

West Neck Cemetery Association Newsletter – May 2011



Annual Meeting Date



Mark your calendar: the Annual Meeting of the West Neck Cemetery Association (WNCA) is scheduled for **Sunday, May 22nd, 2011 at 4:00 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, 2010-2011

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 “Break-Even” Times

The past year continued to be “close-to-the-bone” 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. Further, our annual donations last year fell well behind usual levels. 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, too large, or too late: bequests have been an important way some of our donors have remembered us.

Thank you, Bob Nauta!

The 55’ strip of land to the east of the cemetery donated by Robert Nauta, the developer of the O’Brien property, continues to be a subject of discussion. David Tracy placed two tall granite corner markers this year, and we are discussing brush clearance, especially along the wall. While there are still no plans to expand the cemetery proper in the foreseeable future, we are grateful to Bob Nauta for being such a good neighbor by deeding us this buffer/expansion zone. Thanks. Bob!

Unused Burial Plots / New Purchases

Do you have or know of any burial plots available for re-sale to the WNCA? While WNCA has no burial plots for purchase right now, there are over 100 3’x3’ plots available for cremains and/or flat memorials. Contact John Morgan for details.

Abandoned Burial Plots

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

Inventory Project: Current Data

We are hopeful that our ongoing research into plot-usage will allow us to reclaim for resale some of the long-abandoned full-burial sites within the next few years. We will make this information known both on the Website and through USPS mail notifications. Please let us know if you would like to be put on the waiting list for plots; we will make special efforts to notify those on the list immediately.

Below are current inventory numbers, all of which are subject to changes/corrections as the Project progresses.

Cemetery Tallies: Current Summary

- 488 deceased individuals are in the Records
- 427 are known casket burials, of which
 - 42 are in family plots but unmarked
 - 10 more are both unlocated and unmarked
- 47 are cremation interments
- 14 are memorial-only markers

Veteran Information: 48 known service members

- War of 1812: 4
- Civil War: 9
- Spanish American War: 1
- WWI: 3
- WWII: 24
- Korea/Korean-era: 3
- Vietnam: 2
- General service: 2

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 for quiet remembrance is greatly appreciated. (Last spring he was even tipped again 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 our investments are relatively stable, but even more heartening is the ongoing support of our steadfast friends.





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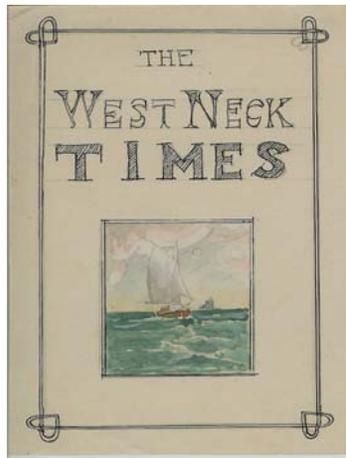
Annual Meeting Announcement: Spread the Word!

Sunday, May 22nd, 2011 at 4:00 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 3:30 in the cemetery, or go as a group after the meeting adjourns.



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

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



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 for the annual meeting to the email above, we will bring enough donuts!

CREMATION PLOTS

Cremation plots (3' x 3') are still available along the front wall of the cemetery for \$250, though a price increase is likely within the next few 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

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.

Over, please →