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May, 2021

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association eNewsletter



Memorial Day Weekend Open House



The Eugene Masonic Cemetery and Hope Abbey Mausoleum will be open on Sunday, May 30, and on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31.

Open 11:30 to 5:00 on both days.

We are delighted that we can again welcome visitors to our annual Open

House. Our Board of Directors and staff will be serving as hosts in Hope Abbey to answer questions, and to show you the various displays in the stunning Egyptian revival-style mausoleum.

Over one hundred veterans are buried in the cemetery, and flags will be flying over their graves. Taps will be played by Barry Barreau in the Public Square at noon each day, a short but poignant experience, not to be missed.

After Taps, take a stroll in the historic hillside cemetery and find recognizable names: Skinner, Patterson, Friendly, Chambers, Hendricks and more. Two guided walking tours, one about the cemetery's landscape on Sunday and one on Monday about the history of the cemetery, will start in the Public Square immediately following Taps, and will end in Hope Abbey.

The History Hunt is our "cemetery version" of a scavenger hunt. It's a fun family activity, and there are prizes for all who participate. It starts in Hope Abbey whenever you get there.

To cap off Sunday's activities, an all-brass concert will be held in the Public Square at 4:00 PM. See more about the Blugene Brass in the accompanying article.

Note: Remember to park your car in the surrounding neighborhood and allow enough time to walk to the Public Square at the top of the hill for Taps at noon, and then later for the concert.

Note: We will be following all Lane County health guidelines, and expect our visitors to do the same.

Schedule of Events:

Sunday, May 30:

11:30 to 5:00 – Cemetery gates and Hope Abbey open to the public

12:00 – Taps played in the Public Square

12:10 – Guided walking Tour – meet in the Public Square

4:00 – Musical Performance by Blugene Brass in the Public Square

Monday, May 31:

11:30-5:00 - Cemetery gates and Hope Abbey open to the public

12:00 – Taps played in the Public Square

12:10 – Guided walking tour – meet in the Public Square

By Alex Brokaw, Board Member

Blugene Brass Concert



Been missing live concerts?

Come listen to Blugene Brass! Our Memorial Day weekend concert is at 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 30 at the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Public Square. Our program will include patriotic favorites and American classics. We're very

pleased to present some Latin and jazz standards featuring our rhythm section, and our songbird, Sarah B. Rose. We will also have a surprise guest to give a mini concert during our intermission.

In 2017, five of us got together and formed Blugene Brass. Our early concerts were an eclectic mix. We have added more thematic content in our recent concerts, but the early enthusiasm and openness to play a varied program still persists. In the past two years, we have expanded and added a percussionist, Julie Bounds, and jazz vocalist Sarah B. Rose to our roster.

These additions are not typical for a brass quintet, but we are excited to include new arrangements, new sounds, and new possibilities to our group. We're especially excited to be playing for an audience again, so we're presenting a program to reflect that upbeat enthusiasm. We hope that just the pure joy of playing music together again is something infectious with our audience. So come hear Eugene's only all-women brass quintet in the beautiful outdoor Public Square of the historic Eugene Masonic Cemetery.

Bring a blanket or a low folding chair. There's plenty of space to spread out.



Mitzvah Day at the Cemetery

Twenty volunteers gathered at the Eugene Masonic Cemetery on May 16, a gloriously sunny day, ready for work. The work session was hosted by the Jewish Federation of Lane County and coordinated by Lauren Slovic, JFLC Board member and friend of the cemetery.

This is the 13th year that Mitzvah Day volunteers have donated their time and energy to the Masonic Cemetery. Tasks this year included moving and spreading a mountain of bark mulch, clearing many years of accumulated duff from the concrete slabs that were once popular gravesite coverings, and removing invasive weeds. It was a clear case of many hands making light

work. The entire EMCA Board of Directors thanks Lauren and her crew for their welcome contribution to the upkeep of the cemetery.

Mitzvah Day, like all other work parties in the cemetery, was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19. We are now in the planning process for, and hope to have, many work parties over the summer and fall. Information about any work parties will appear in this eNewsletter, and be sure to check our Facebook page.

By Elizabeth Southworth, Board Member

President's Corner

As President of EMCA, I've been invited to write a short quarterly item in the eNewsletter. You are welcome to read more by me in the Monumental News, our biannual paper newsletter.

In this inaugural piece, I am using my words from a survey of board members about why we love the cemetery, done as part of our preparation for doing more to increase our endowment. Here is my response:

"How do I love thee? Let me count the ways."

I love your natural beauty.

I love visiting my mother and friends and UO colleagues that are resting here.

I love the history this place is full of.

I love your old monuments and discovering different ones on every visit.

I love your peacefulness.

I love the change of seasons.

I love working with interesting people who share my passion for historic cemeteries.

It turns out I wasn't the only one to start my answer to this question the way I did. So much for originality, but it does show the deep affection board members and others have for this sacred place. Come visit soon. You won't be disappointed.

By Caroline Forell, Board President

Read Monumental News!

To read the latest issue of the biannual paper newsletter from the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association, please [click here](#) to go to the EMCA Publications page on our website. Then select the Monumental News link towards the bottom to access past and current editions.

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.
- Has burial and cremains space for sale. Contact Sally Dietrich at (541) 684-0949 or by email clicking [here](#).
- Uses PayPal for on-line donations. Please [click here](#) to donate.

John Bredesen, eNewsletter Editor
Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association

Please 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 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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