



SEPT. – OCT. 2018

# Orange County Cemetery District

## TRUSTEES

Kelly Rivers, Chair  
Cynthia Ward, Vice Chair  
Noel Hatch  
Maribel Marroquin  
William E. Nelson

25751 Trabuco Road  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
(949) 951-9102 – Phone  
(949) 951-0236 - Fax  
[www.occemeterydistrict.com](http://www.occemeterydistrict.com)

Tim Deutsch, General Manager

## Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Presents: “American Royalty: Orange County’s Hidden History” Sat., Oct. 20, 2018 at Santa Ana Cemetery and Fairhaven Memorial Park

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society’s 21st annual award-winning cemetery tour will celebrate little known stories of Orange County “Royalty.” Enjoy a unique look at the history of Orange County through the words of those who lived it; meet princes to presidents who witnessed and influenced the formation of today’s vibrant community including “Count” Bozenta, husband of famed actress Madame Modjeska, the Maharaja of Indore and his American wife Marguerite, and President Warren G. Harding. Docents greet guests at the final resting places of historic local figures, set in the beautiful grounds of Fairhaven Memorial Park and Santa Ana Cemetery, where costumed actors play out scenes from Orange County history.

This event is an exciting and fun glimpse into the past! Small groups, a lovely outdoor setting, and close access to the actors make the tour an entertaining outing for the whole family. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.SantaAnaHistory.com](http://www.SantaAnaHistory.com) or contact the Preservation Society at (714) 547-9645.



The Maharaja of Indore, Santa Ana’s richest resident is pictured above. He is one of many fascinating personalities you will meet on the tour.

## You’re Invited! Please Mark Your Calendar for these Upcoming Events!



**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**  
at Anaheim Cemetery

FRIDAY, NOV. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5 to 7 p.m.

Please join us as we gather in front of the Community Mausoleum for this free event.

The program features a short memorial service honoring deceased family members and is followed by performances of mariachi music and traditional dances. While supplies last, the District provides small bundles of marigolds to decorate the graves of loved ones or to use for your ofrenda at home. There will also be free light refreshments including delicious Pan de Muerto prepared by a local Anaheim bakery. Children will also enjoy our Dia de los Muertos craft table. We hope to see you there!



**VETERANS DAY PROGRAM**  
at El Toro Memorial Park

SUNDAY, NOV. 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

Help us honor and say, “Thank you!” to the dedicated men and women of our Armed Services at our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Observance. This Veterans Day also marks the 100-year anniversary of the signing of the armistice with Germany that ended hostilities during World War I. Our program will feature a keynote speaker, special patriotic music, a wreath laying ceremony with representatives from local cities, combined color guards, and an honor guard firing salute. Special thanks to the Mission Viejo DAR Chapter, American Legion Post 862, VFW Post 6024, and the Freedom Committee of Orange County for helping us plan this event.

## New Public Restroom and Niche Feature in Progress at El Toro Memorial Park – Estimated Completion in November

The unwritten law of construction is to expect the unexpected, and El Toro Memorial Park's new niche feature and public restroom project is no exception to that rule. Due to additional requirements from the City of Lake Forest for the grading and retaining wall, the project has seen some delays. We currently expect the project to be completed in November with niches being available for sale by the end of that month.

In August, site grading and excavation were completed. The massive 35-foot long column rebar forms were set and sonotubes placed for the pouring of concrete caissons to secure the retaining wall. Electrical and plumbing lines were installed. In the upcoming days, construction of the retaining wall itself will begin to take shape. Inspectors most recently gave the green light for the contractor to pour the foundation for the new public restroom and then framing of the structure will commence.

We ask for your patience as work continues on this project and apologize for the inconvenience in reduced access to the Los Alisos Niche Wall and the Los Alisos Lawns that are located adjacent to the niche wall, around the flag pole, and the lawn that wraps down toward the construction site. If you are visiting the grounds during office hours which are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., we would like to remind you that public restrooms are available for use inside the Cemetery Office Building.

Once work is complete at El Toro Memorial Park, Horizons Construction will move to Santa Ana Cemetery and begin work on restroom renovations in the cemetery office, as well as the installation of a new sewage holding tank. The



new restroom renovations will allow visitors to the cemetery to have access to public restrooms from the outside of the building without having to enter the restroom through the Cemetery Manager's office. This will give family's making interment arrangements greater privacy and respect. It will also allow visitors to the park to enjoy indoor bathrooms on the weekend as well, instead of having to use the portable toilets currently available.

## Restroom Renovations at Anaheim Cemetery Start Early



When work was delayed at El Toro Memorial Park, Horizons Construction moved operations to the restroom remodel at Anaheim Cemetery. Demolition of the walls, floor, and concrete and asphalt parking area are complete. New concrete and asphalt has been poured and painting of the parking stalls and handicap marking is finished. The rough framing of the new interior walls and doorways are done and new utility lines to the facilities have been placed. We are now waiting for doors and frames to be installed to complete the closing of the walls.



As with Santa Ana Cemetery, this project also allows visitors to access the restroom from the outside of the building, giving families making arrangements inside the office greater privacy and respect. It will also be a benefit to weekend visitors who will now be able to use indoor restrooms even when the office is closed.

## Santa Ana Cemetery Adds 304 New Full Casket Spaces

Our hardworking groundskeepers at Santa Ana Cemetery took on the project of demolishing two interior roadways, installing new irrigation lines, and planting new lawns where the roads once were. Their efforts resulted in the creation of 304 new casket spaces. By completing this work with our own staff instead of bidding the work out to a contractor, the Orange County Cemetery District saved approximately \$25,000.

The new lawns are located between Sections N and X and Sections I and O. As you enter the cemetery off of Santa

Clara Ave., turn right and then make an immediate left. As you drive forward the new lawns are on the left and right. These spaces are currently available for sale to families who have an immediate need for interment services. Due to the limited number of available casket spaces, Santa Ana Cemetery is no longer selling casket interment space to families for advanced planning.

Staff is now looking at traffic flow to determine if there are any other roads that can be closed to create additional interment space without impacting access to existing lawns.

## Loose Landscaping Rocks + Lawnmowers = BAD NEWS!

Recently, groundskeepers have encountered several markers (gravestones) where visitors have placed loose landscaping rocks all around the edges of the marker as a decorative border. While it may look nice, it is also very dangerous to staff and any cemetery visitors who may be nearby these gravesites when mowing occurs.

If our groundskeepers do not see the rocks and drive over the marker with a riding lawnmower, the loose rocks get picked up and hurled out from the lawnmower. These hazardous projectiles can cause serious injury to people

nearby, not to mention causing damage to our lawnmowers. As the rocks are expelled they can also cause severe harm, not only to the marker that was lined with the stones, but to neighboring markers as well.

We respectfully ask that you please DO NOT line markers or gravesites with any kind of loose rocks. Also, please understand that pressing the rocks down in to the turf does not solve the problem or eliminate the hazard. Any loose rocks found on gravesites will be immediately discarded. We appreciate your cooperation.

## New Grass Bins Save Time & Money at El Toro Memorial Park

In the past, mowing lawns at El Toro Memorial Park meant multiple, time-consuming trips to transport grass clippings from the lawn being mowed all the way to the back of the cemetery where the large yard waste dumpster is kept in the dirt storage compound. But recently, the District purchased two new, large, portable bins that can be staged right next to the lawns. Now groundskeepers can just back the mowers right up to these bins and empty the clippings right next to the lawn. When they are done mowing that lawn, the backhoe can pick up the entire bin and empty all

the clippings at one time into the dirt storage compound's yard waste dumpster. Cemetery staff estimates that this saves them approximately ten hours a week in labor, freeing them up to attend to other maintenance tasks. In addition, the District is saving on fuel costs and wear and tear on the mowers by eliminating all that unnecessary travel. Each bin cost about \$4,000, and in a short few months the savings realized will more than pay for the cost of the bins. Great job to Cemetery Manager Bud Bales for coming up with the idea and finding the bins suitable for the job!



**ORANGE COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT**

**September/October Board Meetings**

The Board of Trustees for the Orange County Cemetery District holds regular meetings the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 25751 Trabuco Road, Lake Forest, CA 92630. The public is welcome to attend.

Agendas are available at least 72 hours prior to each meeting and are also posted on our website at [www.occemeterydistrict.com](http://www.occemeterydistrict.com). In September and October, meetings will be held as follows:

- **Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact the District Secretary, Mary Funk at (949) 951-9102 ext. 110.

**Flower Removal and Holiday Schedule**

Every Wednesday, groundskeepers remove and discard flowers and decorations throughout all three cemeteries. Families are encouraged to remove their flowers or decorations on Tuesday night; you can then place the flowers back on the space on Wednesday afternoon. Please remember that the District policy only allows for two items to be placed on gravesites. This includes the in-ground flower vase and one other item. If gravesites exceed the number of allowed items, staff may remove and discard the excess items. Please do not leave items of great monetary or sentimental value on gravesites as the District cannot prevent theft.

The District permits the allowed two items of flowers and/or decorations to be left on gravesites during holidays or for special occasions, such as anniversaries, birthdays and for new interments. Please come to the cemetery office and let us know that you have a special occasion and request that the flowers and decorations be left on the space. We do ask that you empty the vase and place fresh water in the container every four to five days to eliminate mosquito breeding sources, which can cause serious health issues. Your cooperation in this regard is greatly appreciated.

**In honor of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, flowers may be placed on gravesites beginning on Thursday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>.**



A complete listing of the District's extended holiday flower schedule for 2018 is available on our website at [www.occemeterydistrict.com](http://www.occemeterydistrict.com). Click on the tab for Flowers, Markers and Rules for more information.

**CEMETERY VISITATION HOURS**

All District cemeteries are open for visitation seven days a week, year-round.

**Anaheim & Santa Ana Cemeteries** are open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**El Toro Memorial Park in Lake Forest** is open during the Fall and Winter months from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

**El Toro Memorial Park – Extended Hours**

When Daylight Saving Time begins on March 11<sup>th</sup> El Toro Memorial Park will remain open until 7:00 p.m.

When Daylight Saving Time ends on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> the park will close at 5:00 p.m.

**Offices are closed on the weekends and will also be closed on Mon., Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> for Labor Day.**

**Our Mission Statement and Core Values**

*The Orange County Cemetery District manages and maintains Orange County's public cemeteries in a manner that preserves their beauty, dignity, historical and cultural values, and offers affordable interment service for County residents.*

The Trustees and staff of the Orange County Cemetery District are committed to the following values:

- Integrity ■ Respect ■ Accountability
- Responsiveness ■ Empathy ■ Transparency
- Appreciation for Diverse Needs

