



MULKEY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Spring 2009 Newsletter

Annual Dues and Financial Update

Cemetery dues are \$30 again this year. You may send a check to P.O. Box 26124, Eugene, OR 97402, or donate online at mulkeycemetery.org.

You may have read in the news about depleted nonprofit endowments. Thanks to the very conservative investments chosen by the cemetery board, the capital in the Mulkey endowment remains intact, despite the economic downturn. However, the recent fall in interest rates also means that the endowment is providing a smaller return than we have enjoyed in the past. We expect an income reduction of about 30% this year. We're glad to be doing better than so many groups, but that's a difference which is roughly equal to our annual mowing budget.

The cemetery continues to need your support to cover annual maintenance and administrative costs. We operate on a very limited budget, without any "extras" to trim back in hard times. Your contributions, both financially and at workdays, make it possible to preserve and maintain the Mulkey for future generations. Thank you.

501(c)3 Means We're Tax-Free

In December 2008, the Mulkey Cemetery Association became an IRS-recognized nonprofit organization. The association has been state-recognized for some years. This change means that monetary contributions – including annual dues – are now fully tax-deductible, as are in-kind contributions. For example, if your family has title to cemetery

plots you do not expect to use, you may be able to deed them back to the cemetery and take a tax deduction equal to the current sale value of those plots.

Achieving this status had been a board priority for several years. The financial advantages to association members are obvious, and being a 501(c)3 also permits the cemetery to pursue grant funds which are contingent on having federal nonprofit status. The application process took over two years from our initial submission of paperwork to the IRS.

Contact Sara Palmer, Cemetery Administrator, for more information on donating to the cemetery. The Association is not able to provide tax advice, but we can give you duplicate receipts for your 2008 donation if you need that paperwork for your current tax filing.

Contacting the Cemetery

For administrative matters, including burials, plot sales, monument installation, web site questions, and scheduling, contact Sara Palmer at (541) 485-1662 during normal business hours or by e-mail at administrator@mulkeycemetery.org. E-mail is often more reliable, since Sara has two small children at home and may have trouble getting to the phone.

For other matters, or if you can't reach Sara and you have an urgent need, contact board president Linda Peterson Adams at (541) 434-1266 (home) or by e-mail at president@mulkeycemetery.org.



Mrs. Gertrude Albro, Secretary of the Association for over 40 years, passed away on Feb. 17, 2009. She is survived by her daughters, Mary Tiner and Nancy Albro, her sister Catherine Grimes, her granddaughter Heidi Collins, and great-grandchildren Brittney and Jacob. Mrs. Albro will be laid to rest at the Mulkey with her late husband, Merl, who died in 2000.

Mrs. Albro, daughter of Guy and Eva Knox, grew up on her parents' farm in the Fox Hollow valley. She met her husband at a community picnic when she was 15, and they married in 1937, the year she graduated from Eugene High School. They lived together on their farm on Spencer Creek for more than fifty years.

Mrs. Albro enjoyed family, travel, gardening, putting up produce, handwork, and playing and teaching the piano. She co-owned the Albro Logging Company and wrote for the *Register-Guard*. She was also an active volunteer in her community, working with several organizations in addition to the cemetery association. A tribute written by her daughters was published in the *Register-Guard* on March 8, 2009.

Many cemetery families are relatives of the Albros, and many more have been helped, directly or indirectly, by her work for our organization.

The cemetery board extends their condolences and appreciation to the Albro family.

Our Shared History

The cemetery association is regularly contacted by people with an interest in family history and genealogy. The information we have to provide is limited – many things just haven't made their way into the files over the years. With no paper trail, later generations have no way of knowing things which were once so obvious that the people involved didn't think they were worth writing down!

If you have original cemetery-related documents – including deeds, photographs, letters, receipts, or copies of obituaries – we would like copies for our files. We would like to collect your reminiscences about the Mulkey Cemetery and the people who are buried here – would you be willing to write us a letter and tell us who the people in your family plot are, and how they're related to each other? And, for practical reasons, we are particularly interested in knowing specifics about the locations of unmarked burials.

If you are willing to be contacted by people who get in touch with the cemetery looking for information about your family, please let us know that as well.

Our resources to respond to family history requests are very limited – the association's priority remains preserving and maintaining the cemetery – but with your help, we can work toward a better understanding of our shared history.

Cremation Garden Update

Although the deer have, unfortunately, taken a toll on the ceanothus we planted in the cremation garden last year, the project over-

all continues to move forward and we expect to be able to begin using the space for burials this spring.

This Memorial Day weekend, we plan to dedicate the granite markers which will be used to memorialize burials in the cremation garden. These markers will be decorated with engraved ivy garlands reminiscent of the plant designs on many existing cemetery monuments. They will be placed south of the large Wallis monument, on the east side of the cemetery.

Deb and Rich Collett at Eugene Monument Company, long-time supporters of local pioneer cemeteries, have provided the markers, engraving, and monument installation at a substantially reduced cost.

Space on one of the markers will be reserved for memorial plaques associated with burials within the cremation garden. The other marker may be used to memorialize individuals buried both at the Mulkey and elsewhere. If you are interested in purchasing burial space or a memorial plaque, contact Sara Palmer.

This spring and summer, we are also expecting to complete replacement of an additional section of fencing along the east side of the cemetery, behind the cremation garden. This work has been sponsored by cemetery neighbors Svend and Lois Toftemark.

Plantings List

The following species are successful at the cemetery and consistent with the Association's commitment to encouraging native and heritage plants in our beautiful historic landscape. They may be planted at the cemetery without consultation with the cemetery board. Consider when planting that the cemetery association is not able to guarantee that maintenance or water will be available for your plantings.

Common Name	Species Name
Ornamental Allium	Allium sp.
California Poppy	Eschscholzia californica
Flanders Poppy	Papaver rhoeus
Dutch and Bearded Iris	Iris sp.
Lupine	Lupinus sp.
Grape Hyacinth	Muscari sp.
Daffodil	Narcissus sp.
Lamb's Ears	Stachys lanata
Camas	Camassia quamash
Wild Strawberry	Fragaria chiloensis
Michaelmas Daisy	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum
Queen Anne's Lace	Daucus carota
Stokes Aster	Stokesia laevis
Thyme	Thymus sp.
Love In A Mist	Nigella sp.

If you are interested in installing other plantings at the cemetery, please contact Linda Peterson Adams at (541) 434-1266 or president@mulkeycemetery.org. Copies of this list are also available on the cemetery web site.

Easter Service

We will once again be hosting an Easter Sunrise Service at the cemetery. Rebecca Hazen, a retired Presbyterian minister who lives in Springfield and worships with Westminster Presbyterian Church, will be leading the service at 7 a.m. on Sunday, April 12, with coffee and pastries to follow.



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P.O. Box 26124
Eugene, OR 97402



SPRING 2009 CALENDAR

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| April 12 | Easter Sunrise Service, 7 a.m., with coffee and pastries to follow. |
| May 2 and 3 | Workdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| May 9 | Workday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| May 16 and 17 | Workdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| May 23, 24, 25 | Memorial Day Weekend |

