

The New Englander

2022 MAY-JUNE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE

NEW ENGLAND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

President
Mary Anne Hathorne
Cedar Hill Cemetery
Hartford, CT.

Honoring the Past

Serving the Present

Preparing for the Future

www.newenglandcemetery.org

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Johnston, RI

Second Vice-President
Vacant

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear NECA Cemeterians:

Spring has arrived, and with it I'm sure everyone is very busy with cleanup and getting their cemeteries in shape following the New England winter.

The New England Cemetery Association's 119th Annual Meeting and Conference is just around the corner. The event will take place from June 21st – the 23rd at the Inn at Mill Falls, located on beautiful Lake Winnepesaukee in Meredith NH. The event promises to be informative and well worth the trip; I hope you're able to join us, even

if it's for a day. Details can be found on the New England Cemetery Association's website at www.newenglandcemetery.org.

The challenges over the past couple of years have been many – throughout this time, the continued support from members and suppliers hasn't gone unnoticed! I thank each and every one of you for your support and willingness to provide assistance as we've all navigated through the Covid pandemic. It appears though, that we are finally moving towards a return to normal. Reports of serious illness associated with Covid/Omicron, along with hospital admissions, are down. What a difference from a couple of years ago when the country was under a state of emergency and many businesses were closed. As everyone experienced cemeteries were deemed essential and throughout this time remained open. If you've not already done so, please take a moment to reflect on the essential services provided by your cemetery, the assistance you've given to families, and the contribution to your communities as a whole. Go ahead and congratulate yourself, feel special and awesome because you are.

I wish everyone continued good health, and look forward to getting together at the June conference.

Mary Anne Hawthorne
NECA President



Call of the Annual Meeting

The 119th Annual Meeting
of the New England Cemetery Association
will be held at 1:45 pm on
Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at
Church Landing / Inn at Mill Falls
281 Daniel Webster Highway
Meredith, NH

**DURING THIS MEETING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
WILL BE ELECTED.**

Please contact Dan Krueger, Secretary at
NECA1902@GMAIL.COM
or 203-387-6601
should you require additional information.

Rhode Island Cemetery Association News

Officers & Directors

PRESIDENT – Kelly Perry , Swan Point Cemetery

VICE PRESIDENT– Greg Howard, River Bend Cemetery

SECRETARY/TREASURER – Annalisa Heppner, North Burial Ground

DIRECTORS:

James Bessel – RI Veteran's Memorial Cemetery

Joseph Swift – Highland Memorial Park Cemetery

Karen Sprague – Karen Sprague Stone Carvers

Past President – George Boardman

INFORMATION WORTH READING ABOUT:

<https://www.ctpublic.org/environment/2021-06-21/rise-in-cremations-opens-unused-cemetery-space-to-new-solar-projects>

Copy Link into your browser.....

Quite an interesting Article— Gives one something to ponder.....Thanks Charlotte!

CALLING ALL ACTIVE NECA MEMBERS!!!

Have you ever considered serving on the Board of Directors of The New England Cemetery Association? If so, now is your chance to let us know prior to the Annual Meeting and Conference in June.

Please contact Nominations Chair
Dave Boyle at
Dboyle@townofchelmsfordma.gov



NECA Membership Benefits

Professional Recognition—Shared Knowledge—Answers to Questions

Broader Access to Resources

Industry Links to Vendors & Cemeterians

Added Value to your Board of Trustees & Cemetery Associations

Opens Doors to National & International Cemetery Associations

Know a New England Cemeterian who isn't a NECA member? Have them Get in touch with Dave Boyle, NECA Membership Chair—send him an email at DBoyle@townofchelmsfordma.gov

PLEASE NOTE: Based on feedback from our members, the NECA Board of Directors made a change to member benefits. A member who is unable to attend either the Laffond Seminar or Summer Conference may send another individual from the cemetery in their place, without incurring the non-member fees.

CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Cemetery Association is pleased to announce that it will hold its Annual Suppliers Expo on Thursday, June 9, 2022. The Event will be held outdoors on the grounds of Evergreen Cemetery, 769 Ella T. Grasso Boulevard, New Haven CT. We are expecting many attendees since this event has been postponed since 2020.

We are looking forward to learning about the products from our suppliers.

It's been a long time since we have had an opportunity to be together in one place to eat, drink, compete in exciting games, and perhaps toss a horseshoe or bocci ball in congeniality. A big shout out to Dale Fiore and Anthony Puglisi for offering Evergreen Cemetery as the venue and for coordinating this great event!

News:

October 13, 2022 - CCA will hold their annual meeting along with an educational component. As soon as the location and details have been finalized, we will announce them.

2022 Membership Directory – It is our intention to provide a 2022 Membership Directory to our members at the annual meeting in October. Our last directory was published in 2019.

For other CCA news, please go to our website at www.ctcemeteryassociation.org or follow us on Facebook. You may contact Maureen Crick Owen, President at 203.733.4562 or maureencrickowen@gmail.com.

Massachusetts:

May 2022 MCA Report for the New Englander

The Massachusetts Cemetery Association held its Annual Meeting & Educational Seminar on April 8th at the Renaissance Hotel at Patriot Place. George Milley of Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston was elected our new President for 2022-2023. We had a great turnout from both Cemetery and Supplier members.

Speakers included the President of the Massachusetts Funeral Directors Association, Barbara Kazmierczek, Jennifer Foreman, an Environmental Biologist for the State of MA, John Grenon from Lan-Tao Communications, a Security Company and our own newly elected President & CEO of Forest Hills Cemetery, George Milley.

We are currently in the planning stages of Suppliers Day 2022, please watch our website and emails for updates. If you haven't renewed your MCA Cemetery or Supplier membership for 2022 you can visit our website, www.macemetery.org and download the forms, for Suppliers a benefit of your membership is the ability to attend Suppliers Day and display your products at no cost!

NH Cemetery Association News for the NECA New Englander newsletter

The NH Cemetery Association (NHCA) has been fairly active the past year as they recovered from the COVID shutdown. The NHCA Fall 2021 meeting was on Oct 6th at The Derryfield in Manchester, NH where 67 members and guests enjoyed presentation by Shawn Buck, director of the NH State Veterans Cemetery, and Kevin Cody about columbarium constructed at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Manchester, NH. Kevin was also recognized and thanked for his many years of service to both NHCA and NECA.

The NHCA Spring 2022 meeting was held at The Derryfield on April 7th where 70 members and guests learned more about "Green Burials – *no longer about when, it's about how*" from Lee Webster of NH Funeral Resources and Education.

The NH Cemetery Association was formed in October 1977 and will celebrate the 50th anniversary at the Fall meeting in October. Membership continues to be strong with 126 members to date for CY2022. As part of the 50th celebration, NHCA is having a contest to design a new logo:

Requirements for the NH Cemetery Association Logo Contest
**** Winner to receive **** \$200.00 Prize****

- 1- Size - Maximum 5 1/2 inches high- 4 inches wide
Minimum 4 inches high by 3 inches wide
- 2-Must be able to reduce to 1/2 size and remain easily readable
- 3-May have up to three colors or in black and white
If in color, it must also be practicable for black and white reproduction
- 4-Entries must reflect the purpose of the NH Cemetery Association, as an information resource and network opportunity for cemetery personnel. NHCA promotes the advancement of knowledge in operation/maintenance of cemeteries, exchange of information, creates and maintains high ethical standards in the conduct of cemetery administration, both active and historical, and secures the advantage to be obtained by mutual cooperation.
- 4-Entries must have a reference regarding being established for 50 years or established in 1972.
- 5-Deadline for entries to be received - July 30, 2022.
- 6- The artwork should be in PDF format and submitted to NHCemetery@gmail.com, attention Nancy Philbrick. Any questions should also be sent to NHCemetery@gmail.com

Vermont: Submitted by Patrick Healy

The Vermont State Statutes dealing with investing perpetual care funds have become less conservative and will need to be overseen by a fiduciary. Our Association will be reviewing the change and educating our membership. Hopefully Covid is behind us and we can begin to have in person state meetings again but we are looking at a Zoom state meeting. Thanks

THE NEW ENGLANDER

NECA is guided by a Board of Directors which is elected every year at the Annual Meeting and Conference. Serving on the current Board are:

- President: Mary Anne Hawthorne – Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford, CT
- 1st Vice President: Kelly M. Perry – Swan Point Cemetery, Providence, RI
- 2nd Vice President: Vacant
- Secretary: Dan Krueger – Beaverdale Memorial Park, New Haven, CT
- Treasurer: Joseph Swift – Highland Memorial Park, Johnston, RI
- Director: Todd Frederick – First Parish Cemetery, York, ME
- Director: James Holman – Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA
- Director: Gregory Howard – River Bend Cemetery, Westerly, RI
- Director: Maureen Crick Owen – Newtown Village Cemetery, Newtown, CT
- Past President Director: Patrick Healy – Green Mount Cemetery, Montpelier, VT
- Past President Director: Robbin Kelly – Town of Harwich, Harwich, MA
- Immediate Past President: David Boyle – Town of Chelmsford, Chelmsford, MA

119th NECA Annual Meeting & Conference Speaker Highlights:

Gary Freytag, President and Chief Executive Officer of Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum, Cincinnati, OH

Modern Cemetery Development: Gary brings extensive travel regarding Cemetery Development to the table for discussion. He will also share his cemetery's long term approach and common principles.

Rob Carroll, Technical Advisor, Technical Solutions LLC, Rockland, MA

Cybersecurity: A topic that we all need to understand and be prepared for- Come to learn more!

Wreaths Across America (Amber Caron)

Learn about the behind the scenes efforts it takes..

I am sure that we have all heard about this wonderful organization—

Stephen Chiavaroli, GIS Manager, Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA

Do you have GIS mapping at your cemetery? Come and get an update from one of our members

Visit the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery – Transportation provided

We all enjoy a tour! Sign up to attend and learn more about this important mission!

A Monumental Task: Roundtable Discussion, Granite Memorial Maintenance

Who doesn't enjoy a good Roundtable Discussion! Join the discussion!!

If there's a specific topic you'd like discussed, please email your suggestion to the New England Cemetery Association's email at neca1902@gmail.com.

2022 NECA ANNUAL MEETING FINANCIAL REPORT

NECA

Balance Sheet Dec 31, 2021

Current Assets

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash Checking | \$ 12,699.60 | |
| Investment Portfolio | 107,272.92 | |
| Inventory Logo Items | <u>215.32</u> | |
| Total Current Assets | | \$ 120,187.84 |

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| Property and Equipment | 0.00 |
| Total Property and Equipment | 0.00 |

Other Assets

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Prepaid Conference Expense | \$ 1995.00 | |
| Prepaid Seminar Expense | <u>400.00</u> | |
| Total Other Assets | | <u>2,395.00</u> |
| <u>Total Assets</u> | | \$ <u>122,582.84</u> |

Liabilities and Capital

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------------|
| Current Liabilities | _____ | |
| Total Current Liabilities | | <u>0.00</u> |
| Long Term Liabilities | _____ | |
| Total Long Term Liabilities | | <u>0.00</u> |

Capital

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Fund Balance | \$ 35,527.01 | |
| Adj to prior year | (1,206.00) | |
| Beginning Bal Equity | 2,417.93 | |
| Retained Earnings | 75,232.35 | |
| Equity Acct Family Services | 2,839.11 | |
| Net Income | <u>7,772.44</u> | |
| Total Capital | | \$ 122,582.84 |
| Total Liabilities and Capital | | <u>122,582.84</u> |

Unaudited—For Management Purposes Only

PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY TO MEET IN STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS JUNE 27th-JULY 2nd, 2022

PRESS RELEASE BY: Gregg D. Merksamer, PCS Publicity & Media Relations Chair;
(845) 986-6857 or merks62@warwick.net (cell # during meet week: 845-544-0085)

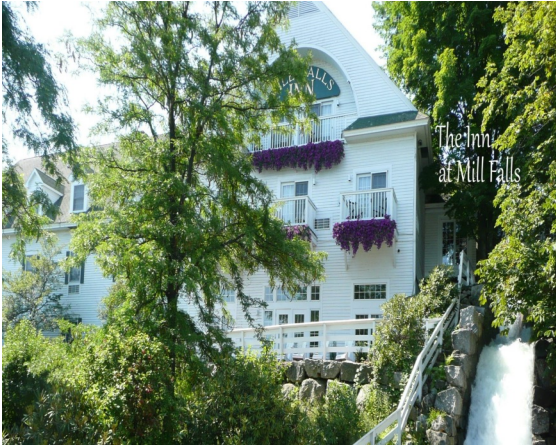
The **Professional Car Society** - founded in 1976 to encourage the old car hobby's interest in the authentic restoration and preservation of vintage funeral vehicles, ambulances and livery service limousines - will be staging its **45th International Meet** in **Sturbridge, Massachusetts** from **Monday, June 27th through Saturday, July 2nd, 2022**.

Club President Paul Steinberg is proud to note this will be the first time the PCS has staged its largest annual gathering in New England, so he expects funeral directors and emergency service personnel who have spent their careers working with "pro-cars" will turn out in force from all over the United States and Canada. The meet's headquarters will be The Publick House Historic Inn at 277 Main Street (Massachusetts Route 131), which has been welcoming travelers to Sturbridge since 1771 and promises ample attendee capacity through its affiliated Chamberlain House, Tillyer House and Country Motor Lodge properties at special pre-tax group rates starting at \$95 nightly (visit www.publickhouse.com or phone 508-347-3313 • 800-PUBLICK to explore room options).

Though the meet itinerary - downloadable as a PDF at <https://www.theprofessionalcarsociety.org/2022-international-meet.html> - also touts an Essex Steam Train ride and *BECKY THATCHER* Riverboat Cruise taking in such Connecticut River Valley landmarks as Gillette Castle and the Goodspeed Opera House, it will also offer New England's auto enthusiasts several opportunities to admire the hearses, flower cars, limousines, ambulances and hearse/ambulance "combinations" built by such renowned specialist concerns as Superior, Sayers & Scovill, Miller-Meteor, Eureka, Flxible and Henney. These will include a Thursday, June 30th open house at Parks Superior Sales of Somers, CT where coachbuilder representatives will be on hand to discuss their latest offerings; a dedicated PCS display at the tremendous Brimfield, MA Winery Cruise taking place Friday evening, July 1st; and the club's Saturday, July 2nd Concours at the Publick House headquarters hotel.

Area funeral homes and ambulance squads are, of course, invited to display their vintage professional cars at any or all of these events with the understanding that the PCS' constitution and judging rules expressly prohibit ghoulish displays of coffins, cobwebs and skeletons so the public's attention stays focused on the aesthetics and fine craftsmanship of the participating vehicles. Hearses and flower cars containing floral arrangements and ambulances fitting stretchers, resuscitators and other period-authentic rescue gear are permitted, while safety dictates every PCS show entrant must have a minimum 2.5-lb fire extinguisher and correctly placed wheel chocks. Saturday evening's awards banquet, meanwhile, will conclude the 2022 Sturbridge meet in traditional PCS fashion with an awe-inspiring ambulance beacon light show that locals surely won't forget. In the meantime PCS President and 2022 International Meet host Paul Steinberg hopes prospective attendees with questions will contact him at 860-928-6226, 860-928-2233 or professionalcarsociety@earthlink.net.





119th NECA Annual Meeting & Conference

June 20, 2022- June 23, 2022

Church Landing- 312 Daniel Webster Highway

Meredith, New Hampshire 03253

***Check out page 5 in the Newsletter to learn more
about our speakers***