#### **OAKDALE CEMETERY**

520 North 15th Street Wilmington, NC 28401 PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Wilmington, NC
Permit No. 1

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sylvia Stoudenmire, President Catherine Solomon, Vice President Robert S. Bridgers, Jr. John B. Codington, Jr. Preston Crow Alexander Koonce Julie Rehder Eelco H. Tinga, Jr. John C. Wessell, III Thomas Wolfe

Eric Kozen, Superintendent Bertha A. Register, Secretary

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#### **CONTRIBUTION FORM**

Please mail to the Oakdale Cemetery Office 520 North 15th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 www.oakdalecemetery.org

Donor's Name		
Address		
Amount of tax deductible gift	Veteran Flag Project ☐ (check here)	
Given in memory of		
Given in honor of		
Address of person(s) to be notified		

### **Have Old Photos?**

Do you have any old photos of the cemetery? We are trying to expand our archives of pictures of Oakdale. We are looking for any photos that are



before 1960. They could be photos of families at the grave site or just general pictures of the cemetery.

# **Contributions**

With your continued support in monetary help, Oakdale is able to do so much more in the care of these grounds. As you have read, the rising costs are beginning to affect us to maintain this glorious place. All contributions are tax deductible and a great way to honor a loved one or friend. We gratefully appreciate your support in maintaining the cemetery where our beloved rest



# **INSIDE OAKDALE**

A Newsletter of the Oakdale Cemetery Company 520 North 15th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 • (910) 762-5682 www.oakdalecemetery.org

Summer 2013

Editors: Catherine Solomon and Eric Kozen

# Message from the President

Dear Lot Owners and Friends of Oakdale:

It is my pleasure to serve as your President. I would like to give you an update on some of the "on going" projects that are occurring in the cemetery.

Take the opportunity to ride back to the Annex, and you will notice the newly paved roadway and new fencing across the Howard Penton Bridge. That's such an improvement and one that was really needed. Thank you to the Friends Group and to a private donor for funding this project.

When you drive through the cemetery during the week you might hear the humming of chainsaws. We are removing diseased or dead trees, pruning dead limbs and also replacing them as well. This has been an on-going project of the Friends Group for the past few years. These are just a few of the things that we are working on, but there are lots of projects ahead.

Take the time to ride out to Oakdale Cemetery. Enjoy the beauty and see what's improving. We have a Superintendent that cares about our future and we appreciate Eric Kozen for the work he has done. All the employees who work here from Bertha in the office to Ron, Brian and Michael outside who care for this place as if it were there own family cemetery.

Sylvia Stoudenmire President

## IN MEMORIAM



## WILLIAM E. PERDEW (1919-2013)

In May of 2013, Oakdale lost one of its most dedicated board members with the passing of Mr. William E. Perdew. He had served faithfully on the Board of Directors for forty-two years. Having been on the Board since 1971, he served as Vice-President for 16 years (1974-1990) and President in 1995 and 1996. Mr. Perdew also served as Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee for many years. The time and expertise he provided to the Cemetery is invaluable. Mr. Perdew will be missed and the Board is extremely grateful for his many years of service.

#### **CREMATION**

Cremation is becoming more popular every day and Oakdale is very much aware of this. Recently, we have experienced several incidents of disposing of cremains that were done without the authorization of the Superintendent as stated in Oakdale's Rules and Regulations. Please be reminded that ALL burials (either casket or cremations) require a burial permit authorization and fee to be paid. <u>Any scattering or disposal of cremains without authorization is prohibited and fines will be enforced by the Board of Directors.</u>

As a reminder, the Rules and Regulations state....Cremation Rule #24 "Any person who deposits cremains at a grave site without the prior written permission of the Superintendent and without paying the required fees shall be required to pay the current fee for cremation burials PLUS a fine equal to 25% of the current fee for cremation burials."

If you do not have an updated (revised in 2010) copy of the rules and regulations please feel free to contact the office to receive one by mail / email or visit the website http://www.oakdalecemetery.org/rules\_regulations.asp

For the past few years, the Board of Directors has been discussing options for cremation. Plans are "in the works" for construction of a Memorial Garden for cremains which we hope will be a reality before too much longer.



## **Newest Board Members**

#### **Preston Alexius Crow**

Was born and raised in Wilmington and after living 16 years in Houston, TX, returned in 1984 to raise her two sons, Alex and Wilson. While in Houston, Preston served on the Board of Directors of the Women's Texas Golf Association. Currently, Preston is serving on the USGA Women's Mid Amateur Committee.

Preston retired from Wells Fargo Advisors where she was a Financial Advisor for 16 years. She is so pleased to serve on the Board because her father, Harold Alexius, loved Oakdale and served on its Board for many years.

### Alexander "Zander" Koonce

Alexander "Zander" Koonce is a sixth generation Wilmingtonian. He has had a lifelong interest in and study of all aspects of the history of the Cape Fear Region. He attended Episcopal High School in Virginia & the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Zander has been a real estate broker with Intracoastal Realty for over 19 years and also owns/runs a real estate development company that has developed several large neighborhoods in our area. He and his wife, Cindy, have two daughters, Katherine and Bellamy, who are both very active in the community. He is a lifelong member of St. James Episcopal Church and enjoys fishing, bird hunting and gardening in his free time.



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Oakdale has been written up quite a bit lately. Within the past two years, North Carolina's Our State Magazine has published wonderful articles about Oakdale. The most recent one was in the April 2013 edition and had a great feature article in which our President, Sylvia Stoudenmire and her granddaughter Maddie were featured. Most of our local publications have highlighted Oakdale as well.



Including one of our very own, Superintendent Eric Kozen and his wife, whom he met at Oakdale were featured in the Valentine's Day edition of Wrightsville Beach Magazine. Some local newspapers have done a fine job with the history and tales of Oakdale as well, including the 150th anniversary of the Yellow Fever Epidemic in 1862. Even articles in the News & Record of the Greensboro area have tapped into the wonders of Oakdale helping to increase visitor activity at the Cemetery.

#### **DESIGNATIONS** -

Recently, Oakdale has been awarded a few key designations. Oakdale has become a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. An application had been submitted through the Cape Fear Garden Club and Oakdale qualified for all the requirements suited for such a location. Recently, Oakdale has also been designated as a site on the North Carolina Birding Trail (www.ncbirdingtrail.org) with the help of a local ornithologist Dr. James Parnell. And if you watch closely you will see our resident Barred Owl who has been named "Hooty" and was recently seen with young ones this past Spring.

#### **DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS**

Please keep in mind that Oakdale is a non-profit organization and can receive donations and / or memorials. Each dollar continues to help fund the needs to care for the Cemetery as costs continue to rise. Many people use a portion of the obituary as a great place to for those who wish to make memorial contributions in lieu of flowers.



## GOOD FRIENDS TO HAVE....

The Friends of Oakdale have been hard at work. Over the past few years the Friends have funded a lot of our tree work, whether it was pruning or the unfortunate removal of some of our grand trees. A recent makeover was the bridge to the Annex and Memorial Park. The fencing on the bridge was replaced, new safety bumpers were added and the road was resurfaced to finish the project. The Friends have also been talking it up with one of their many tours they offer. These have been popular for visitors and families who wish to know more about Oakdale. We are very appreciative of the Friends Group and encourage all to join so they may continue to not only protect and preserve Oakdale, but also promote this beautiful place. To join you can call the office and a form will be sent either by mail / email or you can download the form http://www.oakdalecemetery.org/docs/Friends\_Of\_Oakdale\_Form.pdf

www.oakdalecemetery.org