

WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST

Vol. 27, No. 3

"Heirs Who Care"

October 2003

WCHT OFFICERS

President ----- Gus Mistrot	Sam Belinoski
Secretary-----Bernice Mistrot	Ginger Daily
Treasurer ----- Jim Daily	Cathy Fitch
Historian ----- Gov Clements	

WCHT TRUSTEES

Charles Jackson	John Petzold
Elizabeth Larimore	Carl Young
Edgar Moy	Leona Zaboroski

New and Retiring Trustees

WCHT President **Burt Ballanfant** has chosen to "retire" after many years of dedicated service to both Concerned Citizens for Washington Cemetery Care, Inc. and Washington Cemetery Historic Trust. He attended the first CCWCC organizational meeting in January 1975 and has been a part of the restoration of Washington Cemetery ever since. During his 13 years as Vice President of CCWCC and 10 years as President of WCHT, many improvements have been made to the cemetery, notably paving the roads and the repair and cleaning of nearly 500 headstones and cradles. Most importantly, the 1999 merger of CCWCC with Glenwood Cemetery Inc. assures that Washington Cemetery will continue to receive first-class care in the future.

We thank Burt for his time, effort, and leadership over these many years, and wish him well in his new endeavor as Mayor of West University Place.

At the most recent Trustee meeting, Vice President **Gus Mistrot** was elected President, and new member **Cathy Fitch** was appointed to fill Burt's position as Trustee. About three years ago, she discovered that she had relatives buried in Washington Cemetery. Since then, she has been very active with both the headstone transcription project and the new Washington Cemetery History Book. Largely through her efforts, we have been able to locate living relatives of nearly all of the Confederate veterans whose headstones are being dedicated on October 25.

Cathy is a native Houstonian and a Past Regent of John McKnitt Alexander Chapter, NSDAR. She is also a member of Clayton Library Friends, Friends of the Texas Room, and the Houston Genealogical Forum. Welcome, Cathy!

Confederate Headstone Dedication Ceremony Set for October 25, 2003

On October 25, at 10:00 a.m., a dozen 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.

The ceremony will begin with a salute from "Rolling Thunder," the ceremonial cannon of San Jacinto Chapter 1, SRT. The procession to each of the 12 gravesites will be led by Pipers **Lars Sloan** and **Al Vacek**, followed by the Color Guard of **John Bell Hood Camp 50, SCV**, and the Honor Guard of **Granbury's Texas Brigade Camp 1479, SCV**, which will fire a musket salute in honor of each soldier. Relatives of the veterans and members of SCV and UDC will unveil the headstones and read the soldiers' biographies.

Charlie Gardes and **Hank Wenzler** of the Houston Genealogical Forum plan to videotape the entire event. An edited version of the video is expected to be available for sale some months later.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Headstone Transcription Project

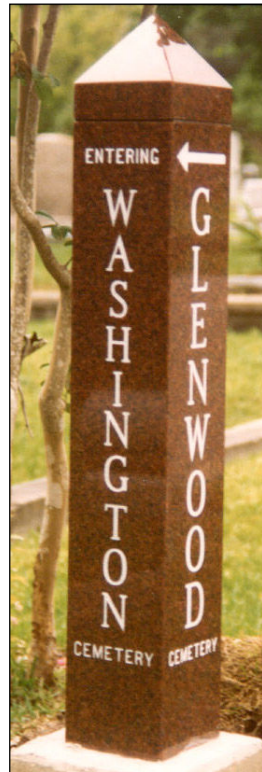
Eleanor Beebe is still plugging away at the seemingly endless task of adding headstone inscriptions to the burial database. Now that cooler weather has arrived, we can begin the final stage of this project - comparing a database printout, lot by lot, with the headstones to catch any errors or omissions.

We'll also begin transcribing the headstones in Strangers Rest and proofreading the drafts of the Strangers Rest maps.

Washington Cemetery Improvements

Glenwood recently installed very attractive polished red granite signposts at each end of the road connecting the two cemeteries. The black and white picture doesn't do it justice – you'll just have to come and see for yourself!

Glenwood is also replacing the large sign at the entrance to the cemetery, which was installed by CCWCC in 1979 and made obsolete by the 1999 merger of CCWCC and Glenwood Cemetery Inc. The new sign (below) being installed this month was designed by the WCHT Trustees in consultation with Glenwood's General Manager, **Richard Ambrus**.



Work is continuing on restoration of headstones and cleanup of the gully to the left of the entrance road, but both projects are progressing at a slower pace than anticipated.

WASHINGTON CEMETERY

Founded in 1887 as the

German Society Cemetery

Lovingly restored and maintained by
Concerned Citizens for
Washington Cemetery Care, Inc.
1977-1999

Now under the permanent care and custody of
Glenwood Cemetery
713-864-7886
Lots Available

New Confederate Headstones

The following headstones have been installed and will be dedicated on October 25 by family members with assistance from UDC, SCV, and WCHT. At this time Almond Fuller is the only one for whom we have not yet located family members.

William Eggleston Archer Plot G-052
(1835 – 21 Oct. 1891)

3rd Sgt, Co. E, 9th Texas Infantry (Nichols' Regt.)
2nd Lt, Co. H, 20th Texas Infantry (Elmore's Regt.)

Philip Daniel Bowles Plot F-075
(1823 – 1 Sep. 1900)

Private, Co. A, 51st Tennessee Infantry

Lafayette W. Camp Plot G-066
(Oct. 1841 – 24 Dec. 1908)
Private, Co. I, 43rd Mississippi Infantry,
Adams Brigade

Almond Fuller Plot H-147 (SR-695)
(3 Aug. 1832 – 23 Apr. 1923)

Private, Co. I, 2nd Texas Mounted Rifles
(later 2nd Texas Cavalry, Ford's Regt.)

Lucian Alston Gause Plot F-075
(5 Feb. 1843 – 16 Jan. 1901)

Private, Capt. John W. Galloway's Co.,
North Carolina Coast Guards

August Henniger Plot A-003
(June 1828 – 25 Apr. 1920)

Private, 4th Field Battery, Texas Light Artillery
(Haldeman's Battery)

Samuel Timothy Lewis Plot H-147 (SR-688)
(6 Apr. 1845 – 22 Feb. 1923)

Machinist at Confederate Navy Yard, 1861-64
Private, Co. F, 3rd Regt., 2nd Brigade,
Georgia Reserves, 1864-65

Edmond B. Reeves Plot A-075
(1833 – 1 Apr. 1898)

Bugler, Co. E, 2nd Texas Cavalry (Ford's Regt.)
Bugler, Co. E, 20th Texas Infantry (Elmore's Regt.)

Charles Frederick A. St. Jest Plot A-010 NE¼
(12 Aug. 1831 – 6 Aug. 1906)

Private, Co. A, 21st Texas Infantry (Spaight's Regt.)

James Toole Plot A-029 S½
(11 Sep. 1827 – 9 Jan. 1901)

2nd Lt., Co A, 26th Texas Cavalry (DeBray's Regt.)

John C. Turner Plot G-067
 (4 Dec. 1845 – 20 Oct. 1918)
 Private, Co. D, 1st Texas Heavy Artillery
 Private, Co. F, 2nd Texas Cavalry Regt.,
 Arizona Brigade (Baylor's Regt.)

Aaron William Underwood Plot A-029 S½
 (26 Oct. 1835 – 14 Dec. 1923)
 1st Lt., Co. E, 22nd Mississippi Infantry,
 Featherston's Brigade

There are three more military headstones on order:
 one from World War I and two Confederate.
 Research is continuing and we hope to have another
 dozen or so ready for dedication in the Spring.

Treasurer's Report

During the last fiscal year, we received 194 donations from individuals and matching gifts from corporations (ExxonMobil and Chase Manhattan Bank). WCHT also continues to receive donations from the Randalls *Good Neighbor Program* (WCHT #2810) and Kroger's *Share Card*.

The expenses in our Monument Restoration Program were for restoring 26 headstones in Phases 8B and 8C, setting 34 grave markers in Strangers Rest, and installing 18 new corner posts in Strangers Rest to show the lot numbers. Most of the historical expenses were for the veterans portion of the new history book.

INCOME and EXPENSES (Unaudited) – Fiscal Year 2003

WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST

Net Assets – October 1, 2002	\$158,800		
INCOME: Operations/Administration	\$4,954	EXPENSES: Monument Restoration	\$3,820
Historical Projects	565	Historical Projects	1,744
Gravesite Restoration	2,283	Newsletter & Postage	2,373
Total Donations	\$7,802	Administration	492
Net Investment Income	9,234		
Total Income	\$17,036	Total Expenses	\$8,429
		Net Assets -- September 30, 2003	\$167,407
FUNDS: Checking Account	\$2,209	FUNDS: Operations/Administration	\$58,154
Money Market Account	11,896	Historical Projects	11,826
Securities	153,302	Gravesite Restoration	97,427
	\$167,407		\$167,407

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

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 _____

First Evangelical Lutheran Church Unveils New State Historical Marker

The *Erste Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische Kirche von Houston*, founded by Pastor Caspar Braun in September 1851, celebrated its 150th anniversary two years ago. On Sunday, September 28, 2003, the long and distinguished history of this congregation was again recognized with the unveiling of its new State of Texas Historical Marker.

The first building, a wooden structure at the corner of Texas and Milam, served the church from 1854 to 1902. On July 2, 1902, the congregation dedicated an impressive new Gothic structure of red brick and sandstone on a quarter-block at Texas and Caroline.

The current building, dedicated October 16, 1927, was designed by J.W. Northrup, Jr., a Houston Architect also associated with the original construction of Rice University. The structure won awards by the AIA as an outstanding example of the North Italian (Lombard Romanesque) style of architecture.

Many members of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft von Houston*, which founded Washington Cemetery in 1887, also belonged to this church. For example, nearly 2/3 of the burials shown in church records in the late 1890s were in what was then called the German Society Cemetery. Because of this early relationship, CCWCC held most of its semiannual meetings at the church, recently known as Central Congregational Church. Earlier this year, the church affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, thus returning to its roots and the historic name, First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

WASHINGTON CEMETERY HISTORIC TRUST

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Contacts

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

History Book Text: Bernice Mistrot.

History Book Photos: Ginger Daily.

Burial Database: Eleanor Beebe.

Veterans Database: Gus Mistrot.

Newsletter Editor: Bernice Mistrot. Deadline for material for February issue: January 15, 2004.

Winter Visitor/Work Days

The fourth Saturdays of the cooler months (October to April) are designated as Visitor/Work Days, during which some of the Trustees will be at the cemetery with the record books to assist you in finding the graves of your loved ones. The usual hours are from about 10-4. We invite you to join us in the continuing search for hidden markers in Strangers Rest, transcribing headstones, or proofreading maps.

Fall/Winter Calendar of Events

Dedication of New Confederate Headstones
Saturday, October 25, 10:00 a.m.

Cemetery Visitor/Work Days

Saturday, November 22, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 24, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 28, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 27, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.