



## Member Newsletter

Spring 2018

Dear Members,

We are very pleased you have joined the Cemetery Association of Oregon for 2018, and we are eager to help! Have questions? Please email or call us. Need help with recruiting volunteers or community communications? Just ask. Our mission is: "To provide, promote, and safeguard the highest standards in the industry and enhance the service provided to families and their loved ones, while working towards improving the operational & regulatory practices of Oregon cemeteries." If you have requests or recommendations, we are here, ready for your input. Read on to see how we are assisting Hilltop Memorial Cemetery in eastern Oregon, where over 40 headstones were vandalized recently.

One of the improvements we've made this year has been with our website. The pages are easier to navigate on your mobile devices, it's more convenient to reach us through the contact form, and overall, the site is a smoother platform for you to read up on the latest news at your leisure. If you would like your cemetery profile on the website, please contact Anna Mehrer at 503-860-3687 and she will work with you on updating our site. It would be our honor to feature your cemetery there. Be sure to browse the "Resources" page, as well. Please view our new website at:

[www.OregonCemeteries.com](http://www.OregonCemeteries.com)

We are also excited to announce our next conference: October 4 & 5 (Thursday & Friday) in Newport, Oregon at the Best Western Agate Beach. We have negotiated special rates for you: Hillside rooms are \$99/night and Oceanview rooms at \$119/night. Rates are valid for checking in any time October 3rd and checking out October 6th, so you may make a weekend out of it! Secure your reservation by calling the hotel at 541-265-9411. Mention "Cemetery Association of Oregon" to receive the discount. The rates are valid up to September 9th, after which regular rates will apply. Please note, a limited number of rooms allow pets, but are subject to availability, so if Morris or Fido are eager to make a trip to the beach with you, you'll want to mention your pet when reserving a room. Stay tuned for a detailed schedule of activities.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Huskey". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Bob Huskey, President  
Cemetery Association of Oregon

# Legislative Corner

By Ty Cochran

Following is the Oregon Final Legislative Report. SB 1518 will be re-introduced in the 2019 session, as well as the introduction of a uni-trust bill allowing a different type of allocation of earnings income on endowment care funds.

OR D 179

Author: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Title: Cemetery Movement

Summary: Authorizes cemetery authority to move, temporarily store or reinter human remains dislodged from original cemetery plot by natural disaster or other similar emergency.

Disposition: Failed - Adjourned

Status: 01/23/2018

Assigned SENATE Bill No. 1518

OR H 4028

Author: House Interim Committee on Revenue

Title: Dependent Care Income Tax Credit

Summary: Limits expenses for which dependent care income tax credit may be claimed to lesser of each spouse's income on joint return and to earned income taxable by the state; modifies annual limitation on total amount of tax credits for production or collection of bovine manure allowed for all taxpayers by tying limitation to calendar year instead of tax year; modifies terms; removes restrictions on types of sponsoring entities of manufactured dwelling parks.

Disposition: Enacted 04/13/2018

Status: 04/13/2018 Signed by GOVERNOR.

Effective Date: 06/02/2018 [code impact]

OR H 4073

Author: Sprenger (R)

Title: Mortuary and Cemetery Board Temporary Operating Permit

Summary: Permits the State Mortuary and Cemetery Board to grant a temporary operating permit for a cemetery without an operating license to perform an interment.

Disposition: Enacted 03/16/2018

Status: 03/16/2018 Signed by GOVERNOR.

Effective Date: 03/16/2018

## What's Happening

### CAO

**Fall Conference Oct. 4 & 5**  
Newport, Oregon

Best Western Agate Beach

Call 541-265-9411 to reserve your room  
mention "Cemetery Association" for discount

### OMCB

Next Board Meeting: July 10

OMCB is seeking an Executive Director  
visit [www.oregon.gov/MortCem](http://www.oregon.gov/MortCem) for details

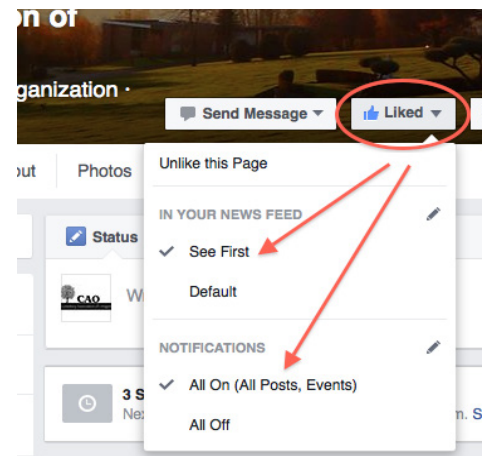
Fill out OMCB's customer service survey:  
<http://omcb.oregonsurveys.com>  
Responses are anonymous

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Search: Cemetery Association of Oregon

Send photos, announcements, etc., to [anna@orderorder.net](mailto:anna@orderorder.net)



# Industry News

By Anna Mehrer

Natural Burial, Green Burial, Aqua Cremation – these terms are emerging with more frequency in the options conversations. River View Cemetery in Portland recently hosted a Natural Death Care Symposium for the public presented by David Noble, Executive Director of River View, Holly Pruet, Life-Cycle Celebrant and Home Funeral Guide, Jodie Buller from White Eagle Memorial Preserve (Washington), and Deon Strommer, owner of First Call Mortuary Services (Portland). A convergence of these industry experts discussed the statistics of death care choices, requirements of a home funeral, how to prepare, burial trends, and the Aqua Cremation process.

Alkaline hydrolysis, also known as Aqua Cremation, is available in 18 states, including Oregon since 2010. It is so new, that there has yet to be an agreed-upon term to use – Flameless Cremation? Green Cremation?

(Send us an email if you have any ideas!) Aqua Cremation, as the name indicates, uses water instead of fire to resolve the

body. Natural gas is used in traditional cremations, which equates to using the same amount of fuel to drive 4,800 miles in your car (unless you drive a Prius). Which is why the Aqua Cremation process is appealing to an environmentally-conscious demographic. Deon Strommer acquired the first high-pressure machine on the West Coast this year.

As Natural Burial and other death care methods rise in popularity, is your cemetery prepared? Would you like to discuss how to create or accommodate space for natural burials? Please drop us a line. Memorialization at a cemetery remains a viable option. We hope you enjoy the following photos from the event.

Visit [DeathTalkProject.com](http://DeathTalkProject.com) for more information or to schedule a symposium at your cemetery.

## Natural Burial: WHY?

*What about Cremation?*

Originally seen as “greener” but...

- Burns fossil fuels
- Approx. 2,000 cubic feet of natural gas
- Equals 4,800 miles
- 4 kilowatt-hours of electricity
- Mercury emissions
- Resulting in pollution and wasted energy

## WHAT?

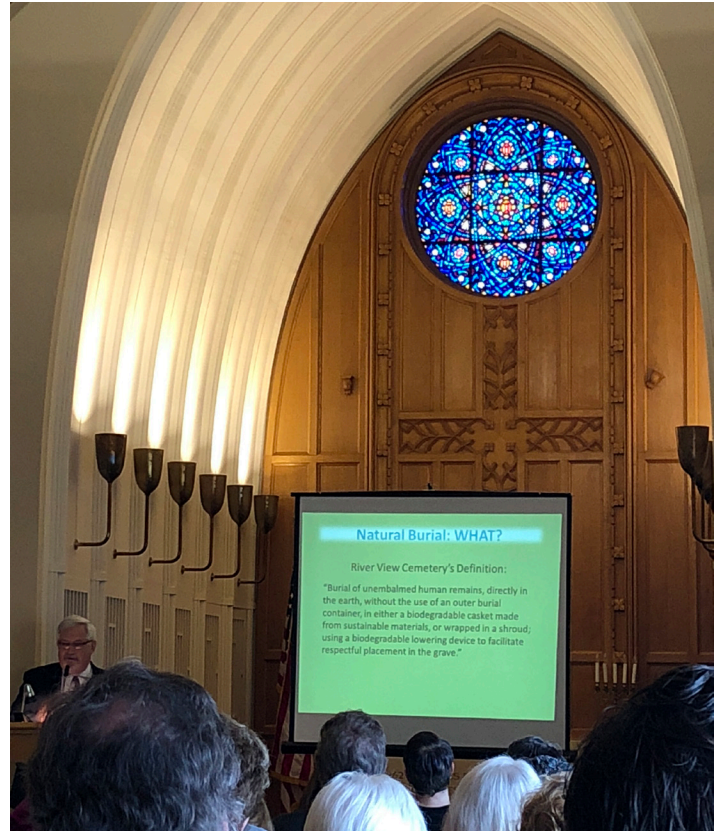
**Hybrid Cemeteries:** Existing, traditional cemeteries that allow natural burial (e.g., River View Cemetery)

**Natural Burial Grounds:** Separate cemetery, or a separate section of an existing cemetery that allows natural burial and has a natural appearance with native plants and trees; utilizes sustainable management practices, reduced use of resources, alternative and/or natural memorialization and cares for land as habitat.

**Conservation Burial Grounds:** Permanently protected acreage that has been preserved in perpetuity in its historic, native, natural condition by being utilized for natural burial (e.g., White Eagle Memorial Preserve)

*-Excerpts from Natural Death Care Symposium Presentation*





From top: Will “casket weaving” become a new class offering at your local Community College? Holly Pruett presents an overview on disposition options. Monuments at River View Cemetery.



From top: David Noble, Director of River View Cemetery in Portland, explains the cemetery’s definition of Natural Burial. Deon Strommer presents Aqua Cremation, another option besides traditional cremation. Burial shrouds, some custom-made, are necessary (and personalization optional) for Natural Burials.

# Member Profile: Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery

By Anna Mehrer



Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery was established in 1860. Once part of a 640-acre land claim of David Hill (Hillsboro's namesake), it is 8.42 acres, owned by the City of Hillsboro and managed by the City Recorder, Amber Ames. The rural cemetery, where some of Oregon's settlers and notable personalities are laid to rest, runs alongside the Tualatin Valley Highway and is across from a shopping plaza. Ames mentioned several of these notable burials, among them, Fern Hobbs.

Fern Hobbs was secretary to Oregon Governor Oswald West, who was wasn't very pleased Copperfield, a small town near Baker City, was ignoring prohibition. Gov. West sent his secretary with five National Guard troops by train to deliver the message that martial law would be declared on the city. It was New Year's Eve 1913. She delivered the message, "I'm here to declare martial law and chew bubble gum, and I'm all



out of bubble gum." Ok, yes -- a fabricated quote, but she effectively delivered the message, returning to Salem the very same day by train. And was the town

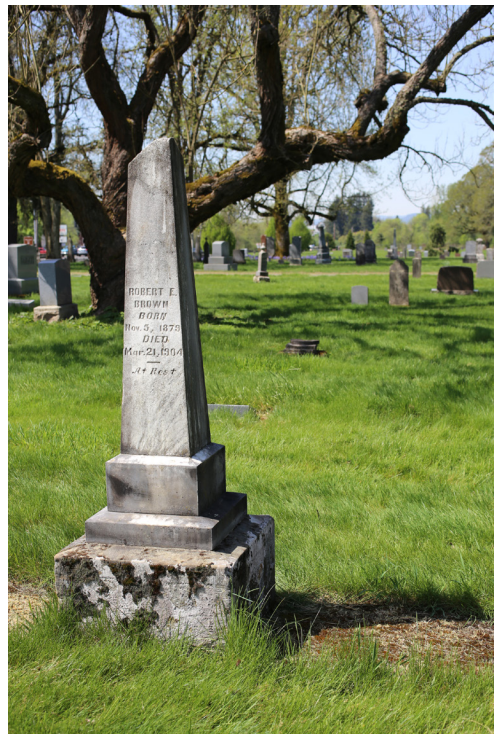
of Copperfield upset. City council member and saloon proprietor, William Weigard, filed a lawsuit against the Governor, which reached the Oregon Supreme Court. The Governor's actions were upheld by the court.

One hundred years later, the cemetery's Master Plan was published in 2014 by the City of Hillsboro. The firm, Lango Hansen Landscape Architects was hired to assess the property and provide recommendations for long-term improvements with the direction of the cemetery's Oversight Committee. Archaeologists used a ground-penetrating radar to analyze sections of the property and map existing anomalies in the ground. The analysis revealed a high probability of existing interments. There are plans to pave the existing gravel path for traffic, implement a memorial garden for unmarked graves, build a sidewalk and planting area in the right-of-way, and among other improvements, create a public gathering space that would accommodate 20 people. Maintaining the historic character of the cemetery is a priority, including wrought iron fencing and metal benches and trashcans. Please visit [www.hillsboro-oregon.gov](http://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov)'s City Records/City Recorder > Pioneer Cemetery section to link to the full Master Plan. You will be impressed.

Some of the unsung heroes of cemeteries are those who work daily to maintain them. Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery boasts US Veteran, Doug Whaley, Senior Parks Maintenance Technician. Problem-solving skills and a heartfelt commitment to presenting the grounds in their best light are fundamental to the cemetery work ethic, as seen when Whaley described one of his challenges: ground squirrels. They are deemed a nuisance, as they are always digging holes, creating little ankle-sprain landmines. He hopes the most humane solution, nature vs. nature, will work. He's implemented some perches (pictured) for larger predatory birds to roost, where they would be able to spot the burrowers and complete the life cycle, thereby helping save the grounds. Please share some of your natural cemetery challenges and solutions with us – we'd love to hear what works for you!

*continued...*

*Want to have your cemetery featured?  
Let us know by emailing [anna@orderorder.net](mailto:anna@orderorder.net).*



The Cemetery Association of Oregon would like to thank Amber Ames for her efforts and dedication to managing, preserving, and improving the Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery for all generations.

## Vandals Strike Hilltop Memorial Cemetery, \$2,250 Reward Offered

Sandy Smallwood, Secretary of Hilltop Memorial Cemetery Association in eastern Oregon, notified the Cemetery Association of Oregon (CAO) that more than 40 gravestones were vandalized at the cemetery the evening of May 2. The community in Nyssa, Oregon is reeling from the destruction. Smallwood had initially hoped insurance would cover at least some of the damage, but later learned that it won't.

An insurance company in Oregon stated that cemeteries of any size may want to review their policies. Coverage for vandalism to headstones and grave markers isn't an automatic coverage. They

advise informing the underwriter, while writing the policy, that cemetery owners would like coverage for vandalism to headstones, grave markers, memorials, etc., and then ask them to show the language in the policy where it is covered. Policy language may reference a contract between the insured and their clients. Policies can allow for a sublimit for Property of Others and that number possibly could be increased. Another option is to schedule the headstones and grave markers in a blanket limit. This would have to be added to a policy. It is a good idea for cemeteries to review their policies and ask their insurance agents for clarification.

Under Oregon law, abuse of a memorial to the dead carries a maximum fine of \$50,000. The CAO advises prosecuting to the full extent of the law. Hilltop Memorial Cemetery is listed with the state as an Oregon Historic Cemetery where the judge may apply restitution for repair to the sentence.

The CAO has pledged a \$1,000 reward to the person who provides information leading to the apprehension of the vandals. The CAO is partnering with Three Rivers Crimestoppers, who is also offering a \$1,000 reward. OM Stone, an Oregon granite memorial arts

company, is also contributing \$250 to the reward fund. Together, these three organizations are offering \$2,250 to the person who leads law enforcement to the criminal(s). Tips may be called into Three Rivers Crimestoppers at 208-414-2677.

An account has been setup at the Nyssa Branch of the Umpqua Bank under the name of Hilltop Memorial Cemetery Restoration, where donations may be made at any branch or mailed to: 217 Main Street, Nyssa OR 97913.



## *In Memoriam*



Eleanor B. Macy passed away peacefully on April 17, 2018 surrounded by her children. Eleanor was born January 1, 1923 to James B. and Eva Walker Baker in Tacoma, Washington. She attended schools in Tacoma and graduated from Stadium High School. She attended Washington State University for two years and graduated from the University of Washington, although her allegiance was to the WSU Cougars.

She was united in marriage to Glen C. Macy on July 3, 1944. They had four children: Steve, Scott, Christy Gibney and Thrina Parent. Eleanor was very active in McMinnville and in 1976 was awarded McMinnville's Woman of the Year. She was a lifetime member of Girl Scouts, serving in several capacities as an adult, spent two terms on the city Planning Commission, and twice president of the League of Women Voters. She served on the boards of Gallery Players (acting in several plays), Juliette's House and AAUW. She was a member of Chapter Y, P.E.O., Michelbook Country Club and City Club. She was a lifelong Episcopalian and a member of St. Barnabas in McMinnville.

She was active for many years teaching Church School, served on the Vestry, Altar Guild Directress and worked in the Soup Kitchen at St. Barnabas for many years.

Eleanor loved her family, church, community and friends. She was a world traveler, avid reader and sports fan. She is survived by her children: Steve (JacE), Scott (Mary Sue), and Thrina Parent (Mike). She has eight grandchildren: Chad (Shelley) and Sean Fallows, Tara Rich (Corey), Lisa Macy-Baker (Ron), Ericka Macy-Gustafson (Matt), Glen Macy (Kelleen), Mathew and Geoff Parent, and ten great grandchildren. She is also survived by brothers James Baker, S. William Baker and Jack Butcher. She was preceded in death by husband Glen in 1993 and daughter Christy in 2008.

The Cemetery Association of Oregon would like to express our condolences to the Macy Family. We have made a modest donation to Juliette's House Child Abuse Intervention Center in McMinnville, OR.

Cemetery Association of Oregon  
520 W. Powell Blvd.  
Gresham, OR 97030

## Thank You, Members

Belcrest Memorial Park	La Grande Cemetery Maintenance District	Summerville Cemetery
Bethany Pioneer Cemetery	Lincoln Memorial Park Cemetery	Sunnyside Memorial Gardens
Buxton Cemetery Association	Lund Cemeteries Inc	Sunset Hills Memorial Park
Cemetery Services	Malin Community Cemetery	Union Cemetery Maintenance District
City View Cemetery	Mountain View Cemetery	Valley Memorial Park
Columbia Memorial Gardens	Mt. Calvary Cemetery	Valley View Cemetery
Congregation Beth Israel Cemetery	Noble Burial Association Cemetery	Weston Cemetery Maintenance District #2
Crescent Grove Cemetery & Mausoleum	North Palestine Cemetery Association	Westside Community Cemetery
Eagle Valley Cemetery	Olney Cemetery	Yamhill-Carlton Pioneer Memorial Cemetery Association
Eureka Cemetery	Pilot Rock Cemetery	
Evergreen Memorial Park	Pine Grove Butte Cemetery Inc	
Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery Association	Rainier Cemetery District	<b>Vendor Members:</b>
Fir Lawn Memorial Park	RiverView Cemetery Association of Portland	Bronzecraft Memorials
Franklin Butte Masonic Cemetery Inc	Roseburg Memorial Gardens	OM Stone
Heppler Cemetery District	Skyline Memorial Gardens	Paradise Pictures
Hermiston Cemetery	St. Anthony Cemetery	PermaProducts
Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery	St. Boniface Cemetery	PlotBox
Idlewilde Cemetery	St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery	Premier Memorial
Ironside Cemetery	St. Paul's Cemetery (Silverton)	Quiring
	St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery	Vantage Products