

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Oakwood Cemetery Walk “Firsts in Waukegan”

WAUKEGAN, IL (September 12, 2014) The 20th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk is Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 12:00-5:00pm. The Waukegan Park District, Waukegan Historical Society and the City of Waukegan sponsor the Cemetery Walk. The Oakwood Cemetery Walk is an annual “living history” event that showcases the rich history of Waukegan through costumed actors portraying local historical figures with connections to the cemetery and Waukegan, Illinois.

The theme of this year’s Oakwood Cemetery Walk is “Firsts in Waukegan.” Unique stories have been chosen for this year and they include Glen Rock Pop, the Waukegan Fair, local inventions, the first airplane ride, the first baseball players, the Academy Theater, the first telephone, and the first lighthouse. Participants will also hear other unique “Firsts in Waukegan” stories as well as the history of the City of Waukegan’s Oakwood Cemetery.

The Cemetery Walk starts at Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park-1911 N. Sheridan Road, Waukegan, IL, 60087. Buses will depart from Lilac Cottage to Oakwood Cemetery at (12:00pm #4605), (12:30pm #4606), (1:30pm #4607), (2:00pm #4608), and (3:15pm #4609). Ticket prices are \$3 in advance and \$5 the day of the event. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts-39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park, at the Waukegan History Museum-1917 N. Sheridan Road in Bowen Park, and online registration at www.waukeganparks.org. There is no public parking at Oakwood Cemetery.

Each tour is expected to run approximately 1.5 hours and will include walking on uneven ground. The last tour will start at 3:30pm. The Cemetery Walk will proceed during inclement weather. The Waukegan History Museum will be open from 11:00am-4:00pm during the event. For more information please contact Ty Rohrer-Museum Supervisor at 847-336-1859 or the Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740 or visit www.waukeganparks.org.

20th Annual OAKWOOD CEMETERY WALK

FIRSTS IN WAUKEGAN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
12-3:30PM RAIN OR SHINE

Featured Stories Include:
 1st Waukegan Fair
 1st Waukegan Baseball Team
 Local Inventions
 Glen Rock Pop
 1st Airplane Ride
 Academy Theater
 1st Telephone
 1st Lighthouse

Ticket Prices
 \$3 in advance
 \$5 day of Cemetery Walk

Ticket Purchase Sites
 Jack Benny Center for the Arts, 39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park

Online Registration
www.waukeganparks.org

The Waukegan History Museum will be open 11am-4pm

Call 847-360-4740 or visit www.waukeganparks.org for more information

Cemetery Walks starts at Lilac Cottage, 1911 N. Sheridan Road in Bowen Park. Shuttle buses take participants to and from the cemetery. Buses depart Bowen Park at: 12pm Bus #4605 • 12:30pm Bus #4606 • 1:30pm Bus #4607 • 2pm Bus #4608 • 3:15pm Bus #4609
 Last Tour starts at 3:30pm. Last bus returns to Lilac Cottage at approximately 5pm.
NO PUBLIC PARKING AT OAKWOOD CEMETERY • THE CEMETERY WALK INCLUDES UNPAVED WALKWAYS & UNEVEN GROUND

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 735 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 59 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park District (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

9.5.14/Comm. Relations

Contact:

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