



West Neck Cemetery Association Newsletter – April 2010



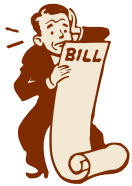
Annual Meeting Date



Mark your calendar: the Annual Meeting of the West Neck Cemetery Association (WNCA) is scheduled for **Sunday, April 25th, 2010 at 4:30 PM** at the Meeting House behind the Seventh Day Baptist Church at 206 Great Neck Road. Your attendance and insights are invited and will be greatly appreciated.

Association Officers, 2009-2010

Kristen Widham – President
Stephen Percy – Vice-President
John Morgan – Secretary/Treasurer/Sexton
David Tracy – Caretaker/Sexton
Francis Fetrow – President Emeritus;
Funeral Home Liaison Officer



Still Concerning Times – Financially

The past year continued to be “slow-rebound” times financially for WNCA. The interest we earn on our perpetual funds has continued to be very low, and we are always at risk of drawing down on some of the principal held in CDs for annual care. Fortunately, though some of our principal has been in holdings that took a 10-15% hit during the worst of the crisis, the key culprits have been trending upward again. As always, every donation to our perpetual fund is a greatly appreciated help in meeting necessary annual maintenance and beautification expenses while increasing the prospect of “growing” the Fund for improvements. Make your check payable to “*West Neck Cemetery Association*” and remember it is tax deductible. No donation is too small, or large!

The O’Brien Property Update

The 55’ strip of land to the east of the cemetery donated by the developer of the O’Brien property continues to be a subject of discussion. We purchased two granite corner markers to ensure there will be no unintentional encroachment. We also will be contacting the developers to let them know they can deposit any foundation dirt behind the wall in order to build it up to the level of the cemetery. While there are no plans to expand the cemetery proper in the foreseeable future, we are just grateful that this “buffer” is now “ours.”

Unused Burial Plots / New Purchases

Do you have or know of any burial plots available for re-sale to the WNCA? Or do you know of anyone who is interested in acquiring a burial plot? Call or email John Morgan now!

Abandoned Burial Plots

We continue with our initiative to inventory abandoned plots that will be reacquired by the WNCA for purchase. These plots will be reacquired by the WNCA according to guidelines that meet or exceed state statutory requirements.

Interesting Research Discoveries

In following the website’s genealogical links for some of the original plot owners, the Rogers family connections have shed light on three 18th century brothers, **Jonathan, Nathan, and David Rogers**, their forebears and descendants. These brothers represent the fourth generation living here and the first generation interred in the Old Rogers Cemetery; some of their descendants were “removed” to West Neck Cemetery. Their Great Neck Rogers forebears are buried ???

David’s grandson David (lot 65) was a deacon at the Seventh Day Baptist Church who, along with Oliver Maxson (lot 44), sold the cemetery its original acre and helped found the Association. He also left land for the current Seventh Day Baptist Church so long as it remains used by the Church. His son David (lot 61) supervised the construction of the existing cemetery wall, and his daughter Charlotte married Thomas Greenman of Mystic; they purchased lot 62, but used Mystic’s Elm Grove Cemetery instead. One of Charlotte’s four granddaughters was Mary (Stillman) Harkness, who, with her husband, Edward, returned Goshen Point to Rogers-line family ownership—it is now enjoyed by all as Harkness State park! The Harknesses commissioned the Greenman Chapel at Elm Grove in memory of Great Neck native Charlotte. And Mary made a generous donation in 1927 for upkeep of the “David Rogers Lot.” Who knew?

A lot to digest – and reason to discuss “reconnecting” with the Old Rogers cemetery by considering historical plaques for both cemeteries. Come to the meeting for more!

Cemetery Rules



The WNCA maintains a strict set of rules on size, height, and width of memorials and markers. These rules also spell out the limits of use of both burial and cremation plots. The rules can be found on the website, www.WestNeckCemetery.com. Or you can contact John for a printed copy.

Cemetery Care



Don Dimmock continues as the primary grounds keeper. His reverent attention to keeping the cemetery a well-tended place of remembrance is greatly appreciated. (Last spring he was even tipped by a grateful plot owner!) Thanks!

Thanks for the Help



Thanks to the many members who gave generously to our appeal for financial help this past spring. It is a comfort to know the investments are relatively stable, but even more heartening is the ongoing support of our steadfast friends.



West Neck Cemetery Association Newsletter – April 2010



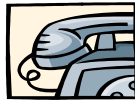
Annual Meeting Announcement: Spread the Word!

Sunday, April 25th, 2010 at 4:30 PM
The Seventh Day Baptist Church
206 Great Neck Road
Waterford, CT 06385

The meeting will be in the little meetinghouse behind the church.

There will also be a pre- and post-meeting look-around for maintenance ideas.

If interested, meet at 4:00 in the cemetery, or go as a group after the meeting adjourns.

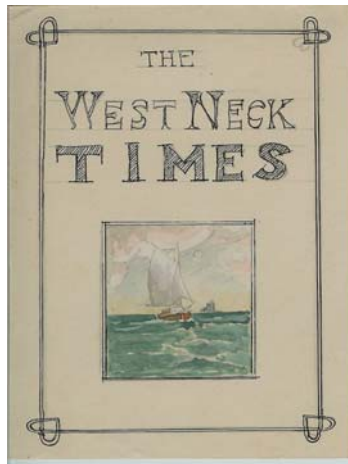


How do you get in touch with the Association?

Any questions or concerns can be directed to John Morgan at (860) 447-1926 or email: main@westneckcemetery.com
If you RSVP to the email above, we can be sure to bring enough donuts!

CREMATION PLOTS - Cremation plots are still available along the front wall of the cemetery for \$250, though a price increase is likely within the next 24 months. They can also be used for flat memorial stones inscribed for loved ones interred elsewhere or unmarked.

WEBSITE – If you have internet access, you can get a cemetery map, cemetery rules, genealogical links, and more at www.WestNeckCemetery.com



Art by Burtus A. Brooks (1853-1935—Lot 74)

**YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS WOULD
HAVE BEEN SOMEWHERE AROUND
HERE!**

But this year, like last, it was easier to use an envelope than go tri-fold and let the USPS crumple our mailers.

PLEASE write, email, or call-in changes to your name and/or address: we will WORK HARD to ensure they take effect immediately!

Also, please respond by any method to let us know which plot(s) and stone(s) are in your family or under your control: this will help us keep track of active versus abandoned graves as well as being able to notify you of any grave or stone that needs personal attention.

West Neck Cemetery Association
c/o John R. Morgan, secretary/treasurer/sexton
P. O. Box 231
Waterford, Conn. 06385
www.WestNeckCemetery.com
main@WestNeckCemetery.com

Over, please →