

THE BARON: EUGENE FERSEN

He carried a unique vision of the Columbia Gorge as the place to nurture human spirituality.



Eugene Fersen. (Skamania County Historical Society)

Baron Eugene Fersen, born in Russia and the grandson of Czar Alexander II, immigrated to the United States in the early twentieth century with his mother, the Grand Duchess of Russia. In 1921 the Baron founded The Lightbearers, an international organization to educate humanity about humanitarian concerns. The Lightbearers sought to show others how to get the most out of life.

Fersen authored *The Science Of Being* and *Is There a God?* In the 1930's he settled in Seattle and later purchased 2,000 acres near Prindle where he hoped to create a study and retreat center. Fersen died in 1956 and was laid to rest with other Lightbearers on his land at Prindle. The organization dissolved in 1992 and was then reorganized. The next generation Lightbearers Organization is now continuing with the Baron's vision (refer to www.scienceofbeing.com).

The Lightbearers entrusted fine paintings, antique furniture, art, glass and funds to preserve their history and help build the Interpretive Center Museum. The new organization continues to contribute to the Museum to care for the collection.