2010 Annual Meeting

Saturday
June 5, 2010
at the
Vera Chandler Homestead

Board Meeting
10:00 AM
Lunch 12:00 Noon
General membership Meeting 1:00 PM

Message from the President

Another year has flown by, and it is time again to think about getting together for our annual meeting, to reflect back on the past year, and to look forward to the year ahead.

I sincerely hope that many of you can join with us for some good food and good fellowship at the home of Vera Chandler on June 5th. (If you need directions, please give me a call at 417-833-4501.) If you cannot join us, rest assured that you will be missed, and we will hope to see you next time.

Please refer to page two of the newsletter for the log of work done in the cemetery this past year. Much progress has been made, with a tremendous amount of work done in making a grid of the cemetery and the procurement and placement of blank tombstones to mark the location of the many unmarked graves present. Many hours of hard work were put in by Conner Gardner and the Boy Scouts (cemetery clean up and placement of some of the grid markers and blank tombstones), Ryan’s Tree Service (rappelling in the tree tops to remove dead / hanging limbs, and placement of new wood chips on the trail), Dale Stewart (backhoe work and hauling fill dirt that Larry and Hazel donated), Jim Atwell of Riteway Concrete (blank tombstones), Anderson Engineering (round concrete grid markers), and our own volunteer efforts. Bettie Hickman and Hazel Voris put in several hours determining the locations of many unmarked graves, and Larry and Hazel have put in a tremendous amount of time and effort in and on behalf of the cemetery, and deserve our heartfelt thanks for all that they have done.

Placement of the remaining grid markers and the blank tombstones on the unmarked graves will be the main goals for the upcoming year. (Not to mention the constant fight with limbs and / or trees that fall, and trying to keep the cemetery grounds mowed appropriately.)

Please try to join us for our meeting, but again, if you cannot we will miss you and do hope to see you next time. Take care, and God bless you—Robb

A Moment in History

Appleby Infant

Union Campground Cemetery has more than its share of infant burials. May of their gravesites remain unknown, but we do have documentation for 24 young children—ages 0 through 10 years old. Other names of young children have been suggested as being buried in UCC but documentation is not available.

When you consider that medical services were scarce in rural areas of Greene Co., MO well into the 20th century, then you begin to realize why our old, and sometimes abandoned cemeteries contain an unusually high number of young people.

We acknowledge in this newsletter the brief life of the infant son of Robert and Emma Appleby.

APPLEBY Infant son
190817/18 Apr 1908
Springfield Daily Republican 18 Apr 1908.

“The infant son of Robert A. Appleby died. Robert Appleby and Emma May Dulin were married 4 Aug 1905 in Greene Co., MO. Burial in Union Campground Cemetery indicated on website of Dorothy Dee Appleby Turner, 631 6th St., Elko, NV 89801.”

Note: The only other known burial in Union Campground Cemetery with the last name of Appleby, is that of Elizabeth G. Snow, wife of W. A. Appleby.
OFFICERS 2008-09
Robb Chandler, President
Bettie Hickman, 1st Vice Pres.
Jean Rayl, 2nd Vice Pres.
Elaine Mott, Secretary
Larry Voris, Corresponding Sec’y
Pansy Harvey, Treasurer

Directors
Clarence Stiver 2011
Betty Jane Turner 2011
Jean Rayl 2011
Ben Gravely 2011
Douglas Rayl 2010
Hazel Voris 2010
Jackie Warfel 2010
Joanna Coomrod 2012
Molly Faulkner 2012
Don Harvey 2012

Note To all Members:
We send out messages often about the progress being made in the cemetery by e-mail. If you would like to be on this list please send you e-mail address to Larry Voris at:
lgoris@sbcglobal.net
The web version of the newsletter will be out soon. This is a quick and easy way to communicate with our membership.
Thanks
Larry

PAY YOUR DUES NOW.
Dues are $15.00 per single person or $25.00 for any two person. Your support will help pay the cost of preparing and mailing the newsletter and for cleanup activities at the cemetery.
Dues will be payable at the meeting or mail a check to:
Pansy Harvey, Treasurer
Union Campground Assn
3822 E. State Hwy AA
Springfield, MO 65803

PLAN ON BEING AT THE MEETING THIS YEAR. WE NEED YOU.

New Web Site
I’m sure most of you have been to our new web site. Andrew did an outstanding job on creating the site. Doug reports that we have had several hits on the site. There is a program attached that tells us where the hits are coming from. So far we haven’t heard anything but good comments about the site.
www.unioncampgroundcemetery.org

Cemetery Log for 2010
Not much to report at this time. The 100 blank head stones have been moved down to the cemetery. We had one burning session.
Sprayed for weeds and brush on May 4 and removed the fallen tree and cut 3-4 other dead trees and moved the brush to the burn pit. There are more dead trees that need to be cut and worked up.
As I mentioned in the Fall 2009 newsletter the grid of the cemetery has been completed. Each grid is 50 foot square. We placed a round concrete test cylinder (6 inch in dia by 12 inches long) at the corners of each grid. We used a hand post hole digger for the holes. Surprisingly we only hit one rock in the whole cemetery while setting the markers and it was on the west side down in the ditch. We did have several roots to contend with.
You all may think that it is nice to have all the trees in the cemetery. It is nice and shady. But on the other side is the upkeep of the cemetery grounds. You always have limbs falling, trees dying, leaves falling, roots in the grave sites and about anything to do with trees. We have is excess of 100 trees and this is our main expense in the upkeep of the cemetery. Several cemeteries that I know of do not allow any trees in the cemetery.
Did You Know?
In December 1858, the population of Springfield was about 1,200. There were 16 mercantile houses, 2 drug stores, 1 cabinet shop, 1 furniture store, 7 blacksmith shops, 2 tin shops, 2 saddle and harness shops, 3 hotels, 3 wagon shops, 3 jewelry stores, 2 printing offices (the Mirror and the Advertiser), 3 churches 5 schools, 10 lawyers, 5 doctors, 4 clergymen, 4 lodges (Mason, Odd Fellows, Sons of Temperance and Good Templars), 3 tailor shops, 2 milliners, 1 daguerrean gallery, 1 carding machine, 1 gunsmith shop, 3 butcher shops, 1 hatter, 3 confectionery stores, 1 livery stable, 3 boot & shoe shops, 1 dentist, a land office, a bank, 20 carpenters, 1 house & sign painter, 2 brick masons, and 1 saloon. (Taken from the Greene County Historical Society website.)

The Kerosene Lamp
For most of the 18th century in Europe and America a fireplace was the primary source of light for nighttime, providing illumination for heating, cooking and reading. Candles were also used to augment the fireplace light and continued to be popular throughout the 19th century.

Oil was discovered in Titusville, PA (Aug. 1858) and shortly thereafter a derivative of petroleum was developed called kerosene. When placed in glass or metal lamps containing a wick, the oil could be burned to provide a bright light. These lamps soon became a household necessity and brought about changes in how people spent their time as darkness descended. Family members could continue working after sunset enjoying sewing, reading and playing indoor games. Women began spending many hours crocheting, tatting, knitting and quilting, creating beautiful pieces of handiwork.

There was downside, of course, because the glass chimneys had to be cleaned of smoke discoloration and grease. Many times this chore fell to one of the children. A new, dry wick would have to be replaced every-so-often and, when first used, had to be adjusted low until the chimney gradually warmed. If adjusted too high the chimney might break.

The use of kerosene lamps continued to be popular until around the turn of the 20th century. By this time, electricity had spread throughout the country and the outdated lamps were cast aside to languish in attics, basements, storage sheds and barns. Interestingly enough, when a severe storm occurs today and an electrical outage plays havoc with electrical lines, we once more rely on the “old kerosene lamp.”

Kerosene lighting made a profound difference to American families as it proved to be inexpensive, readily available and safe to use.

Prepared by:
Jean Gaffga Rayl

Comment: When my husband Jim and his family moved from a rural area to Springfield, MO in the 1930’s, he had never lived in a home with electricity. He was impressed with the fact you could pull on a chain hanging from the ceiling and turn on a light bulb. To the dismay of his parents, he kept pulling on the chain over and over to experience this new miracle.

Another comment: I would have been about 4 years old in 1944 when we got electricity 5 miles south of Halfway and 2 miles north of Schofield. This was when the REA came into effect. We had an Aladdin lamp which was fueled by white gasoline. We know it today as unleaded gasoline.

Larry Voris

Memorial for
Robert Harlan Atwell
Age 85 passed away peacefully in Cox hospital on Tuesday, April 20, 2010. Bob was born on July 20, 1924 to Harlan and Elle Atwell. Bob married Bertha Ann Boswell on August 14, 1943. They had 3 sons, Ken, Jim & Tom. Bob lived in Greene County for many years. He retired from Springfield Fire Department and was one of the founding members of Riteway Concrete Products. He was a member of Hamlin Memorial Baptist Church and buried at White Chapel Memorial Gardens.