

White Bronze Grave Markers At Eugene Masonic Cemetery

A visitor to our cemetery will see hundreds of marble and granite grave markers, the default choices of materials for most of the country. One exception is the broken remains of an engraved plate-glass grave marker. However, we still have several markers made of a special alternative to stone, called white bronze.

These markers first became available when the Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut, began making metal grave markers. They operated from 1874 until 1914, when their plant was changed to make munitions for World War I. After the war, they remained in limited business until 1939. This company, along with its subsidiaries, was the only maker of these markers. All were hollow and cast with 99% pure zinc. They were cheaper than stone, lighter to ship and resulted in highly varied and beautiful designs. Though made of zinc, they were referred to as white bronze, a more appealing name.

These markers all have some common characteristics. Most were tall, ranging from ground level to very tall, with multiple layers of structure. The lowest layer was usually styled as rusticated stone, a masonry technique giving surfaces a rougher texture than smoothly finished ones. On top of that were gradually smaller layers that were decorated with many symbols, names, birth and death dates, and other epitaphs molded into their sides. Often there were

customized metal panels bolted to open spaces on the marker, providing for later use when family burials occurred. Most were topped with an obelisk, which was also highly decorated, often with a draped cloth detail. Much of this is shown in the attached photo. Except for vandalism damage, our markers have survived well for over 100 years. Their color is bluish-grey, the natural color of the zinc patina, and the sculpted details are as crisp and fresh as new. There is little evidence of aging. Our markers also display the name of the subsidiary that did the finish work.

Our cemetery is fortunate to have four of these metal markers. Three are of the upright character from six to eight feet tall. The fourth is very different. It is cast to frame a ground level planter over the grave of an infant, George Fanning, with the family information on a scroll at one end. Restoration work is still needed to properly reinstall this touching marker. It is located at the south edge of our new Memorial Garden in the northwest part of the cemetery.

The other three are largely intact, but a few bolted-on panels are missing. The Castleman marker is located near the Public Square along the pioneer row path and across from the Skinner graves. The missing panels probably allowed the use of the marker as a warming stove at some time in the past. We found ashes in the hollow monument, and smoke stains are still evident.



McClanahan white bronze grave marker

The last two markers are located along the southern border of the cemetery. The elegant McClanahan marker is located near the Elinor Street entrance. It is eight feet tall and decorated in a very rich style. The McClanahan plot is also surrounded with a cast iron fence, one of the two we have. However, one corner post is missing and needs replication. The Chapman marker is located down the hill to the west. This marker is not as highly decorated, but is nonetheless imposing, and displays Christian and Masonic symbols.

We are fortunate to have these markers as exceptional examples of late 19th century funereal art. I'm sure you will enjoy finding them and appreciating their fine qualities.

*Denny Hellesvig,
Former Board Member*

What Do Board Members Do All Day?

Don Peting

Don Peting joined the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) board in 2018, but was involved with the cemetery at the beginning of its restoration in 1995. He wrote the preservation plan for the cemetery when the volunteer restoration committee was formed. He has helped with the restoration of Hope Abbey and other projects over the years.

Don is now retired from the University of Oregon's College of Design, which he joined in 1963. He taught architecture, design studio, and structures for many years. In 1980, he developed a preservation program for the college, including a Master's Degree in Historic Preservation, the first such program west of the Mississippi. In 1995, Don started a Field School in Historic Preservation, where students do hands-on work on structures to learn how to preserve them.

Don grew up in a working-class family in Chicago. His dad was a steelworker who became a rolling mill superintendent. Both parents told Don and his two brothers all during their childhood that they were going to college, and all three brothers did. Don knew at age ten what he wanted to do—he built models of structures, earning second place in one school contest for his model.

Don was able to make enough money each summer to pay for his undergraduate college expenses during the school year. He received his undergraduate degree from University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana in 1962. After graduation,

he married Betty Mattingly.

With Betty's financial help, Don



Don Peting

went on to earn a master's degree from University of California Berkeley, where he learned more about design. When he graduated, he was offered a position at the University of Oregon, which had a program that was well suited to his interests and talents.

During one sabbatical he worked on restoration of back country areas for the National Park Service, and wrote preservation guides for these areas. In 1977-78, Don spent a year doing research at the American Academy in Rome, Italy. His family lived in Rome, and Betty taught their children, Linda and Mark, her carefully prepared lessons.

Don and his family traveled often, eventually visiting every continent except Antarctica. He and Betty both retired in 2002, and spent the next four years traveling. Tragically, Betty died in 2006.

Don, Linda and Mark continue the family traveling tradition, with a trip to Madeira Island planned next year. Boating is one of his favorite activities. He has two boats, which he keeps at his second house at Dexter Reservoir. Skiing, hiking, and backpacking have been favorite family activities for many years. Don has been a long-time volunteer for the Masonic Cemetery and is a multi-talented member of the Board.

*Dina Wills,
Board Member
and Board Archivist*

Shawn Walker

Shawn Walker is the newest board member of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association. He is a perfect match for joining the board since he is the third generation of a family that operates a funeral home in Utah. He and his brother and sisters used to take walks with the family in historic cemeteries near their home. As he grew up, he worked in the funeral home, increasing his responsibilities as he got older.

Shawn came to Eugene four years ago to attend the University of Oregon Law School. Previously he attended Arapahoe Community College to become licensed as a funeral director. He also attended Utah State and graduated with a degree in history.

After he graduated from the UO Law School, he accepted a position at the law firm of Thorp, Purdy, Jewett, Urness, and Wilkinson P. C. in Springfield. His work at Thorp Purdy includes estate planning, and work with

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Shawn Walker

**Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association —
541-684-0949**

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The IRS Form 990 is available for inspection upon request.

www.eugenemasoniccemetery.org

From the President

I recently spent time in New York City and Washington, D.C., cities steeped in history from the earliest days of the Republic. My visits reminded me of what a privilege it is to be participating in the preservation of the history of my much younger hometown as a member of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) board.

Our ten-acre cemetery was established in 1859, the same year that Oregon became a state, and is filled with our community's history. Eugene's founder, Eugene Skinner (1802-1864), is buried in the cemetery. So is John Whiteaker (1820-1902), the first governor of Oregon.

Another memorable Eugene citizen buried in our cemetery is Wiley Griffon (1867-1913), one of the first African Americans allowed to work in Eugene. He did so even though the Oregon Constitution explicitly excluded African Americans from living in the state from 1859 to 1926. The Elks, for whom Wiley worked in his later years, paid for his burial. A beautiful memorial to Wiley is located near the Memorial Overlook in the northeast corner of the cemetery, above where his grave is purported to be.

For me, the Eugene Masonic Cemetery is the heart and soul of our community. In addition to its being the final resting place for early settlers, many of Eugene's more recently departed beloved citizens are buried here, including artist Maude Kerns, political gadfly and first amendment defender Charlie Porter, and Eugene's first female mayor, Ruth Bascom. The University of Oregon is well represented, too. John Wesley Johnson,

the first UO president, along with Prince Lucian Campbell, wife Susan Campbell, and many other beloved professors and administrators are in the cemetery.



Caroline Forell

What the EMCA has accomplished in restoring and improving the cemetery and Hope Abbey Mausoleum since taking over from the Masons in 1995, is nothing short of miraculous. With the help of generous donors, we are com-

ing close to fully restoring the magnificent Egyptian Revival styled abbey. We also finished the new fence on the north side of the cemetery this past spring. Our current project is to revamp the signage throughout the cemetery. This will provide our visitors with an even better understanding of the cemetery's contribution to Eugene's history.

Change is inevitable. While we will remain an operating cemetery,

space for in-ground burials—the major source of revenue for day-to-day operating expenses—is running out. We will continue to sell spots for cremains, but in a few years there will be no more full body burial sales. The board's focus must therefore turn to increasing our endowment so that the Eugene Masonic Cemetery and Hope Abbey never fall back into the ruin that they became during much of the 20th century.

We are grateful to our past donors and look forward to working with them, as well as many new ones, as we ramp up our efforts to raise sufficient funds to allow the cemetery to be an Oregon treasure in perpetuity. It should be a place the public can always visit to experience local history and natural beauty.

The Eugene Masonic Cemetery and Hope Abbey are worth preserving. With your financial help, we can do it.

*Caroline Forell
EMCA Board President*

Board, from page 2

local government and municipal law.

Shawn and his wife Laura, a freelance graphic designer, have a four-year-old son Graham, and will welcome a second son this fall. They enjoy hiking and camping at the coast and have found many waterfalls along their hikes. Shawn and Graham play golf together, at Graham's pace. Graham loves the game and will probably get much better at it as he grows up!

Shawn wrote an article published in the American College of Trust and Estate Council (ACTEC) Law Journal titled "Over My Dead Body: Preventing and Resolving Disputes Regarding the Disposi-

tion of the Dead." He was recently asked to speak about this article at a seminar on death decisions held in New York, by the New York City Bar Association. His family accompanied him as they traveled for the first time to that city. They all enjoyed their sight-seeing in the Big Apple.

Shawn brings to the Board a tremendous amount of experience that will make the Board's tasks much easier. We can all ask Shawn many questions, to which he will undoubtedly know the answers. We welcome him and his family to the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association.

*Dina Wills,
Board Member
and Board Archivist*

Natural or Green Burial

Death is part of the circle of life, but traditional modern burials, with airtight caskets and preserving chemicals, often feel far from natural.

For most of human history, when a person died, a simple shallow hole was dug and the shrouded body was placed into it. Normal decomposition took place and the body was naturally recycled—"ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

The practice of embalming, one of the most environmentally harmful aspects of traditional burials, did not begin until the American Civil War. Families of

soldiers killed far from home requested that the bodies be preserved and returned to them intact. Before then, all Americans had a natural burial or what is now called a green burial. Many populations have never adopted embalming: Orthodox Jews and Muslims have practiced burial without embalming for thousands of years.

In a green burial, the body is buried in a shroud of natural materials or a decomposable container such as a pine box, or a casket made of wicker, bamboo, sea grass or even wool. The burial



location may be marked with an engraving on natural fieldstone or quarried stone.

GreenBurials.org defines green burial as a "service involving no embalming, no concrete vault, no traditional caskets and little or no human-made changes to the burial site...." The Green Burial Council defines an environmental burial as "employing minimal environmental impact, legitimate ecological aims and a conservation of natural resources."

Though only a small number of Americans today opt for green burial, the practice has been gaining in popularity. In an AARP online poll, 45% of participants indicated they would choose a green burial over a traditional burial or cremation when given the choice.

The Eugene Masonic Cemetery allows green burials and is considered a hybrid burial ground. Hybrid burial grounds fit green burials into conventional (also referred to as "traditional") burial sections.

Green burial is environmentally sound because the body returns naturally to the earth. As space on earth becomes more precious, it is comforting to know that there are a variety of ways we can lessen the impact we have on our world and environment. A green burial helps us honor the earth as we complete the circle of life.

Much of this information came from the SevenPondsHome website.

Music To Die For

Music To Die For is a free music series at the Eugene Masonic Cemetery that has taken on a life of its own. Held in the historic Hope Abbey Mausoleum during the summer months, this is its successful ninth year.

Hope Abbey is a 1914 building on the cemetery grounds that had fallen into disrepair over the years. The Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) took ownership of the building and the grounds in 1995, and then began an extensive renovation. All 82 stained glass windows were replicated, marble replaced, the lavatory renovated and the leaking roof repaired, which resulted in a beautiful and friendly building that's a joy to be in.

As work progressed, it was noted that the acoustics were very special due to the hard marble and concrete surfaces. Would music sound wonderful in here? In July 2011, EMCA Board member Charley Wright instigated a trial performance by a classical quintet, which went well. Shortly after

that we were approached by the local chapter of the Sweet Adelines, asking if the building could be used as a venue for a dedication program for victims of the 9/11 tragedy. We thought that would be a fine thing to do.

It worked exceptionally well, and we started thinking about using it for music more often. In 2012, we had our first season of Music To Die For. We scheduled four different groups for the year, performing on the last Sunday of the months of June through September. (In 2014, we added an additional performance in October. We can't add more performances because there is no heat in the building.)

The type of music featured is eclectic, ranging from Folk and Bluegrass to classical string quartets, from Barbershop to a program featuring music and instruments from 17th century Italy. It is by design almost exclusively acoustic; electronic instruments are used sparingly as they are gen-

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Highgate Cemetery in London

My wife, Sue, and I recently visited the historic Highgate Cemetery in London. It was all we could hope for: atmospheric, beautiful, a bit creepy in parts. It is a famous historic site, yet it was only founded in 1839, just 20 years before our Masonic cemetery was founded.

While I enjoyed every moment of our visit, the thing I enjoyed most was reflecting about our own historic cemetery, and how far we have come over the past 25 years. For instance, Highgate has a much photographed “Egyptian Avenue” of family mausoleums and crypts. I walked into a mausoleum on a guided tour and there was water on the floor and coffins visibly disintegrating in some of the crypts. It was disheartening.

The scale of the problems on

their 37 acres is staggering.

Unlike our almost fully restored Hope Abbey, which was in ruins 25 years ago, most of the significant and beautiful structures in Highgate remain unrestored and deteriorating. There is a “Friends of Highgate” group, but they have only begun implementing a plan for restoration, landscaping, and active burials. These are all things which the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) has been doing right along, originally led by Kay Holbo and her merry band.

The continued success of the EMCA depends upon strong leadership, a clear business plan for sales of burial/cremation plots, and the continued generosity of Eugeneans.



Egyptian Avenue at Highgate Cemetery with family mausoleums and crypts

All of these are in place and our ten acres are thriving!

*Hugh Prichard
Former Board Member*

The Fence Works

For a number of years, we’ve had a problem with inappropriate behavior at the north end of the cemetery. To discourage such activities, we began to think about installing a suitably dignified fence along E. 25th Avenue, extended eastward by unobtrusive chain-link fencing to the northeast boundary.

About two years ago, a handsome grant from the Eugene Masonic Lodge made such a project seem feasible. Hugh Prichard, a former board member, and Kevin Shanley, a neighbor, then put up a \$4000 challenge, which was more than matched by other individuals, and we finally had the funding we needed for a first-rate project.

Meanwhile, we’d applied to the City of Eugene Historic Review Board (HRB) for permission, required for all properties listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. In the process, we discovered that the Masons had already approved a fence around the cemetery over a century ago! We were simply following up on their plan.

The HRB approved our project, with the condition that we submit an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP), to apply in case we found anything interesting in the fence postholes. Our friends Rick and Kathy at Heritage Associates gave us an IDP, we hired a surveyor and a fence contractor, and the project was completed



A portion of the new fence

ed by Memorial Day this spring. Nothing interesting turned up in the holes, alas.

When you visit the cemetery now, you can see the result. The new fence and the efforts of our landscape crew have made a huge improvement in the entire north side of the grounds. Visitors who want to walk the maintained paths of the cemetery are still free to do so. Some will just have to walk a bit farther to get to these paths. As a side benefit, the new fence has also made eight plots available for permanent residents.

A Major Cemetery Maintenance Effort

Board members Elizabeth Southworth and Don Peting are leading the effort to clean and repair grave markers throughout the cemetery. They, plus a small group of volunteers, are attacking this ongoing need. The work is also coordinated with the landscape staff to prevent any collateral damage. Like any maintenance project, this is a job that will never end, which makes it so important.

Most of the work involves not just the simple act of cleaning markers to enhance their appearance, but also mitigating the damaging effects of lichens and mosses. Mostly we just use plain water and scrub with a stiff brush. However, if the soiling is deep or very extensive, we also use a very mild detergent called Orvus. It is mild enough that it is even used to wash horses. For extensive lichens and mosses we may also use a biocide, which is a very mild and safe material for the environment and the markers; we never use harsh chemicals like bleach. Bleach may be able to turn marble markers bright white again, but over time it destroys the marble. Our cleaning goal is to make the markers more presentable, with text and

decorations more legible, but not to produce the bright, shiny look of a brand-new marker.

Tilted monuments are a very different problem. Because of weak soil under a monument, it succumbs to the forces of gravity. These repairs are more about grunt work. Using steel bars and underpinning, we tip the marker the other way and pack gravel under the base to level it and provide a more solid support. If necessary, because of size, we may also use a tripod hoist to raise the monument to a level position.

The work requiring the most skill is resetting toppled markers onto their bases and reassembling those markers that are broken. These problems are usually the result of deliberate acts by vandals and account for the most visible and long-lasting damage. Any reassembled marker will always look like a reassembled marker.

We use only historically appropriate mortars to reset toppled markers on their bases. As needed, we create a new base from concrete. Likewise, for repair of broken markers, we use only special epoxy adhesives designed for this use. The joints are first cleaned to

achieve the best fit. The markers are then provided with solid bracing during the setting of the mortar or epoxy. The repairs on the larger markers require several people or a hoist to move them. More grunt work!

All in all, this is very satisfying work with a successful outcome immediately visible. We welcome new volunteers for this work and offer on-the-job training. If you are interested in helping as a regular volunteer please contact Elizabeth Southworth by email at volunteer.emca@gmail.com.

*Denny Hellesvig
Former Board Member*

Music, from page 4

erally not needed in the environment of Hope Abbey.

These free concerts are a way of thanking the many people who have supported the EMCA over the years as we've worked to restore Hope Abbey. The musicians offer their time and talents gratis as a gift to the community. We do ask for donations to help with the continued restoration as there is still work to do!

John Bredesen, Board Member

Volunteer Information

This past year the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association sponsored a series of work parties to clean grave markers. This is part of an effort to highlight the historical significance of the many families and individuals buried in our cemetery. The markers can be considered works of art as well as tangible messages from the past, and deserve to be showcased.

Work parties will continue in 2020. No experience is necessary! All of the necessary equipment and instruction is provided.

Look for the scheduled dates in the eNewsletters, or check with: volunteer.emca@gmail.com for more information.



*Chapman white
bronze marker*

Consider your place in history...

The Eugene Masonic Cemetery has burial rights to sell. We can accommodate cremated remains and caskets. Your purchase provides a beautiful and meaningful place for your family to visit and helps support the cemetery.

**For more information,
please contact Sally at
541-684-0949 or
emca1859@gmail.com.**

Recent Contributions

The following individuals and organizations contributed gifts between April 1, 2019 and October 1, 2019. We thank you all.

Monumental Giver (\$2,500+)

Eugene Masonic Lodge No. 11 Hallis

Monument Rebuilder (\$500-\$2499)

John Bredesen
John Bredesen and Betsy Halpern
Bob and Alex Brokaw
Richard Larson and Barbara Cowan
Marvin and Joan Cypress
Brigid Flannery
Diana Gardener
Richard Hildreth
Fuki Hisama
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Kevin Shanley
Stan Stewart
Charles and Leslie Wright

Preserver (\$250-\$499)

Joyce Benjamin
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Sula Fiszman
Martha and William Hall
Lane Hoxworth
Margot McDonnell
Paul and Roslyn Slovic
Warren Wong

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Dale and Linda Forrest
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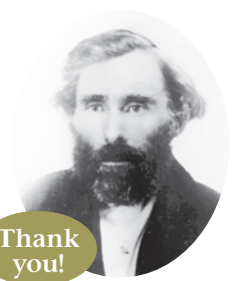
Daniel and Kathryn Kremer
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Gregory Brokaw and Elaine Lawson
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Sterling Morris
Erik and Ann Muller
Linda Pentz
Marshall and Susan Peter
Michael and Sharon Posner
Mary Ellen and David Rodgers
Paul Sakamoto
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Bill and Jeanette Sherwood
Michael Sonduck
Rene Speer
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Supporter (less than \$100)

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Jerry's Home Improvement Center
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Frances Manville
Sandra Martin
Duncan and Jane McDonald
Jill and Gary McKenney
Sheila Patterson
Suzanne Peterson
Jennifer Peterson
Stephen Ramey
Christopher and Laura Ramey
Ginny and Roger Reich
Tom and Linda Roe
Cheryl Roffe
Charles and Virgene Roffe



Thank you!

Janice Rutherford
Donald Sanford
Peter Saraceno
Elaine Bernat and Roger Saydack
Dan Schmitt
Tomoko Sekiguchi
Nadyne and Charles Simmons
Peter Steelquist
Robert B. Stein
Lyndal Stella
Esther Jacobson
Tepfer and Gary Tepfer
Cathy Verret
Honey Vizer
Marily Walker
Robert and Robbie Wright
Dorothea Yellott

Gifts in Honor and in Memory

Between April 1, 2019 and October 1, 2019, the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association received gifts from the following. We wish to thank all who contributed and regret any errors or omissions.

Monument Rebuilder (\$500-\$2,499)

John Bredesen in memory of Carolyn Spector and Fran Ross
Bob and Alex Brokaw in memory of Barbara and Harold Butler and Olivia Helene Brokaw
Brigid Flannery in memory of Dan Slovic
Fuki Hisama in memory of Toshiaki Hisama, Ph.D.
Karen Offen in memory of Samantha Almira Cornell McAlister

Preserver (\$250-\$499)

Brian Caughey in memory of Fred R. Austin, III
Sula Fiszman in memory of Joseph and Rachele Fiszman
Martha and William Hall in memory of the Benner family
Margot McDonnell in memory of Gerald McDonnell
Paul and Roslyn Slovic in memory of Daniel Slovic and in honor of Hallis and Perry
Warren Wong in memory of Carol Calkins

Sponsor (\$100-\$249)

Mark and Regina Agerter in memory of Joan Herbranson Agerter
Sandra and Steve Burrowes in memory of Fran Ross and Carolyn Spector
Randy McGowen and Rachel Foster in memory of Fran Ross
Ruth Friendly in memory of Samson Hiram Friendly
Elizabeth A. Keever in memory of Dr. Joe and Muriel Keever
Jane King in memory of Don King
Sarah Klinghammer in memory of Daniel Klinghammer
Daniel and Kathryn Kremer in memory of William and Sally Wood

Rebecca Weedon Lacy in memory of Bob, Jonnie and Sam Lacy
Sterling Morris in memory of Jessie May Pierpont, aka "Mrs. David Husband"
Paul Sakamoto in memory of the Eastland family
Michael Sonduck in memory of Allan Cole Sonduck
Rene Speer in memory of Noel Wicks

Supporter (less than \$100)

Flo Alvergue in memory of George R. Alvergue
Libby Bottero in memory of David Bottero
Jerry and Vikki Chrostek in memory of their dogs
Don Dumond in memory of Carol Steichen Dumond
Pam Fields in memory of Bob and Bonnie Frazer
Carol Garringer in memory of Jerry Garringer
Evlyn Gould in memory of Murray Gould
Stephen and Lynn Greenwood in memory of Dan Slovic
Sarah and Saman Harnsongkram in memory of Jack Harnsongkram and Sheila Jones
Thomas and Janet Heinonen in honor of Sally Smith

Carol Highland-Fritz in memory of Richard Highland
Doreen Kilen in memory of Bruce Kilen
Sherry Kirkpatrick in memory of Joan Wise
Frances Manville in memory of Hart Meriam Manville
Sandra Martin in memory of Gloria Darold Semon
Jill and Gary McKenney in memory of Gladys Pound
Stephen Ramey in memory of Lowell
Christopher and Laura Ramey in memory of Calvin the dog
Donald Sanford in memory of Barbara Sanford
Robert B. Stein in memory of Sandra Luks
Lyndal Stella in memory of Thomas B. Anderson
Esther Jacobson Tepfer and Gary Tepfer in memory of Sheldon Rubin
Dorothea Yellott in memory of Martha Geary Smith and Arthur M. Geary

Fence Supporters

The following individuals and organizations made financial and in-kind donations to make the fence project possible. We thank them all.

John Bredesen and Betsy Halpern
Marvin and Joan Cypress
Dottie Dougher
Eugene Masonic Lodge No. 11, AF & AM
Carl and Vicki Falsgraf
Dale and Linda Forrest
Diana Gardener
Hallis
Heritage Research Associates, Inc.
Richard Hildreth
Judy Wood Lyons
Kathleen McNutt
James Northrop
Jennifer Peterson
Hugh and Sue Prichard
Karen Seidel
Kevin Shanley
Charles and Leslie Wright

Recent In-kind Contributions

We happily acknowledge the in-kind services and discounts afforded to us by the following.

Bosworth Landscaping
Dan Delsman
Heritage Associates
Lane Forest Products
Craig O'Neill
QSL Printing
Sanipac
Ron Sprague
Superhandyman Inc.
Bob Weir

Donate with



PayPal waives its standard monthly fee because EMCA is a nonprofit organization.

Burial Space for Sale

For more information, phone the cemetery administrator, Sally Dietrich, at 541-684-0949.

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*Newsletter by Betsy Halpern
and Beneda Design*

Volunteer of the Year Civic and Community

We're pleased to share with you that Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) Board Member Karen Seidel was recently chosen as a Volunteer of the Year in the Civic and Community category.

Karen has been a pillar of the EMCA for the past 20 years. Initially enlisted to research the lives of those buried in the cemetery prior to 1900, she quickly became a key board member and volunteer, serving as board secretary and producing the newsletter among other roles. Most of the historical signs throughout the cemetery, as well as several chapters in the book *Full of Life*, are her work.



Karen has always loved to do research, especially as it relates to Eugene, past and present. Karen has played an outsized role in making EMCA the effective organization it has become. It is high time she was recognized for her decades of contributions to Eugene in general, and to its oldest cemetery in particular.

Charles Wright, Board Member

To Our Readers

If you would like to receive EMCA's monthly e-newsletter, contact John Bredesen, board member and publisher, at jarthurbredesen@gmail.com.

This newsletter keeps you up to date on Music to Die For concerts, work parties, and special events at the cemetery.

If you would prefer reading the twice-a-year print newsletter online, it is available at EMCA's web site, eugenemasoniccemetery.org.

And if you then would like to unsubscribe from the printed version, contact board member and webmaster Charley Wright at wright@uoregon.edu.