



ATHENS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

2020 NEWSLETTER

ATHENS CEMETERY IS A DESIGNATED STATE HISTORICAL CEMETERY
ESTABLISHED IN 1858

ATHENS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

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Bobby Glass

(903)477-7281



Happy Holidays

Vol. 19, December 2020

ABOUT US

The Athens Cemetery Association is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to maintain and preserve our historic cemetery.

OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to being good stewards to guarantee that the cemetery remains a sanctuary for reflection, meditation, and a celebration of past and future generations.

OUR STRATEGY

The challenge is being met through lot sales, interments, special donations, and planned giving arrangements.

LOCAL STORY – WREATHS

In December 2019, the Athens Cemetery participated in Wreaths Across America.

The Athens Cemetery served as the location of the first Wreaths Across America ceremony to be held locally.

Approximately 50-60 volunteers came together for the ceremony and wreath laying to honor all veterans who are interred there.

Over 500 beautiful Christmas wreaths were donated by loved ones, businesses, church organizations and other citizens. The volunteers called each veteran's name as the wreath was laid by their tombstone.

Please join us as we REMEMBER and HONOR our veterans at 11:00 a.m. on December 19, 2020 at the Athens Cemetery as we once again decorate each veteran's grave with a Christmas wreath.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION PLANNED *HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY,* ***ATHENS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION!***

The Historic Athens Cemetery was established in 1858. For 162 years, the cemetery has provided a peaceful resting place for friends and citizens of the greater Athens and Henderson County area.

In, 1921, the Athens Cemetery Association was officially formed for the purpose of overseeing the care and maintenance of the Athens Cemetery. For 100 years, this organization has provided leadership, guidance and care for the continued maintenance and growth of the cemetery.

A celebration is being planned to commemorate this historic milestone in the history of the Athens Cemetery. The projected date will be in April or May. More details will be forthcoming.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS! 2020 is coming to a close and the Athens Cemetery concludes its 162nd year. A place of reflection and a historical landmark, the grounds of the cemetery provide comfort and a venue to celebrate and honor loved ones.

The cemetery is an official state historical cemetery. It has eight historical markers honoring leaders, citizens and icons that helped shape and form the Henderson County community and beyond.

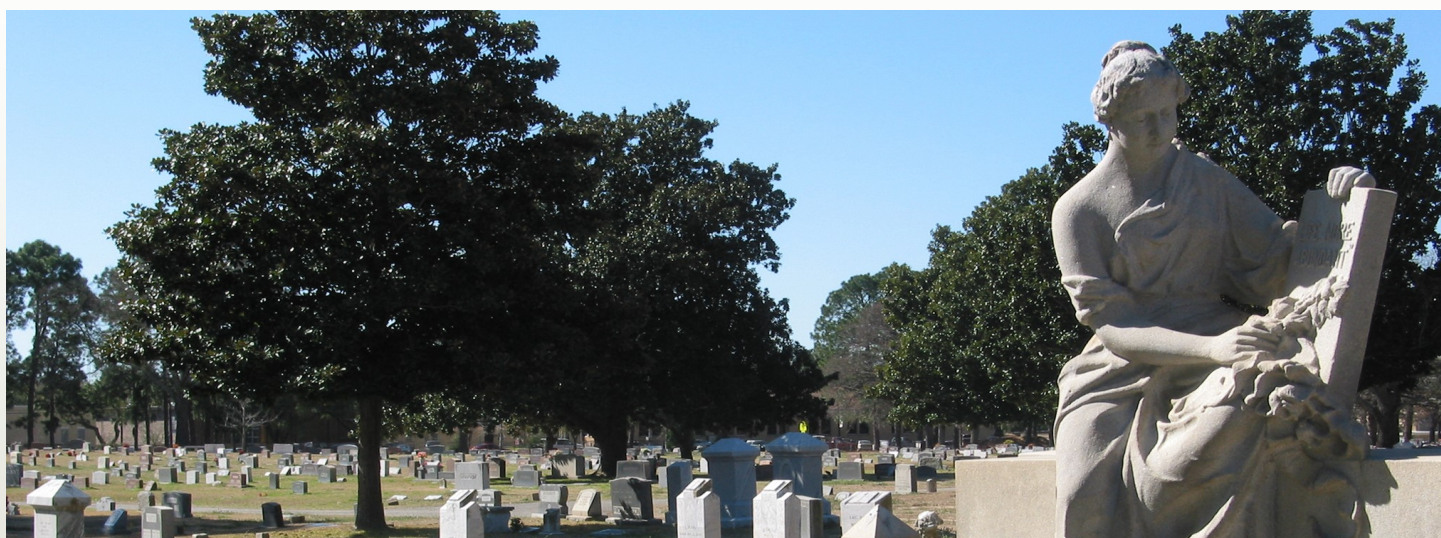
In 2013, the Athens Cemetery proudly dedicated a Veterans' Memorial Wall honoring veterans interred within the cemetery who served their country in the Cherokee Indian War, the Civil War, the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars, and all other conflicts during the time of war and peace. The impressive 50' long, 10' high structure consists of eight granite panels inlaid in brick. An American flag flies proudly over the memorial and the adjoining Veterans' Court, creating a sense of reverence. A complete roster of those honored may be found on our website.



The Athens Cemetery is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the hallowed grounds of the Athens Cemetery and is committed to its preservation for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Board of the Athens Cemetery Association wants to express our deepest appreciation for your interest in the Athens Cemetery. Anyone who is interested in the preservation and improvement of the Athens Cemetery is encouraged to contact the Board. Everyone is welcome.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 108 South Pinkerton Street in Athens, Texas at 4:30 p.m.



ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1296, Athens, TX 75751 - TEL: 903-386-3513 - WEB: www.athenstxcemetery.com

SCENES FROM THE ATHENS CEMETERY



Perhaps you know that the Athens Cemetery has been designated a Historical Cemetery by the State of Texas. There is a marker designating this at the main entrance gate of the cemetery on South Prairieville Street.

There are eight state designated historical markers within its boundaries, one for the cemetery itself and others to honor seven notable individuals. These markers are on the graves of the following people who contributed to the growth and success of Athens and Henderson County: Mrs. Dulcinea Ann Holland Thompson Avriett, Clinton Williams "Clint" Murchison, Sr., Rupert Talmadge Craig, John Matthews McDonald and Joseph Thomas LaRue, Stella Parsons LaRue and Sid W. Richardson.

The Board of the Athens Cemetery encourages you to visit these graves and markers on your next trip to the cemetery. You will indeed learn something you did not know about these pioneers and leaders of our city and county.



The hallowed grounds of the cemetery continue to be meticulously maintained and provide a special place of reverence, solitude and beauty.

The general maintenance and upkeep of the grounds and monuments is conducted on an ongoing basis including additions of the veterans' names to the Veterans' Memorial and regular cleaning and removal of worn out flowers.

The Athens Cemetery would like to extend a special thanks to all our "Friends" who have supported the beautification of the cemetery.



ANNUAL FINANCES

Annual budget needs for the maintenance and upkeep of the Athens Cemetery fall between \$60,000 and \$70,000 per year.

Funding of the cemetery is done through space and columbarium sales, interment fees and donations. Your gift does make a difference!

PLANNED GIVING

Originating in 1858, the Athens Cemetery has been generously supported through space sales, donations and other special gifts. Costs to operate the cemetery include tree trimming, weekly mowing and pick up, utilities, irrigation wells and system upkeep, insurance, automatic gate expenses and other updates.

Through tax and estate planning, many individuals have realized a tax advantage to their estate by donating a portion of their estate to charitable entities like the Athens Cemetery Association, Inc., a 501(c)(13) non-profit organization.

Donations made in this manner not only offer the potential to minimize federal estate taxes, but are of tremendous benefit to the maintenance and long term sustainability of the cemetery.

If interested, please consult your tax professional to see if this would be a benefit to you.



INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF THE CEMETERY —DONATE TODAY!

BY PHONE TO OUR OFFICE—

903-386-3513

BY PHONE TO—

Bobby Glass

our Cemetery Liaison

903-477-7281

BY EMAIL TO—

info@athenstxcemetery.com

ON OUR WEBSITE—

www.athenstxcemetery.com

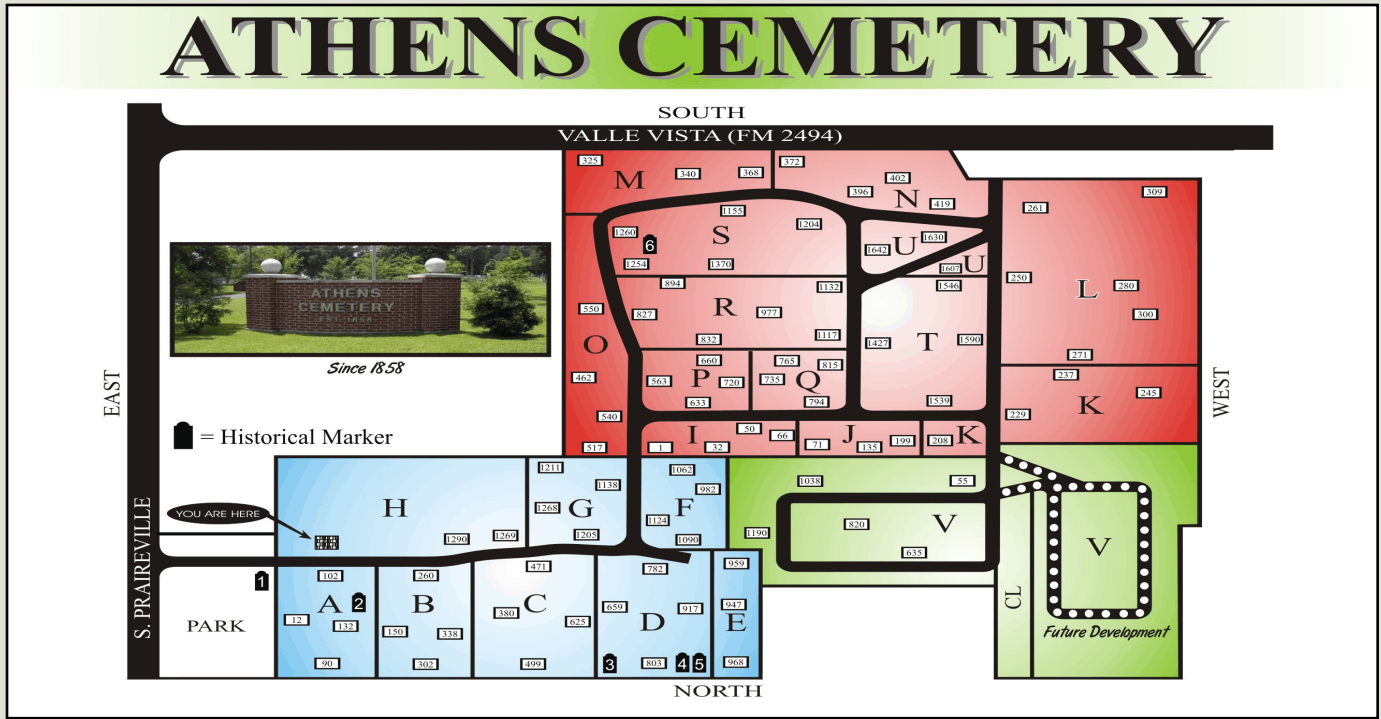
The Athens Cemetery is maintained by the Athens Cemetery Association, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to maintain and preserve our historic cemetery.

The Athens Cemetery depends upon lot sales, interments, donations and planned giving in order to operate. Costs to maintain the cemetery have continued to increase, but the challenge has been met. The board of the Athens Cemetery Association is dedicated to being good stewards of the funds provided to see that the cemetery remains a beautiful sanctuary for reflection, meditation and remembrance for past and future generations.

Donations can be mailed to the Athens Cemetery Association at P. O. Box 1296, Athens, Texas 75751, or made online at www.athenstxcemetery.com.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

4,000 spaces are available including cremation spaces columbarium niches. Call Cemetery Liaison, Bobby Glass, at (903)477-7281 for further information.



SPACE PRICES:

PRINCIPAL SECTION—

\$1,100.00

CELTIC CROSS SECTION—

\$1,450.00

MULTI-LOT FAMILY SECTION—

\$1,100 to \$1,450 per space (burial spaces sold in groups of 8 or more)

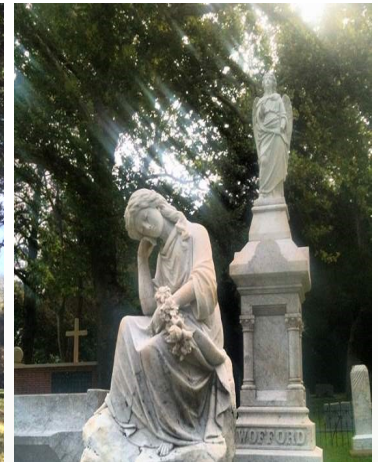
INTERMENT FEE—

\$200.00 on non-holiday or \$250.00 on recognized holiday

COLUMBARIUM FEE—

\$1,600 (price is for 2 interments)

*Space Sales - If desired are available for a five (5) year payment plan with no interest.



HISTORICAL QUIOTE: Judge Faulk, a prominent historical figure in Henderson County, pinned the following quote in 1929 in the *History of Henderson County* book in regards to the cemetery:

"Here can be seen the last resting place of practically all of the old pioneers who laid the foundation for this beautiful little city. It is too late to return thanks for them for the hardships and inconveniences they endured that we might enjoy the blessing and comfort which are ours now!"

Judge Faulk's words are as appropriate today as they were in 1929.

The Athens Cemetery Association, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to maintain and preserve our historic cemetery. Costs to maintain the cemetery are ongoing and continue to increase. In recent years, we have been able to meet this challenge thanks to the generous financial support of individuals and businesses. Without their support, it would be very difficult to maintain the cemetery in a manner fit to honor those interred there.

Our sincerest thanks to:

Mr. John M. Adams
Mrs. William Ayers
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Babb
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Bailey
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Bateman
Mrs. Ron Baugh
Ms. Gail Baum
Ms. Susan Beaird
Mr. Donald Bennett
Ms. Linda Berger
Mr. William D. Berry
Rosa Lee Bishop
Mr. Bill Bledsoe
Mr. Floyd Blount
Mr. Richard Bolle
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Branscum
Mr. John H. Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen T. Brown III
Mr. Mike Cade
Mr. & Mrs. John Cain
Mrs. Shirley M. Calhoun
Ms. Esparanza Campa
Mrs. Donny Campbell
Mr. Marlin Castleberry
Mr. Billy Cissell
Barbara Coffman
Mr. Charles Cole
Mr. & Mrs. James Conley
Mr. & Mrs. Don Copeland
Ms. Nora Cortez
The Tim Crecelius Family
Ms. Joanne Crout
The Honorable Judge & Mrs. Randy Daniel
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dunn
Mr. & Mrs. David Dean
The Cain Foundation
Mr. Wofford Denius
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Dingler
Mrs. Frieda Doolen
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Mr. & Mrs. Randall Fleming
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Forshage
Mrs. Betty Andrews Foster
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Galleger
Mr. & Mrs. Gregoria Galvan
Mr. Salas Garcia
The Family of Ken Geeslin
Ms. Elizabeth Gentry & Mr. Brandon Staggs
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Glass
Ms. Barbara Gocoll
Mrs. Peggy Gould

Ms. Mary Ann Grady
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Grant
Mr. Art Hall
Hannigan Smith Funeral Home
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S. Vincent Hash
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Mr. C. A. Hawn
Mr. Harry D. Hawn
Ms. Ladona Hensley
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Mrs. Patricia Herring
Ms. Dolores Herrington
Ms. Imogene Higgs
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Hocutt
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The Honorable Judge Jack Holland
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Ms. April Holt
Mr. & Mrs. C. Glenn Hood
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Dan Hope
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Hudson
Ms. Billie Neill Hutton
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Jenkins
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Col. Robert E. Joiner
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Ms. Ellen Justice
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Kelley
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Mr. Lester Kinabrew, Jr.
Ms. Kay King
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Lahourcade
Ms. Eleanor Landrum
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Mr. Eddie Lassiter
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Ms. Barbara Martin
Mrs. Bob McDonald
Ms. Joanne McElroy
Ms. Sandra Sawyer McLevoy
Mr. David McMichael
Lt. Col. Jim T. Meredith, USAF, Ret.
Dr. C. Ted Mettetal
Ms. Nancy Mills
Ms. Michelle Pope Mills
The Honorable & Mrs. Dan Moore
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Morse

Clint W. Murchison, III
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Murchison
Mr. R. F. "Bear" Murchison, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Lonnie Murphy
James Ogburn, Jr., M.D.
Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Shaughnessy
Mr. & Mrs. William M. Parsons
Pearce Construction Co.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles M. Peek
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Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Perkins
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Mr. Rob Tyner
Ms. Carol Ann Wallace
Mr. Bill Ward
Ms. Mary Faye Ward
Ms. Lela S. Warren
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Weibel
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Wheeler
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Whitten
Ms. Mary Margaret Wright
Mr. Jesus Zanala

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