Fall 2012

The Gardens
Memory Gardens
Memorial Park

A Memorial Park Dedicated to the Dignity of Mankind

President's Message

First, I would like to take the opportunity to thank each of our lot owners who responded to Past President Marlene Elacqua's request to complete the Proxy card which allowed your vote to be counted at our Annual Lot Owners Meeting. This is the first time in many years we have had this tremendous response to the proxy vote request. Each member of the Board of Directors takes their duties and responsibilities to the Gardens of upmost importance. Mr. Andy Carroll, Cemetery Administrator, came to us eighteen months ago and under his leadership and watchful eye has taken the Gardens to new heights of fiscal responsibility.

As the new Fall season is upon us we hope that you will take some time to view the many accomplishments made within Memory Gardens. The Garden of Paradise is beautiful and tranquil; price of lots sell for $400.00 each. If you are interested in purchasing please stop in the office to see one of our Memorial Advisors.

The Grounds Crew deserves our special thanks for their continued upkeep in a season of extreme heat and drought.

Friends of the Gardens will continue to work by assisting with the cost of repairs and beautifications of the Gardens. If you are able to help by donating any amount and/or your time and talent, know that it will be greatly appreciated.

The Christmas Celebration and Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 14, 2012 at 6 p.m. Please join us for holiday music, readings, and placing of ornaments on the Trees of Remembrance.

The Gardens provide a peaceful, tranquil place for solitude and reflection. Always know that our main concern is providing you with a beautiful, serene and respectful place to remember your loved ones at their final resting place.

The Board of Directors wishes you and yours a glorious, blessed and safe Christmas season.

Catherine Romano

Catherine Romano
President

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Guide to important dates at Memory Gardens

2012

November 1
Bronze vases in markers not to be used

November 1 to 15
Fall cleanup: All decorations are removed

November 15 to January 31
Wreaths on a stand allowed

December 14
Christmas Celebration and Remembrance at the Chapel, 6 p.m.

2013

January 31
Holiday decoration removal begins

March 1 to April 15
Spring cleanup: All decorations are removed

March 31
Easter Sunrise Service (parkwide) 7 a.m.

April 15
Bronze vases may be used until November 1

May 4
Annual Lot Owners Meeting at Cemetery Office, 10 a.m.

For more details visit our website
www.memorygardens.org

Annual Christmas Celebration and Remembrance

Memory Gardens' 2012 Christmas Celebration and Remembrance will be 6 p.m. on Friday, December 14. Held each year on the second Friday in December, the evening features holiday music and readings plus the placing of ornaments on our Trees of Remembrance in memory of loved ones.

For the second year, the service will be at our recently renovated Chapel. Pastor Paul Koehn, of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Albany, is slated to give the blessing and deliver the message.

This service is open to the public as well as members of Memory Gardens. We welcome all attending to join us in the Chapel for refreshments following the service.

2012 Interments

January 1 through June 30, 2012

Our Hearts and Minds are with the Families of …

Adams, David A. Sr.
Agtarap, Esperanza P.
Allen, Alice M. (aka Wilson)
Andrews, George
Archibald, Andrew P.
Austin, Marjorie
Avery, John C. Jr.
Baister, Eugene H.
Baptiste, Kathleen B.
Baran, Alexander Joseph
Beach, Richard E.
Beberwyck, Lorin D.
Bello, Enrico
Bender, Charles H. Jr.
Berry, Ruby V.
Beverly, Allison G.
Bieber, Harold C.
Bieber, Patricia R.
Bishop, Jeffrey A.
Bittle, Maurice W.
Blackwood, Viola S.
Bold, Jane Reepmeyer
Boule, Robert O.
Boyle, Frederick Louis
Bradway, Philip Herbert
Brown, Helen M.
Budge, Marie McCann
Bugbee, Lydia G.
Bushnell, Edward H.
Butch, Margaret R.
Cahill, Barbara W.
Calka, Irene J.
Campbell, LeRoy R.
Carey, Marie C.
Carrington, Beulah M.
Cavert, Beverly J.
Cianfarani, Deborah A.
Clark, Glenn R., Sr.
Clark, Stanley J.
Clement, Anthony I.
Clough, James H. Jr.
Clough, Joseph N.
Cole, Doris J.
Coleman, Margaret R.
Comstock, Constance Andrews
Corbett, Dorothy E.
Cramer, Concetta
Crane, Edward W.
Croff, Helen J.
Crowley, John M.
Dagner, Robert W., Sr.
DAmbrosio, Evelyn
Daniels, Patricia F.
Darboghosian, Albert
De Angelis, Mark Marcello
DeCenzo, Elizabeth A.
Decker, Cecil F.
Deeb, Helene Rose
DeMarco, Phoebe A.
DeWitt, William R.
Deyoe, Henry J.
DiCaprio, Madeline
Dipley, Jesse F.
Ditoro, Michael
Dittrich, Patricia E.
Dittrich, Robert H.
Dolan, Joseph T.
Dowling, Elizabeth M.
Dowse, Robert H.
Driessen, Hendrika
Dubanowich, Shirley J.
Eckert, Henry
Edwards, Laura E.
Elston, David Robert
Emerick, Gordon C.
Engwer, Daniel A., Jr.
Epstein, Morris
Evans, Florence E.
Everette, Charla M.
Farrington, Guy E., Jr.
Fisk, James U.
Flanigan, Karen E.
Fleming, Patricia J.
Ford, Norma R.
Foster, Rosemany K.
Fox, Marion Antoinette
Fransecky, Virginia B.
Frederico, Charlotte M.
Friebel, Edward H.
Frost, Anita M.
Futia, Joseph M.
Gambino, Joseph J.
Gebert, Patricia L.
Gleech, Lillian W.
Gontko, Beverly J.
Goodall, Willamena
Gorsline, Gladys
Gottschalk, Mary A.
Grams, Naomi L. H.
Grinter, Catherine L.
Grock, Sharon
Gruener, Margaret
Gulotty, Constance
Gulotty, Marilyn A.
Guner, Miron
Guntrum, Rollo M.
Guzman, Maria Rowena
Haberman, David M.
Hale, Jean E.
Ham, Richard
Hamil, Edward J.
Hansen, Esther F.
Haverly, LeRoy E.
Hazelton, Bertha E.
Heath, Donald H.
Heinbach, Norma M.
Hennel, Ruth G.
Herbst, William F.
Herchenroder, James Daniel
Hildenbrandt, Roland J. Sr.
Hilton, Helen C.
Hitchcock, Marjorie J.
Hoffman, Eileen B.
Hogan, Dorothy C.
Hohn, Jean E. (aka Bold)
Hopkins, David Wellington
Horgen, Alf Kaare
Horth, Ruth M.
Hotaling, Germaine A.
Houley, Helen B.
Howell, Marla R.
Hughes, Thomas B.
Hutson, Audrey M.
Iatrides, Georgia A.
Igler, Betty S.
Jasinski, Samuel Joseph
Joseph, Thomas P.
Kahler, Francis L.
Kenna, Charles B.
Kessler, Marjorie D.
Kieper, Patrick M.
Kimball, Marjorie L.
Kindlon, Francis Anthony
King, John H. Jr.
Klimek, Shirley D.
Knizek, Edythe E.
Kulzer, Anna E.
LaMere, Ronald H.
LaMontagne, Donna M.
Lansing, Cornelius H.
Large, Wilson
LaRose, Catherine E.
Laundry, James
Legg, Lois D.
Lennox, Esther K (aka Savoca)
Lewis, Harriet M.
Li-Cheng, Yuk Fung
Liedkie, Grace E.
Lindemann, Donald Henry
Lindemann, Ruth
Lloyd, Earl G., Jr.
Lockhart-Chappell, Joan B.
Lojewski, Viola A.
Loudis, Gregg R.
Luna, Felicita
Lysogorski, Bertha C.
MacCracken, Dorothy
Madigan, Christopher D.
Maggs, John H.
Malinoski, Eleanor Catherine
Mallory, Delia M.
Marron, Joseph E.
McCabe, James Anthony
McClearnen, Allen Robert
McCormack, Richard F. Sr.
McIntosh, John Joseph
Merritt, David J. Sr.
Meyers, Stanley
Miano, Freda I.
Michel, Faye Bichwit
Michel, Howard T.
Milburn, June
Miller, Adeline Ann
Miller, Carrie Nell
Miller, Edith
Miller, Jeanne Federici
Mitchell, Judy A.
Molino, Donald F.
Montgomery, Harold F.
Monville, Maybel D.
Moore, Donald R. Sr.
Moore, Jane E.
Murray, Lillian M.
Musau, Ngalula J.
Myers, Elizabeth A.
Nolan, Francis T.
O'Connor, Kathryn L.
O'Hare, Jeanette Juanita
Olmstead, Shirley R. (aka Boyser)
Orlop, Tsar Brencis
Ostrowidzki, Victor
Ottman-Lewis, Sharon A.
Pallotolo, Thomas
Pannella, John J.
Paris, Gerald E. Sr.
Parker, Elmon F.
Perry, Grace A.
Picard, Robert P.
Pistana, Albert J.
Plourde, Edith
Polnak, Robert C.
Poorman, Rosa B.
Priess, Paula
Reamer, William J.
Reed, Lillian J.
Rees, Irene A.
Relyea, Luther A.
Reutzel, Calvin C. Jr.
Reynolds, Lillian E.
Ricci, Mary L.
Ricci, Peter A.
Rifflard, Margaret L.
Ritchie, Clara
Robbins, Charlene E.
Robinson, Virgelee
Robitaille, Mary G.
Rogers, Anita A.
Rose, Michael S.
Rotella, Philip A.
Rozniewski, Joseph T. Sr.
Ruch, Regina C.
Rulison, Marjorie A.
Russell, Virginia Lee
Sackrider, Dorothy M.
Santspree, Roy J.
Scriven, Rubye E.
Shortis, Kevin F.
Sickles, Elizabeth K.
Siebert, Dorothy A.
Simmons, Jeffrey K.
Simmons, John B., Jr.
Simms, Harry Noble
Sivaslian, Peter S, Jr.
Smith, Ella F.
Smith, Henrietta A.
Smith, Mary E.
Sorvari, Joan L.
Sowers, Martha G.
Speciale, Donna M.
Sproesser III, Louis C.
Stammel, Leonard A.
Stevens, Theodora
Stokes, Mary Jane
Strait, Marion E.
Stubbs, Hubert E.
Stumpf, Jennie A.
Tarullo, Arlene S.
Teal, Paul A.
Teator, Marcia M.
Tiernan, Judith A.
Tocco, Margaret A.
Tompkins, Jane E.
Troyer, Florence A.
Turner, Ruth B.
Valastro, Ann M.
Van Amburgh, Roy F.
Van Dyke, Anna M.
Van Vranken, Wade R.
Vandenburgh, David N.
Vandeputte, Gentiel A.
Vanderbilt, Samuel
VanDerwerken, Carol A.
Vaughn, Dallas S.
Viscusi, Brian C.
Von Baltzer, Dale M. (aka Dumar)
Wagner, Louis C., Jr.
Wagner, Ruth E.
Walker, Florence H.
Walsh, John M.
Walter, Eugene J.
Wark, Cynthia D.
Waugh, Regina C.
Weaver, Randy V.
Webster, Jeanne Marilyn
Weekes-Wilson, Laverne R.
Werther, William J.
Westervelt, Margaret R.
White, Pearl E.
Whitman, George Philip (Reverend)
Winter, David E.
Wormer, James C.
Zautner, Robert N.

Memory Gardens thanks benefactor for tree donation

Memory Gardens is deeply grateful to William Steller for donating five trees in May.

Mr. Steller donated the trees for Mother's Day in honor of his mother, Edna S. Steller, who rests in Edgewood Mausoleum.

The Steller family is from Hoosick Falls, but Mrs. Steller always loved Memory Gardens and pre-planned her own arrangements so she would rest here.

The red jade weeping crab apple trees came from Mr. Steller's company, Carlton Plants of Dayton, Oregon.

Grounds Superintendent Pete Luste assisted Mr. Steller in designing an appropriate memorial in the Garden of Paradise.

Board of Directors

These dedicated individuals are entrusted with overseeing the operations of Memory Gardens:

Gordon Bell
Marlene A. Elacqua
Anthony T. Garufi
Richard P. Jacobson
Donna L. Landy
Andy Marino
Raymond Paradise
Kathryn Prividera
Cheryl Rebhan
Catherine Romano
Teresa Scicchitano-deWaal

Staff

Andy Carroll, Administrator
Will Page, Accountant
Carol Durant, Memorial Advisor
Joe Mazmanian, Memorial Advisor
Chris Reivik, Administrative Assistant
Dorothea Martin, Office Assistant
Pete Luste, Grounds Superintendent
Kenneth Pappalau, Assistant Grounds Superintendent
Scott Emerson, Groundskeeper
Juan Muñoz, Groundskeeper
Robert Rigney, Groundskeeper

$500 donation gratefully accepted from Maryland resident

Memory Gardens received a very generous donation of $500 from Gary Shaver in May.

Mr. Shaver, who lived in Hudson and Voorheesville before moving to Maryland last year, offered the donation to support the wonderful quality Memory Gardens provides in maintaining the 24 gardens in the memorial park.

"I'm very pleased with the service," said Mr. Shaver, whose parents, wife, and brother rest at our cemetery. "We want Memory Gardens to keep doing well." Mr. Shaver, who grew up in Oneonta, worked for many years as a teacher and administrator for the New York State Department of Corrections as well as the Department of Social Services while living in upstate New York.

Mr. Shaver's donation was added to our Friends of the Garden fund. He encouraged others to donate to the Gardens as well to help keep the grounds well cared for and support activities like the annual Christmas Remembrance Celebration and Easter Sunrise Service.

Mr. Shaver is a long-time supporter who has been extremely generous over the last several years. Memory Gardens thanks Mr. Shaver for his continued support.

LifeMarker© helps maintain memories of loved ones

Device affixed to grave markers allows immediate access to tributes

Memory Gardens now offers a way for you to share more than just the information on your loved one's grave marker. With LifeMarker©, visitors can immediately access your tribute – obituary, family history, photos, videos – by scanning a QR Code with their smartphones.

Memory Gardens is the first cemetery in the Northeast to offer the LifeMarker© service, which provides you an online account on which to upload whatever information you wish about your loved one. Memory Gardens' staff will permanently affix a small chip containing the QR code to the granite or concrete base of your loved one's grave marker. Equipped with the appropriate Web applications ("app"), visitors with smartphones (or other communication devices with Internet access) simply scan the chip to access your tribute.

"We're adding another dimension to customer service using cutting-edge technology," said Memory Gardens Administrator Andy Carroll. "A child who barely or never knew his grandfather can learn all about him while visiting his resting place." Distant relatives and friends can view your tribute page from the LifeMarker© website using the ID number or archive name.

The LifeMarker© service is available for a one-time fee of $200, which includes installation of the chip on the grave marker. The QR chip should last indefinitely without issue, but can be replaced for $5 if it is damaged or stolen.

For more information, please stop by the Memory Gardens office, 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany. If you would like to make an appointment or for more information, please call (518) 869-9506, or send an email to director@memorygardens.org

Questions and Answers

Q: My mother was cremated many years ago, and I've kept her urn. I would like to find a permanent resting place for her. What can I do?

A: The final disposition of cremated remains may take several forms. Often, it depends on the personal wishes of the deceased as well as cultural and religious beliefs. Some religions require burying the remains.

At Memory Gardens, cremated remains can be interred in the ground or in a columbarium (stand-alone features with niches to deposit urns) niche or mausoleum (an above-ground building that houses remains) niche. Memory Gardens houses columbariums in the Gardens of Hope, Love, and Resurrection. We also have two mausoleums: Briarwood Fernwood and Edgewood.

When a cremation is placed in the ground at Memory Gardens, one space can accommodate either one casket and a cremation urn or two cremation urns.

Placing cremated remains in a space or niche (within a mausoleum or columbarium) at Memory Gardens provides a permanent commemoration of your loved one that can be adorned with a marker. Generations of your family and friends can visit your loved one, and there will be a permanent record of the memorial.

Q: My aunt recently passed away. Among her possessions were two urns, but neither were labeled. We do not know who is in them. What are my options?

A: Re-examine the urns – especially the bottoms – to determine if names have been inscribed or otherwise written on them. Also check for distinguishing characteristics of the urns. Ask other family members if they can identify who is in which urn, or if they know what funeral home organized the cremations. Call the funeral home to ask if records are available regarding the cremations.

If you are able to identify the deceased and decide to inter their urns at Memory Gardens, an original cremation certificate issued by the crematorium is required. New York State requires that an original certificate be provided to the estate of the deceased. Ask whoever is handling your aunt's estate (e.g., an attorney) to review her paperwork for the cremation certificates. If they are not available, duplicate originals can be obtained from the crematorium.

If your efforts to identify the remains prove fruitless, you may have to accept that they will be permanently unknown. For those considering cremation, having your name inscribed on the urn and designating someone to receive the original cremation certificate are the best ways to ensure your identity is preserved with your remains. Further, burying the cremated remains at a cemetery will provide your family a permanent record of your final resting place.

The People Behind the Gardens:
Grounds Superintendent Pete Luste

As you drink in the rustic splendor of our memorial park when you walk or drive through, have you wondered how Memory Gardens maintains its pastoral beauty? The Gardens' magnificent surroundings are due to the hard work of our grounds crew, which is led by Grounds Superintendent Pete Luste.

Mr. Luste, 37, supervises a full-time crew of four and an additional two seasonal employees during the summer. He spent five years supervising the grounds crew that maintained the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany's seven cemeteries before he joined Memory Gardens several years ago as our assistant superintendent. Mr. Luste was promoted to superintendent in June 2011. Mr. Luste's responsibilities include opening lots for burials, maintaining equipment and buildings, cutting and pruning trees, and placing seed and topsoil atop newly closed graves. He also "pins" graves, a process involving locating, marking and measuring them.

Customer satisfaction is the most rewarding part of Mr. Luste's work at Memory Gardens.

"I like helping people out," he said. "We're always here to help anyone who needs it."

Mr. Luste said he was very touched by a recent thank-you letter from a customer whom he had helped with a cremation burial by realigning the markers and properly arranging other features of the resting place.

Working with the rest of Memory Gardens' staff provides another boost to Mr. Luste's day.

"Everybody here is friendly, outgoing, and knowledgeable," he said.

Memory Gardens Administrator Andy Carroll credits Mr. Luste with a strong, proactive work ethic.

"He's the kind of guy who will have a dozen things on his plate one minute and they'll all be done the next," Mr. Carroll said.

Mr. Luste also has a knack for saving money, especially when repairing equipment. "We'll buy $30 in parts, but Pete will save us $300 in labor because he knows how to do so much," Mr. Carroll said.

Outside Memory Gardens, Mr. Luste enjoys time with his wife and son. He also delights in working on cars and motorcycles.

Garden of Paradise a success

Our newest resting place for loved ones, the Garden of Paradise, continues to be very popular with the Memory Gardens community. More than 100 lots in the Garden of Paradise have been sold since we started offering the introductory price of $400 per lot in January.

The garden, which is on the west side of the memorial park, features a fountain surrounded by a bronze sculpture of doves taking flight. Paradise is a very tranquil setting, and includes benches, bluestone surrounding the fountain, and a walking area.

For more information or to purchase a lot in Paradise, please call our office at (518) 869-9506 or email us at info@memorygardens.org

New, more durable carpet installed in Briarwood

Briarwood Fernwood Mausoleum is now adorned with a new, more durable carpet.

More than 300 square feet of carpet that had been irrevocably stained was replaced in July with carpeting that is enhanced with additional stain guards. Also, extra sections of carpet were bound under each bench in Briarwood to provide even more protection where most spills typically happen.

Our staff removed the old carpeting, saving Memory Gardens more than $300 in outside labor costs.

Briarwood visitors are reminded not to bring food or drink into the mausoleum, and to please wipe their feet on mats placed at the entrances.

We're on Facebook!

Please "Like" us on Facebook!

Memory Gardens is listed on the social network site. You can access our Facebook page via a link at our website, www.memorygardens.org

Our Facebook page contains many news items and features about Memory Gardens. Any updates made to our page are transmitted to the pages of those who "Like" Memory Gardens. The updates will also be sent to your Facebook "Friends" with whom you share information.

"Liking" is another way of letting people know all that Memory Gardens has to offer.

Pre-planning eases burden on your loved ones

Whether the loss is expected or sudden, your passing will be an emotional time for your family.

Their grief may be exacerbated by a variety of confusing decisions and financial consequences. For example, does your family know if you want to be buried in a casket or cremated? Should there be a memorial? What will happen to your insurance benefits?

Pre-planning allows your loved ones to comfort one another and celebrate your life. It also preserves your insurance benefits for their intended purpose: your family.

Memory Gardens can help you through every step of pre-planning, including funeral arrangements and financial considerations. We have assembled a packet that includes everything you need to know to plan your arrangements in advance.

For your free Pre-planning guide, please call one of our memorial advisors, Carol Durant or Joe Mazmanian, at (518) 869-9506 or send an email to carol.durant@memorygardens.org or joe.mazmanian@memorygardens.org

2012 Holiday Placement Program

We are pleased to offer our Holiday Placement Program again this year. Please place your order by Wednesday, November 21, 2012. We would like to begin placing the wreaths and poinsettias the first week in December. To order online, please go to our website, www.memorygardens.org and select "Floral Placement Service," which will bring you to the correct page to order your wreaths and poinsettias. Otherwise, orders can be mailed to our address with your payment or called in to our office at (518) 869-9506.

Memory Gardens

2012 Holiday Placement Service

Memory Gardens offers our Holiday Placement Service to those who wish for a beautiful holiday decoration to be placed in memory of a loved one.
For outside burial spaces, we offer wreath placement.
For inside the mausoleum chapels, we offer a choice of wreath placement or silk poinsettia plant.

WREATH $36

A natural evergreen wreath beautifully decorated and secured to a tripod stand.
Wreath placement begins December 3
Please place your orders by November 21
Quantity is limited! Orders will be filled while supplies last.

Wreaths provided by Frank Gallo & Son Florist of Schenectady

POINSETTIA $22

A beautiful silk poinsettia plant with card will be placed. You may take your plant home any time before March 1. **NOTE:** Allowed inside the Mausoleum Chapels only.

Please complete the order form below and return it to Memory Gardens, 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205 with payment, or call our office at (518) 869-9506, or select the "Floral Placement Service" link on our website, www.memorygardens.org

(Detach and return this portion with your payment)

WINTER PLACEMENT SERVICE ORDER FORM

❑ **WREATH $36** ❑ **POINSETTIA $22 (inside mausoleums only)**

Name of Deceased: _____

Garden: _____ Lot: _____ Space: _____

(LOCATION INFORMATION CAN BE LEFT BLANK IF UNKNOWN)

Total Amount Enclosed: _____ Check or Money Order No: _____

Card Type: ❑ MasterCard ❑ Visa ❑ Discover ❑ American Express Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____

Name (Print): _____ Signature:_____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Memory Gardens
MEMORIAL PARK

How to Reach Us

- At our office during business hours
- By phone: (518) 869-9506
- By mail: Memory Gardens
  983 Watervliet Shaker Road
  Albany, NY 12205
- By email: info@memorygardens.org

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays
Any time by appointment

Grounds Open

Spring/Summer 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fall/Winter 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Visit our website!

www.memorygardens.org

Wreath Order Form Enclosed

Memory Gardens, Inc.
983 Watervliet Shaker Road
Albany, NY 12205

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT #203