

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association eNewsletter



Last Sunday Open House



We will be hosting both of August's Last Sunday events this weekend on August 28th. They're both an opportunity to visit the inside of the beautifully restored 1914 Hope Abbey Mausoleum.

The doors are open at 1 PM for the musical concert *Music To Die For*. The performance begins at 1:30. The featured artist this month is guitarist, Craig Einhorn. The concert will last about an hour. Seating is limited, so come early to enjoy this free concert.

The Open House portion of the Last Sunday will be immediately after the concert, and the building will be open until 4 PM. Feel free to wander around and ask questions. There will be two knowledgeable people on hand to answer questions you might have about the historic building, as well as the cemetery itself. Masking is encouraged, but not required.

Please park on city streets because there is no parking on the cemetery grounds.

Music To Die For



The doors will open at 1 PM. Performance time for this year is 1:30 PM. Because of the continuing spread of COVID-19 and its variants, we're following the advice of the CDC. Masking is encouraged, but not required. This applies for both the *Music To Die For* program (1:30 PM to 2:30 PM), and for the Last Sunday open house following from 2:30 to 4 PM.

The rest of the series, held on the last Sunday of the month through October in Hope Abbey Mausoleum, promises to be equally entertaining. Below is a list of performers booked for the rest of the year.

August 28 (This Sunday)

Craig Einhorn, guitarist and vocalist

Craig Einhorn performs a wide variety of music from various time periods and countries. He performs original instrumentals and songs. Included in his repertoire are works for solo classical guitar from Spain, Brazil, and Argentina, as well as many other countries.

September 25

Mike and Carleen McCornack, singer-songwriters

Mike and Carleen have been delighting audiences for over 40 years with an engaging musical style that blends clear, expressive, harmonious vocals with sparkling acoustic instrumental accompaniment. They are equally at home performing for families who know them from their award-winning children's recordings, as well as for adults who appreciate their musical depth and off-center humor.

October 30

The Porch Band, mandolin, harmonica, guitar and upright bass

The Porch Band was formed in 2008 by friends Dan Bilderback, Scoop McGuire and Rich Spence. Dan produced and played guitar with the NW bands Epiphany Road and Late for the Train. Rich has three CDs to his credit. Scoop played bass professionally in the Bay Area including stints with The Roy Rogers Delta Rhythm Kings and Shana Morrison.

They were the "House Band" for KLCC's Front Porch Revue for several years, and they have a monthly gig at Territorial Vineyards. This is a return visit for them to *Music To Die For*.

Music On The Square



On September 11th at 5:30, the EMCA is proud to present another outdoor concert as part of a series we call *Music On The Square*. It will feature the Oregon Brass Society, "Oregon's Own Authentic British Style Brass Band." British Brass Bands were traditionally about community, almost always the community you work in. Bands were formed within specific coal mines, factories, mills, dairies and other industries – anywhere there were enough working families to provide musicians and an audience to play for.

They started in the United Kingdom, but are now popular all over Europe, Japan and North America.

Although the program is mostly uplifting, OBS will honor those who died on that tragic day in 2001. The program includes *Men of Harlech*, which firefighters sang as they rescued thousands caught in the buildings. Other works include *You'll Never Walk Alone*, and some favorite American composers such as Scott Joplin and John Williams. And of course a summer concert wouldn't be complete without some Sousa!

Sunday, September 11th at 5:30

Presented in the public square of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery

Bring your own chairs or blankets; no seating provided

Bring a picnic if you wish, and enjoy the music

There is no parking in the cemetery, so park on Potter at 26th, or at 25th and University, and walk up to the public square.

President's Corner

By Caroline Forell



A few mornings ago, when it was still cool, I visited the cemetery seeking inspiration for this short column. August is one of the months of transformation. Our intrepid landscape caregivers, Diego and Alex, have labored mightily to cut back all the grass that grew so lush and green in the early summer and which is now brown and gold. Once again one can see the markers, including my mother's, which was my planned destination. I brushed away the dead grass and rearranged the heart rocks and felt a sense of deep gratitude for the existence

of this beautiful sacred space

Whenever I come to the cemetery there are always people to greet. This time I ran into a friend who was showing the cemetery to her sister, who was visiting from out of town. I also saw the older gentleman who walks his corgi (on a leash—thank you!) in the cemetery every day. I got to chat with our sexton, Sally, at the cottage, and our groundskeeper, Alex, as he cut back some shrubbery.

There is never a bad time of year to visit the cemetery. Each time I come, I spot markers that I hadn't discovered before. And every one of those markers is a story in itself. As more of the markers have been cleaned and repaired, the hundreds of stories the cemetery tells are more accessible. I encourage you to visit and see for yourself.

I end with my usual reminder that it has taken years of hard work and substantial financial investment to make the cemetery and abbey into such gems. EMCA's current goal is to make sure that neither of them ever falls back into the neglect that existed when we took over in 1995. EMCA can only accomplish this with the help of our friends. Please consider donating to either our landscape or general endowments. And come see us soon.

The Work Never Ends

Nor should it

Over the past few years you've been hearing stories about our successes with restoring the cemetery and Hope Abbey, and they're correct. But there's always something we find that needs attention. Here are two projects underway now. We'll share more detail when the *Monumental News* is published in the Fall.

1. The lead story in the spring issue of the *Monumental News* was about our decision to seek accreditation as an Arboretum through ArbNet, an interactive, collaborative, international community of arboreta and tree-focused professionals. Board member Shawn Walker has completed the necessary documentation required for that accreditation, and it has been appropriately submitted. Now we wait for the application to be processed.



2. Many of the 20 foot square lots in the cemetery are outlined either with a concrete curbs or a metal fences. Both styles can fall into disrepair through weathering or damage. One such lot is in the southeast corner of the grounds. Several handsome cast iron posts support decorative iron pipes. Several years ago, one of the corner posts was damaged beyond repair. Through the generosity of Masonic Lodge #11, we have been given funds to create a new post.

Fortunately, there is a foundry in town that will be able to cast a new post, but first we had to remove an undamaged post to use as a model. (See photo.) It's about five and a half feet tall with about two feet buried in the ground. It's a husky casting, and takes two people to lift it. We hope to have this project done within a month. When it's finished and painted black, it will look the same as it did a century ago.

REMEMBER THAT THE MASONIC CEMETERY

- Is privately owned, but opens its grounds to the public, subject to COVID-19 safeguards.
- Is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is not subsidized by the city of Eugene.
- Is eligible for the Oregon Cultural Trust match.
- Has a website, eugenemasoniccemetery.org, with lots of information about the cemetery.
- Has free informational brochures available at the Garden Cottage, including a walking tour map.
- Has burial rights and cremains space for sale. Contact Sally Dietrich at (541) 684-0949 or [by email](mailto:sally@eugenemasoniccemetery.org).
- Uses PayPal for on-line donations. Please [click here](#) to donate.
- Archives issues of both newsletters.

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John Bredesen, eNewsletter Editor
Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association

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Mission Statement

To restore, rehabilitate, maintain, interpret and operate the historic Eugene Masonic Cemetery and Hope Abbey Mausoleum as a cultural and natural resource for the community.

The cemetery is operated for the public benefit,
but it is private property.
(A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization)

 Eugene Masonic Cemetery
ASSOCIATION

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