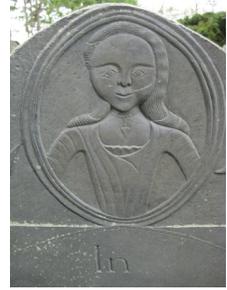


# SYMBOLS OF COMMUNISM



W A T E R H O U S E S Y M B O L I S M N E W S L E T T E R # 8 3

## SYMBOLS OF COMMUNISM

### SPECIAL SYMBOLS

- Hammer and sickle convey the communist movement
- Red scarf which conveys love and romance
- Sunflower conveys gratitude, affectionate remembrance and turning the soul to Christ
- Water conveys the source of life, mystery and the personal or collective unconsciousness

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Since I am in Berlin right now, I thought it would be appropriate to do a newsletter on the symbols of Communism.

Communist symbolism consists of a series of symbols that represent (either literally or figuratively) a variety of themes associated with communism. These themes may include (but are not limited to) revolution, the proletariat, the peasantry, agriculture, or international solidarity.

Some of the symbols include: hammer & sickle, red star and starry plow.

The hammer and sickle that you see to the right conveys the communist movement. The hammer stands for the industrial working and also power. The sickle conveys the agricultural power. Together

they convey the unity of these two groups.

The red star is understood to represent the five fingers of the worker's hand, which run the five continents; or conveys the five entities "classes" of socialist society: workers, farmers, intellectuals, soldiers, and youth.

Although not an exclusively Communist symbol the starry plow is a symbol of Irish Socialism that may have the same roots as the original Hammer and Plough that was replaced by the Hammer and Sickle in Russia. The significance of the symbol was that a free Workers Republic of Ireland would control its own destiny from the plough to the stars and the sword forged



into the plough would mean the redundancy of war with the establishment of a Socialist International.

## SOCIAL REALISM

While in Rome in 2011, we saw a wonderful exhibition on social or communist realism and how artists portrayed that period of history (1920-1970). The work to the left is by Kuzma Petro-Vodkin (1878-1928) and is called "Death of Commissario". It is housed in the Saint Petersburg State Museum.

Symbols of war include the gun which conveys power, violence, and the threat of violence.

Snow conveys death, blindness, nothingness, purity, chastity, and frigidity.

The color red conveys courage, war, creative force, imperial power, patriotism, and sacrifice.



## SOLIDARITY

The painting to the right is by Samuel Advankin (1897-1966) and is called "One of Our Own" and is housed at Gallery Statale Tret'jakov, Moscow.

We see the red scarf which conveys love and romance and of course, the red conveys courage, war, creative force, imperial power, patriotism, and sacrifice.

The workers convey solidarity and the endeavor of the soul to attain perfection.

The color white conveys peace, purity, faith, timelessness, ecstasy, spiritual intuition, simplicity and spiritual intuition.

Blue conveys the sky, sanctification, sincerity, piety, intuition, time and space, truth, eternity, harmony, candor, glory, innocence, courage, fairness, love, justice, coolness, and puritanism.

Black conveys penitence, death, grief, mourning, ignorance, time, primordial chaos, mineral life, wisdom, and instinct.



## SUNFLOWERS

*As the last journey of this faithful pilgrim took him beyond the sunset, and as heaven's morning broke, I like to think that all the trumpets sounded on the other side*

*Paul Bunyan*

The painting to the right is by Arkadij Plastov (1893-1972) and the title is "Arrival of Summer".

The sunflower conveys gratitude, affectionate remembrance, turning the soul to Christ, worship, false riches, infatuation and the sun.

Also in this painting are represented the three ages of man with elderly, middle age and youth or a child. The elderly man seems to be pointing the young boy the future.

Yellow conveys the sun, fruitfulness and joy.



## MAN WITH BLUE CUP

The painting to the right is by Michail Trufanov (1921-1987) and is called Worker and resides at the State Russian Museum in Saint Petersburg.

The man is a miner because of the mining light in his right hand. Light conveys the spirit, virtue, intellect, creative force, cosmic energy, the

Word, purity, moral value, knowledge, wisdom, evolution, the masculine principle, creative force, optimism, the past, discovery, understanding and divine revelation.

The cup conveys friendship, temperance, renewed spiritual vigor, the blessing and prize.

The color blue conveys the sky, sanctification, sincerity, piety, intuition, time and space, truth, eternity, sorrow, and devotion.

Water, which the miner drinks, conveys the source of life, mystery, the personal or collective unconsciousness, innocence, regeneration and refreshment.



## CEMETERY WANDERINGS

Cathy and Steve Vogel go to areas of Georgia and wander cemeteries. They always include me in those wanderings by sending fascinating grave-stones' pictures. They sent me two just recently. The one to the far right, is ceramic and is in Buchanan, GA. The other one closest to us is in from Villa Rica and as Cathy explains that "this was in the back of the cemetery and there was a bench dedicated to Native Americans. One marker seemed to date from 1700's or early

1800's." I have no clue if the two markers are related". If you are aware of others, please let me know.



### AN UNUSUAL MARKER

Larry UptheGrove sent me this unusual marker, which shows a youth, who spent the majority of his life in a wheel chair, escaping it at death.

The obituary stated "And then it shall come to pass, that the spirits of those who are righteous are received into a state of happiness, which is called paradise, a state of rest, a state of peace, where they shall rest from all their troubles and from all care, and sorrow" Peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, February 21,

1999, our cherished son, brother and friend, Matthew Stanford Robison was received into a state of happiness, and began his rest from troubles, care, and sorrow in the arms of his Savior and friend Jesus Christ."

"At birth, Matthew's life expectancy was anticipated to be only hours long. However, fortitude, strength, and endurance, combined with the power of God allowed Matthew to live ten and one-half years enveloped in the love of his family

and friends. His family was privileged to spend time with him here upon earth, to learn from his courage and marvel at his constant joy and happiness in the face of struggle." He is buried in Salt Lake City.



*There are three crowns--the crown of Torah, the crown of priesthood and the crown of sovereignty--but the crown of good name surmounts them all*

*Rabbi Shimon*

### MYSTERY SYMBOLS SOLVED

Thanks to Laurel Gabel and Mike Tanner for helping us solve the three symbols on page 3 of the last newsletter sent to me by Wynn Montgomery.

The one to the right is the Modern Brotherhood of America fraternal benefit society/ insurance society emblem.

The next one is The emblem with the two flags (one USA, the other Sardinia or Italy)



has the letters S.B.I.N. encircled by a rope. The central shield and cross is the House of Savoy device, part of the Italian flag 1848-1946. The last one is the emblem of the Veterans of the Foreign Wars. It is probably an earlier version.



What are your ideas  
for future newsletters?



WATERHOUSE  
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NEWSLETTER # 83

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**The mission of Waterhouse Symbolism is to research and document symbols locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.**



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Spring has finally sprung and we are entering the lusty month of May. Earlier in the month, while walking the dogs, we came across a fox crossing the road. He stopped and looked at us like we were invading his property. I looked at foxes in Newsletter 48 and they convey the devil, basic desires or instincts, intemperance, sensuality and hypocrisy. Thanks for your continued support of my newsletter.

Take care—Richard Waterhouse

NEXT MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION  
FOR GRAVESTONE CAPE COD/  
SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

As many of you know, I coordinate the meetings for the AGS Cape Cod/Southern New England Chapter.

The spring meeting of the AGS Cape Cod/Southern New England Chapter will be Saturday, June 1, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the 1749 Courthouse and Museum, located in the Plymouth Town Square next to Burial Hill. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.

We will be hosted by the Friends of Burial Hill, a non-profit group founded to ensure the conservation and preservation of Burial Hill and to raise awareness of its importance and needs through education.

Jim Blachowicz, who in 2003 was the recipient of the Association's prestigious Forbes Award given "in recognition of exceptional service to the field

of gravestone studies," will do a visual presentation highlighting selected stones from this book "From Slate to Marble Gravestone Carving Traditions in Eastern Massachusetts 1770 - 1870" as well as some others that will be discussed in volume II.

In addition to James Blachowicz there will be a History in Progress walk on the Hill focusing on the buildings that once stood there prior to its establishment as a burying ground.

For lunch, box lunches will be available, you can bring your own or we will provide a listing of lunch places close by. Further information about lunch will be provided when you register.

We will then move to Plimoth Plantation where we will view the recreated

Fort and village where AGS members will enjoy a complimentary admission to the Plantation.

We will conclude with an informal business meeting for the AGS Cape Cod/Southern New England members at the Plantation's cafe or on the grounds for discussion and planning for the fall meeting.

If you would like to attend, please let me know by May 15, 2013 at rwaterhouse@comcast.net.

