

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

The Heritage Gazette Fall 2005



Renewal & Remembrance

PLANET Professional Care

One of the oldest trees on Capitol Hill can now breathe easier during severe storms thanks to the new lightning protection cable installed on July 18th by the professional lawn care association, PLANET/Land Care Network. The grand Swamp Oak just inside our front gate, believed to be 175 to 200 years old, was given the special care as part of PLANET/Land Care Network's fifth annual volunteer day "Renewal & Remembrance" at Congressional and Arlington Cemeteries.

This year 40 specialists from six major lawn maintenance firms spread out across the grounds to devote a day to restoring the landscape, free of charge. The expanded its project list this year to include perimeter fence clearing and trimming.
Continued on Page 3.



RTEC Treecare & Davey Trees trimmed back overhanging limbs along the southern fence line.

A New Manager Steps In

Tom Kelly Takes the Helm from Bill Fecke

Bill Fecke, our cemetery manager for the last two years, headed north to Boston this summer where his wife Brenda is taking up a conservation position at Harvard University. Into his shoes stepped Tom Kelly, who spent 35 years developing nongovernmental organizations overseas.

The Board wishes Bill & Brenda farewell with many thanks for Bill's help with the transformation of the Association into a complex, multifaceted operation. Ω

Master Landscape Plan

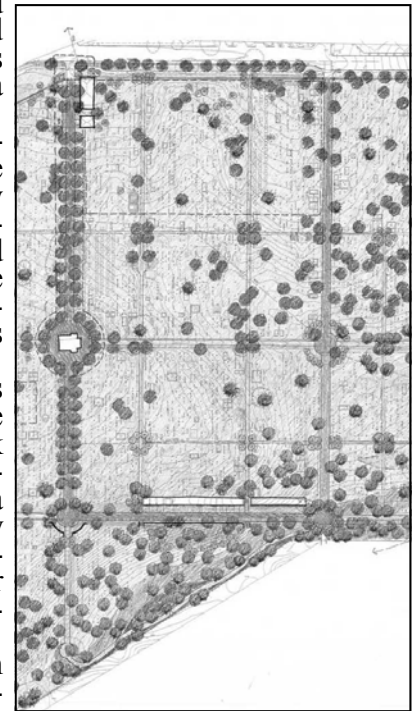
Tree Canopy to Reflect Original Topography

Congressional Cemetery's growth from a 4 ½ acre space within the city's L'Enfant grid to its current 33 acres took place over several decades. As a consequence, Congressional's landscape reflects not that of a planned cemetery but that of the city grid from which it sprung. Add to that the 165 orderly rows of gravesites and you get a very regimented landscape.

Nonetheless, the internationally known landscape design firm EDAW saw context and contours underlying the topography and created a master landscape plan that reflects the plateau and riverbank genesis of the land.

EDAW's plan envisions a three-part approach to the landscape that harkens back to its original contours defined by the Anacostia River, which carved away at the plateau and then receded leaving a two-tier topography and a transitioning hillside.

The *Upper Plateau* on the west side of the cemetery holds a strong relationship with the neighborhood and will be planted as if it were an informal greensward in the city. The plan calls for single
Continued on Page 3.



Park Service HALS Study Under Way

Project No. DC-1 for HALS

Congressional Cemetery was the focus of a Historic American Landscape Surveys' (HALS) pilot history project, written and researched this summer by Julia Sienkewicz, a graduate student from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and over-seen by Lisa Davidson, of the National Park Service. HALS was recently added to the group of National Park Service programs dedicated to documenting America's built environment, including Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), founded in 1933, and Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) founded in 1969. Now HABS/HAERS will
Continued on Page 5.

Letter from the Board

Contemplation

A tombstone is a striking thing. Silent, stoic, and indifferent to weather, it stands in quiet honor of the departed soul who lies below. Its duty is to stand in remembrance regardless of the world around it, regardless of the passage of time. Whether we visit the gravesite as a dear relative or amateur historian, the stone beholds us with the same dispassion.

It cares not for us and yet it beckons us. A tombstone makes us ask eternal questions. What will happen to me? Will anyone remember that I was here? Have I done enough to be worthy of the gift of life? What do I stand for? These silent stone mentors provide powerful reminders that the forest may have greater needs, that the details of daily life mustn't cloud out the bigger questions. A visit to a graveyard serves to make us take the time to remember our personal forest.

The 9/11 Memorial Grove at Congressional Cemetery provides a place for asking eternal questions. The contemplative station at the south end of the allee of hornbeam trees offers visitors a chance to sit a while, to meditate on the silent challenge of the stones. Or simply watch the squirrels romp and butterflies flit, while the deep questions rest on a back burner.

The contemplative station funded by the TKF Foundation hosts two wood benches overlooking Barney Circle. Tucked under one bench is a journal awaiting the thoughts and musings of passers-by. It collects a wonderful array of heartfelt thoughts and poems. From those grateful for a respite from city life, to the nature lovers that find joy in the swoop of swallows, to the deeply moving individual who questioned whether life was worth living.

While not yet a year old, the Grove is accomplishing what we had hoped it would. It is a place of reflection, a place where the Socratic lessons of the tombstones can be pondered. A place where the lightness of being can be celebrated along with the gravity of eternal questions.

~ Patrick Crowley

Volunteer Program Coming

Developing a Professional Program

The Association's Education & Outreach Committee has begun work on a professional-grade volunteer program for Congressional Cemetery. The program will bring a greater sense of order and professionalism to the volunteer efforts at Congressional. With more than 400 volunteers over the course of the year, Congressional is blessed with many kind hearts and, at times, overwhelmed by the management side of handling that many projects and individuals.

Like many other institutions in Washington, several of the functions for which we need volunteers require background training and consistency in attendance to those tasks. While some chores will remain "walk-in" most will require greater training. Under the guidance of Sandy Schmidt, the Education Committee hopes to flesh out a program by next year. Ω

Coombe Vault Re-Interment

Small Ceremony Marks Closure

The final step in the Association's Restoration Summer 2003 program took place Saturday, July 23rd with the re-interment of the Coombe Vault remains. Under a hot July sky, Lu Mackie, a descendant of Griffith Coombe, and her husband Jim assisted with the placement of six boxes that now hold the remains of 12 individuals whose remains were first interred in the mid 1800s. Griffith Coombe was one of founders of Washington, DC.

The Texas couple helped fund the restoration work on the vault and adjusted their summer vacation schedule to participate in the ceremony. Lu said she felt honored to help with the restoration of a piece of America's heritage and was thrilled to be on hand for the closing activities in the two-year-long project.

The Coombe Vault was one of five burial vaults repaired under the 2003-2004 Restoration Summer Program using a Congressional appropriation. The Coombe Vault required special attention from anthropologists at the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum.

Rev. Judith Davis, Rector of Christ Church, presided over a brief ceremony to bless the tomb and the remains before the old iron door was closed for the last time. Ω

New Board Member

Tabitha Almquist

The Board welcomes new board member, Tabitha Almquist. Tabitha lives on Capitol Hill and has family interred at Congressional. Tabitha steps in for Pat Lally as representative from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Ω

Board Members

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

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Tom Kelly

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## Renewal & Remembrance

### PLANET Professional Care

*Continued from Page 1.*

Davey Tree Experts, Bartlett Tree, and RTEC Treecare joined together to remove two dead trees and trim back the overhanging branches along our southern perimeter. Valley Crest tended to the 9/11 Memorial Grove weeding and resetting several young trees, while Lawn Doctor treated all 32 acres with 1800 gallons of fertilizer and weed control. Wood Acres and Arborcare, Inc provided disease and pest control treatment for almost every tree on the grounds.

All in all, about \$25,000 in professional landscape care was provided by energized hard working crews. The annual visits by the nationwide association have made great impact on Congressional's appearance, slowly weeding out the weeds and building solid turf and healthy trees.

Arborists from participating organizations promised to provide the Association's Building & Grounds Committee with advice on tree planting this fall. The Association hopes to begin work on implementing the Master Landscape Plan this fall. Ω



*Every tree was treated for pest and disease control.*

## Master Landscape Plan

### Plateaus, Vistas, and Canopies

*Continued from Page 1.*

tree plantings and small groups of trees with ornamental trees at the intersections of pathways and roadways. The Upper Plateau includes two great allees, one along Congress Street from the main gate to the chapel and the other being the Ward Six 9/11 Memorial Grove from the Sousa Memorial to Barney Circle.

The *Hillside* is a swath running from the Northeast corner at E Street and the DC Jail to the Southwest corner by Barney Circle. This swath will be more heavily planted than the other section with concentrations of trees in the northeast and southwest leaving the mid section an open area inviting views of the Lowlands and river basin. The greater concentration of evergreens in the northwest will help screen the DC Jail building.

The *Lowlands* make up the East end of the grounds. This area will be planted with an informal scattering of ornamental trees that will leave open the sightlines from the Upper Plateau to the riverbank.

The condition of the roadways within the cemetery grounds and the increased traffic in recent years brought special attention to the

circulation patterns and future needs of the cemetery. The existing condition and structure of the roads is too poor to maintain any integrity, even if it were resurfaced. The plan calls for a complete overhauling of the roads.

The design for the roadway circulation recommends a one-way route from the main gate at 18th & E Streets down to mausoleum row then back out of the cemetery through the 19th Street gate. The main road will be paved in asphalt block pavers similar to those near the Sousa Memorial. All other roadways will be designed to suggest restricted access and thus limit cars to the main roadway.

The side roads and walkways will be made of stabilized gravel mixes that allow water permeability that will reduce the need for drainage systems to carry runoff. The historic cobblestone swales that line the roads in the Lowlands will be restored where possible.

Pedestrian walkways within the cemetery are currently in a poor state of repair and wear trails cross over many graves. The Plan calls for continued use of brick or blue-stone where it is now and non-paved walks to be paved with gravel or crushed stone mixes. Ω

## From the Manager's Desk~

After only one month on the job, I'm pleased and honored to be given an opportunity to share a few thoughts with the APHCC newsletter readership. I've come to know a few of you personally but my acquaintance with the members and supporters of the Association has been nurtured primarily because of my day to day task of reviewing and processing the generous and heartfelt expressions of support that we receive from many of you.

When I was preparing for my initial job interview with the Board's Executive Committee, I read over the "Strategic Plan" published in 2000. Those of us who work in non-profit management like strategic plans but recognize that they can often be unrealistic and/or ignored. Back in 2000 the Cemetery's situation was pretty dismal and the plan, being realistic, struck me as a bit depressing.

As an outsider coming in for the first time, what I saw then, and what I have seen since, really turned my impressions around. Those of you who don't have a chance to visit may not realize that your Cemetery has become a very special and highly regarded part of the local scene here. The continued growth of interest in genealogy, the appreciation of the beauty of our location and the compelling aura of our history have created an atmosphere of creativity and optimism surrounding all of the Cemetery's activities of late. I feel I am fortunate to participate in the efforts.

Although I have spent most of my professional career managing and developing non-profit operations in other parts of the world, I have been finding the day to day tasks and relationships with people that HCC management demands, to be multifaceted, stimulating and very rewarding. I hope all of you will have a chance to come by and enjoy the good feeling that the Cemetery's recent successes have engendered among us and our partners and colleagues.

~ Tom Kelly

# Congressional Cemetery's American Heritage

## William Wirt—An American Lawyer

William Wirt was devoted to his profession. From the beginning to the end of his legal career he held himself to the highest standards, which he strained every nerve to attain. All his studies, literary, historical, and scientific, as well as legal, were made to serve this goal.

Wirt was noted for his remarkable power of analysis and his keen discrimination. He excelled in clearness of statement, in discernment of vital points, and in the vigorous presentation of principles. While he never ceased to relieve the stress of argument with playful sallies of humor, it was in logical power, the faculty of close, cogent reasoning, that he mainly excelled.

Born in Bladensburg, Maryland, on November 8, 1772, Wirt overcame the loss of his parents at the age of seven, a series of foster homes and schools before the age of eleven, and an over-rapid and brusque utterance to become one of the greatest orators of his day.

Much of Wirt's education was due to two benefactors who took him into their own homes where he spent much of his time taking advantage of their libraries. The Reverend James Hunt of Montgomery County boarded Wirt for two years where met his next benefactor.

At 15, Wirt moved in with a fellow student's family, Congressman Benjamin Edwards, to act as tutor to the Edwards children. In the 20 months he lived there, Wirt studied the classics and histories, and prepared for the bar. In approximately 1789, he began his legal career at Culpepper Court House, Virginia.

4 In 1795 he married Mildred Gil-

mer, daughter of Dr. George Gilmer, and moved to Pen Park near Charlottesville. This change introduced him to the acquaintance of many persons of eminence, including Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe. For a short time he enjoyed a bon vivant life style amid the country gentlemen and convivial



*William Wirt*

habits of the members of the bar.

Wirt was conspicuous for his personal beauty, both in youth and manhood. His manly, striking figure and intellectual face, clear, musical voice, and graceful gesture won the favor of his audiences in advance. In his public addresses he was usually calm, self-possessed, and deliberate. His memory was very retentive and he excelled in felicity of quotation.

Wirt's writings span 30 years beginning with "Letters of the British Spy" in 1803, which won immediate popularity. His works are chiefly studies of eloquence and eloquent men, written in a vivid and luxuriant style.

When Mildred died a short four years after their marriage he moved to Richmond, where at 27 he became clerk of the House of Delegates. Three years later, at the early age of thirty, he was elected chancellor of the east-

ern district of Virginia but resigned after six months.

Over several years he steadily moved up the ranks within the leaders of the bar. In 1807 he was retained to aid the United States attorney in the prosecution of Aaron Burr for treason, a posting that would launch him into the national spotlight due to his oratorical skills.

In 1808 Wirt was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. In 1816 he was appointed a district attorney. While in Richmond he married Elizabeth Gamble, daughter of Colonel Robert Gamble. Their daughter Elizabeth went on to marry Rear Admiral Louis Goldsborough.

In 1817 he became Attorney General of the United States. As one of the longest serving attorneys general of the United States (1817-1829), he transformed the office into one of great influence. After twelve years, during which he was often pitted with signal honor against the most eminent counsel in the land, he resigned his office and moved to Baltimore.



In 1832 Wirt accepted a nomination by the anti-Masons as their candidate for the Presidency of the United States and in the election that followed he received the seven electoral votes of Vermont, and a popular vote of 33,108.

William Wirt died in Washington, DC on 18 February 1834 of erysipelas, after an illness of two days, caused by a severe cold. He is interred in the Wirt Vault along the Coombe slate carriageway.

*Material excerpted from  
www.nndb.com*

## HALS Study on Congressional

*Continued from Page 1*

be able to document buildings and structures, and the spaces that surround them as well as landscapes that are without substantive structural framing.

When completed, the new study of Congressional Cemetery will consist of a history of the site, focusing especially on the period of its development in the early to mid-nineteenth century, as well as a description of its existing physical conditions, and an extended bibliography of relevant archival and published sources for further research.

This written document will be accompanied by a series of large-format photographs recording important elements of the site, taken by the HABS/HAER/HALS photographer James Rosenthal. As part of the photographic effort, the documentation will also pair large-format reproductions of photographs taken by Washington, D.C. photographer E.B. Thompson for a 1913 brochure issued by Christ Church about Congressional Cemetery, with contemporary recreations of these same views. The history and photographs will join the HABS/HAER/HALS collection in the Prints and Photographs room of the Library of Congress, under the title: *Historic American Landscapes Survey: Congressional Cemetery* (Washington Parish Burial Ground). HALS No. DC-1, 2005. It will also be available digitally, through the Library of Congress web-page, and will thus be the first detailed study of Congressional available to the public.

While not an exhaustive study of the site's history and development, the report offers several significant new pieces to the puzzle of Congressional's history and frames the site within the history of national cemetery development and within Washington's own history of cemetery design and construction.

It is amply evident from the research carried out this summer that Congressional has a history of development truly unique among national cemeteries. Of equal importance is the fact that Congressional's role as a national cemetery was more than just nominal – it was recognized as the national cemetery as early as an 1820 article published in the *National Recorder*, and was referred to as such throughout the nineteenth-century. While its role was never identical to that given to Arlington Cemetery in 1864, Congressional played a key function in the national capital, and for the federal government, until after the Civil War.

This report will also have a prominent role beyond its contribution to the collection at the Library of Congress, according to Paul Dolinsky, chief of HALS. Because it was carried out as a pilot project for HALS, it will be provided as an example to accompany further discussions of the new division and its mission. This promotion of the HALS program will offer greater visibility to Congressional Cemetery, as historians and landscape architects consult the report as a model for the method of historic landscape documentation.

For further information about the mission, history, and collections of the HABS/HAER/HALS/CRGIS division of the National Park Service, please see their web-site: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/habshaer/>. Ω

## A Resting Place for Notable People

*A Burial Ground for the Nation's Capitol*

From the beginning, Congressional Cemetery had a special relationship with Congress and the Capitol. In 1816 a committee representing the Vestry of Christ Church, selected 100 burial sites within the as yet unnamed burial ground for the interment of members of Congress. Shortly thereafter, the cemetery became known as the Congressional Cemetery.

Benjamin H. Latrobe, architect of the Capitol, designed burial markers in the form of cenotaphs to designate graves of Congressmen or to memorialize those who were buried elsewhere. The cenotaphs were made by a stonecutter who lived above a shop on the corner of East Capitol and First Street and had a marble yard nearby. Congress paid for the more than 180 cenotaphs that were used from 1816 to 1877. However, only 85 members of Congress were interred at Congressional. Sixteen Senators and 68 members of the House were buried here, although 12 Congressmen were later removed to their home states.

Among the notable people interred in Congressional Cemetery are: Elbridge Gerry, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and vice president under James Madison, John Philip Sousa, Matthew Brady, J. Edgar Hoover and Push-Ma-Ta-Ha, the Choctaw chief who died while negotiating a treaty in Washington.

Also in the cemetery are the bodies of 21 young women who died in the explosion of the Federal Arsenal during the Civil War. President William Henry Harrison, who died a month after being inaugurated in 1841, was interred temporarily in Public Vault at Congressional Cemetery following a procession from the White House with many military and civilian marchers including the delegations from the cities of Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria, headed by their mayors. Harrison spent only one month in the White house but three months in the Public Vault.

Not long after, two famed Washingtonians died a year apart and temporarily resided in the cemetery. Dolly Madison, much beloved wife of President Madison, died in Washington in July 1849 at 82. Her funeral services were attended by many noted Washingtonians, including President Zachary Taylor and his Cabinet, prior to her temporary placement in the Public Vault at Congressional Cemetery.

President Taylor himself would soon lie in state in the Public Vault. He died in an unusually hot Washington July in 1850 after only 16 months in office. Huge crowds, including an estimated 100,000 who came by train, gathered for the funeral. The procession from the White House to Congressional Cemetery was so long that the head of the column was nearly at the cemetery when the rear was passing Lafayette Park.

However, not just the great and near great but people from all parts of the life of Washington are buried in Congressional Cemetery: mayors, firemen, policemen, artists, jurists and citizens. Ω

*Contributed by Alice Noris*



## Building & Grounds Report

### Fall Projects to Improve Safety

The Association's Building & Grounds Committee undertook three projects this summer to improve the safety of the facilities and grounds, and restore an historic vault.

The first project was the rebuilding of 20 feet of brick wall, which was severely damaged last year. *Pointing Plus*, a local brick restoration firm rebuilt the wall in late August. Pointing Plus took the time to find matching size and color bricks.

The Association also replaced the Gatehouse back porch deck and railings and the broken steps at the gatehouse west door. The slow disintegration of the Gatehouse porch finally reached a point where the Building & Grounds Committee decided the sheathing was becoming a hazard and must be removed. Job Corps volunteers dismantled the walls, revealing an original corner post that will serve as a model for replacements. New railings and floor decking were installed in August for safety by *Sundance Contracting*.

The third project was the restoration of the Blagden Vault by the conservation firm *Ponsford Limited*. Funding for this project comes from the Blagden Family and the Kiplinger Foundation. George Blagden was the superintendent of Masons during the building of the Capitol Building and one of the founders of this city and of Congressional Cemetery. Ω

### *Conservation Task Force Members Clean and Reset Headstones in June*



## Stone Surveys Continue

The Conservation Task Force is making steady progress this summer with monthly gravestone repair projects. Led by professional conservators Howard Wellman, Guy Pierce, and Catherine Dewey, the team gathers every 3rd Saturday to reset and repair headstones.

The important first step in any restoration project is documenting the existing conditions so that appropriate treatment methods can be considered and priorities determined. The Task Force is making a major push to survey all the gravestones in the yard.

This effort is spearheaded by Michele Pagàn and Lisa Hollingsworth who organize groups to conduct the surveys and build the data base. In just three hours a group can survey several dozen gravestones, which makes a significant contribution to the effort.

If your group would like to volunteer, call the Gatehouse for more details. Ω



## Reserve Your Place in History

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



## Congressional Quiz

### An American Lawyer

William Wirt was among the longest serving attorneys general of the United States. His oratorical skills and legal acumen were unsurpassed in his day. He had some other things to boast about as well. Are they among those listed below?

- Wirt polished his rhetorical skills during his 16 years in the Pennsylvania Legislature.
- Wirt indulged his wild side for many years while residing near Charlottesville.
- Wirt was orphaned at an early age and ended up living with kind benefactors.
- Wirt worked hard to overcome physical defects caused by injuries in his childhood.
- Wirt ran for the presidency on an anti-Masonic ticket but won only Vermont.

Answer in Essay on Page 4.

## Countdown to our 200th Anniversary

*I want to help preserve Historic Congressional Cemetery.*

\_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\$250 \_\_\_Other

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

\_\_\_My check is enclosed (made payable to Congressional Cemetery).

\_\_\_Please bill my credit card. \_\_\_Visa \_\_\_MasterCard

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Does your employer make matching contributions?

Would you like the matching gift form? \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Around the Yard

### Navy Yard Docents Tour

#### Volunteers Visit Past Commandants

Fifty volunteers and docents from the Washington Navy Yard came by on June 29<sup>th</sup> for a special tour of Congressional Cemetery highlighting former Navy Yard commandants and other historic figures associated with the Navy Yard. The tour itinerary will soon be on our web site with interactive links to images of each headstone, portraits of the individual if they exist, and a brief biography. Ω

### Elbridge Gerry Tribute

#### DAR/SAR Lay Wreaths for Hero

On July 16th, the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution paid tribute to Elbridge Gerry, signer of the Declaration of Independence. The group includes the Daughters of the War of 1812, who made a special donation for conservation of 1812 veterans gravesites. To accommodate busy holiday schedules, the groups shifted the celebration to Gerry's birthday, the July 17th weekend. Ω

### \$72,000 Estate Bequest

#### Long Time Supporter

Donald Mooers, a long time friend of Congressional Cemetery, left a very special remembrance for the Association in his will, a \$72,000 bequest. Mooers and his companion John Hieden were frequent guests at the Association's annual meetings in April. The Baltimore couple passed away within months of each other last year. Both are interred at Congressional Cemetery. Ω

### CFC Campaign

#### Check off #7537

Congressional Cemetery is back in the CFC! The Association sat out a year due to the 2004 Congressional appropriation, which put us over the limit of the percent of funding from governmental sources. But now we're back. The CFC is an easy way for Federal employees to make regular payroll deductions to help fund restoration efforts at Congressional. Ω

### Sumner Exhibit on Web

#### Students Create On-Line Exhibit

Last year's acclaimed exhibit of individuals from Congressional and Woodlawn cemeteries for whom schools in DC are named, will soon be available on-line. Students from Georgetown Day School, which has a long history of volunteer activity at Congressional, transferred the Sumner School exhibit from hard copy to web copy as part of a classroom project led by former board member Lisa Rauschart. Ω

### Archives Aid Smithsonian

#### Records Help Identify Boy

An iron casket unearthed last spring during a construction project in downtown DC presented a mystery to the Smithsonian Natural History Museum's anthropology division. Research led the experts to suspect the boy had once been buried at Congressional. Thanks to the Association's archives, valuable information helped discover the boy's name and history. Ω

The Association for the Preservation of  
Historic Congressional Cemetery  
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Washington, DC 20003

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

## The Heritage Gazette Fall 2005

**CFC # 7537**

### Fall Calendar

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#### September

Sat. Sep. 17—3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Conservation Task Force volunteer program: Gravestone restoration. 9:00 AM to Noon, all invited.

#### October

Sat. Oct. 15—3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Conservation Task Force volunteer program: Gravestone restoration. 9:00 AM to Noon, all invited.

Sat. Oct 22— Make-A-Difference Day, Local Armed Forces join in tree planting prgram.

#### November

Sat. Nov. 5—Amer. Veterans for Equal Rights wreath laying at Matlovich grave, 12:00

Sun. Nov. 6—Association Sousa Award Ceremony & Benjamin French Service Award Presentation, 9:00 AM at Chapel, all are welcome.

Sun. Nov. 6—Marine Corps Band tribute to John Phillip Sousa, approx 10:00 AM all are welcome

### Honoring American Heroes

#### Placing Tokens of Appreciation

Late spring and early summer are a special time of remembrance at Congressional, a time for honoring men and women who served this city and this nation is times past. From Memorial Day to mid-July, the Association's Education & Outreach Committee honors our heroes by placing flags or streamers by their gravesides.



Over 1,500 US flags were set by veterans sites, 25 firemen flags by fire fighters graves, and 35 streamers placed by the graves of Revolutionary War veterans. Ω

