

NEWSLETTER

May 1996

Editors: Marian Meyer  
Catherine Thayer

15TH ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP MAY 18, 9:30 A.M.--7TH POTLUCK LUNCHEON AT NOON AT  
CEMETERY--BRING COLD PICNIC FOOD

NEW CARETAKER GUY GRAY HAS EXCELLENT BACKGROUND  
HIRED BY SF COUNTY GENERAL SERVICES HEAD FRANK RENDON  
WATER TURNED ON APRIL 15-SPRING WORK WELL UNDER WAY.

COUNTY AND OUR ASSOCIATION TO SHARE COST OF INSTALLING TIMERS ON SPRINKLER  
SYSTEMS--WILL USE LESS WATER AND SAVE MONEY

MESSAGE FROM NEW GROUNDS CHAIRMAN ERIK MASON

BOARD TO MAKE DECISION ON FENCE PROPOSAL

OLD HEADSTONE OFFER AGAIN BEING MADE AT NEAR COST

DONATIONS TOTAL \$2145 PLUS LAST SUMMER'S SOD-GIFT FROM ERIK MASON

INTERMENTS: EVANS, GODFREY, MAESTAS, JORDAN, SCOTT & SETH

HISTORY OF CATRON MAUSOLEUM

15 YEARS OF CLEAN-UPS--7 YEARS OF POTLUCK  
LUNCHEONS--SATURDAY MAY 18, 9 A.M.- LUNCH AT  
NOON. IF YOU CAN'T WORK, COME EAT WITH US

It is hard to believe we have been holding our cleanup  
for 15 years. Seven years ago, Ruth Summers  
volunteered to head up our first potluck luncheon. At  
first we held it in the Odd Fellows Hall adjacent to  
Fairview, then our arrangements got mixed up one year  
in borrowing the hall, so we had it at the cemetery in the  
grassy area near the gate, where it has been ever since.  
We were rained out only once in all of our 15 years.

Please come--we need and want you, including those  
who cannot do physical work--you can cheerlead. This  
year our president, Kathy Gonzales, has volunteered to  
chair the potluck. If you have any questions, call her,  
evenings or weekends, 988-4928

What to bring in the food department: Cold meat, (fried  
chicken, ham, turkey, etc.) Salads: potato, pasta, fruit  
plate, etc. and any kind of dessert. We will provide  
paper plates, utensils and soft drinks. Also, if you have  
a folding card table and chairs, please bring them.  
Trash bags will be provided and will be hauled away by  
the County.



AT A PREVIOUS CLEANUP ARE JUNE & THOMAS B.  
CATRON III, LONGTIME FCPA SUPPORTERS  
(See story on Catron Mausoleum)

**CLEANUP MESSAGE FROM NEW GROUNDS CHAIRMAN  
ERIK MASON**

With the new caretaker, we are hopeful of better care of the grass this year (even though drought may hinder watering efforts), so we can concentrate more on bushes and shrubs.

Best tools to bring to Cleanup: rakes (to rake up leaves which did not decompose over the winter); pruning shears large and small for pruning dead branches off bushes; trimming shears (or weedeater) for long grass around tombstones; shovels for those capable of heavier labor in uprooting the smaller of the elm tree suckers.

We have already applied Weed Out fertilizer, but for your own immediate area, you may want to bring a can of dandelion spray.

Erik Mason

**NEW CARETAKER IS GUY GRAY**

We welcome our new caretaker, Guy Gray, and are excited that he has a great deal of experience in landscaping and other areas which will be beneficial to the cemetery. We are indebted to Frank Rendon, Santa Fe County General Services Administrator, who advertised the position widely. Applications came from as far away as Arizona and California. Actually, Gray is from California, but he and his wife have been in New Mexico for some time, living in Dixon. The Grays moved into the house several weeks ago and he immediately started watering the new trees. (Stretching seven hoses from the one frost-free faucet is no small task—we did it or hired it done a few times in the winter—it appears all of the trees survived our exceedingly dry winter). Also, within a short time Guy had the cemetery cleared of Christmas debris and trash.

**NEW TIMERS TO HOOK UP TO SPRINKLERS**

Because of his experience with watering systems, Gray has been working with Frank Rendon in drawing plans for the automatic timers to be attached to our sprinkler systems. Watering can then be done systematically, early in the morning when there is no wind. We should be able to save water and money. The County will buy the timers and wiring; our Association will pay for the trenching machine to bury the wire, and we will pay Guy for his labor in installing it. Our costs will be approximately \$2000. This project is something we have discussed since beginning our sprinkler systems, so we are considerably pleased that it is to be done. We thank Frank Rendon for initiating it and having the County provide the greater share of the expense.

**RENOVATION OF HISTORIC OLD FENCE STILL ON  
DOCKET**

The board did a lot of figuring and talking over the winter, but no real action was taken on the fence. We have finally gotten a verbal proposal on the cost of the entire iron work, and we are to receive a written proposal in time for the board meeting which precedes the mailing of this newsletter. We will make a final decision at that time and we will tell you the results at the Clean-up luncheon. Also, at one of our meetings with Frank Rendon, he indicated the County may be able to help with the brickwork on the fence. The County workmen have already done some repairs to the section in front of the house at the time they were doing renovations for the new caretaker. After the iron work is finished, we will again discuss the brickwork.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TOTAL \$2120 - THANKS TO ALL:**

Our sincere thanks to the 26 donors who gave a total of \$2125. This is the lifeblood of our Association. We appreciate each of your contributions, large and small. They were in amounts ranging from \$5 to \$500. In addition, our Grounds Chairman, Erik Mason, made a major contribution while he was laying all that sod last summer. He paid for it all out of his own pocket and when we realized this, he was adamant and would not allow us to reimburse him. We are talking about 20 or 30 graves or areas of sod that were put in. Editor Marian Meyer compounded the error by forgetting to mention it in the last newsletter, so we are belatedly thanking Erik for his generosity. This year we will make sure he uses our charge account at the nursery! Thanks, Erik.

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bennet, Dr. Howard      | Meyer, Marian*          |
| Bently, Verda           | Myers, George*          |
| Bullick, Alice Marsh    | Milligan, Harold*       |
| Califf, Jean            | Mills, Jeanne Yashvin*  |
| Egenhofer, Mrs. Albert* | Naranjo, Maria & Juana  |
| Gilbert, Dorothy*       | Ortega, Victor          |
| Hall, Laura Hope*       | Petranto, Joseph        |
| Hillyer, Pearl          | Pollock, Pauline        |
| Kahn, Burton            | Santheson, Maree        |
| Kaune Julie             | Stephens, Betty Jeanne* |
| Livingston, Leona*      | Summers, Amado & Ruth*  |
| Mason, Erik             | Thomas, Justine*        |
| McConnell, M/M Taylor   |                         |

**\*MEMORIALS**

To William W. Gilbert from Dorothy Gilbert, Justine Thomas and Marian Meyer; to Benjamin Volk from Laura Hope Hall; to Dr. M. M. Milligan, Kathleen Milligan and May Milligan from Harold Milligan; to Morry Yashvin and Dana Reid from Jeanne Yashvin Mills; to Jenny Cantelou from Betty Jeanne Stephens; to Joan Seligman Scott from Ruth and Amado Summers; to Oliver Seth and Donald MacGillivray from Justine Thomas

\*Fence - Ruth Egenhofer & Leona Livingston

## NEED TO MARK AN OLD GRAVE? CALL OR WRITE MARIAN MEYER

As usual in the summer, we will order headstones for old unmarked graves at a price which is close to cost. These are plain gray granite. The price remains the same as last year. 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. Write or phone Marian Meyer, 982-5635

## SPRING IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY

By the time you receive this newsletter, much of the spring work at Fairview will be done or underway. Erik Mason, Grounds Chairman, ordered the Weed Out fertilizer some weeks ago so that it could be applied as soon as possible after the water was turned on. We always buy 50 or 60 bags of good topsoil for sodding new graves (We wait until it goes on sale for a third off). We hope to do a number of old sunken graves also this summer. Erik has a list started. If you know of a grave which needs attention, call Erik, 982-1258, or Marian Meyer, 982-5635. The sod comes in each Thursday and Erik must reserve the amount he will need each time.

## INTERMENTS SINCE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Petrita Maestas, 91, of La Puebla, NM was buried next to her husband, Juan Maestas, who died in 1975. Reccie C. Evans, 80, of Espanola, was buried next to her husband, Angus, and young son, Stanley, who died many years ago. Frank Godfrey, also of Espanola, was buried in the family plot in Section F next to the School for the Deaf. The ashes of longtime Santa Fean Catherine Alta Jordan were buried with her parents, Alexander and Marie Jordan. Her family came to Santa Fe in the 1940s when her father became the first manager of J. C. Penney Co. The ashes of Joan Sellgman Scott were interred in the plot of Governor Arthur Sellgman.

The death of Judge Oliver Seth saddened all those who knew him. An attorney for half a century and for 30 years a U. S. Appellate Court Judge, Seth and his wife Jean have been longtime supporters of our Association. U. S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said, "I knew Judge Seth well and admired him very much. He was highly respected as a judge and also as a person and he will be greatly missed."

Our condolences to all the families.

## THE CATRON MAUSOLEUM

This space is usually devoted to our Centennial Biography. In this issue we are featuring the Catron Mausoleum, and of course, the Catron Family. Some of the building is visible in the photo behind June and Tom Catron on the first page. Tom is the grandson of Thomas Benton Catron who crossed the Santa Fe Trail in 1866 to begin a law practice

in Santa Fe which lasted until his death in 1921. At one time he was the largest individual landowner in the United States.

The mausoleum was built following the death of his wife, Julia Walz Catron, in November 1909. Until it was completed, her remains rested temporarily in the Manderfield Mausoleum in Rosario Cemetery. The Catron Mausoleum is the most elegant of the three we have at Fairview which include the Hanna and Renahan families. In addition to Thomas and Julia, interred in the mausoleum are two Catron children: a boy who died in childbirth and a girl who died in infancy. Four other boys survived to manhood.

An interesting discovery in an old Fairview ledger is that Mary Austin, the writer, was entombed in the Catron Mausoleum upon her death in 1934. Evidently it was a temporary sojourn because her ashes were ultimately buried in a niche on Sunmount.

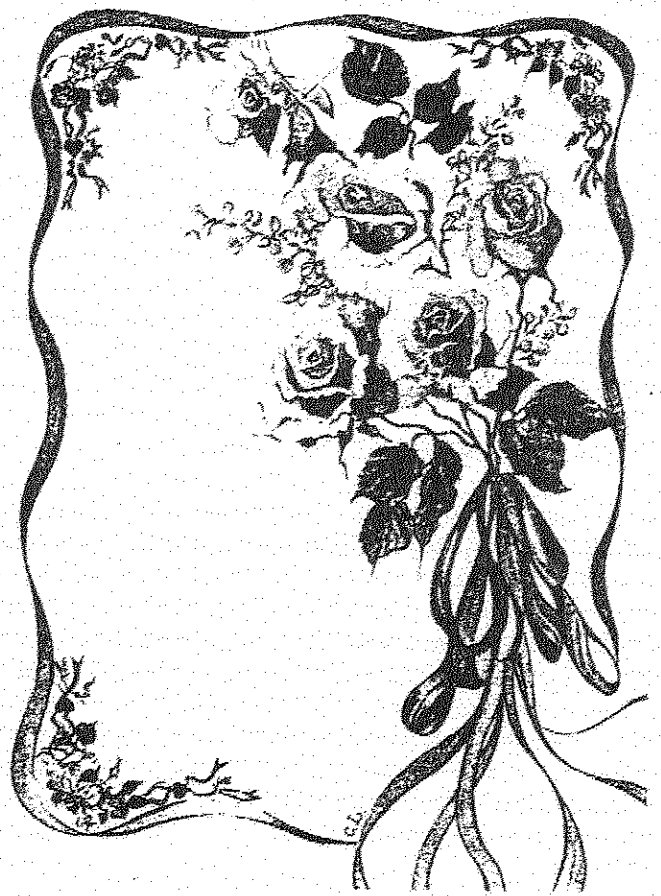
Thomas Benton Catron is a legendary figure in Santa Fe history. Depending on what book one reads, opinions of him vary, from whether he was the leader of the Santa Fe Ring, to stories of his benevolence. Victor Westphall's biography, *Thomas Benton Catron and His Era*, quotes both views. A eulogy at Catron's funeral included a tribute: "No man had a bigger kinder heart than he--no man more cheerfully gave his money for the benefit of his community and State--no man helped the poor more than he...The impress of his great personality left on this State would be incomplete with the work of his life left out. As a soldier, citizen, lawyer, political leader, statesman, parent, he has passed away, but his memory will cling with us. Not only those of this generation, but those that will follow us will share knowledge of the life and fame of this great man."

The opposite side of the coin was presented by editor Dana Johnson of *The New Mexican*, who said in part, "Mr. Catron was a powerful leader of his time; blunt, uncompromising, outspoken, at times he ruled with a rod of iron in the days of his greatest political ascendancy. He was frankly a 'political politician,' the appellation 'boss' complimented him instead of offending him; political power was meat and drink to him and those who went to the political mat with 'Uncle Tom' always knew they had been in a fight. *The New Mexican* can testify to this wholeheartedly. Nor would Mr. Catron himself expect this newspaper to bestow effusive encomiums on a political record which it had so often honestly attacked. Politics aside, we shall miss him, miss his political visits to the office, miss his personality on the street and at political gatherings, as will the rest of the community. The all-around caliber of a citizen is shown by the gap he leaves in his home town; and Senator Catron, needless to say, leaves a big one."

## OFFICERS NAMES & NUMBERS

Recently someone called us and said he looked through the entire newsletter and could not find a telephone number for any of the officers. We're sorry about that. Usually there is somebody's name and phone number. But we will try to remember to include a list in each issue in case you need to reach one of us:

Kathy Roberts Gonzales, President	988-4928
Bob Lawrence, Vice President	986-8351
Catherine Thayer, Secretary	672-9743
Marian Meyer, Treasurer	982-5635
Erik Mason, Grounds Chairman	982-1258



**FAIRVIEW CEMETERY PRESERVATION ASSOC.**  
**P. O. BOX 5958**  
**SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87502**



**COME TO THE SPRING CLEAN-UP  
AND POTLUCK LUNCHEON  
SATURDAY, MAY 18, 9:30 A.M**