



Vermont Old Cemetery Association Founded by Prof Leon Dean (1899-1982) Oct 18th 1958

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Fall 2014

The fall season is almost over. I can tell because I have mulched the last of the leaves in my yard and the unofficial Vermont holiday, deer season, is now upon us. We have had many inquiries on grants this year. How exciting! Hopefully, this trend will continue for 2015 and beyond.

If you are planning on a cemetery project in the coming year, now is the time for you and your organization make a plan and work on the funding you may need. Line up your volunteers and decide what you can accomplish with the time allotted in Vermont's short summer. When I was appointed Cemetery Commissioner for Rutland, my plan for the first season was to see what needed to be done: finding abandoned stones and removing brush and other debris from the cemeteries. The following year we had the city fix fences and hired a Vermont Department of Corrections work crew to mow and do other general maintenance. We also lined up volunteers from the Castleton State College Football Team to paint a retaining wall and straighten monuments.

The city commissioners now have an on-going program with the Rutland Middle School for two days of work in the cemeteries each June. We also have other volunteers and schools who are willing to help out when needed. The commissioners are now in the process of repairing many stones that have been damaged over the years. Because of the efforts of volunteers and the tenacity of some VOCA members, two abandoned cemeteries in the city (Poor Farm and House of Corrections) have been rediscovered and restored.

There is still much work to be done statewide, but having a plan, which includes the community schools and local volunteers, will help your restoration project be successful. I would also suggest members visit the Vermont Secretary of State web site and read the publication, *Digging Deep*, which has the information on what Vermont municipalities are legally responsible for in their respective cemeteries. The information comes in very handy on Town Meeting Day.

We are attempting to develop an email mailing list of members. Only 10% organization's membership nearly 700 members have emails listed. If you'd like to be added to the email mailing list, send an email to tomledoux.civilwar@gmail.com and let him know. If you would prefer receiving the newsletter via email instead snail mail, please inform Tom at his email address. This will allow VOCA to save on mailing costs. Please check out the VOCA web site (voqa58.org). Barry Trutor and Tom Ledoux continue to improve and expand the site. We are most fortunate to have such knowledgeable volunteers maintaining it. Thanks to all

the VOCA members that have recently volunteered to be fill vacant footstone and county representative positions. It is appreciated!

The spring meeting information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter and on the VOCA web site once everything is finalized. If you have agenda items for the spring meeting or questions regarding VOCA, I can be reached at tgifvt@msn.com or (802) 773-3253.

Best wishes to all VOCA members for a happy and healthy holiday and winter season.

Tom Giffin
VOCA President

VOCA 2014 Fund campaign Donation list

Anonymous – 1
Lois A. Bailey
Cherry Fletcher Bamberg
Edward Blake & Mary Murphy-Blake
June Bleiwise
Josephine C. Blue
Betty (Whitney) Bolognani
Harold & Lynn Book
Mr. James Bulmer
John Carpenter
Emma Chaplin
Nelson Claflin
Robert E. Clairmont
James Cutler
Nancy Cobb
Dot Cole
Lisa Cook
Melanie Dante
Anne B. Donahue
Susan Donnelly
Sandra H. Dowley
Jean Eisenhart
Richard C. Elwell
Jane Ewing
Joy P. Favretti
Laurel K. Gabel
Clifford and Shirley Giffin
Sally Gore
Mr. & Mrs. Prescott Greene
Mary Lu Hatstat
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Hirschfeld
Mona Hoadley

Lew & Jerri Hoffman
Dolores Horn
Larry & Eva Hosford
Dick Howrigan
Ralph & Shirley Howes
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Lynnville Jarvis
Jewish Community Foundation
Barbara M. Jones
Marcelyn Karagosian
Norton David Kennedy
Frank & Ann Lackey
Dianne Leary
Terry MaCaig
Rosemary Morancy
Richard Morrell
Nancy P. Noble
Terry and Jean O'Neill
Sylvia N. Ploof
Ellery R. Purdy
Raymond & Carol Richards
Elsie B. Riddel
Robert L. Rowe
Raymond & Carol Richards
Haig H. Sergenian
Donald & Phyllis Simons
Frances Stiles
David Thomas
Mr. Heinz Trebitz
Barry J. & Kathyne Trutor
Frank Wilbur

Thank you to everyone who donated!!!

Meach Island Cemetery

Thanks to Courtney Doyle for this information.



The Meach Island Cemetery is located on Meach Island, in Meach Cove of Shelburne, Vermont. The coordinates for the cemetery are: 44 21' 37.2" N, 73 16' 27.5" W.

Meach Island is privately owned by the Waite Farm Associates LLC, according to the Shelburne Assessor's 2014 Grand List. The island is posted with two "No Trespassing" signs that are visible from the main land (290 Meach Island Road).

Access to the island is by two ways: by water or by a stone walkway (when water is not too high) from the main land at 290 Meach Island Road. The island is extremely steep on all sides, with the best route of access from the walkway from the main land.

The cemetery is located at the northern tip of the island. The island is covered with trees, such as cedars and oaks, and the cemetery is shaded and protected from the elements by the tree coverage.

VOCA Memorial Page 2014

IN MEMORY OF

Richard Holmes Bailey by Lois A. Bailey
Jack and Myn Bleiwise by June Bleiwise
The Bullocks of Guilford, VT by Barbara M. Jones
Roswell Chaplin by Emma Chaplin
Cynthia Clement by Cameron Family
Bertram Cohn by Art Cohn
Submit Cushman by Cherry Fletcher Bamberg
My Dad by Mary Murphy
Leon Dean by Francis Stiles
Prof. Leon Dean by Betty (Whitney) Bolognani (my beloved UVM Prof. Leon Dean 1947/48)
John C. Donahue Sr. by Anne B. Donahue
Richard B. Dowley by Sandra H. Dowley
Andie Goodman by Melanie Dante (who enjoyed photographing Vermont cemeteries with me)
Peter B. Gore by Sally Gore
Irene Griffiths by Nancy Cobb
Darwin R. Hoadley by Mona Hoadley
Malia Dean Honnold by Dianne Leary (the best aunt anyone could ever have)
Kathleen Howrigan by Dick Howrigan
Arthur L. Hyde by Frances P. Hyde
Freelove Johnson 1879-1898 by Dolores Horn
John H. Kauffman by Jean Eisenhart
Joan Macaig by Terry MaCaig
Robert Ploof by Sylvia Ploof
Katharine A. Purdy by Ellery R. Purdy
Marion Franklin Roland by Dot Cole
Elizabeth J. Smith by Susan Donnelly

Dianne Leary writes:

I have news to report to everyone. West Bridgewater just completed their grant project, They will be sending the paperwork soon. Sharon Selectboard decided not to do their project this year. One grant not claimed when others out there wanted them.

My husband went down to the huge metropolis of Ira on the 11th and did a full day training work shop. Now there are more folks out there who have the knowledge on how to straighten stones.

VOCA at work doing our thing is a good thing indeed.

All the best to everyone. Stay warm and dry.

Dianne

Footstones

As provided by the VOCA Bylaws, [Article VI-ASSISTANTS TO BOARD, Section 1](#): A panel of six members shall be appointed by the executive board, shall be invited to board meetings as a part of their duties, and may vote with the executive board.

2015	Wesley Mowry	P O Box 297, Hartland, VT, 05048	802-436-3383
2015	Richard Howrigan	P O Box 16, Fairfield Vt, 05455	802-827-6513
2016	Ruth Barton	P O Box 309, Putney, Vt, 05301	802-254-1128
2016	Vacant		
2017	Nicole Vecchi	318 Rt 5 South Norwich, VT 05055	802-649-7117
2017	Clayton Trutor	31 Matthew Avenue, Burlington, VT 05408	802-658-3273

Methodist Cemetery Bloomfield, VT Progress Report: July 2014

On January 7, 2013 a most unfortunate accident occurred in the town of Bloomfield, Vermont, a tiny town nestled in the northeast corner of Vermont with its eastern border the lovely Connecticut River. A driver having fallen asleep at the wheel, drove off the road, crashed through the Methodist Cemetery fence, and sadly, struck several gravestones in the cemetery on Route 102.

In March of this year, Wendy Covill was elected as the new Town Clerk. In April, the Selectboard asked Wendy if she would take on the task of getting the stone and fence repairs done. Wendy promptly got estimates for the stone repairs, contacted VOCA for grant help and advice, and is working on fence estimates.

A suggestion was made to replace the broken stones with flat stones containing just the names and dates of the individuals interred. However Wendy is planning that the original design, shape, epitaphs, and personal information is all going to be preserved as much as possible on the replacement stones.

The original old fence is a chain link type. Wendy would like to upgrade the fence style to one more respectful of the occupants of the cemetery. She would like things done right and for the long haul. As her son said, “A chain link fence makes it look like a playground for Zombies”. She has an estimate for aluminum fencing that looks like wrought iron and hopes to be able to convince the Selectboard of the merits.

Stay tuned for an update on the progress and final outcome of this VOCA sponsored project. If you ever find yourself in Bloomfield, Vermont stop in and say hello to a whirlwind of a Town Clerk, Wendy Covill.

Dianne Leary
VOCA 1st VP & Grants Administrator



VOCA County Representatives (These are people who will come help you with your VOCA grant application.)

ADDISON	Diane Leary	802-881-2754	Dleary123@yahoo.com
BENNINGTON	Jean Kosche	802-447-2241	
CALEDONIA	Vacant		
CHITTENDEN	Robert Hooper	802-862-0708	hooper9999@aol.com
ESSEX	Richard Colburn	802-723-4833	
FRANKLIN	Edmund Wilcox	802-524-3318	
GRAND ISLE	Clayton Trutor	802-658-3273	ctrutor@gmail.com
LAMOILLE	Deanna French	802-522-2050	deannafrench41@gmail.com
ORANGE	David Phillips	603-252-7363	davephillips61@gmail.com
ORLEANS	Wanda Webster	802-525-3550	
RUTLAND	Cliff Giffin	802-773-3743	skipabc@gmail.com
WASHINGTON	Nicole Vecchi	802-649-7117	nsvecchi@yahoo.com
WINDHAM	Charles Marchant	802-365-7937	cemassoc@svcable.net
WINDSOR	Ken Barrett	802-875-2941	

Robert Hooper
3 Grey Meadow Drive
Burlington, VT 05408

Thomas Giffin, President

Dianne Leary, 1st VP & Grants Administrator

Robert Hooper, Assistant Grants Administrator,
Membership & Assistant Newsletter Editor
Chris Book, Treasurer

Whit Mowrey, Asst. Treasurer

Charles E. Marchant, Secretary

Edmund Wilson, Executive Board

Bill Wiles, Newsletter Editor

Barry Trutor
Tom Ledoux
VOCA Website

2013-2014 Headstones

61 East Washington St.
Rutland VT, 05701

4670 Greenbush Rd.
Charlotte, VT 05445

3 Grey Meadow Drive
Burlington, VT 05408

44 North Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701

P O Box 297
Hartland VT 05048

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WEBSITE

Webmaster
Cemetery Database Administrator

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www.voca58.org

