



CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Members September 16, 2022

The 106th Annual Meeting of the Members of The Cheney Cemetery Association, Inc. was held at 855 Ridge Road, Hamden, CT in person and on Zoom on Friday, September 16, 2022 at 11 a.m.

In attendance were: Carol L. Cheney, K. Dexter Cheney IV, Nathaniel Cheney and Kristin Merrill

We read through the minutes of the last Annual Meeting held on September 22, 2021 and they were approved unanimously. Carol introduced our board of directors.

Following this we heard the following:

- Report of the Treasurer for the year ended December 31, 2021
- Report of the Auditors for the year ended December 31, 2021
- Report of the Investment Committee for the year ended December 31, 2021
- Report of the Grounds Committee
- Report of the Donations Committee
- Report of the Membership Committee
- Report of the President
- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Any other business proper to come before the meeting

We adjourned at 11:56.

Here is a link to the full meeting on Zoom:

<https://youtu.be/X4TNqQQYQ8A>

Reports attached



CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

THE CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

YEAR ENDED

DECEMBER 31, 2021



CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

**2021
INCOME AND EXPENSE**

<u>Operating Income</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Dividends	\$42,244	\$31,409
Capital Gains Distribution	71	
Interest – bonds		9,696
Interest – cash equivalents	89	209
Contributions	370	240
Membership dues	<u>300</u>	<u>120</u>
Total income	\$43,074	\$41,674
Operating expense		
Care of grounds	\$48,347	\$44,202
Administration	37,289	18,820
Total expense	<u>\$85,636</u>	<u>\$63,022</u>
Deficit	(42,562)	(\$21,348)

BALANCE SHEETAssetsCurrent

Cash equivalents	\$ 43,074	\$ 41,674
Securities at cost	\$623,767	<u>\$753,903</u>
	\$666,841	\$795,577

Fixed

Real estate	\$15,665	\$15,665
Fixtures	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	\$15,669	\$15,669

Total assets	\$682,510	\$811,246
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Liabilities, Fund Balances

Surplus	\$682,510	\$811,246
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Cheney Cemetery Association		Detail of Expenses 2021			
	Expense				
	Administration				
	Bank Fee		6,314		
	Cheney & Company				
	Database Management	3,088			
	Financial Management	4,413			
	Professional Service	2,350			
	Website / Creative Services	2,413			
	Website Designer	7,025			
	CNA / QBE Insurance				
	General Liability	1,937			
	Total CNA / QBE Insurance		1,937		
	Computers and Internet		764		
	Donation				
	Dues and Subscriptions		150		
	Meals & Entertainment		285		
	Miscellaneous Expense		1,456		
	Payroll Company		438		
	Payroll Taxes		306		
	Postage and Delivery		190		
	Printing		460		
	Probate Fee		50		
	Professional Fees - Legal		1,650		
	Payroll				
	C.L. Cheney	1,500			
	R.O. Cheney	2,500			
	Total Payroll		4,000		
	Total Administration				37,289
	Care Of Cemetery				
	Trees & Shrubs				
	Mountain Tree Service				
	Feeding	11,043			
	Pest Control	1,938			
	Pruning/Tree Removal	8,500			
	Storm Damage	1,400			
	Total Mountain Tree Service		22,881		
	Total Trees & Shrubs			22,881	
	Lawn				
	Green Carpet -Feeding/Herbicide		2,418		
	Irrigation		685		
	Town of Manchester				
	Mow, Leaf & Snow Removal	4,650			
	Water	1,248			
	Total Town of Manchester		5,898		
	Executive Lawn Service				
	Mulch, Top Dressing	490			
	Spring / Fall Cleanup	6,005			
	Weed, Prune Shrubs				
	Weekly Maintenance	6,970			
	Total Executive Lawn Service		13,465		
	Total Lawn			22,466	
	Willard Flowers Consulting			3,000	
	Total Care Of Cemetery				48,347
	Total Expense				85,636



CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

**2021
PRINCIPAL TRANSACTIONS**

There were no principal transactions

Bank of America Trust account was transferred to
Raymond James & Associates to allow for
professional fund management

Raymond James Balance 12/31/21 \$1,839,102

Funds were also moved to a Vanguard
Account to protect cash in a volatile market

Vanguard Funds balance on 12/31/21 \$ 290,001

Total fund balances: \$2,129,103

**2021
SUMMARY OF FUNDS**

Tree Replacement Fund

Balance 12/31/21	\$25,850
No transactions in 2021	<u>0</u>
Balance 12/31/20	\$25,850

Capital Improvement Fund

Balance 12/31/21	\$11,355
No transactions in 2021	<u>0</u>
Balance 12/31/21	\$11,355

Operating Fund

Total Cash and securities at market	\$2,129,103
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CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Audit Committee Report

2021 Fiscal Year

We have examined the financial records of the Cheney Cemetery Association for the year ending December 31, 2021 as submitted to the Audit Committee by Kristin Merrill, Secretary/Treasurer. This examination includes all payments from the checking account backed by invoices and authorized by Carol Cheney or Richard Cheney. Also examined were all security transactions authorized by Kristin Merrill and executed by Raymond James.

We have found the Treasurer's report to be substantially correct.

Austin C. Smith

September 14, 2022

CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

The big news for the CCA portfolio in 2021 was the change in October from internal portfolio management, picking individual stocks and bonds, to a professionally managed account invested in market index mutual funds. The rationale for this change was that none of the members of the Investment Committee was actively engaged in money management any longer and consequently there was added risk beyond what the market posed. Given what has happened in 2022 this decision was both wise and timely.

When the change was made, we also decided to lower our risk profile by reducing our asset allocation from approximately 80/20 stocks-to-bonds, to around 55/45. This was accomplished by adopting a 70/30 allocation in the managed account, and withdrawing \$300,000 and placing it in a Vanguard short term bond fund. These changes, too, turned out well for us. But they also meant that the return on the portfolio, in a time of rapid and large growth of stock prices, was reduced.

One other small change was to authorize a withdrawal from the Vanguard account of \$30,000 to be added to the Association's checking account to help defray higher than anticipated operating expenses.

For the year, the portfolio returned 10% whereas the previous posture would have earned about 22%. The current return is after paying investment management fees on the index account of 0.6% pa. The ending portfolio values were \$1,840,000 in the managed account, and \$270,000 in the Vanguard account.

While we have not escaped the ravages of the market meltdown in 2022, the impact has been modest thanks to our reduced risk profile. As of the end of August the total value of the CCA investments has declined by about 10% from December 31, 2021.

Respectfully submitted:

Austin Smith
Kristen Merrill
Nat Cheney, chair

**CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT
September 16, 2022**

During the course of 2021 Covid-19 continued to have an impact on all of us. The direct impact on the cemetery was labor. Our contractors had a difficult time retaining and hiring new employees. This meant certain activities were not able to be done during the year, these activities included the winter pruning of the trees and care of the headstones. These items are being addressed by our contractors and will resume when conditions return to more "normal". The headstone cleaning will be done using a product approved by the Veterans Administration called "Wet and Forget". I tried this product in the fall of 2021 on the headstones for the R.O. Cheney plot with great success. The wonderful thing about this product is there is no abrasive scrubbing required which better protects the headstones. This will be applied in the spring of 2022.

We had two major storms affecting the cemetery, one in January and another in July, both required the services of Barry Dolby from Mountain Tree Service. Alice Willard made two inspections, one in March and another in September, with the September meeting focused on tree replacement which was discussed in length at a meeting held at the cemetery on August 19th attended by Carol, Barry and myself. Carol did an excellent job of taking notes and pictures of the work needing to be completed. Barry will compile a list a trees currently available for planting in the designated areas. This work will extend into 2022 and will continue on as future storms continue their damage.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to fellow Grounds Committee members, Dexter Cheney (Vice Chair) and Carol Cheney. I'd also like to thank Alice Willard for her horticultural expertise and the guidance she has provided. Additionally, I'd like to extend our appreciation to Barry Dolby from Mountain Tree Service; Kevin Regan from Executive Lawn Services; Town of Manchester – East Cemetery Ground's Crew; Green Carpet Lawn Service; and Frank's Landscaping for all their hard work and dedication making the cemetery grounds look great.

In conclusion, I am very pleased to report that the state of the cemetery remains in great condition. Please take time to walk around and if you see anything of concern, please feel free to give me a call. I can be reached at (860)810-3249 or at richard_o_cheney@cox.net Enjoy!

A budget for fiscal year 2023 has been prepared and is available for review.

Submitted by:
Richard O. Cheney, IV
Grounds Committee Chairman

CHENEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION - GROUNDS COMMITTEE
2020 BUDGET VS. ACTUAL
1/01/2021 - 12/31/2021

	2021 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL	VARIANCE
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Consulting:			
Willard Flowers	\$3,000.00	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	\$3,000.00
Care of Trees:			
Mountain Tree:			
Pruning: Trees & Shrubs	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	
Fertilizing	\$11,000.00	\$11,043.00	
Pest Control	\$8,000.00	\$5,938.00	
Cabling	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Sub Total:	\$25,500.00	\$16,981.00	-\$8,519.00
Emergency Tree Removal (Storm damage)	\$3,000.00	\$5,900.00	\$2,900.00
Tree Replacement	\$11,000.00	<u>\$0.00</u>	-\$11,000.00
Total - Mountain Tree	\$39,500.00	\$22,881.00	-\$16,619.00
Care of Lawn, Shrubs & Beds:			
Executive Lawn Service:			
Spring/Fall Cleanup		\$550.00	
Mulch, Top Dressing		\$1,115.00	
Weed & Pruning		\$8,050.00	
Weekly Maintenance		\$3,750.00	
Total - Executive Lawn Service	\$14,000.00	\$13,465.00	-\$535.00
Town of Manchester: Mowing; Leaf & Snow Removal	\$6,500.00	\$4,650.00	
Town of Manchester - Water Department	\$1,000.00	\$1,248.00	
Franks Landscaping - Irrigation Maintenance	\$1,200.00	\$685.00	
Green Carpet - Lawn Fertilization	\$2,250.00	\$2,418.00	
Misc.	<u>\$250.00</u>		
	\$11,200.00	<u>\$9,001.00</u>	-\$2,199.00
Capital Improvements:			
Headstone Cleaning and Tree Replacement	\$5,000.00		-\$5,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	<u>\$72,700.00</u>	<u>\$48,347.00</u>	-\$24,353.00
			-\$24,353.00

2022 CCA Donations Committee Grant Recommendations

TOTAL AVAILABLE

\$23,500

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2,500

CHS is digitizing and make available on the Connecticut Digital Archive, previously cataloged material in the Cheney Family Collection with a focus on photographs in the Philip Cheney and Horace Bushnell Cheney collections. We were unable to complete this work in 2020/2021, due to a multi-year storage renovation project that has kept every member of the Collections Department busy. That project should wrap up this fall and we look forward to turning our attention to digitizing and uploading content into our systems later this year.

To that end, we would like to request an additional \$2,500 grant to continue the proposed work. Even with an additional grant, there will still be more work to be done. In addition to digitizing images, CHS has a selection of clothing items from the Cheney Collection that have not yet been photographed. We currently have a Collections Assistant on staff who is skilled at mannequin dressing and we would like to use grant funds to support dressing and photographing these pieces. This grant would support approximately 110 hours of work divided by CHS's Digitization Lab Manager and Collections Assistant.—*Andrea Rapacz, Director of Collections*

HOWELL CHENEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL—Spirit of Innovation Awards

2,000

We established the Spirit of Innovation Awards in 2017 in memory of Howell Cheney. The awards go to two deserving students selected by the faculty and carry a \$1,000 cash prize each. This year's recipients are Isaiah Albert and Julia Giangreco. They received citations read by Carol Cheney at the Prize Day/Graduation ceremony on June 12 at Dunkin' Donuts Field. Julia is a senior in welding. Through her trade, she has learned to be creative and efficient, and also to excel in problem solving when working alone or with others. She has also gained a greater sense of independence being able to complete projects from start to finish on her own. As class president for the past four years, she was able to provide leadership not only to the senior class with her innovative ideas, but was able to do the same within the welding trade. Julia will be continuing her studies at Manchester Community College with her major to be decided.

Isaiah is a senior in carpentry. Some of his accomplishments as a carpentry student include helping build a deck and finishing a basement including installing walls, drywall and flooring. Throughout the four years, his expertise in utilizing tools such as circular saws and precision measuring equipment has increased tremendously. Some of the projects he engaged in gave him the opportunity to use his creative vision when working alone or as a team. He was also bighearted in giving back to his friends and peers during times of need. Isaiah will be continuing his studies at Manchester Community College pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice.—*Delaney Ruiz, Assistant to the Principal*

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUTHERLAND SCHOLARSHIPS**5,000**

We voted to continue our \$5000 gift to scholarships again, and entered into discussions with Tom Reynolds, Director of Advancement at MCC. We decided after extensive discussion to Endow the Cheney Family Fund gift, which will enable the school to grow the scholarship and provide even greater support.

MARY CHENEY LIBRARY**3,500**

As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure equitable programming, now that the pandemic is receding, we can begin to solicit names for a steering committee to guide the effort of organizing a One Book program wherein hundreds of town residents are invited and encouraged to all read the same book title and hear from/meet with the author. It has been a few years since we last organized an event like this. Past authors have ranged from Connecticut residents such as Colin McEnroe to a California author, Oral Lee Brown, who started a Foundation to pay for college educations of the poorest of children. After scheduling Ms. Brown to visit Manchester and after beginning the publicity for the event, she was featured on Oprah's tv show—making that the most well-attended One Book program we've ever done, with over 1,500 people reading and meeting to discuss her book. Since we were cooperating with Manchester Community College and Manchester High School, Oral Lee Brown visited both of those sites during her two-day stay and spoke with large numbers of students. More typically, we have 200–300 residents participating, which is still a very large number.

In order to have a One Book program, funds are still needed for covering the cost of getting an author especially from any distance away, as well as for purchasing copies of the books. Although from experience we know that this event will be much work for library staff, the end result has always been a wonderful sense of community-building as well as promoting books and reading. We anticipate that once formed, the steering committee will be examining possible titles and authors, and we expect that a person of color will be the author chosen.

While our public library was closed only for the shortest time allowed by the Governor (late March to mid-June, 2020), it has been open the past year for borrowing of materials only, with no prolonged, in-person programming. Postings by the public on our social media pages and requests from customers in-house keep asking WhenWhenWhen will programming restart. We used much of the previous gift from your Family Fund donation to sponsor the adult 'summer reading program,' which was a combination of hybrid and In-Real-Life. Support from the Cheney Family Fund could financially support the next One Book effort; it would make a real impact in our community. With planning for a spring 2022 author event about to begin, we'll again aim to arrange cooperative linkages with local educational institutions.—*Douglas McDonough, Director*

HARTFORD ARTISANS WEAVING CENTER**2,500**

In Manchester we continue to increase our class opportunities at the Manchester Historical Society and the Cheney Homestead. We held full capacity adult floor loom classes at MHS from September 2021 to June 2022 and held additional classes in Beginner Basket Weaving. This

summer we will run a 3-day Tapestry Weaving Workshop in our studio space at MHS and a fiber dyeing workshop out at the Cheney Homestead.

We will be participating in the Manchester “Art in the Park” event and the “Threads and Strings” event at the Cheney Homestead. In addition, we are participating in the July “Threads and Strings” Event at the Cheney Homestead. We will have an exhibit of student work, a talk let by Fran Curran, artisans weaving and more. Our 2021 Fall classes planned for Manchester include Intro to Floor Loom Weaving and an Intermediate/Advanced Floor Loom Class. We are grateful for our continued work in Manchester. It allows us to share the mission of the Weaving Center—and in a location deeply connected to weaving, its history and impact on society in general.

We remain most appreciative to the Cheney Family Fund for supporting our mission to enhance lives through handweaving. —Ann Kolliger, *Executive Director*

WADSWORTH ATHENEUM

2,500

The Wadsworth is embarking on a three-year commitment to fill two curatorial positions to head up a revitalization of the costume and textile collection. David Lazaro has been named curator of the collection, Kat Harris, coming from the Wadsworth conservation department has been named technical assistant. The 17-year dormancy of the collection will now be reversed, starting the full cataloging, assessment and digitization, which will most likely take a year. The Wadsworth asked for a grant of \$10,000, which is beyond our capacity at this time. Carol has been named member at large on the Costume and textile Society board and will be heling to guide the museum volunteers and staff in a major fundraising effort.

CHENEY HOMESTEAD of MHS

3,000

Continue to develop “Women of the Cheney Homestead” Room at the Homestead —highlight the lives, skills, contributions of each of the women who have lived at the Homestead: Electa (tavern daughter/mother of 9/award winning weaver), Lovisa (helper in raising children), Ednah Dow Cheney(women’s rights/Transcendentalists/abolitionist, etc.), Margaret Swan (MIT graduate/19th century women’s education), Marjory & Dorothy Cheney (WWI volunteers/art/CT legislature).

This week we will be meeting with a graduate from MIT, a professional archivist, who has been independently researching the life of Margaret Swan Cheney (Seth’s daughter). We hope this coordination/collaboration will provide interesting details for our developing “Women of the Cheney Family” room. Also, at some point I would like to discuss putting together a small exhibit highlighting Alexandra Learned Preston to honor her contributions (and/or others you would recommend).

We would use a grant from the Cheney Family Fund this year toward the further development of the women of the Homestead project and permanent exhibit.

MANCHESTER LITTLE THEATRE**2,500**

Because of the Cheney Family Fund's support during the tumultuous years of 2020 and 2021, LTM was able to keep a connection to our patrons through outdoor concerts and constant messaging about our plans for a safe and healthy reopening.

In early 2021, we officially moved into our recovery stage, which included planning for in-person, indoor events starting as early as May 2021. It is with great pleasure and relief that we can say our reopening has been an overwhelming success with audiences come back in numbers for greater than we anticipated, seeing over 600 people in our first 60 days back. As we look toward the balance of 2021 and our planning for 2022, we want to make sure we have the resources and capabilities to increase our impact in the Greater Manchester community. Our goal is to continue to place Cheney Hall at the center of vibrant and healthy arts eco-center for our community. This vision includes the following core principles:

1. We will continue to present plays, musicals, concerts, and other performing arts activities that reach all members of our community.
2. We want to offer a free space for other local and regional arts groups that allow them a place to rehearse, gather, and meet.
3. We want to maintain Cheney Hall as a safe and attractive facility for private and public rentals.

We accomplish this by eliminating two primary barriers to participation in the arts: geography and affordability. Our lower-priced tickets (\$24 average in 2021) and ease of access "east of the river" make LTM the primary source of arts and culture for many of our patrons. In addition to the positive social impact of the performance arts, we also have the pleasure of preserving the treasure of Cheney Hall. We would be honored if the Family Fund continued to support our ongoing operations in 2022. \$2,500 would greatly help propel us forward to an exciting season in 2023.

TOTAL AVAILABLE**23,500****CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY****2,500****HOWELL CHENEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL—Spirit of Innovation Awards****2,000****MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUTHERLAND SCHOLARSHIPS****5,000****MARY CHENEY LIBRARY****3,500****HARTFORD ARTISANS WEAVING CENTER****2,500****WADSWORTH ATHENEUM****2,500****CHENEY HOMESTEAD of MHS****3,000****MANCHESTER LITTLE THEATRE****2,500**

2021 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Access to Family Tree and Website

2021 feels like a long way off lost in the dark clouds of COVID, the Capitol Insurrection and crazy weather. But there were some triumphant moments in the year as well. I recall a standout moment early in the year, February 24, when we were finally able to open the GED file containing the meticulously prepared family tree by Edward Little, covering some 14 generations of Cheney's descended from George and Electa Woodbridge Cheney. The manually produced tree had been digitized by Carol Whitmer but not accessible without a special program to unlock the data. The tree now resides on Ancestry.com and is linked to the new cheneyancestry.com website, which was in production all of 2021. Work on the Cheney Ancestry website has been underway this year, gathering content, including photos of the Cemetery, Cheney Brothers and Cheney family scenes, while our web designer is working on the technical aspects.

I am happy to cast forward to July 2022, when we officially launched Cheneyancestry.org. The website has a public section and a members-only section for which you will need a username and password. Kristin Merrill can help you with this. A link on the site will direct you to Ancestry.com for access to the family tree. You will be directed to set up a free account. We hope you enjoy all there is to look at and welcome feedback.

Legal Review

In March we engaged Attorney Malcolm Barlow to perform a legal review and comment on matters not spelled out in the bylaws or needing modernization, specifically 1. How to legally assign plots to those who may wish interment but cannot show successor rights 2. Planning for the Cheney Cemetery as an ownership property within the Manchester East Cemetery, and 3. Review of burial instructions to post on the soon-to-be website. Barlow's recommendations pointed to the need to write for the online reader and keep information and instructions current and clear—the website would be the “go to” place. (It now being 2022, you can find what you want to know on the website.)

Affiliate Organizations

We have joined affiliate organizations in order to learn new things of value to CCA and to keep up with the times.

- CT Historical Society
- Preservation Connecticut
- The Association for Gravestone Studies
- Connecticut Cemetery Association

Donation of Historic Family Treasures

The most complicated CCA assignment we undertook was arranging for the transportation of Russell Cheney's painting “The Calves” from Jerusalem to York, Maine for conservation, then to the Mary Cheney Library in Manchester. The international paperwork was mind boggling with weeks of back and forth but all turned out well. The donor, our cousin Chaya Hurwitz wrote, “I

think I made a great trade; I donated a painting to a museum, which will safeguard and treasure it, and I received a new treasure—getting to know you and the extraordinarily warm and competent and generous way in which you helped an ailing old lady accomplish her wishes!”

Not all memorabilia have so far to travel. We were able to help Margaret Doherty’s children place items, including a beautiful handkerchief box, scrapbooks and other items in Connecticut museums.

Presentation of Spirit of Innovation Awards

I presented the Spirit of Innovation Awards to two outstanding students at the Howell Cheney Technical High School graduation on June 9 at Hartford’s Goat Yard Stadium. Huge photos of Howell Cheney were projected on a screen while I read the citations. Julia Giangreco, a senior in welding, was our first recipient. Julia was to continue her studies at Manchester Community College. Isaiah Alber, a senior in carpentry, moved on to Manchester Community College to study criminal justice.

2021 Annual Meeting

On June Sept 22 we held the CCA annual meeting at the Connecticut Historical Society and on Zoom. Director of Collections Andrea Rapacz gave us a behind-the-scenes glimpse at some of their Cheney Family holdings after lunch. And speaking of lunch, I was invited to attend the year-end Manchester Community College capstone lunch on December 2 prepared and served by the culinary students in the Cheney Dining Room. It was a great gustatory accomplishment!

New Members

In membership, we gained ten new Cheney cousins.

Gabriel Williams (Timothy C. Williams grandfather)

Luke Williams (Timothy C. Williams grandfather)

Alexis Williams (Timothy C. Williams grandfather)

Hawxhurst D.A. McNabb (Austin & Ruth Bacon great great-grandparents)

Cheney C. Williams (Hannah Cheney Williams great-grandmother)

Hannah Grace Williams (B. Owen Williams, grandfather)

Lucas Frank Edmund Pollok (Sophie Platt Pollok mother)

Brian Philip Carney (Richard O. and Katherine Deen Cheney, grandparents)

Douglas Hugh Carney (Richard O. and Katherine Deen Cheney, grandparents)

Elizabeth Carney (Richard O. and Katherine Deen Cheney, grandparents)

There are currently 148 members of the Association. We are grateful for donations to the Cheney Cemetery Association from B. Owen Williams and Sophie Platt Pollok made during 2021. With only an initial \$30 fee and no annual dues, member donations really make a difference. It is now easy to give online at the cheneyancestry.org website if you feel so inclined.

Deceased

Each year it is my sad duty to let you know of deaths in the extended family about which we have been notified.

- John Alexander (Alex) McGhie died on January 17, 2021 at the age of 86. He lived in Portland, Maine.
- Barbara Bruning McGhie (widow of Bruce McGhie, Alex's brother) died on September 27, 2021 in North Branford, Connecticut at the age of 89.
- Alexander Lambert Blackburn died on October 2, 2021 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, at the age of 92.
- David Jay Ham, husband of Susan Cheney Ham died on November 30, 2021 at the age of 72 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In Gratitude

Many thanks go out to the board of directors for their help and advice during 2021. Having Zoom as a means of getting together meant that we were able to stay in touch and conduct our business virtually. A special thanks to Kristin Merrill for her ongoing support—we meet every week to tend to Cheney business and are here to answer requests and provide information.

Carol L. Cheney
President