

Olive Hill Cemetery Association Inc.

Newsletter

No. 15 APRIL 2007



A Famous Stone at Olive Hill

This stone memorializing John Martin has been often photographed and is featured in several articles and books about cemeteries of Oklahoma.

The inscription reads:

JOHN MARTIN

Born July 16, 1825 Died March 29, 1907

An amiable father here lies at rest.

As ever God with his image blest;

The friend of man, the friend of truth,

The friend of age, the guide of youth.

From The Chairman:

OHCA ANNUAL MEETING! MEMORIAL DAY - May 28, 2007 10AM

We want to hear your ideas and suggestions, so we hope you'll come to our Memorial Day meeting 10 A.M. at the cemetery. Meanwhile, let me share with you an anonymous quote. The statements below so accurately describe our own goals in the Olive Hill Cemetery Association.

Nina Lay - OHCA Chairman

THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE HISTORICAL CEMETERY

To own, operate and maintain an historic burial ground in a park-like setting, governed as a voluntary, non-profit organization, with a commitment to preserve and honor the heritage of past generations, to serve and respect the needs of the present generation, and to provide a legacy for future generations. To act as a guardian of family and community heritage, traditions and values, to fulfill the founders' vision of a beautifully landscaped living memorial, where the quality of caring, surpasses expectations and where families come to honor and celebrate life in a peaceful environment.

News and Notes:

The ashes of Patsy Faye Cook Doggett were buried at the grave of her mother Mildred Davis Cook Bordwine and a marker has been added to the Davis plot in her memory. It will be placed near her mother's marker and also near her grandparents, Ernest and Essie Bishop Davis. Patsy passed on Oct. 3, 2006. All of us at OHCA send our sincere condolences to the Davis/Yeager/Doggett family.

The drought and heat wave last summer as well as all the ice this winter has really taken a toll on the baby garden. Several of the dwarf pines died and will be replaced this spring.

We're hoping to complete installation of flower holders at all plots. Once they're in place we request that no artificial flowers be placed in areas where the grass must be mowed. Moving flowers really adds a lot of time to the job and increases maintenance costs considerably. We're still working on finding a permanent caretaker. Currently a William Henry Bailey (probably no relation to Olive Hand Bailey!) is working for us. However, he's about to become a part time stay at home dad so might not be available!

One item that will be revisited in the agenda for this spring's annual meeting is condition of the old sidewalks that border some family lots. Initial estimates for replacement are in and they're pretty steep. Other options, such as simply removing the worst sections of sidewalk, might be considered.

See you all in May!

Brooke Stabler - OHCA Secretary/Treasurer

From the Historian:

Published in The Daily Oklahoman - July 03, 1910

Mrs. Lulu La Berg's father, J. W. Ramsey, came to this country at the time of the opening in '89, and was in the line of homesteaders that dashed across the state line and staked out a farm. He settled first in Spring Creek township and erected a little box house on his "hundred and sixty." In this house which was the first one built in that township, Mrs. La Berg was born July 6, 1889. The opening day was April 22. She was the first child born in that township. She was the fourth child of her parents, three having been born in Town. According to Mr. Ramsey, Oklahoma City at the time was a city of tents. People lived in tents. Business was transacted in tents. The population at that time was about 5,000 and in the squalid rows of tents with the broad stretches of prairie and sand bars of the Canadian in the distance, not even the most hopeful "booster" could have foreseen the future metropolis of the southwest. A military reservation was located in what is now Maywood Park in the Maywood addition, and a government stockade was erected there for the purpose of storing supplies until they could be shipped over the single line of the railroad, the Santa Fe, to forts in the west. Mrs. La Berg had another claim to distinction in the fact that after Oklahoma was admitted to the union she was the first to be married in Oklahoma county. Judge Harper [Judge William P. Harper died the next day - this was his last marriage ceremony] marrying her to [Charles E.] La Berg on the morning of Sept. 16, 1907, the day of admittance. Mrs. La Berg lived on a farm in Spring Creek township until about two months ago, when she came to Oklahoma City to take treatment. She had no children and died at the age of 21.

[Lula La Berge, her grandfather John Martin, and her nephew Edwin Arthur are memorialized at Olive Hill]



Olive Hill Cemetery

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