

September 2000

Editor: Marian Meyer

1 DAY-A-WEEK WATERING & PIPE BREAKS MAKE A SUMMER OF CRISIS, BUT FINALLY, THE CEMETERY IS MOWED

JOHN ADAMS, PETER BICKLEY & MARIAN MEYER RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT & VP'S, BLAIR COOPER, SECRETARY, JOAN STOTTS IS TREASURER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM JOHN ADAMS

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR FALL CLEAN-UP OCTOBER 28

INTERMENTS: NADINE McCRARY, PHILOMENA MARTINEZ, ESTHER MASON

WE THANK YOU FOR A TOTAL OF \$8280.00 IN DONATIONS—YOU ARE WONDERFUL

\$3000.00 TREE-WORK DONATION PLEA MET QUICKLY—NOW GRANT CRITERIA CHANGED

EDITORIAL BY MARIAN MEYER



NEW OFFICERS

At The business meeting following the Spring clean-up, three of the officers were re-elected. President is John Adams. Peter Bickley and Marian Meyer were tapped again as Vice-presidents.

New to the board is Blair Cooper, who was elected Secretary. She has several generations of family buried at Fairview including Keachie, Woodford, Wiley, Samuels and Gilmour.

Joan Stotts, the new treasurer, has returned to the board after an absence of over ten years. Her Fiske children have 17 ancestors buried at Fairview, including two great-great grandmothers.

DIRECTORS

Serving a second year of a two-year term are Ronald Ball, Margaret Brunk, Bob Clifford, Marian Karlson and Brad Thomas.

New Directors are Morrow Hall, James R. Moore and Gene Valdes. Moore and Valdes both have family buried at Fairview.

FAIRVIEW IS FINALLY PRESENTABLE

As this is being written, the end of the first mowing of the summer of 2000 is being completed. It has been heart wrenching to see our beautiful cemetery deteriorate while waiting for pipe repairs and other problems. The president's message explains how this happened.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT--September 2000

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times"—Tale of Two Cities, Dickens

*Overheard from friends who didn't know I was listening---
"My garden is dead, my grass is brown and here the Cemetery is watering and has green grass—it's not fair!"*

December 1999 marked the end of our first complete year of ownership and operation of Fairview and what a fine start we had made. Guy Gray, our caretaker at the time, had gotten things green and trimmed and we were looking forward to getting some major jobs accomplished. We don't often truly appreciate what we have until we lose it. Losing Guy's services when he had to move in December made us realize what value he had added to our effort. By

the time we were able to begin contacting landscape maintenance firms in February we found that they were already overbooked for the season. Rosario Cemetery, which is about ten times our size and has its own staff, found themselves undermanned all summer. The few firms that were interested in looking us over were unable to give us a proposal. As I write this the executive committee of the board has reviewed proposals from five firms interested in working for us next season. We have selected the one most attuned to our budget. Michael Nelson with Spaces Landscaping has begun work on Section B, working between already committed jobs and using his personal time to help us out. We won't be able to replace Guy and we will probably never get away with paying as little as we did for his work.

Those of you who were at our Spring Clean-up were aware of the difficulties developing. First, the company that had supplied us with the new sprinkler heads Guy installed last fall failed to include the right number of new nozzles for them. Then a leak sprang from an old County repair to the galvanized pipes that served the hose bibs we use to water the trees. That repair in the North System revealed that there was no way to separate these pipes from the sprinkler system supply. Failed solenoids kept some watering zones from coming on and to deal with this problem we got help from Earth and Water, Inc., irrigation technicians. As we toured the grounds with them we found another leak. A two-inch supply line, this time in the South System, at a junction where the first sprinkler system was connected in 1984, was hours away from giving way completely.

Again we found that galvanized pipe and sprinkler system were on the same cut off, but luckily a separate cut off on the South System could be installed easily as part of the leak repair. Valve boxes have been reset after 20 years of settling to make sure that vehicles don't damage the valves. Also, critters seem to have attacked the electrical system so we had wiring repairs to make.

So how did the Cemetery come to look the way it did at the beginning of September? We couldn't water at all or effectively in some areas for April, May and June. Then when we began watering, the grass began to grow, amazingly well in most areas. So did the weeds and volunteer trees. Then we were put on restriction to two day-a-week watering, then one day-a-week in Stage 3 by the city water storage. We had no one to cut the grass. The one good thing to come from high grass was it retained what water we were able to put on it when we could.

Is this the way Fairview Cemetery will continue to look? Emphatically, no! But we don't have the resources to maintain it like a golf course. And in time of drought we still have to suffer along with the rest of the city. We are going to proceed with removal and replacement of dead and dying trees. We now have a sprinkler system that is tuned up and several who understand the settings. This has been a long learning process.

All through this there have been times when I felt like the little Dutch boy with his finger in the dike. But a lot of help has come along and I want to express my personal thanks and of the Association. First I would like to thank my family for tolerating my late returns from the workday, mud on my shoes and piles of trash or tree trimmings in the car. Or for my weekend disappearances for hours at a time as I drove down to read water meters and move hoses.

Thanks to the board members for their support and help. Thanks to Marian Meyer for constantly challenging us to overcome these problems and get the Cemetery looking better. Special thanks to Brad Thomas for arranging for a supply of concrete bumpers and getting proposals from landscape firms. Thanks to Marian Karlson and Margaret Brunk for helping to get our board meetings more organized. Thanks to Joni Stotts for keeping the house rented to such nice people and to our tenant Jacqlyn for directing visitors to call us for information and for sharing her watchdog Nikai with us.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Spring Clean-up and especially to Peter Bickley for coming back over the course of several months to help me clean up a trash pile and downed trees that had accumulated. Amado and Ruth Summers are due thanks for watering trees and providing background on a previous Adopt-a-Tree program. Abe and Marian Silver helped water trees and provided a lot of moral support.

Thanks to Guy Gray for consulting on the telephone about the layout of the water system. Thanks also to Ignacio Garcia for sharing his expertise in cemetery operations. Thanks to Jim Freeman, our consulting arborist, for arranging for a soil sample analysis and for several hours of advice on the NM Re-leaf Grant application. He also helped with rain measuring devices and moisture penetration tests for which he has not billed us. Thanks to the many people who responded so generously to help us deal with our trees.

Thanks to Earth and Water, Inc., for stepping into the breach with irrigation repairs. They have only billed us for supplies and labor—discounting their normal rates by over \$1000 so far. And speaking of labor, thanks to Matthew of Earth and Water for meeting with us on his personal time to review the system and checking on things. He also made minor repairs on the timer clock. Thanks to Michael Nelson with Spaces Landscaping for spending a great deal of time helping us get the watering system timer under control and to his daughter Zoe for filling in on the job when her dad was tied up so that Section B looked better for a graveside service.

Thanks to all of you who understand the tough job of your Board of Directors; for your tender counsel about improvements that need to be made and for your support and prayers. Comments, suggestions and encouragement can be given to John at 690-1763 on his cell phone.

President, John Adams

CALL FROM THE PRESIDENT FOR A SPECIAL FALL CLEAN-UP—OCTOBER 28, 9:30 AM

In our almost 20 years at Fairview, we have only had one Fall Clean-up and that was when the Spring Clean-up was rained out. But because of our summer crisis, John Adams has issued a request for help on Saturday, October 28, 9:30 am. John writes, "There is work that can be done by volunteers in the fall as well as the spring. In addition to caring for our relatives' headstones there are many markers that never get attention. The family may have died off or moved away. One particular problem is when dirt sifts into the cavity for vase storage. This makes the vases stick up in the way of the mower. It would help to get these cleaned out. Some sort of tool—perhaps a long screwdriver—would do the job. When you see the cemetery it will be obvious that loppers to trim low growth on trees; leaf rakes for small downed branches (and of course fall leaves), will be necessary." So bring tools. We will provide trash bags. A potluck luncheon is not planned, but if you wish, you can bring a picnic lunch. We hope to see you there." John

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS WERE \$8280.00—THANK YOU
We feel truly blessed since the May newsletter by the generous donations of our many dear friends and relatives. In this issue we have four categories of contributions—the usual for maintenance, which includes memorials to relatives; a Tree Fund, Endowment Fund and a special Memorial Fund to Esther Mason. In all, 57 checks ranged from \$5.00 to \$1500.00. We thank each of you.

Anonymous-\$400	Meyer, Marian*
Bayless, George Donoho	Mason, Erik*
Bennett, Sheldon***	Mason, Mrs. Esther*
Bloom, John	Masonic Lodge AM&FM
Brown, Mrs. Jack*	Mudd, France*
Brylinski, Dorothy	Naranjo, Maria and Juana
Cerrillos Lodge AF&AM	Seth, Jean*
Field, William	Strawn, Dorothy
Fincke, Margaret	Sweeney, Robin Sweeney,
Corbett, Nancy	Thomas, Harold & Rosina
Hoban, Aline	Wal-Mart
Karlson, Ernest and Marian	Walter, Carl & Margaret*
Legits, Joanne	Wiley, Tom
Livingston, Jean*	Zinn, Frank

***MEMORIALS**

To Dr. and Mrs. Wallace H. Livingston, from Jean Livingston and Mrs. Jack Brown; to Edna and John Walter from Carl and Margaret Walter; to Irene Senutovitch from France Mudd. A special gift of \$400 was given by Erik Mason and his mother Esther, who died on September 5, in memory of father and brother, William Watchman Mason I and William Watchman Mason II. To Esther Mason from Marian Meyer. Another special memorial of \$500 to the Seth and MacGillivray families was given by Jean Seth.

ESTHER MASON MEMORIAL FUND

Mrs. Mason was born in Nebraska and always said she wanted to die there. Her wish was granted. She was visiting her daughter there at Christmas and suffered a stroke.

Because she died in her daughter's home in Arlington, there was an outpouring of gifts from that small town as well as several other surrounding towns. The donors were:

Blume, M/M George	Hilgenkamp, Ron & Elaine
Bowman, Ron & Anita	Hilgenkamp, Mitton & Kathy
Byers, Alice	Luebker, Leonard & Annamay
Chappelear, Duane & Nila	Moser, Ed & Jim
Crosson, M/M Lon	Nelson, Larry & Ruth Nelson
Dunklau, LeRoy & Donna	Otto, Dr Louis & Marilyn
Gnuse, Robert & Ruth	Royuk, Wayne & Barbarakay
Hensen, Madelon	Scheer, Lila
Hermann, Dave & Carolyn	Schlueter, Jayme & Joan
Hilgenkamp, Darrell & Arlene	Wolfe, Delmar & Eleanor
Hilgenkamp, Marj	

We thank them

*****ENDOWMENT FUND**

Sheldon Bennett, one of Fairview's dear friends who had given us \$1000.00 last year, donated another \$300.00 for the Endowment fund. He died on September 9. Shel is not buried at Fairview (He does have a baby brother interred there), but he was very fond of the cemetery. His letter said, "May the fund grow rapidly."

Harold and Rosina Thomas have given a generous contribution—half to the Tree Fund and half to the Endowment fund. They have also made a 5-year pledge for the future to the Endowment Fund.

TREES

In the May newsletter a plea was made by the president for funds to match a New Mexico "Re-Leaf" grant of \$3000.00. It was a piece of cake from you big-hearted people. Within six weeks we had the \$3000 plus. Thank you so very much. We regret to report that since then the people who administer the grants have limited it to replanting trees only. With the city edict that no new planting may be done during this drought, the president reports that we will postpone applying for the grant until trees can be planted. Nevertheless, we hope you won't mind if we use your money where we need it the most—removing dead trees and trimming others. The situation is becoming precarious. We have had two large limbs fall in the past month, so we are looking warily over our heads these days. That work will be done soon. The following list includes people who sent money specifically for trees. Thank you, one and all.

Bickley, Peter	Miller, Vera---\$1000
Guarini, Janet	Thomas, Bradley--\$600
Lopez, Conchita	Hammond, Herbert \$500
	Watkins, Stephen-\$300

SPECIAL GIFTS: Montezuma Lodge AM & FM sent us another of their wonderful gifts--\$1500.00. Thank you very much. Wal-Mart gave us \$250.00. We thank John Adams for the contact.

INTERMENTS

The ashes of Nadine McCrary were interred in Section D. She and her husband had been sending donations to Fairview for many years but when the time came we couldn't find a plot for them. It turned out they had bought the two plots from Ray Ham many years ago, but it had not been recorded in our books. ***The ashes of Philomena Martinez were interred in the grave of her husband Jose in Section F. He died in 1971. ***The ashes of Esther Jensen Mason were interred with those of her husband and son in Section B. See the Mason Memorial Fund.

AN EDITORIAL by MARIAN MEYER

In the President's message John Adams thanked me for "constantly challenging them to overcome the problems and get the cemetery looking better" Perhaps a more appropriate word than "challenge" would be "badgering" or "nagging!" As month by month went by with no water or mowing, I realized that in the 20 years since I founded our Association in 1981, the cemetery had never looked this bad. The grass was so long, I joked that maybe we should get someone to bale it!

Just about the time that the pipes got repaired, we were hit with the city edict that we could water only twice a week and shortly after it was once a week. It seemed that nature and the elements were conspiring against our beautiful old graveyard. In spite of this, I hope that all of you—our loyal friends of Fairview—will continue to support us. Barring a two or three year drought, I am confident things WILL get better. Come spring, No. 1 on my agenda will be water, No. 2 will be mowing and No. 3 will be re-seeding graves. Pray for a wet winter and when the crabapples bloom, maybe we will have our lovely old Fairview back again.

Marian

VAULTS TO BE REQUIRED AT FAIRVIEW.

After checking with the other cemeteries in Santa Fe, we found we were the only one that did not require a vault with interment. The board voted to now make it necessary. The least expensive one of fiber glass is about \$450 for a dome only. A bottom tray is about \$100 more. The primary reason for them is to prevent the uneven ground we have at Fairview. On our wish list for years has been to fill and re-seed all the low spots.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY PRESERVATION ASSOC.
P. O. BOX 5958
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PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS CALLS SPECIAL
FALL CLEAN-UP SAT., OCTOBER 28, 9:30 AM