

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

The Heritage Gazette Winter 2005



Sousa's 150th Birthday Bash

Marine Band & Family Celebrate

The United States Marine Corps Band returned to Congressional Cemetery on November 6th to celebrate the 150th birthday of former Marine Corps Band leader John Philip Sousa. To the delight of the crowd of over 350, the band played an extended medley this year during its annual wreath laying ceremony. On hand was a contingent of the Japan Sousa Society, which made a special trip just for this week's festivities.

The performance was preceded by a short presentation by Sousa descendants Toni Sousa, Tom Albert, Priscilla Ulmann, and John Pugh. They spoke of the impact their great grandfather had on music all around the world. Following their remarks, the Association presented its annual Sousa Award to Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen in recognition of his support for Congressional this year.

The day's activities were a joint celebration with the Benjamin B. French Masonic French Lodge honoring Sousa, French and other prominent Masons. Ω

Memorial Grove Completed

164 Trees Honor 9/11 Victims

In a fitting coincidence, the last of the 164 trees that make up the Ward Six September 11 Memorial Grove were planted on Veteran's Day, November 11th. As it matures, the two-block allee will offer a shaded canopy punctuated by the Lummi Healing Poles, a contemplative sitting area, and a scattering of arbor vitae at the southern end. The Ward Six grove is the first of nine groves throughout the city. It is an exciting addition to our landscape and a moving memorial to September 11th. A spring dedication is planned Ω



Masons Honors Founder

Lodge Establishes Service Award

Benjamin B. French was a major civic force during several administrations in the 1800s. The Masonic Lodge established in his honor 150 years ago continues his legacy of civic duty in many quiet ways. On November 6th, Peter French, great grandson of Benjamin French, presented the first Benjamin B. French Service award to volunteer Nicolas Sundt for his extraordinary contributions to the restoration of Congressional cemetery.

Nick spent many summers with the U. S. Forest Service smokejumpers fighting forest fires out west where he learned to climb trees and wield chainsaws while doing it. Nick's sense of civic duty is founded on Teddy Roosevelt's dictum: "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

Nick and Francis Sundt are regular visitors to Congressional with their dog, Smokey. His volunteer tree work saved the Association thousands of dollars in recent years. In appreciation of Nick's efforts and to encourage others to emulate

Continued on Page 2.

Washington Conservation Guild

"Angels Project" Preservation

October 30, 2004, started out a beautiful day and became even more so when twenty-seven members of the Washington Conservation Guild (WCG) volunteered their conservation services to Congressional Cemetery. Members of WCG annually donate one day of their time to a worthy institution that has historic collections in need of great assistance.

Under the general supervision of our cemetery manager, Bill Fecke, the conservators and conservation interns performed work in two general categories: re-housing selected archives, and cleaning and re-setting stone outdoors.

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Local Armed Forces Units

Make-A-Difference Day Hands-On

The local Joint Services 14th annual Make-a-Difference Day, Oct. 23, was devoted to help restore Historic Congressional Cemetery. Make-A-Difference Day is a national event set aside for "helping others." It places a focus, among other things, on community projects. A contingent of 169 volunteers -- representing all branches of the military, Department of Defense civilian employees and their families turned out to volunteer for several big projects around the cemetery grounds. The event was organized by Joint Service Project Coordinators Carol Lavoy (Marines), Pam Eller (Army), Jane Hambel (Air Force) and Olivia Hunter (Navy).

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Letter from the Board

A Stone on a Hill

I knocked over my first gravestone in the fall of 1998. It was a five foot tall dull grey marble obelisk, 1.5 feet square, with a pointed peak. It sat on the hillside by Barney Circle leaning like the Tower of Pisa at an impossible angle. The marker belongs to the Darnes family who were interred in the mid-1800s.

Rest assured I was not acting out a "youthful indiscretion" when I gave the Darnes family stone that fateful assist; I was marveling at its defiance of gravity when I gave the stone a light tap, which sent it careening off its base, falling with a thud in the tall grass. (We weren't doing much mowing that year). It happened so fast that I found myself uncertain that it had, in deed, just happened. It also frightened me that something that heavy could fall so fast.

In the ensuing seven years I have tumbled about six other large markers that presented a tempting and dangerous lure to inquiring minds.

Well, I'm pleased to report that the Darnes marker was reset this summer as part of our gravestone restoration project, funded by the Kiplinger Foundation. Darnes was one of 100 gravestones repaired by Connecticut conservator Jonathan Appell. He concentrated on the path where the 9/11 Memorial Grove was installed and the hillside near Barney Circle. It's made a tremendous difference in the appearance and safety of the yard.

This work was followed by more stone repair and resetting work in the fall by the local Armed Forces and by the Washington Conservation Guild. The military guys and gals reset about 65 sunken military markers while the Guild repaired 15 broken stones.

As we close out 2004, Congressional Cemetery is a much safer place because we have 300 fewer stones that can attract a tap from an unwary observer. We've also restored dignity to sites where stones have laid on the ground for years. Bit by bit we're making progress here, restoring the physical plant—and the integrity—of this national treasure.

~ *Patrick Crowley*

Site Sales Reach Goal

Revenues Support Endowment

Cemetery Manager Bill Fecke reported to the board in October that he successfully met the Board's goal of selling at least 12 burial sites in calendar year 2004. The resumption of site sales after a many-year hiatus reflects the rejuvenation of Congressional Cemetery as a part of the Capitol Hill Community.

Site sales are an important element of the Association's financial health. As set forth in the Cooperative Agreement between the Architect of the Capitol, the National Trust, and the Association, all net proceeds from the sale of burial rights must be deposited into the Endowment Fund established by Congress for the long term care of Congressional Cemetery.

Heeding trends in the national funeral industry, the Board intends to establish designated areas of the grounds for the burial of ashes. A master landscape plan is currently under development and should be completed by spring that will guide the Association's use of the remaining space in the most efficient and pleasing manner. Establishment of cremation sites will require detailed planning, and a comprehensive financing and marketing plan.

In the meantime we do have sites available for purchase. Inquiries may be made by calling the gatehouse. Ω

B. B. French Service Award

Do What You Can Where You Are

Continued from Page 1.

Nick's dedication, the Lodge created the \$500 service award, which is just the beginning of the French Lodge's commitment to Congressional. Upon completion of the master landscape plan, the Lodge will donate an allee of trees south of the chapel in French's honor.

The November 6th ceremony included the planting of an acacia tree by the French obelisk (Range 63/Site 228) and tours highlighting several influential Masons using a new brochure designed by Sandy Schmidt.

The dedication and service award were part of the "Marches & Masons" celebration honoring fellow Masons John Philip Sousa and Benjamin French. A joint reception sponsored by the French Lodge and the Sousa family followed the ceremony. Ω

Officers Switch Seats

Schmidt & Devlin Trade Positions

Association executive committee members Sandy Schmidt and Frank Devlin will trade seats in January. As treasurer, Sandy guided the Association's accounting processes from virtually no systematic accounting seven years ago to a sound audited footing today. Frank, a retired senior partner in Deloitte & Touche, will take over and lead us to the next stage in our financial progress. Sandy will continue her historical and archival research through the secretary position. Ω

Board Members

Linda Donovan Harper — Chair
Patrick Crowley — Vice Chair
Frank Devlin — Treasurer
Sandy Schmidt — Secretary
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Frederick Davis
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Archival Conservation for Range Books

Washington Conservation Guild Staves Off Destruction

Historic Congressional Cemetery has over 50 original ledger books, dating from the cemetery's establishment in 1807. The information in the ledgers is valued by genealogists, historians, and the cemetery staff. However, the ledgers themselves are in need of preservation.

Recently, the archival storage space became quite humid for a prolonged period of time, resulting in several books being contaminated with mold, which can obscure text with black and purple discoloration and weaken the paper. As soon as the mold was discovered, the books were moved to a dryer location to stop the mold growth for the time being.

A team of eight conservation professionals stepped in to help stabilize the ledgers. The team members, mostly book and paper conservators from major area institutions, are part of the Washington Conservation Guild's Angels Project. The Washington Conservation Guild is a nonprofit organization of local conservation professionals. While primarily a forum for exchange of information among its members, the Guild also seeks to help non-conservators learn more about caring for their own art and artifacts.

The Angels Projects are designed to provide a day of free conservation service to small institutions with collections in need of care. The conservators worked pro-bono and the materials were purchased through a generous grant from the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation.

First, the ledgers were individually brushed to remove dust and mold. Then a custom-fitted enclosure was made for each volume. The enclosures are essentially small boxes made of high quality, acid-free board and are designed to protect the books from light and dust. They also help provide physical support to books that have broken covers or spines. The team made enclosures for all the ledgers.

While currently stored in a relatively dry environment, it is hoped that one day the ledgers can be protected in a museum-quality cabinet. The enclosures are an excellent first step in their preservation.

For more information on preserving paper collections go to the Conservation Guild's website at <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/wcg> or American Institute for Conservation website at <http://aic.stanford.edu>. Ω

Contributed by Brenda Bernier

Iconography: Woodmen of the World

One of the more common iconographic symbols found at Congressional Cemetery is the Woodmen of the World. Despite the tree stump at its center, it has nothing to do with forestry workers—it's an insurance company.

Founded in 1890 by Joseph Cullen Root in Omaha, Nebraska, Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Company promised every insured member a tombstone. This policy continued until 1920. Manufacture of the individual stones was contracted out to local suppliers, resulting in a wide variety of designs on Woodmen stones.

Some of the more consistent design features are a tree stump, olive branches, and the Latin phrase *Dum Tacet Clamet*. The tree stump symbolizes equality and commonwealth. Given the name of its found-

der, a rooty tree stump is not a surprising coincidence. Olive branches are a traditional symbol of peace. *Dum Tacet Clamet* is translated as *Though silent, he speaks*, a variation of *gone but not forgotten*.



The Woodmen insurance company was originally restricted to those in safe occupations—train brakemen, bartenders, and gunpowder factory employees need not apply. It was also limited to white males from 18 to 45 from the 12 healthiest states. Today it is open to anyone.

Schisms over time gave birth to many splinter groups with the name Woodmen. Ω

This is the sixth in a series of articles discussing the history and symbolic meaning of the forms and decoration of grave markers and other memorials adapted from American Cemetery Magazine (Dec. 2003).

Cemetery Manager's Notes

The

It's been a very busy year here at Congressional Cemetery, especially this fall as is evidenced by the articles and pictures in this edition of the newsletter. As I take this holiday season to reflect on this year, I can take great joy in the successes of our efforts.

I want to thank all of the many volunteers we had assisting us this year. Some of the many groups who volunteered this year included: Jobs Corps, Military District of Washington, Washington Conservation Guild, Professional Lawn Care Association, Boys and Girls Club, Urban League, Boy Scouts, National Defense University, and the Congressional Pages.

Of course we've also had the help of the many individuals who've volunteered this year including members of our community, the K9 corps, and the board of directors. The efforts of these individuals and organizations have had a tremendous impact on our operations.

The Association has made significant progress on our property and in our office. The front office got a makeover, and our records were preserved. On the grounds we removed many of the dead and dying trees and added four times as many as were lost. We began the task of righting and repairing the many monuments that have sunk, fallen, or broken over the years.

More visitors continue to come through our gates and more neighbors find the grounds a peaceful retreat. Our outreach committee has developed new tours and information to preserve the memory of those buried here. The improvements are getting noticed and we received many compliments on our progress.

As gratifying as these successes are, I fully realize many challenges remain. In fact we've only taken the first steps and after some winter rest we plan to increase our efforts next year. We will have a new landscape plan to begin implementing, more monuments that require work, and of course the roads here remain an immense problem.

These challenges won't be easy to fix and may take many years to overcome, but my faith in this association, it's staff, and the generous support we receive from our membership, make everything seem possible.

~ Bill Fecke 3

Congressional Cemetery's American Heritage

Congressman James Blair

General James Blair, a native of the Waxhaw Community of Lancaster District of South Carolina, was one of the most intriguing figures in the state during the early 1800s. Born on September 26, 1786, James was the son of William and Sarah Douglas Blair. William Blair came to America from Ireland when he was 13 year old.

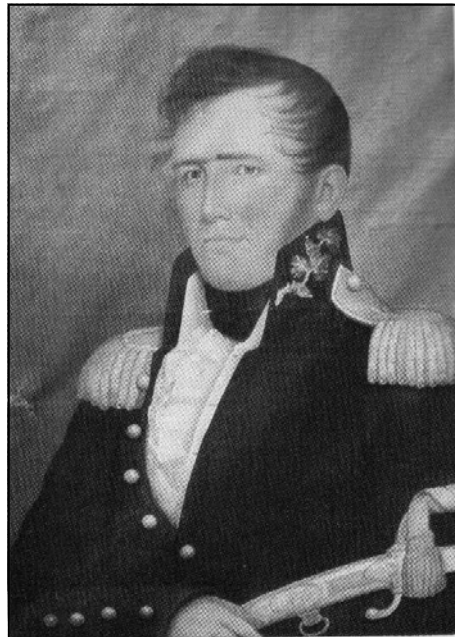
An ardent Whig, the senior Blair was a Revolutionary War soldier who personally abhorred the notion of receiving a pension for fighting for independence. Young James Blair grew up in a Scotch-Irish family and community that prided themselves on their sturdy independence.

James Blair's physical size alone was enough to impress any frontiersman. He was 6 feet 6 and weighed about 350 pounds, all in perfect proportion. Writers attempting to describe the colorful figure were likely to use such expressions as "one of nature's noblemen," or "magnificent giant." At the same time, there was a darker side to Blair. The biographer's high praise was quickly followed with such phrases as "hot-spur temperament," "indulged in excess," and "both loved and feared."

Blair joined the Waxhaw militia early. The muster in those days was more than drilling and practicing with weapons. Militia drills were punctuated with all sorts of shows of strength -- wrestling, boxing, foot-racing, even eye-gouging. Tales of James Blair's size and strength were told afar.

One story tells of the North Carolina champion wrestler coming to the Waxhaw Community in search of Blair. The "Waxhaw Giant" was found in the fields plowing. The North Carolina man, eager for a match, proposed a set-to on the spot. Blair unhitched his mule and took on the stranger. The North Carolinian was soon tossed over the fence in such bad conditions that he had to stay in the Blair home several days in order to recover enough to travel.

Such exploits made it easy for Blair to be elected to office. He never lost an election. While in his early 20s, Blair was sheriff of Lancaster District. At age 28, he was elected general of the eighth brigade of the state militia. He did not wear a uniform but wore instead a "rich blue-cloth suit, ruffled shirt and gold-headed cane, the elegance in keeping with his grand bearing..." He was active during the War of 1812. By 1816 he was named Adjutant General of the South Carolina



State Militia.

In March 1820, Blair married a French Huguenot woman named Charlotte Rochelle, who weighed a more normal 100 pounds. Charlotte was born on June 21, 1787, at Red Oak Camp in Kershaw County, South Carolina. She was one of three children of Lovick and Elizabeth Rochelle. Lovick's early death left the large Red Oak Camp estate to his wife and children. Her brothers Lovick and Lodowick also died early, allowing Charlotte to live in relative wealth and property. James and Charlotte had only one surviving child, Lovick William Rochelle Blair.

In 1821, Blair was elected to Congress. After 18 months, he re-

signed for reasons never explained except that Blair called them "private concerns."

Blair came back to his plantation on the Lynches River in Kershaw District. His days were occupied with the hunt and his evenings with study. A very tall Catawba Indian -- taller even than Blair -- known as "Chunky Bone" was Blair's most constant companion, other than his wife, Charlotte Rochelle, and their only child, Lovick William Rochelle Blair.

Blair was involved in a number of brawls and duels. The most famous incident has been told in several versions. Dr. J. Marion Sims' version was that the editor of the Camden newspaper, Thomas Evans, offended Blair. Blair, drunk, rode his horse into the house over Mrs. Evans and the baby's cradle. Evans reluctantly accepted Blair's challenge to a duel. The two men met in Augusta, Ga., a favorite dueling spot of the time. Evans' arm was shattered and he was left crippled.

Col. James Hammond, later S.C. governor and senator, was challenged by Blair. Influential Lancaster men interceded and arranged apologies. Blair had resigned from Congress in 1822; in 1829 he ran again and won handily.

In March 1834, Washington society was shocked by Blair's behavior at the theater. Upset with the performance, Blair shot at one of the actors on the stage. A physician testified in court that Blair was under the influence of brandy and morphine, which was used to alleviate the pain of rheumatism. The court fined Blair only \$5. A month later on April 1, 1834, in a fit of depression, Blair placed the pistol to his head and committed suicide. He was 44 years old. Blair was buried in Congressional Cemetery, at Range 30/Site 72. Charlotte Rochelle Blair survived him by 18 years, dying in William Springs, North Carolina. ☐

Contributed by Louise Pettus

Outstanding Volunteer

Jimmy Logan

Jimmy Logan has become a familiar face around Congressional Cemetery, generally not far from the riding mower/tractor. When he's not hauling dirt, brush, or stones from one end of the grounds to the other, he has a shovel or spike in hand, intent on righting another gravestone or filling in sunken grave sites.

His interest in Congressional Cemetery was sparked in the summer of 2003 when he came to volunteer - "just for a couple hours" - as a favor to a friend. That couple of hours is now several months long; Jimmy has become a dedicated volunteer who can be found at the cemetery most weekends, no matter the weather. Jimmy's participation has ranged from simple hauling to gardening and landscaping; from resetting stones to helping to organize volunteer work projects.



As a long time gardener, who presently resides in an apartment, Jimmy enjoys the opportunity to help with the grounds maintenance and describes it as feeling like his own 33 acre back yard. His consistent commitment to the site has proven invaluable to our limited staff who can always count on his extra set of hands and pleasant eagerness to help out; traits that go a long way to help complete so many projects.

Jimmy can be found on site almost every Saturday and the occasional Sunday both working and at play with his Jack Russell who loves the cemetery as much as he does. Ω

Landscape Planning

Part I — the 1800s

Landscaping the typical Capitol Hill 200 square foot garden can take hours of careful hemming and hawing to get just the right specimen in just the right place. Now imagine a 33 acre Capitol Hill garden: time to bring in the professionals. This winter the Association is creating a master landscape plan with the help of the world renowned landscape design firm EDAW. As we begin exploring the options, it might be interesting to review the history of landscape planning at Congressional Cemetery.

In early nineteenth-century America, attitudes towards death and the design of burial places were undergoing a transformation. The cemetery — from the Greek meaning "place of sleep" — became a new American landscape of inspiration, beauty, and remembrance.

No longer a nuisance at the edge of the city, but instead a refreshing landscape where urban dwellers could breath fresh air, admire the beauty of nature, and remember and honor the heroes of their community and their young nation.

However, Congressional, then known as Washington Parish Burial Ground, was bound within the rigid street plan of L'Enfant and by the grave layout established a quarter of a century earlier. This did not stop the public, however, from describing the burial ground in the most romantic terms and praising the site characteristics that coincided with the picturesque landscape ideal. The "National" or "Congressional" bury-

ing ground, as it was referred to by the public and by Congress in the 1830s, was the final resting place of many important Americans whose good deeds and monuments were praised in published accounts.

The phrase "City of Silence" was used to describe the site in 1830, and many authors praised the lovely location near the Anacostia River as well as the many varieties of trees and flowering bushes. Architect George Watterston published accounts in the late 1830s and early 1840s that noted the "substantial brick wall, with handsome gateways leading into the cemetery,

through which run several fine avenues and smaller walks, ornamented with trees and shrubs that are now beginning to give it a *gardenesque* appearance . . .

The tree of Heaven, the Babylonian willow, the elm, linden,

silver poplar, cedar, fir, &c. are beginning to afford shade and give beauty to this cemetery." A visitor to the cemetery in 1837 described neatly-trimmed shade trees, impressive vaults, and wide gravel walks. Watterston noted in 1842 that "the Congressional burial ground may not be compared at present to Père la Chaise, near Paris, or Mount Auburn, in the vicinity of Boston; but I know of no other cemetery in this country superior to it in beauty of site." Ω

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



Reserve Your Place in History

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



Angels Appear to Work Miracles

Continued from Page 1

The archival work was coordinated and supervised by Brenda Bernier of the National Archives. This group of 8 volunteers made custom acid-free enclosures for each of 51 ledger books; consulted on 2 works of art on paper, and reduced mold spores on 8 books. (See accompanying article on page 3.)

The stone marker work was supervised and coordinated by Catherine Dewey of the National Park Service. The outdoor work began with an orientation to the survey form that Catherine had devised for use throughout the day. The group then moved outside for a demonstration by Catherine of the proper way to gently clean the stone markers, all of which were made of either marble, granite, or sandstone.

The volunteers then broke into three teams, and rotated through each of 3 work stations: survey

work, excavation and re-setting of stones, and repair of broken markers, giving everyone a chance to experience all 3 types of conservation.



In all, seventeen volunteers cleaned 31 stones, using D-2 biocide in a weak aqueous solution, donated by Cathedral Stone Works of Hanover MD. The group surveyed an additional 220 stones, us-

ing the form Catherine had prepared in advance.

Additionally, 8 stones were excavated and re-set, some of which also received new mortar, also donated by Cathedral Stone Works. Howard Wellman of the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab performed the huge job of excavation supervisor for each group which rotated through that work station. Guy Munsch representing The Association for Preservation Technology participated in the excavation work and brainstormed future cooperative activities with WCG.

Almost \$1,000 in grant money was provided by the American Institute for Conservation to support the work. The cemetery now has a good supply of the archival board it needs for the archives, as well as mortar, biocide, and related tools, for cleaning the monuments outdoors. Ω

Contributed by Michele Pagan

Armed Forces Make A Difference

Continued from Page 1.

One of the many enthusiastic volunteers that came out to support the 2004 Joint Service effort was, Lt. CMDR, Chester Hom, U. S. Navy, assigned to the Joint Task Force Armed Forces Inaugural Committee.

"I found out about this event from one of our chiefs', through e-mail. I thought it would be a great opportunity to come and visit the cemetery. I'm only going to be in town for six months. I've gone to school out here, but I've never visited the cemetery. I thought this is a fantastic way to help out this organization and to show some Navy pride," said Hom.

The focus of this year's Make-A-Difference Day project included minor landscaping, cleaning the cemetery's chapel, pruning hedges, and reclaiming pathways and roadways. Four teams of volunteers worked on resetting military grave-stones that had sunk over the years. Each team removed the stone, built up the foundation and reset the stone according to regulation heights.

"I think the cemetery should be funded," said Store Keeper First

Class Tonya Benton, U. S. Navy, assigned to Joint Task Force Armed Forces Inaugural Committee. "It is great that the Joint Services came



Photo by Amber Whittington, USN

together to volunteer for an event. They should do it more often. This cemetery is such a historical place. If it takes volunteers to keep it going, then we have to do what we have to do."

Many of our cemetery chores

involve a lot of heavy physical labor. Cleaning brick walkways and restoring tombstones can be back breaking work. But the volunteers were undaunted by the tasks and happy to pitch in and make a difference.

"I try and volunteer for different events at least twice a month," said Marine Corp Staff Sergeant Damien Wright, U.S. Marine Corps, 8th and I Barracks. "I work a lot in the Arlington Cemetery; a lot of us didn't know this place was here. I just wanted to learn a little about a different cemetery to have a broader history of the area."

Master Sgt. Beverly Tucker from AFLSA/JAJM brought her Girl Scouts Troop Number 3066 from Upper Marlboro, Md. to participate in this event. "Native Americans are buried in the cemetery," said Girl Scout Akena Wanamaker. "My mom is in the Air Force, and she told us about this event," added Girl Scout Taylor Tate.

We hope to see the Joint Services groups return next year. Ω

Contributed by JOSN Cherell Gerald-Lonon (Excerpted from The Waterline 10/29/2004)

Congressional Quiz

A Big Man with a Rough Edge

Washington is a power town that attracts powerful people but few measure up to South Carolina's Congressman James Blair. Are the following statements about James Blair true or false?

- Mr. Blair grew up in a family that relied on the help of the community to get by, a trait Blair continued to use in DC.
- Mr. Blair's state militia unit practiced a number of strength and endurance skills, including eye gouging.
- Mr. Blair carried his 350 pounds well, earning the praise as one of nature's "noble men."
- Mr. Blair was quite the theater critic, once going so far as to shoot an actor on stage.
- Mr. Blair lead the efforts to outlaw dueling as a means of settling scores among gentlemen.

Answer in Essay on Page 4.

America's First National Cemetery

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

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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

Congrats to CHRS!

Restoration Society 50 Years Old

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society turned 50 this year. Never meek about wading into controversial territory, the Society has its ardent defenders and persistent hecklers. Nevertheless, much of Capitol Hill owes its look and ambiance to the steadfast attention to trends, projects, and details that are the mission of CHRS. Congressional is grateful to the Society for its continued support and wishes CHRS a Happy Birthday. Ω

Harper & Crowley Speak

Community Group Invites Welcome

Board members Linda Harper and Patrick Crowley made guest speaker appearances at local community groups in October and November. Ms Harper spoke to the Potomac Masonic Lodge and accepted the Lodge's second annual check for \$1500. Mr. Crowley spoke at the Capitol Hill Restoration Society's Preservation Café about genealogical resources available at Congressional for exploring both family and house ancestry. Ω

Halloween Photo Show

19th Century Funeralary Art

Volunteers Peter MacPherson and Sal Robertson teamed up in October to create a special Halloween weekend photography show exploring outstanding 19th Century funerary artwork. The images of artistry and craftsmanship reflected the affection and commitment to memory that was inherent in the art of death in the 19th Century. Proceeds from the sales were donated to Memorial Grove. Ω

St. Peter's Gardeners

Teaching History & Volunteerism

Seventh & eighth grade classes from St. Peter's Catholic School on Capitol Hill made a special visit to Congressional Cemetery on November 2nd. After a tour of the grounds, the newly minted history buffs raided the gatehouse garage to grab hoes and spades for two hours of gardening. The day lilies they planted should make for a great show next summer. Ω

CHAMPS Cemetery Tour

Silent Auction Tour Helps CHAMPS

The Association's donation of a private cemetery tour to last year's CHAMPS silent auction resulted in a Halloween twilight tour led by former Association Chair Jim Oliver. Buck Waller of Yarmouth Enterprizes bought the tour and treated his staff to wine & cheese in the chapel followed by the tour of historic figures and burial crypts. Ω

DC History Conference

Genealogy Resources Touted

Sandy Schmidt again represented Congressional at the November conference of the DC Histroical Scoiety. Sandy was on hand to expound on the genealogical and other resources available through the Association. Sandy's archival work has made enormous historical resources available to researchers from across the nation.Ω

The Association for the Preservation of
Historic Congressional Cemetery
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*Congressional Cemetery is listed on the
National Register of Historic Places*

The Heritage Gazette Winter 2005

*Watch your mailbox for our End-of-Year appeal. This year's goal is \$75,000 deposit to
the Endowment Fund ~ remember, every dollar is matched by Congress!*

Dear in Review



Lummi Tribe Totems arrive in September



*Elbridge Gerry tribute
on his birthday, July 17*



Job Corps Volunteers trim trees in June



*3rd Saturday Volunteers
reset footstones in August*



*Careless driver dam-
aged brick wall in May*



*Marine Corps Band
celebrates Sousa's
150th birthday
on Nov. 6th*