



IN MEMORY

Our community sadly learned recently of the death of Richard Lovegrove. His wife, Jane, provided much information for the story of her relative Georgiana Suthon in last September's Newsletter. For the past few years, the Lovegroves have been living in Roanoke, Virginia, where children reside. Before that, when Jane and Dick lived in Thibodaux, they were active in Cemetery Association and church volunteer work. Dick, a retired advertising executive, frequently wrote a delightful column for the Thibodaux *Daily Comet*.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Association will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2014, at 3 p.m. The meeting will take place in St. John's Episcopal Church, and members of the Board of Directors will be chosen. Those nominated to continue service are Honoré Bourgeois, Sue Herpel, Betsy Magee, David Plater, John Shaver, Lee Shaffer, III, Alice Strausser, and Mike Strausser. All current members of the Association are invited to attend.

BRINGING US CURRENT

Just where are we with the many projects in the Cemetery?

1. The Association paid for a portion of the cost for a recent hard-wood mulching of all trees around the Cemetery. A sapling oak tree will be planted behind the Lawn Crypt along W. Eighth St., after removal of old stumps.
2. Responding creatively, Nicholls State art students completed their designs for signage and a brochure, which will be helpful guidance and information to visitors. The signs will mark a number of historic grave sites and the entrance to the Cemetery and are funded in part by a gift from Jo Wallis in 2013. Additionally, iron aisle markers are planned, and the Association will assist the Vestry with funds from a foundation grant. The signage/brochure/marker project should be completed this year.
3. Four 19th century tombs are in the process of restoration by Pierre Masonry of New Orleans. Mr. Pierre should be completing the work this spring. The church vestry has asked the Association to assist with payment, using funds from the Wallis gift and two small grants.
4. The Association has budgeted for creation of a web site in 2014, with assistance from one of the senior Nicholls art students who worked on the sign designs. The web site will allow any one to gain access to extensive information about the Historic Cemetery.
5. Early in 2013, the Association applied for extensive funding from a local foundation. The application was declined, but the Association was encouraged to re-apply and has done so in January. If we receive what has been requested, the money will be applied to several uses which the St. John's vestry wishes to pursue: A. Continued tomb restoration of damaged, abandoned tombs. B. Development of a detailed plan for the church campus renovation, including parking and entranceway for Cemetery visitors. C. Installation of an iron safety fence along the top of the lawn crypt to the rear of the Cemetery, and a renovation of the gates, the four corner posts, and the front portion of the old fence which surrounds the Cemetery. No doubt these particular endeavors will take more than one year to complete, should the money become available.
6. Finally, uncooperative weather and the lack of appropriate contractors has held up completion of a drainage improvement project in 2013. The project should alleviate some flooding in the Cemetery.

ART AT ST. JOHN'S ON APRIL 5

To be held on Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m. to 3p.m., "Art at St. John's" is an outdoor event, free and open to the public. Designed to showcase and support local fine artists, the show will include works in oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, ceramics, photography, and more.

Artists will participate by invitation, and they are encouraged to demonstrate and share their

Membership – Our memberships are most important to the future of the Cemetery Association and help pay for Cemetery maintenance, budgeted for 2014 at \$6,500. Member donations also are utilized in special repair and improvement projects. By category, the current members as of Dec. 31, 2013, are:

ANGEL (\$500+)

Azby Fund
Jerald Block
Levert Foundation
Marion Lifsey
Peltier Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. D. Plater
Josephone Wallis

CHERUB (\$300-\$499)

Robert Ells II
Marguerite Erwin
Dr. Leo Hebert
Mr. & Mrs. M. Strausser
Mr. & Mrs. R. Lovegrove

SPIRIT (\$100-\$299)

Mr. & Mrs. O. Adams
J. Winston Ardoin
Nancy Blanchard
Harold Block
Nell Boersma
Carolyn Boudreaux
Mr. & Mrs. H. Bourgeois
Virginia Gayle
Mr. & Mrs. J. Dennis
Paul H. Dué
Jonathan Durocher
Quincy Ewing III
Mr. & Mrs. C. Faust
Annie Fredricks
Mr. & Mrs. C. Frost
Patricia Gaubert
M/M Cam Herpel
James Jackson
Linda R. Keller
James Koontz
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Lanier
Mr. & Mrs. W. Lanier Jr.
Rosemary Lovell
Mr. & Mrs. M. Mackenzie
Dr & Mrs. W. Magee III
Mr. & Mrs. R. Marcello
Mr. & Mrs. M. Martin Jr.
John McInerney
Mr. & Mrs. O. Plater