

## **2008 REPORT TO THE TOWN OF WALPOLE FROM THE TRUSTEES OF THE CEMETERIES**

The Cemetery Trustees are Connie Adams (2011), Pam Howard (2009), and Paul Massicotte (2010). Throughout the year of 2008, the trustees met formally in May, July, and September; the Annual Meeting was held on November 7, 2008, at the Town Hall. We also met in June for our annual early season "walkabout" of the cemeteries in our charge: Carpenter Hill, Old Cemetery, Village Cemetery, New Cemetery and Drewsville Cemetery. This is a time to assess the general condition of these burial grounds, to make note of winter damage that may need attention and to renew our commitment to their preservation. In addition to these meetings, we have been at the cemeteries, together or separately, on numerous occasions to review conditions and/or address the concerns of lot owners and families.

Early in the summer work was completed on the repair of some very old markers and monuments in the Old Cemetery and the Village Cemetery, thus preserving an important part of the history of Walpole. We were very pleased with the work done by E.H. Clegg & Co., Inc. of Morrisville, Vermont. This year we plan to carry on this important project by employing the same company to work in the Drewsville Cemetery. Mr. John Clegg, representing Clegg and Co., presented us with an estimate for this work in 2008 and has agreed to hold that price through 2009. Budget constraints will not allow us to complete all of the work that is necessary in Drewsville this year, but it will be a good start and we look forward to being able to continue it in 2010.

Again this year we encourage everyone who enters the cemeteries to read the signs at the entrances and to abide by the rules set forth there. Your cooperation in regard to the rules regarding placement and removal of floral displays and decorations make the job of upkeep on these grounds easier and safer.

We wish to make special note of our thanks to groups and individuals who have supported our work this year. Jim Terrell and his department are frequently called upon and always willing to help out with jobs that require heavy equipment and last summer took care of the removal of a huge pine tree toppled by a violent wind – above and beyond the call of duty. We are thankful, also, for our faithful caretakers, Jim and Bev Corey, who in spite of a very rainy season kept the cemeteries neatly trimmed and who care about their work far beyond the concerns of business. And we are, as always, grateful to our friends in the Town Hall Offices for keeping us informed and assisting us in many other ways.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Adams, Chair