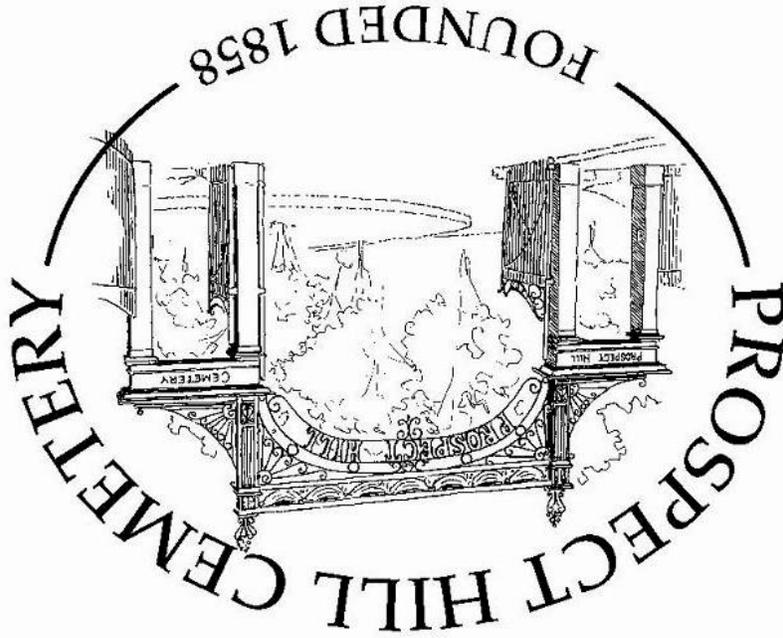
All correspondence should be sent to the address above. Thank you for your support of Prospect Hill.

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.

Phone: 202-667-0676

Website: www.prospecthillcemetery.org



PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY

C/o Rudolph H Becker
2608 Lakeview Parkway
Locust Grove, VA 22508