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## Catherine "Kate" Hayes

By John Bettencourt

*This story about the life of a Sacramento Historic City Cemetery resident was written and presented on tours by the late John Bettencourt. Mr. Bettencourt was a founding member of the Old City Cemetery Committee. Ms. Hayes resides in plot B136.*

## OCCC Calendar

**Saturday, Sept. 19 ~ 10 am**  
**Early Educators History Tour**  
 Guide: Suzanne Hickland

**Saturday, Sept. 19 ~ 10 am**  
**What's Blooming in the Cemetery Tour**  
 Guide: Carol Nelson

**Thursday, Oct. 1 ~ 7 - 9 pm**  
**Stories in Stone**  
 Presentation by Doug Keister

**Saturday, Oct. 3 ~ 10 am**  
**Symbology & Secret Societies History Tour**  
 Guide: Lynda Walls

**Saturday, Oct. 10 ~ 10 am**  
**Rose Tour**  
 Guide: Bill Harp

**Saturday, Oct. 17 ~ 10 am**  
**What's Blooming in the Cemetery Tour**  
 Guide: TBA

**Friday & Saturday**  
**Oct. 23 & 24**  
**6:30, 8:00 & 9:30 pm**  
**Lantern Tours**  
 Fundraiser, \$25 per person

**Saturday, Nov. 7 ~ 10 am**  
**The Medical Bag History Tour**  
 Guide: Dr. Bob LaPerriere

**Saturday, Nov. 21 ~ 10 am**  
**Fall Color in the Rose Garden**  
 Guide: Anita Clevenger

Information: 916-448-0811

Catherine "Kate" Hayes, the "willowy Swan of Erin," took the American continent by storm, having been brought to the United States by the great entrepreneur P.T. Barnum in the early 1850s. She played to packed houses throughout her Eastern tour. With the success of his venture assured, Barnum would now take a gamble and bring her to the West. She would open in San Francisco, where she played to overflowing and enthusiastic crowds. An unprecedented bidding for the privilege of acquiring the first ticket brought an unheard of price of \$1,000 and was awarded to the Monumental Engine Co. of that city's Volunteer Fire Department.

Although Miss Hayes was scheduled to appear in Sacramento, Barnum was somewhat apprehensive about the "state of the arts" here. There was no opera house to which she was accustomed in the somewhat bawdy town on the fringe of the Mother Lode. But Sacramento backers insisted that they could do every bit as well as their San Francisco counterparts. In fact, they would raise more money than San Francisco for the first ticket. That was the kind of guarantee that Barnum was looking for.

On February 7, 1853, interested parties met in the grand dining salon where an auction was conducted by J.B. Starr, the city's foremost auctioneer. He opened the bidding to a packed house. At increments of \$50, the price went up quickly. Bidding was brisk. The laddies of Mutual Hook & Ladder Co. of our Volunteer Fire Department were prepared to match their Bay area counterparts with a bid of \$100 over San Francisco's \$1,000, but they lost out when a late bid of \$200 put it beyond their reach. The auctioneer slammed down the gavel with a "sold!" and the members of the Sutter Rifles cheered.

They had taken the bidding, paying a far greater sum for a ticket than San Francisco and the highest price ever paid for a ticket to a Kate Hayes concert. They paid \$1,200 for the ticket they would present to their namesake, Captain John Sutter.

Lieutenant John Quincy Brown was a member of the delegation that escorted Sutter from the Hock Farm by steamer to Sacramento. A detachment of uniformed officers of the Sutter Rifles made a grand and conspicuous entrance into Westminster Presbyterian Church and ceremoniously seated him in the front row.

# President's Message

By Lynda Walls

I would like to welcome our newest board member: welcome, Kathleen Gast! Kathleen has been a volunteer with us for three years. She and her husband, Steve, are regulars on the evening tours, giving memorable performances as the Webbers, the Upsons, the Keenans and even Georgia Fisher and her fiancé. Kathleen has graciously accepted the role of Tours Chair, and we are all excited to work with her.

We have so much going on! Some great events and exciting projects are in the works, and I'd like to invite you to get involved. The following are just the Standing Committees of the Old City Cemetery Committee (OC3). If you don't see something that interests you, contact Sharon Patrician, our Volunteer Coordinator, and she can tell you about more of the special projects and events.

**Archives - Chair, Lois Dove:** The archives are housed in the Mortuary Chapel in the middle of the cemetery. It's a great place to learn more about the cemetery and our residents. They're always working on cool research projects, and the Chapel also serves as the Visitors Center.

**Membership - Chair, Connie Bettencourt:** We'll be working on a membership drive soon and it should be exciting. This team also plans and coordinates the Annual Members Meeting in June.

**Publications - Chair, Lynda Walls:** *The Epitaph* falls under this team and from the infrequency of its publication, you can tell I could use some help! We also work on the books and brochures that are published by the OC3.

**Restoration - Chair, Claudia Richardson:** This team coordinates the restoration of the cemetery's headstones. We've recently attended a restoration workshop and are eager to teach what we've learned about repairing the many damaged stones. We'll be doing a lot more in the near future!

**Rose Garden - Chair, Barbara Oliva:** More than 400 heritage rose plants take a lot of loving care! From deadheading at dusk to the Open Garden in April, there are lots of great ways to help.

**Sales - Chair, Connie Bettencourt:** T-shirts, books postcards and more! Help create new sales items and sell the ones we have.

**Tours - Chair, Kathleen Gast:** Just because the tour season is wrapping up doesn't mean there isn't a lot to do. Help plan the tours for next season and learn to lead a tour!

**Volunteers - Chair, Sharon Patrician:** This team coordinates all volunteer efforts from Adopt a Plot to special events. Help recruit, interview and orient new volunteers as well as plan the Volunteer Appreciation celebrations. And speaking of the Volunteer Appreciation, don't forget to RSVP to Sharon for our Ice Cream Social on September 12! See page six for more information.

Among our special projects and events are the fund-raising tours we hold in the evening, the Stories in Stone presentation by Doug Keister on October 1 and even a team that is working on signage in the cemetery.

There are many ways to get more involved. Every committee of the OC3 is looking for more volunteers to get involved. We welcome your energy, enthusiasm and fresh ideas! It's a great way to learn more about the cemetery and to meet new people.

Contact Sharon and she'll give you more information and put you in contact with the appropriate committee chair.

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## We Want YOU to Join!

Become a Friend of the Cemetery!

Membership is easy! It takes only a few minutes to complete the membership application on the back of this newsletter. Membership is beneficial. Every membership shows community support for the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery and awareness of the importance of this beautiful historic site. Membership is inexpensive. It will be the best twenty bucks you spend all year!

# Volunteer News

By Sharon Patrician, Volunteer Coordinator

## **VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Please call or e-mail me at 916-455-8166 or patricianone@att.net with your monthly volunteer hours.

## **BIWEEKLY CITY MEETINGS**

You are all welcome at the City staff and Adopt a Plot volunteer meetings, held every other Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the 10th Street gate office. Call Sharon at 916-455-8166 if you have any questions or concerns.

## **UNACCEPTABLE PLANTS**

Occasionally, plants are donated that are not permitted in the cemetery. Our web site, [www.oldcitycemetery.com](http://www.oldcitycemetery.com) has a list of such plants. You should refer to it if you have any doubts. Our goal is to have an integrated community of plants, but we will not permit "thugs" to take over, e.g., the Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). These plants are found also on the California Invasive Plant Inventory ([www.cal-ipc.org](http://www.cal-ipc.org)). Call Sharon if you have any questions.

## **FLOWER DONATIONS**

I sent an e-mail previously to Adopt A Plot volunteers to let them know we will probably not have any flower donations this summer. We're concerned about water usage to keep annuals alive in the heat, especially since we anticipate some conservation guidelines from the City soon. One of our volunteers asked Home Depot and was given plants with the caveat that we give them the Committee's letterhead with our tax-exempt number. I can provide that letterhead to volunteers who get donations from a nursery that wants documentation. Contact me at patricianone@att.net for the form.

Now, for an update: We may get a truckload or two of annuals for the summer as soon as the nursery calls Curtis Clark. Stand by for more information by e-mail.



## **MORE BENCH REPAIR**

Eagle Scout Chad Lee, with the assistance of his sponsor (the South Sacramento Hmong LDS) and his family and friends, replaced the old redwood slats with Trex for the benches at the intersection of Cypress and Ivy and the bench on Ivy heading into the rose garden.

This is an ongoing project for scouts to get an appropriate badge for community service. Lee is a young man with ambitions to get his doctorate in history, especially the history of the Hmong peoples.

The cemetery and the Old City Cemetery Committee thank Lee, his sponsor (the South Sacramento Hmong LDS) and his family and friends for improving the benches at the Historic City Cemetery.

## **NEW TREES**

Perhaps you have noticed along the carriageways little six-foot-tall trees, some with stakes, others blowing in the wind. They are part of our tree replacement program that began in 2007. One by one, our stately English Elms are being removed due to Dutch Elm disease and age.

In the cemetery's Master Plan, it is recommended we keep a canopy of trees in existence. The new trees are deciduous, and most are over 45 feet tall at maturity. One reason to keep trees in the cemetery, besides the comfort of volunteers and visitors, is to keep old marble cool during the hot months. If irrigation water hits these old marble monuments, crazing and cracking can occur when the marble is too warm.

We are planting about ten new trees every fall with the help of the Sacramento Tree Foundation and the City's tree division. We are diversifying the species as well. You will see Interior Live Oak, California Sycamore, Red Maple, several kinds of Oak and Tupelo.

Adopt volunteers: If you are gardening near these young trees and have a hose, please help by giving them several gallons of water at a time. Any questions, call Sharon at 455-8166.

# Historic Rose Garden Selected for Award

The Great Rosarians of the World Steering Committee has selected the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden to the recipient of the GROW Great Rose Garden Hall of Fame. As stated on their web site, "The purpose of the award is to promote a wider knowledge and appreciation of these garden treasures to the rose growing world and the gardening public. To be considered for the award a rose garden must be open to the public (with or without a fee); be recognized as having an outstanding design or historical significance; display an outstanding collection or broad display of roses; and/or promote rose growing with educational outreach programs."

The award was made by the Manhattan Rose Society during the Great Rosarian lectures at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden on June 5. Barbara Oliva,

the curator of the garden, accepted the award. Anita Clevenger and Janelle Michel were also in attendance.

The Sacramento Historic Rose Garden is the second recipient of this award. Earlier this year, the San Jose Heritage Rose Garden was also recognized.

The Great Rosarians of the World Annual Lecture Series was founded in 2001 to honor the men and women who have shaped our love and appreciation of the rose. Originally sponsored by The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California, it now is jointly hosted by the New York Metropolitan Rose Council. This series gives rose growers and gardeners the opportunity to hear and meet noted authors, nurserymen, rose hybridizers and educators from around the world.

## Old City Cemetery Board of Directors

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**Lynda Walls**

Vice President

**Connie Bettencourt**

Treasurer

**Steve Bartel**

Secretary

**Sharon Patrician**

Directors

**Jeanne Baldwin**

**Anita Clevenger**

**Lois Dove**

**Marilyn Fuqua**

**Kathleen Gast**

**Dr. Bob Perriere**

**Barbara Oliva**

**Claudia Richardson**

**Jewel Reilly**

**Rick Roberts**





# Open Garden 2009

By Anita Clevenger, Historic Rose Garden Manager

The Open Garden exceeded all expectations this year. We had more than 500 people in attendance, an increase of 200 from last year. People came from as far away as San Diego, Mendocino, Nevada and Tennessee. Redding's Shasta Rose Society even chartered a bus for the event! When the rose sales began, 67 people were waiting to be admitted. We had more than 500 roses for sale, most of which were unavailable commercially. All of them were gone by noon.

While this is the main fund-raising activity for Historic Rose Garden operations, the day really is about the roses, the cemetery, and all of its gardens. The roses were at their peak, with companion iris

and California poppies complementing the display. The rest of the cemetery looked well-tended and lovely. The weather was good. Things could hardly have gone better.

Judy Eitzen drove the electric cart and gave overall cemetery tours throughout the day. Anita Clevenger, Janelle Michel and Jennifer Holden led tours about the roses. Barbara Oliva gave a talk about "Sex in the Rose Garden." Sharon Patrician hosted guests in Hamilton Square, as well.

Preparation for the Open Garden began as soon as last year's event ended, with the rose garden volunteers making plans. We



propagated roses at our homes, with Janelle Michel and Kathryn Mackenzie growing the majority of them. Many other volunteers also propagated roses or took part in preparations. We collected sales items, raffle prizes, and Silent Auction items. We hung new tags on the roses and developed an updated

collection catalog. Out-of-town supporters also pitched in, including people from Santa Clarita, Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Santa Cruz and Sparks, Nevada, who helped set up on Friday and assisted throughout the event. We would especially like to thank Jeri Jennings, from Gold Coast Heritage Rose Group, for creating an enticing rose sales catalog. She and her husband, Clay, helped set up on Friday and sold roses on Saturday until not one was left.

In addition to the Open Garden, some Gold Coast HRG members stopped at Stockton Rural Cemetery to look at those historic roses on Thursday, and went to Capay Cemetery on Sunday. It was an exhaustive, and exhausting, four days.

We netted nearly seven thousand dollars for the day. A great success, in all ways.

We are already planning how to do it better next year. Open Garden, 2010, will be on **Saturday, April 17**. Mark your calendars!



# Notes from the Demo-Garden

By Sabrina Okamura-Johnson, SacValley CNPS Chair, Native Plant Demo-Garden

Spring at the Native Plant demo-garden has been glorious this year. The garden has been ablaze with the brilliant yellows of our Sunset fremontias, gorgeous blues of our Ray Hartman ceanothus, and vibrant pinks of our western redbuds. The fremontias are winding down and the Ray Hartmans and redbuds are now setting seed. But as I write, the second act of spring is in full swing. Current blooms include: our yellow sulfur buckwheats, golden lupines and bush monkey flowers, blue flax and penstemons, purple woolly blue curls, and the stunningly beautiful creamy-white blossomed California bush anemone.

Many of our native salvias/sages have now started to blossom. In fact, at the May meeting several of the young black-sage cuttings we brought for adoption had cute tiny little blossoms. I am also happy to report that all of the baby black-sages and creeping-sages found homes at the May meeting! Only one of the goldenrods and three of the puniest baby Douglas iris were not adopted. In addition, thanks to Peggy Berry's suggestion (that we put out a donation plate) and the generosity of adopting parents, the garden received \$20 in donations for the babies! Be sure and make it to the September meeting so you can adopt demo-garden babies that make it through the summer.

As many of you know, Mitchell Alford's health has declined, and she is unable to come out regularly on Saturdays to help supervise and give assignments to the Sheriff's work crews (after they muster in the morning)

and to meet with volunteers who would like to come by on Saturdays at 10 a.m. So, I'm currently looking for folks that can fill her shoes to cover Saturdays at the garden. Please give me a call/e-mail if you might be able to come out even one or two Saturdays this summer to meet/direct volunteers; and—if you're up for it—to help supervise the Saturday work crews.

For those of you that can't make it out to the garden on the weekends, let me know if you are able to swing by during the weekdays. We have several dedicated weekday weeding volunteers who swing by for 30 minutes or an hour to enjoy the garden and weed a plot or two. If this is something you think you might be able to help us with this summer, let me know and I'll explain how we log your hours and dispose of the weeds that are pulled during the week.

During the upcoming Sundays, volunteers will help us with deadheading, pruning, and general maintenance. We will also be pruning the creeping sage (*Salvia Sonomensis*) and will be potting up about 25 cuttings for eventual giveaway at the September meeting, so could use help with this. We also have about 1,000+ baby St. Catherines lace volunteers that we will be potting up regularly this summer for adoption/giveaway at various summer events sponsored by the chapter and/or the Old City Cemetery Committee.

As always, I hope to see you in the garden.  
Sabrina

## Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social



The Old City Cemetery Committee will host an old-fashioned ice cream social to honor all volunteers at the cemetery at 3 p.m. on September 12, 2009 at the Fireman's Plot. There will be lots of recognition for our dedicated and hard working volunteers, some fun, maybe some silly games—and ice cream of course. Please RSVP to Sharon at 916-455-8166 or patricianone@att.net.





A benefit for the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery

♦ S ♦ T ♦ O ♦ R ♦ I ♦ E ♦ S ♦

♦ I ♦ N ♦

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Secrets of Symbolism  
in the Sacramento City Cemetery

Thursday, October 1, 2009

7 - 9 pm ~ \$49 per person  
Includes hors d'oeuvres, wine and hearses

California Auto Museum  
2200 Front Street, Sacramento

Dan Brown's protagonist, Robert Langdon, may be fictitious, but right here in California we have cemetery symbolism expert and author of four books on cemeteries – Douglas Keister. *Sunset Magazine* said, "Keister has done for cemetery exploration what Audubon did for birding." Join us for an exciting evening as Keister guides us through the history of cemeteries and reveals the meaning behind cemetery symbols, including some mysterious ones in the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery.



Be the first to see the grand opening of the California Auto Museum's new exhibit:

Hearses: The Last Ride

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form with your check made out to Old City Cemetery Committee (OCCC) to:  
Old City Cemetery Committee • 1000 Broadway • Sacramento, CA 95818



**Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc.**  
 1000 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818  
 916-448-0811 ♦ www.OldCityCemetery.com

If you're receiving this newsletter, you're important to the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery!  
*Are you a member of the Old City Cemetery Committee?*

The Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc., is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit association whose purpose is to maintain and preserve the beauty and integrity of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. Membership is only \$20 per individual, \$30 for families and \$50 for businesses. Join today!

**Membership Application**

Annual Dues (Membership runs January 1 through December 31):

- Individual: \$20
- Family: \$30 (One household, One voting member)
- Business: \$50 (One voting member per business)
- Donation: Amount & Designation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Patron: \$200 - \$299
- Sponsor: \$300 - \$599
- Silver Sponsor: \$600 - \$999
- Gold Sponsor: \$1,000+

Name (include all names if Family Membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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