

SEPT. - OCT. 2019

## **Orange County Cemetery District**

#### **TRUSTEES**

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Tim Deutsch, General Manager

El Toro Memorial Park to Dedicate the New Maureen Rivers Memorial

Niche Garden in September

We are excited to announce that on September 19<sup>th</sup>, the District will officially dedicate the new "Maureen Rivers Memorial Niche Garden" at El Toro Memorial Park. Maureen Rivers faithfully served as a Trustee on the Orange County Cemetery District Board for over 23 years. It is a great pleasure to permanently memorialized her commitment to the District by naming this garden in her honor. The dedication plaque will also honor the niche supplier, Kirk Hendricks from Christy Vault, who passed away while working on the project.

This long-awaited new niche feature offers a covered shade pavilion, a beautiful water wall, and 763 new niches. Like the other niche features in the park, each niche can accommodate two standard rectangular urns. The interior dimensions of the niches are 9 ¾" x 9 ¾ x 9 ¾. Prices will range from \$1,300 to \$2,800 per niche, plus an Endowment Care Fee of \$400.

While the project has been under construction, a waiting list has been developed for those who have expressed interest in purchasing space. There are currently 80 families on the list, and we are in the process of calling those families now to set up appointments to purchase space. Once those families have been contacted, the niche feature will be made available for general sale.

Visitors to the park will also be happy to learn that the new public restroom will be open for use in early September. The restrooms will be available seven days a week during normal park visiting hours.



The unveiling of the dedication plaque will take place during a local area meeting of the California Association of Public Cemeteries. Twice a year the association hosts meetings at different member cemeteries. The meetings provide an opportunity for staff from cemeteries around the state to gather, network, and receive education and training. We are very excited for our association members to see this wonderful new addition to the park.

# Come and Enjoy Our Two Dia de los Muertos Events at Santa Ana Cemetery and Anaheim Cemetery – Saturday, Nov. 2nd

Plans are underway for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Dia de los Muertos Celebration at Anaheim Cemetery. For the first time, we will also hold Dia de los Muertos festivities during the day at Santa Ana Cemetery. Both family-friendly events will take place on Saturday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## SANTA ANA CEMETERY 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This event will feature a welcome address by Orange County Supervisor Do and a blessing by Pastor Ruben Esponda of United Methodist Church of Santa Ana. There will be musical performances by the students of Santa Ana High School and Godinez Mariachi. At noon, Grandeza Mexicana will perform a death waltz. While supplies last, free marigold bouquets, free crafts for children and face painting, and free refreshments will be available. Activities will be set up near the Santa Ana Cemetery Office.

## ANAHEIM CEMETERY 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Anaheim program begins with a Dia de los Muertos blessing that will be provided by Father Bill Ciao of Saint Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church. Following the blessing, the talented young artists from Ballet Folklorico Donaji will perform and there will be live mariachi music. This program will also offer free marigold bouquets, crafts for children, face painting and free refreshments – all while supplies last.



The talented dancers of Ballet Folklorico Donaji will once again perform at Anaheim Cemetery. The photo above was taken during last year's program.

#### **GRAVESITE OFRENDAS**

During the holiday season, families are welcome to create gravesite ofrendas. Items may be left on gravesites beginning on Thursday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> and must be removed by Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Any items left on the gravesite will be discarded during the full-park clean-up on Wednesday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Please do not leave anything of great sentimental or monetary value unattended on gravesites, as these items cannot be secured. Also, please use electric candles only. All real flame is prohibited in the parks. We appreciate your cooperation in this regard.

## **District Receives Award for Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the Orange County Cemetery District by Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). It is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. The Orange County Cemetery District is the only cemetery district in the State of California to receive this recognition.

Much of the credit goes to Brenda Manriquez, the District's Finance and Accounting Manager, who worked so diligently to transform the District's budget documents to meet all of the high standards of the program.



General Manager, Tim Deutsch and Brenda Manriquez hold both the CAFR award just received, and the Budget Award which the District earned in May.

## **Anaheim Cemetery Nighttime Tour Enjoyed by Hundreds!**

Between 500 to 600 people strolled through Anaheim Cemetery on Friday night, July 26<sup>th</sup> enjoying a trip through history.

Upon entering the park visitors received free glow sticks, a mini flashlight, and a souvenir program filled with information on local history and biographies of the featured figures on the tour. As they made their way along a path lit by 500 luminaries, visitors stopped at nine different scenes where costumed actors portrayed scenes from the lives of those interred nearby. Included on the tour were: noted politician Thomas Henry Kuchel; Civil War veteran John Marquis; a

Chinese immigrant from the once thriving Anaheim Chinatown; Frederick Hartmann – financier of the cemetery's beautiful historic archway that once marked the entrance to the park; the Langenberger pioneers; Marshal Lehman – the first Anaheim law enforcement officer to be killed in the line of duty; the Backs brothers – Anaheim's first undertakers; Enid Rimpau and the story of her tragic suicide; and local golf legend, Henry George "Dad" Miller.

Special thanks to Darrell Rivers and Historic Insights, our wonderful actors and docents, and to all our hardworking staff for making the event possible! To

view a copy of the souvenir program, please visit our website at www.occemeterydistrict.com.





# ORANGE COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT September/October 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. In September and October, meetings will be held as follows:

- > Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
- > Tuesday, October 1st at 10:00 a.m.

For additional information please contact the District Secretary, Mary Funk at (949) 951-9102 ext. 110.

#### **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 Mon., Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> for Labor Day

### 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 Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, flowers may be placed on Thursday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. In honor of Halloween and Dia de los Muertos flowers may be placed on Thursday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, November 5th.

A complete listing of the District's extended holiday flower schedule for 2019 is available on our website at <a href="https://www.occemeterydistrict.com">www.occemeterydistrict.com</a>. Click on the tab for Flowers, Markers and Rules for more information.

### **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