



MASSACHUSETTS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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January/February 2007 Issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Only in New England can we experience a crazy winter like this one. To tell you the truth I could appreciate a nice snowfall about now, just to clear the air and bring a sense of beauty and peace to our surroundings.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow Board members who have worked tirelessly in many capacities to always be on the top of the major issues in our industry. A perfect example is our guest speaker Marianne Bitner, who is talking on disaster planning at our winter luncheon. In this tightly knit global world and the added threat of terrorism, we can never be assured of what is around the corner. As a matter of fact I have just arrived home from a treatment and was on Storrow Drive only an hour before they shut it down for suspicious packages. Our program at the Hilltop is a great example of the Board looking for interesting and pertinent educational topics for all cemeterians. My parish cemetery in Natick has a section that provides a sad reminder of the pandemic of 1918, too many lives lost, especially children.

I hope many are planning to attend and are applying or renewing their memberships. This is an association that all cemeterians should avail themselves to. All are most welcome and I encourage any that are able, to help support our growth with premium memberships. We need your help to offset the added costs incurred with our ability of having an extremely knowledgeable lobbyist, William Malloy who is assisting Tom Daly our Chairman of Legislative and Consumer Affairs. We are well represented by these dedicated professionals as well as by all the members of the Board that are dedicated professionals with a passion for their work.

Special thanks and gratitude to Bray Walsh, 1st Vice President, Brian Killelea, Secretary and Ed Butland, Treasurer for keeping us on course while I have had to return to my cancer treatments. Congratulations to George Milley, 2nd Vice President and Past President Anthony Hollingshead on their new positions. Your commitment to our vocation is inspiring. Good luck and best wishes in your new endeavors.

Sincerely,

J. Michael Fitzgerald



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 13, 2007 Massachusetts Cemetery Association
Winter Luncheon at the Hilltop Steakhouse, Saugus, MA
**Marianne Bitner, Director of Clinical Services/Advanced Life Support Coordinator
at Trinity EMS will be speaking on
Disaster Planning and Continuity of Operation Planning (COOP)
For a Flu Pandemic**
- April 4, 2007 Massachusetts Cemetery Association
Annual Meeting and Educational Seminar
Best Western Royal Crown Plaza, Marlboro, MA
Program and Speakers to be announced.
- September 19, 2007 Massachusetts Cemetery Association
Suppliers Day Exposition and New England Clambake
VFW Pavilion, Medway, MA
- November 7, 2007 Massachusetts Cemetery Association
Fall Luncheon Meeting
Time and Place **TBD.**

OTHER EVENTS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU

- February 6-8, 2007 New England Grows
Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, MA
Visit www.NEGrows.org for more information.
- February 28-March 1, 2007 Mascon, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center
Heavy Equipment Show, Backhoes, Trucks Etc.
Visit www.conexshows.com for more information.
- March 17-25, 2007 New England Spring Flower Show
Bayside Exposition Center, Boston, MA
- November 27-29, 2007 New England Cemetery Association Management Seminar
University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
www.newenglandcemetery.org

Visit the website of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association often at:

www.macemetery.org

LEGISLATIVE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Thomas Daly, Chairman of the Massachusetts Cemetery Associations Legislative and Consumer Affairs Committee, was appointed to an advisory committee that the joint committee on Veterans Affairs had established and he served in the capacity of Vice-Chairman. Both Thomas Daly and Dan Stack, with the Disabled American Veterans were selected to write the following document of Terms and Definitions. The following terms and definitions were adopted by the advisory committee. By including these terms and definitions in our newsletter, we hope that our membership will educate themselves as to their true meanings.

TERMS & DEFINITIONS

CEMETERY:

- ✚ AN AREA OF GROUND SET ASIDE AND DEDICATED FOR THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF DEAD HUMAN REMAINS.

TYPES OF CEMETERIES: THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF CEMETERIES

- ✚ TRADITIONAL CEMETERY ALLOWS FOR UPRIGHT MONUMENTS.
- ✚ MEMORIAL PARK USES FLUSH MEMORIALS.

GOVERNING BODIES: (AUTHORIZED INDEPENDENT MANAGEMENT OF CEMETERIES)

- ✚ NATIONAL VETERANS CEMETERY
- ✚ STATE VETERANS CEMETERY
- ✚ MUNICIPAL CEMETERY
- ✚ RELIGIOUS CEMETERY
- ✚ PRIVATE NON-PROFIT CEMETERY

BURIAL RIGHTS:

- ✚ A BURIAL LOT PURCHASE ISN'T A PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, BUT THE RIGHTS TO BURIAL ON AN ENTIRE LOT OR GRAVE WHICH IS DEFINED AS GRAVE SPACES. OWNERSHIP RIGHTS TO THE ENTIRE LOT OR GRAVE CAN BE TRANSFERRED OR RIGHTS TO AN INDIVIDUAL SPACE CAN BE GRANTED BY THE LICENSED HOLDER.

LICENSE OF BURIAL:

- ✚ THE RIGHTS GIVEN FOR THE USE OF A SPECIFIC BURIAL GRAVE, CRYPT OR NICHE.

GRAVE:

- ✚ SPACE IN A CEMETERY WHICH ALLOWS THE BURIAL OF ONE OR MULTIPLE INGROUND BURIALS.

LOT:

- ✚ A SPACE SET ASIDE IN A CEMETERY FOR SEVERAL GRAVE SPACES.

CREMATE:

- ✚ REDUCING THE DEAD HUMAN BODY TO INORGANIC BONE FRAGMENTS IN A SPECIALLY DESIGNED RETORT.

CREMAINS or ASHES:

- ✚ CREMATED HUMAN REMAINS

COLUMBARIUM:

- ✚ STRUCTURE, ROOM OR SPACE IN A MAUSOLEUM OR OTHER BUILDING CONTAINING NICHEs USED TO CONTAIN CREMATED REMAINS.

NICHE:

- ✚ A RECESS IN A COLUMBARIUM USED FOR THE PERMANENT PLACING OF CREMATED REMAINS.

MEMORIAL / MONUMENT:

TRADITIONAL:

- ✚ UPRIGHT MONUMENT USUALLY MADE OF GRANITE PLACED AT HEAD OF GRAVE.

MEMORIAL:

- ✚ FLUSH TO GROUND MEMORIAL USUALLY MADE OF BRONZE OR GRANITE AND PLACED AT THE HEAD OF GRAVE.

FOOT MARKER:

- ✚ FLUSH TO GROUND MEMORIAL PLACED AT THE FOOT OF A GRAVE, MADE OF GRANITE AND OR BRONZE.

DECORATIONS:

- ✚ EACH GOVERNING BODY INDEPENDENTLY ESTABLISHED ITS OWN REGULATIONS CONCERNING DECORATIONS OF GRAVES.

FLAG HOLDERS:

- ✚ ALSO KNOWN AS COMMEMORTIVE GRAVE MARKERS, UNITS MADE TO HOLD THE AMERICAN FLAG DURING VETERANS OBSERVANCES.

FLAG ETIQUETTE (GRAVE):

- ✚ WHEN THE FLAG IS PLACED UPON A GRAVE, SEE THAT IT WILL NOT TOUCH THE GROUND. DO NOT LEAVE IT THERE INDEFINITELY. IN ARLINGTON AND OTHER NATIONAL / STATE CEMETERIES FLAGS ARE REMOVED THE FOLLOWING DAY.

At the beginning of the year 2007, the 185th General Court in the State of Massachusetts convened. Bill Malloy of The Malloy Group, the lobbyist for the Massachusetts Cemetery Association, and Thomas Daly, Chairman of the Legislative and Consumer Affairs Committee for the association have begun to read all the Senate and House Dockets that will be forthcoming. Many of the veterans bills that had been kept on watch in 2006 have been resubmitted in 2007, as well as Mr. Hamel's request for a change in where a crematory can be located. Other documents are being checked pertaining to oil storage tanks and farm vehicle registrations, which may effect those cemeteries that use them.

There are currently over 4000 dockets filed in the House and 2162 in the Senate.

Thank you Bill and Tom for your diligence on these matters and we look forward to your report at the winter luncheon meeting at the Hilltop Steakhouse on February 13th in Saugus.

Forest Hills Cemetery Introduces Their New President and CEO



Earling A. “Bud” Hanson, Jr., Chairman of the Forest Hills Search Committee is pleased to announce the election of George Milley as the new President and CEO of Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston, Massachusetts. George comes to us from Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett, Massachusetts. He began his cemetery involvement at that location in 1977, serving in almost every capacity. Since 2001, as Director of Field Operations, he has been responsible for all aspects of operating the cemetery. George was chosen from a field of highly qualified candidates, ending a nearly year long search. The Committee was capably assisted by Development Guild, Inc., of Brookline, Massachusetts, a professional search firm.

George has been an active member of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association and presently serves as a member of the Board of Directors and its Second Vice President.

Reprinted with permission from Earling A. “Bud” Hanson, Jr., taken from *The New Englander*, the NECA Newsletter.

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association wish to congratulate George Milley on his new position as President and CEO at Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston, Massachusetts. We wish you continued success at your new endeavors George. Congratulations once again!

Massachusetts Cemetery Association, Past President Anthony Hollingshead is Promoted to President of Swan Point Cemetery in Providence, RI

Anthony Hollingshead, CCE will succeed Z. Sadie Baron, who retired at the end of 2006, as President of Swan Point Cemetery in Providence Rhode Island. Anthony joined Swan Point Cemetery in 2005 as Vice President and in 2006 became their Executive Vice President/President Elect. Anthony had been Director of Operations at Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston, Massachusetts for 20 years and also served on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Cemetery Association, including a term as President in 2004.

Congratulations Anthony on your new position as President at Swan Point Cemetery.

I want to hear from you! Do you have news about your cemetery or information about an individual at your cemetery that would be worthy of publication in this newsletter? If so, please contact the editor:

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Your copy of the **Massachusetts Cemetery Association Newsletter** has arrived. Look inside for upcoming events, Legislative News and more!

Please remember to renew your Membership with the Massachusetts Cemetery Association. If you have not already renewed or you have not received a Membership renewal form in the mail, please visit our website and download a form from there. Also, please encourage your Suppliers to become Supplier Members of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association. They too may visit our website at www.macemetery.org and download a Membership form. We all will benefit from a larger membership!

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association encourages its Members to support the Supplier Members of the Association. We thank the Supplier Members for their continued support of the Association.

Would you prefer to receive future copies of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association Newsletter electronically? If so, please provide the Association with your e-mail address. You may contact the Editor, Bray Walsh at bray@lowellcemetery.com or the Secretary, Brian Killelea at brian@wcmp.org. Thank you.

Massachusetts Cemetery Association

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