

**Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central Ohio**  
**P.O. Box 14835**  
**Columbus OH 43214-8035**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-profit organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Columbus, Ohio  
Permit NO. 1541

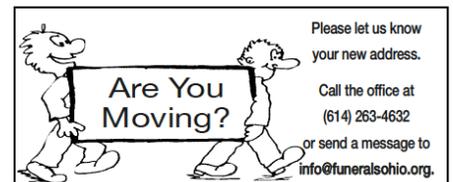
Fall 2018

### **SAVE THE DATES!**

- 1. Our Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 12 PM**
- 2. We will host a fundraising concert featuring folk singer Bill Cohen on Saturday, June 29, 2019 at 7 PM (Both at 93 W. Weisheimer Rd, Columbus**

FCACO attempts to verify all information in this newsletter. Legal questions should be directed to your attorney.

(Households with two different surnames are often mangled by mail-merge. We apologize for any strange labels.)



### **CHECK OUT THESE USEFUL DOCUMENTS**

#### **From our website [www.funeralsohio.org](http://www.funeralsohio.org):**

1. Survivors Checklist
2. Ohio Disposition Form (to designate a person to arrange disposition of your remains)
3. What To Do When Death Occurs

#### **From the national website: [www.funerals.org](http://www.funerals.org)**

(Go to: *Resources*, then to *FAQ pamphlets*)

1. Green Burial
2. Should You Prepay Your Funeral?
3. Death Away From Home
4. Embalming Explained
5. Cremation Explained



# FCACO

Funeral Consumers Alliance  
of Central Ohio  
P.O. Box 14835  
Columbus OH 43214  
(614) 263 4632  
[www.funeralsoh.org](http://www.funeralsoh.org)

# News

Serving the Central Ohio Community since 1953

## **FCACO Mission Statement**

- To promote end-of-life planning and preparation
- To outline practical steps to be taken before death
- To inform and instruct the public concerning the funeral industry
- To offer reasonably priced options for dealing with remains at death
- To monitor the funeral industry on a local and statewide level
- To maintain public awareness through action, education and publications

## **Funeral Advice You Can Trust**

Founded in 1953, FCACO is a 501(C)3 organization run entirely by volunteers who have no connection to the funeral industry or any religious group. Our service area for members includes Columbus and surrounding counties, serving Springfield, Urbana, Yellow Springs, and Dayton.

FCACO is an affiliate of the national organization: Funeral Consumers Alliance, which is actively involved in improving regulations of the funeral industry through the Federal Trade Commission. Many useful resources may be found on its website, [www.funerals.org](http://www.funerals.org).

## **2018-2019 Board Members:**

President: Marylou MacDonald  
Past President: Vivian Fiscus  
President Elect: Su Ann Farnlacher  
Treasurer: Celia Elkins  
Recording Secretary: Vivian Fiscus  
Membership Secretary: Cathy Elkins  
Director: Sharon Oliver  
Director: Michel Coconis  
Director: Nancy Alonzo  
Director: Jef Ganblee

## **From the President's Desk** **Marylou MacDonald**

Fall and winter often are the dig-deeper-into business seasons and indeed your FCACO Board is reviewing our Mission statement and delving into our future with strategic planning sessions for the next five years. We are asking ourselves where are we going, and, we are asking you what would you like us to do?

FCACO is a 1,227 member, financially strong affiliate of the national Funeral Consumer Alliance, headquartered in Burlington, VT.

FCACO's *Code of Regulations* states that our Mission, in part, "is a non-profit corporation dedicated to helping individuals prepare for end-of-life needs and choices. The Corporation will advocate consumer choice and economy in the disposition of remains, promote the dignity and uncomplicated preparation for funerals through education and information about consumers' rights, arrange through licensed funeral directors or appropriate legal advisors for its members and their families such lawful disposition of the remains of deceased persons as they desire, assist persons in advance of death in planning for the disposition of their remains and for such memorial services as they desire and to assist the next of kin in carrying out such plans, and monitor the local funeral industry in the interest of ensuring informed choice."

So, I'm pleased to report research on local funeral homes' pricing has just been completed by Board member, Jef Gamblee, to update our survey of General Price Lists for three types of funerals: direct cremation, direct burial and the least expensive full service funeral. When this list is in final format, it will be posted on our website: [www.funeralsohio.org](http://www.funeralsohio.org). Hard copy will also be available upon request.

Informative sessions are held on a quarterly basis after the 11 a.m. winter worship service at First UU Church of Columbus, 93 W. Weisheimer Rd., Columbus 43214. Judging from the dozen or

(continued on page 3).

## Resources for Your Planning Folder

### Body Donation

OSU: (614) 292-4832: <http://go.osu.edu/bodydonation>

WSU: Boonshoft School of Medicine, Dayton OH  
(937) 775-3966; [www.med.wright.edu/agp](http://www.med.wright.edu/agp)

### Organ Donation

LOOP (Lifeline of Ohio Organ Procurement); (877) 223-6667  
[www.lifelineofohio.gov/probate](http://www.lifelineofohio.gov/probate)

**Advanced Directives forms:** Franklin County Probate Court:  
[www.franklincountyohio.gov/probate](http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/probate)

**Funeral Consumers Alliance:** [www.funerals.org](http://www.funerals.org)

**Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central Ohio:** [www.funerasloh.org](http://www.funerasloh.org)  
(planning forms, newsletters, membership application, donations, etc.)

**FCACO contracted providers for discounted services to members:**

Columbus Area: Cook & Son-Pallay (614) 444-7861

Dayton/Springfield area: Conroy Funeral Home: (937) 324 4973

## We Thrive on Your Generosity!



If you are thinking of tax-deductible donations before 2019, please consider a gift to FCACO. We have no paid staff members, but we have costs for printing, mailing, maintaining a website and telephone service. We serve our members at the time of need, and also are a resource to the larger central Ohio community.

Mail a check to: FCACO

P.O. Box 14835 Columbus OH 43214

Or you can donate online at  
[www.funeralsohio.org](http://www.funeralsohio.org)

## Engage With Us on Social Media

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/funeralconsumersallianceofcentralohio>



**Join Twitter:** <https://twitter.com>

Visit our page: <https://twitter.com/ColumbusFuneral>

Tweet to us: @ColumbusFuneral

**Affiliate information:** <https://t.co/E9Jm5JEgvt> : If you are moving use this URL to find an affiliate which you can contact to transfer your membership.



**We invite your inquiries or comments:**

Email us at [info@funeralsohio.org](mailto:info@funeralsohio.org)

Call (614) 263 4632

**FCACO Website QR code:**  
or: [www.funeralsohio.org](http://www.funeralsohio.org)



**FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK: (continued from page 1)**

so folks present at the last session, we know there is a desire to learn more, so plans are underway for more formal sessions with professionals present to help simplify the stages in preplanning by reviewing necessary forms and motivating you to get down to the business of making decisions for a tidy end. 60% of Americans do not have wills. It’s best not to be in that percentile. Your survivors will thank you for being organized. See page 2 for a sample of educational brochures available on the websites of FCACO and FCA.



**Our New Office: Back Where We Started**

This summer, to save money, we moved out of our former office, shared with Women in Music, and into the basement of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus. FCACO, started by members of this church in the 1950's, has had offices in the home of Phyllis Byard, at 3 different N. High St. addresses & now we are back in the U.U. church.

(Cathy Elkins seated at a makeshift desk)

## BODY DONATION

By Cathy Elkins

As the Membership Secretary for Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central Ohio, I am often asked questions about body and organ donations. Our Newsletter always has a section on “Resources For Your Planning Folder” where you may find contact information on this and other topics.

In central Ohio, both Ohio State University and Wright State University accept body donations. Each school has required forms that need to be completed before death occurs. There are quite a few reasons bodies are declined, even if all paperwork is in order and on file. Anyone, free of contagious diseases, at least 18 years of age, and of sound mind, may register. Body donations are regarded as unselfish gifts that benefit medical education and research. The bodies are treated with utmost respect. When the study is completed, the body is cremated and the cremains may be returned to the family or interred at a designated location. An annual memorial service is held for families at the universities.

Organ donations, except for eyes, must be from living donors. Lifeline of Ohio and Central Ohio or Lions Eye Bank have valuable information on organ and tissue donation. Willingness to donate can also be indicated on one’s driver’s license or state ID.

All of these organizations emphasize the importance of talking to one’s family, friends, doctors, and lawyer about these plans. Since an organ may be declined at the last minute, be sure to have a “Plan B” for body disposition in place and in writing.