



The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

The Heritage Gazette Spring 2003

Annual Meeting *Master Plan Updates*

The Association's Annual Meeting will take place Saturday, April 12th, at 11:00 am in the Chapel. The meeting is open to the public and all are invited.

We are especially pleased to welcome Barbara Franco as our guest speaker. Ms. Franco is the president and CEO of the Historical Society of Washington, DC. Ms. Franco has been active in cultural history and historic preservation for many years. She is currently heading up the creation of the new City Museum of Washington. She will bring us up to date on this tremendous new asset to Washington's cultural community.

Association Chair, Linda Harper, will provide a status report on the Master Plan visioning meetings that the board has held over the last year in conjunction with the Historic Resources Assessment study currently under way. Also on the menu is an update on the Historic Resources Study, which is assessing the physical plant, prioritizing our needs, and estimating the costs for the many projects that need attention.

The Association will also vote on the proposed rules & regulations for interment sites and grounds usage. The proposals were included in the Winter Newsletter. Members will also hear updates on the budget and the goals of the various board committees. Ω

Spring Clean-Up

*Saturday April 5th,
9 am till Noon*

Volunteers needed

\$100,000 for Repair Work! *Appropriation for Public Vault*

The 2003 Omnibus Appropriation Bill authorizing funds for the federal government for fiscal year 2003 passed Congress on February 13 with a big Valentine's Day gift for Congressional Cemetery: a \$100,000 appropriation for emergency repairs to Congressional Cemetery's physical plant.

Thanks to the good offices of Congressman James Farr of California, we now have the funding to take on two urgent projects. The bill specifies repairs and renovation, including the brick wall, which is in danger of caving in, and Public Vault, both of which were originally constructed through Congressional authorizations way back in the 1830s.

Staffers from the Appropriation Committee made an on-site inspection last fall with our conservator Dean Reudrich and board member Patrick Crowley.

Our venerable old Public Vault is in sad shape, its doors hanging on by a thinning strip of a wrought iron hinge. Once a grand way station with brick pillars and wrought iron fencing suitable for hosting the remains of three presidents, the Public Vault is now just a shadow of that former grandeur. The photographs on page 4 show the gracious vault

and fencing as it stood in 1913.

The accompanying story on page 6 provides a little background on the nature of wrought iron. While this appropriation will allow us to have the old doors removed and restored before they fall off, much more needs to be done. Replacing the wrought iron fencing alone is an enormous expense. Complete restoration, including the walkways leading to the Vault, will require substantially higher funding.

In an effort to "do it right," the Board is seeking emergency funding from our members to have all the work done at one time to make the most of the Congressional appropriation. Architectural renderings and cost estimates are being prepared now, with the hope that construction could begin this summer.

The appropriation funds must be spent by September 30 of this year, so we are under a very tight time frame if we are to raise the funds needed to "do it right." Replacement of the exterior ornamentation, repairs to the interior vault, and rebuilding the fencing would be a gift to the cemetery in time for its 200 Anniversary in 2007. An additional gift this spring would go a long way to making this gift a reality. Ω

Board Plans for Third Century

Visioning Sessions Piece Together a Master Plan

Although the calendar has slipped over into the 21st Century, Congressional Cemetery is still a few years shy of its third century. Nonetheless, the board has begun planning for what lies beyond the 200th anniversary in 2007.

Will Congressional be a functioning burial ground in 2007? Will Congressional's primary focus be on educational programs, heritage tours, or genealogy services? Can we be-

come a clearinghouse for other historic preservation organizations, especially other historic graveyards?

Should the gatehouse remain a gatekeeper's house or shift into purely an office functionality? Would the gatehouse serve well enough as a visitor's center/museum, or do we need a larger facility? If so, where would we put it?

These and many other profound
(Continued on Page 3)

Letter from the Chair

Future Looks Very Busy!

You can be proud. Your volunteer efforts and financial contributions are paying off. It's hard to believe that just five years ago the cemetery was in a severe state of disrepair. It was 1997 when the National Trust for Historic Preservation listed this important American resource as one of its eleven most endangered national historic places.

Since then many of you stepped up—you raked leaves, helped with garage sales, planted flowers, donated office equipment, transcribed data bases, and provided financial support. Your dollars pay for a part time staff person, print this newsletter, keep the grass cut, and support special projects such as the stone restoration work in 2002. You helped place over \$200,000 in the Endowment Fund. So what's next?

Maybe it's appropriate that it's snowing again today and the cemetery is quiet under a blanket of white. Like the Earth, we may need a chance to catch our breath—the future looks very busy! The challenge is to see how far we can go in the next five years. Can we reach our goals for the 200th anniversary of the cemetery 2007?

There will be many new opportunities for each of you to continue your stewardship. Volunteerism will grow increasingly important to our success. You will be needed as tour guides, office assistants, gardeners, and committee members. You will be ambassadors for tours and special events. Your support will help us finally match the endowment and complete numerous capital improvement projects.

Thank you for your past efforts and gifts, your accomplishments have been great. Yet your stewardship in the future is essential. Call the office now and be a part of this continuing success story.

— Linda Donovan Harper.

Contact

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2003 Budget

A Little Here / A Little There

Mirroring the U.S. Congress, the Congressional Cemetery budget talks got down to serious business the same night as did the national budget. And like the national budget, our delay was the result of the board's wrestling with uncertainty over the reliability of funding sources and competing goals for our meager resources.

But we have some good news. Last year's \$50,000 deposit to the Endowment Fund held by the National Trust will bring a big boost in our annual disbursement from the Fund. Current estimates are that the Fund will provide \$33,000 towards our lawn care contract. This is quite a bit higher than last year's \$24,000.

We also included income from the sale of interment sites in this year's budget. We hope to sell 20 sites this year, which will allow a significant deposit into the Fund for next year.

The biggest news of course is the \$100,000 Congressional appropriation for repair work. These funds are earmarked primarily for the brick wall at our northeast corner and for the Public Vault, both of which were funded originally with federal dollars.

On the expenditure side, we are looking to create a new part-time cemetery manager position along with a new bookkeeper position. We could really benefit from more office staff hours if we could afford it. The Board also committed to fund a groundskeeper position this summer. Again it's only part time, in fact, it's only one day a week unless we get greater funding.

Our mowing contract is out for bids at this time. We will report the results in the next newsletter. Budget realities will likely reduce the number of times the grass will be cut this year.

The old backhoe's hydraulic system was refurbished last year, thanks to a volunteer from Distad's auto, but still needs a new set of tires. So we made room for that in the budget too. We also set aside a budget item for creating and printing some new cemetery brochures. It's been years since we've had fresh brochures and we have lots more to heritage to share. Ω

New Groundskeeping Plan

Fewer Cuts / Part-Time Keeper

Lawn mowing service is expensive and absorbs a great percentage of our budget, yet it doesn't meet all our yard care needs. Every burial deserves to have follow-up site care but our budget, as is, can't support the manpower needed to do even simple tasks.

So the board has decided to try a new tack this summer with a two part grounds maintenance plan. The first part is to go with fewer cuts—and reduce our mowing costs in the process. The second part is to use the savings to hire a part time groundskeeper.

We anticipate our groundskeeper will put in about eight hours a week resetting tombstones, filling sink holes, and caring for recent burial sites. We hope to find someone for about \$15 per hour.

Our Endowment Fund covers contracted work, like the mowing contract, but may not be used for employees. The groundskeeper position will come from contributed funds that would otherwise go to the remainder of the mowing contract.

That's where you come in: can you be a Groundskeeper Sponsor? If you could augment your regular contribution just a bit, this new position could begin to bring the yard into great shape. One day is just \$120, tax deductible of course. With just 40 Groundskeeper Sponsors, we could have an on site grounds maintenance staffer from March through November. Even half-day sponsors are welcome. Ω

Board Members

Linda Harper—Chair
Melvin Mason—Vice Chair
Sandy Schmidt—Treasurer
Patrick Crowley—Secretary
J. Dudley Brown
Frederick Davis
Rev. Judith Davis
Lisa Rauschart
Samuel Kilpatrick
Dawn Warfle
Farleigh Earhart
James Brookshire
Kenneth Eads
Peter MacPherson

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

Third Century Plan

Continued from Page 1.

questions have been open for discussion at a series of three "visioning" sessions held by the board over the last several months.

The first session concentrated on the grounds—what shape is it in, how do we want to use the grounds in the future, what infrastructure improvements are needed for maintenance as well as visitor accessibility, and many other issues.

The second session focused more on the buildings and facilities. The board explored questions such as whether the tool shed could serve other purposes, could we build an expanded maintenance shed with a conservation workshop space? How extensive a renovation should we plan for the gatehouse?

The third session covered the programming aspects of the Association. What should our restora-

tion program look like over the next 25 years? How do we build an educational program? Can we expand our fundraising sources to meet the needs of the long range plans?

These visioning sessions have been carried out in coordination with the Historic Resources Study mandated by last year's Congressional appropriation. The design team of Turk, Tracy, & Larry has helped guide the board in framing some of the issues and incorporating the board's discussion into landscape diagrams and gatehouse design options.

The final report for the Historic Resources Study is due in June of this year but the third century planning is likely to continue for some time. Many decisions have yet to be made—your thoughts are welcome. Please write with your comments. Ω

New Board Members

Gains & Losses as Seats Change

The Association welcomes new board members Kenneth Eads and Peter MacPherson. Kenneth will replace Kevin Hildebrand as the representative from the Office of the Architect of the Capitol. Peter will replace Carolyn Cheney as representative from Christ Church.

Kenneth is the Superintendent of U.S. Capitol Police and General Facilities for the Architect of the Capitol and has a background in electrical engineering. His duties with the AOC office relate to "off campus" facilities under the juris-

diction of the Architect.

Peter MacPherson is a writer and photographer, and a member of Christ Church. The Church, as landlord of the Cemetery grounds, holds three seats on the board. Peter hosted a photography show to benefit Congressional last year selling over 30 of his pieces.

Kevin and Carolyn are reluctant to leave the board but find their other commitments do not allow them to continue to devote the time and effort to Congressional that they would prefer to contribute. Ω

Web Site News

Family Histories On Line

The genealogy bug has bitten at least one person in everyone's family and now our web master, Sandy Schmidt, has figured out a way to let us all share in the fun of discovery. She's adding to our web site the first-hand accounts and remembrances of our members. Now we can all share the rewards of the painstaking work done by these family researchers.

The Baxter Family has contributed quite an extensive history of their family. Their work has been going on for years and they send us an update every year.

We also have the Walker Family's

contributions as a recent addition. John C. Walker sent in five family photographs and a copy of Cora Walker Hays' book about life in the 1800s in Southwest Washington—a neat addition to our little research library. Another contributor is Donna Cutler who sent us four family photographs and has more on the way.

Isn't it about time for you to rummage through that old box of Grandma's photographs and share them with the world before even you forget who's in those faded scenes? Ω

Canine Corner

Walking Dogs & Sawing Logs

If you happen to visit the cemetery after a big thunderstorm, you'll more than likely be greeted by downed trees and broken limbs. Wait around just a bit longer and you'll hear the sound of a volunteer clearing away the debris with a chainsaw, removing any hazard to either the living or the dead (or at least any hazard to the latter's tombstones.)

And if you see a Weimaraner named Smokey anywhere nearby, then you know the guy with the chainsaw in Nick Sundt. He and Smokey linked up nearly six years ago and have been frequent visitors to Congressional ever since. "Some of the most beautiful trees on Capitol Hill are here," says Nick, "but in the years we've been visiting, I've also seen many of those old trees felled or damaged during storms."

In addition, there have been many old snags or dead limbs that needed to be cut down before they fell onto some historic tombstones. "I know how to handle a chainsaw and could see there was a job to be done, so I just started doing it," he said. Nick was trained by the United States Forest Service as a smokejumper, one of those courageous guys who head into danger to control forest fires by cutting trees in the fire's path.

Nick often arrives shortly after dawn to begin clearing our roads of fallen trees after a storm. It's clear he takes pride in his work—when he's done the wood is neatly cut into fireplace-sized logs and stacked by the side of the road. Many a Capitol Hill resident has warmed their winter home with Congressional Cemetery logs thanks to Nick's handiwork.

Sadly, we have backlog of projects for Nick to handle this Spring and Summer. There are several more large dead or dying trees on the grounds that need to come down.

"I enjoy the challenge of bringing the trees and limbs down to the ground without even scratching the tombstones," Nick says. "It also gives me some exercise and a change of pace." However, Nick says he is sorry to see more trees coming down than going up. "I'd rather have the shade of a living tree than a pile of firewood—it's time to start planting." Ω

Congressional Cemetery's American Heritage

The Public Vault

Each site in Congressional Cemetery holds a particular story of an individual or of a single event, but one site represents the full scope of events over nearly two centuries.

The Public Vault is empty and decaying today, but it has been the terminal scene for many of the most elaborate funerals in this city's history. Over 4,600 people—presidents, generals, and common folk—have been held behind its iron doors until final disposition was determined for their mortal remains.

When it became clear that the cemetery was a necessary facility that was useful to the federal government, Congress appropriated money for improvements. On July 14, 1832, Congress appropriated \$1,000 "for construction...of a substantial brick or stone vault in the Washington Parish Burial Ground for the temporary interment of members of Congress." Additional appropriations totaling \$1,739.89 were made for "completing the public vault and railing thereon."

For the first 100 years of its existence, the Public Vault was surrounded by an iron fence and its Aquia Creek sandstone face was whitewashed with a limestone slurry for protection against the elements.

After a White House funeral for President William Henry Harrison

in 1841, a procession extended a mile or more down Pennsylvania Avenue and ended at the Public Vault. There the President's body was placed and a sentry posted at the gate from April 7 to June 10 when arrangements were made for Harrison's burial in Ohio.

One of the few times that we can document the presence of Abraham Lincoln in the cemetery is for the interment of John Quincy Adams in 1848. Lincoln's single term in Congress coincided with Adam's last. When Adams died, a Committee on Arrangements was appointed by the Speaker of the House to oversee the funeral ceremony. One member was appointed from each state and Lincoln was the committee member from Illinois. Adams lay in the public vault from February 26 to March 6.

Dolly Madison was the toast of the Capital for the better part of 50 years. But when she died in 1849, she was not truly a government official; responsibility for her interment fell to her son, Payne Todd. She was placed in the Public Vault and Payne went about squandering the family fortune. It was not until he died in 1852 and was buried at Congressional (Range 41/Site 230) that Mrs. Madison's remaining family had her remains taken across the slate causeway to the Caustin Vault. There she stayed until final arrangements were made

for her to be buried with her husband at their family estate in Montpelier, Virginia. She spent a total of 8 1/2 years in the two vaults.

In 1981 a cenotaph was erected in memory of Representatives Hale Boggs of Louisiana and Nick Begich of Alaska. At its dedication, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill stood on the roof of the Public Vault while making his remarks. Afterward he privately remarked, "I hope somebody does something like this for me one of these days." After his passing in 1994, in accordance with that wish, the O'Neil family placed a granite marker nearby the Public Vault in his memory. He was buried in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Over time, advances in transportation and in mortuary science reduced the need for a receiving vault. The Public Vault has not been used for its intended purpose since 1935. In 1953, the government ceded ownership of the Vault to the Vestry of Christ Church, the owner of the cemetery. Over the years, the iron fence was taken down, the whitewash washed away, the doors rusted, the carved finials have fallen off, and the sandstone shipped away. Still it stands as a monument that ties the Congress and the cemetery to the history of the city and the nation over nearly 200 years. Ω



The Public Vault as it looked in 1913.



Captain Richard Morgan, R18/48 (D.
20 Nov. 1889 L. 24 Nov. 1889)

Richard Morgan, born in England about 1826, immigrated to America at the age of 20, arriving in New York on 14 July 1846, on the ship "Liverpool." He listed his occupation as cabinet maker. His wife, Margaret, was born in Pennsylvania of Irish parents.

Richard and his wife Margaret (no children), are recorded in the 1850 U.S. Federal Census, Philadelphia, PA as Richard Age 24, Occupation: Stonecutter

and wife Margaret Age 18. By the 1860 U.S. Federal Census Richard and Margaret had moved to DC where he shows up still occupied as a Stone Cutter, but they now had three children, Mary age 9, Margaret age 4, and Richard age 2.

Richard was employed as superintendent of the stone work at the Capitol under the architect Thomas Walter, working on the north (Senate) and south (House) wings, and the cast-iron dome of the Capitol. At the onset of the American Civil War, Richard Morgan raised a company of men, most of who worked under him at the Capitol, and was mustered into service as Captain of the Union District of Columbia Infantry, Company E, 6th Battalion, formed 11 July 1861.

The Morgans lost two infants on 27 July 1866 and 22 Aug. 1867, both are interred at Congressional (R 28 / S 50). In 1867 Richard Morgan, with nine others, formed Kit Carson Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, as a Charter Member.

The 1870 U.S. Federal Census indicates that the Morgans moved to St. Louis, MO where Richard was occupied as a Stone Marble Miller. He and Margaret had three more children in St. Louis: William, Ella Louise, and Ida before they returned to DC. By the 1880 U.S. Federal Census, Richard had become a Contractor, Margaret a housekeeper still, and daughter Mary a School Teacher. Young Margaret was still at school while son Richard followed his father as a Stone Cutter. William, Ella L., and Ida attended school.

Margaret Morgan, wife and widow of Richard Morgan, filed an application in the District of Columbia for Veteran benefits 11 July 1890, and received a widow's pension. The 1891 Washington, DC City directory lists Margaret Morgan, widow of Richard Morgan, at the address 204 9th Street, Southeast.

"Richard Morgan was well known and popular in the eastern section of the city and for a time represented his ward in the city councils." (Obituary, *The Evening Star*, November 22, 1889)

Head Stone tilted and sunken. Suggested repair:
Head Stone righted, lifted, and secured in foundation. Estimated cost: \$ 200.00

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Sex		F	
Marital Status		Widow	
Occupation		Housekeeper	
Address		204 9th Street, Southeast	
Signature		Margaret Morgan	
Witness		Richard Morgan	
Date		11 July 1890	
Place		St. Louis, MO	
Age		63	
Sex		F	
Marital Status		Widow	
Occupation		Housekeeper	
Address		204 9th Street, Southeast	
Signature		Margaret Morgan	
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Age			

Essay: To The Victor

By Nathan La Porte, Junior, Georgetown Day High School

We had a grand time on a very cold winter's day walking through Congressional Cemetery. Please accept our small token of appreciation.
Patricia B & Mike D

Small Tokens

As a member of the board of directors, I feel it's my duty to attend to visitor's needs. Whether I'm marking burial sites, excavating a broken irrigation pipe, or just walking my dog, I try to make sure folks find the relative they've come to see or to be sure they haven't missed Elbridge Gerry and Mathew Brady.

But mostly I do it because I enjoy seeing the look on their faces when a long sought piece of their family history slips into place or when they begin to understand that America's heritage is about the lives of real people who lived and died, real people who stood up and said "I can do more." Real people who are buried here.

Congressional Cemetery is honored to be the caretaker for the remains of hundreds of such real people who helped shape our nation, who stood up and made a difference. Caring for their remains is but a small token of our appreciation for their contribution to America.

But try as we might, the heartfelt work of our many volunteers isn't enough. We also need the many small tokens of appreciation by people like yourself who believe that preserving America's heritage is a cause for which we can stand up and say "I can do more."

Please take a moment to write us with a small token of your appreciation for the many patriots and heroes here in Congressional Cemetery.

- Patrick Crowley

Take a walk down Ranges 63 and 64 at Congressional Cemetery, and a few scant feet apart are two brothers, sons of an illustrious military family, who nonetheless fought on opposing sides in the Civil War. Andrew Humphries was a highly decorated Union soldier who rose to through the ranks from lieutenant to brigadier general. Joshua Humphries, once a U.S. naval lieutenant, subsequently retired and joined the Confederate Navy, where he served during the war.

Their father, Samuel Humphries, who is also buried in Congressional, was a ship designer as was his own father Joshua before him. Each of them designed a sizable portion of the naval fleets of their day, in fact, there is still a ship called the USS Joshua Humphries today.

Andrew, the more notable of the two brothers, has a list of accomplishments a mile long. He graduated from the United States Military Academy, fought in the Seminole Wars as an artillery lieutenant, and then left his commission to become a civil engineer. He surveyed and laid out what became the basis for the five major transcontinental railroads of the 19th century, before being appointed to General McClellan's staff in 1861.

His war history is a story unto itself, with brevets for meritorious service at Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, where he bravely resisted General Longstreet's July 2nd attack. His books on the Civil War became the authority texts in the late 19th century.

Andrew's war record, as well as his distinction as an original incorporator of the National Academy of Sciences, earned him a sheaf of glowing obituaries from all manner of newspapers.

His brother Joshua was not so fortunate. The sole available obituary reads simply "Joshua Humphries, formerly an officer in the United States Navy, from which he resigned in 1853, and entered late private business, and subsequently an officer in the Confederate Navy." To the victor, clearly, go the spoils. Ω

Wrought Iron

An Ancient Art with Lasting Beauty

Congressional Cemetery was once blessed with a number of family plots fenced in wrought iron. Wrought iron is renowned for its ability to be crafted into beautiful works of decorative art that last for centuries. The photograph on page 4 shows the Public Vault once had a grand fence with graceful curving wrought iron supports atop brick pillars.

Before the industrial age, the metal of the blacksmith was wrought iron, refined in hot charcoal fires and hammered into shape over an anvil. Soft and fun to work with, wrought iron can be made into an infinite variety of ornamental designs. Where traditional iron work requires substantial maintenance, wrought iron resists corrosion for centuries. The drawback is that each piece is handcrafted and expensive to obtain.

Nineteenth century wrought iron is often known as "puddle iron," a mixture of almost pure iron and siliceous slags, which give the metal its characteristic grain. By modern standards, forging wrought iron is a crude process but this very process is what gives it the ability to be made into exquisite forms. The term "wrought iron" suggests both the material itself and the process by which it is made.

The number of blacksmiths skilled in wrought iron is limited in this modern age, so finding and retaining one for the work on our Public Vault may be a challenge.

There is probably no one alive who has seen the Public Vault in all its glory, we look forward to reintroducing the world to nineteenth century craftsmanship and the stately formality of a by-gone era's memorial customs. Ω

Canine Seminar in May

Emergency Obedience Training

Congressional Cemetery's community includes many dogwalkers and friends of dogwalkers. One of them, Bonnie Perego of Dog & Cat Grooming next to the Safeway, will host a seminar this May 3rd to help pet owners with one of their most serious concerns: knowing their dog will come to them in an emergency.

Titled "Really Reliable Recall," the seminar promises to train pet owners to get their dogs to come every time, no matter how many squirrels are within sight. Past attendees say it has saved their dog's life around traffic.

The seminar will be held on the cemetery grounds and a substantial portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Association. Anyone wishing to attend should call Bonnie at 202-548-0044. Ω

Family Feud

The Humphries family is a sad example. Andrew and Joshua Humphries grew up in the same home but ended up enemies in the Civil War. What roles did they play during the war?

- A) As a Congressman from Tennessee, Andrew voted for secession, while Joshua, as Lieutenant Governor, rallied troops for the North.
- B) As a Union Army officer, Andrew rose to the rank of brigadier general, while Joshua, serving in the Confederate Navy, remained a lieutenant.
- C) An avid seaman, Andrew served the South as a blockade runner until captured and held in a prison camp commanded by Joshua.

I want to join in the effort to preserve this important piece of America's heritage by making a contribution to Historic Congressional Cemetery.

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.

Please bill my credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Phone _____ email _____

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Historic Congressional Cemetery.

Historic Figures to Greet Riders

The tour is an easy five mile ride with lots of stops as it winds its way across Capitol Hill. Riders of all levels are welcome. Advanced registration is required: call 202-546-1210, ext.23 or email info@scwellbelmont.org. The cost is \$15/person. Registration begins at 12:30 at Congressional Cemetery, the ride starts at 1:00 pm and ends at or before 5:00 pm.

The tour is sponsored by Capitol Hill Bikes, Congressional Cemetery, and the Sewall-Beimont House & Museum. O

\$50,000 Deposit for 2002

On the other hand, every deposit brings with it the matching dollars from the Congressional Appropriation, as well as the past earnings from the matching dollars. With the latest deposit, our estimated annual disbursements will be \$33,000.

Now we face the challenge of meeting our 2003 goal for the Fund, which is simply to match the 2002 deposit. Every dollar deposited into the Endowment Fund is matched, so any additional contribution you make to the Endowment Fund has double the impact. Your contribution does make a difference. Please consider making an additional contribution today, with the extra bit marked for the endowment fund. Q

Flags to Honor War Dead

Congressional Cemetery holds the remains of 38 veterans of the Revolutionary War, 68 veterans from the War of 1812, and 6 veterans of the Tripolcan Wars. It also holds hundreds of Civil War veterans as well as veterans of the twentieth century wars.

Once called Decoration Day, the national holiday is a day to remember those who gave their lives for our nation. Traditionally, visitors came to the graveyard to clear away brush and plant flowers by the graves of their loved ones. With the help of the Baltimore office of Veteran's Affairs, a small American flag will be placed at over 1,500 gravesites. ☐

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

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The Heritage Gazette

Spring 2003

Congressional Calendar

Sunday, March 30— A Women's History Bicycle Tour starts at Congressional Cemetery at 1:00 pm. Register at 202-546-1210. Registration fee \$15.00.

Saturday, April 5th— Our annual spring clean-up, from 9:00 am to Noon. Bring a friend, see you there!

Saturday, April 12th— Annual Meeting, 11:00 am in the Chapel. Guest Speaker Barbara Franco. Open to the public, all are welcome.

Tuesday, May 13th— Capitol Hill Garden Walk, Starts at Congressional Cemetery 9:00 am. (Tentative, check the web site for details.)

Sunday, May 30th— Memorial Day Remembrance, all day. Flags placed by veterans' graves. Open to the public.



The doors of the old Public Vault were made of wrought iron, which is both a specialized material and a specialized handcrafted process.