

Lee Mission Cemetery Newsletter

January 2021



From the President

The change of year always brings an opportunity to look forward to the new year as well as reflect on the past.

Looking Back

The last half of 2020 saw one long-term cemetery board member retire but staying on as a resource when needed. In addition, the board gained three very dedicated new members. The board has been working hard to improve several things at the cemetery this year. One of our new board members volunteered to repaint the maintenance building; the first thing you see when you enter the cemetery.

A Trespass Letter of Consent has been signed and filed with the Salem Police Department. This allows police officers to enter the cemetery, which is private property, to remove individuals or request they leave the property when one of the cemetery board members is not immediately available. We have also had conversations with the Salem Police, which has resulted in increased police presence in the cemetery.

The cemetery board determined that a weekly garbage service was necessary, making it much easier to remove trash from the cemetery. We want to thank Tom Bowers for making certain the trash is ready for the weekly pickup.

One of the key actions this Summer and Fall has been improving the appearance of the cemetery. Working with our landscape company and various volunteer groups has resulted in a lot of pruning and brush removal, better maintained lawns and gravestone areas, and a major cleanup of Diamond Square. A large dead tree that posed a potential hazard to nearby gravestones was cut down. A separate article regarding the tree is included in this newsletter.

Additional signage has gone up regarding parking regulations, no trespassing rules, and security patrols.

Looking Forward

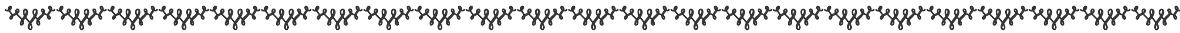
The cemetery board is excited to continue improving the appearance of the cemetery. But we cannot do this without the valuable help of volunteers. There is always a lot of work to do so please contact us if you are interested in helping.

Hopefully, 2021 will be the year that we will be able to finish with the historic Diamond Square fencing. It has been a long process but needs to come to a successful ending.

We are so appreciative of your support, and as we have mentioned in past newsletters, we want you to know that 100% of your donations are used for cemetery projects and grounds maintenance.

The cemetery board and I thank you for all your help in 2020 and we look forward to an even more rewarding 2021.

~Michael Staten, Cemetery Board President



The Story of a Special Tree

By guest author, John Laurence Poole

An old tree died in the Cemetery. So what?

To this Salem resident, it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.



As a child in Pasadena, I was fascinated by a large wooden house near me. I'd ride my bicycle up its driveway flanked with clinker brick and look at the fancy cars parked under the wide covered entry overhang (porte cochere). Years later I was privileged to live in this Greene & Greene American Arts & Crafts masterpiece, the R. R. Blacker House. Its previous owner had stripped the house of its seventy- two custom designed wood and copper lighting fixtures, so I undertook to recreate them.

I discovered the rare and durable Port Orford Cedar used in the more modest fixtures of the Blacker House, as well as for cabinets and exterior components. The Greene brothers used Port Orford

Cedar extensively in their custom designed "Craftsman" homes in California.

The wood of the Port Orford Cedar is lightweight, fragrant, easily worked, and much beloved in Japan as well. Port Orford Cedar is very similar to the Hinoki cedar (or cypress) used to construct the oldest wooden structure in the world, the Horyu-ji Temple built over 1300 years ago. Most Port Orford Cedar harvested from the small coastal zone in southern Oregon and northern California is exported to Japan.

Imagine my delight at the opportunity to obtain the wood of this tree; the possibility of creating furniture, fixtures, cabinets, and boxes from this fragrant, durable, and rare lumber. Due to the very limited supply, Port-Orford-cedar is difficult to find in the U.S.

I learned of the tree from a posting on Nextdoor.com where the neighbor was concerned about why the tree died. I contacted the Cemetery, and working with Mike Staten and Elwood's Tree Service, we arrived at a solution where Elwood would remove the tree and deliver the logs to me for milling into boards and drying.

It is believed the tree died from *Phytophthora lateralis*, a pathogen which is killing off the species. *Phytophthora* is an A1 list of exotic species that the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization recommends to regulate as quarantine organisms. The USDA has undertaken road closures and physician limitations to known natural groves of Port Orford Cedar to prevent introduction of *Phytophthora*.



TREE REMOVAL



Sister Anna Helena Duerksen Hayward

Born: May 6, 1886; Died: July 27, 1972; Burial in Lee Mission Cemetery, Plot #C-20-04-01

Sister Hayward was the last survivor of four Mennonite sisters who founded the 12-bed Deaconess Hospital in 1916 in an old hotel on Winter Street in Salem.

Deaconess became Salem Memorial hospital, and later Salem General Hospital which merged with Salem's current hospital.



Born in Kansas, she lived in Oklahoma and Missouri and came to Salem from American Falls, Idaho, where she also helped start a hospital. Working up to 20 hours a day at times, Sister Hayward and other nurses accepted no pay for their services for many years.

At one time she was also the only anesthetist the original hospital had for surgery. She was a graduate of Evangelical Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing in Missouri.

She lived humbly, caring for patients and also cooking and housekeeping. She married the hospital's gardener and worked at the hospital into the 1950s.

Cemetery Rules and Regulations:

Dogs must be on leash, kept off graves, and owners must pick up and dispose of waste properly. Failure to do so will be considered trespassing.

When a grave site is purchased, a deed is sent to the purchaser with a copy of the rules and regulations. Maintenance rules are also posted in the Cemetery. Do not leave food items, glass containers, or items that may provide a hazard on the graves. The cemetery has limited garbage service and a volunteer must empty the cans into the dumpster every week. Anyone wishing a full copy of the rules and regulations can contact the cemetery and a copy will be provided. The section pertaining to maintenance is provided below:

Maintenance Rules and Regulations:

1. Artificial flowers and decorations may be used only from October through March. During the months of April through September only fresh flowers may be placed on the graves. The cemetery association maintains the right to remove any article, planting or keepsake which is not consistent with the historical, natural and maintenance needs of the cemetery.
2. No plantings or shrubs will be allowed without written approval of the Board of Directors of the Cemetery. No fencing or other structures are allowed on graves.
3. Cemetery personnel are empowered to remove, at their discretion, any plantings found on any grave or lot. Any trees or shrubs not authorized or posing a threat to the surrounding graves or markers may be removed by the Cemetery Association.
4. The Cemetery is open for the public's use. From time to time the gates may remain locked due to weather related damage to trees and roadways. It is the intention to allow access as much as possible. Visitors must follow Cemetery regulations.
5. All persons using the cemetery are encouraged to remove any trash or remains from any plastic or artificial decorations which have been placed as a part of their visit.

WANTED: Articles regarding your descendants that are buried in Lee Mission Cemetery. Each article should be about one family and no longer than 500 words. The board reserves the right to shorten your article to fit the space available in the newsletter that is published twice a year (Jan and July). We would prefer that the article is typed; however, all article will be accepted. Deadlines for articles are June 15 and December 15. Submit articles to Lee Mission Cemetery, PO Box 2011, Salem, OR 97308-2011.

Donations

Lee Mission Cemetery is a 501(c)13 not-for-profit corporation. All donations are tax deductible. 100% of donations made to the Cemetery go toward improvement and maintenance. Officers and board members volunteer their time and receive no compensation.

Lee Mission Cemetery, P.O. Box 2011,
Salem, OR 97308

Lee Mission Cemetery is licensed through the
Oregon State Mortuary Board
Phone: 971-673-1500

Board of Directors

Michael Staten, President
Sherrill Hochspeier, Secretary-Treasurer
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Tom Bowers
Phyllis Gillis
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Julie Staten
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Contact Information:

Lee Mission Cemetery: 503-851-1803
Lot Sales (Rick): 503-559-2242
Web Site: www.leemissioncemetery.com
Send comments, additions and corrections regarding
website or newsletter to s.a.hochspeier@comcast.net

The Wallers

Rev. Alvin F. Waller (May 8, 1808 - Dec 26, 1872)



ALVIN WALLER

One of the early missionaries and a pioneer was Alvin F. Waller. Alvin was born May 8, 1808. He was ordained as a Methodist Minister and was a circuit preacher of the Genessee Conference, New York. There he married Elpha White in 1833, and they had five children. In 1839 he was recruited by Jason Lee to join his mission in the Willamette Valley. Rev. Alvin Waller arrived in Oregon May 1840 as part of the Methodist Mission's "Great Reinforcement". Once in Oregon he was assigned to start a new branch of the main mission at the falls on the Willamette River. There in 1840 the Willamette Falls Methodist Mission was established. In 1842, he helped build the Methodist church at the falls in what became Oregon City, Oregon. Finished in 1844, the church was the first Protestant church west of the Rocky Mountains. In 1844, after the main mission at Salem was closed, Waller was re-assigned to the Wascopam Mission at The Dalles. In 1847, Alvin Waller moved to Salem, Oregon and served as pastor to the old mission's congregation until 1857.

He was co-founder of the Pacific Christian Advocate newspaper. It was a Methodist newspaper printed from December 4, 1850 to 1932. It was first published in Salem before moving to Portland in 1859.

Alvin Waller began working with the Oregon Institute and helped in its transition to Willamette University in 1853. During this time he helped raise funds for the construction of a new brick structure for the school that was completed in 1867 and name University Hall. The building was re-name Waller Hall in 1912 to honor him.

Rev. Alvin F. Waller died December 26, 1872 in his home at the age of 64 of heart disease. He is buried in the Waller Family Vault in the Lee Mission Cemetery on D Street, Salem, Oregon.

[Obituary Daily Oregon Statesman Dec. 27, 1872, 3:1]

Also buried in the family vault are son Orrin Atchinson 'Atch' Waller and wife Mary Lucia (Chamberlain) Waller, and three grandson: Charles Alvin Waller, Riley Crawford Waller and Martin Orrin Waller.

Orrin Atchinson Waller (Aug 9, 1843 - May 5, 1935)

'Atch', 93, at time of his death in a local hospital was believed the oldest native son of Oregon. He was born at Oregon City in 1843, he came to Salem while he was still a boy. He was a gunsmith by trade, considered a master in that calling at a time when the use of guns meant gaining the necessities of life and the protection of it from actual and threatened Indian invasions. January 19, 1856, he married Mary L. Chamberlain, daughter of a pioneer Methodist missionary. She died March 7, 1924. At the time of Atch's death he was survived by a daughter and three sons. [Obituary Oregon Statesman May 7, 1935, 1:7 & 2:5-6]

Mary Lucia (Chamberlain) Waller (Apr 9, 1845 - Mar 7, 1924)

The daughter of Joseph & Olive (Warren) Chamberlain married January 19, 1856 Orrin Atchinson Waller. She died at her residence, 2055 North Church Street at the age of 79 years. She was survived by her widower, O.A. Waller, a daughter, Mrs. Elepha Bond, four sons, Riley C., Arthur F., Orrin M. and George C. Waller. [Full obituary Capital Journal, Mar. 8, 1924, 8:5]

Charles Alvin Waller (1866 - Feb 10, 1893)

Died at his home on East State street, February 10, 1893, age 27. The death was caused by a severe strain of the abdominal muscles resulting from the slipping of a ladder, which was received while repairing an electric light in the Willamette hotel on Third. The son of Mr. & Mrs. O.A. Waller and grandson of Alvin F. Waller.

He was married about a year to Madge Baldwin. At the time of his death he was employed by the Capital City Railway company, and he was for many years a member of Tiger Engine Co. [Full obituary Daily Oregon Statesman, Feb. 15, 1893, 4:3]

Riley Crawford Waller (Mar 23, 1871 - Nov 16, 1930)

Riley C. Waller, former resident of Salem, and a resident of Albany for the past 30 years, died at the general hospital, following a two weeks' illness which developed into pneumonia. Riley was a member of the Telephone Pioneers of American. Husband of Clara Waller; son of O.A. & Mary Waller; brother of Mrs. H.S. Bond, Martin Orrin, George C., Charles Alvin, and Albert Ferry Waller. [Full obituary Oregon Statesman, Nov. 18, 1930, 2:2]

Martin Orrin Waller (1884 - Oct 5, 1941)

Fatal Fire Probe is Ordered--Death `Unusual'--Burned clothing and hair from the body of Orrin Waller, 57, discovered apparently burned to death near a sister's home in Turner, were sent Monday afternoon to the state crime laboratories at Portland, Coroner L.E. Barrick said.

Officers were told by a neighbor that he had seen Waller raking leaves at approximately 4:30 Sunday afternoon in the yard of his sister, Mrs. H.S. Bond, with whom he had made his home in recent years. Shortly after 4:30, his brother A.F. Waller, also of Turner, called at the house but could not locate him, investigators were told. At 9:30 a.m. Monday, A.F. Waller returned, and not finding his brother in the house, conducted a more thorough search. He found the body lying approximately halfway between the house and a pile of leaves raked together for burning. Clothing from the waist up was burned to ashes and first degree burns scarred face and the upper portion of the body, although leaves beneath it showed little sign of fire. Reconstructing the incident, officers believe Waller may have gone to the house for matches and perhaps an oil-soaked rag with which to ignite the leaves. Because of his physical disability [he was crippled in childhood by disease], he walked with a shuffling gait, often falling, they had been told. That he stumbled and fell, setting fire to his clothing, and was unable to arise, they think a good theory. He neither smoked nor drank, they said. [Full obituary Oregon Statesman Oct. 7, 1941 1:2]

Other children of O.A. & Mary (Chamberlain) Waller:

Harvey S. & Elepha (Waller) Bond are buried in Lee Mission Cemetery C-38-04-01 & 02.

Albert Ferry Waller and 2 wives (1) Laura Estella 'Stella' (Isbell) Waller and (2) Vera L. Waller are buried in City View Cemetery, Salem, Oregon Section C.

George C. Waller - did not find death information. In 1941 he was in Alameda, California



THE WALLER VAULT

LEE MISSION CEMETERY DONATIONS
July 2020 - December 2020

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Land Acknowledgement

*We acknowledge that the Cemetery is on Kalapuya Illihi,
the traditional indigenous homeland of Kalapuya peoples
who were forcibly removed to what are now the
Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations.*



*Lee Mission Cemetery
PO Box 2011
Salem, OR 97308*