Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association P.O. Box 5958 Santa Fe, N.M. 87502

NEWSLETTER

May 1995

Editors: Marian Meyer

Catherine Thayer

14th ANNUAL CLEAN-UP MAY 20, 9:30 A.M., 6TH POTLUCK LUNCHEON AT NOON AT CEMETERY - BRING COLD PICNIC FOOD

TWO \$2,000.00 GIFTS FROM TWO DONORS WE THANK THEM FROM JANE CARLSON, GRANDDAUGHTER OF DR. HARRY MERA FROM ANN ESPE DIETZ, DAUGHTER OF THEO & ALICE ESPE

UPDATED FAIRVIEW HISTORY FOR BENEFIT OF NEW COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PAVING FAIRVIEW ROADS WITH COLD MILLINGS BY COUNTY NEEDS COMPLETING

NEW COMPUTER BRINGS NEW FORMAT TO FAIRVIEW NEWSLETTER

NEW GRASS IN SECTION E CAME THROUGH WINTER WELL - WORK WILL CONTINUE

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION - END OF TRAIL CHAPTER TO MEET AT FAIRVIEW JULY 15 - SF "TRAILERS" GRAVES TO BE MARKED FOR PROGRAM - YOU'RE INVITED

WONDERFUL TOTAL OF \$8010 IN DONATIONS - THANK YOU

INTERMENTS - HEADSTONE OFFER AGAIN BEING MADE - HUGHES HEADSTONE FOUND

14TH ANNUAL CLEAN-UP AND 6TH POTLUCK LUNCHEON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 9:30 AM. IF YOU CAN'T WORK, COME TO EAT

It may surprise you to know that we have a great time at our clean-up and luncheon. Try to talk your kids or grandkids into coming with you this year. After having our potluck out-of-doors at the cemetery last year, we decided to do it again. The children who came could run around to their hearts content, and some of the older ones were very good helpers. Having lunch outside means having cold picnic food, so please bring any kind of cold meat—fried chicken, cold cuts: ham, turkey, etc. Salads can be potato, pasta, fruit plate, etc., and of course, any dessert. We will provide paper plates, utensils, and soft drinks. We also ask that anyone who has a cardtable and folding chairs to bring them. We will be eating in the open area near the gate.

Please bring your own tools. For anyone who feels up to it after cleaning your own family plot, we will have a list of other work which needs to be done, such as raking, clipping low growth on old trees and shrubs, picking up trash, etc.

Trash bags will be provided and will be hauled away by the County.

TWO \$2000.00 GIFTS TO OUR ASSOCIATION FROM JANE CARLSON AND ANN ESPE DIETZ

The first of these two generous gifts came in January from Jane Carlson. She is the granddaughter of Dr. Harry Mera, who with his brother Frank, will be the subjects of the Centennial Biography in the next issue. We thank Mrs. Carlson for her generosity. Harry Mera designed the New Mexico state flag with its Zia symbol.

The second \$2000.00 gift arrived just as we were preparing this newsletter. It was from Ann Espe Dietz, daughter of Theodore and Alice Espe who are buried at Fairview. Mr. Espe was the manager of an insurance company in Santa Fe before his death in 1938. We will try to have more information on them for the next newsletter. We are indebted to Mrs. Dietz for her gift.

WATER ON, CARETAKER BACK AND NEW GRASS IN SECTION E DOING WELL

When the water was turned on April 15, our Association began its 14th year of helping to maintain the cemetery. In that time we have not only carried on regular maintenance work such as fertilizing and mowing grass, trimming around headstones, replacing sod on graves, trimming or removing trees, we have installed sprinkler systems in most sections of the cemetery. We are planning a major restoration of the historic fence, which will be our most ambitious and expensive project to date. In time we hope to get the cemetery on the State and National Historic Registers.

President Amado Summers says the lawn planted last October in Section E is doing fairly well for first-year grass. It will fill in during the summer. Amado hopes to get another part of Section E done this summer. He also asked us to remind those people who have adopted new young trees to water them deeply and often. So far this year we have had a dormant oil spray applied to many of the trees. Amado has ordered the fertilizer-weedkiller combination to feed the grass and kill the dandelions. The material alone costs us over \$800.00.

FAIRVIEW HISTORY REVIEWED FOR BENEFIT OF TWO NEW COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

At the December board meeting, it was suggested that the spring newsletter include a review of the history of Fairview Cemetery and our Association., in order to inform the two new County Commissioners that they have a constituency they may not know about, Fairview Cemetery. From the experiences of some of our board members, evidently a number of people are under the impression that our Association owns the cemetery or is responsible for its operation. Neither is the case. Everything we do is as volunteers. Fairview is owned by the County of Santa Fe. Our group was organized in 1981 specifically to aid the County in the care of the cemetery.

The history of our old pioneer burying ground really began before its founding in 1884. In the 1850s the Masons and Odd Fellows joined in establishing a cemetery downtown on the sites now occupied by the Scottish Rite Temple and the former Presbyterian Retirement Home. When the cemetery was condemned near the turn of the century, the burials were moved to either Fairview, the Odd Fellows Cemetery adjacent to Fairview or to National Cemetery. (We have at least 60 "unknowns" at Fairview from that old cemetery). Our oldest tombstone at Fairview is dated 1862; Odd Fellows is 1857, which are the two oldest women's markers in Santa Fe. In 1884 Fairview Cemetery was started as a commercial enterprise by a group of men who called their venture the Fairview Cemetery Conpany. They sold shares of stock, and were in financial trouble from the beginning, which may have been helped along by a little skullduggery by a couple of the founders.

The Woman's Board of Trade, predecessor of the Santa Fe Woman's Club and Library Association, finally got the men to turn the operation of Fairview over to the them in 1899. The ladies proved to be extremely efficient in managing the cemetery by getting delinquent taxes annulled, water bills

canceled, using convict labor from the penitentiary which was nearby, dealing with illegal interments, and above all, in beautifying the grounds. Fairview became known as the most beautiful "God's Acre" in New Mexico. It was renowned for its magnificent trees, well-tended lawns and flowering shrubs. When the Woman's Board of Trade and Library Association merged with the Santa Fe Women's Club in 1930, a perpetual care fund was begun by placing a part of the money received from the sale of each lot into a trust fund. As the original women volunteers grew old and themselves became tenants of Fairview, it grew more difficult for the Woman's Club to manage the cemetery. Most of them had no kin buried there, and they were the only Woman's Club left in New Mexico which had not relinquished its cemetery to a city or county entity.

The final cemetery committee chairman, Mary Ellen Sheehee, served faithfully in the job for twenty years. In 1978 the Woman's Club gave the cemetery and the annual income from the perpetual care trust fund to Santa Fe County. The County agreed to maintain the grounds in exchange for the remaining lots in which to bury indigents. The County Commissioners truly had no idea of the job they were taking on and within two years, the condition of the cemetery was declining badly.

In 1980 writer Marian Meyer noted the conditions while doing research there. She wrote a community forum column for The New Mexican and received offers of money from some of the old Santa Fe families. As a board member of the Santa Fe Historical Society, Meyer enlisted their support and the Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association was founded. It remained in limbo for a year when the County decided the deed from the Santa Fe Woman's Club was flawed and tried to give the cemetery back to the Woman's Club. The problem was finally resolved with the County keeping Fairview. Our Association had received about \$4,000 in contributions during the year of waiting, and in 1981 we offered to help the County with maintenance. A County employee lived in the house on the cemetery grounds and at first we paid the his salary as caretaker during the growing season. We split major costs, such as tree removal and trimming and spraying, with the County. That type of expenditure required three bids and was extremely unwieldy. It was finally decided that the County would pay the caretaker's salary and our association would pay for major costs such as fertilizer and tree care. In 1986 the Association had a special fund drive to purchase a \$6,000 tractor mower. When the fund reached \$3,000, Sunwest Bank generously contributed the rest. In addition to our Association providing money for the larger needs at Fairview, the Grounds Committee (now mostly President Amado Summers) provides supervision of the caretaker's work at the cemetery from April 15 through October 15. In the beginning we had a written agreement with the County authorizing our supervision, but under the current situation, it is more a system of negotiation with the caretaker's supervisor. Before the current caretaker, Vince Franco, was hired, the caretaker's house was in deplorable condition and the County took the opportunity to completely renovate it, except for the roof. A new roof is currently being installed. We still have our ups and downs in getting work done. Sometimes the County takes Vince away to work elsewhere, and we never know when it will be.

For private burials, Marian Meyer locates the graves and orders the backhoe. Vince oversees the openings and closings. Eppie Romero, who is in charge of Fairview Cemetery records, very efficiently administers them and also handles the indigent burials. Our Board of Directors, which consists of four officers and seven directors, administers our work. Considering that all of our people are volunteers, we feel that our organization has worked remarkably well. There are many things we would like to improve. It is the friends and relatives of those buried at Fairview, who made all this possible with their contributions.

In the fall of 1994, one of our board members was named Roads Chairman. The one-half mile of roads in Fairview frequently become a quagmire after snow or heavy rain. She investigated the possibility of getting base course or something laid down to improve the situation. Base course was too expensive and unavailable, but a County official said they had some extra cold millings and they could pave the roads for us. About one-fourth of the roads got done and the work stopped, We hope the County will consider finishing the job soon.

NEW COMPUTER IS FRUSTRATING, BUT IT WILL IMPROVE OUR NEWSLETTER CONSIDERABLY

Note our new format and font. Marian hasn't yet mastered this wonderful new machine with "Windows" and other fancy appendages. When she does, everything should be much improved. Doug and Catherine Thayer were wizards at setting it up and getting her started. But it is so different from the old "Model T" computer, Marian has kept the phone line hot with pleas to Catherine to get her out of jams. By the next newsletter, it'll be old stuff and we'll wonder why we thought it was so difficult.

\$8,010 IN CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE DECEMBER LETTER

We feel truly blessed for this period since our last newsletter. The contributions have been unusually generous, plus the fact that we had the two large gifts of \$2000 each. Our sincere thanks to the 34 donors who gave a total of \$8,010 to our Fairview fund. This is the lifeblood of our Association. We appreciate each of your contributions, large and small. They were in amounts ranging from \$5 to \$2000.

Austin, Carolyn
Barker, M/M Laughlin
Bentley, Verda*
Bodell, Mrs. William
Bodell, William K.
Bullick, Alice**
Carlson, Jane
Catron, M/M T. B. III*
Davis, Happie*
Dietz, Ann Espe
Fairchild, M/M Gale**
Gans, Harold
Garcia, Orlando
Gilbert, William

Kennell, Helen
Livingston, Jean H.*
Livingston, Leona
McConnell, M/M Taylor**
McKay, Chris*
Meyer, Marian*
Moses, Thomas*
Mossman, Ann
Naranjo, Maria & Juana
Pick, Henry
Pollock, Pauline**
Stamm, Allen
Stephens, Betty Jean
Valdes, Fred, Jr.*

Hunter, C.L. Kanue, Julie Kellahin, Lenny Valdes, Leonard* Zinn, M/M Frank Mrs. J. H. Thomas

*MEMORIALS

From Verda Bentley to Ela Redman; M/M Thomas B. Catron to Stephen Ellis Catron; Jean Livingston to Dr. & Mrs. W. H. Livingston; Happie Davis in memory of the Mugler, Manker, Wientge, Chambers Families; Chris McKay to Mugler, Manker, Wientge, Chambers Families; Thomas Moses to Margaret Moses; Leonard Valdes to the Thornton and Valdez Families; Fred Valdes, Jr., to the Thornton and Valdes Families; Marian Meyer to Johnny Hillyer and Delmas Brunk.

**FENCE FUND

Bullick, Alice Fairchild, Gale McConnell, M/M Taylor Pauline Pollock

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSN., END OF TRAIL CHAPTER, TO MEET AT FAIRVIEW JULY 15-YOU ARE INVITED

Louann Jordan of the End of the Trail chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association called us some time ago to ask if there are many people buried at Fairview who traveled down the Santa Fe Trail and whether a chapter meeting could be held there. There are indeed a great many Santa Fe "Trailers" at Fairview. Marian and Catherine are charter members of the Santa Fe Trail Association, so our reaction was favorable. Thinking of all our wonderful Centennial placards we used in 1984 for our RIP tour (Revisiting Important People) we agreed it would be a very interesting program. Now Marian will need to go through the early obituaries for more people who came down the trail before the railroad arrived in 1880. If we use our old placards, we will target the Santa Fe Trail ones with big red arrows or something. We think most of you would enjoy this, especially if you missed the Centennial 11 years, ago. Noon on July 15. Please come.

INTERMENTS SINCE DECEMBER

William Joseph Rounesville, 89, died in November 1994, but somehow we missed listing him in our interments. He held many important city and state posts including city clerk and first Director of Federal Housing.

Millie Faucett, who was 100, had a beauty salon in Santa Fe for about half a century. She owned and lived in the old yellow Read house on Read Street for many years.

Josephine Zucal Garrand, lived in Las Vegas, Nevada, and was brought back to Santa Fe for interment. She is buried in the Zucal plot with her mother, father and son.

Delmas Brunk is buried in the Brunk plot under a group of conifer trees at the north end of Section A. He and his wife Margaret faithfully cleaned and raked their family plots at every clean-up we've held.

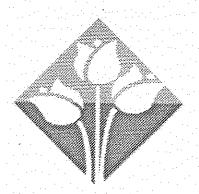
Our condolences to the families.

HEADSTONE OFFER AGAIN BEING MADE AT NEAR COST FOR OLD UNMARKED GRAVES As usual in the summer, we will order a headstone for unmarked graves, at a price which is close to cost. These are plain gray granite. The price remains the same as last year, which is nice. A small marker, 8"x16" is \$180; standard size, 12"x24" is \$320. This includes the setting fee, mileage from Albuquerque and 3 lines of text: name, birth and death dates.

HENRY J. HUGHES HEADSTONE FOUND UNDER SOD

Year before last at the Clean-up, Stephen Hughes, his son ,and Marian Meyer searched diligently for the headstone of Henry Jackson Hughes, but without success. We knew it was there because it appeared on an inventory Marian did of the section several years ago. According to the small map we have of Section B, Front, we dug where it should have been. Late last fall, when Marian had a hired helper at Fairview to plant a tree,

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY PRESERVATION ASSOC. P. O. BOX 5958
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SPRING CLEAN-UP POTLUCK LUNCHEON MAY 20, 1995 - 9:30 AM they took time out and dug the other direction and there it was, under more than two inches of sod. So now Mr. Hughes can come out and find his lost relative.

CENTENNIAL BIOGRAPHIES

Because of the Fairview history, we do not have room for the Centennial Biography this issue.