



FOCUS

... on the
activities of the
Ohio Embalmer Association

PO Box # 24179, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224-0179

Officers 2005-2007

President
EUGENE SUJKOWSKI
Rossford

*1st Vice-President
& President Elect*
BRUCE BOROWSKI
Newton Falls

2nd Vice-President
MIKE PATRICK
Wadsworth

3rd Vice-President
DARELL WAITE
Medina

Sergeant-at-Arms
ROBERT J. INMAN
Cleveland

Secretary
DAVID HICKS
Cincinnati

Treasurer
BILL PEOPLES
Marietta

Advisory Board

TIM BARNES
Athens
GEORGE PUGH
Steubenville
LYNN ZECHMAN
Springfield
DAVID GILLUM
Northern Kentucky
RON COOK
Northern Kentucky

Trustees

BILL EBERLE
London
DON KINCAID
Columbus
BRIAN EGER
Mogadore

Trustee Emeritus

LESTER WAKEHAM
Lyndhurst

FOCUS Fall 2006 Mountaineer Racetrack & Gaming Resort

Seminar Date:

September 20 and 21, 2006

Seminar Time:

8:00 am until 2:00 pm both days

Cost \$135.00 per member - 10 Hours of con-ed have been applied for.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ever since I was a youngster, I was always told, that once the fourth of July came along, it was an indication that Summer was half over. That seems to be true, especially if you are still in school. As a student the summers seemed to go by all too quickly, however, as I get older the time literally flies by, Where ever you happen to be regarding your particular calendar, I hope that you are enjoying a very wonderful and safe Summer. The time is drawing near to resume O.E.A. Seminars. We will be starting a new

compliance period, so take advantage of the upcoming seminars and what they have to offer. Looking forward to seeing you all as the O.E.A. celebrates its 75th Anniversary at Mountaineer. It is my hope that you continue to enjoy the Summer and are able to do the things that you had planned all year to accomplish and do during this time. Good luck and God Bless you all!

Gene Sujkowski

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

September 20 and 21, 2006 at **Mountaineer Race Track & Gaming Resort** -Route 2, Chester, WV 26034. Call 1-800-80-40-HOT for room reservations. Rooms are being held for the OEA at a rate of \$85/night plus tax until, August 15th. Return the usual OEA Seminar Reservation to PO Box 24179-Cincinnati, OH 45224-0179 by September 6, 2006. The cost for the seminar will be \$135 per member. That is for **10 hours** of continuing education, lunch and

snacks. This is a fabulous place and the OEA Board has lined up an equally fabulous program. Speakers include: **Todd Van Beck, Bob Mayer** and **Dr. Humphrey Germaniuk** to name a few.

Please join us for two days of quality educational seminars, fellowship, and celebrate 75 years of the Ohio Embalmers Association. Contact David Hicks with questions at 513-618-1932 or dhicks@ccms.edu.

Reservation Information for O.E.A. CCMS: Mountaineer Racetrack & Gaming Resort OEA/EAC Fall Seminar - September 20 and 21, 2006

\$135.00 Per Member • Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Embalmer's License # _____ FD License # _____

If non-member, please use space below for your current mailing address:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please complete form (or photocopy) and send with the appropriate check and postage to:
O.E.A., PO Box # 24179, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224-0179

Cut out and return with payment registration form

WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN 1931?

- Gas was \$.10 a gallon
- At the theatres two horror movies were playing- Dracula played by Bella Lugosi, and Frankenstein played by Boris Karloff.
- Other movies included The Champ with Jackie Cooper and City Lights starring Charlie Chaplin.
- Hoover was in the White House
- Little Orphan Annie and Amos and Andy were on the radio
- Resentment of foreign workers increased in California resulting in the deportation of over 6,000 Mexican Americans. Claimed that Mexicans took jobs away from real Americans.
- 3,000 unemployed Ford Motor workers marched on the plant in River Rouge, Michigan
- The Empire State Building was completed along with the George Washington Bridge.
- New York's Bank of the United States collapsed. At the time it had over \$200 million in deposits.

FUNERALS IN 1931

- Average cost around Cincinnati was \$450.00 to 500.00 with one firm having a funeral totaling \$1,167.70
- Embalming Body \$20.00 to \$25.00 (shaving was a separate charge of \$5.00)
- Hearse \$16.00 to \$20.00
- Pall Bearers (6) \$18.00
- Limousines \$10.00
- Removal \$10.00
- Newspaper charges were \$3.00 to \$4.00 per day. Most ran three days
- Items that appear on a funeral bill in 1931 that are not usually seen today include:
 - Handles for casket and the covering and lining
 - Gloves for Pall Bearers
 - Shower of Roses or Carnations
 - Opening Vault and lining grave with grass
 - Autos to railroad station
 - Door badge

MEET THE SPEAKERS

• **Mike Gedert, CFSP** - is an Ohio licensed Funeral Director / Embalmer and a member of OFDA Mortuary Response Team. Mike is also the DMORT, Region 5 Training Officer. He has been deployed six times.

• **Tim Schmidt, CFSP** - is an Ohio licensed Funeral Director / Embalmer, the Policy Board Chair of OFDA Mortuary Response Team, and a member of DMORT, Region 5. Tim also served as a Board Member of the OEA.

• **Bob Shank Jr., CFSP** - is on staff at OFDA and the OFDA Mortuary Response Team. He is also a DMORT Region 5 Commander.

Mike, Tim, and Bob all served several weeks in New York in response to the World Trade Center Terrorist Attacks. *Let us remember all those who lost their lives that day, and remember those who responded to console, rescue, and try to put the shattered lives back together.*

• **Dr. Humphrey D. Germaniuk** - is the Trumbull County Chief Deputy Coroner. He is a board certified Forensic Pathologist and the former Chief Medical Examiner for Washington, D.C. In addition to this, **Dr. Germaniuk** has taught and written many articles in the field of forensics.



• **Robert Mayer, CFSP** - has been involved in funeral service or the past 46 years. He is a graduate of Youngstown University with a B.A. in Biology and holds a 1963 diploma from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. In 1922 the Institute awarded him an Honorary Doctorate degree in Professional Studies.

Mr. Mayer is licensed as an embalmer and funeral director in the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Since 1968 he has provided embalming services for funeral homes in the greater Pittsburgh area as the owner of a trade embalming service. The service handles over 750 preparations yearly.

From 1967 to 1982 Mayer was a full-time instructor and clinical instructor at the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. Since 1982 he has remained an adjunct member of the faculty. Subjects taught included: Restorative Art, Embalming, Mortuary Cosmetology, Mortuary Law and State Law.

He has written numerous articles for funeral service publications and is the primary author/editor of the textbook *Embalming: History, Theory and Practice*. The text was first published in 1990. McGraw-Hill publishers in New York City published the updated 4th edition in 2006. Mortuary colleges in the United States, in addi-

tion to Canada, Australia, Great Britain, France, Germany, Korea and Japan use the book. A Korean edition is in publication. The book is a text approved by the American Board of Funeral Service Education.

Since 1972, Mr. Mayer has conducted well over 175 embalming demonstrations, seminars and workshops in over 35 states, Great Britain and Ireland. For 5 consecutive years he was a presenter, by request, at the NFDA National Convention. He participated in the first Embalming and Restorative Art College presented in Memphis, Tennessee by the International Cemetery and Funeral Association in 2003.

Professional memberships include the Ohio Embalmers Association (41 years), Michigan Embalmers Society, National Funeral Directors Association, Allegheny County Funeral Directors Association, Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practitioners, and the North American Division of the British Institute of Embalmers. Mayer was co-founder, along with Melissa Johnson-Williams of the American Society of Embalmers in 2004. He served as the Charter President and is a member of the Board of Directors.

• **David Tackett, CFSP** - Dean of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science since 2000, he initially joined the CCMS in 1996. Along with his administrative duties, he also teaches classes in social science, business, and a clinical laboratory. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Penn State, and Master of Divinity degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

• **Todd Van Beck, CFSP** - is one of the funeral profession's most prolific authors and presenters. From simple staff development at the smallest funeral home to clergy seminars to keynote addresses at the largest of gatherings, Mr. Van Beck tailors each presentation to suit any occasion.



Todd W. Van Beck has written over 200 articles and 65 books and manuals covering every possible topic of interest to funeral directors, cemeteryans and clergy. His extensive training and experience spans over 35 years at every level of the funeral and cemetery profession and the church.

Mr. Van Beck has studied the theory of quality control under Dr. W. Edwards Deming and has applied those principals to the funeral and cemetery profession. Now, as a specialist in the "Deming" management system, he offers seminars catered to your needs based on these theories. He also offers private consultation, expert witness testimony and consultation with special embalming problems.

TOPICS

• **Hurricane Katrina** - Members of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association Mortuary Response Team will discuss their role in helping victims of **Hurricane Katrina**, and also revisit the Crematory Scandal in Noble, GA. 3 hours in length with lecture and slides.

• **Issues in Forensic Pathology** - **Dr. Germaniuk** will discuss various issues surrounding forensic pathology, and death investigation. **Dr. Germaniuk** spoke to the OEA in March of 2005 at Sawmill Creek. He is a wonderful and colorful presenter.

• **Salute to the OEA - 75 Years of Education** - **Bob Mayer** will speak about the History of the OEA, centering on what was going on in 1931 - and some of the topics being written about at that time - and a look at some of the speakers over the past 50 years.

• **A History of Lemoyne Crematory** - **Dave Tackett** presents an interesting look at cremation and the story behind.