



Hopland Cemetery Newsletter

WELCOME



We hope you are enjoying our Hopland Cemetery Newsletter! We have created this project to keep our community updated on work and improvements at our beloved historical cemetery, thank those that help, and keep you informed.



GET INVOLVED

Next cleanup date: April 11-12, 2026

Join us and help keep our cemetery beautiful.
Contact us at HoplandCemetery@gmail.com
for more information.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meet the volunteers who oversee Hopland Cemetery and ensure it carries on to support our local community.

Chair - Joan Norry

Joan Norry moved from the bay area to Hopland in 2012 and began as a Trustee in 2020. She has been dedicated to preserving the beauty and history of the cemetery and visiting friends that are resting there.



Secretary - Bob Gaston

Bob has been a Hopland resident since 1989 when he married his wife Priscilla Hawksworth raising 3 children in the township. He has a great appreciation for the local history and community members especially the "old-timers" and became a Trustee in 2024.



Treasurer - Nina Kaiser

Nina has been a Trustee since 2020, and resident of Hopland full time since 2012. Living on Full moon cattle ranch with best friend and family. Dedicated to preserving the area and history of Hopland.



Trustee - Bill Janusz

Hopland is his hometown. His family from grandparents, parents, aunt and nephew are buried in this cemetery along with many friends and acquaintances. He became a Trustee in 2022.



GET INVOLVED!

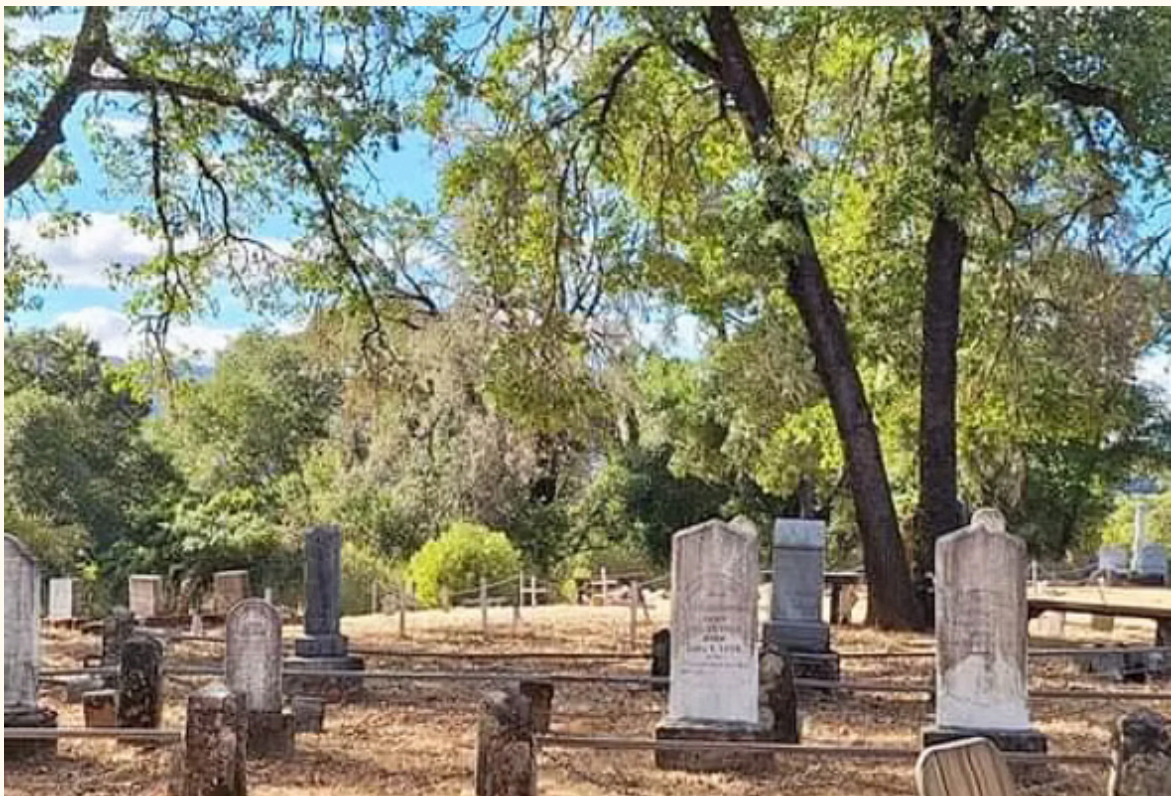
The Hopland Cemetery currently has one open position on the Board of Trustees. To apply, you must be a resident of Hopland. Would you like to join our board?

Email us at HoplandCemetery@gmail.com.

CEMETERY HISTORY

Originally the Feliz Family burial ground, the Hopland Cemetery was founded in the early 1780's by Spanish land grant. By 1840, it became the cemetery for the settlers from the nearby town of Sanel. The railroad arrived in 1888 bringing pioneers from across the globe seeking a new life in the healthy climes of the West. The town of Sanel was renamed "Hopland" in the early 20th Century in an effort to attract visitors to the then location of the largest hop farm in the country. The surviving monuments represent only half of the residents buried here and many of the original families continue to reside in the surrounding area.

Our newsletter will feature the history of people interred at Hopland Cemetery. If you would like us to feature the story of your beloved, email us at HoplandCemetery@gmail.com.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who can buy a plot in the cemetery if space is available?

Hopland residents for 5 years or family members of already purchased plots with proof of purchase and rights of ownership may purchase a plot in the cemetery if one is available.

2. If I have a family member buried in the cemetery, can I be buried with them?

You can be buried with your family member:

If there is proof of purchase for more than one plot (and receipt) or if there is proof of ownership, family succession with family lineage, evidence of inheritance or burial rights affidavit.

3. What paperwork is required besides the documents mentioned in question 2?

The internment order is required in addition to prior notice to the cemetery trustees one to two weeks in advance of requested burial date by contacting the cemetery at HoplandCemetery@gmail.com.

4. Who is in charge of the cemetery?

Hopland Cemetery District is voluntarily run and does not employ a caretaker or gravedigger. It is a special district under Mendocino County, California. The cemetery is administered by a volunteer Board of Trustees.

5. Are there rules and laws that govern the cemetery?

Yes. The cemetery is governed by the following law: California law, government code title 3, health and safety codes, the Brown Act and Senate Bill 827.

IN MEMORY

Thomas “Tom” Wayne Hawksworth

February 4, 1935 – January 11, 2026

Thomas Wayne Hawksworth was born February 4th, 1935 in Vallejo, CA to Uzziel and Alice Hawksworth. He spent his childhood years, first, in the hills of Mariposa, CA, then in the central valley when the family relocated to Atwater, CA to farm sweet potatoes and raise livestock.

In 1959, he purchased a dry hillside a few miles outside of Hopland in the shadow of Duncan Peak. Here he hand-built an old heart redwood homestead for his bride, Charline, using his trusty “woompum saw”, hammer, and nails. They raised their four children on this same property, Tom, in the early years making his living cutting firewood and baling hay, then later hiring on as a vineyard foreman. The happiest years of his life, however, were those he spent farming melons next to the Russian River.

Tom’s greatest focus was his devotion to his faith, ministering for nearly 70 years to his beloved Christadelphian Ecclesia.

IN MEMORY

Charline Barber Hawksworth

February 7, 1942 – February 17, 2025

Charline Barber Hawksworth was born February 7, 1942 in Galveston, Texas to Charlie Ray and Velma Lois Barber. Charline was a beloved wife and mother who was fiercely dedicated to her family.

With her education in midwifery, she caught many infants including her own youngest and most of her grandchildren. Her tenacious spirit and strength of will was underscored by her earning a Master's degree in psychology in her fifties. She worked for Mendocino County Social Services for over two decades devoting herself to doing good works for those in need. Of the greatest importance to her was her faith and belief in our Heavenly Father and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.



Tom and Charline are dearly loved, respected, and missed by their four children, seven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. They both sleep in the same resting place, together awaiting the promised resurrection and glorious day they will see their Lord.

Submitted by: Priscilla Gaston

Please share a story of your family members that reside in the Hopland Cemetery and we will publish it in a future edition.
Nina Kaiser, Trustee

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

A huge thank you to Charlton McChesney and his crew of scouts and friends who came out on this rainy Sunday to replace the the white crosses. They counted and made the crosses and today replaced the old broken ones with fresh markers. This was his Eagle Scout Project.

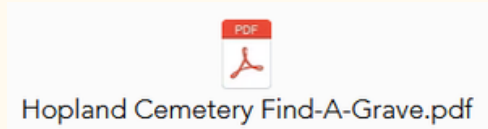


EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT (CONTINUED)



FIND-A-GRAVE FEATURE

We are excited to announce that the **The Find-a-Grave** lookup on the Hopland Cemetery website at HoplandCemetery.org has been upgraded and now live. There is a link at the top of every page to a PDF file containing current records and location of graves.



As always if you need assistance, please email the Board of Trustees at HoplandCemetery@gmail.com.

THANK YOU DONORS

Thank you Suzen Ingle for equipment donation.

