

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

NEWSLETTER

April 2006

Editor: Erik Mason

**ANNUAL WORK DAY SATURDAY MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, the Saturday before Mother's Day,  
will be our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Cleanup and Annual Meeting.**

Put the date on your calendars now! Cause it's that time of year again, and we hope you can join us on **Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.** for the cemetery's **Annual Cleanup** day by the members. Bring your yard tools—rakes, leaf rakes, shovels, pruners—with your name on them. Trash bags will be provided, and we have a lot to put in them! **Even if you are not physically able to do the yard work, we want you there** for the fellowship, the potluck luncheon, and the Annual Meeting.

There will be a lot to discuss at the **Annual Meeting**, following the potluck luncheon at the Odd Fellows Hall on Cerrillos, adjacent to and just south of Fairview. Our luncheon chairperson again this year is Board Member and Treasurer Joanne Legits, who will be at the Odd Fellows Hall at 9:00 a.m. to receive your potluck offerings, hot or cold, salad, main dish or dessert. Soft drinks, paper plates and eating utensils will be provided.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*"Twas decided to rid the cemetery grounds of prairie dogs before any other improvement be attempted. Mrs. Hall offering to donate medicine for getting rid of dogs, & Mrs. Rosenberg offering to administer same to them."*

*"During the past year we have made again a fight against the prairie dogs. During the year in that respect, we have had little success. Everything is ready to start again the moment they begin to appear. Unfortunately, they are undisturbed in the immediate neighborhood, so that it is impossible to prevent their return."*

Our prairie dog problem is not a new one. A debilitating spring cold last week enabled me to go through some of the cemetery records that Marian passed on to me before she moved to Ponce de Leon, and I discovered the above quotations in the minutes of the Woman's Board of Trade. They are from the records of, respectively, 1894 and 1916! They could easily be from recorded minutes from *this* year because, although we relocated 71 prairie dogs last fall, I have already seen at least one burrowing in the cemetery this spring. I would have loved to have seen the elegant Mrs. Rosenberg administering the "medicine" to the prairie dogs in 1894. We plan to install a two-foot-tall plastic barrier all along the western fence, since the experts tell us that prairie dogs will not burrow into areas which they cannot see.

(President's Message, continued)

Only a few days after Marian & Lee Meyer accomplished the traumatic move out of their home of 42 years, which I reported in the last newsletter, Lee suffered a massive and very serious stroke. He was in the hospital for a month and is now in rehabilitation at the Santa Fe Care Center off of Harkle Road for at least several months. Again, Marian's new address is Ponce de Leon Retirement Community, 640 Alta Vista, Santa Fe NM 87505.

Member Betty Kersting has completely redone the Fairview mailing list for us, and it is now alphabetized so that, when changes of address are necessary, I no longer have to leaf through 38 pages to find a name. Thank you Betty!!

So far as I can tell, all of the 33 new trees survived the winter (with watering all winter long.) The hackberries in particular, however, are slow to bud out. Despite the lack of any moisture whatsoever this winter, the flowering crabapples at the entrance had a beautiful showing of blooms, and the several new Bradbury Pears all bloomed. To my surprise, the flowering quince bushes had a beautiful red show of spring blooms—turns out the caretaker was giving them some water also while he was watering the trees this winter.

Erik

**Have a family story of a relative buried at Fairview?** Wesley F. Swope of Las Cruces shared the following about his ancestors earlier this month (along with a donation!)

*"My grandfather Henry Frederick Swope [buried 1891 at Jemez] was the New Mexico Agent/Superintendent for the Barlow and Sanderson Stagecoach Line. He operated and built the line stations from Colorado to Crow Creek, Tecolote, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces/Mesilla. He married Manuelita Moore and they lived in Santa Fe. Manuela's father was William H. Moore, who was the Fort Union Post Sutler during years 1859-1870.*

*'After the stagecoach era the family struggled, operating a livery stable in Santa Fe. My father, Edwin B. Swope, was Mayor of Albuquerque, Commissioner of Public Lands, and twice the Warden of New Mexico State Penitentiary in Santa Fe. He was appointed to the Federal Bureau of Prisons in 1934, was at McNeil Island, Terre Haute, Englewood, and was the Warden of Alcatraz when he came back to Santa Fe in 1955. He was the Warden of the New Mexico State Penitentiary when he died. My mother, Eugenia Field Swope, was of the N.A. Field family from Magdalena, New Mexico. My father, my mother and my stepmother Edna Swope are all buried at Fairview."*

Also, for those of you privileged to read Marc Simmons' column in the *New Mexican*, there was a recent and interesting article about "feisty" James McNulty, who was the superintendent of the turquoise mines at Cerrillos during the years after 1892 when the New York jewelers, Tiffany's, owned the mines. McNulty was buried at Fairview in 1933 at age 83, in a plot owned by the Montezuma Masonic Lodge.



## **Recent Burials**

The cremains of Waclawa Bienet Merdler were interred in April above the casket of her husband Alfred C. Merdler who died in 1975.

Maxine Middleton was also interred in April, next to her husband Harold Middleton whose parents are also buried at Fairview.

## **Contributions Since February Newsletter (thru March 2006)**

Coral J. Chavez in memory of Lyna Yashvin  
Rosemary Prowell in memory of Arthur and Elizabeth McClintock  
Mr. & Mrs Amado C. Summers in memory of the Chaves and Summers families  
Betty Fletcher Mast  
Maria E. & Juana Naranjo  
Venus Stafford  
The Laughlin & Renee Barker Family Foundation  
Victor R. Ortega  
Joseph J. Petranto  
Thomas R. Wiley  
John K.S. Walter, Jr.

**Very unfortunately for us all, it hasn't taken me very long to  
acknowledge the donations for the first three months of this  
year. We are in very desperate need of your financial assistance!**

**UNMARKED GRAVE?** We will coordinate marking graves with flat granite headstones with a text including name, dates of birth and death, and a short sentiment of 2-3 words. The larger standard size of 12" x 24" costs \$350; the smaller 8" x 16" stone costs \$250, including installation. Call Erik Mason (505) 982-1258 to make arrangements for these stones. And remember, Fairview now again permits installation of upright headstones, one of the great visual delights of the cemetery. Although Albuquerque Monument has increased the cost of their stones for 2006, we will continue to coordinate the placing of the stones for the same prices quoted above.

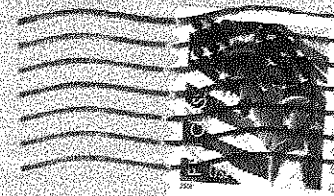
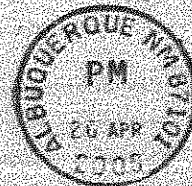
**IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION:**

**Officers:**

Pres. Erik Mason 982-1258  
VP Bob Clifford 984-8600  
Treas. Joanne Legits 424-3855  
Sec. Blaire Cooper 820-2659

**Directors:**

Jo Bloom 505-382-0722  
Stephen Hughes 827-1261  
Ron & Jean Ball 471-3628  
David Mason 988-2551  
Lucy Dix 466-6622  
Honorary Member Marian Meyer



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