

# Olive Hill Cemetery Association Inc.



## Newsletter

No. 17 APRIL 2008

### **From The Chairman:**

We will hold our 75th annual OHCA meeting at 10 AM on Memorial Day and we look forward to seeing many of you there. As always, we'll be tossing around ideas for preserving the special quality of Olive Hill so that it will be just as beautiful for our centennial anniversary!

As many OHCA members know, my grandfather Bob Lay passed away on February 3. We all miss him a lot. Throughout his life, Papa Bob was a generous and faithful supporter of Olive Hill. At his request, he was cremated and there will be a brief memorial service for him on Memorial Day at 11 AM.

*Nina Lay, OHCA Chairman*



**OHCA Meeting, Memorial Day 1998:  
Bob Lay and his sisters Kathryn, Ruth, & Frances**

### **News and Notes:**

The trees at Olive Hill fared well through the big ice storm last December. Only a single limb was lost from one of the big eastern red cedar trees near the back! Less fortunate was the pretty purple leaf plum tree up front, which succumbed to a disease earlier in the year. We're thinking of turning its trunk into a trellis for a pretty flowering vine.

Visitors to Olive Hill will notice two new stones on Lot #9 near the east fence where cremains of Carol and Mark Wagner were recently interred. Carol Harmon Wagner was born Oct. 25, 1943 in Oakland, California and died Mar. 17, 2005 in Oklahoma City. Her son, Mark, was born Dec. 24, 1980 in OKC, and died Oct. 6, 2007 also in Oklahoma City. Carol was a citizen of the world, having lived and worked in Mexico, Spain and Peru after receiving a master's degree in English as a Second Language from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Mark graduated from Mount St. Mary's High School and was attending Oklahoma State University, OKC campus. He faced many challenges in his life and met them all courageously. He was blessed with a remarkable sense of humor and irony. They are survived by husband and father, Rick Wagner, Mark's grandmother, Betty Wagner, and literally hundreds of additional family and friends. The Wagners are very distant relatives of the Bailey family and long time friends and neighbors of Olive Hill and the Lay family.

By Memorial Day visitors will also notice the new bench provided by the family of Robert Miner Lay. It will be in Lot 87 near the Dorothy Choate memorial tree.

*Linda Brooke Stabler, OHCA Secretary/Treasurer*



## From the Historian:

Two children of Art Gray are memorialized at Olive Hill. In 2008 the family provided information about these graves. One of the babies was stillborn or a late term miscarriage (the family never spoke of it). The other baby is a little girl born about 1915, named Ella Katherine Gray. She died at the age of three months from whooping cough. Charles Arthur Gray was born at Clay Center, Kansas on May 21, 1870. "Art" made the 1889 Oklahoma Land run and homesteaded 160 acres located SEC-15 TWP-13 RNG-4. He was single. He built a dug out to live in until he was able to build a house. Art met Nettie Henryetta Houser in 1906 when his horse startled by a train whistle ran away and buried itself in Jacob Houser's haystack several miles away. They were married Sept 13, 1907 in Oklahoma City; OK Nettie Houser was born in Brainerd, Minnesota on April 15, 1888. Her parents, Jacob and Charlotta Schelp Houser, were of German descent. Nettie spoke German fluently. All 9 of the children of Charles Arthur "Art" and Nettie Gray were born on the homestead in Spring Creek Township. In the early 1930's Art sold out and moved east of Woodward, OK. Later they purchased a farm south of Mulhall, Oklahoma then acquired another farm east of Guthrie, OK. Their youngest son still resides on that farm. Charles Arthur Gray died 26 May 1960 in Woodward, Woodward Co, OK and is buried in Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie, Logan Co. Nettie died 14 Aug 1977 in Woodward, Woodward Co, OK and is buried in Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie, Logan Co.



Olive Hill Cemetery

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### OHCA CHAIRMAN

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### OHCA SECRETARY/TREASURER

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Donna A. Hocking  
419 Longworth Blvd  
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### Orphan Plots

On Memorial Day 2007, at the last meeting of the OHCA, there was a discussion about identifying OHC "orphan plots" (plots for which there are no known living descendants in the area) that might benefit from the OHCA marker fund. Recently one of those families, the Gray family, has contacted the historian and has shared many pictures and stories about their family. Another family was identified when the historian was able to acquire the death certificate of Wyatt Mosbey Phillips (a relative by marriage of Lewis Rosecrans). There is limited information about the families of Nellie Clinkscales, Joseph Algoe, Sam & Steve Miller, Gus Sleuter, William Bond, and some other orphan plots, but there is nothing known about the man (or boy) named HART. If anyone has information about any of these families please contact the historian.



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