

From the community

Pioneer Cemeteries Being Restored



By Terry Kelly

at 2:19 p.m.



written by:

Terry Kelly, Palatine Township Assessor

Two of Palatine Township's five historic pioneer cemeteries recently were the beneficiary of some much needed tender loving care and repair work performed by Stonehugger Cemetery Restoration.

Stonehugger is helping to restore these cemeteries to their proper dignity. Stonehugger Cemetery Restoration is a recognized leader in restoring pioneer cemeteries.

Cady Cemetery in Inverness and Hillside Cemetery in Palatine is where this important work was recently done. Our Township pioneer cemeteries are where many of the areas founders are buried. The Stonehugger crew, lead by owner Helen Wildermuth, spent a week in Palatine Township, working on the two cemeteries. Each cemetery will take several years to completely restore. Thanks in large part to the generous donations from the Palatine Historical Society and from the Clarinda Cady Questers many headstones were able to be restored at these two pioneer cemeteries.

What is fascinating is that Stonehugger Restoration uses no chemicals, just water and good old fashioned elbow grease when cleaning the stones. Broken stones are repaired using the same type of mortar originally used some 100 years ago. The transformation is unbelievable. In fact, one member of the Palatine Township Cemetery Committee called the work done by Stonehugger's a "miracle." The tremendous improvements are shown in the before and after pictures.

If you would like more information on the Township's historic pioneer cemeteries please contact Palatine Township at 847-358-6700.