

GREENWOOD CEMETERY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR CORPORATE BOARD MEMBERS

The Garden of Peace

Construction Begins on the Garden of Peace

Local contractor R.L. Spearman was contracted to excavate and construct the site for Greenwood Cemetery's Garden of Peace. Work began on November 1 and took about three weeks to complete. There are plans to add benches on both sides of each unit and further beautify the entire garden in the spring.

Below are captioned photos describing the project's progression.



Photo by K. Jones

Greenwood Cemetery officers (left to right) Don McCormick, Jan Foister, Ginny Allison, and JD Fleming helped contractor Ryan Spearman (third from left) and Roger Ringler (third from right) break ground at the site of the Garden of Peace.

The Garden of Peace (cont.)



The R.L. Spearman and Greenwood Cemetery crews were anxious to get started on the Garden of Peace.



First, a level 32 ft. square sub-base was created.

The Garden of Peace (cont.)



Top left: Pipe and conduit were run from the middle to the outside of the slab for any future utilities.

Top right and bottom: Five inches of reinforced exposed aggregate concrete cover the 31 foot square main slab as well as two 20 foot sidewalks that lead out to the driveway.



The Garden of Peace (cont.)



Photo by R. Spearman

Finally, the entire project area was backfilled and seeded.

“Crane Day”

December 6 was an exciting day at Greenwood Cemetery! Lias Towing and Crane Service unloaded and placed the newly purchased columbarium, *and* relocated the original 48 niche columbarium. The cemetery crew took great care to wrap it and inspected each niche afterwards to ensure the contents were not damaged or moved. Some family members chose to brave the cold weather and watched the move. “Crane Day” went off without a hitch and took only 50 minutes. Placement of both columbarium units were able to be accomplished at the same time, saving the cemetery money for the crane service.

All photos taken by J. Foister.

The crane lowered each columbarium onto its home in the Garden of Peace. Crane straps were then able to be removed because 7 pound bags of ice were placed under each corner! As the ice melts, the columbarium lowered into place.



The Garden of Peace (cont.)



Since it was furthest away from the driveway, the new 48 niche columbarium taken off a large flatbed truck and lowered into place first.



The original columbarium was carefully lifted off its foundation and taken to its new home at the entrance to the Garden of Peace.

Recent Improvements at Greenwood Cemetery

Ron Fairman joined the Greenwood Cemetery board in 2018 as a member of the Board of Managers and the Corporate Board and serves on the grounds crew committee. He recognized the need for renovation of the beautiful statues, located in the Memorial Gardens, as time and weather had caused discoloration and structural issues with the statues and their bases. His grandparents and several other family members are buried in the Garden of the Good Shepherd. After discussion with other family members, Ron decided to renovate the statue of Jesus and the lambs in the Garden of the Good Shepherd in honor of his grandfather, Jess Earl Fairman, 40 years after his death.

Jess Fairman was born Aug. 5, 1904 in East Ridge, Clearfield County. He was the son of Nelson M. and Violetta Catherine (Blystone) Fairman. He was the second son in a family of eight children. At age 10 he was the water boy, carrying water to the miners. He spent his life working in the coal mines until he retired in 1965 from Crichton Coal and Coke Co. in Heshbon, PA. He spent 50 years working in the mines and was a member of the UMWA Local 1287.

On March 3, 1927 Jess married Twyla Audrey Peterman. She was born Jan. 21, 1908 in Armstrong Twp., Indiana County and was the third daughter of Harmon and Rosetta Peterman. Jess and Twyla were the parents of 7 children. They had 4 boys: Earl, Nelson, Richard, and Clark. They also had 3 girls: Ruby, Rosetta, and Loretta. They were residents of Brush Valley, PA since 1941. Jess passed away on July 5, 1980 at the age of 75 years. Twyla passed away years later on Feb. 16, 2003 at the age of 95 years. They are laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery in the Garden of the Good Shepherd, near the statue.

Ron would like to thank the family members who contributed monetarily as well as those who assisted with the labor for this project. The statue was professionally cleaned and the base repaired with efforts to minimize ongoing weather damage. Lights have been added to highlight the statue and it is now beautifully restored with a plaque in memory of his grandfather, Jess Fairman.

Article and photos by R. Fairman.

