

December 1999

Editors: Marian Meyer and Catherine Thayer

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL—MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

SORRY NEWSLETTER IS LATE: COMPUTER PROBLEMS

BOOKS AVAILABLE: TAOS HISTORY, TOMBSTONE BOOK, SFHS CENTENNIAL HISTORY

PAVILION UPDATE, NOTES FROM FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

INTERMENTS: ROSE MARIE GUTIERRES

TOTAL OF \$4900.00 IN DONATIONS--THANK YOU VERY MUCH

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Holiday greetings to all our friends and supporters.

By the time you read this message the cemetery will be tucked in for the winter. The leaves have fallen and the sprinkler system has been turned off as we pray for rain and snow. The 58 older sprinkler heads have been replaced with more efficient ones that will pay us back in reduced cost for watering in just over a year.

The hundred year-old caretaker's house has had a thorough cleaning and sturdy doors have been installed more in character with the place and less susceptible to damage. Elsewhere in the newsletter are some details on the house that is finally in rentable condition.

Your board is also launching a detailed study of the financial future of our organization. We want to increase the yield of every dollar available so that we will be less dependent on annual contributions from our supporters. But as I mentioned in my last message, we are a long way from being self-sustaining. If you are planning your contributions at the end of the year we will be grateful for every penny. See the sidebar describing a variety of ways in which financial contributions can be made.

Now that I think of it, there are several specific needs that can be met with in-kind support. The County used to periodically smooth the roadways and bring in new base course to keep them passable. This has not been done for a couple of years. We had the opportunity to use the backhoe while it was standing by. But there are some low spots that will turn into potholes if more base course is not added. If someone has any base course or similar paving material to donate, please contact me or Marian or Peter.

Another way someone could help and do themselves a favor is to cut up the dead tree that fell last year and haul away

some firewood. Again, contact me or Marian or Peter to make arrangements.

One of our most loyal friends, Dorothy Gilbert, has sent us a very inspiring brochure about the historical cemetery preservation work being done in York, England. That cemetery dates from 1837. In 1987, after considerable neglect, a private organization took over the York cemetery and has made a great deal of progress in providing for continuing burials, restoration of the grounds and buildings and providing educational programs. They have even done some ecological demonstration projects.

I hope that the example of the York Cemetery and other cemetery preservation projects will show us that what we have undertaken is, although difficult, not an impossible job. Let us resolve, as we move into the next century, to become a good example for others.

John Adams, President

COMPUTER GREMLIN SHUTS DOWN NEWSLETTER

Marian intended to start the newsletter the day after Thanksgiving and have it in the mail the first week of December. That very day the computer failed to switch on. The weeks since have been filled with constant frustration versus hope and assurances that "it would be fixed the next day." There was a conflict in diagnosis on whether it is the power source or the motherboard. That is irrelevant now. After learning that the parent company didn't even receive the order for parts, Marian borrowed her daughter's computer and is hoping for the best, using a strange machine. She couldn't find her disk with the newest format, so this one is from awhile back.

MEMBERS CAN HELP

We are repeating a column from the September newsletter that suggested ways all of you can help. If you enjoy receiving the newsletter, we would appreciate your sending a small donation to help cover the publishing cost and postage.

Some of our ardent supporters send us \$10 to \$1000 each year and that is the life-blood of our Association. The Board appreciates every penny.

Another suggestion is that if you have a bereavement in your family, it is a great windfall to Fairview if we are named as a charity to be given memorials in lieu of flowers. Give it some thought if you don't already have a favorite charity.

Along that same line, if your will needs renewing, Fairview would love to be in it. In the past 15 years we have had several bequests, ranging in size from \$500 to \$10,000. That one paid for a lot of sprinkler systems.

President John Adams has written before about giving stock instead of money. We had two members who decided to do that. John will be glad to answer questions, 982-1904.

NEW TENANT IN CARETAKER'S HOUSE

We are optimistic that our new tenant will enjoy and care for the house. The House Committee, Joni Stotts and Brad Thomas, have overseen the clean-up of house and back yard, plus installation of several solid core doors. Joni received approximately 50 calls, interviewed at least a dozen prospects, and chose this one.

A WHOPPING \$4900.00 IN CONTRIBUTIONS

Our heartfelt thanks to the 42 donors who gave a total of \$4900 to our Fairview funds. This is the lifeblood of our Association. We appreciate each of your contributions, large and small. They were in amounts ranging from \$10 to \$1100.00. We received another \$800 for what we formerly called our Trust Fund. The Board is now calling it Restricted Funds, until such time as we set it up as a perpetual care trust fund. \$300 and \$500 were sent for it by two of our stalwart supporters. The fund now totals over \$12,000. The 42 donors were as follows:

Antink, Josephine Granito	Jordan, Virginia
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*MEMORIALS

From M/M Ron Ball and Mrs. A. W. Egenhofer to Dr. A. W. Egenhofer; from M/M Thomas B. Catron to Stephen Ellis Catron; from Marybelle Foster to her Duncan relatives; from Verda Bentley to her mother, Ela Redmond; From Naomi Groff to Dorothy Gnagey; from M/M Amado Summers to the Chaves and Summers Families.

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THE PAVILION, A NOSTALGIC VISIT AND LETTERS

Our new pavilion is certainly paying off. People come and some have successfully used the map and book list to find a relative (yes, we know it is alphabetically backwards in the book). In addition, there are a number of other corrections which need to be made. Visitors have pencilled in some of their own. Marian has also discovered a list of about 70 names which need to be added. They are in a chronological list she made 15 years ago of all the burials in the cemetery. The 70 burials are all undated, so virtually no attention has been given to them. For example, a request for information on a 14 year-old boy named Ray Criswell came in recently and we know absolutely nothing about him. The records give only name, age and sex. Without a death date we can't look up his obituary on microfilm of *The New Mexican*. But if he is in a new listing of the book, in the future someone may be able to give us some information on him and others.

We have had some interesting incidents with visitors, both on the telephone and in person. Jane Mickelson of California came looking for her grandfather whom she had never met, Bertram Broome. Marian was sure he would be related to the well-known Santa Fe Broome family, but he isn't. He came West to be a cowboy and ended up as a cartographer at the highway department. He wrote many articles for the *New Mexico Highway Department* magazine which later became *New Mexico Magazine*. After she returned home, Ms. Mickelson wrote us, sending a donation and said in part, "This is to thank you so much for your help

CARLOS GILBERT SCHOOL PROGRAM

We have received a lot of calls on our messaging service telephone, 989-1623. One was from a teacher at Carlos Gilbert School who is planning a field trip for 40 students by bus to Fairview in late January. Marian will speak briefly and is sending printed information ahead of time for them to study, including her series on Pioneer Women who are buried at Fairview, as well as a history of the cemetery. We like to encourage these visits, so that children will learn that a cemetery is not a fearful place, but can be beautiful and historical.

BOOKS

The books we have told you about the last two years are all still available. John Sherman gave us 20 copies of his *Taos: A Pictorial History*, \$20. Several have been sold. Marian Meyer still has some copies of her *Centennial History of Santa Fe High School, 1899-1999*. After the high school print shop job proved to be a disaster, she had it reprinted at her own expense and is hoping to break even. It is \$15, if mailed, add \$2. Many of the early graduates of Santa Fe High are buried at Fairview. Both of these are available from Marian, 982-5635. Our Fairview Tombstone book is listed on the next page with an order blank. It was published by the NM Genealogical Society, and has brought a number of people to the cemetery.

and kindness. As soon as I had the information from you, I visited the cemetery and left a bouquet of flowers on my grandfather's grave—most likely the first one to be placed there in many decades. The cemetery was beautiful; well-kept and peaceful, with the magnificent color of autumn cottonwoods. Now I've also received the Fairview newsletter and read it with interest...Finding my grandfather's grave was an emotionally moving experience for me, and the high point of our visit...."

Marian met Wilmer Easley in June when he came from California for the high school centennial. He wrote in October, mostly about the centennial history, but also said, "It appears the Cemetery Association has had a very busy year. I did get out to the cemetery and located the graves of my grandparents. It was obvious that a lot of work had been done...." He also sent us a check.

Gretchen Klein of Virginia is a relative of the Spitz Family. She loves Fairview and visits every time she comes to Santa Fe. She sends us money from time to time and her last letter said if she could, she would love to come back here and rent our little cemetery house!

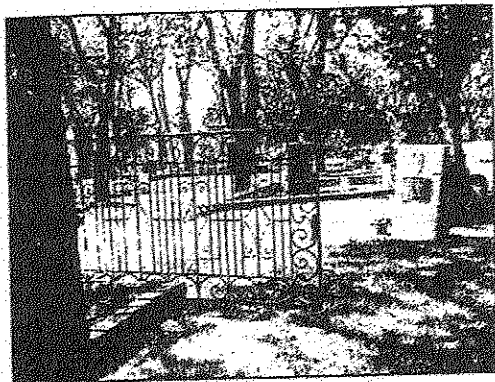
INTERMENTS

Our only interment since the September newsletter was Rose Marie Gutierrez of Espanola. Her daughters bought the lot given to us by Stephen Watkins in Section F, next to the School for the Deaf. Their father, who died in 1979, is buried in the area, so they wanted a lot close by.



NEW BOOK!

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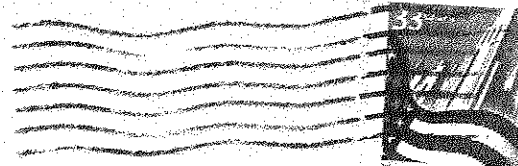
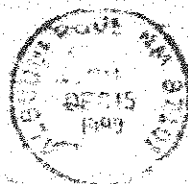
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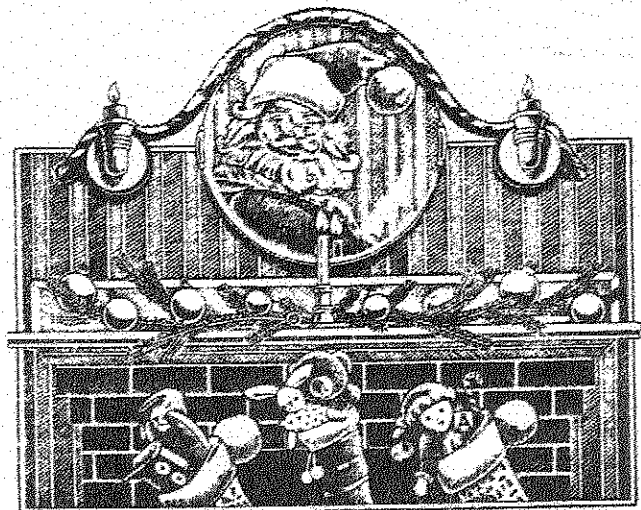
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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL
OUR FAIRVIEW FRIENDS**