

OCA JOURNAL

PROVIDING EDUCATION AND SUPPORT TO ALL OHIO CEMETERIES

APRIL 2014
VOLUME 4
ISSUE 2



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GRIEF SUPPORT SERIES

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL GARDENS
BEGINS IN APRIL, 2014

2ND ANNUAL FLAG DAY CELEBRATION

DAVID'S CEMETERY
FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2014

ANNUAL CONVENTION

MON., TUES., WED. AUGUST 4-5-6, 2014
MARRIOTT-CINCINNATI NORTH-UNION
CENTRE

GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2014

FIELD DAY

SPRING GROVE CEMETERY
TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2014

CREMATORY OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2014
MARRIOTT-CINCINNATI NORTH-UNION
CENTRE

ADVANCED CREMATORY OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2014
MARRIOTT-CINCINNATI NORTH-UNION
CENTRE

CELEBRANT TRAINING

WED., THURS., FRI., AUGUST 6- 7- 8
2014 MARRIOTT-CINCINNATI NORTH-
UNION CENTRE

FALL MAINTENANCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014
SOUTHERN LOCATION
WOODLAND, DAYTON

FALL MAINTENANCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2014
NORTHERN LOCATION
LAKE VIEW CEMETERY, CLEVELAND

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MESSAGE FROM . . OCA PRESIDENT MARK FUNKE

Finally, Spring has "SPRUNG" and we have warm temperatures for the first time in months. Along with it comes rain, flooding rains! One can hope for mild temperatures and adequate moisture throughout the Spring & Summer because we deserve it after what old man winter has put us through the last four months, Right ? Well, now the push is on to get the cemeteries looking good for Easter, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day. We will be working ten to twelve hour days to get the grass cut and trimmed, the flowers planted, get the pre & post applied to the turf to control the weeds for this season, seed or sod all the burials from the past four months that have finally settled after the flooding rains of April. I wish everyone a safe & productive Spring

season, and I hope to see you at the Annual Convention in August.



The Annual Convention will be held beginning on Monday August 4th – golf & an evening reception. Tuesday August 5th we start out at the Cincinnati Marriott North – Union Centre with several sessions and then go to Field Day at Spring Grove Cemetery for lunch & an afternoon of testing out new equipment from our vendors to talks on some exciting new products. We

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

will also take a tour to the Cemetery Association/ ACA Memorial and to some of the new developments at Spring Grove, then back to the Marriott for social hour, dinner & live entertainment. We finish up on Wednesday with some educational classes and conclude after lunch.

For those who need the Cremation Training, we will offer that on Thursday and Friday (be sure to register early as last year we had a capacity crowd).

We will also be having a Celebrant training program beginning on Wednesday, August 8th which will run thru Friday afternoon for those interested.

More to come on all events as we put together the agendas.

Hope to see you all in August !

Mark Funke, OCA President

Grounds Manager
Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum
4521 Spring Grove Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45232
513-853-6865 (direct line)
www.springgrove.org
513.853.6803 (fax)

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Meet “George”



He was born in Riverside Cemetery in 2011 and was first spotted by the crew where they found him sleeping next to this headstone with the name “George” on it.

George’s family has frequented Riverside over the years and includes Mamma, Gerald, Grandpa, Skippy and others. Visitors and families who have loved ones buried here find a level of spiritual comfort and peace when they spot George or other deer passing by or basking in the sun in the middle of a section.

Not only does Riverside Cemetery provide a sacred, eternal resting place

in the Historical Landmark Neighborhood of the Brooklyn Centre Community of Greater Cleveland, it is a Certified Wildlife Habitat providing green space in the city for walking, reflecting, meditating and enjoying the beauty that each season brings.

Located in the midst of one of the most urbanized watersheds in Cleveland, Riverside Cemetery provides the four basic elements of a Certified Wildlife Habitat: food, water, cover, and places for wildlife to raise young.

Rocks, ground cover, and low lying shrubs act as cover from predators and provide natural homes for many creatures that otherwise would be unable to survive in our urban area.

Trees throughout the grounds provide homes and shelter for many different kinds of wildlife. Birds use the stand of trees along the Cemetery’s southern boundary as a resting place as they migrate north in the spring and south in the fall. Owls, warblers, flickers, and many more species are sighted in and around the Cemetery throughout the year.

After one of the toughest winters we have had in several years, we are looking forward to spring and the life and beauty it brings to these historic and sacred grounds.



Submitted by:
Gregory Kapcar
Riverside Cemetery - Cleveland

What makes one Architect stand out among the rest?

Here at G.H. Forbes Associates Architects we believe that **prompt, unfailing service** sets us apart. There's no denying we're a small organization but that's what makes us so **good at what we do**. Our size requires that we have a **talented and capable staff** with the knowledge to perform any task at a moment's notice. Our staff is **experienced** and is involved in every aspect of a project from the first napkin sketch until the last stone is set. Those in the death care industry certainly know **good service** when they see it. Simply put, **your happiness and success matter to us**.

Since 1967, G.H. Forbes Associates Architects has provided **architectural, engineering and planning services** to a variety of cemeteries, funeral homes and other clients. The combination of an **intimate knowledge of the death care industry** coupled with an **innovative, problem-solving design** approach has created numerous lasting and cost-effective facilities that **enhance cemetery sales**. This specific death care expertise is supported by an extensive foundation of experience with governmental bodies, building codes and regulations, project budgeting, construction cost estimating and building techniques. Our planning and facility design experience includes:

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Crematories
Interior Renovations
Cemetery Expansions
Grave Layouts and Sales Maps
Road and Drainage Systems

Landscape Design
Stone and Masonry Repairs
Roof Replacements
HVAC Improvements
Design-Bid-Build
Design-Build



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EVERGREEN HILL CEMETERY

CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO



Evergreen Hill Cemetery was established in 1863 by the Chagrin Falls Township Trustees to meet the growing needs of Chagrin Falls Village and Chagrin Township. Walking through the older section of the cemetery one will find numerous stones that predate 1863. These are individuals whose loved ones moved them from family land plots, or from the older town cemetery located on Grove Hill.

Sections One through Thirteen were laid out first, followed by sections Fourteen through Eighteen with two plots for the “poor”. The cemetery currently consists of 48 acres with 20 being used for cemetery plots divided into 53 sections. There are over 5000 people buried at Evergreen Hill.

The mausoleum was built in 1876. Prior to that time, the cemetery contracted with Solon to house deceased individuals during the Winter months when the ground was too frozen to dig graves.

A dominant feature of Evergreen Hill Cemetery, and the focus of present day Memorial Day programs, is the Civil War Memorial. During the War, Chagrin, like many other communities, had a very active Soldiers Aid Society. The women of the Village met on a regular basis to make bandages, clothing, raise funds and to gather materials that were sent to soldiers serving throughout the country. At the end of the war, they had \$134 left in their treasury. Led by Jane E Church, they raised additional funds to create the monument which was dedicated September 10, 1867. The monument honors 21 “Chagrin Boys” who died in places like Gettysburg, Big Creek, Arkansas and



Andersonville prison. In all, over 100 veterans of the Civil War are buried in Evergreen Hill.

For a period of time, because of the beauty of the cemetery, it became a prestigious place to be buried. Many plots were being purchased by people outside of Chagrin Falls. The cemetery now is restricted to residents of Chagrin Falls Village and Township. An average of 45 burials are conducted each year with 30 of those being cremations. Four years ago an all granite Columbarium was installed that has 48 niches, along with two granite cremation benches. Non-residents are able to purchase a Columbarium niche or bench.

In 1965, a fire in Village Hall destroyed a large portion of the cemetery records. Many of the records have been reconstructed and have been digitized. In 2013 the Cemetery Board purchased a system to put the cemetery records on the web. The Sexton, Rob Arnold, is part of the Service Department. He has held this position for 15 years.

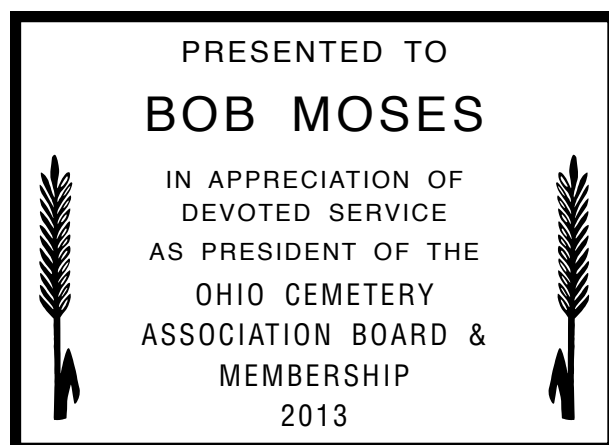
Special thanks to John Bourisseau , President of the Chagrin Historical Society for his help in putting together this article on Evergreen Hill.
(March, 2014)



Mark Funke, OCA President and Bob Porter, Field Sales Manager of Matthews International presented Bob Moses, OCA Past President, with a plaque for his service as OCA President for the year 2013.



Past President Plaque courtesy of Matthews International



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CONGRATULATIONS

Woodland Cemetery would like to congratulate Rufus Slade. Rufus is entering his 30th year of employment with Woodland. He serves as the Property Manager and is also a Certified Crematory Operator. He also serves as the Vice President of the Ohio Cemetery Association. We would like to thank Rufus for his many years of dedicated service and wish him many more years of success and growth. Please join us in congratulating Rufus for this achievement.

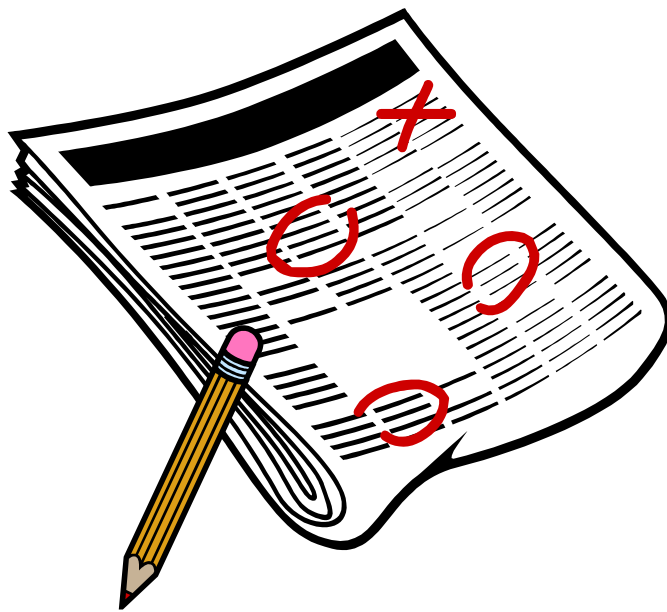
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Floral Hills Memory Gardens located in Lancaster, Ohio, is in need of a full time Family Service Representative. Applicants must be experienced, self- motivated and able to produce their own leads from referrals and family service follow ups.

Please contact Kim Conliffe @
740-653-5506 for consideration.



Floral Hills Memory Gardens is in need of a full time experienced grounds maintenance personnel. Applicant must be experienced in all aspects of memorial park maintenance, including use of a backhoe, mowers etc. Being able to maintain the equipment is a plus!

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OCA will be offering Celebrant Training in August

***Dates: Wednesday-Thursday-Friday, August 6- 7- 8 2014
Marriott-Cincinnati North-Union Centre***

Schedule and registration will be sent in the near future.

If you would like more information, please contact:

Marilyn Brandt

Lake View Cemetery

(216) 421 2415 marilynbrandt@lakeviewcemetery.com

CREMATORY OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

and

ADVANCED CREMATORY OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Ohio Cemetery Association in conjunction with Matthews Cremation Division will be hosting their second Crematory Operator Certification Program at the OCA Annual Convention. This program was so well received last year that we are pleased to be offering it again. This course is a 7 hour educational program designed to raise the level of knowledge and understanding of the design, operation, and maintenance of cremation equipment as well as day to day operations. Matthews Cremation Division, the leaders in Crematory Operator Certification are qualified and approved to train in all 50 states including states currently requiring certification. MCD certification is valid for 5 years from the program date.

In addition to the Crematory Operator Certification Program, this year we are pleased to announce that an additional class, *Advanced* Crematory Operations will also be offered. This course is for the experienced operator looking to further their knowledge. Topics include Ethics & Professionalism in the Crematory, Advanced Operating Techniques, Cremation Liabilities and a series of professionally prepared series of operational videos that demonstrate each step of the cremation process. The *Advanced* course is not a certification course.

The Ohio Cemetery Association is working to establish approval for continuing education credits for funeral directors who take these courses that are licensed in the states of Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. The Crematory Operator Certification will be held on August 7, 2014 at the Marriott Cincinnati-North at Union Centre. Registration for this course is \$395.00. The *Advanced* Crematory Operations course will be held at the same location on August 8, 2014. Registration for this course is \$195.00. Participants who register for both courses enjoy a reduced registration rate of \$495.00 for both sessions. Room rates for guests staying at the Marriott will be available at a later date. To register for these courses, please contact Rufus Slade at 937-673-1952 or email rufus@woodlandcemetery.org.

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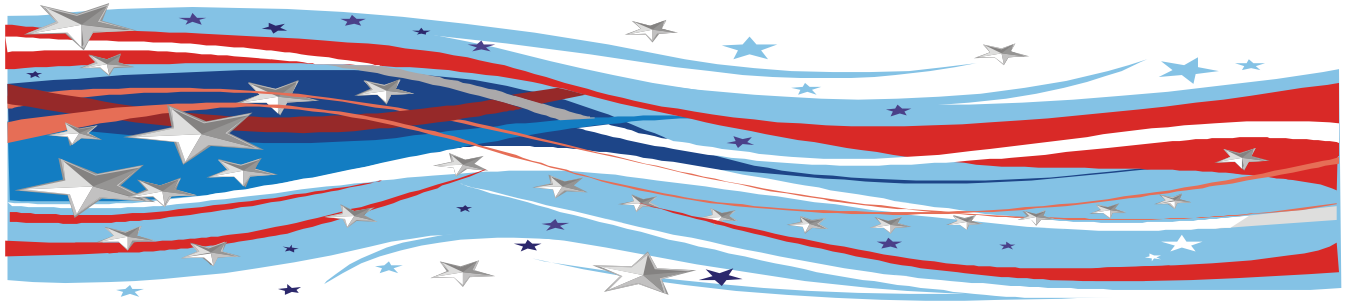
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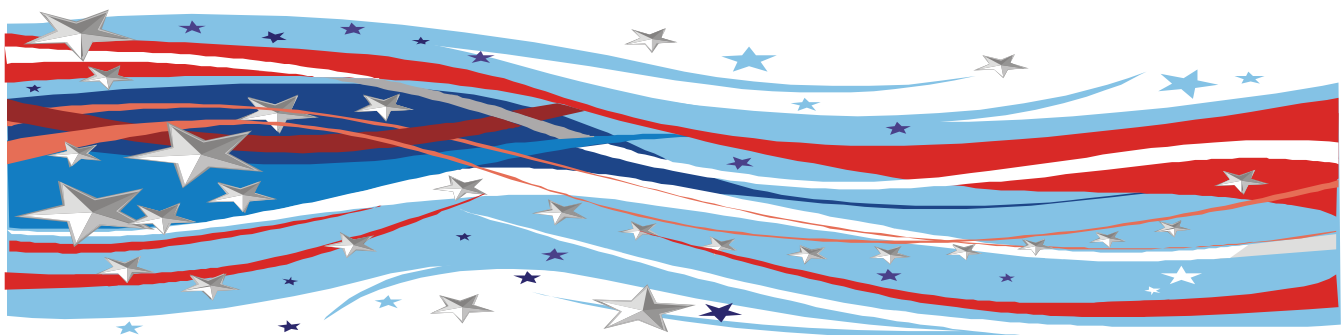
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DAVID'S CEMETERY would love to invite you to our 2nd Annual Flag Day Celebration. We are hosting a Flag Day Celebration to pay homage to Old Glory and give back to the community that we are so proud to be a part of on Friday, June 13, 2014.

We will be serving hot dogs, chips and drinks while providing children's activities as everyone enjoys the music, patriotism and kinship of the evening. The main entertainment for the evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with *Air Force Band of Flight, Wright Brass*. *Wright Brass* is one of four classical chamber ensembles within the *United States Air Force Band of Flight*. A brassy blend of sound, style, and humor makes *Wright Brass* an entertaining ensemble for audiences of all kinds. From public relations performances to high level military functions, quality is the hallmark of this exciting group.

We will also enjoy a performance by *Vital Signs* which will provide inspiring entertainment using Sign Language performed by a volunteer group of seniors from Fairmont Presbyterian Church. Grab a lawn chair or blanket and join us at 4600 Mad River Road, Kettering, OH 45429! Please visit our website for more information at www.davidscemetery.com.





A new Grief Support Series begins Wednesday evening, April 9th at 4:30 p.m. in the Arlington Community Room. This series runs Wednesdays April 9th, April 23rd, April 30th, and May 7th, with each session at 4:30 p.m.

Arlington's Grief Support Program is designed to assist those survivors who have lost a loved-one and are embarking on their road to recovery. Grief is enormously circumstantial and survivors rebound in vastly different ways. Frequently, there is an initial period when survivors need a gentle nudging just to begin the recovery process. In a supportive and safe environment, our program reorients survivors for that journey to ultimate recovery. Dr. Sheryl Cohen will facilitate the series.

If you're interested in attending, please contact our office at (513) 521-7003 to register.

Also, if you know someone who could benefit from our program, please advise them to contact us.

Sincerely,

Daniel Applegate
President, Arlington Memorial Gardens
2145 Compton Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45231

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The Spring Conference (March 18-19-20) at the Double Tree in Worthington was a success! Attendance was a little lower than we thought it should be but for those of us who attended the conference...it was very educational.

A big thank you to all who helped sponsor the event we could not do it without your sponsorship. Also, thank you to all the Suppliers who attended & made our conference a success. We had some fun also playing cards, cornhole, and just the camaraderie with each other. We learn so much from each other as we sit together for lunch, dinner or at the bar watching the NCAA Playoffs .

Thank you to everyone who attended, it was great seeing everyone.

We are listening to all the feedback that we are getting from the surveys, phone calls etc. Next year the Spring Conference is going to be cut back to one day with the option to come in the day before but most, if not all, sessions would be on the same day. We are still working out how & where, so we will let you know as soon as we do. Also, we are seriously looking at the awards banquet in February. We need to make some changes to make this a success and we would like any & all feedback to help make this event what it once was.

Again THANK YOU for your support of our Association!

Mark Funke

OCA President



Welcome

NEW OCA MEMBERS

CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP - CEDARVILLE

GUILFORD TOWNSHIP - SEVILLE

POPLAR HILL CEMETERY - VANDALIA

TOLEDO MEMORIAL PARK - TOLEDO

SEALMASTER - SANDUSKY

CEMETERY TRACKER - MIDDLETOWN

CENTURY EQUIPMENT - HAMILTON

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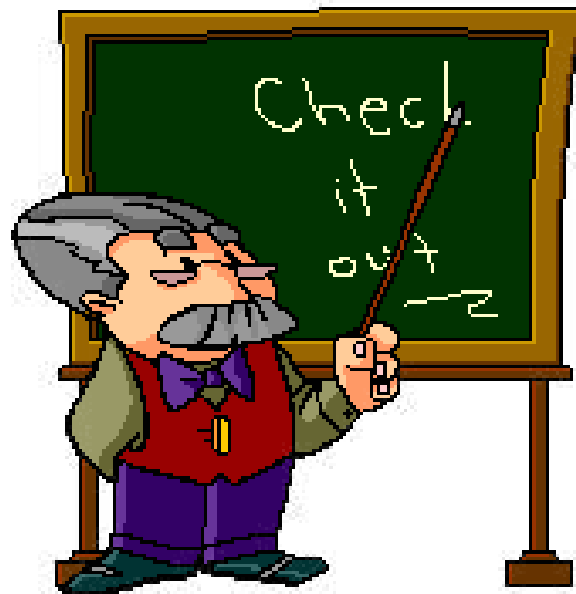


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**AT THE AWARDS BANQUET
FEBRUARY 15, 2014**

**HERE'S A LIST OF THE WINNERS FOR 2013
AND THE ROOKIES & SPECIAL EMPLOYEE AWARDS**

AWARDS BANQUET-FEBRUARY 15, 2014		
SPECIAL EMPLOYEE		
GREENWOOD CEMETERY	HAMILTON	EMILY FRENCH
ROOKIES		
ARLINGTON MEMORIAL GDNS	CINCINNATI	CINDY MARIL
ARLINGTON MEMORIAL GDNS	CINCINNATI	TRISH DURHAM

AWARDS BANQUET-FEBRUARY 15, 2014			
		CATEGORY #1	Total
CEMETERY	City	Advisor	Production
Woodland Cemetery	Dayton	Anita Cunningham	\$274,007.00
Woodland Cemetery	Dayton	Mike Valley	\$303,629.00
Sunset Cemetery	Galloway	Bill Fulghum	\$315,623.00
Greenwood Cemetery	Hamilton	Steve Kapp	\$391,800.00
Woodland Cemetery	Dayton	Constance Carpenter	\$399,145.00
Glen Haven Memorial Gardens	New Carlisle	Judy Northup	\$484,354.00
Toledo Memorial Park	Toledo	Jim Mocek	\$592,244.00
Toledo Memorial Park	Toledo	Bob Toedter	\$675,714.00
TOTAL CATEGORY #1 WINNERS = 8	TOT.VOL.	CATEGORY #1	\$3,436,516.00
		CATEGORY #2	Total
CEMETERY	City	Advisor	Production
Rose Hill Burial Park	Springfield	Chad Townsley	\$370,969.00
Miami Valley Memory Gardens	Centerville	David Kuntz	\$402,954.00
Hillcrest Memorial Gardens	Seville	Barbara Woodling	\$460,035.00
Toledo Memorial Park	Toledo	Colleen Pryor	\$699,671.00
TOTAL CATEGORY #2 WINNERS = 4	TOT.VOL.	CATEGORY #2	\$1,933,629.00
		CATEGORY #3	Total
CEMETERY	City	Advisor	Production
Pineview Memorial/ Ft.Steuben Burial Estates	Warren/ Steubenville	Paul Sturm	\$263,294.00
Arlington Memorial Gardens	Cincinnati	D J Hamm	\$327,589.00
Arlington Memorial Gardens	Cincinnati	Sue Slusher	\$372,326.00
TOTAL CATEGORY #3 WINNERS = 3	TOT.VOL.	CATEGORY #3	\$963,209.00
		CATEGORY #4	Total
CEMETERY	City	Advisor	Production
Arlington Memorial Gardens	Cincinnati	Pete Tunnat	\$294,868.00
Arlington Memorial Gardens	Cincinnati	Gary Alexander	\$321,935.00
Arlington Memorial Gardens	Cincinnati	Trish Durham	\$365,515.00
Arlington Memorial Gardens	Cincinnati	Cindy Maril	\$372,060.00
ARLINGTON MEMORIAL GDNS	Cincinnati	Rick Curtis	\$659,280.00
TOTAL CATEGORY #4 WINNERS = 5	TOT. VOL.	CATEGORY #4	\$2,013,658.00



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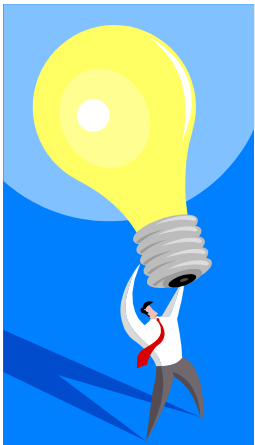
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2014 OHIO TOWNSHIP WINTER CONFERENCE

The Ohio Cemetery Association was asked
to participate in several sessions at the
Ohio Township Winter Conference
February 12 – 15, 2014
at the Columbus Convention Center

OCA MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THESE SESSIONS WERE:



IDEAS FOR MAINTAINING YOUR CEMETERIES

Ronald Thuma, Trustee
Monroe Township
Miami County Tipp City, OH
and
Patrick Ebright, Sexton
Mt. Moriah Cemetery/Union Township
Clermont County, Cincinnati, OH

IDEAS FOR MANAGING YOUR CEMETERY RECORDS

Scott Harmon, Superintendent
Dover City Cemeteries
Dover, OH

