

Six Mile Cemetery Association Newsletter

Preserving Our Past • Honoring Our Families • Connecting Our Community

A Message to Our Members

As we continue caring for the historic grounds of Six Mile Cemetery, we are reminded that this space is more than a resting place, it is a living record of the families, stories, and shared heritage that shaped our community. Thank you for your continued support, financially and through volunteering. as your dedication to preserving this special place for generations to come.

Annual Public & Board Meeting Highlights

The Six Mile Cemetery Association public and board members met on April 16, 2026, at Six Mile Baptist Church in Sibley, Missouri. Leadership elections included John Riley retaining his position as Chairman for his 36th year of service. Barry Randall and Shawn Pollard were approved to retain their positions as Co-Chairmen, Kristina Stricklin retained Secretary duties, Janet Thompson and Julie Pollard were approved to retain their positions as Treasurers, and Cheryl Mullis retained her Historian position. Additional business that was discussed was grounds care and stone restoration.

Memorial Day Weekend Event

Members of our board and additional volunteers will be available Saturday, Sunday and Monday to help in honoring your loved ones and our veterans please stop by the tent if you need assistance locating or any additional questions.

Taps Across America will take place Monday, May 25 at 3:00 PM.

**Reminder: Glass vases are prohibited, and flowers obstructing mowing will be removed approximately two weeks after Memorial Day.

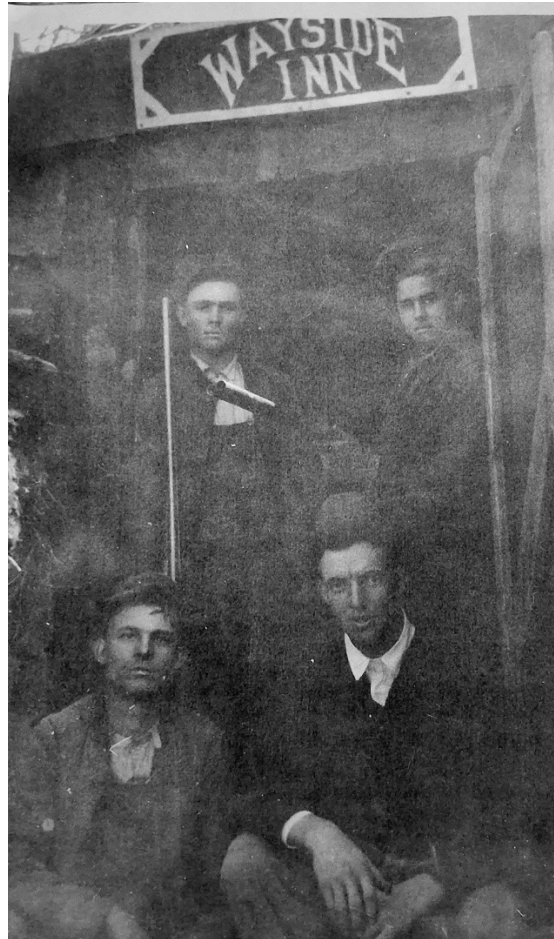
Save the Dates

Mark your calendars for next year's meeting on Thursday, April 22, 2027 at 7:00 PM at Six Mile Baptist Church. Members interested in serving on the Board are encouraged to contact a current Board member. Any member of the public who has a loved one with us is also welcome to attend.

Featured Family History: The Huntsucker Family

There are many descendants of the Huntsucker family buried at Six Mile Cemetery. Their history traces back to early American settlement in Pennsylvania in 1738 before migrating through North Carolina and eventually into Missouri during the 1820s. The Huntsucker family played an important role in the Six Mile community and remains deeply connected to the cemetery today. The earliest documentation we have found for Huntsuckers coming to America is on the ship *Bellander Thistle*, which landed in Pennsylvania on October 28, 1738. Peter and Abraham Hunzicker were listed as passengers, and they took an oath to the government of Pennsylvania upon arrival. Later, in 1754, Thomas and Daniel Hunsecker arrived on the ship *Phoenix*. At least some of the Huntsuckers had moved to North Carolina by 1780 because Abraham Hunsucker was listed on a 1781 roster of soldiers in the North Carolina militia. Family historians believe the Huntsuckers in the Six Mile community are descendents of Abraham through his son John and through John's sons Thomas and William. Census records beginning in 1790 track the migration of the family from North Carolina to Virginia, and finally to Missouri. They were in Boone County, Missouri in the early 1820's, and William Huntsucker was the first in the family to come to the Six Mile area in Jackson County, arriving mid 1820's. He and his brother Thomas voted in Fort Osage Township election in 1828. Thomas Huntsucker had several children. Thomas' two sons, David and Thomas Jr., both enlisted in the civil war. Thomas Sr. also enlisted, but later in the war. Thomas Sr. was released from service in Louisiana at the end of the war and began walking home. However, he became ill and died in St. Louis in 1865. Unfortunately, the family was never notified of his death. His two sons Thomas and David made it home. They made a trip (walking) to St. Louis to try to locate their father but were unsuccessful. The family worried and wondered about Thomas Sr., and family members discussed this when the extended family would gather. It wasn't until the 1980's that a descendent, Marjorie Perrin, was able to find her great grandfather's grave. He is buried in the Jefferson Barracks military cemetery in St. Louis. Thomas Sr.'s daughter Cassinda married James Bledsoe and has many descendents in the area including families named Bridges and Odell. Thomas Jr. was buried in the old historic Jones Cemetery near Atherton. His wife Susan wanted to be buried in Six Mile Cemetery, and her grave is in the northeast section at Six Mile. Many of their children are buried at Six Mile also. Thomas Jr's son Lewis Huntsucker, and David's son Tone married twin sisters, Minnie and Winnie Herron. Minnie and Winnie lived to celebrate their 95th birthday in 1982 with a lovely open house held in the Six Mile Church basement. They wore identical polka dot dresses to the party, which was enjoyed by family and community alike. Winnie passed away at age 95 1/2 and Minnie passed away at age 102. Around the 1920's, several of Lewis Huntsucker's sons found a cave near Atherton-Sibley Road, near the home place.

The boys made a door for the cave and put up a sign calling it "The Wayside Inn". The young men of the community met there for visiting, playing cards and eating. They had a stove in the cave and cooked chicken, rabbits or possums. Neighborhood friends included young men from the Vanarsdall, Kettle, Auld, Rinacke and other families. A rumor went around that bootleggers were using the cave. The United States Revenue Service raided the cave in 1925 but nothing illegal was found. And Carl Huntsucker always maintained that this was just a good meeting place for the young men, and a good time was enjoyed by all.



Many children and grandchildren of Huntsuckers have been active in Six Mile Church, Six Mile Cemetery, and in the community. Lewis Huntsucker, Jr. (known as June) was instrumental in incorporating Six Mile Cemetery as a nonprofit corporation, along with David Winfrey and others, in 1981. Of course the cemetery itself has been a cemetery since 1864 or earlier. Our earliest marked grave is dated 1864. Carl Huntsucker's son Carl Jr. & his wife Sondra were among the 114 persons who perished in the 1981 Hyatt Skywalk collapse. They are buried at Six Mile. Other Huntsucker descendants include Bowlings, Perrins, Winfreys, Dyers, Kolles, Firkins, Simpsons, Robertsons, and many more.

Family Recipe Minnie Herron Huntsucker: Raspberry Jello Dish

Ingredients: 1 package raspberry Jello, 1 cup boiling water, 1 cup cold water, 1 package frozen raspberries. Topping: sour cream, miniature marshmallows, sugar, and vanilla. Prepare Jello, allow it to set, then spread topping mixture and chill before serving.

Board Member Recipe Spotlight Janet Thompson-Molasses Cookie

This was the best cookie of 1930-1935 according to the Betty Crocker cookbook. It is one of our favorite cookies.

3/4 cup soft shortening
1 cup brown sugar (packed)
1 egg
1/4 cup molasses
2 tsp soda
1/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp cloves
1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp ginger
2 1/4 cups flour
Granulated sugar for tops

Mix shortening, sugar, egg & molasses. Blend all dry ingredients together and stir into the wet. Chill dough. Heat oven to 375. Roll dough into 1 1/4" balls. Dip top of each ball in sugar and place them, sugar side up, about 3" apart on greased baking sheet. Bake 10-12 minutes until set but not hard. Makes about 4 dozen.

Special Thank You

We extend our deepest thanks to every individual involved with Six Mile Cemetery, our Board members, volunteers, and association members for their dedication and generosity. Your support ensures the continued preservation of this sacred place for generations to come.

Warm regards,
John Riley
Chairman, Six Mile Cemetery Association