



December, 2025

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association eNewsletter



Last Sunday Open House Eugene Masonic Cemetery

As is our tradition, we will not host an open house in December. The next "Last Sunday" Open House will be on Sunday, January 25, 2026.

The Staff and the Board of Directors wish you and yours a happy and safe holiday season.

Cemetery Arboretum/Landscape Update

By Diego Llewellyn-Jones, Site Manager

Along the fence line at the main entrance to the cemetery is a row of shrubs that, for the month of December, have been covered in bright red fruits. Perhaps you noticed them as you walked past, the berries now strewn on the ground. *Arbutus unedo*, commonly known as Strawberry Tree, is a Mediterranean relative of the native Pacific Madrone. And though dwarfed by the mighty trees, the size of their berries sets them apart. What's unfortunate is they aren't very tasty, and even though they can be used to make jam, they are no strawberry.

A Contemplative Hike in Town

By Charley Wright, Board Member



As we look at our mission "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," it can be easy to forget that, first and foremost, we are dealing with a cemetery—a place where those who have died are gathered to

be remembered. Everybody interred there, whether in the ground or in the mausoleum, meant something to somebody. Though we have no way of knowing their full stories, we have accepted the responsibility for honoring their memories.

Particularly at this time of year, when families often gather to celebrate the holidays, it can be rewarding to visit the cemetery, and contemplate as we walk the paths what is most important to us, The answers may help us maintain perspective in difficult personal times or remind us of how fortunate we are in many ways. Especially when the days are shortest, a walk in the woods can be restorative. Why not give it a try?

Masonic Cemetery Music

Concert Series for 2026



The two music series hosted by the Eugene Masonic Cemetery are over for 2025, but will resume when the weather warms again.

Here are the scheduled start dates for the two music programs next year.

Music On The Square: Sunday, May 24 at 6 PM

Music To Die For: Sunday, June 14 at 2 PM

Linda Danielson, Guitar
Janet Naylor, Celtic harp



As the year is ending, please remember the Oregon Cultural Trust program which allows you to support arts and cultural efforts in Oregon. Here's a link to this organization which allows you to contribute to the Trust and get all your money back as a tax credit (not a deduction!) [Here's a link](#) to the program.

Check it out if you're not familiar with it.

And know that there are over 1600 non-profit organizations that participate in this program. You get to choose.

John Bredesen, eNewsletter Editor
Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association

[**DONATE**](#)

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 Eugene Masonic Cemetery

- *Is an active, operating cemetery
- *Is non-denominational
- *Has no requirement to be a Mason or association with Masonry
- *Is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
- *Is operated for the public benefit, but is private property.



**Eugene Masonic Cemetery
ASSOCIATION**

Back issues of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery's ***eNewsletter*** and the semiannual printed ***Monumental News*** are available on our website listed below.

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