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Fall 2022 Newsletter

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Murder, Mayhem and Misadventure Tour 2022

Jan Root

It has been two years since Save Austin's Cemeteries last held their annual Murder, Mystery and Misadventure tour in person. We had to go virtual due to Covid, but this year, you will be able to meet our special guests and hear the stories of how they or their loved ones met their demise "live" and in person at Oakwood Cemetery.

SAC is happy to announce that our free family-friendly walking tour will be held on October 29th, the Saturday before Halloween. Tours start at 10:00 a.m. and leave on the half-hour, with the last tour strolling out at 2:30. Each tour lasts about 45 minutes.

Some of Oakwood's "residents" eager to tell their stories include the victim of a shooting at one of Austin's saloons, an ambush, one of the servant girl murder victims, a despondent widow, a drowning in the waters of Shoal Creek, and a mourning mother who had to bury her children.

Remember to come prepared. Please wear comfortable shoes as some of the terrain can be uneven. All children

- It's My Park Day
November 5th
- Interpretative
Signage Plan
- SAC Merchandise
- Travis County
Cemetery Updates
- Author Talk: Sarah
Grace Monroe

must be accompanied by an adult and no pets are allowed in city cemeteries. For those with mobility issues, a chauffeured golf cart will be provided twice during the day. The morning golf cart tour leaves at 11:00 a.m. and the afternoon tour rolls out at 1:00 p.m.

This is our most popular event, and we are looking forward to having you join us. It's a great way to learn some of Austin's history! It is free, but donations are welcome and appreciated.

16th Annual Murder, Mayhem, & Misadventure Walking Tours (45 min walking tours, every 15-20 minutes)

Saturday, October 29th
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Oakwood Cemetery
1601 Navasota St Austin TX






Free Admission with
Free Parking!
Donations gladly accepted

Hosted by SAC (Save Austin Cemeteries) sachome.org/calendar

Voices of Evergreen Premiere

Melissa Rogers

On March 26, 2022, *Voices of Evergreen* premiered at Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church. *Voices of Evergreen* tells the stories of Evergreen Cemetery and five notable community members buried at Evergreen Cemetery, including Elmer Akins, Juanita Craft, Friendly Rice, Normal Scales, Sr., and Karl Downs. The video was produced by MultiMedia Maze, LLC, and features actors from Spectrum Theatre Company. Judy Arnold embodied the Spirit of Evergreen singing between each biography. Harrison Eppright is the narrator. Funding for the video came from a Heritage Grant from the City of Austin, Department of Heritage Tourism. The premiere was a wonderful event bringing together descendants and community members to share the stories of these incredible Austinites and reminisce about their legacies.

If you missed the viewing of *Voices* in March, it will be shown in November (date TBA) at The George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center.

The premiere of *Voices* was so well-received and so many people in the audience had positive comments that Save Austin's Cemeteries has sought and received grant funding from Preservation Austin to produce *Voices of Evergreen 2*. In collaboration with The George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, a premiere of *Voices of Evergreen 2* is tentatively scheduled for February 2023 during Black History Month.

In connection with the *Voices* series, Save Austin's Cemeteries and The George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center will be collaborating on an exhibit highlighting significant community members buried at Evergreen.

Save Austin's Cemeteries Receives Historic Preservation Austin Grant

Melissa Rogers

Save Austin's Cemeteries is pleased to announce that it has received a Preservation Austin Education grant of \$4,500 to produce the second installment in the *Voices of Evergreen* series, which highlights the diverse stories of historically significant Austinites buried at Evergreen Cemetery in East Austin. This funding is part of Preservation Austin's mission to empower Austinites to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful community culture through preservation. By providing small, but impactful grants, Preservation Austin can affect real change in the preservation and interpretation of the historic places that mean the most to the community. We are grateful for Preservation Austin's support and are eager to continue our work on this project.

SAC Membership Drive

Sally Victor and the Membership Committee

As 2022 draws to an end, SAC sincerely hopes that everyone had a tremendous year, even though the drought and heat were hardly fun. As the weather gets cooler, we want to remind all members, and of course, members-to-be that 2023 dues are now payable.

Please access the membership page <https://www.sachome.org/membership> and choose the level of membership and preferred method of payment: check or card. There are three levels of membership. If you are not sure if you need to renew for next year, please check with us at info@sachome.org

\$20 – Individual Annual Membership
\$15 – Student and over 60 Annual Membership
\$500 – Lifetime membership

With great pleasure, we announce that we now have 25 lifetime members! They are descendants, historians, architects and cemetery enthusiasts. That means these folks have paid their membership for the rest of their years. All memberships help SAC fund projects throughout the year. Take a look at our accomplishments in the rest of the newsletter and be amazed at how SAC can combine various grants with our matching funds and in-kind services.

Murder, Mayhem and Misadventure: Volunteers Needed

Kay Dunlap Boyd

VOLUNTEERS! Volunteers make all of our events possible and successful. If you can assist in any way on October 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at MMM, we can use your help. The tents need to be placed at 8:30 and removed at 3:00. We need to be sure our actors have water, we need people at the sign-in table, to keep the tours moving, and to just be on call

to run errands. If you are available early, 10-12:30 or 12:30-3:00 or late to clean up, let us know what time is good for you at info@sachome.org.

Undertold Marker Project – Recognition for Juanita Craft and Gene Ramey

Melissa Rogers

In 2006, the Texas Historical Commission established an account to offer funding incentives for special or priority markers. Funds are intended to address historical gaps, promote diversity of topics, and proactively document significant underrepresented subjects or untold stories. Nominations for 2022 undertold marker funding opened on October 1st and runs to November 15th, 2022. SAC will submit two applications for the undertold marker project for Juanita Craft and Gene Ramey.



Juanita Jewel (Shanks) Craft is buried at Evergreen. She was a civil rights leader, joining the Dallas branch of the NAACP in 1935. She was appointed Dallas NAACP membership chair in 1942 and 1946. She helped organize 182 branches of the NAACP in Texas over a period of 11 years. In 1955, she attempted to enroll the first Black student at North Texas State College (now North Texas State University), thus precipitating a battle that was eventually won through litigation. That same year, her youth group spearheaded the picketing of the State Fair of Texas to protest the policy of admitting Blacks only on Negro Achievement Day.

[TSHA entry on Juanita Craft](#)

From 1961 through 1964, she led the Youth Council in picketing lunch counters, restaurants, theaters, and public transportation to protest segregation. In 1967, she initiated an investigation of fraudulent trade-school practices in Black communities in Dallas; it resulted in the passage of legislation establishing rules for such schools.

Juanita Craft was a Democratic precinct chairman from 1952 to 1975 and served two terms on the Dallas City Council between 1975 and 1979. During her fifty years of public service, she received the Linz Award, Dallas's highest civic award (1969), the NAACP Golden Heritage Life Membership Award (1978), and the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award for public service (1984). In 1985, the NAACP recognized her fifty years of service to the organization. Her house in Dallas is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in recognition for its importance as a community gathering place and her civil rights efforts (located at 2618 Warren Avenue, awarded 2010, #16679).

Mrs. Craft had no children and her grave at Evergreen Cemetery is unmarked. SAC will work with Rachel Burrow, who is an expert on Mrs. Craft's legacy, on the application. Ms. Burrow wrote her master's thesis on Mrs. Craft.

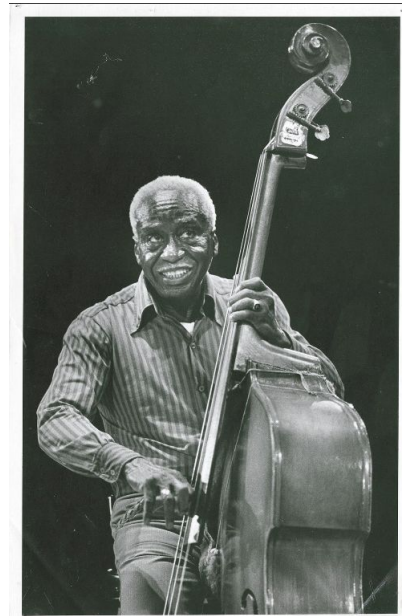
Gene Ramey was a jazz bassist from Austin, Texas. Mr. Ramey learned to play numerous instruments as a child, but discovered his love of the string bass from the famous Kansas City bassist Walter Page. In 1934, Mr. Ramey secured a full-time music gig the following year with pianist Margaret "Countess" Johnson, in addition to playing with various other groups. In 1938, Ramey played bass

with the last of the great Kansas City bands, led by pianist Jay McShann. Along with Texas drummer Gus Johnson, Ramey helped drive the McShann band, which featured alto saxophonist Charlie Parker, who would become one of the most inventive improvisers in jazz history. Ramey worked individually with Parker and helped him develop his mastery of keys and chord progressions.

Moving to New York in the early 1940s, Ramey played with era's prominent bandleaders, including Coleman

Austin History Center PICA# 20363

Hawkins, Luis Russell, Ben Webster, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Oran "Hot Lips" Page, Tiny Grimes, and Thelonious Monk. He went on to perform with the Count Basie orchestra and recorded with Lester Young.



In the 1960s, he worked with Mugsy Spanier, Teddy Wilson, Jimmy Rushing, and Peanuts Hucko, and he toured in Europe with Jay McShann and Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson. Ramey even backed Bob Dylan on his 1963 release of "Don't Think Twice It's All Right." In 1965, Ramey recorded with pianist Earl "Fatha" Hines and Texas saxophonist Budd Johnson, and on their version of "Sometimes I'm Happy," the bassist booms out his lines and helps Johnson produce one of his finest tour-de-force solos.

In 1976, Ramey moved back to Austin, Texas, to operate a small farm near Round Rock. He gradually drifted back into the area jazz scene and performed with the Jim Cullum Jazz Band and with Herb Hall, both in San Antonio. In Austin, he played in area clubs and at Hyde Park Theatre. He also toured Europe in 1977 and 1979 with McShann's orchestra. Ramey commented that he was "an Austinite that got transplanted for a few years." Mr. Ramey is buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

Alan Garcia, SAC Board Member, archivist and the founder of ATX Barrio Archive, an Instagram account chronicling the cultural histories of Austin's POC neighborhoods, is working on the application for a historical marker for Mr. Ramey.

City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department Updates

Caitlin Hill, Programs Manager, Cemetery Operations

Austin Memorial Park Wildflower Meadow

As discussed in the meeting we held this spring over Zoom, Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) will begin the conversion of a portion of the open field at Austin Memorial Park into a wildflower meadow that will encourage native plant growth and support native wildlife.

Work to remove invasive plants before seeding native species will begin in the coming weeks. If you are interested in helping, please contact Caitlen Hill at

Programs_Conservation@austintexas.gov or the main cemetery's office 512-978-2320.



Evergreen Cemetery Road Improvements

Evergreen Cemetery is undergoing road improvements. The project intent will be to resurface the road system within Evergreen Cemetery, construct a curbing system to delineate between road and grounds surface, and install a kiosk near the flagpole that will include information about the cemetery and a map of the sections.

The project began with surveying earlier this year and the resurfacing and curb construction began August 18th.

Traffic within Evergreen will be rerouted as necessary to avoid any disruptions to interments, visitations, or day-to-day operations. At least one of the gates into the cemetery will be open during regular operating hours (7 a.m.-7 p.m.).

All inquiries can be directed to the Cemetery Operations office at 512-978-2320.

Tree Watering at Austin Memorial Park Cemetery

As you likely have noticed over the years, drought, ice storms, and diseases have caused many of the trees in Austin Memorial Park to be removed. Cemetery Operations is working to plant more trees in the coming months/years and will need help ensuring they are watered appropriately while they become established. If you are interested in tree watering at any of the cemeteries, please contact Caitlen Hill at

Programs_Conservation@austintexas.gov or 512-978-2320.



Community Review of Draft Cemetery Rules

The City of Austin is presenting the updated draft of proposed Cemetery Rules and Regulations for community review and feedback. Community members are invited to review and provide comments from September 7 through October 10 online. Review and Comment Online: <https://publicinput.com/cemetery-rules-review>

In addition, we will host a virtual community meeting on October 10 to review aspects of the draft rules and provide an opportunity for community questions and comments during the virtual setting. Register for Zoom meeting on October 10, 2022, 6 p.m.: <https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/91234567890>

Oakwood Cemetery Chapel Happenings

Jennifer Chenoweth, Museum Site Coordinator



On October 1, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., the Oakwood Chapel is excited to host Dennis Jacob Berry, the great-great-grandson of Reverend Jacob Fontaine, to give an artist and family heritage talk at the Chapel. Mr. Berry honors his ancestor by becoming the CEO of Berryink 48 LLC: a published author, artist, producer, recording artist, actor, designer, NFT creator, and speaker – all motivated through his story of survival. October 1 is also Mr. Berry's birthday, so help us welcome home Austin's son with ice cream cake.

Please RSVP on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/408054270307>

The Oakwood Cemetery Chapel's fall exhibit "To Carve" interprets cemetery monument shapes, symbols, and carved details. The monuments at Oakwood Cemetery will be examined to learn about the shapes, symbols, and carved details found in different types of stone. These functional artworks will also be interpreted in different artistic mediums by Austin artists.

Author, speaker, and researcher Tui Snider <https://tuisnider.com/> will be in Austin on October 10-11 to film a video interpreting monuments and symbols at Oakwood Cemetery, which will be part of the exhibit. While here, she will give an evening book talk on Tuesday, October 11 at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/408045273397>

The "To Carve" exhibit events will also include an open house for the Austin Studio Tour for two weekends: November 12-13 and 19-20 from noon-6 p.m. Young artists that apprenticed the Museums and Cultural Programs Division this summer in the Austin Civilian Conservation Corps will show their artistic interpretations of cemetery monuments. The Augmented Reality (AR) class at The University of Texas at Austin, taught by Katy McCarthy, will showcase their virtual interpretations of the cemetery.



Three New In-Kind Members

Melissa Rogers

Susan and Pablo Garcia and Keith Crippen were made members of SAC in recognition of their dedication and hard work on SAC's behalf over the past few years. Susan and Pablo first joined SAC to put out flags at Austin Memorial Park for Veterans' Day. Since then, they have been enthusiastic volunteers at It's My Park Days, clean ups at Oakwood, and Susan does genealogical research for SAC and the Oakwood Chapel.

Keith Crippen, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Capital Lodge #23, has worked tirelessly helping to fabricate and install two concrete cradles to protect damaged monuments at Oakwood Cemetery. Keith continues to work with SAC on various projects – including collecting flags that were placed on veterans' graves at Evergreen Cemetery. Without the dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work of volunteers like Susan, Pablo, and Keith, SAC would not be successful. Thank you so much!

It's My Park Day – Spring 2022

Melissa Rogers

Volunteers led by SAC Board Member Mark Heep pitched in on March 5, 2022, for a clean-up at Oakwood Cemetery. The intrepid band cleared brush, cut back hackberry bushes, and picked up trash. We appreciate these volunteers so much and their efforts dramatically improved the appearance of a corner of Oakwood. Thank you so much for joining us and risking poison ivy!

It's My Park Day – Saturday, November 5, 2022

Melissa Rogers



Please join us for a Fall project on It's My Park Day, Saturday, November 5. Save Austin's Cemeteries has two projects this year – chose the one that speaks to you!

From 10 a.m. to noon, we will be placing flags on Veterans' graves at Austin Memorial Park Cemetery.

If you like to get your hands dirty, you can join us at Oakwood Cemetery from 9:30 a.m. to noon, where we will be cleaning up and removing brush and small trees (mostly hackberry) that are encroaching on and damaging headstones. We may also reset some footstones.

Wear long sleeve shirts and long pants, as well as wear work gloves, to protect against possible poison ivy and insects. Bring pruners if you have them. Please register with the Austin Parks Foundation for this event – they will provide you with a free shirt! Register here: <https://austinparks.org/impd/>

SAC Hires Professor Tara Dudley to Create an Interpretive Signage Plan

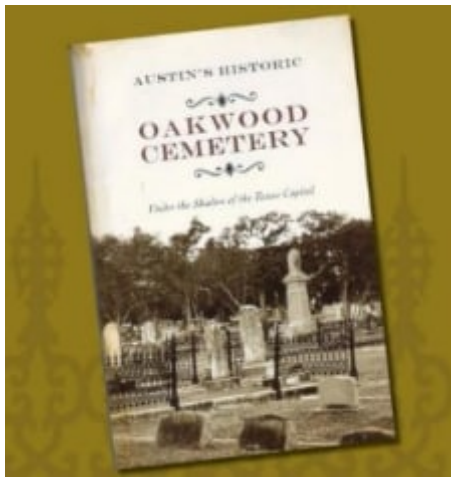
Melissa Rogers

Over 2,300 African Americans, as well as other marginalized individuals, are buried in unmarked graves in Oakwood Cemetery's "Historic Colored Grounds." To reclaim the history of Austin's early African Americans and marginalized citizens – including Latinos, paupers, and strangers, SAC has retained Dr. Tara Dudley to create an Interpretive and Signage Plan for the "Historic Colored Grounds" and for Oakwood Cemetery Chapel that was built over existing graves. These interred individuals provide evidence of Austin's difficult history that includes slavery, segregation, discrimination, and colonialism. Their lives as part of Austin's history must not be forgotten.

Dr. Dudley is a Professor at the University of Texas Austin's School of Architecture with expertise in Architectural History and Historic Preservation.

New SAC Merchandise: Book Reprint and Caps

Melissa Rogers



Save Austin's
Cemeteries
reprinted our
sold-out
book,
*Austin's
Historic
Oakwood*



Cemetery: Under the Shadow of the Texas Capitol. Its narratives and photographs create connections from Austin's start as a 19th century wild outpost to the 21st century city we know today. In addition to the book, you also need to have a stylish SAC cap to shade your eyes while you enjoy all the upcoming events at Oakwood!

The Oakwood books are \$20 and SAC caps \$25 at the chapel and through mail order at this link: <https://www.sachome.org/merchandise>.

Both the book and caps will be on sale at our upcoming MMM event at Oakwood Cemetery on October 29th. The caps will be on sale for \$20 at MMM on October 29th. There is no sales tax on these items.

Activities, History, and Notes from Other Travis County Cemeteries

Kay Dunlap Boyd

Cemeteries matter to Texans! According to the Texas Historical Commission, there are roughly 50,000 cemeteries in Texas. These range from single, isolated, and often unmarked graves to expansive cemeteries spanning hundreds of acres and reaching up to hundreds of thousands of burials. Many are endangered due to lack of historic context and knowledge of their presence or exact location.

Davis Family Cemetery, 2705 Twin Oaks Dr., Austin (Vine at Twin Oaks Dr). Thanks to Allandale Lawn and Landscape and owner, Bart Sherman, for again contributing mowing and trimming services for the Davis Family Cemetery. After our rain, we had a tree down. Shoutouts to all the neighbors who helped with the fallen tree and clean up. There is a little to do yet, but seven compost carts were filled. Follow on the Davis Family Cemetery Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DavisFamilyCemeteryAllandaleAustin/>

Hornsby Cemetery, 10700 FM 969, sits on land that was part of Reuben Hornsby's Spanish Land Grant. This cemetery was the first one in Travis County. It is managed by trustees and a board that consists of Hornsby family members. The board oversees cemetery maintenance, expenses, burials, and fundraising. Burials are limited to relations of Reuben Hornsby. Visitors are welcome to come and take a step back in time in Texas history. One grave will attract sports fans with its baseballs and glove, for this is where baseball legend Rogers Hornsby is buried. Last but not least, you will see the Historic Texas

Cemetery marker placed at Hornsby Cemetery in May of 2002 by the Texas Historical Commission. For more information and photos, check out the Hornsby Cemetery Board's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/hornsbycemeteryboard/>

Mount Calvary, 2329 N. I-35, Austin. Established in 1879, Mount Calvary is the oldest Catholic Cemetery in the city. TxDOT has decided not to impact Mount Calvary during the I-35 expansion partially due to its history with the citizens of Austin. Soon, the cemetery will be ready for volunteers to help rehabilitate stones and cleanup the grounds. Follow them on the Mount Calvary Cemetery Facebook page: www.facebook.com/mountcalvaryaustintexas/

Park Springs, 18542 Lockwood Rd, Manor. Parks Springs Cemetery is an old African American cemetery located three miles outside of Manor. The first known grave dates to 1894, and Parks Springs Baptist Church, that shares the property, was built in 1898. The cemetery has been neglected for decades, and is largely overgrown with invasive brush and trees. Additionally, large amounts of trash have been dumped there in the last fifty years, including directly on graves. In August of 2020, a small group of volunteers began the rehabilitation of the cemetery. Many dumpster and trailer loads of trash and brush have been removed. We have judiciously cleared about four acres of land, leaving all of the giant post oak trees. While clearing the land, we have discovered many headstones that had been hidden by the brush. The current count of known burials sits at 667, but undoubtedly there are many more. The clearing of the cemetery is an ongoing project, and will take lots of work in the future.

San Jose II, 2512 Hoeke Lane, Austin (just south of the East Riverside and Hwy 71 intersection). It is time to renew efforts of focusing attention on our beloved Cemeterio San Jose (SJ I) at 718 Montopolis Drive and San Jose II off of Hoeke Lane. The San Jose II Cemetery Community clean-up is scheduled for October 8th and 9th (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Specifics of what we will do will be posted and of course subject to the weather. Collaboration with ProyectoTEATRO is in the works regarding the Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead) festivities. www.facebook.com/groups/atxhispaniccemetery/

Tarleton Young Cemetery, Loop 360 at Walsh Tarleton Lane. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) has recognized Tarleton Young Cemetery as a significant part of Texas history by awarding it an Official Texas Historical Marker. The cemetery's designation honors Tarleton Young Cemetery as an important and educational part of local history. A dedication ceremony to commemorate the event will be held on Saturday January 14, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Tarleton Young Cemetery. "We would like to thank Balcones DAR, Save Austin Cemeteries (SAC), all the volunteers and donors that made this possible" said Christy Boyd, president of Tarleton Young Cemetery Association. This cemetery was the

recipient of the first SAC Grant.



Tarleton Young Cemetery
Photo by Christy Boyd

White Rock Cemetery, 14101 Hwy 71W, Bee Caves. Regularly scheduled clean-up days of the cemetery are the 3rd Saturday in October and May.

Author Talk with Sarah Grace Monroe: Her Family History Cookbook

Megan Spencer



On a hot afternoon in July, a large audience gathered inside a very cool Oakwood Chapel to enjoy a talk and great conversation with author, Sarah Grace Monroe. She wrote a family history centered around recipes passed down through years. Sarah was a history teacher

and history has been her passion since she was very young. She also enjoyed collecting recipes from relatives. She is a native East Austinite and she has twenty ancestors buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Her family urged her to write a book, so, in 1994, she began researching family history and recipes seriously. She had her DNA test done and she found out that all the stories she had heard were true! Sarah is from Everywhere! Growing up, she loved to be in the kitchen with the women listening to their stories about ancestors and preparing food.

She had a very special relationship with her Grandma Grace, who provided a large number of the recipes in the book. The food was European, much of it English and German – mince pie and sauerkraut. It was because of slavery that her Grandma Grace learned about these foods and then passed down these recipes. This is food that was cooked by her ancestors who were enslaved. Lynching and slavery are a part Sarah's family's history, but when she was growing up, the family didn't talk about these things. Her book is a treasure!

Below are links to the Author Talk with Sarah Grace Monroe and an interview with Jennifer Chenoweth. Please take a few minutes to listen to and/or view the stories captured in these videos. They are so wonderful!

[Oakwood Cemetery Chapel YouTube playlist](#)

Author talk: Sarah Grace Monroe <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P4Q21u6uOQ8>

Oral history: Sarah Grace Monroe

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/f2792615f8a24e47b31ce5f23ca95eea?item=3>

Calendar

Oct 1	To Emancipate: Dennis Jacob Berry, Author Talk, Oakwood Chapel, 2 - 4 pm
Oct 11	To Carve: Tui Snider, Author Talk, Oakwood Chapel, 6 - 7:30 pm
Oct 29	Murder Mayhem and Misadventure Tours, Oakwood, 10 am - 2:30 pm
Nov 5	It's My Park Day, Oakwood 9:30 am - noon; Austin Memorial Park, 10 am - noon
Nov 12-13 & Nov 19-20	<i>To Carve: Austin Studio Tour, noon - 6 pm for two weekends</i>

Donate

Submit an Article to the SAC E-newsletter

If you would like to submit an article to the SAC e-newsletter, please send your article or idea to info@sachome.org.

SAC Board Meetings

If you are interested the city's cemeteries and would like to attend a board meeting, please contact info@sachome.org to confirm the time and place of the next board meeting.

SAC is a non-profit organization, therefore, your membership counts as a charitable donation! SAC offers 4 levels of membership:

- **\$20 - Individual Annual**
- **\$15 - Senior (age 60+) Annual**
- **\$15 - Student Annual**
- **\$500 - Lifetime**

Join and pay by check or credit card

Board Members

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 Jan Root, Vice President
 Arro Smith PhD, Secretary
 Sally Baulch, Treasurer
 Kay Boyd, Historian
 Karen Eshliman
 Alan Garcia
 Mark Heep
 Lydia Moore
 Eleanor Thompson
 Sally Victor*

Newsletter Editors

*Megan Spencer
 Leslie Wolfenden
 Basil Derry*



Save Austin's Cemeteries is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to preserving historic cemeteries in Austin through documentation, preservation, and education and promoting them as local and state cultural resources. Dale Flatt founded Save Austin's Cemeteries in 2004 when he saw the need for a higher level of maintenance at Oakwood Cemetery. Since then, SAC has been actively participating in the preservation efforts at the seven city cemeteries.

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