

“Optimist OPTICS” - continued



**Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble**

Financial Support

YMCA
Camp Carson



Ron Eberhart once again introduced our speaker, Chris Cooke. He explained his duties to maintain graves of over 100,000 residents in Oak Hill and Locust Hill cemeteries, the two City owned cemeteries.

The City recently leased land on the Morgan Avenue side of the cemetery to Vectren for forty years for a solar farm. There are 572 deceased Civil War veterans in Oak Hill. The City has to maintain this area forever. Not sure about the math, but Chris said there are 500 Union soldiers and 98 Confederate soldiers. Of those buried there, 24 of the Union soldiers were from Evansville.

Chris showed a number of pictures of the evolution of Oak Hill since 1853. Also, there is sheet music dedicated to Oak Hill Cemetery dated 1906.

James Bethel Gresham is buried at Oak Hill. They claim he was the first man killed in WWI when fighting in France.

There are other events that take place in the cemetery. How would you like to tell your grandchildren you were married in Oak Hill? I guess that is called planning ahead.

There will be a more in-depth lecture this fall at the Central Library.

Gary Burk



Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 11:45am
Old National Bank Building, Downtown; Blue and Gold Room
Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905
www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org
Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.