

Lakewood Cemetery Association

Post Office Box 1314, Cooperstown, NY 13326

Telephone: (607) 547-9226 email: lakewoodcemetery13326@gmail.com

Spring 2023 at Lakewood

This past season, Lakewood saw a flurry of activity from start to finish. The ongoing tree work did not let up as several trees were either pruned or removed completely. The monument restoration program, spearheaded by Vice President Merrilyn O'Connell, was in full swing this year with 24 monuments repaired and re-set. The donation goal for cleaning the Cooper Monument has nearly been met and we are hoping that the project will be completed this fall. Rasmussen surveyors are in the final stages of completing the West Section mapping and we are looking into potential expansion as well. Milo Stewart, *President* (mstewart@baseballhall.org)

From the Secretary

Our lovely cemetery on the hills overlooking Otsego Lake looked especially beautiful this year. It takes a lot of work to maintain it, and we depend on your donations to fund many of our operating costs. You can donate by mail or use your credit card or PayPal on our website, <https://cooperstownlakewoodcemetery.com/>. We also invite you to help us keep in touch by notifying us of any address or email changes. Please share this newsletter with your families; it is on our website. It is important for future generations to be informed of our efforts to preserve and maintain the Cemetery. We hope you will send us their contact information for our records. Kerry Lynch, *Secretary* (kerrylynch100@gmail.com)

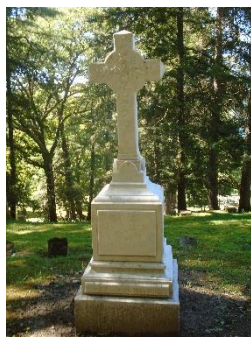
Treasurer's Report

We have had another exciting year at the cemetery with more projects completed! We continue to operate on our investment income and money from your generous donations. Could we do more if we had more money? Absolutely! Please remember the cemetery in your annual giving plan and your estate planning. We will continue to accomplish as much as we can with the income we receive. Please contact me if you wish to receive financial reports. Margaret McGown, *Treasurer* (mmcmgown1@hotmail.com)

Cooper Monument Update

On a rise of ground directly across from the main entrance is the Cooper Monument. This memorial to James Fenimore Cooper was erected in 1860 through the efforts of Alfred Corning Clark and G. Pomeroy Keese. The marble monument, 30' tall and topped with a statue of Natty Bumppo and his dog Hector, will be power-washed by Humphrey Memorials, Inc. Donations have been received from the Cooper family, the James Fenimore Cooper Society, and lot owners. We are nearing our fundraising goal -- we invite your support of the project as well. You may donate by check (note Monument in the memo line), or use a credit card or PayPal (website link). A celebration will be planned for Summer 2024.

Monument Restoration 2023



Humphrey Memorials, Inc. of Herkimer has completed the restoration of 24 more monuments. Foundations are stable, sections are secured with epoxy, broken pieces are reassembled, and beautiful inscriptions and sculptures are clearly visible.

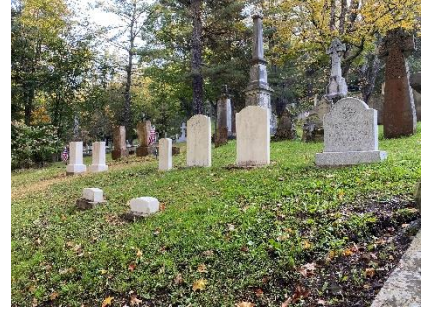
Chester G. Allen (1838-1878)

Chester was a teacher, composer and musical writer. He edited and compiled collections of music for schools and churches, containing many of his own compositions. For some time, he edited the *New York Musical Gazette*, and taught music in public schools of Cleveland, Ohio. His wife, Cornelia Doubleday (1839-1918), was the niece of the legendary Abner Doubleday.

Gravestone Cleaning

Several lot owners contracted directly with Humphrey Memorials for repairs and power washing. Over 40 gravestones have been repaired and/or cleaned. We invite you to participate in the next group. Lakewood facilitates the arrangements and provides before and after photos. Humphrey Memorials estimates are sent to the lot owner, and payment is made directly to them. The next deadline is April 2024.

Bowers Family Lots Henry J. Bowers of Lakelands (1824-1896) was the first owner of four lots in Lakewood Cemetery. Six generations of the family are buried there. Burials are in three rows and include monuments, gravestones, footstones and ledgers. They will be repaired where necessary and cleaned in three phases. The first row has been completed.



West Section Plans

Surveying and mapping of the West Section of the Cemetery by Rasmussen Land Surveyors is nearly complete. It replaces an old map drawn in 1969 when this burial area was created. It includes all lots, sold and unsold, water lines and drainage, trees, and individual monument and gravestone placement. An important feature is monumenting – the placement of metal, numbered corner markers flush with the ground. An adjacent area has been designated for the development of additional lots.

Veterans Buried in Lakewood

Research continues for locating veterans from all wars – American Revolution to the Persian Gulf. If you know of a veteran ancestor, family member, or friend who is buried in Lakewood, we would be pleased to research the military records and include him or her in the Inventory. Veteran information may be provided on the donation form included with this newsletter. Include name, birth and death dates, branch of service and rank, service notes, or as much information as you have. Email Merrilyn O'Connell at merrioc88@gmail.com.



Levi C. Turner 1806-1867 A native of Claremont, NH, Levi Turner received degrees from Dartmouth and Union Colleges. He studied law with Judge Eben Morehouse in Cooperstown, became a resident and established a law practice. He married Julia Campbell of Cooperstown and they had two children, Theodore and Abby. He served as Otsego County Judge from 1853-1861. During the Civil War, Turner was appointed Judge Advocate in Washington, DC by Secretary of War Stanton and served until March 1865 with the rank of Major. He died in Cooperstown in 1867 and is buried in Lakewood Cemetery. On May 26, 1878, Grand Army of the Republic Post No. 26 was organized and mustered into the Department of New York. The Post, named in honor of Judge Levi C. Turner, is the predecessor of the present Cooperstown veterans posts.

Burial Planning

A frequent question – “Is there room for me?” We can assist you by researching burial records for a specific lot and providing a lot diagram. Lot owners reach out to other family members to determine interest in Lakewood burial and participation in planning for lot care. It is also an opportune time to reserve grave space for full or cremation burial. Lot diagrams will be provided for family members and are kept on file in the Cemetery office.

Annual Meeting of Lot Owners and Board of Trustees

All lot owners are invited to the Annual Meeting which is usually held in August. Date and place will be determined later and announced in the Spring newsletter.

The Board of Trustees

Milo Stewart, *President* mstewart@baseballhall.org

Henry J. Nichols, *Trustee* hjnicols@gmail.com

Merrilyn O'Connell, *Vice President* merrioc88@gmail.com

Peggy Poulson, *Trustee* poulson1@yahoo.com

Kerry Lynch, *Secretary* kerrylynch100@gmail.com

Bruno Hofmann, *Trustee* bhcharliebrowna@aol.com

Margaret McGown, *Treasurer* mmcgown1@hotmail.com

Dave Jackson, *Trustee* dufferdave45@yahoo.com