

# SWEET AUBURN

*Newsletter of the Friends of Mount Auburn* | SPRING 2007



IN CELEBRATION OF 175 YEARS

# SWEET AUBURN

A publication of the  
Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery

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**Cover:** 19th-century granite goddess on Gay family monument on Rosebay Avenue  
(Photo by Jennifer Johnston)

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The Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery was established in 1986 to assist in the conservation of the Cemetery's natural beauty and to promote the appreciation of its cultural, historic and natural resources. Organized in 1990 as a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable trust, the Friends seeks financial support from its members, other individuals, foundations, corporations and public agencies. It receives gifts for educational and interpretive programs and materials for the public, specific cultural projects, and operating support for horticultural rejuvenation and the preservation of the historic monuments, structures, and archival artifacts and records. The Friends has over 1,300 active members.

## President's Corner

We are now more than halfway through Mount Auburn's celebration of its 175<sup>th</sup> year, and this expanded issue of **Sweet Auburn** brings you many images of the varied events that have enlivened the past few months. From the presentation of resolutions from the Senate and House at the State House in June, recognizing the Cemetery's contributions to the life of the Commonwealth over 175 years, to the moving ceremony on Bigelow Chapel Lawn in September commemorating the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the consecration, from the unveiling of the restored chancel window in Bigelow Chapel to the Gates, Ledbetter, Dobkin Hall, and Dearing lectures at the Boston Public Library in October, January, February and March respectively, hundreds of people have joined our Trustees and staff in recognizing the many ways in which the Cemetery enriches our lives. We are deeply grateful to our cultural partners, speakers, musicians, artists, conservators and historians who, together with our Trustees, staff and donors, have made these special events and projects possible.

Also running through this issue of Sweet Auburn is a timeline of significant and interesting events in the history of the Cemetery, helping to remind us how this "new American landscape" grew from an intellectual concept into a physical, vibrant institution that **preserves** countless cultural treasures from three centuries—plantings, architecture, art, archives—and **serves** an ever-broader community—clients and visitors, both on-site and increasingly over the web. This mission of **preservation** and **service**, which has run throughout our 175 years, is the focus of this issue's main article, 175 Years of Stewardship: Looking Backward and Moving Forward.

Many more 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events are yet to come in 2007—including the remaining **lectures** in our "Facets of Mount Auburn: Celebrating 175 Years of a Boston Jewel" series at the Boston Public Library and the **Gala Dinner** in the Cemetery on **June 14**, which promises to be a truly "once in a lifetime" occasion. We hope you will join us at these events, which will help many more people appreciate Mount Auburn's role in the development of our state and nation, its contribution to our cultural life today, and the Cemetery's need for a broader base of support so that its exemplary record of "preservation and service" can continue long into the future.

*Bill Clendaniel*

William C. Clendaniel, President



Bill Clendaniel in front of a portrait of Israel Munson Spelman, President of the Cemetery from 1874-1905

PHOTO BY JENNIFER JOHNSTON



pg. 1



pg. 7



pg. 12



*“Still an active cemetery, Mount Auburn is using non-traditional concepts as it goes forward, creating spaces and structures that preserve and enhance the existing landscape, while paying tribute to those buried here... Mount Auburn embodies history and the future at the same time.”*

—GARDEN DESIGN MAGAZINE,  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2006

*“Mount Auburn’s founders strove for a balance of art and nature. From its early days on the cemetery also functioned as a public park, arboretum, and a museum.”*

—AMERICANHERITAGE.COM,  
AUGUST 18, 2006

Photo ©Richard Cheek 1996

## 175 YEARS OF STEWARDSHIP: LOOKING BACK AND MOVING FORWARD

BY STEPHEN H. ANABLE, *Communications Coordinator & Writer*

Here at Mount Auburn we are mending broken angels and meeting 21st-century needs for cremations and interments. We are comforting the bereaved while honoring diverse cultural traditions and using state-of-the-art technology to locate a visitor’s ancestor. We are offering the public lectures and walking tours and caring for works of art out-of-doors, exposed to the vigorous New England elements, in the midst of a renowned collection of horticulture whose own demands can sometimes conflict with those of the monuments. (See *Sweet Auburn* Summer 2006.)

We are always conscious of our history, and conscious too that we are making history as we maintain and enhance this extraordinary place. For 175 years, Mount Auburn has exemplified stewardship, or, as we say, **preservation and service**. We work to balance the needs of art and nature, and of history and the future. Through the years we have preserved

our unique natural and cultural landscape with its varied and beautiful “character zones” while continuing what can be called a “tradition of innovation” by offering the public the very highest level of service.

Think things are static in a cemetery? Think again. Since our founding in 1831, over 94,000 people have been interred at Mount Auburn, over 60,000 cremated, and tens of thousands of monuments have been placed on our grounds to commemorate these lives. Millions of visitors—more than 200,000 every year—have learned about the many facets of Mount Auburn, including horticulture, birding, art and the life stories of those buried here. All this activity means that there is a lot of life here—varied, challenging, evolving and rewarding—and never dull.

Stewardship is not static either. Stone, especially marble, weathers in an outdoor environment. Plants grow and die, and the scope and style of horticulture has changed dramati-

cally over the years, especially as imported plants from all corners of the world—particularly from Asia during the nineteenth century—became available. Burial customs go in and out of fashion. Trends in memorialization and commemoration have changed again—and again—since the Cemetery’s founding. For example cast-iron fencing was replaced by granite curbing, and elaborate marble monuments gave way to simple, machine-made markers flush with the earth.

The services we offer have changed as well since the days of the horse-drawn hearse and black silk mourning band. The mobility of Americans has decreased the demand for the multi-generational family lots that were so common when the Cemetery was founded. We began offering cremation at the beginning of the twentieth century and it is a growing part of our activity in the new millennium. In 1974 Mount Auburn built New England’s first community mausoleum. The advances in computer technol-

movement—preservation was already in the minds of its founders. In designing the Cemetery’s first lots and paths these pioneers were careful to preserve many of the natural features that had attracted them to the site, the hills, ponds and dells that constitute its beautiful topography, as well as the ancient majestic trees. And that desire to preserve the historic landscape is our first priority today.

## New Directions

During the last few years Mount Auburn has made an integrated commitment to preservation by investing in staff and facilities, both with up-to-the-minute capabilities. Beginning in the mid-1990s Mount Auburn brought in outside experts to begin training our staff in preservation techniques, such as how to put lead into monument joints, and, when



*Clockwise from top:*

*Worker conserving 19th-century “tabletop” style monument on Agave Path (Photo by David Gallagher)*

*Preservation Supervisor David Gallagher gently steam-cleans a 19th-century marble angel in the Preservation and Services Building workshop. (Photo by Jennifer Johnston)*

*Workers stabilizing the marble Wade monument (c. 1860) on Lawn Avenue (Photo by Meg Winslow)*



ogy have transformed how we track burials and offer information to our clients. And we have taken on an ever-greater educational role to enrich our visitors’ understanding of the Cemetery’s complex layering of history, horticulture, preservation and art.

But through all of these decades, through all of these changes, **preservation** and **service** have remained our mission, with thoughtful **innovation** another constant.

## Preservation: “Part of Everything We Do”

When Mount Auburn was founded as the first large-scale designed landscape open to the public in North America—and simultaneously inaugurated the landscaped cemetery

taking inventory, how to describe the details of monuments. Mount Auburn hired our first professionally trained preservation staff member in 1999, and we made a bricks-and-mortar commitment to preservation when we built our Preservation Services Building

(PSB), which opened in August 2003. The building’s airy 1,500 square-foot workshop is a veritable “monument hospital.” Here angels come to regain their wings and other lot ornaments—stone cherubim, roses, dogs, and so on—get repaired. We now have two full-time preservation positions that are assisted by summer interns. Their tools of the trade, stored in the PSB, include chisels to remove old lead and mortar when re-pointing structures and a fine caulk cutter



*Members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society found Mount Auburn Cemetery.*

1831



*The Entrance Gate, Bigelow Chapel, and an iron fence around part of the Cemetery’s perimeter are built.*

1842-1844



*Washington Tower is built.*

1852-1854

ideal for this same purpose in more delicate settings; jugs of D2, an anti-microbial solution to kill the biological growth especially hazardous to marble; and one of the most formidable helpers in the workshop, a gantry—part tractor, part forklift—capable of lifting stones or monuments weighing up to 4,000 pounds.

As a result of the Cemetery’s recently completed strategic planning, which calls for an expanded and more systematic preservation program, we have hired architect and preservation specialist William (Bill) Barry of Heritage Planning and Design in Cambridge as a consultant. Bill—who has worked with such clients as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Harvard University, the Boston Public Library, the Preservation Resource Center in New Orleans, and St. Petersburg University in Russia—will coordinate a task force composed of Trustees, staff and outside experts to create comprehensive policies for our conservation program that cover both the wide array of Cemetery-owned buildings, structures, historical collections and infrastructure, as well as privately-owned monuments and mausolea. The task force will also quantify our future preservation needs, including the staff required to ensure that our treasures are handed down intact to future generations.

Mount Auburn’s Curator of Historical Collections Meg Winslow sees preservation as “part of everything that we do,” adding, “all of the staff is involved in preservation in one form or another.” Today’s leaders in preservation attest to Mount Auburn’s impact on the field. “I think Mount Auburn has set a national standard in preservation,” says Susan Park, president of the Boston Preservation Alliance. “The stewardship there has been phenomenal. And under (President) Bill Clendaniel’s leadership, Mount Auburn has expanded its mission to make preservation and education an even greater priority.” In giving the Cemetery a Massachusetts Preservation Award in November 2006, the Massachusetts Historical Commission stated that Mount Auburn was being recognized “in honor of its 175th Anniversary and for its longstanding commitment to historic landscape preservation and public education programs,” which Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin said, “have become a model of stewardship for many historic properties throughout the Commonwealth and the nation.”

## Art in the Great Outdoors

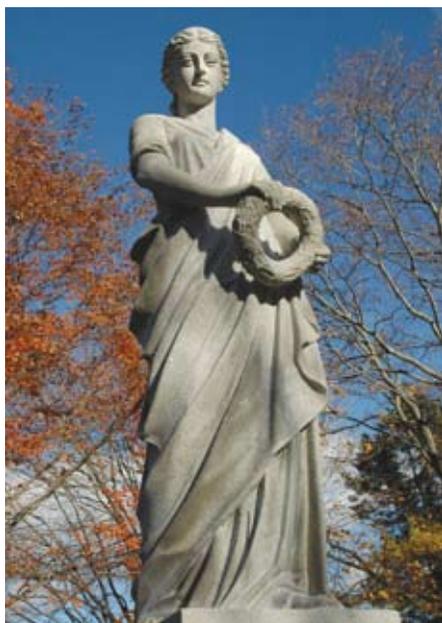
Much of the preservation of monuments happens out on the grounds, a big challenge for everyone concerned. A Victorian marble sculpture at the Museum of Fine Arts has guards to protect it, stopping people from touching it and hurting it with oil from their hands. A roof shelters it from the elements and extremes of temperature and moisture, and from bird droppings and falling branches. It has been often noted that Ginger Rogers did everything that Fred Astaire did—except backwards and in high heels. Mount

Auburn is in the same kind of situation, caring for a museum’s worth of art out in the open and an arboretum—simultaneously and in the same place.

Today Preservation Supervisor Dave Gallagher is at work on the Andrews monument (on Laurel Avenue). Dating from the nineteenth century, the monument consists of a marble tree trunk adorned with delicately rendered bark, ferns, a book, an anchor and other items. Dave used Akepox2010, a stone epoxy, to mend the broken wing of a dove that appears to be taking flight from the monument. He is now in the process of deciding how to reattach the dove, probably with metal pins that will also indicate sections of the bird’s feet that have eroded away.

One big shift in thinking during the past decade has been to view maintenance as preservation and to have the Cemetery staff regularly care for monuments rather than allowing them to deteriorate to a crisis point, then raising funds to bring in an outside consultant to conserve them. Another change has been the recognition that “washing” is better than “cleaning.” Many monument surfaces, especially marble ones, are fragile. Cleaning practices in the past often harmed these surfaces—making them even more vulnerable to damage from plant life, acid rain, and especially acid snow, which stays on the stone rather than running quickly off it. Our newer and gentler methods of washing, taught to us by outside experts, involve using a steam cleaner that can be moved as needed around the grounds. The result is fewer gleaming surfaces but, more importantly, a slowing down of the inevitable deterioration of these marble treasures.

Not all preservation challenges are “set in stone.” Mount



Another view of the 19th-century granite goddess, as pictured on the cover, in the Gay family lot on Rosebay Avenue (Photo by Jennifer Johnston)



Many more people visit Mount Auburn as public transportation improves.

1856



Individual monuments are added to honor Civil War veterans.

1861–1865

Land from the old Stone Farm section of the Cemetery is developed in the style of a landscaped lawn.

1875

Auburn also cares for the remaining 62 cast and wrought iron fences surrounding family and institutional lots. Dating mostly from the mid-nineteenth century these Victorian survivors need to be painted and repaired on an ongoing basis, so the Cemetery has made a commitment to restore two each year as long as funds are available.

When the staff needs the specialized skills of outside experts, they call on people such as conservator Barbara Mangum, who worked this past fall on the Richard Duca sculpture on Willow Pond Knoll, a work of art less than thirty years old and a project that was completed with the input of the artist. (See article on page 17.) A significant



PHOTO BY JANET HEYWOOD

project completed last year by outside experts was the restoration of the 21.5-foot-tall north chancel window in Bigelow Chapel, a rare example of mid-19th-century Scottish stained glass. The restorers at Serpentino Stained & Leaded Glass of Needham, MA, were so enthusiastic about the results of their work that they used a detail from the window on the firm's Christmas card.

*“You need no special occasion to appreciate its beauty and tranquility...It may even allow you to reflect on the pace of your life and wonder what the rush is all about.”*

— RICHARD P. CARPENTER,  
BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE, JULY 16, 2006

(See pictures on page 14 and article on page 17.) The Cemetery has also established partnerships with other organizations, such as the informal “exchange” it has with Historic Scotland. After Dave Gallagher spent several weeks working throughout Britain, Historic Scotland sent stone expert Alan McKenzie to Mount Auburn for two weeks last summer. Alan worked on the Barnard monument, a brownstone cross on Pyrola Path, and on the Fagnani monument's marble flowers on Greenbriar Path. Alan treated these eroded 19th-century monuments with an acrylic mortar seldom used in this country. Mount Auburn has also shared its growing knowledge with other cemeteries, organizing two monument workshops at the Cemetery in 1998 and again in 2002.

## The Larger Challenge of Preserving the Whole

But preservation at Mount Auburn is not done with a narrow focus, monument-by-monument. Here preservation encompasses considering the entire landscape, which is a work of art in itself. It has undergone many changes during its 175-year history. Buildings and mausolea have been torn down; significant details of other structures have been removed. As an active cemetery where we have created new burial areas and rejuvenated old ones, our challenge is balancing inevitable and desirable change with preservation. Since 1993 we have been guided by the Cemetery's award-winning Master Plan, a document developed in a team effort by the Cemetery and what is now the Halvorson Design Partnership, Inc., a Boston landscape design firm. The Master Plan states: “It is not singular objects—vegetation, structures, topography, water—but their relationships within a series of interconnected spaces that creates and strengthens the design of a landscape.” Therefore, any changes proposed for a portion of the Cemetery must be evaluated as to their impact on the whole.

Meg Winslow smiles when she hears people thank the staff for keeping the Cemetery “exactly as it has always been.” She stresses that the decision process has been much more complex: “When we have a site that we want to develop for burials, for instance, the staff goes to the archives and looks through historic images and records to learn what the site used to be like and refers to the Master Plan. The staff then incorporates that information into its decisions about the new. So we're not copying what used to be—we're using it as a reference to create new landscapes that reflect our contemporary feelings about memorialization and commemoration.”

As Bill Clendaniel emphasizes, Mount Auburn is “a dynamic landscape that has grown and changed from the day it started. The people who worked here over all those generations and the people who came here as clients brought their contemporary values with them. The same is true today.” In short, Mount Auburn is preserving its historic landscape not by keeping

*“Mount Auburn is a wonderful place to visit. The collection of trees is one of the most spectacular in the Northeast, and the plantings provide a far richer habitat for birds and other wildlife than you would expect in an urban zip code.”*

—PEOPLE, PLACES, PLANTS, SUMMER 2006

*A program to plant hundreds of new trees is initiated, the beginning of the creation of an arboretum-quality horticultural collection.*



*An additional greenhouse is built to help meet the demand for the 70,000 plants needed to adorn flowerbeds each year.*

*Mount Auburn Street is widened, and horse-drawn trolleys are replaced with electric trolleys.*



its every detail but rather by retaining its spirit and essential features. While we preserve, we also change. Mount Auburn is not an historic site frozen in time.

### Taking Service to the Next Level

Mount Auburn has created a new position, Vice President of Cemetery Services, to bring increased high-level attention to the needs of families grieving a recent death or planning ahead. Richard W. Dalton joined us in this new

position in June 2006. He arrived with years of experience in developing new programs and counseling from his previous job at the Mind/Body Institute and from volunteer activities.

“I would like Mount Auburn to find ways to help our clients through the entire grief process,” Richard says. “I believe we should have a more extended conversation about death, dying and grief with families, so that they are better prepared for the inevitable.” Richard envisions Mount

### Birch Gardens: A New Interment Landscape

One of Mount Auburn’s 175th Anniversary Legacy Projects is the creation of a new burial garden. Construction on Birch Gardens will begin this spring and be completed in 2008. Birch Gardens will cover almost half an acre of Mount Auburn’s perimeter land along Coolidge Avenue, directly across from Cambridge Cemetery. Designed by the Halvorson Design Partnership with input from the Buildings & Grounds Committee of the Trustees and many staff members, it will be an innovative and elegant addition to Mount Auburn’s landscape. Birch Gardens will consist of seven-foot-high, 16-inch-thick granite panels connected by ornamental iron fencing, all weaving through a variety of woodland plantings both inside and outside the Garden perimeter. The panels and fencing will replace the existing chain-link fencing but will still allow those in the Cemetery to look out and those driving by on Coolidge Avenue to look in.

Landscape Architect Craig Halvorson, who worked on the Cemetery’s Master Plan, says, “A garden woodland weaves through the space, blending classic Mount Auburn forms and surfaces: lawns, shrubs, groves of trees, granite and water. Birch trees herald the entrances to the space and clusters of elegant, spring-flowering amelanchier trees—used for centuries in New England memorial landscapes—are scattered along the path.”

The new trees, shrubs and groundcovers were carefully chosen by the landscape architects and the Cemetery’s horticultural staff for their shape, seasonal color and the texture of their foliage. Trees such as river birch, stewartia and paperbark maple, known for their beautiful bark, will be planted throughout the site, along with a mixed grove of shadblow and Carolina silverbell. Holly, Japanese umbrella pine and Korean spruce will provide green throughout the winter, and the upper canopy of the site will include existing and new white pine, sugar maple, red maple and



Chinese elm. A reflecting pool with a gentle fall of water and seating will provide a setting for quiet contemplation.

Graves for both caskets and cremated remains will be located in the lawn directly in front of the granite panels, which will provide a venue of various sizes for personalized inscriptions of names and dates. These will thus serve as “headstones.” “We went through several years of planning and design, evaluation and re-evaluation—including listening to focus groups—to determine all the details so that new burial areas will connect with the Cemetery’s heritage,” says Mount Auburn’s Mapping & Planning Projects Manager Candace Currie. The Cemetery’s original cast-iron Egyptian revival fence, designed by Mount Auburn’s first president and founder Jacob Bigelow in 1844, was the inspiration for the design of the ornamental iron fencing, which will be embellished with triple lotus finials that are similar to the Victorian originals but smaller. Says Buildings & Grounds Chair, Trustee Louise Weed of Cambridge, “We’re excited about the final design and we’ve contracted with one of the finest landscape contractors in the state, Robert Hanss, Inc., of Chestnut Hill, MA, to do the work. Birch Gardens will become another wonderful landscape within Mount Auburn.”



Construction begins on Story Chapel.

1896

The first cremation is performed at Mount Auburn.

1900



Additional land is purchased along Grove Street.

1912

World War I and the 1918 influenza epidemic reduce available labor.

1916-1918

Auburn doing more to assist families with planning funerals and memorial services in our two beautiful, historic chapels, and strengthening ties between families and the Cemetery. “Once someone is buried here, that person’s family becomes part of the Mount Auburn family,” he says. Richard wants to intensify Mount Auburn’s efforts to create “a community of mourners,” such as the people who come every year to the Cemetery’s Service of Commemoration held each May and the December holiday candle-lighting service.

From its earliest days, Mount Auburn has been open to people from all races, creeds and income levels. When African-Americans were still kept in slavery and buried in segregated cemeteries, Mount Auburn was the resting-place of former slaves as well as African-American and other abolitionists. When Mount Auburn was founded in 1831, Boston and the Cemetery were almost entirely Christian, while today, the Cemetery increasingly reflects the diverse faiths of 21st-century Boston, cremating and interring, for example, Buddhists and Hindus.



*The cast iron finials for Birch Gardens, a new burial space in the Cemetery, were inspired by the original triple lotus finials on the fence designed by Mount Auburn founder and first president Jacob Bigelow in 1844—an example of integrating the traditional and the new. This photograph illustrates the stages of fashioning the finial’s prototypes, created by artist David Phillips. (Photo by David Phillips)*

then we have designed a number of new shared memorials—Aronia Gardens, Willow Pond Knoll Garden, the obelisk at Begonia Garden, and Spruce Knoll and Halcyon Gardens. We have also begun to offer commemorative plaques on existing trees, benches and walls. These shared memorials have a twofold benefit: they give the Cemetery a greater aesthetic voice in designing memorialization in new burial areas, so that the new coexists in harmony with the old; and they reduce the number of monuments, thus conserving space. Now ground is about to be broken for the most significant and innovative new interment landscape of the last thirty years—Birch Gardens. (See sidebar on page 5.) This new set of gardens will use shared memorials but in new ways.

Each year, an average of 1,000 cremations and over 500 burials take place at Mount Auburn. While the Cemetery has additional space for the interment of both cremated remains and casket burials, we do not have infinite room for traditional monuments. So we began designing some of New England’s first shared memorials, such as Azalea Path Wall in 1993. Since

Mount Auburn is making “virtual” improvements in service, too, via cyberspace. We have installed a powerful software program for cemeteries called PlotFinder, which records all of our lots and graves as well as their occupants and owners, complementing our earlier investment in BG-BASE, the software used by most botanical gardens to record their collections. These programs and their as-

*“It is as if the finger of a greater being touched the 175 acres of Mount Auburn Cemetery, creating something to celebrate the lives of those passed and inspire the ones still living.”*

—CHRISTOPHER LOH, *WATERTOWN TAB*, JULY 14, 2006

sociated databases will help our staff give both clients and visitors greater and easier access to the wealth of information stored here. Using information from hard copy records from three centuries, PlotFinder allows our staff to pinpoint the exact location of individual burials, instead of just indicating a general area within a plot. “We can print a diagram and hand it to the client,” says Director of Sales Bob Keller. Director of Information Technology Rich Snow mentions that PlotFinder also creates “a digital archive of lot cards, which is a valuable backup of information and an important part of preservation by sparing fragile paper records from having to endure possibly damaging handling.”

## **Toward Tomorrow**

Throughout this 175th Anniversary year, the media—in the form of newspapers, websites, magazines, television stations, newsletters and radio stations—have helped us celebrate the success of 175 years of stewardship (See article on page 16.) Many of these stories share a common theme: how much Mount Auburn offers a diverse range of audiences, its quiet amid the clangor and congestion of the city, and what a wondrous and publicly accessible treasure the Cemetery is.

During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the Cemetery’s income increased as families and individuals bought lots, and the funds they paid toward perpetual care, along with Mount Auburn’s sound financial management, helped our endowment grow. But donors and the general public will need to play an increasingly important role in providing the funds necessary for the Cemetery to continue its stewardship role as the twenty-first century proceeds. With people from so many constituencies knowing, using and loving Mount Auburn we are confident that we will receive that critical support. For the Cemetery’s value is timeless. Its mission and meaning are eternal. Mount Auburn has served the community for 175 years, and, with the help of all those who cherish it, will continue to do so forever—honoring the memory of the dead and available as a natural and cultural resource to the living.



# SEASONS AT MOUNT AUBURN

BY JENNIFER JOHNSTON,  
*Development Technical Assistant & Staff Photographer*



Jennifer Johnston has worn many hats during her ten years at Mount Auburn Cemetery. She moved to Cambridge from her native Elmira, NY, in 1997 to pursue graduate studies in studio art, film and photography at the Harvard Extension School. She is continually inspired by the beauty of Mount Auburn.







# MOUNT AUBURN COMES “ABOARD” AS AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM SITE

BY BREE D. HARVEY, *Director of Public Programs*

IN SEPTEMBER 2006 MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY was designated a site in the National Park Service’s Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program. The Cemetery is the resting-place of a number of prominent abolitionists and other figures associated with the Underground Railroad, the clandestine movement that helped African-Americans escape from slavery in the antebellum and Civil War South.

Among those buried at Mount Auburn who contributed to the emancipation of slaves are **Harriet Jacobs** and her brother **John Jacobs**, each of whom published a narrative about their escape from slavery to gain support for the abolitionist movement. **Peter Byus** was another former slave who made it to freedom; his evocative marble monument shows a slave shedding his chains. **Charles Torrey** was responsible for helping hundreds of fugitive slaves escape to freedom through Baltimore. Convicted for his activities, Torrey was known as the “martyr of liberty” because he died in prison in Maryland. His beautiful monument at Mount Auburn was financed by an abolitionist society, the Friends of the American Slave.

The National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom was established to help scholars and others researching topics related to Underground Railroad activities. Mount

Auburn’s neighbor, the Longfellow National Historic Site, was designated a research facility on the Network to Freedom, and to celebrate the designations of both institutions, Mount Auburn’s annual birthday celebration for Henry Wadsworth Longfellow focused on the poet’s connections to the Underground Railroad. This year’s celebration also commemorated

Longfellow’s 200th birthday and was held on Saturday, February 24, 2007, in Story Chapel.



*New millennium fans of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow celebrate the poet’s 200th birthday in February in Story Chapel. (Photo by Jennifer Johnston)*

## MAP QUEST:

### ALEXANDER WADSWORTH 1806–1898

BY BREE D. HARVEY, *Director of Public Programs*

ALEXANDER WADSWORTH—SURVEYOR, CIVIL ENGINEER and mapmaker—got the unique job of creating the first map of Mount Auburn before the Cemetery was even consecrated. The Cemetery’s founders, Dr. Jacob Bigelow and Henry A. S. Dearborn, gave him the assignment in the summer of 1831. Simultaneously Wadsworth worked under the direction of Dearborn—who is often credited with laying out Mount Auburn’s early roads and paths—to lay out Mount Auburn’s first 100 lots, located throughout the Cemetery. In November 1831 Wadsworth completed that first map. Although Dearborn’s association with Mount Auburn ended in 1834, Wadsworth continued to lay out roads, paths and burial lots at Mount Auburn through the 1850s.

Wadsworth was one of eleven children born to Charles and Ruth Wadsworth in Hiram, Maine. His cousin, the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (Lot #508 on Indian Ridge Path), was a childhood playmate. After studying civil engineering at the Gardiner Lyceum in Maine, Wadsworth moved to Boston in 1825 and found work as a surveyor.

Wadsworth applied his experience at Mount Auburn when designing two other cemeteries: Harmony Grove Cemetery in Salem (1839) and Woodlawn Cemetery in Chelsea (1850). In addition to his work on cemeteries, Wadsworth was commissioned to survey sections of Boston, including Dawes Wharf (1833) along the waterfront, and Pemberton Square on Beacon Hill (1835). He later designed several new, suburban residential communities along the commuter rail lines just beyond Boston, including Strawberry Hill in Cambridge; Spring Hill in Somerville (1843); Walnut, Kendrick, and Auburn Parks in Newton (1844–47); and Green Street (1837) and Sumner Hill in Jamaica Plain (early 1850s).

Wadsworth served on the Boston City Council and the Cochituate Water Board. He was a member of the Boston Athenaeum and a deacon at West Church in Boston. He died in Boston in 1898 at age 92 and was buried in his family lot (Lot #1664 on Spruce Avenue).

*Source: Biographical information about Alexander Wadsworth is largely from: Krim, Arthur, “Alexander Wadsworth” in *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, Charles A. Birnbaum and Robin Karson, eds., New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000.*

Oakes Ames, the Cemetery’s new president, establishes a strong commitment to horticulture and education.



A hurricane on September 21 destroys hundreds of mature trees. In 1939, more than 500 new trees are planted to replace those that perished in the hurricane.



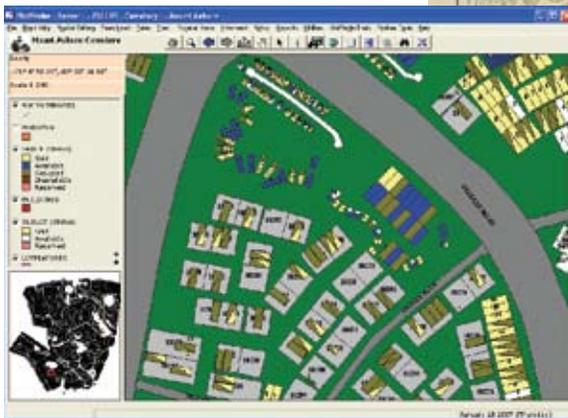
The Cemetery joins in patriotic efforts, including donating 20 tons of scrap metal salvaged by removing half of Mount Auburn’s remaining iron fencing.

## MOUNT AUBURN'S MAPS: GOING ELECTRONIC

ON THE EARLIEST MAP OF MOUNT AUBURN, HAND-DRAWN by Alexander Wadsworth in 1831 (see sidebar profile on page 10), we can note the outlines of some 200 lots, symbols for hundreds of individual plants, shading depicting seven hills, and darker hatching marking water bodies. All of these renderings seem to “pop” from the page, and each feature is easily distinguishable from the next. This earliest map is like a work of art.

Now, 175 years later, in a new millennium, maps at Mount Auburn have “gone electronic.” In 2006, Mount Auburn installed a commercially available geographic information system (GIS)

software package called PlotFinder that allowed us to create an interactive online map with data drawn from hard copy and computerized sources. This PlotFinder map includes data about lots, lot owners and residents buried at Mount Auburn—and even depicts the Victorian granite curbs around some lots and the actual graves within lots. It allows us to see a burial or lot in the greater context of surrounding lots and burials, and PlotFinder’s layering features provide a clearer picture of areas within



Above: The first map of the Cemetery, drawn by Alexander Wadsworth in 1831.

Left: Its digital descendant, a segment of the Cemetery on PlotFinder.

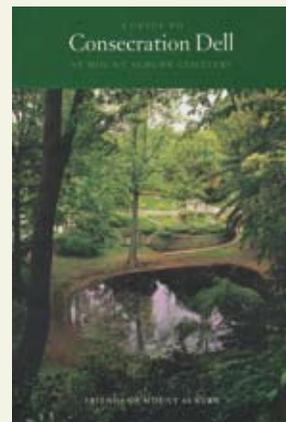
the Cemetery that can potentially be developed as burial spaces. Alexander Wadsworth would be amazed!

## CONSECRATION DELL GUIDEBOOK PUBLISHED

A BEAUTIFUL NEW BOOKLET FOCUSING ON “THE geographical, historical and metaphorical heart” of Mount Auburn—*A Guide to Consecration Dell at Mount Auburn Cemetery*—was published by the Friends of Mount Auburn in 2006. Edited by former Vice President of Interpretive Programs Janet Heywood, it features essays by Christopher Leahy of the Massachusetts Audubon Society and photographs by Richard Cheek. Funding for the Guide was generously provided by the Anthony J. & Mildred D. Ruggeiro Memorial Trust and by Suzanne R. Weinstein in honor of Frederic D. Weinstein.

*A Guide to Consecration Dell at Mount Auburn Cemetery* is available for purchase at the Cemetery’s Administration

building on weekdays. The cost is \$10 (\$8 for members of the Friends of Mount Auburn). You may also order copies by mail by sending payment to the Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery, Attn: Publications, 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. Please add \$2 for shipping and handling.



The Cemetery publishes Mount Auburn Notable Biographies, profiling more than 500 notable people buried here.



Dr. Donald Wyman identifies more than 2,000 trees on the grounds. The Cemetery begins adding labels to trees to educate the public about its horticultural collection.



Auburn Court Garden Crypts opens, the first of its kind in the Boston area.

175<sup>th</sup> banners, sponsored by Cambridge Trust Company, lined Mount Auburn Street from the Cemetery into Harvard Square this fall—and will reappear this spring.

# Celebrating 175 Years!



**June 22, 2006, State House Ceremony, Boston**

Bill Clendaniel and State Representative Rachel Kaprielian (Watertown and Cambridge) with the proclamation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives, marking the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1831 legislation that created Mount Auburn Cemetery.



Two "citizens" of Old Sturbridge Village in high 1830s fashion join Bill at the State House. (Photos by Jennifer Johnston)



**November 1, 2006, Cambridge**

Richard and Mary Dalton and Trustee Mary Lee (Widgie) Aldrich and her husband, Peter, gave a party for Cambridge Friends of Mount Auburn at the Daltons' home. Above left, (l. to r.): Richard Grubman; his wife, Friends of Mount Auburn Trustee Caroline Mortimer; Vice President of Cemetery Services Richard Dalton; and Sharon Bushnell Sears, all of Cambridge.

Above: Bill Clendaniel joins Trustee Widgie Aldrich and her husband Peter of Cambridge at the Dalton party. (Photos by Meg Winslow)



**October 14, 2006, Pro Arte Concert in Story Chapel at Mount Auburn**

Right: Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston Executive Director Kathleen Kearns (right) and Pro Arte volunteer Miriam Swanson at the concert featuring the works of composers who were buried or cremated at Mount Auburn.

Pro Arte flutist Ann Bobo (Photos by Meg Winslow)



**June 21, 2006, Media Day**

Bill Clendaniel being interviewed at the Cemetery by Greg Wayland and a crew from NECN (TV) (Photo by Jennifer Johnston)





PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER, AP



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER, AP



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER, AP



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER, AP



# Consecration Day

More than three hundred people filled a tent erected on Bigelow Chapel Lawn on **September 24, 2006**, to mark the 175th Anniversary of the consecration ceremony that officially opened Mount Auburn Cemetery. A warm wind coursed through the scene as the soft plopping of acorns dropping from the oaks above sounded on the tent's roof and Harvard Chaplain Rev. Peter Gomes praised Mount Auburn as a treasured sacred space and an enduring and vital Boston institution, a theme re-enforced by the other guest speakers: *clockwise at lower right*, Secretary of the Commonwealth William Galvin; Bill Clendaniel; President of the Boston Foundation Paul Grogan; poet Celia Gilbert; and Rev. Peter Gomes. A 1938 hearse—complete with running boards and whitewall tires—was on hand (*upper right*), as were an enthused and festive brass ensemble from the New England Conservatory (*upper left, in front of Bigelow Chapel*). Refreshments were provided courtesy of Whole Foods, River Street, Cambridge. Fourteen Trustees and former Trustees were on hand for the celebration. One Trustee of the Cemetery summed up the day as, "Perfect, absolutely perfect."



PHOTOS LEFT AND ABOVE BY MICHAEL DWYER, AP



PHOTOS BY MOUNT AUBURN STAFF EXCEPT WHERE NOTED



**October 28, 2006, Reinstallation of Bigelow Chapel stained glass**

*Right: Light streams through the newly installed and restored north chancel window (1846) in Bigelow Chapel.*

*Above: Curator of Historical Collections Meg Winslow (front row, third from right) with conservators and staff from Serpentino Stained & Leaded Glass (Needham, MA), standing justly proud in front of their work at a reception celebrating the restoration of the rare, mid-19th-century window originally designed and made in Scotland. (Photos by Jennifer Johnston)*



**July 10, 2006, Hollywood comes to Mount Auburn**

*Ben Affleck in his director's chair during the filming of several scenes at Mount Auburn for his thriller *Gone, Baby, Gone*, which he wrote and directed. Ben's brother Casey Affleck (background, sitting on the grass reviewing lines) is one of the film's stars. The film is due to be released in the fall of 2007. Ben and Casey's grandparents are buried at Mount Auburn. (Photos by Meg Winslow)*



**October 27, 2006, Recognition Luncheon for Funeral Directors, Charles Hotel, Cambridge**

*Above: Mount Auburn staff and guest attendees at the Funeral Directors' Luncheon in honor of Mount Auburn's 175<sup>th</sup>; over 50 people attended.*

*Right: Keynote speaker Mark Flomenbaum, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Medical Examiner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Photos by Dawnielle Peck)*

# “Facets of Mount Auburn” LECTURE SERIES



**October 18, 2006, Skip Gates at the Boston Public Library**

*Above: Henry Louis (Skip) Gates, Jr., Harvard University W.E.B. DuBois Professor of Humanities, speaking to members of the capacity crowd after W.E.B. DuBois and the Encyclopedia Africana, the opening lecture in the “Facets of Mount Auburn” 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary lecture series at the Boston Public Library. Recovering from leg surgery, Dr. Gates delivered much of his lecture standing, but took time to sit on occasion during the reception that followed.*

*Above right: Dr. Gates speaking.*



*Audience at the Peter Dobkin Hall lecture*



**February 7, 2007, Peter Dobkin Hall**

*Above right: Peter Dobkin Hall of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard speaks about Mount Auburn Cemetery as a charitable enterprise.*



*Above left: Carolyn Osteen, senior partner in planned giving in the Boston office of Ropes & Gray, her husband, Robert Osteen, MD, and Jim Roosevelt, president and CEO of Tufts Health Plan, and his wife, Ann, a Friends Trustee, all of Cambridge, at the Dobkin Hall lecture reception.*

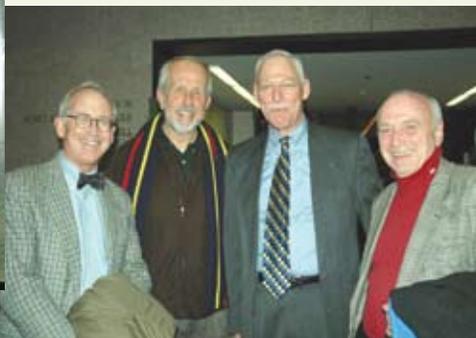


**January 24, 2007, Steven Ledbetter**

*Above left: Bill Clendaniel and musicologist Steven Ledbetter at Steven’s lecture about Boston’s 19th-century music life.*

*Above right: John Marksbury, Brian Jones and Bill French, all of Boston, join Bill Clendaniel at the Ledbetter lecture.*

*Right: Friends Trustee Susan Paine of Cambridge and Bill Clendaniel.*



*(All photos by Jennifer Johnston)*



March 1, 2007, David Dearing Lecture, at the Boston Public Library, discussing NeoClassical sculpture

Above (l. to r.): Stephen Krause of Boston; Piper Morris, Vice President of Development, Mount Auburn Cemetery; and Faith Moore of Faith Moore & Associates, Boston

Below: David Dearing, Susan Morse Hilles Curator of Paintings and Sculpture at the Boston Athanaeum; Julie Crites, Director of Program Planning, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum; and Bill Clendaniel

(Photos by Jennifer Johnston)



February 1, 2007, Vose Galleries of Boston reception for the Vose exhibit, "Artists of Mount Auburn, 1800-1950"

Left: Beth Vose, with Paul Kuenstner, Program Director, Fidelity Foundation

Right: Robert Wilson (center), President and CEO of Cambridge Savings Bank, with his wife Marie (left), and Mount Auburn's Director of Annual Giving Jennifer Gilbert



Right: Bill Vose with Bill Clendaniel



(Photos by Edwina A. Kluender)



## MOUNT AUBURN IN THE NEWS

From local websites to distant newspapers, from media focusing on everything from Civil War history to garden design, Mount Auburn's milestone is attracting public notice that is both widespread and in depth. Coverage about the 175th Anniversary has come from the *Boston Globe*, *Boston Herald*, and *Boston Phoenix*, as well as from the *Cambridge Chronicle* and *Watertown Tab* and other local media. Specialized national media such as *Garden Design Magazine*, *House & Garden*, *The Public Garden*, *Antiques & Fine Arts Magazine*, and *International Cemetery and Funeral Management* have published pieces about Mount Auburn. Media as distant as the *Dallas Morning News* and the *Toronto Sun* have run stories concerning the Anniversary as have media serving varied audiences such as the *Boston Parents Paper*, *GoCityKids* and *Air Tran Go Magazine*. Especially memorable were pieces on NECN (TV) done by Greg Wayland and a slideshow of photographs and text on *boston.com* by *Boston Globe* columnist Derrick Jackson.

## THE DUCA SCULPTURE: a 20<sup>TH</sup>-Century Artwork Conserved

By MEG L. WINSLOW, Curator of Historical Collections

“I just think it’s gorgeous!” Barbara Mangum, an objects conservator, says. She is talking about the recently conserved sculpture by artist Richard Duca that crowns Mount Auburn’s Willow Pond Knoll. Richard and his wife, Meredith, were involved in the project right from the beginning, and the artist proclaimed himself “thrilled” with the results: “Barbara understood the piece very well and was sensitive about it.”

In 1980 the untitled abstract sculpture was selected by the Cemetery to be the focal point for a new interment landscape sloping toward Willow Pond. Twenty-one feet high, the sculpture is made from one solid piece of ductile (easily moldable) iron and weighs 23,000 pounds.

The Cemetery initially hired Barbara Mangum in the fall of 2004 to remove graffiti. Closer inspection revealed that the sculpture’s original coating had worn very thin. Some areas of the surface were unprotected, leading to small imperfections known as pitting and the overall surface of the iron showed corrosion. Throughout 2005 the conservation team, including conservator Barbara Mangum and Director of Preservation & Facilities

Maintenance Gus Fraser, monitored the sculpture and we discussed possible treatment.



In October 2006, the work, which took three weeks, began in earnest. Barbara and her assistant, with the help of Richard and Meredith, removed areas of the original coating—anything that was loose or flaking—using synthetic steel wool. They filled shallow holes with two-part epoxy and did some in-painting with acrylic and mica paints to blend their restorations with the sculpture’s original color. Barbara then applied a surface coating of a protective acrylic, did the final in-painting, and, to complete the project, waxed the entire surface of the sculpture once again.

The light and shadow and the shape of the sculpture was as its creator intended. Says Richard Duca, “It looks better than it ever did.”

## WILDLIFE AT MOUNT AUBURN – WINTER 2006-07



Screech Owl



Coyotes



Cardinals

(Cardinals photo by Jennifer Johnston; others by John Harrison)



Wild flowers are introduced into Consecration Dell and other areas.



Sculptor Richard Duca creates a monument in iron for Willow Pond Knoll.

The Friends of Mount Auburn is founded.

## Volunteer Profile:

### CAROLINE LOUGHLIN, VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE

BY STEPHEN H. ANABLE, *Communications Coordinator & Writer*

A LOT OF THE LASTING—AND STARTLING—AFFILIATIONS Caroline Loughlin has had, including volunteering at Mount Auburn, meeting her husband, writing a book and spending quality time with a hammerhead shark, have come about, in her words, “by lucky accidents.” But the success of Caroline’s extensive contributions, including her work as a Trustee of the Friends of Mount Auburn and Co-Chair of the Cemetery’s 175th Anniversary Committee, have also been the result of inspired and diligent work. Caroline sits quietly and intent at many a meeting, and then resolves an issue that stymies everyone else with a candid, focused comment and a smile.

Caroline became involved with her first historic landscape, Forest Park in St. Louis, through volunteering at the city’s zoo, located within the park. While serving on a committee tackling problems in the park, Caroline and a colleague, Catherine Anderson, researched its history then published their findings in a book, *Forest Park* (University of Missouri Press and the Junior League of Saint Louis, 1986).

Caroline’s book “accidentally” led to her involvement with Mount Auburn. Through its publication, she joined the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP), where she met Mount Auburn President Bill Clendaniel when they were both board members. When she moved to Boston and began exploring volunteer opportunities, Caroline was drawn to Mount Auburn because of its “remarkable record of preservation and service.”

Caroline has worked as a volunteer at Mount Auburn one full eight-hour day each week in the Historical Collections department since April 2000, and was appointed a Friends Trustee in September 2006. She believes Bill Clendaniel tapped her to co-chair the 175th Anniversary Committee because the group “needed someone who likes schedules and budgets and I do and most people don’t, so I said OK.”

It has been no accident, however, that Caroline has stayed at Mount Auburn. Having grown up in New Orleans, she was used to living in a remarkable landscape. Her mother was a gifted gardener, so the Cemetery’s “gorgeous” trees and plantings were another plus. But most important was Mount Auburn’s special combination of a commitment to preservation and providing a humane, stimulating, productive work environment.

“On a personal level, people are good to each other here,” Caroline says. “We’re serious about what we do, but this is a happy place to work.” Caroline has a feel for landscapes “designed to make you feel and behave in different ways” and is fascinated by the stories they convey. She says, “Mount Auburn’s landscape has certainly played a very important part in people’s lives, and not just the people who have family here but the people who came as visitors, who came to be enlightened and inspired.”

Another lucky accident—at Cornell, as an undergraduate—introduced Caroline, a math major, to a very important person in her life. During her first year on campus, she missed getting into the over-booked Literature 101 class taught by Vladimir Nabokov, but, by taking Philosophy 101 instead, she met the young man from Mayfield, KY, Philip Loughlin, who became her husband. Phil retired several years ago after a career at a tailored men’s clothing company and teaching business at a St. Louis-area college. He and Caroline now live in Weston, MA, and have two sons, Phil and Tom, living in Massachusetts and Colorado, respectively, and “two adorable grandchildren.”

World travelers, Caroline and Phil have visited every continent, including Antarctica. They have been scuba diving from the Cayman Islands to the Great Barrier Reef. Below the waves Caroline likes to keep things spontaneous: “I like to sit somewhere and be very still. Then the fish forget you’re there and come around. Once I was with a group of people sitting quietly on the sand, and I looked at the ‘person’ next to me—who turned out to be a hammerhead shark.”

Mount Auburn is happy to have Caroline—by land or by sea. Mount Auburn President Bill Clendaniel calls Caroline “faithful, dedicated, bringing creativity and a bright spirit. She’s also a booster, talking us up to other groups and people with tangible results.” Curator of Historical Collections Meg Winslow says, “Aside from the sheer pleasure of working with her, I appreciate Caroline’s remarkable ability to take care of the smallest detail while keeping her sights on the larger priorities. She is an invaluable advisor and team member.” Adds Bill Clendaniel, “Caroline is just the sort of volunteer any CEO would jump through hoops to get.”

*Caroline has redefined the meaning of “volunteer.”*



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER, AP

## MOUNT AUBURN WELCOMES NEW STAFF

By DAWNIELLE PECK, *Visitor Services Specialist*

**Richard Dalton** became Vice President of Cemetery Services in June 2006. In this new position he leads the Cemetery Services team in providing the wide array of cemetery-related services that Mount Auburn offers. He has been challenged to enhance the quality and variety of our cemetery services and to deepen Mount Auburn's relationships with its clients. Richard comes to Mount Auburn with a keen interest in working with bereaved families and individuals. His previous experience includes 15 years at the Mind/Body Medical Institute, a non-profit organization based in Boston dedicated to studying how the human mind and body interact, particularly in stress-related illnesses. Richard was a member of Trinity Church in Boston for over 20 years, where he served on the Adult Education Committee and as a pastoral counselor. He holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Richard and his wife Mary live in Cambridge.

**Jennifer Gilbert** joined us as Director of Annual Giving in November 2006. Strengthening the professionalism of

the Development Department, she oversees the Friends of Mount Auburn Annual Fund and Membership program. She also assists in grants coordination.

Jennifer was the Executive Director of the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell, MA, for two years, and previously Curator for nine years. She holds a B.A. in European studies and French from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and an M.A. in art history from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Jennifer has also lectured throughout the country about quilts and quilting, including at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston in 2005 in conjunction with the exhibit *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*. Development was a favorite aspect of her work at the New England Quilt Museum. Jennifer lives in Medford with her husband Paul Egan and their five-year-old son Jack.



*Richard Dalton and Jennifer Gilbert  
(Photos by Jennifer Johnston)*

## PETER SHAW ASHTON, HONORARY TRUSTEE, WINS JAPAN PRIZE

PETER SHAW ASHTON—AN HONORARY TRUSTEE OF Mount Auburn Cemetery and a Trustee from 1985 to 2000—was awarded the Japan Prize for his “significant contributions toward solving the conflict between human beings and the tropical forest ecosystem.” The annual award, given by the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan, was announced on January 11 and formally presented during a ceremony in Tokyo on April 19. The Foundation cited Peter’s work as a co-founder of the Center for Tropical Forest Science at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute—which now monitors “Forest Dynamic Plots” of some 3,000,000 trees for their health and impact on global climate—as a reason for this honor. Peter was one of three people to receive the award, which includes 50 million yen (approximately \$450,000) for each winner. Mount Auburn’s Vice President of Operations & Horticulture David Barnett called Peter’s honor “an accolade well-deserved, as all of us who know him will testify.” Peter is a former director of the Arnold Arboretum and is the Charles Bullard Professor of Forestry Emeritus at Harvard.

## STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION COMPLETED, UNVEILED, ADMIRER, FETED

On October 28, 2006, the attendees at a reception in Bigelow Chapel were treated to a sight not seen since the daguerreotype was cutting-edge photography and the foreign policy crisis of the decade was an impending war with Mexico over Texas—Bigelow Chapel’s north chancel window in all its intended glory. This large window, measuring 9 feet wide by 21.5 feet high and containing some 4,200 pieces of glass, was reinstalled after a six-month restoration by the artists at Serpentino Stained & Leaded Glass in Needham, MA. The window, with its original lead size and pattern returned, seems to float with a natural light integral to the form and function of its historic building. The effect is a subtle, delicate window that brings natural light into the chapel and unifies the architectural space with the Cemetery’s surrounding landscape.

The project exemplified the essential components of a successful restoration: collaboration among a team of experts; extensive research and communication; and, most importantly, respect for the aesthetic and structural integrity of the original 19th-century glass window. After all these years, Ballantine & Allen’s artistry and craftsmanship are again revealed. (See photo on page 14.)



*William C. Clendaniel becomes Mount Auburn’s 11th president and initiates master planning for the Cemetery’s future.*

1988



*Blanche Linden-Ward publishes Silent City on a Hill, a comprehensive history of Mount Auburn.*

1989

*The landscaping at Willow Pond is refurbished and a new pathway is installed, the Cemetery’s first project to be developed with the financial support of foundations, corporate sponsors and individuals.*

1992

## A NEW CLIMATE FOR GIVING

MOUNT AUBURN CONTINUES TO RECEIVE THOUGHTFUL, generous and loyal support from our members (now over 1,300 strong) and other donors to the Annual Fund—including individuals, foundations and corporate sponsors. Clearly, our ongoing yearlong 175th Anniversary celebration and the widespread press and public attention our many special 175th events and programs have received have had a positive impact on membership and contributions.

As we go to press, the Friends of Mount Auburn **Annual Fund 2007 has received over \$164,126 in gifts, exceeding our goal of \$155,000**, an increase of 21% over the same time last year of the fiscal year that ends March 31. Membership contributions to the Friends are also up this year, about 3% over last year.

**Total giving** from all sources to all funds, cash in to date, is **\$603,283**, up 8% from last year.

### Special 175th Anniversary Gifts

For the 175th Anniversary celebration, Mount Auburn has received some very special contributions: **Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation** donated \$25,000 to underwrite the production of the 175th Anniversary program

brochure (mailed or distributed to over 50,000 people in the greater Boston area), and **Cambridge Trust Company** gave us \$10,000 to fund the design, production and installation of the festive banners hung this past fall along Cambridge's Mount Auburn Street from the Cemetery to Harvard Square (and soon to reappear this spring). With its gift of over \$56,000, **The Anthony J. and Mildred D. Ruggiero Memorial Trust** (Tucson, AZ) gave a major boost to the 175th lecture series, "Facets of Mount Auburn: Celebrating 175 Years of a Boston Jewel," seven lectures on various topics (horticulture, birding, history, art and architecture, etc.) held throughout the year at the Boston Public Library. Other significant support for the lecture series was received from **The James W. Flett Company, Inc.**, (Belmont, MA) and **The Lowell Institute** of Boston.

We also received a \$3,000 gift from the **Halvorson Design Partnership** (Boston) to fund a well-attended, lovely Saturday afternoon concert in Story Chapel in October by musicians from the **Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston**, a first for both Pro Arte and Mount Auburn! And **Whole Foods, River Street, Cambridge** donated food and service for the commemoration of the 175th anniversary of Mount Auburn's consecration, held on Bigelow Chapel Lawn on September 24.

# THE "Tribute to a Treasure" GALA

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2007

The *grand finale* to the yearlong celebration of Mount Auburn's 175TH Anniversary

6:00 - 7:00 PM:

Cocktails in Asa Gray Garden (weather permitting)  
& Silent Auction of special Victorian-era items and horticultural services

7:30 PM

Celebration Dinner under a clear tent, Bigelow Chapel Lawn

Music and program during dinner

**Tickets: \$275 per person**

To benefit the preservation of the extraordinary historical and natural resources of Mount Auburn  
Please call 617-607-1995 for an invitation or more information

The Cemetery publishes its new Master Plan, the product of the study commissioned in 1988.



The Cemetery opens new gardens, including Azalea and Aronia Gardens, Spruce Knoll and Bigelow Chapel Lawn.



Contributions support a range of improvements, including computerized databases of the Cemetery's trees and lots, restoration of key monuments, education outreach and a new Visitors Center.

*Mount Auburn is a very special place,  
created by those who have gone before...  
Now, create your own legacy.*

PHOTO BY LUCY APTEKAR, COURTESY OF THE STRAUS FAMILY



*Patty and David Straus*

There are many ways to support a beloved institution like Mount Auburn: by becoming a Member of the Friends of Mount Auburn, by volunteering here, or by giving to the Annual Fund—and by including this special place in your gift planning through a *bequest* or by establishing a life

income gift, such as a *charitable gift annuity*.

A **Charitable Gift Annuity** is a simple, one-page contract under which Mount Auburn, in return for a gift (cash, appreciated stock, or real property) agrees to make payments at a fixed rate (based on the age of the beneficiaries) to one or more beneficiaries for life. The donor, who can also be a beneficiary, receives an income tax deduction for a significant portion of the gift.

**Mount Auburn Trustee David A. Straus and his wife Patty**, of Cambridge, MA, made a decision both to do something for Mount Auburn, a place they have loved as close neighbors for many years, and at the same time insure a steady lifetime stream of income for themselves from their investment in Mount Auburn.

David first became acquainted with Mount Auburn as an undergraduate at Harvard when he saw the Cemetery “as a serene place to get into nature.” Later, as an architecture student at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design, he and his colleagues used to visit Mount Auburn as a beautiful setting in which to hone their photography skills. More recently, he has become an avid bird watcher at Mount Auburn.

“I am drawn to Mount Auburn because it is a true sanctuary for birds and wildlife,” David says. “And of course, Mount Auburn is also an important historical landscape and great cultural resource for our community that needs ongoing preservation—and community support.

“I wanted to give back to this resource that I have cared so much about,” he says.

Now retired, David is the founder of the management consulting firm Interaction Associates and is the best-selling author of *How to Make Collaboration Work: Powerful Ways to Build Consensus, Solve Problems, and Make Decisions*. As a Mount Auburn Trustee, David chairs the Strategic Planning Committee. He grew up in New York City. Patty Straus is the former President of the Board of The Cambridge Center for Adult Education, on which she still serves as a trustee. She and David have two grown daughters and a granddaughter.

*A gift to Mount Auburn to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity may be a check, transfer of marketable securities, or other tangible asset and must have a **minimum value of \$10,000** irrevocably donated to the Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery. **The Beneficiary**, or Annuitant, (who may also be the donor) **must be at least 65 years of age when payments begin**. (The Annuity can be established at an earlier age and payments deferred until the beneficiary reaches age 65.)*

**For further information or to make a gift, please contact:**

**Priscilla P. Morris, Vice President of Development, Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, 617-607-1919; pmorris@mountauburn.org.**

# Celebrating 175 years!

In 2006-07 Mount Auburn Cemetery is marking the 175th Anniversary of its founding with a yearlong celebration that started in June 2006 and features public programs highlighting Mount Auburn's extraordinary cultural, historic and natural resources.



PHOTO ©RICHARD CHEEK

## Highlights of the 175th Anniversary:

- ★ **Ceremony at the State House**, June 22, 2006, honoring the signing of the legislation authorizing the creation of Mount Auburn in 1831.
- ★ **Ceremony at the Cemetery**, September 24, 2006, commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the actual date of the Consecration of Mount Auburn.
- ★ **Free Public Lecture Series: "Facets of Mount Auburn Cemetery: Celebrating 175 Years of a Boston Jewel,"** October 2006-May 2007, Boston Public Library, Copley Square.
- ★ **Art and Music Programs**, at Mount Auburn and offsite.
- ★ **Gala Dinner**, June 14, 2007, at Mount Auburn, closing the Anniversary year.

## Art and Music Programs

Highlighting artists and composers buried at Mount Auburn or works featuring Mount Auburn.

### February 1 – March 8, 2007:

The Vose Galleries of Boston hosted an exhibition of paintings by artists buried or cremated at Mount Auburn.

### May 19, 2007:

Soloist Jean Danton, with piano accompanist, sings pieces by composers who were buried or cremated at Mount Auburn. At 2:00 PM in Bigelow Chapel.

### September 2007:

"Remembering E. Power Biggs," two organ recitals, at 2:00 and 5:00 PM, with guest speakers, at Adolphus Busch Hall, Harvard University. *Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Art Museums.*

## Last chance to attend the 175th Anniversary Lectures

### "Facets of Mount Auburn Cemetery: Celebrating 175 Years of a Boston Jewel"

Free lecture series at the Boston Public Library:

- April 10, 2007, **THE ASIAN CONNECTION: DANIEL J. HINKLEY**, celebrated West Coast horticulturist, plant explorer and author. *Co-sponsored by Arnold Arboretum, Massachusetts Horticultural Society, New England Wild Flower Society, and the Wellesley College Botanic Garden.*
- April 24, 2007, **THE PLEASURE, ART AND SCIENCE OF BIRDING: WAYNE R. PETERSON**, Director of Important Bird Area Program at the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and **SCOTT WEIDENSAUL**, natural history writer. *Co-sponsored by the Harvard Museum of Natural History and the Massachusetts Audubon Society.*
- May 15, 2007, **CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN AMERICA: DR. CHARLES BEVERIDGE**, Editor of the *Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted*, and **ARLEYN LEEVEE**, national expert on cultural landscapes and their preservation. *Co-sponsored by the National Association for Olmsted Parks, Olmsted National Historic Site and the Friends of "Fairsted."*

All lectures are held at 6:00 PM in the Rabb Auditorium of the Boston Public Library, Copley Square. A reception will follow each lecture. The lecture series is sponsored in part by the Anthony J. and Mildred D. Ruggiero Memorial Trust.

**Our lecture series partners are: The Boston Athenaeum; The Boston Public Library; Historic New England; The Massachusetts Historical Society; and The National Park Service.**

**Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery**  
**580 Mount Auburn Street**  
**Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138-5517**

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