

Olive Hill Cemetery Association Inc.

Newsletter

No. 9, April 2004

Annual Meeting Scheduled for May 31, 2004

We are all looking forward to the OHCA annual meeting—about the 71st such meeting that has been held, if Olive Hill history is correct.

Incorporated in 1933, OHCA has met every year on the legally designated Memorial Day, usually at the cemetery, although the weather occasionally drove our ancestors to someone's home or barn. This year, we have added a little tool shed in the southwest corner of the cemetery, so we'll have shelter if a few raindrops fall.

There are a few other additions you'll want to hear about. One is my cousin, Linda Stabler, another great-great-grandchild of Olive Hand Bailey.

Learning About Yukon's History

Yukon, born in 1891 with about 25 residents, is now a fine little city of about 24,000.

A.N. Spencer, a cattleman from Texas, became a railroad builder. He was building a rail line from El Reno to Arkansas. On this route, there were no towns between El Reno and Oklahoma City. Spencer was a planner and a builder and he decided to start a town on the proposed railroad route about 12 miles east of El Reno. He purchased part of two quarter-sections north of present-day Main Street from Luther Morrison and Minnie Taylor. He also bought two quarter-sections south of Main Street from Joseph Carson and his sister.

Linda is the daughter of Ed and Ruth Lay Stabler, was reared in Florida, and recently received her Ph.D. from Arizona State University.

Remembering her childhood visits to her grandmother's farm in Oklahoma, Linda has bought a few acres in Newalla. Ecology and horticulture being her areas of interest, she is enjoying taking care of Olive Hill this spring. You'll enjoy getting to know her and her work at our meeting.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll see that our officers have kept busy digging up new bits of history and taking care of our resources. So enjoy the newsletter and please join us Monday, May 31 at 10 a.m. at Olive Hill.

David Lay, OHCA Chairman

Spencer brought his brothers, L.M., William, and Sam Spencer to help build the town. Other friends who came to help included Dan, Sam, and George Hogan; J.M. and Joe Farris; and D.S. McEwen. The source of this

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Each spring, Olive Hill's beautiful roses attract the admiration of neighborhood walkers and those who drive by on busy Rockwell Avenue.

brief history is the Yukon High School website.

Since our last newsletter, more descendants of Olive Hand Bailey have contacted me. Dotti Smith of Independence, MO is the third great-granddaughter of Olive Hand Bailey (the second great-grand-niece of Rufus Bailey). She says that her grandmother and Berta Bailey Lay corresponded about family history. She has the letters and seems to remember meeting Berta once.

Remember, if you have any questions or pictures and stories to share, please e-mail me at olivhill@flash.net or write me at the address shown at left.

Donna Hocking, OHCA Historian

An Ancestry Poem to Enjoy

For my contribution to this issue, I'll just report that even though we had to have more tree work done this year, we've stayed within our budget.

Also, I'd like to share the poem excerpt at right. I received it from an old friend from Britton, Roy Kendrick. He got it from the Connect Oklahoma group. Roy can be reached at RoyKendrick@oklahomahistory.net. As this excerpt begins, a census taker sits down to interview a pioneer woman.

Fran Morris, OHCA Secretary-Treasurer

News and Notes

We have had one burial during this past year, Mike Whitley, August 25, 2003, was buried on Lot 84. We send condolences to his wife, Pam, and his children, Ben and Jan.

For the first time in many years, the Curtis family has contacted OHCA. Emily Elizabeth Baskin of Chambersburg, PA writes that William T. Curtis was her second great-grandfather. His wife, Virginia Grantham, is not buried at Olive Hill. She writes that no living member of the family even knew of the Curtis children buried at Olive Hill. Ms. Baskin writes that family history is very important to them and they look forward to contributing to the OHCA historical archives and helping with cemetery preservation.

Someone named Allen Wheatley has photographed our cemetery and those photos are available on the web at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~t42cemeteries/OliveHill.htm>.

Other new contacts: Kelly McCallon, 4345 Mackey Ave. S., St. Louis Park, MN 55424 and Dorothy Bradshaw Wright, 4400 S. Western, Amarillo, TX 79109-6007.

She gave him some water as they sat at the table and she answered his questions the best she was able.

He asked of her children. Yes, she had quite a few. The oldest was twenty, the youngest near two.

She noted each person who lived there, with pride, and she felt the faint stirrings of the wee one inside.

They came from Scotland, of that she was clear, but she wasn't quite sure just how long they'd been here.

They spoke of employment, of schooling and such; they could read some and write some, "though really not much."

When the questions were answered, his job there was done, so he mounted his horse and he rode toward the sun.

We can imagine his voice loud and clear: "May God bless you all for another ten years."

Now, picture a time warp—it's now, you and me, as we search for the people on our family tree.

We squint at the census and scroll down so slow as we search for that entry from long, long ago.

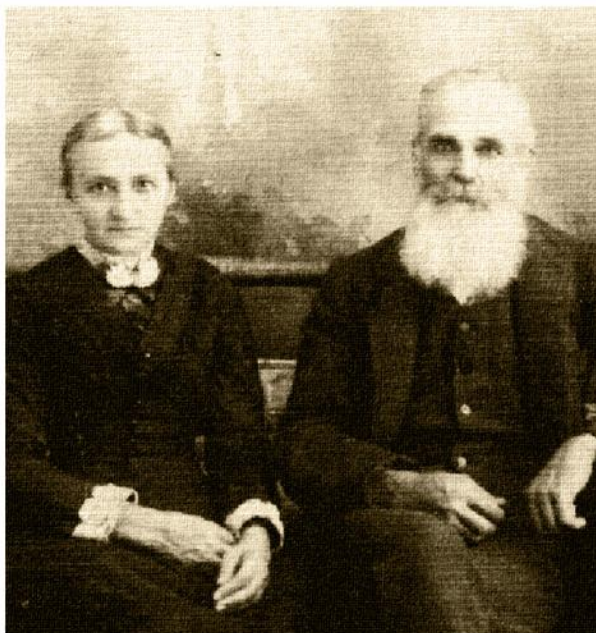
Could they only imagine on that long-ago day that the entries they made would affect us this way?

If they knew, would they wonder at the yearning we feel, and the searching that makes them so increasingly real?

We can hear if we listen, the words they impart, through their blood in our veins and their voice in our heart.

Author unknown

An Anecdote re: Charles and Lizana Ford



Charles Mann Ford (1828-1897) and Lizana Brown Ford (1835-1895), pictured at left, are both buried at Olive Hill. Charles was the son of Linus Everest Ford and Julia Ann Stanton. Lizana was the daughter of Joshua and Mercy Brown of Brownsville, Ontario. During the Civil War, Charles was partner with William H. Foote in Canada in a business called Foote & Ford General Store. They sold supplies to the South and took half gold and half paper money. Eventually, the store went broke and they had only three round-top steamer trunks full of paper money for all their efforts.

Our Website: <http://www.olivehill.org>

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