



Orange County Cemetery District

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Anaheim Cemetery Offers Unique Historical Candlelight Tour

It was July 1867 and the tiny body of a young infant boy was quietly laid to rest. The child was the son of Augustus and Petra Ontiveros Langenberger. Augustus owned a general mercantile store and was the first merchant in the City of Anaheim's history. Only two months later, Petra Langenberger also grew ill and passed away. These were the first two burials to take place at Anaheim Cemetery.

One hundred and fifty years later on the evening of July 9, 2017 approximately 400 hundred people gathered outside the gates of Anaheim Cemetery to embark on a journey into the past to learn, not only about the cemetery's long history, but to also remember those interred within its gates. It was Anaheim Cemetery's inaugural Candlelight Historical Tour, commemorating 150 years of service to the community. The intent of the tour was to reveal the rich heritage and history represented on the grounds and to educate those attending on how these early pioneers, community leaders, immigrants, politicians and veterans from the War of 1812 and the Civil War helped to shape not only the City of Anaheim, but Orange County and the nation. **Continued on page 2.**

Pictured below – Anaheim's grounds illuminated.



(Pictured clockwise) The spirit of Dona Vicente Sepulveda Yorba Carrillo (played by re-enactor Christina Walley) gazes out from the Community Mausoleum searching for her lost gravestone and finds it after wandering the grounds.

Vicente, a plucky, twice-widowed settler applied for a Land Grant to Rancho La Sierra, securing inheritance rights for her four children. The 1846 grant made her the first woman to receive such recognition and guaranteed almost unheard-of property rights for all women upon California's statehood in 1850.

A docent, Ray Shinn, stands silhouetted against the Schumacher Mausoleum.



Anaheim Cemetery Historical Candlelight Tour – Continued from page 1

The tours began at 8:00 pm as darkness fell. Groups of approximately 20 people at a time were greeted by a docent, who gave a brief history of the cemetery and passed out glow-sticks, mini-flashlights and pamphlets highlighting points of interest on the grounds. The road that loops around the cemetery was illuminated by hundreds of candle lanterns and as groups walked the loop they stopped at five different stations where re-enactors dressed in period costumes related interesting and colorful stories about the people and families interred nearby.

The beautiful and historical structures in the cemetery were also bathed in light including: all of the private family mausoleums; several notable monuments; the beautiful Gateway Arch that once served as the cemetery's main entrance; a rare grove of Dawn Redwood Trees that mark the final resting place for an untold number of Chinese

The spirit of Ezra Kellogg, a veteran of the War of 1812 is played by Darrell Rivers (right) who also spoke about some of the other notable interments nearby and the historic Pioneer Archway pictured below.



The spirit of Petra Ontiveros Langenberger (played by re-enactor Victoria Michaels) meets her descendant - Anaheim Mariachi Aficionado – Sean Oliu.

immigrants; and the magnificent Community Mausoleum. Constructed in 1914, the Community Mausoleum is the oldest public mausoleum on the West Coast and holds 300 vaults with an interior lined entirely in marble.

Tours concluded at the Cemetery Office where internationally-known mariachi singer Sean Oliu and Jerry Gutierrez serenaded attendees with a mini-concert of mariachi music. Sean Oliu's presence at the cemetery held a special significance as he is a direct descendant of Petra Ontiveros and Augustus Langenberger. Sean is also the founder of "Kids Giving Back" a nonprofit that has raised thousands of dollars to support orchestra programs in Anaheim schools. Sean is a wonderful example of how history lives on through all of us.

Tours took approximately 30 to 40 minutes to complete and for those unable to walk, cars were allowed to drive the tour in an adjacent lane. The event was free to the public and was appropriate for all ages young and old.

The Orange County Cemetery District wishes to extend its deepest thanks to the Trustees Cynthia Ward and Kelly Rivers, all the wonderful re-enactors, our docents who contributed their historical knowledge, cemetery staff, and volunteers who worked tirelessly to create and organize this event. Most of all we wish to thank all those who took the time to come out and attend the tour. We hope you found it to be a fascinating and educational look at the history of our community and the lives of those who have helped to shape it.

Don't Miss the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society's 20th Annual Cemetery Tour – Saturday, October 21, 2017

Mark your calendars now to attend the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society's 20th Annual Historic Cemetery Tour, to take place on Saturday, October 21st on the grounds of Santa Ana Cemetery and Fairhaven Memorial Park.

Enjoy a unique look at the history of Orange County through the words of those who lived it, and "meet" some of the pioneers, dreamers, and schemers who witnessed and influenced the formation of today's vibrant community. This year's award-winning cemetery tour features an encore presentation of the Historical Society's favorite scenes from the last 20 years. So if you have never attended before, this is the perfect time to see the best of the best.

Tour guides lead guests to the final resting places of historic local figures, 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 and educational outing for the whole family.

Tours begin at 10:00 am and run throughout the day with the last tour starting at approximately 3:00 pm. Each tour runs about 90 minutes and will be held rain or shine. While not



Student actors from the Orange County School of the Arts performed scenes from the lives of historic personalities near their gravesites. These scenes, taken from the 2015 tour titled "On the Road in Orange County: Our Transportation History".

strenuous, this is an outdoor all-walking tour on unpaved surfaces. Comfortable shoes and a hat or sunshade is recommended.

Advanced sale tickets will be available soon from the historical society, but if you would like to get on Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society's mailing list, please email your postal address to sahps@sahps.org.

This cemetery tour has won a prestigious California State Governors Award for Historic Preservation. Proceeds benefit the historical society's educational programs and two museums, the Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle House and Medical Museum, and the Santa Ana Fire Museum. The event is produced in partnership with local writers, and actors from the Thespian Club at Orange County School of the Arts.

To learn more about the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, visit their website at www.santaanahistory.com.



Thank Our Veterans at El Toro Memorial Park on Sat. Nov. 11th

Please join us at El Toro Memorial Park on Saturday, November 11th at 11:00 a.m. for our twenty-ninth annual Veterans Day Program. The event features a keynote speaker, special music, a wreath laying ceremony and an Honor Guard Firing salute.

Planning for this event will begin in September. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please contact the District office at (949) 951-9102. As the program is finalized more information will be available on the District website at www.occemeterydistrict.com.

We hope you can support our veterans by attending and honoring their service.



2nd Annual Dia de los Muertos Program at Anaheim Cemetery - Nov. 2nd at 5:00 p.m.

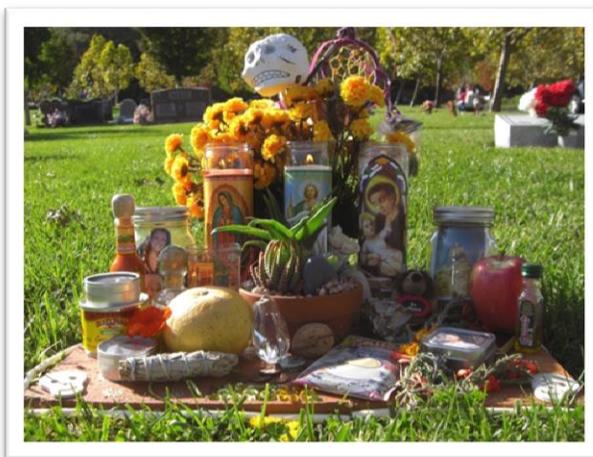
Please join us at Anaheim Cemetery on Thursday, Nov. 2nd beginning at 5:00 p.m. for our 2nd Annual Dia de los Muertos program.

The free event will feature:

- Entertainment by Anaheim's own mariachi marvel, Sean Oliu, who will perform throughout the evening.
- Ballet Folklorico Donaji, a local youth dance ensemble, will perform traditional dances with talented artists who range in age from young children to young adults.

Originating in Mexico, Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos) is a lively and festive holiday spread over November 1st and 2nd to celebrate and remember departed loved ones. The holiday is not connected to Halloween, nor do participants seek to trivialize the grief that death brings, but rather to remember with joy those who have passed away.

Traditions commonly associated with the holiday include the construction of private altars called ofrendas, honoring the deceased using sugar skulls, marigolds, and the favorite foods and beverages of the departed, and visiting graves with these gifts. Gatherings at gravesites become festive, family reunion picnics – with the dead invited. Food, drink, music, flowers and even dancing can be a part of the celebration.



Ofrendas welcome! An important tradition associated with Day of the Dead is the creation of ofrendas, beautiful displays meant to remember and honor the memory of loved ones. Ofrendas may be placed on gravesites beginning on Thursday, Oct. 19th and should be removed by Tuesday, Nov. 14th. Candles with real flame are prohibited and you should not leave items of value unattended.

While supplies last guests can enjoy:

- Free spiced hot chocolate, water, and desserts including free Pan de Muerto prepared by a local Anaheim Mexican bakery.
- Free marigolds to decorate gravesites.
- Craft station where children can color their own free Day of the Dead skull masks.

Please be advised that, due to limited parking and safety concerns, no vehicles will be allowed in the cemetery after 4 p.m. Please use street parking near the cemetery. The event will take place rain or shine.

Coming in 2017-2018 – Remodeled Restrooms and New Niches

Over the next nine months, visitors to Santa Ana Cemetery, Anaheim Cemetery and El Toro Memorial Park will notice construction crews hard at work making several important improvements to the grounds.

NEW NICHES and RESTROOM UPGRADES AT SANTA ANA and ANAHEIM CEMETERIES

Construction of new niche features at Anaheim and Santa Ana Cemeteries are already well underway. The new Anaheim niches will be located right next to the existing bank of niches by the Community Mausoleum and will add 240 new niches at Anaheim Cemetery. The new niche feature at Santa Ana Cemetery is located across the street from the cemetery office, includes a covered shade structure, and will add 420 new niches. The contractor, Fast-Track Construction, estimates that both projects will be completed near the end of October.

Offices at both cemeteries will also undergo modifications to improve public access to restrooms. Currently at both locations, restrooms can only be accessed by entering office space. This can be disruptive for families who are meeting with staff to make interment arrangements. The new office configurations will allow the public to have access to restrooms without having to enter office space. The Santa Ana project also includes the conversion of the mechanic storage room into a new staff restroom and the installation of a new 2,000 gallon holding tank.

EL TORO MEMORIAL PARK PROJECT

At El Toro Memorial Park, the existing public restroom building will be demolished and in that location the District will construct a new niche area that includes a covered shade structure for committal services and other gatherings. When fully developed, the area will add approximately 900 new niche spaces at El Toro Memorial Park.

A new public restroom at El Toro Memorial Park will also be constructed near the new niche feature. An existing sewer line that runs from the old restroom site across the Los Alisos lawn to the main office will be relocated. This will free up approximately 60 full casket spaces in the Los Alisos lawn that were previously unavailable.



Renderings of the new El Toro Memorial Park public restroom and adjacent niche feature with a covered gathering space are pictured above.

Plans and specifications for the restroom remodels at all three cemeteries and the El Toro Memorial Park niche construction are currently under development and will be put out to bid as one project. The District hopes to begin construction in late 2017 or early 2018 and looks forward to completion of all work before Memorial Day in 2018.

In the 2017-18 fiscal year, the Orange County Cemetery District has budgeted \$1.9 million dollars to cover the costs for these improvements which is allocated as follows: \$1,505,000 for all niche construction; \$345,000 for restroom remodels; and \$50,000 for future Santa Ana road conversions. The road conversions at Santa Ana Cemetery include the demolition and removal of asphalt on designated roads, the relocation of sprinkler lines, and planting grass to create approximately 500 additional full casket spaces and 200 cremation or infant spaces.

As construction proceeds, the District will do its best to minimize as much noise and disruption as possible. We apologize for any inconvenience these projects may cause and we greatly appreciate your patience during the construction process.

Flower Removal and Holiday Schedule

Every Wednesday, groundskeepers remove flowers throughout all three cemeteries. Living plants in approved containers or planter dishes and other non-perishable items placed on graves will be taken to the pick-up locations near the maintenance yards at each cemetery and held for a reasonable amount of time. Unless claimed, they will be disposed of.

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.

The District does allow for flowers and decorations to be left on the spaces during holidays/events 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 Halloween and Day of the Dead, flowers and ofrendas may be placed on gravesites beginning on Thursday, Oct. 19th until Tuesday, Nov. 14th.



A complete listing of the District’s extended holiday flower schedule for 2015 is available on our website at www.occemeterydistrict.com. Click on the tab for Rules, Regulations and Flowers for more information.

ORANGE COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT

September and October Board Meetings

The Board of Trustees for the Orange County Cemetery District holds regular meetings the first Tuesday of every month at 11:00 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. In September and October, meetings will be held as follows:

- ❖ **Tuesday, September 5th at 11:00 a.m.**
- ❖ **Tuesday, October 3rd at 11:00 a.m.**

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

In Observance of



**The offices at
Anaheim Cemetery
Santa Ana Cemetery, and
El Toro Memorial Park
will be closed on
Monday, September 4th.**

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

