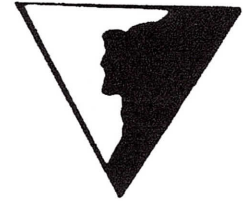


"CEMETERY CHRONICLES"

New Hampshire Cemetery Association (NHCA) Quarterly Newsletter

Issue 11

March 2014

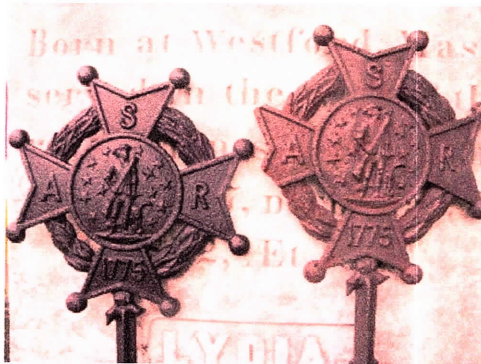


Fitzwilliam markers, cont'd...



We became aware of a specialized metal finishing company in Massachusetts that was set up for large scale production runs. They use a soaking process to remove and neutralize rust instead of media blasting prior to a two-step finishing

process and baking. The company finished two holders for us to inspect and approve. We were very happy with the results and they have quoted us a great price that will enable us to complete all of the remaining markers this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at mikegrab@loonlight.com.



SPRING 2014 MEETING REMINDER TUESDAY APRIL 15 – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE!!

See you at The Derryfield, 625 Mammoth Rd., Manchester, NH

- 9:00 AM – Registration, Coffee Hour
- 9:45 AM - Cemetery Forms Tom Daly, presenter, Cemetery Helpful Solutions
- 10:45 AM - Break
- 11:00 AM - What's in a name? Burial Grounds, Graveyard, Gravesite, Burial Space, Cemetery Richard Maloon, New Hampshire Old Graveyard Association, presenter
- 12:00 PM – Raffle followed by Lunch Buffet

Send your registrations to Jeff Snow.

GRAVESTONE INSCRIPTIONS CAN BE MISLEADING

By Bill & Carol Vose

With the 250th anniversary of the Town of Conway coming up in 2015, we wanted to research any people of historical importance interred in the Conway Village Cemetery, especially Revolutionary and Civil War veterans. Checking our records we found many of rank, including lieutenants, majors, colonels and captains. We were curious as to what part these officers played in these wars.

Carol has done extensive genealogical research on her own family lines and knows how to unearth (no pun intended) pertinent information. She began looking into their backgrounds based on dates and information on their gravestones. Some veterans' stones have GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) Civil War markers beside their graves denoting service in that war. But dates on the stones do not match the historical record, so the information is questionable.

We have a "Colonel" Eliphalet Cloutman, 1792-1862, but he was not a colonel and never fought in the Civil War. He was 69 years old when the war started and died a year later. He did command the local regiment of the state militia, but never left Conway. The designation of "colonel" on the gravestone is honorary, as is the GAR marker.



There is much history buried in our old cemeteries. We have come to learn that you assume nothing in family research. We know that names, dates, and other information chiseled on the stone may have been placed there in recognition of how the family remembers it, be it 100% true or not. In researching family genealogy, the further you go back, the spelling of names change, fathers and sons and their sons can all have the same names, and multiple marriages or names of children born out of wedlock add to the confusion.

You do not have to be a history buff to be aware of the amazing stories regarding the contribution of veterans, enlisted men and women, and local dignitaries buried in your cemetery. Their experiences offer glimpses into the historical wealth to be found there. If someone has the time, it can be a rewarding adventure and a great addition to the historical records of your cemetery.

So don't always believe everything you see. But do the research and you may find some historical gems.