

The New Englander

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE

NEW ENGLAND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

President
Patrick R. Healy
Green Mount Cemetery
Montpelier, VT

Honoring the Past Serving the Present Preparing for the Future

www.newenglandcemetery.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Challenges

Cemeteries have and will always face challenges. By supporting and engaging in NECA, we, as a group of professionals will be able to overcome these challenges and take on new, evolving issues with confidence and financial security. Thirty years ago the thought of cremation began to emerge and no one really knew the effect it would have on our industry. We do now. In response, Cemeterians in conjunction with their suppliers have come up with various options of burial and memorialization. Our professional industry continues to change and that in itself is a challenge.

This year's Annual Conference in York, Maine will take a look at what I see are two emerging challenges: Technology and Green Burials. We will have two speakers; both are very knowledgeable in their work.

How Are Our Cemeteries Being Seen Through Today's Technology by Our Public?

Marc Yeardley of Ensure-A-Seal <http://ensureaseal.com/news>

Changing Conventional Burial Practices into Green Burials.

Suzanne Kelly, PhD <http://suzannemkelly.com/>

We will also be having demonstrations at the First Parish Cemetery on:

Ground Radar by **Topographix LLC**
Epoxies and Cleaners by **Atlas Preservation**
JCB 3CX Compact Demo by **Northland JCB**

We all know that it is a challenge to manage cemeteries. Why not come to York Beach for further face-to-face education? We cannot rely on the computer for all of our knowledge and education.

See you in York, Maine on June 19-21. Good Luck with your cemetery in 2018. And please, always express your views on how NECA can serve Cemeterians.

Patrick Healy



STATE NEWS

New Hampshire: —submitted by Mike Horne

The New Hampshire Cemetery Association (NHCA) held their Spring Meeting at The Derryfield in Manchester on April 4th, with 70 members and guests in attendance. Terry Knowles, State of NH, was the main presenter, sharing her knowledge and experience of cemetery operations as they relate to NH laws. She will be retiring at the end of April and the Association thanked her for her years of service to NH cemetery trustees, wishing her well and extending an open invitation to attend future NHCA meetings. The second half of the meeting was led by Jill McDaniels, NHCA Vice President, and consisted of questions and answers from those in attendance as they shared experiences with recommended solutions.

Connecticut: Come join your fellow Cemeterians on Thursday, June 14th on a bus trip to MacKenzie Urn Vault's manufacturing plant located in East Longmeadow, MA. MacKenzie is the industry's leading producer of cultured marble urns and urn vaults that come in a variety of colors and sizes including personalized memorial engraving. The day will begin at 10:00 am sharp when we board a coach bus at the commuter lot located at the corner of Jordan Lane and Wolcott Hill Road in Wethersfield. We will then head up I-91 a short way to MacKenzie.

Owner, Scott MacKenzie and his staff will welcome the group with light morning refreshments followed by a tour of the plant where we will see firsthand how cultured marble urn vaults are designed, produced, customized and finally shipped to the customer.

A mid-day luncheon is planned where attendees will have plenty of time to relax and network among colleagues. The brief bus ride back will be exciting as we play the first ever Connecticut Cemetery Association trivia contest. This is a must attend event where we will experience another behind the scenes portion of the death care industry. Visit <http://www.mackenzievault.com> to learn more.

All of our friends from throughout New England are always welcome to join us. Should you need additional information please contact Edward Jones at pinegrovecem@sbcglobal.net or 203-892-3597.

SCHOLARSHIP It is with great pleasure that we announce the awarding of college scholarships to five very deserving children of members, both cemetery and supplier. Rebecca Sprague, the daughter of Karin Sprague (Karin Sprague Stone Cutters) attends St. John's College in Santa Fe, NM. Kevin Cody's son (Mount Calvary Cemetery, Manchester, NH) Timothy attends Assumption College in Worcester, MA. Wentworth Institute of Technology student Brandon Hooper is the son of Lincoln Hooper (Town of Harwich Cemeteries, Harwich, MA). Karli Carpinello, daughter of Anthony Carpinello (Catholic Cemeteries Diocese of Providence) will be entering her freshman year at the University of New Haven. And Jim Holman's daughter (Mount Auburn) Kate will be continuing her studies at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. They will each receive five hundred dollars to help defray costs associated with their studies.

In 2015 The New England Cemetery Association established a College Scholarship Program. In the first year four scholarships were awarded to four very deserving students. With this success it was determined that the program would be continued as an ongoing opportunity for our members' qualified dependents (cemetery members and suppliers alike). A qualified dependent is a child, step child, or grandchild of an active member in good standing in NECA. The student must be accepted to or presently attending a four year accredited institution of higher learning. More information and applications are available on the association website. Please join us in congratulating the students and their parents.

ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

The 116th Annual Meeting and Conference is fast approaching. President Patrick Healy and the board have arranged for a thought provoking look into the future of our industry on the first day. The 2nd day will have a more hands-on focus with demonstrations at the First Parish Cemetery in York. Combined with input from our supplier members and the opportunity to network, this is a great opportunity for you to gather knowledge useful today in your cemetery.

By now everyone should have received their registration packet (see correction noted on page 5 of this publication). Remember, reservations must be made directly with the hotel by May 25th. If you need additional information or you did not receive the registration pack please contact Ray Scholl at [ne-ca1902@gmail.com](mailto:ca1902@gmail.com) or 203-813-6322

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee of the Association respectfully nominates the following members for your consideration:

President – James Holman; Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA

1st Vice President – David Boyle; Town of Chelmsford Cemetery Department, Chelmsford, MA

2nd Vice President – Mary Anne Hawthorne; Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford, CT

Secretary – Raymond Scholl; Milford Cemetery Association, Milford, CT

Treasurer – Joseph Swift; Highland Memorial Park, Johnston, RI

Director (3 years) – Kelly Perry; Swan Point Cemetery, Providence, RI

Continuing to serve will be:

Immediate Past President – Patrick R. Healy; Green Mountain Cemetery, Montpelier, VT

Director (2 years) – Tracy Taylor; Oak Grove Cemetery, Springfield, MA

Director (2 years) – Todd J. Frederick; First Parish Cemetery, York, ME

Past President Director (2 years) – Robbin Kelley; Town of Harwich Cemetery Department, Harwich, MA

Past President Director (1 year) - Dan Krueger; Beavertdale Memorial Park, New Haven, CT

The Nominating Committee consists of the last five most immediate Past Presidents. This year's committee included Craig Cunningham as Chair, Robbin Kelley, Joseph Cavallaro, Richard Sacca and Kevin Cody.

This nominated slate will be voted upon at the 116th Annual Meeting of the Association on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 1:00 pm in the Edgemere Room of the Union Bluff Meeting House at 8 Beach Street, York, ME

Other nominations for any office may be presented from the floor at the election. Such nominations must be in writing and signed by at least ten (10) active members.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Cunningham,

NECA Past President

Nomination Committee Chair

Annual Financial Report of the Association

ASSETS

Current Assets		
		\$
Cash Checking	30,073.26	
Investment Portfolio	83,556.14	
Accounts Receivable	1,316.93	
Inventory Logo Items	<u>235.32</u>	
Total Current Assets		115,181.65
Property and Equipment		
Equipment	<u>190.59</u>	
Total Property and Equipment		190.59
Other Assets		
Prepaid Conference Expense	<u>2,000.00</u>	
Total Other Assets		<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Assets		<u>\$ 117,372.24</u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities		
		\$
Accounts Payable	<u>131.00</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		131.00
Long-Term Liabilities	<u> </u>	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities		131.00
Capital		
Fund Balance	35,527.01	
Adj to prior year	(1,206.00)	
Beginning Bal Equity	2,417.93	
Retained Earnings	63,625.06	
Equity Acct Family Services	2,839.11	
Net Income	<u>14,038.13</u>	
Total Capital		<u>117,241.24</u>
Total Liabilities & Capital		<u>\$ 117,372.24</u>

IMPORTANT CORRECTION

Please note: on the registration form for the 116th Annual Meeting and Conference information on meals was erroneously listed. Be aware that on Tuesday the only meal included is the evening Clambake. Breakfast and lunch are not included, you are on your own for those meals. We apologize for any confusion that this error might have caused and look forward to seeing everyone at the conference.

INNOVATION AWARD

Congratulations to Robbin Kelley and the Town of Harwich. The Massachusetts Municipal Association presented Robbin and the Town of Harwich with the Kenneth E. Pickard Innovation Award during the MMA's 2018 Annual Meeting and Trade Show this past January. Robbin's submission, *Pet Burial Ground and Walking Park* demonstrated their "dedication, commitment and ability to increase effectiveness of local government by successfully implementing a unique and creative program".

Harwich is creating the first pet cemetery operated on municipal land in Massachusetts. Harwich Cemetery Administrator, Robbin has been working on the planning, development and construction of a pet cemetery to serve the residents of Harwich since 2016 when the Town Meeting granted the Cemetery Commission the use of 2.5 acres for the cemetery. There will be approximately 12,000 pet cremation sites along with a pet walking trail. The town is targeting \$100.00 for each burial site for residents, \$150.00 for non-residents.

The town has awarded a contract for concrete pathways with a ribbon cutting planned for this spring. In the meantime, other organizations have expressed interest in pitching in for the project. As quoted on the MMA website, www.mma.org, "The canine officers of Cape Cod are very interested in doing a pet memorial there," Kelley said. "Our Garden Club wants to help out with planting gardens. ... And we have veterinarians requesting to donate benches. It seems like we're really not spending much money and we're getting a lot of support locally."

Harwich Town Administrator Christopher Clark applauded Robbin's efforts in identifying the need in the community, locating the town-owned parcel where such a facility could be located, and shepherding the project forward.. "This is where government works best, when we understand what the need of the community is ... and then we have the ability to address it," Clark said.

Congratulations Robbin. We look forward to hearing more about your program and learning from your experiences.



CALL OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

**The 116th Annual Meeting
of the New England Cemetery Association
will be held at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, June 19, 2018
at the Union Bluff Meeting House
8 Beach Street, York, ME**

DURING THIS MEETING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS WILL BE ELECTED.

PLEASE CONTACT RAYMOND SCHOLL, SECRETARY AT NECA1902@GMAIL.COM OR 203-874-8998

SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

“I remember my mother’s prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.” —Abraham Lincoln

