In This Issue...

Foundation Enters the 21st Century Kicking and Screaming............................1

A New Memorial for a Fallen Officer......2

Ohio City Incorporated Provides Grant for Fence Repairs.................................3

2011 Event Calendar...............................4

Foundation Committee
Linda Litto, Founder and President
Connie Hardy, Vice President
Alan Fodor, Secretary and Treasurer
Raymond Pianka, Director
Michelle Day, Director

Planning Committee
Tom Buford
Russell Cendrowski
David Dennis
Lesa Hess
Cristine Hoffmann
Julie Kurtock
Fran Palucki
Adam Saurwein
Carol Smith
Pat Zolten

Foundation Enters the 21st Century Kicking and Screaming

S
omebody on the planning committee (probably one of those younger folks) said the Foundation needed to get with it, get on the web, get in touch, share our mission. So, OK, we got an email address (mscf3207@att.net) and thought that was pretty cool!

But that was not good enough, apparently. We started getting emails wondering just how backwards we really were: “OMG! You DON’T have a website???” Well, gosh, some of us older members started feeling really square (Square? Can you tell an OLDER MEMBER is writing this?) and out-of-it and not too groovy anymore, either.

“What shall we do? What shall we do?” But wait! To the rescue comes our President and Founder, Linda Litto. “Hey!” says she, “My friend’s kid does websites. Let’s see what he can do.”

And with a modest amount of trepidation, we launched into the website design process. Our designer is Mr. Joseph Butvin, of Columbus, Ohio, available at jdbutvin@gmail.com, who had designed several other websites in the recent past. Joe jumped in feet first, and together he and Linda have assembled and launched a new website. The site has great depth and is very robust. From cemetery history to an off-site cemetery burial index to news articles, a photo gallery and our gift shop and so much more, we hope the site meets the needs of our members and benefactors.

Visit us at www.MSCF1841.org and let us know what you think about the site. We know it is loaded with information and we want it to meet your needs. So we look forward to hearing from you. Enjoy!

(This older member is really glad the thing is up-and-running and am confident that if I can’t figure out how to use it, my four-year-old grandson can probably explain it to me!)
June 11, 2011, is the day on which a servant of the city who gave up his life in the line of duty will be honored at Monroe Street Cemetery.

John Michael Kick died on May 15, 1875, from a gunshot wound he received while pursuing a group of suspected burglars. Kick was the first Cleveland police officer to be killed in the line of duty. Kick, who served gallantly in the Civil War as a flag bearer, joined the recently formed Cleveland Police Department in 1869.

Kick has a small headstone that identifies him as a father and gives his initials, last name and the dates of birth and death. No mention of his service or his sacrifice can be found at his gravesite.

When we discovered that Kick was at Monroe Street Cemetery, our President and Founder, Linda Litto, mentioned it to Commander Keith Sulzer of the Second District police station. The Commander immediately set about to find a way to honor this fearless and dedicated servant of the people.

The Cleveland Police Department, the Cleveland Police Patrolmen’s Association, the Cleveland Police Museum, and the Monroe Street Cemetery Foundation are joining efforts to provide a new granite memorial monument at the Kick gravesite. The monument is being made by the Johns-Carabelli Company, a Cleveland monument maker that has been around for over one hundred years. On June 11 that monument will be dedicated and the shroud removed by John Michael Kick’s great-great grandson, Chris Holstein, who is also a Cleveland police officer.

Please join us to honor the memory of a dedicated public servant. The event will begin at 2:00 PM. Adult refreshments will be served following the memorial service. A donation of $15.00 is requested. Flyers for pre-registration will be forthcoming and also watch the “Upcoming Events” page on our website at www.MSCF1841.org.
Ohio City Incorporated Provides Grant for Fence Repairs

The Ohio City Near West Development Corporation, now being called Ohio City Incorporated (OC, Inc.), initiated a program a couple of years back to recognize and fund a worthwhile community improvement project at their annual meeting each year, which takes place in April. Invitations to submit a project went out a few weeks ago with OC, Inc. offering up to a $5000 grant for a project that would make an impact on the community and also engage people from the Ohio City area to take part in the project.

This year, the Monroe Street Cemetery Foundation decided it was time to seriously consider repairs to the historic iron fence that borders the cemetery all along Monroe Avenue. When the opportunity to perhaps find partial funding for the project through the OC, Inc. grant program came along, one of our newer members, Adam Saurwein, stepped up to the plate and delivered a well thought out, well written proposal to be submitted. The written proposal was supplemented with photographs of the fence conditions that need repairs and was submitted to OC, Inc. by email on the final day that proposals were being accepted.

As luck would have it the email managed to get into the SPAM file of the person to whom it was directed and was not discovered until three days later. Fortunately, because the email bore the date that proposals were to be submitted, it was accepted by OC, Inc. A total of seven proposals were submitted by various individuals and groups and OC, Inc. determined that four of them met the program criteria. The MSCF proposal was one of them.

Just before the OC, Inc. Annual Meeting on April 20, a notice of the event was sent to all voting members. This notice included documentation of the four proposals. Members of OC, Inc., which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and a dedicated gatekeeper of the historic district, voted on which project would receive the grant, and we are proud to say that the Monroe Street Cemetery Foundation proposal was almost unanimously selected.

The extent of the project aims at repairing portions of the fence that are leaning in toward the cemetery, replacing poorly done repairs that were made years ago, straightening and realigning stone piers, and cleaning and painting the historic iron fence. While the help of professionals will be secured for most of this work, the cleaning and painting will be done by MSCF members and Ohio City residents. Further information and dates will be forthcoming, and we hope you will take part in the painting of the fence. Everyone, whether you live in Ohio City or not, is invited and welcome to help. Click on Upcoming Events on the home page of our website www.MSCF1841.org and watch for further information about this community event.
2011 Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 15 • 10:00AM – 4:00 PM • Ohio City Home Tour
Come and visit with us at the Garden Stop on this 20+ year old marvelous home tour. There will be eight delightful homes for you to investigate and many other sights and sounds to enjoy! Contact www.ohiocity.com for more information.

Sunday, May 22 • 1:00PM
We will be placing flags on veterans’ graves in preparation for Memorial Day. Come and help us find the more than 500 gravesites, including veterans from every major conflict the US has been involved in including the American Revolution and the Civil War. (In case it rains on May 22, we will do the flag placements the following Saturday, May 28. Rain or shine!)

Monday, May 30 • 9:00AM • Memorial Day
Join a local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars as they remember the soldiers who served their country and those that are buried at Monroe Street Cemetery.

Saturday June 11 • 2:00PM • Kick Memorial Dedication
See details on page 2. Join us for refreshments and meet VIPs from Cleveland’s City Hall, the Cleveland Police Department and Monroe Street Cemetery Foundation. (We suspect the buglers and the bagpiper will stick around to entertain us.) Donation of $15 per person is requested.

July or August • Day and time TBD • Archi-Treasure Hunt
We did this event for the first time in 2010. Not only was it a LOT of fun, but the food was incredibly edible, the artwork was gorgeous and the church tour was unbelievable. And if you missed it, shame-on-you! This year it will be more affordable and details will follow as we get closer to the event.

September • Day and time TBD • Meet the Neighbors
This year’s event is all about the Civil War. Monroe Street Cemetery is the resting place of over 400 veterans of the Civil War, as well as the resting spot of an avid abolitionist who spoke at a memorial after John Brown was hanged, the operator of a stop on the Underground Railroad, the leader of the Fugitive Slave Society of Cleveland, and even a Confederate soldier. Details will follow as we get closer to the event. Check back with us frequently so you don’t miss it.