



## Summer 2009 Newsletter

*We apologize for this abbreviated newsletter, but the tree crisis has occupied a lot of time! Peter Miazza's wonderful stories of Greenwood's inhabitants will continue with the next issue.*

*Enjoy the brochure and share it with a friend.*

On May 6, after days of heavy rain, a fierce storm blew through the cemetery and toppled a massive oak tree near Lamar Street and the grave of Secretary of State James Lynch. Secretary Lynch's grave was not damaged, but many headstones in adjoining lots were toppled, including the angel pictured on the front of the cemetery brochure. The Berberovich mausoleum was heavily damaged.

After observing the city's first attempt at clearing the tree, the association officers voted to hire a private contractor to remove the crown in order to prevent further damage to the monuments which were underneath it. Mike Lowe and crew from Christian Tree Service did an outstanding job of carefully removing the small limbs and cutting the large logs and placing them away from the monument pieces.

In order to facilitate the removal of the bigger logs, the city sent a backhoe in to push the logs closer to the road so that they could be picked up by a "clam shell". In one large section, all the monument pieces were pushed into the pile with the logs! The backhoe also created deep ruts over a row of graves. Association officers were outraged and called WLBT to publicize the situation.

Discussions with city officials resulted in a large crew being sent to carefully move the logs, cut them into smaller pieces and haul them away.

The large trunk section and stump are still awaiting removal and the city doesn't have the equipment to handle the job, or money to hire someone to do it.

Association officers are pursuing all leads in hopes of finding an individual or company that can help us finish this part of the clean-up.

The next step will be placing and repairing the monuments. Brookhaven Monument Co. is standing by to help. Dave Pace and his crew have already been very generous and will perform these tasks at sharply discounted prices

### **What's Needed?**

- Donations to help with the costs of clean-up and repair
- Photos of Section 4 to help determine where the monuments should be
- Volunteers to help with repairing damage to the landscape

## Some Good News!

- Much progress was made in clean-up and repair of graves prior to Eudora Welty's birthday and many visitors were observed. Kudos to the Master Gardeners and other volunteers who helped with the clean-up and landscaping. Brookhaven Monument donated two marble benches at the Welty gravesite.
- For \$500 donation to the Cemetery Association, Brookhaven Monument will engrave a bench with your family name and place it where you want it in the cemetery. This is a limited offer so please act quickly.
- Greenwood was the subject of an article in the April issue of *Portico Magazine*.
- Instructors at Millsaps and Hinds Community Colleges regularly bring classes of students to the cemetery for field work in various subjects including sociology, statistics, photography and nursing.
- The renovation of the Summer House seems to have inhibited its use as temporary housing.

*Special thanks to WLBT for excellent coverage of the tree crisis.*

For more information or to comment on this newsletter, contact Cecile Wardlaw, Secretary, Greenwood Cemetery Association, at [cecilewardlaw@comcast.net](mailto:cecilewardlaw@comcast.net) or 601-981-6776

*The Association fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. Contributions are appreciated always. The Greenwood Cemetery Association is a 501c-3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.*

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Greenwood Cemetery Association  
P.O. Box 55783, Jackson, MS 39296-5783**

Enclosed is my tax-deductible membership contribution \$ 25

I would like to make an additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal       New Member

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Family names of relatives at Greenwood: \_\_\_\_\_