

# Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Assoc. Inc.

Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Association, Inc. provides for restoration projects and ongoing maintenance of the cemetery and helps to sustain a part of the history of the City of Milwaukie's people into the future.

## Newsletter



Vol. 3, Issue 4—Forth Quarter, 2006

### “Damage in Thousands of Dollars”...

Both the Lee Mission Cemetery in Salem and the Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery in Hillsboro suffered major damage to dozens of monuments in July, 2006. Due to the weight and size of some of the monuments overturned, it appears there were a number of people involved in the vandalism. At the time of this writing there appear to be no leads and no suspects.

While work is moving forward to do repairs at the Salem cemetery, with the help of Willamette University, the one in Hillsboro is under the auspices of the Hillsboro Parks Dept. and has no association or group supporting it, therefore restoration there may be more of a challenge.

There is a real need for public education about the law regarding “Abuse of a Memorial to the Dead” (ORS166.076) which states in part that vandalism of any kind to a tomb, monument, gravestone, or any device placed as ornamentation or protection for same or damage to vegetation within a cemetery may carry additional fines in addition to any other sentence a court may impose. The fine can be as high as \$50,000.00 and the perpetrator can be made to pay restitution for damages, as well. Restitution shall be based on the historical value of the damage, and not just what it might cost to replace a marker with a new one.

Further, included in this law is the provision that buying, selling or transporting any object known to be stolen from a historical cemetery is a Class A Misdemeanor, and applies to antique dealers the same as to vandals, if they know the items have been stolen.

*(continued on reverse...)*

### **Clean-up Get-Togethers at Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Scheduled... (weather permitting)**

**Watch this space in the next newsletter for clean-up & membership meeting dates and times for 2007!**

#### **October 14th Clean-up Day...**

**We had a number of new faces joining in the Cemetery clean-up and because of the hours of hard work, raking, weed-whacking and mowing, we left the cemetery looking very nice just before the on-set of winter.**

**Two loads of debris, leaves and so forth were removed and we hope this will make the Spring clean-up days that much easier.**

**During the year of 2006, we spent approximately \$500 for labor and debris dumping. The expenditure for 2007 will most likely be about the same for these items, so you can see just how important your dues and contributions are to maintaining the cemetery. This does not include any restoration, replacement or other expenses, so we urge you to send in your 2007 dues by January 1, so we can plan for**

**Please join the Association Board in sending your positive thoughts and prayers for Jim Wiley, Sr., currently in the hospital.**

**We all hope for your recovery, missed you at our last clean-up day!**

#### **Current Board of Directors:**

Mark Neubauer—President & Trustee 503-659-8087  
Dolly Macken-Hambright—Sec/Treas & Trustee 503-659-8908  
Madalaine Bohl—Museum Director & Trustee 503-659-5267  
J.R. Hambright—Cemetery Consultant 503-659-7582  
Jim Wiley, Sr.—Trustee 503-654-7034

## **“Damage in Thousands of Dollars”...**

*(...continued)*

All of that said, the Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Association has passed this information (from the *OHCA Ledger* for Summer, 2006) along to the Milwaukie Police Department and has been sharing the information with the Neighborhood District Associations in the hopes that we can forestall any such additional activity at our Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery.

Even though our cemetery has an Association, Trustees and so forth, we cannot afford to have this sort of damage. We simply do not have the money to make the cemetery whole, nor would we wish to have to, as we are still working on damage caused by vandals in the 1960's and again in the 1980's.

We urge each and every person who visits or drives by the cemetery to at least give a quick glance and should you spot anything out of the ordinary, call police immediately. Consider what is at stake, damage or loss to one of the few Milwaukie historical locations. **If activity is going on call 911. If you find something amiss with no one around, then call the police non-emergency number (503-786-7500).** Also, please let any one of the Board members noted on the front of this newsletter know what occurred, as the Police do not always tell us if there is a situation.

**We must work together  
to protect our cemetery!**

**Please remember annual dues!!!**

Annual dues      \$10/YEAR

Lifetime membership \$200

make check payable to, and mail to:  
Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Assoc.

12258 SE Grove Lp.  
Milwaukie, OR 97222-2981



**Just a reminder...**

**Over the last couple of years or so, we have had many calls regarding family members interred at Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery. Some folks have been directed our way by the City of Milwaukie employees, some have found us on their own and some have come to us through contact with Milwaukie Museum.**

**Madalaine Bohl, Milwaukie Museum Director and Cemetery Trustee, continues to collect information as it becomes available about our cemetery families. We want to have as complete a record of our people as we possibly can.**

**We welcome any photo copies, or originals for that matter, as well as family “trees”, stories, mementos, and anything else any of our families care to share with the Museum.**

**Due to the number of inaccurate lists printed over the years, the loss of records given to the County some time back and other unforeseen events, a truly accurate list has been quite a challenge. We have spent several months going through old records and have finally reached “best-guess” status with our compiled list. We are nearly ready to hit the cemetery and complete a photo inventory of the gravestones we have, their location, condition and so on.**

**Once all of this is completed, we will most likely be putting some of the information on a web-site and/or making some information available through the Milwaukie Leding Library and the Museum.**

**We would very much like your input as to what and where you think the information we gather should be made available. Please call one of the Board Members (see reverse lower R. for contact information) and let us know what you think. We look forward to hearing from you!**