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OCCC Calendar

Saturday, April 21

10am - 3pm

Open Garden

Saturday, May 5 - 10 am

**Tragedies and Calamities
History Tour**

Guide: Frances Pendleton

Saturday, May 12 - 10 am

**What's Blooming
in the Cemetery Tour**

Guide: Carol Nelson

Saturday, May 19 - 10 am

**What's Blooming
in the Cemetery Tour**

Guide: Judy Eitzen

Monday, May 28 - 11 am

Memorial Day Ceremonies

Saturday, June 2 - 10 am

**Romancing the Stones
History Tour**

Guide: Frances Pendleton

Saturday, June 16 - 10 am

**What's Blooming
in the Cemetery Tour**

Guide: Sharon Patrician

Saturday, June 23 - 10 am

**OCCC Annual
Member Meeting**

Information: 916-448-0811

JANE TRASK HAWLEY

(A66 - 512)

By John Bettencourt

This story about the life of a Sacramento Historic City Cemetery Resident was written and presented on tours by the late John Bettencourt. Mr. Bettencourt was a founding member of the Old City Cemetery Committee.

Born in England in 1824, as a young child Jane was brought to Canada by her immigrating parents; there receiving the rudiments of her education and growing into womanhood.

When her parents immigrated to the United States in 1843, Jane came with them, settling in Mobile, Alabama. It was there, at the age of 19, that she met and married a retired old sea captain, who was more than three times her age. His name was Charles Frederick Trask. Jane settled down to the task of being a dutiful wife and mother.

Four years later, she was widowed by the death of her husband, and left alone to find the means to support her children.

Being of durable English stock and unafraid of hard work, Jane took over her husband's hotel business, but was beaten in a legal contest with his insurance company and deprived of the hotel and her only livelihood with which she was supporting herself and her children.

She did her best to hold her little family together, but it was no easy task...even for a Trask. It was difficult in those days for a woman, especially one with children, to find work that would pay enough to support and keep them.

Two years later, the discovery of gold in California would excite the nation and the world. It excited Jane Trask, too, who saw it to be an opportunity to make her own way in the world, strike it rich, and be able to provide for her children.

Knowing she could not take her children with her, she took them to Beverly, Massachusetts, the home of her late husband's family, leaving them in the safe hands of their grandparents. Then it was off to the gold fields of California.

Borrowing enough money to finance her venture, Jane Trask sailed out of Boston Harbor for San Francisco in mid-1849, a voyage that would take her around the horn and up the South American coast to California.

Continued on page 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Lynda Walls

The greatest benefit

My apologies for the tardiness of this newsletter! As many of you know, I spent most of the winter battling and recovering from bacterial pneumonia. It was a nasty strain that hit me hard and didn't want to let go.

But, because of a wonderful team of doctors and nurses at South Sacramento Kaiser Permanente, I'm back on my feet and well on my way to a complete recovery. I want to thank all of you for your well wishes, prayers and support. A special thanks goes to the OCCC Board of Directors, who not only took on many extra tasks during my illness, but offered such warm friendship! You're a terrific group of people!

Congratulations to Jane Howell and the October Fundraiser Committee! Thanks to Jane and her team, the Friday the 13th Tours and Lantern Tours were a huge success! Our October tours were sold out before the end of September, and all those in attendance enjoyed an entertaining and educational evening. Photos from the 2006 October evening tours are featured in this newsletter. You can view even more photos on the Old City Cemetery Committee website at www.OldCityCemetery.com.

We're just beginning the planning for the 2007 October Fund-raisers. There are opportunities available in all aspects, including organizing the events, researching the tour spots and portraying characters during the tours. If you'd like to participate, please contact me at SayLynda@aol.com or 916-455-4523.

I'd also like to welcome Steve Bartel to the Old City Cemetery Committee Board of Directors! Steve is the Senior Vice President of East Lawn Cemetery, bringing experience and energy to our Board. Thank you, Steve, for joining the Old City Cemetery Committee and our effort to preserve, protect and beautify the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery!

If you are a member of the OCCC, please join us for the Annual Members Meeting on Saturday, June 23 at 11 am. I urge all who are not members of the Old City Cemetery Committee to join. Dues for an individual are just \$15 per year. Membership in the Old City Cemetery Committee has benefits to members such as this newsletter and lending your voice to planning for the future, yet membership has the greatest benefit to the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. Please use the membership application on the back of this newsletter to join the Old City Cemetery Committee and help us show our strength in numbers!

friday the 13th Tours

October 13, 2006



lantern Tours

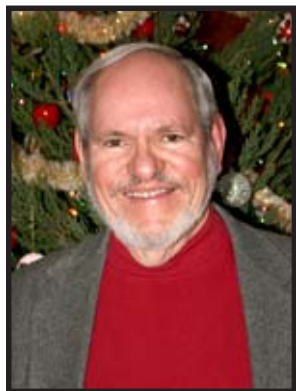
October 27, 28 & 29, 2006



MEET THE VOLUNTEERS!

By Sharon Patrician, Volunteer Coordinator

The following volunteers have been associated with the Historic City Cemetery for many years. Their contributions are numerous and varied and they love what they do.



Dr. Bob LaPerriere

(Dr. Bob is a founding member of the Old City Cemetery Committee - 1987. He served as President for 14 years, and resigned in that capacity a few years ago. He continues to serve as a Board of Directors member, assists with events and fund-raisers and serves on many related com-

missions and committees.)

When Dr. Bob began his association with the cemetery in the 1980's, he was still practicing as a dermatologist with Kaiser-Permanente. He retired in 1998 and devoted many more hours to the administration of the Old City Cemetery Committee.

He came to the cemetery in the 1980's to research the gravesites of early Sacramento physicians in his capacity as chair of the Medical Society's Historical Committee. He was appalled at the physical condition of the cemetery, and thought about ways to restore and beautify the grounds. About a year later, other people of like opinion began meeting at Bob's home to discuss ideas and concerns, and thus the Old City Cemetery Committee was created.

Bob's other interests include photography, computers and cooking. His community involvements are as board members or chairperson of organizations such as the County Cemetery Advisory Commission, the Sacramento Pioneer Association, the Sacramento County Historical Society, the SacArea History Consortium, the Sacramento Association of Museums, the California Historic Cemetery Alliance, and the curator of the SSVMS Museum of Medical History.

Bob wants the cemetery to continue as a major historical site reflecting Sacramento's history. He feels events and programs should reach out to diverse publics, that a Visitor's Center and Museum be built, that interactive modalities to inform and educate be created, and that restoration and beautification efforts should be continued.



Lonnie Ratzlaf

(Lonnie is the Treasurer for the Old City Cemetery Committee, an avid gardener and helps with all the special events and fund raisers.)

Lonnie is retired and worked in a variety of jobs, including high school librarian, nursing assistant, book-

keeper and superior court calendar clerk. She is still active in her first profession – wife, mother and grandmother.

Lonnie came to the cemetery in 2002 to take a rose pruning class from Barbara Oliva, Historic Rose Garden curator. She was so intrigued with the garden and cemetery history she has remained with us ever since.

She also volunteers at the Senior Center, Stanford Settlement, and takes care of the memorial rose garden at the Settlement. She plays golf for fun and enjoys being with her grandchildren. The seventh grandchild is due July 2007.

Lonnie's vision for the cemetery is to reinforce its role as a museum of California history. She also sees the Cemetery as a quiet place to "wander through the gardens, smell the flowers and watch the birds."



Lynda Walls

(Lynda is the President of the Old City Cemetery Committee, the webmaster, graphics designer, publicity manager, publications chairperson and lends support for all events and fund-raisers. She manages this while working full-time!)

Lynda currently works for an association management firm and does the website management, graphics, advertising, marketing and public relations. She also works with volunteers and assists with event planning and production.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

By Sharon Patrician, Volunteer Coordinator

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Please call or e-mail me at 916 455 8166 or patrician@midtown.net with your *monthly* volunteer hours.

WEEKLY CITY MEETINGS

You are all welcome to come to the City staff and adopt volunteer meetings, held the first and third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the 10th Street gate office. Call Sharon at 916-455-8166 if you have any questions or concerns.

BIRDS IN THE CEMETERY

Volunteers who spend regular hours in the cemetery gardens are quite familiar with the wildlife attracted to an urban haven. We see the squirrels, the three feral cats, skunks at night, possums and raccoons.

But the most numerous residents are the birds. Birds populate urban areas where there is food and water, and with the development of gardens in the cemetery, we have created a habitat for many species.

We began birding walks in 2006 with Maureen Geiger, a talented and observant Audubon member. On our last walk in October, we saw the following species: Canada Goose, Red Shouldered Hawk, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Black

Phoebe, Scrub Jay, American Crow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Bushtit, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Spotted Towhee, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, House Sparrow, and evidence of a roosting Barn Owl.

There are
no common
birds

All these birds are commonly found in the Sacramento Valley, but as any birder can tell you, there are no common birds. Birds have fascinating lives and provide a sense of wonder and color to our environment.

We will continue our birding walks in 2007. The first will be January 10 at 8 a.m., April 4, 7:30 a.m. and September 12 at 7:30 a.m. Rain cancels the walks. These dates were chosen to take advantage of migrations which may bring rare or uncommon birds to our green oasis.

If interested, meet at the 10th Street gate and learn more about your cemetery. These walks are geared to the beginning birder. Maureen will lead the walks, and you will find her well informed, eager to help you learn and enthusiastic about her passion for bird watching. Come join us!

MEET THE VOLUNTEERS, CONTINUED

Lynda has always had an interest in historic cemeteries and "fell in love" with the Sacramento City Cemetery the first time she visited. She worked with the Internment Association of California and the Western Cemetery Alliance for five years, and in 2004 answered a volunteer listing for Webmaster for the Old City Cemetery Committee's website.

In addition to her volunteer activities, Lynda loves to draw, design jewelry, write poetry and take photographs. She also enjoys hiking, gardening and is a die-hard Kings fan.

Lynda has many thoughts and visions about the future of the cemetery. She wants the cemetery to endure for generations as a beautiful outdoor museum, celebrating the history of Sacramento. She believes it should be a place where the public can learn about history and gardening through self-guided exploration and docent-led tours and events, a wildlife refuge and a tranquil place to stroll or picnic and a place for the family and friends of the residents to find peace and comfort for their loss.

JANE TRASK HAWLEY, CONTINUED

A true
pioneer
woman

Off the coast of Chile, the ship was caught up in a violent storm and dashed upon the rocky reefs north of Valparaiso. The ship sank, taking all but a few of its passengers and crew. Jane Trask was one of the few fortunate survivors snatched from the jaws of death and taken back to the Port of Valparaiso to recuperate from her narrow escape from the eternal deep. Undaunted by the near tragedy, she booked passage on the next available ship heading north to San Francisco. She didn't arrive there until early in 1850.

Wasting little time in the port city, Jane was off to the mining region in what is now Tuolumne County, near Sonora, anxious to get started on the road to riches. But her efforts here met with little or no success.

After a year of this, she hired out as a cook for one of the mining companies working the area, who gladly paid her \$100 in gold dust a month for good home cooked meals. In three years (1853), she had accumulated a sizable sum (then called a "poke") for her efforts.

All this time she wrote to her children, sending her love and promising to bring her little family together.

By 1854 she had saved enough to fulfill her promise, and came up to Sacramento, where she had planned to invest in a business opportunity (in all probability the hotel business, in which she had some experience) and establish a real home for her children, from whom she had been separated for five years.

But a woman alone with money in those days was often an easy mark for "get rich quick" swindlers, and the West was, unfortunately for Jane Trask, full of those. She was induced to invest her sizable savings in a "sure thing" mining venture that washed up and fizzled out, taking with it all of Jane's savings. Again, it was letters home of promises broken and still other promises made.

With barely enough to outfit herself for another venture into the gold fields, Jane headed up to Placer County and a place called "Iowa Hill."

Poor Jane. She just wasn't cut out to be a miner. She was just about to call it quits when lo and behold she struck it rich! She met and married rich Jim Hawley, a man of some substance, who owned a prospering mercantile business and saw mill at Iowa Hill.

Shortly after her marriage in 1855, Jane again wrote to her children in Massachusetts, asking them to join her in California. Only her son, Charles Frederick came. He stayed only a short while before returning.

Feeling that his refusal to stay had more to do with the "bawdy" mining camp than his education, Jane talked good ole Jim Hawley into selling off his interests in Iowa Hill and moving down to Sacramento, a better place to raise children of such "genteel" upbringing.

Jim did as he was asked, sold his interests in Placer County and purchased a large 220-acre ranch down river from Sacramento near Walnut Grove. There he built Jane the home she had always wanted, a home for her children.

Again, she wrote for her children to join her. Again only Charles Frederick came. In the few years that he stayed with his mother, from 1863 to 1867, he brought her considerable happiness. Then, being the son of a sea faring man, the lure of the sea drew him to San Francisco.

Jane Trask Hawley died of Typhoid Fever, November 8, 1868, and was laid to rest in City Cemetery by her beloved son and loving husband.

Her marker, simply inscribed on white marble, notes only that she died.... But oh! How she lived. Therein lies the story of a true pioneer woman, a woman I feel earned her place in Sacramento history.

Snatched
from the
jaws of
death

THE CEMETERY MASTER PLAN IS A REALITY!

By Lynda Walls, OCCC President

Exciting news – the City of Sacramento has hired the firm of Royston Hanamoto Alley & Abey to design a Master Plan for the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery!

Doug Nelson, principal of RHAA, takes the lead identifying issues facing the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery, now and into the future. Mr. Nelson has considerable experience in park planning and expertise in historical landscape, including authoring the Golden Gate Park Master Plan.

From grand
to essential

Together with his team from RHAA, Doug is working with a group of stakeholders consisting of representatives of the Old City Cemetery Committee, Sacramento Commission of History and Science, Cemetery Alliance, Masonic Lawn Association, ASLA – Preservation Office, Odd Fellows Cemetery, Broadway Partnership and the City of Sacramento. These stakeholders have a voice in the concerns, needs and goals for the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery for years to come.

A public meeting, held in November, was well attended by Cemetery volunteers and Old City Cemetery Committee members. To begin, Doug and his team introduced information gathered and ideas compiled by RHAA, then the group of nearly 40 broke into smaller groups for brainstorming before coming back together to present issues.

The RHAA team took all input into consideration and compiled a list of concerns and goals – from grand to essential – on which to base their work. In March, RHAA presented this list of issues and recommendations at the second public workshop. This document speaks to many issues raised during the public and stakeholders meetings including the following:

- ♦ Architectural Conservation, including the preservation of mausoleums, monuments, stones, walls, brickwork and metal work;
- ♦ Infrastructure, including irrigation systems, water supplies, storm drainage, sanitary sewer systems, electric systems and lighting;

- ♦ Facilities, including the chapel, entry structure, maintenance building, restrooms, storage building and office;
- ♦ Circulation, including carriageways, pathways, accessibility, parking and signage
- ♦ Historic landscape, including site furnishings such as benches and trash receptacles;
- ♦ Horticulture, including trees, large shrubs and gardens;
- ♦ Cemetery Management, including staffing, security and vandalism, cemetery operations, plot ownership and the relationship between the City of Sacramento and the Old City Cemetery Committee;
- ♦ Programming, Uses and Recreation, including historic programs and tours, horticultural programs and tours, arts programs and fund-raisers.

Additional stakeholders and public meetings have and will be held to continue this important planning.

The next public workshop will be announced on the Old City Cemetery Committee website at www.OldCityCemetery.com after the date is set.

Please join
us at the
Public
Workshops

Old City
Cemetery
Committee

Annual OCCC
Members Meeting

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2007

11:00 AM

at the

SACRAMENTO HISTORIC CITY CEMETERY

Open to All!

Please call Connie to RSVP: 442-5662



Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc.
 1000 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818
 916-448-0811 • www.OldCityCemetery.com

Open Garden Day is April 21, 10 am - 3 pm

Old City Cemetery Committee Annual Members Meeting is Saturday, June 23, 11:00 am

If you're receiving this newsletter, you're important to the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery!
Are you a member of the Old City Cemetery Committee?

The Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc. is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit association, whose purpose is to maintain and preserve the beauty and integrity of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. Membership is only \$15 per individual, \$20 for families and \$35 for businesses. Join today!

Membership Application

Annual Dues (Membership runs January 1 through December 31):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron: \$200 - \$299 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$20.00 (One household, One voting member) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor: \$300 - \$599 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business: \$35.00 (One voting member per business) | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor: \$600 - \$999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation: Amount & designation: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor: \$1000+ |

Name (Include all names if Family Membership) _____

Voting member's name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone (day): _____ Phone (eves): _____

E-Mail: _____ Mail form and check payable to "OCCC, Inc." to:
 OCCC, Inc., 1000 Broadway, Sacramento, CA, 95818
 Call (916) 448-0811 for information.

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