

OWLS HEAD CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The following activities have taken place during the past year. Dan Clough has taken to keeping an eye on Evergreen Cemetery and has removed down branches and cut-up some trees that had fallen. Between his work on this and Terry Morang the cemetery is quite attractive.

Ingraham Cemetery remains in good shape thanks to Sue Choate volunteering in keeping an eye on it and Terry Marong's mowing. We are pleased to say that the four heirs to the cemetery recently signed the deed over to the Town, so that it is now under complete Town control. An ongoing project will be to determine an accurate account of the lots and see if any are available for future sale.

Also recently all historic documentation and records of the Ash Point Cemetery have been given to the Town by Mark McNeily so they will now be maintained and kept at the Town office. We are now in the process of reviewing them to see how best to preserve them and also looking at the Cemetery to see what needs to be done to keep it looking nice. One of the first efforts will be to see about fixing some of the surrounding fence.

The Board of Selectmen have given approval to do some headstone repair and cleaning in the oldest area of Hall Cemetery. The work is planned for about 10 days in the early part of August. This will be after the company finishes work on the Tolman Cemetery in Rockland which is being sponsored by the Lady Knox Chapter DAR and will be done by the professional company Grave Stone Matters. In addition to working all over New England the company yearly does cemetery cleaning and restoration projects, along with instructional classes for the proper methods of restoration under the auspices of The Maine Old Cemetery Association (also known as MOCA). Anyone interested in MOCA can access their informative website. Bill Gay attended their Spring Meeting which was held at the Union Historical Society, a summer meeting is scheduled for Portland and a fall meeting in Thomaston. The public is always welcome to attend these meetings where interesting displays are presented on work being done at various cemeteries around the state.

During the past year a fall cleanup was done of old leaf piles at Hall Cemetery and some dangerous dead trees and branches were taken down and removed in both Hall and McPhails Cemeteries.

Since the passing of Ken Crane last July the Committee is actively seeking the addition of at least one additional member and invite any Town resident that might have interest in helping to contact Heather in the Town Office. Ken had been working with the Town to find good investment tools for our perpetual care funds and his vast experience with various local non-profits organizations and thoughtful input were invaluable to our Committee. This input has been missed and will continue to be missed.

Also as always we appreciate the work that Terry Morang does in keeping all the Town cemeteries looking nice.

Small flags were put on all veteran graves that could be identified by the Committee the past Memorial Day. Perhaps with the help of the Historical Society a better record of the Owls Head Veterans could be developed so that none are missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Carpenter Dan Clough William Gay Michael Voncannon

Owls Head Cemetery Committee