

Friends of



MOUNTAIN VIEW
C E M E T E R Y

WHAT'S INSIDE: From the Friends of Mountain View Cemetery • Upcoming Events • Special Events • New Developments: New Plot Plans • Craig's Corner – Ground Maintenance • Remembering March Fong Eu • How You Can Help

SPRING 2018





Photo by Jeff Lindeman

*“Spring passes and one remembers one’s innocence.
Summer passes and one remembers one’s exuberance.
Autumn passes and one remembers one’s reverence.
Winter passes and one remembers one’s perseverance.”*

—Yoko Ono

At Mountain View Cemetery, we take great pride in upholding community traditions. With spring upon us, we’re excited to share a number of activities and events with you and your family, including our annual Tulip Exhibition and our yearly observance of Ching Ming, the ancient Chinese custom of remembering ancestors. We’re also excited to announce our fourth annual “Free Photos with the Easter Bunny,” which includes treats for the kids and a complimentary family photo with the ultimate springtime celebrity.

Come to one of our special events and take part in several of our long-standing traditions...or stop by our office to brainstorm creative ways of honoring important people and milestones in your life. We are constantly inspired by your visions and enjoy working with you to make them a reality.

Family services counselors are available at all of our community events to talk with you about burial estate planning and to answer any questions you may have about our services. If you can’t make it to any of our events, you’re always welcome to call or stop by our office for a chat and a tour of our historic grounds. We hope to see you soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At Mountain View Cemetery, we offer family-friendly events and activities year-round. Each of our free, docent-led tours meets in front of the administrative office and lasts about two hours. Many tours involve walking up steep hills.*

*Please note: scheduled tours and events are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information and details, visit our website at www.mountainviewcemetery.org.

Sat., 3/10/18 10 a.m. **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery:** *A docent-led tour highlighting the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*

Fri., 3/23/18 through Sun., 3/25/18 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **13th Annual Tower Chapel Tulip Exhibition**
Walk amidst spectacular floral arrangements created by Bay Area florists, garden clubs, and local floral design classes. It's free! Floral arrangement demonstrations at 2 p.m. each day.

Sat., 3/24/18 10 a.m. **Specialty Tour Women's History**
A docent tour led by Jane Leroe & Michael Colbruno.

Sat., 3/31/18 **Free Photos with the Easter Bunny**



Noon to
3 p.m.

Stop by the Tower Chapel and help us kick off a new Mountain View Cemetery Easter tradition! This special event includes a free family photo with the Easter Bunny and plastic eggs (one per child) filled with treats. We'll also be serving cookies, coffee, and lemonade. Admission to this event is free, no reservations required. Just show up in your spring finery and leave with an Easter memory to treasure for years to come.

April **Tulip Extravaganza**
Stop by and admire thousands of Dutch tulips in bloom!

Sun., 4/1/18 **Easter**

Sat., 3/31/18 through Sun., 4/1/18 **Ching Ming Festival (Remembrance of Ancestors)**
Enjoy complimentary pastries all weekend long as we observe this annual Chinese tradition.

Sat., 4/14/18 10 a.m. **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery:** *A docent-led tour highlighting the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*

Sat., 4/28/18 10 a.m. **Specialty Tour – The Trees of Mountain View Cemetery**
A docent-led tour by Chris Pattillo.

Sat., 5/12/18 10 a.m. **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery:** *A docent-led tour highlighting the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*

Sun., 5/13/18 **Mother's Day**

Sat., 5/26/18 10 a.m. **Specialty Tour**
Comings and Goings. A docent-led tour by Ruby Long.

Mon., 5/28/18 10 a.m. **98th annual Memorial Day Commemoration Program**
Presentation of colors, salute to the fallen, and guest speakers.

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

- Mon., 5/28/18** **Memorial Day Civil War Plot Tour (led by Dennis Evanosky).**
11:30 a.m. *Dennis, who has also led tours at the Pardee Home and Oakland's Preservation Park, gives a general tour with special emphasis on The Civil War and the role California played in the conflict.*
- Sat., 6/9/18** **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery: A docent-led tour highlighting**
10 a.m. *the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*
- Sun, 6/10/18** **Bay Area Guitar Master Series**
2 p.m. *Marc Teicholz*
- Sun., 6/17/18** **Father's Day**
- Sat., 6/23/18** **Specialty Tour**
- Sat., 7/14/18** **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery: A docent-led tour highlighting**
10 a.m. *the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*
- Sat., 7/22/18** **Specialty Tour – Exploring the California Gold Rush and**
10 a.m. **Transcontinental Railroad at Mountain View Cemetery**
A docent led tour by Ron Bachman.
- Sun., 7/29/18:** **Bay Area Guitar Master Series**
2 p.m. *March Teicholz with special guest Angela Lee*
- Sat., 8/11/18** **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery: A docent-led tour highlighting**
10 a.m. *the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*
- Sun., 8/19/18:** **Bay Area Guitar Master Series**
2 p.m. *Eric Symons with special guest Patrick Imbimbo*
- Sat., 8/25/18** **Specialty Tour – Oral Traditions, Food Mavericks & Literacy Lions.**
10 a.m. *A docent-led tour by Barbara Gibson and Jane Leroe.*
- Sat., 9/8/18** **A docent-led tour highlighting the history of the labor and**
10 a.m. **business leaders at Mountain View Cemetery.**
- Sat., 9/15/18** **Movie Night on the Green –**
6 p.m. **Fun activities and refreshments before movie time.**
- Sat., 9/22/18** **Specialty Tour – UC Berkeley**
10 a.m. *A docent led-tour by Ron Bachman and Jane Leroe.*
- Sat., 10/13/18** **Exploring Mountain View Cemetery: A docent-led tour highlighting**
10 a.m. *the people, architecture, beauty, and history of Mountain View Cemetery.*
- Sat., 10/22/18** **Specialty Tour – Mayors Tour**
10 a.m. *A docent-led tour by Dennis Evanosky and Michael Colbruno.*
- Sat., 10/27/18** **13th Annual Pumpkin Festival**
Noon to 3 p.m. *Celebrate Halloween at our fun-filled pumpkin patch meadow, with free pumpkins, activities, onsite food trucks, and treats for the kids!*

*Interested in becoming a Mountain View Cemetery docent?
Stop by our office and pick up an application form!*

13th Annual Tower Chapel Tulip Exhibition

Fri. through Sun., March 23-25

You won't want to miss our 13th Annual Tulip Exhibition in the Tower Chapel, which showcases 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. Each day at 2 p.m., you're invited to enjoy a special floral arrangement demonstration.



Bay Area florists and local flower enthusiasts come together every year at Mountain View Cemetery to showcase and admire original arrangements



Swing by the Tower Chapel at 2 p.m. every day during Mountain View Cemetery's Tulip Exhibition for a free tutorial on how to arrange flowers like the pros. Photo by Jeff Lindeman.

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 pros. 🌷

More about our tulips in bloom at Mountain View Cemetery

Every year, Mountain View celebrates spring with thousands of tulips in bloom. 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. In the front entrance circle, our planter beds include Darwin Hybrid, 'Red Impression' with Chrysanthemum Paludosom. The main mausoleum planter beds consist of a Triumph Tulip Mix with Darwin Hybrid, 'Golden Oxford' in end planters. The Main Ave. bench seating area has a Darwin Hybrid Mix. Plot 18A planter has Darwin Hybrid, 'Golden Oxford', 'Light and Dreamy', and 'Olympic Flame.' The Tower Chapel planters have both Darwin Hybrid Mix, and Triumph tulip Mix. 🌷

STAY SAFE – FOLLOW PARK RULES

Mountain View Cemetery is an incomparable place to walk, meditate, or enjoy a picnic with friends. Please help us maintain the beauty of our historic grounds and safety of our guests by staying on designated trails and disposing of garbage appropriately.

FOR OUR GUESTS WHO ARE PET OWNERS:

- Pets will be allowed on cemetery grounds provided they are on a leash at all times. Only service animals are allowed in buildings.
- Owners shall keep their pets on the roadways or sidewalks at all times and shall not trespass on any plot or gravesite. Owners shall not allow their pets to cause disturbance due to noise.
- Pet debris must be picked up by its owner and placed in a trash container or removed from the cemetery.
- Management reserves the right to evict any dog and its owner that, in the judgment of management, do not comply with cemetery rules.





The Water Pavilion, a new chapel and reception center, will open to and look upon a new koi pond. A gathering place filled with sunlight, the Water Pavilion will include meeting rooms, outdoor patio, fire places and a kitchen. We anticipate breaking ground for this celebration of life center, fall 2018.

While the pace is more tortoise than hare, projects to enhance and fulfill the Cemetery's mission continue. Permitting requirements and a very busy construction environment are challenges that we are managing with an eye toward Cemetery investments in long term benefits to our community.

We are pleased to communicate that we have teamed with Oakland's Turner Construction to provide pre-construction services for the Water Pavilion and Plot 82 projects. Both projects have unique design and construction requirements. Turner Construction, headquartered in Oakland, has substantial experience building complex projects. While the Cemetery's project are small in comparison to the economics of typical Turner projects, Turner expressed interest in taking on these hometown projects. While small in scale, these projects have unique technical attributes intended to respect, yet enhance, the historic nature of Mountain View Cemetery. We look forward to Turner's assistance toward reaching our goals.

In our Fall, 2017 newsletter, we reported that new plot plans are in the works. We are pleased to report that the Planning Commission approved the Environmental Impact Report, concept design and use permit. However, following the approval the project was appealed in regards to trees and coast live oak trees, specifically. The Cemetery has planted over 1,300 tree in the past fifteen years, which demonstrates its commitment to planting and caring for trees. At the time of this newsletter, one of the Cemetery's landscape companies arborist division is pruning our cherry, maple, dogwood and other trees. We are negotiating with the appealing party and look forward to resolving the appeal soon, so that we can move ahead with developing burial sites for the next generation of our community.

After a lengthy search for the right general contractor, we are pleased that Turner Construction is assisting us with pre-construction services for the Water Pavilion. This is a unique venue and it has some unique technical requirements. The Water Pavilion is intended to last for many, many decades. Hence, its structure is primarily concrete. However, reflecting today's sentiment for sunny rooms, it is also intended to be a transparent space with views open to a large pond on the east side and a patio for gathering on the west side. That combination makes it a challenge to outfit the space with modern building requirements, such as mechanical ventilation. The timeliness of



permitting too has been a challenge, since the City of Oakland is experiencing a long awaited building boom.

When finished, these projects will provide for additional interment and memorial space, in keeping with the Cemetery's history and goals. Additionally, the Water Pavilion will create a venue for gatherings that will encourage visitors to spend time together. We believe that creating spaces for people to talk, remember, cry and laugh is part of our mission and a worthwhile goal. 🕯️

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 approximately two hours. 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), visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org or 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.



“Somehow, the mere act of encountering name after name on headstones, even if they are unknown to us...allow these places of memory and forgetfulness to make a claim on us. In that way, I suppose, cemeteries become in the end, places where we go to wait for our own story.”



So writes poet and writer James Silas Rodgers in his book *Northern Orchards: Places Near The Dead*, a collection of poems and essays about cemeteries. Published in 2014, each essay explores one or more cemeteries in the context of someone, or something that captured his interest.

Rogers believes there is value in taking time at a cemetery, “to let the place speak to you, to make friends with the space...I find that a burial ground is both a space apart and a space within,” he said.

For Rogers, the purpose of the cemetery is less about perpetuating eternal remembrance than to promote the healing of forgetfulness. “At a certain point, you have to turn and walk away,” he said. “The endpoint is to align ourselves with that which is greater than a single life. Even monuments will crumble someday, but the place will remain always.”

I came across this book several years after I became employed at Mountain View Cemetery, while researching famous cemeteries. Over the past few years, I have developed a sense of closeness to Mountain View Cemetery, and those laid to rest here. With over 180,000 individuals interred at Mountain View Cemetery, that isn't too hard to do. It is these times that I often refer to Mr. Rogers essays, and understand what he is feeling. I frequently find myself tangled up in the stories behind the graves. Oftentimes, exposing buried headstones leads me to feel a connection with the people buried there, and wonder about the lives they lived.

In my opinion, Mountain View Cemetery is a place of relief from the overwhelming present. It offers the broader perspective of over 150 years of history set in stone. In this context, all that periodically plaques me subsides after spending a few moments reading a story from a grave.

I hope the next time you come to visit the Mountain View Cemetery, you too feel the same way.

Contact Us

Stop by anytime during regular office hours – we're happy to help you in any way we can. We're open weekdays from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., and weekends and holidays from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. You can also call the cemetery office directly at 510.658.2588 or visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org.





Photo of March Fong Eu

Remembering March Fong Eu

(March 29, 1922 - December 21, 2017)

By Dennis Evanosky, Docent

Trailblazer Dr. March Fong Eu, Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia (ret.), California's first female and five-term Secretary of State and four-term Assemblywoman, now rests at Mountain View Cemetery. When Governor Jerry Brown learned of Dr. Eu's passing he called her "a pioneering woman who helped open doors to public service for more women and Asian Americans."

Dr. Eu was born at the back of her parents' hand-wash laundry in the Stanislaus County town of Oakdale. The family moved to Richmond where she attended public schools. She received her bachelor's degree from University of California at Berkeley/UCSF (1942), a master's degree in education from Mills College (1947), and a doctorate of education from Stanford University (1954).

Dr. Eu was the first dental hygiene educator employed by Alameda County schools for whom she created curriculum materials. Serving as president of the American Dental Hygienist Association, she prevailed in fight against discriminatory membership rules of the Texas Dental Association and that controversy piqued her interest in politics and standing up for the underdog. She ran and became the first American of Asian heritage and first woman be elected to the Alameda County Board of Education. She was elected to that board for three terms, the last serving as its first woman president. During this tenure she actively lobbied in Sacramento for public schools.

In 1966, Dr. Eu won a seat in the State Assembly – the first Asian American woman and one of only three women to serve in the Legislature at the time. She served four terms (1967-1975) in the Assembly, representing Oakland, Hayward and Castro Valley. Her achievements included fluoridation of water, venereal disease education in schools, prisoner rights and whistleblower legislation. She fought for equal treatment of women at many levels – confronting the good old boy traditions of the male dominated legislature to serving on the nascent Commission of the Status of Women and fighting for the Equal Rights Amendment.

In 1974 Dr. Eu ran for Secretary for State and held that position for nineteen years (1975-1994). Her positive legislative reputation for advocating for populist causes and fighting against traditional power brokers and corporate interests, topped by Governor Ronald Reagan's signature on her 1969 legislation banning pay toilets in public buildings, propelled her victory. Popular with the voters as an honest, positive and hardworking public servant, she garnered 1.2 million votes over her opponent in that first Secretary of State run and her reelections had similar wide margins of voter support. "Not too bad for a lady born behind a Chinese laundry," she told a Los Angeles Times reporter.

As Secretary of State, Dr. Eu instituted voter registration by mail, absentee ballots upon request, and established the Political Reform Division. She became the de facto state chief of protocol through the World Trade Commission and sponsoring trade missions overseas. She also fought for funding to restore the State Archives which now houses the California Museum.

President Bill Clinton appointed her U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, a post she held for two years (1994-1996).

The "hanging chad" controversy that propelled President George W. Bush into the White House in 2002 angered the then feisty seventy-nine year old Dr. Eu to run again for Secretary of State. That bid was unsuccessful and she returned to retirement where she had become an internationally recognized painter and calligrapher.

“I have spent my entire career, both within and outside of public service, breaking barriers . . . opening the doors through which women and Americans of Asian ancestry increasingly are able to enter,” Dr. Eu wrote in her 2002 campaign literature.



March Fong Eu was ninety-five when she passed away on December 21, 2017. Her Mountain View sarcophagus is adorned with her calligraphy of the Chinese saying “ru yee” which means “May all your wishes come true.” On the north side is the “chop” of her Chinese name. 🙏



Ching Ming Traditions

On Ching Ming (or Qing Ming), celebrants traditionally visit ancestral graves, where special rites are held and offerings are made in honor of ancestors. This event is held on the 106th day after winter solstice and usually occurs on April 4th or 5th. Traditionally in today’s world of working families, the trip to the Cemetery will occur on the weekend before April 5th. This event is related to the Chinese tradition of receiving blessings from previous generations when undertaking a new venture. Ching Ming unfolds in a picnic-like atmosphere and is observed as a time for happy communion with ancestors rather than a somber occasion.

Visiting the cemetery is referred to as “hang san” (walking the mountain). A series of activities; clearing the gravesite of dirt and debris, weeding around the site and repainting inscriptions on the gravestone are together referred to as “sweeping the grave”. Wine and a variety of foods may be placed around the gravesite as offerings to the spirit of the deceased. Eating the food that was offered to the deceased is considered good luck. Paper money is burned for use in the afterlife, candles are lit, and family members bow and kneel in respect. Many of today’s offerings may be simple, consisting of incense, paper money and flowers. Families may also set off firecrackers to drive evil spirits away from the gravesite. 🙏

Ching Ming Festival (Remembrance of Ancestors Day)

Sat. Mar. 31 through Sun. April 1

Ancestor worship is an ancient Chinese tradition and is a revered holiday on the Chinese calendar. On this weekend, thousands of families visit Mountain View Cemetery to sweep/clean their ancestors’ graves and repaint the inscriptions on the headstones to show their respect. The families often bring food offerings, too.

Mountain View Cemetery will be distributing boxes of Chinese pastries this weekend. Family service counselors will be available to discuss our burial plots and niches. 🙏



*During Ching Ming, food is often laid out as an offering to the spirits of the deceased.
Photo by Lynn Chung-Tran.*

HOW YOU CAN HELP

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 \$ _____

Form of payment (check one):

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

Credit card: Visa® MasterCard®

Credit card no.: _____

Exp. date: _____/_____/_____



Tax-deductible donations may be mailed to:



MOUNTAIN VIEW
C E M E T E R Y

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:

C.Z.F. Sutton, The Hall Family Trust, Teresa M. Ferguson in Memory of Virginia Kleker Kathie Long, Raymond Goralka, Helen Nieber, Donald Craig, Dorothy Hsiao, Deborah Cohen, Richad & Sherry Dumke, Wayne Chong

The Mountain View Cemetery Association, established in 1863, is a nonsectarian, 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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MOUNTAIN VIEW
C E M E T E R Y

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

IN APRIL, COME SEE OUR
TULIPS IN BLOOM!

