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<http://stmichaelscemetery.org>

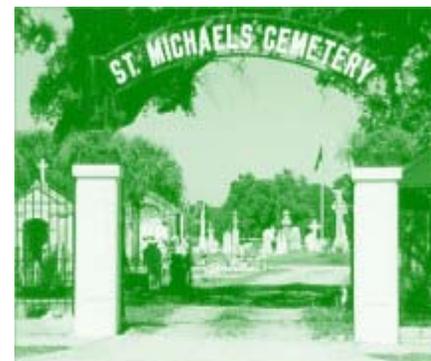
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St. Michael's Cemetery Foundation
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ALL SOUL'S DAY

There will be a Candlelight Service in the cemetery on Thursday, November 2nd at 5:30 PM. Beginning at 9:00 AM that morning, golf cart transportation will be provided for those who have difficulty walking and wish to visit family grave sites.

Fall 2006 Newsletter



**ST MICHAEL'S CEMETERY
FOUNDATION OF
PENSACOLA, INC.**



Get in the Spirit!

On a beautiful sunny day this past April, more than a thousand visitors responded to an invitation to "Get in the Spirit" and enjoyed an afternoon of exploration and education in historic St. Michael's Cemetery.

University of West Florida historical archaeology, history and public history graduate students, after researching individuals whose graves had been vandalized in January, 2006, were stationed at those sites sharing what they had learned of the families. Members of the Board also distributed a booklet containing the student's stories.

British military re-enactors were on hand to give historical perspective to the various areas of the cemetery. Garden Club volunteers explained native plants growing throughout the cemetery. Visitors saw demonstrations of tombstone cleaning and learned to decipher the icons adorning many of the monuments and grave markers.

This free event was designed to raise public awareness of the conservation and preservation needs of the cemetery.

Monument Repair

Responding to vandalism, minor repairs - such as replacing unbroken ledgers - were carried out by United States Marine Corps volunteers under the direction of Board President, Howard Shores. Major repairs, however, require professional attention. We were fortunate to secure the services of masonry restoration specialists Ken Uracius and Jerry LeBlanc out of Massachusetts who were in town working on historic structure repairs on board Pensacola NAS. They assessed damages to the sites and performed some repairs (an in-kind gift to SMCF). Ken returned in September to continue with the major repairs in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Our first priority was the marble above ground tomb of John Hunt, one of the premier sites in the cemetery. The tomb was thoroughly cleaned prior to masonry work and, as always, we use cleaning methods recommended by architectural conservator Shelley Sass. No Clorox here! The Hunt tomb is only one on a long list of sites which must be repaired.

Financial support for this repair effort from families and friends of St. Michael's Cemetery continues to be greatly needed and deeply appreciated.

Stop by the cemetery and see our progress!

Online Interactive Map

Geographers and archaeologists from the University of West Florida and the University of Mississippi are completing an exhaustive survey of the cemetery for both marked and unmarked graves. A computer-based Geographic Information System (GIS) map and a database with ancillary information about the graves and photographs of the grave markers is available to the public on the Web at:

<http://www.uwf.edu/gis/smc/>

Mark Your Calendars!

The seventh annual SMCF Appreciation Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, 2007 in Heritage Hall at Seville Quarter. We encourage all *Friends of St. Michael's Cemetery* to attend and join in honoring the many dedicated volunteers who help preserve this historic place.