

Clements' Corner

Lot B-54: Mrs. Albertine Stuer/Mrs. Lena Detering

Submitted by Julie (Williams) Itz of Houston, great-great-granddaughter of Mathias and Albertine Stuer.

Mathias **Stuer/Stier** was born in Wellingholzhausen, in northwestern Germany, about 1816. According to his youngest daughter, he immigrated to Texas with a brother and invested in cattle and land. Family members recall that he ran the commissary during the War Between the States.

He married Charlotte **Dülberg** on 25 June 1850 in Harris County. Their children, baptized at St. Vincent's Catholic Church in Houston, include Catharine (1851-?), Steven (?), Henry Roger (1856-1887), and Catharina (1857-?).

On 2 March 1861, John M(atthias) **Stiere** married Albertine Ernestine **Polzin** in Houston. She is believed to have arrived in Galveston on the *Iris*, on 19 January 1861. Mathias and Albertine lived in the Eureka area (north of the intersection of Hempstead Road and I-10), then *waaay* out in the country. Their children include: Alvina (1862-1936), Catharine Loina (1863-?), Catharine Elizabeth (1865-?), twins Annie (1868-1938) and Emma (1868-?), Clara Emma (1872-1889), and Helena (1874-1958).

Alvina married August **Neuen** and had four children: Emma (1881-1964, married William Albert **Beinhorn**), Mamie (1884-1888), Lenora (1891-1971, married Jerry Christian **Bauer**), and August Ernst Wilhelm (1901-1919). The Beinhorns and Bauers lived in the Spring Branch area, where Beinhorn Road and Neuen Street were named for these families. Several family members are buried in the cemetery at St. Peter's Church on Long Point Road. Annie married William **Vollmer** and had one daughter, Katie Albertine Wilhelmine (1889-?). They were members of St. John's Church on Mangum Road. Helena married Herman Eberhard **Detering** and joined the First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Four members of the Stuer family are buried in Washington Cemetery under a beautiful live oak tree: Mathias (ca. 1816-1892), wife Albertine (1843-1911), son Henry Roger, and daughter Clara Emma.

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We need historical material for the next newsletter. Please send any historical tidbits, anecdotes, etc. pertaining to Washington Cemetery or to your loved ones buried here to our Historian, **Gov Clements**.

Treasurer's Report

With the start of our new fiscal year October 1, it is once again time to begin collecting the annual maintenance donations. Have you visited the cemetery since Glenwood began maintaining it? It really looks nice! But we'll need your help to cover the added cost of about \$5,000 per year for this new standard of care. And we need the help of your children, and grandchildren, and cousins. If everyone who receives this newsletter would give even \$10 more than usual, it would be amazing what we could accomplish. Our greatest needs are for current Maintenance and Improvements & Repairs.

A non-cash donation may be more advantageous to some people for tax reasons. If you donate appreciated stock directly to CCWCC, you can both avoid paying income tax on the capital gain and deduct the full market value as a charitable contribution. **Julie Itz** has the details on how to do this. To remember CCWCC in your will, please contact **Burt Ballanfant**.

Deutsche Gesellschaft (German Society)

A few tidbits extracted from continuing research by M. G. Williams, Carl Young, and Bill Waters.

- The 38 members of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft* in 1894 were a diverse lot: 5 saloonkeepers, 5 grocers, 2 restaurateurs, 3 carpenters, 3 carpenter-builders, 2 laborers; also one each attorney, barber, blacksmith, butcher, druggist, gardener, metalsmith, notary public, saddler, shoemaker, tax assessor, hardware store owner, hotel owner, lumberyard owner, beer wagon driver, shipping clerk, and violin maker.

- The following were members or employees of the Society in the early 1900's (these are in addition to the list in the August 1996 newsletter): G. L. **Charlton**, James **Charlton**, W. S. **Hoskins**, Gus **Minster**, Julia **Proetzel**, Elsa **Schmidt**, Emily **Schneider**, Otto **Sens**, A. E. **Sternenberg**, Max **Taub**, Carl **Winkler**. If you have information on any of these or on James **Masterson**, please contact **Carl Young** at (281) 399-8380.

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HAPPY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY to three hard-working Washington Cemetery volunteer couples:

March 21 Russell and Lois **King**

August 5 Carl and Daria **Curry**

October 17 Vic and Martha **Gehring**

Without their efforts, Washington Cemetery would certainly not be in the good condition it is now.

INCOME and EXPENSES (Unaudited) – Fiscal Year 1996

CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR WASHINGTON CEMETERY CARE, INC.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Net Assets -- October 1, 1995 | \$429,346.22 | EXPENSES: | Maintenance/Security | \$20,932.50 |
| | | | Utility Bills | 638.54 |
| INCOME: | | | Site Improvements | 1,650.00 |
| Maintenance | \$14,678.00 | | Newsletter | 1,115.00 |
| Endowment Fund | 7,752.50 | | Research/Legal | 820.20 |
| Improvement Projects | 2,300.00 | | Postage/Office Supplies | 302.96 |
| Lot Sales | 1,200.00 | | Bond & Bank Charges | 414.00 |
| Net Investment Income | 26,094.93 | | | |
| Total Income | \$52,025.43 | Total Expenses | | \$25,873.20 |
| | | Net Assets -- September 30, 1996 | | \$455,498.45 |
| FUNDS: | | | Improvement Projects | \$17,516.57 |
| Maintenance/Operations | \$14,830.65 | | Research/Legal | \$8,042.76 |
| Endowment | \$415,108.47 | | | |

WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Net Assets -- October 1, 1995 | \$17,973.23 | | |
| INCOME: | | EXPENSES: | |
| Operations/Administration | \$1,690.00 | Newsletter & Postage | 857.63 |
| Project "PATHH" | 0.00 | Project PATHH | 2,000.00 |
| History | 155.00 | Major Monument Repair | 5,667.31 |
| Gravesite Restoration | 5,315.00 | Strangers' Rest Markers | 830.00 |
| Interest | 524.40 | | |
| Total Income | \$7,684.40 | Total Expenses | \$9,354.34 |
| | | Net Assets -- September 30, 1996 | \$16,302.69 |
| FUNDS: | | | Project "PATHH" |
| Operations/Administration | \$2,776.57 | | \$7,536.18 |
| Historical Projects | \$388.15 | | Gravesite Restoration |
| | | | \$5,601.79 |

Please return the entire form below with your check and mail to **Julie Itz, Treasurer**. All donations are deductible on Form 1040 (Sched. A). If your company (e.g., Exxon, Southwestern Bell, Tenneco) will match your donation, please make your donation to the WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST; otherwise, please make your annual donation to CCWCC, INC., as usual. **PLEASE NOTE!!** CCWCC and the Historic Trust are separate organizations with separate bank accounts. Please do not combine donations to both organizations in one check!

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Donor Name _____ | Surname(s) of Deceased _____ |
| Please send acknowledgment <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Plot Number (if known) _____ |
| CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR WASHINGTON CEMETERY CARE, INC. | WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST |
| ____ 1997 MAINTENANCE Donation (\$40.00) | ____ 1997 ANNUAL Donation (\$40.00) |
| ____ IMPROVEMENTS & REPAIRS | ____ GRAVESITE RESTORATION |
| ____ ENDOWMENT FUND | ____ HISTORY/RESEARCH |
| Phone Number _____ | Matching Gift from _____ |

Winter/Spring Work/Visitor Days

We had a good turnout for the Open House on October 26, and met several folks who were visiting Washington Cemetery for the first time. It was a real pleasure to be able to tell them that their relatives' graves in Strangers' Rest were among those we have discovered in the last four years.

As in years past, we have designated the fourth Saturdays of January through April as visitor/work days, that is, **January 25, February 22, March 22, and April 26**. Please come and visit with us. Additionally, we are planning some extra activity in Strangers' Rest on **December 7** to better determine the total scope of the project. For more information or a postcard reminder, please call **Leona Zaboroski**.

New Area Code 281 in Houston Suburbs

Beginning Nov. 2, 1996, Houston will have two area codes -- 713 and 281. Most phones inside Beltway 8 will retain 713, and most outside Beltway 8 (even if within the Houston city limits) will change to 281. Calls between the 713 and 281 areas will continue to be toll-free, but as of May 2, 1997, you must dial the area code to call from one area code to the other. Several of the CCWCC volunteers will be in the 281 area. Please check the number you are calling to be sure you have the right area code.

Have you returned the yellow Membership Survey from the August 1996 newsletter? If not, please do so as soon as possible. The return postage is already on it.

**CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR
WASHINGTON CEMETERY CARE, INC.**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Membership Roster Update Results

The good news is that, as of November 1, we have received 340 update forms; the bad news is that there are about 860 of them still sitting on desks waiting for you to find a quiet moment to fill them out and mail them back. Please, *please*, try to find such a moment, and save our volunteers from having to make 860 phone calls! Thanks, y'all!

Many active members have not yet returned the form, while several formerly inactive members have become quite interested, so we can't just use past contact as a criterion for determining whether to keep a name on the mailing list. Of course, it would be wonderful if you can send a donation, but if you can't, please don't let that keep you from letting us know whether you're interested in the long-term preservation of Washington Cemetery.

A few statistics from the update forms received so far: 29 were deceased, infirm, or uninterested, and will be removed from the list; 24 requested information from our records; which we will provide over the next couple of months as time permits; 16 volunteered to work on gravesite restoration, 10 on historical research, 7 on contracts and accounting, 4 on computer data entry, and 10 on clerical tasks.

We are encouraged to see that almost 200 of you hope to make annual donations to help maintain Washington Cemetery. Those donations will supply 25-30% of our operating budget; the rest will have to come from additional donations or interest on our endowment fund. We must then request additional donations for any improvement projects such as Monument Repair, Strangers' Rest marking, or historical research. Please help as much as you can.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
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HOUSTON, TX
PERMIT 2512