

*December 2023*



*Pioneers' Cemetery Association*

*The R.I.P. Report*



## C o m e V i s i t U s !



There are lots of stories here at the Pioneer and Military Memorial Park. As you stroll through these hallowed pathways, you'll discover the stories of the brave souls who helped shape our beloved city. Here, the past comes alive, and each tombstone and memorial tells a tale of resilience and the indomitable spirit that built Phoenix from the ashes. We invite you to pay your respects to these remarkable individuals who left their mark on our city's heritage.



## 1 2 G r a v e s o f C h r i s t m a s !



This holiday season, we embark on a unique and heartwarming tradition known as the "12 Graves of Christmas." As we gather to celebrate the festive spirit, we also take time to remember and honor the departed pioneers who have played an integral role in shaping the vibrant tapestry of Phoenix. Each of the 12 graves represents a distinctive story of courage, vision, and resilience, reminding us of the indomitable spirit that has built our beloved city.

Through this commemorative journey, we pay homage to those who have paved the way for our community's growth and prosperity. It is a heartfelt way to keep their memories alive and show our gratitude for the enduring legacy they've left behind. In remembering these remarkable individuals, we not only celebrate the holiday season but also the rich history that continues to inspire and unite us all. Three of these pioneers are highlighted in this newsletter. However, all of them are on our website and blog. Visit us here to read about these individuals who are part of Phoenix's tapestry.

Pioneers' Cemetery Association Website: [www.azhistcemeteries.org](http://www.azhistcemeteries.org)  
 Pioneers' Cemetery Association Blog: [behindtheepitaph.blogspot.com](http://behindtheepitaph.blogspot.com)





## Lost Souls Around Christmas



C. H. Clausen was born January 11, 1848. A photographer, he was working in Oakland, California, in 1889. By 1895, he had moved to Phoenix (possibly for his health) and had opened a studio at 438 E. Monroe Street. Some of his photographic portraits survive; one of Father Michael Vandermaesen is in the archives of the Roman Catholic diocese of Tucson. Clausen died December 24, 1897, and was buried in Porter Cemetery.

Maude Seip was born April 4, 1871, in Hiawatha, Kansas. She married Sam Seip, a Phoenix cigar maker with many lucrative business interests. Such was Sam Seip's wealth that the Seips moved in the highest circles of Phoenix society. Late in 1893, Maude and her husband took a trip back East to visit the World's Fair in Philadelphia. While returning on the train by way of Houston, Texas, they were rudely awakened in their sleeping car by men claiming to be law officers. The men informed them that they were under arrest for the murder of a man in Toronto, Ontario! Protesting his innocence, Mr. Seip suggested that the officers verify his identity by sending a telegram to Arizona's Governor Hughes, a request at which the officers scoffed. Mrs. Seip was prostrated by nerves at the way they were being treated. However, it soon became apparent that the whole affair was a case of mistaken identity. Maude Seip died on December 25, 1905, and was buried in the Knights of Pythias Cemetery, next to her young daughter Bessie and an infant.



Marie Vaux Lane was born in Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania around 1865 to William Vaux and Mary Henry. She was a teacher at the Doylestown Seminary where she most likely met her husband Rev. Henry Polhemus Lane, a Presbyterian minister. They married in 1888 in Doylestown and became the parents of five children. Marie was in Phoenix from San Diego when she developed "la grippe" or influenza which developed into pneumonia. She died on December 26, 1898, and was buried in Rosedale Cemetery.

## Happy Holidays!



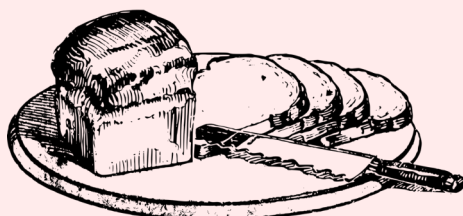
Warmest wishes to you and your family for a joyous holiday season and a happy new year! Here is a modified holiday recipe from the *Romance of Cooking and Housekeeping*, 1917.

“Nut Butter” was invented by doctor and nutritionist John Harvey Kellogg, who filed a patent for a proto-peanut butter in 1895. This compound involved boiling nuts and grinding them into an easily digestible paste for patients at the Battle Creek Sanitarium which was a spa for different types of ailments. He used many different types of nuts, but peanuts were cheaper during this time.

### Cranberry and Peanut Butter Bread

2 cups flour  
 4 tsp baking powder  
 ½ tsp salt  
 4 tbsp cane sugar  
 1 egg  
 ½ cups chopped peanuts  
 ¾ cups milk  
 1 cup dried cranberries

Mix thoroughly the flour, baking powder, salt, sugar and peanuts. You can also crush the peanuts and mix them in with a bit of the milk. Add the egg and milk. Stir vigorously two minutes. Fold in cranberries. Place in a well-buttered bread pan, and bake thirty-five minutes in a moderate oven. Makes 12 slices.





## Pioneers' Cemetery Associations 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Annual Holiday Event

By Cindy Lee

On November 18th, 2023, PCA celebrated their 40th Anniversary and annual holiday party. This year's event was a HUGE success! There were over 65 attendees, laughing, eating, and having a lot of fun making some really cute ornaments. The Metro Tech High School floral program, taught by Jennifer May, donated 8 beautiful Christmas centerpieces and the Culinary Program made an outstanding white cake with Bavarian cream filling and a buttercream frosting.

Mark Lamm brought in a homemade rum cake and a pumpkin roll. Dan Craig made a delicious pumpkin bread with Cinnabon frosting to go with it! Several individuals donated crafts, decorations, and refreshments. The Phoenix Chapter of DeMolay Arizona helped with setting and cleaning up. They were John Canisales, III; Noah Canisales; Nick Rouse; Brian Rouse; Luis Gandarilla; and Nickolas Gandarilla. Also, thanks to everyone who helped out! There were many hands involved in this event!

In regards to our 40th Anniversary, the original Pioneers' Cemetery Association (PCA) was formed in 1938 for the purpose of preserving the seven historic cemeteries near the State Capitol Complex. These cemeteries, which now comprise the Pioneer & Military Memorial Park (PMMP), were in use from 1884 to 1914 and hold the remains of many of Phoenix's pioneering families. The founding board members of the PCA include notable names such as Barry Goldwater, Frank Alkire, Walter Bimson, Carl Hayden, and Thomas Hayden, among others. Thomas Hayden was their Chief researcher and left a legacy of a complete inventory of the PMMP cemeteries including detailed maps with grave marker locations and descriptions. With the death of Thomas Hayden in 1940, and the start of WWII, this first organization was disbanded.

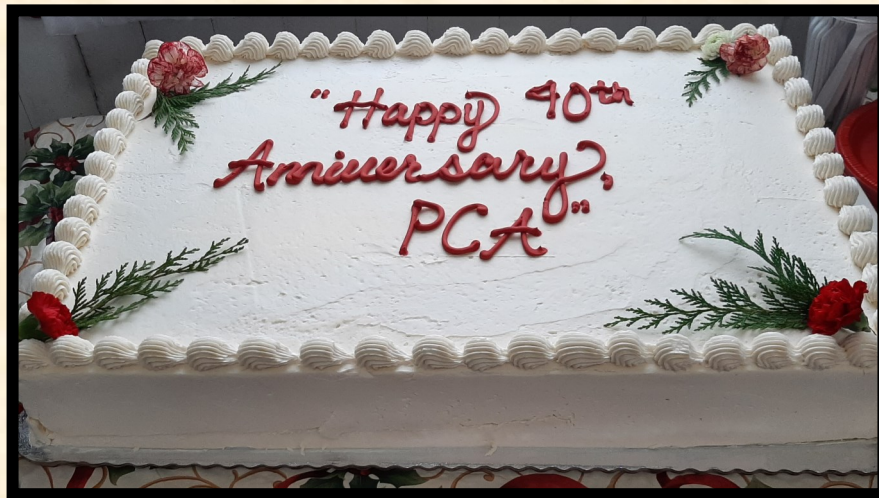
The present PCA was incorporated in 1983 reusing the name of an earlier organization formed in the 1930's. Dan Craig was the first president and still is an active member. Like the first PCA, the current organization, which is a 501c3 non-profit, is interested in the preservation of Arizona's cemeteries, both physically and historically. The PCA also wishes to preserve, interpret, and promote the understanding of archaeological resources as exemplified by the prehistoric, historic, and contemporary cultures of the southwestern region by active fundraising and individual volunteerism. Such cultures include, but are not limited to, the prehistoric Hohokam, and historic Mexican, Chinese and European groups. The PCA hopes to further engage the public in educational programs through on site tours, special events, and exhibits.

The tireless committee members were: Cindy Lee, Denise Foster, Fran Garcia, Margy Parisella, Gail Aamodt, Vicki Galli, Sterling Foster and Donna Carr.

**Thanks to Everyone!**

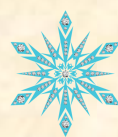


# Pioneers' Cemetery Association's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Annual Holiday Event





# Pioneers' Cemetery Associations 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Annual Holiday Event





## Memorial Markers from First Phoenix Cemetery?

By Ed Dobbins



**William Y. T. Smith**



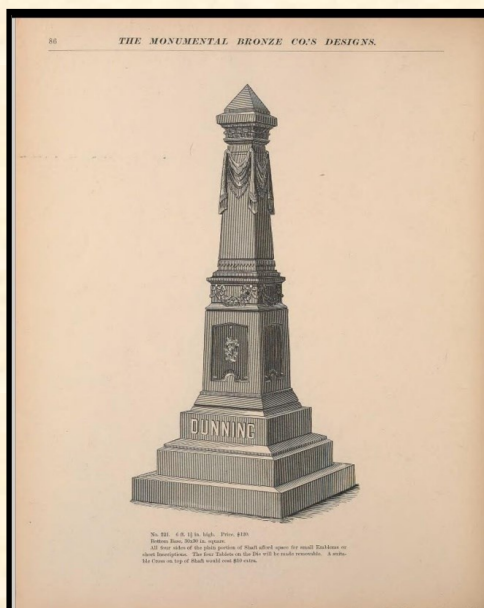
**Bertha A. Shaver**

Two metal panels believed to be grave markers were excavated at Heritage Square in Phoenix by archaeologist Mark Hackbarth during the mid-1990s. They were found in a privy close to the home of John Y.T. Smith and each of the people named on the markers was related to him. Bertha A. Shaver (1862-1882) was his sister-in-law and William Y.T. Smith (1879-1883) was his young son.

The one-third inch thick panels measure about 10 by 8 inches and are made of zinc. They do not carry legible manufacturer's marks, but similar items can be found in the 1882 catalogue for the Monumental Bronze Company of Connecticut. Zinc grave markers were popular from the 1880s to the 1920s as a less expensive alternative to carved stone. Panels like the ones found in the privy were attached to the monument base with three bolts. They carried personal information, decorative designs or were left blank. The memorial illustrated in the catalogue was one of several styles of monuments to which the Smith and Shaver panels could have been attached.

The privy where the markers were found was in service from approximately 1892 to 1909 when it was capped. This time frame indicates the panels were not in use when the bodies were moved from Pioneer & Military Memorial Park (PMMP) to Greenwood in 1914. They might have been in use at either or both the first Phoenix cemetery in the original townsite and PMMP before 1907.





**1882 Monumental Bronze Catalogue**



**Close up of side panel**

The first predominately European cemetery in Phoenix was at the southwest corner of the original Phoenix townsite between 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues south of Madison Street. It served as the cemetery for the townsite of Phoenix between 1871 and 1884. Little is known about the number and types of markers at the cemetery, and the Heritage Square zinc markers are the only candidates known to date. It is possible the Heritage Square zinc panels are from one or two monuments placed for William Smith in 1882 and Bertha Shaver in 1883 at the first Phoenix cemetery.

The original cemetery was replaced in 1884 by PMMP. One zinc monument is located there now, and the presence of others in the past would not be unexpected. William's father, John Y.T. Smith, owned a family plot in the Masons' section of PMMP. The monument(s) with panels for William Smith and Bertha Shaver may have been moved to the family plot at Mason's from the original cemetery or purchased new in 1884 or later for use at PMMP.

John Y.T. Smith's death in 1903 may have been the event that triggered the disposal of the zinc panels. The date falls during the period when the privy was in use. New markers in stone for William and Bertha may have been ordered in 1903 at the same time as the marker for John. His gravestone and those of his son and sister-in-law are carved from the same size, shape and variety of granite. All three exhibit similar spalling on the top surface from weathering. Each of the gravestones could have been placed at Masons in 1903, and then moved to Greenwood in 1914 with the bodies. John's wife Ellen's monument was carved in the same style and material at her death in 1939, and has a less weathered appearance.



These are some of the present day markers of the Smith family for comparison. They can be found at Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery in Phoenix.



## Did You Know?

Here are three of the most popular types of material that are used to mark graves:

**Granite:** A popular choice for headstones due to its durability, wide range of colors, and resistance to weathering and staining. It can be polished to a high shine or left in a more natural finish.

**Marble:** It comes in various colors, including white, gray, and black. However, marble is less durable than granite and may be more prone to weathering over time.

**Bronze:** It can be used in combination with granite or other materials. They can be cast with intricate designs and inscriptions. It's highly durable and resistant to corrosion.



## Membership!

Come one! Come all! Our cemetery is now open to the public during Open Houses from 10am—2pm, and has a treasure trove of information and memorabilia at your fingertips. We are always looking for volunteers and new members.

If you'll be renewing your membership and no information has changed, simply make sure we have your name and note on the form or with your check "no changes" – happy to save you a few steps!



### MEMBERSHIP FORM

- New Member     Renewal

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories:  
 Individual \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$30 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization \$50 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to:**

Pioneers' Cemetery Assoc., Inc.

**Mail to:**

PO Box 33192  
 Phoenix, AZ 85067

*Memberships are for one calendar year and dated from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Membership dues are deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

### I AM INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEER

- Cemetery Tour Guide
- Smurthwaite House Docent
- Gift Shop
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Researcher
- Reenactor
- Record Keeping Assistance
- Grounds Beautification
- Fundraising
- Special Event Volunteer
- Grave Marker Preservation
- Publicity & Marketing
- Graphic Artist & Designer
- Grant Writing
- Academic Liaison
- Newsletter Contributor
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Pioneers' Cemetery Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization, IRS 501(c)(3) status.

Rev. 11/2017

WE'RE ON THE WEB  
AZHISTCEMETERIES.ORG



#### PCA Officers

*President:*  
Patty Gault

*Vice President:*  
Cindy Lee

*Treasurer:*  
Val Wilson

*Historian:*  
Ed Dobbins

#### Membership Benefits

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

[pioneercem@yahoo.com](mailto:pioneercem@yahoo.com)

[azhistcemeteries.org](http://azhistcemeteries.org)

## A Few Notes About the Editor.....

Val Wilson has been editor of the RIP Newsletter for several years. She adores Arizona history, and strongly believes that cemeteries should be preserved and cherished, and the stories and history of the departed should be told. During the day, she is an elementary teacher, and in her spare time (when she is not grading papers), she is president of her town's art commission, and does research for the PCA.



If you have articles or news to submit, contact our Editor at:

[pioneercem@yahoo.com](mailto:pioneercem@yahoo.com)

We are always looking for submissions. Photo submissions need to be photos in which the copyright belongs to you, and any research articles need to be cited. Thanks so much!

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