

THE FRIENDS OF HOPE CEMETERY

## THE HOPE REPORT

VOL. 9 No. 1

FALL 2010

## Civil War Walk

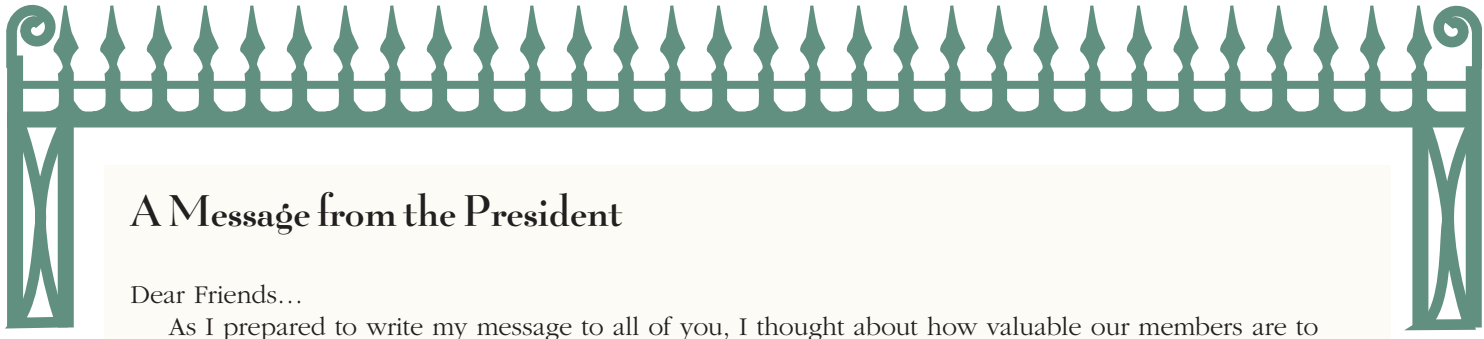
On Sunday, May 23rd board member Mark Savolis led a walk through the cemetery to visit the graves of about a dozen of Civil War soldiers. The walk began at the grave of Medal of Honor recipient, Sergeant Thomas Plunkett, “the armless hero of Fredericksburg” and ended at the grave of Charles Pinkham, who earned a Medal of Honor at the battle of Fort Steadman. The 25 participants heard the story of Susan Alger, a civil war nurse who is buried next to her son, Warren Alger, a Worcester soldier who was captured three times and died at Andersonville. Many of the stories were illustrated with photographs of the soldiers. The highlight of the walk was a reading of a Civil War letter of Lieutenant Charles Tew of the 25th Mass. Volunteers by his great, great grandson, John Tew of New York.



## Barbara Allen Booth, 1911-2010

At the Friends' annual meeting on June 9, 2010, the Friends dedicated a pink dogwood in memory of longtime supporter, Barbara Allen Booth. Mrs. Booth especially admired dogwoods, paying each year for their spraying at the cemetery. Rainy weather prevented the outdoor ceremony at the tree, located in section 103, between Gladway Avenue East and West. A plaque noting the dedication is set in the ground to the right of her tree. Instead, all gathered at the Hall in the Zona Administration Building for the ceremony. Mrs. Booth had worked with the Friends group since its beginning. She was very involved with the Arbor Day tree planting with the Gates Lane elementary students, coming each year to greet the students and listen to their essays, stories and poems. Friends and members such as John Trexler, Cookie Nelson, and John Anderson told fond stories about her. Her son, George (Geoff) Booth, responded to the memories.

The annual meeting was a brief one, principally a chance to vote for officers for the coming year, but mainly to honor Mrs. Booth. After the dedication, there was a reception in Hovhanesian Hall.



## A Message from the President

Dear Friends...

As I prepared to write my message to all of you, I thought about how valuable our members are to this organization. Each year you receive a letter and return envelope asking you to renew your membership. Recently, those who have not renewed received a follow-up letter. For those of you that have joined I want to personally thank you for continuing to be a Friend. For those of you that haven't yet joined, I want to tell you that your membership is very important to us.

Many of our members do have loved one buried in Hope Cemetery. They understand that Hope Cemetery is a public park and holds an important part in our city's history. Women and men of the arts, fallen heroes of past wars, famous city and industrial leaders, and founders of local institutions are all there. We provide a burying ground for any city resident who might otherwise not be given a place of rest. We have a children's burial ground for those whose families have not yet obtained a family burial plot. We also have some historic stones from the removals of the Common and Mechanics Street, Worcester's original cemeteries.

Because our memberships are the primary source of support I hope you will take time not only to renew you membership each year but to interest a friend or family member to join the Friends of Hope Cemetery. At the bottom of this page is a membership form for you to clip out and pass along.

This newsletter, lectures, programs, nature walks and plantings of common areas are all part of the benefits you, your friends and family can enjoy when you become one of our Friends. Thank you for your support

Sincerely,  
Ann C. Nelson, President

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

I/We are happy to become Friends of Hope Cemetery and to support the preservation, maintenance and improvement of the cemetery.

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Y E A R L Y   D U E S</b>  |  | Name _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership<br><input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Membership  |  | Address _____  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL/<br/>FAMILY</b>   | <b>ORGANIZATION/<br/>CORPORATIONS</b>  | City_ _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Benefactor<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Patron<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sustaining<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family/Dual<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Benefactor<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Patron<br><input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sustaining | State_____ Zip _____   |
|   |  | Tel. No. _____   |
|   |  | Email _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I/We would like to make an additional gift of \$_____. Enclosed is \$_____.<br>Please make check payable to the Friends of Hope Cemetery   |  | I/We are please to join the Friends because of our interest in: _____  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Please check if you have relatives buried in Hope Cemetery.<br>Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. |







## Tree Walk at Hope Cemetery, October 24, 2010

Hope, as a 19th century rural cemetery, is a good place to view plantings of all types. The weather this Sunday was not the best, being cold and rainy at the 1:30 p.m. start. An intrepid dozen gathered on Curtis Avenue to walk with John Trexler of Tower Hill Botanic Garden, to see the trees through the eyes of an expert. John first pointed out the shrubs, particularly evergreens, planted by some tombstones which were decorative when planted but often the wrong size and growth habit to for their location. A garden cemetery is a good place to see how any plantings you add may develop over the years. Curtis Avenue, the main entrance road for the cemetery, is not the oldest road in the cemetery. The plantings are mostly 20th century; the cemetery commissioners began building Curtis in 1898. The view down the avenue towards the back of the cemetery is quite beautiful. The trees are maples which do have good color in the fall. The idea was to create an allee, defined as a path or walkway lined with evenly planted rows of trees. The road is wide and straight and makes a fine first impression of the landscape. Maples are abundant in Hope; there are several different species, but when there are many of the same type, disease and pests can spread from one to another with ease, as we have seen recently with the Asian Longhorn beetle.

Looking around the cemetery it is easy to see that trees have periods when they are in fashion. It might be sugar maples for the color or Norway maples because they were a familiar type. Flowering

dogwoods were a very popular tree in the 1960s and 70s. They are truly beautiful in bloom and even when leafless the branch structure makes them attractive. Again, there are a fair number of dogwoods in the cemetery and they do need spraying to stay healthy. Evergreens have an attractive year-round foliage but the placement is important. Trees that are designed to be tall and wide need enough space to show off well. Evergreens can be good screening plants, shutting off a view we really don't want.

The cemetery planters put in other trees which add interest because of their colorful or peeling bark. Some trees have attractive fruit or nuts that can make them colorful in late fall and winter. There were several species of crabapple trees, with different colored fruits which make them shine even as the leaves fall off.

We spent an hour being shown the attractive and important role that trees have in the landscape. It would be interesting to view them again in the spring or early summer. John Trexler was a very good guide to the beauties of Hope Cemetery.

Friends of Hope Cemetery  
mourn the loss of  
Edmund Schofield  
1938 - 2010  
Botanist, Historian and Loyal Board Member





### Friends of Hope Cemetery Board of Directors

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| Sally K. Talbot, Recording Secretary | 508-797-0083 |
| Kenneth T. Lundquist, Treasurer      | 508-754-3105 |

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