



OFFICERS

President
WOODY WILSON
Marysville

1st Vice-President
JAY MOFFETT
Columbus

2nd Vice-President
ROD GUTHRIE
Dayton

3rd Vice-President
GEORGE PUGH
Steubenville

Sergeant-at-Arms
ROBERT MAYER
Pittsburgh

Secretary
DAVID HICKS
Cincinnati

Treasurer
WILLIAM PEOPLES
Marietta

ADVISORY BOARD

ADAM GLENN
Akron

DARRELL WAITE
Medina

BRUCE BOROWSKI
Newton Falls

BRIAN EGER
Mogadore

LYNN ZECHMAN
Springfield

TRUSTEES

DON KINCAID
Albany

GEORGE EASTMAN
New London

DAN BECKER
Struthers

TRUSTEE EMERITUS

LESTER WAKEHAM
ROBERT INMAN



FOCUS

... on the activities of the OHIO EMBALMER ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 621320 • Cincinnati, OH 45262-1320

No. 138
Fall 2024

'Procrastinator Special' 2024 November 13, 2024

WatersEdge – Lakeview Event Center
4643 Trueman Blvd. Hilliard, OH 43026

6 hours have been applied for in OH

Cost is \$125 Members. Non- Members \$225.

DAY AT A GLANCE

- 8-8:45am Registration and Coffee
9-11 Robert G. Mayer – A Retrospective of 65 Years in the Preproom
11-12 David Hicks – Embalming Unknowns
12-1pm – Lunch
1-2 Brandon Catchen & Eric Northrup – Biohazard and Unattended Death Clean up
2-4 David Hicks – Restricted Cervical Injection

ACCOMMODATIONS

Rooms are being held at the Hampton Inn & Suites – Columbus Hilliard, 3950 Lyman Dr. Hilliard, OH 43026 (Cemetery Rd Exit off of I-270). 614.334.1800. or on www.ohemb.com. Find accommodation for the current seminar and click the booking link. The Room block will be held until Oct 22, 2024. Room rate is \$109.

2025 Dates & Locations

Dates are being finalized for Winter and Fall. Winter will probably be Mar 12 or 19. Location TBD. The Fall will probably be September 17 or 24. Location TBD. The annual Spring Seminar with Embalmers Assoc of Cleveland will be Wednesday May 7, 2025. Check the website for more info and dates.
www.ohemb.com.

Dues

If you would like to pay dues with registration for this upcoming CE Event, just add \$50 to your registration fee for each licensee being registered.

Cut out and return with payment registration form

OEA 'Procrastinator Special' Seminar - November 13, 2024

WatersEdge - Lakeview Event Center - Hilliard, Ohio
\$125 Members and \$225 Non Members (includes dues)

If non-member, please use space below for your current mailing address:

Name _____
Embalmer's license # _____ Member ID _____
Address _____
City / State / Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Contact the
Secretary if any questions.
513.384.7846 or
hchicks@me.com

Please complete form (or photocopy) and send with the appropriate check and postage to:
O.E.A., PO Box #621320, Cincinnati, Ohio 45262-1320. 513.384.7846 www.ohemb.com.
Visit www.ohemb.com (Newly Designed) or Contact David Hicks 513.384.7846



Topics

A Retrospective of Sixty-Five Years in the Preparation Room 2hr

Robert G. Mayer, Jr. looks back over the years 1959 to 2024 in a two-hour, lecture/ power point presentation of his 65 active years in funeral service.

From unlicensed employee to licensee in Ohio and Pennsylvania - mortuary college instructor – seminar presenter – primary author/editor for five editions of the textbook, *Embalming: History, Theory and Practice*. Mayer has practiced in the Pittsburgh area as a fulltime trade embalmer for the past 56 years.

The seminar places emphasis on the importance of mentors and associations such as the Ohio Embalmers. Changes discussed include the definition of embalming – chemicals and sundries - preparation room environment and conditions of the deceased.

All practitioners have “personal preferences” and Mayer demonstrates those protocols and practices that have worked well for him over the years. Emphasis is placed on the value of *restricted cervical injection* and its value with daily issues including: jaundice, obesity, renal failure, edema, delayed preparation and delayed viewing and/or disposition. Finally, a discussion of the preparation of the deceased for identification and/or viewing where standard embalming was not permitted.

In March 1963 Mayer attended his first meeting with the Ohio Embalmers in Cleveland at Case Western Reserve University amphitheater where Edward C. Johnson prepared a gunshot victim in the morning – the afternoon program was by Cuyahoga coroner Dr. Sam Gerber – this was the 26th annual spring meeting with the Cleveland Embalmers.

Mayer a member of OEA since 1966 and Board member since 2007,

Presented his first slide seminar for Ohio Embalmers Association in March 1972 – 52 years ago – at the 37th Annual Spring Educational Meeting in Cleveland.

He continues working at age 83 for the Thomas J. Soxman Funeral Home in the Pittsburgh suburb of Plum, Pennsylvania.

TOPICS

Embalming Unknowns 1hr – David Hicks

This program explores the art and the science of embalming. What we don't know about the deceased... "embalming unknowns" can affect the embalming outcomes and perhaps the personal health of the embalmer. Some of these unknowns are cause of death, comorbidities, time intervals between death and embalming. Hicks will discuss these and other unknowns and how we might learn some of the unknowns to effectively embalm the deceased and thus better serve our families.

At the conclusion of this program the attendee should

- Be able to define comorbidities and their effect on the embalming process.
- Have a better understanding of the need for case analysis.
- Have a better understanding of chemical selections.

Biohazard and Crime Scene Cleanup 1hr – Brandon Catchen, Eric Northrup

Brandon and Eric will discuss the process of cleaning up unattended deaths that meets guidelines of health and safety and local regulations. The repair and restoration of the rooms and or homes are also shred in this presentation. The back stories of the deceased and circumstances in which they were found are discussed. The most interesting part of this presentation is the human connection made between the families of the deceased and Brandon and Eric. The value of the psychological healing given to the families left to deal with such circumstances is very gratifying.

Restricted Cervical Injection 2 hr – David Hicks

This talk provides the attendee with several scenarios to use the restricted cervical method (RCI) of injection. The different types of cases presented in this lecture include: edemic, trauma, jaundiced, and delayed viewing. Real case examples help to demonstrate how useful the RCI technique is for the challenges with which the embalmer is faced. Solutions and types of fluid to use round out this discussion.



OEA
P.O. BOX 621320
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45262-1320

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
US POSTAGE PAID
CINCINNATI, OH
PERMIT NO. 9356

MEET THE SPEAKERS

Robert G. Mayer, FBIE

His interest in funeral service was generated by stories about his paternal grandfather – Harry H. Orr who was employed by his cousin Fred Orr and the Orr Funeral Home. Orr Funeral Home and Shriver-Allison company merged in early 1940.

Mayer is a 1960 Boardman High School graduate; 1963 honors graduate of the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science; 1967 Youngstown University graduate with a B.A. in Biology. In 1992 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Professional Studies by the Pittsburgh Institute.

Licensed embalmer and funeral director in the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Since 1968 he has provided embalming services for funeral homes in the greater Pittsburgh area as the owner of a trade embalming service. He continues in that work today.

He was employed by the Davis-Velker Funeral Home of Boardman, Ohio from 1959 to 1967. From 1967 to 1982 Mayer was a full-time lecturer and clinical instructor at the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. Since 1982 he has remained an adjunct member of the faculty. Subjects taught included: Embalming Lecture and Labs, Restorative Art and Mortuary Cosmetology, and Mortuary Law.

He has written numerous articles for funeral service publications and is the primary author/editor of the textbook, ***Embalming: History, Theory and Practice***. First published in 1990 by McGraw-Hill of New York City; the 5th edition was issued in December 2011. Mortuary schools in the United States, Canada, Australia, Great Britain, Ireland, France, Germany, Korea, Japan and Mexico use the book. It is a publication of the American Board of Funeral Service Education. A Spanish edition was released in 2013 by the NFDA and a German edition in 2015.

Since 1972 Mr. Mayer has conducted well over 200 embalming demonstrations, seminars and workshops in over 35 states, Great Britain and Ireland. For five consecutive years he was a presenter, by request, at NFDA national conventions. He has served on the American Board of Funeral Service Education curriculum review for the subjects of embalming and restorative art.

Professional memberships include Ohio Embalmers Association, National Funeral Directors Association, Allegheny County Funeral Directors Association, North American Division of the British Institute of Embalmers., he is one of four U.S. embalmers to be recognized as a "Fellow." In 2009 he was given a Resolution for Lifetime Achievement by the NFDA and presented a Lifetime Membership in the Allegheny County Funeral Directors Association. In 2010 Mayer along with Robert Inman and Don Sawyer was a Distinguished Guest of Honor at the First International Embalming and

Constructive Surgery Conference for Professional Embalmers hosted by Vernie Fountain in Springfield, Missouri. In 2011 he was elected the first honorary member of the European Association of Embalmers. In January 2012 he received a Lifetime of Achievement Award, the first ever given, from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. In April 2012, the American Board of Funeral Service Education recognized him as an "Outstanding Funeral Service Professional."

He resides in the Shadyside area of Pittsburgh. A member of Shadyside Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Board of Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Boardman, Ohio. He is affiliated with the Soxman Funeral Home in Plum, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

David G. Hicks

David has been in funeral service for over 30 years. Licensed in Ohio and Kentucky, he worked 10 years as a funeral director embalmer at two Cincinnati funeral homes. In 2002 David moved into the classroom where he spent 9 years teaching mortuary science. Hicks started with Pierce Chemical in 2011 as a sales representative. At Pierce Chemical, Hicks is able to draw on his experience in the field and classroom to educate, train and solve problems today's embalmer and funeral director face. Hicks has earned the respect and friendship of clients all over the US and abroad. His skills in embalming and restorative art make him highly sought after for consultation and continuing education and training.

Brandon Catchen

Brandon has been in funeral service most of his young life. He is licensed in Kentucky and is a graduate of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science. The grandson of funeral home owner, Don Catchen, Brandon grew up around the funeral home. He worked at the family funeral home for over 13 years serving in all aspects of the business. Brandon also worked with the Coroner for Kenton Co. It was here he saw the need for assisting families and funeral homes in cleaning up tragic, unattended deaths and crime scenes and then restoring the area to like new conditions. Brandon is married to his wife, Ashley and has two daughters and newborn son.

Eric Northrup

Eric has a background in starting non-profit businesses. He is NOT from the funeral industry.

He saw the value and the need of what Brandon/SCU were doing and wanted to join him and use his skills to grow the business model. Eric is a visionary at core in creating a brand and culture. Eric is married to his wife Kristan. Together they have three daughters.