

FRIENDS OF PIONEER CEMETERY

The Salem Foundation Charitable Trust

Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A., Trustee

PO Box 2305, Salem OR 97308

ANNUAL REPORT December 31, 2017



Epitaph face of repaired/reset shaft marker of Jackson County legislator Andrew Jackson Rader (c. 1826-1870), plot 331.

J. Hilts Photo, 2017.

A.J. Rader's Among 30 Headstones Repaired

Representative of 28 headstones repaired and reset in 2017 by Jeff Hilts, contractor of record for professional repairs, is the stacked shaft monument erected to the memory of Andrew Jackson Rader, a forty-four-year-old representative to the Oregon Legislature. Rader was serving his Jackson County constituents in the capital at the time of his death in 1870 that was attributed to small pox. Perhaps as a means of diminishing the possibility of contagion, he was interred without delay in Salem. His survivors were the former Clara Camp, whom Rader, a Virginia native, had married in Jacksonville in 1852, and their six children. FOPC volunteers took charge of other headstones in the annual tally.

Donors Raise Endowed Fund to \$700,000 Level

Steady support from the community maintained the earning power of the Salem Pioneer Cemetery Endowed Fund at or above the target level of \$600,000 from 2013 through 2016. In 2017, the market value rose above \$700,000 for the first time to end the year at \$744,523 thanks to the generosity of sixty-three donors contributing a total of \$7,135. In 2017, endowment proceeds provided the City of Salem, as cemetery titleholder and steward, with \$10,474 to supplement budgeted funds and cover headstone repairs and other expense.

Updated Visitors Orientation Kiosk Replaces Single Panel on Central Drive

A long-anticipated improvement to the grounds was accomplished in April with installation of an updated interpretive kiosk at the edge of the central drive in the center of the cemetery. The new feature was designed to orient visitors with a diagram of the 17-acre plat showing each numbered plot and, via a quick response code (QR), provide on-the-spot mobile device access to the online biographical database: www.salempioneer cemetery.org.

Original plans and drawings were prepared for Friends of Pioneer Cemetery (FOPC) and Salem Parks Operations by Interpretive Exhibits, Inc. of Salem in 2009.

The concept was carried out in stages. The steel tube framework was constructed by Bob Oakes of Parks Operations in 2014. In 2016, the content provided by FOPC was digitally formatted by Public Works Department Desktop Publishing Specialist Caitlin O'Dell, and the matte-finish digital-print vinyl panels coated with ultraviolet light protective film were produced by Oregon Corrections Enterprises. John Kleeman, Parks Operations Supervisor, Parks and Transportation Services, Salem Public Works Department, coordinated the installation.

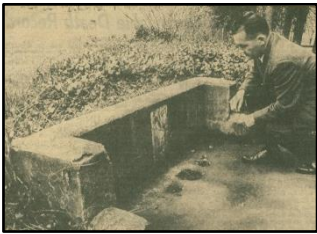
The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, founders of the cemetery in 1854, will be acknowledged by addition of a cut-out crest in the arch above the



central panel to represent the three chain links of the order's motto: "Friendship, Love, and Truth." Looking north from the central drive, April, 2017. John Kleeman photo.

City-sponsored Archaeology Project Sheds Light on Salem's Chinese Community and Historic Odd Fellows Rural Cemetery

The Salem Historic Landmarks Commission in cooperation with the State Historic Preservation Office and Willamette University staged an open house in the cemetery on November 8 that gave the public an opportunity to see surface excavation of a funerary feature where, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the city's Chinese residents conducted burial rituals,



such as the burning of incense and paper offerings. Half of the low wall that partially contained the altar had been broken away and, over decades of disuse, the floor had filled in with turf.

Salem Parks Director Charles Gale inspected the ritual altar uncovered by a brush-removal crew in Pioneer Cemetery in 1963. Oregon Statesman, March 24, 1963, Section 1, page 6. The community burial ground was known as Odd Fellows Rural Cemetery from its founding in 1854 until 1953.

The ongoing project is aimed at documenting as much as possible about the historic use of the cemetery by Salem's Chinese community. Most of the early burials appear to have been temporary since it was the custom to recover the remains after a period of years and return them to the homeland where they could be joined with a family's chain of venerated ancestral relics. One record documents 47 burials of Chinese conducted between 1874 and 1925, a number of the earliest without notation of a personal name. Names in Chinese characters appear to have been placed on headboards to mark the temporary burials.

This first phase of the archaeological investigation was carried out under State-authorized permit and managed by Salem Community Development Dept. staff under the lead of Kimberli Fitzgerald, the City's Historic Preservation Officer. She and research assistant Kirsten Straus proceeded with the support of Dr. Scott Pike, Willamette University Professor of Archaeology, his students, and a Chinese Shrine Advisory Committee, an inclusive group of stakeholders, specialists, and interested citizens.

Newspaper articles about the City and State-sponsored archaeological project by *Statesman Journal* features columnist Capi Lynn led Salem area resident Larry Payne to relate that, some years ago, he had discovered three marble headstones with Asian inscriptions buried on property he then owned in the Fairmount Hill neighborhood that adjoins the cemetery. Uncertain of their origin, he kept custody of the stones provisionally. Payne attended the public open house in November and,

seeing that a plausible connection to the cemetery could be made, he placed the headstones in the care the Parks Operations section, Public Works Department.



Looking SW at ritual altar excavation, Plot 660, Nov. 8, 2017.

Epitaphs of the repatriated headstones have been translated by Guo Jinglin, a Friends of Pioneer Cemetery volunteer who serves as an academic advisor on New York University's foreign campus in Shanghai. The three headstones were created for males whose origins, as indicated by inscription, appear to have been in towns in the old Canton administrative prefecture (today's Guangdong Province) embracing the industrialized Pearl River delta region, the jumping-off place for a great number of Chinese who came to the Northwest Coast of America in the 19th century to work in railroad construction, gold mining, and other enterprise.



The center column of characters indicates this marble headstone was inscribed for Su Laisheng (no date of death in this example). The column of seven smaller characters on the right identifies Su's hometown or birth place. In traditional belief, inscribing the birth place ensured the spirit would return to its place of origin to rest in peace. Jacob Snell photo, 2017.

In Memoriam

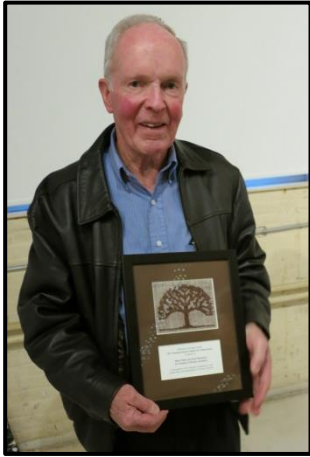
Respectfully, and with regret, we note the passing of our FOPC friends as information becomes available.

Ramona Eileen Kleen (Nov. 21, 1937 – Feb. 15, 2017)
Donald Frank Waters, Sr. (Oct. 21, 1926 – May 8, 2017)
Clifford Ray Davenport (Dec. 3, 1930 – July 6, 2017)
Kathleen Peerenboom (Sept. 20, 1931 – Oct. 6, 2017)
Lawrence McClure, 75-year member, Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, I.O.O.F. (Sept. 12, 1919 – Oct. 18, 2017)
Ron G. Lyman (Nov. 29, 1930 – Nov. 6, 2017)
Gordon A. Miller, M.D. (Aug. 20, 1948 – Nov. 17, 2017)

Long-time Co-leaders of Volunteers Recognized for Service

Palmquist and Fields Receive Heritage Award

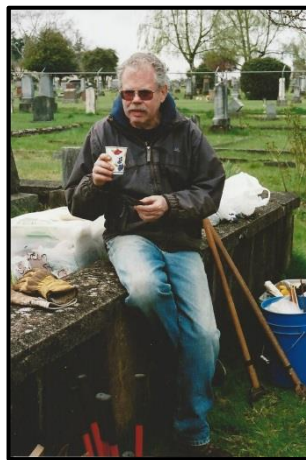
During the 25th annual Heritage Awards gala at the Willamette Heritage Center (WHC) in Salem on April 7,



Dale Palmquist (pictured left) and Mark Fields (below, right) were honored with the Center's George Strozut Award for distinguished service to the community in heritage preservation. In presenting the award, WHC executive director Bob Reinhardt highlighted the value of the field work organized by the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery co-leaders.

Palmquist with Strozut Award

For thirteen years, beginning in 2004, Palmquist and Fields have supported the City Park Operations agency in caring for the municipally-owned Salem Historical Landmark. At the outset, they learned best practices for headstone leveling, resetting and repair, and pruning of heritage roses and ornamental shrubs as well. They have equipped, instructed, and supervised hundreds of young people from local schools and universities as well as adults during regular community work parties scheduled eight, sometimes nine, months of the year. In partnership with Parks Operations personnel, they help set priorities for betterment work and care of the cemetery's tree canopy. It was Fields and Palmquist who in 2010 devised and installed the practical system of permanent plot-row numbering guides on the center drive that helps visitors and workers alike find their way to given plots across the 17-acre grounds.



Friends of Pioneer Cemetery Field Unit and Community Volunteers

FOPC field unit teams and volunteers from the community were at work from March through October keeping a regular schedule of three days per month leveling headstones, removing biological growth from gravemarkers by the gentlest means possible, removing moss from concrete plot caps and sidewalks, and pulling invasive vines and weeds. They also raked leaves, collected litter from the street-front, pruned and composted roses, trimmed ornamental shrubs, and cut back overgrowth along the north boundary line.

Sue Apodaca	Dale Palmquist
Mark Fields	Elisabeth Potter
Fred Klatz	Claudine Shaw
Kathy Moreland	Virginia Slaughter
Pat Norman	Ellen Stevens
Harold Otto	Brian Sund

Charlotte Wolfe and granddaughter Elizabeth Hill helped in May to spruce the grounds in advance of Memorial Day. Rachel McKirdy and daughters London and Piper Herring joined the workers in July, as did Jessica Daggett.

In July and August, the regular work parties were twice reinforced by the energetic affiliated students of Tokyo International and Willamette Universities.

Yuzuha Izawa	Reina Sakakibara
Akihiro Kosuda	Akiho Suzuki
Anna Landgren	Yoshihisa Takahashi
Jin Maruyama	Luisa Williams
Chisaki Nagaya	Sahiko Yoshida
Nobuyasu Nonaka	

On October 14, a large contingent of families, forty adults and children all told, from Salem Fourth Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints assembled to tackle varied grounds work, including weeding the Cooke Mausoleum forecourt, grooming plots, and rinsing grime from headstones. A major undertaking of the productive session was trimming the boxwood hedge across the entire Commercial Street front and cutting back its Himalayan blackberry invaders. Fourth Ward member Virgie Lorenz organized the turn-out.

Hugh Ady	Myra, Melody, and Rachel Neff
John Davis	Lars and Celeste Olsen family
Lissa Empey	Chas. Pederson/Raychel/Charlotte/Ethan/Eric
Dave Hiser	Ryan and Sarah Preece family
Aron Ingebrigtsen & Bryce/Samantha	Travis & Kendell Prestwich family
Jeanfreau/Bateman clan	Stan Sterner
Virgie Lorenz	Cary/AkikoTakara/Quinn/Hina/Hugh Jed and Corinne Thomas



Fourth Ward Volunteers – October 14

Left, from top: Sarah Preece and Hudson, Corinne Thomas, Ryan Preece with Flynn, and Cary Takara removed moss from concrete plot cap. A ready group with debris tarps paused for the camera. Celeste Olsen, Kendell Prestwich and John Davis removed weeds from the Cooke Mausoleum forecourt. Akiko Takara helped Hina and Quinn rinse grime from headstones. Samantha Ingbriksen and Natalie Preece paused to observe. Right, from top, the street-front hedge-trimming crew: Travis Prestwich, David Hiser and Charlie Pederson, Jed Thomas, Aron Ingebriksen, and Ethan Pederson. Photos by V. Lorenz.

FOPC and Community Volunteers – July 8

Lower left, from the left: FOPC regulars, Pat Norman, Sue Apodaca, Claudine Shaw, and Virginia Slaughter were reinforced in rose tending by Rachel McKirdy while London and Piper Herring sluiced moss from headstone inscriptions.

Volunteer Help is Always Welcome

The yearly work schedule for volunteers is posted on the Web site, www.salempioneercemetery.org. Organized groups are asked to contact the Volunteer Coordinator, City of Salem Parks Operations, to make arrangements. Tibby Larson may be reached at 503-589-2197 or talarton@cityofsalem.net.

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries Supports Repair and Maintenance Plan for Historic Iron Burial Plot Fences



Friends of Pioneer Cemetery
The Salem Foundation, Pioneer Trust Bank, N.A.
PO Box 2305
Salem OR 97308

The Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries in the summer of 2017 awarded a \$1,300 match-fund grant to the City of Salem Public Works Department for a professional assessment of seven historic cast and wrought-iron burial plot fences in Salem Pioneer Cemetery and guidelines for their repair and cyclical maintenance. The guidance now being prepared under contract by historical architect Robert M. Dortignacq, A.I.A., will prescribe appropriate corrective treatment for each enclosure, recommend best practices for refurbishing the railings, and identify sources of supply, where possible, for castings of essential parts that are missing. It is expected that the protocols for maintenance and repair could be carried out by Parks Operations personnel with support from trained volunteers, and the plan might serve as a model that historic cemetery stewards elsewhere could employ. Tony Whitler, Administrative Analyst with the Parks Planning section, is managing the grant for the City; the grant period ends in May, 2018.



professional assessment of seven historic cast and wrought-iron burial plot fences in Salem Pioneer Cemetery and guidelines for their repair and cyclical maintenance. The guidance

More About the Orientation Kiosk

One of the most important features of the new visitors orientation kiosk in the central grounds of the cemetery is the complete plat diagram showing each numbered burial plot within the original five acres acquired by the Odd Fellows in 1854, the expansion of 11 acres in 1861, and the First Addition of 64 plots along the Hoyt Street boundary that was platted in 1927. With it, visitors will be able to get their bearings on site more readily. Those having mobile devices can use the quick response code in the upper right corner of the panel to log on to the Salem Pioneer Cemetery Web site and search the biographical database.



Parks Operations Project Coordinator Jacob Snell is overseeing Oregon Corrections Enterprises production of the I.O.O.F. insignia, a cut-out crest ornament that will soon complete the framework assembly.

In April, Caitlin O'Dell, Desk Top Publishing Specialist for the Salem Public Works Department, inspected the digital layout she created for the kiosk.



The gate of the Oregon-made cast-iron enclosure for the graves of Ruth and Joseph C. DeVol, Plot 887, is detached, and a fence panel section is missing. R. Dortignacq photos(2).

A corner post of the cast-iron pipe fence enclosing the J.I. Thompson family Plot 592 pulls apart as its foundation stone separates.



ABOUT THIS MAILING

Friends of Pioneer Cemetery provides this annual report for your information in association with the Parks Operations section, City of Salem Public Works Department. If you wish to contribute to the Salem Pioneer Cemetery Fund, make additions or corrections to the mailing list, or request that your name be removed from the mailing list, a return envelope is provided herein for your convenience.