



2021
Fall
Newsletter



CMS Annual Meeting
Sunday, October 24, 2021
2 - 4 p.m.
ZOOM Format*

Guest Speaker:

Ethan A. Welch, Attorney with Hickman & Lowder
Topic: Understanding the Basics of Estate Planning

Ethan Welch joined the firm of Hickman and Lowder in 2017 and his main area of focus is elder law, along with both Medicaid and special needs planning. Additionally, he focuses on estate management, trust and estate administration and probate. His extensive knowledge of elder law and special needs policies ensures his clients' rights are protected, securing their future.

Hickman & Lowder offers comprehensive services to meet the lifetime legal needs of children and adults with disabilities, the elderly, and their families. Offices are located in Cleveland, Sheffield Village, and Mentor. Hickman & Lowder has provided our speaker free of charge as a public service. We are most grateful!

***Note:** *in order to attend this online meeting,
you must submit your email address to info@clevememorialsociety.org for the link.*

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Your friends and family members are always welcome to attend our meetings to assist you with planning or simply better understand end-of-life topics.

ALSO OF RED LETTER IMPORTANCE!

The Election of Officers and Trustees - See the slate on page 2.

We value your input, feedback, and participation!

Speaking of participation.....we are seeking a treasurer and a website manager.

Interested? Email or call CMS!

Do those who love you know what to do in the event of your death should you be out of town? See page 3 for instructions.



Will you be traveling or relocating?

The Cleveland Memorial Society is part of a large network of other Funeral Consumer Alliances throughout the United States. The following is the link to the directory of FCAs that could prove invaluable in the event of a move or the death of a family member while on the road.

<https://funerals.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-08-04-FCA-Affiliate-Web-Directory.pdf>

As Board member Jackie Stimpert identified in our Spring 2021 newsletter, the website for the Funeral Consumers Alliance is a most user-friendly source of information:
www.funerals.org.

The Nominating Committee has recommended the following slate:

Officers:

President – Kate Smith
Vice President – Mark Binnig
Secretary – Doreen Kelleher
Treasurer –

Board members renewing a three-year term:

Jan Glasser (2024)
Doreen Kelleher (2024)

Continuing on the Board, terms to expire as noted:

Kate Smith (2022)
Mark Binnig (2022)
Don Stimpert (2022)
Jackie Stimpert (2022)

Mary Ellen Dawson (joining us from the FCANCO Board) (22)

The Rev. Heidi Barham (2023)
Chip Joseph (2023)
Megan Slatinsky (2023)



We thank Mary Dietzen for serving 5 years on the Board. We will miss her eagle editing eye and her strong commitment to the Society. Lalescia Hurt, Adaire Petrichor, and Jean LaRiche all needed to cut their terms short due to family and personal obligations. We are sorry to lose Lalescia's outreach skills, Adaire's commitment to death cafes and the broader death movement, and Jean's Treasurer and bookkeeping skills. We wish them all well in their other endeavors.

Somebody should tell us, right at the start of our lives, that we are dying. Then we might live life to the limit, every minute of every day... There are only so many tomorrows.

Pope Paul VI

What If I Die Out Of Town

Your survivors/travel companions should look online or in a telephone book for the nearest Memorial Society. A list of all societies is at www.funerals.org/affiliates. This group may be called a "Funeral Consumer Alliance." Call them and ask what services are available on a reciprocal basis. Some groups are like our Society and have contracts with one or more local funeral directors. Others simply offer recommendations and advice. Flying a body on an airplane is expensive. The airlines, however, will allow you to carry cremated remains with you. Go to the website www.funerals.org or call our national office at 1-800-765-0107 for complete information.

Suggestion – Gather your Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare, your Living Will, and your Durable Power of Attorney. Go to a photocopy machine. Push the "Reduce" button on the copy machine. Make the copies of each of these documents as small as possible, but still readable, by copying the reduced version one or more times. Put the small copies next to your Memorial Society membership card which should be next to your driver's license, healthcare card and other identification. This way, you can carry your advance health care directive documents with you everywhere and at all times.



What If I Die In Another Country

First, take some simple steps before you leave home. Leave a copy of your passport at home. Pack your reduced-size documents; a note stating what you want done with your remains and your Memorial Society card. Take them with you.

Before going abroad, register your itinerary and emergency contacts with the State Department. You can do this online at www.travel.state.gov. Provide emergency contacts on your passport application and put them in your passport, too. Carry with you the names and phone numbers of your doctor and dentist.

If death occurs overseas, the traveling companion should contact the American Embassy or Consulate immediately. Do this before contacting the family in the U.S. A cablegram is sent from the American Embassy overseas post directly to the next-of-kin with official notification of the death and an outline of options available, along with costs. These options vary widely from one country to the next. The Department of State can be reached at 202-647-5225 or 202-647-4000 after 10 p.m. EST. The Overseas Citizens Services operates 24-hours. Call 202-647-5226.

**Now give this page to your daughter, son,
grandchild, neighbor and/or friend so THAT PERSON
will know what to do as well.**

Did you know?

- You can change your designated Funeral Director at any time.*
- Your CMS has reciprocity with many other Funeral Consumer Alliances.*

Meet Our Donors, for whom we are most grateful!

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Please use the envelope included with this newsletter or fill out and send in the form below.

MY SPECIAL GIFT OF \$ _____ IS ENCLOSED

Name (as you would like it to appear)

Address _____

Email address _____

Phone _____

My group would like to have a Memorial Society speaker. Call me at _____.

Please return your donation and this tear-off slip in the attached envelope to:

**Cleveland Memorial Society
21600 Shaker Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44122**



Donations

Without your generous donations and assistance, we could not go forward with our work! We are reluctant to ask you again for a contribution, but since we do not have any annual dues, we must rely on your generosity. An envelope is included for your convenience and thank you for your continuing support.

If You Move

PLEASE let us know if you move. Whether it is moving in with your son or daughter, across town, into assisted living, or out-of-state, we do not want to lose touch with you! Did you know that if you move to another area you can transfer your Memorial Society membership to your new locale, usually for free? We'll help you do that if only you tell us where you are going! Help us help you – and your family!

Let's save some trees together!
Would you rather receive your CMS bi-annual newsletter electronically? Do you sometimes forget to recycle the paper copy delivered by the Post Office? Let us know and help us reduce our footprint by emailing your copy directly to you.
**Either send us an email at info@clevelandmemorialsociety.org
or call us at 216-751-5515.**

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT CHOOSING YOUR DESIGNATED FUNERAL DIRECTOR (OR NOT)

Everyone is welcome to join the Memorial Society and receive the benefits of membership, including current information about end-of-life topics, funeral and estate planning, meetings, discussion groups, guest speakers and the newsletter. *HOWEVER*, Should you choose NOT to choose your funeral director from our list of contracted funeral homes, you would not qualify for the CMS pricing.

Cleveland Memorial Society
21600 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44122

Phone: 216-751-5515
www.clevememorialsociety.org

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STANDARD
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PAID PERMIT
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CHAGRIN FALLS, OH
44022

These funeral directors are our contracted participating firms:

Best Funeral Home
15809 Madison Road
Middlefield, OH 44062
(440) 632-0818

**Busch Funeral and
Crematory Services**
4334 Pearl Road
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-741-7700

**Cummings & Davis Funeral
Home**
13201 Euclid Avenue
East Cleveland, OH 44112
216-541-1111

Dicken Funeral Home
323 Middle Ave.
Elyria, OH 44035
440-322-3224

Fioritto Funeral Home
5236 Mayfield Road
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
440-442-5900

Hummel Funeral Homes
500 East Exchange St.
Akron, OH 44304
330-253-6126

**Maher-Melbourne Funeral
Home**
5236 Mayfield Road
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
216-382-4500

Malloy Memorial Service
1575 W. 117th Street
Cleveland, OH 44107
216-221-3380

**McMahon-Coyne-Vitantonio
Funeral Home**
6330 Center Street
Mentor, OH 44060
440-255-1655

Shapiro Funeral Services
27099 Miles Road
Orange Village, OH
44022-2130
440-498-1993

**Thompson, Smith,
Nesbitt Funeral Home**
345 Main Street
Conneaut, OH 44030
440-599-8106