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UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 13
Friday the 13th
Twilight Tour

May 21—10 a.m.
What's Blooming?

May 28—10:30 a.m.
Memorial Day
Ceremonies

June 4—10 a.m.
Law & Order
History Tour

June 18—10 a.m.
What's Blooming?

2011 Open Garden

by Judy Eitzen

More than 500 people visited the Cemetery on a beautiful Saturday, April 16. The wet mild spring kept early blooming roses going and sunny days brought out some very special roses.

Open Garden began as a means to showcase the Historic Rose Garden and raise funds to support it. The event has now expanded to include Hamilton Square and the Native Plant Demonstration Garden. Tours and plant talks were held in all three gardens.

In the Historic Rose Garden, we sold out of roses by 1 p.m. and ran out of pink t-shirts and denim aprons. Special items offered in a silent auction were also very popular. As a fund-raising event, it was very successful.



Jennifer Holden led one of several tours during the event.

Funds raised during this event will be used to continue plant and plot maintenance in the Historic Rose Garden.

Members Meeting—June 25

The Old City Cemetery Committee Annual Members Meeting will be held the morning of June 25, 2011 at 11:30 in the area near the Fireman's Plot. All members are encouraged to attend.

At that meeting we will discuss plans and upcoming activities in the Cemetery, revise the organization's by-laws and select new Board members.

There have been many changes throughout the 2010-2011 year and more are expected in the upcoming year. This is an opportunity for OCCC members to get together and share ideas and concerns of the Committee.

Please plan to be there; your input is needed to keep this a viable and successful organization.



Connie Bettencourt
Acting OCCC
President

*Membership Meeting
June 25, 2011
11:30 a.m.
Near the
Fireman's Plot at
the Cemetery*

Sharon Patrician is the
OCCC Volunteer Co-
ordinator.
Call or email Sharon to
volunteer or to
Adopt A Plot
916-455-8166 or
patricianone@att.net.

President's Message

We've had a busy time reorganizing various tasks and assignments through winter and spring. My thanks to all those who stepped up to take on new responsibilities.

New assignments include the following:

- Kris Ogilvie has ably taken on the task of managing our website—keeping it current and adding new information as it becomes available. If you have not visited recently, I encourage you to do so as she's doing a great job.
- Anita Pearson has taken on the task of Publicity and Press Releases. She's making sure that the media know all about our activities.
- Denise Lunn has volunteered to be our new Graphic Artist and has designed some great new flyers for upcoming events.
- Stephanie Robinson is our new

Facebook Coordinator—yes, we have a presence on Facebook; check it out.

I encourage all to attend the Members Meeting on June 25. It will be held at 11:30 and includes light refreshments.

It is at this annual meeting that members consider changes in by-laws and elect OCCC Board members. As we currently have vacancies on the Board, I encourage you to consider taking a place on the Board. Duties are not onerous (see article, page 6) but they are important.

Every successful volunteer organization needs an active membership to continue with its mission, and ours is no exception. I hope all our members will find ways to participate directly and that some of you will become Board members.

Editorial—Come Join the Fun

As Connie has pointed out, a number of OCCC members have stepped up and taken on new responsibilities. This is what makes a volunteer organization like ours continue to be successful amid changing conditions.

This is a plea for members to become directly involved in Cemetery activities. The OCCC has taken on a variety of responsibilities from gardening to education, from fund-raising to research. Thespians among us can always find a

place helping with special tours, such as Friday the 13th and lantern tours in October. No matter what your areas of interest and expertise, there is something just right for you.

We all take pride in what the Historic city Cemetery has become. This is especially true for those who participate when we ask for volunteers and I strongly urge all members to do so.

*Comments, questions, concerns:
Judy Eitzen, Editor
verlaine@citlink.net*

Julia Cummings—Sacramento Entrepreneur

by Jeanne Baldwin

Julia Cummings began her life as an illiterate African-American slave. When her life ended she had earned dignity, independence and property. Julia found success in her life by becoming a prosperous prostitute in Sacramento. She contributed to the community and assisted those less fortunate than herself. Hers is one of the many success stories for women who became entrepreneurs in early Sacramento.

In 1860, the Civil War threatened the South in her home state of Georgia. It's not known how Julia secured her freedom and traveled west in that year, but she did. She came to the new state of California, which promised riches for everyone.

Julia settled in the fast-growing community of Sacramento. Soon she was able to save money and buy property; something not possible in her home state of Georgia in the aftermath of the Civil War. As Julia struggled to earn money, she took out second mortgages against her many properties in order to acquire new ones.

The 1860 Federal Census reports that Julia lived with a two-year-old son, John, and W. B. Alexander, 40, a white trader/butcher also from Georgia. They were living in Ward 2 on 4th Street between L and M Streets. There are additional records that show her living at 88 L Street.

Black women of the 19th century appear to have developed a network of social and financial support.

When each died, their wills named other Black women among their heirs. Julia was one of the recipients in her friend Sarah Carroll's will along with three other Black prostitutes.

A few Black men owned or operated saloons in the city, including the **Gipsy Saloon** and the **Hole in the Wall**. These saloons were located near the famed **City Hotel** and **Lafayette Hall**, where two imposing Charles Nahl paintings hung in the saloon and billiard parlor. Currently several of Nahl's paintings hang in the Crocker Art Gallery.

Julia died in San Francisco in 1878 at age 49. Death records indicate that she had consumption, though newspapers of the day indicated that she had an unidentified illness that required 'cupping' along with other daily treatments. She was visited regularly by doctors, which may have indicated prolonged suffering.

Her body was dressed in a simple gown and placed in a lined and trimmed casket with engraved plates. It was brought to Sacramento on a riverboat for her last trip to Sacramento, where she was greeted by a crowd.

Julia is buried in the Old City Cemetery (A-45 #85) in what is now an unmarked grave which, at one time, had a headstone. A picnic table covers her grave today.



Volunteer News

by Sharon Patrician

Volunteers Needed

Sign up to work in the Visitor Center. There are many more visitors in Spring and Summer and your help is needed. Contact Sharon Patrician to volunteer.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Please call or email me at 916-455-8166 or patricianone@att.net to report your monthly volunteer hours.

BIWEEKLY CITY MEETINGS

You are all welcome at the City staff and Adopt A Plot volunteer meetings held the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. at the 10th Street gate office. If you have any questions or concerns and cannot attend, please pass them to me and I'll inform City staff.

UPDATE: MOTH ALERT

The quarantine area for the Light Brown Apple Moth has been extended northward to Broadway. This means the cemetery is inside the quarantine area. If you live in the quarantine area, please do not bring any plants you have from your garden to the cemetery and do not remove plants from the cemetery to locations outside the quarantine area. Quarantine boundaries change with conditions (the most recent change was March 18) and details can be found at the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

(<http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/>.)

Since this moth affects apple trees, and roses are related to apples, we are greatly concerned that this moth not gain a foothold in the cemetery with its world-class collection of heritage roses. Please contact Anita Clevenger at anitac@surewest.net if you have any questions. She and Pat Schink, Rose Garden volunteer, have more information about this agricultural pest.

VISITOR CENTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have some vacancies for staffing the cemetery's first ever Visitor Center. Volunteers work two-and-one-half hour shifts Friday through Tuesday and provide a welcome to visitors seeking general information about the cemetery and its features. Please contact Sharon (patricianone@att.net) to apply and to obtain more information. With the gardens becoming more appealing each day and the weather warming up, we expect many more visitors. We can use your help!



Open Garden Photos courtesy of David Roberts



Prostitution in Early Sacramento—*The story behind Julia's story*

It appears there was little if any segregation among Anglo, African-American or Hispanic populations. Black and white prostitutes often associated together, although French and Latin American prostitutes usually kept to themselves. While some burials in the Cemetery place special groups together (e.g., Masons, veterans, etc.) most individuals are interred side by side—plot by plot—with no regard for race, religion or background.

One difference between early Sacramento and eastern settlements was the openness of prostitution. Although details on prostitution in the early days of Sacramento are scarce, some records in census figures and early newspapers are available. The 1850 census for example, suggests the presence of three brothels in the city and possibly a number of prostitutes' cribs, though this accounting probably under-represents the actual number. Prior to 1854, Sacramento had no anti-prostitution law on its books, an omission that permitted a number of prostitutes to evade legal prosecution. African American prostitutes lived throughout Sacramento City but are recorded only in the first and second wards in the 1860 Census. Black Prostitutes appear to have found considerable economic opportunities in Sacramento, ranking second behind Germans in percentage of property ownership. Of 86 Black women, 10 were prostitutes and Julia was one of only two who owned property.

Some descriptions of 19th century prostitutes show they were among the freest, wealthiest, most educated women of their time. Many had won virtually all the freedoms enjoyed by women of today—property ownership, birth control, freedom of movement, etc. These freedoms were denied most 19th century women.

The so-called “sportin' women” who populated Sacramento's red light district came from many geographical areas. Some were part-time prostitutes while others worked on a full time basis. Some of the women died in the profession; others left before alcohol, drugs, old age, disease or assaults destroyed them. Many became respectable property-owners and community supporters.

Want to know more? Try these:

- **Capital Women-An Interpretive History of Women in Sacramento, 1850-1920** by Elaine Connolly and Dian Self (1995, Capitol Women's History Project, pub.) Published to commemorate early Sacramento Women.
- **Sacramento Women Past and Present** by Terry Cook and Kathleen Paparchontis (1998, Golden Notes, pub.) Golden Notes are available online at www.sacramentohistory.blogspot.com/
- **Soiled doves : Prostitution in the Early West** by Anne Seagraves (1994, Wesanne Pub.) Part of the “Women of the West” series of monographs including photos, short biographies and tales of prostitution in the west.
- **Gold rush Capitalists: greed and gold in Sacramento** by Mark A. Eifler (2002, Univ. of New Mexico Pr) Eifler discusses how large numbers of males rushing to find gold in California brought a number of entrepreneurial enterprises, including prostitution, to the state.
- **Renegade History of the United States** by Thaddeus Russell (2010 Free Press) In an unconventional view of history, Russell posits that various marginalized groups (e.g., prostitutes) were the driving forces behind major social change.
- **Red Light Revelations: A glimpse into Sacramento's Bawdy Past of 1885** by Jay Moynahan (available via his website) Moynahan has studied prostitution throughout history around the world, and focuses here on specific women in Sacramento and their successes and failures.

Preservation Efforts

by Sharon Patrician



Before ↑↑
After ↓↓



With the oversight of the OCCC Restoration Sub-Committee, employees of the Ruhkala Monument Company are currently repairing headstones in the Singleton Fill area. This area, filled predominately with Civil War and WWI veterans, is on the east side next to the Native Plant Society's Demonstration Garden.

Since July 2010, Ruhkala staff have repaired stones in Sections B96 through B101 and in the NPS Demo Garden. In addition, an important stone in the Van Voorhees area (see before and after photos) was fit back together. Jessee Haycock's headstone is the only memorial in the cemetery which notes that the individual died of cholera.

The Heritage Rose Garden has, with funds raised from the Open Garden, engaged Ruhkala to repair a stone in Section A80. They are considering some other repairs in this award-winning garden and

will work with the Restoration Sub-Committee to achieve that goal.

The funds for these and many other repairs in OCCC's 24-year history come entirely through donations and monies earned from tours and events. More than half the cemetery has been inventoried for repairs, and a spreadsheet compiled of stones repaired and those awaiting repair.

The OCCC is very proud of this effort and thanks Ruhkala and its staff for their dedication to achieving our goals. We also thank the City Cemetery staff and managers for their ongoing support to the Committee in its preservation endeavors. Finally, we thank the OCCC Board of Directors and its Restoration Sub-Committee for the hard work and direction they have provided in the repair of these irreplaceable artifacts.

Board Member Vacancies

We presently have three vacancies on the Board of Directors. In addition, some terms will end in June and may result in additional vacancies. Consequently, we invite OCCC members to nominate individuals to serve a term on the Board. You may nominate yourself as well if you wish to join the Board. Directors will be elected at the annual Members meeting on June 25. If you have skills in finance, marketing, public relations or managing projects, we need you.

What does it take to be a Director on the OCCC Board?

First, Directors are members in good standing of the OCCC. Directors support the mission and goals of the OCCC; are willing to represent the OCCC within the community and beyond; and participate in fundraising and long-range planning for the OCCC. Directors attend regular monthly Board meetings and are prepared to

vote on fiscal and administrative issues as well as participate on standing committees and project teams for the Board. The term is three (3) years and the time commitment is about 10 hours a month.

How to nominate:

Please notify Connie Bettencourt or send her an email with the following information:

- Nominee's name and contact information
- Special skills, areas of interest and/or willingness to serve on a standing or advisory committee.

Standing committees include: Restoration, Tours & History, Archives, Adopt-A-Plot, Heritage Rose Garden, Publications, Finance, Membership, Volunteer and Sales. Other committees may be designated as needed.



OCCC
Needs
You!

Upcoming Cemetery Events

Saturday History Tours

May 7 - Headstone Symbolism
 June 4 – Law & Order
 July 2 – Patriots
 Aug 6 – History of Railroad Workers

Saturday Garden Tours

May 21 – What’s Blooming
 June 18 – What’s Blooming

Holidays and Special Cemetery Events

May 13 - Friday the 13th Twilight Tour. 7:00 p.m. \$10
 Tickets may be purchased at the gate.

May 28 – Memorial Day – 10:30 a.m.

Rose Garden Events are held in the Historic Rose Garden.

Deadheading at Dusk begins on May 9 at 6:30 p.m.
 Additional Deadheading evenings: June 13, July 11,
 and August 8.

Saturday Tours begin at 10 a.m. at the front gate. **Additional information:**
www.oldcitycemetery.com/

OCCC Standing Committees & Project Teams

OCCC members have many options to participate.

The **Restoration Committee** assists in development and administration of the restoration programs of the Historic City Cemetery.

The **Tours and History Committee** assists in development of and administration of the tours and history programs of the Historic City Cemetery.

The **Archives Committee** assists in administration of the archives of the Historic City Cemetery, including City of Sacramento official records. Volunteers also assist the public in research of Cemetery records, and researching for tours and publications.

The **Adopt-A-Plot Committee** assists in administration of the Adopt-A-Plot program of the Historic City Cemetery.

The **Heritage Rose Garden Committee** assists in maintenance and development of the Heritage Rose Garden of the Historic City Cemetery. Volunteers also provide educational programs about historic roses.

The **Publications Committee** assists in development and administration of publications issued, distributed, or sold by the Committee and the publication and distribution of the Committee’s newsletter.

The **Finance Committee** volunteers:

- draft and present a proposed annual budget to the Board
- draft and present an annual Financial Statement.
- manage investments, endowments and insurance
- manage financial affairs according to rules and policies adopted by the Directors.

The **Membership Committee** recommends activities for membership drives, assists in developing a volunteer base, and assists the Secretary in maintaining membership records.

The **Volunteer Committee** assists with administration of Volunteer programs of the Historic City Cemetery including recruitment of volunteers and staffing for Cemetery special events.

The **Sales Committee** assists in development and administration of the Committee sales of merchandise.

Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc.

Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc.

1000 Broadway
Sacramento, CA 95818
916-448-0811

Mission Statement

To join hands with the community to restore, beautify, preserve and protect the Historic City Cemetery, while maintaining access by descendants of the deceased, and to provide educational services to all visitors to the Historic City Cemetery of Sacramento.

We're On the Web
www.oldcitycemetery.com

MEMORIAL DAY



Memorial Day Ceremonies will be conducted on Saturday, May 28. Plan to meet at the 10th Street Gate—ceremonies begin at 10:30 a.m.

Veterans of every war from the War of 1812 through the First Gulf War are buried at the Historic City Cemetery. On Friday, flags are placed on the grave of every known veteran by local Boy Scouts. Saturday's ceremonies include a procession to lower each flagpole flag to half-staff to honor our veterans. This event is co-sponsored by the Affiliated Veterans Council & Veterans of Foreign War Post 67.

Please plan to join us in honor of our veterans.

