

Fall 2015



Nebraska's Historic State Cemetery

Stables Venue in Demand



Originally built in 1909 and on the National Register of Historic Places along with the cemetery, the stables formerly housed the horses that transported caskets to the cemetery. Once automobiles took the place of the horses, the stables were used primarily for storage.

Now the newly renovated and re-purposed space offers a central Lincoln location with ample parking for events such as meetings, company retreats, craft fairs, wedding receptions, family memorial gatherings, and graduation, holiday and other appropriate parties.

The Stables has two rooms that can accommodate 60 people each, one with restrooms and efficiency kitchen with a refrigerator and a microwave. In addition there is a large open courtyard surrounded by covered bays. Video media and WiFi available in both meeting rooms and the Stables is accessible. Third party catering allowed as well as self-catering. Any serving of alcohol must be by licensed vendors.

Available seven days a week with reasonable rental rates. Learn more:

wyukastables.com

Contact: events@wyukastables.com (402)525-6765



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“...time stands still inside Wyuka and one hears the silence of all its prayers.”

Several years ago, I was asked by a peer and board member about joining the Wyuka Historical Foundation Board. As a fifth generation Nebraskan descended from 1869 prairie homesteaders, Nebraska’s history and geography influences me. Knowing that Wyuka Cemetery was established by an act of the Nebraska Legislature in in that same year of 1869, to provide a “Lincoln State Cemetery” for the new capital city was enough of a historical coincidence for me to say yes and join the board.

After the past years of getting to know fellow board members and the trustees and seeing their dedication to making Wyuka a timeless beautiful asset for Lincoln, I decided to volunteer as the President: to really get inside Wyuka.

Heading downtown from the east, Wyuka parallels a long stretch of ‘O’ without a stoplight as the street rolls down toward Antelope Creek. With cemeteries on both sides the corridor acts almost as an accelerator lane and has been traversed countless times with most travelers exceeding the speed limit. But unlike the majority of those folks, you that are reading this have slowed down and have been inside Wyuka. You understand firsthand the beauty of the 140 acres of scenic, park-like cemetery with its winding brick roads that follow the lay of the land and the abundant trees, shrubs and numerous old and unique headstones.

For you, time stands still inside Wyuka and one hears the silence of all its prayers.

It is the generosity and commitment of you, our supporters, the foundation board and trustees that has brought about recent accomplishments. Inside Wyuka there has been the historic renovation of the Stables into a popular and frequently used performance and event venue, the restoration and the ongoing improvements to Rudge Chapel is addressing its viability as a useful, albeit small venue, and the annual Wreaths Across America event to decorate veteran’s graves will occur on December 12th.

Your support of Wyuka allows such a place to exist for the next generations of families that are or will become a part of Lincoln’s human fabric. Share our story with all you encounter, ask them to slow down and get inside Wyuka, so that the future of Wyuka is as lucent as this great small city that many of us call home.

Steve Peregrine

Flatwater Shakespeare Successful Return to the Swan Theatre

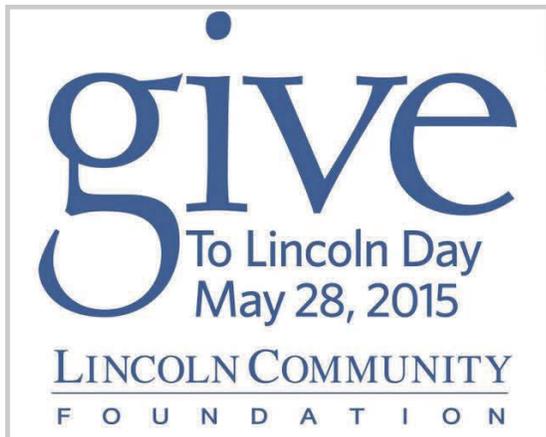
Flatwater opened once again to perform its William Shakespeare productions in the beautifully restored Swan Theatre at the Wyuka Stables. This unique open air setting is a perfect venue for the timeless works of Shakespeare, directed by masterful Bob Hall. "As You Like It" opened in early June and it was the beginning of the company's "Free in the Parks" tour which performed at various park locations throughout Lincoln during June with the final two shows in June back at The Swan. Flatwater Shakespeare's fall production, Hamlet, opened in September and ran for three weekends. Visit Flatwater Shakespeare's website and like their Facebook page for updates.



flatwatershakespearecompany.org



Give To Lincoln Day Donations



Thank you to eight donors providing \$1,165 to the Wyuka Historical Foundation during the Lincoln Community Foundation's annual Give to Lincoln Day.

For one day, a share of every donation made to local nonprofits was proportionately matched by a \$300,000 challenge match fund provided by the Lincoln Community Foundation and partner sponsors.

A total of 14,536 donors gave \$3,261,752 to 327 different nonprofits.

The Wyuka Historical Foundation looks forward to participating in the 2016 Give to Lincoln Day event.



Wreaths Across America Needs Your Help

The second Saturday in December, at Arlington National Cemetery and in hundreds of communities across the country, volunteers take time out of their lives to remember our veterans by placing wreaths on their graves.

Wreaths Across America began in 1992 and has spread nation-wide. This will be the sixth year that Wyuka Cemetery has participated in this program. At Wyuka Cemetery, hundreds of volunteers from the military, business and civic community, and our youth enter the gates of Lincoln's State Cemetery to place wreaths on veteran's graves.

The mission of Wreaths Across America is to **REMEMBER** the fallen, **HONOR** those who serve and their families, and **TEACH** our children about the commitment and sacrifice men and women have made to protect our freedoms. Wyuka is the only cemetery in Lincoln to participate in this Program. Last year 917 wreaths were placed on military graves in Wyuka Cemetery. We hope to significantly increase this number in 2015 and are looking for your donations to accomplish this.

State Capital Kickoff

Wamer Chamber: Monday, December 7, 11:00 am

Wreath Laying at Wyuka: Saturday, December 12, 9:30 am
Program starts at 11:00 am

The Air Force Association, Chapter 187 is using all donations toward the purchase of wreaths. The price of one wreath is (\$15) you can purchase three wreaths for the price of two (\$30). Our goal is for each veteran to have a wreath on their grave in Wyuka Cemetery.

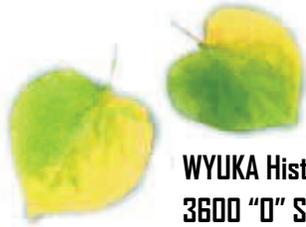
*Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)3
charitable organization*



Donations for wreaths are now being accepted. If you choose to participate online go to wreathsasscrossamerica.org. Please make sure the following information is included so that your wreath donation will be sent to Wyuka Cemetery:
Location ID: NEWYKC, Group ID: NE0001.

If you choose to send a check, make it out to Wreaths Across American, mail to:
Diane Bartels,
1801 Mindoro Dr., Lincoln NE 68506,
DBSharpie@aol.com
402-429-3342

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20th.



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The Latest

The restoration of Rudge Memorial Chapel is coming along beautifully and nearly complete. From the roof flashing and gutters where the new copper is gleaming to the ornate wooden doors now glowing with rich wood grain with its elaborate hardware polished. Ravaged by time and the elements, the exterior has been power washed and renewed and new landscaping has replaced the overgrown bushes. The interior has been illuminated by cleaning the stained glass and windows. The installation of new carpet and polishing the ornate oak woodwork and pews has transformed the austere interior while taking careful measures to maintain the chapels historical integrity.

The Stables venue is having great success with a new life for events and open courtyard performances. In recent months the stables has hosted a number of weddings and receptions, corporate and civic group meetings, family parties, funeral lunches, and *bom circo!* - Lincoln's newest circus. And the prestigious Flatwater Theater Company came home to its "Swan Theater" for its grand re-opening season of *As You Like It* in June and *Hamlet* in September.

The Wyuka trustees and the board of Wyuka Historical Foundation have been tirelessly dedicated to these projects and have met their goals in grand fashion. The preservation of our shared history continues to inspire these important endeavors.

Rudge Memorial Chapel
Built of Indiana limestone in the Gothic Revival style and completed in 1938, the cost of the chapel was donated by the family of Charles Rudge, who had grown a downtown hardware store into Rudge & Guenzel Department Store at 13th and N Streets before his death in 1921. The chapel's austere interior features a lovely oak pulpit carved with acorns and oak leaves. Funerals and occasional weddings are held in the small building, which seats about 75.

