



***JULY – AUGUST 2019***

# Orange County Cemetery District

## TRUSTEES

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Tim Deutsch, General Manager

## Nighttime Historical Tour Coming July 26th at Anaheim Cemetery

Come and see Anaheim Cemetery like you have never seen it before. Mark your calendars for Friday evening, July 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. and join us as the cemetery hosts free historical tours of the grounds.

During the tour, docents will lead groups to several different stops where costumed actors will portray scenes from the lives of notable people interred nearby. The private mausoleums, the historic archway and the rare grove of Dawn Redwoods will be beautifully illuminated as you make your way throughout the park.

Learn about the early pioneers and the original members of the Los Angeles Vineyard Society who built the foundation of what is now the City of Anaheim. Listen to a noted politician who fought to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voters' Rights Act of 1965. Meet veterans of the Civil War and the Spanish American War. Learn about the first Anaheim police officer to be killed in the line of duty – in 1872. Discover life in Anaheim's bustling Chinatown and meet a Chinese immigrant who longs



**The first historical tour at Anaheim Cemetery was held in July 2017 with over 400 people in attendance. Pictured above is the historic archway bathed in light during this inaugural tour.**

**Below an actor portrays Dona Vicente Sepulveda Yorba Carillo at the Community Mausoleum.**

for his earthly remains to be returned to his beloved homeland.

Step inside the oldest public mausoleum on the West Coast and learn about the mysterious death of Enid Rimpau. The marble lined Community Mausoleum was built in 1914 at a cost of \$50,000 and holds 300 vaults.

If you love history and connecting with the past, you won't want to miss this exciting event. The tours will take place rain or shine, so please dress for the weather. Flashlights are recommended.

## Thank You to All Those Who Attended Our Memorial Day Programs!

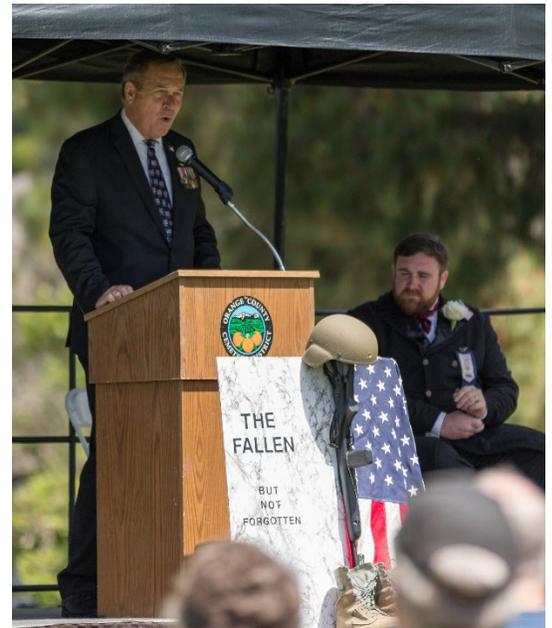
It was a day of beautiful pageantry and patriotic speeches, of stirring music, somber wreath presentations and honor guard firing salutes. It was a day for communities to come together all across Orange County to remember and honor those men and women in our Armed Services who gave the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the freedom and liberty we enjoy today.

To all of the hundreds of community members who chose to spend a part of your holiday recognizing the reason for the observance – Thank You! To all those who walked the cemetery grounds ensuring that every veteran’s grave was honored with a U.S. flag – Thank You! To all those countless volunteers who gave so freely of their time and talent to make the programs at Anaheim Cemetery, Santa Ana Cemetery, and El Toro Memorial Park possible – Thank you!

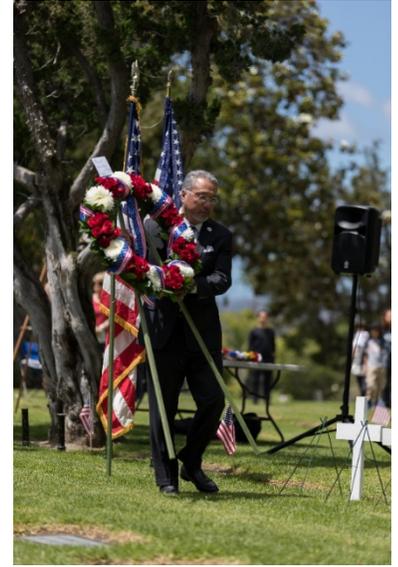
But most importantly, to all the Veterans reading this, please know - on Memorial Day and every day, this nation and everyone within its borders owes you a debt of gratitude. We thank you for your service!

Our next Veterans Program will be on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at El Toro Memorial Park at 11:00 a.m. Please join us!

**Pictured below: Noah Boihem plays Taps. Pictured right: American Legion Post 862 presents the colors and Aliso Viejo Mayor Ross Chun presents a wreath. Photos courtesy of Jared Funk**



**Mission Viejo Mayor Greg Raths delivers El Toro Memorial Park’s keynote address.**



## Construction Update: El Toro Niche Project Nearing Completion

With all of the major structural components complete, the District is looking forward to a summer opening of the new El Toro Memorial Park niche feature and new public restroom. In the upcoming weeks the contractor will be completing the roofing on both the restroom and the shade structure, installing the granite niche shutters, completing final landscaping and irrigation, and grading the site for asphalt and permeable paver installation.

A waiting list has been established for families interested in purchasing space. We will be contacting those families first for appointments when the project is complete. To be added to this list, please contact the cemetery office.



## Preliminary Work Begins on New Cemetery Site at Gypsum Canyon

At the June 4<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, approval was given for three consulting firms to conduct site assessment studies on the Gypsum Canyon property. The work will enable the District to determine the developable acreage of the land, and will bring to light any restrictions or limitations on the property that could impact design of the future cemeteries.

The three firms that will be working on the property over the next three to four months are Leighton Consulting, Fuscoe Engineering, and LSA Associates. They will work in coordination with RJM Design Group, who is taking the lead on designing the project.

**Leighton Consulting** will conduct a geotechnical engineering feasibility study. They will focus on underground conditions of the site, which will include several auger borings and laboratory analysis. The study will examine geological hazards, seismicity, settlement potential, and slope stability.

**Fuscoe Engineering** will focus on surveying the property, providing a boundary map, as well as preparing an aerial topographic survey for construction document level specifications.

**LSA Associates** offer environmental consulting. They will examine the property to identify any biological or cultural resources that currently exist, such as sensitive habitats or special-status species that must be considered in light of any development. LSA will also perform an entitlement review.

Once all of this work is complete, additional studies will still need to take place, before any earth is moved, including a full Environmental Impact Report and discussions for the best means to bring utilities to the site. While we are all excited to move forward, it is critical that our planning and site studies be comprehensive and thorough, as that will be the foundation on which all future development will stand.

## Fee Changes Expected in 2019-20 Fiscal Year Budget

Every spring the District prepares the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The budget serves many purposes. It is the District's annual financing and spending plan, providing a means for allocating resources to meet the needs and desires of the citizens of Orange County. It also serves as an important accountability and management tool. A part of the budget process is the review of all fees in the District's Master Fee Schedule, including the cost of interment spaces, endowment care fees, and other services.

The District strives to keep costs as low as possible for families and considers many factors including the Consumer Price Index, current staff labor rates, the District overhead rate, and benefit percentages.

At the July Board meeting, staff will recommend that the Board approve a 3% increase in the cost of interment space prices, and a \$25 increase for Endowment Care fees.

The cost for most interment services will see modest increases, with the exception of the casket weekend interment service fee which will be increased by \$195 due to overtime expenses for weekend labor. Staff is also recommending the addition of a new Weekend Casket Setting Fee of \$230 for large weekend services that require the presence of extra staff.

If the Board approves the budget at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting, the new rates will become effective on, Monday, August 5, 2019.

## Orange County Cemetery District Receives GFOA Budget Award

On May 20, 2019, the Orange County Cemetery District was notified by the Government Finance Officers Association that it had earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our 2018-19 Budget. This award reflects the commitment of the District to meet the highest principles of

governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the District was required to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines assess how well the budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide and communications device.

**ORANGE COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT**

**July/August Board Meetings**

The Trustees for the Orange County Cemetery District hold regular meetings the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office 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 July and August, meetings will be held as follows:

- **Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**

For 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 allows 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. Please 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 Independence Day, flowers may be placed on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.**

A complete listing of the District's extended holiday flower schedule for 2019 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**

Since Daylight Saving Time began on March 10<sup>th</sup> El Toro Memorial Park remains open until 7:00 p.m.

When Daylight Saving Time ends on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> the park will close at 5:00 p.m.

**Offices are closed on the weekends, and will also be closed on Thur., July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence 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 Orange County Cemetery District is committed to the following values:  
 Integrity ■ Respect ■ Accountability  
 Responsiveness ■ Empathy ■  
 Transparency ■ and  
 Appreciation for Diverse Needs