

## **Look how far we have come!**

**You may not know the history of CAPC, but you and your district are a part of something special. CAPC dates back to 1949 and many of you may not even realize that some of your districts were association members from the very beginning.**

**It is interesting to see the past changes in the association name, who and what districts handled CAPC paperwork, newsletters and even served as an association board Presidents.**

**CAPC is always looking for individuals to get involved on the CAPC Board of Directors. Maybe knowing that your district had someone serve as president to the board may encourage your district to once again get more involved.**

**Enjoy the history of CAPC!**

### **Names changes of the association:**

- Early 1949, the cemetery group was called the Superintendent's Association of Tulare County. This Organization was made for the sole purpose of approving anything that would be of interest to the Cemetery Districts, and opposing anything that would be against the Cemetery Districts.
- June 1949, Allen Brown from Madera Cemetery District was the originator of the idea to form a Cemetery District Association of California and started sending letters to some cemetery districts. Percy Fisher, Chairman of the Escondido Cemetery, (North County) continued writing letters to cemetery districts to help further the forming of a Cemetery Association.
- November 1949, the Superintendent's Association of Tulare County changed the name to the Association of Public Cemeteries.
- In 1957, the Incorporation was first considered by Association President Nevin Burrell of Tulare Cemetery District.
- In 1960, the named changed to The California Association of Public Cemeteries Inc. However, once the papers were filed in court the group's official name became "California Association of Public Cemeteries".
- The first board members of the corporation were named in the incorporation papers as temporary until the group could meet and elect the first board. They were: W.L. Hast, West Side Cemetery District, Taft; Geroge S. Tosta, Hills Ferry Cemetery District, Newman; M.G. Barnes, Lemoore Cemetery District; W.H. McRae, Madera Cemetery District; Charles Rhodes, Exeter Cemetery District; and Buford Crough, Selma Cemetery District.

### **Early Pioneer Cemetery Member Districts: (1949 & Early 1950's)**

Lindsay-Strathmore, Parlier, Gransville, Tulare, Woodville, Delano, Selma, Clovis, Chowchilla, Smith Mountain (Dinuba), Porterville, Washington Colony (Fresno area), Sanger, Fowler, Paso Robles, West Side, (Taft & Maricopa), Kern County #1. (Shafter and Wasco), Hanford, Kingsburg, Lemmore, Madera, Exeter, Reedley, Tipton, Woodlake, Visalia, Tracy, Saratoga, Alta, Oak Grove and Shasta Valley, Weedville, Red Bluff, Exeter, Laton, and Hills Ferry (Newman) Cemetery Districts.

## **History:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Superintendent Association's Board Meeting was March 1949.
- November 1, 1949 Rules and Regulations of the Association of Public Cemetery Districts were adopted to help all districts.
- November 1949, Mr. Burrell of Tulare Cemetery District began preparing the associations By-Laws which were adopted in January 1950.
- January 1950, the first association committee was formed, the Membership Committee which consisted of a member from the Hanford, Visalia and Taft (West Side) Cemetery Districts.
- In 1950, the dues became \$1.00 per district.
- Flower issues dated back to the 1950's. (Very Important Information!)
- 1<sup>st</sup> official newsletter July 1959.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Secretary 1959.
- Sustaining Member Newsletter Advertising cost in the early 1960's was \$2.25 for a full page ad, running four times during the year. Full page ad running once a year was \$2.50.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Exhibitors to attend an annual conference was in 1961 with a \$25.00 Exhibitors fee.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Guide to Public Cemetery Operations 1963, produced by Allen C. Brown, Madera Cemetery Manager and CAPC Newsletter Editor. Cost was \$5.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Membership Directory 1963.
- 1<sup>st</sup> CAPC Survey was in 1964, with North County Cemetery District promoting the survey distribution.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Special District's consolidation talk was in 1964.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Association Golf Tournament was held in 1968 at the Holiday Inn, San Bernardino, CA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> female board member on the Association was in 1970.
- In 1969, CAPC helped organize California Special Districts Association (CSDA).
- 1<sup>st</sup> CAPC Executive Director 1999.

## **CAPC Newsletter Editors:**

Gordon E. Nelson, CAPC Headquarters, 422 Rowell Bldg, Fresno, CA- 1959-1960

Allan Brown, Manager of Madera Cemetery, 1961-1972 and 1978-1979

Ruben Siemens, Manager of Kern County Cemetery # 1 from 1973-1977 and 1980-1995. His wife Frankie Siemens also helped from 1974-1995.

Barbara Dudley wife to Kenneth Dudley, Manager of Lemoore Cemetery, 1996-1998

Dewey Ausmus, Manager, North County Cemetery, 1999-2012

Carol Griesse, Manager, San Jacinto Valley Cemetery, 2013-Present

## **CAPC Executive Secretary's:**

Duties were: Prepare all material for conferences, minutes of the board meetings, help publish membership directory and help search for conference site locations:

1959-1960 Gordon E Nelson, a newspaper journalist who operated his own Public Relations Agency and CAPC from the Rowell Building in Fresno, CA

1961-1965 Glenna Tymeson, Trustee of Madera Cemetery District

1965-1970 Mrs. Betty Lou Gordon, Owner of Chambers Floral Shop, Madera, CA. She was recruited for this position from Allan Brown, Manager of Madera Cemetery. The two were neighbors.

1970-1974 Patricia Glover of the State Steno Services, Strathmore, CA

1974-1995 Frankie Siemens, wife to Manager Ruben Siemens, Kern County Cemetery District # 1, Shafter, CA

1996-1999 Barbara Dudley, (from home) wife to Manager Kenneth Dudley, Lemoore Cemetery District

## **Executive Director's (Contracted):**

1999-2012 Dewey Ausmus, Manager of North County Cemetery District, Escondido, CA

2013-Present Carol Griesse, Manager of San Jacinto Valley Cemetery District

## 60 Years of Past Association Presidents and their Districts

1957-58	Nevan Burell	Tulare Cemetery	Manager
1958-59	Nevan Burell	Tulare Cemetery	
1959-60	Allan Brown	Madera Cemetery	Manager
1960-61	Allan Brown	Madera Cemetery	
1961-62	A.L. (Pete) Ferguson	Porterville Cemetery	Manager
1962-63	A.L. (Pete) Ferguson	Porterville Cemetery	
1963-64	A.L. (Pete) Ferguson	Porterville Cemetery	
1964-65	Paul Hansen	Central Valley Cemetery	Manager
1965-66	Paul Hansen	Central Valley Cemetery	
1966-67	Fred Morrison	Palm Springs Cemetery	Manager
1967-68	Fred Morrison	Palm Springs Cemetery	
1968-69	Ruben Siemens	Kern County Cemetery #1	Manager
1969-70	Ruben Siemens	Kern County Cemetery #1	
1970-71	Vern Crabtree	Lindsay Strathmore Cemetery	Manager
1971-72	Vern Crabtree	Lindsay Strathmore Cemetery	
1972-73	Ira Templeton	Pioneer Memorial Cemetery	Manager
1973-74	Ira Templeton	Pioneer Memorial Cemetery	
1974-75	G.H. Grundy	Kern County Cemetery # 1	Trustee
1975-76	G.H. Grundy	Kern County Cemetery # 1	
1976-77	Jimmie Rogers	Reedley Cemetery District	Manager
1977-78	Jimmie Rogers	Reedley Cemetery District	
1978-79	Stanley Mahr	San Marcos Cemetery	Trustee
1979-80	Stanley Mahr	San Marcos Cemetery	
1980-81	Leonard Lindgren	Kingsburg Cemetery	Manager
1981-82	Leonard Lindgren	Kingsburg Cemetery	
1982-83	Marvin Rudin	Palm Springs Cemetery	Trustee
1983-84	Marvin Rudin	Palm Springs Cemetery	
1984-85	Dennis Jones	Central Valley Cemetery	Manager
1985-86	Don Foster	Summit Cemetery District	Trustee
1986-87	Don Foster	Summit Cemetery District	
1987-88	Dewey Ausmus	North County Cemetery	Manager
1988-89	Dewey Ausmus	North County Cemetery	
1989-90	Wanda Knight	Madera Cemetery	Manager
1990-91	Wanda Knight	Madera Cemetery	
1991-92	Ken Dudley	Lemore Cemetery	Manager
1992-93	Ken Dudley	Lemore Cemetery	
1993-94	Sam Randall	Orange County Cemetery	Manager
1994-95	Sam Randall	Orange County Cemetery	
1995-96	Shirley Quake	Palm Springs Cemetery	Manager
1996-97	Shirley Quake	Palm Springs Cemetery	
1997-98	Blayne Thomas	Clovis Cemetery	Trustee
1998-99	Walt Gamel	Dos Palos Cemetery	Manager
1999-00	Walt Gamel	Dos Palos Cemetery	
2000-01	Arnold Brinton	Cottonwood Cemetery	Manager
2001-02	Arnold Brinton	Cottonwood Cemetery	
2002-03	Patricia Conway	North County Cemetery	Trustee

2003-04	Patricia Conway	North County Cemetery	
2004-05	Geneva Philpot	Visalia Cemetery	Trustee
2005-06	Geneva Philpot	Visalia Cemetery	
2006-07	Jim Campi	Rockville Cemetery	Trustee
2007-08	Jim Campi	Rockville Cemetery	
2008-09	Robert Stanford	Pajaro Valley Cemetery	Manager
2009-10	Robert Stanford	Pajaro Valley Cemetery	
2010-11	Tim Unruh	Kern County Cemetery # 1	Manager
2011-12	Tim Unruh	Kern County Cemetery # 1	
2012	Carol Griese	San Jacinto Valley Cemetery	Manager
2013-14	Kathleen Jurasky	Palm Springs Cemetery	Manager
2014-15	Kathleen Jurasky	Palm Springs Cemetery	
2015-16	Dennis Shepard	North County Cemetery	Manager
2016-17	Dennis Shepard	North County Cemetery	
2017-18	Joel Bauer	West Side Cemetery	Manager
2018-2019	Joel Bauer	West Side Cemetery	
2019-2020	Belva Bare	Madera Cemetery	Manager
2020-2021	Belva Bare	Madera Cemetery	
2021-2022	Sandi Miller	Selma Cemetery	Manager
2022-2023	Mike Ott	North County Cemetery	Trustee
2023-2024	Mike Ott	North County Cemetery	