# Acton Cemetery Committee Report FY22 (July 2021-June 2022)

**Members: Steve Parello (Chair), Suzanne Doyle (Co-chair), Gerald Carter, Tracey Levasseur, Ken Allan, Jr, Jim Driscoll**

Although the pandemic prohibited us from meeting the committee still managed to work on cemeteries individually until state and federal laws eased up with regards to gathering in 2021. Then we resumed our group efforts to clean neglected cemeteries and touch up those which had been previously cleaned.

In FY 2022 members Lois Michaud and Rollin Waterhouse decided to step down from the committee. They will be missed. However, three residents offered to sign on as new committee members: Jim Driscoll, Suzanne Doyle and Ken Alan, Jr, filling the void left by Lois and Rollin. With these new members and the other volunteers who offer to help clean the neglected cemeteries we've been able to tackle several cemeteries this year. They include:

- Nathan Brackett (Orchard Rd)
- Gilman Brothers (Town Farm Rd)
- Sanborn-Nason (Garvin Rd)
- Thompson (Youngs Ridge Rd)

Also of note, Ken Allan attended the 4-day Maine Old Cemetery Association (MOCA) workshop which trains individuals on proper care, maintenance and repair of cemeteries and gravestones. His knowledge will help us improve our techniques and hopefully teach volunteers and property owners who may want to fix or maintain cemeteries.

While cleaning the Gilman Brothers' cemetery, descendants of the Gilmans travelled from Ellsworth to install new signs at the cemetery.

Lastly, several members have been searching for cemeteries that local folks knew about but were not sure where they were or cemeteries that appear on the 1872 Acton map that there were no current records for. If the cemetery was not found, we've been looking into what might have happened. We're trying to research if there are any records on family graveyards being moved to larger cemeteries such as Maple Grove or those in Springvale and Sanford. Finding these forgotten cemeteries is critical especially when a property may be developed or logged.

Submitted by

Tracey Levasseur

ACC Secretary