March has set in, and Phoenix has had several days of cool mornings and pleasantly warm afternoons. Trees are starting to flower, and more people can be seen sitting outside on their porches visiting with neighbors. What does this all mean? It means it's a great time to visit the PMMP! We have scads of history here, and volunteers who would love to show you the resting places of some of our famous- and infamous- residents.

We also have several people of Irish descent at the PMMP. Some needing grave markers or grave marker repairs are:

- Dennis Kavanaugh, who died July 24, 1906, and served in the Civil War
- Harry Sayers, who died June 28, 1879, and was buried in the first city cemetery

Plus many others. There are a multitude of things to learn and projects to complete at the PMMP, so come visit us, and become a member today!
The PCA honors individuals of all ages and from all walks of life who are interred in the Pioneer & Military Memorial Park. We do this through several programs. Two of our most popular ones, exclusively at the PMMP, are:

Grave Marker Preservation Program
Memorial Marker Program

We also do a myriad of research and other projects for our pioneer places of rest to remember the lives of those who have made Arizona great! If you are interested in donating to our programs, or becoming a member, please fill out our application in the back of this newsletter. We appreciate your interest!
The Grave Marker Preservation Project Phase 1 has made tremendous progress in the last 12 months, paving the way for the future preservation of the PMMP cemeteries. The committee is led by Cindy Lee and Vivia Strang with members Debe Branning, Jennifer Merry and Sally Pavia.

On March 28, 2015, the committee met with 38 eager volunteers at Harmon Library in Phoenix for half of a day and gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the project and relating the necessary steps and procedures for doing the assessment of the historic cemeteries. That afternoon, the volunteers were divided up in teams and began the tedious task of measuring, photographing and documenting every grave marker in the seven cemeteries. The weather was warm for March, but the dedicated crew stuck it out to mid-afternoon; returning the following morning for another warm workday. The dedicated crew returned again in April and May to complete the task with documenting Porter and Rosedale cemeteries.

Jennifer, Debe and Cindy attended the Association of Gravestone Studies conference in June 2015. Jennifer and Cindy presented a PowerPoint presentation on the progress of the Grave Marker Preservation Project to the attendees and asked for additional tips and advice. AGS applauded this early accomplishment, assured them that they were on the right path, and urged them on to the steps ahead.

During the fall, Jennifer, Debe and Cindy arrived at the cemeteries in the early morning hours. They rechecked each and every grave marker against the assessment sheets to ensure that the restoration priority grading was in order. This way, the endangered monuments can be repaired and maintained before further damage occurs.

On November 14, 2015, the volunteers reassembled to begin the task of sorting the grave marker photographs, matching them to their assessment sheets, tucking them into protective mylar sleeves and arranging them alphabetically in binders. This part of the project was completed on January 23, 2016, on which day many volunteers who had participated in the March 2015 assessment returned to celebrate the completion of Phase I of the Gravestone Preservation Project.

The priority list is now being scrutinized for the order in which the gravestones will eventually be repaired. We will be seeking a conservator who can come to Arizona to make some of the repairs and teach the Grave Marker Preservation Project Phase 2 team the proper practices for cleaning, straightening, and making simple repairs so the historic cemeteries may continue to be a part of Phoenix’s history.

The Grave Marker Preservation Project Phase 1 Committee members are forever grateful to the volunteers who gave up their time to see this First Phase through to the end. This is what PMMP is all about! We salute you all!
On a hot day in August 1901, the Phoenix Gazette reported “the remains of John McCarty, the Fish and Game commissioner, arrived from Flagstaff yesterday morning and were taken to the undertaking parlors of Merryman & Holley, where they were carefully examined by physicians for some of the insurance companies and by physicians, attorneys and other witnesses for the widow. The funeral took place at 5’clock from the undertaking parlors, and was conducted by the Masons. It was largely attended by the members of several fraternal organizations to which he belonged and his numerous friends in this city, where he has been a familiar figure for many years.”

Wait. What is the rest of the story? What happened? Fearless hunter, Fish and Game commissioner? Insurance companies, attorneys, money, widow?

It was because of his extensive knowledge of the Territory and its wildlife that he was appointed Fish and Game Commissioner as there was little or no salary attached to the office. His continuous travels from one place to another allowed McCarty to look after the duties of the office as no other man could.

Back in 1901 John McCarty was known all over Colorado and Arizona as a collector of mountain lions, lynx, leopards, cats and many other kinds of wild animals for various Eastern institutions. His long time friend and partner was J. K. Day. Earlier in the year they received orders for a number of rare squirrels only found in the Mogollon Mountains and a party of men left at the end of May for the area. McCarty was last seen alive on June 6 when he left camp to hunt alone, and never returned.

Before leaving Phoenix, McCarty had taken out a $10,000 life policy in the Manhattan Company, Fraternal Brotherhood, $2,000; Forrester’s, $5,000; A.O.U.W., $2,000; Woodmen, $3,000; and an accident insurance company $5,000, for a total of $27,000. When Mrs. McCarty claimed that her husband was surely dead, the insurance agents cried fraud. After investigation, payment was refused on all policies and a suit begun on the part of the widow.

McCarty’s friend, J.K. Day vowed not to give up the search until the mystery of his friend’s disappearance was solved. On August 19, in a box canyon, McCarty’s shotgun was found lying near his body with one barrel burst. McCarty had extracted nitro powder from six rifle shells and loaded two shotgun shells. It is probable one of these shells exploded when fired. The double-barreled shotgun was on exhibition at the Flagstaff city hall.

For years after his burial in the Masonic Cemetery there were rumors that John McCarty was still alive. Thus a legend was born—a haunting story describing a decomposed, headless skeleton, an exploded shotgun, a horrific fight with a bear, long search for the body, coroner’s inquest, hasty funeral and burial—before the widow arrived from Dudleyville, and a court battle finally settled by the insurance companies with $27,000 paid to his widow. Is John McCarty really buried in an unmarked grave in Phoenix AZ? Quite a story from a little town in the desert.
### Timeline Information for Pioneer Cemeteries in Phoenix

1870  
The Phoenix town site was created October 20, 1870, consisting of a rectangular plat measuring 14 blocks wide by 7 blocks deep. Boundary roads were named Van Buren and Harrison, on the north and south, and Yavapai and Apache, on the west and east. Survey filed, in 1871, by William A. Hancock, County Surveyor. *Phoenix incorporated February 25, 1881.*

1871  
The first City Cemetery is located near the SW corner of the 1871 original Phoenix town site, at Blocks 57 & 58 between Jackson and Madison Streets and Cocopa and Yavapai Streets (ca. 1892 renamed Fifth and Seventh Avenues). *The area contained the remains of people who died in Phoenix between 1871 and 1884, when the cemeteries at French St. (later 14th Avenue) and Madison St., Phoenix, officially opened. City Fathers deemed the first City Cemetery unsightly and ordered it closed in 1884. All known remains were removed by mid 1880s.*

1877  
Williams (aka Crosscut) Cemetery, first burial, at today's NW corner of 48th St. & Van Buren St.

1880  
Neahr Addition, City of Phoenix, filed for record March 6, 1880.

1881  
"A.D. Lemon spoke of the necessity of a suitable and decent place of interment, and of the shameful place of depositing the dead of this city at present" *March 4, 1881 editorial.*

May 1884  
Citizens and community leaders complain about the first City Cemetery "right at the door of our beautiful city and in the most irregular, dilapidated, and disgraceful condition…a disgrace to the town" *Phoenix Daily Herald May 27, 1884.*

July 1884  
Jerry Millay, attorney, moved bodies* from potter's field of first city cemetery to W ½ Block 32, Neahr Addition. *Contract entered into July 17, 1884 and paid off on October 6, 1884 by common council.*

**Fraternal Cemeteries:** Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F), Knights of Pythias (K of P), Ancient Order of United Workmen (A.O.U.W.) - E ½ Block 32, Neahr Addition, surveyed by Capt. William Hancock and filed for recording July 19, 1884.

September 1884  
The fraternal orders of the city bought Block 32, Neahr Addition, keeping the east half of the Block to establish their cemeteries, sold the west half to others for use as the City Cemetery. The new "City Cemetery" was surveyed by Thomas W. Hine and recorded September 3, 1884. *These five cemeteries lie south of Madison Street comprising four acres of fraternal grounds and four acres dedicated to public and City burials.*

October 1884  
Jerry Millay deeded to John R. Loosley, a City Councilman, some of W ½ of Block 32, Neahr Addition. *Referred to as "Loosley Cemetery".*

1884  
Families move their burials from the first City Cemetery (aka "old Phoenix" cemetery) to one of the newly established cemeteries.* City officials contracted to move unclaimed remains to the new City Cemetery (aka Loosley).*

1885  
John R. Loosley moved more remains circa 1885.* First burials were in north part near Madison Street. *A great many remains were beyond identification so they were buried in two large common graves at the north end of City Cemetery; sites unknown due to lost records.*
John R. Loosley moved more remains circa 1885.* First burials were in north part near Madison Street. A great many remains were beyond identification so they were buried in two large common graves at the north end of City Cemetery; sites unknown due to lost records.

October
1887
Blocks 57 & 58, the "old Phoenix cemetery" of original town site, ordered to other uses. No burials there for two years.

November
1887
Porter Cemetery established. Lulu G. (Cotton) Porter received quit claim deed from J.M. Evans for S ½ Block 22, Neahr Addition, including lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 in November of 1887. Surveyed by William M. Breakenridge and presented for recording March 24, 1891.

1888
Blocks 57 & 58 of old Phoenix town site deeded to School District No. 1 on April 26, 1888. West End School built on Block 58. During the construction of foundation trenches, graves were found. These remains were reinterred at the new City Cemetery.*

Double Butte Cemetery established in Tempe, AZ.

1889/1896
Loosley filed June 5, 1889 and February 12, 1896 for further subdivision of City Cemetery W ½ Block 32, Neahr Addition.

1890
Maricopa County buys 10 acres at 15th Ave. north of the Salt River, first burial at Salt River Cemetery in 1891. Over 7000 burials in 60 years, becomes a beloved neighborhood cemetery, closes in 1951. In 1961, deeded to Phoenix, is named Cementerio Lindo, “pretty cemetery”.

1891
Mesa Cemetery established in Mesa AZ.

ca. 1890-1895
North and southbound City streets, previously named for Native American tribes or local citizens, are numbered; Centre Street is renamed Central Avenue. “Avenues” are west of Central and “Streets” are east, beginning with First, Second, and so on.

1894
W.S. Allbright filed September 28, 1894 for a subdivision of W ½ Block 32 Neahr Addition.

1895
Glendale Cemetery established in Glendale, AZ.

1898
St. Francis Cemetery established in Phoenix, AZ.
Rosedale Cemetery was laid out by J.W. Walker at Lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of S ½ Block 21, Neahr Addition; plat recorded April 30, 1898. Surveyed by C. (Jim) Dobbins. The N ½ of Block 21 also used for burials but no plat filing has been found. Greenwood Memorial Park opened by Masonic Lodge No. 2. From 1906 –1920s as many as 190 total removals from these seven cemeteries occurred with the majority going to Greenwood.

1909, 1914
The seven cemeteries at 14th Avenue and Madison/Jefferson declared abandoned in 1909. By 1914 new burials were barred and prohibited, there.

1930s-WWII
Preservation, restoration, and research was begun in the late 1930s by the original Pioneers’ Cemetery Association but was interrupted by the sudden death, on Dec. 23, 1940, of lead researcher Thomas A. Hayden and then World War II.
TIMELINE INFORMATION FOR PIONEER CEMETERIES IN PHOENIX

1947  Memory Lawn Memorial Park opened, by Shumway family.

1983  The present Pioneers' Cemetery Association (PCA) was formed and created a working relationship with the City of Phoenix to further work at these seven cemeteries.

May 1988  The seven historic cemeteries were officially designated as the Pioneer & Military Memorial Park (PMMP).

1989  Greenwood & Memory Lawn Memorial Parks merged into one cemetery.

1993  The PMMP received “Historic District” status by the City of Phoenix.

1994  The historic Smurthwaite House, designed by James M. Creighton and built in 1897, made a landmark journey of 26 city blocks from its original site at 602 N. 7th Street, NW corner of 7th & Fillmore, to its current location at PMMP.

May 2001  On May 17, 2001, Smurthwaite House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. It now serves as the Visitors Center and an Archival Library for the State’s burial records.

2007  The Pioneer & Military Memorial Park (PMMP) was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 1, 2007.

May 2012  Historic remains found at site of first City Cemetery, curated by State Repatriation Coordinator.

June 2013  These remains interred* at City Cemetery section of Pioneer & Military Memorial Park.

*Note: this Timeline identifies six different periods of burials being removed from first City Cemetery to the new City/Loosely cemeteries. Most of these became unmarked and unknown grave locations. The mission of the Pioneers' Cemetery Association (PCA) is to research, preserve, and protect the history and physical remains of Arizona pioneers as exemplified in the early, historic period cemeteries of the state.
PCA, P.O. Box 33192, Phoenix, AZ 85067-3192, www.azhistcemeteries.org.

By SHPO, Arizona State Parks, May 2012, last revised by PCA in May 2014 with SHPO approval.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 3th</td>
<td>Monthly Board meeting at 9:30 AM. Open house from 10 AM to 2 PM; tour the cemeteries and visit historic Smurthwaite House. Donations gratefully accepted.</td>
<td>Smurthwaite House at 1317 W. Jefferson in Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 10th</td>
<td>Open house from 10 AM to 2 PM; tour the cemeteries and visit historic Smurthwaite House. Donations gratefully accepted.</td>
<td>Smurthwaite House at 1317 W. Jefferson in Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 17th</td>
<td>Open house from 10 AM to 2 PM; tour the cemeteries and visit historic Smurthwaite House. Donations gratefully accepted.</td>
<td>Smurthwaite House at 1317 W. Jefferson in Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 24th</td>
<td>Open house from 10 AM to 2 PM; tour the cemeteries and visit historic Smurthwaite House. Donations gratefully accepted.</td>
<td>Smurthwaite House at 1317 W. Jefferson in Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 26nd</td>
<td>Open house from 10 AM to 2 PM; tour the cemeteries and visit historic Smurthwaite House. Donations gratefully accepted.</td>
<td>Smurthwaite House at 1317 W. Jefferson in Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 31st</td>
<td>Open house from 10 AM to 2 PM; tour the cemeteries and visit historic Smurthwaite House. Donations gratefully accepted.</td>
<td>Smurthwaite House at 1317 W. Jefferson in Phoenix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership Application

____ New Member  _____ Renewal

Name(s) ___________________________

Phone _____________________________

Address ___________________________

City _______________________________
State ______ Zip code ______________

Email ______________________________

Membership categories:
Individual $20 _____  Family $25 _____
Organization $50 _____

Additional Donation $________________

Interested in becoming a volunteer:

Yes ____  No ____

Make check payable to:
Pioneers’ Cemetery Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 33192, Phoenix 85067.

Membership Benefits
• Free access to research and materials of Pioneer & Military Memorial Park
• May attend monthly Board and Membership meetings
• Free attendance at monthly open house events
• Free walking map of the Pioneer & Military Memorial Park
• Quarterly electronic newsletter
• Your opportunity to support Arizona history

602-534-1262
pioneercem@yahoo.com

Volunteer Opportunities:
(Check one or more)

◊ Cemetery tour leader
◊ Historical researcher
◊ Recordkeeping assistance
◊ Grounds beautification
◊ Fundraising
◊ Special event volunteer
◊ Tombstone repair/restoration
◊ Website assistant
◊ Publicity & marketing
◊ Graphic artist & designer
◊ Grant writing & research
◊ Academic liaison
◊ Newsletter contributor
◊ Any other ideas are welcome

How did you hear about Pioneers’ Cemetery Association?

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Thank you for your support!
(Revised 12/2013)

Memberships are for one calendar year, Jan. 1st-Dec. 31st.
Membership dues are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

WE'RE ON THE WEB
AZHISTCEMETERIES.ORG