

ST. JOHN'S HISTORIC CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

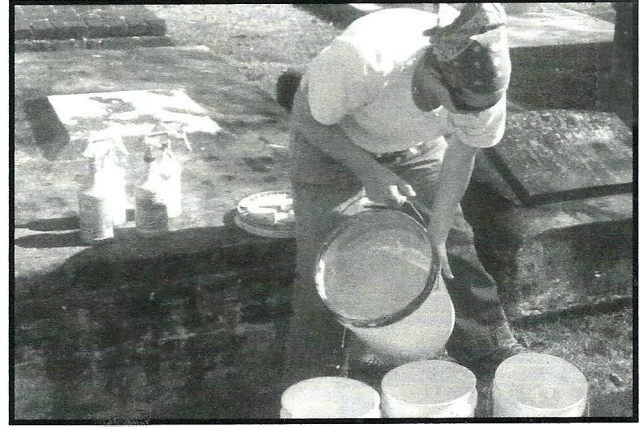
SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

CEMETERY TOMB WORK

Since last September four tombs have been cleaned and the masonry on another restored by Bayou Restoration Group of New Orleans. Pierre Masonry also cleaned two tombs and repaired the large tomb of the Beatty family (most of whom died in the Last Island Hurricane of 1856). A workshop was held to demonstrate tomb cleaning. The repair and restoration continue, thanks partly to Peltier and Lorio Foundation grants and to member contributions. David Cassard, the Cemetery Warden, oversees and records the work for the vestry.



Mike Strausser learning a trade



Getting ready to lime wash

CEMETERY GATES

The front and rear Cemetery gates have been removed and taken to New Orleans for restoration by Andrew's Welding & Blacksmith Shop. The work will be overseen by master ironworker Darryl Reeves. There are multiple fence/gate problems caused by damage from cars, improper repair over the years, or oak tree roots growing into the fence.

ART AT ST. JOHN'S

On the first Saturday after Easter, April 2, Art at St. John's will celebrate its 3rd Annual Art Festival, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It is free and fun; we encourage you to join us. Held on the grounds of St. John's, the show has between 20-25 fine artists displaying their watercolors, photographs, oils, pottery, and woodcarvings.

Last year, we added children's activities provided by Stephanie Donaldson and the Purple Penguin Art Studio, tours of the cemetery led by David Plater, background music provided by Will Robichaux and Rudy Stanga. Delicious food was provided by Nicholas Catering. Such activities will continue this year.

The event raises funds for the preservation and maintenance of the Cemetery. The first year, we made \$778; last year, \$1,164! The popularity of this event is growing. This year, we will increase publicity and fees, and we expect to sell more art and make more money.

So mark your calendars: Saturday, April 2. Come pass a good time with us and be surprised at the talent in Thibodaux. The enlightening Cemetery tours will enable you to see the improvements our Cemetery Association has helped finance and give insight into the lives of the people interred. We also will have good food and beverages and a variety of music playing in the background. (Michael C. Strausser, Chairman)

*The Historic St. John's Association, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code.
All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*