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Association for Gravestone Studies e-Newsletter

Issue #66

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A Note from the AGS Office

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 We have been having intermittent problems with our e-mail in the office since October 9th. If you tried sending e-mail that did not go through, please try again or give us a call at (413) 772-0836. We are working on the problem and apologize for the inconvenience.

### AGS 2009 Conference: Call for Papers and Tentative Schedule

#### ~~~~~ CALL FOR PAPERS

AGS Conference 2009  
 June 24-28, 2009  
 Union College  
 Schenectady, New York

Proposals are solicited for scholarly papers, 20 minutes in length, to be presented during the evening lecture sessions. Please send your proposal and 250-word abstract by January 1, 2009 to: Program Chair: Dr. Ian Brown, [ibrown@bama.ua.edu](mailto:ibrown@bama.ua.edu).

Proposals are solicited for Participation Sessions, 50 minutes in length, to be presented Wednesday morning and afternoon, June 24. Please send your proposal and a 250-word abstract by January 1, 2009 to: Participation Sessions Chair: Frank Calidonna, [frankc@twcny.rr.com](mailto:frankc@twcny.rr.com).

To read the tentative conference schedule: [please click here](#).

### Recent Donations to AGS Archives

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 We are happy to report that the AGS Archives has recently received the following donations from AGS members.

ZenaBeth McGlashan generously donated a copy of *Respectable Burial: Montreal's Mount Royal Cemetery* to the AGS Archives. This is a beautiful and valuable publication.

Robert Severy of Weymouth, Massachusetts, has been compiling illustrated guides to Cedar Grove Cemetery (est. 1867) in Dorchester, Massachusetts. He has completed guides to Section 7, Section 12 and the Maple Lot, Section 21, and recently donated a copy of each to the AGS Archives.

We are very grateful for these gifts!

Article: Basic Gravestone Restoration Workshop

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 "Basic Gravestone Restoration Workshop" is an article written by Abbie McMillen about a recent workshop she attended, led by AGS Trustee Jon Appell.

[Please click here to read the article](#).

### Article: H.L. Mencken Gravesite

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 AGS member Mike Bieling sent information about the H.L. Mencken gravesite in Baltimore, Maryland. Some gravestones in the Mencken family plot were vandalized in

January 2006. To read Mike's article, [please click here](#).

AGS Member in the News: Richard Waterhouse

AGS Member Richard Waterhouse was featured in the October 4 issue of the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#). The article discusses his tours of Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery.

New Historical Markers--African-American History in Georgia

We received these two announcements from the Georgia Historical Society:

[African-American Educational and Religious Institutions Recognized in New Historical Markers](#)

[Clarke County African-American Cemetery Receives New Historical Marker](#)

Berks County Association for Graveyard Preservation

The Berks County Association for Graveyard Preservation (BCAGP) is a nonprofit association formed to preserve and maintain historic Berks County, Pennsylvania graveyards. Their website, <http://bcagp.berkshistory.org/>, has information about the group, cemetery maps, a photo gallery and information about their book *Association Handbook of Historic Family Graveyards*. Back issues of their newsletter are posted on the site.

New Publication: *Savannah's Catholic Cemetery Volume II*

Genealogy buffs and all who have ancestors interred at the Catholic Cemetery in Savannah, Georgia have a newly published resource: Volume II of *Savannah's Catholic Cemetery*. The new volume includes an inventory of all burials in Magnolia Section and Palmetto Section, together with a listing of those buried with no designated lot. An important part of the new book consists of an inventory of Confederate Veterans--631 soldiers and sailors--compiled by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Savannah, Chapter 2.

Opened in 1853 during the term of Savannah's first bishop, Francis X. Gartland, the Cemetery is the final resting place of many who came to Georgia from other countries during the middle of the 19th century.

Prepared by volunteers as a project of the Catholic Cemetery Preservation Society, the book includes the names of those who lie in unmarked graves as well as those with impressive monuments. The Archives department of the Catholic Diocese of Savannah coordinated the work.

Publication was funded with a grant from the R. J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation. Printed by McNaughton Gunn, Inc., the 400-page book has a dark green textured cover. The title, with a design showing the gates, is imprinted in gold. Proceeds from sales will benefit the Cemetery Preservation Society. Cost is \$20 from the Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 East Liberty Street, Savannah, GA 31401, plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling if the volume is mailed. Send checks to: Catholic Diocese of Savannah, marked for Cemetery Preservation Society.

Copies of Volume I , which covers the Old Section, are also available at the same

price.

Note: [we featured an article](#) about restoring ironwork at this cemetery in the August edition of the *AGS e-Newsletter*.

Rules and Regulations for Modern Cemeteries

AGS member John Rousmaniere sent in this information:

In the Summer issue of the *AGS Quarterly* (p.22), Mike Bieling quoted 10 rules for cemetery modernization proposed by Howard Evarts Weed in his 1912 work, *Modern Park Cemeteries*. Readers can find this "classic work" reproduced, online, at: <http://www.archive.org/details/modernparkcemete00weedrich>.

Job Advertisement: Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York

The Woodlawn Cemetery is looking for a full time Program Coordinator. To read the full advertisement, [please click here](#).

Events: Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Brown Bag Lunch Series: Each month this fall, a member of Mount Auburn's staff will highlight an exciting preservation project currently underway. These hour-long talks will begin at 12:15 PM. Please bring your lunch. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided. Admission: FREE.

Thursday, November 6 - "Two Women and a Goddess: The Conservation Treatment of a 19th-century Marble Sculpture" - Curator of Historical Collections, Meg Winslow, and Objects Conservator in private practice, Barbara Mangum, will tell the story of two remarkable 19th-century women, Dr. Harriot Hunt and sculptor Edmonia Lewis, and the statue they created for Hunt's lot at Mount Auburn. Learn about the statue's recent conservation using innovative laser cleaning and x-rays.

Thursday, December 4 - "Archives in the Landscape: Stories Behind the Stones of Mount Auburn Cemetery" - Join archivist Brian A. Sullivan as he describes the process of sifting through manuscripts to gather evidence of the compelling lives of our Cemetery residents.

Walking Tours:

Saturday, November 1, 2-3:30 PM: "Discover Mount Auburn" - a walking tour. Admission: \$10.

Sunday, November 2, 2-3:30 PM: "Autumn fruits and foliage" - a walking tour with Jim Gorman, Volunteer Docent, Mount Auburn. Admission: \$10.

www.mountauburn.org/

Events: Forest Hills Cemetery, Boston, Massachusetts

Saturday, November 1, 2:00 PM: Walking Tour - Victorian Spiritualism. Admission: \$9.

Sunday, November 2, 4:30-6:00 PM: Day of the Dead Ceremony - Enjoy a program of music and dance as individuals bring offerings of photos, flowers, mementos, and

traditional skull-shaped sugar candies to place on a decorated candle-lit altar for those departed loved ones. Admission: Free.

Sunday, November 16, 2:00 PM: A Tribute to Anne Sexton. Admission: \$9.

www.foresthillscemetery.com/

Massachusetts Cemetery Association Fall Luncheon Meeting

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Wednesday, November 5th at 11:30, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens Boylston, Mass.

There will be a power point presentation by the Gravestone Girls on the history of gravestones and cemeteries, and the symbolism and evolution of the carvings. Artwork and castings will be on display.

Registration Cost; \$35.00 per person. Please fax your name, address and phone number to (508) 754-8598 and mail payment to; MCA, PO Box 282, Milton, MA 02186-4001.

Reservations must be received by Friday, October 31st.

Who should attend? Directors, staff, historical commission, anyone interested in cemeteries and gravestones!

<http://www.macemetery.org/>

### **Photographic Exhibit: Cambridge, Massachusetts**

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October 30 - December 6, 2008 (Reception: October 30, 5-7 PM).

John Kramer: *Interesting & Dull Shapes*, A photographic installation and meditation on natural and sculpted forms in the context of a 19th-century garden cemetery-Forest Hills Cemetery in Jamaica Plain.

The Exhibit will be at [The Art Institute of Boston Gallery at University Hall](#), 1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge.

Schedule of Veteran's Remembrance Cross Placements, British Columbia

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A schedule has been created to place crosses on the graves of veterans in five cemeteries in British Columbia. To see the schedule, [please click here](#).

The public is encouraged to attend one of this year's cross placement ceremonies, or to visit a cemetery near them in which veterans' graves are decorated with a remembrance cross. Come witness how this more than 80-year local tradition continues to honour our commitment to remember the service and sacrifice of these veterans. At most locations, crosses will remain in place until the end of November.

### **Article: Historical cemetery surveyed, Cleveland, Tennessee**

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This article, posted on knoxnews.com, is about a group of Lee University students enrolled in an archaeology field school this summer who helped survey a historical cemetery on Old Copper Road in Polk County.

Articles: Birch Hill Cemetery, Fairbanks, Alaska

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Both of the following articles, posted on newsminer.com, are about the Fairbanks Native Association efforts to continue the tradition of winter burials in Birch Hill Cemetery.

[Fairbanks to mediate Birch Hill Cemetery access argument](#)

[Birch Hill to remain open for Native group's winter burials](#)

### Article: Copperhill, Tennessee Cemetery

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This article, posted on [timesfreepress.com](#), is about Copperhill Cemetery in Copperhill, Tennessee and a church in McMinn County recently added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Article: "Cleaning graves leads to more questions about cemetery"

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This article, posted on [onlineathens.com](#), is about a couple and their restoration work in Boggs Chapel Cemetery graveyard in Athens, Georgia.

### Recipe: Chocolate Tombstones

#### Chocolate Tombstones

Just in time for Halloween!

#### Ingredients:

1/2 cup butter  
1 1/4 lb semi sweet chocolate chips  
1/2 cup frosted flakes  
1/2 lb dark chocolate, cut into chunks  
1/2 cup cream  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
White decorator icing

#### Directions:

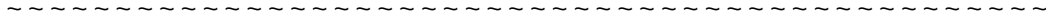
Line a jelly roll pan (or a cookie sheet with sides) with plastic wrap. In a small bowl, place the butter and chocolate chips. Bring a pot of water to a boil and turn off the heat. Place the bowl of chocolate over the water and allow to melt. When the chocolate and butter begin to melt, stir occasionally until a smooth mixture is formed. Remove from the water and add the frosted flakes. Immediately pour into the jelly roll pan and smooth out so the chocolate is even. Allow to harden. Once hard, cut into 2 inch by 4 inch rectangles.

In another bowl, melt the dark chocolate and cream as above. Dip 3/4 of the chocolate square into the melted chocolate and allow to cool. Dip the remaining 1/4 into cocoa powder, to look like dirt. Once the blocks are cool, decorate them like real tombstones. Then lay them out around the table or stand them up in a cake or ice cream.

Courtesy of ARA Content.

### Contact Information

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