

Methodist Cemetery Association

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Facebook: [The-Methodist-Cemetery](https://www.facebook.com/The-Methodist-Cemetery)

A tax-exempt, non-profit organization

Winter, 2021 Newsletter

President:

Diane Tamayo

Vice President:

Steve Davis

Webmaster:

Steve Shoemaker



Corresponding

Secretary:

Patricia "Pat" Ryan

Recording Secretary:

Nancy Werner

Treasurer:

Kathy Hardy

Overview of Annual Meeting:

On September 12th we had another successful virtual Annual Meeting with fourteen (14) Association members in attendance. At this meeting, it was reported that we had two (2) new members to join this year: Robyn Trower and Jim Thomas. In addition, we had another new life-time member to join: Jeanette Pablo. We now have thirty-six (36) Association members, thirteen (13) of whom are life-time members.

While routine Association business was conducted, which are reflected in the minutes, the highlights of this meeting were as follows:

❖ **Election of Officers for the next two (2) years:**

- **President:** Diane Tamayo
- **Vice President:** Steve Davis
- **Recording Secretary:** Nancy Werner
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Pat Ryan
- **Treasurer:** Kathy Hardy

❖ **Passing of the proposed Bylaw revisions:**

The proposed revisions to the Bylaws were provided in previous notifications to the Association members. Our Bylaws are now completely revised to reflect the current operation of the Association.

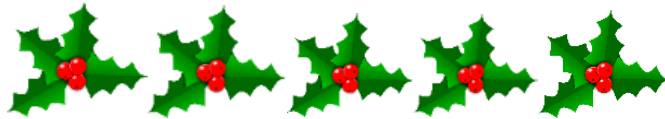
Overview of Annual Meeting (cont'd):

❖ **The “Box” from Previous Cemetery Superintendent, Donald Barnes:**

In a recent move, Mr. Barnes located a box which contained original file cards of Cemetery records from the 1940's, plat map (copies), ledger books (receipts/income, expenses, and disbursements), board meeting minutes, correspondence, etc. A “review committee” was organized to investigate the family and history treasures contained within this box. The review is not yet complete but more on the findings in this box will be provided at a later date.

❖ **Website Enhancement Members-Only Section Proposed:**

The Association is looking at the addition of a “Members Only” menu selection on its website which among other things would provide Association members’ contact information. This will be helpful to members doing ancestral research as well as provide the ability to contact each other. A survey will be conducted to ascertain the members’ interested in this enhancement. Stay tuned for more information that will be forthcoming on this topic.



More News & Notes:

Introduction to Architecture Class from American University:

On November 16th, this class visited the Cemetery for a class study and lecture by our President, Diane Tamayo. It was quite an honor for this Professor to acknowledge the importance of our Cemetery.



More News & Notes (cont'd):

Tree Removal:

In September, our beautiful peach tree was diagnosed with a fungal disease which would have had to be treated every year. On top of that, come to find out, peach trees in our area have a life-expectancy of only about 12 years. Ours was already 14! Turns out the cost to have it taken down was about the same as to have it sprayed only one time! So, Kathy Hardy, along with the Tamayo family, took it down themselves over two (2) days in November, creating a pile of firewood & many containers of cuttings for recycling.

Tombstone Repairs:

Finally in May 2021, we were able to get a number of tombstones repaired! See pictures below.



Row of Broken Stones Before



Row After Repair



Headstone Flat on Ground



Broken Pieces of Same Headstone



Same Headstone Repaired

Announcements:



Steve Shoemaker retiring from Central Penn College: Steve Shoemaker retired after twenty-nine (29) years at Central Penn College on September 20, 2021. He had worked in various roles at the college including faculty, department chair, registrar, and for the last thirteen (13) years, database administrator and SharePoint administrator. He also served as the esports director since 2019. Steve plans to keep busy building websites, doing genealogical research, and spoiling his grandson with the help of his wife, Nona. Steve is the Cemetery Association's Webmaster and will now hopefully have more time to update our website with the many family histories we are receiving and at the same time, provide more "bells and whistles" for our website users.

Welcome New Association
Members



Jeanette Pablo

Jeanette is the daughter of Jean Pablo and a descendant of the Queen and Collins families. Jeanette joined as a lifetime member.



Jim Thomas

Jim is a descendant of the Thomas, Riley, Queen, Payne, & Paxton families.

In Memoriam

We would like to express our sorrow on the passing of two (2) of our members:

Jean Pablo: Jean died on July 6, 2021. She was the great granddaughter of William H. Queen & Sarah Ellen "Lucy" Collins. In addition, she was the great-great granddaughter of Elexious Queen & Altha Ann (Paxton) Queen, as well as the great-great granddaughter of Andrew Jackson Collins & Ellen Rebecca (Mangum) Collins. All of these ancestors are buried in our Cemetery. Jean was a founder and long-time president of Tenleytown Historical Society (THS) and a great friend and supporter of the Cemetery.

Howard Clemons: Howard died on March 31, 2020. Unfortunately, we were not aware of his passing until recently. He was the grandson of Hiliary Marcus Smith & Agnes Eudora (Paxton) Smith, both of whom are buried in our Cemetery along with many of their ancestors. His sister, Marjorie (Clemons) Burnside had been involved with the (previous) Cemetery organization for many years and had acted as secretary during the term when Donald Barnes was Superintendent.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to both of their families.

Family History Corner

The Payne Family &

The John Henry Harry Family

The articles attached to this newsletter were written by Robyn Trower and Kate Dannals.

Robyn is a descendent of the Nokes, Rittue, Clementson, Skidmore, Mattingly, and Payne families. Many of you may find family connections in this article. You may recall that Robyn was introduced as a new member of the Association in the spring newsletter.

In addition, we have the John Henry Harry family history provided by Kate Dannals. This family history traces John Henry Harry through Census records from just about the time of his birth in 1838 up until 1900 and provides valuable family member information. He died in 1916 and is buried in Methodist Cemetery. Kate is the 3rd great granddaughter of John Henry Harry.

As with other family histories that we have been provided, Steve Shoemaker, our Webmaster, will be including these articles on our website for our Association members to access.

We encourage you to submit your own family histories, for our members' benefit. This is an excellent tool for genealogical research of the Tenley Town families many of whom knew each other and are buried here in the Methodist Cemetery.



Thank You Volunteers!!!

Thanks again to Bart and Betty Robey for another bush and small-tree trimming session in November. Your help is greatly appreciated .

The members of the *Methodist Cemetery Association* are comprised solely of descendants and family members of the deceased. In that regard, we are an *exclusive group*. It is our responsibility to take care of our ancestors and to hopefully tell their stories for future generations. It is a pleasure to work with you in this endeavor, and we look forward to continuing to protect this lovely resting place, and to increasing the knowledge of our, often mutual, family histories.

Methodist Cemetery Association
Winter 2021 Newsletter



Diane Tamayo's Christmas Village

Fellow Methodist Cemetery Association Members:

As we enter into another holiday season, I want to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year. We look forward to another successful year in maintaining our historic Cemetery.

Diane Tamayo
President

THE PAYNE FAMILY

By Robyn Trower

I began my family history research over 30 years ago. Since then, I stopped and started a number of times due to lack of results or the process being too time-consuming. But, about 7 years ago I renewed my efforts.

I followed the line from my 3rd great grandfather, Lewis Payne (1828-1864), back to the 1600's. Lewis and his family lived near Tenleytown and he was the first of his line to be born in Washington, DC. His draft registration form says he was a Huckster. His daughter, Annie Elizabeth Skidmore Payne (1852-1932), married William Henry Clementson (1844-1916). Annie and William are buried in the Methodist Cemetery. Their wood marker has been gone for some time, as is the wood marker of their grand-daughter Gladys Jeannette Rittue (1904-1918), known as Jeannette. Her sister, my grandmother, Katherine Kane Rittue Nokes (1909-1939) was also buried in the Cemetery, in an unmarked grave.

Lewis' wife, Mary Ann Mattingly (1831-1901) married Harrison Skidmore several years after Lewis' death. She is buried in the Methodist Cemetery in an unmarked grave. Their son, Ernest Skidmore is also buried in the Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

Many other descendants of Lewis Payne are buried in the Methodist Cemetery. While some Payne relatives are buried in Oak Hill and Congressional Cemeteries in D. C., and Mount Olivet Methodist Cemetery in Arlington, a number are buried in the Payne's Mill Cemetery in Goochland, Virginia. Lancaster County on the Northern Neck of Virginia and Goochland County northwest of Richmond seem to be origins of the Payne family. At least as far as I have gotten. William Payne (1660-1700) is my earliest Payne and is my 8th great-grandfather. His son, George John Payne, Sr. (1680-1744) married Mary Jane Woodson (1678-1743). Mary Jane Woodson is the grand-daughter of Dr. John Woodson, my 9th great-grandfather.

These 9th great-grandparents arrived in Jamestown on the HMS George in 1619. They settled on Governor Yeardley's plantation about 30 miles north of Jamestown. And, yes, they owned slaves. Lots of them, apparently. My 9th great grandfather, Dr. John Woodson (1586-1644) was killed in an Indian massacre during the Third Anglo-Powhatan War.

Along the way in my Payne history is Dorothea (aka Dolley) Payne Madison (1768-1844), the wife of our 4th President, James Madison, her second husband. She was originally buried in Congressional Cemetery but was later moved to Montpelier.

Lt. Josias Payne Sr. (1705-1785) was born in Goochland County, Virginia. A son of George and Mary Jane Woodson Payne, he purchased a farm with his wife Anne Fleming (b. 1705) in 1732 in Goochland County, Virginia and was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1761 and 1765.

Josias Payne Jr. (1735-1804) is grandfather of Mary Louisa Payne (1823-1883) who was married to Aquila Eld Jr. (1820-1878). Eldbrooke Methodist Church was named after his father Aquila Eld, Sr. and Phillip L. Brooke, both active Methodists in the Tenleytown area. Louisa and both Aquilas are buried in the Methodist Cemetery, as are many of their descendants.

But with the good, comes the bad. Besides having numerous slave owners on both sides of my family, my 6th cousin, 3x removed, is Jesse James. We are connected through the Woodson's.

John Henry Harry Family

by Kate Dannals

John Henry Harry was born on January 18, 1838 in Washington, D. C. His parents were John Oden Harry (1810 – 1864) and Mary Ann Nevett (1815 – 1894). John Henry Harry had five siblings, all brothers, whose names are as follows:

- Joseph Willet Harry (1831 – 11/12/1896)
- Alonzo Wallace Harry (1836 – 1855)
- Wallace Harry (1840 – 1867)
- William Harry (1842 – 06/08/1880)
- Theodore F. Harry (1844 – 1874)

On the 1850 Census, John Henry Harry was listed as living “West of the 7th Street Turnpike” in the county of Washington, District of Columbia with his father, mother, five brothers, maternal grandmother, and three other individuals.

On the 1860 census, John Henry Harry was listed as a blacksmith living with his wife Rebecca in Tennallytown First Division. His wife was Rebecca French, daughter of Thomas French and Ellen Burke Foy French, born 1838, died May 12, 1880. The French’s were John Henry Harry’s neighbors at least since 1850.

On the 1870 census, John Henry Harry was listed as a police officer living in Tennallytown with his wife Rebecca and four children: Adele (age 7), Helen (age 5), Burnett (age 3), and Mary (age 10 months). Burnett is a misnomer and should read Bernard. John Henry Harry and Rebecca French Harry had four children whose names are as follows:

- Adele Bernard Harry (1862 – 11/26/1933)
- Helen M. Harry (1863/4 – 04/08/1953) m. William Tyson Burrows (1856 – 06/28/1938)
- John Bernard Harry (09/27/1867 – 11/06/1972) m. Sabra Woodward (11/25/1872 – 04/21/1947)
- Mary Harry, born in August 1869, likely died in infancy, life history unknown past the 1870 census record.

On the 1880 census, John Henry Harry was listed as a widower and a bartender living in First District, Washington, D.C. in his mother’s house with his son John B., his brother William, and a male boarder. His daughter Helen is listed as living next door in the home of John Henry’s brother, Joseph. His daughter Adele is listed as living five houses down in the home of her maternal grandmother, Ellen French.

In the Washington, District of Columbia City Directory 1886, John Henry Harry was listed as living in Tennallytown and working as a blacksmith. This information remained the same in the 1890 Washington, D. C. City Directory.

On the 1900 census, John Henry Harry is listed as a widower and a blacksmith living in a rented property on Wisconsin Ave. with a man named James F. Fox, an unmarried, 55-year-old, day laborer from Pennsylvania.

John Henry Harry does not appear on available 1910 census records. However, in the 1910 Washington, D. C. City Directory he is listed as living on River Road, as is his son John Bernard Harry. Subsequent city directory records show that in 1912 John Henry Harry lived at 3921 Davenport, N.W., and in 1913 he lived at 3925 Grant Road, N.W., which was the home of his daughter, Helen Harry Burrows.

John Henry Harry died November 26, 1916. A death notice was placed in the Washington Times on November 27, 1916. His funeral took place at his daughter’s home on November 28, 1916 and he was buried in the cemetery of Eldbrooke Methodist Church.