President’s Message

Spring has arrived... or is it Summer already? It is over 90˚ as I write this.

And, with Spring comes changes. We are thrilled that an Eagle Scout has built benches in our Elaine Murphy Memorial Garden. We are planning to use our new amphitheater to hold Flag Retirement services. We are also looking at another Scout project to be finished in the near future.

Our rotating display cabinet currently features some vintage cameras, and during River Days in May will have a display showing the 53 miles from the mountains to the ocean.

Emily and Rachel are busy conducting interviews to collect Santee history. As well as archiving them as part of Santee’s history, we plan on including them as articles in our newsletters.

Robin, Rae and Rachel have been organizing old newspapers into usable files... and are also working on the boxes of Edgemoor history.

Rita and Chuck visited an historic building on Park Street, as we research historic properties.

Alan and Gary have been kept busy as the weeds around the Barn have grown well after the early rains.

We have kept Irene, our Sunshine lady, busy sending out birthday and get well cards as several members, including Irene, have had surgery recently.

Arli has made sure that our various graphic and printing needs have been professionally handled.

It has been a pleasure working with these wonderful volunteers since 2007. I look forward to the new leadership, and seeing what the SHS does to continue to preserve the history of Santee.

Carol Crafts
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS

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PETAL VISION DESIGN & EVENTS
A Boutique Floral Design Studio
Maria Costa-Fink
Consultations by Appt Only
619-823-3833

SANTEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
10315 Mission Gorge Rd.
Santee, CA 92071
619-449-6572
santeechamber.com

SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT
9625 Cuyamaca Street
Santee, CA 92071
619-258-2300
www.santeesd.net

Upcoming Events

April 2018
Barn Open .................... Tues 17 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Sat 21 ......10-2
Barn Open .................... Tues 24 ......10-12

May 2018
Barn Open .................... Tues 1 ......10-12
Barn Closed .................. Tues 8
General Meeting ............ Sat 12 ......9:30
San Diego River Days ...... Sat 12 ......10-2
Barn Open .................... Tues 15 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Tues 22 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Tues 29 ......10-12

June 2018
Barn Open .................... Tues 5 ......10-12
Barn CLOSED ................ Tues 12
Barn Open .................... Tues 16 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Tues 19 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Tues 26 ......10-12

July 2018
Barn Open .................... Tues 3 ......10-12
Barn Closed .................. Tues 10
Barn Open .................... Tues 17 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Sat 21 ......10-2
Barn Open .................... Tues 24 ......10-12
Barn Open .................... Tues 31 ......10-12
Meet Our Member - Dustin Trotter

Dustin Trotter is a true Santee success story. Starting from a very humble beginning but filled with determination, he has managed to build a very successful construction company, and real estate investment company, as well as being a top Realtor in East San Diego County. Most importantly, Dustin has a philanthropic nature that causes him to always strive to help others achieve more, which is why he was recently named Santee’s 2017 Person of the Year.

Early on, Dustin learned what it meant to be on time, have integrity, honesty, and loyalty... values that he still embodies today in business and in daily life. Dustin began his career in carpentry at the age of 18 and quickly learned the trade receiving the title of foreman by the age of 21. In 2006 at 26 years old, Dustin founded Trotter Door and Trim which he has developed into one of the premier general contracting firms in Santee.

Dustin is an active member of the Santee Santas program, Santee Food Bank, Guardian Angels Church, Santee Parks and Recreation Committee (SPARC), an appointed member of the Community Oriented Policing Committee (COMPOC), and a founding and current member of Santee Chamber’s Santee Young Professionals (SYP) committee to name a few.

Through Dustin’s personal efforts, many Santee families have received school supplies, food, and assistance to make their homes safe and functional. He has also spear-headed multiple community efforts to better the lives of seniors and needy families by bringing others to work on, and contribute to, the food drives, backpack supply drive, and bikes and balls drive.

When Dustin is not working or volunteering he spends time with his family; wife Genny and kids Kayla and Jaden. They enjoy quiet family time, and attending the fairs and festivals in Santee like the concert in the park series.
On March 10th, the Santee Historical Society participated in the San Diego River Park Foundation’s River Kids Discovery Days event.

This annual event is designed to connect kids with their community and inspire hands-on learning. All together, more than 400 children participated in different activities from the mountains to the ocean.

Children visiting the barn were able to learn about native plants, see river macro invertebrates under a microscope, practice creating a storm on a watershed model, try out our player piano, explore the museum, and come face to face with a gopher.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who attended and our partners: Master Gardeners Association of San Diego County, City of Santee Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program, and Project Wildlife.
Eagle Scout Candidate Adrian Abeyta and his fellow Scouts from Troop 51 worked hard for two days building benches for our new flag retirement site.

Jason Kevane and his son Owen completed the fire place.

We plan to make this an ongoing community service project with students, Scouts and the VFW helping to collect old flags to be burned in a proper and respectful manner.

Once the landscaping is complete, their Scout Troop will act as Honor Guard for our first Flag Retirement Ceremony.

50 Years Ago...

May 12, 1968

Santee project: Meadowbrook Mobile Home Estates, a $1 million project to provide 395 home spaces, is shown filled to capacity in perspective.

The project was started last week on a 50-acre site bounded by Mission Gorge, Big Rock and Mesa Roads, across from Carlton Oaks Country Club.

$1 Million Mobile Park Started In Santee

Development of a mobile home park of 395 spaces got under way last week as heavy machines began grading a 50-acre site in the Santee area.

Described as a $1 million project, the development is a joint venture headed by realtor Art Leitch, contractor J. Andrew Kitzman and including other investors.

Fronting on Mission Gorge Road between Mesa and Big Rock Roads, across from Carlton Oaks Country Club, the development will be called Meadowbrook Mobile Home Estates.

Bart Fields, commercial and investment department manager for Art Leitch Realtors, said the park will offer a resort-type community including a heated swimming pool, hydrotherapy pool, saunas, shuffleboard courts and a 9,000-square-foot recreation building with billiards and card room, kitchen and dining room.

Leitch said Meadowbrook will be an all-adult park, with no children or pets permitted, and spaces for individual mobile homes will range up to 55 by 75 feet.

Other facilities to be provided include trailer and boat storage, cable television service, off-street parking, covered carwash area, laundry facilities, group recreation events and wide, lighted streets.

Leitch said the park layout was designed by John Dietert and Harry Callaway is the project engineer. First occupancy is expected by about the first of September.
On May 19th at 10:00 a.m., there will be a General Meeting and Election of Officers. All members are encouraged to attend.

The proposed slate is:

- Alan Thompson, President
- Robin Neece, Vice President
- Gary Strawn, Treasurer
- Arli Wolfson, Secretary

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Who will tell your story when you’re gone?

Stories of living in Santee need to be preserved for the next generation.

What was a typical summer’s day? What was the street you grew up on? What did it look like? Who were your neighbors? Who did you play with? What did you do? What was your first car? Who taught you to drive and where did you practice driving? What grade school did you go to? Who was your favorite teacher? Who was your best friend? How did you get to school? What was your favorite place to go to in Santee?

These are just some of the questions that would help preserve both a tiny bit of your childhood and the history of Santee.

Do you have a story to tell about Santee? The Santee Historical Society now has two people interviewing current and former residents of Santee. We want to hear your stories about the way life used to be in Santee.

Please email us at SanteeStories@gmail.com or leave a message at 619-449-2024 to set up an appointment for your interview. We want your story to be a part of the history of Santee!
Do you enjoy writing and want to see yourself in print?

Become a Contributor and Write for Us!

We’d love to publish your ideas and stories relating to Santee’s past.

Call us at (619) 449-2024
or email us at
info@SanteeHistoricalSociety.com
and let’s talk!