

## AT REST IN CYPRESS LAWN

### Charles Christian Nahl, The Great Painter of Gold Rush California



His lack of fortune became the world's fortune. Not successful panning for gold, the classically trained artist from Germany took to sketching the miners and their activities. Eventually, he and his brother Arthur opened a commercial art and photography business in San Francisco.

Charles Christian Nahl's vibrant and realistic people-oriented paintings, usually done in vivid colors, are visual gems and valuable history. His works displaying life in the mines and camps in the early years of the Gold Rush became icons of the era and influenced many other artists in both style and content.

He was the first important artist in California to enjoy the patronage of the burgeoning nouveau riche. He painted a number of portraits of Judge E.B. Crocker, brother of railroad baron Charles Crocker, who became his patron. Nahl designed the 1856 membership certificate for the San Francisco Vigilante Committee (of which he was a member), and his engraving of a grizzly bear served as the image on the California state flag. Like many leading citizens of his day, he was a member of a volunteer fire company.

In response to runaway crime in early San Francisco, leading citizens organized a Committee of Vigilance in 1851, 1856, and 1878. All were voluntarily disbanded within months. The 1856 version, a reaction to the murder of a prominent anti-corruption newspaper editor, boasted a membership of 7000, the largest vigilante group in American history. It operated parallel to, and in defiance of, the duly constituted city government that actively opposed the movement. Members were propertied middle and upper classes "rebels" who are protecting their stake in the new civic order while claiming to save the city from itself.



Vigilance Committee Membership Certificate

*Continued on page 7*

#### CALENDAR

#### November 2018–February 2019

##### HERITAGE SUNDAY LECTURE

November 4, 2 pm

*Treasure Island — World's Fair That Never Was*  
Crosby-N Gray, 2 Park Blvd., Burlingame  
Professor Michael Svanevik



##### HERITAGE SUNDAY LECTURE

December 2, 2 pm

*O'Shaughnessy — Irishman Who Built the City*  
Crosby-N Gray, 2 Park Blvd., Burlingame  
Professor Michael Svanevik



##### 13TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY REMEMBRANCE DAY

December 5, 6 pm

Tiffany Chapel  
1370 El Camino Real, Colma



*Continued on page 2*

#### EVENT LOCATIONS:

\*1370 El Camino Real, meet at Main Lobby

\*\*Cypress Lawn Reception Room, 2nd floor, 1370 El Camino Real

All Events Are Free • Light Refreshments

#### From the President's Desk



Robert A. Gordon Jr.

#### A Difficult Decision Made Easy

When a death occurs, what will you do? Who will you turn to? Where will you go? Will you select cremation or non-cremation arrangements, where will you place the remains of your loved one?

These questions and many more will become the responsibility of each one of us at some point in our lives. Maryam from Daly City found herself in this situation when her mother passed away. As the eldest daughter, the rest of the 4 siblings looked to her to help with mom's arrangements as dad was suddenly overcome with grief from the loss of his wife of almost 5 decades.

*Continued on page 2*

CALENDAR *Continued from page 1*

MONTHLY CYPRESS LAWN  
TROLLEY TOUR \*  
Saturday, January 12, 11 am  
General Excursion of the Grounds  
24 capacity, RSVP 650.755.0580

SUNDAY AFTERNOON LECTURE \*\*  
January 20, 1 pm  
*History of the Emporium—*  
"California's Largest, America's Grandest Store"  
Author Anne Evers Hitz, great-great  
granddaughter of an Emporium founder.  
Book signing

HERITAGE SUNDAY LECTURE  
February 3, 2 pm  
*The Mysterious Jackie O—A Very Private Person*  
Crosby-N.Gray, 2 Park Blvd., Burlingame  
Professor Michael Svanevik

MONTHLY CYPRESS LAWN  
TROLLEY TOUR \*  
Saturday, February 12, 11 am  
General Excursion of the Grounds  
24 capacity, RSVP 650.755.0580

SUNDAY AFTERNOON LECTURE \*\*  
FEBRUARY 17, 1 pm  
*History of Alcatraz Island*  
Author & Park Ranger, John Martini  
Book signing

EVENT LOCATIONS:

\*1370 El Camino Real, meet at Main Lobby  
\*\*Cypress Lawn Reception Room, 2nd floor,  
1370 El Camino Real

All Events Are Free • Light Refreshments

## WILDLIFE AT CYPRESS LAWN



Photograph by Harold L. Mills



Photograph by Felicia Guan of Cypress Lawn's feral pet cat, Garfield, sleeping off another too generous meal from staff.



Photograph by Andrew R. Danielsen



### Cypress Lawn Cemetery Association

Cypress Lawn is a 501 (c)(13) not for profit corporation established in 1892 by a group of prominent and responsible citizens, headed by Hamden Noble, determined to provide a decent cemetery for all creeds and races as well as "an attractive and pleasing place for meditation of the living." Today, over a hundred years later, Cypress Lawn stands as a testament to the vision of these men when they proclaimed, "... in the fullness of time, the cemetery... will form an extensive park, rich in foliage, flowers, mausoleums, statues and other works of art ... a handsome gift to posterity."

### THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER *Continued from page 1*

Maryam did some research, asked some friends, and decided to set an appointment with Cypress Lawn. She remembers that first call into the family services department. Maryam explained that she had never made arrangements before and needed help. From the very first contact, Maryam could tell that the Cypress Lawn Associates had been well trained in providing the highest level of service, understood their role as a consultant and guide, and most important, they really cared.

Throughout the course of the arrangement, the visitation, the funeral and burial, Maryam was able to receive and convey updates of support, to change and add to the services and to feel the peace of mind that all is under control and taken care of.

At the reception Maryam was praised, showered with thankfulness and appreciation by her family and friends, and most importantly from her father, for providing a true celebration of life for her mother, allowing them the time to grieve, remember, and heal.

When it comes to the one chance to get it right, to celebrating life, to help family and friends heal from loss, and to remember a lifetime, Cypress Lawn is the only choice. ♦



## 2018 Annual Appeal



This is the time of year when we ask those who have enjoyed our educational and cultural programs, Heritage Foundation members, the many who have loved ones resting at Cypress Lawn, and all who cherish and wish to sustain this unique historical landmark for the next generation to give what you can to promote a legacy that belongs to you and the entire Bay Area community.

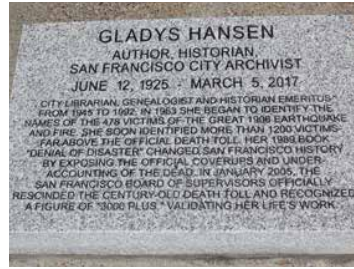
Your gifts go to preserve the architectural and horticultural beauty of Cypress Lawn as well as underwriting our free community outreach programs. Last year's response was generous and heartwarming, and we thank you.

Many of you will receive our Annual Appeal in the mail that allows you to give by check or credit card, and online. You can contribute now by going to the Cypress Lawn Heritage Foundation website ([cypresslawnheritagefoundation.org](http://cypresslawnheritagefoundation.org)) and clicking on the SUPPORT CYPRESS LAWN & BECOME A MEMBER icon in the upper left hand corner. There you will see the "Thank You" rewards for all levels of giving.



(650) 755-0580

[About The Foundation](#) [Programs & Events](#) [Blog](#) [Historic Restoration](#) [Links & Associates](#) [Support Cypress Lawn](#) [Online Store](#)



Robert Gordon, Ken Varner, Terry Hamburg

### Gladys Hansen Memorial Tribute

Appointed San Francisco City Archivist, Gladys Hansen worked tirelessly as a researcher and author for thirty years to rewrite the long-accepted history of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, most particularly the count of fatalities. Through her efforts, the number of deceased was dramatically revised, and today, we all have a more mature understanding of the political and economic impact of the Great Earthquake.

Gladys Hansen passed away in 2017 at the age of 91.

On October 18, 2018, a private service held in her honor at Noble Chapel was followed by a public consecration of a new stone memorial in her honor at Cypress Lawn. To recognize that Ms. Hansen's research and writings led to the acknowledgement of thousands more who died that tragic day, the tribute was placed at the 1906 Earthquake memorial she dedicated in 2006 to those victims.



James Lee, James Dalesandro, Richard Hansen, Emma Durt

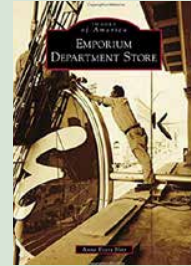


## Lecture Schedule

2019

Cypress Lawn has another fun and stimulating lecture season planned for 2019. The events take place January through November on the third Sunday of each month. Please note that we are starting all the lectures at 1 pm. Here are some of the talks accompanied by author book signings we have lined up.

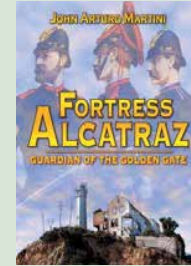
### JANUARY



#### Emporium Department Store

Author Anne Evers Hitz is the great-great granddaughter of Frederick William Dohrmann, one of the founders of the iconic San Francisco store. Mr. Dohrmann is buried in a Cypress Lawn mausoleum.

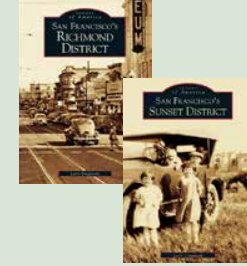
### FEBRUARY



#### Fortress Alcatraz

John Martini, a leading expert on Alcatraz Island, will cover its history up to the present day.

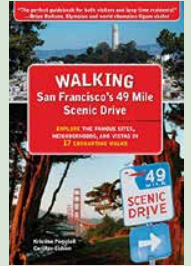
### JUNE



#### San Francisco's Richmond District and Sunset District

Renowned local historian Lorri Ungaretti will talk on the settlement of the "Outside Lands" aka as Golden Gate Park, the Sunset & Richmond Districts.

### OCTOBER



#### Walking San Francisco's 49 Mile Scenic Drive

The energetic authors offer 17 enchanting walks.

Cypress Lawn Cemetery Association cordially invites you and your family for a special evening at our

13th Annual  
Holiday Remembrance Service  
Wednesday, December 5, 2018  
6pm at the Tiffany Chapel

1370 El Camino Real, Colma, California 94014



# TROLLEY TALES



We offer special Trolley Tours to non-profit community groups that provide them with a unique funding-raising opportunity through a Cypress Lawn donation for taking the tour. To get more details on this program, please contact the Director of the Heritage Foundation, Terry Hamburg at [thamburg@cypresslawn.com](mailto:thamburg@cypresslawn.com) or call 650.550.8812.



## TROLLEY TOURS TO REPLACE WALKING TOURS

Our traditional monthly walking tours of the grounds will be replaced by docent-led tours on the Cypress Lawn Trolley, which will include disembarking the trolley to look at individual sites. For those who found the walks too arduous, the trolley provides an opportunity to see the grounds. It also allows us to visit more sites.

The state-of-the-art trolley is heated and air-conditioned. The free tours will occur the second Saturday of the month from January to November, starting at 11:00 am. Trolley capacity is 24 and RSVPs are requested. Call 650.755.0580 to make a reservation.

Certain of these tours consist of a docent-led general excursion of the grounds. Some are theme-related and conducted by Michael Svanevik and others. A schedule and monthly reminders will be sent to our Heritage mailing list.

All these tours last about an hour and a half, ending with refreshments under the Green Tent on the East Side near the Stone Entry Gate. There will be complimentary copies of our definitive book on Cypress Lawn, Pillars of the Past, and a \$50 gift card raffle.

## CHARLES CHRISTIAN NAHL *Continued from page 1*

The Nahl brothers were also accomplished athletes. At their home on Bush Street in San Francisco, a well-appointed backyard gymnasium served as the headquarters of the famed Olympic Club for five years before the official opening in a permanent location. In 1860, Charles Nahl's brother, Arthur, was elected the first President.

Unlike his brother who married and had three children, Charles remained a bachelor and lived with his mother and sister in a modest house on Bush Street. He died in 1878 at age 60 of typhoid fever. Buried in San Francisco's Laurel Hill Cemetery, his remains along with other members of his family were removed in the late 1930s and placed at Laurel Hill/Pioneer Mound at Cypress Lawn Cemetery.

*"Nahl's eye for detail and the ability to invent scenes from descriptions or hearsay make his illustrations important records of Gold Rush attitudes."*

~1976, The Crocker Art Museum

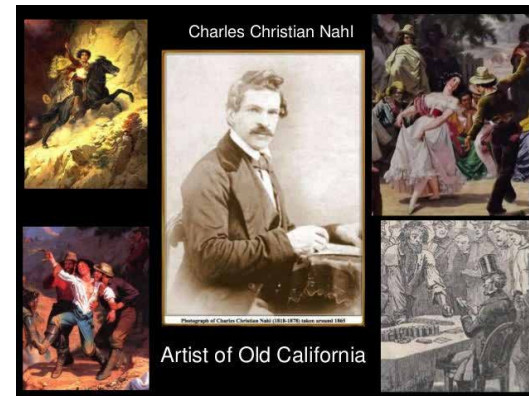


*Miners in the Sierras*



*(poem below from the above engraving)*

EQUITED toil ! Eureka ! Look !  
 And read within those eyes  
 Their speaking luster, as they dwell  
 Upon the glittering prize !  
 The vein is struck ! ah, noble heart !  
 A thrill of joy is thine !—  
 A purer and better thrill  
 Than that produced by wine.  
 A thousand thoughts of home, and bliss  
 Reserved for coming years  
 Have swiftly flashed across thy soul  
 And melted thee to tears—  
 Tears—not of grief, or vain regrets,  
 For thou art still a man—  
 But, thinking of thy poverty  
 And gazing in the pan!



Charles Christian Nahl

Artist of Old California



*Sunday Morning At the Mines*



*Saturday Night at the Mines*

Winter 2018 – 2019

**CYPRESS LAWN  
HERITAGE FOUNDATION**

A non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation promoting  
Cypress Lawn Cemetery as a historical and  
educational resource for the Bay Area community.

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# Images of Cypress Lawn

