

Connecticut Gravestone Network News

Preserving and protecting Connecticut's old burial grounds and cemeteries

Volume 12, No. 1

January 2006

CGN, 135 Wells St., Manchester, CT. 06040-6127

Exec. Dir: Ruth Shapleigh-Brown 860-643-5652

www.ctgravestones.com



MARCH 25 2006 CGN SYMPOSIUM

Doors
open
to
the

Connecticut Gravestone Network
2006 Symposium

public at 9:00 am.

Speakers and Topics:

Saturday – March 25th - 9 a.m. to 3 pm

**Admission is Payable at the door:
\$10 to public and \$5 for CGN members**

East Hartford's South Senior Center on 70 Canterbury St. Located just off Maple Ave, on the East Hartford & Glastonbury town line, coming east on Rt.2 use exit 5c – coming west there is no direct exit, you need to check your directions or call us for help. Maple Ave. is just north of the Glastonbury Putnam Plaza, or jct. of Main St. north of the Putnam Bridge/route 3.

Displays & exhibits from various historic groups, some examples will be Grove St. Cemetery, New Haven, Center Cemetery of East Hartford Center Cemetery, Old North Burying Ground of Middlefield, The Ancient Burial Ground, Old South Burying Ground and Cedar Hill Cemetery all of Hartford. Springfield, MA Cemeteries will also be represented. Friends of the Office of the State Archeologist, Ct. Genealogy Society, Portland Quarry, Association for Gravestone Studies, Books, T-Shirts & other novelties for sale.

Tables are available for a reservation fee of \$12.00 for non-profits to display - \$6.00 if you wish to share a table and \$15.00 if you're a business or vendor selling items.

We are always looking for new groups to come and share – please consider joining us. Table displays need not be fancy, just some information, questions, photographs or lists of names of those buried in your cemetery. This is a time to come together share information and help support each other in our efforts.

9:30 am “Welcome & Introduction to Old Burial Ground Basics” Ruth Shapleigh Brown CGN Executive Director. Understanding old graveyards and gravestones of Connecticut. First Cemeteries of Hartford and cautions about reading stones and boundary walls, rubbing, cleaning and caring for these old stones.

10:45 am The Portland Quarry” Alison Guinness Last year many people missed this one and asked for Alison to come back. One of the country's largest suppliers of Brownstone and a business that helped build America began here. Alison has been researching the history of the quarries in the Middletown area for years. As accompaniments to her talk she will have account books and various items on display.

Lunch break between 12:00 & 1:00

Lunch-sandwiches, snacks & beverages will be available
1:15 “The 'Empty' Pitkin Tomb in East Hartford's Center Cemetery” by John Spaulding One of the first archeological investigations in a series of tomb projects, taken on by our state archeologist.. Friends of Center Cemetery in East Hartford; Hartford's second colonial burial ground, had always been told the Pitkin tomb was empty, only used as a winter receiving vault. Come and learn what happened when repairs had to be made and we opened the door.

More information or help with directions Contact:
Ruth -Brown; 860-643-5652 Email shapbrown@cox.net

For those that have never joined us before this event, it is a day devoted to cemetery buffs and professionals alike to join forces and share information on old techniques and new twists; to

learn about history; for genealogist looking for ancestors, as well as to simply enjoy each others company. First time visitors are usually overwhelmed and leave touting what a Wow experience they had. "Learned a lot and enjoyed it all."

New Connecticut History Awards

CTCP Awards – deadline Feb. 15th, 2006

web: <http://www.cttrust.org>

CONNECTICUT PRESERVATION AWARDS 2005

Awards are given to recognize outstanding preservation projects and people who have made significant contributions to the preservation of Connecticut's historic resources.

Awards are presented in the following categories:

The Built Environment

for outstanding preservation efforts of historically significant elements of the built environment, including (but not limited to) restoration or adaptive use of an historic building or structure, excellence in ongoing care and maintenance of an historic building or structure, sensitive additions to an historic building or structure, or appropriate infill construction in an historic district.

Cultural Landscapes

for preservation activities focusing on larger historic landscapes, including (but not limited to) preservation of historic landscapes or streetscapes, downtown or neighborhood revitalization projects, or preservation plans that have been implemented.

Community Service

for individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to historic preservation in Connecticut or that have provided leadership in community or statewide preservation efforts.

Nomination Procedure

Any individual, organization or project involved in historic preservation is eligible to receive a Connecticut Preservation Award. Nominated projects must have been completed since January 1, 2004. Nominations may be made without the knowledge of the nominee. Fee: \$35.00 processing fee

All nominations must be submitted in a pocket-style folder. Nominations must be submitted by February 15, 2006. Nominators and recipients will be notified no later than March 27, 2006. Awards will be presented at the Connecticut Trust's Annual Meeting on April 5, 2006. All materials submitted will become the property of the Connecticut Trust.

For more requirement and details in general go to the CT web site, or call (203) 562-6312 or email awards@cttrust.org.

2005 Distinguished

Advocates for Culture & Tourism

On Nov. 16 and 17, the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism (CCT) will presented its 2005 Governor's Arts and Tourism Awards and newly created Connecticut History Awards. These awards were designed to recognize significant achievements and outstanding contributions in the fields of the performing, visual and literary arts and film; tourism; and heritage preservation within Connecticut. A total of 14 individuals and organizations were nominated.

From our CGN circle we have the following:

Distinguished Advocates Awards recognized for the exemplary contributions of leadership, advocacy, and volunteers in the arts, film, historic preservation, heritage, history, and tourism in Connecticut. The awards honor individuals who have made a significant impact in improving culture and tourism in communities across the state. This year's awardees include:

Alicia Wayland – has served as a tireless advocate for the quality interpretation and promotion of history, heritage and historic preservation (including publications, exhibits, reports and events) in Lebanon for more than 25 years.

Beverly & Dallas Holt – played a pivotal role in the rediscovery and verification, by the State Archaeologist's Office, of the long-lost Old New-Gate cemetery, which is located on the couple's property in East Granby.

Ruth Shapleigh-Brown– has been unstinting in her efforts to ensure the preservation of historic cemeteries and gravestone art in Connecticut. She is founder and volunteer director of the statewide information clearinghouse known as the Connecticut Gravestone Network.



Ruth receiving her award.

2006 Culture & Tourism Partnership Grants

Application Due Date: March 15, 2006

www.cultureandtourism.org/

Culture and Tourism Partnership projects must include a partnership between entities in two or more of the

following areas: history, arts, historic preservation, humanities, film, or tourism. Partnerships must reach out beyond one discipline.

Lead applicant must be a non-profit organization, but applicants may partner with non-profit or for-profit entities in this program. For a list of eligible and ineligible applicants, please download the entire application.

Applicants may apply for up to \$3,000. Grant awards must be matched on a dollar-to-dollar cash basis in non-governmental funds. Activities must take place between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

Progressive Steps in Texas

www.thc.state.tx.us for Texas Preservation Guidelines

At the 1993 AGS Conference Gerron Hite of the Texas Historical Commission who helped establish a division for Historical Cemeteries, worked with others on Ruthie's Cemetery Rescue workshop. They had often been in touch over the Internet prior to that time, and Ruthie was very pleased to have the opportunity to meet Gerron. The Texas Historical Commission is fine example of what each state could do. Just check out their web site and projects.

Texas has in neighborhood of 50,000 historic cemeteries to protect, and they have the support of the State Historical Commission. The title page and their program focus for their latest journal issue was

"Strengthening Defenses - Committee helps direct new cemetery protection laws".

They are actively working on bills to make new laws as well as new ways to enforce present ones. They are searching for ways to set accountable guidelines for their operation and maintenance. Granted Connecticut is smaller than Texas but our history to establish this country is so much richer. Some of the most famous names in Texas history emigrated from Connecticut! So, where are our priorities and support for better preservation laws and methods?

Pet Urns, Caskets and Grave Markers

By Dr. Cynthia Toolin

After my article in the last newsletter about the International Association of Pet Cemeteries and Crematories, and the Accredited Pet Cemetery Society, I decided to investigate two other important concerns about any pet's burial or cremation. In what would the remains be contained (urn or casket) and how would the location be marked (tombstone, grave marker)? I again turned to the web and to my surprise, a google search on pet urns or caskets resulted in over 13,000 sites; and a search on pet tombstones, grave markers or monuments resulted in over 10,000. While there is a lot of overlap between the searches, and certainly some duplication even within one search, the sheer volume of sites is impressive.

Urns and Caskets

There is an amazing range of urns to hold the cremains of pets, especially for cats, dogs, horses, birds and rabbits. The grieving pet owner has many styles, materials and price ranges from which to choose. Stone, marble, wood, bronze, brass, stained glass, tin and cloisonné are readily available. Some urns are sculptures of animals; others hold a photo of the beloved pet. There are companion urns, so you can keep the cremains of two pets side by side (hopefully pets who liked each other in life); some can be personalized with engraved poems; others allow a photo of the pet to be attached.

My personal favorite is a stained glass doghouse urn with a place in the door to put a picture of the dog (see http://www.raysofjoy.com/Pet_cremation_urns.htm)

The pet owner can even buy a piece of jewelry that is a tiny urn to hold a few ashes or a few strands of fur or hair. For all you fellow cat lovers out there, I said "fur," not "fur ball."

Two interesting sites are <http://www.afterlifeurns.com> and www.allaboutpeturns.com.

But unfortunately my mind's eye keeps returning to Jack Byrnes' horror when his mother's urn is broken by Greg Focker. The ashes scatter on the floor, and Jack's pet cat uses them as a litter box. Horror! What an understatement! My MacAfferty going to the bathroom in old Deuteronomy's ashes. Nope. On to caskets.

Caskets are also available in a wide variety of styles and prices. They range from plastic, which make a blue Rubbermaid container look elegant, to beautifully crafted wood or metal caskets lined with satin and lace (complete with a delicate pillow), to casket and vault combinations.

My personal favorite is <http://burialitems.com/petcaskets.html>, where there are tasteful caskets in a range of prices. The Carousel Caskets shown in this sight are dignified; they look like miniature human caskets.

Also available are plans for caskets, for do-it-yourselfers (see http://www.mhp-petcaskets.com/pet_plans.php).

And on the website

http://www.casketfurniture.com/items.php/pet_casket_bed_harmony.html the bereaved pet owner can choose all aspects of the deceased pet's resting place. Choices include the bedding materials (e.g., red satin, black velvet, Cheetah print velvet); type of hinge, latch, lock and lid support; type of wood (e.g., cedar, birch, cherry) and wood finish (e.g., walnut, rustic, white); size; and presence of handles. This casket is a good choice because it can be used as a pet bed while the animal is alive. That gives me a lot of joy. I can just see Singapore sleeping on purple velvet in a walnut finished cherry bed, just like the regal Siamese she is. And yes, sleeping forever in her

little bed in the ground. Yet I must ask, what's with the lock?

But I digress from our real interest of gravestones, tombstones, and monuments.

Grave Markers

I must admit that I was somewhat disappointed in the grave markers. A lot of variety is available in a wide range of prices; however, they just did not "speak" to me the way human grave markers do. This may be because I was looking at sites that sell grave markers, so there doesn't seem to be any real passion in the epitaphs. A gravestone with a laser etched collie head on it and the epitaph "He was a good boy" just isn't all that touching. After all, if he wasn't a good boy, would you bother going to the expense of burying him and buying him a headstone? Probably not.

Of much more interest to me are the epitaphs I would write for my Deuteronomy, "He had the heart of a lion" and for MacAfferty, "We should have named you Slither." Or the virtual roadside tour of the pet cemetery with Joachim, the veteran dog who "survived a year in Vietnam only to get flattened by a neighbor's car." See <http://www.roadsideamerica.com/attract/MIGLApet.html>. Now these are epitaphs that say something!

Available markers are made of river stones, marble, slate, granite and bronze. Often the marker can be engraved with a picture of the deceased pet, or include a porcelain photo insert. Some markers are available by breed of animal; others have date dividers, like paw prints. Interesting sites include <http://www.4everinmyheart.com/>, http://www.efdesignstudio.com/pet_designs.htm and <http://www.pet-monuments.com>.

In the next newsletter, my article will be about some Connecticut pet cemeteries. Maybe the markers there will have more appeal to you and me. --Cynthia Toolin

Web sites to check

New ICONN searching is available now

Just use your public library card or CSL archive card.

New Research Links at CT State Library

Four new subscription e-resources were added to the CSL Subscription Databases list, including **American State Papers, 1789-1838, Early American Newspapers, Series I 1690-1876, Public Documents Master file, and U.S. Congressional Serial Set, 1817-1980.**

An online workshop: The Basics of Archives, on the basics of archives management and practices including acquiring collections, processing, housing and preservation, and providing access.

2005 Public and Special Acts Effective 1/1/06
Subject Index to 2005 Connecticut Public and Special Acts, Updated to include October and November Special Sessions of the General Assembly.

Spotlight on the Law Collection at the CT State Library: Elected Officials and Understanding the American Democratic Process.

January 2006 - Competitive Grant Training Workshops announcement for the Historic Documents Preservation Program.

Forms and Instructions for the Historic Document Preservation 2007 Competitive Grant Program.

Please see www.cslib.org/new.htm for links.

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Oxford has a new web site and information on their cemeteries.

<http://www.oxfordpast.net/cemeteries.html>

Latest on **Florida Abandoned Cemeteries** and Discoveries of Remains

<http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/cemeteries>

Message from new artist Graven Garden

Dear Stewards of the CGN,

I have started a new art venture featuring cemetery images and wanted to share it with you.

The Association for Gravestone Studies is aware of the work I am promoting, and has given me its endorsement. Here is my URL for "Graven Garden":

<http://www.inheritage.org/gravengarden>

Columbia – Single Grave missing?

Hopefully when the weather breaks someone in Columbia is going to do some checking but I thought I'd share this in case anyone else had any information.

Here's the inscription and the description:

Columbia - Hale Inscriptions - Cem. #5 Smith Cemetery Emily Smith daughter of Joseph & Eunice, died April 15, 1814 age 6 mos. 15 days. Single grave buried about fifteen feet from main Hwy -- (Andover-Willimantic Hwy.)

By comparing maps it appears west from jct. of 6 & 66 on the right side of the road, perhaps about a 1/3 of the distance before you get to Rose Bridge & Thompson Hill crossing.

Rt. 6 was widened about a couple of years ago, and of course probably another time since Hale's 1934 listing. It may now lie under pavement. The 1869 maps were checked and one household did show up in that area. No Smiths were found in the Old Columbia Yard.



**Pond area at Elm Grove Cemetery
in Mystic, CT**

Elm Grove Cemetery, Mystic Loses a Guardian

Jim Davis, Elm Grove Cemetery's Caretaker, superintendent, tour guide and friend to any who came to visit passed away on Nov.20, 2005. Jim started working at Elm Grove in 1960 when he was 16 and became superintendent in 1994, when he moved into the big house built there by H.R. Douglas of New London in 1905. From day one Jim was very devoted to his job and to the people interred in "his" cemetery. One would have to ask for the location of a grave and the answer was almost immediate as the map was always with him in his mind's eye.

Journalist Carol Kimball, refers to him in her article as a "a virtual encyclopedia of Mystic history." Carol also imparts a couple of stories that are a great example of Jim's deep compassion for his work.

"Last spring when a question arose about the spelling of Jerry Browne Road, I decided to ask Jim to look up Jerry's records to see what was on his tombstone. When I phoned he said immediately, "I know just where he is buried, and his name on the stone is spelled B-r-o-w-n-e. But his grandparents are buried nearby and they spelled their name without the E."

In the spring of 2004 he was concerned because Miss Dorris Bindloss did not have a headstone. She was his kindergarten teacher. Jim spearheaded a drive for funds from her former students and designed the stone himself using a sketch of a child's book for theme. He even hosted a ceremony for its dedication.

Jim took great pride not only in Elm Grove's history but also in the wonderful tree collection they have. Most notable of the rare specimens that Henry Schroeder, the former superintendent of 50 years had planted, is the

gigantic Weeping Copper Beech. Jim took it pretty personal when the ailing tree died and saw to that it was replaced by one of the same species.

Jim's generous nature was known to anyone who knew him. This old fashion handyman would bring his equipment over to the White Hall Cemetery in Mystic, taken care of by the local DAR chapter, and he would clean and do what he could for repairs as well as cutting the grass there. He was always willing to lend a hand to those in need whether it be a cemetery landscape issue or in Ruthie's case in discussions of cleaning older stones or investigating cemetery theft issues.



Famous Copper Beach Tree at Elm Grove in Mystic

As stated in Carol's article, "Jim Davis, the keeper of Elm Grove, made a difference in his community. He will be missed."

Jim also made an impression on everyone he met, I feel fortunate to have known him and yes, he will be missed and remembered by many for a long time.

By Ruthie S. Brown – thanks to Carol Kimball, writer for the "The Day" and her wonderful article about Jim, Dec. 12, 2005.



Danbury – vandalism repairs

Wooster Cemetery workers are documenting what type of repair is needed for the approximately 150 headstones either knocked over or damaged in a spree of vandalism last week. When the survey is done, the Danbury Cemetery Association, owner of the cemetery, should have a detailed report, said Bill Magner, whose company manages the park-like grounds across from Danbury Hospital.

Bob Young gravestones@att.net

35 year Genealogy Mystery Solved

CGN and Southington Genealogy member Ray Thomas had the opportunity to receive a nice thank you letter after helping with a case that came in via the CGN web site last spring.

It all started when CGN member John Spaulding (also the AGS, (Association for Gravestone Studies Clearing house representative) passed Ruthie a message from a gentleman from Texas. He was looking for information on an Irish grandfather and uncle in the Southington area and his information took him to St. Thomas church.

So after checking some records at the state library Ruthie turned to Ray Thomas of the Southington Genealogy Society for help.

Below is Rodney's letter of thanks and his interesting story (slightly edited.)

Ruthie, your lead to Ray was a key to the answer to many questions. (cont. next page)

Before going to local resources Ray actually went to St. Thomas Church. He was unable to gather any information because the secretary of St. Thomas told him that, even though the records are over 100 years old, they are confidential. (*Not a good response, but that didn't stop Ray.*)

You will simply not believe the amount of information that Ray found. He searched local records and gathered birth, marriage and death information on most of my ancestors. The records he found also listed St. Thomas as their burial location. As I explained to Ray, finding you and then being connected to Ray has been a godsend. I can now expand my search for any living relatives through the wives of my great great uncles.

I have been searching for my family for over 35 years. My mother was born in the Bronx and adopted at 5 years old. My father died when I was 10 and my mother never knew or met any of his family. Last year, by an absolute stroke of luck, I found my mothers side of the family. They live in NY, CT and Mass. I have an uncle still alive in CA and many cousins, which I correspond with weekly. I also learned that my great great great uncle,

Chester Kimble, reportedly died at the Alamo. I am now trying to prove this.

Thank you is so insufficient. If there is ever anything I may do here in Texas please let me know.

Rodney

Stories to be told ?

Reading inscription records can lead one to wonder and want to answer questions. How many children never made it to two years of age? Can you imagine losing four children in one month? How often do we see this in an old graveyard? A Husband & wife dying two days apart – was it a broken heart or same illness?

The following inscriptions are from Montville Records.

Caroline daughter of Doctor Ephraim & Dolly Fellows
Oct. 29 1813 4 years--adopted daughter of John Smith Esqr. & Caroline his wife

Abby M. wife of Samuel Latimer	Jan. 22 1840	30 years
Elizabeth	July 25 1832	14 months
David	Jan. 15 1836	3 months
John H.	Sept. 23 1842	1 yr. & 4 days
Henry H.	Feb. 29 1844	9 months & 17 days

Rogers- all children of Mary and David died in 1823

Elizabeth Ann	March 2	15y – 10 mos.
Jerome W.	March 8	11y – 2 mos. 12 das.
Susan A.H.	March 14	13y – 16 das.
William H.	March 5	3y – 8 mos.- 8 das.

Rogers, Sarah

wife of Azel born Feb. 24 1769 died Aug. 19 1841

Azel born Jan. 27 1765 died Aug. 17 1841

52 years they were united –

In death they were not separated

Three daughters of Stephen & Elizabeth Allen

All died in May of 1828

Elizabeth May 15 1828

Lois May 27 1828 age 35 years

Nancy May 14 1828 age 37 years

Reminder for Genealogists

The Godfrey Library Board of Directors has approved a three-month trial period for Saturday hours of operation.

The library will be open from 9:00a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays from January through March of 2006.



Students at the gravestone
for Veteran John Hempstead



Old South Burial Ground

Maple Ave.,
Hartford

On Veteran's Day
November of 2005
Friends of Old
South Burying
Ground (as name
has changed) once
again gathered with
students of the
Character
Education Club,
from M.D. Fox

Elementary School and some other CGN members to
plant another batch of Daffodils plus we added in some
Tulips this time.

The students were not only good workers but also very
interested in learning about the people of the 19th century
that are buried there. They compared a death of a young
person to the losses in their own lives and shared stories
with us on how they handled losing a family member.
Learning about what life was like back in the 1800's
compared to advantages they have today was another
avenue of exploration that they gave much thought to.
Posted are some pictures of that event. Please look
forward to joining The Friends of Old South in the spring
to celebrate the new blooms.

Below an interested group of students who are reading
stones with CGN member Lynn Desy.



Projects and Progress

Westport Historical Society has produced and published
with the help of a grant from Westport...A Special Place
Fund, "*Buried In Our Past*": an Historical Presentation of
Westport's Burial Grounds. This nicely done booklet
gives you a basic history of the establishment, map and
personalities highlights of each of their oldest burial
grounds. For more information contact Westport
Historical Society, 25 Avery Place, Westport, CT,
060880. Tel: 203-222-1424 or www.westporthistory.org.

Norwalk, St. Paul's Graveyard – on the Green, has
received a great face-lift last summer under the direction
of David G. Westmoreland and the St. Paul's on the
Green Burial Ground Authority. 190+ gravestones and
monuments of the 245 in the front of the churchyard were
straightened, cleaned and repaired. We will have more on
this project in the next issue as the project will be
extended into this coming summer as well.

East Granby's East Center Cemetery has a newly done
inventory thanks to a couple of ladies of the Mormon
Missionary who used this project to fulfill their four-hour-
a-week community service requirement. The Cemetery's
Association President John Rusnock: who is delighted
about their work, hopes that he may soon be able to have
this information available on CD.

Middlefield, Old North Burying Ground is expecting to
have some time scheduled this spring for some work with
resetting fallen gravestones and painting the fence.
Anyone interested in lending a hand should contact the
Middlefield Historical Society or Ruth S. Brown of CGN.

CGN Meeting

Feb. 5th

Our first meeting this year will focus of
course on details and support committees for
the symposium. Any wishing to help with
food, admissions, setting up tables in the am
or cleaning up in the pm is encouraged to be
there, or at least get in touch with Ruthie
and let her know before then what your
interest is. Food donations are welcome as
for lunch we will be doing the usual help
yourself buffet with coffee and beverages.
Secondly I must ask members to help out
with forming committees for programs,
meetings and tours. We also need to elect
some new directors and update our
organization and business practices.

Events and Activities

CGN Meeting

February 5th – 1:00 p.m. at East Hartford Office

South Senior Center, 70 Canterbury St. E H. Ct.

After symposium organizing we will starting discussions on support for more tours and programs through the year. We have plenty of cemeteries to visit, we need some host and guide to step in and perhaps plan for some ride sharing measures.

There will be sign up sheets posted at the Symposium in March targeting some specific areas that we might explore. If you see something of interest we ask that you sign up and check a preference as to a Saturday or Sunday visit. We can access the responses and plan from the there. The results and suggestions will be in the next newsletter that should out in May.

Anyone with stories and/or photos to go with them should be sending them in to Ruthie so they can be gathered for a future newsletter.

So bring a drink, an idea to the table and some cheerful conversation. Remember also that we have a good selection of books at the office for your use.

Coffin Lids as Gravemarkers: A Case Study in Colchester's Old Cemetery

Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at 7:00pm - Free
The Cragin Memorial Library
8 Linwood Avenue, Colchester, CT 06415

The Cragin Memorial Library is pleased to host local archaeology and history scholar John Spaulding for his presentation of "Coffin Lids as Gravemarkers: A Case Study in Colchester's Old Cemetery" on. Mr. Spaulding will highlight many of the historic grave markers in Colchester's old burying ground, which is located south of the old Bacon Academy on Main Street, as well as new ones installed in the last five years. Hidden for more than fifty years, the Gershom Bulkeley tomb contained coffin lids that serve as grave markers for several generations of the Bulkeley family. The techniques used to identify those entombed will be described. The installation of a new marker outside the tomb now gives the Bulkeley Family members a permanent visible grave marker. For those who were unable to attend earlier presentations on the excavation of the tomb, Mr. Spaulding will conclude with a condensed program including many of the 1,000 photographs of the site that he took in 2002 and 2003." Mr. Spaulding, a civil engineer with the Connecticut Department of

Transportation, retired in 1991 as Chief of Public Transportation. While researching his family's genealogy, he developed an interest in gravestone studies and has been specializing in documentation through photographs and inscription databases. Since 2000, Mr. Spaulding has been a member of the Friends of the Office of State Archaeology and assists Dr. Bellantoni by photographing numerous archaeological investigations around the state. He is a member of the Connecticut Gravestone Network and is on the board of the international Association for Gravestone Studies and serves as its Research Clearinghouse Coordinator. He also belongs to numerous historical societies including the Colchester Historical Society. Spaulding lives in Manchester and holds civil engineering degrees from the University of Dayton and UConn."

All programs at the Cragin Memorial Library are free and open to everyone. For more information call 537-5752 during service hours:

Monday-Thursday 10:00am to 9:00pm; Friday

Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm.

For more information Contact:

Paul Gural, Adult Services Librarian,
Cragin Memorial Library,



This Coffin lid is one of many you'll be learning about at John's lecture.

HELP is Needed for fall programs.

There are two lantern tour projects coming up and we are looking for a few folks that are interested in portraying a personality from the past at our program. If you are interested in some acting or some other element of setting up these programs in the Hartford area please call Ruthie Brown at 860-643-5652 or email her using the subject Tour helper at shapbrown@cox.net

Connecticut Gravestone Network
135 Wells St.
Manchester, Ct. 06040-6127
www.ctgravestones.com

Check label for dues exp.--- 2006 is up to date.

FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2006 - Please circle new or renewal
(photo copy of application to accompany payment is acceptable)

Deadline for Next Newsletter is April 30, 2006
cemetery news, articles and related events

APPLICATION - NEW MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL

Name:

Address:

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip+four _____

Telephone: (Home) () _____ - _____ Work () _____ - _____

Email _____

Voluntary Information:

Interests in Gravestone Studies: Check which apply:

Restoration _____ Carvers _____ Genealogy _____ History _____

Other Comments _____

If a New member - Where did you hear about CGN ? _____

Fee: \$10.00, Make Checks Payable to " CGN" - Mail to 135 WELLS ST. MANCHESTER, CT 06040-6127