

Bluffton Cemetery Association Newsletter

82 years since the BCA was formed by the citizens of Old Bluffton
~ 149 years since the Bluffton Cemetery was established ~
October, 2013

Bluffton Cemetery is on the Internet

blufftoncemetery.org

Recently the Bluffton Cemetery became a part of the World-Wide-Web, the Internet. A website, blufftoncemetery.org has been published which gives information about the cemetery, the



history of the cemetery, access to the BCA information database, and a means for patrons and others to contact the Bluffton Cemetery Association.

The website, while it is very informative at this time, is still very much a work-in-process. Ad-

ditional features will be added and improved upon in the coming weeks. Feel free to "surf" and check it out.

Be sure and let us know what you think of our new way of promoting our historic cemetery. We would like to hear from you after you give it a "browse."

New Entrance Sign

Earlier this summer our old entrance sign was replaced with a new attractive, easier to read, and more informative sign. The old sign, over 20 years old was showing its age, and its replacement was way

overdue.

The new sign measures 3'x4' and is made of aluminum. It should be very durable, and the sign maker said it would be easy to repair. The sign recognizes both the original "Old Bluffton Cemetery", and the current "New Bluffton Cemetery." Additionally, information about our BCA rules and bylaws are posted, and contact numbers for the current board of trustee directors are listed.

Be sure and read the new sign the next time you are out at the cemetery.



Roll Call

During the past year since our last meeting, the following have passed away and have been interred in our cemetery.

Abernathy, Brenda Darlene
Abshier, Linda Ann (Roberts)
Baugh, Perry Douglas
Burris, Joyce Evelyn (Tway)
Cupp, Herman Doyle
Griffith, Grady Jackson Jr.
Hallmark, Mary Adelaide (Moore)
Harris, Louise Green
Henderson, Lindsey Kim (Ball)
Ketchum, James Michael
Leonard, Evelyn (Clancy)
Little, Thomas E.
Mazurek, Velma C. (Cannellis)
Meador, Edwin Lynn
Means, William Edward
Miller, Betty Louise (Beltz)
Miller, Gayland Kee
Spidle, James Lloyd Dr
Swenson, Allison Gail

Our condolences to the families and acquaintances of these departed souls. May you all find comfort and peace as you visit their final resting places here at the Bluffton Cemetery.

Bluffton/Tow Old Settlers Reunion

The Bluffton/Tow Old Settlers Reunion will be held on Saturday, October 12, 2013, from 11am until 2pm at the Tow Community Center. There will be lots of food and other activities, including VISITING so make your plans now to attend.

We Salute Our Veterans

A recent survey of our cemetery was conducted and we currently have identified 166 veterans interred here. These range from as early as Elijah Arnold, who is identified as serving in the War of 1812, David Hill, in the Battle of San Jacinto, and Tom Gooch, who served in the Mexican War. Many served in the Civil War, World Wars I and II, Korea, and Vietnam.

If you have a loved one who was a veteran, and we do not have him or her identified as such, please notify us and we will make the addition to our records.

We thank our veterans for their service and sacrifices they have made to our country.



Bring the Water

This summer the Bluffton Cemetery Association has provided water for several graveside services held here at the cemetery. This service has been much appreciated by those attending and it is planned that providing water for these services will continue.

We'll see you on Saturday, October 5th at 10am

The Never Ending Job of Maintaining the Cemetery

There is never a shortage of work to be done here at the Bluffton Cemetery. There is always litter to be picked up, keeping the grass under control, trimming trees and picking up limbs, repair and other maintenance to tombstones, graves to be back filled, and the list goes on.



This year alone, director Clay Hallmark reported to the other trustees, that these things had been done: Lots marked to sell and be sold - 7, lots leveled for improved maintenance - 2, headstones leveled/straightened/raised/replaced - 7, large bags of trash removed - 15+, headstones moved/relocated - 4, graves back filled - 3, drainage pipe cleared of dirt and debris and stone curbs placed on each end, filled ruts/low places in the east road, trees trimmed and trimmings burned, plots marked for burials - 19, headstone locations marked - 6, located and raised survey markers - 20, and located and marked all corners that define the burial area of the cemetery.

The trustees are always trying to assure that the cemetery is kept in the best possible condition. If you see things that need to be addressed, just let us know; you can call us, or even send us a message through our website contact page, blufftoncemetery.org.

The Business of Recordkeeping

One of the most important parts of the Bluffton Cemetery Association is the responsibility of keeping the records. This assures that the affairs of the cemetery are kept in order. Due to the possession of many of the original records of the cemetery, we have been able to clear up many problems within the cemetery that we would not have been able to otherwise.

We harp all the time to "contact us" before anything is done at the cemetery; and this is why, we can only have an orderly cemetery if we have orderly and accurate records. Thank you for your help.

Did you know...

That our earliest denizen of the cemetery is Mary Duff (Lot 75, Plot 3)? She was born in 1775, a year before our founders signed the Declaration of Independence; and died on May 13, 1857, seven years before the earliest burials in the Bluffton Cemetery. She was originally buried in what was to become the Casner (Holland) Cemetery, several miles south of Bluffton, on the west side of the Colorado River. Her remains were moved to the New Bluffton Cemetery on September 21, 1931.

