

The Buckeye Director

A publication of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association

Fall 2010



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The Buckeye Director

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The Ohio Funeral Directors Association

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OFDA Mission Statement

To represent and support our membership by promoting professional standards and excellence in funeral service.



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The Buckeye Director Magazine Schedule

The schedule for all contributors to adhere to for future publications is as follows:
December publication deadline is October 13, 2010

If your copy is not received by the deadline date, it will not be published. We feel it necessary to impose these restrictions in order to better serve our members.

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ROMAN ARCHES

"The ancient Romans had a tradition: whenever one of their engineers constructed an arch, as the capstone was hoisted into place, the engineer assumed accountability for his work in the most profound way possible: he stood under the arch."

My son Steve shared the above quote with me earlier this summer. He used it on a résumé he submitted for an administrative position in a local school district to reflect his personal feelings regarding taking responsibility for the work one performs each and every day.

Besides being very proud of my son's willingness to accept personal responsibility for his actions, I wondered how many of us are willing to risk everything (like the Roman architects) based on the work we do.

The reality is that we already do!

Think about it. Standing behind (or beneath) our work determines how people view:

- Our reputations
- Our character
- Our integrity
- Our honor
- Our commitment
- Our success

- Our respect
- Our traditions
- Our attitudes

Willie Mays was quoted as saying, "It isn't hard to be good from time to time in sports. What's tough is being good *every* day."

The analogy of "standing under the arch we build" needs to remind us of the importance of doing the difficult but lasting good work each and every day.

It also reminds us we all have a serious responsibility to our profession. If we are willing to show our families, our communities and our world that what we do is so valuable, so important and so beneficial to those we serve that we are willing to stand 100 percent under/behind what we do, the value of funeral service will be enhanced in their eyes beyond our wildest imaginations.

I know taking personal responsibility for our actions seems to be almost archaic in many sectors of our culture today. But I truly believe our willingness and ability to do so will set us apart from all others and show everyone how a caring, committed funeral profession is dedicated to serving families when they need us the most!



Stephen J. Gehlert



Calendar of *Events*

SEPTEMBER

- 9 OFDA Golf Outing, NorthStar Golf Club, Sunbury
- 21 Master Trust Meeting, OFDA
- 21 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA

OCTOBER

- 10-13 NFDA Convention, New Orleans
- 19 Master Trust Committee Meeting, OFDA
- 19 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA
- 20 Board of Directors Meeting, OFDA

NOVEMBER

- 5 Young Funeral Directors Seminar, OFDA
- 16 Master Trust Committee Meeting, OFDA
- 16 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA
- 25-26 OFDA Office Closed

DECEMBER

- 2 Executive Committee Meeting, Easton
- 15 Insurance Seminar, OFDA, Rick Goolsby

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Young Funeral Directors Committee's November Seminar, "Adapting to Today's Families," will take place on Friday, November 5, at the OFDA office in Columbus. Registration information will be sent out in August; register early, as this seminar always sells out. Check the OFDA Web site for updates.



Resource Center Corner

by Janet Blankenship, Resource Coordinator

Let the OFDA Resource Center Assist You with Your Programming Needs.

- Community/school presentations
- Memorial/holiday programs
- Support groups
- Visitations, services, etc.



Holiday Resources from 50 Cents and Up!

Getting Past Christmas

Carlene Enroth's vignette – 50 cents

Black ribbon lapel pin

Use for families/friends and/or pallbearers – \$2

Thoughts for the Holidays: Finding Permission to Grieve

Doug Manning – \$3

Not Just Another Day – Families, Grief and Special Days

Missy Lowery – \$3.50

Holiday Blues: A Self-Help Manual on Grief Through the Holidays

Clarence Tucker – \$4

How Will I Get Through the Holidays? 12 Ideas for Those Whose Loved One Has Died

James Miller – \$6.95

Renewing Your Spirit: A Guide for Holidays and Special Days

Sherry Williams-White – \$8.95

Holiday Hope: Remembering Loved Ones During Special Times of the Year

Fairfield Press – \$10.95

Healing Your Holiday Grief: 100 Practical Ideas for Blending Mourning and Celebration During the Holiday Season

Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD – \$11.95

And for the funeral home staff, *Helping the Bereaved Celebrate the Holidays: A Sourcebook for Planning Instructional Remembrance Events*

James Miller – \$7.95

Available Discounts

- OFDA members – 20 percent
- Institutional – churches, hospice, hospitals and schools in Ohio – 10 percent
- Quantity discounts: Purchase 1,000 OFDA brochures – receive one package of 100 FREE!

Check out OFDA's Estore for additional remembrance items you may give families or they may give at visitations or services: www.ofdaonline.org.

Scholastic Assistance Donations

From NFDA Bulletin – March 3, 2010

Thank you to all who have sent in donations to help mortuary students with their tuition needs. Any individual, firm or district wishing to contribute to the Ohio Funeral Education Foundation may do so by sending a tax-deductible donation to the OFDA office. All gifts are greatly appreciated.

2010 Contributors

Funeral Home

Auble Funeral Home

Baker-Stevens-Parramore Funeral Home

Barkdull Funeral Home

Birchfield Funeral Home

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Dalbert, Woodruff & Isenogle Funeral Home

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ASCAP to Monitor Funeral Home Music License Renewals

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As NFDA has previously reported, music-licensing agencies have stepped up their scrutiny of funeral homes. ASCAP, one of three music-licensing agencies in the United States, is now going even further to protect those who hold music copyrights. ASCAP is concerned

about those funeral homes that might purchase a license when ASCAP steps up enforcement efforts but stop renewing their license once the “threat” of inspection passes.

Going forward, ASCAP will monitor which funeral homes consistently renew their music licenses. Those firms that continue to renew their license

annually will have no problem and may be less likely to be inspected by an ASCAP representative.

If a funeral home stops renewing its license, ASCAP will send that firm’s name to a local field licensing team to determine why they chose not to renew. The team may also target that funeral home for an inspection to determine whether that firm is allowing copyrighted music to be played at the funeral home or during off-site funerals. If the inspector finds the firm is allowing copyrighted music to be publicly played without the proper license, the funeral home would face a possible copyright infringement suit with penalties of up to \$30,000.

A license must be purchased annually for each funeral home location in order for the business to be properly licensed and in compliance with federal copyright law. The NFDA music license covers all music license agencies, including ASCAP, SESAC and BMI. It provides funeral homes with the broadest music license available yet is less expensive than the fee ASCAP charges individual funeral homes that purchase licenses directly through ASCAP.

To learn more about music licensing or to purchase a license, visit www.nfda.org, or call NFDA at 800-228-6332.



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THE SOCIAL NETWORKING REVOLUTION

by Bob Shank Jr., OFDA Director of Technology

This edition of “Directors Data” will look at one of the newest ways technology is influencing the way we communicate. I believe we are in the beginning of a fundamental shift in the way people interact with the world around them. I am talking about many forms of communication known broadly as “social networking.”



Facebook updates, Tweets on Twitter, iReporting on news broadcasts, videos on YouTube and LinkedIn profiles are just a few of the ways that people are turning to technology in order to stay in touch with the world around them. What are the implications to funeral service? The ways these services affect funeral service are just now being defined. Are you part of the group who is defining them?

Does your funeral home currently use any of the social networking tools for business-related purposes? If so, please pass your ideas on to me at bob@ofdaonline.org so that I can share them with other members in

future articles. This is uncharted territory for funeral service, but the possibilities seem endless.

If you’re not looking at the social networking revolution and thinking about how it can benefit your business, you are missing what could be a golden opportunity. And, like most things in a competitive environment, if you don’t do it, your competition will. If you don’t know where to start, find the youngest person on your staff, or talk to a teenaged son, daughter, niece or nephew. Most young people today use social networking in one or more ways and can help you understand the different applications.

I wondered when I started this article if this topic was too new or not yet relevant to funeral directors. My question was answered loudly when I recently had the opportunity to attend a Young Funeral Directors (YFD) Steering Committee meeting. To advertise the upcoming YFD Seminar, the group has set up a Facebook Page (search for OFDA Young Funeral Directors) to invite younger licensees and keep in touch with each other. In less than 24 hours, there were 34 friends on the page. So, if you were wondering whether social media applications were going to effect the funeral profession or not, I think the direction is clear by looking at our younger members who are currently forging new frontiers.

As always, if you have any questions about this article or need assistance, please feel free to contact me at bob@ofdaonline.org or 614-560-5182.

Ohio Policy Board Representative’s Update

by Ken Cahall, CFSP

As the Ohio Policy Board representative to NFDA, I would like to give you an update as to what is happening within the governance structure of NFDA. The Policy Board (one representative from each of the 50 states) met on July 9 and 10 in Cambridge, Maryland, at the Leadership Conference to discuss several items. The agenda item that we discussed the most and felt was of the utmost importance was national/state relations — identifying key goals the national and state associations have, the complementary roles each association should play in achieving these goals, the unique assets and competencies the national and state associations bring to the relationship and the type of

communication, information and support that should flow from state to national, along with the challenges that exist in defining the ideal national/state relationship.

That being said, there were many ideas and discussions on how to create and maintain a better and stronger relationship. Some great discussion took place at these meetings, but we are looking for your input on how to create not only a stronger NFDA but also a stronger OFDA.

A national/state relations work group of nine individuals from all positions of state and national

association leadership positions (myself included) have been appointed by NFDA President Bill Wappner to take the information and refine it to enhance the governance relationships with all the states and their members.

I’m also happy to report that General Counsel Scott Gilligan reported the new state’s right of disposition report card. Ohio is again at the top with a newly updated law that meets our changing society and our profession.

If you have any questions or comments, please e-mail me at kacahall@msn.com, or contact the OFDA office.

New Ohio Law Imposes Additional Requirement on the Disposition of Unclaimed Cremated Remains

by T. Scott Gilligan, OFDA General Counsel



Scott Gilligan

Ohio, like two-thirds of the states in the country, has a law that authorizes crematories and funeral homes to dispose of unclaimed cremated remains. However, with the passage of Senate Bill 147, which became effective on July 2, 2010, Ohio funeral homes will now have to undertake a new requirement before disposing of the unclaimed cremated remains of anyone who is 18 years of age or older at the time of his or her death.

Since 1998, Section 4717.27(C) of the Ohio Revised Code has allowed a funeral home holding unclaimed cremated remains to dispose of the cremated remains in a grave, crypt or niche 60 days after the cremation occurred. In order for the funeral home to be able to dispose of the unclaimed cremated remains under that law, one of the following conditions must exist:

1. The cremation authorization form did not contain instructions specifying the manner of final disposition and no arrangements were subsequently made by the authorizing agent within the 60-day period following cremation.
2. The cremation authorization form did contain instructions on the final disposition of the cremated remains or the authorizing agent did make arrangements for the disposition within the 60-day period following cremation, but those instructions or arrangements were not carried out because of the inaction of a party other than the crematory or funeral home.
3. The authorizing agent agreed to pick up the cremated remains and failed to do so within the 60-day period following cremation.

If one of the above three conditions exist, a funeral home may dispose of the cremated remains in a grave, crypt or niche at any time after the 60-day period has expired. In addition, the authorizing agent who signed the cremation authorization form is responsible for the cost of that final disposition, provided the cost does not exceed the reasonable cost of disposing of the cremated remains in a common grave or crypt in the county where the cremated remains were buried or placed in a crypt or niche.

Commencing on July 2, 2010, Senate Bill 147 places an additional responsibility on a funeral home prior to the disposition of unclaimed cremated remains. This bill was passed because of concerns that funeral homes may be holding unclaimed cremated remains of veterans who would be entitled to burial or inurnment in a Veterans Affairs cemetery. As a result, the law now requires a funeral home, before disposing of unclaimed cremated remains, to notify the secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs of the name and other identifying information of any decedent who was 18 years or older at the time of their death and whose cremated remains are unclaimed.

After that notification is made, the secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs has 60 days to notify the funeral home that the decedent was a veteran who is eligible for burial in a national cemetery. If the secretary agrees to provide for the cost of transportation and burial of the unclaimed cremated remains in the national cemetery, the funeral home is required to follow the instructions of the secretary and arrange for the burial of the unclaimed cremated remains in the national cemetery at the expense of the Department of Veterans Affairs. If, however, the secretary does not respond to the funeral home or does not assume the right to direct the burial of the unclaimed cremated remains within 60 days of the notification, the funeral home may carry out the disposition of the unclaimed cremated remains in accordance with Ohio law.

OFDA contacted the Department of Veterans Affairs to determine how an Ohio funeral home holding unclaimed cremated remains of a decedent 18 years or older should notify the secretary

of the unclaimed cremated remains. According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, an Ohio funeral home contemplating the disposition of unclaimed cremated remains should send the name of the decedent and other identifying information, such as address, age, available discharge information, etc., to the following address:

Mr. Leonard Kunka
Indigent Burial Coordinator
Anthony J. Celebreeze Federal Building
1240 E. Ninth Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44199

For the convenience of OFDA members, a sample notification letter may be downloaded from the "Members Only" section of ofdaonline.org.

While this new law does impose additional responsibilities on funeral homes, OFDA did not oppose the bill since it provides proper and appropriate recognition of veterans who have served their country. OFDA was instrumental in removing from the original Bill a provision that would have imposed the 60-day notification requirement on unclaimed bodies as well as unclaimed cremated remains. OFDA explained to legislators that funeral homes could not hold unclaimed bodies for 60 days while awaiting possible notification from the Department of Veterans Affairs. As a result of OFDA's intervention, the Senate Bill 147 was revised so that the 60-day notification requirement applies only to unclaimed cremated remains.

OFDA members with questions regarding this new law may contact OFDA General Counsel Scott Gilligan at 513-871-6332.

OFDA's 130th Annual Convention & Exhibition: **Lighting the Way**



50-Year Award Recipients: Front Row (L-R): Frank Dawson, Wallace Davis, Don Fischer, Mabel Schermesser, Patricia Mullaney-Barth and Ted Byerly. Back Row (L-R): James Noonan, Richard Gillman, Garrison Murray, Robert Kohl, Rex Hostettler, Charles Wellman, Thomas Routsong and Thomas Corrigan.



Newly elected President Terry Reardon accepts the gavel from OFDA Immediate Past President Tom Fleming.



2010



Keynote speakers Julie A. Burn, CCre, and Poul Lemasters, Esq., spoke to the attendees about today's cremation market.



The officers and OFDA staff officially start the 130th Convention with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Keynote speaker Kay Frances talked stress management using humor.



OFDA President Terry Reardon and keynote speaker Dave Dravecky

A BIG Thank-You to Our Sponsors!

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Wednesday Keynote Speaker
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 • **Messenger**

President's Celebration Reception
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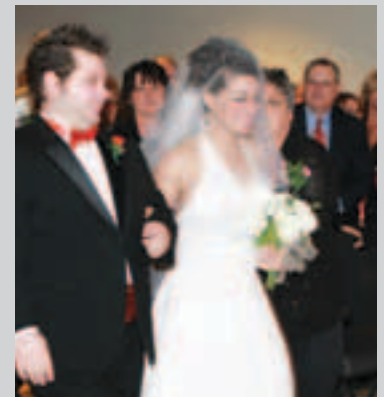
Tony n' Tina's Wedding
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 • **Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company**

Tony n' Tina's Honeymoon Give-Away
 • **National Mortuary Shipping**

Thursday Refreshment Break
 • **Advertising Sales Company**
 • **Columbian Financial Group**

Thursday Keynote Speaker
 • **National Guardian Life Insurance Company**

Tony n' Tina's Wedding



OFDA Mortuary Response Team

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



First-place team: Dan Shealy, Chris White, Sean Hartwell and Jerry Inebnit



Second-place team: Evan Hall, Mike Johnson, Ernie Hall and Rick Reed

On Thursday, June 3, the OFDA Mortuary Response Team (MRT) hosted its 14th annual golf outing at Oakhaven Golf Club in Delaware. Teams took to the course at 10 a.m. for the shotgun start and quickly found their way back to the club house at 10:05 a.m. as Mother Nature opened up the sky with lightning, thunder and a torrential downpour. The group was delayed for an hour; then the sun came out, the temperature rose, and play resumed. It turned out to be a great day!

Thank you to all the participants who continue to support the MRT by golfing each year in the outing! The proceeds from the outing go directly to the Mortuary Response Foundation to help offset expenses incurred by the team for training and the mobile morgue.

The winning foursome was Dan Shealy, Chris White, Sean Hartwell and Jerry Inebnit. The second-place team was Evan Hall, Mike Johnson, Ernie Hall and Rick Reed.

Contest winners were:

- Longest Drive Men: **Mike Neeper**
- Longest Drive Women: **Sarah Berner**
- Longest Putt: **Matt Haller**
- Closest to the Pin: **Jerry Inebnit**

A BIG THANK-YOU to all of those who graciously helped the team through sponsorships:

- Breakfast Sponsor – **Cincinnati Equitable Life Insurance Company**
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- Dinner Sponsor – **State Auto Insurance Companies**
- Refreshment Sponsors – **The Akron Vault Co., Baxter Burial Vault Service, Inc., Bell Vault & Monument, Inc., Crummitt & Son Vault Corp., Fithian-Wilbert Burial Vault Co., Hupp-Wilbert Vault Co., Longstreth, Inc., Ohio Vault Works, Inc., Tri-State Wilbert Vault Co., Turner Vault Company and Turner Vault Lima**

The MRT would like to acknowledge the support received from the following companies who were hole sponsors:

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- **Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science**
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- **PennCare**
- **Roger W. Davis Funeral Home, West Portsmouth**
- **Rosenacker & Associates**
- **Stombaugh Batton Funeral Home, Carey**
- **Williams B & G Maintenance LLC**

Cash donations were given by:

- **John Atkins**
- **Charles Berner**
- **Rachael Ramsey**
- **Bob Van Horn**

FTC Staff Issues Opinion on Third-Party Casket-Delivery Issues

by T. Scott Gilligan, OFDA General Counsel



Scott Gilligan

Universal Casket Company, which supplies the caskets that are sold through Costco, recently sought guidance from the FTC staff regarding the delivery of third-party caskets to funeral homes. In response to that request, FTC Funeral Rule Coordinator Craig Tregillus issued an opinion on April 19, 2010, which addressed several important issues, including whether funeral homes must assist in unloading third-party caskets from delivery trucks and the disposal of packing materials. Highlights from the opinion include the following:

1. Delivery Time. Funeral homes must accept delivery of third-party caskets during regular business hours (e.g. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). However, the opinion has recognized that for a small funeral home that may not be staffed during normal business hours, it may be necessary for the shipper of the third-party casket to make prior arrangements so that funeral home personnel are available to receive the casket. Mr. Tregillus also recognized a small funeral home may not be able to accept a casket during regular business hours if a funeral is currently being conducted at the funeral home and no personnel are available.

2. Imposing Maximum and Minimum Delivery Requirements. An earlier opinion issued by the FTC staff indicated funeral homes are not required to store caskets that were purchased on a preneed basis. However, when a death has occurred and an at-need funeral is arranged at the funeral home, the funeral home may not refuse to accept a casket more or less than a specified number of days in advance of its use. For example, a funeral home cannot establish a policy that it will accept a casket no more than 48 hours before a funeral. Nor can it impose a rule it will not accept a casket that is delivered less than 24 hours before a funeral. The FTC believes this is an unreasonable restraint on a consumer's right to use a third-party casket. Therefore, when an at-need funeral is planned and a third-party casket will be delivered, the funeral home should accept the casket during normal business hours at any time prior to the funeral.

While not addressed in the April 19, 2010, Opinion Letter, funeral homes are within their rights to require a family to have a casket delivered in sufficient time to prepare and place the body in the casket prior to a service. Therefore, if a funeral home wished to impose a requirement on a family that the casket be delivered at least 24 hours prior to a scheduled service, it would be within its rights to do so. If the funeral home has this policy and the casket is not delivered at least 24 hours prior to the service, the funeral home should still accept the casket but could postpone the service if it does not have sufficient time to casket the body and set up the service.

3. Unloading a Casket. Universal Casket Company requested a ruling from the FTC staff that funeral homes were required to provide personnel and equipment to assist Universal Casket Company in unloading third-party caskets being delivered to the funeral home. Mr. Tregillus took a split position regarding the issue of whether the funeral home must supply personnel and equipment to help unload a third-party casket. With regard to personnel, he indicated the FTC staff is not prepared to find the Funeral Rule requires a funeral home to pay the labor costs associated with unloading a third-party casket and removing its packaging. Therefore, funeral homes are not required

to help third-party casket companies or shippers, like FedEx, unload caskets from trucks or unpackage crated caskets.

On the other hand, the opinion did indicate the funeral home should provide church trucks in order to transport the third-party casket from the truck to the funeral home. Under the rationale that the costs of church trucks and other equipment are covered by the funeral home's basic services fee, Mr. Tregillus concluded it would be an unreasonable burden to deny the use of that equipment to consumers who are using third-party caskets.

4. Disposal of Packaging. In a footnote in the Staff Advisory Opinion, Mr. Tregillus provides guidance on the increasingly troublesome issue of third-party casket packaging. Funeral homes have reported casket shipments that originate from Costco and Walmart often are packaged in crates that require the funeral home to incur labor and disposal cost. The FTC Staff Advisory Opinion indicates while funeral homes may not charge a consumer for the cost of disposing of the packaging, the Funeral Rule does not prevent a funeral provider from requiring all casket suppliers take any casket packaging with them and dispose of it after a delivery. In other words, as long as the funeral home requires casket wholesalers from which it purchases caskets to dispose of casket packaging materials, it may also impose the same requirement against third-party casket shippers delivering caskets to the funeral home.



5. Disparaging Third-Party Caskets. On the issue of whether the Funeral Rule prohibits funeral providers from disparaging the quality of third-party caskets, Mr. Tregillus emphasized the disparagement of a competitor's product is not specifically prohibited by the Funeral Rule. However, material misrepresentations or any misleading or deceptive statements made to consumers by funeral home personnel would violate Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act and could expose the funeral provider to an FTC enforcement action.

The opinion is important in that it addresses previously unresolved issues regarding unloading trucks, shipping third-party caskets and the disposal of packing material.

OFDA members with questions regarding this article may contact Scott Gilligan at 513-871-6332.

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When Was the Last Time You Checked the GFCIs in Your Home and Funeral Home?

by Barb Garrison, MS, CHMM

If you answered, “What’s a GFCI?” or “I didn’t realize I was supposed to check my GFCIs,” you’d better read this article.

A ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) is an inexpensive electrical device that, if installed in household branch circuits, could prevent more than two-thirds of the approximately 300 electrocutions still occurring each year in and around the home. Installation of the device could also prevent thousands of burn and electric-shock injuries each year.

The GFCI is designed to protect people from severe or fatal electric shocks. Because a GFCI detects ground faults, it can also prevent some electrical fires and reduce the severity of others by interrupting the flow of electric current.

The Problem

If you’ve ever experienced an electric shock, it probably happened because your hand or some other part of your body contacted a source of electrical current and your body provided a path for the electrical current to go to the ground.

An unintentional electric path between a source of current and a grounded surface is referred to as a “ground-fault.” Ground faults occur when current is leaking somewhere. In effect, electricity is escaping to the ground. How it leaks is very important.

If your body provides a path to the ground for this leakage, you could be injured, burned, severely shocked or electrocuted.

How a GFCI Works

In the home’s wiring system, the GFCI constantly monitors electricity flowing in a circuit to sense any loss of current. If the current flowing through the circuit differs by a small amount from that returning, the GFCI quickly switches off power to that circuit. The GFCI interrupts power faster than a blink of an eye to prevent a lethal dose of electricity. You may receive a painful shock, but you should not be electrocuted or receive a serious shock injury.

Suppose a bare wire inside an appliance touches the metal case. The case is then charged with electricity. If you touch the appliance with one hand while the other hand is touching a grounded metal object, like a water faucet, you will receive a shock. If the appliance is plugged into an outlet protected by a GFCI, the power will be shut off before a fatal shock would occur.

Types of GFCIs

Three common types of ground fault circuit interrupters are available for home use:

Receptacle types are used in place of the standard duplex receptacle found throughout the house. It fits into the standard outlet box and protects you against “ground

faults” whenever an electrical product is plugged into the outlet. Most receptacle-type GFCIs can be installed so that they also protect other electrical outlets further “down stream” in the branch circuit.

In homes equipped with circuit breakers rather than fuses, a **circuit-breaker-type** GFCI may be installed in a panel box to give protection to selected circuits. The circuit breaker GFCI serves a dual purpose — not only will it shut off electricity in the event of a “ground-fault,” but it will also trip when a short circuit or an overload occurs. Protection covers the wiring, each outlet and each electrical appliance served by the branch circuit protected by the GFCI in the panel box.

Where permanent GFCIs are not practical, **portable-type** GFCIs may be used. One type contains the GFCI circuitry in a plastic enclosure with plug blades in the back and receptacle slots in the front. It can be plugged into a receptacle, then, the electrical product is plugged into the GFCI. Another type of portable GFCI is an extension cord combined with a GFCI. It adds flexibility in using receptacles that are not protected by GFCIs.

Where GFCIs Should Be Used

In homes built to comply with the Nation-

al Electrical Code (the Code), GFCI protection is required for most outdoor receptacles (since 1973), bathroom receptacle circuits (since 1975), garage wall outlets (since 1978), kitchen receptacles (since 1987), and all receptacles in crawl spaces and unfinished basements (since 1990).

Owners of older homes should consider replacing ordinary circuit breakers with GFCIs. For homes protected by fuses, you are limited to receptacle or portable-type GFCIs and these should be installed in areas of greatest exposure, such as the bathroom, the kitchen, the basement, the garage and outdoor circuits.

Installing GFCIs

Circuit breaker and receptacle-type GFCIs may be installed in your home by a qualified electrician. Receptacle-type GFCIs may be installed by knowledgeable consumers familiar with electrical wiring practices who also follow the instructions accompanying the device. When in doubt about the proper procedure, contact a qualified electrician. Do not attempt to install it yourself. Portable GFCIs require no special knowledge or equipment to install.

Testing GFCIs

All GFCIs should be tested **once a month** to make sure they are working properly and are protecting you from fatal shock. GFCIs should be tested after installation to make sure they are working properly and protecting the circuit.

To test the receptacle GFCI, first plug a nightlight or lamp into the outlet. The light should be on. Then, press the "TEST" button on the GFCI. The GFCI's "RESET" button should pop out, and the light should go out.

If the "RESET" button pops out but the light does not go out, the GFCI has been improperly wired. Contact an electrician to correct the wiring errors. If the "RESET" button does not pop out, the GFCI is defective and should be replaced. If the GFCI is functioning properly, and the lamp goes out, press the "RESET" button to restore power to the outlet.

Information in this article came from Consumer Products Safety Commission Document 99. As always, if you have any health, safety, or environmental questions, please feel free to contact me at 614-404-384 or bgarrison@sandesolutions.net.

Families Making Sense of Death

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- Identify themes of bereavement and family systems impact after suicide

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Sporting Clay Event

Thursday, October 28, 2010
Mad River Sportsman's Club, Bellefontaine, Ohio



Mad River Sportsman's Club has secured a reputation as the finest private outdoor sporting clays club in the Midwest. Open year-round, their courses have been shot by more industry leaders than any other in the country.

Not an avid hunter? No problem! All skill levels are welcome at this important PAC fundraising event! Come have fun and support OFDA's legislative efforts!

Single registrants welcome! We'll assign you to a squad.

What to Expect

Come enjoy camaraderie among your fellow OFDA members, or bring a non-member friend — everyone is welcome!

- Four-person squad
- A 12-station course
- 100 targets
- Prizes for skill
- Prizes for "lack of skill"
- Hot barbecue lunch
- Refreshments

Registration will begin at 9 a.m., with shooting to begin at 10 a.m.

Registration Fees

- \$125 for first registrant
- \$100 for each additional registrant

Event Sponsor

Feeling generous? Choose one of the major sponsorships for the day:

- Lunch Sponsor: \$1,000
- Refreshments: \$500
- Station Sponsor: Can't join us for the day, but would like to support PAC? Then sign up to be a station sponsor for \$150.

Gifts

Would you like to donate a gift for one of the prizes? A freebie for everyone in attendance? If so, please contact Diana or Melissa at the OFDA office (800-589-6332).

Signage on course and acknowledgement in *The Buckeye Director* will confirm your generosity as a sponsor.

Be sure to mark the date! Registration material will be mailed out soon.

PAC Contributors

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE 2010 PAC CAMPAIGN. YOU ARE STILL ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT PAC IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO THIS YEAR. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE PRUDENTLY ALLOCATED TO WORTHY CANDIDATES.

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ERMA J. (VIOLA) SKIVOLCKE MUNTEAN, 85, of Alliance, mother of Alliance funeral director Daniel T. Skivolocke, died on Sunday, July 11, 2010, at her home, following a courageous battle of 13 years with breast cancer. Always optimistic, she never complained and was confident she would win the battle. She remained upbeat and strong to the very end.

Erma was currently employed at Sharer-Stirling-Skivolocke Funeral Home, where she was proud to help her son provide funeral service to many Alliance-area families for 25 years. Her pleasant demeanor at the funeral home office or greeting guests at the door was always a comfort to those with whom she came in contact.

Erma was an excellent ballroom dancer. She enjoyed her weekends dancing with her husband, Monty, and their friends at many of the area dance halls. A very classy lady, she was always impeccably groomed, with never a hair out of place. Erma was dazzling, whether it was in her fine dresses and mink or just running down to the store. By her appearance, how she lived her life and her deep and abiding faith, she set a wonderful example for her children and friends.

She is survived by a son, Daniel T. Skivolocke of Alliance; a son and daughter-in-law, Larry E. and Pam Skivolocke of St. Clairsville, Ohio; a daughter, Lorna J. Mills of Irvine, California; three grandchildren, Leah, Louie and Luke; several nieces, nephews and cousins; and, of course, her beloved cat, Sonny.

Preceding her in death was her second husband, A. Monty Muntean, on April 7, 1986, whom she married on April 3, 1977; her parents, Pasquale and Angeline (DePerisco) Viola; a sister, Jennie Sarchione; a sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Art Calladine; and a brother, Donald Viola.

Memorial contributions may be made to Breast Cancer Research, 60 E. 56th St., 8th Floor, New York, NY 10022, www.bcrfcure.org.

DENNIS G. REED, age 67, of Canton, Ohio, passed away peacefully in the home on Sunday, July 4, 2010, following an extended illness. He was born in Canton on December 26, 1942, to the late Cledus and Eleanor (Shoup) Reed.

Denny was a 1960 graduate of Canton Lincoln High School and attended Malone College. He graduated Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 1964, where he later served the school as member and president of the Board of Trustees. Denny was a member of the National Funeral Directors Association; the Ohio Funeral Directors Association, District 16, (past president); and the International Order of the Golden Rule. He was a member of Perry Rotary Club (past president and Paul Harris Fellow); a past president of the Time Wasters Club and the Horseless Carriage Club; and a member of the William McKinley Lodge No. 431 F&AM, the Scottish Rite Valley of Canton, the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Stark County Historical Society, the Lincoln Alumni Association, the Malone College Pioneer Touchdown Club, the Shady Hollow Country Club and Christ Presbyterian Church of Canton.

For more than 46 years, Denny has continued the tradition, established by his father, of providing compassionate funeral care to a multitude of families in the Stark County area.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 45 years, Carol A. (Jones) Reed; their children, Elizabeth, Rebecca and Dennis Scott Reed; and his grandson, Jonathon. He is also survived by his sister, Lurene Gasser; his nephew, Shawn Richardson; and his stepmother, Lois J. Reed.

Memorial donations may be made to The Rotary Foundation, 14280 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL 60693, or visit www.rotary.org.

STEPHEN JOSEPH SCHRAMM JR., 86, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, formerly of Middletown, died Sunday, June 6, 2010, at home. He was born in Lancaster, Ohio, on March 10, 1924, to parents Stephen Joseph and Elsie (Hinkle) Schramm Sr. Joe was the former co-owner of Wilson-Schramm Memorial Home in Middletown, Ohio. He was a graduate of Cincinnati College of Embalming in 1948 and was a licensed funeral director and embalmer. Joe was a Little League coach, a World War II veteran of the United States Army Air Corps, a member of American Legion Post 218, a former member and past president of the Optimist Club and a member of the K of C. After retirement, he worked at several Myrtle Beach golf courses and was a past trustee of Elks Lodge #1771 in Myrtle Beach.

Mr. Schramm is survived by his wife, Babs Garnett Schramm; nine children, Joseph Schramm, Mary Lou Schramm, Daniel Schramm, John (Barbara) Schramm, Charles (Justi) Schramm, Ann (Todd) Ridley, James Schramm, Peggy Jo Schramm and William Schramm; his brother, Dick (Helen) Schramm; three stepchildren, Debbie (Steve) Lawson, Sheri (Jon) Wright and Janie (Scott) McAlister; 12 grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; three step-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association, 15120 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL 60693, or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Southern Ohio Chapter, Cincinnati, OH 45212.

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1901 Sayers & Scovill eight-column horse-drawn hearse. Professionally restored; currently on display in private museum. For information, contact Bill Peoples via e-mail at bill@cawleyandpeoples.com.

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SEEKING CANDIDATES

The OFDA Nominating Committee, under the chair of OFDA Immediate Past President Tom Fleming, is requesting members interested in seeking elective office as OFDA secretary, treasurer or president-elect for the 2011-2012 term to please submit a letter requesting an interview before the Nominating Committee. Please submit your letter to Attn: Tom Fleming, c/o OFDA, P.O. Box 21760, Columbus, OH 43221. All letters of intent must be received no later than December 17, 2010.

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Congratulations to Anderson Funeral Home, Franklin, for being named the 2010 Business of the Year by the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce.



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