

Hope Cemetery & Woods

Summer 2022 Newsletter

Volume VIII, Issue 2

From The Presidents of the Boards...

As usual, summer is a busy time for Hope Cemetery. In addition to burials and regular landscaping maintenance, road repair work is underway. We ask those traveling to the Hope Woods trailhead or visiting gravesites to be patient with any necessary detours or parking restrictions.

Use of the trails in Hope Woods is increasing, both with “regulars” and new visitors. Monthly guided walks are scheduled through November (see page 3 for a listing). A new bridge has been installed on the Accessible Trail in a low, wet spot. Regular trail maintenance is ongoing.

Our goal to manage the invasive species in Hope Woods started this spring with the removal of the Norway Maple trees. The “Mother Tree” was felled by a professional tree service, but the rest of the smaller trees and seedlings have been removed by Board members and volunteers. Many thanks to all who provided their time and effort to this project.

The lane going through the cemetery and out to the trailhead is now officially named “Hope Trail Lane” with a new street sign in place. Also, a new crosswalk has been installed from the corner of Mechanic Street across Fletcher Street to the entrance to the cemetery and Hope Woods. A sincere “Thank You” to our town officials for making these things happen.

Over the 232 years since the first burial, Hope Cemetery has expanded from the original Old Church Yard to Divisions I and II, Sections A, B, and C, and Hillside to include over 6,000 burials. During the last two years, a committee representing the Boards of Directors of both Hope Cemetery and Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods met frequently to develop a Master Plan with the ultimate goal of increasing the Cemetery's capacity for burials with enough sites to last at least another 75 years. A Long Range Action Plan was then developed. Read more about this in the article on page 2.

Please come visit and enjoy the beauty of Hope Cemetery & Woods!

George C. Harrington, President, Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods

Betsy T. Stevens, President, Hope Cemetery Corporation

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Board of Directors:

George C. Harrington, President Gordon Collins, Vice President Patsy Hemeon, Secretary Tom Dobens, Treasurer Jay Bartner, Pam Eagleson, Tom Kasprzak, Steve Mahler, Cheryl Price

Future Growth of Hope Cemetery

Of the 102 acres of land owned by the cemetery, 72 are permanently preserved and accessible to the public as Hope Woods under a Conservation Easement held by Kennebunk Land Trust and managed by Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods. The remaining 30 acres has been set aside for use as burial sites.

During the last two years, the Long Range Planning Committee worked with consultant Bill Walsh of Walsh Engineering to develop a Master Plan with the ultimate goal of increasing the Cemetery's capacity for burials with enough sites to last at least another 75 years.

Using the Master Plan, the Committee made a Long Range Action Plan. Topics addressed include infrastructure issues and development of new areas for full burials and burials of cremains. The emphasis is on maintaining the rural garden-style cemetery that is apparent in the older part of the cemetery and is so appealing to family and friends visiting the cemetery. Updates on decisions being made will be shared in the next newsletter.

Cemetery Road Work and Traffic Flow



The road that connects Barnard Lane with the Hope Woods parking area now has a name—Hope Trail Lane was approved by the Town of Kennebunk this spring. Hope Trail Lane and other cemetery roads will be undergoing repairs over the summer months. Please be patient if traffic is being rerouted to avoid work areas.

When traveling the narrow roads in the cemetery please follow directional signs and be aware that it might not be possible to park directly next to a loved one's grave site. Please don't pull off the roads—you'll be driving over gravesites!

An important reminder about grave sites: Please review the Rules & Regulations regarding items allowed. Rules & Regs are available on our website and at the cemetery office. Know that these rules are in place to allow our small staff to safely and efficiently maintain the grounds.

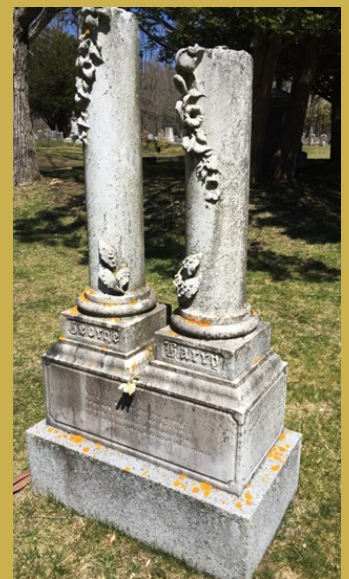
Did You Know...

Tombstones tell stories through a distinct genre of symbolism and iconography.

One example is the joint tombstone of George (1864-1877) and Harry Moody (1867-1877), young sons of Capt. Horatio and Mary Moody, who were washed overboard during a storm and never found. Their tombstone portraying broken columns symbolizes a life cut short.

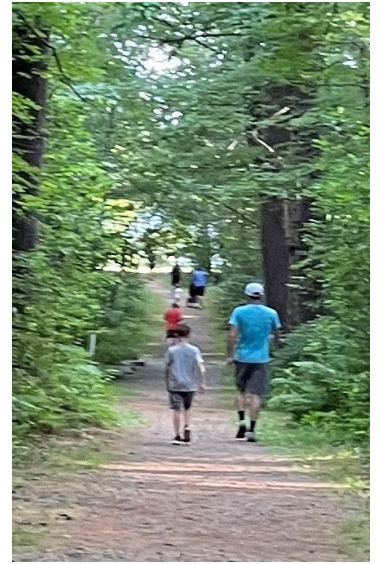
Their epitaph reads: *Not here they be, but far away
Beneath the blue Pacific wave.
As near to Heaven in distant seas
As if at home they'd found their grave*

This tombstone is actually a cenotaph – a marker erected in memory of someone whose remains are elsewhere.



Hope Cemetery & Woods Host Library 5k

The 25th Edition of the Kennebunk Free Library 5k fundraiser featured a new course, which included Hope Cemetery & Woods. The course entered Hope Woods at the Black Trail on Woodhaven Drive, continued onto the Accessible Trail out past the entrance kiosk, through the cemetery to the Yellow Trail and onto Fletcher Street.



Seashore
Trolley
Museum

Ice Cream Night at Seashore Trolley Museum

Join us on Wednesday, August 3rd from 5:30 to 7:30 PM for Ice Cream Night at the Seashore Trolley Museum. For \$10, take an evening ride on an antique trolley and enjoy an ice cream sundae in their Visitor's Center afterward. Half of the proceeds that night will benefit Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods! Purchase tickets through the event listing at <https://trolley museum.org>.

Emergency Response Locations in Hope Woods

In cooperation with Kennebunk Fire-Rescue, our Stewardship Committee has designated Emergency Response Locations (ERL) along all the trails in Hope Woods. Each of these locations will be identified with a numbered red disk on sign posts throughout the Woods.

In the event that someone needs emergency assistance, a 911 phone call stating the number of the nearest Emergency Response Location will bring help quickly. Revised signage, disks and trail maps are in the works and will be available in the near future.

Crosswalk on Fletcher Street

The Fletcher Street entrance to Hope Cemetery and Woods has become safer, thanks to the installation of a crosswalk.

Thank you to our Town of Kennebunk officials for making this happen!



Guided Walks in Hope Woods

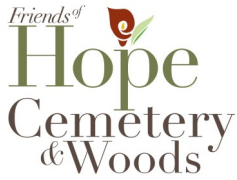
Guided walks are scheduled monthly with Maine Master Naturalist Gordon Collins. Sign up by emailing us at friendsofhcw@gmail.com

SATURDAY, August 20th 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, September 25th 1:00 PM

SATURDAY, October 22nd 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, November 20th 1:00 PM



PO Box 1550
Kennebunk, ME 04043

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Donations Received

We offer our sincere thanks to the following generous donors for gifts received since the publication of our last newsletter:

Roger and Marilyn Anderson
Jay Bartner and Claire Doheny
Peter and Peg Brewitt
Jim Cummings
Judith Fletcher
Linda Harper and Noel Smith
George C. Harrington and Diantha C. Harrington
Priscilla Kenney
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Laura Vittorioso

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James Dowe
James Clayton Ney
Henry S. Perkins & Suzanne C. Perkins
Annette Scribner
Frances W. Shaw, Edna Warner,
Norman Merrow, & George H. Walker III

*Thank
You!*