



Photo by Tracy Dean.

I don't want to get to the end of my life and find that I lived just the length of it. I want to have lived the width of it as well.

—Diane Ackerman

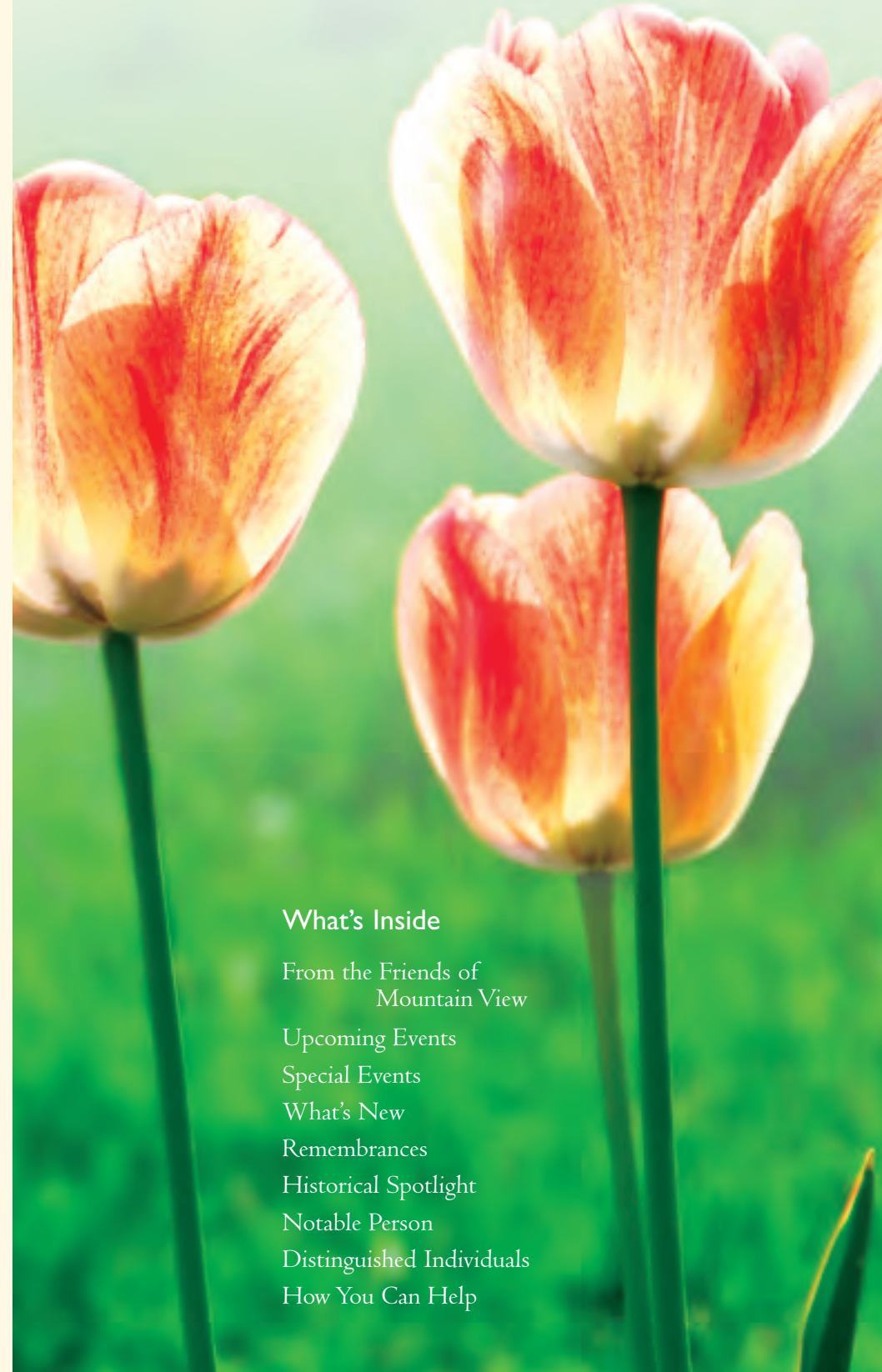
At Mountain View Cemetery, we welcome thousands of visitors each year. Some come to remember loved ones; some come to appreciate a Bay Area landmark designed by renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted; some come to enjoy the peace, tranquility, inspiring landscaping, and sweeping views of the Bay Area; and some come to visit the graves of community and industry leaders and learn more about the wealth of history that lies among our beautiful hills.

Whatever connects you to this remarkable place, we invite you to learn more.

Our goals for this newsletter are to help you discover the cemetery's natural beauty and historical significance, invite you to attend our special events throughout the year, give you behind-the-scenes details about current and future projects, and create a way for you to become involved in our ongoing preservation and restoration efforts.

The Friends of Mountain View Cemetery is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Friends of  MOUNTAIN VIEW
CEMETERY



What's Inside

- From the Friends of Mountain View
- Upcoming Events
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MOUNTAIN VIEW
CEMETERY

5000 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, CA 94611
founded 1863 • a not-for-profit association
www.mountainviewcemetery.org

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Each of our free, docent-led tours meets in front of the administrative office, lasts two to three hours and involves walking up steep hills. Visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org for details. (Docents scheduled are subject to change.)

- Friday, 3/25/11, through Sunday, 3/27/11
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
6th Annual Tower Chapel Tulip Exhibition
Walk amidst spectacular floral arrangements created by Bay Area florists, garden clubs, and local college floral design classes. It's free! For details, visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org.
- Saturday, 3/26/11
10 a.m.
Funerary Architecture
A docent tour led by Dennis Evanosky and Elizabeth McCune.
- APRIL
Tulip Extravaganza
Visit the cemetery for a magnificent showing of thousands of Dutch tulips in bloom.
- Saturday, 4/2/11, and Sunday, 4/3/11
Qing Ming Festival (Remembrance of Ancestors Day)
Visit the cemetery in observance of Qing Ming this weekend and enjoy complimentary refreshments. For details, visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org.
- Tuesday, 4/5/11
Qing Ming (Remembrance of Ancestors Day)
- Saturday, 4/9/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Sandra Rauch and Jane Leroy.
- Saturday, 4/23/11
10 a.m.
The Trees at Mountain View
A docent tour led by Chris Patillo and Peg Stone.
- Sunday, 4/24/11
Easter
- Sunday, 5/8/11
Mother's Day
- Saturday, 5/14/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Carolyn Kemp and Barbara Gibson.
- Saturday, 5/28/11
10 a.m.
Saints or Scoundrels
A docent tour led by Ron Bachman and Debbie Swinarski.
- Monday, 5/30/11
10 a.m.
90th Annual Memorial Day Commemoration Program
Presentation of colors, salute to the fallen, and guest speakers.
- Monday, 5/30/11
11:30 a.m.
Memorial Day Civil War Plot Tour led by Dennis Evanosky
Dennis, who has also led tours at the Pardee Home Museum and Oakland's Preservation Park, gives a general tour with special emphasis on the Civil War and the role California and Californians played in the conflict.
- Saturday, 6/11/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Joyce Temby and Sandy Rauch.
- Sunday, 6/19/11
Father's Day
- Saturday, 6/25/11
10 a.m.
Mountain View Newsmakers
A docent tour led by Michael Colbruno and Carolyn Kemp.
- Saturday, 7/9/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Dennis Evanosky and Peg Stone.
- Sunday, 7/10/11
10 a.m.
Oakland Heritage Alliance's (OHA) annual walking tour
led by Barbara Smith and Michael Crowe (\$5 for OHA members, \$10 for nonmembers). Barbara, a former Oakland Museum history docent, developed Mountain View's tour program in the early 1970s. Her tour offers insights into historical figures—some heroic, some humorous, some tragic. Michael is an architectural historian who comments on the monuments.
- Saturday, 7/23/11
10 a.m.
Notables and Notorious
A docent tour led by Carolyn Kemp and Barbara Gibson.
- Saturday, 8/13/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Chris Patillo and Dennis Evanosky.
- Saturday, 8/27/11
10 a.m.
Buildings of Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Gaye Lenaban and Debbie Swinarski.
- Saturday, 9/10/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Barbara Gibson and Elizabeth McCune.
- Saturday, 9/24/11
10 a.m.
Artists and Architects
A docent tour led by Michael Colbruno and Stafford Buckley.
- Saturday, 10/8/11
10 a.m.
Exploring Mountain View Cemetery
A docent tour led by Ron Bachman and Peg Stone.
- Saturday, 10/22/11
10 a.m.
Immigrants Who Helped Shape California
A docent tour led by Peg Stone and Jane Leroy.
- Saturday, 10/29/11
Noon to 3 p.m.
5th Annual Pumpkin Festival
Celebrate Halloween at our fun-filled pumpkin patch meadow, with free pumpkins, activities, and treats for the kids! Visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org for more details.

6th Annual Tower Chapel Tulip Exhibition

Friday through Sunday, March 25–27

We're delighted to invite you to our 6th Annual Tulip Exhibition in the Tower Chapel, which will showcase spectacular floral arrangements that feature tulips and are created by Bay Area florists, garden clubs and college floral design classes.

Visit anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. during the three-day event. Admission to the cemetery and the exhibition are free; no reservations or tickets are required. Simply stop by and appreciate the beautiful artistry created by local enthusiasts and professionals. Each day at 1 p.m., you're invited to enjoy a special floral arrangement demonstration. 🌷



Enjoy magnificent floral arrangements that feature various varieties of tulips during our 6th Annual Tower Chapel Tulip Exhibition.

Mountain View's Tulip Extravaganza

Visit our beautiful tulip gardens during April



Stroll among the thousands of tulips in bloom in April. Photo by Julie Prime.

Every year, Mountain View celebrates spring with thousands of tulips in bloom. This year, our plantings include Red Impression, Golden Apeldoorn, Daydream, Triumph Tulip Page Polka, Triumph Tulip Mix, Golden Parade, World's Favorite, Olympic Flame, Orange Queen and Cum Laude tulips. Imported directly from Holland, our tulips are delivered in December and typically planted around New Year's Day—later than many gardeners because our goal is to mature them closer to Easter. This year, however, due to the heavy rains, we were unable to plant them until late January—so expect a bloom date beginning approximately the first week of April and continuing all month.

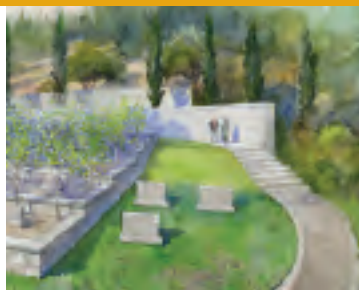
Near our entrance, our tulip beds are flanked by a Japanese Boxwood (*Buxus microphylla japonica*, "Green Beauty") hedge and lawn and can easily be enjoyed via the pedestrian walk that circles the fountain. Framing the walk are flowering Carolina cherry trees (*Prunus caroliniana*). 🌷



Your donations are vital to maintaining and improving the Mountain View Cemetery grounds. To make your tax-deductible contribution, please complete and return the donation form printed at the end of this newsletter. If you have a favorite project, you can earmark your donation to be used for it. All of us at Mountain View, including our families and visitors, thank you for your support.

Flowering Pear Garden Update

Our beautiful new Flowering Pear Garden—a magnificent new development that honors the Bay Area's appreciation for trees and nature as well as the desire many families have to celebrate a life by planting a tree—is now under construction.



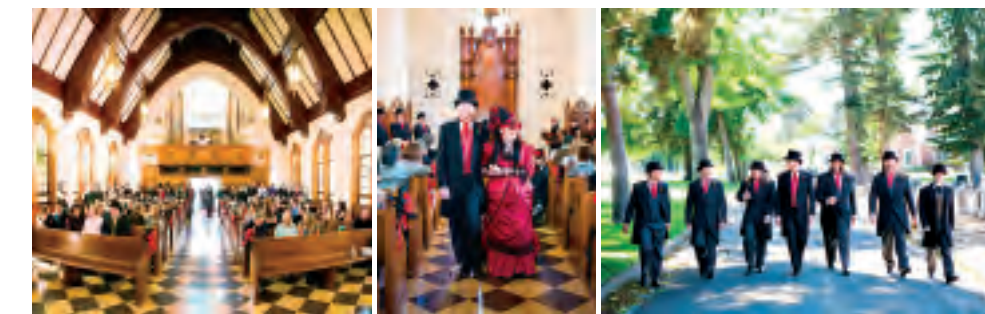
Artist's rendering of the new Flowering Pear Garden outdoor columbaria.

Unlike the broad and open landscapes of the memorial park design, the Flowering Pear Garden is intended to define an intimate outdoor space, yet one that opens to panoramic views and sky. The Flowering Pear Garden, semicircled by flowering pear trees, a tall cobblestone wall and Italian cypress trees, creates a peaceful destination. The balance of geometry and tree canopy in the garden reflects the yin and yang of life itself. Each elevated French limestone stepped terrace includes a row of cremation burial sites. A flowering pear tree and an upright family stone memorial memorialize each site, and an outdoor columbaria of community niches will look upon the trees.

We expect to complete the Flowering Pear Garden columbaria wall niches in summer 2011. To date we have completed the Flowering Pear Garden landscape and cremation garden terrace, as well as the design and construction specifications for the new Flowering Pear Garden outdoor columbaria.

To learn more about this exquisite new garden, visit the model in our office and talk with one of our sales consultants. 🌷

Mountain View: Brimming with Life



Mountain View's stylish Tower Chapel provides a beautiful backdrop for special events such as weddings. Maggie and Colin Adams, who were married in the Tower Chapel in August 2010, chose a Victorian theme for their wedding day.

Visitors to Mountain View Cemetery are struck by many things: its history, its architecture, its spectacular panoramic views, its beautiful design and landscaping, and its tranquil atmosphere. Another aspect frequently noticed is how the cemetery is so alive with activity. From our annual tulip exhibition, Halloween celebration and holiday circle of lights events, to our regular docent tours, to the hundreds of people who drive, walk and bike through our grounds every day, Mountain View is a place that celebrates life.

As part of our quest to embrace life, Mountain View has increasingly been hosting events in its Tower Chapel and Main Mausoleum Chapel. Each facility is an elegant setting that can accommodate up to 150 people and be tailored to meet your needs.

For information about hosting your event at either the Tower Chapel or the Main Mausoleum Chapel, contact the Mountain View Cemetery office at 510.658.2588.

Qing Ming Observance on April 2–3

Qing Ming, also known as Grave-Sweeping Day or Remembrance of Ancestors Day, is a Chinese holiday that is celebrated in countries worldwide. Each year the festival falls 106 days after the winter solstice.



The annual observance of Qing Ming brings thousands of visitors to Mountain View Cemetery.

Qing Ming, which falls on Tuesday, April 5, this year, will be celebrated at Mountain View Cemetery on Saturday and Sunday, April 2–3. These days give family members an opportunity to gather together and to pay respect to their ancestors. The occasion is not a somber event, but considered a time for joyful reunion. During the family's visit, there are traditional rituals that mark the occasion. These can include weeding the area around the grave, clearing any dirt or debris, replacing wilted flowers with fresh ones, lighting candles, burning incense, and burning imitation paper money (which is believed to be used by the deceased in the afterlife). Family members also make offerings of food, which they lay out along with tableware such as chopsticks. Some families eat the food they've prepared after offering it to their deceased ancestors.

Other rituals include family members pouring wine on the grave or setting off firecrackers, both to let their relatives know that they are there to pay their respects and to scare away evil spirits.

Qing Ming is a special day at Mountain View Cemetery, when we welcome many family members who uphold this long-standing tradition of reverence and remembrance. This year, boxes of Chinese pastries will be available to help make your visit memorable. 🍵

Boxes of Chinese pastries will be available to help make your visit memorable.



Visitors may leave gravesite decorations seven days before and after New Year's Day, Qing Ming, Easter, Mother's Day, and Father's Day—and from seven days before Christmas through January 10. Flags may be placed seven days before and after Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans' Day.

Do you have an interesting story to share about a family member, friend or colleague at Mountain View Cemetery? If so, please write and tell us about his or her life and accomplishments, and we may feature it in an upcoming newsletter.



Anthony Chabot's philanthropy in Oakland was extensive.

Anthony Chabot (1813–1888) Invented Hydraulic Mining, Established Water Service, Founded Chabot Observatory

By Ruby Long, Mountain View Cemetery Docent Program

Anthony Chabot, originally a sailmaker, came to California in 1849 from Canada to work in the goldfields. When not seeking the elusive gold, he built water ditches to supply Nevada City area mines with water. After about 10 years of long days spent bent over streams to collect nuggets, he began thinking about easier ways to get to the valuable gold—often found deeper in the earth.

One of his fellow miners, Eli Miller, had been a tinsmith before he came to California, and the two began to talk about how to make efforts in gold mining less difficult. By March 1853, they had a plan. Chabot took a long strip of canvas and sewed it into a tube. Miller fashioned a nozzle from sheet iron, fastened it to the end of the tube, and hydraulic gold mining was born. By forcing a powerful stream of water through the tube, they could wash away the soil that held the gold in its grasp.

In very little time, they were both wealthy men—and rich enough to leave the difficult life of the mining camp. They left behind, however, a scarred landscape. The process of hydraulic gold mining had a devastating effect on the environment by choking the streams and rivers with silt and rocks all the way to the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay. The effects can still be seen, 150 years later, in the bare, eroded cliffs of places like Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park (the site of the country's largest hydraulic gold mining operation), not far from Nevada City.

Chabot came to San Francisco in 1856 and soon began having an effect there too, but a more benign one than on the hillsides of the mining country. He was instrumental in developing a more modern water system for the city.

By 1866 he was in Oakland, where he organized the Contra Costa Water Company that provided Oakland with its water supply. His philanthropy to the area was extensive. We can see his name on Chabot Observatory (originally opened in 1883, it ultimately moved to its current location on Skyline Boulevard), Chabot College and beautiful Lake Chabot. He also built the dam at Lake Temescal.

At the corner of MacArthur and Broadway, which at that time was considered way out in the country, he donated two and a half acres of property for a hospital. Originally opened in 1887, the hospital had several lives and more than one name—including the Oakland Homeopathic Hospital and Dispensary. Since the 1940s, the building has served the community as Kaiser Permanente Medical Center.

Chabot's memorial monument can be found in Plot 9. 🍵



Chabot Observatory, Chabot College and beautiful Lake Chabot are just some of Anthony Chabot's namesakes.



J. Ross Browne, who was said to have influenced writers such as Mark Twain, wrote travel books illustrated with his own humorous pencil drawings.

J. Ross Browne (1821–1875) Reporter, Delegate, World Traveler, Writer, Civil Rights Advocate, Secret Agent

By Barbara Smith, Mountain View Cemetery Docent

J. Ross Browne, an Irish immigrant who settled in Kentucky with his family in 1832, worked on riverboats and whalers. In 1849, he arrived in California on the ship *Panama* as a shipmate of William Gwin—a man who was to become one of California's first two United States Senators. The two men became fast friends, which provided Browne with many opportunities.

Browne had worked as a newspaper reporter, learned shorthand and served a stint as a shorthand reporter in the U.S. Senate. Gwin, named a delegate to the September 1849 Constitutional Convention in Monterey, secured for Browne the appointment as official reporter of the convention—for which Browne was paid the princely sum of \$10,000.

This reward enabled Ross Browne to travel through the Mediterranean and make subsequent trips to Europe and through the Apache Country, an area of great interest to the Western World. His travels, which included whaling junkets to the Indian Ocean, gave him rich material for his subsequent tales, illustrated by his own sketches.

Browne became a highly popular and often humorous travel writer who was published in books, newspapers and magazines.

Browne had another persona as well, however. He was a secret

agent for the United States government, investigating fraud and corruption in government agencies such as the IRS (founded in 1862), the U.S. Mint, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Customs and more. He was made a Federal Commissioner of Mines and appointed by President Andrew Johnson as U.S. Minister to China, where he tried to correct some questionable practices of his politically well-connected predecessor—and was fired.

In 1868 he built his palatial family home, "Pagoda Hill," in the Rockridge district of Oakland, where he devoted the rest of his life to writing. The architecture of Pagoda Hill, designed by Browne himself, could best be described as eclectic—a combination of widely varying styles.

Browne died from appendicitis in 1875 at age 54. He will always be remembered as a pioneer on San Francisco's literary frontier and an ardent champion of civil rights for Chinese and Indians in California. You can find Browne's grave in Plot 16, Lot 53. 🍵



J. Ross Browne: Etchings of a Whaling Cruise.

**Emily Fish (1844–1931)
Juliet Nichols (1859–1947)**

*Most Celebrated “Mother-Daughter” Lighthouse Keepers
in the United States*

By Barbara Smith, Mountain View Cemetery Docent

Emily Fish and Juliet Nichols are remembered as the most celebrated “mother-daughter” lighthouse keepers in the United States, though actually, Juliet was the daughter of Emily’s late sister. When Emily Maitland was just 17, she and her widowed brother-in-law, Dr. Melancthon Fish, were married in China. There he served as a U.S. vice consul in Shanghai for six years, and Emily raised Juliet.

Dr. and Mrs. Fish and Juliet later returned to the United States, where he served for the Union in the Civil War. Emily and Juliet accompanied him during General Sherman’s campaign through Georgia.

Juliet eventually married Henry Nichols, who became a naval officer and inspector in the Lighthouse Service’s 12th District.

Juliet manually rang the bell twice every 15 seconds for a period of 20 hours and 35 minutes.



(Left) Emily Fish became lighthouse keeper at Point Pinos on the Monterey Peninsula in 1893. (Right) Juliet Nichols was keeper of the light at Angel Island from 1903 to 1914.

When Melancthon Fish died in 1893, Henry Nichols suggested to Emily the idea of her becoming the lighthouse keeper at Point Pinos on the Monterey Peninsula—a position that was about to become available. Emily won the appointment and, in 1893, moved into the lighthouse along with a Chinese manservant named Que who had come from China with the family.

From her home in Oakland, Emily bought fine antique furniture, paintings, china and silver. Determined to have a garden, she, with Que’s help, brought topsoil to the sandy grounds and planted grass, trees and hedges. Her 92-acre “estate” featured Holstein cows, thoroughbred horses, chickens and French poodles. Over the years she listed in her log more than 30 male workers, most of whom she noted she fired for incompetence. Emily Fish was an active member of Monterey society, entertaining widely, chairing local committees and helping

to organize the Monterey-Pacific Grove American Red Cross.

After Henry Nichols died in the Spanish-American War in 1899, leaving Juliet without support, it was arranged for her to be the keeper of the light at Angel Island—a post she filled ably from 1903 to 1914.

In the summer of 1906, Juliet gained fame when the automatic bell on Angel Island failed in heavy fog, and she manually rang the bell twice every 15 seconds for a period of 20 hours and 35 minutes. Earlier that year, both women were at their posts when the April 18 earthquake struck. Emily’s lighthouse suffered some rather severe damage, while Juliet’s experience included watching the destruction of San Francisco by temblor and flame.

Both women retired in 1914. Emily spent the rest of her life in Pacific Grove, while Juliet lived in Oakland. Both women rest in Plot 33, Lot 18.

Source for some of the information in this article: “Women of the Light,” by Jeremy D’Entremont, published in *The Lighthouse Digest*, July 2004.



Visit the memorial monument of Emily Fish and Juliet Nichols in Plot 33, Lot 18. Photo by Michael Colbruno, Mountain View docent.

**FREE CEMETERY TOURS
EVERY SECOND SATURDAY**

Want to learn more about the legendary leaders of industry, government, education, and art at Mountain View Cemetery? Join one of our free, docent-led, Mountain View Cemetery overview tours. They begin at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of every month.

**FREE SPECIAL TOPIC TOURS
EVERY FOURTH SATURDAY**

Every fourth Saturday of the month, we’ll be featuring a free tour that focuses in on more specialized topics. Join our enthusiastic and knowledgeable docent tour leaders for a closer look at the fascinating people of Mountain View Cemetery, as well as other intriguing aspects of the cemetery.

Each of our tours lasts two to three hours and involves walking up steep hills. No RSVP is necessary; simply meet in front of the administrative office and wear comfortable walking shoes. For more information about our docent-led tours, or to arrange a special group tour (including wheelchair-accessible tours), contact the cemetery office at 510.658.2588.

**FREE, SELF-GUIDED
CEMETERY TOUR MAP**

A free map showing plots, listing points of interest, and identifying graves of notable persons is available at the cemetery office or online at www.mountainviewcemetery.org.



YES, I’d like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Friends of Mountain View Cemetery to help restore, preserve, and enhance the beauty of the Mountain View Cemetery grounds.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Please accept my donation in the amount of:

\$10 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$_____

Please use my donation for (check one):

- Main Mausoleum Stained Glass Restoration Fund
- Italian Cypress Tree Fund Civil War Plot Restoration Fund
- Preservation and Restoration Fund Wherever my donation is needed most

Form of payment (check one):

Check enclosed (please make your check payable to *Friends of Mountain View Cemetery*)

Credit card: Visa® MasterCard®

Card no.: _____

Exp. date: _____ / _____

Tax-deductible donations may be mailed to:



5000 Piedmont Avenue • Oakland, CA 94611

Thanks to Our Contributors

Our special thanks to those who have recently contributed \$50 or more to support our ongoing preservation and restoration efforts: Kathleen H. Brown • Teresa Ferguson • Michael P. Fiacco • Donald S. James • Herman J. Jeong • Paul D. Lane • Stephen Parmelee • Stuart Samuel • Dean E. Shutt • Jane Tang • Hoa Tran • Quyen Trinh

The Mountain View Cemetery Association, established in 1863 by citizens of the East Bay, is a non-sectarian, community nonprofit corporation dedicated to providing comfort to families in a setting of great beauty. We are a private organization and receive no public funding. While most areas of the cemetery grounds are maintained through an endowment fund, there remain a number of significant projects that are important to the preservation and restoration of this extraordinary cemetery. It is through your generous, tax-deductible support that we can continue completing this historically critical work.

Phone: 510.658.2588 • Fax: 510.652.2726 • www.mountainviewcemetery.org
Grounds open: 7 a.m.–sunset daily (entrance gates close a half hour before sunset)
Office hours: Weekdays 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., weekends and holidays 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Mausoleum hours: Weekdays 8 a.m.–4 p.m., weekends and holidays 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

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