

OPC Newsletter



MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve,
protect and
maintain the
history,
environment,
and value of
Oswego Pioneer
Cemetery,
resting place of
Lake Oswego's
founding families
and citizens,
for the education,
enjoyment and
use of future
generations.

EDITOR

Dianne C. Johnson

BRASS BAND RESEARCH

Steve Dietz

PHOTO CREDITS

Lake Oswego Public Library

Joe Collins

Richard Santee

Letter from the President

Another year has flown by and thanks to the strong support of our community the Oswego Pioneer Cemetery (OPC) is thriving and alive with activity. We have added two new members to our board of directors, **Linda Dietz** and **Nancy Flye**, and look forward to putting their considerable talents and knowledge of our community to good use.

When you visit the cemetery you might notice white-capped pipes level with the



ground. The pipes were installed at the graves of our veterans and will hold the American flags used to commemorate their military service on special occasions. The pipe holders simplify the work of volunteers by helping them identify the appropriate graves and install the flags with ease. This year, five members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Tualatin Chapter helped us place over 100 flags using the new pipe holders.



Thank you **Jolene Sharp**, **Suzanne Patton**, **Pamela McAllister**, **Ruth McKendry** and **Sandy Reay** -- we love your enthusiasm. Another DAR member, **Lois Ann Colaianni**, has begun to research the military service of some 20 men buried at OPC.

Speaking of local organizations helping the OPC, the Lake Oswego and Kruse Way Rotary Clubs have each stepped forward

with generous grants to help cover the cost of double-paned windows for the caretaker's house as well as the purchase of our new records management software which will make it possible to better administer many important aspects of the OPC. Thank you Rotarians!

We continue to provide loving care for the trees, plants and flowers in the cemetery, and are very thankful to have the help of volunteer organizations to accomplish tasks such as dividing and dispersing irises, day lilies and other perennials throughout the property. Did you know that we have several rose bushes on our grounds that are designated as "heritage roses" by the Portland Rose Society? These prized and long-lived plants survived the arduous journey from back east to the Willamette Valley via early wagon train. I also want to take this opportunity to thank OPC Landscape Tech **Joe Collins**, whose daily presence and work ethic are so vital to fulfilling our mission.

For the past two years support for the Adopt-A-Plot Program has steadily grown and we continue to add to our base of volunteer adopters. The care of the Zimmerman Family plot was recently taken over by the women of Oswego Lake Garden Club. The plot is located on the right side of the service road near the exit. The group has added small river rock to control weeds and planted daffodil bulbs that we will enjoy watching come up next spring. Thank you OLGK! Longtime supporters and volunteers **Kristen and Dick Winn** continue to maintain the Fisher Family plot. Kristen is also working through administrative and legal channels for the return of the remains of **Jane "Jennie" Fisher** (1862-1936). Jennie was institutionalized in Salem at Oregon State Hospital which retained her ashes after her death.

The OPC Board of Directors so appreciate all the support we receive. Our success continues to rely heavily on your kindness and generosity. We wish for you a year of peace, in our community, in your home, and within yourself.

--Nancy Headlee

Remembering Ethel Emmott Schaubel (1920-2014)



Ethel Emmott Schaubel was born in Lake Oswego, Oregon on September 19, 1920 to **Nina Worthington** and **James Peter Emmott**. Ethel enjoyed a long, remarkable life, and those who knew her recall a very thoughtful, caring, tough, and dedicated woman who gave it her best. She passed away peacefully in April surrounded by family. Ethel was instrumental in the growth of our town. For over 50 years she owned and operated the Lake Oswego Bob Shop. In 1976, while visiting her mother's grave, Ethel saw how severely neglected the cemetery had become. Thus began Ethel's decades-long journey of transforming Oswego Pioneer Cemetery into the sanctuary that we know today. She recruited friends, including **Bill Blizzard** owner of the Lake Oswego Review. By 1977, OPC was incorporated as a non-profit endowment cemetery and had a board of directors. For the next twenty-plus years, Ethel could be found almost daily working in the cemetery. How, you may ask, could one woman do all this work? Every weekday by 7am, Ethel was at Baloney Joe's at the east end of Burnside Bridge finding "good workers." She was known as "the woman in the old white BMW" who supplied work, lunch, water, and a drive back in 5pm traffic. Ethel's dream to establish a caretaker-in-residence for the cemetery began in 1995 and culminated in 2009 with the restoration of a First Edition bungalow relocated to the frontage on Stafford Road.

OPC recently received a bequest of \$10,000 from Ethel's estate, an emphatic and final gesture of her commitment and love. Photos *Flags flying at OPC entrance on Memorial Day (top). Ethel with her 6th grade classmates (c.1931) on the steps of Lakewood School. Note the tall, confident girl with bow in the third row, fifth from left (above right). Friends and family gather at Ethel's memorial service at the cemetery on Memorial Day weekend (above left).*

OPC Data Management Enters 21st Century

Keeping track of records is central to running any business and no less so than for a cemetery. When I took over management of the OPC six years ago, **Ethel Schaubel** handed me a dozen cardboard boxes filled with documents and memorabilia she had faithfully collected for decades. There were old maps and photos, sales receipts and burial information, bundles of bank statements, annual reports and cancelled checks, correspondence with the *Oregon Mortuary & Cemetery Board* among thank you notes from family members. Everything was there but needed to be organized. So, grave sales and death records were alphabetized, 3-hole punched and put in 7 large binders that weigh a hefty 4 pounds each. Even with this level of organization our paper records and archival materials were deteriorating and vulnerable.

Ultimately, we needed a faster, more comprehensive approach to compile, access and track grave owners, map locations and genealogical information when we receive requests from relatives, for example. So, after reviewing several cemetery management systems with the expertise of board member **Kate Stidd**, we selected *Pontem Software's integrated Image/Document Manager* which can store an unlimited number of documents and photographs with each grave record. Now, we scan the images or documents and save them directly to the grave record or address to which they correspond. The software provides powerful and easy-to-use maps that coordinate to the

records of our burials. Reports of who is buried in OPC can be created, and when needed can be generated quickly. Thanks to the support of our donors and volunteers, we are now moving into the 21st century of data management, and by early 2015 we will have an on-line map on our website at oswegopioneercemetery.org.

--Richard Santee



Photo In early August the OPC Board of Directors hosted a "COME & GET IT!" BBQ at the *Heritage House* on 10th Street to thank 50 volunteers and supporters for their contributions. Live music was provided by **Switchgrass**, a local acoustic string band and they were fantastic!

OPC NEWSLETTER

A publication of
Oswego Pioneer Cemetery
PO Box 99
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
oswegopioneercemetery.org

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A word about your contribution to OPC . . .

Oswego Pioneer Cemetery is a self-supporting, non-profit organization operated and managed by an all-volunteer board of directors that relies on cash and in-kind donations, grants and sales to continue its work. **All contributions are tax deductible.** Our sponsorship levels are: *Individual* (\$25), *Friend of OPC* (\$50), *Family Remembrance* (\$100), *Historic Supporter* (\$250), *Pioneer Contributor* (\$500), and *Major Benefactor* (\$1,000), *Founders Circle* (\$5,000 & up). **We need your continued support! Please sponsor OPC today and mail a donation to: OSWEGO PIONEER CEMETERY, PO BOX 99, LAKE OSWEGO, OR 97034.**

Thank you for your support*!

CONTACT US . . .

Location

17401 Stafford Road, next to
Lake Oswego Public Golf Course

Write

Oswego Pioneer Cemetery
PO Box 99
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

OPC Operations

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Website

oswegopioneercemetery.org

Adopt-a-Plot Program

Kate Stidd, Community Liaison
kate_stidd@hotmail.com

Volunteer Inquiries

Nancy Headlee, President
headlee.nancy@yahoo.com

Founders Circle

Ethel Schaubel
The Headlee Family

Major Benefactor

Lake Oswego Rotary Club
Amanda Borland
Joseph McCarthy
Linus Pauling Jr.

Pioneer Supporter

Kruse Way Rotary Club
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Family Remembrance

Virginia Adelsheim
Joan Lamb Baldwin
Dorothy Ballou
Lawrence & Susan Black
Richard & Joan Blizzard
Virginia Burdick
Bill & Dolores Call
Paul & Maureen Devore
Glen & Rose Ek
Reed Fitkin
Henry & Norma Jean Germond
Bill & Margaret Headrick

Family Remembrance cont.

Robert & Elizabeth Herr
Sandra Jackson
Waneta & Harry Kallak
Douglas & Judy Kiersey
Mary Helen Scott Kincaid
Karen & David King
Malcolm & Linda Mathes
Joel & Wilma McNulty
Linda McNulty & Matthew Simpson
Elaine Mildenberger
Karen & Robert Morris
Mary Morris
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Friend of OPC

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John Handy & Gloria Benci
Mike & Darlene Hellberg
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Susanna & Frank Kuo
Denis Lawrence & Victoria Sparks

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Kristen & Dick Winn
Vic's Auto Center

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Burton & Judith Beahm
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Pam Berentson
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R. Beryl Church
Jean & Jim Coon
Eloise Crandall
William & Georgia Daniels
Dee Denton
John & Stephanie Detjens III
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Thomas & Dottie Dryden
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Gerda Gustafsson Edwards
Betty Gallucci

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Robert & Cheryl Sirvaitis
Cecil & Mary Sisk
Marilyn & Lawrence Smith
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Frances Sprouse
Sharon Starr
Nellie Steiner
Duane & Marjorie Varner
Lois Weidman
Betsy Williamson
Douglas & Suzanne Wixson
Margie & Roger Young
**January - December 2014*

Burial plots
are still
available at
OPC . . .

For more
information
call or email
OPC Sexton
Jerry Instenes

pat-jerry@comcast.net

503.706.0152



PO Box 99, Lake Oswego, OR 97034