

# HERITAGE GAZETTE

SPRING 2017

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF  
HISTORIC CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

## AFTER 118 YEARS, “TIGER BOY” IS REMEMBERED

In the Winter 2013 Heritage Gazette, President Paul Williams wrote about the tragic tale of Charles Siegert, a HCC resident killed by a tiger in 1899. To summarize, Siegert was a circus worker who traveled to Washington, D.C. with the Wallace Circus. Young Siegert had an unfortunate habit of sleeping on top of Old Ben’s cage, one of the circus’ tigers. Sadly, you can likely see where this is going. On the night of September 4, 1899, Siegert’s leg dangled into Old Ben’s crate. Fellow circus workers roused by Siegert’s cries came to his aid, and he was rescued and rushed

to the hospital. But it was too late for Charles, who died of the injuries sustained that night. The Wallace Circus packed up and left town the next morning, deserting poor Charles. Luckily, a local insurance man took pity on Charles and his tragic circumstances, and he arranged to

have Siegert buried in Congressional Cemetery.

The story could have ended there. But Paul knew that given the unique circumstances of Siegert’s death, there would be public interest in marking a grave. He began a Kickstarter campaign that was ultimately unsuccessful, but inspired others to take up the cause. Specifically, one Guy Palace, former HCC dog walker and long-time volunteer. Guy is a life-long circus enthusiast, and he decided to use GoFundMe to launch another crowdfunding campaign. Thanks to generous support from Fram Monuments and Congressional Cemetery, the campaign was off to a good start. From there, Guy persevered, and his persistence paid off, garnering the attention of local and national media outlets. Donations poured in, and the campaign even gained the notice of descendants of Charles Siegert, who were unaware of the exact circumstances of how he died.

Donations were secured, a monument ordered, and a date set: the official grave marking ceremony for Siegert took place on Sunday, April 23rd. Many gathered to hear

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Guy Palace at Charles Siegert’s grave.

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Spring is well and truly here and Historic Congressional Cemetery is blooming with color and gearing up for a busy season of programs and preservation. This letter gives me a chance to reintroduce myself to all of you and tell you a bit about our new board members. As of March, I am the new chair of the Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery (APHCC), and it is both a delight and a privilege to serve in that position. I've been visiting HCC pretty much daily since I joined the K9 Corp in 2010, and as a neighbor, a dogwalker and a board member, I've had a front row seat to watching the cemetery become the vibrant community it is today. I feel incredibly fortunate every time I walk in the front gate.



At the March board meeting, we enthusiastically welcomed two new directors, Carolyn Cheney and Cara Spaccarelli, both representatives of Christ Church. Christ Church owns Congressional Cemetery, and APHCC leases the land from the Church. Per the agreement of this lease, APHCC maintains all management and operations of the Cemetery. Our Board is made up of a prescribed mixture of Christ Church representatives, site owners, and K9 Corps members.

Carolyn has served on the board before, from 2000-2004, a time when, as she notes, "we did not have enough money to mow the lawn until we received a million dollar matching grant with the help of Senator Byron Dorgan." Carolyn is the Vice President, National Government Affairs, of the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida.

The Reverend Cara Spaccarelli has been serving as the 28th rector of Christ Church since 2010. Cara started Christ Church's Easter sunrise service at Congressional Cemetery, welcoming dogs and people alike to celebrate new life on this sacred ground. Over the years, she has hosted pet blessings and presided at a number of graveside services at Congressional, due to the deep and long connection between the cemetery and Christ Church.

This will be a busy year at HCC as you will see throughout this edition of the newsletter: exciting events from Day of the Dog to Soul Strolls, expanded preservation efforts, including the first stage in restoring the front gate, and the formal launch of our endowment campaign. One of the top board priorities for the next few years is raising the funds to match the second \$1 million federal appropriation in our endowment that is managed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. (For more information on the history of this appropriation, see *Around the Gatehouse*). We have \$673,000 left to raise, and as we match those funds, our income from the endowment steadily increases. This revenue can only be used for maintenance and preservation, and as such, it will provide a steady and permanent source of income for HCC that will ensure it remains open to the public as the beautiful and historic site it is today. Every dollar counts, and we welcome donations both large and small!

Many thanks to HCC outgoing board chair, Kelly Crowe, whose leadership on the board led to significant achievements, many of which are described in her letter on page 8. She leaves big shoes to fill!

I look forward to seeing many of you in the cemetery in the coming weeks as summer, good weather and beautiful flowers all arrive.

—Susan Urahn



THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF  
HISTORIC CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

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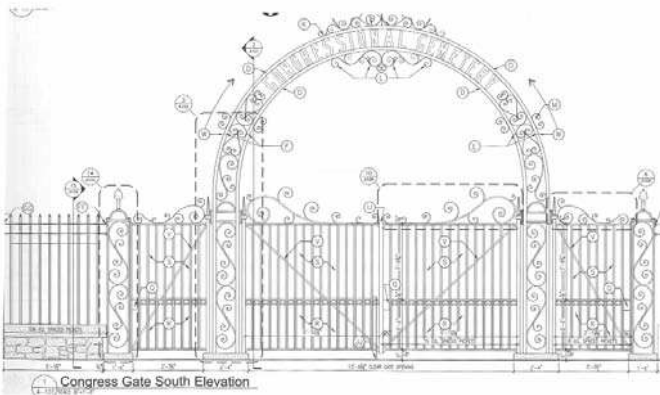
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Crystal Pate, Director of Sales and Funerals  
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Manager  
Dayle Dooley, Archivist  
Crystina Darden, Front Office Manager  
Kelly Carnes, Front Office Manager  
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Randolph King, Groundskeeper

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are deductible to the extent permitted by federal tax laws. Funding for the preservation and maintenance of Historic Congressional Cemetery is provided in part by the Congressional Cemetery Endowment, which was created with matching funds provided by the U.S. Congress and administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

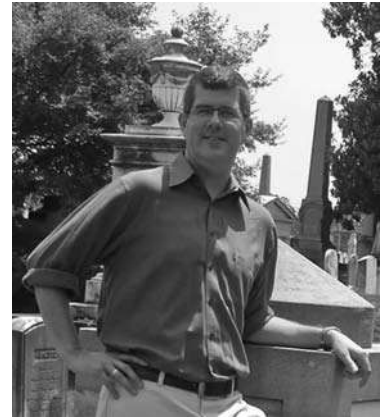
Remembering back to 2015 when I was forming the 2016 operating budget, we anticipated that we could raise another \$100,000 or so, through new revenue areas, from the prior year. It just so happened when all the predictions were done, our 2016 income budget was targeted at \$999,900. Yes, just \$100 shy of having to add that extra comma. Well, I'm happy to convey that in mid-November of last year, we surpassed our first million-dollar mark! In the end, we raised \$1,087,018 in fiscal year 2016.

Board giving surpassed \$50,000 in 2016, and combined with donors' specific requests and some extra cash allocated from our reserves, this meant that we could make a record \$85,000 contribution to the endowment fund last year. We're already seeing the results with increased disbursements in 2017, which should generate about \$240,000 for buildings, grounds, monuments and vault restoration and preservation.



Plans for gate restoration.

The Board also instituted a new annual event for themselves, in the form of a retreat. Held at the National Capitol Bank's glamorous conference room, the half-day meeting will focus on long-term projects and short-term priorities for the cemetery.



Two important decisions came out of this year's retreat: dedicate \$85,000 toward the endowment as I mentioned, and also dedicate \$85,000 toward the restoration of our beloved front gate.

As of April, I'm happy to report that the original gate pieces and parts have been taken to the Flaherty Iron Works in Alexandria, where they will be expanded and reworked to fit modern trucks and cars. The reassembled gate will then be reunited with our curved "Congressional Cemetery" sign and reinstalled at the front gate sometime this summer. Demolition of the temporary gate will commence as I write, and the front road will be lined with new pavers and recycled granite blocks from our old roads. Our funeral bell was removed and will soon receive a temporary home atop a tower near the gatehouse rear yard.

We might be messy for a while in early 2017, but the wait will be worth it, I promise!

—Paul K. Williams, President

### Information for your estate planning, bequest, stock gift, endowment match, or donation:

*Legal Name:* The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

*Legal Address:* 1801 E Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003

*Telephone:* 202-539-0543

*Tax ID Number:* 52-1071828

Please contact us for wire instruction or banking information

## AROUND THE GATEHOUSE

### ENDOWMENT UPDATE!

The Board and the Development Committee are committed to matching the second endowment and have had several training sessions and technology upgrades of late. In the past five years, HCC and donors like you have sent \$327,000 toward the endowment which is held and invested by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Board itself contributed an amazing \$52,000 toward the endowment in 2016 alone. We hope to have the remaining \$673,000 matched within the next five years.

Once matched, the combined endowments will ensure the perpetual maintenance and preservation of the cemetery grounds, monuments, vaults, mausoleums and structures. Any donation is essentially matched dollar for dollar, and once the second endowment is matched completely, additional benefits and calculations trigger a larger amount of yearly interest disbursement, again restricted to preservation and restoration activities only. Please consider having your membership dues and donations earmarked to the endowment, and we'll keep you updated on our aggressive campaign to match the endowment once and for all!

### HISTORIC WASHINGTON DC CEMETERIES

We'll have to work on a proper yet fun acronym, but Congressional Cemetery is taking the lead on bringing together the historic cemeteries in the metro region to meet and discuss forming an association. Most states have cemetery associations and even conventions. Since DC has its own rules and regulations along with issues unique to the city, it's time to share our common problems and solutions with one another. If you or someone you know are associated with a Washington cemetery, contact Paul Williams at [pwilliams@congressionalcemetery.org](mailto:pwilliams@congressionalcemetery.org) or at (202) 543-0539. All are welcome, and more to come!

### CHA-CHA-CHA-CHA CHANGES

There have been quite a few changes around the gatehouse over the past few months! Staff and board transitions, new babies, and engagements have all made the cemetery a little more lively than usual as of late:

### Goodbye and Best Wishes Margaret!



Margaret with fiancé Benjamin Canilang and pups Effie and Stella. Photo by Kimberly Dean Photos.

Margaret Puglisi is no longer with us. Just kidding: a little (off-color?) cemetery humor for you.

But in all seriousness, we're bidding a fond farewell to Vice President Margaret Puglisi as she moves on to a preservation job with the Fairfax County Park Authority. We can't thank Margaret enough for all of her hard work, ingenuity, and dedication during her time here at Congressional Cemetery. During her five years at the Cemetery, Margaret accomplished a great deal, including streamlining the site sale process, reviewing proposals for conservation projects, instituting a condition assessment project of our headstones, overseeing our Ground Penetrating Radar project, and starting conservation workshops. She also was the force behind many of the creative logos you've seen for our events and merchandise. The list goes on and on, and she accomplished much more than can be summarized in one paragraph. The staff and board at Congressional Cemetery extend best wishes for the future, including for Margaret's upcoming wedding in June.

Congrats Margaret, we'll miss you!

### A Cemetery Engagement



Over the years, Congressional Cemetery staff has worked closely with Doug Owsley and his team at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (NMNH). When the Cemetery's historic vaults are in need of restoration,

NMNH removes the bodies for study, rehouses the remains, and reinters these individuals at the completion of the project. Through this connection, our Grounds Conservation Manager Daniel Holcombe met Kate Sherwood right here at Congressional Cemetery, and the rest is history. Daniel surprised Kate with what is not Congressional Cemetery's first cemetery proposal, but certainly the most innovative, by hiding a ring in a brick from a restoration project. Happily, she said yes. All the best to Daniel and Kate!

### Welcome Sam!

As one of the primary authors/editors of this newsletter (Program Director Lauren Maloy), I'm giving

myself permission to use the first person in order to introduce Congressional Cemetery's newest and cutest volunteer. (And to share one of many pictures of my son.) On November 23, 2016, my husband Mark (a more seasoned HCC volunteer) and I welcomed our first baby, Samuel Washington Maloy. Sam visits the office every now and then, and he's almost ready to give his first tour of the Cemetery — just as soon as he learns how to sit up properly.



## MEET THE NEW STAFF

Many congrats to Crystal Pate, who has transitioned from her previous role as Office Manager to become Congressional Cemetery's Director of Sales and Funerals. In the wake of the recent staffing transition, the Cemetery has taken on two new front office managers to fill Crystal's old position:

### Crystina Darden



Crystina has been a friendly face around Congressional Cemetery for quite some time, but she's now delighted to join the HCC staff as a part-time front office manager. As a former gatechecker, Crystina knows many of the pups and people that make up the K9 Corps. She also runs her own dog walking and pet sitting business, so when she's not at the front desk you may see her strolling the grounds with Desmond or Bradley, or one of the many other pups who enjoy her company. Crystina also writes the monthly K9 Corps e-newsletter which features fun photos, helpful tidbits, and an ever-expanding playlist to entertain the dog walkers. She has already taken on a number of responsibilities at the Cemetery, but she's most proud of being the official Copy Machine Whisperer, a title and task that the rest of the staff are most grateful for!

### Kelly Carnes



Kelly Carnes always knew she would end up at HCC one way or another. A long time dogwalker, volunteer, and fan of the cemetery's staff and programming, her life kept intersecting with the Cemetery in interesting ways until she could avoid the inevitable no longer. Nor would she want to! Kelly has joined the gatehouse staff as one of the front office managers, sharing the position part-time with Crystina. After a dozen years in the PR biz, representing the Smithsonian Institution at the Castle, then the Natural History Museum, then the Hirshhorn, followed by a position at the Kennedy Center, Kelly decided she'd had enough bureaucracy for one lifetime, and struck out on her own to do freelance PR, event planning, and get back to her true love: practicing and teaching yoga. Her transition came serendipitously at the same time the Cemetery was making a staffing transition allowing her to balance her newfound freelance activities with supporting her favorite local non-profit. In addition to front house duties, she's excited to help on some of the communications initiatives to promote the cemetery's spectacular events and programming. In fact, you'll be able to find her in the chapel on Wednesday nights teaching Yoga Mortis!

# JOSEF TVRZICKÝ

BY DANIEL HOLCOMBE

Josef Tvrzický was born on December 23rd, 1884, in the city of Prachatice. Today, Prachatice is a two hour drive south from Prague in the Czech Republic, but when Tvrzický was born it was one of the district capitols of the Austrian Monarchy. The Slavic nations had been under Austrian rule for more than a hundred years and were oppressed by their Germanic rulers.

Tvrzický attended university in Prague, where he was active in the Czech student movement. After denouncing the treatment of the Slavic peoples by the Austrians, he fled arrest and emigrated to the United States, settling in Chicago.

After the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, Austria began pressuring Serbian self-rule, and the Czech population of Chicago felt a solidarity with their fellow Slavic nation. Tvrzický found himself in the perfect setting to make a difference, as Chicago was the largest group of Czechs outside of Prague. He began advocating for an independent Czech state, helping to launch the Czech-American movement. He organized rallies and wrote letters and articles in support of Serbia's war against Austria.

*"There was no one who could authoritatively expound the real sentiments of the people at home, as no one from Bohemia was allowed to get beyond the boundaries of the Central Powers. It was up to the clear thinking and politically mature men among our people here to convince the masses of their countrymen in America that they must take a part in the great struggle. Of these men the best known is Joseph Tvrzický, who in the spring of 1915 became secretary of the Bohemian National Alliance and conducted the early fights against Austrian tools and against the men with little faith."*

*The Czechoslovak Review, Volume 3, 1919*

During a speech at one of his rallies, held in Pilsen Park in Chicago in 1914, Tvrzický said that in order for Czech independence to succeed it needed the "material and moral support which only the branch of American Czechs



would be able to give." He received so much support that he helped to create the Bohemian National Alliance on September 2nd, 1914. This alliance had two primary goals: to raise funds and moral support for an independent postwar Czech, and to explain the Czech struggle for independence to the rest of the United States.

The Bohemian National Alliance was able to garner so much support from Czechs living across the United States that their ideas began to spread quickly and gain wider acceptance. To make their movement more viable in the eyes of the world's governments, they merged the Bohemian National Alliance with the Slovak League, which argued for Slovak independence from Austria. The leaders of the two organizations believed that the similarities between the two peoples would tie them together and create a more stable nation. With Serbia already at war with Austria, the Czechs had an easy time choosing to rally alongside their fellow Slavs.

The support from Slavs in the United States was echoed in France and Russia, with Thomas G. Masaryk at the head of the international movement.



Masaryk was a former member of the Austrian Parliament, but after seeing how his fellow Slavic people were treated by the Austrians, he became the leader of the Czech independence movement. He fled Austria so that he could work for Czech independence openly, and eventually came to the United States.

Tvrzický and Masaryk met in Chicago. They utilized the network of contacts that Tvrzický had built, and were able to influence a number of wealthy and important Americans. Masaryk's efforts resulted in Secretary of State Robert Lansing's announcement on May 29th, 1918, one month after entering World War I, that the United States had accepted and taken up the cause of independence for the Czechs and Slavs.

During peace negotiations later that year, Thomas Masaryk presented his Declaration of Czechoslovak Independence to President Wilson. Wilson was so moved by Masaryk's Declaration that he changed his demands of Austria-Hungary, and stated that he could no longer accept mere autonomy. He demanded full independence for what would become Czechoslovakia.

The Allies recognized Thomas Masaryk as the head of the Provisional Czechoslovak government on October 14th, 1918, and on November 14th, he was elected President of the newly created Czechoslovak Republic. Under his leadership Czechoslovakia would become the strongest democracy in central Europe.

In 1919 Josef Tvrzický finally returned briefly to his homeland, the newly united Czechoslovakia, and gave lectures showcasing the support he enjoyed in America. Upon his return to the United States, Josef started the Czech Press Agency and acted as its director, to give Czechoslovakia a voice in the United States. Unfortunately, after one year in his position, he suffered from an eye infection and became completely blind. Unable to work

further, he took his own life on September 27, 1920.

He was buried in HCC shortly thereafter, in a plot purchased by the Czechoslovak Legation. His headstone, a large boulder, was placed the following year and contains an epitaph in Czech, which reads:

*To their big compatriot, fighter for the liberation of the nation,  
Josef Tvrzický.  
That you snatched us from the German force and returned to the Czech school  
that you clinged to the native heath with great love  
that you worked yourself to death for it  
that we cannot bring your grave nearer to the native land otherwise  
we donated to you a part of your homeland  
a stone from the native forests of Libin.  
Prachatice in July 1921.  
Grateful children of Prachatice.*



## KELLY CROWE


Last month marked the end of my six-year term on the board and three years as board Chair. It is difficult to find the words to describe how fulfilling this experience has been for me. Working closely with Paul and the amazing HCC staff, learning from and being inspired by my fellow board members, getting to know the K9 community and the volunteers, participating in the many cultural activities and events that HCC offers, learning about the extraordinary people buried on our grounds, and enjoying so many moments of beauty — such as the cherry trees, ornate monuments, sunsets, wildlife, fresh snow, and sweeping vistas — have been more enriching than I could have imagined.

Last month also provided me an opportunity view HCC through a different lens: that of a mourner of a loved one buried there. My dear friend Chris McGowen passed unexpectedly in March and was interred in the east end, just down the hill from Mayor Barry. Assisting the family in selecting a plot, the coordination of efforts with the funeral home, church, and HCC staff, attending the graveside service, and subsequently visiting Chris' site has served as an important reminder that HCC is first and foremost an active and hallowed burial ground. Honoring those who are buried here and providing compassionate service to their grieving loved ones deserves our utmost attention.

On a more positive note, I am so proud of the board's accomplishments in recent years — most notably that the cemetery is in very solid financial shape after years of seesaw and often disappointing results. Thankfully, the past boards made investments in infrastructure (roads, drainage, etc) and diligently matched our first \$1 million endowment, which often drained financial reserves. Those investments and the generosity of our donors have allowed us in recent years to grow the staff, focus on more (but never

enough) preservation activities, improve the grounds, build out our columbariums to meet the growing cremation trend, and expand our presence as a community and cultural destination. Behind the scenes, we've tightened our governance structure, updated our mission, vision, and 3-5 year strategic plan, implemented a crisis communication plan, brought our by-laws, employee policies and benefits up to DC standards, updated technologies, and have been an innovator in environmental practices (bees, dogs, green roofs, goats, green burials, etc.).

Our biggest unmet opportunity is to match the second endowment, of which a little over \$600,000 remains unmatched. The income that comes back to the cemetery from the match is exponential to what goes in and is a critical piece of the annual budget for buildings and grounds maintenance. Fortunately, there is an active campaign underway and we are optimistic that we will get this matched within the next few years. Please consider a donation to the endowment campaign today!

In closing, I want to recognize the generosity of my fellow board members. The time, talent, and treasure that they have given to HCC is immense and often goes unnoticed and unthanked. I am so excited to see what amazing things will happen under the leadership of the new board Chair: the ultra-talented and insightful Sue Urahn, a longtime K9 member and HCC neighbor. Here's wishing the board, the staff and the greater HCC community much success in enhancing the legacy of this 210-year-old National Historic Landmark! 





## THEN FIX IT, DEAR HENRY!

BY LAUREN MALOY

Here's a common complaint and concern we often receive at the Cemetery: "I see so many fallen headstones in the cemetery. Why don't you fix them?"

If you've traipsed around your share of historic cemeteries then you're used to seeing fallen headstones. It's common, and there are a myriad number of reasons that this happens. But the assumption often is that we're not doing enough with our resources. Not that the staff take these assumptions personally (though yes, sometimes we do), but there is a reasonable explanation for why even though our cemetery is thriving, we still have fallen headstones.

In a perfect world, all of the headstones in the cemetery would be upright, legible, and whole. But consider this: we have over 65,000 interments here, and between 14 and 15,000 headstones marking these individuals. In a 210-year-old cemetery, a little wear and tear is bound to happen. Congressional Cemetery's mission is to "preserve, promote, and protect" this National Historic Landmark, and restoring headstones is high on the to-do list. But although it is sometimes difficult to explain to visitors, the first preservation priority is not to fix the fallen headstones. Instead, it's to stop the precarious headstones from falling in the first place.




Fallen headstones.

There are lots of reasons behind this. Even though it's sad, once headstones have fallen they're relatively safe. Much safer, in fact, than those headstones that are about to fall. We have quite a few headstones here in the cemetery on the brink of toppling over, which could cause extensive damage to the stone itself. Moreover, these headstones can actually fall on people.

It sounds improbable, but tragically, it's not uncommon for headstones to fall on children. We even have a recorded instance of it happening right here in Congressional Cemetery in January 1938:

*"At a turn in the path, Mrs. McAlerr heard Louise scream. She faced around to see her daughter crushed to the ground under a gravestone as long as her body. Only the child's feet protruded. Mrs. McAlerr lifted the stone off her and ran to her nearby home with the injured child."*

As far as one can tell from the newspaper article, Louise survived her brush with fate at Congressional Cemetery. But at the risk of venturing into depressing territory, other children are not so lucky. There are many instances of children being crushed to death in historic cemeteries; frankly, the author of this article doesn't have the heart to cite specific instances, but a quick Google search verifies the tragic truth. Thus we'll end with a public service announcement. If you see children playing on vaults or around historic headstones at any cemetery, you're completely within your rights to warn children and their parents of the potential dangers. We have a sign at our front gate cautioning our visitors against playing on and around the headstones, but it helps to have additional eyes and ears on our grounds and in other historic cemeteries.

In the meantime, we'll keep chipping away (not literally, of course) on preservation projects here at the cemetery. It is, and likely always will be, a work in progress. 

### IF WALLS COULD TALK

It's never a good feeling when a dog-walking Board member alerts one to the fact that a long portion of our historic brick wall could easily be pushed over by hand. That's right, the seven foot tall wall located between us and the DC Jail could be moved back and forth as much as a foot. The root cause was a large tree (get it?). Grounds crew quickly supported the wall with temporary bracing, until we could get estimates to remove and refurbish brick, create a foundation, and reinstall the wall in its original pattern and configuration. It turns out that about 125 feet in two different sections would need repair.

Merlino Construction was chosen for the job in January, and work commenced immediately after a permit



Leaning wall prior to demolition and reconstruction.



Finishing construction of new wall.

was secured — which also revealed that the wall and large tree were actually the political dividing line between Ward 6 and Ward 7, making the permit process especially confusing and rather daunting. Working on a portion of the DC Jail grounds also proved challenging.

Work took about two months and \$84,000 but with about 60% of the historic brick refurbished, the cemetery has recreated the historic aesthetic and now has a much safer yard in which to enjoy the grounds.

### YOU CAN FIT AN OBELISK IN A CIRCLE



Installation of new obelisk.



With the popularity of our first obelisk shaped columbarium south of the chapel nearly selling out as soon as the landscaping was installed in early 2016, we planned for another unit to be installed along Ingle Street not far from the LGBT corner. It is set into a large circle which is cut slightly into the roadway for a natural, smooth transition lined with our repurposed historic granite pavers. The obelisk was installed in April and will soon be surrounded by benches, which can be sponsored for \$1,500, and lush landscaping. The 20 niches have already been selling, and we plan on a third obelisk in 2018.

## ORIGINAL GATEHOUSE & ENTRANCEWAY



1913 photograph of original gatehouse.

While we are all familiar with our current gatehouse, which was built in 1923 as an office and a house for the cemetery manager, this 1913 picture depicts the original gatehouse at 18th and E



Removal of Congressional Cemetery arch.

Street, on the same location. We still have the McShane cast funeral bell seen in the cupola on top, but the rest of the structure was demolished to make way for the current gatehouse.


Soon, however, we'll have back in place the original gate seen to the right, in a slightly modified version to accommodate today's vehicles. The curved arched sign that was added in 1923 will also be incorporated; an important aspect as it serves as our logo! Flaherty Iron works in Alexandria is hard at work making this happen, and you should see installation this summer.



Removal of 1856 gate.

## HAVENNER VAULT




The Havenner Vault is receiving a much-needed facelift this spring and summer. The vault, while still standing, is showing serious fatigue from many years of weathering and the breakdown of the materials holding it together. Given the brick construction, it is possible that much of the structural strength is being achieved through the compacted dirt and root systems, so extreme care will be taken during the restoration to avoid collapse. Congressional Cemetery has contracted with Devlin McDonald of DMC Masonry Restoration CORP to properly restore the vault. Stay tuned for more information about the progress of this complicated but necessary treatment to the vault. 

## TIGER BOY *continued from page 1*

the story of Siegert's demise and legacy. Clare Palace, a certified celebrant, officiated the ceremony, and Guy recited the dramatic tale to the crowd. Fittingly, Guy also composed the following poem for the epitaph:

*"Felled by an unfortunate, if not altogether avoidable, incident with a tiger named Old Ben, the dream of running away with The Great Wallace Circus came to an end; Sans headstone, but with proper burial by Robert Cook with pity, internment was bestowed in our Capitol City; As the Ringmaster's All Out, All Ova' would proclaim, this headstone depicts one Charles Siegert by name"*

At long last, Siegert's grave is marked. You can visit his distinctive resting place in the east end of the cemetery. And many, many congrats to Guy Palace, whose persistence and passion finally paid off. 



Association for the Preservation of  
Historic Congressional Cemetery

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\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Special donation for the Sousa Gate Project:

Anonymous  Yes  No

Special donation for the Endowment:

Anonymous  Yes  No

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My employer makes matching contributions. Please send me the  
matching gift form.


*Thank you!*

*Please mail with your donation to the return address on the mailing  
panel or use the envelope inside this newsletter.*




## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 20	Civil War Tour
June 2	Cinematery
June 10	LGBT Tour
June 11	Notes from the Crypt
July 11	Tombs and Tomes Book Club
July 14	Cinematery

18<sup>th</sup> and E Streets, SE.

**IT'S BEST TO KEEP AT LEAST SIX  
PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE WHO WILL  
ALWAYS HELP YOU MOVE.**



You don't have to be rich and famous to be buried in  
Congressional Cemetery. You just have to be dead.

Green Burial Options

Visit [CongressionalCemetery.org](http://CongressionalCemetery.org) for details  
(202) 543-0539