

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

The Heritage Gazette Fall 2004



For Whom the School Bell Tolls

Summer School Exhibit Highlights Congressional

Education has always been the key to the future not only for the individual but for every nation and every city. Centers of learning prepare students to become productive and vibrant members of the com-



munity, while at the same time, the progress and prosperity of the community depends upon a well-educated population.

As such, schools are a bedrock institution in every town, and the placing of one's name on a school

building is a great honor to bestow upon a fellow citizen. This fall the DC Public School system will honor those individuals for whom schools have been named with a special exhibit at the Charles Sumner School Museum & Archives.

The exhibit focuses specifically on 30 individuals who are interred at Congressional Cemetery and Woodlawn Cemetery in Anacostia. Biographical information, educational accomplishments, and grave-

site information will be available on each school's namesake. It will also highlight the history of the two cemeteries and their contributions to the community as centers of learning in their own right for historical and genealogical information.

Continued on Page 2.



Judge William Cranch

Sept. 11th Grove Update

Healing Poles Installation on 9/23

Installation of the Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove at Congressional Cemetery took another long stride forward in August with a major donation by the Casey Tree Foundation. With two-thirds of the funding in hand, appeal letters to the Association membership were mailed in early August to help meet the final third of the construction costs.

As of August 5th, the Lummi Nation healing poles, "Liberty" and "Freedom" had been completed and the cross piece was expected to be finished within two weeks. A cross-country caravan

Continued on Page 6.

Sousa & French ~ 150 Years Twin Celebrations of Heritage

2004 marks the 150th anniversary of John Philip Sousa, the famous Marine Corps Band Leader, and the Benjamin B. French Masonic lodge, a leading civic leadership group in Washington. Congressional Cemetery is proud to be the caretaker of the final resting places of these two American icons and pleased to be part of the 150th anniversary celebrations for them.

Mark your calendars for November 6, 2004 to be part of the festivities. First up will be the Association's Sousa Awards Ceremony at which we thank individuals who have helped us make great strides

Continued on Page 6.

Job Corps Lends A Hand

Urban Forestry Students Volunteer

Alan Dingman of Vine Grove, Kentucky, is proud of the work he's done this summer and proud of his Job Corps compatriots. He and the other Job Corps students camped out at Congressional Cemetery's east end this July while performing a full week's worth of tree work.

Alan and his fellow students are working toward high school diplomas and certification as forestry trade workers through the Job Corps, the nation's oldest and largest residential job training program for economically disadvantaged youth between 16 and 24. In his year with the Job Corps, Alan has grown to enjoy volunteer work and says proudly, "the Job Corps has helped me so much."

Continued on Page 6.

2004 Restoration Work

75 Gravestones Repaired

Fallen, tilted, and unstable gravestones may be just the thing for a Stephen King novel but in reality, the drawbacks way outweigh the "ambiance." Unstable markers present a serious risk of injury and the Association reminds visitors to be cautious of leaning on old stones.

The good news is that the Association has just concluded another successful year of gravestone restoration work. With thanks to the Kiplinger Foundation for providing the funding, the Association brought in Jonathan Appell, a Connecticut conservator and restoration expert, to repair an entire swath of gravestones in our southwest quadrant.

In anticipation of the installation of the Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove along Tucker Walkway, the Association's Building & Grounds Committee selected the four ranges on either side of the walkway for restoration work. With well over

Continued on Page 3.

Letter from the Board

Continuing Education

In 2002 and 2003 the Association undertook an extensive analysis of its physical plant as part of the Historic Landscapes & Structures Report funded by the Architect of the Capitol. In conjunction with that report, the Board engaged in three "visioning" sessions to begin the process of setting the course for the cemetery's third century.

Out of the brainstorming we did concerning the current and future uses for the buildings on the grounds came the idea that we might build a new garage on the east end that would incorporate space to conduct seminars on conservation matters. Our nation is replete with small historic cemeteries in dire need of preservation and restoration attention.

Our thinking here is that Congressional Cemetery could become a national center for historic preservation studies. We certainly have enough examples of everything kind of conservation work at an old cemetery. With appropriate funding, our conservation lab could provide many small towns and churchyards with access to seminars and workshops where they could learn to conserve their historic stones.

These dreams are, of course, focusing on the distant future, yet over the last two years we have, in fact, become a center for learning the art of cemetery maintenance. Early this summer the National Park Service elected to hold its first regional cemetery preservation workshop at Congressional. In September the National Preservation Institute will hold its second cemetery preservation seminar on our grounds.

In July, the Labor Department's Job Corps program brought 20 urban forestry students from Kentucky and Vermont to teach the art of tree pruning and removal. Also this summer, DC Greenworks brought five students to Congressional as part of a the Shaw Ministries' Master Gardener program.

We've made great progress on our physical plant in the last few years, our educational programs are now coming into their own.

~ *Patrick Crowley*

School Bells Toll

Linking Learning with Heritage

The Summer exhibit is the first time Congressional and Woodlawn have teamed up for a specific project. The team assembling the exhibit was led by Congressional Board members Sandy Schmidt and Remko Jansonius along with Hayden Wetzel of Woodlawn, our sister cemetery across the Anacostia River.

Funding for the \$3,000 project came, in part, from the Capitol Hill Restoration Society, a frequent supporter of Congressional Cemetery restoration and outreach programs. Additional sponsors would be much appreciated.

Among those citizens honored with their names carved above school house doors are Benjamin B. French, Judge William Cranch, Joseph Gales, James Greenleaf, and John Philip Sousa. Each of the individuals for whom schools are named played important roles in the development of this city and the nation in their day. Mayors of DC are well represented among the honorees. Several educators and early civic leaders in DC also have schools. Some of the schools no longer exist or no longer serve as school buildings. Although the passage of time has dimmed our memory of most of these individuals, our cemetery archives enable researchers to maintain the linkage between learning and heritage.

The exhibit opens on September 13, 2004 and runs through February 2005. The Charles Sumner School Museum & Archives sits at the corner of 17th and M Street, Northwest. Call the gatehouse for more information 202-543-0539. Ω

No CFC This Year

2002 Federal Grant Nixes Listing

Our friends among the federal work force who may be looking for another year of CFC donations for Congressional will be searching in vein ~ it seems that our good fortunes in 2002 placed us out of bounds for the CFC this year. CFC regulations forbid inclusion in the organizational listings if revenues from the government sources exceed a certain percentage of total income. Our 2002 \$1,000,000 endowment challenge pushed us over that limit. Look for us again in 2005, but in the mean time, try that nifty donation form on page 7! Ω

Remko Jansonius Joins HCC

The Association welcomes a new board member, Remko Jansonius. Remko is a native of Holland now living on the Hill, Remko speaks seven languages and has broad experience in museum curating and exhibition management. Remko has been instrumental in creating the Sumner School and has begun researching funding sources for other educational and outreach programs. Ω

Board Members

Linda Donovan Harper—Chair
Patrick Crowley—Vice Chair
Sandy Schmidt—Treasurer
—Secretary
J. Dudley Brown
Frederick Davis
Rev. Judith Davis
Farleigh Earhart
Kenneth Eads
Peter MacPherson
Frank Devlin
Patrick Lally
Scott Kibler
Remko Jansonius

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

Operations Chair
Linda Harper

Building & Grounds Chair
Patrick Crowley

Education & Outreach Chair
Sandy Schmidt

Cemetery Manager
William Fecke

Newsletter Editor
Patrick Crowley

Web Master
Sandy Schmidt

Groundskeeper
Collin Ingraham

Contact

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

202-543-0539
202-543-5966 fax
www.congressionalcemetery.org
congressionalcemetery@att.net

Restoration Expert Rights Wrongs *Impromptu Workshop for 3rd Saturday Volunteers*

continued from Page 1

two hundred gravestones in fallen or precarious state, the biggest problem was setting the priorities among them. Mr. Appell's response to the Association's request for bids indicated he could attend to 63 markers within our \$30,000 budget. Fortunately for us, Jonathan is a avid fan of old cemeteries and grateful for our members' warm welcome to him: he added another 12 to 15 stones to his repair list for free.

Jonathan also helped out with the Association's 3rd Saturday volunteer program. 3rd Saturday is our set-aside weekend for members to stop by for a 3 hour helping hand. Our project this summer and fall is to right some of the smaller fallen tombstones. Jonathan was on site during the July date and offered the volunteers a free workshop in righting and repairing marble grave-stones.

Our amateur repair crew has also become an amateur archeology crew as well. Some "simple" tablet markers have turned out to be full base & die markers that have sunken below grade. Katie and Joe

Hodge have discovered that finding and repairing these old stones has been lots of fun. Karen Kimble vows to be back every month. The more volunteers, the more stones we can reset, so come by August 21st for the next 3rd Saturday. Ω



Appell resetting Hill Family copings

Iconography: The Scimitar

The Scimitar represents the Imperial Council of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. More commonly known as the Shriners. No hometown American 4th of July Parade is complete without these middle aged men zooming around in motorized magic carpets to the delight of children and parents.

The Shriners were founded in 1872 by two Freemasons: Walter Flemming and William Florence. Although they started the group as a spoof of their own Ma-

sonic orders, the Shriners grew to become an important contributor in many communities through the establishment and endowment of children's hospitals and burn units throughout the United States.

Membership in the Shriners is

open only to 32nd degree Masons and Knights Templar. The Shriner motto is "Strength & Fury."

The emblem is made up of a curved sword called a scimitar, built for its beauty and sharpness.

Below the scimitar is a crescent or "Jewel of the Order." Hanging from the crescent is a five point star representing enlightenment, wisdom, and human aspiration.

Among the ranks of the Shriners are numerous illustrious Americans, including president Harry Truman, Chief justice Earl Warren, and our own FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

A scimitar can be seen just off the road northwest of the chapel. Ω

This is the fifth in a series of articles discussing the history and symbolic meaning of the forms and decoration of grave markers and other memorials.



Cemetery Manager's Notes *The ICFA Conference*

I recently traveled to Memphis, Tennessee to attend the annual conference of the International Cemetery & Funeral Association. This year's annual Operations Conference coincided with the ICFA's university program, allowing the conference to share content with the university's certification program.

The conference offered four 1½ hour lectures a day with topics ranging from interviewing and training employees to plant selection for cemetery landscapes. It also included tours of local cemeteries to see how each was run. Opportunities to converse with other attendees over meals were abundant.

One of the best lectures was given by Tom Smith of Spring Grove Cemetery & Arboretum in Cincinnati, Ohio (a 3 hour lecture crammed into a 1½ hour rapid and energetic presentation). His topic was landscaping, plant selection, maintenance techniques, and equipment. He is passionate about his work and I intend to stop by his cemetery if nearby. I hope to apply some of his thoughts to our upcoming landscape plan work.

Our tours included one cemetery that was just ten years old and another that has established itself as *the* cemetery of Memphis. The first was a good example of a corporate-owned cemetery whose ownership and mission had changed. The cemetery had been carefully designed, but sold before much had been implemented. It was a functioning cemetery but in need of new initiatives.

The second cemetery, Memphis Memorial Park, is where the elite of Memphis were buried for many years; a wonderful park with great plantings and a unique historical monument, the crystal shrine grotto, which consists of a pond, a garden and a quartz crystal cavern filled with Christian scenes. This tinted concrete structure was an immigrant artist's life work and still amazes visitors today.

I thought about titling this article "What I Did on My Summer Vacation" but that might convey a sense that this conference wasn't a serious one. I thank the board for allowing me to learn more about the cemetery industry and I look forward to putting that knowledge to work here at Congressional.

~ Bill Fecke

Congressional Cemetery's American Heritage

William Shorey Coodey

Among the many persons of note buried at Congressional Cemetery lie some 36 Native Americans. Many passed away in the early 19th century of illnesses contracted in Washington, DC, while representing their nations to the Congress or the President. An American historian, Herman Viola, termed such ambassadors "Diplomats in Buckskin," a appellation that hardly applies to this month's subject.

Among the cemetery's Indian burials, members of the southeastern tribes are most numerous including 15 Cherokee. The small gravestones give little indication of their important life stories or contributions. But cemetery, historical, and tribal records do yield details.

The life of one of these diplomats, Cherokee leader William Shorey Coodey (1806—1849), opens a window on the sad spectacle of broken promises, culminating in tribal removal from traditional Eastern homelands to the West, in the years-long process known as "The Trail of Tears."

From earliest contact with Europeans, the Choctaw and Cherokee, though fighting among themselves, were noted for their cooperation with European newcomers. They heeded the advice to adopt white ways, including elected government, rule of law, Christianity, European-style schools, and settled agriculture. Thus the Cherokee and Choctaw, along with the Creek, Chickasaw, and Seminole, came to be known to whites as "the Five Civilized Tribes."

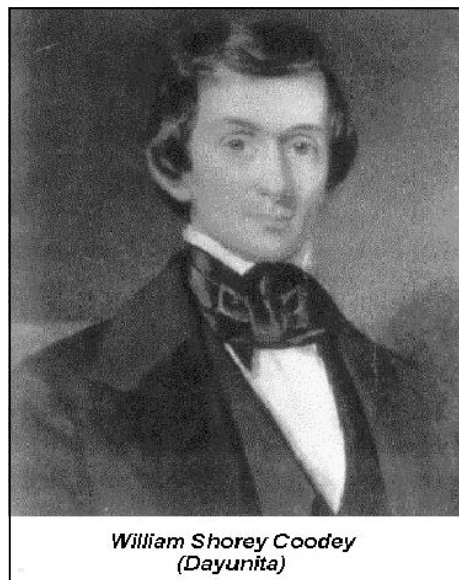
Yet no amount of accommodation could protect them from the tide of settlers. As more whites sought land west of the Alleghenies, they demanded the federal government remove Indian residents. With the Louisiana Purchase of 1806, the nation acquired vast territories west of the Mississippi; here "Indian Territory" could be set aside to trade for Indian lands in the East.

Some Native Americans moved West on their own, others did not. Despite numerous treaties guaranteeing Indians perpetual rights to their traditional lands, and despite a

Supreme Court case supporting the Cherokee claim, and despite public outcry by many Americans, President Andrew Jackson finally ordered their removal 1830.

William Shorey Coodey was a "slim and handsome man" and, as his photograph indicates, a man of dapper attire. Like many Cherokee, he descended from several generations of intermarriage between Cherokee and Scottish traders and settlers. His father was Scottish, his mother the elder sister of Cherokee Chief John Ross.

He was famous, not as a warrior, but for his diplomatic skills. Born and educated in Tennessee, Coodey served on numerous delegations to



William Shorey Coodey
(Dayunita)

Washington where he made friends with white officials, including Daniel Webster. In the spring of 1832 he came to Washington as a delegate with a mission headed by John Ross.

When Coodey's mother and her family voluntarily moved west, Coodey took his own young family to what was to become Oklahoma and settled near Fort Gibson. He owned a large farm not far from New Echota at the foot of Lookout Mountain. In 1833 he was host to explorer Joseph Nicollet. Coodey was also a correspondent for the American Philosophical Society.

Coodey supported the Treaty of 1835 that traded land in Georgia for land in Arkansas and Oklahoma, an

agreement disavowed by his uncle Chief John Ross. Although Coodey managed to bridge the gap between the pro and anti-treaty Cherokee but switched to his uncle Ross' view point. When President Jackson sent troops to intervene, Coodey joined Ross in 1838 on one of the infamous forced marches. As the Cherokee people walked and rode toward a Tennessee River crossing, Coodey observed, "a low sound of distant thunder fell on my ear. At almost an exact western direction a dark spiral cloud was rising above the horizon and sent forth a murmur I almost fancied a voice of divine indignation for the wrongs of my poor and unhappy countrymen, driven by brutal power from all they love and cherished in the land of their fathers, to gratify the cravings of avarice."

Coodey is remembered by his people for drafting a new Cherokee constitution, known as the Act of Union of 1839; it bears resemblance to the U. S. Constitution. He also served as President of the Cherokee Senate. By this time, he had lost his first wife and married Elizabeth Fields, a mixed blood Cherokee from Alabama. They resided in a comfortable double-log home above the Arkansas River east of present day Muskogee, where slaves tended his herds and orchards flourished.

In late 1848, despite cold weather, he undertook a mission to Washington, accompanied by his wife, infant children, and a Negro nurse. The journey by riverboat, stagecoach, and train was debilitating and Coodey contracted a fever. In Washington he was visited by his daughter Henrietta Jane, a music teacher at a female institute in Elliott City, MD. She too became ill and perished in January, as did his infant daughter Charlotte. Both were buried at Congressional. William Coodey himself passed away on April 16 and was laid to rest next to his children (Range 43/Site 50). The Marine Corps Band headed his funeral procession, which included Masons, prominent officials, and friends. Ω

~ Alice Hall Phillips

Outstanding Volunteer

Anne Holbrook

Anne Holbrook is the parent of two rescued dogs. Mac is the Akita-like talking dog that greets everyone and every dog on a daily basis as if he hasn't seen them in a very long time. Shadow is a small Schipperke-poodle mix who lives up to her name, a close companion and female of very few words. Both dogs have made the transition from country dogs to city dogs thanks to the cemetery experience, without which Anne would have had to move back to Ohio to raise the pups.

Anne is presently under a fellowship with an educational agency. She enjoys the work with students and teachers. Also, she bought a



house here on the Hill and renovated it. She hopes never to do that again.

For fun she entered the world of charity with a small fundraiser for the cemetery ordering vitamins and supplements for dogs and giving the Association the net revenues. The next order goes in in October.

Anne is also working to raise money for at-risk teens at the Covenant House, which is trying to open a child care center. She has never attempted something like his before but a teen and her infant touched her heart.

Anne is a regular at the Cemetery volunteer events, and invites all to join her. She likes to meet new dog owners and their dogs. She has been known to walk with a large following—because she sometimes has treats in her pocket for well behaved dogs!

Those wishing to help Anne with her “pet” projects can contact her at aholbroo@earthlink.net. Ω

Finding “Section D”

Mysterious Range & Site Designations Hint at History

Among the many mysteries lurking within our historic brick walls is one contained within the hallowed old Range Books ~ a series of burial site designations shown as Sections A, B C, and D. These sections run east and west on either side of G Street (Ingle Street on our maps), the street on which the chapel sits, each with 3 to 4 burial sites. Many genealogists and researchers, not to mention cemetery board members, have asked what is the origin of these designations and why does the site numbering system skip over them?

To understand the section designations, you have to go back in time and review the growth of the cemetery in its early years. At its inception, Congressional was only 4½ acres on the south side of E Street. As the burial ground grew it added whole blocks to the south and west. Congressional Cemetery's street grid layout is the direct result of this block by block growth.

G Street formed the southern boundary of Congressional Cemetery at one time (when it was still known as the Washington Parish Burial Ground). The cemetery abutted G Street's 100-foot-wide right-of-way, and had a nine foot walkway around the perimeter of the burial ground.

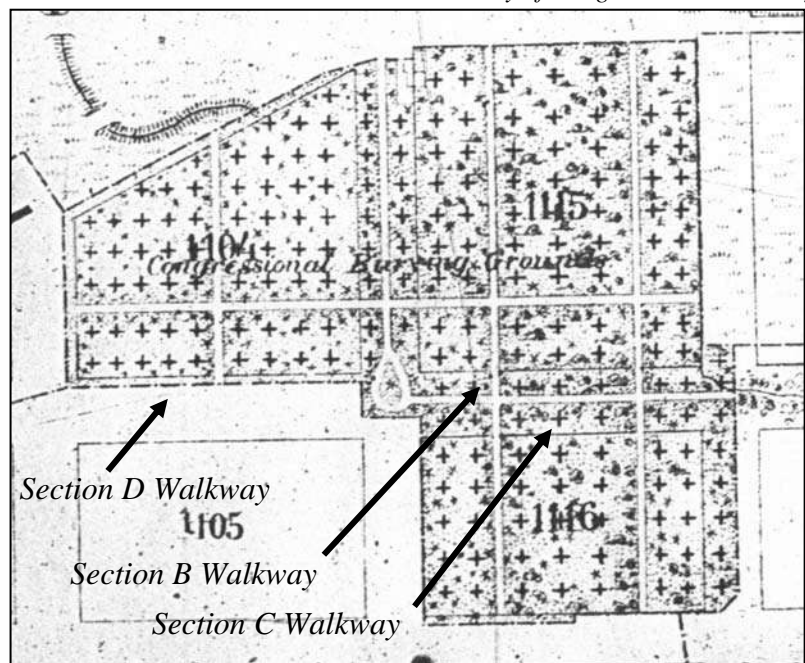
The walkway is still seen along the 17th Street brick wall and the Potomac Avenue iron fence. What you don't see is the perimeter walkway along what used to be G

Street from 17th down to 19th Street. These walkways became Sections A and B to the east of Congress Street, and Section D to the west. Section C is the walkway on the south side of G Street east of the present day chapel. The block numbered 1105 southwest of the chapel had not been acquired and thus had no perimeter walkway, and today no Section designation.

But why does the numbering system change? The answer involves an act of Congress. In 1848, Congress authorized the cemetery to enclose the street rights-of-way for any street where the cemetery owned the blocks on either side of the street. When the cemetery laid out a burial site plan incorporating these rights-of-ways, it elected to provide for a narrower street plan of just 16 feet rather than the 100-foot-wide size of the original street. This added 13 burial sites between the old walkway and the new edge of the G Street. The numbering system jumped over the walkway.

Somewhere along the way, the Vestry removed the walkway and used the sites for burials. Rather than renumber all the sites, the walkway sites were simply designated Section A-1, A-2, and A-3, and so on. The same system applied to the walkway on the south side of G Street. Ω

This is the fifth in a series of articles about the history of Congressional Cemetery.



1857 Boschke Map showing layout of streets and paths

Memorial Grove Installation

Continued from Page 1.

will bring the poles down the West Coast and then across the nation for presentation at the Pentagon on September 11. The poles will then be installed at Congressional on September 23rd. When the main Memorial Grove site on Kingman Island is ready, the poles will be moved there for permanent installation.

Although final plans for the ceremonial welcoming of the 6' diameter totem poles are still being worked out, the anticipated starting time is Noon and all are welcome to observe the Native American blessing. Call the gatehouse for more details.

The nationally known landscape firm Valley Crest began the installation of the allee of trees and hardscape in mid-August. A pathway of crushed red brick provides a soft feel to the walkway and picks up the hues and historic feel of the brick perimeter walls on 17th Street. Tree plantings will begin in late fall after the hardscape construction is completed. Ω

November 6th Celebrations

Continued from Page 1.

possible in the restoration of Congressional Cemetery. This year we honor August Kiplinger and the Kiplinger Foundation for their long term commitment to our cause. This summer's conservation work is a gift of the Foundation

The second big event of the day is the annual Marine Corps Band tribute to John Philip Sousa. It being Sousa's 150th birthday, the Band is rather busy this year, so we are doubly glad they will be returning. Joining the Band will be Sousa's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Call the gatehouse for further details.

November 6th will also see the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Benjamin B. French Lodge, a Masonic fraternal organization. Lodge members will join in honoring fellow Mason Sousa and lead tours of Congressional Cemetery's other prominent Masons. The Association and the Lodge will announce the creation of the Benjamin B. French Allee, a gift of 15 trees by the Lodge beginning with the planting of a Black Locust *Acacia* tree at the French gravesite. Call the gatehouse for more details. Ω

Progress Attracts Volunteers

Continued from Page 1

The urban forestry students from Job Corps centers in Pine Knot, Kentucky and Vergennes, Vermont are honing their arborist skills and helping to restore a healthy tree canopy to our grounds. The group removed ten hazardous trees and pruned several of our grand oaks.

These two arborist groups are managed by ACRT Inc., a vegetation management firm. The Job Corps has several trade schools specializing in various skills. The Association hopes to invite the forestry group and others to join our restoration efforts again in the future.

Alan and the Job Corps are just one of a number of organizations that came forward to help restore Congressional this last year.

The Professional Lawn Care Association of America returned for their annual day of Renewal & Remembrance in which they provide care for both Congressional and Arlington. PLCAA members Davey Tree, Valley Crest Landscaping, and Lawn Doctor devoted a full day to removing a large dead tree, creating two new flower gardens, and applying a weed retarding agent on the lawn.

Master Sergeant Brinsko of the National Defense University brought six members of this semester's class in to move brush piles, reset some military gravestones, and complete an unfinished gardening project.

A troupe of Boy Scouts helped raise over 1,550 small American flags at the gravesites of veterans interred at Congressional for Memorial Day. Removing the flags was the chore performed by the Boys &

Girls Club of DC.

Shaw Community Ministries & DC Greenworks teamed up to provide training for several aspiring landscapers. The group shows up Tuesdays and Thursdays to learn new tools of the trade using Congressional's grounds as their laboratory.



Alan Dingman of Vine Grove, KY
Job Corps Forestry Student

The National Park Service brought their National Training Institute to Congressional Cemetery in May for a two day workshop on cemetery conservation. The Institute was able to bring in some of the most respected conservators in the country and over 40 workshop participants. The work included hands on work in the cemetery repairing, resetting and cleaning monuments. As partners Congressional Cemetery's manager and groundskeeper both attended the training.

Our Association staff immediately used that training within our 3rd Saturday program. Together with a small band of regulars, they have reset over 40 monuments during the last two months.

Other groups that have helped us move ahead are the Georgetown University Freshmen Volunteers, the University of Maryland Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity, the Capitol Hill Garden Club, Standard Restoration & Waterproofing, the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History Department of Forensic Anthropology, the DC Chapter of Wittenberg University, the Congressional Pages, the National Urban League, the Armed Forces Joint Services Community Services, and many of our regular dogwalkers.

We have an impressive list of friends who aren't afraid to roll up their sleeves. And their work does not go unnoticed or unappreciated; we regularly receive kudos by voice and by mail thanking us for reviving Congressional Cemetery. Ω

Reserve Your Place in History

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



Congressional Quiz

Buckskin Diplomat

William Shorey Coodey was a diplomat who served in difficult times striving to bring about a greater understanding between the native populations of America and the newer wave of immigrants taking over the continent. Are the following statements about Mr. Coodey true or false?

- Despite his diplomatic skills, Mr. Coodey and his family were forcibly moved to Fort Gibson.
- Mr. Coodey's maternal kin were actually of German blood.
- Mr. Coodey wrote the Cherokee Nation constitution, known as the Act of Union.
- Mr. Coodey's slaves tended to his flocks and orchards.
- Mr. Coodey was a correspondent for the American Philosophical Society.

Answer in Essay on Page 4.

Restoring America's Heritage

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

Independence Tribute

SAR/DAR Honor Elbridge Gerry

The Sons of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution joined several other patriotic organizations in a July 17th tribute to Elbridge Gerry, the only Signer of the Declaration of Independence interred in the Mid-Atlantic region. The celebration included homage to John Hunter, a young bugler in the Revolutionary Army and to Flora Adams Darling, founder of the Daughters of 1812. Ω

Snakes, Turtles & Wasps

Life on the River's Edge

Visitors are reminded to be mindful of the wildlife that joins us in Congressional's 33 acres. Our snapping turtle, Mr. Graves, returned this year to its lodgings in a rain-water drain basin. We understand they have a mean bite. A dog and master had an unpleasant encounter with a wasp nest under an old tree. And tree experts sited a copperhead snake at the east end of the yard. So watch where you step. Ω

Preservation Workshop

Seminar on Conservation Matters

The National Preservation Institute will return to Congressional Cemetery on September 13 to offer its second regional cemetery preservation seminar and workshop. The seminar discusses current issues in documenting graveyards, preservation efforts, and conservation techniques. Class is limited to 20 attendees, registration deadline is August 16th. Call NPI for more information at 703-765-0100. Ω

Young Marines July Visit

Heritage is Part of the Drill

The Young Marines of Central Virginia paid a visit to Congressional Cemetery on July 18th as part of a trip to the Evening Parade at the Marine Barracks. Led by Les Womak, Commanding Officer, the group of about 30 kids ranging from eight to eighteen stopped by the gravesites of Gen. Archibald Henderson, John Philip Sousa, and Elbridge Gerry. Ω

Restoration Society Grant

Support for Sumner School Project

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society continues to be a strong supporter of the Association's restoration and interpretation goals. The Society provided the seed funding to create the Sumner School exhibit highlighting individuals for whom DC schools are named. The Society is also a supporter of the Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove at Congressional.Ω

DC Cemetery Roundtable

Networking for Solutions

Congressional Cemetery hosted the DC Cemetery Roundtable this spring, a collection of several regional cemeteries, to search for ways in which these organizations can work together to improve local cemetery services. Organized by Hayden Wetzel of Anacostia's Woodlawn cemetery, the group hopes to meet twice a year to share ideas and initiatives. Ω

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

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Suburban, MD
Permit No. 6511



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

The Heritage Gazette Fall 2004

On The Horizon

Sat. Sept. 4 ~ Georgetown University Service Day, 9:00 AM to Noon.

Mon. Sept. 13 thru Jan. 5 ~ Sumner School Exhibit honoring those for whom DC schools are named, 17th & M Streets, NW, all are welcome.

Mon. Sept 13 ~ National Preservation Institute Cemetery preservation Seminar, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, registration required: 703-765-0100 \$200.

Sat. Sept. 18 ~ 3rd Saturday, volunteers to reset gravestones along pathway of Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove, 9:00 AM to Noon, volunteers needed.

Thurs. Sept. 23 ~ Installation of the Lummi Nation Freedom & Liberty Poles at Congressional in conjunction with the Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove, Noon, all are welcome.

Wed. Sept 29 ~ Fundraising reception at Campbell & Crane for Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove Endowment, time & address to be announced. All are welcome.

Sat. Oct. 11 ~ Women's History Bike Tour begins at Congressional Cemetery at 9:00 AM, Registration in advance, \$15, call:

Sat. Oct 16 ~ 3rd Saturday, volunteers to reset gravestones along pathway of Ward 6 9/11 Memorial Grove, 9:00 AM to Noon, volunteers needed.

Sat. Oct 16 ~ Grave Yard Sale, garage sale to benefit Congressional Cemetery, along Potomac Ave. frontage 9:00 AM to 2:00PM. Volunteers Needed.

Sat. Oct. 23 ~ Armed Forces Joint Services Make A Difference Day, volunteer at Congressional, 8:30 AM to Noon.

Thu. Oct 30 ~ Halloween Organ Recital & Moonlight Graveyard Tour, 8:00, 8:30, & 9:00 PM, donations accepted, all are welcome.

Wed. Nov. 6 ~ The Association's Sousa Award for outstanding service the Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery, 9:00 AM, in the Chapel, all are welcome.

Wed. Nov 6 ~ Marine Corps Band tribute to John Philip Sousa, 10:00 AM at Sousa's gravesite, all are welcome.

Wed. Nov. 6 ~ Benjamin B. French Lodge # 15 150th Anniversary celebration, dedication of French Allee & tours of Masonic patriots, 11:00 AM all are welcome.

Sat. Nov. 20 ~ 3rd Saturday, volunteers to reset gravestones along pathway of Ward 6 9/11 Memorial Grove, 9:00 AM to Noon, volunteers needed.

For all events, please call the gatehouse to check on dates & times.