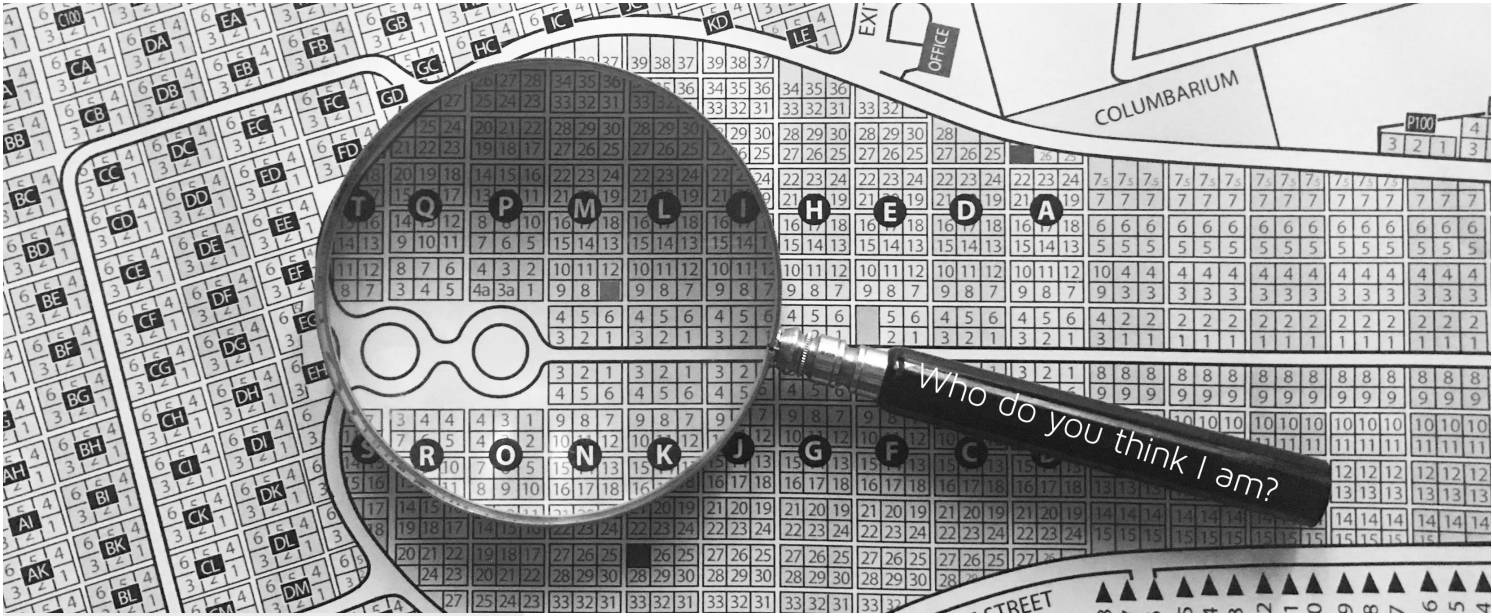


Friends of the Presbyterian Cemetery
907 Bailey St.
Lynchburg VA, 24504

News from the Friends of the
Presbyterian Cemetery

Fall & Winter 2018



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Christmas Shopping
For the book lover on your list, Remember-
ing the Fallen: A biographical study of the
Civil War interments at the Presbyterian Cem-
etry in Lynchburg, Virginia, by Beth White
makes an excellent gift (\$20). For those who
still value hand written notes, our Lamenting
Angel notecards are the perfect choice (\$10).
Both are available for purchase at the cem-
etry office or online through our website at
www.presbyteriancemeteryva.com.

Mailing List Update

If you had a change of address or are receiving duplicates of this newsletter, we would like to know. Also, in an attempt to be good stewards of our resources (financial and physical), we would like to know if you are interested in receiving our newsletter via email. If you would prefer an electronic version, please email the cemetery at office@presbyteriancemeteryva.com.

Volunteer

If you are looking for ways to volunteer at the Presbyterian Cemetery, please email us at office@presbyteriancemeteryva.com!

Upcoming Event:

“Who do you think I am?” Scavenger Hunt

Looking for ways to entertain out-of-town friends and family after feasting all day? In need of some exercise and mental stimulation after all that football? If so, then make plans to participate in the cemetery’s second-annual “Who do you think I am?” scavenger hunt.

The Friends of the Presbyterian Cemetery are hosting this Thanksgiving weekend fundrasier. The proceeds go towards preservation. The hunt is suitable for all ages and can be completed individually or as a group. The cost to participate is \$10 per family or group with the proceeds going toward cemetery preservation.

The hunt, which consists of using clues to find cemetery symbols, statuary, and gravestones, can be completed anytime between Thanksgiving Day and Sunday, November 25, at 5 p.m. Everyone who answers the riddles correctly and submits their answers by 5 p.m. Sunday will be entered in a drawing for a prize pack.

Hunts may be purchased in advance at the cemetery office or online through our website (www.presbyteriancemeteryva.com). Don’t delay! A limited number of hunts are available!

Stories in Stone: ‘Cap’n Bob’ Yancey

Photo: Jones Memorial Library



Robert “Cap’n Bob” Davis Yancey is one of the more colorful people buried at Presbyterian Cemetery, according to his daughter Rebecca Yancey Williams’ 1940 book, *The Vanishing Virginian*. The book is described in Rebecca’s 1976 obituary as “the tale of Cap’n Bob Yancey, his charming and absent-minded wife and all the Yancey children.” It was published in London in 1941 with the title, *Father was a Handful*.

In 1942, Metro-Goldwyn Mayer released *The Vanishing Virginian* on the silver screen. The world premiere was January 22 and 23, at Lynchburg’s Paramount Theatre. The movie starred Kathryn Grayson as Rebecca Yancey and Frank Morgan as Cap’n Bob. Football hall of famer “Bullet” Bill Dudley, famously escorted MGM actress Ruth Hussey at the premiere.

Long before “Cap’n Bob” was made famous on paper and film, Bob Yancey was a prominent lawyer in Lynchburg. According to the 1907 book, *Men of Mark in Virginia: Ideals of American Life*, by Lyon G. Tyler, he was born in Lynchburg on September 15, 1855.

Bob was the son of William T. Yancey, described in Tyler’s book as “a prominent lawyer of Lynchburg, who filled with distinction and ability the positions of commonwealth’s attorney and many times a delegate in the general assembly of Virginia.” Bob’s mother was Lucy E. Davis.

Bob’s family had a long military history. His great-grandfather, also named Robert Yancey, was a captain in the Revolutionary War. His grandfather, Joel Yancey, fought in the War of 1812, was a neighbor of Thomas Jefferson’s,

and lived on a plantation called Rothsay in what’s now known as Forest, Virginia.

Bob went to Virginia Military Institute and served in the Home Guard for many years. For seven years, he was a captain, which might have been where “Cap’n Bob” originated.

Bob was a graduate of the law school at the University of Virginia. He practiced law in Lynchburg, served as mayor of the town for two terms (1890-1892 and 1892-1894) and served as Commonwealth’s attorney for more than 30 years.

According to Tyler, Bob was an Episcopalian and an “old-line Democrat.” Bob lived with his family at 1502 Grace Street in Lynchburg, very close to Presbyterian Cemetery.

Bob died of heart disease on January 5, 1931, at age 75. He was buried at Presbyterian Cemetery in the family plot, Lot 4, Range 6. Rosa and two of their children, Elizabeth and Caroline, also are buried at Presbyterian.

Corporate Donations

- Bank of the James \$250
- Westminster Presbyterian Church \$250

Good Cemeterians

- \$ 10,000 +
- Robert and Cary Roberts

Monument Circle

- \$ 1,000-\$ 2,500
- Edward and Ulla Booth (given for Raymond Booth)
- John Tinsley

Garden Circle

- \$ 200-\$ 499
- Alice Appen
- Hanna Burrus
- Marion Barksdale
- Dixon Chipley
- Alfred C. Coleman
- Prescott Edmunds (given for Mr.& Mrs. Paul C Edmunds & Family & The Ivey Family)
- Sarah McBratney
- Constance Parramore

Gate Circle

- \$ 100- \$199
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- Shirley Caskie (given for Max Guggenheimer, Jr.)
- Edward Craighill
- Charles Crist
- Thomas Current
- Judy and Linnie Dudley
- Richard Fox
- Sallie Leys
- Jennipher and Mike Lucado
- Davis Petty
- Kimball Payne

Contributions

05.1.18 - 10.31.18

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- Betty Roberts (given for Jane T. Tyreee)
- Ruth and James Smith
- Nancy Strosnider
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- Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ward, Jr.

Contributions up to \$99

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- Jim Carrington
- Mary Glenn Cobb
- Betty Elliott
- James Harvey (given for Betsy Harvey)
- Doug Harvey (given for Wanda Carpenter)
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