



Historical Society of Long Beach  
4260 Atlantic Ave. Long Beach, CA 90807 [www.hslb.org](http://www.hslb.org) (562) 424-2220

# Welcome to The 25th Annual Cemetery Tour

Where Every Plot has a Story

Saturday, October 30, 2021

Sunnyside & Long Beach Municipal  
Cemeteries

## COVID-19 Guidelines

Please wear a mask while in any line.

Wear your mask when approaching a canopy.

Please sanitize your hands before and after  
using the restroom.

Wear your mask when in close proximity to  
anyone outside your group.

Please sanitize your hands before purchasing  
or handling merchandise or refreshments.

You do not need to wear a mask while walking  
around.

Masks are available at ticketing booths.

HSLB follows local and  
national safety protocols



# Know Before You Go

## **Where do I check in?**

Volunteer check-in happens at Sunnyside Cemetery under the large tent.

**Yes, these are two Cemeteries**—Long Beach Municipal and Sunnyside. Municipal Cemetery at 1151 E. Willow St. is along Orange Ave and is owned by the City of Long Beach.

Sunnyside Cemetery is at 1095 E. Willow St. and was historically a private cemetery. It has recently been acquired by the City and will be operated as a public space by the Parks, Recreation, and Marine division.

## **What happens at the Gravesides?**

Actors tell the stories of the people who are buried in the cemetery. Each presentation is around 10 minutes. The presentations are scheduled every 20 minutes from 9 until 2:40. (9, 9:20, 9:40, 10, etc.)

## **How can I identify volunteer helpers?**

Volunteers are encouraged to wear black bottoms, white shirts, and either their own hat or one of our bowler hats.

## **Where do the proceeds from the tour go?**

Funds collected go toward producing the tour including rentals, stipends paid to actors, a few staff salaries, refreshments for volunteers and staff, and marketing the event. Anything extra goes to support the HSLB's mission to preserve and promote local history.

## **Where do the stories come from?**

The story scripts are the result of years of research and skilled script writing by Kaye Briegel, Craig Hendricks, Karen Harper, and Roxanne Patmor. The stories are the non-fiction accounts of people who are buried in the two cemeteries. We recruit professional actors to perform the stories. Carl daSilva is our artistic director and coaches our actors.

**For more information contact: Julie Bartolotto, HSLB Executive Director: (562) 424-2220 or Roxanne Patmor: (562) 338-3168**

# One-Sheet

## Cemetery History

- The first people buried in Municipal Cemetery were workers from the Bixby ranch.
- The oldest marker we know of is Milton Neece, age 17, from 1878 although it's possible that wooden markers have been lost to time and the elements.
- Early record keepers here often couldn't read or write, and that influenced the quality of the information recorded.
- The city didn't want to expand, so it sold the fifteen-acre property (now Sunnyside Cemetery) to a private company, the "Long Beach Cemetery Association."
- The first Sunnyside burial was in 1907.
- Oil was discovered in 1921 on Signal Hill including under the cemetery.
- HSLB completed a project to rehouse the records and maps at Sunnyside Cemetery which were in disarray. Dedicated volunteers researched and reconstructed the cemetery records so there now exists a list of all the known plots and names of those buried here.



## Tour History

- First tour held in 1995
- Created by Barbara Barnes, the president of the HSLB, and Claudine Burnett
- History of Sunnyside Foundation and Municipal Cemeteries researched from obituaries and cross checked with the spotty burial records
- Year 1: Board members read from scripts and walked people from one grave to the next
- The first tour was free, and it rained.
- Year 2: Docents stayed at the gravesites and the tour-goers circulated
- Later Years: Docents wore costumes and some acted, eventually transitioning to all costumed folks who acted
- Teamed up with the Long Beach Playhouse
- Now we work with artistic director, Carl daSilva who coaches the actors on the stories
- Historians Kaye Briegel, Karen Harper, and Craig Hendricks conduct research
- Roxanne Patmor turns the research into scripts.



## Historical Society of Long Beach

Our mission is to connect people to the past and to the place they live by collecting, preserving, and exhibiting the material history of Long Beach. Through our programs and services, we help develop an inclusive community narrative that gives residents a greater understanding of their role in the story of their neighborhood and their city.

Founded in 1962 by a coalition of community leaders and activists, the HSLB began collecting the material history of Long Beach, including maps, photographs, advertising, and other documents that chronicle the City. For more than 30 years the organization was staffed entirely by volunteers. During this time, the HSLB published books with historical photographs on a variety of local topics including the Pike and the 1933 earthquake.

The HSLB has been located at 4260 Atlantic Avenue since securing a long-term tenancy in 2007. Here we are able to accept large historical collections and adequately store them in a basement vault and archive on the main floor. We participate in the local First Fridays art walk, hold rotating exhibitions, have generous space for researchers, and offer diverse projects and programs



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Julie Bartolotto: 562.424.2220 / [julieb@hslb.org](mailto:julieb@hslb.org)  
Or Roxanne Patmor: 562.338.3168 / [rpatmor@yahoo.com](mailto:rpatmor@yahoo.com)

*For Immediate Release*

# 25th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour

## *Where Every Plot Has a Story*

Saturday, October 30, 2021

Long Beach Municipal & Sunnyside Cemeteries 1095 & 1151 E. Willow Street

Long Beach, CA –The Historical Society of Long Beach holds its 25th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour in person on Saturday, October 30, 2021. Since 1995, the Historical Society of Long Beach has organized tours of the Long Beach Municipal Cemetery and Sunnyside Cemetery. The all-ages event features eight graveside presentations by professional actors portraying the life of the person lying at rest. Period-appropriate costuming is provided by the Long Beach Playhouse. Every year's program features new stories, including those of people who shaped the city's political past as well as ordinary folks who serve as a reminder that everyone has a story worth telling. The first-person performances last 10 minutes and are repeated every 20 minutes from 9 am to 2:40 pm.

Tickets can be purchased online in advance for \$20 (member), \$25 (non-member), \$8 for youth ages 5-18, and \$1 for children 4 and under at [hslb.org](http://hslb.org). Tickets are also available at the event from 8:30 am until 2:00 for \$25 (member), \$30 (non-member), \$8 for youth ages 5-18, and \$1 for children 4 and under. The Cemetery Tour is the signature event of the Historical Society of Long Beach, a non-profit organization. Tickets are transferable, but non-refundable. HSLB follows local and national safety protocols, and will provide guidance closer to the event.

### 2021 Stories

There will be eight areas featuring stories from the community, portrayed by local actors.

### All Day Attractions

- Dia de los Muertos with Danny Flores and Theresa Marino. On display: an *ofrenda* (altar), and discussion about the Day of the Dead celebration.
- Historical Displays located on the fence between Sunnyside and Municipal cemeteries include additional information and imagery on related topics.
- Refreshments for sale benefitting HSLB include water, soda, candy, and packaged snacks.
- Local Bixby Knolls restaurant, Ej's Pub's will provide food for purchase.
- A merchandise booth with local history books, postcards, and reprints of historical photographs are available on-site.



- Local Japanese American History: A performance and discussion honoring Aiko Tsuchiyama Takeshita and Masao Takeshita with Linda Nishida Gager and Karen S. Harper. A Nisei story of challenge, triumph, humility, dignity, and generosity. They were dedicated historical preservationists, and Sunnyside Board Members.
- A performance by the Jewel Box Children's Theater 11:30 – 1:30
- Supernaws of Long Beach -- Councilman Daryl Supernaw recounts the story of his family who is buried in Sunnyside. Please stop by to hear his story and thank him for voting to save the cemetery! 11:30 – 1:30
- Meet the Authors – Tentative Times  
Louise Ivers 10:00-1:00  
Claudine Burnett 11:00-2:00  
Dr. Craig Hendricks 2:00-3:00  
Honorable Gerrie Schipske 2:00-3:00
- Cemetery History – Mary Hinds will share historical information about the burial grounds. 9:00 – 2:00
- Locate a Grave with Duke K. Fuller who spent 10 years locating grave sites across the country and populating information on FindaGrave.com. He will be on hand to help locate gravesites at Sunnyside and Municipal cemeteries 9:00-11:00 and 12:30-3:00
- WWI Spies with Dr. Craig Hendricks 11:30-1:30

Thank you to our Generous Sponsors Including:

Port of Long Beach

Long Beach Post

Assembly Member Patrick O'Donnell

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn

Signal Hill Petroleum

Tri-Modal





## Sunnyside Cemetery

## Long Beach Municipal Cemetery

# Parking

Willow Springs Park  
(@Orange Ave.)


Sunnyside Cemetery  
(Limited parking in the circle)


Accessibility  
drop-off area  
available at Sunnyside


Ride share drop-off  
available on California  
Ave.

Additional Street  
parking available in  
neighborhood  
\*Please follow all city  
regulations and be  
courteous of  
businesses

Legend

 Ticket Sales

 Gate

 Restrooms

- |                         |                  |                             |                               |                              |                               |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Hamner & Moore | <b>5</b> Linares | <b>9</b> Takeshita          | <b>13</b> Meet the Authors    | <b>17</b> Refreshments       | <b>21</b> Spies in Long Beach |
| <b>2</b> Belden         | <b>6</b> Hartman | <b>10</b> Jewel Box Theater | <b>14</b> Merchandise         | <b>18</b> EJ's Pub Sales     |                               |
| <b>3</b> Coseboom       | <b>7</b> MacNee  | <b>11</b> Supernaw          | <b>15</b> Dia de los Muertos  | <b>19</b> Locate a Grave     |                               |
| <b>4</b> Rodgers        | <b>8</b> Holman  | <b>12</b> Cemetery History  | <b>16</b> Historical Displays | <b>20</b> The Harnett Family |                               |



# Featured Performances



## *The Land Between the Volcanos*

Isabel Moore Hamner &  
Rosie Moore

By Roxanne Martinez & Maritza Dominguez

Isabel and her mother remember stories of life on the Modoc Plateau and how their lives were changed by the Modoc War.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, Break, 12:40, 1:00, 1:20, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *Murder on Pine Ave*

Wallace (Bud) Belden  
with Mrs. Wilson & Reporter

By Jesse Seann Atkinson, Madison Mooney,  
& Dennis Korthauer

Bud was a heartthrob musician at the Majestic Skating Rink. Mrs. Wilson liked the city's conservative middle-class, but Pike musicians? Not so much.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, 11:40, 12:00, 12:20, Break, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *Clubs, Travelogues, & Heliocentric Astrology*

Peter MacNee &

June MacNee Hansen

By Noah Wagner & Harriet Whitmyer

Peter and June MacNee lived and worked in the center of Long Beach. Their passions included lodges, causes and political campaigns.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, Break, 12:40, 1:00, 1:20, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *We are the Holmans*

Venson & Sarah Holman

By Henry Weaver & Zadie Cannon (a.m.)  
& Adanna Kenlow (p.m.)

Venson and Sarah were popular musicians who sang in churches and events throughout Long Beach. In the 1920s and 1930s, they helped introduce white audiences to African American music.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, 11:40, 12:00, 12:20, Break, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *Election, Prohibition, and Oil*

Clarence (CW) & Elizabeth Coseboom

By Gregory & Kysa Cohen

CW was an early rancher who dabbled in politics. Later it was found his land sat atop oil. His third wife dishes dirt about their lives.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, Break, 12:40, 1:00, 1:20, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *Mabel's Sweet Revenge*

Jennie & John Rodgers

By Mitch & Jane Nunn

Will fate catch up with a woman who was so mean that she disowned her only child and denied her husband his dying wish?

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, 11:40, 12:00, 12:20, Break, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *The Takeshita Family*

A performance and discussion honoring Aiko Tsuchiyama Takeshita and Masao Takeshita with Linda Nishida Gager and Karen S. Harper. A Nisei story of challenge, triumph, humility, dignity, and generosity. They were dedicated historical preservationists and Sunnyside Board Members.

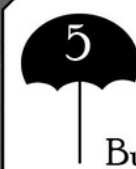
9:00 am - 11:30 am; 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm



## *The Jewel Box Theater*

Members of the Jewel Box Children's Theater Company, Nava Tate, Anna Kate Mohler and Andy Zacharias, will perform musical selections including historic Long Beach tunes from the HSLB archives.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm



## *Linares Park & Golf Course*

Sadie & Richard Linares

By Rae Andrade & Raphael Buenaventura

Pilar and Sadie Linares owned farmland on Anaheim Road. Their sons' lives were forever changed when the Virginia Country Club built a golf course across the street.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, Break, 12:40, 1:00, 1:20, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*

Mary & Nettie Hartman, Police Chief Yancy,  
Earl Rogers, Mary's Attorney

By Terra Taylor Knudson, Amara Phelps,  
Rick Reischman, John Sturgeon

Join the jury for an imaginary inquest into the absolutely true story of Mary Hartman and the deaths of unsuspecting family members.

Showtimes: 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00, 11:20, 1:40, 12:00, 12:20, Break, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40



## *Supernaws of Long Beach*

Councilman Daryl Supernaw recounts the story of his family who is buried in Sunnyside. Please stop by to hear his story and thank him for voting to save the cemetery!

11:30 am - 1:30 pm



## *Cemetery History*

Mary Hinds will share historical information about these burial grounds.

9:00 am - 11:30 am; 12:30 am - 1:30 pm



# Your Guide to the

# Historical Cemetery Tour

## Land Acknowledgement

The Historical Society of Long Beach recognizes that we are on the traditional and sacred lands of the Tongva, Kizh, and Acjachemen people. We honor and extend gratitude to these peoples, past and present. We acknowledge all the ancestors. May they rest in peace.

## 13 Meet the Authors

Honorable Renee Simon, 9:00-11:00  
Louise Ivers, 10:00-1:00  
Claudine Burnett, 11:00-2:00  
Dr. Craig Hendricks, 2:00-3:00  
Honorable Gerrie Schipske, 2:00-3:00

Masks required when meeting the authors.

## 15 Dia de los Muertos

Danny Flores and Theresa Marino display an altar and discuss the celebration of the Day of the Dead.

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

## 14 Merchandise

Purchase local history books, postcards, and reprints of historical photographs. Masks required when waiting in line.

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

## 16 Historical Displays

The displays located on the fence between Sunnyside and Municipal Cemeteries include additional information and imagery on related topics.

All Day

## 17 Refreshments

Soda, candy, water, and packaged snacks available. Masks required when waiting in line.

9:00 am - 3:00pm

## 19 Locate a Grave

Duke K. Fuller spent 10 years locating grave sites and populating information on FindaGrave.com. He can help you locate gravesites at Sunnyside and Municipal Cemeteries.

9:00 am -11:30 pm; 12:30 pm - 3:00pm

## 21 Spies in Long Beach Dr. Craig Hendricks

Americans were furious in 1917 when German agents bombed factories and U.S. ships carrying supplies to Europe. Long Beach found itself drawn into this shadowy world of spies and saboteurs.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

## 18 EJ's Pub

EJ's Pub offers lunch for purchase.

11:30 am -1:30 pm

## 20 The Harnett Family

Linda Midgett will portray a member of the Harnett family. The family played many significant roles in the development of our city and this neighborhood since its beginning.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

## COVID Safety

Please wear a mask while in any line.  
Wear your mask when approaching a canopy.  
Please sanitize your hands before and after using the restroom.  
Wear your mask when in close proximity to anyone outside your group.  
Please sanitize your hands before purchasing or handling merchandise or refreshments.  
You do not need to wear a mask while walking around.  
Masks are available at ticketing booths.



# Media



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[Past coverage of  
Historical Society of Long Beach](#)



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# Thank you to all who make the Cemetery Tour happen!

