



# ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY CEMETERY

- Est. 1957 -

*“An Historical Cemetery  
Where Peaceful Waters Flow”*

*A member of the OACFP (Ontario Association of Cemetery and Funeral Professionals)*

*P.O. Box 776, Long Sault, Ontario K0C 1P0*

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## THE NEWSLETTER

An annual publication - February, 2019 - Volume 12

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**WHAT MAKES A CEMETERY A CEMETERY** – Cemeteries are defined by their having a number of distinctive characteristics, the first of which is particular physical features. Our pride and joy is our location with the combination of waterfront and beautiful landscaping.

A great deal of material has been written about cemeteries based on the assumption that they constitute a specific type of burial place. We have created an internal layout that is conducive both to families and for conducting an appropriate funeral ritual.

Cemetery space can be regarded as sacred, in that it acts as a focus for the pilgrimage of friends and family. Our cemetery is intended to serve the whole community and, in doing so, we are closely integrated into our community history. Another very important feature are the grave markers or headstones. They describe the characteristics of a deceased person's life with dates of birth and death. St. Lawrence Valley carries the purpose of enshrining the identity of the deceased as an individual.

Another year has come and gone. On a sad note, in June of 2019, we will be saying goodbye to Bonnie Ross our Administrator as she will be retiring. I know that it was a hard decision for her to make after 24 years of dedicated time, service and her personal touch. There comes a time in everyone's life to separate themselves from their job and responsibilities to enter into a new adventure that comes with retirement. She will be missed and I'm sure I speak for everyone wanting to wish her nothing but the best moving forward. The Board is pleased that we have successfully found a replacement for Bonnie. Tammy Shannon has been training alongside Bonnie for the past six months and will officially move into the driver's seat in June.

Once again, I could not do my job here as President of the Board if it were not for our fantastic Board members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Board members for their spare time, input, knowledge and dedication to make this business we call a “cemetery” run so well.

I would like to thank everyone who attended last year's Memorial Service and especially for their support. I'm sure I am speaking for everyone on the Board when I say that we cannot do this job without your support and contributions. On that note, for anyone interested, we have some empty seats on the Board.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone again this year at our Memorial Service in June.

*Sincerely - Mike Cook, President*



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2018**

Mike Cook, President

(613) 534-2315

Doug Wereley, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

(613) 534-2667

Ron Symington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

(613) 932-8125

Bonnie Ross, Secretary-Treasurer/  
Administrator

(613) 534-2915

Tammy Shannon, Administrative Assistant

(613) 534-2915

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Ken Kyer, Director

(613) 938-1013

Shirley Johnston, Director

(613) 933-8709

Debbie Jones-Tinker, Director

(613) 537-8833

Linda Runions, Director

(613) 931-1493

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**We presently have three openings on our Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining our Board, please contact the Administrator for more information.**

**Grounds Keepers, Kevin Tobin and Mark Cook**

**General enquires may be directed to the Administrator**

April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> - Monday to

Thursday - 9:00 am. - 4:00 pm. and

Friday - 9:00 am. - 3:30 pm.

**Off-Season**

November 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> -

Monday to Thursday - 10:30 am. - 3 pm.

and Friday - 10:30 am. - 2:30 pm.



## **ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTES**

by Bonnie Ross

***Change - is it ever easy?!*** *Life has a way of happening when we are busy with the day to day. If we wait until there is the perfect time in life to do the things we want to do, that day may never come!* This year marks my 24<sup>th</sup> and final year as the Administrator of our fine cemetery! Where has the time gone? There have been many changes over the years, both in improvements and additions which, in my opinion, resulted in the cemetery becoming one of the more beautiful cemeteries in all of eastern Ontario. Changes that I am very proud to have been a part of!

What have I learned over the years? I've discovered that running a cemetery has many aspects to it - most of which are not apparently obvious. I quickly learned in the first year what all the many tasks were, and I am thankful for the prior education and occupational experiences I had that helped me in my new role. However, it was the Rights Holders themselves that taught me more than they will ever know. Their stories of loss and grief and the privilege of being able to serve them, became valuable lessons for me in the way of becoming more aware, and helping me with personal growth and development. Many Rights Holders continued to come into the office when visiting over the years and we have come to know each other better. I hope I have been able to help you as well in some small way. I sincerely thank you and will miss each one of you and our many chats.

In retirement, I am joining my husband who retired last year, and do some traveling, spend more time with our four girls and eight grandchildren and enjoy much-needed leisure time. There are many hobbies that I would like to pursue again and maybe even take up new ones. I've heard it said that retirement can be busier than when working full-time - well I guess I'll have to see but I am prepared to welcome it nonetheless.

I am confident the cemetery is headed into the future with all the right equipment necessary to keep it viable and running smoothly. With the addition of new computer equipment this year as well as a new software record-keeping program, mapping system and computerized accounting system, the cemetery will be fully equipped to handle the continuing growth it has been experiencing over the last 7 to 10 years. There is only one aspect that is lacking - our Board consists of 10 members and we are short three at the moment. Each member is a volunteer, serves

a three-year term and is fully covered for liability insurance. We welcome you to join us in this important endeavor and to reach out to those you know who may be looking to serve their community in an interesting and special way.

When I retire in early June, I will be succeeded by Tammy Shannon. Tammy has been working at the cemetery for the past year as my assistant. She has many years experience working with the general public and is quite eager to get started and continue on with this important work. I am sure you will find her to be quite knowledgeable, approachable and helpful. Thank you Tammy for taking on this work and I sincerely wish you fulfillment and every success in your new role. I also wish to thank our grounds keeping duo of Kevin Tobin and Mark Cook. Kevin and Mark have been a pleasure to work with and take their jobs seriously and with the utmost of care and respect. I am happy to see them carry on and assist our new Administrator.

I've had the privilege of working with some really good people on our Board over the years. I've learned a lot from them as well. Each one of them brought something unique to the table and were happy to be of service. Our present Board is a "well-oiled machine", working together for the greater good of the Rights Holders and the future of the cemetery. I can't thank you all enough for your contributions and support, both to me and the cemetery. I wish you every success moving forward with the wonderful plans you have discussed. ***A cemetery is forever!*** A cemetery is not only for our loved ones who have passed on before us but for those of us left behind! It should be a welcoming place of peace and comfort - one in which we are all destined to take up residence some day! I believe our cemetery is, and I too will be back here again someday for eternity - but not too soon, the good Lord willing, not too soon! ***With many blessings, Bonnie***



# **IN LOVING MEMORY - 2018**

## **by Month of Interment**

### **April**

Sorbie, Gladys Joan  
Dupuis, Teresa

### **May**

Hickey, Nancy  
Delage, Adrien  
Fawcett, John Percy  
Thomas, Marlene Teresa  
Whitteker, David H.  
Harris, Aileen Hattie  
Marzano, Rosalia  
Locey, Blanche Evangeline  
Fougere, Gilles  
Armstrong, Hattie Cecilia  
Cook, Dorothy Lorinda  
Raymond, Philip Allen  
Grace, Norman Jamieson  
Larstone, Mervyn George  
Campeau, George Lea  
Hart, Lois Ethel  
Conley, Vera Floy  
Stewart, Maxie  
Racine, Maurice  
Mills, Edwina Ann  
Lunn, Gary Alfred  
Laframboise, Claudette Eunice  
Ross, Floyd Alexander  
Beland, Alice Earla  
Prieur, Harold Wesley  
Prieur, Elizabeth

### **June**

Ouellette, Claire  
Anderson, Steven John Henry  
Leclerc, Chester Joseph  
Gadbois, Aubrey Wilburn  
Thompson, Garth  
Henry, Charles Donald  
Adams, Mary Elizabeth  
Smith, Sybil  
Copithorne, Larry Allan  
Fedchyk, Anna  
Klemens, Maria Weber  
Turner, Gwendoline May  
Bigelow, Margaret Grace  
Fiddler, Janet  
Quenneville, Raymond Harvey  
Carter, Alma Aurore  
Bartle, Minnie Ruth  
Peddie, James Earl  
Labelle, Wilfred  
Flaro, Douglas  
Merpaw, Alexander  
McVey, William Gordon  
Burrell, William Thomas  
Dalley, Wilson Hardy  
Harrison, John

Bedford, Douglas

Gorman, Peter Gregory

Gorman, Veronica

Bryce, John

### **July**

McDermid, Robert Riley  
Burnie, Shane Francis Albert  
Bradley, Vincent Albert  
Howe, Barbara Lois Dagmar  
Snetsinger, Jenny Ottilla  
Sullivan, Eileen  
Murphy, Harold  
Prieur, Steven  
Doom, Albrecht Prosper Frans  
Fortier, Richard Hector (Dick)  
Parfett, Donald Robert  
Germain, Rita Mary  
Ault, Anne

### **Aug.**

Blanchette, Ronald  
Williamson, Susan  
Raymond, Leonard  
Simpson, Huguette  
McCosham, Theresa  
Sabourin, Richard  
Rafuse, Alan Edward  
MacNeil, Marion Olive  
Mitchell, Anne

### **Sept.**

Miller, Gladys Effie Irene  
Hickey, Grace McGill  
Salzar, Wolfgang Wilfried  
Amelotte, Doreen Hilda  
Rose, Ronald  
Rose, Elizabeth  
Holland, Brian  
Bingley, Aileen  
Roach, James  
Laroche, Carol  
McKee, Alice  
Schroeder, Wilhelm M. K.  
Collins, Helen  
Howe, Douglas Lindsey  
Mann, Ruby Elizabeth

### **Oct.**

Millward, Lawrence John  
Mark, Hugh George  
Malek, Katharyn  
Tierney, Edith Mary  
McDonald, Charles  
Driscoll, Charles Loran George  
Gibbs, James Brian  
Burns, Lila  
Barclay, Stephen  
Barclay, Sharon

cont'd

Nov.

Whittaker, Douglas William  
Cholette, Brenda Lee  
Arthur, Charles James  
Bedingfield, Frances Jean  
Hollingsworth, Emma  
Loucks, Inez Lillian  
McLean-Laing, Agnes G.S.

**2018 INTERMENT SUMMARY**

Caskets – 19  
Urn Burials – 43  
Niche Interments – 49

**TOTAL - 111**

**Let Me Go**

**by Christina Rossetti**

When I come to the end of the road and the  
sun has set for me

I want no rites in a gloom filled room, why  
cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little, but not for long, and not  
with your head bowed low.

Remember the love that once we shared,  
miss me, but let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take and  
each must go alone.

It's all part of the master plan, a step on  
the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick at heart, go  
to the friends we know.

Laugh at all the things we used to do Miss  
me, but let me go.



***DID YOU KNOW?*** The circle is an ancient symbol of eternity, often found on Christian graves together with a cross. The circle has no beginning or end and may also symbolize resurrection. In the image above the circle on a gravestone has been formed by a void, a hole carved into the stone with edges which are perfectly smooth to the touch. You will notice several monuments within the cemetery with this symbol.



*"I am at peace, my  
soul's at rest  
There is no need for  
tears  
For with your love I  
was so blessed  
For all those many  
years."  
- Unknown Author*

## **KINDLY MARK YOUR CALENDERS**

The annual  
**LOT & NICHE HOLDERS MEETING**  
will be held on  
**Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7 pm.**

All Rights Holders are welcome to attend. The meeting will be comprised of Committee Reports, motion to appoint our Auditors, passing of the General By-Laws and election of the Board of Directors for 2019.

## **PROMOTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

by **Debbie Jones-Tinker and Linda Runions**  
**Committee Chairpersons**

### **ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE**

will be held on  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019 at 2 pm**  
on the Cemetery grounds, rain or shine under the tent.  
Please bring a lawn chair and plan to join us for refreshments after the service.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Rev. Daniel Hayward**  
South Stormont Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada  
Long Sault and Ingleside-Newington

### **MUSIC BY – Melissa Lalonde**

The Committee is always open to suggestions and new ideas on how best to promote our lovely cemetery.  
Please feel free to contact us.

## **MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

by **Ron Symington**  
**Committee Chairman**



As I do every year, I would like to start by thanking our grounds-keeping team of Mark Cook and Kevin Tobin for their hard work and great ideas to make and keep our cemetery looking beautiful. I would also like to recognize

our grass cutting contractor, Mike Dominic and his staff at Clip-N-Trim. The dedication and pride in workmanship of Mark, Kevin and Mike makes my job easy.

In 2018, we installed the foundation for the new Lakeshore Columbarium # 4A, which will arrive for installation in late Spring. Allowing time for ground settlement, the final interlock walkways and barrier-free ramp will be installed next year. Also in 2018, we installed 29 new foundations, replaced 5 old foundations and repaired another 10 units. We will continue to identify and repair or replace the foundations on existing monuments that are failing or sinking and causing an unsafe and/or unsightly condition.

This year we plan to install a new sign and improve the landscaping around the Gateway Columbaria. We also intend to install concrete blocks in the stockpile area to improve the appearance, safety and efficiency of this work area.

We will endeavour to keep St. Lawrence Valley Cemetery a beautiful and peaceful memorial garden. Should you have any comments or concerns, please send them to our administrator for our consideration. Thank you.

## **SERVICES, MEMORIALS AND PROGRAMS**

4' x 10' in-ground burial lots for caskets and urns / 3' x 4' in-ground cremation lots for one or two urns  
Columbaria niches for one or two urns

Solid bronze vases, emblems and porcelain pictures / Completion inscription service

Winter Vault Committal / Pre-Need Planning Services

Flat bronze or granite markers with or without a vase

Memorial Tree and Bench Programs / Genealogical Research Assistance / Annual Newsletter and Memorial Service

One-time Care & Maintenance fee on lots, niches and foundations

Website - [www.stlawrencevalleycemetery.ca](http://www.stlawrencevalleycemetery.ca) and "Like" us on Facebook at "St. Lawrence Valley Cemetery"