Union Campground Cemetery Association Fall Meeting
This year we will meet at the home of Jean Rayl
3447 S Kickapoo Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
417-881-4456
December 5, 2015 at 2:30 P.M.

Jean Rayl has graciously offered to open her home for our Fall meeting, which will be at 2:30 on Saturday afternoon, December 5th. Please refer to the information above for her address and phone number. Jean’s home is easy to find, located between Cox South and Immaculate Conception Church, but we have listed her phone number above just in case you do have trouble finding her home. Since we will have eaten lunch already, Jean is preparing some light refreshments, including soup and tea for us. I understand that attendees are not to bring anything to eat, but perhaps a phone call to Jean will coax her into allowing us to bring something.

I hope that several of you can join us for a good time of catching up on visiting about what we have all been doing, and of course, what has been going on at the cemetery since our Spring meeting.

Larry has prepared a good report, which summarizes very well the many activities that have occurred at the cemetery since we last met. I hope you can be at Jean’s home to discuss this further, and how we think we should proceed now. There are many good ideas brought forward in the discussion, and I hope you can add your ideas too.

Many of you may not be able to be there, and that is understandable, but please know you will be missed.

I hope each of you have been healthy since we last saw you, and that you are having a great Fall season. Also, I want to wish each of you Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!

Take care, and God bless you!

Robb

Web Site Updates
Jean is still finding new information for the Union Campground Cemetery. She has added some new information to the burial listings on the web site.

Pansy Harvey
Pansy is 90 years old and hasn’t slowed down much. Her children had a big bash party for her on October 24th at the Crossways Baptist church on North Barnes. Thanks Pansy for all the work you have done for the Cemetery Assn.

Cemetery Report
Just before Billie Follansbee started the fall semester, Robb contacted a man to mow the cemetery since no one had mowed the cemetery this year. It looks pretty good now. The leaves will start falling any day and then it will be pretty as such. Then to get rid of the leaves. Billie Follansbee from MSU has had a group out working again this semester. They should be finished with this years projects by the end of November.

I visited with Jim Atwell at Pansy’s birthday party. He has the cemetery on the list for tree work. It is hard to get into and hard to get the wood out. His group does tree removal and cuts it and give the wood to needy people for heat. If you remember Jim donated the first set of headstones.

The latest thing that I have done is make some temporary metal markers for unmarked graves. We have used flags and wooden stakes in the past but they seem to disappear with age. The metal markers I believe will stay until we can set the concrete stones. The markers are being placed at the west end of the grave.

I did a little grave dowsing recently on the row on the east side of the cemetery. Bettie and Hazel had done this several years ago and used flags. Only a couple flags are still standing. This is probably a row that could be done first.
OFFICERS 2013-2014
Robb Chandler, President 2015
Bettie Hickman, 1st V-Pres 2015
Jean Rayl, 2nd V-Pres 2015
Elaine Mott, Secretary 2015
Larry Voris, Corres Sec’y 2015
Doug Rayl, Treasurer 2015
Linda Appleby 2015
Joanna Coonrod 2015
Molly Faulkner 2015
Don Harvey 2015
Cyndi Davison 2016
Hazel Voris 2016
Jackie Warfel 2016
Clarence Stiver 2017
Betty Jane Turner 2017
Ben Gravely 2017
Jean Rayl 2017

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Pansy Harvey: pasharvey01@gmail.com
Robert Thomas: thornt@cox.net
Marie Jackson: dowmey@cerritos.edu
Jim Appleby: jlappleby@msn.com

Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Douglas Rayl, Treasurer
November 21, 2015
Previous balance
(Spring newsletter) $4287.87
Deposits:
Dues: 285.00
Donations 5.00
Fantastic Caverns Sign 350.00
Total Income 640.00
Expenditures:
Josh Dilsaver (website maintenance): 25.00
Bank Box 30.00
Mowing 225.00
Pizza Party 65.27
Dr Follensbee’s Class
Total Expense -345.27
New Balance: $4580.60

The dues for 2015 are the same as before -- $15 for individuals and $25 for two. I would deeply appreciate it if you would send your dues to me at your earliest convenience, either by mail or at the annual spring meeting. My address is:
Douglas Rayl
252 Hightower
Nixa, MO  65714
or if you have questions just call me.  417-830-2371
Thanks
Doug

Editors note:
For the last few years we have sent out newsletter to those that haven’t paid dues for a while. By not renewing your membership in the Cemetery Association must mean that you don’t care anymore. Just about all the work in the restoration of the cemetery has been from volunteers.
We have hired very little outside help. But when we do need something done we still need the funds to pay for the services. We have very little income.
We have projects that will need several dollars but we don’t have the funds to proceed with those projects. So please send in your dues. Thanks
At that time, only 36 burials were found because undergrowth was so dense. Since the 1960’s our association has discovered and documented 55 additional burials, making a total of 91. Nine other burials are listed on our “possible burial” listings. No verifications available.

Jean Gaffga Rayl

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY EXHIBIT AND RECEPTION
Members of the Union Campground Cemetery Association received an invitation from Professor Billie Follensbee, Professor of Art History at Missouri State University, to attend an exhibit and reception in the Special Collections and Archives Gallery of the Meyer Library at the University on September 24, 2015.

The exhibit featured the best advanced student research and conservation of art and artifacts from the Fall 2014 class. Access to the art and artifacts was granted to the Special Collections and Archives Gallery from different institutions including the Ralph Foster Museum, Drury University, History Museum of the Ozarks, Christian County Museum, the Union Campground cemetery Association and from several private lenders.

First offered in 2011, the hands-on course combined advanced study and research of art and artifacts with an introduction to conservation techniques. The exhibit continued through the Fall 2015 semester.

IN MEMORIUM
Elizabeth Jane Turner

We knew her as Betty Jane, a charter member of Union Campground Cemetery Association. She was born August 9, 1923 in Springfield, Missouri and passed away May 22, 2015 at the age of 91. She is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Anette Turner, a son, Timothy Turner, and two grandchildren, Katherine Amanda Turner and Henry Turner. Betty Jane’s maiden name was Rathbone, a well-known Family of the Springfield community for over five generations.

During the early days of researching Union Campground Cemetery, she and a faculty member from the Center for Archaeology Research, at Missouri State University, conducted a study of the cemetery and made an assessment of its prehistoric significance. Betty Jane also served on our board of directors for many years.

We will miss her and extend sympathy to members of her family.

Union Campground Burial Listings
Cemetery readings were conducted in Greene County Missouri in the 1960’s by volunteers from the church of the Latter Day Saints. Union Campground Cemetery was among the cemeteries listed.

Professor Billie Follensbee

At the display case for documents and research materials.
Her class is presently repairing stones in the cemetery the on the east side that was found a couple of years ago. They have found several pieces and are going to lay the pieces on a tilted concrete pad.
My early memories of the cemetery

Larry Voris

I remember back in the early 1970’s when our children were small my mother-in-law, Eunice Dulin told the children about the old cemetery where some of their ancestors were buried. She took us to the cemetery one afternoon. As I remember we walked down from Valley Water Mill road. We opened a wire gate and came down across an open field to the cemetery. There was an old fence around the cemetery at that time that was in bad repair and the cattle could run through the cemetery. We have found graves on the north side of the North fence and also south of the fence on the south side of the cemetery. Then the brow of the hill comes into the picture. Brow of which hill? There is a brow on the west side along the old road which would lead me to think the road was on the west side of the cemetery. Then you have a hill on the east side of the cemetery. With the land across the ditch on the southeast corner. We haven’t found graves in this area. We know about the brow of the hill on the north side and have found graves north of the Gimlin plot.

But the south side of the cemetery is flat where I would think of in a cemetery. You don’t dig graves on a hill side. They are on flat ground. Our original 3 acres wasn’t square. Like what we have today. The cemetery should probably go south another 50 feet or so and we shouldn’t have that little nook on the east side or the area west of the old road. People wouldn’t bury in this terrain. Very seldom you find a road through a cemetery. We got land that wasn’t in the cemetery. We got scrub land that isn’t good for anything. Something to think about.

Jean Rayl

We have another very active 90 year old, Jean Rayl.

Sunday, Nov. 15th at the Twin Oaks Country Club. Robb, Pam, Molly, Hazel and Larry attended the birthday dinner in Jean’s honor. It was done by Doug & Elaine. Good job you two. Great food and a good time was had by all. I counted 24 in all.