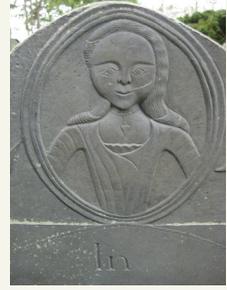


COLORS OF SUMMER



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 5

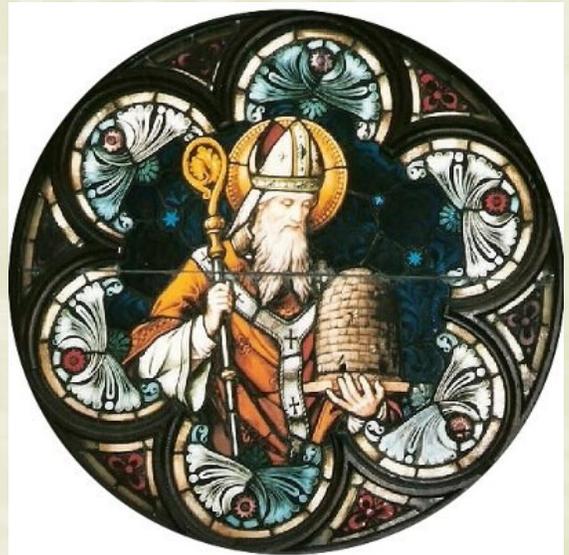
SPECIAL SYMBOLS

- Beehive conveys the Church, cooperation, and papacy
- Music conveys order, harmony, and a general restorative
- Dove convey humility, innocence, meekness, purity, and simplicity
- Sun conveys potential good, the will, the hero, and the eye of God

SAINT AMBROSE

If we think of summer, we usually think about bees which reminds me of Saint Ambrose. I found this particular image on the facebook page of the Beehive Tavern in East Sandwich, a great restaurant!

Saint Ambrose, born 339 in Tier Germany, was the son of a Roman nobleman. Already a successful lawyer, he became governor of Aemilia and Liguria in 370. Four years later, the Bishop of Milan died and Ambrose was summoned to ensure the peaceful election of a new bishop. To his great surprise, Ambrose found himself acclaimed and elected instead.



Saint Ambrose, Patron Saint of Beekeeping

Symbols related to Saint Ambrose include the whip which conveys the struggle against heresies. The beehive conveys the Church, cooperation, papacy, abundance, well-being, and activity.

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LILY

One of the late June bloomers on the Cape is the Lily. It conveys purity, virginity, the purified soul, heavenly bliss, connubial chastity, majesty, queenly beauty, grace, immortality, chastity, showiness, fertility, phallus, the masculine principle, desire, repentance, and sorrow.

Colors related to the beautiful lily include: white which conveys peace, purity, faith, timelessness, ecstasy, the moon, spiritual intuition, simplicity, nobility, integrity, the purest of all colors; and green which conveys fertility, life, growth, rebirth, immortality, spiritual integrity, victory over the vicissitudes of life, victory over the flesh, youth, hope, and spring.



Outside the Windfall House

RALPH CAHOON AND PERFORMERS

This wonderful Ralph Cahoon has two mermaids and a sailor playing music. Music and the beach are parts of the summer.

Music conveys order, harmony, a general restorative related to fertility, harmony arising from chaos, the harmony of the universe, will, mockery, and generally indicative of the prevailing atmosphere.

Sailors convey conductor of the soul, coming to the grips

with the unconscious, and partakes symbolism of the sea.

The mermaid conveys sensual pleasure, fatal allurements, the unconscious, the dual nature of Christ, and the power of song & magic. It is an attribute of Saint Margaret and Saint Christopher.

Clouds convey the intermediate world between the formal and the non-formal, the transitory, death, illusion, mystery, sanctity, storm, sleep, and obscuring the truth.



MOURNING DOVE

What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.

~John Steinbeck

Sometimes, I will be somewhere and hear a sound and it will remind of a symbol and a grave marker. Such is the case of the mourning dove who is nesting in the attic of the Cahoon Museum of American Art.

I am reminded of the marker to the right at Oakland Cemetery and the mourning dove's wing has broken.

The dove, the most frequently portrayed bird in Christian art, suggests humility, innocence, meekness, purity, and simplicity. It is the

Messenger of God and a symbol of peace. On a baby's grave, it represents the innocent end of life under the protection of God.

The tree stump is a symbol of life cut short. Tree stumps as grave-stones are most often associated with Woodmen of the World, a fraternal order. Usually, they have a Woodmen emblem on them.



Photo by Dinny Harper Addison

UNKNOWN SYMBOL

Diane Nesmeyer sent me the picture of the grave marker to the right with the following information: "Are you up for another mystery? My friend, the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) Cemetery Lady found the symbol on the attached photograph. I found Mr. Richards obituary but it

did not shed any light as to the meaning of the symbol.

I googled Mr. Richards but didn't find any sites that may have shed some light.

I thought may be it was the hash marks for the rank of Captain but I couldn't find a listing for him in the WWII Army Enlistment Records

1938-1946 on Family Search.

I am not sure without more information about Mr. Richards will we be able to determine what the heck those hash marks mean. Have you seen anything similar or can you shed some light?"



BABY HAWK

This little fella showed up on the canopy walk of the Atlanta Botanical Garden last week and the picture was taken by Priyesh.

The hawk conveys the evil mind of the sinner, fire, sun, vision, the spirit, nobility, immortality, longevity, vengeance, ferocity, a swindler, brute force, violence, war-monger, freedom, fierce nobility, predation and watchfulness.

The color brown conveys the earth, penitence, grief, barrenness, poverty, depression, spiritual death and degra-

ation, renunciation of the world, modesty, melancholy, autumn, monasticism, sorrow, calmness, trustworthiness, and conservatism. In the Victorian society, brown denotes lack of emotion or spiritual.

The color green conveys fertility, life, growth, rebirth, immortality, spiritual integrity, victory over the vicissitudes of life, victory over the flesh, youth, hope, spring, regeneration of the spirit, freshness, innocence, liberty, peace, and inexperience.



*In summer,
the song
sings itself.*

*~William
Carlos
Williams*

SUN SET

Since June 21 marks the longest day of the year, sun rise and sun set become very important this time of year.

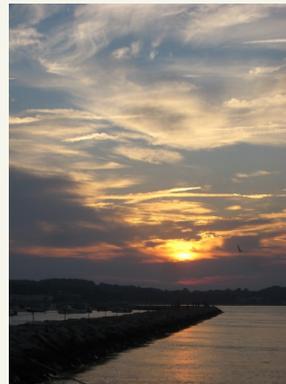
The picture to the right is the beginning of the Cape Cod Canal in Sandwich at sunset.

The sun conveys potential good, the will, the hero, the eye of God, creative light, the spiritual, the source of light, blessing, youth, sovereignty, fertility, the active power of nature, the promise of salvation, the guiding light, the

male, the creator, the mind, splendor, magnificence, authority, heaven, and paradise

In gravestone symbolism, the sun set conveys death and the end of a cycle. Even though the sun on our mortal life sets, we will have eternal life.

Yellow conveys the sun, fruitfulness, beneficence, joy, truth, kingship, intuition, intellect, death and decay, sensationalism, melancholy, and the mind of man.



A JOURNEY

Caleb and I went gravestone symbolism hunting in Pembroke and Duxbury.

We went to Pembroke to look for an animal pen which was used during colonial times. When a cow or other animals strayed from their farms, they were put here until their owners claimed them. It is now overgrown with briars and other bushes.

While looking for the pen, we found this Civil War monument made out of zinc. It was dedicated in 1881 in honor of the Civil War and lists the Union veterans that were still alive at that point. The plaque at the bottom reads "Erected by the Citizens of Pembroke to commemorate the brave deeds of their loyal sons in the war for the preservation of the Union 1861-1865.

I have seen zinc markers in the past but not one as tall and as detailed as this one with symbols of the civil war including flags, weapons, and an eagle. If you want to see details, please let me know.



What are your ideas
for future newsletters?



WATERHOUSE
SYMBOLISM
NEWSLETTER # 85

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



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I had the opportunity to attend Jim Blachowicz' lecture on stone carvers who have stones in Plymouth's Burial Hill and meet Jim's charming wife Camille. If you ever have a chance to hear him speak, you should. The research he has done on New England stone carvers is just amazing.

Take care, Richard Waterhouse

BIBLIOGRAPHY

I am not sure how many of you know but I have an extensive collection of symbol and cemetery books and I thought it might be helpful to include which books I used for this newsletter:

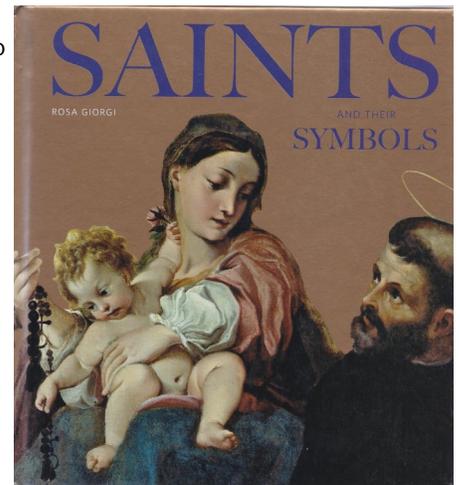
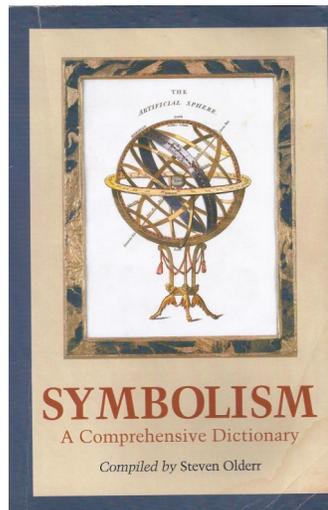
Gorgi, Rosa, *Saints and Their Symbols*, New York: Abrams, 2012 (Book just about their symbols connecting the origin of the Saints and the symbols)

Hallam, Elizabeth, *Saints: Who they are and how they help you*, New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994 (Book on the history of the Saints and their attributes).

Olderr, Steven, *Symbolism: A Comprehensive Dictionary*, London: McFarland and Company, Inc., 1986 (Book for a basic list of symbols. It is usually the book I start with and then I explore other ones).

Waterhouse, Richard, *Sacred Symbols of Oakland: A Guide to Many Sacred Symbols of Atlanta's Oldest Public Cemetery*, Conover: Goosepen Studio & Press, 2010.

Facebook page of Beehive Tavern located in East Sandwich.



Saints and Their Symbols