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for more information call
(607) 687-3047 and leave a message

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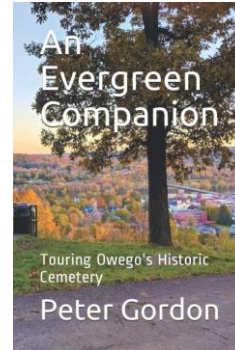
Dead Tree removal



Invasive bush removal

Friends of Owego Evergreen Cemetery Inc

Newsletter: December 2021



Summer into Fall at Evergreen



The “Friends” worked along with the Village Evergreen Cemetery Committee members and volunteers one Saturday each month April thru October. This season Cornell Cooperative Extension Arborist, Barb Neal, gave an interesting talk and walk in the cemetery regarding the trees and invasive plants that need our attention. The village contracted with Shattuck Tree Service to cut down a number of the dead trees. On volunteer work days we continue our invasive bush removal – several varieties planted near tombstones are compromising (tipping over) and hiding stones.



At the August workday, cemetery conservators Tina & Dale Utter demonstrated simple cleaning method for tombstones and also repositioned a stone that was falling over. This was a good hands-on session for our volunteers present that day.

If you have visited Owego Evergreen Cemetery recently, you may have noticed that some of the monuments in Section 4 look brighter. Joan & Alicia have been cleaning them- using a scrub brush, some water, and, as mom would say “elbow grease”. After scrubbing and rinsing, the dirt and debris accumulated over many years – names, dates, ornate carvings, and epitaphs can be revealed. We treat the headstones with D/2, a biologic cleaner that remains effective for days or even weeks after being applied. At left photo, Charles Manning is memorialized as: “A SOLDIER OF THE REBELLION KILLED AT BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG JULY 3, 1863”



You can take a virtual tour online of Evergreen at ExperienceTioga.com under things to do. Friends in partnership with Tioga County Tourism also have a new walking tour map. You can pick up a copy at the tourism Front Street office, or download a copy from the website.

***Reminder: Owego Evergreen Cemetery access roads are considered ‘seasonal’ - and may be closed to vehicle traffic during our wintery weather.



Our Mission

The Friends of Owego Evergreen Cemetery exist for the benefit of the community by raising funds for preservation, maintenance, and promoting education projects in the cemetery – things not included in the Village of Owego’s cemetery budget. “Friends” is a NYS not-for-profit and a tax exempt 501(c)3.

Committee Projects:

Peter Gordon, our chair for **Grant funding**, is partnering with the Tioga County Economic Development group to help find & apply for grants appropriate for Evergreen projects. Grants he is working on include the Mortuary Chapel stained glass restoration & preservation of the building. Guide rail replacement. Restoration funds for the Thomas “Boss” Platt monument.

Guide Rail Replacement: The Friends have received a generous donation to help fund the replacement of the guard rail along the entry/exit mountain road. This fundraising is ongoing, donations welcome as the project is still in the engineering & design phase. We are partnering with the village Evergreen Committee and DPW to get the project timeline done.

Gravestone Preservation/Cleaning – How to clean tombstones. Demonstrations are planned during next Spring/Summer seasons. Funding needs to be raised for ‘cleaning kits’. We plan to help those in the community who want to participate but not able to afford a ‘cleaning kit’.

Educational presentations - walking tours can be arranged for families, youth groups, etc. for a \$25 suggested donation/group. . Send an email OwegoHistorian@gmail.com

An Evergreen Companion - Touring Owego’s Historic Cemetery book is available locally at Riverow Bookstore and online via Amazon. Peter Gordon assembled cemetery info on over 140 biographies and 296 images for this book.

New members and volunteers always welcome.