

SPIRIT OF THE PIONEER

A newsletter for the families and friends of
the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery
(Across from McArthur Court)

SPRING 2015

EAGLE SCOUT DEVIN HUNT IMPROVES SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETERAN GRAVES

by Jane Lake

Only 2 percent of all boy scouts earn the distinction of Eagle Scout. For his service project Devin Hunt of Troop 182 in Eugene choose to focus his efforts on two plots of Spanish American War veterans.

"I am a big history buff so I wanted to something that interested me and benefits the community," said Hunt who received his Eagle Scout Rank October 2014 at the Irving Grange in Eugene.

"My troop does a landscaping service project at the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery once a year and we volunteer for the Memorial Day Ceremony, so I was already acquainted with EPCA. At first when I emailed, I was thinking about the Civil War Plot. But board members Dorothy Brandner and Quentin Holmes gave me the idea of the Spanish American War Memorials," said Hunt.

A big part of his project was working with EPCA board member and genealogist Dorothy Brandner to research information about Cemetery Blocks 170 and 171 in the Northwest quadrant of the cemetery. Previously, little was known about the Spanish American War veterans who are buried there.

But after more than 100 hours of document research and coordinating grave repair and clean-up, Hunt was able to add more detail to the EPCA "Find a Record" on-line database about the veterans who served in the brief conflict that started in 1898.

"One veteran was Arthur A. Hanna who was originally from Canada and died in Salem in 1907. The other was Rufas K. Holbrook. His birthplace was unknown but he died in the Philippines in 1899," recalled Hunt.

Slightly more than three months in duration, the Spanish American War resulted in the 1898 Treaty of Paris. After the war, favorable terms to the U.S. allowed temporary American control of Cuba, and ceded indefinite colonial authority over Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippine Islands from Spain.

"I noticed how small the timeframe for the Spanish American war was. But there were a lot of veterans who battled in it, and many people passed away. It was a big deal but not many people know about the Spanish-American war," said Hunt.

For further knowledge about the Spanish American veterans in the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery, Hunt has a blog with more information about the plots and Scout Troop 182's service project.



October 2014

DEVIN HUNT / Troop 182
With his Eagle Scout Award

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Any Comments or
Questions?
Please write or
phone us!

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A MARKER FOR A CIVIL WAR VETERAN ADELBERT S. WALKLEY

by *Quentin Holmes and Dorothy Brandner*

Adelbert Seldon Walkley was born in Ohio on Nov. 10, 1842. During the Civil War he served as a private in Company C of the 13th Illinois Calvary, then re-enlisted as a "Saddler" in Company E. Adelbert (pronounced A-del'-bert) married Margaret Smith Walkley (1849-1929) in 1870 in Missouri. They came west to California in 1878, and moved to Oregon in 1879. He and his wife raised five sons and a daughter. Adelbert passed away in Eugene, Oregon on March 22, 1921 and was laid to rest in the IOOF Cemetery (now called Eugene Pioneer Cemetery).

His grave went unmarked for more than 90 years until EPCA genealogist Dorothy Brandner came across Adelbert's obituary while looking for a different obituary. Dorothy, with the assistance of Randy Fletcher/Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, applied to the Veterans Administration for a military marker. The VA insisted that this application be signed by a direct descendant of the veteran. Dorothy's research led her to Patricia Aldous of Roseburg – who is a great-granddaughter of Adelbert Walkley. Patricia signed the application, and in April 2014 a veterans marker

for Pvt. Walkley was delivered to Eugene Pioneer Cemetery. On May 3rd, his military marker was set on grave plot 10 in Block 378 by a trio of workers: Cabot Clark/ SUVCW, Devin Hunt/ Scout Troop No. 182, and Quentin Holmes/ EPCA. On May 26th, a formal dedication of Adelbert Walkley's marker was conducted by the Baker Company of Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. Captain Steve Betschart, Commander Co. B - 71st PA Infantry served as the Master of Ceremonies.

This March, Dorothy Brandner received a note from Eugene resident Cathryn Swac – a descendent of Adelbert Walkley. The handwritten note read:

*I Thank You Dorothy!
Two of my sisters have already come to Eugene and visited our Great-Great Grandfather's (Adelbert Seldon Walkley's) grave in the Pioneer Cemetery. I very much appreciated the photos that you sent. Your hard work has given us a relative that will now be remembered,
Cathryn Swac*

And THANK YOU to all of the wonderful people from several organizations that worked together closely for countless hours and days with glad hearts to bring this beautiful thing to pass!



SETTING ADELBERT WALKLEY'S MARKER
Devin Hunt, Cabot Clark, Quentin Holmes



DEDICATING ADELBERT WALKLEY'S MARKER Sons of Union Veterans of Civil War



DESCENDANTS OF ADELBERT WALKLEY
Patricia Aldous and two of her Daughters

2015 WORK PARTIES SCHEDULED

by George C. Beebe, EPCA Director

We have two work parties scheduled this year. These have to be set up months in advance with the Lane County Sheriff. We get crews of ten people - men and women - from the Lane County jail. These folks do an excellent job for us. They regard it as a privilege to be outdoors and helping the Cemetery. A week or so before each work party several of us "walk-thru" and agree upon what needs to get addressed.

One work party will be just before Memorial Day:
Walk-Thru: Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 11:30am
Work Party: Friday, May 22, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The second work party will be in September:
Walk-Thru: Thursday, August 27, at 11:30am
Work Party: Friday, Sept. 4, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Come join us if you can, we can always use help!

SEEN RECENTLY IN THE CEMETERY



PRUNING HERITAGE ROSES IN THE CEMETERY
Helen Liu and Master Gardiner Cindy Wise

EUGENE PIONEER CEMETERY'S GRACIOUS DONORS

Quentin A. Holmes, EPCA President

Eugene Pioneer Cemetery is on the list of National Historic Sites. Our Community is what it is today because of the vision, dedication, and hard work of the many, many men and women who are now at rest in our Cemetery. It is to honor them, and to remember them, that your Cemetery Board Members do what they do. Our work is made possible by your donations.. Folks who made donations to either our Association or our Endowment Fund share our vision for the future of this historic, hallowed ground – to preserve the integrity of this sacred graveyard, and preserve the place as a beautiful and inviting open space located in an urban neighborhood. Bless them one and all! During 2014 the following made donations to the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association and/or the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Endowment Fund:

\$500 or more:

Margaret J. Hewitt
Ruth "Lake" Holmes Trust
DeAhn C. Kincaid

\$250-\$499:

Central Lutheran Foundation

\$100-\$249:

Charles A. Bonnett
Marna Broekhoff
Dr. Bob Carmichael
Nancy Cummings
Patricia J. D'Anna
Guy W. Hayes
Roy L. Hoiland
Clayton R. Jones
Geraldine Tripp Leiman
Helen M. Reed
Ada Ruth Whitmore
James Whittall

\$50-\$99:

Milton A. Bilderback
Richard A. Briggs
Doug Green
Charles C. Harshberger
Carol A. Holman
Holmes Archie Holeman
Quentin A. Holmes
Tim King
Donovan L. Mack
Julie E. Marlatte
Sara Leiman
Malcolm H. Scott
Ralph Smeed
Sally Smith
June E. Strand

Up to \$49:

Joan M. Allison
Peggy Bagnoll
Karen J. Bender
Howard T. Bonnett
Helen Cook
Andrew W. Hoiland
John & Sharien Jager
Helen Jensen
Clayton R. Jones
Phillip Krohn
Joy Poust
Roger S. Smith
Kathleen Knight Vogel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Combined Annual Meetings of Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association and Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Endowment Fund, Inc.

Will be held Saturday, May 9th, 2015 from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

LOCATION: Daneland Mobile Home Park - at the Recreation Hall
1199 N. Terry Street
Eugene, Oregon 97402 .

Memorial Day Service at The Eugene Pioneer Cemetery

A Memorial Day Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 25th, 2015 at the Civil War Veteran's Plot. This formal service will feature members of the Sons of Union Veterans dressed in full Civil War military uniforms, and a musket salute in honor of the heroes who are at rest in the G.A.R. Plot. The inspiring Shasta Middle School Band and Choir will perform music from the Civil War era. Please Come!

Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association

c/o Quentin A. Holmes
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Marcola, Oregon 97454 - 9741

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED