

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

The Heritage Gazette Summer 2005



Job Corps Returns

Group to Tame Fence Line

Job Corps, celebrating its 40th anniversary of training and educating at-risk youth, will bring students from the Harpers Ferry (WV), Potomac (DC), Woodland and Woodstock (MD) Job Corps centers to participate in various restoration and maintenance projects at Congressional Cemetery on Friday, June 10, 2005. Projects will include lawn care, landscaping, and clean-up.

Community service is an integral part of life at a Job Corps center. Job Corps is a national partner of Make-A-Difference Day, which is sponsored by USA WEEKEND magazine and the Points of Light Foundation, and plans to return in October for this event.

The program is also a recognized collaborator with the American Red Cross and America's Promise. Students and staff regularly partner with employers and national community and faith-based organizations to expand the impact on their service and encourage widespread investment in community-building.

Job Corps is the nation's largest residential academic and vocational training program for youth between the ages of 16 and 24. Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps' success rate includes a 90 percent placement rate of graduates obtaining jobs, entering the military, or enrolling in higher education. Ω

Eagles, Dogs, and Patios

by Life Scout Daniel Wynne, BSA

If you were walking your dog around the cemetery on May 7th, you may have seen a group of Boy Scouts hard at work by the brick wall. That was my troop: ASPL, Troop 1849, Ravens Patrol, BSA. I am Life Scout Daniel Wynne.

To earn an Eagle Badge, it is required that a scout must organize, plan, and conduct a large scale project with a permanent result. My Dad suggested I consider Congressional Cemetery as a place worthy of such an effort. I met with Mr. Bill Fecke who told me of the cemetery's intentions to install a community bulletin board toward the east end of the grounds.

I spent around 2 months planning this project. The plan was to create a patio area that would be framed by 6x6 pieces of lumber. Within the area would be a 6 inch mixture of different materials. First, a weed blocker sheet was put down followed by a layer of gray stone

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Where Do We Start?

Professionals Offer Help

Congressional Cemetery has many examples of fine artwork carved in stone, but the uneven terrain of the grounds makes it difficult to grasp all of the features of the site in any one view. Assistance in conserving these features was the goal of several conservators and preservation professionals who arrived at Congressional last October for a day of volunteer activity organized by the Washington Conservation Guild.

The initial impression of many of the first-time visitors as they unpacked their gear at the chapel was the impressive historic character of the cemetery. But as groups walked to other parts of the cemetery to do volunteer projects, their initial

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Girl Scout Troop #3049 Participates at Annual Meeting

Bayscaping at Congressional Cemetery

Chesapeake Bay Group builds Conservation Ethic

Historic Congressional Cemetery is partnering with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's RestoreCorps program to implement several new landscaping designs through a sponsorship by Spring Creek Foundation. The new environmentally friendly landscapes, called BayScapes, are designed to use native plants that are historically found in the area and benefit people, wildlife, and the Chesapeake Bay.

On Thursday, April 7, a group of volunteers from Student Conservation Alliance and Anacostia High School students installed the first of three BayScapes gardens. The students worked hard to remove the approximately 100 square feet of grass and dying boxwoods in front of the Public Vault and planted several species of native plants. The resulting garden not only benefits wildlife and the environment, but it

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Letter from the Board

Anacostia Riverfront Planning

These are exciting times for those who follow the grand planning in process for the Anacostia Riverfront. Sitting hard by the riverfront as we do, Congressional Cemetery has a vital interest in how the riverfront is developed.

DC's Office of Planning recently spun off its riverfront planning group into a separate public entity, the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation, to manage the 20-year, \$30 Billion project. They are already deeply involved in two big projects: the new DC baseball stadium in Southeast off South Capitol Street and Reservation 13 just north of Congressional Cemetery.

Reservation 13 encompasses 65 acres of Federal land abutting our northern property line. It includes the DC Jail overlooking the cemetery grounds and all the land north to the Armory and RFK Stadium.

Our Association Chair, Linda Harper, attended several community planning sessions at which the grand plan for Reservation 13 was developed. The consensus plan includes some community health services, a lot of residential development, and some mixed use retail along an extended Massachusetts Avenue down to the river. The plan envisions a welcoming riverfront landscape incorporated into the new community. We hope Congressional Cemetery will serve as a major cultural heritage component of that riverfront development.

We see a future where neighbors will flock to cafés on the river, picnic and boat on the shoreline, and stroll from the shops to our historic cemetery. A piece of this dream is soon to jump from the drawing board to reality. The Anacostia River Trail being installed this summer will include a wayside stopping point with a historic place marker just outside the eastern fence along the river.

The installation is on National Park Service land but is being built by the DC Department of Transportation. We hope to work with both organizations in the coming years to bring our Anacostia dream to life.

~ *Patrick Crowley*

Commemorative Book

Call for Photos & Recollections

With our two-hundredth anniversary rapidly approaching, former Association Chair Jim Oliver and Secretary Sandy Schmidt have teamed up to produce a commemorative history book about Congressional Cemetery. The breadth and depth of history represented by those interred at Congressional promises to make this an outstanding addition to any history buff's collection.

From Civil War generals to behind-the-scenes power brokers, early DC land speculators to tradesmen and shopkeepers, Revolutionary War Congressmen to Native American diplomats, Congressional Cemetery touches on almost all aspects of American history.

Although Sandy and Jim have an extensive amount of material already, they are looking for additional items. Any photographs of the Cemetery would be greatly appreciated as would stories of ancestors, recollections of visits from years gone by, or photographs of families interred at Congressional.

Contributions may be sent to the Cemetery office care of Sandy Schmidt. Ω

Research Network Installed

Wireless Web on Site

If you've stopped by the Gatehouse to trace the family tree for long lost uncles, or look for an obituary written 136 years ago, you know we have an excellent set of research materials. You also know the binders are getting worn and tattered.

To the rescue, the Association will soon have a new research capability available at the gatehouse. With the generous assistance of a MARPAT Foundation grant, our hardware in the gatehouse was upgraded. Sandy's latest round of historic obituaries and interment records will soon be available on the gatehouse network. Bring your laptop, log in, do your research, and save the results on our own PC.

The installation by Capitol Hill neighbor SBC Enterprises has lots of capacity and plenty of room for the Association to grow. The recently formed Conservation Task Force is eager to begin developing comprehensive databases on the new network. Ω

New Board Member

Alice Norris

The Board welcomes new member Alice Norris to the Board of Directors. Alice steps in for Peter MacPherson as a representative for Christ Church. Alice has a great interest in history and archival research. Ω

Board Members

Linda Donovan Harper — Chair
Patrick Crowley — Vice Chair
Frank Devlin — Treasurer
Sandy Schmidt — Secretary
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2005 Association Budget

Association Treasurer Frank Devlin presented the 2005 budget at the Annual Meeting on April 16th. Frank conceded that the \$353,799 budget projection will be a stretch, inasmuch as it is \$100,000 above the 2004 budget.

Noting the shift to "zero to zero" budgeting for 2005, Frank explained that the Association intends to raise all the funds needed in the 2005 budget in 2005. A small \$13,800 carryover from 2004 will not be included in the 2005 budget.

The budget starts, as always, with the basics of groundskeeping at \$78,800. Salaries make up \$41,000 and computer upgrades make up \$11,500. Restoration of monuments and structures is ex-

pected to cost \$55,000 unless additional grants are received. Infrastructure needs will require \$19,000 and public outreach costs weigh in at \$27,200.

This budget also includes the goal of adding \$80,000 into the Endowment Fund, which will be matched by Congressional funds already held by the National Trust.

Revenue sources include disbursements from the Endowment Fund at \$57,000, general revenue at \$75,000, and dogwalker donations at \$55,000. Site sales and interments income should raise \$37,500. Grants and miscellaneous income should reach \$108,000. Reaching these goals depends on the continued support of our membership. Ω

Conservation Program

Graduated Training Seminars

Congressional Cemetery continues to evolve towards the Association's goal of having a comprehensive conservation program on site. The Association's Strategic Plan, developed in 2000, stated the simple goal of preserving and restoring the monuments and structures at Congressional. This goal was enhanced in 2002 during the board's "visioning" sessions laying out a long term goal of developing a conservation lab on site to study and disseminate the best practices in cemetery preservation.

Our new Conservation Task Force is building a strong team of professional conservators who are developing an on-going training program at Congressional. The Task Force, made up of representatives from the Association of Preservation Technologies, the American Institute of Conservation, and the Washington Conservation Guild, is creating both a master conservation program for Congressional Cemetery's 18,000 gravestones and a training program for professional conservators.

The American Institute of Conservators' Angels Project brings 15 to 20 professional conservators to Congressional to learn the craft/art of gravestone preservation and restoration. The program builds expertise over a series of hands-on training sessions with graduated levels of difficulty. The first visit stresses assessment techniques through gravestone surveys and observing resetting and repair

techniques. On the second visit, a trainee will participate in stone resetting and minor repairs. On the third visit, a trainee will assist in more difficult repairs and mortaring. Eventually, trainees will be permitted to take on a demanding restoration piece as their own project.

Congressional hosted other training programs in recent years, including the National Park Service's annual gravestone conservation seminar and the National Preservation Institute's fall conservation program. In addition, our 3rd Saturday program concentrates on training non-professional volunteers to undertake small stone resettings. In 2004, non-professional volunteers and personnel from local armed forces installations reset over 200 gravestones under the supervision of our groundskeeper Collin Ingraham and regular volunteer Jimmy Logan.

A critical element of the conservation plan is the condition assessment survey. With almost 3,000 markers and other objects assessed, a solid foundation has been laid to begin drawing up priorities and developing a restoration plan. However, the assessments are as yet still on paper rather than in a usable data base. **The Conservation Task Force is in desperate need of data entry volunteers to convert pencil & paper into digital format. Contact the Gatehouse to volunteer.** Ω

Cemetery Manager's Notes

Moving On

At the end of June I leave my position here as manager after almost two years. The Association has accomplished much during those years, for which I take but a little credit.

The real work here continues to be done by a small but dedicated group of volunteers. In this column I thanked them before, and again thank all of them for their efforts. I also need to thank the readers of this newsletter, as I have before, who continue to be one of the main sources of operating funds here at the cemetery. With these two parts in place the cemetery is well on its way to restoration.

What is needed now, is in many ways what is always needed, more hands. Last issue I wrote about this, but let me make the plea again especially to those K9 corps members and others who live in the area. Volunteers can work here on a casual or formal basis depending on what work interests them.

Our most casual format is the Third Saturday workdays, in which any volunteer can come and work with us from 9am-1pm. Generally the work is in the yard with monuments, but also includes gardening, the yard sale, and other activities.

Others can volunteer to work on their own on projects as diverse as data entry, gravestone surveying, and gardening. Some of these volunteers work at home converting our written records into the internet database.

Others come in when they can and work on continuing projects like the gravestone survey, or special projects like the visitor pavilion, or individual garden plots. Many of our K9 corps have signed up on the website for the poop patrol and cleanup in assigned areas, all managed by another K9 corps volunteer.

As I take my leave, this need for help continues to be the element holding back even greater progress. Please consider what you could do to help and work with the new manager and the board as you can. These grounds will always hold a special place in my heart, and I wish all who work on maintaining it continued success.

~ Bill Fecke

Congressional Cemetery's American Heritage

"By Broad Potomac Shore": Walt Whitman & Congressional Cemetery

On May 7, Steve Carson and I led a tour of grave sites associated with poet Walt Whitman as part of a city-wide festival, "DC Celebrates Whitman: 150 Years of Leaves of Grass." The poet's decade in DC (1863-1873) was remarkably prolific, giving rise to 100 new poems, including Whitman's well-known elegies of the slain Abraham Lincoln, and his moving prose work about the war.

Although a stroke in 1873 caused Whitman to move to Camden, New Jersey, where he is now buried, Congressional Cemetery lays claim to several friends from the poet's days here.

Whitman came to attend to his brother, George, a Union soldier wounded in the battle of Fredericksburg. Whitman decided to stay and serve the Union cause by ministering to the war's casualties in DC's hospitals.

One such soldier was John Mahay, of the 101st NY Infantry, whom Whitman met in Armory Square Hospital. In his autobiography "Specimen Days," Whitman left this recollection of Mahay: *"One young New York man, with a bright, handsome face, had been lying several months from a most disagreeable wound, receiv'd at Bull Run. A bullet had shot him right through the bladder, hitting him front, low in the belly, and coming out back...so that he lay almost constantly in a sort of puddle....Not long since I sat a good part of the morning by his bedside. The water ran out of his eyes from the intense pain, and the muscles of his face were distorted, but he utter'd nothing except a low groan now and then...Poor Mahay, a mere boy in age, but old in misfortune. He never knew the love of parents, was placed in infancy in one of the New York charitable institutions, and subsequently bound out to a tyrannical master in Sullivan county, (the scars of whose cowhide and club remain'd yet on his back.)...He found friends in his hospital life, and, indeed, was a universal favorite. He had quite a funeral ceremony."* Mahay was buried in Congressional on October 27, 1863 (R92/S148).

Soldiers weren't the only casualties of the war; the doctors and nurses who cared for them occasionally contracted their charges'

diseases and died with them. Whitman recalled in "Specimen Days" the death of one such nurse, Rose M. Billing, a DC native.

"Miss Billings, who has long been a practical friend of soldiers, and nurse in the army... was taken sick, early this winter, linger'd some time, and finally died in the hospital. It was her request that she should be buried among the soldiers, and after the military method. This request was fully carried out. Her coffin was carried to the grave by soldiers, with the usual escort, buried, and a salute fired over the grave."

Rose Billing, the daughter of Rebecca and the late Col. William Billing, began her hospital service at the Patent Office Hospital, and was later assigned to the U.S. Naval Academy hospital in Annapolis, where she contracted typhus fever, and died on January 15, 1865 (R41/S19).

One evening in 1865, Whitman was riding the Washington & Georgetown horsecars when he struck up a friendship with conductor Peter Doyle. As Doyle recalled, *"[Walt] was the only passenger, it was a lonely night, so I thought I would go in and talk with him...we were familiar at once—I put my hand on his knee—we understood. From that time on, we were the biggest sort of friends."* The romantic friendship that sprang up between the streetcar conductor and the poet spanned Whitman's time in DC and continued nearly up through Whitman's death in 1892.

An Irish immigrant from Limerick in 1843 and raised in Virginia, Peter served the Confederacy as a private in the Fayette Artillery. Wounded at Antietam, Peter sought and was granted a discharge by claiming to be a British subject. He settled in DC where he made a home in Southwest DC for his widowed mother Catherine, and younger siblings Edward and Margaret.

Whitman was a regular passenger on Peter's streetcar, usually hopping

aboard after his own workday at the Attorney General's Office was through. They attended ballgames together (the Nationals were a favorite team), or took long walks in the countryside. Doyle recalled Whitman was *"always whistling or singing...He would recite poetry, especially Shakespeare....We would walk together for miles and miles, never sated."*

Whitman became attached to Doyle's extended working class family, which reminded him of his own. Peter's brother Francis Doyle, who came to America before the others, settled in DC, and married a local girl, Eleanor Branzell. Just as Pete had joined the Rebel Army, Francis served the Union, in the DC Infantry and later the U.S. Navy. Following the war, Francis became a Metropolitan Police officer, and in this capacity met his untimely end.

On December 29, 1871, Officer Doyle was serving a warrant for the arrest of Mrs. Shea, a notorious

fence for stolen goods, when a scuffle occurred and Doyle was shot and immediately killed. His funeral at St. Dominic's was followed by a cortege of fifty-two policemen to Congressional Cemetery where his remains were interred (R97/S114).

Peter Doyle got work with the Pennsylvania Railroad, and like Whitman, moved away in the 1880's to Philadelphia, just across from Camden. After Whitman's death, his letters to Doyle were published, giving his comrade a well-deserved celebrity.

Peter Doyle died on April 19, 1907 at sixty-three years old. He was waked by his brothers in the Philadelphia Elks' lodge, and his remains were brought to DC by his sister Margaret for burial next to his brother Edward in Congressional Cemetery (R91/S118). Not far from him, in the Cemetery's northwest corner lay his mother Catherine and brother Francis.

~Contributed by Martin Murray



Walt Whitman & Peter Doyle

Conservation Task force

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amazement over the sculpture and engravings was almost universally overwhelmed by the tremendous amount of historic features, artifacts, and archival materials that needed attention. "Where do we begin," was a common refrain from the volunteers.

It is a question that has been asked many times over the years by the different stewards of Congressional Cemetery. Most recently, the Association made a significant effort to answer the question by developing an overall master plan for the cemetery in preparation for its bicentennial in 2007.

As part of the Historic Landscapes and Structures Report, a representative section of the Cemetery was surveyed and all of that section's historic features inventoried and catalogued for needed repairs.

While the 2003 report provided important descriptive information and began to quantify the repair and restoration problems, it was not prescriptive in the recommendations for ways in which the problems could be addressed on a continuing basis. The missing component in the report was the need to prioritize the restoration and repair needs, and to begin to create a catalogue of restoration techniques that will be successful for the historic materials at Congressional Cemetery.

With participants from three regional and national conservation and preservation groups (the Washington Conservation Guild, the Association for Preservation Technology, and the Architectural Specialty Group of the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works), a conservation task force is meeting with the Cemetery Association board members and staff to provide additional assessment surveys and treatment projects throughout the year.

The task force will take the existing report data and new survey information in combination with conservation treatments to formulate a conservation plan that will establish short and long term goals based on the condition of the historic materials and prudent safety concerns.

~Guy Munsch

On the Bank of the Anacostia River

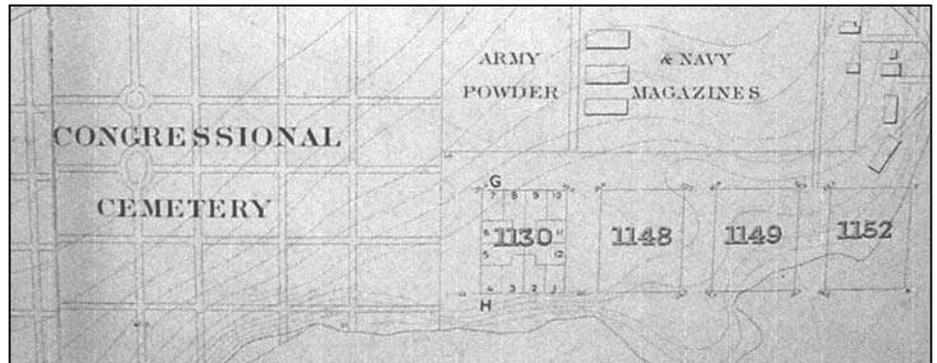
Expansion to the East End

For several years in the late 1860s and early 1870s, the Vestry of Christ Church expressed an interest in selling scattered lots the squares east of the Cemetery to the government. But by the end of the 1870s the vestry decided to expand rather than contract. Turning its attention to squares 1130, 1148, and 1149, which had been owned by the vestry since 1854 with the exception of two lots in square 1130, the vestry appointed a committee in November 1881 "to petition Congress to close certain streets to enable the Vestry to extend the cemetery," and in 1884 agreed to try to purchase the two outstanding lots of square 1130. Nothing further was mentioned in

fence along G Street to the river. The Cemetery's expenses in 1892 included "plat and blue prints of cemetery" for \$12, and in 1893 maps were to be printed and put on public sale for ten cents each. Perhaps one of these maps will be found in the future.

It is clear from city maps that the location of the river's edge changed slowly over time, such that the amount of solid land between the Cemetery and the river – nonexistent in the early nineteenth century – slowly increased into the early twentieth century, when ownership of land along the river's edge would be called into question.

City maps from 1890 on, with few exceptions, showed the Ceme-



the vestry archives about the petition to Congress.

The remaining titles for square 1130 were obtained in November 1890, and the following month the vestry reported they had "obtained consent of the District Commissioners to erect a fence along the center of G Street from the present cemetery fence to the Eastern Branch to enclose the new ground. It was estimated that the fencing would cost about \$500, the grading about \$1,500 and the new sewer about \$1,500 though exact figures could not yet be given. It was ordered that the cemetery committee proceed to contract for said work and have same done on best terms possible." Expenditures for sewer work, grading, and "fence and lumber" were reported by July 1891.

Unfortunately, no maps have been located that accurately depict the cemetery following the enclosure of the east end with a single

tary boundaries incorrectly, usually omitting the east end altogether. This inaccuracy persisted for three-quarters of a century, as late as the 1970s. The wisest map makers, perhaps, were those that left the eastern cemetery boundary to the imagination in the absence of accurate information.

The east end streets, formerly 22nd and 23rd streets, were renamed Pinckney and Wittingham avenues in August 1892. The 1897 *Rules & Regulations*, published in pamphlet form, stated that "the grounds, which have been enlarged by the addition of the most romantic portion of the land bordering on the Eastern Branch, will be extended, improved, and adorned." Ω

This is the eighth in a series of articles about the history of Congressional Cemetery excerpted from research compiled by Cathleen Breitzkreutz for the 2002 Historic Landscapes & Structures Report.

Bayscaping Along the Anacostia River

Bay Friendly Plantings Help Waterway

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allows for local community involvement. The project will reduce the amount of runoff entering the Anacostia River, thus enhancing its water quality and that of the Chesapeake Bay.

Native plants, once established, typically require minimal maintenance, such as trimming, watering, fertilizer, or pesticide, because they are well adapted to local climate and soil types. Native plants require fewer additives, which reduces the amount of pollutants carried by rainwater into the Anacostia River.

Additionally, BayScapes gardens are more permeable than compacted grass areas, allowing greater amounts of stormwater to be absorbed into the ground. The more water absorbed means less nutrients, sediment, and toxics will enter the Anacostia caused by runoff.

Through BayScaping and the use of native plants, we can also restore wildlife habitat (food, water, cover, and nesting sites) one small pocket at a time. It is the intention of the Association and the Alliance that the program be continued through school and community group involvement to increase the number of BayScape gardens throughout the Cemetery.

Two additional planting days and one BayScapes training workshop will be held in the fall. The workshop will focus on the value of BayScaping to the water quality of the Anacostia River and how BayScaping practices can be implemented in home landscaping plans.

A sign denoting the project and its benefits will be erected in a conspicuous spot within the grounds of the Cemetery. Both the Alliance and the Association intend to use the newly created gardens as demonstration sites and training grounds for other groups and individuals from the DC metropolitan area to learn about BayScapes and how they can get involved in their communities. Our hope is that by involving and educating the local citizenry through schools, churches, and other groups, we can build an awareness of these issues that will lead to an increase in BayScaping projects at homes, vacant lots, and open spaces throughout the community.

BayScapes are environmentally sound landscaping practices that benefit people, wildlife, and the Chesapeake Bay. They reduce the amount of mowing needed to maintain an area and the amount of fertilizers and pesticides needed by using plants that are native to the region and accustomed to growing in that particular climate and soil type. For more



Alliance Volunteers from Anacostia High School

information about BayScapes, check the Alliance's website www.AllianceChesBay.org.

Volunteers are needed to assist not only with the plantings, but also with the maintenance of the gardens, specifically watering during the first summer and early fall seasons. For information on volunteering, please contact Jamie Alberti at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay at 202-466-4633 or jalberti@acb-online.org or Patrick Crowley at the gatehouse. Ω

Jamie Alberti, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Eagles, Dogs & Patios

Continued from Page 1

dust. Gravel and rocks were placed on top of that along with sand. Pieces of flagstone were randomly placed on top to give it a nice look. A concrete bench was placed in the corner with some azaleas behind it. Near the road (but still inside the patio area), a bulletin board was erected. To top it all off a large water tank with a spigot was placed next to it with an inlaid bowl next to the tank under the spigot. The tank will be cleaned and filled with drinkable water for the dogs and the bowl is removable so that clean water can be added.

The date was set for May 7th 2005, from 9-5. All construction was finished at 3pm, ahead of schedule. I plan on returning to the site to paint some labels on the

bulletin board and tank so everyone knows that they are for the Corps (and that the water is for the dogs). Also, in something not related to my project at all, but more out of concern for the Cemetery, I plan on writing to the History Channel's Save Our History program and ask if there is anything they can do to help this historic place. I will also recommend the Cemetery to all other Eagle Scout candidates that are looking for projects. Thank you for giving me a project and your donations. Ω

Navy Yard Workshop

Neighbors to Tour Congressional

The Naval Historical Center at the Washington Navy Yard hosts its biennial workshop on naval history June 28 -30. The workshops focus on managing naval museums, preserving records, and naval heritage research.

This year's program will include guided tours of Congressional Cemetery, which has a long association with the Navy Yard and its many patriots now interred at Congressional. Ω

Reserve Your Place in History

Interment Sites are again available in Historic Congressional Cemetery
Call for details—202-543-0539



Congressional Quiz

A Streetcar Named Desire

Although Walt Whitman is not interred at Congressional Cemetery, there are several individuals here that knew the great poet or were treated by him in various Civil War hospitals. Are they among those listed below?

- Whitman was moved by the death of Rose Billings, a nurse who died of typhus and wished to be buried among soldiers.
- Whitman befriended a tour guide named Steve Carlson while dining at a hospital mess.
- Whitman sat with a young soldier named John Mahay as he slowly died of gun shot wounds.
- Whitman met a streetcar conductor named Peter Doyle and began a long romantic relationship with him.

Answer in Essay on Page 4.

Countdown to our 200th Anniversary

I want to help preserve Historic Congressional Cemetery.

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other

Donations of \$250 or more are deposited in our Third Century Endowment Fund which is matched by our Congressional Appropriation and managed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

My check is enclosed (made payable to Congressional Cemetery).

Please bill my credit card. Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

Does your employer make matching contributions?

Would you like the matching gift form?

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery is a 501(c)3 organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Around the Yard

Federal Lodge #1 Donation

Buchly Fund Contributes \$2,000

The Buchly Fund of Federal Lodge No. 1 of the Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia forwarded a \$2,000 donation to the Association in April. The Fund was established by Anthony Buchly in 1889 to support widows and orphans of Lodge members. The Fund also assists local non-profits. Mr. Buchley and his wife Elizabeth are interred at Congressional in Range 79/Site 126. Ω

National Trust Tour

Trustees Visit Congressional

On May 22nd, Linda Harper conducted a tour for the spouses of the Trustees of the National Trust for Historic Preservation who were here in Washington for their annual meeting. The NTHP is a key stakeholder at Congressional Cemetery. The Trustees are composed of active preservationists from across the country. If you or your organization would like to plan a tour, contact the Gatehouse. Ω

Phi Kappa Alpha Returns

Fraternity Group Honors Founder

Twenty two members of the Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity converged on Congressional Cemetery March 26th for a day of volunteer work in honor of the fraternity's founder, Robertson Howard. The brothers recounted the elevations around the Winter Vault to assure proper water runoff, filled two sink holes, and hauled off fallen tree limbs. The fraternity returns each spring to help beautify Congressional Cemetery. Ω

'Walking Town DC' Tours

Weekend Event Brings 120

Cultural Tourism DC, an association of historic and cultural sites, sponsored city-wide walking exploration tours on April 16th and 17th that included Congressional Cemetery. The beautiful spring weekend brought over 120 explorers to our front gates for tours led by Association Vice Chair Patrick Crowley. The hour-long tours highlighted a wide spectrum of local and national history. Ω

Kibbey Family Takes Tour

Old Line Family

Family members of Bessie J. Kibey visited Congressional to photograph the large granite family marker near the chapel. Ms Kibbey, a native Washingtonian and life long supporter of charities, is best known for her support of the National Cathedral and the Kibbey Carillon. Genealogical data on the stone and within the Association records provided the family previously unknown information. Ω

Prince Grant Announced

Technology Up-Grades Coming

The Association is the recipient of a grant from the Prince Charitable Trust, a foundation that supports the arts and environment. The grant will provide additional dollars for the upgrade of our technology and allow the Cemetery to grow its data bases to include not only archival information but information of the stones and trees and landscape features on the grounds. Ω

The Association for the Preservation of
Historic Congressional Cemetery
1801 E Street, Southeast
Washington, DC 20003

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*Congressional Cemetery is listed on the
National Register of Historic Places*

The Heritage Gazette Spring 2005

Summer Calendar

June

Sat. Jun. 18—3rd Saturday volunteer program:
9:00 AM to Noon, all invited

July

Sat. Jul. 16—3rd Saturday volunteer program:
9:00 AM to Noon, all invited

August

Sat. Aug. 20—3rd Saturday volunteer program:
9:00 AM to Noon, all invited



*Scout Troup # 1849 helps
Daniel Wynne earn his
Eagle Badge building
community sitting area.*



*DC Celebrates Walt Whitman Festival
visits Congressional Cemetery for tour
and poetry readings*