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Annual Membership Drive

It’s time once again to send in your tax-exempt contribution to our annual membership drive. These funds are a major contribution to the work we do throughout the year at Oakland Cemetery. Please use the membership renewal/signup coupon on the following page and give generously.

Cemetery Update

The past year was another very productive one for the Oakland Cemetery Preservation Society (OCPS.)

Thanks to a Neighborhood Improvement (NIP) Grant from the Community Development Dept. of the City of Shreveport, OCPS was able to retain two consultants to produce a Landscape Plan and an Electrical Plan for the cemetery. These plans will allow us to move forward in these two important areas with a well-defined approach, and allow OCPS to best utilize the resources available from the community.

Leveraging the value of the Landscape Plan, OCPS applied for and was awarded a grant from the Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners Association (NWLAMGA) to begin landscaping the cemetery. Phase I will include the front gate area and entrance to the cemetery. This effort will tie the cemetery into the new Grand Ave./Elvis Presley Blvd. and enhance the beauty of both. We are very appreciative of the NWLAMG support.

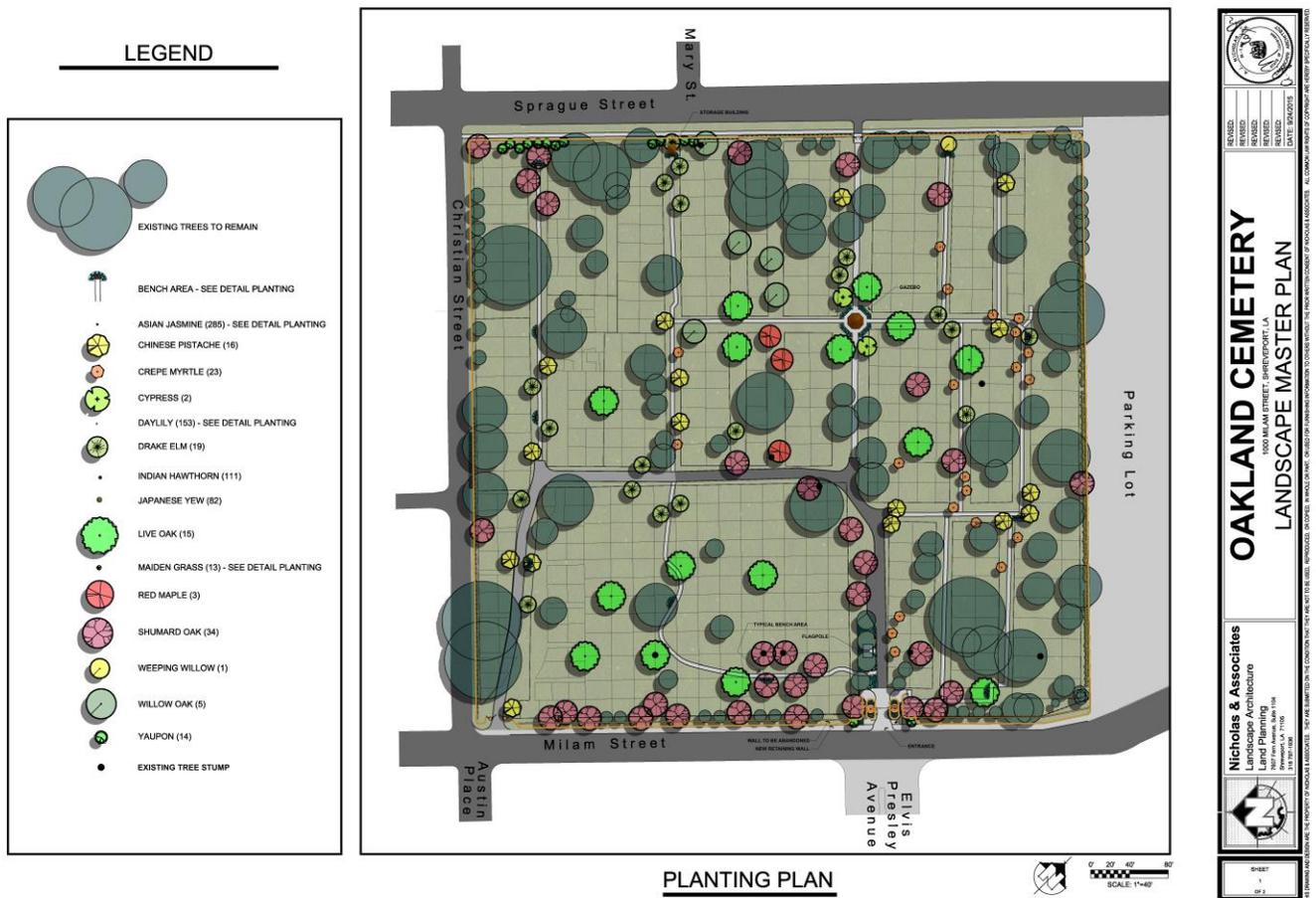
OCPS, in conjunction with the City of Shreveport (SPAR), continued to right many monuments in the cemetery that were in danger of collapse or were on the ground. This not only improved the look of the cemetery but also saved the valuable monuments from irreparable damage. This makes over 100 gravesites that have been righted and stabilized in the last two years.



OCPS’s new officers for 2016 include Mr. Keith Evans, President; Dr. Cheryl White, Vice-president; Mr. Steve Smith, Secretary; and Ms. Marsha Gill, Treasurer.

(Continued on next page)

Shreveport Green, The Caddo Parish Commission, and OCPS have formed a partnership to source planting material for the cemetery, grow it in a designated area of Walter B. Jacobs Park, and when ready, plant it in Oakland. This partnership will greatly enhance the ability of OCPS to provide quality landscape materials and landscape the cemetery at a reasonable cost. Thanks to our new partners!



JOIN THE FRIENDS OF OAKLAND

YES, I want to help by joining or renewing my membership to the "Friends of Oakland" organization to further the Oakland Cemetery Preservation Society's efforts to restore and preserve the cemetery.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Founder \$1000 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$10 |

Memorial/Honorarium Contribution \$ _____

In honor/memory of: _____

Please Notify (name and address) _____

- Yes, I would like to be included in the planting party! (See page 4)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Keith Evans

It has been another great year of progress for Oakland Cemetery. Our partnerships with the City of Shreveport, Shreveport Green, the Caddo Commission, and the Master Gardeners demonstrate the importance of and the interest in Oakland Cemetery. As always, these types of alliances benefit the whole community, and we are grateful for our partners!

Every organization must have a plan in order to ensure that it is headed in the right direction and with the right resources in place. In 2016, thanks to a NIP grant from the city, OCPS was able to contract with two professional companies to produce a landscape plan and an electrical plan.

Utilizing the landscape plan, we were able to partner with Master Gardeners who have agreed to make a generous investment in this improvement at the cemetery. Thanks to their involvement, we will begin to implement the plan this spring.

We will also begin to implement the electrical plan this year. This project will allow for additional security in the cemetery, as well as the ability to have a lighted park in downtown Shreveport for events and tours.

Board member and historian, Steve Smith has continued his efforts to save those monuments in most grave need of repair. His vigilance in the cemetery is a wonderful asset for us. To-date, OCPS, at his direction, has rescued over 100 monuments--works of art--from ruin.

Lastly, OCPS is searching for one or more donors to help underwrite the design and construction of the signature gazebo that will be in a key location in Oakland. If you would like to assist in this effort, please contact Hines Vaughan at 458-6117.

We look forward to working with you again in the coming months to continue to polish Oakland Cemetery to be the jewel in the crown of this area. **Please join/renew your membership this month! WE AND THE CEMETERY NEED YOU!!!**



Front Gate Design



Gazebo Design



Bench Design



**Oakland Cemetery
Preservation Society
P.O. Box 52131
Shreveport, LA 71135**

Nonprofit Org.
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**GET INVOLVED!
PLANTING PARTY!**

In October, OCPS and Shreveport Green will host a planting party. We will kick off Phase I of our new landscape plan for the cemetery by planting trees, shrubs, and flowers. We would love to have you join us on this important and fun day.

OCPS and Shreveport Green will furnish the tools, drinks, and a box lunch.

You can do as much or little as you like.

Please use the form on page 2 to indicate that you would like to join the effort, so we can be prepared.

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**Checks and Change of address
notices should be sent to
OCPS, P.O. Box 52131,
Shreveport, LA 71135**

www.oaklandcemeteryla.org