



# FOCUS

No. 90, FALL 2008

... on the  
activities of the  
Ohio Embalmer Association

PO Box # 24179, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224-0179

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# FOCUS OEA Fall Seminar

Wednesday, September 24, 2008  
Cincinnati, Ohio

## CCMS

645 W. North Bend Road • Cincinnati, OH

Registration, Coffee: 7:30-8:45am

Morning Session: 8:45am-12noon

Lunch: 12-1pm

Afternoon Session: 1-4:15pm

Cost \$60 members – \$120 non members

*Six hours of con-ed have been applied for with the State of Ohio*

**Rooms are being held until, August 23 at the:** Drury Inn at I-75 & Sharon Rd.  
2265 East Sharon Road - Call: (513) 771-5601 and mention OEA

The cost is \$92.00 plus tax.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to the OEA membership. I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and that you are doing well and prosper. As the season approaches for children to return to school, the OEA board is offering another educational seminar. This will be the final education seminar for this compliance period. It will be held at the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science. As always our seminars are open to both members and non-members so please share our newsletters with others of our profession that may need continuing education hours. For additional information about anything please contact Secretary Dave Hicks, or any board member. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Borowski

## Directions to CCMS

From I-75 North or South, take exit 9 (Paddock- Seymour exit) and go West.

Stay in the left lane and after going RR underpass turn left onto North Bend Road. Go on North Bend past Vine (Hodapp FH on right) and continue on North Bend for about 2 miles.

After you cross a set of RR tracks you will start up a hill. At the top of the hill you will encounter a sharp turn to the right and then to the left. You will see St. Xavier High School on the right and the CCMS building is on the left directly opposite the high school. CCMS' phone # 513-761-2020.

### Reservation Information for O.E.A.: CCMS • Cincinnati, OH OEA FALL Seminar • Wednesday, September 24, 2008

\$60.00 Per Member • \$120.00 Non 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*



CCMS/OEA  
645 W. North Bend Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45224-1462

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## MEET THE SPEAKERS

**Robert G. Mayer, Jr. FBIE, CFSP** has been involved in funeral service for the past 48 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 1992 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 teacher 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 addition 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.

In 1972 Bob Mayer began his "side career" of seminars and demonstrations in embalming and restorative art. By 2008 Bob has conducted nearly 200 continuing education seminars and demonstrations. He has presented in more than 35 of the United States and the countries of England and Ireland.

Professional Memberships include; Ohio Embalmers Association (43 years), Michigan Embalmers Society, National Funeral Directors Association, Allegheny County Funeral Directors Association, Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practitioners, North American Division of the British Institute of Embalmers. Mayer was a co-founder along with Melissa Johnson-Williams of the American Society of Embalmers in 2004. He served as charter president and serves as a

permanent member of their board of directors. In the Fall of 2007 he was honored by the British Institute of Embalmers by invitation to the college of the Company of Fellows.

**David G. Hicks, MBIE, CFSP** has been involved in funeral service since 1992. David holds a license for both Ohio and Kentucky. He is a graduate of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science where he earned a Bachelor's of Mortuary Science and also holds a Master's of Science in Education from Capella University. He worked at two prominent, Cincinnati funeral homes as a funeral director/embalmer before accepting the position as the Clinical Lab Manager at CCMS in 2002. He now teaches at CCMS in the areas of embalming theory, restorative art, clinical labs and various other science courses.

David is a member of The Ohio Embalmers Association, where he serves as Secretary, the British Institute of Embalmers, American Society of Embalmers, and the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practitioners. He is also a past president of the Greater Cincinnati Funeral Service Association-District #5 OFDA.

**Nelson Hayes, MBIE, CFSP** is a North Carolina Funeral Service Licensee (FSL #11) Chairman, Secretary of the North American Division, British Institute of Embalmers, 2 Term Board Member, NC Board of Funeral Service, District Director of NCFDA.

**Karen Giles, Col USAF Ret., President CCMS-** Prior to her current position as president of CCMS, Ms. Giles was Director, Port Mortuary, Dover AFB, Delaware from 2003-2008. After separating from the active duty military in 1992, Ms. Giles worked for Morehead State University as an Assistant Professor, HRIM. From 1993 to 2002, she served as Vice President, Professional Development and Production, Educational Institute, American Hotel and Lodging Association, Orlando, Florida and Lansing, Michigan. From 2002-2003, worked for DeVry University as Director, Career Services, Orlando, Florida.

Along with her civilian career, Ms. Giles has completed twenty-two years of active duty and reserve service. Colonel Giles received her

commission through OTS in 1985. Her first assignment was Operations Officer, 44th Combat Support Group, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota. In August 1986, she was assigned as the Chief of Services, 1012th Air Base Group, Thule AB, Greenland. During her



**Karen Giles**  
Col USAF Ret.,  
President, CCMS

16-year active duty and reserve tenure at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), Colonel Giles served as course director and instructor for the Air Force Lodging Manager and Air Force Mortuary Affairs courses. Colonel Giles developed/conducted numerous seminars and course offerings related to lodging operations, financial management and mortuary affairs. Because of her experience in mortuary affairs, she was selected as a Division Chief, Port Mortuary, Dover AFB, Delaware during DESERT SHIELD/STORM, Deputy Personal Effects Depot Commander during NOBLE EAGLE (Pentagon 9-11) and Mass Fatality Director during initial stages of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

### EDUCATION:

- 1984 Bachelor of Science – Biomedical Engineering, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois
- 1989 Master of Science - Management, Florida International University, Miami, Florida (AFIT Civilian Institute Program)
- 1990 Squadron Officer School (correspondence and in-residence)
- 1991 Joint Mortuary Affairs Officer Course, United States Army Quartermaster School, Fort Lee, Virginia
- 1998 Air Force Command and Staff College (correspondence)
- 2005 Air War College (correspondence)

## TOPICS of the DAY

**Bob Mayer & David Hicks** will embalm two bodies, (PIMS vs CCMS). Discussion will include techniques used for embalming autopsy and normal cases. Dressing and cosmetics will conclude the morning session.

**Karen Giles** will talk about the mission of the Port Mortuary at Dover AFB, DE. where she was director. Discussions will include

mass fatality/contingency operations, the repatriation process along with receiving funeral home and military relations.

**Nelson Hayes** will discuss the process of caustic reduction of the human body by exposing it to sodium hydroxide. Included will be continued talk of banning formaldehyde in European countries and the search for a suitable replacement.

## ~ COLLEGE NEWS ~

CCMS is proud to introduce its 6th President,  
**Ms. Karen Giles (Colonel. USAF Ret).**

See Karen's bio in the "Meet the Speaker Section". It is apparent in the short time that I have worked with her that I notice she has a deep appreciation and respect for the embalmer. Karen brings new life and added support for CCMS' Clinical Program.