



MASSACHUSETTS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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January 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope that the coming year is prosperous for all of you. You all have received the membership renewal forms in the mail by now. I would encourage all of you to renew and if you have the ability to renew at a higher level of membership this year, **THANK YOU!**



It is hard to believe the New Year is here. It seems like we were just planning for the Suppliers Day Expo in September. With the hard work of your Board of Directors, the Suppliers Day Exposition and New England Clambake was a huge success! I would like to thank all of those who attended, especially our Supplier Members. We had suppliers completely surrounding the baseball field and also in shallow outfield!!! Thank you all! There were almost 200 in attendance!

Our Fall Luncheon was held at Ken's Steakhouse and our guest speaker was the Honorable Anthony Verga. His presentation was enjoyed by all, including some Veterans Agents invited by the membership.

Our Winter Luncheon is scheduled for February 13, 2008 and the guest speakers are going to be State Captain Richard J. Kenniston and Assistant State Captain James Boland of the Patriot Guard Riders. The reservation form for this luncheon was sent along with your membership renewal forms, so please complete them and return them by the designated deadlines.

We are still in the planning stages for Annual Meeting to be held at the Best Western Royal Crown Plaza Hotel on April 2, 2008. Visit our website often at www.macemetery.org to see any updates to this program.

I would like to thank you all for supporting the [Massachusetts Cemetery Association](http://www.macemetery.org). It is with your support and attendance that we are able to succeed in the interchange of ideas and build our membership to a level where we all benefit.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION TODAY!

A **PLATINUM MEMBER** will enjoy full membership and voting rights in the Massachusetts Cemetery Association and the New England Cemetery Association. A **PLATINUM MEMBER** may be an organizational member or an individual member. A designation as a **PLATINUM MEMBER** allows one individual an invitation to attend the Annual Meeting and luncheon at no cost. This level of membership supports the Association's ability to finance legislative representation and scholarship programs.

Annual dues for a PLATINUM MEMBER are \$500.00.

A **GOLD MEMBER** is a member directly engaged in the management and or operation of a cemetery. A **GOLD MEMBER** will enjoy full membership and voting rights in both the Massachusetts Cemetery Association and the New England Cemetery Association. A **GOLD MEMBER** may be an organizational member or an individual member.

Annual Dues for a GOLD MEMBER are \$250.00.

A **SILVER MEMBER** is a member directly engaged in the management and or operation of a cemetery and shall hold all rights and voting privileges as afforded by the Articles of Organization.

Annual Dues for a SILVER MEMBER are \$75.00.

A **SUPPLIER MEMBER** is a manufacturer or distributor of equipment, materials, and supplies to the cemetery, landscape maintenance or death care industry.

Annual Dues for a SUPPLIER MEMBER are \$100.00.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 13, 2008 **Massachusetts Cemetery Association** Winter Luncheon Meeting **11:30 AM**

Guest Speakers: **Patriot Guard Riders**, State Captain **Richard J. Kenniston** and Assistant State Captain **James Boland**.

Hilltop Steakhouse, Rte. 1 South, Saugus, MA

Registrations must be received by February 1, 2008.

Visit their website at www.hilltopsteakhouse.com for directions.

April 2, 2008 **Massachusetts Cemetery Association** Annual Meeting and Educational Seminar

Best Western Royal Crown Plaza, Rte. 20, Marlboro, MA

Registration begins at **8:00 AM**

Visit our website at www.macemetery.org for updated details.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

February 6-8, 2008 New England Grows, Boston Convention Center

March 8-16, 2008 New England Spring Flower Show, Bayside Expo Center, Boston

SPOTLIGHT ON SHREWSBURY CEMETERY *by Angela Snell*

For the past three years The Shrewsbury Historical Society has organized a “Walk through History” at the Town of Shrewsbury’s Mountain View Cemetery in the fall. Each year the society picks several historical figures and has volunteers reenact their life and accomplishments at their grave site.

Visitors are walked from grave to grave on the tour by lanterns. Despite this fall’s poor weather over 100 people attended. Previous year’s attendance had been around 200 people.

The evening starts at the Shrewsbury Historical society’s building located next door to the cemetery on the Town Common, where visitors were treated to a digital slide show of historical images of Shrewsbury.



Photographs taken on the tour at the Town of Shrewsbury’s Mountain View Cemetery.

Calling All Members!

Have you ever considered serving on the Board of Directors of the [Massachusetts Cemetery Association](http://www.macemetery.org)? If so, we would like to hear from you. Elections of the Officers and Directors will take place at the Annual Meeting in Marlboro on April 2, 2008. Please contact John Di Pietro, Nominations Committee Chairman at 781-828-7128 or speak with any member of the Board of Directors as soon as possible.

[Visit our website at www.macemetery.org](http://www.macemetery.org)

MCA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO DAVID BOYLE, CHELMSFORD CEMETERIES

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Massachusetts Cemetery Association for selecting me as the 2007 recipient of the Massachusetts Scholarship to attend the 38th Annual Frederick R. Laffond Cemetery Management Seminar at the University of New Hampshire-Durham.

The seminar is one not to be missed by anyone associated with the Cemetery Industry. I found the seminar to be very informative; the first presentation on Tuesday was given by Steve Prin concerning Office Etiquette and Customer Service. Sadie Barran gave an informative presentation about Swan Point Cemetery which she has been associated with for many years. Each day after the presentations were completed, there was a Suppliers Showcase which gave everyone the opportunity to view different products from vendors from all over New England. On Wednesday there was a very interesting



presentation by Tina Shockley, Public Relations Representative from the State of Delaware, concerning how the State of Delaware is dealing with Roadside Memorials. On Thursday, Bray Walsh from Lowell Cemetery gave a very detailed presentation, "How to Properly Prepare a Gravesite".

The seminar is a great opportunity to network with colleagues from throughout New England, and hear about the different issues affecting us all. The accommodations at UNH-Durham are excellent and the food throughout the Seminar was outstanding. I would like to thank NECA Chairman Dale Fiore and Co-chairman Anthony Hollingshead for putting together a great program and I am looking forward to attending future NECA Seminars at UNH.

In closing, I would encourage anyone who is a member of the Massachusetts Cemetery Association and has not had the opportunity to attend the seminar to please apply for the scholarship offered by our State association.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Boyle, Superintendent of Chelmsford Cemeteries

The Board of Directors of the [Massachusetts Cemetery Association](#) *CONGRATULATE* David Boyle, Superintendent of Cemeteries for the Town of Chelmsford, on receiving the MCA Scholarship to attend the Frederick R. Laffond Cemetery Management Seminar at the University of New Hampshire in Durham last November.

How can you apply for the SCHOLARSHIP? Download an application at www.macemetery.org
