

## Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery

Whitman County, Washington

A Washington State Historic Site

Summer 2012



Photos by Sandra Morgan



**Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery President, Fred Smith**

has decided it is time for him to step down from the position he has held since the organization was formed in 2007. He has been a very active, hands-on leader in forming the organization as well as helping with the physical work at the cemetery and planning for future projects to make the historic pioneer cemetery accessible and presentable again after many years of neglect.

Fred cited his age, he turned ninety in March this year, and some health concerns that may keep him from being as active as he would like to be. He announced his decision at the Spring meeting at the C&D Bar & Grill in Tekoa WA, on May 11, 2012 and nominated Terry Smiley for his replacement who graciously accepted and was enthusiastically accepted by the group who voted affirmative for his filling the position of President. His wife, Patti agreed to be co-president. Jo Ann Savitz will remain as Vice President and Jim Irwin will remain as Secretary-Treasurer.

Fred was raised in the Northwest and the Whitman County area before joining the U.S. Army at the age of nineteen and becoming a highly decorated Fighter Pilot during WWII in the European and African theatres, flying 173 missions.

After the war he went into the business world as an auto parts salesman and became an executive in a nationwide corporation that made and distributed auto parts. At one point before his retirement he was a Territory Manager for the entire West Coast including Alaska & Hawaii.



Fred Smith and Terry Smiley are both descendants of the Smiley family of pioneers buried at the Lone Pine Cemetery.

New President and Co-President,  
Terry & Patti Smiley

We have begun researching families of persons buried at Lone Pine Cemetery through Ancestry.com. The results will be added to the photo gallery of gravestones in the web site.

Please check the site for additional updates.

Robert Bruce Savitz was born 09 Jul 1920 in Lone Pine, Whitman, Washington as the seventh child of Frank J Savitz and Agnes E Birdsell. He had seven siblings, namely: Ralph B, Bruce J, Ervin Ward, Hugh Bentley, Ruth M, Ellis Birdsell, and Willie. He died at the age of 4 days, 13 Jul 1920 in Lone Pine, Whitman, Washington.



Willie Savitz was born 20 Sep 1901 in Lone Pine, Whitman, Washington as the eighth child of Frank J Savitz and Agnes E Birdsell. He had seven siblings, namely: Ralph B, Bruce J, Ervin Ward, Hugh Bentley, Ruth M, Ellis Birdsell, and Robert Bruce. He died 01 Jul 1902 in Lone Pine, Whitman, Washington.

**May 11th & 12th meeting and work day reports of the  
Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery - 2012**

1. We had two new guests at our meeting, Alan Arnold from Tekoa and Jerry Wagner from Farmington.
2. The placement of the Historic Marker and the new Pine tree was discussed.
3. The Marker was placed at the northwest side of the parking lot. The Pine tree will be placed 3 or 4 feet behind the marker at a later date.
4. It was decided that Jim Irwin will order 25 metal grave markers from W. F. Norman Corporation.
5. The chain link fence will be on hold until more money comes in.
6. It was decided to wait one year to see if the fire damaged trees will recover or be removed.
7. The fire damaged Apple tree and all wire, brush and lilacs were removed from the East and North side of the cemetery.
8. Two crews of chain saw and brush pilers cleaned the area from the parking lot to the north boundary of all lilacs.
9. It was estimated that one third of the cemetery is now clear of all Lilacs and brush
10. Rod Smith mowed the south and west borders of the cemetery as well as the sides of the north-south path. Would have done more but one of his mower tires was punctured.

Fred Smith

**Plans for the next meeting and Work Day**

The next meeting and work day are planned for October; the exact date and agenda will be posted and mailed when finalized.

**Officers of: Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery**

President: Terry & Pat Smiley [tbsmiley@comcast.net](mailto:tbsmiley@comcast.net)

Vice president: Jim & Jo Ann Savitz [jimsavitz@comcast.net](mailto:jimsavitz@comcast.net)

Sec/Treas: Jim & Shirley Irwin [jimirwin@charter.net](mailto:jimirwin@charter.net)

If you have information, articles, or pictures, or would like more information, or to make a donation, please contact any of the above officers or

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