

WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST

Vol. 28, No. 2

"Heirs Who Care"

June 2004

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Confederate Headstone Dedication Ceremony Set for September 25, 2004

On September 25, at 10:00 a.m., at least nine new Confederate headstones will be dedicated at a ceremony sponsored by WCHT and **The Southern Cross Chapter 2502, UDC**. A list of the veterans whose headstones will be dedicated appears on page 2. Other participants will include bagpipers **Lars Sloan** and **Al Vacek**, the Color Guard of **13th Texas Infantry Camp 1565, SCV**, the **1st Texas Volunteer Infantry Reenactors**, the **Texian Volunteers**, and members of the soldiers' families. Members of the **United Daughters of the Confederacy** will host a reception following the ceremony.

Note: There will not be another newsletter prior to the ceremony. For further details and updates, please contact Gus Mistrot (see page 3).

New Program to Mark Veterans' Graves

Over the past two years, WCHT has ordered 42 headstones and markers from the Veterans Administration and is continuing to order more. However, the VA provides free headstones only for veterans whose graves are unmarked. While veterans who already have family headstones cannot have military markers made at taxpayer expense, the VA has advised that it is permissible to have a military-style marker made at private expense.

Therefore, in response to several families who have inquired about obtaining military headstones for their loved ones whose graves are already marked, WCHT announces a new program to honor those who have served our country, in any era, in wartime or in peacetime. If you would like to get a military style marker for a veteran who already has a family

headstone in Washington Cemetery, WCHT will assist you in doing the research to document the veteran's service and will pay half the cost of providing a flat granite "VA-style" marker.

This is an optional program, in which families (or other interested parties) may elect to participate. Ideally, the family will provide the veteran's name, dates of birth and death, and proof of service, such as discharge papers. Please contact **Gus Mistrot** if you would like to order such a marker. They will probably be ordered in batches, every three months or so. Confederate markers ordered before June 25 may be included in the dedication ceremony on September 25. Dedication ceremonies for veterans of other eras will be planned as needed.

Phase 8D Monument Repairs Completed

Bobby Schlitzberger has just completed stabilization and cleaning of 13 more headstones and cradles in Phase 8D for a total of \$1065.00. The repaired monuments are as follows:

Section A: Samuel **Lynn** (1829-1895), Clara Bonatz **Hollimon** (died 1942).

Section B: Susan **Richardson** (died 1896, age 85).

Section D: Agnes **Horton** (1884-1980).

Strangers Rest (Section F): Louis **Vogel** (1874-1934), Ernest O. **Kincaid** (1876-1935), Albert G. **Gilliland** (1859-1935), Guadalupe **Cortez** (1942-1942).

Strangers Rest (Section H): Richard Stanley **Barkley** (1929-1931), B. M. **Sanders** (1878-1917), Erna Leu **Lagler** (1899-1919), Nicolas **Flores** (1901-1920), M. **Hinojoza** (died 1921, age 37).

Mr. Schlitzberger is continuing to work on about 35 additional headstones needing attention.

New Confederate Headstones

The following nine headstones have arrived and will be dedicated on September 25. Family members are invited to participate in the unveiling, however, at this time, WCHT is in contact with family members of only those marked with an asterisk. If you recognize any of these Southern patriots, please contact Gus Mistrot.

***Edward N. Bell** Plot B-071 S½
(ca. 1835 – 15 June 1898)
Private, Co. B, 3rd North Carolina Cavalry
(41st State Troops)

***William Thompson Marshall** Plot G-066
(4 Oct. 1847 – 5 Dec. 1911)
Private, Co. B (Allen's Co), Freeman's Battalion,
North Carolina Local Defense

Joseph K. Mayo Plot F-043 N½
(9 Mar. 1838 – 8 Apr. 1902)
Hospital Steward, Co. F, 31st Louisiana Infantry

John E. Murphy Plot G-066
(died 18 Nov. 1909)
Sgt., Grimes' Battery, Portsmouth Light Artillery;
also Shoemaker's Co., Virginia Horse Artillery

***Edmund O'Reilly** Plot F-009
(11 Mar. 1819 – 27 Feb. 1915)
Private, Co. H, 33rd Mississippi Infantry

Zephaniah W. Redd Plot G-072 W½
(9 Dec. 1846 – 24 Dec. 1920)
Private, Co. G, 51st North Carolina Infantry

Thomas A. Snider Plot A-075
(17 Nov. 1831 – 7 Apr. 1893)
2nd Lt., Co. F, 23rd Battalion, Virginia Infantry

Edward James Williams Plot A-075
(20 May 1823 – 22 Mar. 1896)
Seaman, USS Congress (Mexican War)
Sgt., Co. C, 3rd Texas Cavalry (Madison's Regt.),
Arizona Brigade, Major's Brigade, Green's Div.

***William H. Williams** Plot G-072 W½
(18 July 1836 – 18 July 1920)
Co K, 33rd Texas Cavalry (Duff's Regt.)

The following headstones have been ordered but have not yet arrived at this writing. Some of them

may be included in the September 25 dedication ceremony. The rest will be dedicated at a future date, together with others now being ordered.

***Maximilian F. DeBajligethy** Plot B-004½
(ca. 1814 – 7 Feb. 1893)
QM Sgt., 8th Texas Cavalry (Terry's Texas Rangers)
Private, Co. D, 1st Regt, Texas State Troops

Joshua Hamilton Ham Plot G-067
(10 Mar. 1841 – 26 Jan. 1918)
Private, Co. K, 11th Missouri Infantry

Samuel G. Henderson Plot G-067
(Dec. 1840 – 18 Mar. 1914)
Sgt., Capt. Neal's Co., Texas Heavy Artillery
Co I, 8th Texas Infantry (Hobby's)

Porter M. Neel Plot G-067
(ca. 1846 – 24 May 1914)
Private, Co K, 21st Texas Cavalry

Robert Ruckwardt Plot G-064 S½
(23 Aug. 1831 – 24 May 1911)
Private, Co. B, 1st Inf. Battalion, Waul's Texas Legion
Private, Co. K, Timmons' Regt., Texas Infantry

John Schiller Plot G-066
(6 Sep. 1844 – 25 June 1921)
Private, Co. F, 16th Texas Infantry

Headstone Transcription Project

We're into the final stage of this project – proofreading the database printout in the cemetery. **Eleanor Beebe** and other helpers have entered 8748 records in the database. This number includes 7563 burials (almost complete, though there may still be a handful of duplicates or omissions) and 1185 plot owners (far from complete, as we have not yet added most of those who purchased plots after 1906).

Volunteers have been comparing the database, plot by plot, with the headstones and other sources such as obituaries and church records, and Eleanor is correcting errors and omissions in the database.

When cool weather returns in the Fall, we will concentrate on transcribing the headstones in Strangers Rest and proofreading the drafts of the Strangers Rest maps. Please contact **Bernice Mistrot** if you can assist in the process.

New Military-Style Markers

This is an example of the flat markers provided by the Veterans Administration. Those ordered by families through WCHT under the program described on page 1 will look like this, except that for non-Confederate service, the religious symbol of choice will be used in place of the Confederate Cross of Honor.



Contacts

Glenwood Cemetery, 2525 Washington Avenue, Houston, TX 77007-6020, phone (713) 864-7886, fax (713) 864-6429.

Burial Database: Eleanor Beebe.

Veterans Database: Gus Mistrot.

History Book Text: Bernice Mistrot.

History Book Photos: Ginger Daily.

Newsletter Editor: Bernice Mistrot. Deadline for material for October issue: September 15, 2004.

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Please return the entire form below with your check and mail to **Jim Daily, Treasurer**. All donations are deductible on Form 1040 (Schedule A).

Treasurer's Report (June 1, 2004)

During the last four months, WCHT has received 63 donations from individuals, plus \$242 from the **Randalls Good Neighbor Program** (WCHT #2810) and **Kroger Share Card**. To obtain a Kroger Share Card, please contact Jim Daily.

While WCHT is currently receiving funds through the matching gift programs of **ExxonMobil** and **J. P. Morgan Chase Foundation**, many other corporations have matching gift programs for employees and retirees. All of these programs serve as great ways to help finance WCHT's restoration projects.

The total assets of WCHT amount to \$176,200, of which \$97,400 is held in the Improvements Fund for continuing projects. The unaudited financial statement follows.

Fund Balance – Jan. 31, 2004	\$173,800
Income – donations	2,200
Income – investments	<u>2,500</u>
Total Income	4,700
Expenses – historical projects	300
Expenses – newsletter and postage	900
Expenses – gravesite restoration	<u>1,100</u>
Total Expenses	2,300
Fund Balance – May 31, 2004	\$176,200

The gravesite restoration expense was for restoration of 13 monuments in Phase 8D of our restoration program.

WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST	
Donor Name _____	Phone Number _____
E-mail Address (if applicable) _____	
_____ 2004 ANNUAL Donation (\$20.00)	Surname(s) of Deceased _____
_____ GRAVESITE RESTORATION	_____
_____ HISTORY/RESEARCH	Plot Number(s), if known _____
_____ TOTAL	Matching Gift from _____

General Manager's Report

Progress continues on development of a comprehensive master plan for Glenwood and Washington Cemeteries. The Long-Range Planning Committee is preparing a budget for the master plan. When the budget is complete, we will seek funding for the project and begin receiving proposals from qualified consultants. A boundary survey of the cemeteries is nearing completion, and a topographical survey will soon begin. The master plan will enable us to proceed in an orderly manner with projects that will improve both cemeteries in the near term, and it will provide guidance for sound and effective management that will maximize the potential of the properties in the future. By planning today, we are ensuring that Glenwood Cemetery and Washington Cemetery will be preserved as historic landmarks for future generations.

While we plan for the long-term future of Washington Cemetery, the tree planting continues. The planting of 700 pine seedlings was completed in March, bringing to over 2,000 the number of trees that have been planted in Washington Cemetery since 1999, when CCWCC Inc. transferred all responsibility for care and management of Washington Cemetery to Glenwood Cemetery Inc.

Future generations will be the real beneficiaries of these efforts, but we can enjoy watching the small trees grow and visualize how they will beautify the cemetery when they mature.

Thank you for your continued support.

Richard A. Ambrus
Vice President and General Manager
Glenwood and Washington Cemeteries

Glenwood Annual Meeting on June 17

The Annual Meeting of Glenwood Cemetery, Inc. will start at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2003, at the offices of Fulbright & Jaworski, 51st Floor, 1301 McKinney (Chevron Tower), Houston, Texas 77010. The primary purposes of the meeting are to elect the Board of Directors and to review the important events of the year.

All original Owners of lots in Washington Cemetery (or surviving spouses, executors, or descendants of deceased lot owners who have completed a Glenwood Declaration/Proxy form) should have already received an invitation to attend this meeting.

If no one in your family has received the Declaration/Proxy for your lot this year, and you wish to become the representative for your family lot, please contact the Glenwood office at (713) 864-7886 as soon as possible. You may also write to Glenwood Cemetery, 2525 Washington Ave., Houston, Texas 77007 or send e-mail to <info@glenwoodcemetery.org>

Summer/Fall Calendar of Events

Glenwood Cemetery Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 17, 10:00 a.m.
51st Floor, 1301 McKinney (Chevron Tower)

Dedication of New Confederate Headstones

Saturday, September 25, 10:00 a.m.

Washington Cemetery Visitor/Work Days

Saturday, October 9, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 23, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED