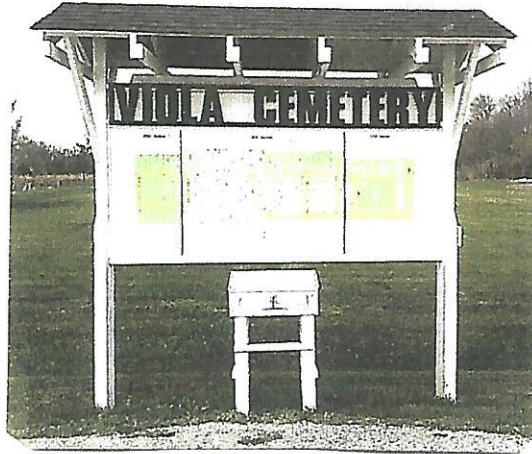


VIOLA CEMETERY NEWSLETTER



Hello and welcome to the second edition of the Viola Cemetery Newsletter. If you missed reading the first edition and would like a copy, please ask the cemetery sexton or committee member. We will be happy to give you a copy.

As you can see, improvements are ongoing. The cemetery map and corresponding book have been moved. They are now situated just outside of the entrance, making people more aware of their existence. We can already see an increase in their use.

New solar lights were installed at the cemetery entrance by our sexton. If you haven't seen them – after dark they have a beautiful glow. They also add a nice decorative feature to the pillars.

Soil has been put into place in the flatstone section, in preparation for our future 'Garden of Reflection'. Weather permitting, the sexton, staff, and several volunteers will be planting and building this spring. We're all anxious to get started on it! Monetary donations toward this project and new trees are always greatly appreciated. Memorial trees purchased with donated monies help to offer shade, create beauty, and offer a home for nesting birds.

Our cemetery sexton, Joel, continues to make flower holders. These holders fit over the gravestone concrete pad, which allows personnel to trim without destroying flowers. When artificial flowers are placed directly in the ground, this area cannot be trimmed. The flower holders are free and are located under the cemetery map and under the sign by the maintenance shed. Feel free to take and use them, but please limit it to one per grave.

Please note **cemetery cleanup** has been moved back to **March 1st**, to allow for spring/Easter decorating. Fall cleanup remains **October 1st**. At those times, **everything** is removed from the graves except shepherd hooks.

I hope you agree that our small cemetery is a pleasure to visit. In many cemeteries only standard maintenance is performed – mowing, weedeating, etc. Our sexton and committee members try to go that extra mile to make the Viola Cemetery a lovely place for people to visit.

Reminder: If you have a cemetery deed please contact Joel (309)221-0023 to have it registered. There is no charge and this helps with our record keeping.

