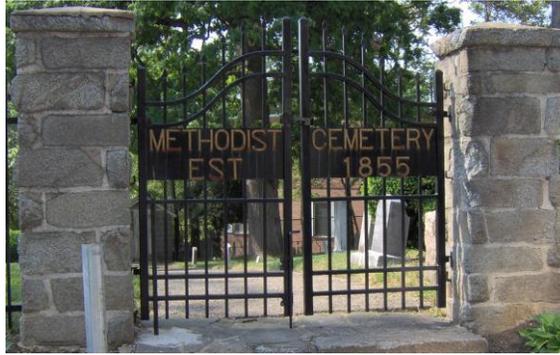


President: Audrey Bates Schwartz
Vice President: Diane Tamayo
Corresponding Secretary: Margaret R. Amundson
Recording Secretary: Dorothy W. Ford



Treasurer: Robert A. Bates
Trustee: Amy Patterson
Trustee: Jacque-Lynne Schulman

Methodist Cemetery Association

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A tax-exempt non-profit organization

Dear Members & Interested Friends,

It is with regret that we must inform you of the death of Audrey Schwartz who served over the past several years as President of the Methodist Cemetery Association. When the need arose a few years ago, and the Association was reforming after several years of inactivity, Audrey stepped up to accept the task of President. She worked tirelessly to see that we received the many grants that enabled the Association to improve the cemetery's appearance: i.e. the new fence and gate; the removal of old and dangerously diseased trees; the repairs to the shed; the planting of new trees, shrubbery, and flowers; and the repair of the many damaged markers and tombstones. Audrey and her husband John spent many long hours maintaining the cemetery grounds as well as working at home on her computer to see that the history and records of the Association were kept up to date. She will be greatly missed.

The Annual Meeting for The Methodist Cemetery Association will be held on Sunday, June 22, 2008 from 2-4 p.m. at Friendship Terrace, 4201 Butterworth Place N.W., in the 3rd floor lounge. This building is directly behind the cemetery, off 42nd Street.

We are requesting that all members make every effort to attend this meeting. Last year, in 2007, we did not have a quorum, and therefore could not elect new officers. This year such an occurrence would be a disaster. We must have a quorum in order to elect a new Board of Directors. Audrey's death has had numerous repercussions. Right now our finances cannot be touched until we have a new president.

We need to have a new official cemetery address for the required annual filing of DC and federal non-profit paperwork. We also need a new phone number for the fence. For the election of a new President, and, in general, in order to conduct future business we simply must have a quorum at this year's meeting. We are committed to maintain and improve the cemetery property. We must maintain our membership, as well as have a quorum present at the general meeting. We would encourage all members to make an attempt to locate descendants of those buried at the Methodist Cemetery. These descendants would hopefully become new members and, once membership dues are paid, would have voting privileges. I would remind all members that membership dues should be paid before or at the general meeting.

On a happier note, the improvements over the past year are significant. We now have a new roof & door for our shed (Spring 2007); we have beautiful new landscaping (4 flowering trees, one in each quadrant of the cemetery; 10 Rose of Sharon bushes along the inside of the back fence, 60 plants along the outside of the fence on 42nd street (including an azalea at the corner) (Summer 2007); and we began additional tombstone repair in November 2007 which is still on-going. All these improvements are thanks to a grant last year from the Columbia Harmony Society. Additional good news is that in April 2008 the Methodist Cemetery was approved for "landmark status" by the DC Historic Preservation Review Board, and a nomination was forwarded to the National Register of Historic Places. Also, although Eldbrooke Church was sold in January 2008, it was sold to another church (City Church) that expressed interest in restoring the building and supported its landmark status (also granted in April 2008).

Agenda for the June 2008 Annual Meeting:

1. Collection of membership dues
2. Old business
 - a. Improvements
 - b. Landmark status
 - c. Treasurer's report
3. New business
 - a. Consider nomination of honorary lifetime membership for John Schwartz who continues to donate his time to care for the cemetery, mowing the grass on alternate weekends during the growing season. (Bylaws grant voting member status to "any spouse of a descendant who was married at the time of the descendant's demise." But we would like to grant John lifetime membership in recognition of his devotion to the maintenance of the cemetery.)
 - b. Election of Board of Directors
 - c. Ideas for the coming year