



Hopland Cemetery Newsletter

WELCOME



Welcome to the inaugural Hopland Cemetery Newsletter! We are initiating this project to keep our community updated on work and improvements at our beloved historical cemetery, thank those that help, and keep you in the loop about changes.



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!

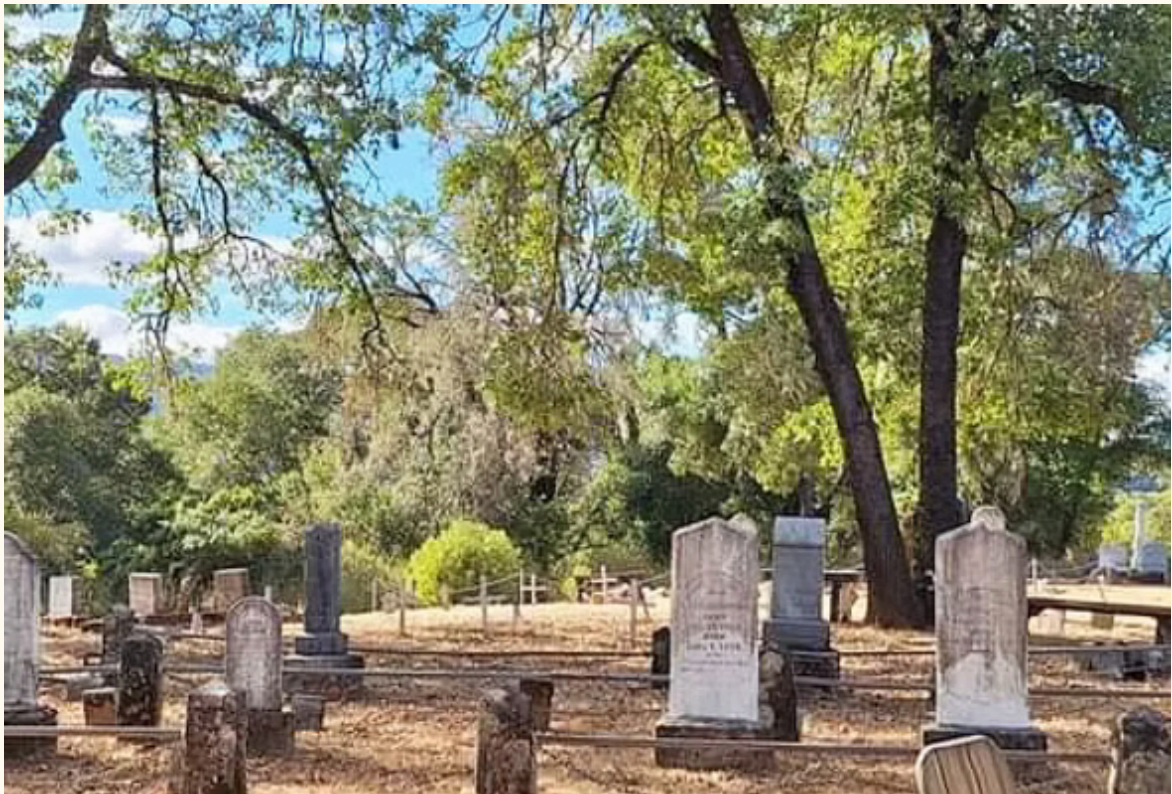
The Hopland Cemetery currently has one open position on the Board of Trustees. To apply, you must be a resident of Hopland. Would you like to join our board?

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.



PLAQUE AWARDED TO HOPLAND CEMETERY

The Sam Brannan E Clampus Vitus 1004 Napa Chapter honored the Hopland Cemetery with a historical plaque on September 21, 2025. Thank you to the members of E Clampus Vitus for your support and recognition as a historical site.



IN MEMORY

Helen Wagner: 1925-2021



Helen was born on the kitchen table of her Ingelside Terrace home in San Francisco, California. Her dad passed away when she was 8, and she spent a summer on a farm where she learned to love country life. During World War II, she learned drafting and attended U C Berkeley. She then worked as a mechanical engineer drafting plumbing systems. Helen loved animals, rode horses and raised sheep then cattle at her ranch, Full Moon Ranch in Hopland, Ca. She bought her ranch in 1975 and lived there until she died. Over the years, her ranch was respite for many travelers and musical celebrations.

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

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

On December 13, 2025, the Hopland 4H and Hopland Post 529 laid wreaths in our beautiful cemetery as part of **Wreaths Across America**. Thank you so much!



FIND-A-GRAVE FEATURE

The Find-a-Grave option on the Hopland Cemetery website (<https://www.hoplandcemetery.org/>) is under construction and not available at this time. We are making necessary changes and will have the new functionality live soon.

In the meantime, if you need to find information about a grave-site, please email the Board of Trustees at HoplandCemetery@gmail.com.

THANK YOU DONORS

Thank you to Darla McNay donation in memory of Steve on his birthday. Our gratitude to the Hardin family for the donation of equipment.

