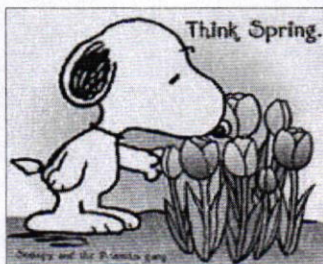


# NEWSLETTER

THE MEMORIAL SOCIETY OF RHODE  
119 Kenyon Avenue  
East Greenwich, R. I. 02818

884-5933

No. 5



# SPRING 1985

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Polly Harrison\*, President 781-1712; William Grande, Vice President 944-6430; Shirley Jacob\*, Corresponding Secretary 294-3749; George Felbeck, Recording Secretary 783-5798; Muriel Flood, Treasurer 297-3789; Ralph Galen\*, Dorothy Williams 789-0543; Emily McAllister 783-4208; Carolin Goldman 884-7875. (\*Terms end in June)



ANNUAL MEETING  
Thursday, June 6, 1985  
7:30 p.m.  
Westminster Unitarian Church  
Fellowship Hall

## Program:

1. "It's Your Choice" - A slide presentation from the Continental Association of Funeral and Memorial Societies.
2. "Living Will Legislation" Its status at the Statehouse" Mr. William Grande - Vice-president and Registered Lobbyist for the Society.
3. Report from the Convention of the New England Memorial Societies held April 13 in Portland, ME. - Mrs. Emily McAllister, Board Member of the Society.
4. Workshop on the Federal Trade Commission Funeral Rule: How to Find Out How the Rule Is Doing in Rhode Island.
5. Business Meeting
  - a. Minutes of the Annual Meeting in 1984.
  - b. Treasurer's Report
  - c. President's Report
  - d. Election of Board Members

### Slate of Nominees:

Miss Polly Harrison	1988
Mrs. Shirley Jacob	1988
Rev. Ralph Galen	1988

6. Refreshments

## PUBLICITY

The passage of the Funeral Practices Rule has generated considerable interest in funeral practices and prices and in the memorial society - alternative to high funeral costs. That heightened interest has resulted in increased publicity for the MSRI.

On May 10, 1984, Board member Carolin Goldman spoke to a group at the Tiverton Senior Citizens Center. On the 22nd of that month, she spoke to a meeting of the East Greenwich Lions.

On October 9, Polly Harrison, MSRI President, was a guest on the Tuesday Night Topics show on Channel 36 TV, along with Federal Trade Commission director Phoebe Snow and State Funeral Directors' Association President, Earl Tucker. Taped excerpts from the half hour live show were played over WPRO radio as well.

On October 10, Carolin Goldman was a guest on the Steve Kass' Talk Show on WPRO-AM radio.



## NEW BOARD MEMBER

We are pleased to welcome Rev. Ralph Galen, Associate Minister of First Unitarian Church in Providence to service on the Memorial Society Board. Ralph will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Anne Wise.

Our thanks go to Anne for her years of support and service to the Society. Her advice and insights will be missed at the Board meeting.

HOW TO INFORM YOURSELF AND THE SOCIETY  
ON THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION FUNERAL  
RULE or WHAT'S UP AFTER APRIL 30, 1985  
IN THE FUNERAL BUSINESS

The Society needs your help.

Monitoring the new Federal Trade Commission Funeral Rule must involve all interested Memorial Society members. And it's not difficult!

Enclosed in this newsletter is a form for your use. Here's how:

1. Inform the Society's secretary at 884-5933 (between the hours of 9:30-12:30 Monday through Friday) which funeral home you intend to contact.
2. Call that funeral home.
3. Ask for the information on the form. They must give it over the telephone as per the Rule.
4. Fill out this form.
5. Mail it to the Society. Include any other information that you think is pertinent.

Then, if you wish to...

6. Do a follow up visit and ask for price lists and for casket price information.
7. Ask specific questions about embalming requirements, caskets for cremation, requirements for burial vaults, cash advances, and preservative qualities of the vaults. Include any other questions you may wish.
8. If you know of violations of the Rule or if you are unsure of the Rule; contact the Society.
9. Send copies of this information to the Society.
10. And thanks for your cooperation. Keep in touch!



LIVING WILL & LEGISLATION

Currently pending before the Rhode Island legislature is Senate Bill S 317, also called the Living Will legislation. The bill provides a mechanism whereby adults may execute a written declaration which would permit the declarant's attending physician to withhold or withdraw extraordinary life sustaining medical procedures. Under the bill, physicians and others would be protected from civil or criminal liability and from any charges of unprofessional conduct.

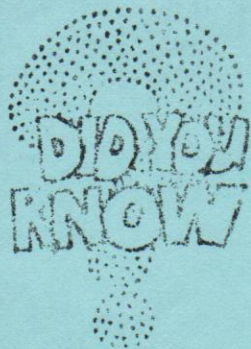
The Memorial Society Board has taken a formal stand supporting Senate Bill S 317 and urges its members to contact their state representatives and support passage of the bill. Board Vice-President William Grande, a Providence attorney, has registered as a lobbyist in the Rhode Island legislature and is actively promoting passage of the bill on behalf of the Society.



SPEAKERS BUREAU

Our speakers bureau is becoming a reality. We expect to receive soon from the Continental Association of Funeral and Memorial Societies in Washington a slide show titled "It's Your Choice," a 15 minute presentation that explains the Memorial Society's message and is an effective and graphic aid to a speaking presentation.

Would your organization like to know more about the Memorial Society? Please let a Board member know that you would like to have a speaker address your group about funeral alternatives. Call the Society and let us know the details.



#### BROCHURES AVAILABLE

Membership information brochures are available in quantity. If you know of an organization or church which might be interested in learning about the Society, come to the office at 119 Kenyon Avenue, East Greenwich, during the hours of 9:30-12:00 a.m. - Monday through Friday to get a supply of them. We can mail some out in limited numbers. Help spread the word about MSRI!!

#### DID YOU KNOW.....

that an organization known as Space Services, Inc. of Houston has developed a new wrinkle in cremains disposal? For a mere \$3,900 (approximately), remains of a loved one can be enclosed in a 1 1/4 inch gold-coated, magnesium capsule with the Social Security number, name, and appropriate religious symbol and rocketed off for eternal orbit of the earth.

Now that's far out!!

#### A REMINDER

Have you returned a copy of the Society's Record Form on which you indicate your wishes on funeral arrangements? This form is also signed by a next of kin or friend as a witness. The Society keeps them on file for the convenience of members and for use in case of a member's death occurring outside the state.

If you need copies of this record form, contact the office. Please return one copy for filing.

