

## Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc.

520 North 15th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

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Permit No. 1

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*Oakdale Cemetery Company*

# Inscriptions

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FALL 2020

## Oakdale's first Mausoleum, circa 1892

*From the Wilmington Star December 12, 1892*  
*Bill Reaves Collection New Hanover County Library*

THE LATE DR MORAN – A VAULT PREPARED  
AT OAKDALE CEMETERY FOR HIS REMAINS

During the past week or two workmen have been employed in Oakdale Cemetery building a vault for the reception of the remains of the late Rev. Robt. S. Moran, a former pastor of Front Street (now Grace) M.E. Church, who died in New York City April 4, 1892 and whose body was, by his express wish, brought to Wilmington for interment in a vault above ground. It is the only vault of the kind in Oakdale Cemetery. It was built under the supervision of Mr. James F. Post, by Messrs. James H. Tucker & Bro., contractors. A description of the vault, furnished the STAR is as follows:

It is like a small house, with a ten feet wide brown stone front, similar to the stone used in the public building here; running ten feet back with concrete and pressed brick walls, and with a concreted water-proof roof. The entrance to the vault is guarded by heavy oak doors, in front of which is an iron grating door. Above the door on the outside is the word "Moran", cut in the brown stone arch. A neat cement floor is built in front of the



vault to the line of the avenue. The designs inside the vault are very tastefully arranged, presenting a perfect cemented arch, with the glass-faced casket placed in a beautiful sarcophagus entirely covered in Tennessee marble which can be pushed aside at any time to allow the friends of the deceased to view his remains when passing through Wilmington. It cost about one thousand dollars. Rev. Dr.

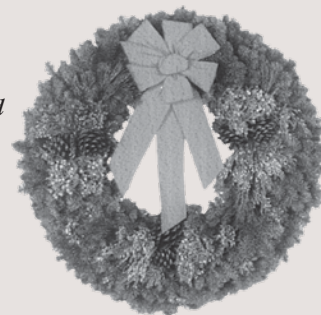
Wilson, who is now in the city and was a particular friend of Dr. Moran, will visit the vault today. ❖



## Holiday Wreaths Available

ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY NOVEMBER 30, 2020.

The Friends of Oakdale Cemetery offers Christmas wreaths. This year the fresh live wreaths will be identical to last year's - 25 inches across with a waterproof red bow. The wreaths will be placed on the grave site of your loved ones during the second week of December. **\*\* NOTE: Previous years we had offered trees as another option, but have found them too inconsistent in size from one year to the next and have opted to not continue.**



**Wreath, 25 inches \$35.00 each. (\$2.00 OFF EACH FOR MEMBERS)**

Provide the name of the person BURIED on the lot and check the appropriate selections.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WREATH \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WREATH \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WREATH \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WREATH \_\_\_\_\_

Record YOUR contact information should we need clarification on your order.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ORDERS MUST BE  
PLACED BY  
November 30, 2020.  
Make checks payable to:  
**Friends  
of Oakdale Cemetery**

520 N 15th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

If you need assistance with your order, please call the cemetery office at 910-762-5682.

### Calendar of Events

**Annual Meeting of the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery**  
The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery will be held virtually this year due to current COVID-19 restrictions and precautions. Time and date TBD.

**Friends of Oakdale Cemetery Board Meetings**  
Board meetings will be held virtually until further notice due to current COVID-19 restrictions and precautions. Time and date TBD.

**Christmas Wreath Sale**  
Deadline will be Monday, November 30, 2020 for ordering Christmas wreaths, which will be placed on the graves of loved ones during the second week of December. See back page for more details and ordering information.



ALL TOURS CURRENTLY SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC PRECAUTIONS.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO RESUMING THEM IN 2021 AND WILL PROVIDE UPDATES WHEN AVAILABLE.

A NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF OAKDALE CEMETERY, INC.  
520 NORTH 15TH STREET, WILMINGTON, NC 28401 ❖ 910-762-5682  
EMAIL: FRIENDS@OAKDALECEMETERY.ORG ❖ WWW.OAKDALECEMETERY.ORG

## A Letter from the President of Friends of Oakdale Cemetery

Greetings,

To say that this year has been a little different would be a vast understatement. I believe we would all agree on that. As a result of the Coronavirus, all of our walking tours were cancelled as well as other scheduled events, such as the annual flag retirement ceremony held in June. Then in July we were paid a visit from Hurricane Isaias. Luckily, the damage was not severe, however, that is still being assessed.

As bad as it has been, good things are happening at Oakdale. Eric and his crew are working diligently to take care of the day-to-day maintenance. We are on track with the projects that were slated for this year. People are coming out on a daily basis, jogging, walking, and riding bikes.

When was the last time you walked through the cemetery? Cooler weather is on the way and Fall is a wonderful time to come out and enjoy everything Oakdale has to offer. Slow down, take a stroll. There is always something new to see, new to learn, new to experience.

Because of your support, we are able to ensure the preservation of the beauty and history of Oakdale. The projects we accomplish each year happen because of your generosity. On behalf of the Friends of Oakdale, I would like to personally say thank you.

Chris Nelson  
President  
Friends of Oakdale Cemetery



## Hurricane Isaias

Hurricane Isaias was a strong category 1 hurricane that arrived on August 4th. The hurricane did considerable damage in Oakdale with a few trees down but mostly ripping large limbs off some of the larger Oak trees. Cost of the clean-up was near \$12,000 and nearly a month's worth of the staff picking up limbs all over the grounds. This is the 4th hurricane to make a direct hit to the Wilmington vicinity since 2016. These storms have cost the cemetery nearly \$200,000 in costly clean-up efforts over these past few years. Your donations have been more than appreciated to assist and off-set some of these costs, thank you. ❖



## Hootie the Owl Had Babies



Hootie the resident Barred Owl had some baby owlets back in May. Barred Owls tend to live in mixed forests of large trees, often near water such as streams and swamps because old woodlands support a higher diversity of prey and are more likely to have large cavities suitable for nesting. Visitors were treated with watching the young in the cypress and oak trees as they were fed and learned to manage the new surroundings. ❖



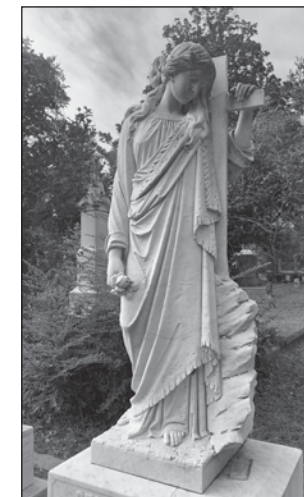
**VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!**

If you would like to become more involved with the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc., we have lots of opportunities for you.

**910-762-5682**  
[www.oakdalecemetery.org](http://www.oakdalecemetery.org)

## Camellia Workshop

Thanks to Matt Hunter, past president of the Tidewater Camellia Club who offered a camellia pruning workshop this past September. Participants enjoyed the weather and the workshop learning the proper method of pruning and other tricks of the trade. He has scheduled another workshop in the Spring on Saturday March 20, 2021 at 9:30am. ❖



## Pluerants Overlooking Graves

Pleurants, or weeping figures, are not angels because they have no wings. In the middle ages prior to the 15th century they were placed at tombs and graves to act as mourners. This practice changed and almost disappeared until the Victorian period where they were re-introduced to American cemeteries. Another observation is that most generally have female features as women were allowed to mourn and be sad or remorseful, whereas men were not. ❖

[www.oakdalecemetery.org](http://www.oakdalecemetery.org)

For those interested in Oakdale Cemetery, the website provides spectacular photography by Kenneth Newland. Featuring a fresh updated look and offers a more user friendly experience, improved navigation, and more interactive resources including maps, burial database, the ability to purchase items online, history, news, calendar of events, comprehensive cemetery information, newsletter archive and much more.



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