

# The New Englander

2023 POST  
CONFERENCE EDITION

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE

## NEW ENGLAND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

**President**  
**Dave Boyle**  
Town of Chelmsford  
Chelmsford, MA.

*Honoring the Past*

*Serving the Present*

*Preparing for the Future*

[www.newenglandcemetery.org](http://www.newenglandcemetery.org)

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Treasurer  
Joseph Swift  
Highland Memorial Park  
Johnston, RI

Second Vice-President  
Maureen Crick-Owen  
Newtown Village Cemetery  
Newtown, CT.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My fellow NECA members, it has truly been an honor and pleasure to have served as your President during the past year. It was especially rewarding to direct two very successful in-person events, especially after the many months of isolation during the pandemic. It was a pleasure to see so many of you learning and sharing together.

I am very enthused that so many of you participated in the Annual Meeting and Conference for the very first time. It gives me assurance for a prosperous future for NECA.

I cannot thank the Board members enough for assisting me in shepherding the association forward. We are so lucky, as an organization, to have these very talented individuals who care so much about our association and our industry. I am certain that our future is bright.

In closing, there are too many people to thank individually in this short message, but as I continue to serve as Immediate Past President and continue to be active in NECA, I will be expressing my gratitude on a personal level.

Please join me in supporting David Boyle as he begins his term leading this fine organization.

Again, I thank all of you for your support over the past year.

Sincerely,

Kelly

Kelly Perry,

Immediate Past President





## New England Cemetery Association

### Elected Officers and Directors 2023

President: David Boyle, Chelmsford Cemeteries, Chelmsford, MA

First Vice President: Gregory Howard, River Bend Cemetery, Westerly, RI

Second Vice President: Maureen Crick Owen, Newtown Village Cemetery, Newtown, CT

Treasurer: Joseph Swift, Highland Memorial Park, Johnston, RI

Secretary: Dan Krueger, Beaverdale Memorial Park, New Haven, CT

Director: Mary Anne Hawthorne, Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford, CT (3 year term)

Director: David Raposa, Jr., Fall River Catholic Cemeteries, Fall River, MA (3 year term)

Continuing to serve will be –

Immediate Past President: Kelly Perry, Swan Point Cemetery, Providence, RI

Director: Pamela Brown, Hillside Cemetery, Wilton, CT (1 year)

Director: Annalisa Heppner, North Burial Ground, Providence, RI (1 year)

Past President Director: Robbin Kelley, Town of Harwich, Harwich, MA (1 year)

Past President Director: Patrick Healy, Green Mount Cemetery, Montpelier, VT (2 years)

The Nominating Committee consists of the 5 most recent Past Presidents still active:

Mary Anne Hawthorne (Chair); David Boyle, Jim Holman, Patrick Healy and Craig Cunningham.

Tour of the three historic cemeteries: Sleepy Hollow,  
Old Hill Burying Ground & South Burying Place







# NECA Business Meeting



The board of directors are working on the by-laws so as to benefit all members.

If you have any interest in serving on the board or have questions about the association, please contact them. [NECA1902@gmail.com](mailto:NECA1902@gmail.com)

Secretary Dan Krueger reported that this year there were twenty one first timers consisting of Twelve cemeterians and Nine suppliers

To all those that attended this conference, we hope that you found it worthwhile and you will return again next year.

See last page of this publication for information on the 2024 conference with Dave Boyle as our newly elected president.



President Kelly Perry with Scott Zolack (and the rings)

# NEW ENGLAND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

This conference consisted not only of tours and a guest speaker, but educational programs as well, along with supplier demonstrations.

## Speakers:

**Karin Sprague** has her own business (Karin Sprague stone carvers) that specializes in unique and personalized memorials spoke about “Grave Mistakes”

**Robert Gubala, PhD.** Serves as family counselor & proprietor relations at Swan Point Cemetery: —Spoke on “Sensitive, Sympathetic Selling during times of Sorrow & Sadness”

**Micah Truman** of Return Home in Auburn, WA. Had a presentation entitled “The Dirt on Natural Organic Reduction

**Mary Ann Buras** of Newton Cemetery and **Garrett Curtiss**—(Douglas Curtiss Landscape Contractor) reported on Newton Cemetery & Arboretum Knoll Development project.





# NETWORKING





**HAWTHORNE HOTEL**  
EST. 1925 in Salem, Massachusetts



***Save the Date***

***June 17 – 18<sup>th</sup> 2024***

***New England Cemetery Association***

***121st Annual Meeting & Conference***

***[www.newenglandcemetery.org](http://www.newenglandcemetery.org)***