

# Hope Cemetery & Woods

Winter 2021 Newsletter

Volume VII, Issue 1

## From The Presidents of the Boards...

The seasonal changes from winter to spring are enthusiastically welcomed by those who enjoy exploring Hope Cemetery and adventuring in Hope Woods. If you have not yet walked the new Universally Accessible Trail in the Woods, plan a walk this spring. This trail has come through the winter in excellent condition. We are pleased to see how well it is being used by walkers, bikers, snowshoers and skiers. As the pandemic rules allow, guided tours of the Woods will be offered in the coming months. Please check our Facebook page, our website, and local papers for information.

If you have not yet meandered through Hope Cemetery consider taking some time to walk through and read the gravestones of early Kennebunkers. Try to find people who were born in 1820, the year Maine became a state. The Old Church Yard next to the First Parish Church features interesting gravestones and epitaphs. See if you can locate some stones for people whose names appear on town street signs.

Although Hope Cemetery is over 230 years old, no master plan for the future has been located in the archives. The current Board of Directors sees the need to create a Long Range Plan for Hope Cemetery. Currently over 70% of deaths in Maine result in cremation. We are trying to answer questions as to how to best serve the people. Some of the issues under consideration are the potential addition of urn gardens and columbaria, the continuation of maintaining the beauty of the garden-style landscape architecture as we expand areas available for burials, the installation of benches in key spots, and how to ease the traffic congestion and increase the efficiency of traffic flow on cemetery roads. If you have suggestions, please contact us at the Hope Cemetery email address ([hopecemetery@yahoo.com](mailto:hopecemetery@yahoo.com)).

We look forward to seeing many of you visiting the Cemetery or on a guided tour of Hope Woods in the near future.

Be well.

Betsy T. Stevens, President, Hope Cemetery Corporation

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

### Hope Cemetery Corporation, Barnard Lane, PO Box 211, Kennebunk, ME 04043

**Email:** [hopecemetery@yahoo.com](mailto:hopecemetery@yahoo.com)

**Phone:** 207-985-7846

**Website:** [www.hopecemeterykennebunk.com](http://www.hopecemeterykennebunk.com)

**Superintendent:** Thomas Litchfield

#### Board of Directors:

Betsy T. Stevens, President   George C. Harrington, Vice President   Gail Preble, Secretary   Tom Dobens, Treasurer  
Rick Dempsey, Pam Eagleson, Tom Kasprzak, Betsy MacDonald, Louise Spang

### Hope Cemetery & Woods, PO Box 1550, Kennebunk, ME 04043

**Email:** [friendsofhow@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhow@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.hopecemeterykennebunk.com](http://www.hopecemeterykennebunk.com)

#### 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

## Cemetery Road and Tree Work Will Continue

With financial help from Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods, road work and tree work started last fall will resume this spring. Our aging roads need grading and our ancient sentinel trees need cabling and trimming. Locally produced simple gates to all three entrances will be installed.



Be aware that travel routes through the Cemetery may vary due to road work, tree work, memorial funeral services, and visitors parking near their family's gravesites. We ask people to observe any directional signage that may be placed temporarily. Also, unless you have mobility limitations, please consider parking your car and walking to the gravesite. Access from Barnard Lane to the Hope Woods parking and trailhead may require Hope Woods visitors to detour around parts of the cemetery.

## Water Access



Access to water for use in the cemetery will continue to be via filling containers from the faucet and hose at the main building and from a large water tank stationed out in the cemetery towards the Hillside section. Look for a directional sign. To replace the decrepit, extremely old waterpipe system would require the very expensive, labor intensive work of tearing up cemetery roads, which could also be destructive to existing structures.

## Rules and Regulations

Cemetery deed holders, we ask that you review the Rules and Regulations that are available on our website (Services page) and also can be found in a mailbox next to our small office building. If you have any questions, especially about plantings, please email or call our Superintendent Tom Litchfield (hopecemetery@yahoo.com or 207-985-7846).

## Did You Know...

*The Christogram IHS atop the Corning/Bassett tombstone is a monogram symbolizing Jesus Christ. From Greek it is an abbreviation of the name ΙΗΣΟΥΣ (Jesus). In Eastern Orthodox Church the Christogram is composed with letters X, P, I and X arranged into the cross. There are many different interpretations of the meaning, however all agree that it essentially stands for the name of Jesus Christ.*

*The most common translation is that it stands for the first three letters of Jesus Christ's name in Greek, iota eta sigma. When capitalised, the word eta appears as 'H'.*

*IHS can stand for the Latin phrase Iesus Hominum Salvator, or Jesus saviour of mankind.*

*It can also be traced back to an 8th century Latin phrase dn ihs chs rex regnantium which translates to "Jesus Christ is king of kings". In this instance, IHS simply stands for Jesus, spelled in the Latin as Ihesus.*

*Some research says it stood for In His Service or In His Steps.*



From: <https://cemeterysymbolism.wordpress.com/2012/12/03/ihs/> ;

### Universally Accessible Trail Installation Complete!

Caribou Recreation Development finished the installation of the Universally Accessible Trail (UAT) in late Fall 2020. We appreciate their professionalism and high quality work. While we are not able to have the grand public opening we would prefer, we will have a limited celebration which we plan to record and share on our Facebook page. If you live in town, or nearby, or are planning to visit, please come and enjoy this new beautiful addition to our town!

#### What Makes it Universally Accessible?

We all know that the purpose of a Universally Accessible Trail is to allow easy access for those with mobility issues, but how is that achieved? Here are a few of the specifications that must be met:

- Minimum 3 feet wide ("clear tread width")
- 12" shoulder on each side
- Generally less than 5% slope
- Firm and stable surface



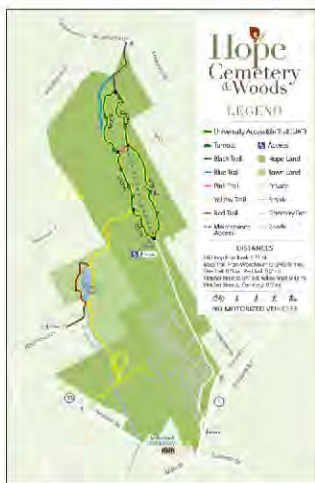
#### Perfect Timing

As work on the new trail was starting to wrap up, it was discovered that the Woodhaven entrance trail needed to be relocated. Fortunately, Caribou Recreation was able to help us with this task as well. Be sure to check out the beautiful new "Woodhaven Extension" of the trail system.



#### New Trail Map

A new trail map was prepared in time for updated signs to be installed on the trails in late November.



The new map can be downloaded from our website, [www.hopcemetrykennebunk.com](http://www.hopcemetrykennebunk.com). Click on the "Woods" tab and scroll down.

#### Beautiful Boardwalk

One of the most popular features of the new trail is the 60-foot boardwalk. Many photos have been taken of the boardwalk, but this one, courtesy of Leslie Lindgren, is one of our favorites!



#### UAT Volunteers

Special thanks to Project Manager Gordon Collins, Chief Trail Steward Steve Mahler and Trail Stewards Bill Pasquill, Karen Crow, Deb Mahler, Jim Plankey, and Brian Richardson. Thank you also to volunteers Tom Dobens, Tom Kasprzak, Beth Jourdan, and to Kennebunk Savings volunteers Mark Ross, Irene Clough, and Kyle Barrett. The countless hours given by the Friends' Stewardship Committee are also greatly appreciated.

#### Financial Support

The Hope Woods Universally Accessible Trail Project was developed with assistance provided by the Maine Grants & Community Recreation Program, Bureau of Parks and Lands, through the Federal Highway Administration Recreational Trails Program. Grants were also received for this project from Fields Pond Conservation Fund, State of Maine Land for Maine's Future Fund, and The Tommy McNamara Fund. Of course, this project would not have been possible without the ongoing generous support of our donors, which began during the Hope Woods Conservation Initiative.



PO Box 1550  
Kennebunk, ME 04043

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

### **Donations Received**

Thank you to the following donors for gifts received since the publication of our last newsletter:

Shelia Adams  
Jay Bartner & Claire Doheny  
Paul & Barbara Berry  
Christopher Bever  
Susan Burke & William Leonardi  
Joan Carroll  
Kate & Tom Chappell  
Gillian Charbonneau  
Robert & Pamela Cloutier  
Geraldine & Andrew Costello  
Danna Crowley  
Jim Cummings  
David Doubleday  
Rita Drew  
The Drigotas Family  
Joseph Foster  
Mrs. Rhoda Frederick  
Stephen Gerritson  
Mary Greely  
George C. Harrington & Diantha C. Harrington  
Susan & Bob Hill  
David & Rose Hines  
Rolfe & Cheryl Kennedy

Mike & Young Lee  
Jennifer Ann Lewia  
Daniel & Stephanie Limmer  
Leslie Lindgren  
Fred & Paula Merkle  
John Noyes  
Libby O'Brien Kingsley & Champion, LLC  
Robert Pastorelli  
Henry Perkins  
Susan Riach  
Eleanora Robert  
Alice Amy Skowyra  
Carol Spalding  
Anne & Elliott Speers  
Betsy T. Stevens  
Maurice & Linda Subilia  
Judith Taylor  
Dorothy Toth  
Matthew & Karli Whitney  
Dr. & Mrs. Ross Wyman

Donations were received in Memory of:  
Earl Adams  
Christopher T. & Josephine M. Bever  
Brenda Marleen Crowley  
Jim Pastorelli  
Harlan Dresser Taylor & Jeffrey Pease Taylor  
Theodore & Elinor Teczar