



May, 2023

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association eNewsletter



Memorial Day Weekend Events

Sunday, May 28 and Monday, May 29



You're invited to EMCA's annual Open House featuring these special events:

- Please join us in the Public Square for **Taps**, played by trumpeter Barry Barreau, to honor all veterans in the Eugene Masonic Cemetery, both Sunday and Monday at 12:15 PM.
- An **American Flag** will fly over each veteran's grave.
- An art exhibit, *Bodies of Work II: Art in the Cemetery*, will be presented in Hope Abbey. In 2017 we presented a similar exhibit, which was well-received, so we decided to do it again! Local artists Patti McNutt, Suma Elan, Margaret Plumb, John

Holdway, Tara Kemp and Helen Kaufman will show their work. All pieces will be for sale.

- There will be a demonstration of **Plein Air (outdoor) painting** in the cemetery, weather permitting. Don't be shy about asking the artist questions!

- **Two guided tours** in the cemetery will be led by experienced tour leaders. Board member Caroline Forell will lead, *Cemetery Highlights*. Landscape Manager Diego Llewellyn-Jones will lead a tour about, you guessed it, **The Landscape!** He'll also talk about the cemetery's recent accreditation as an arboretum.

- For families and children, there will be two different **History Hunts** (similar to scavenger hunts)—with prizes.

- **Interesting displays** will be mounted in Hope Abbey along with the art exhibit.

- **Cake** will be served, baked by the non-profit Reality Kitchen! Coffee and ice water will also be available.

- As a special treat, **Blugene Brass** and local legend, **Shirley Andress**, vocalist, perform on Sunday, May 28 at 6 PM in the Public Square. Bring a lawn chair and a picnic, and hear jazz standards and a little Bernstein.

The concert is free! See you all there!

Memorial Day Weekend Events at The Eugene Masonic Cemetery

Sunday

11:30 - 5:00 Hope Abbey open, featuring the art exhibit
 12:15 - Taps in the Public Square
 12:30 - Cemetery Highlights tour (meet in front of Hope Abbey)
 6:00 - Blugene Brass, featuring vocalist Shirley Andress, in the Public Square

Monday

11:30 - 5:00 Hope Abbey open, featuring the art exhibit
 12:15 - Taps in the Public Square
 12:30 - Landscape tour (meet in front of Hope Abbey)

Plan to park your car in the local neighborhood and arrive a little early to allow for the extra time required to walk up the hill. Both gates will be open.

The Significance of Memorial Day

Memorial Day (originally called Decoration Day) is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Memorial Day was born out of the Civil War, which ended in 1865, (six years after the Masonic Cemetery was created), with a desire to honor our dead.

New York was the first state to officially recognize the holiday in 1873. It was recognized by all Northern states by 1890. The South refused to acknowledge the date, and honored their dead on a different date until after World War I, when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war.

History of Memorial Day: Red Poppies

In 1915, inspired by the poem *In Flanders Fields* (see below), Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

*We cherish too, the Poppy red
 That grows on fields where valor led,
 It seems to signal to the skies
 That blood of heroes never dies.*

In Flanders Fields is a short poem dedicated to those who died during the first World War. In the Flanders region of Belgium, there is a six-acre American cemetery with 368 of our military dead, most of whom gave their lives in liberating the soil of Belgium. Their headstones are aligned in four symmetrical areas around a white stone chapel that stands in the center of the cemetery.

—In Flanders Fields—

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
 Between the crosses, row on row,
 That mark our place; and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly
 Scarce heard amid the guns below.
 We are the Dead. Short days ago
 We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
 Loved and were loved, and now we lie
 In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
 To you from failing hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.
 If ye break faith with us who die
 We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
 In Flanders fields.

John McCrae 1872—1918

Music To Die For



Music To Die For Concert Series 2023

June 11: Linda Danielson, fiddle, and Janet Naylor, Celtic harp
 July 9: Clefs of Insanity, an cappella ensemble
 August 13: David Gross, guitar and vocal, plus a guest
 September 10: To Be Announced.
 October 8: The Ineffable Bassoon Trio (enough said)

The first concert of 2023 will feature Linda Danielson and Janet Naylor. Janet will bring her Celtic harp, with Linda featured on the fiddle. That's Sunday, June 11th.

Concerts begin at 2 PM and finish about an hour later. Hope Abbey will remain open for visiting until 4 PM, so plan on staying after the concert if you wish.

Music on the Square



The musical offerings of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association are expanding. We've experimented with presenting live music in the Public Square at the top of the hill in past summer seasons. These events worked so well that we've programmed a full season of outdoor music. Thanks to board member Sheri Pyron, we have a delightful summer series of *Music on the Square*. Please note that these outdoor programs are separate from the *Music To Die For* (MTDF) performances held in Hope Abbey. These outdoor concerts will begin at 6 PM.

As always, both *Music To Die For* and *Music on the Square* are free, but donations are gladly accepted for cemetery maintenance.

Here's what's coming up.

Music on the Square Concert Series 2023

May 28: Memorial Day—**Blugene Brass** with Shirley Andress, vocalist ([More information.](#))
 June 4: **Oregon Brass Society** ([More information.](#))
 July 2: **Swing Shift** ([More information.](#))
 August 6: **Kef Balkan Band** ([More information.](#))
 September 24: **Blugene Brass**

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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