

Lee Mission Cemetery Newsletter

July 2026



One Cemetery, Two Enduring Missions

A Letter from the President

Dear Friends of Lee Mission Cemetery,

Lee Mission Cemetery has two equally important missions. We are entrusted with preserving the history of those who came before us while faithfully serving the families who place their trust in us today. Every decision we make seeks to honor both responsibilities.

Unlike many historic sites that simply preserve the past, Lee Mission Cemetery must honor the past while continuing to serve the present. **That is both our greatest challenge and our greatest privilege.**

Our cemetery is the final resting place of many of Oregon's pioneers, and its listing on the National Register of Historic Places is an honor of which we are immensely proud. That distinction also carries significant responsibilities. It often influences what we can do—and how we do it—as we work to preserve the historic character of the cemetery for future generations.

In addition, Lee Mission Cemetery rests on ancient tribal grounds. As we plan for the future, we are committed to working respectfully with tribal representatives to ensure that every project honors the memories and resting places of those who came before us. We recognize that stewardship includes not only preserving history, but also respecting the cultural significance of this sacred ground.

At the same time, Lee Mission Cemetery remains a vibrant, actively operating cemetery. Every year, families entrust us with the care of their loved ones. We guide them through the burial process, maintain the grounds with dignity and respect, and strive to provide a peaceful place for remembrance, reflection, and healing. Fulfilling that mission requires thoughtful planning and, at times, difficult decisions.

For that reason, the Board of Directors has established rules and regulations that guide the operation of the cemetery. We understand that some of these policies may occasionally seem restrictive or even arbitrary. In reality, each has been carefully considered to balance the needs of today's families with our responsibility to preserve the cemetery's historic significance and ensure that it remains a place of beauty, reverence, and remembrance for generations to come.

One example of that balance is a project currently in the planning stages: the extension of one of the cemetery roadways. This roadway has been part of the cemetery's long-range master plan for more than fifty years. As new sections of the cemetery continue to develop, the Board believes the time has come to bring that vision to fruition.

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(One Cemetery, Two Enduring Missions—continued)

Before construction can begin, we must complete a number of important steps. We are working with the City of Salem Planning Department, consulting with historical agencies, coordinating with tribal representatives, and seeking qualified contractors to ensure the project is completed thoughtfully, responsibly, and with the respect this property deserves.

This roadway extension will improve access for funeral services, visitors, maintenance, and future generations while preserving the historical and cultural integrity of the cemetery. It represents an investment not only in today's needs but also in the long-term future of Lee Mission Cemetery.

As you might imagine, this will be a significant undertaking financially. We are inviting those who are able to partner with us by making a contribution toward this important improvement. If you would like your gift to be designated specifically for this project, please write **"Roadway Extension"** on the enclosed donation form or with your contribution.

Every gift, regardless of its size, is an investment in the future of Lee Mission Cemetery. Together, we can preserve the legacy entrusted to us while ensuring that this sacred place continues to serve families with dignity, compassion, and respect for generations to come.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support, your trust, and your partnership. Together, we can ensure that Lee Mission Cemetery remains one cemetery with two enduring missions: preserving our rich heritage while compassionately serving the families of today and tomorrow. By honoring both, we preserve not only a place of remembrance, but a legacy that will endure for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

Michael Staten, President

Lee Mission Cemetery Board of Directors

Honoring the Past. Serving the Present. Preserving the Future.

Lee Mission Cemetery Donations January—June 2026

Friend: \$1-\$49

Karen Ro Heuberger
*In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Roe
Betterson*

Mary J Brock
*In memory of Margaret
Hadley Irvine*

Susan Schneider
In memory of Bertha Morris

Supporter: \$50-\$99

Glenn P Smith
Kathryn Karr
In memory of Bert & Ada Karr
Benito Sierra Granados
Genevieve Bridges
In honor of I.D. Driver

Sponsor: \$100-\$249

Maria Hernandez
*In memory of Luis Daniel
Hernandez*

Kendrick & Patricia Simila
In memory of Baby Simila

David R Shaw
Ted Stang
In memory of Mimi Stang

Sharon Karr
In memory of Bert & Ada Karr

Tom Bowers
Albert Furtwangler
*In memory of Virginia
Furtwangler*
Lucinda Jackson

Lisa Sargent

In memory of Jean Miller

Preservation: \$250-\$499

Cora A Hallauer
*In memory of Robert
Hallauer*

Historian: \$500-\$2,499

Diana Newport
Don Garrett
Wall & Garrett Families
Sherrill Hochspeier

Lee Mission Cemetery Expenses and Income YTD June 2026

INCOME:

Plot Sales [15 plots - 12 burials]	\$ 22,900.00
Donations	<u>\$ 5,473.96</u>
	\$ 28,373.96

EXPENSES:

Corporation Tax	\$ 50.00	
Liability Insurance (Directors)	767.00	
R&R Tree Service	2,150.00	
Newsletter [printing & postage] Feb	710.51	
Network Solutions	99.99	
Pinegrow Software	99.00	
5 Brothers Landscaping (Brush Removal)	3,600.00	
PO Box rental [1 year]	276.00	
Tracfone	59.99	
Cemetery Vases	145.94	
Protective Liability	841.00	
Security [\$823.00 monthly]	4,938.00	
Republic Sanitation [\$85.40 monthly]	512.40	
City of Salem (water)	99.49	
5 Brothers Landscaping Inc [\$2,000 monthly]	<u>12,000.00</u>	
	\$ 23,440.92	
		\$ 4,933.04

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the Cemetery is on Kalapuya Illihi, the traditional indigenous homeland of Kalapuya peoples who were forcibly removed to what are now the Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations.

Thank You to Our Incredible Volunteers!

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all our dedicated volunteers.

Your time, effort, and passion have been the heart of our success. We truly appreciate everything you have done to support Lee Mission Cemetery and make a difference.

Thank you for being an essential part of our community!

Board of Directors

Michael Staten, President
Sherrill Hochspeier, Secretary-Treasurer
Tom Bowers, Julie Staten,
Lucinda Jackson, Blake Ritz

Contact Information

Cemetery Phone - 503-851-1803
Lot Sales Phone (Rick Hilts) - 503-559-2242
Web Site - www.leemissioncemetery.com

Comments, additions and corrections regarding website or newsletter can be sent to:
webmaster@leemissioncemetery.com



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