Greetings…

It is truly an honor to be addressing everyone as President of the New England Cemetery Association. I look forward to working with the Board of Directors to provide to our membership yet another successful year.

I would like to congratulate Bray Walsh on his successful 2013-2014 Presidential term. I also want to welcome Patrick Healy and Mark Hemmann as our newly elected Board members.

First Vice President Robbin Kelley is the Chairwomen of the 2014 Frederick R. Laffond Cemetery Management Seminar. This year’s Seminar will be held at The Holiday Inn Conference Center in Boxborough, Massachusetts on December 2 thru December 4, 2014. Be sure to mark your calendars. Robbin has put together an excellent educational program that I am sure will be beneficial to all NECA members. Craig Cunningham, Robbins co-chairman has provided great support towards the event.

The 2015 Mid-Winter Retreat will be held in Newport, Rhode Island from February 6 - 8, 2015. The event’s program and registration will soon be available. (See more details in this newsletter).

I am extremely excited to announce that the 2015 NECA Annual Meeting and Conference will be held at the Village Inn in Narragansett, Rhode Island. A beautiful Oceanside venue! The conference will have a new schedule with fantastic presentations. This year’s conference is not to be missed.

I look forward to serving our membership as the 2014 – 2015 NECA President.

Joseph A. Cavallaro, NECCP
NECA President 2014 - 2015
The 2014 - 2015 New England Cemetery Association Board of Directors were sworn in at the Presidential Banquet held at The Cape Codder Resort & Spa on June 25, 2014. From left to right are James Holman, Director, Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA; Patrick Healy, Director, Green Mountain Cemetery, Montpelier, VT; Mark Hemmann, Past President Director, Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford, CT; Craig Cunningham, Second Vice President, Oak Grove Cemetery, Bath, ME; Joseph Swift, Treasurer, Highland Memorial Park, Johnston, RI; Raymond Scholl, Secretary, Milford Cemetery Association, Milford, CT; Robbin Kelley, First Vice President, Town of Harwich, Harwich, MA; Joseph Cavallaro, President, Swan Point Cemetery, Providence, RI; R. Brabook Walsh, Immediate Past President, Lowell Cemetery, Lowell, MA; not pictured are Therese Desmond, Director, Milton Cemetery, Milton, MA and Dan Krueger, Past President Director, Beaverdale Memorial Park, New Haven, CT.

Barbara Brooks to Retire

Barbara Coduri Brooks celebrated her 89th birthday on October 11th, 2014. In her 89 years of youth, Barbara has accomplished many things. Many of her friends call her a “Renaissance Woman”!!! She is an airplane pilot, musician, accountant, paralegal and Manager of Riverside Cemetery in Wakefield, RI.

Barbara began at Riverside Cemetery in 1958 and after 57 years of employment with the cemetery, she shall retire on December 31st of this year.

Barbara served on the Board of Directors of the New England Cemetery Association and was the Treasurer from 2003 - 2009. Barbara was a recipient of the prestigious award, the “New England Cemetery Association Professional Achievement Certification”.

Barbara has traveled extensively throughout her life, visiting several European countries, Iceland and Islands in the Caribbean. She hopes to continue her traveling after her retirement.

The entire membership of the New England Cemetery Association wish you a Belated 89th Birthday Barbara and we also wish you a Happy Retirement!! Your presence and your dedication to Our Association will be deeply missed.
Lynn Smith, president of the NHCA, is retiring from her position as office manager for the City of Keene Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries Department after 19 ½ years. She began her career as a part-time secretary in 1995, achieving full-time status in 1999. During her tenure with the city, cemetery records have been computerized and interment information was made available online. Lynn has been a member of the NHCA since the late ‘90s, serving as a board member, vice president and president. Her term is up in October.

The New Hampshire Cemetery Association will hold their Fall/Business Meeting at the Susan N. McLane Audubon Center in Concord, NH. At this “new to us” venue we will hear from Mary Morin & Carter Higginbotham from the NH Office of Veterans Services about “Veterans Benefits Related to Funerals & Cemeteries.” Following them along the same line we will hear from CDR David Kenney, USN. He will educate us on “Everything You Wanted to Know About Military Honors.” As there are many veterans using our services this should be quite informative. This will be followed by a brief Q & A session as time allows concluding with a buffet lunch. Anyone interested can contact Jeff Snow at snowj@nashuanh.gov or 603.594.3327.

Please remember to reference the New England Cemetery Associations Membership Directory and Resource Guide on a regular basis. Find fellow cemetery members who are members of NECA along with Supplier Members and their contact information.

MASSACHUSETTS: by Mitch Zak

On Friday, September 17, 2014, the MCA held its annual Supplier’s Day. One hundred and seventy members and vendors registered for the event and attendance was excellent. Members had the opportunity to meet and talk with cemetery vendors and consultants and the weather was lovely.

Chowder, steak and lobster was served and enjoyed by all.

One high point, appreciated by the MCA leadership, was the presence of NECA President Joseph Caval laro, Treasurer Joseph Swift, Secretary Raymond Scholl and Immediate Past President Bray Walsh. In addition to staffing a table, NECA members were generous in raffling a $100.00 gas card and donating the proceeds to the MCA.
October is here and our annual business meeting along with the election of Officers and Board of Directors is right around the corner. Oct 15th to be exact the dinner starts at 6:00 at the Via Roma Restaurant on Federal Hill.

Our guest speaker is Ken Postle Jr. He and his crew have been reclaiming the Mineral Spring Cemetery in Pawtucket, RI. He will explain how and why this project got its start.

Here is this year’s slate of officers

**Past President** - Michael Seger, Lakeside Cemetery Association

**President** - George Boardman, Moshassuck Cemetery

**Vice President** - Mary Douglas, Pawtuxet Memorial Park Inc.

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Linda D. Manuppelli, Highland Memorial Park Cemetery

**Director** - William Caldwell, Swan Point Cemetery

**Director** - Enzly Ramsay, North Burial Grounds

**Director** - Bel McGowan, Pocassett Cemetery

**Director** - Joseph R. Swift, Highland Memorial Park Cemetery

For more information feel free to contact

George Boardman 401-723-0187 or Linda Manuppelli 401-231-9120.
From upper left going clockwise: 2nd VP Robbin Kelley serves h’ordeuvres aboard M/V Patience; Spirit Medium, Sandy Alemian connecting with the audience; Secretary Ray Scholl and Director Dan Krueger prepare for their presentation; President Bray Walsh receiving a plaque from ICCFA President Fred Lappin; President Bray Walsh welcoming the membership; NECA Members enjoying a presentation; Supplier Member Karin Sprague enjoying the NE Clambake; poster board thanking Suppliers for their support; Supplier Member Bill Walsh presenting Director Therese Desmond with a gift; Darlene Walsh and Robbin Kelley; Center photos: Geert Van den Bogaert and James Woolsey presenting at the Presidential Banquet on “Normandy Heroes”.
Invitation to 45th Annual Frederick R. Laffond Cemetery Management Seminar

On behalf of the New England Cemetery Association we would like to invite you to the 45th Annual Frederick R. Laffond Cemetery Management Seminar at the Holiday Inn Boxborough from December 2 – 4, 2014, Boxborough, MA.

This years’ Seminar has a wide variety of topics. Strategies for Successful Historic Projects, Applying for the National Register, Disaster Preparedness and Response for Cemeteries and Historic Structures, Preserving Historic Landscapes, Coordinated Emergency Preparedness for Documentation, Tips from working 27 years at Green Mount Cemetery and Round Table discussion with guest panel. We are continuing with Family Services by offering “We are not Afraid to Talk about Grief and Loss”.

We are very excited about our new location, conveniently located right off Interstate 495 in Massachusetts; the Holiday Inn Boxborough (I-495 Exit 28) infuses a unique experience with refreshing hospitality. The Holiday Inn offers free wired and wireless High Speed Internet, a 24 hour Fitness Center and a lush garden courtyard with heated indoor pool.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet with old and new cemeterians, suppliers and speakers. Suppliers will have their booths on display throughout the program for you to review their goods and services. Please remember to support our Supplier Members with your business.

Sincerely,

Robbin Kelley
NECA 1st Vice President

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NECA Golf Tournament Recap

Many thanks to each of the cemeterians and suppliers who participated in the annual NECA Golf Tournament held at Bayberry Hills Golf Club. The players enjoyed a quintessential summer day on the Cape with bright skies and outstanding playing conditions. Congratulations to the winning team: Bruce Delle Chiaie, Julie Delle Chiaie, Terri Ford, and Fred Lappin; and to the second place team: Joe Swift, Brian Ricciardi, Cameron Ricciardi, and Mike Hanlon. In the individual awards, Julie Delle Chiaie won the closest-to-the-pin, while Linda Faria had the longest drive for the ladies. For the gentlemen, the honors went to yours truly (Craig Neal) for closest-to-the-pin, and to Cameron Ricciardi for the longest drive. We also congratulate Terri Ford, who became the first golfer ever to ace a hole-in-one in the history of the NECA tournament. A special note of gratitude for the generosity of our vendor sponsors: Bruce Delle Chiaie of Watertown Engineering, Todd Hanson of Cooperative Funeral Fund, Inc., Tom Daly of Cemetery Helpful Solutions, and Dan Cassin/Tom Santillo of Matthews Cemetery Products. Join us next year for another fun-filled tourney.

Respectfully Submitted, Craig S. Neal, Norwalk Vault Company/Kryprotek, Tournament Chair
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 15, 2014 - NHCA
Fall Business Meeting
Susan N. McLane Audubon Center
Concord, NH

October 15, 2014 - RICA
Annual Business Meeting
Via Roma Restaurant on Federal Hill
Providence, RI

October 16, 2014 - CCA
Race Brook Country Club
Orange, CT

October 21, 2014 - MCA
Annual Conference and Meeting
Rachel’s on the Green
Val Halla Golf Course
Cumberland, ME

SAVE THE DATES

November 7, 2014 - MCA
Fall Luncheon Meeting
Spinelli’s Function Facility
Lynnfield, MA

December 2 - 4, 2014 - NECA
Frederick R. Laffond
Cemetery Management Seminar
Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA

February 6 - 8, 2015 - NECA
Mid-Winter Retreat
Hyatt Regency Newport
Newport, RI

June 22 - 25, 2015 - NECA
Annual Meeting and Conference
Village Inn Hotel & Conference Center
Narragansett, RI

The New Englander
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