

# **SAVE THE DATE**

## **CEMETERY PRESERVATION WORKSHOP**

**June 14, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Sponsored by the  
Kankakee Community College  
Instructors:

Dawn Cobb, Illinois Department of Natural Resources and  
John & Geni Heider, Restoration in Progress (R.I.P)

This cemetery preservation workshop will be presented in two parts by Dawn Cobb, archaeologist with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and John Heider, R.I.P., Ltd. They frequently lecture on understanding cemeteries and the laws protecting them as well as cemetery preservation. They also provide hands-on training for the proper repair and resetting techniques used to fix grave markers.

**Part 1** is a Power point presentation on **June 14, 2024, Kankakee Community College, South Extension Center, 1488 E. Walnut, Watseka, Room #SE05, from 9:30 a.m.-noon**. The presentation will focus on why we preserve cemeteries and the basic methods we use to do this. Our work is mostly on the cleaning, repairing, and resetting of marble markers that are common in nearly all cemeteries in Illinois. We will also discuss the Do's and Don'ts of cemetery preservation to help the audience understand why some methods will work to preserve the gravestones and why other methods will damage them. Using improper methods and products will lead to a loss of important information.

**Part 2** is a hands-on training workshop on **June 14, 2024, Body Cemetery, 1400 N 2000 East Road, Watseka, from 1-4 p.m.** Parking is available at the cemetery. By "hands-on", we really mean hands-on. Workshop participants will be probing for and exposing buried grave markers, cleaning the markers, and learning how to straighten and reset a marker. We will be working with simple tablet markers. All participants are strongly encouraged to learn each of the methods to ensure the continued preservation of historic cemeteries.

What you need for the workshop:

– be open to new ideas and methods

– Lunch is on your own and there are plenty of local restaurants. Please bring drinking water, a lawn chair, and a pair of gloves. Dress for the season and wear sturdy shoes. There are no restrooms at the cemetery.

The workshop is limited to **12** participants.

**Fee: \$75 per person, or \$125 per same household couple.**

**RAIN DATE – JUNE 21**