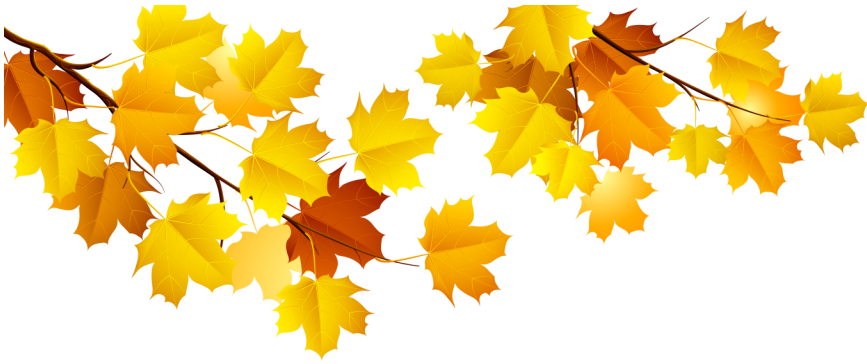


September 2023



The R.I.P. Report

Pioneer Cemetery Association

To

I heed not that my earthly lot
Hath little of Earth in it,
That years of love have been forgot
In the hatred of a minute:
I mourn not that the desolate
Are happier, sweet, than I,
But that you sorrow for my fate
Who am a passer-by.

Edgar Allen Poe



From the PCA President...



I hope you all had a wonderful summer! PCA is in the process of gearing up for the fall and spring. Please keep in touch with our website, as this will post our most current events.

We have been doing the following work at the cemetery:

- Preserving grave markers and the cemetery grounds
- Continuing to install memorial markers
- Brainstorming future goals and budget preparations

Open Houses start the 4th Saturday of the month beginning in September through April (10-2). If you are not currently a member, please consider being apart of PCA as we preserve the history of Phoenix and its pioneers. Hope to see you at Smurthwaite soon!

Patty Gault, President
Pioneers' Cemetery Association

West Virginia Funeral Cake

Cake:

1 stick butter
1 cup granulated sugar
1 egg, beaten
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 cup all-purpose flour
2 tbsps unsweetened cocoa
1/4 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp baking soda
1/4 tsp ground cloves
1 cup buttermilk

Frosting:

1 stick butter, melted
2/3 unsweetened cocoa
3 cups powdered sugar
1/3 cup milk
1 tsp vanilla



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease 9 inch pan. Cream butter and sugar. Add egg and vanilla. Add rest of ingredients alternating with buttermilk, and mix until smooth. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes. Mix butter and cocoa for frosting. Alternately, add milk and powdered sugar. Add vanilla. Beat until smooth, and spread on cake when cool. - Food to Die For

Frank Barrios — In Memoriam



With a heavy heart, we must tell of the passing of one of our beloved members and mentors, Frank Barrios. We remember Frank as a historian, a story teller and a generous man. Many of us knew of his tireless work to preserve Arizona history and especially a little known migrant cemetery in South Phoenix, Sotelo Heard.

Frank spent his life in service to the people of Arizona in many ways. He spent his work life as a civil engineer protecting Arizona's water resources with the US Bureau of Reclamation, Arizona Department of Water Resources and the CAP.

Frank was also very active in the community through his work with St. Vincent De Paul and the Kino Border Initiative and several other community service organizations.

Frank donated his historical photos, writings and effects collected over generations to the Arizona Historical Society. His desire was for the history to continue to be told and not forgotten.

Additional memorials can be read at the online history section of the Arizona Republic.

Vaya Con Dios, Frank.



IT'S A PARTY TO DIE FOR.

Murder at the Ranch

OCTOBER **21** 2023

Tickets are \$20.
Send checks to PCA.
Purchase tickets online for \$21.
(convenience fee included)

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF MELODRAMATIC
MYSTERY & INTRIGUE!
THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT FAST!

The poster features several large, stylized red handprints at the bottom, with fingers spread, set against a light beige, textured background.

I c e C r e a m S o c i a l

Our annual ice cream social for members was an exciting event for those who attended. Attendees enjoyed a nice day eating ice cream and playing Bingo at the house. The weather has finally started to cool and it was the first day of Autumn! Several of our members chatted in the dining area about famous, and infamous, pioneers at our beloved cemetery. Our park is full of tales of history. Consider becoming a member. It is well worth it!



Fan - t a s t i c E v e n t !

by D e b e B r a n n i n g

A big thank you to all of the FANtastic folks who attended the create a decorative FAN Fundraiser! Here are some of their wonderful creations!! Thanks to Megan Taylor for all her guidance on this project!!



On the Origin of Jacob Waltz's Gravestone

The Jacob Waltz gravestone at Pioneers' Cemetery was carved by E. Vance Howe in his garage on 16th Street in Phoenix. Howe was a bookkeeper for the Crystal Ice and Storage Company who did not have a strong interest in the life of Jacob Waltz. He simply enjoyed carving stone as a hobby.

Howe had read about C. H. Coogan placing flowers on Waltz's unmarked grave in the newspaper and Coogan's hope that someone would provide a permanent marker for the site. It took Howe 52 hours of carving to fulfill that hope at no charge to Coogan.

Unlike Howe, Coogan was a Waltz enthusiast who regularly searched for the Lost Dutchman Mine in the Superstitions. In 1968, he planned to leave his job as janitor at Bob's Big Boy to spend the month of February in the mountains.

After reviewing the evidence for the location of Waltz's grave, archaeologist K. J. Schroeder moved the sandstone marker to its current spot in the early 1990s. Les Holtzen, who with his son Tom, had helped Howe and Coogan set the stone the first time, suggested the relocated marker be placed on a secure base made of rocks with fool's gold. The suggestion was not followed.



A Short History of Improvements at Jacob Waltz's Gravesite

By Ed Dobbins

Although many parts of the Jacob Waltz story have been questioned, there's no doubting the attraction of the Lost Dutchman's tale to lovers of local historic lore. Waltz is buried in the southwestern corner of Loosley Cemetery and his grave is one of the most visited locations at PMMP. The gravesite has been improved more than once since the 1960s in efforts to satisfy the public interest in Waltz and enhance the visiting experience. According to a letter in the PCA files, a project to bring attention to Waltz's presence at the cemetery was suggested decades before any enhancements to the site were undertaken.

In the letter dated July 1936, the Dons group of Phoenix requested permission from the city to build a marker for Waltz in an "unused" area of the Loosley Cemetery. They had recently determined that he was buried in the cemetery and believed residents and winter visitors alike would be interested in visiting his final resting place. Although the city manager offered cooperation, he was unable to grant the request because Phoenix did not own the cemetery at that time. Title was not secured to the grounds until twenty years later in 1956. Undaunted, the Dons stuck to their plan of building a memorial and in 1938 erected their popular Lost Dutchman Monument along the Apache Trail.

The first reported improvement to Waltz's plot at PMMP was the placement of the gravestone in the cemetery. It was created by a local stone cutting hobbyist and installed on December 24, 1969. Other enhancements were enacted after the revival of Pioneers' Cemetery Association and the Parks Department's involvement in the cemetery's maintenance. A large walk-through monument simulating a mine in the Superstitions on the trail to the grave was constructed in 1992. Around the same time, the location of Waltz's grave in Block 19 was reviewed and the gravestone moved to its current location.

Two years ago, a committee was formed at PCA with the goal of creating a more attractive and functional visiting area at Waltz's gravesite. Plans are not yet finalized, but already a concrete bench and six large boulders have been put into place. On one of the boulders, a bronze plaque tells the story of the Lost Dutchman. Future additions and events include landscaping with table mesa granite and a short fundraising event, prior to installing a large stone monument that is similar in size and shape to that proposed in 1936.

**A Short History of
Improvements at Jacob Waltz's
Gravesite
(continued)**

Eighty-five years after their original request to place a monument at the cemetery, the Dons of Arizona are still an active group. The committee has reached out to let them know that improvements to Jacob Waltz's gravesite are in progress and their possible participation would be welcomed.



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THE R.I.P. REPORT

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



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

pioneerccm@yahoo.com

azhistcemeteries.org

A Few Notes About the Editor.....

Val Wilson has been editor of the RIP Newsletter for four 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:

pioneerccm@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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