

NEWSLETTER

April 2008

Editor: Erik Mason

**ANNUAL WORKDAY AND MEETING
SATURDAY 17 MAY
Please Join Us!**

FAIRVIEW LOSES BENEFACTOR DOROTHY GILBERT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As headlined above, our **Annual Spring Cleanup** and, even more importantly, our **Annual Meeting**, will be held on **Saturday, 17 May, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** Please put this date on your calendars now! Bring your yard tools—rakes, leaf rakes, shovels, pruners—with your names on them. Trash bags will be provided. Even if you are not physically able to do the yard work, we want you there for the fellowship, and for the potluck luncheon at noon, followed by the Annual Meeting, both at the Odd Fellows Hall on Cerrillos, adjacent to and just south of Fairview.

Although we had a wonderful time last year, the turnout for the important Annual Meeting of the Fairview Association membership was disappointingly small. We have much to discuss, and we need you there to express your ideas and, yes, your concerns and complaints to the officers and the Board members. 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.

We have had numerous opportunities over the years, in this newsletter, to thank one member in particular for her very generous donations in support of our efforts to maintain and improve Fairview. She wished to remain anonymous until after her death, so we have thanked "an anonymous donor" for her large donations to major projects such as the kiosk, renovation of the fence, construction of the gates, and our trust funds. In our last newsletter in November, we thanked this donor yet again for her gift that enabled us to do even more trimming of dead wood from 15 of the remaining grand old trees. With her death in January, we can now reveal that our dear friend **Dorothy Gilbert** was this anonymous donor. She was buried with her husband and his parents in the Gilbert family plot. Dorothy was a feisty, no-nonsense Englishwoman who was also a grand lady. Marian Meyer and I occasionally were invited for tea—and delightful conversation—at her home. Although our sadness at her passing cannot match her family's grief, we will miss her greatly.

In the remaining inch of space that I have in this newsletter, I'll squeeze in some information about one of our more prestigious burials at Fairview, that of William Hayes Pope. Born in South Carolina in 1870, Pope moved to Santa Fe in 1894 and served as a newspaper reporter, lawyer, US Attorney for Pueblo Indians, and finally Chief Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court. He was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church and was opposed by the "saloon element" because he was known to favor prohibition. He died in 1916.

And now, as usual, I must discuss our financial situation. For the time being, we're in fairly good shape to pay the monthly bills, but I'm worried about the trend. Not counting the generous donations to the Restoration Fund and the Endowment Fund, our donations to the Maintenance Fund are down considerably. Of the approximately 450 members on our mailing list (which is updated with each newsletter), there were 71 and 85 donors to the Maintenance Fund in the previous two years, but only 55 donors (12% of the membership) in 2007. To pay just the very *basic* costs (caretaker's salary, utilities, water, insurance, newsletter [\$350 per issue], etc.) we need an annual minimum of \$12,000. We scraped by with \$12,100 in 2007, but in the first three months of this year donations have totaled only \$800.

One of the issues which I wish us to discuss at the Annual Meeting in May is the viability of our Association's going to a membership system with annual dues of, perhaps, \$10 annually or \$25 for three years. This might reduce the current membership of about 450, but it also might refine the membership to those who were truly interested in the cemetery and willing to support it. Such a system would not negate the necessity of continuing to solicit donations to maintenance, and keeping a record of the payment of annual dues would be an administrative difficulty, to be sure, but perhaps one of the members might be willing to develop and keep the system up to date. Let's talk about this!

Our members thus have two ways to contribute financially to Fairview. (1) We continue to need your donations to our **maintenance** efforts—send checks to our PO Box above, made out to "Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association, or (2) Add to our **endowment** by sending checks written to the Santa Fe Community Foundation, annotated "Fairview Cemetery Endowment," and send to:

Santa Fe Community Foundation
PO Box 1827
Santa Fe NM 87504

Our goal is to build up our endowment funds sufficiently so as to pay for all of the necessary maintenance at the cemetery and, perhaps, finance more improvements. We have a way to go!

Recent Burials.

Dorothy Thomlinson Gilbert died at age 79 on 2 January 2008 and her ashes were interred with her husband William W. Gilbert in a beautiful burial service in which her P.E.O. Sisterhood participated. She is survived by her children Mary, Ruth and Carl and their spouses and children.

Headstones: No new headstones were placed at Fairview since the last newsletter, a shame because...

UNMARKED GRAVE? Approximately 1,500 of the 3,500 graves at Fairview remain unmarked! 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. Although Albuquerque Monument has increased the cost of their stones several times the last few years, we will continue to coordinate the placing of the flat headstones for the same prices quoted above. And remember, Fairview now again permits installation of upright headstones, one of the great visual delights of the cemetery.

Contributions to the Fairview Endowment Fund at the Santa Fe Community Foundation (Oct-Dec 2007)

Thomas B. Catron
Ardath N. Blauvelt
George B. Broome
Melvin M. Fitzgerald

Ernestine Lawrence
John Sherman
Frank Demolli

Francis M. Jockle
John F. Brinckerhoff
Jeane Ann Thornberg

Contributions to Fairview's Maintenance Fund (Dec 2007 – Mar 2008)

Kay Lewis	In memory of her parents, Dorothy & Enos Strawn
Helen Myers	In memory of the Comstock Family
Fred Bentley	In memory of Walta & Verda Bentley and Ela Redman
John Eddy	In memory of Beth Eddy
Burten & Betty Ann Kahn	In memory of Benedict Kahn
Janet Guarini	In memory of Edna & John Walter
Daniel H. Nowell	In memory of Susan E. Newell
Beatrice & Dwight Brown	In memory of Dwight Allen Brown
John & Phyllis Adams	In memory of Bob Lawrence
Tom & June Catron	In memory of Dorothy Gilbert
Rogee Kayashima	In memory of Dorothy Gilbert
Betty R. Ela	In memory of Dorothy Gilbert
Rachael Michaelsen	In memory of Dorothy Gilbert
Forrest & Jean Smith	In memory of Dorothy Gilbert
John & Phyllis Adams	In memory of Dorothy Gilbert
Nancy P. Hyer	In memory of Dorothy & Bill Gilbert

Mr & Mrs James Moore
Kitty Jones Nesbit
Mr & Mrs Ernest Karlson
Julie Kaune
Rev & Mrs Taylor McConnell
Frances Jockle

Martha L. Maxwell
Ann Thornburg
Louann C. Jordan
Leona Livingston
David & Iana Mason
Joseph Petranto

Tim Burch
Phee Keros & Kay Hertz
Henry & Peggy Pick
Ann Mossman
Ren Simmons

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION:

Officers:

Pres. Erik Mason 982-1258
VP David Mason 988-2551
Treas. Joanne Legits 424-3855
Sec. Blair Cooper 988-2314

**ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 17
Y'ALL COME!**

Directors:

Jo Bloom 505-382-0722
Stephen Hughes 827-1261
Ron & Jean Ball 471-3628
Lucy Dix 466-6622
Rhonda Paynter 421-1377
Kristin Kalangis 471-3216
John Barker 983-2400
Julienne Tolen 471-5249
Debbie Samuels 992-0235
Honorary Member Marian Meyer

**FAIRVIEW CEMETERY PRESERVATION ASSOC.
P. O. BOX 5958
SANTA FE NM 87502**