

**THE FERNWOOD
PIONEER**
Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery
Association
(Non-Endowed Care)



GREETINGS TO ALL

Board President - Todd Windsor

Hello Fernwood friends and family, Happy Spring to all! Just as Spring is a time of new growth, it is also a time of change. My service on the board will be coming to an end. I want to thank the board for their dedication, service, and commitment. It was a pleasure working with you! We need new board members so please think about serving. Another change is the unexpected loss of our dear board member and friend, Ladd Brothers. His passing leaves a hole in the hearts of many. He had a true servant's heart and we will miss him. As I close out my final Presidential letter, I would like to thank our donors and volunteers! Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery would not be the special place it is today without all of you.

2026 SPRING - SUMMER NEWSLETTER EDITION

PO BOX 3
Newberg, OR 97132

This facility is licensed and regulated
by the
Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board:
971-673-1500
Fernwoodpioneer cemetery.org

500 South Everest Road, Newberg, Oregon

2025 - 2026 Fernwood Board of Directors

President - Todd Windsor
Vice President - open
Secretary - Sonia French
Treasurer - Michele Cardwell Crisman
Member at Large - Barbara
Brutscher-Leisman
Member at Large - Sharon Lucas
Member at Large - open
Property Manager - Teri Council
Historian - Ronald W. Parrish

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

HOW TO CONTACT BOARD MEMBERS
SPECIAL THANKS
2026 MEETING DATE & LOCATION
OPEN BOARD POSITIONS
IN LOVING MEMORY
ANNUAL MTG NOTICE AND
PROPOSALS
ADDRESS CHANGE REMINDER
DONATIONS
WAYS TO DONATE
TREASURER'S REPORT
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW REPORT
MEMORIAL DAY REMINDERS
PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT

How to Contact Fernwood Board Members

Todd Windsor
Toddw1006@hotmail.com
Sonia French
French.sonia@comcast.net
Michele Crisman
Mcrisman61@gmail.com
Barbara Brutscher-Leisman
Leisman4@wbcable.net
Sharon Lucas
Sharolucas6@gmail.com
Teri Council
Teri.council@gmail.com
Ron Parrish 503-538-3209
Ronaldwparrish202@gmail.com

SPECIAL THANKS

Todd Windsor
Served on Board 2017-2026

Dinah Hemphill
Served on Board 2020-2026

Ladd Brothers
Served on Board 2022-2026

M&S Lawn Service
Providing Excellent Support Since 2013

Talle Malmstrom - Friends Cemetery Office
Supporting Fernwood Families with All Their Needs

Fernwood Grange #770
Reduced Rental Fee for 2026 Annual Meeting

Scott McKern
Keeper of Fernwood Website

SAVE THE DATE
2026 ANNUAL MEETING

May 16, 2026
11AM**

****we combined the board and open mtg**
Fernwood Grange #770
216 N. Springbrook Road
Newberg

We have 3 open board positions we need filled. If you have ever felt the calling to serve on the board, please be sure to attend or let a board member know your desire to join our team.

2026
In Loving Memory

Malcolm Donald Tabor
1945-2025

Ladd Brothers
1960-2026

Cheris May Adolf Cook
1933-2026

Annual Meeting Notice and Proposed Plans

Please join us for the Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery annual meeting on May 16, 2026.

We value your input and invite all newsletter supporters to review the proposals below and share thoughts before or during the meeting.

How to Participate

- Attend the meeting May 16th, 11am, Fernwood Grange #770, 216 N Springbrook Road.
- Contact any board member to share comments or questions in advance.
- Wait for our Historian Ron Parrish's outreach during his upcoming phonathon to speak with him directly.

Agenda highlights

1. Proposal - Explore Newberg Friends Cemetery to take over care and management of Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery permanently.

Why it is being considered: struggle of retaining committed Fernwood board members, long-term stewardship, resources, and financial and management stability. We will need volunteers to research legal, financial, and operational steps if the board approves pursuing this option.

Decisions made such as maintaining current criteria for interment of the dead from pioneer families who settled in Fernwood Community from the 1840's through the 1890's and their descendants, spouses, approved domestic partners, blood relatives and fathers-in-law and/or mothers-in-law as approved.

2. Proposal - "In Memory" wall at the niche mausoleum
Concept: a paid engraved panel for names for those who do not purchase a lot or niche but want a visible remembrance. Topics for discussion will include eligibility, standard format and font, pricing, and placement.
3. Proposal - Dedicated Scatter Area for cremains
Concept: a respectful, dedicated space where cremains may be scattered under established rules and possible fees. Discussion will cover rules, signage, maintenance, and any restrictions.

WE NEED YOU

Recruiting and retaining committed board members remains a challenge. If you can volunteer time, join a proposal working group or help with outreach, please let us know. Your involvement could make a difference.

Please send questions or volunteer offers to a board member or await Ron Parrish's call during the phonathon the first of May.

Thank you for your continued support of Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing many of you on May 16, 2026.

**WAYS YOU CAN DONATE FOR THE
FUTURE OF FERNWOOD**

**Sponsor our liability insurance yearly expenses
\$600**

**Sponsor our yearly mowing/landscape expense-
\$3500**

**Post office box expense
\$250**

**Postage expense for a year
\$400**

SEND ANY AMOUNT - BIG OR SMALL

We appreciate IT ALL!!

**Donating Your IRA Distributions to a
Charity if the IRA Owner is Age 70.5 or Older**

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) may satisfy the client's required minimum distribution (RMD), and for 2025, up to \$108,000 of QCDs **may be excluded annually from an individual's taxable income.** Talk to your financial tax person for details or contact Fernwood Edward Jones account manager, Heath Cornick, who has graciously offered to be available at any time to help you better understand your options. Call him at 503-538-1161.

.....
Review your beneficiaries and consider including Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery as one of them.

**2025 - 2026 DONATIONS
November - March**

**Ladd Brothers
Raymond Cardwell
Leta & Mark Cook
Robert Cornelius
Toby Cronin
Jeff & Teri Council
Michele Crisman
Nick & Marlene Davis
Kim Ferrell
Linda Gawrylow
Dr. Harold Jones
Carolyn Lacy
Judith Lake
Jeff & Barbara Leisman
Craig Lichtenhaler
Todd Lovell
Sharon Lucas
Scott McKern
Brooke Mill
John Reed & Karen Overstreet
Terrell Stanley
David Waterbury
Gary Wohlgenuth**

**WE SO APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU AND ANY
AMOUNT OF DONATION YOU CAN GIVE**

**DONATIONS RECEIVED
IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING**

**Toby Cronin - In Memory of Gladys Jones Beckley
Carolyn Lacy - In Memory of Jeff Lacy
Judith Lake - In Memory of Isabelle Emry**

Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2026

By Michele Cardwell Crisman

CHECKING: \$8,467.74

SAVINGS: \$3,968.04

EDWARD JONES: \$62,659.93

MONITARY DONATIONS: \$4,275.00

IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF DONATIONS: \$425

GOODS & SERVICES DONATIONS: \$778.95

I am happy to report we have maintained typical expenditures; so, thank you once again to all of you that continue to donate, helping to ensure our financial stability and continued care for our beloved cemetery. The remainder of our "pre-need" funds, such as Lawn Maintenance and Projects have been utilized in their entirety, as designated by those that donated said funds.

I look forward to our upcoming annual meeting, where I hope many of you will be able to attend and participate in the important discussions of maintaining our financial future and many proposed plans.

2026 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW REPORT

In March 2026, we conducted our annual Edward Jones investment review with Heath Cornick, Fernwood’s account manager. Our long-term goal for these funds is sustained investment growth.

During the review, Heath encouraged the board to adopt a formal **Investment Policy Statement (IPS)**. This document would provide a structured framework for the team to review annually during our investment meeting as well as the board review at annual meetings. The IPS would outline guidelines for evaluating and adjusting the portfolio, such as maintaining the appropriate balance between stocks and bonds or shifting stock funds toward more growth-oriented investments based on past performance and projected market conditions for the coming year.

Having an Investment Policy Statement in place would also allow the Treasurer to propose to make more timely adjustments—(after each newsletter when donations come in for example)—to take advantage of market opportunities, rather than waiting for approval at the annual meeting.

Based on the outcome of this proposal at the Annual Meeting on **May 16, 2026**, Michele Crisman, Fernwood Treasurer, will determine and present the specific amount recommended for reallocation from checking to our investment portfolio. We can also discuss at the Annual Meeting approval for shifting within our stock funds to more growth-oriented investments based on this past year’s performance or keep them where they are for this coming year.

| | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | As of 3/3/2026 |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Beginning | \$30,281.91 | \$39,609.61 | \$52,536.71 | \$64,375.58 |
| We added | \$ 5,000.00 | \$10,000.00 | \$ 6,062.01 | \$ TBD |
| Return in \$\$ | \$ 4,327.70 | \$ 2,927.10 | \$ 5,776.86 | \$ 1,675.33 |
| Ending Value | \$39,609.61 | \$52,536.71 | \$64,375.58 | \$66,050.91 |



MEMORIAL DAY REMINDERS FOR 2026 **Holiday long weekend of MAY 23,24,25**

There will be 2 water spigots available in Fernwood as well as flower vases. No glass of any kind please.

Historian Ronald W Parrish will spend time greeting visitors, connecting with old friends, and making new contacts. He was able to connect with 25 Fernwood family members during his times there in 2025; more than half were new contacts.

Flags are flown the entire holiday weekend - you have time to still purchase one, if interested contact Talle at 503-538-5489.

Fernwood Flag Avenue of Honor includes - George Janssen, Owen Robert Janssen, Kelly Patrick Lundy, Jack C. DeVore, Forest Robert Gish, Richard Allen Streight, Wilma Josephine Cornell Parrish, Earlene-Katherine-Frances Lundy, Robert George Rosendahl and Elton Gerald Brutscher

Did you know..... it took 47-wheel barrow loads to remove dead grass, pine needles, sticks, pinecones, and trimmings to spruce up the cemetery last year for Memorial Day. There were 12 loads of barkdust spread around the big trees, benches, and the Renne rocks that help designate our property lines. This took about 28 volunteer hours to complete by the Property Manager, Teri Council.

Property Manager Report - by Teri Council

As I worked on this newsletter and the annual report, I found myself reflecting on the three board members who will unfortunately not be returning this next year. Sadly, Ladd Brothers recently passed away. While we did not have too many opportunities to get to know each other well, I truly appreciated his thoughtful input during our board discussions while we served together. Please join me in keeping his family in your thoughts and prayers. I have also enjoyed getting to know Todd Windsor during the nine years we served on the board together. Todd may be one of the quieter members, but he has always been willing to help with my many projects whenever he could. He also allowed me to help him navigate the “Mr. President” position along the way! With his deep commitment to Fernwood, I am confident we will continue to see and hear from him at our annual meetings. Another board member I will surely miss is Dinah Hemphill, who recently resigned. I quickly grew to appreciate her ability to offer deep insight into so many of the topics we discussed as a board. She was also generous in offering financial support on several occasions. All three will be greatly missed.

In other updates, the trend of minimal sales for both lots and niches has remained steady over the past few years. This year we sold two niches, one lot, and one second-right burial. I want to express my appreciation to Talle Malmstrom of Newberg Friends Cemetery for the support she continues to provide Fernwood families with such things as burials, engraving, and services. We also successfully passed another state audit this year, which required providing documentation verifying that all state requirements were met for each sale and burial. As always, I am looking forward to sunshine, warmer weather, and seeing the cemetery looking pristine during Spring and Summer. I was surprised when I realized we have had the excellent services of M&S Lawn Service for the past 13 years. Their work certainly contributes to the many compliments we receive each year about how beautiful the cemetery always looks.

FUN STORY ABOUT TALLE, OUR NEWBERG FRIENDS CEMETERY PARTNER - A few months ago, Talle was contacted by the Newberg Police Department about a known rapist they had been trying to apprehend for the past five years, who had recently been spotted in the area. She reviewed recent security footage but did not notice anything suspicious at first. Later that morning, however, she looked out her office window toward the storage building and Fernwood and saw a man who matched the description provided by police. She kept a close eye on him while calling authorities, who confirmed they were dispatching officers to the area. Talle continued updating police on the suspect’s movements, including the street he turned onto. Working together, law enforcement was ultimately able to apprehend the suspect—bringing a five-year search to an end and Talle was a hero!!