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### May – June 2017

#### Cleaning and Restoration

Sharon Welsh & Wilf Bruch

The first cleaning party of the 2017 season will be held on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. Members will receive an email when Sharon returns from vacation. After a cold wet winter, it's time to start thinking about summer projects at our local cemeteries. May was cool and damp, so we'll try and start our cleaning bees in mid-June. There are a number of things to check out before getting started, so there are no firm dates yet. The membership will be informed of dates by email. Our goal for restoration this year is to raise, repair and clean six monuments that have been down for years and to add five more row markers. There are also a few monuments that were broken over the winter, probably by the deer, and we will try and fix them as well. This type of restoration is labour intensive, requiring lifting, digging, and sometimes concrete work. We're looking for some younger volunteers to help with these projects and learn the techniques used in monument restoration. So if you have some spare time and would like to help, email [wbruch@shaw.ca](mailto:wbruch@shaw.ca) for more information. Here's an example of some of our work.



#### Do You Receive a Printed Copy of *Stone Cuttings*?

If you have access to a computer, consider receiving *Stone Cuttings* on line and printing it yourself. This will save the Society a useful amount of money. All you have to do is let the office know your e-mail address.

### **VIMY100 at the Bay Street Armoury**

The Old Cemeteries Society was one of over 35 groups that participated in the VIMY100 at the Bay Street Armoury open house and commemoration event on 9 April 2017. OCS member, John Azar, was the event co-chair and MC for the commemorative music program. The guest-of-honour was Brigadier General (Ret'd) JEL Gollner.

John Azar



### **Buccaneer Days Arts & Crafts Show & Sale**

OCS will have a booth at Buccaneer Days Arts & Crafts Show & Sale on Saturday, May 13, and Sunday, May 14, to be held at the curling rink at Archie Browning Sports Centre. Members of OCS are welcome to come & enjoy the fun-filled event. The doors open at 10:00 a.m. on both days. We need volunteers to staff our booth. Please contact Gerry Buydens at 250-383-4873 or [gbuydens@shaw.ca](mailto:gbuydens@shaw.ca) Volunteers are needed for the following shifts: Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. On Sunday, May 14, shifts from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. You will welcome the public, hand out our Sunday tour schedule and answer questions relating mainly to Ross Bay Cemetery & OCS. If you do not have the answer, please record the question, the person's name, email address or phone number and someone will contact the enquirer.

### **Dr. Sven Jensen 1926-2017**



### **Dr. Patrick Perry Lydon**

Dr. Sven Jensen was a prominent physician and psychiatrist in Victoria and he was very involved in Rotary for many years. He was the President of the British Columbia Psychiatric Association, Island Chapter, and he was highly respected and admired for his many years of service. He was also a member of the American Psychiatric Association and attended many of the APA conventions in North America. After retirement he remained

involved with Rotary and he became very active in the Old Cemeteries Society. He was a most reliable and affable individual but ill health robbed him of his abilities in recent years. Sven was a devout Christian. He died on April 5<sup>th</sup> and was interred in Royal Oak Burial Park.



Images by Susan Henderson



Keynote Speaker: Dr. Gwen Point

Workshops

Archives Bootcamp  
Genealogy Workshop  
Advocacy Workshop and Dinner

Lectures & Presentations

Land, reconciliation, decolonization  
Sumas Lake, floods and Fraser River  
Military history, sports history  
Architecture

Field Trips

Downtown Heritage Walking Tour  
Hops Beer Tour & Beer Tasting  
Farm Tour and Atchelitz Thresherman's Museum Experience  
Plenty of opportunity to reacquaint with old friends or make new friends.

Tourism Chilliwack Welcome Reception

Annual General Meeting

BCHF Book Prize Gala

And more, check out the [conference website](#) for more details.

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## Nellie Cashman Fund

Pat Lydon

Mr. Jim O'Fallon, the great-great-grand nephew of Nellie Cashman, has visited Victoria to participate in a short film about our heroine and has now returned to his home in San



Diego, California. Jim's Mother lives in Pasadena, California and her mother, Jim's maternal grandmother, had a very active relationship and correspondence with Sister Loyola, Sisters of St. Ann in Victoria, before she died. Jim visited the Nellie Cashman gravesite, and a short time later Tony Cerciello arranged for a film to be produced involving Jim O'Fallon and authoress Thora Kerr Illing, who wrote "The Gold Rush Queen". Myself, Jim and Thora are pictured at left. The film was set at Thora's residence in Sydney and at Ross Bay Cemetery. We hope the film will be available in July!

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Jim visited Nellie's grave (right) and is very aware of the Nellie Cashman Fund organised by the Old Cemeteries Society, and he is aware of the tentative plans which have been proposed by Mortimer's Monuments. He will take these plans to the Family in California and hopefully they will approve of our efforts to commemorate the centennial celebration of her passing, and also they will have an opportunity to advise the OCS as to what steps should be taken to ensure that Nellie's gravesite will be ready to endure and survive for the next 100 years.



We hope to hear from Jim O'Fallon next month and then we can make practical plans for this important project. To all the supporters, we say all is well and that our efforts have taken a great step forward with the involvement of Jim and the Nellie Cashman Family.

## Links to Recent Cemetery-related Articles

Below are links to three recent newspaper articles of interest to OCS members. In the first article Jesse Kline begrudges the waste of land devoted to cemeteries. In the second article John Moore offers a spirited and thoughtful rebuttal of Kline's article, and in the third Douglas Quan deplores the neglected state of the graves of some of our former prime ministers. Be patient when you click on these links as they're slow to open.



[jesse-kline-stop-wasting-space-on-cemeteries.htm](#)



[john-moore-in-defence-of-cemeteries.htm](#)



[faded-cracked-and-crumbling-the-gravesites-of-many-former-prime-ministers-are-in-a-sad-state.htm](#)

**Tombstone Oddities**



*In memory of Charles H. Salmon, who was born Friday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> 1858. He grew, waxed strong and developed into a noble brother. He came to his death the 12<sup>th</sup> of Oct. 1884, by the hand of a careless drug clerk and two excited doctors at 12 o'clock at night in Kansas City.*

Succasunna United Methodist Church Cemetery in Succasunna, Morris County, New Jersey.

**Last Words**....from the gallows....

Lavinia Fisher 1793-1820

“If any of you have a message for the devil, give it to me, for I am about to meet him.” She was a serial murderer hanged while wearing her white wedding gown.

Tom “Black Jack” Ketchum 1863-1901

Notorious train robber. Before he was hanged he uttered:  
“I’ll be in hell before you start breakfast! Let her rip!”

**Membership Dues for 2017:**

We would like to express our appreciation to the members who have submitted their membership dues for 2017 and we encourage those who have not yet done so to please submit your dues as soon as possible.

**Check applicable category**

**OCS membership**

**Donation** (any amount appreciated, income tax receipt are given for donation of \$10 or more)

When renewing your membership for 2017 please complete the form below & return it with your payment. Individual - \$30.00; Household - \$45.00 and Student - \$20.00

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make cheques payable to OCS and mail to OCS, Box 50004, RPO Fairfield Plaza, Victoria, B.C. V8S 5L8.

Please send a Membership card. Membership cards are **only given**, if requested.