

## **BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, VOLUNTEERS**

- We lost another valued member of our Board of Directors. Bill Hamilton passed away in August 2022. He joined our Board after his retirement as our arborist.
- As always, we welcome new DCA volunteers to the Board. Call the office at 203-748-8529 if you have an interest in serving on the Board or volunteering in any capacity.

## **GROUNDS IMPROVEMENT:**

- OFFICE: The front entrance got an awning to help protect the refinished door and provide some shelter for visitors. The windows were rebuilt using the original diamond-shaped glass panes and new, custom-made interior storm windows were purchased. This resulted in a far less drafty and more energy efficient building.
- Three columbaria for cremations have been installed. Two are at the north and south edges of the Scattering Garden, giving it a more defined presence. The third columbarium was installed near the Grandview Mausoleum near the pond.
- A new sign with the Rules and Regulations was placed at the entrance near the office.
- We were able to pave some roads that become very muddy and/or puddles every time it rains and in winter. These are roads in sections 2, H, AND P.

A granite marker was installed at the entrance to the Green Burial Section.

## **WEBSITE:**

- Full updating of our website has been put on hold, but Nick, our webmaster, has come up with some beautiful ideas to make our site more informative.
- Owners (old and new) are encouraged to read 'Rules & Regulations' especially as they apply to any proposal for adding, removing, changing any fixture, marker and/or grounds area in the cemetery.

## **VETERANS:**

- Placing of flags Memorial Day has been done by the Danbury Council of Veterans. We continue to make flags available to those who wished to place one on their loved one's grave. These flags are donated to us by the Danbury Council of Veterans.

## **LANDSCAPING:**

- We continue to receive compliments on the work of our landscaper, Berto's Landscaping. Berto has been our landscaper for over 12 years. He and his crew do a fabulous job of keeping our almost 100 acres mowed throughout the year. In addition, Berto does fall and spring clean-ups all over the property (leaves, weeds, branches) and keeps the roads clear in the winter.

## **SEXTON REPORT:**

- For the year ending March 31, 2021, we had 84 casket burials and 51 cremation burials. For the year ending March 31, 2022, we had 72 casket burials and 63 cremation burials.

- We have uploaded our documented burials to findagrave.com, a free resource for locating burials. There, you can also find listings for burials before 1885, which is when our records begin. We had a volunteer come to us offering to photograph all the existing gravestones in the cemetery. The photographing is almost complete.

## **FUTURE PROJECTS:**

- More road repairs and upgrades are in-progress. Depending on the condition of current roadways in various selected sections and degree of improvements needed tamped gravel, milling or paving with asphalt will be done throughout 2023 AND 2024.

- Additional clean-up and landscaping around the office is in-progress to enhance the view.

- Continued tree maintenance: this is an ongoing process, as many of our trees are well in excess of 150 years old. Many of the pine trees were brought here in the 1850's from Maine. Six trees will be cut down this year as they are in poor condition and pose potential hazards.

- National Registry of Historic Places application: This project was put on hold as it is a long, involved process. Volunteers are needed on this project.

- Continuing efforts to map the cemetery have been spearheaded by Norma. This involves many hours of determining occupied and available plots and transferring information from many old handwritten cards.

- I-84 Danbury (CT DOT) Project to improve roadway from Exits 2-8 has formed a Project Action Committee. Gary Boughton currently sits on the PAC as Wooster Cemetery is one of many organizations/properties that could contribute ideas. Project is long-term with completion slated for 2040.

- Financial Report is available at the office. Please call ahead if you have an interest to review it.