

GARDEN CONSERVATORY BREAKS GROUND



The Woodlawn Cemetery was the place in the fall of 2002 for the Official Ground Breaking Ceremony for its 18th Community Mausoleum, the Garden Conservatory. The beautiful afternoon hosted the assembled staff, business associates, families and friends as we got the construction phase of the project under way.

John P. Toale, Jr., President of Woodlawn, hosted the event by welcoming and acknowledging those who have helped make the project a reality. Following the presentation of Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Charles Bejart American Legion Post. Rev. David S. Lothrop, National Chaplain of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, then led the group in a brief remembrance service. Finally, Jonathan Butler, Chairman of the Cemetery's Building and Grounds Committee, led the group in breaking ground.



Leading The Woodlawn Cemetery Ground Breaking were from left, Barry Boudreaux of J. Stuart Todd, Inc., Donald R. Williams, Superintendent of Woodlawn, John P. Toale, Jr., President of Woodlawn, Jonathan Butler, Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Trustee Committee, Rev. David S. Lothrop, and Steven G. Sloane, Executive Vice President of Woodlawn.

This project is the culmination of three years of work for Mr. Toale, Mr. Butler, staff, plus John Gary and Barry Boudreaux of J. Stuart Todd, Inc of Dallas, Texas. After Mr. Toale contracted with J. Stuart Todd to master plan the cemetery, it was decided that one of the first priorities would be to build a new Community Mausoleum. This led to many design meetings that pared the ideas and design concepts down to the final product.

"The work of the architects and our Building and Grounds Committee has led to a project that will lead our design criteria for the next phase of developing The Woodlawn," reflected Toale. The Mausoleum, with 2,326 casket spaces and 200 niches, will feature

three large courtyards, a fountain, Angel statue, and large roof skylights for an abundance of natural light to shine on the flowers, small trees and shrubs planted throughout.

Mausoleum space has been available for sale since January of 2001. It has been well received in the community and the project is right on schedule. In the summer of 2002, Woodlawn requested bids from qualified mausoleum contractors and we are pleased to announce that Carrier Mausoleum Contractors of Montreal, Canada and Portland, Oregon will be building the Garden Conservatory. Carrier has over 20 years experience building mausoleum and columbarium projects all over Canada and the United States. "Woodlawn is very excited to have Carrier commit to our lot holders to build our newest mausoleum in the spirit of quality, value and schedule," said Toale on Carrier's selection.

A lot of work has been done to the site to prepare it for the construction. We are now securing the building

permits and necessary approvals from the City of New York. It is anticipated that construction will be in full swing during the first quarter of 2003. Johnny Carrier said, "It is an honor to have our company work in one of the most historic and prestigious cemeteries in the United States. We look forward to providing the lot owners and Trustees of Woodlawn with the Garden Conservatory Mausoleum, a great addition to their facilities."



Office Gets Spruced Up



During 2002, the Cemetery looked for ways to better serve our customers. Among the facilities that were identified for improvement were the administration and family areas of our Webster Avenue Administration Office. Shortly thereafter, we painted, installed new carpet, new blinds, a new ceiling in part of the area, new lighting and new furniture. We now have a better working environment for our staff and numerous areas available to meet with families. If you have not stopped by to see it, we invite you to stop by during your next visit!

Lot Owner Services

The Cemetery provides many services to its lot owners. One of these is to provide special gardening services for lots within the cemetery. An example of these are planting flowers in front of the monument or cleaning the monument. If these are services you may be interested in, the people in our Administration Department are ready to assist you. Once you call our toll-free number at 1-877-496-6352, the staff will take some preliminary information and then send you an estimate of the cost to do the work. We hope that this will be one more service that we can provide to continue to help families honor loved ones memory.