GROVE AVENUE AND NEW CHAPEL TOUR

Although the regular tours tend to concentrate on the oldest part of the cemetery and the lives and contributions of 19th century Rochesterians, there are other, newer areas that are equally interesting. A special tour with refreshments will be held for members and their guests on Sunday, August 22, from 4:00 to 5:30. The 1911 chapel, designed by J. Foster Warner, will be open, and there will be a guided tour to Grove Avenue, where fine mausoleums and monuments were erected earlier in this century by many of our prominent families, including Bausches, Eisenharts, Strasenburghs, Wemers and Steins. The Gannett monument was designed by Fletcher Steele and is surely one of the most unusual in Mt. Hope. The regular 2:30 tour will begin as usual at the Gazebo, but the special tour and open house (open chapel) will begin at the South Gate at 4:00. Join us for a trip to the beginning of the century, when fenced plots had been replaced by imposing tombs and carriages by Cunningham cars.

NEW GARB FOR THE OLD GAZEBO

The gazebo will soon be seen in new dress to match the reconstructed but unseen underpinnings that were built this spring. We now have nearly enough money to pay for the scraping and repainting of this structure in its original colors. Architect John Bero has determined that the gazebo was originally painted in shades of cream and tan, with an intricate arabesque design on the roof. The painting should be finished by Heritage Day, leaving only the finial to be reconstructed and placed on top.
TRUSTEES

Lack of space in the last two issues of the Newsletter has prevented listing the names of the new members of the Board of Trustees elected at the annual meeting December 1981. Herewith the entire Board:

Class of 1982
Alma Burner Creek
Sally K. Davidson
Dorothea de Zafra
Paul Knoke
Sherry Jones-Nicholson
Joyce Parker
W. Stephen Thomas

Class of 1983
Joseph Barnes
Richard G. Brown
Sarah H. Collins
John C. Clark III
Robert Hoepfl
Kathryn M. Hunter
John McKinney

Class of 1984
Dennis P. Carr
Marjorie Ewell
Dorothy T. Humes
Mary Ellen Perry
Richard O. Reisem
Robert Schnacky

EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEES

Jeffrey P. Swain, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation
William Woodward, Deputy Commissioner of Parks
Rowland L. Collins, Member, Municipal Facilities Commission, and Chairman of the Commission’s sub-committee on Cemeteries; Honorary President of the Friends
David Galli, Superintendent of Mt. Hope Cemetery

GAZEBO FUND

As reported in our Spring Newsletter, the Gazebo Fund qualified in May for the $1,500 challenge grant from the Rochester Area Foundation which awarded us this amount in furtherance of the concept of urban parks. This amount enabled us to complete payment for the basic structural and roofing repairs, leaving painting, decoration, and a reproduction of the finial (the original has decayed beyond repair) still to be done.

We are happy that a number of good friends have contributed toward the work still to be done. Notable among them is the Antiquarian Study Club which has presented the Friends with a check for $500. A number of special tours, led by our devoted volunteer guides under the leadership of Stephen Thomas and Dennis Carr, and over 40 individuals have made contributions since May 1. As of July 14, the Gazebo Fund stands at $1,422.

A list of donors since our Spring Newsletter follows. Our thanks to them.

Beverly T. Andersen
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Andrews
Antiquarian Study Club*
Joseph W. Barnes*
Mary M. Beardsley
June L. Bergman
Gilbert E. Bosche
Mr. and Mrs. Harold P. Brown
Chavurah Shalom of B’rith Kodesh (T)
Chemung County Historical Society (T)
Donald and Claire Christensen
Janet Cole
Rue and Evelyn Cromwell
Carol S. Cupery*
Mrs., Richard T. Deaton
V. S. Dewold*
John and Ruth Duggan
Louise P. Fowler
Betsy T. and Jay M. Friedman*
Eleanor R. Gay
Girl Scout Troup (T)
William T. Gruenbaum
Gunkler Family*
Beryl P. Haas
Helen G. Hanna
Josephine Harthum
Carol and Richard Henn
A fall weekend trip (Friday through Sunday) to Philadelphia is being planned. The high point of the trip will be a visit to Laurel Hill Cemetery under the guidance of John Charles Marion, President of the Friends of Laurel Hill and an authority on cemeteries. Steve Thomas, a former Philadelphian himself, will also take us to some other points of interest. Steve says that this is a good time to visit the city because they have spruced up everything for their 300th anniversary. No dates have been set or arrangements made, but a late October weekend is contemplated. It is assumed that the cost will be around $200 per person (round trip air fare is $90). If you think you may be interested, please call John Clark (weekdays 546-9194).

SUMMER C E T A WORKERS

Ten summer C E T A workers are helping to clear leaves and debris in the Cemetery. The workers are part of the City Conservation Corps.

TULIP TREE

About 100 feet west of Mt. Hope Avenue and directly west of Reservoir Avenue, there are three magnificent tulip trees. A member of the Magnolia family, this species (Liriodendron tulipifera) is one of the most beautiful of the North American trees and one of the largest. In eastern United States it is only exceeded in size by the Sycamore. It occurs from Michigan to Massachusetts and southward to Louisiana and northern Florida. It is quite common in New York State near Lake Ontario but becomes less prevalent in the Southern Tier and then reappears in northern Pennsylvania.

From a distance, the tulip tree resembles a poplar, particularly with its deeply furrowed gray bark, but its leaves, flowers, and fruit are completely different. The leaves are unique, composed of two broad lobes at the apex and two others halfway from the base. The flowers, which bloom in early June, are quite large and attractive with three green sepals and six light yellow petals. Each petal has an orange crescent near the base. Unfortunately, the flowers are somewhat obscured by the leaves. The fruits are narrow cones, each composed of many winged nutlets which gradually begin to fall during autumn and winter.

The tulip tree is one of the most primitive of the flowering plants. Millions of years ago various species occurred throughout the world but became extinct. Only one other species remains, one found in central China. Our species grows to one hundred fifty feet in the Southern Appalachians and occasionally reaches one hundred feet in our area. Although they may be numerous here, they are never the dominant species in forests as they are in the South. Perhaps the most beautiful quality of this species is its pyramidial habit with a ramrod-straight trunk. Oddly enough, in cultivation this may not occur. The reasons are not understood, but soil compaction or damage by yellow-bellied sapsuckers may be causes.

Tulip trees are easily cultivated but should be transplanted when fairly small and preferably in autumn.

James W. Kelly
Taxonomist
Monroe County Parks Dept.
CALENDAR

August
- Tours every Sunday at 2:30 begin at Gatehouse, North entrance

August 7-8
- Susan B. Anthony Festival, Madison & King Sts (The Friends will be there with a booth)

August 22
- Special members' tour of 1911 chapel and mausoleums of prominent Rochesterians, South Gate (Rain date August 29)

September-November
- Tours every Sunday 2:00 and 3:00 begin at Gatehouse, North entrance

October 3
- Heritage Day. Notable Women of Rochester

AGS CONVENTION

William W. Woodward, Deputy Commissioner of Parks, attended the annual meeting of the Association for Gravestone Studies held in Williamsburg, Massachusetts June 25-27. He returned impressed by the energy and breadth of interests displayed by the members, who came from all over the country. The conference participants heard talks on all subjects relating to cemeteries and gravestones, and toured all the cemeteries within driving distance of Williamsburg.

Membership in the AGS is open to any interested person or organization. The Friends of Mt. Hope hold an institutional membership, and the publications of the AGS are available for perusal in the Gatehouse.

OFFICERS

John C. Clark III, President
Kathryn M. Hunter, First Vice President
Sarah H. Collins, Second Vice President
Marjorie Ewell, Corresponding Secretary
W. Stephen Thomas, Recording Secretary
Dorothy Humes, Treasurer

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