



October, 2025

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association eNewsletter



Last Sunday Open House Eugene Masonic Cemetery



We'll be hosting an open house this coming Sunday, October 26th, 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.

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

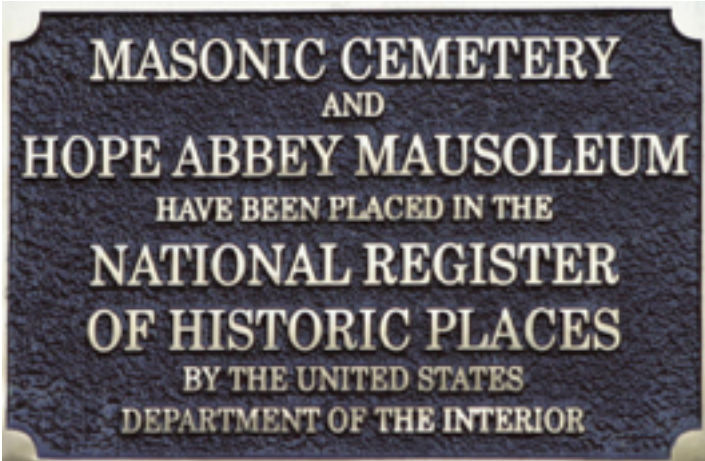
Caroline's Cemetery Tour Saturday, October 25th 1 to 2:30 PM



Here's an opportunity to explore the restored mausoleum and the cemetery grounds. Caroline Forell knows details and secrets about the cemetery grounds and Hope Abbey Mausoleum that she can share with you. The tour begins at 1 PM on Saturday, October 25th, and will last about 90 minutes. Please meet at Hope Abbey which is the is the large concrete structure at the end of E 26th Avenue.

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

President's Corner By Shawn Walker



This year we celebrate 30 years since the establishment of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association (EMCA). In 1995, ownership and management of the Eugene Masonic Cemetery transferred from the Eugene Masonic Lodge to the EMCA, a non-profit organization established specifically to restore, maintain and operate the property. This anniversary

provides an opportunity to look back and reflect on what has been accomplished over the past three decades.

When the EMCA took over, the cemetery was in rough shape. The needs of the cemetery were readily apparent and seemed daunting. Considerable time and money were invested in order to address those critical needs, such as clearing invasive and noxious vegetation, cleaning up vandalism and neglect, and repairing and restoring the dilapidated Hope Abbey Mausoleum. In the early days of the EMCA, the board and volunteers had to prioritize which proverbial fires to put out first as they cleaned up the cemetery.

As we walk through the cemetery today, we can see that those fires have largely been put out, and a lot of the heavy lifting of repair and restoration has been completed. Accordingly, in recent years the EMCA has been turning its attention to the future, including ensuring the long-term physical and financial well-being of the cemetery.

Of course, there will always be work to be done in repairing, restoring, and maintaining the cemetery. However, the focus has now become one of enhancing the cemetery as an important cultural and natural resource for the community. In recent years, this effort of enhancement has included establishing summer music events, providing regular guided walking tours, holding a monthly open house, creating historic and interpretive signage, establishing the cemetery as an official arboretum, and growing an endowment fund.

We encourage you to join us in these efforts. Please consider making a donation to the EMCA or otherwise getting involved to ensure this community treasure will be available for generations to come.

Masonic Cemetery Music Concert Series for 2025



We've come to that time of year when we need to suspend our music series because of seasonal changes. Rain and cold do not mix well with neither our musicians nor our visitors.

But you say, "*Music To Die For* is inside a building so rain shouldn't matter." No, it doesn't matter directly, but temperature does matter. Hope Abbey Mausoleum does not have either a heating or a cooling system. As temperatures drop, the colder air creates cold fingers, and cold fingers do not work well when an artist is playing a violin, a keyboard or some other instrument requiring quick fingering action.

Nor is it practical to continue the outdoor *Music On The Square* programs with the rainy season upon us. Our thank-you message of music to our neighbors and friends will continue next summer. Information will be available in this eNewsletter and other sources.

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

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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