

Santee Historical Society

Historical Happenings

Volume 11, Issue 1

January, February, March 2019



Santee Historical Museum

at the Barn

9200 Magnolia

Open every Tuesday

except the 2nd one of the month,
from 10 to noon...

and one Saturday of each month
from 10 to 2 pm.

**Check our website for dates
and come visit...
everyone is welcome!**



P.O.Box 710636, Santee 92072



www.SanteeHistoricalSociety.org



Santee Historical Society



TheSanteeHistoricalSociety@gmail.com



619.449.2024

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President's Message

Welcome 2019.

A new year and new challenges await all of us at the Santee Historical Society. We finished 2018 strong as we had an overwhelming response to our annual Olde Time Christmas Open House with Petting Zoo and a visit from Santa Claus. Nearly 400 people visited the barn and all had a jolly happy time. Thank you, Eloise Dowd, for putting the pieces together for this incredible event and thank you to all our volunteers and participants.



Alan Thompson

We are introducing a new type of event in January and February which brings our local history to the forefront. On Saturday, January 19th, we will feature local author Douglas W. Mengers who wrote **Images of Rail: San Diego Trolleys**. His presentation will highlight the time when rails were the life blood of local communities such as Santee (I have always said that it was the railroad that put Santee on the map). There will be copies of his book available for purchase and a must for all history buffs' own libraries. On Saturday, February 16th we will feature author Nicole Strickland author of **San Diego's Most Haunted**, highlighting local historical buildings and sites that have experienced ghosts and other spirits. I know many of the poltergeists that inhabit our barn will be in attendance and they want to extend an invitation to you (they told me so). Her book will also be available for purchase.

Our event on Saturday, March 9th will have the historical society partnering with the San Diego River Park Foundation as they present **Kids River Days**. This year the focus is on local Native Culture and History and is sure to be fun and educational for kids of all ages.

We want you to join us for any and/or all these special events but feel free to drop in any time we are open. If you have a special request for a group wanting to visit at another time, please contact us so we can make arrangements to be open at your convenience.

For up-to-date information, don't forget we have a web page at www.santeehistoricalsociety.org or you can go to Facebook at Santee Historical Society.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS

CYNTHIA WHITNEY CPA

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santeechamber.com

SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

9625 Cuyamaca Street

Santee, CA 92071

619-258-2300

www.santeesd.net

Upcoming Events

January 2019

Tues 1st..... CLOSED

Tues 8th..... CLOSED

Tues 15th 10-12

Sat 19th 10-2

Guest Speaker Doug Mengers

Tues 22nd 10-12

Tues 29th 10-12

February 2019

Tues 5th 10-12

Tues 12th CLOSED

Sat 16th 10-2

Guest Speaker Nicole Strickland

Tues 19th 10-12

Tues 26th 10-12

March 2019

Tues 5th 10-12

Sat 9th 10-2

March River Kids Discovery Days

Tues 12th CLOSED

Tues 19th 10-12

Tues 26th 10-12

April 2019

Tues 2nd 10-12

Tues 9th CLOSED

Sat 13th 10-2

EVENT TBA

Tues 16th 10-12

Tues 23rd 10-12

Tues 30th..... 10-12

Santee Historical Society

wishes our members a
Happy, Healthy & Prosperous



We'd like to thank all of the members who have renewed their memberships.
We rely on your support to keep our museum open and the Society running.

If you have not yet renewed, please mail the following form with your check, or renew online at
<https://squareup.com/store/santee-historical-society>

Contact Name _____ Business Name (if applicable) _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Our Sunshine Committee will send a birthday card... please provide the month and day you were born _____

Please select your membership level

- ☐ \$25 Individual
- ☐ \$20 Student - or - Senior 62 and above
- ☐ \$40 Family
- ☐ \$50 Small Business
- ☐ \$150 Business with over 50 employees

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Check # _____ Date _____
Credit Card # _____ Exp Date _____
Security Code (CSC) _____ Zip Code _____
Accepted _____ Received by _____

Fill out the requested information and mail it with your check to:
Santee Historical Society • PO Box 710636 • Santee, CA 92072



Open a New Door in 2019!

If you are looking for a fun time, join the SHS family as a volunteer.



The Santee Historical Society's been busy with new acquisitions, new displays, and continuous research. We are a fun group and enjoy the camaraderie that comes with working for a worthy cause.

We need people to help with Historical Society activities such as archiving newspaper articles about Santee, painting benches and display cabinets, and greeting people at events. We can match up our needs to your special interests and we welcome new ideas and energy. Your help will allow us to continue participating in Santee community events.

Please volunteer some time... even a few hours a month would be a big help.
Call us at **619-449-2024**, leave a message, and we will return your call,
or email us at thesanteehistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Come on by... we're open 3 Tuesdays a month and at least one Saturday.
If you see the OPEN flag flying, we are here!



The Edgemoor Farm

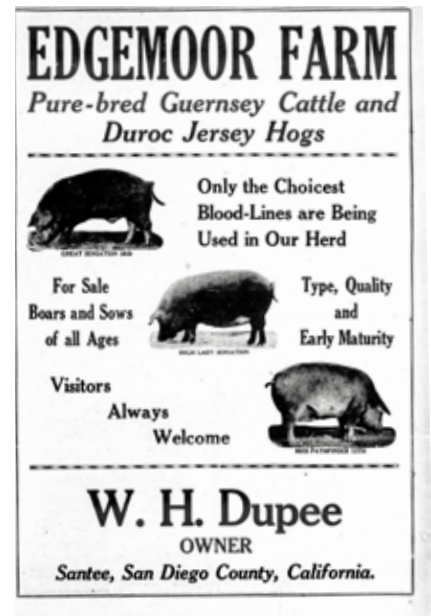
Many people think that the big green and white barn on Magnolia Road was the Edgemoor Dairy Barn. That is incorrect. The Edgemoor Farm, sometimes called the Edgemoor Stock Farm, was known worldwide as the greatest breeding farm for purebred stock.

According to a 1920's newspaper article in the San Diego Union, *the Edgemoor Stock Farm was established in 1908 by Walter Dupee and his father John. The farm consisted of 680 acres with buildings and equipment "as up to date as modern science can make them."* Edgemoor Farm housed 600 head of the greatest Guernsey breeders and the highest prize winners.

Mr. Dupee credited Dr. JA Woodside, "his advisor and veterinarian" for helping develop the herd. Mr. Dupee said that at one time he produced milk for retail, but it was a money losing proposition. The demand for "high test milk" was not great enough to warrant his continuing to sell milk. He made much more money breeding and selling Guernsey bulls. He sold one bull for \$32,000 (about \$420,000 in today's money) and had one bull in his barn valued at \$50,000 (about \$653,000 in today's money).

In addition, Edgemoor had great breeding stock in pigs. The Dupees bought one boar at \$8,000 (about \$104,000 in today's money) and another at a mere \$2,000 (\$26,000 in today's money) to enrich their breeding stock of boars. Edgemoor Farm was breeding the "smooth, stretchy, soft-sided type of pig".

The Dupee family's emphasis on breeding made the Edgemoor Farm famous. In November 1921, the Dupee family sold the farm to the president of the Cuyamaca National Bank, GL Stroebach who wanted to make the farm successful as a dairy rather than a breeding farm. In return, The Dupees bought from Stroebach the Casa Grande Apartments on Park Blvd and University. The Casa Grande Apartments were supposed to be the best apartments in California at that time. Unfortunately, these apartments no longer exist.



Family Fun in Nature for the 5th Annual River Kids Discovery Days!

Join the Santee Historical Society as we celebrate the 5th Annual River Kids Discovery Days with the San Diego River Park Foundation! On March 8th and March 9th, 2019 families and groups from across San Diego can participate in a free two-day celebration of the San Diego River, featuring nature fun and community service for youth and their families!

We will be hosting a kid-friendly community event at the Barn on Saturday, March 9th! Mark your calendars for a fun day of activities centered around Native American history!

For a more information and to RSVP, visit: www.riverdiscoverydays.org

City of Santee 55+ Historic Walk

In November we joined the Santee 55+ group for a walk along Walker Preserve Trail. Gary Strawn presented a fascinating history of the San Diego River and Santee's dairy farms.

DeVerna Rogers of the Santee Parks and Recreation Department helped the walkers to identify the many native plants along the beautiful Walker Preserve hiking trail.

We also visited Lori Escalera's stunning murals, painted in 2016 with the help of 175 volunteers. The murals depict Santee's past, and are located at the western end of the trail, under Magnolia Avenue.



Gary Strawn relating the history of George Cowles, founder of Cowleston which eventually became Santee.



Kumeyaay indigenous natives lived along the river.

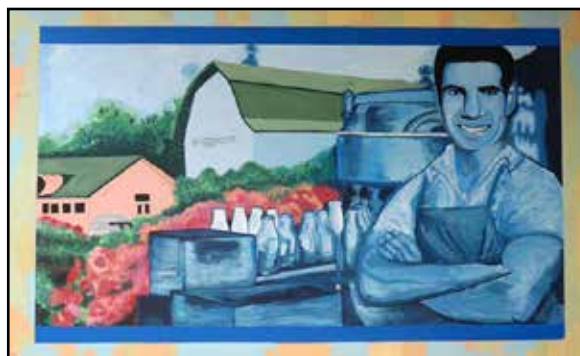
The San Diego River as it passes through the reserve and the natural habitat, home to a wide variety of wildlife.



Mr. and Mrs. Walker established a dairy where the Walker Preserve Trail is today.



Harriette Wade, Santee's first historian established the Santee Historical Society and helped to save historical buildings like the Dairy. She adored George Cowles and her mural rests in perpetuity across from her hero!



Edgemoor Dairy, later became a poor farm, and then a hospital. The 1913 barn still stands on Magnolia Avenue and is the home of the Santee Historical Society and the Santee Historical Museum.

Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 1st, 2018



The Santee Community Chorus filled the barn with the sounds of wonderful Christmas Carols.



Rita Lee... our official Santa photographer



Crowds of visitors toured the Santee Historical Museum displays to learn more about Santee's past...

and children lined up to have their photos taken with Santa.



Out behind the barn, children got to meet and greet farm animals...
and experience what life on the farm was like in the early 1900's.

– Photos courtesy of Mell Schaer –



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Carol Crafts, Past President
Irene Holstein, Sunshine Committee

*Printing courtesy of Bob Newton
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Join us for some exciting presentations coming up soon...

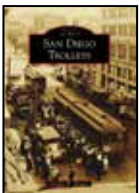
**This Saturday
January 19th, 2019**

The Santee Historical Society announces San Diego Trolleys, a presentation and book signing by **Douglas W. Mengers** on Saturday, January 19th 2019 at 11 am.



Starting with the first horse-drawn trolleys introduced by the San Diego Streetcar Company in 1886, San Diego's history includes the growth and decline of several transportation systems. After electricity arrived, San Diego was the site of early experimentation for electric trolleys on the West Coast.

Our speaker, Douglas W. Mengers, is a San Diego-based historian and archaeologist specializing in historical archaeology, the history of infrastructure and population growth of Southern California, and the history of the San Diego trolley suburbs. He is a Senior Archaeologist/Historian with environmental consulting firm PanGIS, Inc. and also serves on the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Archaeological Society.



**Saturday
February 16th, 2019**

The Santee Historical Society will host a presentation and book signing by **Nicole Strickland**, author of San Diego's Most Haunted: The Historical Legacy and Paranormal Marvels of America's Finest City. Nicole will discuss the history of Edgemoor, and other San Diego historical locations known for ghostly activity.

Join us at 11 am for this fun talk, with plenty of time afterwards for questions (and your own Edgemoor stories!).

Nicole Strickland is the founder and director of the San Diego Paranormal Research Society (SDPRS), and co-host to the "Spirits of the Adobe" fundraising tours at the Rancho Buena Vista Adobe. Nicole is a published author of several books, and she is known internationally for her research of the RMS Queen Mary in Long Beach, California. In addition to presenting about a variety of topics related to paranormal research at conferences, events and libraries, Nicole has been featured in television, film, documentaries, radio and print mediums.

