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
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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25th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour
Where Every Plot Has a Story
Saturday, October 30, 2021
Long Beach Municipal & Sunny Side Cemeteries 1039 & 1131 E. Willow Street

Local Japanese American History: A performance and discussion honoring Akiko Tsuyuhara Takahashi and Masao Takahashi with Linda Nishida Gage and Karen S. Harper. A Nisei story of challenge, triumph, humility, dignity, and generosity. They were dedicated historical preservationists and Sunny Side Board Members.

A performance by the Jewell Box Children's Theater 11:30 – 1:30

Superwoman of Long Beach – Councilman Daryl Supernaw recounts the story of his family who is buried in Sunny Side. 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 hears 10:00-10:00
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 Sunny Side and Municipal cemeteries 9:00-11:00 and 12:30-3:00

WWII 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
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
Featured Performances

1. The Land Between the Volcanos
   Isabel Moore Hamner & Rosie Moore
   By Roxanna Martinez & Marita Dominiguez
   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

2. Murder on Pine Ave
   Wallace (Bud) Beldoe with Mrs. Wilson & Host of Skaters
   By Jesse Seann Atkinson, Madison Mooney, & Dennis Korthues
   Bud was a heartthroth 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

3. Election, Prohibition, and Oil
   Clarence (CW) & Elizabeth Comeau
   By Gregory & Scott 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

4. Mabel's Sweet Revenge
   Jennie & John Rodgers
   By Mitch & Joan Nuna
   Will fate catch up with a woman who was so mean that she disowned her only child and denied his 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

5. 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

6. The Takeshita Family
   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

7. Clun, Travellers & 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

8. We are the Holmans
   Vernon & Sarah Holman
   By Henry Weaver & Sadie Cannon (a.m.) & Adama Kenlow (p.m.)
   Vernon 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

9. The Jewel Box Theater
   Members of the Jewel Box Children’s Theater Company, Naya Tate, Anna Kate Mohier and Andy Zacharias, will perform musical selections including historic Long Beach tunes from the HSLB archives.
   9:00 am - 11:30 am; 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

10. Cemetery History
    Mary Hindt 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.

## 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.

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

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

## 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 - 3:00 pm

## 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

## 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

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

All Day

## 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

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

9:00 am - 3:00 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.

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Media

HSLB on Instagram

HSLB on Facebook

Past coverage of Historical Society of Long Beach

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