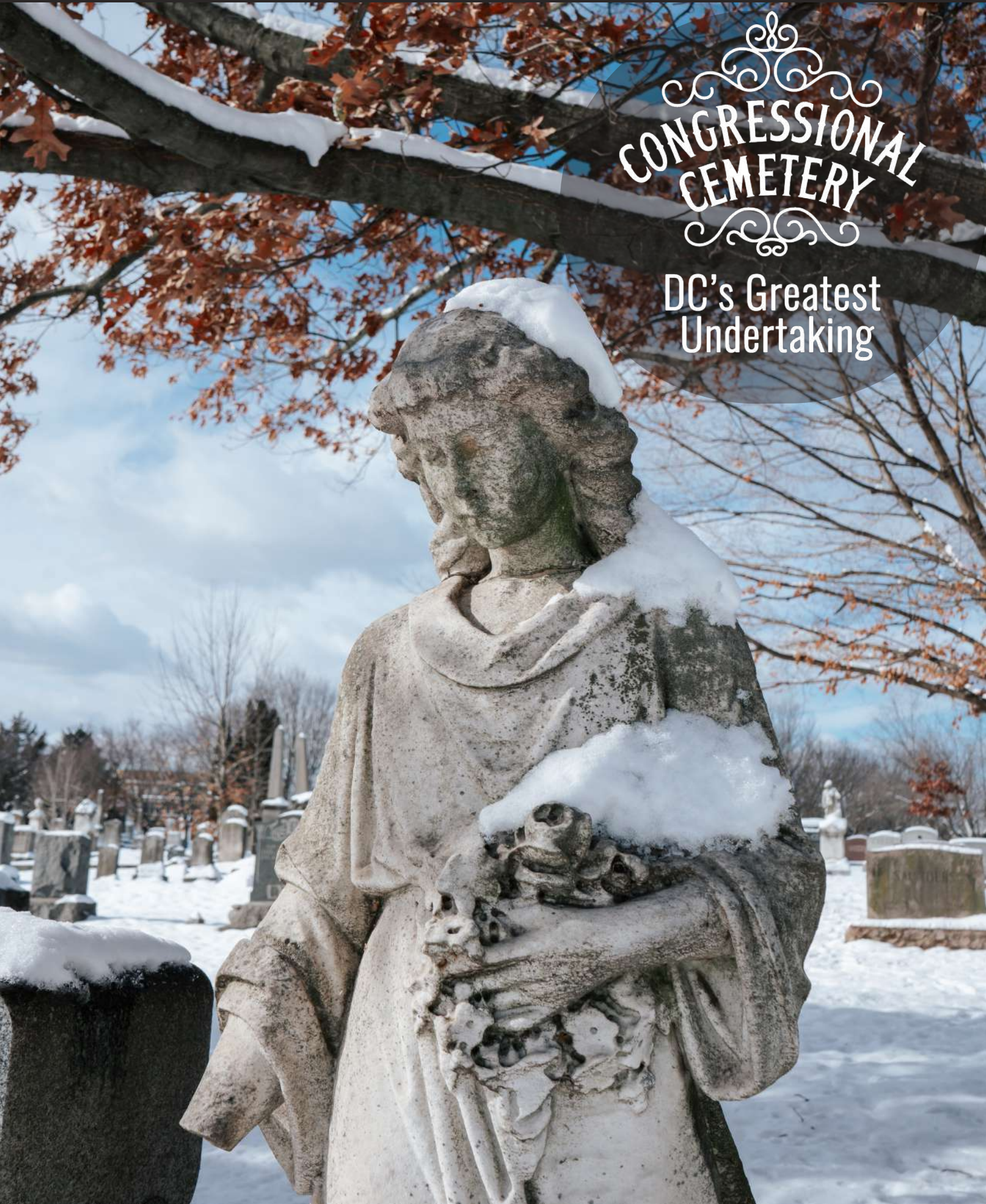


# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

DC's Greatest  
Undertaking









# Letter from the President

Dear Congressional Cemetery Community,

There is something magical about walking these grounds as the cherry blossoms fall from their branches onto our paths.

As I sit down to pen this note, we are in the height of the season of these beautiful blooms. Their temporary nature reminds me of our time here. Vibrant and bursting with beauty, they are celebrated and loved when they are here and missed when they are gone. Their impact is palpable, as I hope our work with this historic property continues to be in our community.

In 2023, we worked to strengthen those community ties and make a measurable impact. We engaged our neighbors through a year of programs focused on death literacy, brought art to the big white chair out front, and offered a new holiday market featuring local artisans and elementary schools. Having met our endowment the previous year, we used those funds to start an ambitious project to preserve and upright fallen stones on our property, spending substantially more on these efforts than ever before. Our grounds bloomed and thrived, as did our relationships with the board, volunteers, and neighbors. I was proud to begin to fully implement the vision I have for this cemetery as a true community cornerstone where all our neighbors can find something of value.

As we delve into 2024, a year bringing with it our first foray into public art and the expansion of our educational offerings, I urge you to come along for the ride. Better yet, grab a front seat. Attend an event, watch a movie, take a tour, and help share with your family and friends the evidence that we are DC's Greatest Undertaking.

Yours in service,



**Jackie Spainhour**  
**President**  
**Historic Congressional Cemetery**





# Staff and Board of Directors

## Board of Directors

**Richard Greene, Chairperson**  
**Heather Alarcon, Vice Chairperson**  
**Emily van Loon, Treasurer**  
**Robyn Hinson-Jones, Secretary**  
**Sam Cornale**  
**The Rev. John Kellogg**  
**Stephanie Lipscomb**  
**James McGinnis**  
**Joseph Imamura**  
**RuthAnn Clark**  
**Rhonda Sincavage**  
**Kirsten Sloan**  
**Larry West**

## Staff

**Jaclyn Spainhour, President**  
**Anthony "A.J." Orlikoff, Director of Programming**  
**Margaret Canilang, Director of Conservation**  
**Lily Buerkle, Director of Site Sales and Funerals**  
**Antonio Coghill, Administration and Communications Coordinator**  
**Sarah La Rocca, Marketing and Events Coordinator**  
**Leigh Pickering, Horticulture and Grounds Manager**  
**Dayle Dooley, Archivist**  
**Andrea McCants, Finance**  
**Kurt Deion, Education Specialist**  
**Kennedy Simpson, Education Specialist**  
**Quentin Datcher, Visitor Services Associate**  
**Kitty Linton, Photographer and Social Media Contributor**

**Special Thanks to Laura Lyster-Mensh, Death Doula in Residence**

# About Historic Congressional Cemetery

**W**

ith its first burial in 1807, Historic Congressional Cemetery is among the oldest institutions in Washington, DC, and is the final resting place of over 70,000 individuals. Their stories are American history in microcosm, all in 35 acres of the nation's capital. Still an active burial ground, it is the only place in Washington where individuals can be buried at a site directly on Pierre L'Enfant's 18th century city plan.

Historic Congressional Cemetery was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2011 and continues to build upon the legacy of over 200 years of American history. The cemetery is administered by the nonprofit Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery and owned by Christ Church + Washington Parish. The association is constantly striving to maintain the historic, cultural, and aesthetic qualities of this natural landscape along the Anacostia River.

- Hundreds of volunteers each year help preserve the cemetery and further its nonprofit mission.
- Burial sites are still available to the general public.
- Notable burials include John Philip Sousa, the March King; Mathew Brady, the Father of Photojournalism; Elbridge Gerry, signer of the Declaration of Independence; and Belva Lockwood, the first woman to legally run for president.
- Veterans from across American history are buried in the cemetery.
- We promote innovative and sustainable practices, such as beekeeping, a dog-walking program, and are the only cemetery in Washington, DC, that provides green burials.
- Congressional Cemetery is open to the public every day from dawn to dusk. We welcome visitors to walk around the grounds and explore the cemetery's rich history and environmental beauty.

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

Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

<https://congressionalcemetery.org/>

1801 E Street SE | Washington, DC 20003 | 202-543-0539 | [staff@congressionalcemetery.org](mailto:staff@congressionalcemetery.org)

## Our Mission

Historic Congressional Cemetery preserves, promotes, and protects our historic and active burial ground. We respectfully celebrate the legacy of those interred here through education, historic preservation, community engagement, and environmental stewardship.



# 2023 at a Glance

**73** gardeners adopted **101** plots to beautify the grounds.

**727** K9 Corps families enjoyed frolicking and strolling among the stones.

**1,412** historical enthusiasts attended guided tours of the grounds.

**75** headstones were restored and/or cleaned.

**10,746** people attended events generating **\$173,827** in income.

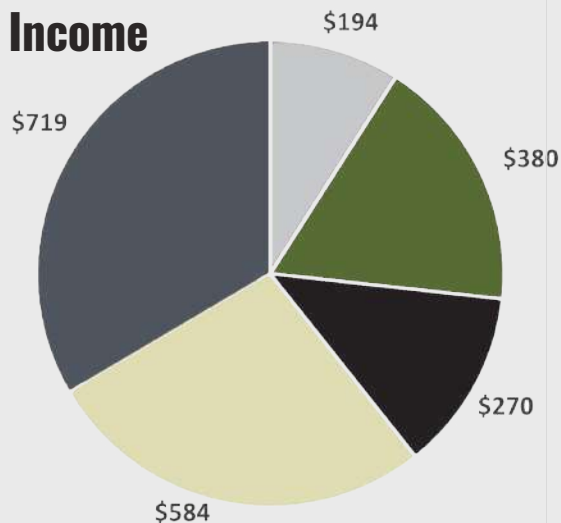
**315** volunteers contributed **3,067** hours.

(equivalent to more than \$97,530 in savings at the federal volunteer rate of \$31.80/hour).

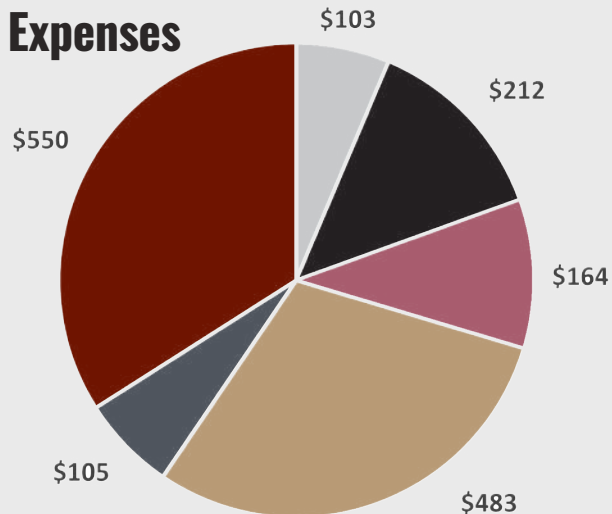
**\$719,480** in income was generated from site sales and burials with **74%** of them being green burials.

## 2023 Income and Expenses

### Income



### Expenses



Site Sales, Burials & Monuments

Endowment Disbursement

Contributions & Grants

K9 Corps Program\*

Fundraising

General & Administrative

Conservation & Grounds

Funerals, Burials & Monuments


K9 Corps Program

Education & Outreach

Fundraising

Dollars in Thousands

\*Tax deductible portion of K9 Corps Memberships are reflected in Contributions & Grants.

A woman dressed in a black lace veil and a black dress stands in a cemetery. She is looking to the left. The background shows several gravestones and greenery.

**Historic Congressional  
Cemetery preserves,  
promotes, and protects  
our historic and active  
burial ground.**



# Accomplishments and Highlights

## Education

The history of Congressional Cemetery is the story of us. The various headstones, memorials, and gravesites, and the stories associated with them form a one-of-a-kind portal into the American past. 2023 marked another successful year of sharing the stories of our interred residents with the community and respectfully celebrating their legacy through our educational programs. This year:

- Our dedicated docents provided 79 public and private tours to an audience of 1,412 visitors.
- We partnered with local historical organizations, historians, and scholars for a variety of programs, including the Cemetery Speaker Series, a new 2023 program series. Participating organizations included Howard University, Yale University, Ford's Theatre, and the U.S. Capitol.
- Working closely with our docent corps, we introduced new guided and self-guided walking tours, including Founding the Federal City, Congressional Unleashed (Pets), LGBTQ/Black History, and more.
- We conducted educational programs in coordination with several organizations including the United States Senate, Yale University, Howard University, the Smithsonian Associates, the Ward 6 Democrats, Potomac Lodge 5, among others.

## Environmental Stewardship

Congressional Cemetery continued to focus our efforts on the landscape that provides comfort and clean air to our visitors. We prioritized native plantings and mitigating safety issues on the grounds. This year:

- The Adopt-a-Plot program expanded, with a total of 101 plots adopted by 73 volunteer gardeners.
- As part of Casey Trees' mission to re-canopy DC, 20 new trees were planted.
- A renovation of the East End introduced new material and debris storage.
- Congressional Cemetery welcomed a new Horticulture and Grounds Manager.
- Eagle Scouts completed a Blue Bird Conservation Trail Project.
- Our bee pollinator partnership with DC Beekeepers Alliance flourished, resulting in a successful honey harvest and sale which sold out in 8 minutes.
- The cemetery continued to be a supporter and proponent of green burials. As the only cemetery allowing green burials in DC, we honored the final disposition wishes of dozens of individuals and their families.





## Community Engagement

2023 was vibrant and prolific for cemetery events and programming. Hundreds of visitors and community members gathered together at the cemetery, helping celebrate life, legacy, and community. 10,746 people attended events at HCC, generating a record \$173,827 in revenue.

- Soul Strolls recorded its highest attendance and revenue ever. 1,694 visitors strolled with interred residents who met untimely ends, generating \$83,432 in sales.
- Our Summer of Surreal Tim Burton themed Cinematery events saw 1,070 visitors attend, generating \$13,145 in sales.
- Dead Man’s Run 5K passed for another lap, as 534 runners broke a sweat on our grounds, generating \$19,546.
- The annual John Philip Sousa birthday was a well attended affair. The Marine Band performed some of Sousa’s iconic music for a live crowd of approximately 150 people, with an audience of thousands joining by live stream.
- Death Literacy Programs such as Death Doula Days and Death Cafe thrived, bringing in hundreds of individuals for weekly programs and discussions.
- Partnerships returned and expanded, working with organizations such as DC Frontrunners, Fulcrum Residential, Special Olympics DC, Ford’s Theatre, among others.

## Historic Preservation

Our commitment to protecting Historic Congressional Cemetery as a National Historic Landmark was made possible this year thanks to the efforts of a professional conservator, our Director of Conservation, and the sweat equity of our volunteers. The work of these individuals made possible:

- The cleaning of dozens of headstones, including 9 cenotaphs.
- An expanded partnership with professional conservator, Devlin McDonald, who repaired 83 of our most dangerous stones for \$84,800.
- A records audit to help consolidate the historic records of the cemetery with more modern site sales and burials continued, with active rectification scheduled throughout 2024-2025.
- Vital repairs and maintenance to our historic chapel totaling \$6,734.
- The installation of new safety lighting on the main path totaling \$20,000.









# Donors

Historic Congressional Cemetery wishes to thank its many donors and supporters whose generosity makes it possible for us to continue to celebrate the legacy of those interred here and serve as stewards of more than 200 years of history in our nation's capital.

Abrecht, Gary	Conway, Marsha	Gardner, G.
Adams, David	Conway, Christopher	Garland, Sara
Adams, Lee	Cooley, Thomas	Garson, Richard and Eileen
Ahern, Kirsten	Coolidge, Rhonda	Gillibrand, Jonathan
Anderson, Robert	Corrigan, John	Goldsmith, Alan
Archer, Patricia	Crapa, Barbara	Gordon, Diana
Bailey, Sarah	Crockett, Catherine	Graboske, Frederick
Baker, Teal	Crowder, Janet	Graham, Jean and Roy
Barbour, David and Nancy	Crowley, Patrick	Green, Wenrich and Susan
Barker, Amy	Crown, James	Greentree, Janet
Barnett, Betty	Danks, Ryan	Grimshaw, Shelagh
Barrow, Kathleen	Dantzie, Martha	Gubisch, Lauranarayani
Batten, Margaret	Davis, Anne and Michael	Guidroz, Kristy
Bechtol, Theodore	Dawson, Laura and Mark	Hall, John Christopher
Belman, Laura H.	De Grazia, Diane	Hamilton, Margaret
Berk, Mitch	Decker, Robert	Hammond, Stephen
Berry, Karen	Dennis, Susan	Hanlon, Kelly and Brian
Bindon, Frances	Dent, Irene	Harrelson, Sandra
Blackbird, Vasara	Dewald, Ernest	Hartnett, Mary Ann
Bowery, Catherine (Mary Ann)	Diedrich, Carolyn	Harvey, George
Brooks, Katie	Donaldson, Jill	Hayden, Kathleen
Brown, Andrew	Duggan, Abigail	Hazard, Suzanne
Brown, Michael	Duvall, Kathryn	Healey, L. Christine
Brown, Patricia	Edwards, Nancy	Healy, Michael
Buell, Maureen	Eisenmann, Carol	Heffernan, Donald
Burgess, Dolores	Elizabeth, Kelly	Held, Elizabeth
Cage, Martha E.	Elliott, A. Davis	Heller, Caroline
Camacho, Cara	Ellis, Brea	Hickman, Scot
Cameron, Elizabeth	Ellison, James E.	Higdon, Brittany
Caminiti, Jacqueline	Esperdy, Michelle	Hirschmann, Carole B.
Campbell, Caroline	Esterlund, Theresa	Hjort, Johanne
Carlton, Bruce and Mary	Etter, Paul	Hobbs, Margaret D.
Carper, Mary	Eydt, Bernard	Holland, Lettie
Cashell, Alan and Diann	Fangman, Karin	Horst, Elizabeth
Charles, Barbara Fahs	Fleming, Donna	Howell, Craig
Chenard, Elizabeth	Fochler, Ryan	Hudson, Sandra
Clancy, Noreen	Foley, Heather S.	Hughes, Robert J.
Clark, Colleen	Foulke, Judith D.	Humphreys, Frederick
Clark, Dolores	Frank, Inga	Hwang, Adelaide
Clark, RuthAnn	Freeman, Shawn	Impastato, Theresa
Collins, Catherine	French, Kindy	Isaacson, Evin
Condon, Harriett	Furcolow, Emmalene	Jackson, Stephen



# Donors

HISTORIC CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Jacoby, Susan  
Jaffin, Frederick  
Jekel, Michele  
Jenkins, Donald  
Johnson, Ada  
Johnson, Carolyn  
Johnson, Fawn  
Johnson, Heather  
Johnson, ReNeicia  
Jonas, Jane  
Kamens, David  
Kaplan, Katharine  
Kelleher, J.  
Kennedy, A. Erica  
Knautz, Mary  
Kohn, Gail  
Komenda, Carole  
Kopecki, Dawn  
Kreinherder, Robert and Hazel  
Kurhajetz, Evelyn  
Kyle, Susan  
Landree, Eric  
Lang, Leslie  
Larkin, Martha  
Latham, Elizabeth  
Lavender, Teresa  
Leith, Carolyn  
Lemmer, Barbara  
Linden, William  
Loar, Robert  
Lockbeam, Kaili  
Long, Anthony  
Lowe, William  
Lyll, Patricia  
Lyon, Karen  
Lyster-Mensh, Laura  
Mackin III, Harold  
Manheimer, Ann  
Manvell, Jacqueline  
Marlow, Patricia  
Marshall, Caroline  
Martin, Joanne  
Martin, Patricia  
Martin, Ellen W.  
Matsuo, Alex  
Mawn, Russell  
Maxwell, Pamela

McCall, Peter  
McDonald, Christopher  
McGinnis, Barry and Lee Ann  
McGrath, John  
McKey, Haley  
McLaughlin, Diane  
McNamara, Courtney  
McNamee, Maurice and Judy  
McVaugh, Michael  
Meeker, Heidi  
Mellor, Steve  
Middleton, William A.  
Milanich, Kathleen  
Mock, Caitlin  
Morin, Bo  
Morris, June  
Morrison, Kimberly  
Neitzey, Alice  
Newbold, Claudia  
Nienstadt, Felix  
Oesch, Stephen  
Olano, Marc  
Olsen, Douglas  
Pajak, Mary Jean  
Papke, Annika  
Pavlock, Cara  
Pearson, Kristin  
Perry, Barbara  
Pokorney, Joseph  
Polley CDR USN (Ret), John  
Pontius, Ruth  
Powell, Alice Jean  
Powers, Kathryn  
Quetsch, Walter  
Raher, Patrick M. and Rosalinda  
Rellihan, Heather  
Renier, Siri  
Revelle, Susan  
Rhodes, Taylor  
Rickman, Donna  
Righini, Marilou  
Robb, Lucinda  
Roberts, Thomas  
Roberts, Elizabeth  
Robertson, Kellie  
Rogers, Dorothy  
Romero, Victor

Rubino, Stephen  
Ruedin, Doris  
Russin, Jacob  
Rutherford, Chelsea  
Sachs, Elisa  
Savageau, David and Karyl  
Schmick, James  
Scofield, John  
Scofield, Julie  
Senney, Garrett  
Shore, Martin  
Shore, Patricia  
Shust, Diane  
Simmonds, Doris  
Simon, Charles  
Simone, Meg  
Singpurwalla, Jennifer  
Skinner, Michael  
Sloan, Melanie  
Sloan, Kirsten  
Smigel, Elizabeth  
Smith, Timothy  
Smith, Robert  
Sokol, Donna  
Sollie, Emily  
Soloviev, Anne  
Somers, Jayne  
Sorrrell, Clifton  
Squires, Jennifer  
Staples, Maryann  
Stasio, Renee  
Steinman, Mindy  
Stephens, Edward  
Stephens, Kevin  
Stewart, Barbara  
Streitmatter, Rodger  
Sullivan, Marsha  
Summers Lowe, Miranda  
Sutcliffe, Tracey  
Svendson, Madeline  
Swift, Anne  
Tackitt, Robert  
Tangherlini, Dan  
Tauber, Andrew  
Taylor, Celia H.  
Taylor, Deborah L. and Joseph  
Taylor, Miller

Taylor, Erin  
Teske, Lilybeth  
Thomas, Deborah  
Thor, Kristen  
Tobias, Philip  
Torney, Vernon  
Torreyson, Linda  
Toscano, Joseph  
Towle, Marlene  
Tull, Susan  
Volpe, Dr. Jeanette  
Watson, J.  
West, Larry  
Westbrook, Elizabeth  
White, Eileen  
White, John  
Wiener, Rosa  
Williams, Rachel  
Williams, Chris  
Wilson, Pamela  
Wolfrey, Dawn  
Wood, Lisa  
Woodhead, Daniel  
Wright, Helena  
Wurr, Juliet  
Xian, Kristie  
Yeager, William T. and Jessie  
Young, Phyllis Jane  
Ziolkowski, John

We wish to recognize the hundreds of K9 Corps members whose membership fees include a donation to our continued operations







**Gifts in Honor Of**

In Honor of Dayle Dooley  
*Lee Eutsey*

In Honor of K9 Corps Members Otis and Archie  
*Marc Knox*

In Honor of Elisabeth “Bessie” Reeves Eydt  
*Allison Eydt*

In Honor of Sharon Metcalf’s Circle of  
Life and other Green Burial endeavors  
*Stefan and Carolyn Finney LoBuglio*

In Honor of the Circle of Life  
*Sharon Metcalf*

In Honor of Lily Buerkle  
*James Maness*

In Honor of RuthAnn Clark  
*Caitlin Van Orden*

In Honor of the Staff at HCC  
*Emily van Loon*

**Institutional & Group Donors**

AFAUSSS

Ann and Frank Cahouet Foundation

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Beaty Family Fund

Canfield Research

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Ellen

Spencer Mussey Tent, Washington D.C.

DC Sons of the American Revolution

Emily Nelson Chapter, DC Daughters of the American  
Revolution

Fulcrum Residential

Grand Lodge of Florida, FAMF

From Here To Home Essentials

Gale Kaufmann Trust

Gina Sangster Living Trust

Lola and Pear

Salvatore Manno Family Trust

**Gifts in Memory Of**

In Memory of Stacey McMorrow  
Linda Blumberg  
Mary Pohl

In Memory of Michael Anthony Samuels  
*Michael and Lori Bogdonoff*

In Memory of Robert Hoffman  
*Christine Gauthier*  
*Gail Schonfeld*  
*Joel Weingarten*  
*Karen Drucker*  
*Patricia Fowler*  
*Rhoda and Dan Glickman*  
*Susan Lutz*  
*The Hoffman Family*  
*Albert B. and Audrey G. Ratner Family Foundation*

In Memory of Capt. John Collet  
*Judith and Kent Busse*

In Memory of Velva D. Cross  
*John D. Cinelli*

In Memory of Fiona Heckscher  
*Sarah Pheasant*

In Memory of John R. Hancock  
*Samantha Collins*

In Memory of My Family Buried at Congressional Cemetery  
*Lynn Louise Davis*

In Memory of Our furry, four-legged companions that mean so much to us  
*Rebecca Maestri and Jean Hacken*

In Memory of Edward A. Heberg, Jr.  
*Katharine Heberg*

In Memory of John Hindinger  
*Helen Hindinger*

In Memory of Devyn Hughes and Elliott Nohr  
*Andrea Johnson*

In Memory of The Mangum Family  
*Elizabeth Jones*

In Memory of Nancy Brennan  
*Sharon Metcalf*

*Partial funding for the preservation and maintenance of Historic Congressional Cemetery is provided by the 1998 Congressional Cemetery Endowment, which was created with matching funds provided by the Congress of the United States and administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.*



**In Memory of Randolph King**  
*Elizabeth Koller*

**In Memory of Puke (a beloved dog)**  
*Stuart and Laura Meyer*

**In Memory of the Sinclairs and Williams**  
*Teresa Moore*

**In Memory of Linda Norton**  
*Randell Norton*

**In Memory of Jim and Radar**  
*Kim Place-Gateau*

**In Memory of Henry (Brock) B. Thomas, Jr.**  
*Kay Thomas*

**In Memory of William A. Tubbs, Harriet M. Tubbs, William J. Tubbs, and Eve M. Tubbs**  
*William and Gale Tubbs*

#### **Gifts in Kind**

*The following have provided donations and in-kind services in support of our programming and special events.*

**Benjamin Brown French No. 15, FAAM**  
**DC Beekeepers Alliance**  
**DC Strings**  
**Fulcrum Residental**  
**Hiram Takoma Lodge No. 10, FAAM**  
**Ledo Pizza**  
**Potomac Lodge No. 5, FAAM**  
**Republic Restoratives**

#### **The Circle of Life**

*Sharon Metcalf*

#### **The Gift of Time**

**During the past year, Historic Congressional Cemetery's 315 volunteers contributed more than 3,067 hours in support of our education, historic preservation, community engagement, and environmental stewardship programs.**

#### **Special Thanks to**

*Laura Lyster-Mensh, Death Doula in Residence*

**Marine Band Photograph by**  
*Vincent Vassal*

**Front Cover + Additional Photography By**  
*Kitty Linton*





CONGRESSIONAL  
CEMETERY

DC's Greatest  
Undertaking



**The Association for the Preservation of  
Historic Congressional Cemetery**

**1801 E Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
202.543.0539**

**[www.CongressionalCemetery.org](http://www.CongressionalCemetery.org)**