

Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery

Whitman County, Washington

Newsletter

A Washington State Historic Site

Autumn 2013

The **Friends of the Lone Pine Cemetery** organization is about seven years old now and we think it is time to show some special appreciation for one of our special friends.

Rod Smith has been with us from the beginning and we don't think he has ever missed a meeting or a scheduled work day. In fact, he has made many unscheduled trips to meet with contractors and has done work on some days when no one else was there. He is the man with the tools and the equipment to get the job done.

Rod & Sue Smith



Thank you very much Rod,

We could not do it without you!!!

Our Summer newsletter contained our annual fundraising letter and while the results were not spectacular; it was very successful and we appreciate all the help and contributions that we get from our many friends, from near and far, of the Lone Pine Cemetery!

Our list of friends continues to grow every year as we continue to find more descendants of the Pioneers that were buried here.



Lone Pine Cemetery Time Line

Gracie Viola Clark was the fourth person buried at the Lone Pine Cemetery; and the first of seven of the Clark Family to be buried there. she died December 2, 1883 at the age of six months and two days. Icabod Clark and Lucy Dollarhide Clark had eleven children and of the eleven Gracie was number eight and the second to be born in Whitman County. The following are excerpts from Lucy's story written in 1934-35:

“The Life Journey of a Pioneer Woman” By Lucy Dollarhide Clark

As the boys got older, we rented more land. A new baby came every two years but they were all welcome. The first two born after we moved here were girls, but when the second one was six months old, in 1883, an epidemic of scarlet fever spread over the country and my baby was taken.

I have passed through trials and tribulations. Five of my family lies in the Lone Pine Cemetery. I am still here, hoping that I may stay a few years longer.

I am the mother of Eleven children. In addition I raised four grandchildren and one niece. I have thirty-one grandchildren, thirty-one great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Icabod and Lucy met and married in California before migrating to Jackson County Oregon and then to Whitman County Washington. They are both buried in the Lone Pine Cemetery along with five of their children:

Gracie Viola age 6 months 2 Days

Helen Marion age 18
b. July 10 1876 d. Nov.25 1894

Dr. Dudley Niles age 29
b. Jan.20, 1879 d. Aug 25, 1908

Lucy E. (Guetterraz) age 27
b. July 1888 d. Feb 15, 1915

Nancy L. (Gibbs) age 77
b. June 19, 1873 d. Oct. 19, 1950

Other siblings that were not buried at Lone Pine cemetery:

James Henry, Dinazade Minnie, Jesse, Alvin, Amos, and Arthur. The youngest of the eleven, Arthur was buried at Golden Rod In Tekoa.



Clark, Gracia Viola
d.2 Dec 1883 age 6m 3d
dau of I.N & Lucy Clark

Photo from "Whitman County Heritage" online.



ALFRED OLSON PLACE - 1909

BURNED IN 1921

Alfred Olson migrated to America in 1890 with his brother when he was 19, to escape the hardships of being poor in Sweden. After reading his story by Ruby Olson Grunewald in the Tekoa Story "From Bunchgrass to Grain"; it is surprising he didn't return to his homeland, but he worked hard and endured many hardships and losses, and he persisted and became successful as a farmer in Whitman County.

He married Laura Ester Warner in February 1896 and they began farming on the Warner homestead. They had four children but the fourth child, Gay was playing with matches and set himself on fire. Mrs. Olson was badly burned trying to save him and they both died from their burns. That was in November of 1904 and they were buried in the Lone Pine Cemetery. In November of 1905 Alfred married Grace Gerkin and she died in less than a year of marriage in May 1906. She was also buried at Lone Pine. He married his third wife, Elizabeth Engle in May 1908; this marriage produced five more children. The excerpt below from the book does not give a date of the fire but apparently the barn pictured above was the replacement of the one depicted in the following excerpt:

(It was a sad foreboding when one night the family was awakened by the noise of screaming animals to find the barn on fire. The water supply, being only from a hand pump in the barn yard, was not adequate to put out the fire. Few animals were saved and the barn and hay burned to the ground. Mr. Olson being gifted at carpentry, built a new barn in its place.)

Mr. Olson retired from farming in March of 1920. There was no mention of the 1921 fire.

Fall Meeting and Work Day set for October 11th and 12th

The meeting will be 11:00 am at the "Feeding Station" in Tekoa.

The *Feeding Station*, 205 N Crosby, Tekoa, WA. Tel: 509-284-3141

See agenda on page 5

Goats to help tend historic grave sites in the nation's capital

- The Washington Times Thursday, August 1.2013

Forget the dog days of August. It's goat days of Washington.

In the very near future, the historic, 207-year-old Congressional Cemetery in the nation's capital will be neatened up by a herd of hooved helpers.

The non-profit Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery has partnered with a gaggle of 100 grazing goats, who will trim the exterior perimeters of the site from Aug. 7-12 as an 'innovative green project:

Indeed. the goats will graze 24 hours a day for six days, scarfing up vines, poison ivy, ground cover and random debris, "all the while fertilizing the ground: organizers say.

"The revolutionary use of eco-goats eliminates the need for harmful herbicides and prevents the invasive and often foreign species from killing large mature trees in the cemetery's wooded area, which can fall onto the grounds as a result and damage invaluable historic headstones," the association says.

"This is also the first time we have found a suitable partner for a project inside the Beltway," says Brian Knox, owner and supervising forester of Maryland-based Eco-Goats, home of the herd in question.

There are 65,000 people buried in the privately owned, 35-acre cemetery some 20 blocks from the U.S. Capitol. In all, the silent population includes 16 senators, 68 members of the House, and Vice Presidents Elbridge Gerry and George Clinton, according to the National Park Service.

Among the other famous buried there are FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover, the 'March King" John Philip Sousa, Civil War photographer Matthew Brady .and Push-me-ta-na, chief of the Choctaw Indian tribe.

**Revolutionary? So what's the big deal?
We did this back in '09 at the Lone Pine!**



Officers of: Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery

President: Terry & Pat Smiley tbsmiley@comcast.net

Vice president: Jim & Jo Ann Savitz jimsavitz@comcast.net

Sec/Treas: Jim & Shirley Irwin 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

Email: jimirwin@charter.net / phone: 509-529-2411 / mail: 404 Mica Place Walla Walla WA 99362

Friends of Lone Pine Cemetery Whitman County Washington

Friends of Lone Pine Meeting Agenda
Friday October 11, 2013 11:00 am
The Feeding Station Tekoa, WA

Meeting agenda

Officer Reports: President
Treasurer

New Business:

Old Business:

Grave Markers & Additional names of burials in cemetery

Fund Raising

New Names for email address list

Next meeting and work party dates

Work Day agenda

Friday October 11, 2013 in the afternoon following the meeting.

Saturday October 12, 2013 - 9 am

1. Removal of lilac-brush & weeds from perimeter of cemetery.
2. We will be renting a gas power weed whacker mower and continue expanding lilac removal in paths and around grave sites. Dave Church will help us Saturday with his Bobcat with this project.
3. Set grave markers
4. Clean and reset grave stones with outdoor liquid glue as needed.
5. Spray areas of lilac & weed removal as needed.
6. Move two piles of debris to fill in low areas

A Washington State non-profit corporation. FIN #26-1302152. President: Terry Smiley 360-854-0988

Vice President: Jo Ann Savitz (253)752-3247, Sec/treasurer: Jim Irwin (509) 529-2411

