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Association for Gravestone Studies e-newsletter

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2008 AGS Conference

Our next annual meeting and conference will be held at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts June 17-22, 2008 (a week earlier than usual). For a virtual tour of the Hampshire College Campus, click on: www.hampshire.edu. Stay tuned for more details.

Correction: Phone Number for AGS Member Jon Appell

In the conference attendee list we accidentally printed the wrong phone number for

Jon Appell. He asked that we print a correction in this edition of the e-newsletter. The correct number is 860-558-2785. We apologize for the error.

Query: Completing a partial epitaph

~~~~~  
 Rosalee Oakley sent in this request: "Seeking to complete this partial epitaph on a child's stone:

'Sweet bud too fair  
 to blossom here  
 thy fragrence.....  
 .....Heaven'

Please reply to me ([roakley1936@charter.net](mailto:roakley1936@charter.net)) and to [faravans@verizon.net](mailto:faravans@verizon.net)."

**Information and Query: Zinc Military Monument**



AGS Member Ian Berke sent in the following information and query.  
 "These photos of a large (about 18 feet tall) white bronze (zinc) military monument may be of interest to AGS members.

A cast inset panel states that it was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1897. It is located in the small military cemetery in the Presidio in the NW corner of San Francisco. The Presidio, a military base originally established in 1776 by Spain, is now a National Park. The setting is

spectacular, looking north over San Francisco Bay into Marin County. The military cemetery is small, compared with most, but has some very interesting monuments, especially this one. There are no foundry or maker marks on the piece, so perhaps a local foundry cast it. There is a '101' in relief on the front base, but I have

no idea what it refers to. If you know, or can recommend any resources, please contact me at: [ianberke@earthlink.net](mailto:ianberke@earthlink.net)."

### Query: Civil War Markers

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This query comes from Kimberly Sawtelle. She writes: "I'm wondering if any researchers of Civil War grave markers can shed light on a particular style of stone I've found in cemeteries around Maine.

The stones depict a Union soldier holding a Union flag, but the uniformity in design seems to end there. Individual carvers apparently exercised artistic control over design details. The soldier figure may be left- or right- facing, and may or may not display the rank of the deceased on the sleeve of his uniform. The flag design varies, from a large central star surrounded by a circle of smaller stars, to rows of stars. A marker in Garland, Maine showed trace evidence of blue and red pigment on the flag.

I've found approximately a dozen of these markers to date. The largest concentration (a total of six stones) occurs in two cemeteries located along Route 151, between Palmyra and Hartland, Maine. I have also found these stones in Corinth, Dover-Foxcroft, Garland, and Whiting, Maine. Geographically, the concentration is in the central Maine counties of Somerset, Penobscot, and Piscataquis, with the majority of instances I've recorded being in Somerset county.

Has anyone researched this style of stone? If so, I'd be interested to learn more about them.

Below are photos of two examples of the Union soldier grave markers found in Maine.



The marker for Israel Hodsdon, 1st Sergeant of Co. H, 6th Regiment of Maine Volunteers, deceased Nov. 9, 1863, is located in Boutelle Cemetery, Corinth, Maine. The detail shows a right-facing Union soldier with Sergeant stripes holding a Union flag with a large, central, five-point star surrounded by a circle of stars. The image is carved in deep relief.



The marker for Joseph H. Bachelder, deceased Nov. 16, 1863, is located in Village Cemetery, West Palmyra, Maine. The detail image shows a left-facing Union soldier (with no rank on his sleeve) holding a Union flag with 15 five-point stars arranged in relatively uniform rows. The soldier is standing on a masonry wall. On this stone the image is carved in lower relief than the previous example, and includes a floral boarder framing the entire tablet.

I'd be very interested to learn more about this style of marker. Does the same theme or variations of it appear in other states that were members of the Union? Do the right- or left-facing figures communicate specific meaning?

I can be contacted via e-mail at kimberjs4@earthlink.net or by land mail at 229 Mudgett Road, Kenduskeag, ME 04450. Thanks."

Call for Papers: International Preservation Trades Workshop

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 The Preservation Trades Network (PTN), a non-profit education, networking, and outreach organization, offers opportunities for learning and involvement for all people interested in the traditional trades.

The 2007 International Preservation Trades Workshop (IPTW) is entitled "Coming Home," and will be held October 11-13, in Frederick, Maryland. This annual event brings together the foremost practitioners of the traditional trades in a single venue, dedicated to sharing the skills and knowledge of all of the trades employed in conservation of the built environment. In addition to the demonstrations, presentations and "hands on" sessions that have been a feature of every previous IPTW, there will be some new and exciting offerings including a Preservation Trades Jobs Fair.

PTN invites individuals to become demonstrators or presenters at IPTW 2007. Share your skills and knowledge and increase your visibility as a leader in the preservation trades.

More information is available at: [www.ipw.org](http://www.ipw.org).

**Call for Presentations: International Cemetery, Cremation & Funeral Assoc.**

## **Call For Presentations-ICCFA 2008 Annual Convention & Exposition**

The 2008 Convention Planning Committee invites ICCFA members and meeting attendees to submit proposals for presentations at the ICCFA 2008 Annual Convention & Exposition, March 26-29 at the San Diego Convention Center.

Interested candidates should submit their presentation proposal to the ICCFA headquarters no later than August 15. Instructions for preparing your proposal are available at <http://www.iccfa.com/docs/ac08.doc> or by calling the ICCFA at (800) 645-7700.

## **National Preservation Institute Cemetery Preservation Seminar**

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The National Preservation Institute, a nonprofit organization founded in 1980, educates those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage. The 2007 National Preservation Institute seminar schedule is now available online at www.npi.org. The 2007 NPI News Release includes the calendar and seminar descriptions - www.npi.org/NewsRelease2007.pdf.

These seminars are being held in cooperation with the Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery and Chicora Foundation, Inc.

Cemetery Preservation

Washington, DC - September 17-18, 2007

Learn how to begin a cemetery preservation or restoration project and how to help ensure that sound choices are made to avoid harming what you seek to protect. Discussions focus on current issues in cemetery preservation, such as recording and documenting cemeteries and graveyards, undertaking preservation efforts, and exploring conservation techniques and issues.

Cemetery Landscapes: A Practical Guide to Care and Maintenance

Washington, DC - September 19, 2007

Learn how to protect historic cemetery landscapes, preserve integrity of design, and safeguard tombstones and monuments while pursuing a practical outlook on maintenance and budget concerns. Explore approaches to caring for softscapes, or plantings, and hardscapes, including roads, pathways, and benches. Discuss effective pruning and cutting techniques, and when chemicals and heavy equipment can be safely and productively used. Review the basics of short- and long-term preservation plans.

Agendas for these seminars and information on NEA scholarships covering tuition for them are available at www.npi.org.

A registration form is available online at www.npi.org/register.html. The advance registration rate is valid until August 6 - \$375 (2 days - Cem Pres); \$225 (1 day - Cem Landscape); \$525 (3 days - both seminars).

The regular registration rate after that date is \$425 (2 days - Cem Pres); \$275 (1 day - Cem Landscape); \$575 (3 days - both seminars).

Cemetery Art/Rubbing Workshop, Rock Island, Illinois

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 Minda Powers-Douglas will be holding a discussion of the Victorian art in Chippiannock Cemetery as well as instruction on the art of gravestone rubbing. The workshop will be held Saturday, Sept. 8, 10 AM to noon. It is \$35 per person and the registration deadline is Aug. 23.

Cost includes workshop and gravestone rubbing kit (tube container, Aqaba paper, wax rubbing cakes, natural brush, special masking tape).

**Registration is now being taken for the Sept. 8 workshop.** To register, send your **PayPal** payment and contact information (name, e-mail, mailing address, phone number) to: **[minda@thecemeteryclub.com](mailto:minda@thecemeteryclub.com)**

If you would like to pay via check or money order, you may send it to:

*Epitaphs Magazine*  
 PO Box 1163  
 Moline, IL 61266-1163

Also, the latest issue of *Epitaphs Magazine* (issue #4), published by Minda, is available on the [www.cemeteryclub.com](http://www.cemeteryclub.com) website. Issue #5 will be available in the Fall.

### **Cemetery Tour: Monterey, Massachusetts**

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 There will be a tour sponsored by the Monterey Historical Society on Saturday, August 11, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. The tour will cover two of Monterey's five cemeteries dating back to 1756 when it was Township #1. The tour will start at Henwood Cemetery. Directions from Route 23, 8 miles east of Great Barrington: Proceed north on Tyringham Road from the center of the village to Beartown Mt. Road. Cemetery is 1/2 mile from the intersection on the left.

For more information please call Linda Thorpe (413) 528-2164.

August Events: Sacramento City Cemetery, California

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 Saturday, August 4, 2007 ~ 10:00 AM. *Mausoleums History Tour*, Tour Guide: Claudia Richardson.

Monday, August 13, 2007 ~ 6:30 - 8:30 PM. *Deadheading at Dusk*, Historic Rose Garden.

We'll be tidying up the spent flowers on from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. We will be offering instruction on how to do it, and serve light refreshments. Visitors may park across the street from the 10th Street Gate and meet at the cemetery entrance.

For information, please call (916) 448-0811. Or visit: [www.OldCityCemetery.com](http://www.OldCityCemetery.com).

### **August Events: Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts**

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 Saturday, August 4, 2:00 PM

"Discover Mount Auburn" - a walking tour. Admission: \$10.

Tuesday, August 7, 7:30 AM

"Birds, Butterflies and Botany" Admission: Free.

Thursday, August 9, 6:00 PM

"Summer Twilight Stroll" - an evening walk. Admission: Free.

Cambridge Discovery Days: In honor of this year's Cambridge Discovery Days theme, "Well-versed in Cambridge," please join the following free walking tours of Mount Auburn. Cambridge Discovery Days is held each summer in celebration of Cambridge's history with free walks, tours and events held throughout the city. For more information about Cambridge Discovery Days and a complete listing of events, visit www.cambridgema.gov/historic.

Saturday, August 11, 4:00 PM

"Longfellow and Friends: A Poetry Walk at Mount Auburn Cemetery" - a walking tour.

Saturday, August 18, 4:00 PM

"Mount Auburn: A Muse to our Nation's Writers" - a walking tour.

Tuesday, August 21, 6:00 PM

"Summer Twilight Stroll"

The Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery, Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA. Call 617-607-1981 for information. www.mountauburn.org.

Article: Cemetery Move Seems Unlikely, Lexington County, South Carolina

AGS Member Mike Trinkley, of the Chicora Foundation is quoted in this article, posted on thestate.com.

Featured Websites

Please take a moment to check out the following websites recommended by AGS members.

webcemeteries.com is a cemetery data management system that gives you access to your cemetery records anywhere and anytime you go online. With your own unique password, you can quickly access your records. For 100 graves or less, listing is free. Fees vary for larger cemeteries, depending on the number of graves.

Evergreen Cemetery Benevolent Society's (Colorado Springs, Colorado) has a new link to their site. It is:

www.evergreencemeterysociety.com. On this site you'll find history of the cemetery, events and a photo album.

Contact Information

The Association for Gravestone Studies

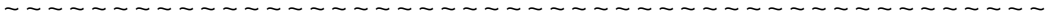
278 Main St., Suite 207

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