

November and December 1997

Editors: Marian Meyer and Catherine Thayer



CRISIS AT FAIRVIEW

SANTA FE COUNTY PRESENTS PROPOSAL THAT OUR ASSOCIATION TAKE OVER CEMETERY

BOARD MUST CONSIDER EVERY ASPECT OF THIS SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YOU TO MAIL BACK WITH YOUR OPINION AND SUGGESTIONS

FENCE FINISHED**MAPPING BEING DONE**9 SAFFORD LOTS ARE OURS

NO ANNUAL MEETING**BY-LAWS CHANGED**BASE COURSE ON ROADS

INTERMENTS: HOEFER, MIDDLETON, CRUZ, GOODMAN, KENNEL, ROBERTS

\$3205.00 IN DONATIONS--THANK YOU

FCPA FACES MOST SIGNIFICANT DECISION IN ITS HISTORY--SANTA FE COUNTY WANTS TO DIVEST ITSELF OF CEMETERY - ASKS US TO TAKE IT OVER

In our 16 years of newsletters, we have never felt it necessary to use a large headline to tell you something. In comparison to our usual 12 point headers, this 48 point font is to emphasize that whatever we decide to do will be an *extremely* serious decision.

Officials at Santa Fe County have submitted a proposal to our Board of Directors that they give us the cemetery, with a one-time monetary contribution to assist in the changeover. Their primary reason for this is that if they own the cemetery, it violates the state anti-donation law because they are spending money on property which belongs to private individuals (graves). They say the only part they should be involved with is the area between graves, the roads, and the house, etc. This debate has been underway for several years and our legal counsel maintained that it was a *quid pro quo* arrangement. They were burying indigents in Fairview in return for the care they gave the cemetery.

That is no longer the case. The County has put a moratorium on indigent burials--there are hardly any vacant indigent graves left anyway. President Bob Lawrence called a special meeting in September of board members and other interested people. The group decided it needed more legal information to make a decision so a

committee was appointed to study the legal ramifications, potential costs, possible sources of revenue, insurance and the inevitable necessity of hiring an administrator sometime in the future to do the work which Catherine Thayer and Marian Meyer have been doing free for 16 years. Age is catching up to Marian (she turned 70 this year) and after 16 years as secretary, Catherine is turning more to her art interests.

The investigative committee met with Tom Catron the first week of November and got a clearer picture of the legal ramifications for our Association. We are hopeful that most of you will respond to our questionnaire at the end of the newsletter. Please study the following options and let us know how you feel about them.

IDEAS TO GENERATE REVENUE IF WE TAKE OVER

If Fairview is to remain a viable and working cemetery in future years, we need to find sources of revenue to make it so. Since many of us who have been involved in the association since 1981 will no longer be here, we need to set up some arrangements which will take Fairview a good way into the 21st century. Marian got some very interesting information from an expert in the field. He says that when the baby boomer generation starts dying off, there will be a high premium on burial spaces, particularly in established cemeteries. Our old historical Fairview may become a very desirable final destination.

We have heard from several sources that cremation is the wave of the future. Most reports put it at 30% up, but one mortician says his cremations are running 50% to 55%, compared to casket burials. So, with cremation in mind, we have investigated some of the options. A standard grave space will hold six cremains burials. We have an area at Fairview (an old road which is grown over with grass) which we estimate could accommodate 200 or so cremains ground burials (ashes). It would need only to be mapped.

Another option which is growing in popularity is the installing of columbariums. For this we would need to obtain some outside money—perhaps a foundation grant, because there is a large initial investment. We have an ideal space at Fairview—a long area with the end facing the running track at the New Mexico School for the Deaf, among trees where it would not be intrusive. A 64 niche granite columbarium costs \$17,000.00, plus the cost of a crane and a cement foundation. At least three of these columbariums would fit in this space. Also, there are almost limitless areas for columbariums against the fence at the back of the cemetery.

There will always be those who prefer standard casket burials, and we will continue to try to find old lot owners who have vacant spaces who will be willing to donate them to us. Please consider all of this when you complete the questionnaire at the end of the newsletter. Add any ideas you may have to bring revenue to Fairview.

SPRING CLEAN-UP BIG SUCCESS**BYLAW CHANGE MADE**FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN MAY FOLLOWING CLEAN-UP

We think the May clean-up was the biggest we've ever had—about 50 people were at the luncheon, and some did not attend—they only cleaned. A business meeting included the proposed by-law change to hold the annual meeting in May instead of September. Officers and directors will henceforth be elected at that time. President Bob Lawrence and the other board members agreed to extend their terms until next spring.

BEAUTIFUL NEW FENCE FINISHED**ALL SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORKING**BASE COURSE LAID IN ROADS

Our beautiful new wrought iron fence and brick foundation is finished and paid for. Everyone agreed that it is by far our most ambitious and successful project. As most of you know, we started out very small in 1981 and in that time we have not only helped maintain the cemetery every summer, but we have put sprinkler systems in the entire grounds. The fence alone cost us \$38,000.00. We took four years to raise the funds, but it was a wonderful, worthwhile endeavor. S & L Construction which did the brick work accomplished an amazing job. They used the capstones we had near the gate and on the south end, they fabricated cement capstones with the proper coloring. They look wonderful.

The six sprinkler systems cost us from \$5,000.00 to \$16,000.00 each, over a span of 16 years. The timing

devices were the icing on the cake. They and the last two sprinkler systems were done in cooperation with Santa Fe County. Frank Rendon has been extremely helpful since he has been in charge. This summer Rendon also made a tremendous improvement in our roads. He brought in several truckloads of basecourse. Jerry Lucero, our new caretaker, spread it, making the roads the best we have ever known them to be.

NINE SAFFORD LOTS ARE OURS**THANKS TO TOM CATRON, MARTHA GREER CLARKE & HERB GREER**SEVEN ALREADY SOLD

Tom Catron recently completed the quiet title work on the nine Safford lots which were deeded to us by Martha Greer Clarke and her brother Herb Greer. The quiet title suit was filed because another heir of the Safford family moved away from Santa Fe thirty years ago and had not been heard from since. The newspaper advertisements did not uncover any other heirs, so after the required length of time, the lots became ours. Again we thank Martha Clarke and Herb Greer for their generosity, and Tom Catron for his work on the quiet title.

We had a request for two of the lots two years ago from Lucy Macgillivray Dix. We notified her immediately, and she bought the two next to her other MacGillivray family burials. We also had a request to save five of the Safford lots for the Mason family. Erik Mason, who served on the board as our grounds chairman for over two years, wanted one, and his brother David, asked for four. Those have been deeded over and paid for. At \$700.00 each we now have \$4900.00 in the bank, part of which has been earmarked for the mapping of the cemetery.

GUY GRAY RESIGNS; IS MAPPING CEMETERY

The board voted some time ago to have it done by our caretaker Guy Gray. When Guy resigned, he was willing to continue the mapping work. The most recent map we have of the entire cemetery is dated 1925, and it is not much help. We do have detailed maps of Section B (front) near the house and Section F, next to the School for the Deaf, but both need updating. These maps will make it possible for *anyone* to find a grave at Fairview. They have been needed for years. We have paid him for Section B (center) and D. He is now working on Section C. We started with the least difficult ones. A is complicated and will take more time. E, F and B (front) should take less time.

We have two side by side lots left for sale in the Safford plot and one lot in the Gov. Thornton plot. They are \$700 each. This is probably a bargain, because if we take over the cemetery, it may be necessary to raise prices.

TWO HEADSTONES PLACED THIS SUMMER**HELEN CANNON AND TRAIN ROBBER SAM KETCHUM

A headstone for Helen Leighton Cannon was installed, as well as one in the old Odd Fellows Cemetery for the train robber Samuel W. Ketchum. For several years Marian has been in contact with descendants of Sam, and this year they decided to place a headstone on his grave. We only knew that he was buried in the area where the two cemeteries come together, so that was the site chosen. The Odd Fellows have no interment

records, but they were agreeable. It may prove to be a popular marker for visitors. The headstone says: "Samuel W. Ketchum/born Jan 4, 1854, Caldwell Co., TX/died Jul 24, 1899, Santa Fe NM/Cowboy, Husband, Father and Outlaw/Shot and Captured by Posse/Brother of Thomas E. "Black Jack" Ketchum/. A couple of years ago we told you the story of the Ketchums in our history column. Black Jack was hanged in Clayton and is buried there. Sam was in the NM State Penitentiary when his infected arm had to be amputated. However, it did not save his life. A "good" Ketchum brother came from Texas and took care of his burial at Odd Fellows but no one ever placed a stone on it until now. RIP, Sam,

FIVE INTERMENTS SINCE MAY NEWSLETTER

A few weeks after Mabel Hoefler died, a tribute to her was written by Richard McCord in his *New Mexican* column. Mrs. Hoefler was his landlady for many years while he owned and published *The Santa Fe Reporter*. His fondness for this Santa Fe old-timer was evident in his glowing account. She was buried next to her husband Herman who died in 1965.**After his retirement as a math teacher at Santa Fe High School, Max Middleton was a member of our board in the early years. He took a class in rodent control at the Santa Fe Extension Service because whoever helped with control of prairie dogs had to have a certificate from them. He is buried next to his wife Ageda who died in 1976.**Carmelita Cruz is buried in Section B Front next to her mother, Benita and her brother Horatio. Irwin Goodman spent his early childhood traveling with the family carnival, Goodman's Greatest Shows. His obituary says, "These early experiences fostered the love of people and life which were his trademark." He came to Santa Fe in 1946 with his parents, Rose and Isaac, who are also buried at Fairview**Helen Kennell is buried next to her husband, the Rev. John Kennell in the Presbyterian plot. She was also a minister, of the Baptist denomination.**Karolyn Roberts, (Kay) mother of Tina Lawrence, whose husband Bob is our president, died recently in California City, CA, where she and her husband Ernest lived. Your editor Marian first met them when they made a special trip to Santa Fe for our Fairview Centennial in 1984. They were longtime supporters of our Association. Kay's ashes will be interred in the Slaughter plot. Our condolences to all the families.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE BOUGHT LOTS AT FAIRVIEW

Marian may have forgotten to mention to some of you who have bought lots from our Association that it is a good idea for you to take your quitclaim deed down to the County Court House and have it recorded. It used to cost \$5. It might have gone up since then, but we think it is worthwhile.



SUGGESTION FROM JOHN ADAMS

John Adams was appointed to the investigative committee by President Bob Lawrence. One of his suggestions is that people who have made money from stock holdings may wish to use our Association for a tax deduction. John writes:

Many investors have found that their stock holdings greatly increased in value in the last seven years. To realize the value of these stocks by selling them would expose the holder to capital gains taxes of at least 20%. However, a gift of appreciated stock may be deducted as a charitable contribution on your income tax for the full market value of the asset. Thus the out-of-pocket cost of a gift or donation can be reduced substantially. If you would like to make a donation to the Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association Maintenance Fund please contact John R. Adams at Quinn Southwest (982-1904) for more information.



\$3205.00 IN CONTRIBUTIONS**THANK YOU

Our sincere thanks to the 31 donors who gave a total of \$3205.00 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 \$10 to \$500:

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ball, Jean and Ron* | Lopez, Conchita |
| Barth, Alfred | Meyer, Marian* |
| Bickley, Peter | Miller, Vera |
| Brown, Lois* | Montezuma Lodge |
| Burgess, John | Mossman, Ann |
| Cooper, Georgia | Naranjo, Maria and Juana(2) |
| Egenhofer, Mrs. Ruth* | Petranto, Joe |
| Enos, Susan | Pick, Henry |
| Fitzgerald, Melvin | Romero, Joe |
| Fletcher, Betty | Sheehee, Mary Ellen |
| Harvey, Gladys | Sherman, John |
| Kennell, Helen | Simpson, Christine |
| Lasko, Joyce Nan | Stauffer, John & Family |
| Laughlin, Robin K. | Thomas, Bradley M. |
| Livingston, Jean | Zinn, Judge Frank & Anne Zinn |
| Livingston, Leona | Michaelsen, Rachel |

MEMORIALS :From Mrs. Ruth Egenhofer and Jean and Ron Ball to Dr. Albert Egenhofer; from Lois Brown to Dr. And Mrs. W. H. Livingston, and from Marian Meyer to Kay Roberts

1. Are you in favor of having the Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association take over the ownership and operation of the cemetery? Yes No Comments _____

2. If we do, will you support the Association in any way you can? With physical assistance, volunteering to serve in any capacity within your capability, or with your contributions? Yes No

3. Among the options we mentioned in the newsletter to generate revenue to operate Fairview, are you in favor of:

Ground burial of cremains Yes No

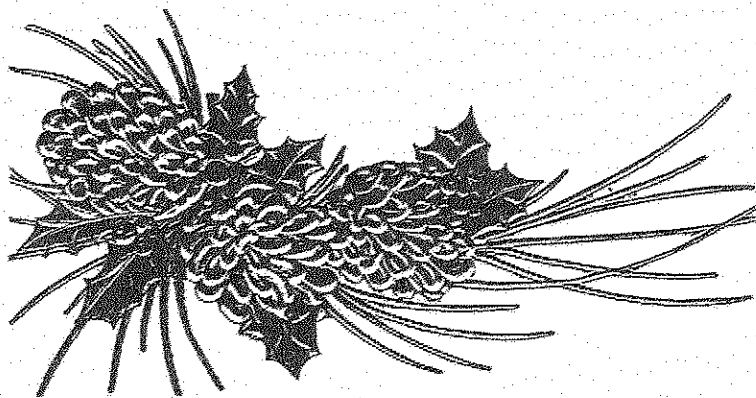
Columbariums for cremains Yes No

Standard casket burials if we can obtain enough vacant graves Yes No

If we do not take over the cemetery, what is your feeling about the announced intention of Santa Fe County to put it up for sale to the highest bidder? _____

We have a couple of other potential plans to generate revenue, but it would be premature to mention them yet. Please give us any other suggestions you may have to raise money or to help in the operation of the cemetery.

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



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL