

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

NEWSLETTER

September 1992

Editors: Marian Meyer  
Catherine Thayer

**ANNUAL MEETING AT LAWRENCE HOME SEPTEMBER 21, 5:30 PM**

**SPECIAL FALL CLEAN-UP TO REPLACE RAINED-OUT SPRING ONE  
AND POT-LUCK LUNCHEON OCTOBER 10, 9:30 AM**

**NEW COUNTY SPARE-TIME CARETAKER - IS THIS REALISTIC?**

**NEXT SPRINKLER SYSTEM POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT SUMMER**

**B. J. THOMASON & AILEEN HARMS GIVE TOTAL OF 8 LOTS TO US**

**\$1989 IN DONATIONS RECEIVED--TARK COOKS GIVE \$1000**

**MORE SF GARDEN CLUB WORK AND "ADOPT A TREE" PROGRAM NEEDS HELPERS**

**NEW MARKERS SET AND DATES ADDED TO OLD STONES**

**PAT & JOE VALDES HAVE WEEDS CUT ALONG FRONT FENCE**

**ANOTHER CENTENNIAL SKETCH--THE BLOOM FAMILY**

**ANNUAL MEETING SEPT. 21 AT LAWRENCE HOME - 5:30  
P.M., 107 PLACITA HALCON**

Tina and Bob Lawrence will host the annual meeting of the association at their home, 107 Placita Halcon, 5:30 p.m., Monday, September 21. From Old Pecos Trail, turn right (west) on Zia Road. Halcon is the first street--it turns only left. Placita Halcon, a small cul-de-sac, is the first right turn. New officers and directors will be elected. Anyone with an interest in Fairview is urged to attend. If you have suggestions, complaints or ideas, please come and voice them.

**SPECIAL FALL CLEAN-UP AND POTLUCK SCHEDULED  
TO REPLACE THE ONE RAINED OUT IN MAY. SAT. OCT.  
10, CLEAN UP 9:30 A.M., LUNCHEON 11:30 A.M.**

*Note: Rain date - Oct. 17*

A few die-hards showed up that soggy morning in May, but there was no hope for the clean-up. At that time we discussed the possibility of re-scheduling it in the fall, which we have done. We hope it will be a perfect Indian Summer day and that many of you will join us in getting the cemetery in good shape for the winter. The water will still be on, so all those who have adopted trees can give them a last good soaking. *If you have a weedeater, please bring it. How wonderful it would be if we could get most of the grass trimmed around headstones.* As always, there will be trash to clean up, particularly on both sides of the

fence, and if many leaves have fallen by that time, they can be raked and put in bags. Bring any other tools you may need. We will provide the trash bags.

There are jobs for all levels of energy! If you can do any of these chores, please check with Ruth or Amado Summers for directions. The clean-up committee has made a list of things that need to be done:

- Picking up dead or tired flowers and containers.
- Emptying trash containers.
- Picking up trash and limbs.
- Cutting weeds outside fence north of gate.
- Watering lilacs and hand trimming in Staab plot and other fenced lots.
- Deep watering all young trees

As usual, Ruth Summers, our perennial pot-luck chairwoman, and wife of our president, will head up the luncheon. She asks you to bring an entree, salad or dessert, to serve approximately 8 people. The Odd Fellows Hall adjoining Fairview will be open at 9:30 if your dish needs cooling or heating. Paper plates, utensils and drinks will be provided by the association. We encourage those not able to help with the clean-up to attend the luncheon.

If we can get enough people to turn out for the clean-up and most of this work gets done, our beautiful old cemetery

could look as good as Rosario. Stop and consider: They have a supervisor and *three* full-time groundskeepers! Come and help us.

**COUNTY OFFICIALS IMPLEMENT NEW SPARE-TIME CARETAKER - ARRANGEMENT RAISES QUESTIONS**

A new caretaker, Vince Franco, is living in the recently refurbished house at Fairview. He is a very agreeable person, and a good worker. The problem is the arrangement the County has made with him regarding the Cemetery. Vince has an eight-hour job elsewhere with the County, and in exchange for living in the house, County officials expect him to maintain the cemetery on his own time, which means evenings and weekends. Some members of our association feel this is entirely unrealistic. When our president, Amado Summers, voiced this concern to the supervisor, Dennis Hernandez, he said if it didn't work, they would look at something else. But the situation has remained static.

To review the past eleven years, our association has dealt with at least seven county managers. The first, Roman Garcia, welcomed our offer of help with open arms. Each manager has had a different philosophy and approach to the cemetery and its needs. In 1978 When the County Commissioners accepted the cemetery and the perpetual care trust income from the Santa Fe Woman's Club, they pledged to maintain it. At that time Commissioner "Froggy" Fernandez personally promised several individuals (Maree Santheson and Perle Hillyer were two of them) that Fairview would not become a "Potters Field." When our association formed in 1981, the cemetery was on its way to becoming exactly that. The Santhesons and Hillyers, as well as others, had already moved their family burials out of Fairview.

Beginning in 1983, we arranged for a fulltime summer caretaker and we paid his salary. We shared other major expenses with the County. About 1986 Supervisor Leo Catanach suggested the County take over the caretaker's salary and our association assume responsibility for the large expenses such as fertilizing, sod for graves, tree spraying and trimming. We agreed to the plan. Now, in 1992, the County is not holding to its agreement. Of course, all our dealings with County officials have been verbal, nonetheless, the commitment was made. In the past 6 years we have spent over \$20,000 on 3 sprinkler systems and we have 2 to go. Each year we spend from \$7,000 to \$10,000 on maintenance.

On two Fridays Amado arranged with the County for Vince to be at Fairview to plant sod. Of the many bare graves we had, the first ones done were Bigbee, Stevenson, Kinsell, Dwyre and Bliss. In several cases, three or four grave spaces had to be sodded on one grave because the dirt from burials had been left on the adjoining grass all winter and killed it. We requested several times last winter that the County remove the dirt and rocks, but without results. On the second Friday Vince sodded the Moore, Greve, Cantu,

Ragle and Yashvin graves, plus other small spots, including McCline and Rector.

It has been a rough summer for Amado. He has spent untold hours at Fairview, meeting often with the plumber, who has done several repair jobs on the first two sprinkler systems. Amado has dealt with many other problems, including the following story.

**SMALL NEW MOWER BOUGHT**

Just about the time the new caretaker arrived and the mowing need was desperate, we learned that our beautiful \$6,000 Grasshopper mower had some serious problems. The repairman who looked at it suggested we buy a smaller mower as an interim measure and take our time in determining the extent of work which must be done on the Grasshopper. This we did. Amado Summers and Warren Jones chose a small Sears riding mower which cost \$1600, including a 3 year repair warranty. Before the purchase was made, we did a little research. We learned that a \$15,000 mower at National Cemetery lasts from 10 to 14 years. Our \$6000 mower lasted six years and our first small Wards riding mower, \$1300, lasted a little over 2 years. (We still have it though it can no longer mow, we occasionally use it to pull a wheelbarrow attachment around). The cost of a mower seems to average out to about \$1000 per year, no matter what the size or cost. Of course we will eventually get our Grasshopper repaired, but we may wait til we can get some first hand information from the company.

So, after all that has transpired this year, and the load that Amado has carried, please let him know that you appreciate his hard work.

**SPRINKLER SYSTEM ADDITION POSTPONED**

Last spring it was decided that we would hold off on the next section of sprinkler system until there was a new caretaker and we found out how things were going to go. As things developed during the summer, we decided **NOT** to do any additional work on the system this year.

We have the money for the addition in a certificate of deposit. The board will make a decision at a later time on when and how we will proceed. As we mentioned in the spring newsletter, our ultimate hope is that once we get the entire cemetery under sprinkler systems, we can install automatic controls (preferably inside the shed). In this way, watering could be done in late evening or early morning hours when there is no wind to waste water. However, that is probably a good while in the future, but it is a worthy goal.

**SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB PLANTERS**

The women of the Santa Fe Garden Club continue to nurture our planters at the cemetery entrance. Last fall they planted Katoniaster shrubs in the planters. Fortunately our rather wet winter helped and we watered them a few times.

(It takes 4 hoses from the frost-free hydrant near the house), Nevertheless, two plants did not survive and the clubwomen were generous in replacing those this summer. We thank them very much.

**WEEDS CUT-THANKS TO PAT & JOE VALDES**

Former Mayor Joe Valdes and his wife Pat have been unhappy with the weeds along the front fence all summer. Finally, Pat took it upon herself to remedy it by sending her own employee to cut them down, from the south end to the gate, a goodly distance. We appreciate it very much.

**B. J. THOMASON DONATES SIX EMPTY LOTS; AILEEN HARMS TO GIVE TWO.**

After our story about the empty plots at Fairview, Mr. B. J. Thomason, who lives in Arizona, called to say he wanted to donate 6 lots, his share of the Mera-Robinson plot at Fairview. His late wife, Edith Mera Thomason, was the daughter of the famed couple, Dr. Frank Mera and Edna Robinson Mera, who established Sunmount Sanatorium early in this century. Because there were 12 lots involved, we are still in the process of getting deeds signed and exchanged. Once this is done, the other half of the Mera-Robinson plot will remain in the Robinson family. We are very grateful to Mr. Thomason for his generosity.

Another donor, Mrs. Aileen Harms, is the daughter of the late Dr. J. W. Waffensmith, a physician here for about two decades about 1902. He purchased 3 lots; only one was used when another daughter died. He and his wife were buried elsewhere, and Mrs. Harms, who lives in New Jersey, is planning to give the 2 lots to us. We thank her very much.

**NO INTERMENTS SINCE SPRING**

This is the longest we have ever gone, with no interments, since our organization became involved in the private burials at Fairview. There has not been one since February.

**HEADSTONES INSTALLED ON OLD GRAVES: DATES ADDED TO OLD STONES**

William Frederick F. Wiley, 1856-1931; and Adeline Hope Van Hecke, 1913-1917, of the Wiley-Gilmour families, now have markers. This offer is made every summer; a simple gray granite marker is available at near cost: small, \$180; large, \$320. If you have an old grave which needs marking, watch for the notice in the spring newsletter. In addition, this year we had death dates added to two existing stones: Nanalee Barnett ordered it done for Dr. J. H. Barton--you oldtimers may remember he lived on Don Gaspar Avenue. Frances Hanners arranged for the second one, for Sue Harrington, a teacher at the New Mexico School for the Deaf many years ago. It costs \$25 to add a date to an old stone. The monument man must bring a compressor from Albuquerque to cut the numbers on old stones, but when

he combines it with a trip to install stones, there is no travel charge.

**REPORT ON 'ADOPT A TREE'**

We could use a few more volunteers to water one or more of our young trees at least once or twice a month during the summer. Those trees which have been given good care are doing extremely well. Call Ruth Summers, 983-3933, or sign up at the luncheon on October 10.

**CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE MAY NEWSLETTER--TARK COOKS GIVE \$1000**

In midsummer when Marian Meyer was at Fairview doing some work, Mr. and Mrs. Tark Cook and Mr. Brownlee from Texas came to find the grave of Mary Brownlee Cook, their mother and sister. After visiting with Marian, who gave them a copy of the May newsletter, they left and returned shortly with a check (folded). Later Marian looked at it and got one of those adrenalin highs that make all this work worthwhile. It was for a *thousand* dollars. We thank the Cooks very much. Of course the big gifts are great, but we also appreciate the multitude of smaller donations very much. They are what keep us going. Heartfelt thanks to each of you--the 21 donors who gave a total of \$1994, in amounts ranging from \$4 to \$1000. They are as follows:

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Abernathy, Margot    | Leppke, Mildred          |
| Bennett, Howard      | Michaelsen, Rachel       |
| Bentley, Verda       | Millford, Mrs. Stanley*  |
| Castner, Olinda      | Miller, K. K. & Laura*   |
| Churchill, Vivian    | Miller, Vera             |
| Cook, M&M Tark       | Milligan, Harold*        |
| DuVal, Elise         | Naranjo, Maria           |
| Fletcher, Betty*     | Nusbaum, Mrs. John       |
| Floersheim, Arthur   | Renehan, Michael         |
| Hunker, June Bishop  | Stump, Lydia             |
| Kellahin, Mrs. Jason | Zinn, Judge & Mrs. Frank |

**\*MEMORIALS**

To Kathleen L. Milligan, M. M. Milligan, M. D., and May Milligan from Harold S. Milligan; to Martha Watt, Jenny Watt Cantelou and William Frazier Cantelou from Mrs. Stanley J. Millford; to Paul Ragle from Laura and K. K. Miller; to Grace Moore from her daughter, Betty Fletcher, who recalled times past when their ping-pong table was frequently covered with Fairview Cemetery papers when her mother was Cemetery Chairman.

**BIOGRAPHY OF JANE ABBOTT PAUL**

Marian Meyer received a delightful little book this summer, titled *Jane Abbott Paul: The Early Years*, written by Nancy Bondurant Jones. Mrs. Paul was born in Santa Fe in 1901, granddaughter of Judge A. J. Abbott, who with his wife oversaw the operation of Bandelier for many years. It has some nice history: photographs of Santa Fe, and is a pleasure to read. Mrs. Paul now lives in Virginia.

**CENTENNIAL BIOGRAPHIES** By Catherine Thayer

Our series of biographies featured at our 1984 Fairview Centennial continue here, with two prominent people buried at Fairview.

**ANNA PORTER BLOOM AND SON LANSING BLOOM**

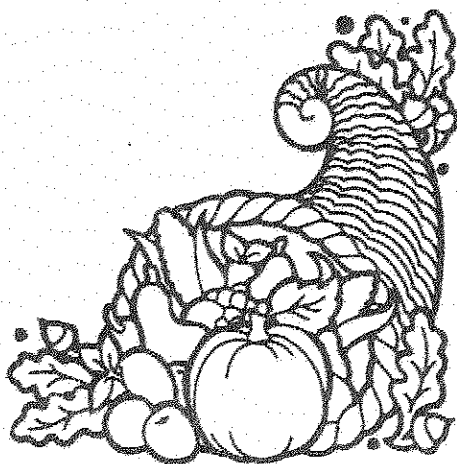
Anna Porter was born at Rockford, Illinois on January 14, 1850; the daughter of Rev. Lansing Porter, Congregational minister, later a farmer and captain in the Civil War. She was also a descendant of Elder Brewster. She was a member of the D.A.R. Her husband Richard Bloom was an elder of the "Old First" Presbyterian church in Auburn, New York until his death in 1900. After that Anna Bloom served as a mission teacher for three years with her son Lansing at Jemez Pueblo. She also lived for a time with her youngest son Raymond at Magdalena, New Mexico.

Born at Auburn, New York, Lansing Bloom graduated from Williams College in 1902, then attended Auburn Theological Seminary from 1904 - 1907.

On completing his studies in the seminary he married Maude E. McFie and moved to Saltillo, Mexico to become a Presbyterian missionary to that city. After other missionary work in Utah the Blooms settled in New Mexico because of Lansing's health problems. Following pastorates at Jemez Pueblo and Magdalena, 1917 saw Bloom change professions. It was in this year he took a position with the School of American Research and Museum of New Mexico.

In 1920 he was appointed associate professor of history at the University of New Mexico and associate director of the Museum of New Mexico. Bloom was also secretary of the Historical Society of New Mexico and editor of the New Mexico Historical Review for many years. He did extensive work with the Spanish Archives. Bloom was active in many organizations. Governor Dillon appointed him to the New Mexico Commission to Sevilla, Spain Exposition. He was one of the founders of the Quivira Society, a member of the American Historical Association and Archaeological Institute of America and the Archaeological Society of New Mexico. Bloom was a 32 degree Mason, member of Phi Alpha Theta and "Mayflower Descendants."

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



**PLEASE ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 21, 5:30 PM**

**COME TO THE FALL CLEAN-UP, 9:30 AM AND POTLUCK  
LUNCHEON, 11:30 AM SATURDAY OCTOBER 21**