

# *St. Paul's-in-the-Valley Cemetery*

*An Annual Newsletter for St. Philipians and Friends of the Cemetery*

*June 2008*

## **Changes, Changes**

One major change has been the appointment of David Morrow as cemetery chairman. David, of course, grew up with the cemetery as part of father Jim Morrow's great pride always before him. Thus a family tradition of care for St. Paul's in the Valley was part of him. He was the logical Vestry choice when the previous long-term chairman, Jack Reak, moved to Deerfield Episcopal Retirement Community in Asheville. Jack will remain on the cemetery committee, giving him an excuse to come back to St. Philip's for committee meetings, he said.

Once again we can report that our 152 year old cemetery looks very much like it did last year with two very helpful exceptions. The road has been reworked from the entrance gate throughout the circular drive. Gravel was applied throughout. It has been a long time since the road has had this kind of attention. In years past, road repairs always were a patch and mend job only where needed. Fortunately, funds in our general cemetery account were adequate for this much needed road work.

Second, some road grading was required to solve a wash problem. Since the storm a year ago the steep bank at the top part of the cemetery has been without the trees and undergrowth that previously served to block heavy rain run-off, with the consequence of some road wash. After the grading to correct the problem, many native rhododendrons were planted on the side of the road that had taken the brunt of the rain-wash. We hope that the extensive root system these plants engender, along with the improved grading, will hold the road grade correction. The plants were watered with water trucked in for that purpose and then, within a few days, there were several good rains - almost like it had been planned this way.

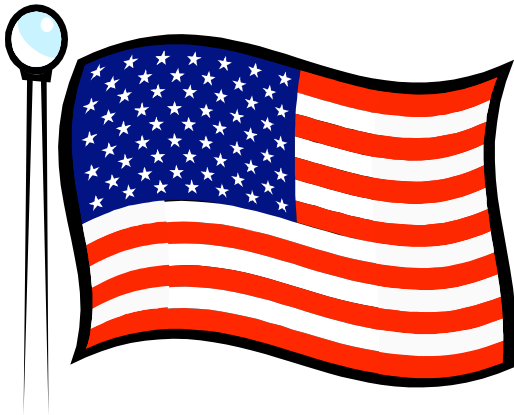


## **Caretaker Angels**

Since our last newsletter, there have been Saturday morning cemetery clean-up days, both fall and winter. The fall pick-up was necessary after high winds had left the place looking just exactly like what had happened – there had been a wind storm. Fortunately no big trees came down, just a dead wood pruning, but an unattractive cemetery needed attention. The winter pick-up-dead-wood event is becoming a tradition to introduce our new Caretakers to the cemetery and to each other. When the job was finished, the many willing workers returned to the church for soup and cornbread. Both sessions brought out so many workers that the jobs were completed well before noon. St. Philipians are interested in the care of this historic cemetery.

## St. Paul's-in-the-Valley Veterans

John Ware Armsby, Sr,	Lot # 107	Alexander Hoke Kizer	66
Edmond Cebra Breese	34	Alexander Hoke Kizer, Jr.	66
Edwards Woodbridge "Pete" Breese	34	Austin Cecil Lemon, III	72C
James H. Brown	58L	William H. McGaha	40
Paul David Buccholz	33	Edward Carroll Meseck	72M
Lloyd S, Burhans	1	Henry Rankin Miller	67G
Robert H. Caldwell	101	William Arthur Mitchell	48B
Henry Nash Carrier, Jr.	41	Eben Sturges Morrow	26
James J. Chisolm	39	James Paul Morrow	56
James D. Curwen	55	Howard Mortensen	107
Alfred Matthew D'Agata	77C	Marshall Olds III	26
Jimmy Edens	45	Marshall Olds IV	26
William McKinnon Fetzer	66	Joe Evan Orr	74-I
Felix A. Fletcher	58F	Rev. Harry Perry	1
The Rev. Thomas A. Fraser	30B	Gordon Broster Phillips	72J
Robert Thomas Frazier	88D	E. Gene Ramsey	58E
Jane Walker Freeman	23	Edward B. Reilly, Jr.	53
Mac Roy Gasque	49	Harry Glenn Sherrick	71C
Scott Kendall Gibson	82	John Craig Stewart	107
John William Harford	72K	Martin Henry Strandbergh	58G
Kenneth M. Hay	7E	Dr. Eleanor Townsend	33
Donald Howard Hill	21	Dr. William Ball Townsend	33
Hubert R. Hunting	46B	Augustine W. Tucker, Sr.	41
William L. Huntley, Jr.	7G	John Bradshaw Verner	92
Donald McIntosh Jenkins	37	Dr. William Joseph Wallis	64
Converse Cleaves Johnson	16	Herbert Doyle Wells	58D
Rev. Robert Elliott Johnson	65	Fred Victor Woodward, Jr.	30A
Allen Easley Johnson	65		
Elston E. Johnston	1	Total June 2008 = 56	



Please let us know if there are additions to this list, or any errors we can correct. We want to honor all our Veterans by placing flags at their graves at least twice a year.

Church office: 828-884-3666  
 Dorothy Hudson: 828-883-8828 or  
[jrhudson@citcom.net](mailto:jrhudson@citcom.net)

## Burials and Scatterings

In 2007 there were four cremation burials and one casket burial. Three additional bronzes were added to the Memorial Stone in memory of persons interred elsewhere.

So far in 2008, we have had two cremation burials and one casket burial.

Known burials are at 347, which includes 27 names on the Memorial Stone. In the earliest church register, between the dates of July 1857 and December 1863, Rev. Hanckel recorded burials of at least four infants whose gravestones have not been found. There are many stones with no identification, and these most likely represent infant or slave burials.



### Reminders

- ✚ We need to repeat that our cemetery rules require an identifying marker for each burial. If there are unmarked burials in your lot, you will receive a reminder in the mail.
- ✚ Make sure that before any burial or placement of stones, a member of the cemetery committee approves the placement.
- ✚ Artificial flowers are not permitted and will be removed by the cemetery committee.

## St. Philip's Website

If you haven't visited the beautiful website at [www.stphilipsbrevard.org](http://www.stphilipsbrevard.org) you should see it. It is well done and contains much useful information. To reach the cemetery section, click on Parish Life (Administration) and then on Cemetery, at the top of the drop-down menu. Harry Sherwood had added some wonderful pictures.

Be sure to visit (via a "click here") the pictures and write up of our February pick-up-sticks and soup lunch. You can tell we had so much fun! The pictures are great.

We hope to add our burial form to the "Forms" section of the website. Maybe we can even submit our Policies and Procedures document to our section. Stay tuned, as the site is updated regularly.

## Generous Gifts

One thing that has not changed is your generosity. Our two endowments, St. Paul's in the Valley Endowment and the Jenkins Endowment with the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, are increasing and our general fund has been able to handle expenses. Luckily, there have been no catastrophes or emergencies lately. A hurricane-free summer and fall would be nice, with many more gentle rains.



## St. Philip's Cemetery (Under the church)

A common misconception is that St. Philip's Cemetery is underground, but it is not. It began as a churchyard cemetery, behind the original St. Philip's Church. After the church burned in 1925, the floor of the enlarged present church was built out over the cemetery. In some areas there is room to stand, but in others, bending is required. A few graves were removed to St. Paul's in the Valley, but three families remain represented in our St. Philip's Cemetery.

### Van's Cross

Van Breese, age 19, son of Major William Edmond Breese and Mary Motte Hume Breese, was tragically killed while running to mail a letter at the railroad depot. He slipped on some cinders and his legs were crushed under the train. Though they put him on the train, which left immediately for Asheville, he died before reaching the hospital.

After St. Philip's burned, the white marble cross on Van Breese's monument was removed and, with the family's permission, was placed above the doors of the present church. Notice it the next time you enter or pass by the church.

His tombstone reads:       STUART VAN VECHTEN  
  BREESE  
  DEC. 26, 1888  
  JULY 19, 1907

*He died a gentleman unafraid  
with his face to God.*

Van's grandparents, Robert William and Jane Washington Lowndes Hume, were founding members of St. Paul's in the Valley in 1856. The Hume family, originally from Charleston, gave the land to build the first Episcopal church in Brevard, St. Philip's, in the early 1880s. Both were buried in St. Philip's churchyard along with two of their daughters, Margaret Lowndes Hume and Jane Washington Hume. Portions of the stone wall surrounding their plot is still intact.

### Gash / Heriot / Chisolm Family

Waightstill Avery Gash, grand-uncle of Bob Gash, has a beautiful black granite monument under the church. He was the second husband of Eliza Harleston Heriot (Walker) who is also buried there along with her parents, Henry Futhy Heriot and Georgiana Providence Chisolm Heriot. A related Charleston area Chisolm family, descending from Georgiana's cousin George, has a large lot in St. Paul's in the Valley. Civil War veteran James Julius Chisolm is buried there.

### Helen A. E. Jenkins

The Jenkins family has two of the largest lots in St. Paul's in the Valley, but has only one grave under the church - a young girl, twelve years old, who died in 1889. Her parents, Arthur and Mary Roberts Jenkins, buried in St. Paul's, were immigrants from England in 1873 and were faithful leaders and influential founding members of St. Philip's.