

Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council

PROGRAM/ SPEAKER: Ruth Shapleigh Brown, President of the Connecticut Gravestone Network, gave a very informative presentation and slide show. Highlights of her presentation are as follows:

1997 Symposium - Saturday Nov 8th, 10-4, Naugatuck Valley Comm. Tech College, 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury CT. Admission \$2.00 (non-members). Four speakers/presentations plus displays of historic and educational information.

Genealogists helpful: By forwarding [to CGN] documented copies of probate inventories which list specific tools, pieces, or who was paid for gravestones; indicating that the person(s) may have been a gravestone carver. This will help to further carver research.

Daniel Hearn Collection: 22,400 (pre-1800) inscriptions from 411 cemeteries in 164 CT towns (recorded 1975-1987). Inscriptions are recorded in their entirety and listed in alphabetical order. This collection is at the CGN office; forward all inquiries to: CGN, c/o John Spaulding, 69 Meadow Lane, Manchester CT 06040 5545.

Rubbing: Check with officials if rubbing allowed or permit required. Be sure stone is completely stable and cover the entire stone before rubbing. Sandstone, limestone and marble are especially vulnerable to damage from rubbing. Sandstone erodes from the inside and may appear stable when actually hollow.

Photographing/Reading: Reflect sunlight with a mirror. Do not use chalk, dirt, shaving cream, etc. to highlight lettering.

Cleaning: Plain water and soft bristle brushes, natural or nylon. Keep stone wet at all times; really wet. Scrub from the bottom up. Remove lichen with wooden or plastic scraper (no metal). Do not seal or waterproof. Stone needs air and water to pass through it.

Amnesty Program: Allows for return of misplaced markers. If you know of any markers in someone's house, basement, etc... please let people know about the amnesty program.

Membership: \$10.00 per year includes four quarterly newsletters. Send dues to John Spaulding, Sec/Treas, 69 Meadow Lane, Manchester, CT 06040-5545.

CONDOLENCES: We have received notice that Donna Siemiatkoski's father, Raymond L. Holt, passed away on Monday October 6, 1997. We offer our condolences to Donna and her family during this time of mourning.

COPY OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLE CLIPPED FROM NEW LONDON / NORWICH THE DAY, WEDS. OCTOBER 1, 1997. Thanks to member Betty Chapman of Groton CT.

Van der Lyke named to records panel

New London — City Clerk Clark van der Lyke has been appointed to a statewide committee that will consider several legislative proposals scheduled to come before the General Assembly's Public Health Committee during the 1998 session.

The Vital Records Drafting Committee will submit recommendations to the legislative panel. The seven members will hold their first meeting Oct. 16 at the Capitol.

Two other town clerks, Bernadette M. Dillon of Portland and Mary O. Keegan of Norwalk, will serve on the committee, along with two attorneys, an official from the state Department of Public Health and a member of the Connecticut Law Revision Com-

mission.

The group will consider three proposed bills. One would provide increased public access to birth and death records. Another would expand access to birth records to include members of a person's immediate family. At present only a person's mother or the individual have access to birth records.

The third bill is of particular interest to van der Lyke. He first urged local legislators several years ago to propose a bill that would eliminate the requirement that the city or town that first records a birth, death or marriage that occurs there send copies of the record to the town where the individual lives. The bill

was not passed during previous sessions but may be reintroduced in the upcoming session.

Van der Lyke has argued that the requirement puts an unequal burden on towns with hospitals. Clerks' offices in hospital towns such as New London must handle and maintain records for all the births and deaths that occur there.

Copies of records for non-residents are sent to the clerk's office in their towns, a process that is costly both to the hospital host town and the resident town, van der Lyke said. Often, copies of records in the town of residence are not accurate because corrections and changes have been made to the original.

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DUES ARE DUE NOVEMBER 1st.... See page 1

NOVEMBER 13, 1997
CONNECTICUT COLONIAL LAW
with Attorney Robert Storm
former White House Historian

..... PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.....

FROM:
Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
P. O. Box 4273
Hartford CT 06147-4273

NEXT MEETING
CT COLONIAL LAW
Thursday - 10:00 A.M.
November 13, 1997
CT Historical Society
Hartford CT
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