

# Capitol Clarion

California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

AUGUST 2016



The **Capitol Clarion** is published monthly by the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association.

**Marti Dennis, Managing Editor**

Bill Geach, Editor Eternal

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Deadline for announcements and articles is the **1<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

Articles can be e-mailed to the Editor at: **mdennis1@att.net**

## President's Message

By **Connie Clark**

A goal of any museum is successful outreach. We want to be known by and accessible to the community. A good relation with other area museums is part of that goal, and we are succeeding.

Recently CSCMVA was asked to help with the Sacramento Area Museum (SAM) booth at the California State Fair. Several docents volunteered and reported having a good time.

We have now been asked, via Lynn Cook, to help with the **AAUW's Women's History Project**. There will be a rally and parade **Saturday, August 27 at 9:30 in Roseville's Royer Park**. They are honoring women in government and public service and would like us to lend our "Suffrage expertise" by joining the parade. Please contact Lynn or me if you are interested in participating.

And then there is our connection to Hearst Castle. Thanks to Diane Rich, Patty Wood and others, many of us will be visiting the museum with a "backstage pass".

Publicity is a big issue for the Association. Casey Hayden has helped us connect with SAM and may be able to utilize their website to promote our public events. This website is the hub for all area museum information.

On a different subject, the fall living history presentation, Election Day, has been cancelled. The living history survey recently completed suggests a nearly even division between those who would like one play per year versus two. Based on this and the number of events scheduled this fall, we have decided to cancel the second event.

We have taken the survey results into consideration and plan to make revisions, which may include a new play or revisions to the current ones. Thanks to everyone who responded.

It's been a busy year with no signs of letting up. As of August 7, CSCMVA docents have exceeded a total of 3,807,081 service

hours!

 *Connie*

## Sunshine Corner:

Since our last **Clarion** issue, cards have been sent to our following member friends:

**Alex King** – encouragement for recovery from recent surgery

**Janet Forbes** – best wishes following a setback from surgery

**Marianne Breuning** – encouraging wishes for recovery from recent surgery while continuing to provide care for her husband

Please remember that If you know of someone who could use a word of encouragement, comfort, or get well wishes, please contact **Scotty Hodges** who thoughtfully expresses CSCMVA support on behalf of all our membership. Scotty can be contacted at [hashhogg901@yahoo.com](mailto:hashhogg901@yahoo.com) or by phone at 707- 425-1909.



## Take Me Out to the Ballgame!!

By Alex King

'Tis now that we need you to send your check for \$19 per seat for the River Cats game on the evening of **Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**. Yes, there are seats still available! If you act quickly, you can **send an email to Alex King** at [ahking@att.net](mailto:ahking@att.net) or **Rachel Martinez** at [Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov) and follow up with mailing Alex your check made payable to CSCMVA.

Hurry! This event promises to be an entertaining and fun experience with CSCMVA members!

## A Change in Plans....

By Diane Rich



Due to circumstances beyond our control, the date and location for the November 5, 2016 CSCMVA 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration must be changed. We have been informed that the Eureka Room will now be closed September through November for remodeling in anticipation of a new restaurant vendor in the basement. (For more information on that change, see the article that follows.)

We hope to reschedule on a different date / location in November. Information on new arrangements will be coming soon!

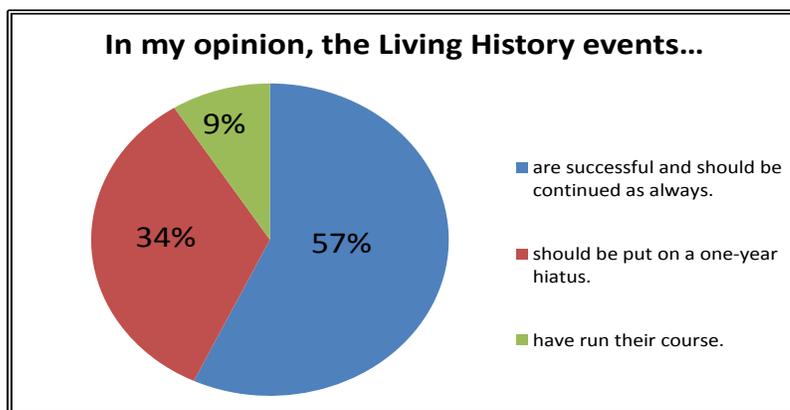
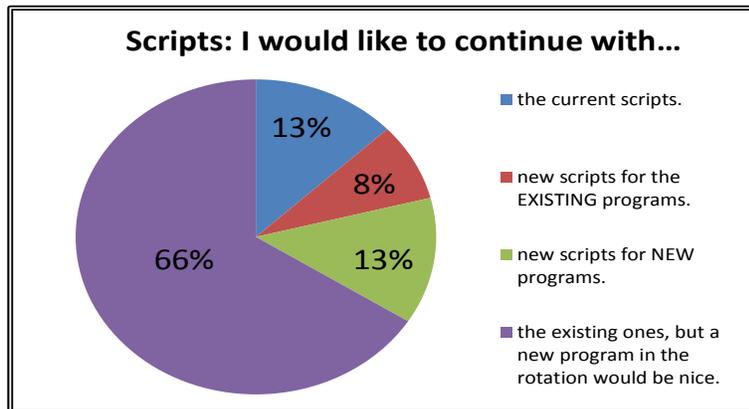
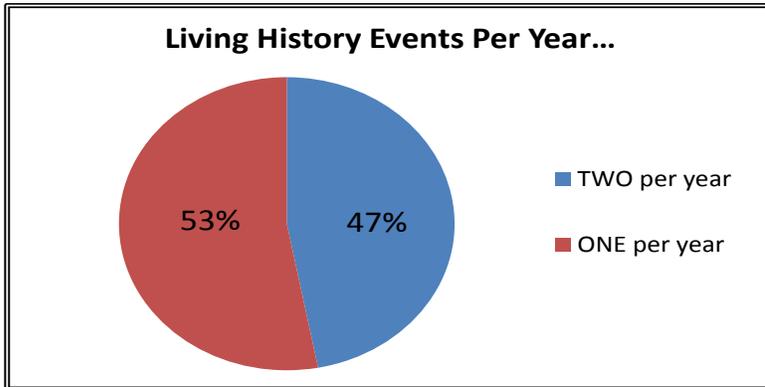
## New Capitol Food Services:

The silver lining to our change in plans for celebrating CSCMVA's 35th Anniversary is that there soon will be a new restaurateur with a farm-to-fork sentiment in the Capitol. **Chris Jarosz** has signed a deal to provide restaurant services for dining areas in the basement, on the sixth floor and in the coffee bar area. His reported plans include Sacramento's campaign as "America's farm-to-fork capital." (Source: **Sacramento Bee**, August 5, 2016). Sadly, Gary will lose his coffee bar in this new arrangement. Stop by and let him know you will miss him.

## Living History Survey Results

By Connie Clark, President and Living History Director

This past month volunteers were asked their opinion of living history events. We received sixty-seven very insightful responses. Our Volunteer Coordinator, Rachel Martinez, not only monitored the results, but also created the pie charts below, making it easy to understand the results.



Results from 67 responses  
7/27/2016

Although we are still discussing the comments received, it appears the living history events are still relevant and should continue. 53% of respondents said one play per year is enough. Based on that feedback and the number of additional events scheduled this year, we are suspending the Election Day (October) play.

Marylin Thompson and Lynn Cook are exploring the possibility of a **new play** based on Sacramento's role in WW I. It would be presented in 2018, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the war. It is a very large and exciting task, and they will be looking for others to join them in research and writing.

Other suggestions included revising the scripts of current plays and increasing publicity. All of these responses are appreciated and are being considered.

Sixty-seven responses from a group our size is very rewarding! Thank you for your interest in CSCMVA and for taking the time to share your thoughts. I'd like to add a special thanks to Rachel who takes our ideas and makes them user-friendly and easy to respond to.

## Did You Know....?

*[Editor's Note: Clem continues to provide us with information in his series on San Francisco.]*

Did you know.... that during the 19th century San Francisco became the headquarters for the state's largest transportation empire? Yes, it's true. Our story begins with the "Big Four": Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Collis Huntington, and Mark Hopkins. During the gold-panning part of the Gold Rush (1848-1860) the Big Four started out as merchants in Sacramento. Stanford was a grocer.



**Promontory Point, Utah - 1869**

Crocker owned a dry goods store, and Huntington and Hopkins were partners in a hardware store. In 1863 the Big Four started building the Central Pacific Railroad which, using several thousand Chinese laborers, started in Sacramento, crossed the Central Valley, climbed up and over the Sierra Nevada, laid track across Nevada into Utah where in 1869 at Promontory Point the Central Pacific joined up with the Union Pacific coming westward. The Transcontinental Railroad now united the West Coast with the East Coast. Travel between the two coasts dropped from several months to approximately five days. California at long last ended its isolation and was joined with the rest of the nation!

Even before the Transcontinental Railroad was completed in 1869, the Big Four planned to move the western terminus of the Central Pacific from Sacramento to the Bay Area. Accordingly, through a series of machinations, they gained control of the Oakland waterfront. They tried to gain control of the San Francisco waterfront. Upon meeting opposition to the Big Four's unreasonable demands from San Francisco itself, the Big Four ended up controlling only 60 acres around what is now 4th and Townsend streets south of Market St.

The "Big Push" to the Bay Area then began. Accordingly, the Central Pacific built its lines from Sacramento to Lathrop near Stockton. From Lathrop the railroad turned westward to the Niles Canyon in the foothills separating the Central Valley from the Bay Area. Crossing the Niles Canyon, the Central Pacific finally arrived in Oakland from the southern end of the Bay. Ferry service then transported passengers and goods across the Bay to San Francisco. All transcontinental traffic followed this route until a decade later when a shorter route, using ferries to transfer trains across the Carquinez Straits, reached the Bay at its northern end. During all of this time Oakland remained the physical terminus of the Transcontinental Railroad. With this route, the Central Pacific controlled all railroad traffic coming from the east to the Bay Area.

In 1873, the Big Four moved the headquarters of the Central Pacific from Sacramento to San Francisco. The new headquarters now stood at the 4th and Townsend location. To the dismay of the City's upper class, jealous that a group of upstart shop owners from the hinterlands owned such wealth, the Big Four moved themselves and their families from Sacramento to San Francisco. By building large mansions on Nob Hill, the Big Four then embarked on a display of riches that dazzled ordinary San Franciscans. Stanford was the first. In 1876 he built an Italian villa on Nob Hill at the corner of California and Powell streets (where the Stanford Court Hotel stands today.) The mansion boasted the largest private dining room in the West and a two story rotunda in the center supported by giant pillars. Next to build was Mark Hopkins, or rather Mary Hopkins, Mark's wife, who located their mansion next to Stanford's at the corner of California and Pine Streets (where the Mark Hopkins Hotel is today). Mary Hopkins

outdid the Stanfords by building a mansion which, according to one historian, resembled "an almost whimsical fairy castle of wooden towers, Gothic spires, and ornamentation run riot." (See Rand Richards, Historic San Francisco, p. 144). Both Stanford and Crocker employed laborers from the Central Pacific to build large retaining walls. The granite in the retaining walls was from the same Rocklin quarry that supplied the lighter shade of granite now



**Mark Hopkins Mansion, circa 1873**

seen on the outside walls of the State Capitol in Sacramento. Crocker built his mansion one block away from Stanford and Hopkins at the corner of California and Taylor streets (where Grace Cathedral stands today). Across the Street was Huntington's mansion (now a city park) in which Huntington spent little time all the while preferring to live in New York and Washington where he could lobby the Railroad's interests with the federal government. The Earthquake and Fire of 1906 destroyed all four mansions. (see Rand Richards, Historic San Francisco, pp. 142-144).

In the meantime, the Big Four acquired the California and Oregon Railroad and constructed the Shasta Route stretching from the Bay Area to Sacramento and then through the upper Sacramento Valley to Portland. With this route the Big Four controlled all railroad traffic coming from the north to the Bay Area.

With the Big Four controlling all railroad traffic coming to the Bay Area from the east and north, there remained only the southern route to the Bay Area for the Big Four to control. West of San Francisco lay the Pacific Ocean making railroad access to the City impossible. The southern route, then, would complete the Big Four's grip on the Bay Area.

As luck would have it, there was a small railroad known as the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad ("the SF&SJRR") running south between San Francisco and San Jose. Peter Donohoe, the owner of the Union Iron Works operating south of Market, was one of the founders of the SF&SJRR and built from his factory the first locomotive to run on the railroad's tracks. In 1870, one year after the Transcontinental Railroad was completed; the Big Four acquired the SF&SJRR. The southern route from and to the Bay Area came under the Big Four's control.

But more importantly, at the same time the Big Four acquired the SF&SJRR, they also acquired a companion railroad called the Southern Pacific incorporated originally by Peter Donohue and William Ralston, the CEO of the Bank of California (for more on William Ralston, see Did You Know, Clarion, August, 2015). The newly-acquired Southern Pacific had not laid any track but held the ultimate prize: the right from the federal government in 1866 to build a railroad from San Francisco to San Diego.

Now the Big Four controlled all railroad traffic coming from the north (The Oregon and California Railroad), from the east (the Central Pacific and the Transcontinental Railroad), and from the south (the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad). With the acquisition of the Southern Pacific having the right from the federal government to build a railroad from San Francisco to San Diego, the Big Four, operating from San Francisco, now stood ready to dominate all railroad traffic not only in the southern part of the state but in the southwest portion of the United States as well.

(Next time: the Second Transcontinental Railroad)

(Sources: Rawls and Bean, *California, An Interpretive History*, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., pp.181-185; Richards, Rand, *Historic San Francisco*, pp.142-144;Raynor, Richard, *The Associates*, pp.116-120;Rice, Bullough, Orsi, *The Elusive Eden*, p.279;Olmsted, Nancy, *The Railroads Are Coming, 1860-1873 Found SF*; *San Francisco and San Jose Railroad*, Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia; *Southern Pacific Transportation Company*, Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia; *The Lost Railroad Tracks of the Mission and Noe Valley*, Hidden Histories, Curbed SF; Woodward, Lucinda, *A Documentary History of California's State Capitol*, pp. 44-47.)

## An Invitation to Participate in a Suffrage Parade!

CSCMVA members have been invited by the National Women's History Project to participate in a suffrage parade on August 27, 2016 at 9:30 AM at Royer Park in Roseville.



**August 27, 2016 @ 9:30 AM in Royer Park, Roseville**

This event is a celebration of women in government and public service during a year in which we could see the historic election of our first woman President.

In the tradition of the Suffragists, you are encouraged to wear your historical attire. The Costume Closet can provide voting sashes. Men are welcome to support your wives (or not). Gathering begins at 9:30 AM in front of the bandstand area. The short parade will walk along the park perimeter and will be followed by a rally with speakers. Royer Park is a lovely, shady park near old Roseville and picnicking is encouraged after the rally. Contact **Lynn Cook** at [lj4cook@aol.com](mailto:lj4cook@aol.com) or **Connie Clark** at [cclark610@surewest.net](mailto:cclark610@surewest.net).

## Book Club

The CSCMVA Board supported a suggestion by Diane Rich to start a Book Club focused on the history of California. If interested in participating, contact **Leslie Cooper** at [lesmaryandb@att.net](mailto:lesmaryandb@att.net)

## Volunteer Spotlight

By Asleain “Scotty” Hodges

My excitement continues! I am thrilled to introduce one more member from the last class. This docent was born in **Iowa City, Iowa**, however he spent much of his childhood in Ohio and Michigan. When he was 15 years old, his family moved to Southern California where he graduated from High School. **Dave Kane** then went on to attend **Cal State Long Beach** and earned a **Bachelor of Science in Business Administration**. During his senior year in college he spent an internship with the City of Long Beach and that was the beginning of a 32-year long career in public service in California.

Along with his wife, Vivian and son, Travis, he made a northward pilgrimage from the Coachella Valley to the Bay Area and ultimately to the Sacramento region where he and his family now live. He served as **Assistant General Manager and Treasurer of Citrus Heights Water District** from 1996 until his retirement in 2014.

When I asked how he learned about the Capitol Docent Program, Dave informed me that he saw an advertisement in the Sacramento Bee. He says that he had visited the Capitol numerous times during his career in water systems management in the state, but never knew of the volunteer program. He relates that what he most looked forward to in retirement was the chance to enrich his life and contribute to the community through volunteer work that would also be enjoyable to him. And this opportunity to work with a great group of volunteers and alongside the professional Parks staff in making the State Capitol history come alive for visitors turned out to be a perfect fit for him.



**Dave Kane in Amsterdam**

Dave certainly has the skills and experience to be a competent docent. When answering how his background has prepared him for this volunteer spot, he said: “...**my years of working with the public and making presentations in front of large groups helps me to feel comfortable doing docent work at the Capitol. Also, my experience in public performance of music and theater may also help, because I think there is an element of theater and drama in doing interpretations and introducing visitors to the rich history of the Capitol.**” I agree with his unique perspective.

He says that he genuinely enjoys helping people and he feels like he is getting to do that every time he is on duty at the Capitol. There’s always something more to learn, and he likes that. He shares that being at the heart of the California State government on a regular basis is fun and an enriching experience for him. And he loves the *esprit de corps* among the volunteers. He adds that making new friends and meeting people from all over the state, the nation, and the world is pretty rewarding. Plus he is getting an education in California history that would be hard to attain any other way.

Dave is looking forward to serving ice cream on Admission Day this year; has enjoyed recently attending the River Cats game with fellow volunteers, and looks forward to participating in other activities in the future. He especially looks forward to the holiday music programs in the Capitol Rotunda, which he thinks is a wonderful tradition.

On the personal side, Dave has a wide variety of interests and hobbies. He showed **an interest in music** at an early age and learned to play several instruments. He also sang in choirs and performed in musical theater throughout grade school and college years. He continues to play

guitar, harmonica and ukulele and sing for his own enjoyment and with friends. He **loves boating** and has a power boat that he and his wife Vivian (and dogs) enjoy on Folsom Lake.

He also confides: "I learned to sail on San Francisco Bay a few years ago. I'm a **certified scuba diver** who prefers diving in tropical locations where the water is warm and clear. (I should have asked if he has visited the beautiful Hanama Bay, Hawaii- where I tried and failed!) I am a **wine enthusiast** with a real wine cellar in our home. I have participated in "crush" and winemaking with a small private vineyard owner for the past 10 years."

Dave actually started making his own wine in 2014 and has two vintages in the bottle. (Perhaps he will have a wine tasting event one day!) He is also an animal lover with two big beautiful dogs and three cats, all adopted animals. One of his dogs is a Registered Therapy Dog. He and his RTD dog have been doing therapy visits to libraries, schools, senior homes, and disabled adult programs for the past five years - wonderful work in his community!

When asked: What might folks be surprised to know about you? He said that his wife's affectionate nickname for him is "**Mr. Fixit**." He enjoys the challenge of taking something that is broken or not working properly and fixing it – whether it be an item that requires mechanical, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, or other 'fix it' skills. During his college days, he worked as an auto mechanic for a time and now does most of the repair and maintenance on his power boat.

Lastly, he relates that he feels honored to be among the ranks of the CSCMVA, and he looks forward to continuing to expand his knowledge of the Capitol and California history, as well as assuring that capitol visitors have a special experience when they are at the Capitol. We, too, certainly feel honored to have him as a member. We value his skills and talents along with the other newer docents who add their talents to this gigantic pool of talent we have in our membership. We thank Dave and look forward to his continuing participation in coming years.



The Association is looking for a volunteer to lead our **publicity efforts**. If you are one of those who responded to the survey saying we need better publicity of our events, you are an insightful and valuable leader! With changing times and the effectiveness of social media, this job is much easier. CSCMVA is looking for someone to work with the Sacramento Area Museums (SAM) organization to publicize our activities. Contact Connie Clark at [cclark610@surewest.net](mailto:cclark610@surewest.net) with your offer to help!

## Minutes of the CSCMVA Board Meeting August 3, 2016

By Marilyn Thompson, Secretary

### Meeting was Called to Order by President, Connie Clark

Minutes of the July meeting were accepted as mailed.

**Treasurer's Report:** **Bob Dennis** reported that the Association is in good financial condition and have added \$2,200 to our cash reserves. Several large expenses (Hearst trip and River Cats baseball tickets) will be recouped. The laptop computer has been purchased, loaded with software and is ready to store association documents. Some people have user IDs. We need to develop a process for access and a plan for document storage. Receipts for cash deposits on the new parking garage cards can be submitted to Bob for reimbursement. We are on the honor system to use the cards **only** for Capitol business.



### Board of Directors 2016

**Back Row L to R:** Bob Dennis, Marylin Thompson, Ron Lauchner, Bob Dreyer (Past President), David Keck, and

**Front Row:** Bill Monahan, Randall Williams, Connie Clark, PJ Jones.

(Julie Mallett is missing from photo)

**Bookstore:** **Mary Geach** reported that the “Rosie” poster has sold out. Still have 7 “Victory Garden” posters. Mary will contact Renato for more “Rosies”. Income for July was \$3,408.33 - \$100 more than July 2015.

**State Parks Report: Connie, for Casey:** Information has been given to Sacramento Area Museum Assoc. for our future event publicity. We just need to give details to them to be posted on their website. We are also encouraged to post event information on our personal Facebook pages. We will soon be getting the new Parks / CSCMVA contract. Motion made by Dennis, seconded by Monahan that it is read and approved by the Board *before* being signed. Passed unanimously.

**Legislative Liaison: Alex King** reported that both the Assembly and Senate plan to present CSCMVA with resolutions of recognition on our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Historic Commission Report: Bob Dreyer** reported that the Commission last met on July 14<sup>th</sup>. The Mexican American Veterans’ memorial across 10<sup>th</sup> Street is almost finished. There will soon be a new restaurant vendor in the basement. The coffee bar has been asked to leave, because the new vendor would like to use the space. There will be a new master plan for Capitol Park with a specific memorial district. A consultant is coming from Washington D.C. to help. The park tree project is finished, and a new capitol park map will be given to Terry. The Sacramento Archives Crawl will be Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> and will include the State Archives and Library.

**Children’s Activities: Bob Folker** has not been able to make contact with Casey.

**Hearst Castle Trip: Diane Rich** reported that there are 39 people signed up and two hotel rooms still available.

**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** Diane Rich informed the Board that the Eureka Room will be closed Sept-Nov for construction of the new restaurant, so alternate plans will have to be made. Need new location for: catered lunch? Picnic? What??

**Living History Survey / New Play:** Marylin and Lynn have been waiting for results of member survey and support from group before beginning this project. Sixty-seven members responded to the survey. They indicated a slight preference for one living history per year and would like a new one added to the rotation. There are still questions about the relevance of WW I to our mission at the capitol. Alternate suggestions are welcome. A “book club” was suggested for discussion of the recently published book on World War I and Sacramento. Mary will order 10 from Arcadia Publishing for members to purchase. Leslie Cooper will coordinate the book club meetings with the goal of developing ideas for a new script.

**Admissions Day:** Email will go out next week asking for new volunteers. No definite word yet on color guard or banjo band.

**River Cats game:** Next game is August 18<sup>th</sup>. Alex has 40+ tickets. Six people have signed up.

**Christmas Decorations:** Marylin Thompson reported that Mary Spitzer is willing to be a “trainee” this year with help and will chair it in 2017. She would like a co-chair. So far, no one has stepped forward. No new decorations will be made or purchased. Everything is ready to go. It is not a difficult project. We will coordinate through Rachel with Casey, Maria, Joint Rules, etc.

**Living History Day:** Connie suggested eliminating this event this year. We are already doing: 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary event, Hearst Castle trip, Christmas decorations, Admissions Day. Moved by Keck, seconded by Monahan to eliminate in 2016. Passed unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**State Fair:** Connie worked in the SAM booth and thought it was a lot of fun. Lots of activities for children. Nothing there from the Capitol. Rachel stated that we are always welcome to take as many of the glossy Capitol brochures as we would like to events. No progress on the revised brochures.

**Suffrage Parade:** We have been invited to participate in costume in a Suffrage Parade to take place in Royer Park in Roseville on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Contact Connie Clark or Lynn Cook if interested.

**Publicity:** We need a new publicity chairperson.

**The September Board meeting will be Wednesday, September 7 at 1:00 PM.**  
All members are encouraged to attend. WID will have information on the room assignment.

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**Remember: “Research demonstrates that volunteering leads to better health and that older volunteers are the most likely to receive physical and mental health benefits from their volunteer activities!”**

*(Source: Corporation for National and Community Service, Office of Research and Policy Development.  
[http://www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/07\\_0506\\_hbr.pdf](http://www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/07_0506_hbr.pdf))*

#### **Upcoming Events:**

<b>River Cats Baseball:</b>	<b>Thursday, August 18 at 7 PM</b>
<b>Women’s Suffrage Parade:</b>	<b>Saturday, August 27 at 9:30 AM</b>
<b>Board of Directors Meeting:</b>	<b>Wednesday, September 7 at 1 PM</b>
<b>Admission Day:</b>	<b>Friday, September 9</b>
<b>Hearst Castle Field Trip:</b>	<b>Tues. – Weds. October 4 – 5</b>
<b>Sacramento Archives Crawl:</b>	<b>Saturday, October 8, 10 - 4</b>

**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: TBA (November)**

**Holiday Music Program: December 1 - 23**

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**To Use the Capitol Museum website, below: Copy the address to your web browser and then save the website to your list of "Favorites" or "Bookmark" it.**

**<http://portal.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict/CapitolMuseum/CapitolMuseumVolunteers>**

**Volunteer Coordinator: 324-0319 Rachel Martinez**

**Tour Guide Office: 324-0333 Scheduler's Desk: 324-2088**

**Capitol Tours daily 9 am – 4 pm. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day**