

Inscriptions

VOLUME 10, NO. 1

SPRING 2014

Confederate Spy Aboard The Condor



Rose O'Neale Greenhow

A hundred and fifty years ago this year, a remarkable woman perished in the surf off Fort Fisher. Rose O'Neale Greenhow, a Confederate spy, was returning to America from Europe on the Blockade Runner, *Condor*, when she drowned.

Rose O'Neale was born in 1813/1814 into a prominent Montgomery County, Maryland family. As a young woman, she moved to Washington, DC and became one



of the capital's most charming and influential socialites, moving in circles with John C. Calhoun, James Buchanan and Dolley Madison. In 1835, she married Dr. Robert Greenhow, doctor, lawyer and linguist. The union produced eight children, five of whom predeceased their mother. During the Gold Rush, she accompanied her husband to San Francisco, where her husband died in a tragic accident in 1854.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Rose became a fashionable hostess and intrepid Confederate spy. She supplied accurate intelligence that influenced the first Battle of Bull Run. These activities led to her imprisonment with her young daughter. After regaining her freedom, she traveled to Europe, representing the Confederacy on diplomatic missions to the royal courts of England and France.

By the fall of 1864, Wilmington's port was blockaded by

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Calendar of Events



Friends of Oakdale Board Meetings

Second Tuesday of every month, 12:00 noon. Kenneth Sprunt Building, Oakdale Cemetery.

Easter Lily Sale

Deadline for ordering lilies is April 4, 2014. Easter is April 20, 2014. Friends of Oakdale is offering for sale full, fresh Easter lilies for the graves of loved ones. These lilies will be placed on graves in the week before Easter and will be removed when they wane. They are \$35.00 for non-members and \$33.00 for members. (See Easter lily order blank on page 4 of this newsletter).

Bird Tour – Saturday, April 5, 2014, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Once again, Dr. James Parnell, noted ornithologist and author of numerous books and articles about birds, will lead a bird tour around the cemetery. Dr. Parnell is a retired professor of biology at UNC-W. \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides – Sunday, April 27, 2014

Tours depart main gate: 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00 and 4:30 p.m. Nip and Tuck, two black Percheron horses, will pull a wagon for a ride around the cemetery. A guide will ride on the wagon, giving a commentary on the history of the cemetery. Adults, \$10; children, 12 and younger, \$5; Friends of Oakdale, adults, \$8; children 12 and younger, \$5.



Walking Tour – Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Robin Triplett will be the guide for the tour. Admission is \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Walking Tour – Saturday, June 21, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Bob Cooke will lead this cemetery tour. Admission is \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Walking Tour – Saturday, July 19, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Ed Gibson will guide this cemetery tour. Admission is \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Walking Tour – Saturday, August 16, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

This cemetery tour will be led by Eric Kozen, Oakdale Cemetery Superintendent. Admission is \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Walking Tour – Saturday, September 20, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Chris Nelson, a battalion chief with the City of Wilmington Fire Department, will guide this tour of the cemetery. Admission is \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Walking Tour –

Saturday, October 18, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

David Rice will lead this tour of the cemetery. Admission is \$10 for non-members; free for members.

Horse Drawn Tours – Sunday, October 26, 2014

Tours depart main gate: 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00 and 4:30. Once again, Nip and Tuck will return to pull the wagon for the autumn wagon tours. Adults, \$10; Children, 12 and younger, \$5; Friends of Oakdale, adults, \$8; children 12 and younger, \$5.

Fourth Annual Luminary Event – Sunday, November 9, 2014

Tours depart main gate at 6:30, 6:45 and 7:00 p.m. Over 600 luminaries will line the route through the cemetery. Refreshments will be served. \$10 for everyone. Limited tickets will be available at the cemetery office.

ALL TOURS ARE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER.

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

(Recorded between July 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013)

If you joined or renewed your membership during this time and we failed to list your name, please phone the office and we will correct the listing in the next issue of *Inscriptions*.

BENEFACTOR

\$1,000–\$2,499

Dr. Ogden O. Allsbrook, Jr.	Mrs. Henry Longley
Andrews Mortuary	Ms. Ann Nunnelee
Mr. Tom Kenan, III	Ms. Pamela Brown Vinson

SPONSOR

\$500–\$999

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Dill	Mr. D. C. North, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Robert M. Morris	Mr. George Rountree, III

PATRON

\$250–\$499

Mr. Zack Bacon, III	Mrs. Sylvia Stoudenmier
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Capps	Mr. and Mrs. Michael C. Stovall, Jr.
Mrs. Mayo Darby	Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Wootten

DONOR

\$100–\$249

Ms. Marilyn G. Anderson	Mr. Walter Love
Mr. and Mrs. Carlton W. Allegood	Mrs. Mary Ann Massey
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Atwood	Mr. Jack McCarley
Mrs. Martha Beery	Ms. Shirley M. Mikulas
Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Black, Jr.	Ms. Elaine H. Neuwirth
Mr. and Mrs. George W. Boylan	Mr. and Mrs. John A. Newton, Jr.
Ms. Nancy Tinga Braswell	Ms. Shirley Orrell
Ms. Joan Brothers	Mr. John E. Orrell
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Broughton	Ms. Mary Palmer
Ms. Catherine E. Burney	Rt. Reverend Henry Nutt Parsley
Ms. Bonnie O. Burriss	Mrs. Margaret M. Perdew
Ms. Janet Cariveau	Mr. Robert N. Post
Mr. George T. Clark, Jr.	Dr. Lloyd E. Roberts
The Rev. and Mrs. Robert Cook	Ms. E.B. Rock
Mrs. Haywood Emerson	Ms. Margaret Rorison
Mrs. Alice Evans	Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Rozear
Mr. Donald W. Fisher	Mr. and Mrs. William Salter
Mrs. Susan Flynn	Mr. E.A. Shands
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B Fox, III	Mr. and Mrs. David Small
Mr. Terry Fulbright	Mrs. Adelaide Ann Smith
Mrs. Rosalind Napier Fuller	Mr. William R. Smith, Jr.
Mr. Robert Godley	Ms. Celia Snow
Mr. Jackson Goodhue	Mr. Laurence G. Sprunt
Mr. Adair Graham	Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Stone
Mrs. Carolyn Hall	Mrs. Ruby J. Stoudenmire
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene B. Hardin, Jr.	Mr. Harry W. Stovall, III
Mr. and Mrs. Lou Hargett	Mr. David Swink
Mrs. Sara Hufham	Mr. John T. Talbert, III
Mrs. Georgia Joyner	Ms. Elizabeth Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Emsley A. Laney, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Victor G. Taylor, Jr.
LT General James M. Lee	Mrs. Louise Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. John Leonard	Mr. and Mrs. Ben White, Jr.
Mrs. Doris R. Lewis	Dr. R. Bertram Williams, Jr.
Mrs. Mayo Little	Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Woodbury
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lohman	Mrs. Thomas H. Wright, Jr.

FAMILY

\$40–\$99

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bell	Mrs. Rebecca Mahler
Mr. and Mrs. William M. Biggs	Harris Haskett & Margaret Crawford
Miss Valerie Burnie	Mr. and Mrs. P. Thomas Marshburn, Jr.
Mrs. Cathy Chafin	Mr. and Mrs. Gene McCarley, Jr.
Mr. Joseph A. Clendenin	Mr. and Mrs. Allan McDuffie
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Dunlea	Mr. Walter Pancoe
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dunn	Mr. and Mrs. James T. Peebles
Mr. Francis "Chad" Farriss	Mr. Joel Pretlow, III
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Fisher	Mrs. Marian Rippy
Mr. and Mrs. George R. French	Mr. and Mrs. Ben Steelman
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gordon	Mrs. Betty Stike
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Horton	Mr. and Mrs. John C. Symmes
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Latimer	Mr. and Mrs. Robert van Luyn
Mrs. Frances Lewis	Mr. John C. Wessell, III
Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Lockfaw	Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Willard
Mr. and Mrs. William F. Lyon	

INDIVIDUAL

\$30

Mr. Earl Ablard	Mrs. Billie Little
Ms. Dorothy Ballard	Mrs. Anna Laura Martin
Ms. Emily W. Barefoot	Mrs. Kathryn P.W. Minnick
Dr. Heyward Bellamy	Mrs. Wanda Moore
Mrs. Imogene C. Biggs	Ms. Ellen Munds
Mrs. Beth Crouch Blackwell	Mrs. Margaret Munsch
Mrs. Elma Porter Bowden	Mrs. Loraine Oppenheimer
Ms. Janis Carroll	Mrs. Mary Parker
Mrs. Bonnie Cooper	Ms. Charlotte Jones Parker
Ms. Marie V. deRosset	Ms. Margaret Payne
Ms. Gladys M. Dickie	Mr. and Mrs. Peyton E. Pitts
Ms. Cornelia Doss	Ms. Eleanor M. Price
Mr. Daniel H. Earp, Jr.	Ms. Julia Pridgen
Mrs. Maurine Elebash	Ms. Mary-Louise Rhodes
Ms. Leslie Emerson	Mr. Steven Robertson
Mrs. Marguerite Fey	Mrs. Marilyn L. Rosen
Miss Pauline Formyduval	Mr. Vladimir J. Salava
Mrs. Louise C. (Polly) Franklin	Ms. Nancy Scheunemann
Mrs. Nancy Kennon Frazier	Ms. Nancy Seamans
Mr. Herbert T. Gant	Ms. Shirley Shaw
Mrs. Pat Gasson	Mrs. Polly T. Sheats
Mrs. Lucy Ann Glover	Mrs. Kay Skandalakis
Mr. Richard Gwathmey, Jr.	Ms. Ruth St. Clair
Ms. Sylvia Hales	Ms. Caroline N. Swails
Mr. Richard Hanson	Mrs. Mary Willard Swain
Mrs. Gerry Harris	Mrs. Ethel Taylor
Mrs. Carroll Herring	Mrs. Martha K. Taylor
Mr. John R. Hicks	Mrs. George F. Tilley
Mrs. Sandra L. High	Ms. Feriba Weltin
Mr. John C. Hines	Ms. Lanette Wiggins
Mrs. Elizabeth LeGwin	Mr. John Winecoff
Ms. Ann Mebane Levine	Ms. Julia S. Worth

STUDENT

\$15

Mr. Zachary Rhineland	Master Robert Henry Ziegler
Mrs. John D. Taylor	

A REMINDER

To all the Friends of Oakdale, when receiving this periodic publication news and events of the Friends, this is not a reminder of your membership status. The Membership Committee sends out a specific letter. These letters are mailed to you annually when the time arrives according to the month you had renewed last or joined.

Rose O'Neale Greenhow


Continued from front page

the Federal Navy. Blockade runners were shallow draft craft that came in to the Cape Fear River via New Inlet. Rose was aboard one of these ships, the *Condor*, when the ship ran aground in the surf about three hundred yards off Fort Fisher. She wore a heavy black silk dress and carried a leather pouch containing dispatches for Confederate officials. She also had four hundred British sovereigns, which were quarter ounce gold coins. The heavy bag of coins was attached to a chain fastened around her neck. Fearing capture and imprisonment again by the Yankees, Rose panicked and demanded a

lifeboat to take her ashore. A large swell broke over the bar as the lifeboat touched the water and caught it broadside, swamping the boat. The next morning, Rose's body washed up on the beach.

The body was taken to Wilmington aboard one of the steamers that regularly plied the Cape Fear River. Eliza Jane DeRosset had the body brought to her house on the corner of Second and Dock streets to prepare it for the funeral and burial. From there it was taken to the chapel of Confederate Hospital Number 4, which was located on the southwest corner of Front and Dock streets. The casket was laid on a bier with a Confederate flag draped upon it with burning candles and wreaths of flowers all around.

The funeral mass was celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church on Dock Street, after which the flag-draped coffin was borne through the city to Oakdale Cemetery accompanied by eight carriages and many townspeople on foot. Local dignitaries and high ranking officers representing the Confederate Army and Navy were among those paying tribute to the lady.

Rose's grave is atop a hillside below a magnificent Japanese maple. Her gravesite is one of the most visited in the cemetery. Eric Kozen reports that shortly after he became Cemetery Superintendent in 2002, items began to be left at the grave – handmade bracelets with her name, "Rose," on them; pins with symbolic ribbons and small photos of her and her daughter, little Rose. The most common items left have been coins. He seems to believe that these offerings are a result of how she perished off the coast with the satchel of gold coins weighing her down in the surf. The coins are usually pennies, which is ironic in that the pennies contain the face of Abraham Lincoln, who was Rose's most hated enemy. Another interesting quirk is that only a few feet away from Rose's grave is the gravesite of Henry Bacon, the Architect of the Lincoln Memorial. 

Sources: Blackman, Ann.

Wild Rose: Rose O'Neale Greenhow, Civil War Spy.

February Ice Storm

February's ice storm did considerable damage to the cemetery. Tree limbs were snapped in two and debris



covered the roads and lots. The cemetery was closed for a couple of days. Fortunately, only two monuments were damaged.



BOARD MEMBERS UPDATE

The Friends of Oakdale Cemetery welcomes a new member to our Board of Directors. A native of Wilmington, Murdoch MacRae (Crae) Dunn, Jr. is a commercial property and casualty insurance broker with BB&T Insurance Services, where he has worked for thirty-nine years. He is married to Lynn Bode Dunn and they have two children – MacRae and Emlyn – and one grandchild, Bode. He comments, "Growing up, I visited Oakdale numerous times a year with my parents and grandparents to see the flowers, visit family plots as well as the interesting and historical spots in the cemetery. It is one of the most special places in our community."

Elizabeth King will be rotating off the Board. We thank her for her devoted service.

VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!

If you would like to become more involved with the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc., we have lots of opportunities for you.

- TOUR GUIDES
- RESEARCH
- NEWSLETTER
- LANDSCAPING/
GARDENING
- FUND RAISING
- DISTRIBUTION
OF EDUCATIONAL
MATERIAL



Please call the Oakdale Cemetery office for more information.
910-762-5682

Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, Inc.

520 North 15th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

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Cathy F. Halligan, *Vice-President*
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Jerry Woodell, *Treasurer*
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Oakdale Cemetery Company & Friends
Volunteer Coordinator
Eric Kozen, *Superintendent*
Oakdale Cemetery Company

Inscriptions is published periodically.
Ann Hutteman and Tee Woodbury, *Editors*

Order Your Easter Lilies NOW

**ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY
FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014**

Friends of Oakdale Cemetery are offering
for sale full, fresh, Easter Lilies for graves of loved ones.

\$35 for non-members
\$33 for members of Friends of Oakdale Cemetery.

These lilies are **beautiful, substantial two-stemmed** plants
with foil and a bow.

(NOT THE SINGLE-STEMS THE DISCOUNT STORES SELL.)



**Easter
is April 20.**

*The lilies will be placed on the
graves starting the week of
April 14th and will be removed
when they wane.*



**PLEASE MAIL THIS
FORM WITH
YOUR CHECK
MADE PAYABLE TO:**

**Friends of
Oakdale
Cemetery, Inc.**

520 North Fifteenth St.
Wilmington, NC 28401

(910) 762-5682

Please provide the name of the person(s) buried on the lot:

NAME OF DECEASED: _____ NAME OF DECEASED: _____

NAME OF DECEASED: _____ NAME OF DECEASED: _____

Please provide your name, address, phone number in case we need to contact you for further information.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ E-MAIL _____