

The Eugene Masonic Cemetery Will Seek To Become an Accredited Arboretum

As stewards of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery (EMC), we often feel the weight of responsibility to care for this sacred space. First and foremost, we strive to maintain an historic cemetery in which all people may come to inter, honor, and remember those who have died. We are also keenly aware that such a sacred place is encompassed by a natural and peaceful urban forest. With this in mind, we look for resources and opportunities to help maintain our natural setting and ensure that it can be enjoyed by future generations.

We recently became aware of an opportunity to seek the designation of the EMC as an accredited arboretum. Such accreditation would be sought through ArbNet, an interactive, collaborative, international community of arboreta and tree-focused professionals. ArbNet created its Arboretum Accreditation Program to establish and share a widely recognized set of industry standards for the purpose of unifying the arboretum community. As part of the application process, the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) board will submit documentation about our organization and the proposed arboretum, including planning, governance, number of species, staff or volunteer support, education and public programming, and conservation.

The EMC arboretum will have the same footprint as the cemetery, and the Board of Directors will oversee the details of the arbore-

tum. Once the cemetery becomes an accredited arboretum, visitors will benefit from identification of, and information related to, varieties or cultivars of trees and woody plants. Behind the scenes, the cemetery will benefit from a detailed arboretum plan that will work in tandem with our existing Landscape Management Plan.

It may seem odd for the cemetery to serve as an arboretum, but arboreta can be found in all shapes and sizes, and can be traditional and nontraditional. Examples of traditional arboreta include the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington D.C., the Hoyt Arboretum in Portland, and Mt. Pisgah here in Lane County. Examples of nontraditional arboreta include Davidson College's 600-acre campus in North

Carolina, the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, and Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. In fact, 75 percent of ArbNet's accredited arboreta were not originally arboreta. Further, 10 percent of ArbNet's accredited arboreta in the U.S. are cemeteries.

In this age of human environmental domination and climate change, cemeteries are valuable assets in the conservation of trees, plants, and wildlife. Becoming an accredited arboretum would certainly be a badge of honor for the EMCA. It would let visitors know that we, as the cemetery's stewards, strive to care for the trees and plants that create a peaceful setting in which to honor our ancestors.

*Shawn Walker,
Board Member*



What Do Board Members Do All Day?

Angela Kinari

New board member Angela Kinari loves her work and loves cemeteries. Angela grew up in Montana, and worked for ten years for the U.S. Forest Service in Montana, Washington and Oregon. In 1997, she moved to Eugene and opened a rock 'n' roll/punk/goth clothing store with her husband. It was the first clothing store of its kind to go online in 1998. When her son was born, Angela changed careers again and has been a mortgage advisor since 2002. As she says, "I love what I do and I'm good at it."

Angela's love of cemeteries is long-standing. While she greatly

enjoys interacting with people, she also enjoys visiting quiet places. She notes that wherever she's travelled, visiting cemeteries has been a top focus because of the peace and happiness they bring her. When walking among headstones, Angela muses about the mystery of who these people were and what their lives were like. "Did they have long journeys, were they born here, did they find love, were they alone in the world?"

During her years in Eugene, Angela has volunteered with animal shelters and women's shelters,



and has done food prep for Whiteaker Thanksgiving, The Dining Room and Food for Lane County. When an EMCA board member, after chatting with her at a Last Sunday at the Abbey, approached her about becoming involved with EMCA, she leapt at the chance. For Angela, volunteering as a board member of a beautiful, historic cemetery is a perfect fit.

Angela's life includes her husband Stephan, her son Gibsen, and her Pomeranian named Fozzie. Both Stephan and Gibsen are musicians, and her house is full of laughter, music and loud barking. For Angela, listening to her husband and son play guitar together is one of her biggest joys. She adds that visiting cemeteries with them is another.

*Caroline Forell,
Board President*

Ariana White

Ariana's Oregon roots go back a long way. She has two great-great-grandfathers who crossed the plains to the Willamette Valley in the 1850s. Her enthusiasm for local history, geography, architecture and cemeteries makes her a board member who will contribute a great deal to the Masonic Cemetery. Ariana grew up in Napa Valley, California, and remembers her small-town cemetery with beautiful carvings and monuments. "The town was settled by Italian immigrants with a gift for sculpture. With its big trees, it was also one of the coolest places to go spend time during the hottest summer months. I grew fascinated by the role that cemeteries play in our society."

In 2004, Ariana, her husband, and son moved to Eugene. She loves the size of the city, the beauty of its surrounding areas with all the opportunities for hiking, and the Oregon coast. She received her

Master's degree in geography from the University of Oregon. She is a licensed medical laboratory scientist, and supervises a medical laboratory in the new Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Development.

Since becoming a Eugene resident, Ariana has been on a quest to visit all of its local cemeteries. Her encounter with Hope Abbey cemented her love for the Masonic Cemetery. As a brand-new board member, she has already begun work on a major Hope Abbey project—identifying important people interred there, finding the location of their crypts, and providing information about them to visitors.

Want to know more about Ariana? How about her love of live music? How about gardening (with an emphasis on tomatoes)? Cats (two Manx, who answer to Tigris and Biscuit)? Or books (currently Daphne DuMaurier)? This is a woman with a very full life.

*Karen Seidel,
Board Secretary*

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association
(541) 684-0949

Board of Directors

John Bredesen	Elizabeth Southworth
Alex Brokaw	Shawn Walker
Caroline Forell	Ariana White
Jennifer Geller	Charles Wright
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Angela Kinari	Alex Shumaker,
Catherine Kordesch	<i>Groundskeeper</i>
Don Peting	Sally Dietrich,
Sheri Pyron	<i>Cemetery Administrator</i>
Karen Seidel	
Roz Slovic	

*The IRS Form 990 is available for
inspection upon request.*

www.eugenemasoniccemetery.org

**We acknowledge that the cemetery
stands on land formerly inhabited
by the Kalapuya tribe. We honor
the care they provided for the land.**

From the President

Spring is the season of renewal, and at this time of year the cemetery is transformed. The flowers, trees and grasses surrounding the monuments seem to change before our eyes. What's different from the past is that the monuments are no longer hidden by new growth. To be able to see both the monuments to the dead and new life is reason for reflection and celebration.

This year the wonderful natural changes are especially welcome as we emerge from the pandemic. Among changes the easing of the pandemic restrictions bring are the return to Hope Abbey of Music To Die For on Last Sundays this summer, and cake and coffee on Memorial Day weekend.

EMCA has also experienced changes in our board membership. This issue of Monumental News

introduces you to our two newest board members, Angela Kinari and Ariana White. We highlight loss as well, as we bid farewell to our beloved long-time board member Roz Slovic, who died in March.

While change is inevitable, we can anticipate and prepare for it. The cemetery will soon run out of full-body burial lots. These are a major source of the income that keeps the cemetery and abbey looking spectacular. With that change in mind, the Board recently spent time crafting a vision statement for the cemetery's future:

We envision a well-maintained historic cemetery—a welcoming and natural setting where all peo-

ple may continue to come to inter, honor and remember those who have died.

We are a cemetery first and foremost, but we offer so much more! The cemetery and abbey are places that provide solace and joy to those who come, whether to visit their dearly departed, listen to live music, walk their dogs, picnic on the Public Square, learn about Eugene's pioneers or stroll and commune with nature. Help us keep the cemetery the gem that it is and fulfill our vision statement by donating to the EMCA. If so inclined, you can include a notation of your donation's intent—for example, for the general or landscape endowment.



Caroline Forell

Caroline Forell, Board President

Music To Die For Returns

For over a decade, the Eugene Masonic Cemetery has presented a free summer music series called—you guessed it—Music To Die For, held once a month from June to October. The performers are local musicians who freely give their time and talent to play fun, mostly acoustic, music in Hope Abbey.

Because of COVID-19, the 2020 and 2021 seasons were canceled due to safety concerns about the close confines of Hope Abbey. However, we're happy to announce that this year we're planning a full schedule of concerts on the last Sundays of June through October, though with reduced seating capacity. We have several musical groups who have expressed a desire to perform this summer.

While indoor performances

were temporarily canceled the last two years, we successfully staged three outdoor programs in the Public Square at the top of the hill. These were created out of necessity, but were very well received, and we're hoping to integrate outdoor performances into our free music series. Updated news on the whole cemetery music scene will be pre-

sented via the cemetery's eNewsletter and our Facebook page.

These free concerts are a way of thanking the many people who have supported the EMCA over the years as we have restored Hope Abbey and the cemetery grounds.

*John Bredesen,
Board Member*



Porch Band at Music To Die For

Memorial Day Events Make A Comeback

We're delighted to restore our full complement of Memorial Day weekend activities following our reduced offerings during the pandemic. The cemetery is looking magnificent under the dedicated care provided by Diego Llewellyn-Jones and Alex Shumaker. Hope Abbey will be full of displays informing visitors about the cemetery's history, and slices of high-caloric cake will enable them to climb the hill to hear Taps.

For over 20 years Taps has been sounded from the Public Square on Memorial Day weekend. This year it will be played at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday and Monday by Barry Barreau. It will be followed by guided tours of the cemetery, which will begin at Hope Abbey at 12:30 p.m. Sunday's tour, featuring the landscape, will be led by Diego Llewellyn-Jones, EMCA landscape manager. On Monday, the "Cemetery Highlights" tour will be led by Caroline Forell, EMCA board president.

Of course, visitors can enjoy self-guided tours at any time using the graveside historic plaques and walking-tour brochures describing the site's occupants. They can also appreciate the more than 100 veterans buried in the cemetery, identified by the US flags flying over their graves or placed in front of



their Hope Abbey crypts.

A fun family-oriented activity available to all is the "history hunt," a game similar to a scavenger hunt, which will take guests throughout the cemetery to answer questions about its history. There are two versions of the game: "Find the Veterans" and "Tombstone Tales." Prizes are offered for everyone who participates! Game information is available in Hope Abbey.

After visitors have completed their exploration of the cemetery grounds, they can return to Hope Abbey and check out the displays illustrating the cemetery's history. Carol Houde, professional antique clothes collector, will exhibit and talk

about one of the early 1900s dresses from her extensive collection. Old cemetery monuments, before and after they have been cleaned by our grounds crew and volunteers, will be on display. And, best of all, cake and coffee will be available. The cakes will be prepared by Reality Kitchen, a nonprofit food service training program in Eugene.

Hope Abbey will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on May 29 and 30.

Karen Seidel, EMCA Board Secretary

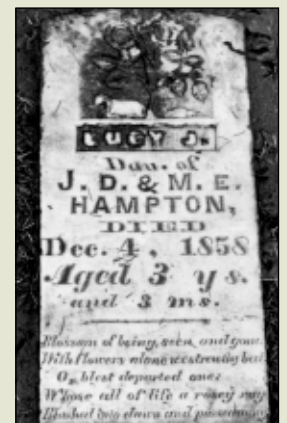
To Our Readers

If you would like to receive EMCA's monthly eNewsletter, 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, www.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.

Photos Wanted

Sally Dietrich, EMCA administrator, has become aware of the lack of photos of the cemetery. She, and those working on marker restoration, are particularly interested in turn of the century photos, although any old photos are welcome. If you have any, you may contact Sally at emca1859@gmail.com.



Karen Seidel Wins Award



Karen Seidel

On February 12, Karen Seidel, a long-time member of our cemetery's board of directors, received a well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award from the Lane County

Historical Society.

Karen has always loved doing historical research, especially as it relates to the Eugene area. It was a natural project for her to learn about the lives of everybody buried in the Eugene Masonic Cemetery before 1900. Pulling together resources from the early days, she collected information about a wide range of prominent local citizens. Those stories were then placed on signs at their graves to form a historic walking tour of the cemetery.

Several chapters in *Full of Life*, a book about the cemetery, are also the result of Karen's work. In addition, she identified all the veterans in the cemetery and discovered

where they are located, thus enabling the tradition of placing flags on veterans' graves every Memorial Day.

Karen's research work led her to join the cemetery's board. For many years, she has been absolutely indispensable as board secretary, as the former editor-in-chief of this newsletter, and as a general wise head.

Her energetic dedication, particularly to the historical aspects of the cemetery, has been a constant example to us all. We are indeed fortunate to have her on our board, and are delighted to see her long service recognized by the award.

*Charley Wright,
Board Member*

Beloved Board Member Roz Slovic Passes

In early March, EMCA lost one of its own when beloved board member Roz Slovic died after an eighteen-month battle with pancreatic cancer. Roz's interest in the

cemetery began in 1999, when her son died. Dan had appreciated the feeling of "wildness" the cemetery offered, and Roz said she wanted to "keep the cemetery the wonderful place it is." She is now buried next to Dan.

Roz was a volunteer for many organizations throughout the Eugene community. EMCA was fortunate that preserving and improving the cemetery's beautiful landscape was one of her passions. Roz was the liaison between the EMCA and Temple Beth Israel (TBI) and was instrumental in arranging the annual Mitzvah Days, on which volunteers from TBI arrive in force to pull the weeds that thrive in the cemetery's lush environment.

Roz joined the EMCA board in 2011 and attended her final board meeting this February 2022. Her fellow board members are arranging to have a bench placed in the cemetery in her honor. We greatly



Roz at a Mitzvah Day work party

miss her.

Read more about Roz in the R-G's obituary at <https://www.register-guard.com/obituaries/p0197272>

*Caroline Forell,
Board President*

Take a Video Tour

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's you, zooming over the Camas Field, soaring inside Hope Abbey, flitting along the paths and hovering at special grave markers.

Thanks to Hugh Prichard's vision and generosity, and to drone-master Nick Shafer's piloting skills, you can enjoy this unique experience.

Just visit www.eugene-masoniccemetery.org, scroll down, and take off.

The EMCA Oral History Project

In the fall of 2020, Kate Thornhill, Digital Scholarship Librarian at the University of Oregon, asked Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA) Board members if they would like to create a digital archive. The board agreed. Kate is a fan of the cemetery, and she graciously volunteered her time and expertise to make it happen.

In addition to the digitization of existing archival material, Kate spoke about the importance of oral interviews for our archives. The memories of early board members could help future boards, staff and the public understand the hurdles involved in rescuing a historic cemetery and mausoleum from ruin, the condition the cemetery and Hope Abbey were in when the EMCA was formed in 1995. The Board readily gave its approval to proceed with the oral interviews and to digitize the archives.

The interviews, conducted via Zoom because of COVID-19, started in January, 2021, with Kay Holbo, EMCA's fearless founder. The twelve interviewees

were: Alice Adams, John Bredesen, Barbara Cowan, Hallis, Dennis Hellesvig, Mike Helm, Kay Holbo, Rich Maris, Hugh Prichard, Mary Ellen Rodgers (first sexton/administrator), Karen Seidel and Charles Wright. All interviewees were board members except Mary Ellen Rodgers. The audio recordings and transcriptions are now available on our website, under About Us, and will also be available at the Lane County Historical Museum.

This project is an important step in documenting the efforts of a volunteer board of directors and a small paid staff who, over the last quarter of a century, have brought back the beauty and serenity of the original 1859 cemetery. Our special thanks go to Kate Thornhill for bringing the EMCA into the twenty-first digital century. We also thank Carolina Hernandez, Instruction Librarian at the University of Houston, and the three interns who helped us create the EMCA Oral History Project.

Alex Brokaw, Board Member



Entrance Vase before repair work done on Hope Abbey



Entrance Vase after repair



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 October 1, 2021 and April 1, 2022. We thank you all.

Monumental Giver (\$2,500+)

Ruth Nill
Rowell Brokaw
Architects

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

John Bredesen and Betsy Halpern
Richard Hildreth
Jody Miller and Kip Leonard
Andrew McIvor and Maura Conlon-McIvor
James Northrop
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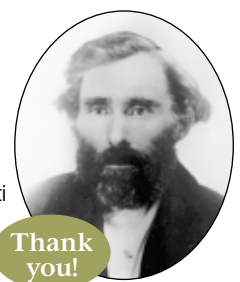
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Donna O'Neil
Randy Painter
Jennifer Peterson
Gary Rayor
Gregory and Diane Retallack
Charles Ruiz
Paul Safar
Peter Saraceno



Thank you!

Eugene Skinner

Elaine Bernat and Roger Saydack
Doug Simpson
Peter Steelquist
Janell Sorenson and Bill Sullivan
Jean Tate
Elaine Toper
Cathy Verret
Rush Wayne
Curtis Willcox

Burial Space for Sale

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

Gifts in Honor and in Memory

Between October 1, 2021 and April 1, 2022, the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association received gifts from the following. We wish to thank all who contributed and regret any errors or omissions.

Monumental Giver (\$2,500+)

Richard Larson and Barbara Cowan for the Landscape Endowment
Devon Mann for Memorial Overlook

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

Bob and Alex Brokaw in memory of Barbara and Harold Butler and Olivia Helene Brokaw
Sandra and Steve Burrows in honor of John Bredesen
Justine Lovinger and Maram Epstein in appreciation and memory of Roz Slovic
Caroline Forell in honor of John Bredesen and Denny Hellesvig
The A-J Roslyn Gaines Foundation in memory of Carolyn Spector
Hallis for the General Endowment
Linda Lewis in memory of Martin J. Kaufman
Sterling Morris in memory of James M. Morris, True Morris and Jessie May Pierpont Husband
David and Kitty Piercy in memory of Kaje Aarestad-Walker
Hugh Prichard in appreciation of Karen Seidel
Carol Williams for the Landscape

Endowment
Dan and Maureen Williams in memory of Patrick Williams
Carol and Samuel Williams in memory of the Luckeys and the Leasures
David Zimmerman for the Landscape Endowment

Preserver (\$250-\$499)

Kenneth Currens in memory of Gerald E. Currens and Beth Currens Westcott
Kathleen Doty in memory of Robert and Margaret Leonetti
Susan Engbretson in memory of Debbie Laney
David and Ann Cahill Fidanque in honor of Denny Hellesvig and John Bredesen
Sula Fiszman in memory of Joseph and Rachele Fiszman
Fuki Hisama in memory of Dr. Toshiaki Hisama
Margot McDonnell in memory of Gerald McDonnell

Sponsor (\$100-\$249)

Friedl Bell in memory of Robert Bell
Patricia Bishop in memory of James and Jimmy Bishop

Libby Bottero in memory of Paul Holbo and in honor of Kay Holbo
Judith Lein Brower in memory of Toivo and Marion Lein
Kathleen Wiley and Bob Carolan in memory of Don and Shirley Wiley
Jerry and Vikki Chrostek in memory of Buddy, Guy, Jack and Tucker
Lawrence and Sandra Dunlap in memory of Erik Muller
Joan Rudd and Joe Felsenstein in memory of Jake Felsenstein
Ruth Friendly in memory of Samson Hiram Friendly
Carol Garringer in memory of Jerry Garringer
Patricia Gwartney in memory of George Goldthwaite
Rozanne Junker in memory of Roz Slovic
Sigrid and Ron Leppert for the Landscape Endowment in memory of Ken and Robin Lodewick
Tamara L. and Guy Lutz in memory of Carl and Dolly Plant
Meridith Ann McIntosh in memory of Doris Bumgardner

Rinette and David Mills in memory of Joshua Mills
Keith and Margaret Monfort in memory of Emily Rose Monfort
Shirlee Dillard Perkins in memory of Samantha Jane Dillard
Caroline and Claude Poissonniez in memory of Christopher Poissonniez
Camilla Pratt in memory of Roslyn Judith Slovic
Stephen Ramey in memory of Ann H. Ramey
Paul Sakamoto in memory of the Eastland family
Sharon Schuman in memory of David Schuman
Roslyn Slovic for the Landscape Endowment
Michael Simon and Janet Sonduck in memory of Allan C. Sonduck
Elizabeth Southworth in memory of Helga Christensen Southworth
Diane Wilder in memory of Fran Ross and in honor of John Bredesen

Supporter (less than \$100)

Kevin and Donna Enbysk in honor of Alice Adams
Pam Fields in honor of George Newton Frazer, Sr.
Kris and Walt Fox in memory of Gavin "Rooster" Fox

Evelyn Gould in memory of Alan Wolff
Jean and CL Murphy in memory of T.K. Landazuri
Nancy Novitski in memory of Eddie and Esther Ellen Novitski
Stanley and Cathy Paine for the Landscape Endowment
Ginny Reich in memory of Robert and Opal Clark and Laurie Guttormsen
Eric and Kelli Rosen in memory of Eileen Binenkorb
Berit Shaver in memory of Ben Shaver
Grace Swanson in honor of Irene Mosher
Cornelia Taggart in memory of Bob Dritz
Mary Darold-Tanner in memory of Gloria Semon
Robert Wright for the Landscape Endowment in memory of Forrest R. Wright
Dorothea Yellott in memory of Martha Dorman Geary Smith and Arthur M. Geary

Recent In-kind Contributions

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

Dale Forrest
Historic Preservation Northwest
Lane Forest Products
QSL Printing
Sanipac

If you wish to donate, please use the enclosed remittance envelope or PayPal.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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*Newsletter by Betsy Halpern
and Beneda Design*

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Butterfly Gardens

As you stroll along the sunny southern slope of the cemetery this spring, you might notice that a previously grassy plot with ornate curbing, which stood empty for years, is now filled with new flowering herbs and shrubs tucked in mulch. These patches of goldenrod and asters, milkweed and yarrow, make up the latest addition to our butterfly garden system. There are now four distinct plots that can be named and located as such, but our butterfly garden extends far beyond those boundaries.

The lifecycle of butterflies requires that they have different sources of food and shelter at the various stages of their development. A variety of flowering herbs and shrubs within the boundaries of our four butterfly gardens provide nectar sources for mature butterflies, with some, such as milkweed, serving as both nectar sources for adults and host plants for eggs



and caterpillars. Beyond the borders of our nectar source plots, we find a number of thriving butterfly host plants.

Many different trees, shrubs, and even grasses growing in the cemetery can serve as host plants for local butterfly populations. The western tiger swallowtail can use choke cherry and big leaf maple trees as its hosts. The grey hairstreak can use hairy vetch,

Oregon white oaks, and Nootka roses. Even some of the native grasses we have are host plants for the common wood nymph and juba skipper. All of these plants grow in different areas on the property, outside of the boundaries of our butterfly gardens, and all of these butterflies have been seen fluttering about in the cemetery over the years.

I invite you to visit the cemetery, find the butterfly gardens, and hopefully spot some butterflies.

Diego Llewellyn-Jones, Landscape Manager