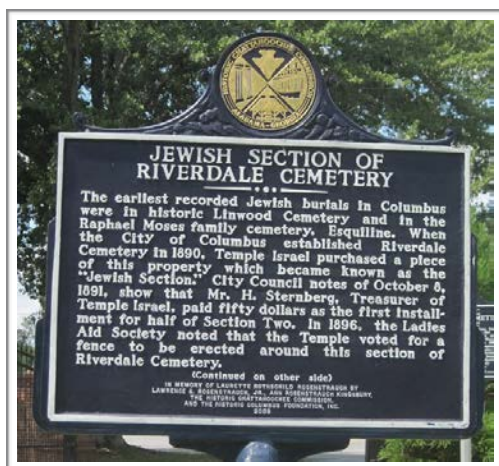




FALL 2018

## Hallowed Jewish Grounds



Historic marker in Riverdale Cemetery

Shortly after the establishment of Riverdale Cemetery in 1890, the congregation of B'nai Israel submitted an initial installment of fifty dollars by its treasurer, Mr. H. Sternberg for purchase of part of Section 2, as noted in the actions of Council for October 8, 1891. At this time a committee of the congregation was appointed to name the streets in this section; members included Mrs. Blatt (wife of Rabbi Joseph Blatt), Mr. David Rothschild and Mrs. Daisy Frank. A few years later the congregation, by then known as Temple Israel, installed fencing around the perimeter. The area includes Sternberg Rest, where services are held each year during the High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur. Since its early beginning, maintenance in this section has been handled – *beautifully* handled—by a representative of the Temple Israel congregation.

The Shearith Israel Congregation owns two other sections in Riverdale. One of these, at the northeast corner of the cemetery, is flanked by a brick wall and wrought iron gate, crested by an arch given by Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Grifenhagen in 1987. Nearby is the Kravtin Garden, dedicated in 1997 to the memory of Maurice Kravtin. These two areas are also maintained by their congregation.

Laurette Rothschild Rosenstrauch worked with Historic Columbus Foundation and Historic Chattahoochee Commission to gather and organize information for an historic marker commemorating these Jewish Sections. The marker was presented and dedicated in 2008 by her daughter and son, following her death.

Good News!

Darrell Meadows, Cemetery Division Chief, reports that Columbus Consolidated Government's Public Services Department is in 100% compliance with the American Public Works Association. This is the first time CCG has achieved this position, thanks to several years of continuing efforts. Additionally, CCG ranks #4 in the state among accredited Public Service Departments. As an important division of the Department, Linwood, Porterdale, Riverdale and East Porterdale Cemeteries are cared for by these hard-working folks!

## *The Dales Society*

Organized in 2012, The Dales Society seeks to promote and further the mission of the Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation: *to sustain and enhance the beauty and dignity of Riverdale, Porterdale and East Porterdale Cemeteries; to emphasize the shared heritage of the region while embracing the cultural and ethnic diversity of the families represented here; and to promote educational efforts highlighting the historical significance of those buried here.*

These are lofty ambitions and the Dales Society is making a difference in the Foundation's efforts to meet them. One way is by providing financial support through collection of annual membership dues. There are five categories:

**Level 1:** \$15.00; **Level 2:** \$30.00; **Level 3:** \$50.00;  
**Level 4:** \$100.00; and **Level 5:** other, (donor's choice)

Since its initiation, Dales Society membership contributions have complemented the support of other generous donors, businesses, and local foundations in providing the major source of income for the Foundation. These funds have supported events in the cemeteries, reprinting the foundation's brochure, and landscape renovations and security measures. The Society will become engaged in educational activities, particularly genealogical research opportunities for families of those buried in the three cemeteries.

Membership forms are available in the Riverdale Building, or you may request a form via the Contact Us page of the website, [www.riverdaleporterdale.org](http://www.riverdaleporterdale.org).

# Contributions and Renewals

Mr and Mrs. D. Hal Averett  
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U.S. Army

## Marker Art Military Emblems in Our Cemeteries



U.S. Coast Guard



U.S. Navy





P.O. Box 5128  
Columbus, GA 31906

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE**

Do you have a little free time?  
Do you like history... genealogy... research?  
Have we got a job for you!

Prefer sharing your time inside... or outside?  
We're flexible!

The Foundation has a list of services ranging from record keeping to landscaping, from techno-genius to techno-novice. We're even open to your suggestions of how you might improve what we do and how we do it.

Use the 'contact us' page on the Foundation website  
[www.riverdaleporterdale.org](http://www.riverdaleporterdale.org)  
to check out the possibilities.

