

July  
2024

## Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association eNewsletter



### "Last Sunday" Open House July 28th



We'll be hosting our monthly "Last Sunday" Open House this coming Sunday, July 28, in Hope Abbey Mausoleum. The doors will be open for visitors from 1 to 4 PM, and there will be two knowledgeable board members present to answer questions about the mausoleum and the cemetery grounds.

Later at 6 PM on the same day, we present the next *Music On The Square* featuring the Springfield Community Concert Band at the Public Square. Please see below for more information on what promises to be a fun "outdoor in the park" program.

Please park on city streets, because there is no general public parking on the cemetery grounds. Hope Abbey is the large concrete structure at the end of E. 26th.

### Cemetery Tour Saturday, July 27th @ 3 PM

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association Board member Caroline Forell will lead a free guided tour of the Masonic Cemetery and Hope Abbey. Visit the graves of many of Eugene's luminaries, including founder Eugene Skinner, and learn more about them. Enjoy a tour of magnificent Egyptian Revival style Hope Abbey as well. Meet at the Abbey at 3 PM

A reminder that there is no parking in the cemetery. Park on Potter or 25th & University and walk up to Hope Abbey. A restroom is available in the abbey.

### Music To Die For



#### Music To Die For Concert Series 2024

August 11: Wild Hog in the Woods  
September 8: Violin Ensemble  
October 13: Recorder Orchestra

All concerts are free and are in Hope Abbey. They begin at 2 PM and finish about an hour later.

### Music on the Square



#### Music on the Square Concert Series 2024

Yes, we are back for another season of free music in the gorgeous Masonic Cemetery Public Square! [See the bottom of this eNewsletter on how to get there.](#)

July 28: Springfield Community Concert Band  
August 4: Kef!  
September 15: Oregon Tuba Association

Bring a folding chair or a blanket to sit on, and a picnic dinner if you wish.

### The Springfield Community Concert Band July 28 at 6 PM



The Springfield Community Concert Band had its beginning in 1993, when then Springfield High School band director Dana Demant and Mayor Bill Morissette decided that there needed to be a community band in Springfield. After some research and conversation, it was decided that there would be no auditions, so it was a true community band and included neighboring communities as well.

The band will be performing at the Public Square in the Eugene Masonic Cemetery this Sunday, July 28. The concert begins at 6 PM and lasts about an hour. No seating is provided, so feel free to bring a folding chair or a blanket. Heck, bring a picnic dinner if you wish, and enjoy band music at its best in an incredible setting of an urban forest.

The concert is free, as are all musical performances in the cemetery, but a "hat will be passed" for donations to help maintain the cemetery.

### KEF! August 4th at 6 PM



The word "Kef" refers to that spirit and energy shared by a group of people in celebration.

Providing Balkan dance music to Eugene and the greater Pacific Northwest for the past 16 years, Kef! brings together musicians from the folk and conservatory music worlds to play the best of music from Bulgarian, Serbia, Macedonia and Greece.

### Public Square Getting There

Note that there is no public parking in the cemetery, so please park on city streets and walk to the Public Square. Please take care not to block any driveways.

Be aware that there is a steep uphill walk on the road to the Public Square if you park on Potter or 25th. There is no transportation to get you to the Public Square.

The easiest option for getting to the Public Square is to be **dropped off** at the Elinor Street entrance at the south edge of the cemetery. Walk north towards the Public Square on level ground. There is very little parking at the Elinor Street entrance.

This is a reminder that we do not supply chairs, so bring your own or a blanket, a picnic dinner if you wish, and enjoy not only the great music, but also the magical woodland setting.

### Lives of some in Hope Abbey



Hope Abbey Mausoleum is the best example of Egyptian Revival architecture in Oregon. Ellis Lawrence, first dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts at the University of Oregon, designed the building. Cecil E. Bryan, who worked with Frank Lloyd Wright and Ralph Modjeski, a pioneer in reinforced concrete, built Hope Abbey in 1913. In 1980, Hope Abbey was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

More about the building's rich history was known than about the lives of many people interred there. This has changed since the Lewis and Clark Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution began their research in 2010.

Who were these people? Many of them lived during the Progressive Era (1901-1929) when Eugene evolved from a frontier town into a modern city. City streets were graded, graveled, and eventually paved as residents acquired automobiles. Electric lines, water and sewer systems were installed. The Oregon Electric Railway and an electric streetcar system provided mass transit. Eugene's first radio station went on the air, and a municipal airport began operations. As logging and agriculture became mechanized, rural residents moved into town.

The occupations of the people interred in the mausoleum reflect this transitional period. They range from farmer to lawyer, from tailor to doctor, from livery stable operator to radio station owner, from druggist to book publisher, and from iron foundry proprietor to minister. Many people were born in the Midwest. Some individuals remain mysteries, as they had no obvious connections to the Eugene area.

The Daughters of the American Revolution volunteers found their research experience rewarding, and their efforts have added important information to the history of Hope Abbey. The national organization of the DAR was founded in 1890 with the simple mission of promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism. The local Lewis and Clark chapter of the DAR was founded in 1913.

More information about the national organization of the DAR can be found at [here](#). Information on the local chapter can be found [here](#).

*This article was updated and condensed from an article in the EMCA's Spring 2011 edition of The Monumental News. You can read the original article [here](#).*

John Bredeesen, 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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