

# Connecticut Gravestone Network

"Preserving and Protecting Connecticut's Old Burial Grounds and Cemeteries"

Volume 22 No.1

Feb. 2016

CGN 135 Wells St., Manchester, Ct. 06040-6157

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

[www.ctgravestones.com](http://www.ctgravestones.com)



To Collections Dept. the last issue was April 2015 Vol.21 No.2

## CGN Spring Symposium

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> 9am - 4pm**

**East Hartford South Senior Center  
70 Canterbury St., East Hartford 06118**

**9:30 am**

**"Looking back before we go forward; saving our  
cemeteries and CGN" Ruth Brown**

**10:45 am**

**"Listen to the Dead: What Gravestones and Epitaphs  
Reveal About the Past"  
Diana Ross McCain and Carol R Whitmer**

**1:00 pm**

**"Cemeteries and Gravemarkers of the Yukon Flats  
region, Alaska" Mitzi Reynolds**

**2:15 pm**

**"Interpreting the Unseen Mysteries Beneath the Soil  
with Ground-Penetrating Radar"  
Debbie Surabian**

**Tables for displays are available contact Ruthie.**

**Flyer with full lecture descriptions  
on back page.**

**Spring meeting Sunday Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>  
1:30pm same address...**

### Greetings:

The spring and fall were busy as usual with workshops and programs all around the state, all well attended and producing new members. The time has come for us regroup and do a better job of covering the state of Connecticut. We need to get an office structure working again with help in marketing; distributing information and planning membership meetings and cemetery visits. There is a lot more sharing that we could be doing in ways now that "I" can't keep up with. This also why I'm asking that members consider becoming a CGN / AGS CT chapter! A move like this would help to bind the efforts of a few with the many across the nation; especially when it comes to working on laws and major factors that contribute to the demise of our old burying grounds and the history they contain.

To all in Connecticut working to save our cemetery history; Help keep CGN the supportive resource that it's meant to be. Thank You Ruthie Brown

### Becoming an AGS Chapter:

To be discussed at Feb.28<sup>th</sup> meeting:

I've attached a copy of the latest AGS eNews to those CGN members that receive newsletters by email.

For those that have regular mail I've enclosed a page of extra information about the AGS chapter divisions and the benefit we would have by joining.

Also see page nine for a brief outline of this entails.

Back in 1993 when I started CGN, AGS was not ready to take on regional chapters. In 2013, when AGS presented me with the Forbes Award, part of that recognition was the fact that CGN was viewed by many as the first state chapter. Now 20+ years later the game has changed and this is extra support that we should be taking advantage of. For more detailed info please go to <https://www.gravestonestudies.org/chapters>

Ruthie Brown

**CGN needs some reorganizing:** (I know I mentioned this in the last newsletter but seeing as it's been since last spring I decided to repeat it.) Ruthie is still doing the newsletter and strongly encourages members to send in articles and events word document, to be added to newsletter.

..... **Please do.**

Ruthie will also continue as Treasurer as it is logistically easier, but we will now have someone to review the books and assist with management of reports.

**Secretary** – Mary Carroll

**Financial Review Officer** – Craig Johnson

**Publicity: Website and Facebook** – Lisa Cornell

**Newsletter Editing** – Will Cornell

**Presently our list of directors remains the same:**

Ken Buckbee, James Leatherbee

Irma Carper-Miller and David Oat.

Ruthie Brown – Executive Director

## Workshop reports:

### **East Hartford's Friends of Center Cemetery Clean Up**

Friends of Center Cemetery (FCC) Activity Day in May this past spring was Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, when I set the date I did not realize it was the actually Memorial Day holiday, but never the less some of us were able to make it and we attacked some weeds and reset a few toppled old stones, but because of the holiday we were not able to connect with a youth group to help us out.

Fortunately for us, Pastor Karen Bailey-Francois of the Ellington Congregational Church called and said they were looking to do some community service hours and would like to work with us. This youth group had worked with us a couple years back through the "Hands On Hartford" organization; they were a great help then and obviously enjoyed day enough to want to come back! So on Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> the Ellington group joined Wayne and Ruthie and wow did we get a lot accomplished!

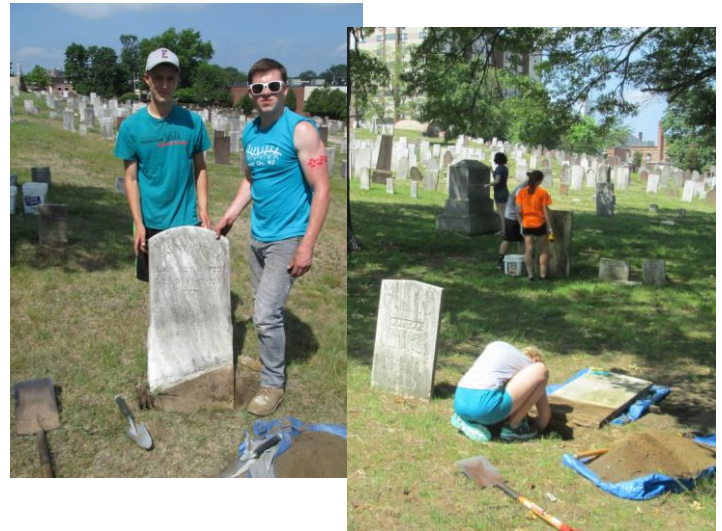
The group selects projects and through TELOS and they gather pledges for their Work-a-thon.

TELOS is church-based service-oriented Christian youth group, for high school students who choose to work, plan, pray and play together for nine months in preparation for a week-long mission trip at the end of the school year.

The word TELOS comes from the Greek word meaning goal or purpose, and is also an abbreviation for **Teens Experience Living Out the Story**. High school students in TELOS live out the story of Jesus by reaching out to others in service. This year they went to Pittsburgh to work with "Rebuilding Together" to repair and add safety equipment to homes for low income senior citizens

FCC wants to thank the students and leaders for their effort and time. Our Center Cemetery is a big place but every bit of restoration counts towards saving someone's story for at least another decade. It was pleasure meeting you and working with such a dedicated group of young people that did a tremendous job to help save our history.

**Thank you all.**



### **Old Westbrook Cemetery recovers from Vandalism—**

Our friends on the shore in Westbrook have also begun a strong effort to inventory and clean up their oldest burying ground. Unfortunately they had some trouble early on in the fall with some vandalism. A couple of distraught persons visited and knocked over about 20+ stones. Sadly many of these were older historic stones but most were marble stones that were worn and will make repairing them a harder task then simply resetting them. The Historical Society membership is working diligently with the help of their First Selectman Noel Bishop to get a plan in place for this coming season to restore as much of the damage as is possible. The two men were caught by the



diligent work from their local State Police Unit. For more information or to volunteer with their efforts contact Catherine Doane at [CND5000Q@aol.com](mailto:CND5000Q@aol.com)



Picture above was taken when Ruthie Brown, Wayne Skidgel, Will and Liza Cornell went down in November to help local volunteers for a day.

Visit [westbrookhistoricalsociety.org](http://westbrookhistoricalsociety.org)

### **Hebron Old Cemetery receives some love and care .**

We are happy to report that our Hebron friends have been making a steady progress on their efforts for the Old Hebron cemetery on Wall St. We held a workshop to which many enthusiastic volunteers came and as well as



some members of the Descendants and Founders of Windsor (DFAW) organization. Most of the day was spent on cleaning lichen covered stones and resetting some half a dozen leaning stones. The group which is headed up by the Hebron Historical Society has been working on a new inventory of stones as well as research

to compare and catalogue what might be missing. For more information or to volunteer in Hebron contact Mary-Ellen Gonci at [mergonci65@comcast.net](mailto:mergonci65@comcast.net)

Another photo from workshop in the Hebron cemetery, it was a great group of volunteers that came out to help, and we got a lot done in one day. Check out their Cemetery Guide on the Historical Society's web site <http://www.hebronthistoricalsociety.org/hebron-cemetery-guide.html>



### **Old Suffield Cemetery is also receiving some just attention.**

This past year Ruthie has made a few trips up to Suffield's Old cemetery to work with the Sibbil Dwight local Kent Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) volunteers. Suffield Academy teacher and AGS/CGN member Bill Sullivan has recently revived the committee to care for the cemetery. One of the first tasks that Ruthie hopes to see accomplished, is an improved communication and effort from the church (cemetery is directly behind the church) regarding the roof drainage situation that has eroded the burial ground and toppled quite a few old gravestones. The local DAR chapter got involved as they wanted to spruce up the area around the gravestone for their chapters namesake Sibbil Dwight Kent, in time for a dedication plaque to be placed in July.





What a wonderful day we had and the passion has since spawned a good combined effort of many to go forward with some proper care for this old heritage. On one work day we had a welcomed visit from member Bill Sullivan and local historian Lester Smith who was Very Happy to see that we could indeed clean a certain tablestone of his interest and make it readable again.



Above- Suffield Volunteers – DAR members and Friends gathered around Sybbil's gravestone. We accomplished getting about a dozen stones straightened up in our one 5 hour workday.

One DAR member, Marti Andryzeck in particular has become ignited with this new passion of caring for our history and has extended her interest to the Over the Mountain Cemetery in Suffield. Below is a picture taken on one very warm day just before Christmas (!) when Ruthie met Marti at the cemetery along with good friend, CGN member, DFAW board member, Phelps Genealogist (we all get involved in so much) AND cousin to Murray Phelps, the gentleman that oversees the cemetery; Larry Phelps.. Later that afternoon another cousin of Larry's also stopped by with his family to visit old Phelps graves. The Phelps name is one of those that can be found throughout the CT Valley history and with my AGS tour in Granby this past spring and working in Suffield (and Hebron too); everywhere she went Ruthie was finding Phelps family stones.



Speaking of *Cleaning* stones, if you didn't see this you might want to check it out. Not that I'm advertising per say, but this is some very interesting business for those of you who are asking questions about what to use. Water is still my number one choice for general purposes but I've also been using D2 for many years now. Ruthie..

### **D/2 announcement!**

Cleaning gravestones :

### **Preserve America Presidential Executive Order 13287 - D/2 Biological Solution**

Executive Order 13287, Preserve America FY 2011 Triennial Report Department of Veteran Affairs.

For full report click on the link below.

[http://www.achp.gov/section3reports/2011/2011\\_Section3\\_VA.pdf](http://www.achp.gov/section3reports/2011/2011_Section3_VA.pdf)

Page 3 The National Cemetery Administration recommends D/2.

**Quote:** "The NCA entered into an agreement with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, NPS, to evaluate marble cleaners in an effort to minimize damage to historic headstones.

The 3-phase study began in 2004 and was completed in 2011.

The best-practice recommendations resulted in NCA's determination to use the preferred cleaner, D/2 Biological Solution"

Please follow this link and add yourself to our email database. <http://bit.ly/1PzjuYx>  
The newsletter will come out 6 times a year.

Good work Ted – we hope to see you at our April symposium!



Ted Kinnari at one of our past symposium's..

## Other News from around the State

### Congratulations Cornwall, CT

As a part of Cornwall's 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this past fall Joanne Wojutsiak was proud to pass on that the database; they have been working on; of all the burials in Cornwall cemeteries is now completed thanks to the effort of John Calhoun. If anyone reading this has questions they should contact John at [Calhoun@cathedralpinesfarm.com](mailto:Calhoun@cathedralpinesfarm.com) for more information. Copies of all maps and the database are on file with Cornwall's town clerk ( 860-672-2709).

### Stories to Share

I often hear people talking about this - it's worth sharing.



#### Goats in DC

##### **No kidding: Goats get the weed-whacking done in D.C.'s Congressional Cemetery**

Jennifer Calfas, USA TODAY 6:24 p.m. EDT August 6, 2015

A herd of 30 goats arrived at the Congressional Cemetery on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., on Thursday to clear

brush, vines and poison ivy from the area for two weeks. The Association of the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery, a non-profit that supports the cemetery, rented the goats from Browsing Green Goats in Sunderland, Md., for \$5,000. The money came from an anonymous donor.

"They're really affordable," said Paul Williams, president of the Historic Congressional Cemetery. "With a herd of 30 goats, if you break it down per hour, it's only \$1 per goat. And that's great."

Williams said the goats will work 24 hours a day to deplete the unwanted vegetation — and they usually spend at least a third of their day eating. In addition to being cost-effective, these animals also provide a more sustainable way to eliminate blight, and can also fertilize the soil on their own, according to Mary Bowen, president of Browsing Green Goats.

She said the goats are a better alternative to using pesticides and herbicides to eliminate poison oak and weeds.

"We need to be good stewards to the environment," Bowen said.

#### **Armed to teeth, goats keep weeds in check across U.S.**

Bowen added that the goats remove invasive vines that harm the honey bee population near the cemetery. These bees are vital for not only the native plants, but for humans and other species, she said.

"If we don't save the pollinators, we lose out," Bowen said. "We as a society depend on agriculture, and the pollinators depend on a food source."

Many locations in the U.S., including airports, national landmarks and hillsides, use goats to clear brush, but Williams says the cemetery was the first to do so in Washington, D.C. The burial site, which is a National Historic Landmark, hosted another herd of goats two years ago to complete similar tasks.

Nancy Morrissey, a retired employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was one of the first visitors to the goats on Thursday. Morrissey, who lives in Maryland, came with seven friends and said she supports the use of goats for removing unwanted vegetation and blight within the community.

"It's a cool idea," Morrissey said. "We came more for the goats than for the Congressional Cemetery."

Though they're fenced off to feed on only part of the 1.6-acre lot of land, visitors can peer through the fence to watch them graze -- or hear them calling back and forth as they steadily mow down the plants around them.

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This spring member Jennifer Vasquez up in Springfield who also takes care of the Avon, Ct. Cider Brook Cemetery) sent us a heads up on a couple of stories, it seems that the theft of gates from our old cemeteries is still an issue..



**Missing face plates from the gate post at Westfield's historic Old Burying Ground** are believed stolen. on my last check this article could still be found at: <http://www.masslive.com/new/index.ssf/2015/05/westfield-police-seeking-publi-1.html>

and ....

#### **VA Cemetery Worker Allegedly Stole Headstones To Pave Garage**

Kevin Maynard, 59, of Charlestown, R.I., an employee at the Rhode Island Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Exeter, R.I., has agreed to plead guilty in federal court to stealing granite gravestones and other items from the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery for use at his home as garage and shed flooring, announced United States Attorney Peter F. Neronha; Jeffrey Hughes, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General (VA OIG), Northeast Field Office; and Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell, Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police.



According to court documents, it is alleged that over a lengthy period of time Maynard removed worn or broken grave markers from the cemetery and brought them to his Charlestown residence. On April 23, 2015, a VA-OIG agent and Rhode Island State Police detective accompanied Maynard to his home where investigators discovered at least 150 veterans' grave markers being used as flooring for a shed and two make-shift garages. Investigators also located additional markers on the property and a box of American flags allegedly stolen from the Veterans' Cemetery.

According to Government regulations, all Government-furnished headstones/markers/ medallions remain the property of the United States Government in perpetuity and that the "destruction, mutilation, defacement, injury, or removal of any monument, gravestone, or other structure within the limits of any national cemetery is prohibited."

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Below are a couple of interesting pieces from a past  
AGS newsletter

#### **Message from Jenny Swadosh, Chair of the AGS Archives Committee, on Personal Digital Archiving**

At the AGS conference in June, many attendees asked me about preserving their digital memories. Although we didn't have sufficient time to go into detail about digital preservation during the Saturday morning participation session, I would like to share the U.S. Library of Congress's Personal Digital Archiving website with the gravestone studies community. I hope to disseminate more specific information in future AGS venues, but for now the Library of Congress is a leading trusted resource I can recommend to those who want to jump into digital preservation:

<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/personalarchiving/>

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Article: "Reburial of woman in native Ireland highlights 183-year-old murder mystery"**

This link comes from Robert Keeler: A friend emailed me a link to an article from *The Guardian* about the repatriation and reburial of an Irish immigrant woman who died in the 1830s in Pennsylvania--one of the Irish immigrants who died from cholera and possibly murder and were buried along the Pennsylvania Railway outside of Philadelphia at "Duffy's Cut."

Here's the link: <http://gu.com/p/4anb6/sbl>

\*\*\*\*\*

This winter Ruthie has spent a lot of time going through old records, files, and boxes of information at home and has been rediscovering things collected over the years. Below is a story found in the old Hale archives about an unfortunate death, and while as sad as any death would be one can't but speculate and shake their head about the circumstances.

#### **The Connecticut Mirror – Aug. 17, 1912**

On Tuesday morning last, about one o'clock Mr. Henry Peterson descended into a privy for the purpose of getting his watch which was lost on Monday. As soon as he descended he fainted. Mr. Reynolds, his brother-in-law went to his assistance and both were suffocated there together. They have left distressed families to bemoan their sudden deaths. Their remains were entombed yesterday. (via the Boston Post)..

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **A Lone Grave – A lonely death.**

Captain Smith's grave on Boston Hill Rd. in Andover.

Gravestones are carved by Gershom Bartlett

(info taken from Andover HS paper Vol.4 #1 Jan. 1998 re a talk given by Margaret H. Talbot in March of 1976)

Capt. Simon Smith 4<sup>th</sup> Conn. Reg. of Provincials in the campaigns of 1759 & 1760, among his colleagues were Lieut. Col. Israel Putnam; Rev. Benjamin Pomeroy of Hebron, Chaplin.

Capt. Smith was born in 1717 and New London church records shows he was married to Rebecca More, daughter of Joshua, of that town on April 22, 1742. Per his inventory he was a blacksmith. Simon is mentioned in Joshua Hempstead's (of New London) Diary where we learn that he was also a surveyor working with Hempstead to "view" the mountains beyond the Niantic River. The diary also mentions the burial of an infant of Simon's in January of 1748, but there are no church or town records showing the births of any surviving children.

This campaign time was one for high exposure to small pox, which many of his comrades died of. It is believed that this is also what caused his death, which would also account for the single burial away from others. The fear of this horrid disease usually meant those who died from it were buried as soon as possible as their death, often on their own property or very near where they took their last breath.

In the Captain's case it is said that he died 5 days after coming home ill, and was housed perhaps in an empty building owned by the local Inn keeper Mr. Buell, who owned land in the area of the grave. (Indeed his very sad

epitaph describes a gallant, but lonely death of an admired person that would surely have done so much more for his companions, loved ones and country had he lived a longer life.)

Inscription as written long ago..

Revered, yet unattended –  
All alone, sweetly repose  
Beneath this humble stone  
Ye hear remains. In Memory  
Of Capt. Simon Smith of New London  
who after a series of  
kind and useful  
labors, publick & domestick,  
particular hazards, & hardship  
of ye late campaign which he  
endured with uncommon fortitude  
on his return home being seised  
with ye small pox, cheerfully  
resigned to death, November 28, 1760  
in the 44rd year of his age.  
Death leaves a shining mark;  
A Signal blow and calls his  
Victims form ye fairest fold.

\*\*\*\*\*

**East Hartford Center Cemetery** will by having it's annual activity day to do some much needed work in May; although the exact date has not been set as of yet it is usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May. Stay tuned !  
Please visit the Friends of Center Cemetery facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Center-Cemetery-Center-Cemetery-944-Main-St-East-Hartford/124562170953370>

## **CGN Meeting – Sunday Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm Southend Senior Center  
70 Canterbury Lane

East Hartford, CT 06118

RSVP Ruthie if you plan to attend.

[ctgravelady@cox.net](mailto:ctgravelady@cox.net) -- use header **CGN Feb.28th** please.

This is a good time to discuss becoming an AGS Chapter; for those new to the AGS circle Ruthie will bring some information on last year's conference to share.

Please review page 9 for some specific to discuss.

It is also a good time to use the CGN library.

I can be there earlier if anyone wants to use the library before the meeting, just let me know.

East Hartford Friends of Center Cemetery Office.

Same place as the symposium

**but use the center door.**

At meeting Ruthie will be glad to share with the group, some of these old photos and pieces she's been finding.

## **Friends of Danbury Cemeteries**

### **Workshop schedule and meetings**

The Friends of Danbury Cemeteries are always working to restore the abandoned and underserved cemeteries in the City of Danbury. Worcester Cemetery is one of their major undertakings. Please contact Ed Siergie directly at [Esiergiej@aol.com](mailto:Esiergiej@aol.com) to receive their e-newsletter.

## **Cedar Hill Cemetery in Hartford**

Cedar Hill Foundation has already published their calendar of tours for the year; along with some regular favorites they've introduced some new very interesting topics as well. Go to <http://www.cedarhillcemetery.org/>

### **How about going back to having a symposium in the fall season besides our spring get together? -**

Perhaps on a smaller scale then our spring event but with a speaker or two and still open to the public of course. If you have a place in mind or some ideas contact Ruthie Brown at 860-643-5652 or at [ctgravelady@cox.net](mailto:ctgravelady@cox.net)

### **Pictures below from old archives --**



Above is a drawing of Lady Fenwick's original Table tomb.



Unknown cemetery being cleared probably 1930's – 50's

# AGS State/Regional Chapters A Getting Started Guide

*This is an abbreviated copy in an effort to keep things brief for the newsletter- – Those sections that Ruthie thought should be a point of discussion at meeting...*

■ *So for full text please to do go to AGS website and read the entire section....* ■

Beginning a new chapter can seem like a daunting task, however it doesn't have to be and the rewards are worth it! The following suggestions are based on the successes of other AGS chapter's founders,

## **First Things First:**

1. Read the AGS Chapters Mission Statement and Operational Rules. This document lays out the rationale for the existence of chapters, how they are to function in relation to the central organization, and provides guidelines for what chapters can and cannot do.
3. Once you have identified at least three current members complete the AGS Chapters Application. This is a "fillable" pdf form on the AGS website which you can download.
4. ...set up a separate email account for the chapter so it can be "handed off" if you're no longer chapter chair. Most chapters also create a Facebook account at this time. *(Thanks to Liza Cornell CGN has a Facebook site already)*
5. AGS can post a notice in the e-newsletter, website, and forward an email on your behalf. (Due to privacy concerns, AGS will not provide a list of emails, but you're certainly welcome to start your own contact list as people respond to your notice!)
6. Applications will then be reviewed at the next Board of Trustees meeting.
7. Once approved, you will receive a formal letter and receive that year's AGS Tax ID card for your chapter's use.

## **Preparing for Meeting Helpers:**

1. Location, location, location: ...a classroom or auditorium space, local public library, historical society, or cemetery to see if they would have a space available or simply hold the meeting at a cemetery so everything is confined to one location.
2. Money: while AGS does hope to be able to provide some funding to chapters...  
*(To address this issue Ruthie would like to remind members that CGN has enough in our account to fund these meetings; and a bus trip supplement, the problem has been getting a trip organized. Finding a good date and getting responses in order.)*
3. Have AGS Materials Available; the primary object of chapters is to promote awareness and membership in AGS.
4. Get Current AGS Members to Attend... with good advance notice your chapter meeting can be published in the e-newsletter and posted on the chapter's page.
5. Get Non-AGS Members to Come: Make sure when you invite area members to encourage them to spread the word about the upcoming meeting in their communities...

## **Suggestions for Meeting Formats:**

There is no absolute or "right" way to have a chapter meeting. It can be as formal or as informal as you like.

1. Weekends tend to work best with busy schedules.
2. Having people email RSVPs is always helpful for planning.
4. Presentation sessions are helpful; no more than twenty minutes or so esp. if you have more than one presenter.  
*(Ruthie would like to see more members sharing their work with others and make meetings a learning experience)*
5. Cemetery tours or visits of course are always a welcomed part of the day.

Again for more explanation go the AGS web site to view this complete guide reference

<http://gravestonestudies.org/images/Chapters/chaptersguide.pdf>



# Connecticut Gravestone Symposium

**Sat. April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016**

**9 am – 4 pm**

**East Hartford South Senior Center  
70 Canterbury St., East Hartford 06118**

**Presented by  
Connecticut Gravestone Network**

**Hosted by  
Friends of Center Cemetery, Inc.  
East Hartford**

## **Presentations:**

### **9:30 am “Looking back before we go forward; saving our cemeteries and CGN”**

CGN director Ruthie Brown will be providing a combination of introduction of topics for new comers, a quick look at some issues as well as old and new looks at where CGN has been and inquiring about where CGN is headed.

### **10: 45 am . “Listen to the Dead: What Gravestones and Epitaphs Reveal About the Past”**

Diana Ross McCain and Carol R. Whitmer (professional historians and genealogists) of *Come Home to Connecticut*<sup>™</sup> will present an illustrated program exploring what the words on monuments to the dead reveal about a person, and the clues they provide for further research.

McCain was with the Connecticut Historical Society for 25 years, and is a free-lance writer, researcher and the author of five books. Whitmer is past president of the CT Society of Genealogists and on the Board at CHS.

*Come Home to Connecticut*<sup>™</sup> is an enterprise that offers personalized genealogical and historical research, education, and consulting services.

### **11:45 – 12:45 Lunch Break**

**We provide sandwiches & beverages for a donation**

### **1:00 pm "Cemeteries and Gravemarkers of the Yukon Flats region, Alaska"**

Cemeteries for Athabascan Natives came into being at the time of missionary contact; cemeteries for non-natives began at the time of military contact and so, in this region of the state, date from the 1860's to the present. Half of the villages are located on the Yukon River, the transportation system for everyone including men and women struck by "gold fever" during the rushes of the late 1800's and early 1900's. Mitzi Reynolds was the Curriculum Director for the Yukon Flats school district and will share photographs and stories of both native and non-native cemeteries and the gravemarkers within.

### **2:15 pm “Interpreting the Unseen Mysteries Beneath the Soil with Ground-Penetrating Radar” Debbie Surabian, State Soil Scientist CT/RI, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**

In Connecticut, The Office of State Archaeology and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service have been working together for many years gathering subsurface information in cemeteries around the state. By sharing resources, skills, expertise, and knowledge this partnership has truly revealed some of Connecticut's most amazing stories and history. Come listen and see how ground-penetrating radar activities have uncovered buried wolf stones in Wightman Cemetery, identified unmarked graves in the David Ruggles Family Plot, and brought to light the story of the crater in The Captain Thomas Robinson Cemetery.

**Visit with Exhibitors - Bring your questions - Learn how to preserve your old history**

**Admission \$10 for general public - Pay at the door**

\$5 for CGN members

CGN dues - \$10 payable at the door.

**For more information contact Ruthie**

at [ctgravelady@cox.net](mailto:ctgravelady@cox.net)

Or call 860-643-5652

Directions: Senior Center is on the East Hartford Glastonbury town line,  
Maple Ave. -off Route 2 E - E bound use exit 5c – west bound use 5 b and reverse direction  
by turning left (at Wendy's) and left at light to get back up on hwy and use exit 5c..then follow signs

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

[www.ctgravestones.com](http://www.ctgravestones.com) - please note that the basic information on our website is still good but until our new site is up the events and some links aren't current.

**Deadline for Next Newsletter is April 30<sup>th</sup> , 2016**  
**cemetery news, articles and related events**

**APPLICATION - NEW MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL**

FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016- **Please circle** new or renewal  
(photo copy of application to accompany payment is appreciated)

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Town** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip+four** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone: (Home)** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ **Work** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print clearly - 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**