

The Buckeye Director

A publication of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association

Spring 2011

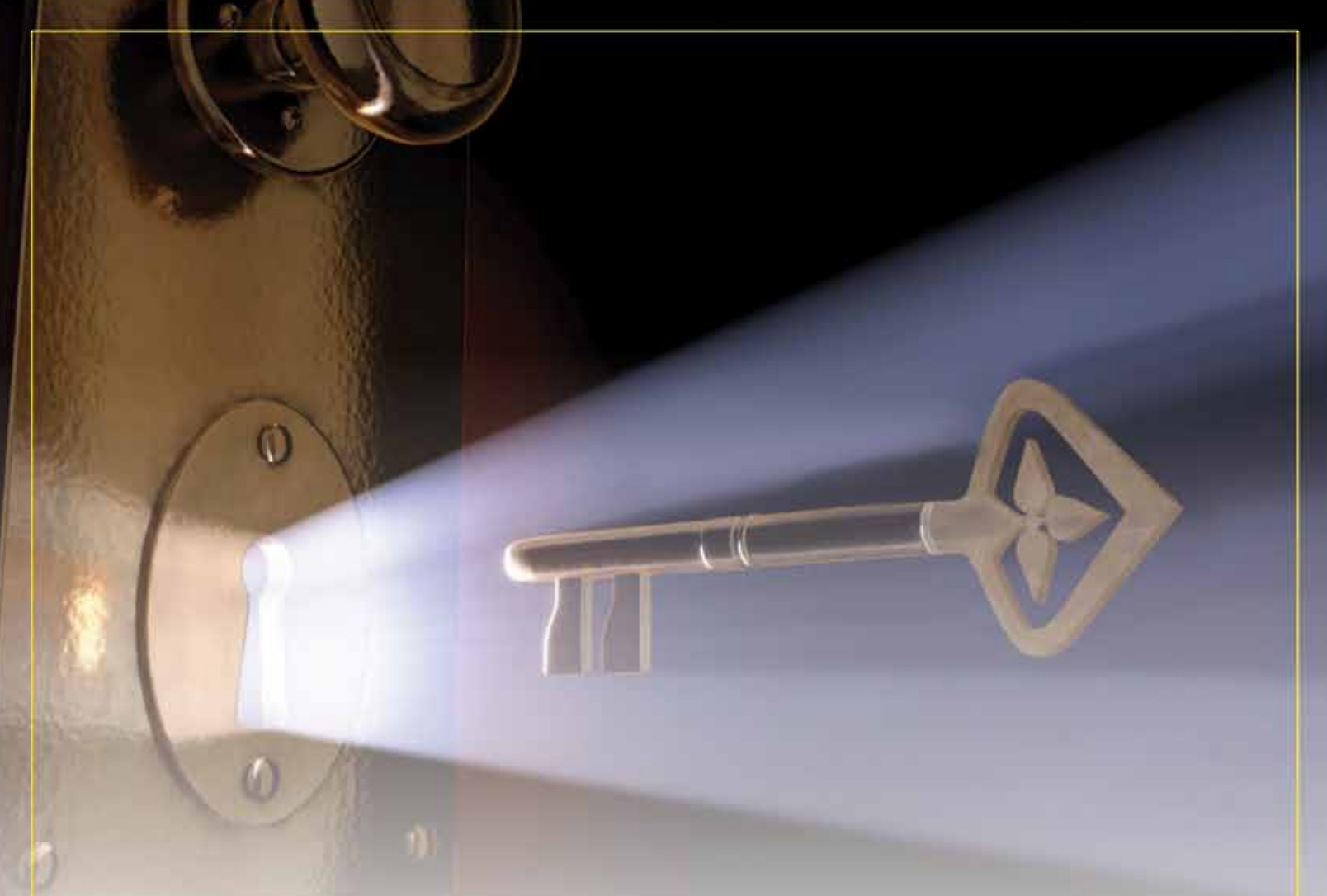
The 131st OFDA Annual Convention and Exhibition

April 26-28, 2011

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Overcoming Zoning Objections to Crematories on Funeral-Home Properties

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The Buckeye Director

Volume 3 • Issue 1

The Ohio Funeral Directors Association

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OFDA Mission Statement

To represent and support our membership
by promoting professional standards and excel-
lence 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:

June publication deadline is April 13, 2011
September publication deadline is July 13, 2011
December publication deadline is October 13, 2011

If your copy is not received by the deadline date, it will not be published.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.

The Buckeye Director is published by Innovative Publishing Ink, 10629 Henning Way, Suite 8, Louisville, KY 40241 • 502.423.7272

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The Power of Partnership

We all have had a couple of months now for setting and working on goals for the new year we are experiencing.

Everyone at OFDA is extremely busy preparing for this year's convention and continuing to meet the goals set by President Terry Reardon and the Executive Committee.

One of these goals that remains constant year after year is for the OFDA staff to constantly be conscious of our responsibility to partner successfully with our members. We recognize you have options available to you today in regards to membership in various funeral service organizations, and we truly value you as a member of one of the premier state associations in the country.

Mother Teresa once observed, "You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together, we can do great things." That may be one of the finest and most succinct definitions of partnership I have ever heard. John Maxwell, in his book *The 17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork*, uses an acronym to describe "Partner" that I would like to share with you that describes OFDA's pledge to our members.

- Put your needs first in every situation
- Add value to your membership constantly
- Recognize we serve a common goal
- Tailor our services to meet your needs
- Never take for granted the trust placed in us
- Embody trust in everything we do
- Respect everyone's uniqueness

Personally, I have always loved the concept of being a **PARTNER** in business relationships. It simply allows us to be more involved than merely being "customers" or even members. No matter how involved you are in OFDA, you are considered a partner as we develop programs and services for the benefit of funeral service in the state of Ohio.

I know there are things you can do better than me. I encourage you to share your skills and experience with your Association. Your partnership with OFDA is intrinsic to our future success!

Have a wonderful year, and may God continue to bless your service in your community.



Stephen J. Gehlert



MARCH

- 9-11 NFDA Advocacy Summit, Washington, D.C.
- 15 OFDA Legislative Reception, Vern Riffe Building, Third Floor Lobby, Downtown Columbus
- 15 Master Trust Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters
- 15 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters
- 23 Apprentice Seminar, OFDA Headquarters
- 25 Mortuary Response Team Policy Board Meeting, OFDA Headquarters

APRIL

- 25 Insurance Seminar, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 25 Master Training Seminar, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 25 Executive Committee Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 26 Board of Directors Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 26 Past Presidents Dinner, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 26-28 131st OFDA Convention, Columbus Convention Center & Hyatt Regency



Terry Reardon

Thank You

Thank you so much for the distinct honor of serving this association as its president. It has been a privilege and an experience I will never forget. I look forward to the upcoming year under the leadership of my friends, President-elect John Evans and his wonderful wife, Jennifer. I truly admire their commitment to funeral service; their passion for our profession will serve us well. I know John and the Convention Committee have been working hard to make our upcoming convention outstanding. Please plan to attend and remember to thank the volunteers on the Convention Committee, the OFDA staff and our exhibitors for making it all possible.

I find it so fitting that we end one year with OFDA and begin another in the spring, always close to Easter (there can't be a funeral director in the state who doesn't see the irony in that). What a fitting time. I have to congratulate whoever accidentally planned that.

I have learned so much during these past four years. I have had the privilege of serving with many of the finest funeral directors in our state, have gotten to know their families and have made so many good friends. What a gift!

One of the many lessons I have learned is that we as funeral directors must become our own advocates for funeral service. We must not be afraid of the cultural changes or the economic changes; we have to adjust and move on. I will begin by saying I have never turned away a family for economic reasons, and I have never gotten a note of thanks or a hug for doing things cheap. I have never heard anyone brag about how little they spent on a funeral, but I have had many families exalt in the beautiful services for their family member.

There is value in what we do, and we must realize our self-worth. I'd like to share a quote from one of my favorite authors, Mark Twain, from the year 1897: "We can secure other people's approval, if we do right and try hard: but our own approval is worth a hundred of it, and no way has been found of securing that."

The wisdom of these words written 114 years ago reminds me that times change, but people don't. It is human nature to want to memorialize our loved ones. Funeral service was not invented by a businessman — it has evolved from the beginning of time, thanks to people who had the compassion and intestinal fortitude to undertake the job of respectfully honoring the dead. People like us.

Let us commit to each other a common effort to provide and preserve the honor and dignity that human nature needs when they call on us.

I wish the very best to President-elect Evans and the incoming officers. Have a great year, and enjoy the experience; I certainly have.

Thank you all for making this year so great.

OFDA District Meeting

District 1
March 30, 2011
Annual OSHA Update
3-6 p.m.
3 CE
The Barn Restaurant,
22611 State Route 2,
Archbold, OH 43502
Open to all, no RSVP needed.

Cost for this meeting ONLY is \$50/firm (as many employees who want to go) or \$10/individual or retiree not affiliated with a funeral home.

Anyone with questions or to make a reservation may contact Gary Burr at 419-320-8913. CE hours have been applied for to the Ohio and Indiana boards.



Did You Miss Any of These Resources Published in 2010?

Eight Critical Questions for Mourners ... And the Answers That Will Help You Heal

Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD
\$18.95

*Healing After Job Loss – 100 Practical Ideas
Tips and Activities to Help You Understand and Transcend
Your Grief After the Loss of a Job*

Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD
\$11.95

The Mourner's Book of Hope – 30 Days of Inspiration

Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD
\$15.95

*The Widower's Toolbox – Repairing Your Life After Losing
Your Spouse*

Gerald J. Schaefer with Tom Bekkers, MSW, APSW
\$14.95*

The Wilderness of Suicide Grief – Finding Your Way

Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD
\$15.95

*Widows Wear Stilettos: A Practical and Emotional Guide for
the Young Widow*

Carole Brody Fleet with Syd Harried,
PhD, PsyD
\$14.95*

For complete descriptions of these items, plus other resources available through the OFDA Resource Center, check out the following Web pages:

- Centering Corporation – www.centering.org
- Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD – www.centerforloss.com
- Doug Manning – www.insightbooks.com
- *New Horizon Press – www.newhorizonpressbooks.com
- Sherry Williams-White – www.newleaf-resources.com
- James Miller – www.willowgreen.com

Visit the OFDA Booth at the 131st OFDA Annual Convention and Exhibition, April 26, 27 and 28, 2011.

One OFDA Resource Center order placed during convention will be FREE (maximum \$500)!

Available Discounts:

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

As always, please feel free to contact Janet Blankenship, OFDA resource coordinator, janet@ofdaonline.org, 614-486-5339 or 800-589-6332, fax 614-486-5358 or 800-507-1465 with any of your questions and/or comments.



Is the Number-Two Cause of Lung Cancer Lurking in Your Home?

For Less Than \$10, You Could Find Out

by Barb Garrison, MS, CHMM, President, Safety and Environmental Solutions, LLC

You can't see radon. And you can't smell it or taste it. But the surgeon general has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States today, killing approximately 21,000 people in the United States each year. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

Have you ever known someone who developed lung cancer but never smoked a single cigarette? Radon could be to blame.

Radon comes from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water, and it enters buildings via cracks in floors and foundation walls, or slab openings for sump pumps and plumbing. Radon can be found all over the United States, and it can get into any type of building — homes, offices and schools — and result in a high indoor radon level. But you and your family are most likely to get your greatest exposure at home, where you spend most of your time.

The amount of radon in the air is measured in picocuries per liter of air, or pCi/L. According to the EPA, it is wise to take action if testing shows 2 picocuries per liter or higher. It's best to test homes when they have low humidity and are closed, which is in the cooler months. Which makes NOW a good time to test your home.

Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk from radon. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the surgeon general recommend testing all homes below the third floor for radon. Testing is inexpensive and easy, and it should only take a few minutes of your time. The EPA recommends the following testing steps:

Step 1: Take a short-term test. Short-term tests remain in your home for two days to 90 days, depending on the device. There are many kinds of low-cost “do-it-yourself” radon test kits you can get through the mail and in hardware stores and other retail outlets. The Ohio Department of Health offers low-cost radon test kits that you can order directly from the following website: <http://www.radon.com/sub/oh/>. Or, if you prefer, or if you are buying or selling a home, you can hire a **qualified tester** to do the testing for you. A list of qualified testers in Ohio can be found at http://publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/Envlicense_Reports/reports/External_Report_Criteria.aspx?Program=Radon.

Follow the sampling instructions that accompany the test kit. Once you've finished the test, send it to the lab specified on the package right away for analysis. You should receive your test results within a few weeks. If your test result is 4 pCi/L or higher, take a follow-up test (Step 2) to verify your test results.

Step 2: Follow up with either a long-term test or a second short-term test:

- If you need results quickly, take another short-term test.
- For a better understanding of your year-round average radon level, take a long-term test. Long-term tests remain in your home for more than 90 days. A long-term test will give you a reading that is more likely to tell you your home's year-round average radon level than a short-term test.

The higher your initial short-term test result, the more certain you can be that you should take a short-term rather than a long-term follow up test. If your first short-term test result is more than twice the EPA's 4 pCi/L action level, you should take a second short-term test immediately.

Step 3: *If you followed up with a long-term test:* Fix your home if your long-term test result is 4 pCi/L or more. *If you followed up with a second short-term test:* The higher your short-term results, the more certain you can be that you should fix your home. Consider fixing your home if the average of your first and second test is 4 pCi/L or higher.

Have you ever known someone who developed lung cancer but never smoked a single cigarette? Radon could be to blame.

If your test results indicate that you need to fix your home, there are several proven radon-reduction systems that are not too costly. One common method used to decrease radon levels is a vent pipe system and fan, which pulls radon from beneath the house and vents it to the outside. This system, known as a soil suction radon-reduction system, does not require major changes to your home. Sealing foundation cracks and other openings makes this kind of system more effective and cost-efficient. Similar systems can also be installed in houses with crawl spaces. Radon contractors can use other methods that may also work in your home. The right system depends on the design of your home and other factors. For a more detailed discussion of radon-mitigation strategies, go to <http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/consguid.html>.

Information in this article was compiled from information available from the EPA (<http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/citguide.html>) and the Ohio Department of Health (<http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/rpradlic/radon.aspx>). If you have any other health, safety or environmental questions, please feel free to contact me at 614-404-3384 or bgarrison@sandesolutions.net.

Integrating the Internet

by Ben Kyle, CFSP, Stewart-Kyle Funeral Home, Hubbard, Ohio; OFDA Young Funeral Directors Committee Member

As spring approaches, there are a number of things that most of us get excited about: no more snow to shovel, summer is only a few short months away, and lastly, the OFDA Convention. I know that most people would rank the convention as the first thing they would think about in the spring, but I am from the northeast section of the state, and I am tired of shoveling snow.

On April 26, the convention will start once again; people from all across the state will gather to share ideas, knowledge and experience. It is very important that everyone who comes to convention realizes it is a learning experience, day or night. There is always some wonderful piece of information or technique that can be learned from your

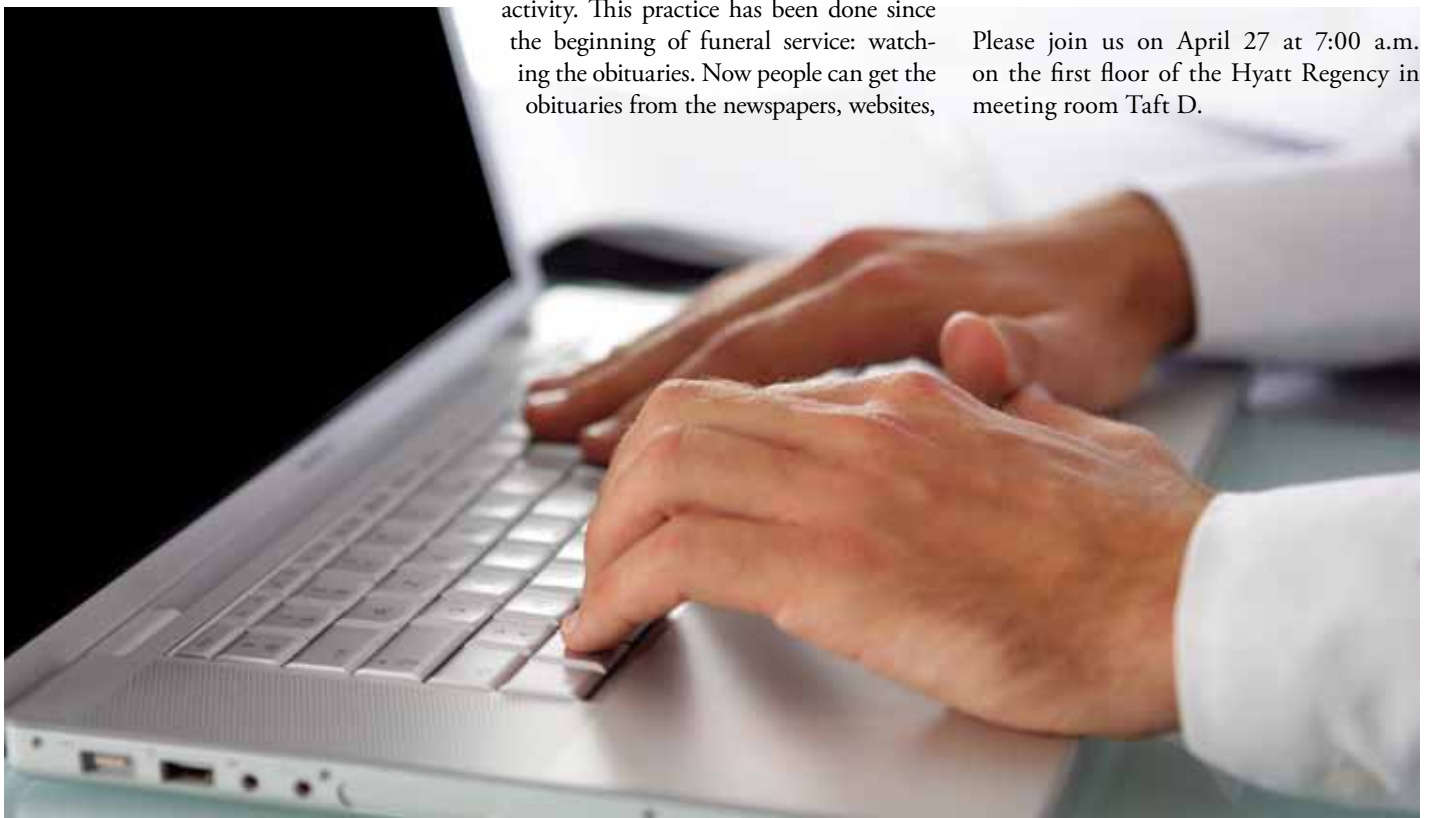
peers, young or old. As we continue to evolve into a technologically based society, funeral service is keeping up with the trends and is moving stride for stride with many other industries that have been behind the times. Like it or not, the funeral industry wasn't at the forefront of many new advances in technology, but our industry is reaping the benefits from how technology is improving our lives as funeral service providers.

The integration of the Internet into funeral service is one of the biggest advancements during the past decade. Utilizing the full power of the Internet is the main goal everyone should have, but having a funeral home website is a good start. Using your website to promote your business has been huge over the past few years: from simple to elaborate websites, they have been a gigantic step forward in the advancement of funeral service. With all of the social media tools available to the funeral home and Web presence, many people are now watching each funeral home's activity. This practice has been done since the beginning of funeral service: watching the obituaries. Now people can get the obituaries from the newspapers, websites,

e-mails and social media sites, just to name a few. It would be easy for our profession to neglect one of the most essential areas in our business. Writing the same boring obituary over and over, just changing the names and dates, can get a little old after a while. But now, there is a new evolution taking place — evolving the ordinary obituary into a story of someone's life, with intricate details that makes the person someone special.

To fully reinvent the way we all type obituaries would be nearly impossible, but to tweak the style that we use to create them is achievable. On April 27, at 7:00 a.m., the OFDA Young Funeral Directors Committee will be sponsoring Mr. Lajos Szabo as one of this year's early bird sessions at the convention. Mr. Szabo is a licensed funeral director working for Schoedinger Funeral and Cremation Service in central Ohio; and his presentation will explore all of the new ideas in evolving the traditional obituary into something so much more.

Please join us on April 27 at 7:00 a.m. on the first floor of the Hyatt Regency in meeting room Taft D.



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APRIL 26-28, 2011

THE 131ST OFDA ANNUAL CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION

Imagination @Work



Hyatt Regency and the Columbus Convention Center in Downtown Columbus

Convention at a Glance

Monday, April 25

7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Insurance Continuing Education Seminar
Instructor – Tom Holland
Ten hours of insurance continuing education credits, pending approval
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8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Master Training Seminar
Presented by OFDA Education Committee
Six hours of CEU
Hyatt Regency

6:00-9:00 p.m.

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614-486-5339.*

Tuesday, April 26

10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Registration
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

Noon-4:30 p.m.

General Session, Committee Award Recognition, Service of Remembrance, NFDA Update, OFDA State of the Association, Keynote Speakers Kizer and Bender
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

4:30-7:30 p.m.

Exhibition Hours
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

7:30-9:30 p.m.

CCMS Alumni Reception
Attention, Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science alumni! CCMS will be hosting an Alumni Reception — “Toasting the Decades.” All CCMS alumni are invited to reminisce with your peers and colleagues. During the evening, CCMS will recognize individuals graduating in the years 2001, 1991, 1981, 1971, and 1961.

Come and enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

The reception is in conjunction with the Ohio Funeral Directors Association's Annual Convention being held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The reception will take place in meeting rooms C110-112 across from Hall C, where the OFDA Convention will take place.

Wednesday, April 27

6:45-7:00 a.m.

Beverage Break for Early Bird Attendees
Taft Room, First Floor,
Hyatt Regency

7:00-8:00 a.m.

Early Bird Programs (3)
Taft Rooms, First Floor,
Hyatt Regency
One hour of CEU

7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Registration
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

8:30 a.m.-Noon

General Session, 50-Year Award Recognition, Recognition of OFDA Past Presidents, Keynote Speaker Scott Gilligan
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center
Two hours of CEU

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Complimentary Lunch on Exhibit Floor
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

Noon-4:00 p.m.

Exhibition Hours
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

5:30-6:00 p.m.

President's Celebration
Cocktail Reception
Hayes/McKinley Room,
First Floor, Hyatt Regency

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Installation of Officers and Dinner
Hayes/McKinley Room,
First Floor, Hyatt Regency

7:30-10:30 p.m.

Casino Night
Hayes/McKinley Room,
First Floor, Hyatt Regency

Thursday, April 28

8:00 a.m.

Registration
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

8:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center
Compliments of Matthews Casket Division

8:30-10:30 a.m.

Keynote Speaker
Robin Heppell, CFSP
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

8:30-10:30 a.m.

Keynote Speaker
Ken Whittaker
Meeting Rooms C120-122
Columbus Convention Center

10:30 a.m.-Noon

Exhibition Hours
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

11:00 a.m.-Noon

Complimentary Lunch on Exhibit Floor
Hall C, Columbus
Convention Center

2011 Convention Keynote Speakers

Tuesday, April 26 What Your Funeral Home Customers REALLY Want: Inside the Mind of the Consumer

Rich Kizer and Georganne Bender

Have you ever wondered what the potential customer on the telephone or standing in front of you is really there for? The obvious, of course, is that he or she needs what you sell. But what if he or she doesn't have an immediate need? What if the person is just testing the waters to see if you stack up for when the need truly arises?

Testing the waters — looking at businesses through the eyes of the consumer — is what retail anthropologists Rich Kizer and Georganne Bender do every day. And figuring out what funeral-home customers really want is at the top of their mystery shopping list.

To get inside the mind of the consumer, Kizer and Bender actually become them. Since 2005, Rich and Georganne have been posing as consumers and visiting funeral homes to see and experience, firsthand, what a consumer sees, hears and feels in the process of making funeral arrangements. They've visited funeral homes disguised as the typical customers you see every day: Well-dressed and a complete mess; wealthy and cash-challenged; nice and downright self-absorbed. And when they can't pull off a disguise, they find someone who can. In addition, Kizer and Bender host funeral-home-specific focus groups and one-on-one interviews with families. The result of their research is literally straight from the customer's mouth — solid, ground-level, in-the-trenches consumer intelligence that you can use today to better serve your own customers.

So, if you want to learn what customers expect from your funeral home, if you'd like to know what it takes to see your funeral home through your customers' eyes, and if you want to learn how your local perception affects your business, then you won't want to miss this customer-centric seminar!

Wednesday, April 27 Embalming Trial of the Century

T. Scott Gilligan, OFDA General Counsel

An embalming gone horribly wrong leads the prominent Blowdell family of Cleveland to sue Smith Funeral Home. Did embalmer

Smith botch the embalming of Bart Blowdell's remains, as maintained by the high-priced expert witness, or did other unknown factors beyond the control of the funeral home cause this nightmare? You and the rest of the audience serve as the jury who will decide the fate of Smith Funeral Home after listening to dueling experts and sniping attorneys in OFDA's Embalming Trial of the Century.

As the above teaser indicates, this two-hour workshop will recreate an embalming malpractice trial. The attendees, who will serve as the jury, will hear two expert witnesses provide different theories as to why an embalming went bad. They will also observe direct and cross-examination testimony and arguments from counsel. Then, using the jury instructions provided by the judge, they will render a verdict.

The workshop is designed to provide an interactive and firsthand experience of how funeral homes can be drawn into expensive and ruinous litigation. Following the trial and the verdict, the experts and the attorneys will review steps that the funeral home could have employed to greatly reduce its exposure, such as the use of embalming logs, embalming case reports, comprehensive embalming authorization forms, etc. The experts and the attorneys will also field questions from the audience regarding embalming malpractice and the use of forms.

Thursday, April 28 The Social Media & Funeral Service Success Formula: Using the Power of Social Media the Right Way

Robin Heppell, CFSP, Funeral Futurist
Hall C, Columbus Convention Center

With the rapid growth and popularity of online social media networks like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, many funeral directors are unsure what is the best way to harness the power of social media for their funeral home. Robin Heppell, who has been speaking throughout North America during the last four years about trends and technology, will provide an overview of the most popular social networks and share his best practices on using them to building relationships in your community without crossing the line.

The objective of this training session is to introduce the most popular social media networks, such as Facebook, YouTube,



LinkedIn and Twitter to funeral directors and how they can apply to funeral service — creating a strategy of how to implement them into their ongoing community outreach activities in the most effective yet efficient manner possible.

How to Get the Most Out of the Presentation

- Have an open mind
- Take notes for topics that apply to your situation
- Focus on the philosophy and strategy of relationship-building, and don't get too hung up on the technologies – the technologies are the tools of today; strategies will transcend generations
- Identify just one idea or strategy to implement and take action on

Thursday, April 28

A Different Approach to Everyday Embalming

Ken Whittaker, MIBIE, Pierce Companies

Meeting Room C120-122, Columbus Convention Center

This program will feature information from the importance of the legal considerations necessary when embalming has been autho-

riized to the professional and ethical approach of thorough case analysis to the complete preparation of every case.

Objectives of the course are: to emphasize the importance of everyone's responsibility in the preparation of the dead from a legal perspective; to stress the need for thorough case analysis with each embalming that is performed, from the least difficult case to the most complicated case; to address suggestions on dealing with some of the more complicated conditions encountered in embalming; and to demonstrate the use of a more thorough embalming approach for better cosmetic effect and an overall better "memory picture."

This program will enlighten everyone from the neophyte apprentice to the seasoned preparation-room veteran. The art of restricted cervical injection will be covered in detail, along with a look at the advantages of this technique.



2011 Convention Exhibitors (As of February 4, 2011)

1-800-AUTOPSY

ABM Funding, Inc.

Affordable Supply Company

American Coach Sales

American Funeral Financial

American Livery Services, Inc.

Astral Industries, Inc.

Aurora Casket Company

Batesville Casket Company

Behalt Casket, LLC

B & L Cremation Systems, Inc.

Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science

Cincinnati Equitable Life

Insurance Company

Clark Grave Vault

Classic Metal Vaults

Columbian Financial Group

Commemorative Rosaries

Contemporary Concepts, Inc.

Continental Computer Corp.

Crematory Manufacturing & Service

CT Communications – Message Center

Custom Air Trays

Deaton-Kennedy Company

Donate Life Ohio

Doric Burial Vaults

EckCo Products

Eckels

Ethel Maid Burial Garments

Facultative Technologies

Farnsworth Gowns

Federated Funeral Directors of America

Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company

Funeral Directors' Answering Service

Funeral Home Gifts

FuneralNet

Glass Remembrance

Great Western Insurance Company

Greek Catholic Union

Heaven's Gain

Hi-Tek Casket Distribution

Homesteaders Life Company

Inman Shipping Worldwide

Investors Heritage Life Insurance Company

Lamcraft, Inc.

L.C.B.A.

Matthews Casket Division

Meadow Hill Corporation

Messenger

Mid-America College of Funeral Service

Muster Coaches

National Cemetery Administration

National Mortuary Shipping

Oberers Flowers

Ohio Department of Health –

Office of Vital Statistics

Pekin Life Insurance Company

Pierce Companies

Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

Precious Memories

Safety & Environmental Solutions

Sauder Funeral Products

Science Care

Shiva Shade

Southland National

Insurance Corporation

SRS Computing

State Auto Insurance Companies

Stuart Burial Vaults

Terrapro

The Champion Company

The Dodge Company

Thirst Relief International

U.S. Cremation Equipment

Vantage Products Corp.

Walnut Creek Caskets

Whitehall Medical Supply

Wilbert Burial Vaults of Ohio

Zane Casket Company

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association will be held during the convention at the Columbus Convention Center in Hall C on Tuesday, April 26, 2011.

OFDA Committees Need You

OFDA's strength is truly in its members. We need interested individuals for the 2011-2012 OFDA committee assignments. A list of committees is available at www.ofdaonline.org, or call Diana at the OFDA office at 614-486-5339 or 800-589-6332. If you are interested in serving on a committee for the 2011-2012 year, please submit a letter with the committees listed you would like to join to the attention of President-elect John Evans, CFSP. Send the letter to OFDA, c/o Diana O'Neal, 2501 North Star Road, P.O. Box 21760, Columbus, OH 43221.



Recognition of OFDA Committee Members and 50-Year Licensees

OFDA members are recognized for volunteering on an OFDA Committee for five consecutive years. This year, we would like to acknowledge:

Joan Billman, CFSP, Ashtabula

Convention Committee/Member Services Committee

Jim Dempsey, Springfield

Mortuary Response Team Policy Board

John Evans, CFSP, Norwalk

Member Services Committee

Justin Kaszowski, Austintown

Education Committee/Scholastic Assistance Committee

Poul Lemasters, Cincinnati

Education Committee

David Morrow, Washington CH

Convention Committee

Tom Priesman, Port Clinton

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Jill Pugh, Columbus

Young Funeral Directors Committee

Terry Reardon, Youngstown

Finance & Audit Committee/Task Force Committee

Joe Vaughn, Ripley

OSHA/EPA Committee

Bob Wasko, Campbell

Legislative Committee

Second Five-Year Committee Awards

Mark Merz, CFSP, Holland

Membership Committee/Task Force Committee

Recognition of 50-Year Award Recipients

Roger S. Berry Sr., Westlake

Harold Bogner, Bonita Springs, Florida

David Arthur Boyer, Waverly

George Brown, Hamilton

Thomas Burke, Bremen

John Carey, Cleveland

Donald Chiles, Lima

John Dilley, Mount Vernon

Robert Gresser, Orrville

Mercene W. Hanneman, Bowling Green

William P. Hempel, Amherst

John F. Malloy, Cleveland

Robert Marcy, Conneaut

James L. Marshall, Shaker Heights

Larry Nafzger, Reynoldsburg

Thomas Phillips, Ironton

Robert Potti, North Madison

Charles Scott, Toledo

Richard Stewart, Cincinnati

G. William Thompson, White Cottage

David Tobias, Dayton

Dianne Toronski, Garfield Heights

Mary Rebold Williams, Cincinnati

Meet the Candidates

The OFDA Nominating Committee wanted to give the membership the opportunity to see and learn about the slate of candidates to be voted on at the annual OFDA Convention in April. The Nominating Committee met on January 19, 2011, and voted to recommend the following:



For the Position of President-Elect
Mark A. Merz, CFSP, Neville Funeral Home, Holland

It has been a privilege to demonstrate my commitment to funeral service for the past 20 years. Currently, I am employed as a location manager for Neville Funeral Homes in Toledo and Holland, Ohio. This past year, I served as treasurer for the Ohio Funeral Directors Association, was a member of the Constitution & Bylaws and Master Trust committees and chaired the Finance & Audit and Task Force committees. In prior years, I have had the honor to serve OFDA as secretary and as Northwest Ohio regional director and was active in the Constitution & Bylaws, Membership, Task Force and Master Trust committees. Locally, I have been appointed to the Lucas County Cemetery Commission and have eagerly served in all facets of leadership for the Northwest Ohio Funeral Directors Association, District #6 and the Eleanor Kahle Senior Center. It has been an honor to serve northwest Ohio both locally and at the state level. It has afforded me many opportunities of growth, both personally and professionally.



For the Position of Treasurer
Anthony J. Quahliero Jr., Kirila Funeral Home, Struthers

Anthony J. Quahliero Jr., manager of Kirila Funeral Home, Struthers, is a licensed funeral director and embalmer in Ohio and Pennsylvania and has been licensed for 31 years. Anthony currently serves as OFDA secretary; he also held the position of Northeast regional director and various other committees

with OFDA, especially the Mortuary Response Team, and serves on the MRT Policy Board. Anthony was a 1979 graduate of the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, and he was licensed in Pennsylvania in 1980, and then in Ohio in 1988. He has served on many civic organizations, along with some government agencies over the years. He is a past president and assistant governor of

Struthers Rotary Club and Rotary District 6650, a past president of the Struthers School Foundation for Educational Excellence, Knights of Columbus, Wolves Den VI of Youngstown, Eagles Club and the federal government's Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, serving on the Family Assistance Team. He is married to the former Melanie J. Beil and he has three children and five stepchildren.



For Position of Secretary
Joan Billman, CFSP, Funeral Director/H.R. Manager, Fleming & Billman Funeral Directors, Inc., Ashtabula, Jefferson and Geneva

A first-generation funeral director, I have been licensed since 1992, working alongside my husband, funeral director/embalmer Bob Billman. We purchased our first funeral home in Ashtabula from Jack W. Ross in 1995,

Kennedy Funeral Home in Geneva in 1997 and then merged with Tom Fleming in Jefferson in 2005. I received my CFSP certification last year. We are also owner partners in the Family Care Group, Inc. a funeral service cooperative.

I served as president of District 19 for two years and am currently the Northeast regional director of OFDA. I have actively served on the Convention and Membership Services committees of OFDA since 2006. I am serving in my second year as president of the Board of Directors of LEADERShip Ashtabula County, of which I am a 1997 graduate, and also served on many community boards, including Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Gilda's Club, as well as many positions of leadership in the First United Methodist Church of Ashtabula. I have also been very active in various other local community projects, including school consolidation and new build projects for our local school system.

Bob and I have two adult sons: Chris, age 28, of Cleveland and, Nick, age 24, of Ashtabula.



For the Position of President
John W. Evans, CFSP, Evans Funeral Home, Norwalk

John is currently president-elect and will automatically assume the president's position.

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Service of Remembrance

A traditional event of the convention is the Service of Remembrance. OFDA pays tribute to all members and their immediate family members who have died during the year. The Service of Remembrance will be held on Tuesday, April 26, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The service will be held in Hall C, located at the Columbus Convention Center. Immediately following the service, OFDA will host a reception (located in Meeting Room C110-111) for the families attending the Service of Remembrance.

Listed are the individuals who will be remembered during the service (January 31). If you know of someone we've missed, please call Diana O'Neal at the OFDA office at 614-486-5339 or 800-589-6332. She can also be reached via e-mail at diana@ofdaonline.org.

Lois E. Arend, Columbus
Carol M. Bandsuh, Chardon
Elizabeth Z. Barkdull, Shelby
Harriet Barrett, North Canton
Gerald L. Burger, Williamsburg
Marcel Craciun, Cleveland
Lois M. Feucht, Navarre
Ruth E. Gedert, Clyde
Joseph F. Golubski, D.O., Cleveland
Dorothy M. Gottfried, Willard
Robert E. Harden Jr., Perrysburg
Donald G. Helmkamp, Delphos
Edward J. Hriczo, Parma
John P. Hughes, Youngstown
John A. Jeffries, Round-O, South Carolina
David M. Kopchak, Port Clinton
Sophie S. Mallchok, Parma
Neal F. Maurer, Wooster/Fort Myers, Florida

Florence Meyer, Cincinnati
Marlin E. Mock, Defiance
Nancy J. Nickels, Cleveland
Pauline G. Oliver, Greenville
John S. Porter, Mt. Sterling
Dr. Carl M. Quick Sr., Mansville
Dennis G. Reed, Canton
Nedra J. Rettig, Leetonia
Florence Scerba, Lakewood
S. Joseph Schramm Jr., Middletown/Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Erma J. (Viola) Skivolocke Muntean, Alliance
Mary A. Sowers, Piqua
Joseph L. Stevers, Grove City
Sidney Lee Tackett, Bainbridge
Marjorie J. Wappner, Mansfield
Cher Weil, Cincinnati
Bernadine Winegardner Stenson, New Lexington



Dear Friends,

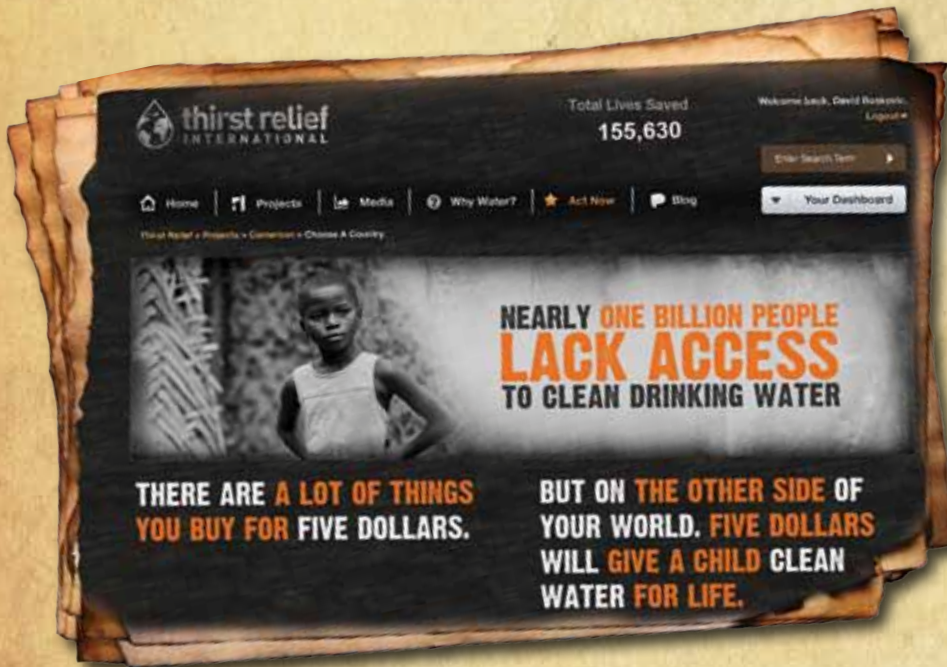


I am so excited to announce to you the new interactive www.thirstrelief.org. We created a website that invites you on a journey, a journey to change the world! Adopt specific water projects, locations, set financial goals, create your own fundraiser and invite friends to participate with you via facebook, email and more. Track your progress, print your giving receipts, buy Thirst Relief merchandise, shop for birthdays, anniversaries and more and read reports direct from the field. Best of all, see your long-term global impact and effort at changing the world!

I invite you to take a look at the site, take a look at the lives of those in need, take a look at your life and get serious about making an impact in the lives of those who so desperately need our love and care. A simple gift of \$5 can provide clean water which is the foundation for life, health, community development, micro business and the escape from death, cyclical disease and poverty.



Jim Davis-Hicks
Founder and President



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- Print your giving history receipts at any time
- For questions about the Thirst Relief program and how to get involved contact: melissa@ofdaonline.org



OVERCOMING ZONING OBJECTIONS TO CREMATORIES ON FUNERAL-HOME PROPERTIES

by T. Scott Gilligan, OFDA General Counsel



T. Scott Gilligan

Although today's cremation retorts are smaller, quieter, more efficient and less intrusive than older models, it is a safe bet one or more nearby property owners will object if a funeral home seeks to construct a new crematory on funeral-home property. Especially for funeral homes operating in residential areas, opposition from neighbors to a crematory can almost be guaranteed. Oftentimes, alarmed by misinformation and unwarranted fears, neighbors will storm en masse into zoning hearings or hire attorneys to file nuisance lawsuits to stop construction of crematories or enjoin the operation of an existing crematory.

One Ohio funeral home found itself in that latter position when a neighbor alleged the crematory the funeral home had constructed in 2005 was in violation of a local zoning ordinance requiring a 30-foot setback from a neighboring property. Although the funeral home had operated the crematory for four years, attorneys for a residential neighbor complained to the Zoning Board about the 30-foot setback. The Zoning Board issued a Notice of Violation, and the legal battle started.

Although the proceedings before the Zoning Board and the courts still have to be played out, the funeral home and its attorney did raise an argument that may assist other funeral homes across Ohio that wish to place a crematory on funeral home property. The argument is based on the zoning concept of "accessory use."

Zoning ordinances authorize property owners to use their property for its principal use. For example, property in a residential zoning area may include a house in which the property owner may reside. In addition to constructing buildings on the property that are consistent with the principal use of the property, zoning ordinances also permit structures that have an "accessory use" to the principal use. Accessory uses are uses of land that are found on the same parcel as the principal use but are subordinate and incidental to the principal use.

In an area that is zoned residential, examples of an accessory use would include a detached garage, a storage shed, a fence and even satellite dishes. All of these structures are normal and customary uses a property owner in a residential area would use in connection with his house.

Oftentimes, zoning ordinances may cite a few examples of an accessory use but rarely include an exhaustive list. To determine whether a structure falls under the accessory-use exception, zoning boards may employ a three-part test that looks at: (1) whether the accessory use is conducted on the same lot as the principal use, (2) whether the accessory use is customarily found in connection with

the principal use and (3) whether there is a unity of ownership between the principal use and the accessory use.

In the zoning case referenced above, the funeral home will be able to maintain and operate its crematory if it can establish it is an accessory use. The property occupied by the funeral home permits the establishment and operation of a funeral home. What the owner has to establish is the construction of a crematory on funeral-home property constitutes an accessory use would not be subject to the 30-foot setback rule.

Taking a look at the three-part test referenced above, the funeral home fulfills the first prong, since the crematory is constructed on the same lot as the funeral home. With regard to the third prong, the corporation that owns the funeral home also owns the crematory. While the crematory is operated under a different name, that should not take away from the fact there is unity of ownership between the principal and accessory uses, since both the funeral home and the crematory are owned by the same corporation.



The second prong of the three-part test, which asks whether the accessory use is customarily found with the principal use, will be the critical question before the Zoning Board and in subsequent court cases. In this regard, a 1997 Ohio Court of Appeals case from Portage County will be very helpful. In the case of *Conrad v. Babcock*, a funeral home operated in a residential zoning district. However, since the funeral home predated the enactment of the zoning code, the funeral home was grandfathered in as a non-conforming use.

The owner of the funeral home requested zoning approval for an addition to the existing funeral-home building. The addition would add a new garage and office space. In the current garage, the funeral home intended to install a new crematory. At a zoning hearing, a number of residents of the neighborhood had no problem with the proposed addition to the building but opposed installing the crematory in the existing garage. Although the Zoning

Board granted the funeral home's permit, that decision was overturned by a court of common pleas. The matter then ended up in an appellate court.

One of the issues before the court of appeals was whether the crematory was an "accessory use" to a funeral home. The court noted that the legislature used broad terms in defining a "funeral home" in Section 4717.01 of the Revised Code. Based on that language, it concluded a funeral home could include a crematory as an accessory use. Therefore, the appeals court reversed the trial court and granted the funeral home its permit to construct the crematory as an accessory use.

In addition to the helpful decision of *Conrad v. Babcock*, a funeral home could also rely on Section 4717.06 of the Revised Code, which was enacted one year after the *Conrad v. Babcock* decision. That statutory section places the licensing of cremation facilities

under the Ohio Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors. In subsection 4717.06 (D) (4) of the Ohio Revised Code, the statute provides nothing in Chapter 4717 precludes the establishment or operation of a crematory facility on or adjacent to the property of a funeral home. While this statutory section would not override conflicting zoning ordinances, it offers further evidence the legislature believes a crematory is an accessory use to a funeral home.

OFDA will continue to monitor this lawsuit and other lawsuits involving the construction and operation of crematories by funeral homes in restricted zoning areas. If any member has a question regarding this matter, please contact General Counsel T. Scott Gilligan at 513-871-6332.

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Lois Elaine Echols Arend died October 27, 2010. She is survived by her husband, Thomas Weir Arend, and their daughter, Ashley Elaine Arend, of the Weir Arend Funeral Home, Columbus, Ohio.

Harriet (Todd) Barrett, 102, of North Canton, Ohio, died on Friday, October 8, 2010, at Alliance Community Hospital in Alliance, Ohio. She was the mother of North Canton Ohio funeral director Donald Barrett.

She was born on January 7, 1908, in New York City to the late Ambrose C. and Hanna C. (Peterson) Todd.

Mrs. Barrett had lived most of her life in the Pine Beach, New Jersey, area, and most recently had resided at Copeland Oaks in Sebring, Ohio.

Survivors include two sons, Robert Barrett of Fair Oaks, California and Donald (Jane) Barrett of North Canton, Ohio; her grandchildren, David Barrett, Susan Sullivan and Kate Barrett; two additional grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Robert W. Barrett, on December 19, 1987; her parents; and a sister, Elizabeth.

Memorial contributions may be made to Copeland Oaks Foundation, 800 South 15th Street, Sebring, OH 44672.

Gerald L. "Jerry" Burger died Sunday, December 26, 2010, at the age of 60. He was a lifetime resident of Williamsburg, Ohio.

Jerry was a licensed funeral director since 1974. Jerry retired from Evans Funeral Home, Milford and Goshen, Ohio. He also worked as a funeral director for Craver Hookum Funeral Home in Milford, E.C. Nurre Funeral Home in Amelia and Burger Riggs Funeral Home in Mount Orab, Ohio.

He loved his hometown of Williamsburg. Jerry served on the Village Council and was on the Williamsburg Township Zoning Board. He served as an auxiliary officer for the Williamsburg Police Department and was a lieutenant on the Williamsburg Fire Department for 25 years. Jerry also loved classic cars. He belonged to Clermont Social Masonic Lodge #29 and the Scottish Rite, Valley of Cincinnati.

He was the beloved husband of Julie Retzler Burger, and he is survived by his uncle Carl (Nora) Burger, several cousins and many friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Louis and Verna Burger.

Jerry wished that memorials be made to the Bone Marrow Unit at Jewish Hospital in Kenwood or the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society.

Marcel Gerard "Marcy" (Rocawich) Craciun, 52, died in November. She was the beloved and treasured wife for 30

years of Jim; the beloved mother of Noelle (Jake) Fitzpatrick, Jason, Jonathan, Jesse and Nicolas; the loving daughter of Robert and Annette; the dearest sister of Robert (Mary) and Edward (Sarah); and the loving sister-in-law, aunt, cousin and friend of many. She was a member of the OLMC Sacred Heart Sodality and president of the Edgewater Homeowners Association. The family suggests contributions may be made to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 6928 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, 44102.

Dorothy M. Gottfried, 99, of Tiffin and Upper Sandusky, passed away Friday afternoon, January 14, 2011, at Elmwood at the Shawhan. Dorothy was Dave Gottfried's mother; Dave was the former owner of Hoffmann-Gottfried Funeral Home in Tiffin, Ohio.

On May 22, 1911, in Crawford Township, Wyandot County, she was born to Harrison B. and Lottie (Courtad) Feeley. She married Dale E. Gottfried on June 10, 1935, at Trinity United Church of Christ in Upper Sandusky.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Dave and Pat Gottfried of Willard and Tiffin; two grandsons, Eric "Rick" and Cathy Gottfried and Scott and Kristine Gottfried, both of Tiffin; five great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Jane Frank of Upper Sandusky; a nephew, Jason Traxler; and three nieces, Carol Lee, Connie Frank and Brenda

Jones. She was the matriarch of a five-generation family.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Dale, on October 6, 1993; and a sister, Mildred Failor.

Mrs. Gottfried was a member of Trinity United Church of Christ in Upper Sandusky; past matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Warpole Chapter 366; and a member of the Upper Sandusky Mother's Club. She had worked at Commercial Savings Bank in Upper Sandusky, Harpster Fairhaven Home and the Wyandot County Treasurer's Office. She was a talented and gifted china painter for many years.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Trinity United Church of Christ in Tiffin or Upper Sandusky, Community Hospice Care or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Robert E. Harden Jr., 59, of Perrysburg, died Saturday, January 1, 2011, at Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Perrysburg, after a brief illness. He was born in Camden, New Jersey, on November 27, 1951, to Robert E. and Ruth (Keller) Harden Sr. He married Tamara J. Shank in Perrysburg on May 3, 1992.

Bob grew up in Haddonfield, New Jersey, and while in high school and college, he worked with his father at Robert J. Hoffer Co. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, with a bachelor of science (BS) degree in management in 1976 and from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, New Jersey, with a master of business administration (MBA) degree in 1982. He was corporate secretary for the New Jersey Bankers Association from 1977 to 1987, became the assistant executive director of the National Funeral Directors Association in June 1987 and then served as the executive director from June 1988 to April 2001, where he received his Certified Association Executive distinction. From January 2002 through May 2005, he was the chief operating officer at the Toledo Zoological Society and served as consultant to the zoo from June 2005 through May

2006 while he was establishing his company, Harden Development, LLC, as well as working in commercial and industrial real estate sales. On March 23, 2009, he accepted the position of executive director with the Historic Woodlawn Cemetery. He had also served on the Perrysburg Board of Zoning Appeals. Bob was a member of several realtor associations.

Surviving are his wife, Tamara S. Harden; his mother, Ruth K. Harden; his son, James W. Harden; his daughter, Sarah E. Harden; his granddaughter, Lia E. Fletcher; his brother, William K. (Jeannie) Harden; his in-laws, Clara and Robert Shank Sr.; his sister-in-law, Karen S. Sliter, and her husband, David; his brother-in-law, Robert L. Shank Jr., and his wife, Tonya; his nieces, Morgan Shank, Katrina, Jessica, Jacqueline and Stephanie Sliter; his nephew, Robert L. Shank III; and their dog, Molly. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert E. Harden Sr.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice of Northwest Ohio in support of the Animal Care Fund or the Toledo Area Humane Society, 1920 Indian Wood Circle, Maumee, OH 43537.

John P. Hughes, 87, died on Saturday, November 6, 2010, at the Regina Health Center in Richfield. Mr. Hughes was born May 25, 1923, in Youngstown, the son of James J. and Mary A. Lyons Hughes.

He graduated from Ursuline High School in 1941 and was the president of his senior class. Mr. Hughes attended Duquesne University and graduated from Cleveland Institute of Mortuary Science. He served as a navigator in B17 in the 8th Air Force, serving in England during World War II in 1945, and he was honorably discharged.

Mr. Hughes joined the McVean Funeral Home in 1945, and in 1968, he became president and owner with his wife, Mary Louise, of the McVean & Hughes Funeral Home.

Mr. Hughes was a member of St. Edward Church; a member of the Mahoning,

Trumbull, Columbiana County Funeral Directors Association, OFDA, the National Funeral Directors Association, Elks Club 55 and Knights of Columbus 274; a former Board of Trustees member at St. Elizabeth Health Center; a former Board of Trustees member at AAA; and a former Board of Trustees member at the Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Youngstown. In 2001, he received the Mother Magdalen Award from the Sisters of the Humility of Mary.

His wife, the former Mary Louise McVean, whom he married May 5, 1945, died November 5, 2007. Besides his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by two brothers, the Rev. James E. Hughes and the Rev. Frances J. Hughes; and a sister, Sr. Mary Francis Hughes, C.S.J. Mr. Hughes is survived by six children, Carol A. (Phil) Rigney of Dallas, John Michael (Linda) Hughes of Madison, Alabama, James E. (Suzanne) Hughes of Hudson, Corrine H. (John) Crane of Palm Beach Garden, Florida, Kathleen H. (Douglas) Allen of Alexandria, Louisiana, and Anne M. Hughes of Atlanta; 11 grandchildren, Shannon Rigney, Brendan Rigney, Gregory Hughes, Lauren (Hughes) Glass, Kevin Hughes, Colleen Hughes, Kara Hughes, Melissa (Crane) Melvin, Molly (Crane) Maffett, Brian Allen and James Allen; and one brother, George T. Hughes of St. Louis.

The family requests that memorial tributes take the form of contributions to Catholic Charities of Diocese of Youngstown, 144 Wood Street, Youngstown, OH 44503 or the Beatitude House, 287 Lora Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44504.

John Arnold Jeffries, 63, of Round-O, South Carolina, beloved husband of Peggy E. Jeffries, died on Sunday, October 17, 2010, at Medical University of South Carolina. John was the father of Tami Egbert and the father-in-law of Jeffrey Egbert, owner of Egbert Funeral Home, Mount Orab, Ohio.

John was born on November 24, 1946, in Fayetteville, West Virginia, the son

of Lucille Tomlin Jeffries of Fayetteville, West Virginia, and the late William Echols Jeffries. He was the owner of Jeffries Strawberry Farm and was a mason in the Omar Shrine Temple of Charleston. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a lifetime member of the American Legion. He was a member of Edgewood Baptist Church. He loved woodworking, hunting and fishing. He was a wonderful husband and father to his family. He was the sales manager for Holland Pump and Dewatering Services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: The Gideons, P.O. Box 140800, Nashville, TN 37214-0800.

Surviving in addition to his wife and mother are: three daughters, Tami Lyn Egbert (Jeff) of Cincinnati, Ohio, Tanna Reagan (Scott) of Savannah, Georgia, and Angela Jeffries of St. Augustine, Florida;

four grandchildren, Brianna Reagan, Tyler Reagan, Lyndsei Groce and Sydney Groce; four brothers, William "Bud" Jeffries, Gary "Gert" Jeffries, Richard "Rick" Jeffries and Dwayne "Buckshot" Jeffries, all of Fayetteville, West Virginia; and one sister, Tina "Sissy" Moore of Fayetteville, West Virginia. He was predeceased by his son, William "Billy" Groce, and his brother, Dennis "Denny" Jeffries.

David M. "Bib" Kopchak, 47, of Port Clinton died Saturday, December 4, 2010, at Firelands Regional Medical Center, Sandusky, Ohio. He was born April 1, 1963, in Sandusky, the son of the late Andrew and Inez (Chura) Kopchak.

Bib was a funeral director for the Peninsula and Port Clinton chapels of Neidecker, LeVeck & Crosser Funeral Home, he was

previously a funeral director at Gerner & Wolf Funeral Home; Port Clinton and a partner with Gerner-Wolf-Kopchak Funeral Home, Port Clinton, until 1999.

He was a 1981 graduate of Danbury High School, a 1985 graduate of Duquesne University and a 1986 graduate of Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science. He married Jo Ahrens on June 16, 1990, and she survives. He owned the UPS Store in Port Clinton until 2006. He was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Port Clinton and St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Marblehead. He was a eucharistic minister at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, a member of the Finance Committee and previously served on the Immaculate Conception School Board, and he was the board president for three years. He served on the Port Clinton City Schools Citizens Advisory Committee, the Strategic Planning Facilities Action Team and the Bond Issue Committee. He was a board member of Ottawa County Transit Authority and a member of the Colonial Club and Port Clinton Rotary, where he was a past president. He previously was a member of the Port Clinton Yacht Club and the Nor'Easter Club.

Surviving are his wife, Jo; his sons, Karl S. and Drew E., both at home; his sister, Kathleen Kopchak of Port Clinton; and his brothers, Allen Kopchak of Port Clinton and Ronald Kopchak of Pleasant Garden, North Carolina.

Memorial contributions may be given to Immaculate Conception Church, Immaculate Conception School or to the family in care of Karl and Drew Kopchak.



Sophie S. Mallchok (née Sedlacko), age 90, died on January 4, 2011. She was the beloved wife of Michael Sr. (deceased); the loving mother of Michael Jr. (Cathryn), Susan Karla (Paul), Jean Moran (James), Jane Leathers (Timothy), Mary Jo Mallchok (David Viglione) and Christine Robey (fiancé John McAngus); the devoted baba of Constance Mallchok,

Matthew Mallchok, Joseph Mallchok and Theresa Balint (Matthew); Elizabeth Dapp (Jason), Andrew Karla (Mary), Margaret Gadzic (Denis) and Stephen Karla (Hali); Kathleen Moran, Christopher Moran, Patricia Moran and Emily Moran; Rachel Lloyd (Charles) and Sarah Leathers; and Vincent Viglione, Sophia Viglione and Brandon Robey; the cherished great-baba of Charles, William and James Dapp; Bailey, Matthew Jr. and Piper Mallchok; Daniel and Julia Gadzic; Landon, Cohler and Mackenzie Jo Lloyd; and Sydney Balint; the daughter of Joseph and Mary (née Gonda) Sedlacko (both deceased); and the dear sister of Margaret Kopacko, Irene Sedlacko, Dorothy Sedlacko, John Sedlacko and the following deceased: Mary Fedorchak, George Sedlacko, Kathryn Slanina, Agnes Honeychuck and Joseph Sedlacko.

Memorial contributions would be appreciated to The Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104.

Florence V.J. (née Bohmer) Meyer passed away surrounded by her family on Thursday, December 2, 2010, at 96 years of age.

She was the beloved wife of the late Vincent J. Meyer; the loving mother of Roger (Mary Ann), Allan (Elaine), Greg (Paula) Meyer and Marian (Gary) Koester; the devoted grandmother of Marlene Meyer (Greg Britton), Elizabeth (Mark) Ehrler, Jeff (Jessica), Keith, Allison Meyer, Aleisa (William) Yusko, Sarah (Dan) Ward, and Joseph and Emily Koester; the step-grandmother of Matthew (Heather) Meyer, Eric (Merideth) Fix, Tina (James) McClain, Julie (Ben) Weiss and Caryn (Andy) Hogan; the great-grandmother to 16; and the dear sister of Mary Ann (John) Northrop, Jane (Jack) Favret and Harry (Betsy) Bohmer.

Florence, among other things, was a licensed funeral director and owner of B.J. Meyer Sons Funeral Home with her husband, Vincent J., her son Greg and her grandson Keith.

The family requests memorials be directed to either Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati, 1802 W. Galbraith Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45239, or the Vincent J. Meyer Scholarship Fund, c/o Elder High School, 3900 Vincent Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45205-1699.

Marlin "Stub" Edward Mock, 77, of Defiance, died October 27, 2010, in his residence after a lengthy illness. He was born May 21, 1933, to Wanda (Hananekrath) and Clyde Mock. He was funeral director at Mast Mock Hoffman for 37 years, where he became co-owner in 1960, becoming president in 1988 until his retirement in 1992.

Marlin was a 1951 graduate from Ayersville High School. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving in Special Services at Fort Lee, Virginia. After his enlistment with the Army, he attended Defiance College for two years, then going on to Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science, graduating in 1958. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church. He also was past secretary of the Board of Directors and past president of the Defiance Lions Club; a lifetime member of the American Legion Post #117, where he served on the Board of Control; Omega Masonic Lodge; and the Defiance Elks Lodge.

On December 19, 1954, he married Nancy Mast, who survives. Also surviving are his daughters, Julie (Nathan) Wright of Oak Harbor, Ohio, Jenny (Richard) Darr of Jackson, Georgia, and Jane (Larry) Schaffer of Oregon, Ohio; his grandchildren, Mike (Jenny) Cordray; Staci (Sean) Zolkoski; Kelly, Zach and Ryan Darr; Rachel, Lauren and Jacob Schaffer; and his great-grandchildren, Colton, Addison and Zoe.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son-in-law, James Cordray; and his sisters, Pauline Nissen, Juanita Nissen and Beverly Wiler.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Parkview Home Health & Hospice, P.O. Box 728, Kendallville, IN 46755 or Down

Syndrome Association of NE Indiana, P.O. Box 13611, Fort Wayne, IN 46865.

Pauline G. Oliver, 97, of Greenville, passed away early Sunday morning, January 16, 2011, at Sterling House in Greenville.

She was born December 13, 1913, in Greenville Township, Darke County, daughter of the late Ernest and Sadie (Katzenberger) Ault. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Gladden C. Oliver, on July 8, 1985, and a daughter, Charlotte Spencer.

Pauline was a licensed funeral director in the state of Ohio for more than 50 years. In 1944, Pauline and her husband, Gladden, started the Oliver Funeral Home in Ansonia. In 1958, they expanded with the addition of the funeral home in Greenville. She was a member of the EUM Church in Greenville and was a former member of the Greenville Music Club.

She is survived by two sons, Benton (Bonnie) Oliver of Gallatin, Tennessee, and Roger (Jerilyn) Oliver of Greenville; her grandchildren, Tina (Dan) Ross, Becky (Keith) Reed, Tim (Claire) Oliver, Nanci (Mark) Willman and Mike Oliver; her step-grandchildren, Chad (Melissa) Yoakam, Heather (Yoakam) Balent and Josh Yoakam; her great-grandchildren, Jane and David Ross, Lincoln and Olivia Reed, Sam and Nora Oliver, Grant and Evan Willman and Katie Oliver; and her step-great-grandchildren, Nick and Ryan Balent, Samantha and Jeremy Yoakam, and Jacob Cristiano-Yoakam.

Dr. Carl M. Quick Sr., 95, of Mansfield, died Friday, January 21, 2011, at Mansfield Memorial Homes. Born January 2, 1916, in Galva, Illinois, he was the son of Earl E. and Ruth (Johnson) Quick. Dr. Quick was the father of Paul Quick, funeral director with Jerry Spears Funeral Home, Columbus.

He was a graduate of Mansfield Senior High and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He

graduated from The Ohio State University Medical School and served his residency in Kings County, New York, New York. Dr. Quick began his practice in eye, ear, nose and throat in Mansfield in 1948, limiting his practice to ophthalmology in 1960 and practicing for the 38 years before retiring in

1986. He was a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology; the Richland County Medical Society, where he served as past president; the American Medical Association; and he served as a delegate to The Ohio State Medical Association. He was also a member of the Rotary Club, the

Westbrook County Club and St. Peter's Catholic Church. He was an avid coin collector, enjoyed playing golf and spending time with his family. He loved his family and wife greatly and will be missed by all. Special thanks to the nurses and staff of Mansfield Memorial Homes for the high quality of service and constant attention and affection shown to Dr. Quick and family especially in this recent time of need and to Home Care Connection for all their work.

Surviving are three sons, Paul Quick, Leonard (Kim) Quick and George (Kathy) Quick; four grandchildren, Emily Badillo, Elizabeth Quick, George Quick and Ashley Quick; and two great-grandchildren, Aiden and Rylee Badillo. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Ethel Theresa (Lokuta) Quick, on January 21, 2007; a son, Carl M. Quick Jr.; and two brothers, Earl and Fred Quick.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Monsignor Edward C. Dunn Foundation for Education.



Florence Scerba (née Sekerak) died in November 2010. She was the beloved wife of the late John Scerba and the Rev. George P. Vojtko; the cherished mother of Jack (Fran); the loving grandmother of Matthew (Meredith), Marc and Jacquelyn Hayden (Dustin); and the sister of Marianne Byrne (Jack) and the late Edward.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church or Grace Lutheran Church, Lakewood.

Joseph Lester Stevers, 80, of Grove City, passed away November 6, 2010. He was born April 19, 1930, in Mercerville, Ohio. Mr. Stevers was retired from Schoedinger Funeral Service.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lee and Blanche Stevers, and his grandson, Brady John Stevers. He will be missed

by his loving wife of 59 years, Blanche Eloise; his sons, Stephen (Rosanna) and Scott (Sheila) Stevers; his daughter, Diana (Chris) Cropper; his grandchildren, Skyler, Ty, Karlyn and Matthew (Jessica) Stevers; Stephanie (Todd) Brady; Amy Perry; and Christopher and Michael Cropper; his great-grandson, Brayden Stevers; his brothers, Charles Lee (Joyce) and Phil (Gette) Stevers; and his sister, Lona Sager.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Grove City and a veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving four years in the U.S. Navy. He retired from Columbia Gas of Ohio and Schoedinger Funeral Service. Lester loved life and was a wonderful husband and companion, dad, grandpa and great-grandpa. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Bernadine “Bern” Winegardner Stenson, 63, died peacefully on Wednesday, October 20, 2010, on Grand Turk/Caicos Islands after a very sudden illness. She was born December 8, 1946, in Glenville, West Virginia, to the late Raymond Neal and Opal Moore Green. Bernie J. Stenson, mother of Chad Winegardner of Roberts Funeral Home, New Lexington.

She was on a cruise with her son, Rhett, and her daughter-in-law, Mandy, celebrating their honeymoon. Her best friend, Pam (a true angel to us), was at her side at the time of her death. Her son, Chad; her one and only sister, Kay; and her companion of several years, Brycie, were on their way to Miami at the time she passed. We would especially like to thank Ed and Amy Reeves; and Dale and Charlene Dodson, who were on the cruise with her and went through this very tragic and trying time with us.

She was a 1965 graduate of Troy High School and received her bachelor of science degree in home economics from Ohio University. She began teaching at New Lexington High School in 1970, retiring in 2005. She was on several committees during her teaching career, including cheerleader advisor; sophomore, junior and senior class advisor; North-Central

Evaluation team member; FHA advisor; and honor society committee, to name just a few. When she retired, she began her second career, which she truly loved just as much as teaching — a travel agent at New Dimensions Travel in New Lexington. She learned the ropes from her mentor, Dave (Polly) Pletcher, and her journey began and ended doing this. She got to see a lot of the world in a very short time and anybody that was ever with her knew what a great time she always had. She was a lifetime member of the Perry County Agricultural Society Perry County Fair — she joined the board in 1978, served as treasurer from 1981 to 1982 and secretary from 1983 to 1998. Everywhere she went, she introduced herself as “I’m Bernie Stenson, secretary of the Perry County Fair.” Catholic by faith, she was a member of New Lexington Ladies Auxiliary #2070 of the New Lexington Eagles; a member of Perry Country Club Women’s Golf League and the pit boss of the Perry County Community Club’s annual Toys for Tots Auction.

She is survived by two sons, Chad (Terri) Winegardner and Rhett (Mandy) Winegardner, both of New Lexington; three grandsons, Dakotah Schooley (Cassie Reynolds); Ty and Beau Taylor; her loving companion, Bryce Taylor, and his son, Todd Taylor (Lori Fink); her sister, Kay Agriesti (Dick Householder) of New Lexington; her brother: Hubert (Jin) Green of Lacey, Washington; her nephews and their families, Brad and Jeni, Braden, Bailee and Brody; Brian and Jenny, Jace and Jayden Agriesti; and Alex, Sommer and Fischer Green; her uncle: Junior Moore of Glenville, West Virginia; and numerous other family, friends and travel companions, all of whom she loved.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her aunt, Arnetta “Tippy” Westfall, and several other aunts and uncles.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kay Black Willison Scholarship Fund at New Lexington City Schools, 101 Third Street, New Lexington, OH 43764, or the Perry County Community Club Toys for Tots Auction, P.O. Box 301, New Lexington, OH 43764.

Marjorie J. Rhoads Wappner, 94, passed away late Saturday evening, November 6, 2010, at Mansfield Memorial Homes. Born September 24, 1916, in Mansfield, she was the oldest of three daughters born to the late Blanche Ellen (Dillon) and Clarence Earl Rhoads.

Her father died when she was 25, and Marge took over as the head of household. She worked as a secretary to Judge Kalbfleisch in the Mansfield Municipal Court and also had worked at Lumberman’s Mutual Insurance. She met Richard Wappner prior to him serving in World War II, which prevented them from marrying until 1946. They had two sons, whom she raised while being a full-time homemaker. Marge was active in all the activities of her sons throughout school, serving on PTA, as Cub Scout den mother, as swim-team mom and as golf-team mom. She enjoyed sewing, knitting and working puzzles. Marge received great joy in spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Active in many local organizations, she was a member of Ruth Chapter #17 Order of the Eastern Star, Ladies Shrine Club, a life member of Chi Sigma Society, Mansfield Federation of Women (Women’s Club), Richland County Museum and the Richland County Historical Society. She was a longtime member of First English Lutheran Church.

She is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law: Thomas and Karen Wappner and William and Esther Wappner, all of Mansfield; four grandsons: Rick, Robb, Andrew and Ross Wappner; two granddaughters and one grandson-in-law: Amy and Jason Bove and Laura Wappner; three great-grandchildren; Riley, Reese and Miles Wappner; a fourth great-grandchild; three sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 39 years, Richard L. Wappner, in 1986 and two sisters, Mrs. Donald (Alice) Steele and Mrs. Jacque (Mary) Edwards.

Memorial contributions may be made to First English Lutheran Church or Shriner’s Children’s Hospitals.

Kudos



Selected Independent Funeral Homes Honors Schoedinger with Inaugural NextGen Award at Annual Seminar

Selected Independent Funeral Homes named Michael S. Schoedinger of Upper Arlington, Ohio, the 2011 recipient of its prestigious NextGen Professional of the Year Award during the group's annual seminar held at the Westin Casuarina Resort and Spa in Grand Cayman. The award carries with it, in addition to recognition in front of the recipient's peers, a \$500 cash prize and a physical award. The award is designed to specifically spotlight career achievements, community and organization involvement and the achievements of funeral professionals under the age of 50.

According to the letters of support submitted with the nomination, the bar has been set high with the award's first recipient. Schoedinger is currently president of Schoedinger Funeral and Cremation Services in Columbus, Ohio, where he serves as a licensed funeral director and embalmer. He also heads up the company's public relations, advertising and marketing initiatives and is heavily involved in community relations.

"I am honored to receive this award in its inaugural year," Schoedinger said. "There are so many people within the NextGen group who are worthy, and being a member of Selected in and of itself means that I'm surrounded by the finest people in the funeral industry."

The NextGen Professional of the Year Award is one of several programs of Selected Independent Funeral Homes, a worldwide professional association of independent, locally owned funeral homes. In order to be eligible for the award, applicant must be an active employee of a Selected member firm (domestic or international) and under the age of 50 by the annual deadline. By creating the program, Selected hopes to promote and motivate the next generation of professionals engaged in the funeral industry.

More information on Selected Independent Funeral Homes and NextGen can be found on its all-new website at www.selectedtrust.org.

Daniel Becker, CFSP, and Kathleen M. Berry, CFSP, Honored as APFSP Legacy Fellows

Daniel H. Becker, CFSP, of Becker Funeral Home in Struthers, Ohio, and Kathleen M. Berry of Cleveland, Ohio, were recently honored as Legacy Fellows in the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice Legacy Endowment Fund for their generosity and commitment to continuing education and life-long learning. Dan and Kathleen are two of the first individuals to achieve the goal of becoming Legacy Fellows.

Dan is a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner, a Lifetime member and an Ambassador with the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice.

Kathleen is a Lifetime member and a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner with the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice. She is employed by Wilbert Funeral Services in Forest Park, Illinois, and is immediate past president of the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice. In addition, Kathleen serves

on the board of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In late 2010, the Academy Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to establish the Legacy Endowment Fund, which will accept donations from all eligible sources for the purpose of promoting education in funeral service and mortuary science. The Board of Trustees of the Academy will grant scholarships and make bequests from the income, appreciation and any other earnings generated by the Legacy Endowment Fund for the purpose of funding mortuary science and funeral service education for mortuary science students and funeral service practitioners.

For more information about the Legacy Endowment fund or the Certified Funeral Service Practitioner (CFSP) designation, please contact Kimberly A. Gehlert, Executive Director, at 614-899-6200.

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1993 Black Federal Cadillac Hearse, V-8 5.7L, 45,000 miles. Well maintained; some minor cosmetic, rust issues. Asking \$5,500, offers considered. Please call Eric at Thompson-Smith Funeral Home, 440-599-8106, or e-mail ericnesbitt@hotmail.com for photos.

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| New York | 8:34A | C11 | DELAYED |
| Chicago | 8:39A | A3 | DELAYED |
| Mexico City | 8:40A | B7 | DELAYED |
| Atlanta | 8:44A | B9 | DELAYED |
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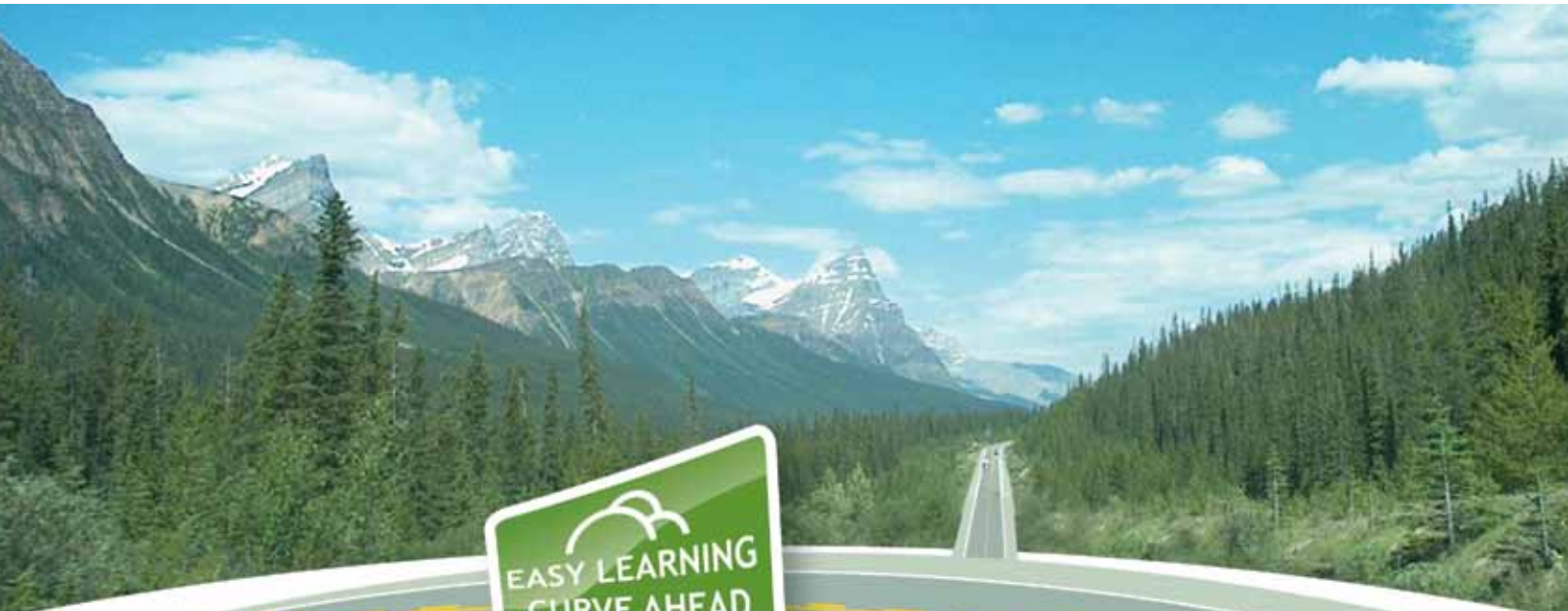


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