

2006 REPORT
CLARK COUNTY CEMETERY COMMISSION

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- January 10, 2006 DNR Indianapolis has not given release and permission to reinter four remains of the Dils Family into Walnut Ridge Cemetery, due to some typo error on the AMEC Final Report.
- January 23, 2006 We bumped it up a notch and called Mr. Bob Blackert of Vision land Development of Cincinnati asking them to pay the invoice dated 12-20-2005 in the amount of \$1881.25 to Walnut Ridge Cemetery.
- February 3, 2006 Called Melinda King of AMEC Louisville for status update on reinterment. No word from Vision Land Development or Walnut Ridge Cemetery.
- February 7, 2006 Mailed the 2005 year end report to Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis.
- February 27, 2006 No answers for Melinda King on payment. Bumped it up a notch. Called Attorney Frank Ballard, Representing Jeffersonville Township Trustee. He called Ward, Tyler & Scott, LLC, who represents Vision Land Development.
- February 28, 2006 AMEC sent final report to Dr. Rick Jones, State Archaeologist regarding site 12CL755, Dills Cemetery, copies to Vision Land Development.
- March 6, 2006 Melinda King called to advise that Walnut Ridge received payment. We set the date of March 16, 2006 at 2:00 PM to reinter DiLs Remains.
- March 7, 2006 Placed my name on agenda for the Clark County Commissioners program slated March 23, 2006.
- March 14, 2006 Scheduled meeting of the Clark County Cemetery Commission. Copy of minutes attached.
- March 16, 2006 We met Melinda King of AMEC, Gaius Snyder, Superintendent of Walnut Ridge Cemetery, Edwin Coots Clark County Coroner and witnessed the reinterment of four members of the Dils Family into lot 21 of plot 1A. Their monument to be erected in six weeks.

- May 3, 2006 Called the Clark County Highway Department regarding newspaper article stating that Salem-Noble Road would be closed for construction to widen a portion of road to the Hawthorn Glen Subdivision. Dan Christiani Excavating Company is in charge. We do not have any problems here.
- May 4, 2006 Met Roy Adams at Otisco and he took me to 1som-Brown Cemetery where seven persons have been intrred. I took pictures of all stones and of Roy and his sister. We will place this information on the internet and add it to our Charlestown Township Cemetery List.
- May 18, 2006 Public meeting signs up at Autumn Ridge II, Allen-Jenkins Cemetery. Called Ramona Bagshaw, Director Clark County Plan Commission. She Confirmed meeting for June 14, 2006 at 6:00 PM.
- May 22, 2006 Called Paul Primavera Engineer for Autumn Ridge II about the letter from DNR. He said Brian Lenfert was handling that. I asked him to talk to Mr. Lenfert and suggest that they deed over the Allen-Jenkins Cemetery property to the Carr Township Trustee who was paying people to keep it mowed, etc ..
 9:20 AM
 Called Dan Moore, Clark County Commissioner Attorney, regarding our conversation with Lenfert LLC. Dan told me that the County Commissioners were very pleased with the Cemetery Commissions activities, and suggested we submit a separate budget this year for the 2007 budget.
 9:30 AM
 Primavera called back. Lenfert agreed to transfer Cemetery Title to Carr Township Trustee as soon as road is finished around the property.
 4:40 PM
 Called Walnut Ridge Cemetery. The Dils monument stone is in place.
- May 23, 2006 Donna Jackson, Carr Township Trustee, was informed regarding deed to Allen-Jenkins site will be transferred regarding deed to assure her needs for this in the 2007 budget year. We seem to have a need for review, cf titles of abandoned cemeteries to assure that each trustee knows their total responsibilities.
- May 29, 2006 Called the Auditor's Office and set a meeting date of Friday, June 2, 2006 at 1:00 PM to meet Ms. Haas and prepare 2007 budget.

June 1, 2006 Tamsie Muerer called to say she received her reappointment to the Cemetery Commission. I then called Margie Jenkins to thank her for her work in Tamsie's renewal.

June 2, 2006 Met with Barbara Bratcher Haas to make our 2007 budget filing. We requested \$1200.00 for general improvements fencing, signs, other labor and \$78.00 for two rolls of stamps.

June 13, 2006 Scheduled meeting of the Clark County Cemetery Commission. Copy of minutes attached.

June 14, 2006 Scheduled meeting of the Clark County Plan Commission at 6:00 PM. Autumn Ridge II came up at 8:00 PM. Young and Lenfert LLC agreed to honor the 15 foot easement to the cemetery until the new road access is complete. At that time they will transfer the Allen-Jenkins Cemetery Deed to the Carr Township Trustee, per state law. We were asked by the Plan Commission and concurred. Autumn Ridge passed Planning and Zoning by 5-0 vote.

July 1, 2006 Visited Sarles-Hendris Cemetery. Found it in good clean condition.

July 2, 2006 Visited Plum Run Cemetery. Mowed. Clean.

July 3, 2006 Called Steve Miller ESSROC to discuss Bottorff Cemetery. Left message. Called Joe Rench to get his help to clean the brush and growth in this cemetery. He will try to cut it this weekend. This help is from the Clark County Prisoners under Judge Fleece's program.

July 7, 2006 Called Steve Miller ESSROC. He will look up land title deed and call him back.

July 25, 2006 Received call from Ernie Thompson, Charlestown Township Trustee. He received a letter from John K. Goodwin Cemetery on Stacey Road, Charlestown. He was seeking help from the trustee to preserve this site. Mr. Thompson asked me to answer this letter, which I did.

July 27, 2006 Called Dave Abbott, Vice President, Clark County Cemetery Commission, regarding "Autumn on the River". He will reserve a booth for the Cemetery Commission. We will discuss this at the September scheduled meeting. Called Tamsie Meurer, who is working on a handout to be used with our Commissioners names and phone numbers and some basic state cemetery laws. A copy will be attached to this report.

- July 28, 2006 Called Jeanne Burke our State Historian regarding Goodwin Cemetery, Stacey Road. She told me to call Carol Haas who is Goodwin (nee) and get a closer look. I called Mrs. Haas and set up an agreement to have her and her husband George take me to visit this site. I received a call from Mrs. Applegate for Jeffersonville regarding the Courier Journal news article o 7-28-06 titled "Volunteers Cleaning and Restoring Old Cemeteries in Clark, Floyd Counties". She called me after every news article to explain that the Applegate Cemetery on Applegate Lane Jeffersonville disappeared. It was her families property and one member built a house on what was a cemetery. This is a shame.
- July 30, 2006 Got a call from Butch Bishop of Floyds Knobs regarding Mt. Eden Cemetery, which is in Floyd County. I reviewed this with Pat Coffman who knows about this cemetery. Her comment was " It has likely grown over with weeds again".
- Received a call from Jeff Graebe of Owen Township. He has restored Olive Branch Cemetery and keeps it mowed, and is starting on a second site located on Old State Road 62. Our maps show this as Bower/Henley site. Hurray for people like Jeff.
- July 31, 2006 Call from Mrs. Waterfill regarding our booth at "Autumn on the River". We are ready. No charge to the Commission.
- Got a call from Debbi Winneger who has written a poem story about the Goodwin Nicholsen Cemetery. She will mail a copy to us.
- August 1, 2006 I mailed a thank you to The Louisville Courier Journal and to Dale Moss. Our response has been good.
- August 2, 2006 Called Butch Bishop of Starlight, Indiana, regarding Mt. Eden Cemetery. Called George Haas about Goodwin Cemetery on Stacey Road. We will look at it next week.
- August 4, 2006 Called Steve Miller ESSROC regarding Bottorff Cemetery. We need to meet and discuss ownership.
Called Joe Renck about cutting trees at Bottorff Cemetery. He said neighbors don't want the trees cut.
- August 8, 2006 Dave Abbott called. The man who had cleaned a cemetery and a sign to identify it said it Kern Cemetery. David and I are trying to find a person interested in making signs for us.

Steve Miller ESSROC called and said Bottorff Cemetery was deeded to private person and he pulled the deed for me. We will meet at 8:30 AM tomorrow.

I called George Haas. He is available today after 4:00 PM. We went to Stacey Road, Goodwin Cemetery. We took many pictures and will answer Mr. John Goodwin letter of 7-17-06. Filled Ernie Thompson, Charlestown Township Trustee, in on the visit.

August 11, 2006

Called Joe Renck about cutting weeds and undergrowth at Bottorff site. He will call me when he is free to do it. He advised that the neighbor across the street complained about misquitos from the debris at the site.

Met Mr. Kamer, Silver Creek Township Trustee at 9:45 AM. He said he was told that the cemetery had been moved and no remains left there. I showed him the deed of 1884 showing a perpetual cemetery and as of today it is an abandoned cemetery. Told Carl that my wife and I were going to clean it up, erect a fence, and then place Catherine's stone back in there. Carl said he would pay for the fence.

We took Catherine's stone to Charlestown Monument works to help us remount the stone and add an insert stone to give dates.

August 15, 2006

Call David Abbott for fence pricing.

August 21, 2006

Called J.R. Dinius regarding the letter from John Goodwin about applying for a historical marker. She said to have Mr. Goodwin call her if he doesn't hear from Indianapolis in ten days.

August 22-25 2006

Betty and I have been cleaning up Bottorff Cemetery. Joe Renck came by on the 24th and we discussed cutting the trees in the rock wall and spraying the vegetation. Joe said he could help us get money for the fence.

August 28, 2006

Received call from Mrs. Longest who is interested in the Tuttle Cemetery in Monroe Township, Henryville.. Said she and Jeanne Burke visited there a few years ago.

August 30, 2006

Filled in Carl Kamer about Bottorff Cemetery and the neighbor across the street who verbally abused my wife and I. I reported this incident to the Sellersburg Police Department and visited the Sellersburg Fire Department to get permission to burn leaf debris on the cemetery.

- August 31, 2006 Called Mrs. Cathy Patus, Neighbor of the Bottorff Cemetery. She said if she had any type of complaint about our restoration project it would be that we not put up a chain link fence around the plot. I asked he if a wooden rail fence would be acceptable. She agreed.
- September 1, 2006 Betty and I visited Mr. Bob Couch at his home on Salem Noble Road. He let us read the genealogy book on the Bottorff Family that his wife (great granddaughter of Catherine) has kept up for years.
- September 3, 2006 Visited Sellersburg Fire Department for information on rules for burning at a cemetery in Indiana. The provided rules and dispatched phone number to call on the day we burn.
- September 5, 2006 Burned leaves at Bottorff Cemetery. Fire Marshall Adams stopped by to thank Betty and I for our services. After burn, I sprayed the ground with roundup.
- September 7, 2006 Called David Abbott to attend the Clark County Council meeting to request that our submitted budget be approved. It was.
- Got a call from Debbie Johnson to ask if there were any plots available in Seedtick Cemetery. Told her that I didn't know off hand but in general the cemetery is basically closed. She can further clarify by a call to Clark County Health Department.
- September 12, 2006 Regular scheduled meeting of the Clark County Cemetery Commission. See minutes attached.
- September 14, 2006 Betty and I worked three hours at Bottorff Cemetery cleaning and placing rocks at wall.
- Met with Jeanne Burke at Watson and she took us to Smith Cemetery on Utica-Sellersburg Road. Took many pictures, plotted it on Utica Township map and discussed future plans for potential clean up.
- September 18, 2006 Called Joe Renck and asked him to cut the trees at Bottorff Cemetery. The reason we use Joe is his help is from County lockup and it is free to us. He said, "in two weeks, maybe".
- Call from Jeanne Burke about mapping of ^{Ali} Clark County Cemeteries, would we a commission back her. Mailed a letter to her today doing as she asked. It is hand written and I will provide copies if asked.

- September 26, 2006 Betty, Son Mark and I cleaned at Bottorff Cemetery for three hours today. !!Hey!! We found Henry Bottorff's tombstone buried more than a foot deep. We have one big stone to identify third person buried here.
- September 28, 2006 7:00 P.M. Meeting at Old Borden Museum to discuss renovation of Old Borden Cemetery, which the West Clark Superintendent dislikes our need to cross school playground to enter. I have a letter to County Attorney Dan Moore and the Clark County Commissioners about this problem and asking for help.
- October 2, 2006 Betty, Mark and I worked at Bottorff Cemetery three hours. The grounds are cleaned well and we are digging up AND placing may wall stones back in the wall.
- October 3, 2006 Call from Betty McNew of Wichita Kansas about Beswick-Walnut Hill Cemetery in Oregon Township I asked her to call the Charlestown Library for family listings and gave her the phone number.
- October 6, 2006 Betty and I worked in Bottorff Cemetery four hours. We called the fire department before burning leaves and after burning leaves. Our old friend across the street came over complaining, stating smoke very disturbing, neighbor in oxygen, were doing this on purpose to irritate him, etc. We put out the fire, called the fire department, cleaned up the leftovers and left.
- October 18, 2006 Betty, Mark and I worked three hours at Bottorff Cemetery. Still no third burial stone.
- October 19, 2006 Filled in Carl Kamer, Silver Creek Township Trustee, about Mr. Dooley, neighbor who is still complaining about our attempt to clean up Bottorff Cemetery. Carl said that it's his responsibility to clean up this cemetery. He will check into tree removal.
- October 20, 2006 Ralph Guthrie called at 11:30 A.M. and I filled him in on what Betty and I have done and he said I am on solid ground. He will notify Sheriff Becher about the man across the street and his interference with our work on LaSalle Street. You and your wife are to be commended for the job you are doing for "Us" the Commissioners of Clark County.

Carl Kamer returned my call and he said that he would help us get the trees cut down. Call him Monday morning.

October 21, 2006 Betty and I spent four hours at Autumn on the River, Bethlehem.

October 23, 2006 Called Carl Kamer about trees. He said to give the job to Toan's "Stanley's Tree Service". He got the Cemetery Commission handout in his mail.

October 25, 2006 I contacted Mr. Toan at his home and passed the request from Township Trustee Carl Kamer to give an estimate on the seven trees at Bottorff Cemetery. We will review it together tomorrow.

October 26, 2006 Mr. Toan gave me an estimate of five hundred dollars to cut the trees. We reviewed the requirements to cut the seven trees and remove all the limbs.

November 1, 2006 Mr. Kamer said go ahead and cut the trees.

November 3, 2006 Mr. Toan and son went to Bottorff Cemetery at noon. Neighbor, Mr. Dooley came across the street and said "you ain't going to cut those trees". Mr. Toan started up his chain saw and Mr. Dooley moved between the saw and the tree. Mr. Toan called the Sheriff. Major Huber was dispatched. Major Huber questioned Mr. Dooley, who has no legal right on this property. Mr. Dooley was forced back to his own property under threat of arrest if he persisted.

5:00 P.M. Mr. Toan reported to me that seven trees were down and all wood removed from the cemetery. I called Mr. Kamer and filled him in. We will meet on Monday at 9:00 A.M to get the check for Mr. Toan.

November 6, 2006 Turned in Mr. Toan's bill and picked up his check from Mr. Kramer. Job well done. I notified Mr. Toan that his check was at my house.

November 7, 2006 Visited the "Sign Guy in Sellersburg" to get an estimate on sign for Bottorff Cemetery. He will call me later after study of sign.

November 8, 2006

Visited Charlestown Monument Company to discuss stones for both, Catherine and Henry, repair both and add an insert stone plaque in each with born and died date. We explained to Jeff Grayson that we were not in a hurry. He said he would work with us. We passed by Bottorff Cemetery on our way home. Tree cutting was an excellent job.

November 10, 2006

Betty, Mark and I worked at Bottoff Cemetery. We took a lot of pictures. Grass is coming up in areas Betty has raked.

November 14, 2006

David Abbott and I met at Bottorff Cemetery 10:30 A.M. We found the stone wall painted a pinkish red color splashed on by a large brush and pails of many gallons of paint. We called the Sheriff. Pat Martin dispatched. He found the paint still wet. He also spoke to Mr. Dooley across the street. I took many pictures and called Dan Moore, Clark County Attorney.

November 16, 2006

I was on the 4:00 P.M. agenda of Clark County Commissioners meeting. Told them of problem at Bottorff Cemetery. They recommend we have Mr. Kamer, Township Trustee file a damage report with the Sheriff and register our complaint.

November 17, 2006

Charlestown "The Leader" newspaper met David Abbott, My Wife Betty and I, at Bottorff Cemetery and took notes and pictures.

November 22, 2006

Carl Kamer, Township Trustee, and I filed a formal complaint with Captain Hubler of the Clark County Sheriff's Office. He sent us up to the prosecuting attorney's office to file the formal complaint with Mr. Jim Jackson. He gave me the form to fill out and asked for two pictures showing damage.

November 23, 2006 Betty and I probed at Bottorff Cemetery. Betty found a footstone base and an old rifle cartridge brass shell with marking WRA 43 on it. We also noted that all of the neighbor's signs had been removed all over speed. This is the man I have alleged to have caused the damage to our cemetery across the street. His sign read "Snap on Tools, 24 LaSalle Street"

November 24, 2006 Betty and I worked 4 hours. Neighbors nearby stopped and thanked us.

November 27, 2006 Betty and I went to Bottorff Cemetery at 12:30 P.M. Found new red paint on base stones and an aluminum tray with red 666 painted on it. CPL Pavey, Clark County Sheriff's Office came and filed out report # 2006-2594. Mrs. Adams, neighbor, said "I walked by this cemetery daily, the paint was not there Saturday 25th but was there Sunday 26th).

November 29, 2006 Betty and I went to Bottorff Cemetery at noon. Shattered glass over one half the plot. Captain Brian Meyer and Cpl Pavey responded. It took Betty and I 90 minutes to pick up all the glass by hand. More than five gallons of glass.

December 3, 2006 Neighbor snooping in woods behind Bottorff Cemetery. Met David Abbott and Mike Wiseman Scoutmaster, to see if scouts could assist in rock wall cleanup.

December 6, 2006 Neighbor Dooley stopped to tell us that he called the Clark County Sheriff's Office to report that I had parked on the sidewalk in front of the cemetery. We informed Mr. Dooley that we were praying for him.

December 7, 2006

I Informed Jim Jackson, D A's Office of Mr. Dooley's statement on parking. Mr. Dooley employed an attorney that advised him not to go in for questioning regarding damage to the cemetery. Mr. Dooley has been advised by the D A's Office that he is not to go to the cemetery, or to pester Mr. and Mrs. Johnson who are restoring the cemetery. He has been told that he is the prime suspect for all paint and glass damage to date. A letter to this effect will be mailed to Mr. Johnson by the D A's Office.

December 12, 2006

Regularly scheduled meeting of the Clark County Cemetery Commission. Copy and minutes attached.

Neighbor Dooley has made phone calls to Carl Kamer, Township Trustee, and to Steve Miller, Manager at ESSROC about the problems our Commission have caused him by cleaning up Bottorff Cemetery.

December 29, 2006

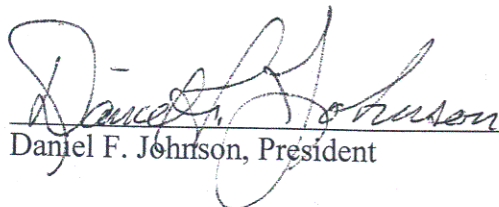
Dooley came across the street to the cemetery where Betty and I were at work. He told me it is against the law to drive across the sidewalk to get to the cemetery, and he called the sheriff. Officer Wilkins dispatched, and filed report 2006-2808. Mr. Dooley said, "The private property is not mine." "You cut down those trees for money." "You get kick backs under the table." "All this idea of being in charge of cemetery work is all in my head." "Them people down at the court house are all a bunch of crooks."

December 30, 2006

Betty and I worked at Bottorff Cemetery for three (3) hours today. No sign of the neighbor. There were three county officers who stopped by today.

This has been an exciting year for the County Commissioners who volunteer their time, money, and hard labor to fulfill the obligations we swore to do for Clark County. We are making a difference. We are pleased to give you this detailed report.

Clark County Cemetery Commission


Daniel F. Johnson, President