We are closing in on the end of 2019 and have had a great year mostly due to the efforts of our event coordinator, Eloise Dowd.

Sadly, we bid fair well to Eloise as she returned home to Australia to accept her ‘dream job’. Thank you, Eloise, for all the hard work and best wishes from all of us.

We have begun a new tradition... an annual Flag Retirement Ceremony organized and run by our local American Legion, Post #364, which will occur around Flag Day in June.

We also observed other traditions... Kids’ River Days, San Diego River Days, and a Fire Safety event. November will bring the Santee Tree Lighting Ceremony, and finally in December, a visit from Santa Claus at our Olde-time Christmas Open House.

In the remainder of this quarter, we will have guest speakers. On Saturday, October 19th Karen Lacy and Sandra Pentney presented The History of Witches. Saturday November 2nd will be the first Santee Fall Street Fair at the same place they hold the Spring Street Fair. Saturday, November 16th Speaker Gary Mitrovich will present ‘The City of East San Diego and its Police Department, 1912-1923’.

As you can tell, we will be busy and hope you all can attend these great events. Our presentations are not possible without the dedication of our volunteers including Gracie, Amy, Larry, Lynda, Dan, Jennifer, Sierra, Denise, and Mary. Thank you all for your help.

We extend to all you and your families a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS

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

Upcoming Events

November 2019
Museum open ................. Tues 5 ...... 10-12
Museum open ................. Tues 12 ..... 10-12
Museum open ................. Sat 16.......11 am
Speaker, City of East San Diego
Museum open ................. Tues 19 ..... 10-12
Museum open ................. Tues 26 ...... 10-12

December 2019
Museum open ................. Sat 3 ...... 10-1:30
Christmas Open House with Santa Claus
Museum open ................. Tues 10 ..... 10-12
Museum open ................. Tues 17 ..... 10-12
Museum closed ............... Tues 24
Museum closed ............... Tues 31

January 2020
Museum open ................. Tues 7 ...... 10-12
Museum open ................. Tues 14 ..... 10-12
Museum open ................. Sat 18.......11 am
Speaker TBA
Museum open ................. Tues 21 ..... 10-12
Museum open ................. Tues 28 ...... 10-12
So Hard to Say Goodbye

Goodbye Eloise

Eloise Dowd came aboard the Santee Historical Society last year. Within a very short time, thanks to her outstanding outreach and social skills, Santee became more aware of the significance of our historical Barn and the Historical Museum.

Her ability to organize and promote events, and to draw people in record numbers, greatly increased our presence and recognition within Santee and beyond.

While she is dearly missed, we respect her desire to return to her homeland. She is now back in Melbourne working for the National Trust of Australia as an Environmental Heritage Advocate.

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Goodbye Bob

Bob Newton moved to Santee from Los Angeles in 1974 and opened his first print shop in 1987.

He and his family met the first president of the Santee Historical Society Harriette Wade in the early 90’s and joined, all becoming lifetime members.

Harriette frequently came into their shop and entertained them with her vast collection of memories of Santee. “When we would see her car pull into our parking lot, we all knew that that no work would get done all afternoon as we enjoyed her stories.”

The Santee Historical Society is exceptionally grateful for Bob’s generosity in providing us with our printing needs for free for the past 11 years. We also thank him for his support and advice, which enabled us to continue to preserve and keep alive our local heritage.

As Bob says, “It’s not goodbye. We’re not leaving! Just retiring.” While not actively in business after retirement, he and Gina intend to remain involved in Santee community organizations, relaxing after a lifetime of work, and traveling in their RV.
It’s Been a Busy Summer

In July we hosted two tour groups at the barn. Eloise gave a presentation on the history of Santee and Edgemoor, and led the groups through the museum’s collections.

On August 20th, the American Legion honored SHS volunteers for their hard work in organizing and co-running the first Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Historic Santee Barn.

We had a full house for our August guest speaker, Reena Deutsch who offered a fascinating presentation on the history of the San Diego & Arizona Railway, dubbed “The Impossible Railroad”.

Photos Courtesy of Jay Renard
East County Community Times
And As we Headed into Fall

September’s Fire and Safety Fair – an opportunity for kids to meet firefighters and Sheriff’s Deputies.

Children received certificates after learning important safety tips.

On Saturday October 19th Karen Lacy and Sandra Pentney presented ‘The History of Witches’... a special Halloween-themed talk.

Digging through centuries past they revealed fascinating stories of witches’ lore.

Photos courtesy of Lynda Marrokal
New Acquisitions

We thank Chester Harritt’s granddaughter Suzie Meyer for her generous donation of Presidential Postmaster certificates and photo of Lillian Gilbert.

Certificate from President Roosevelt, declaring Lillian Gilbert the 1942 Postmaster of Santee.

Certificate from President Eisenhower, declaring Chester Harritt the 1956 Postmaster of Santee.

Looking for Love

As published in the Wheeling Intelligencer by John Morris on July 27, 1865

CHANCE FOR A SPINSTER. — A young man in Aroostook County, Maine, advertising for a wife, speaks of himself as follows: “I am eighteen years old, have a good set of teeth, and believe in Andy Johnson, the star-spangled banner, and the 4th of July. I have taken up a State lot, cleared up eighteen acres last year, and seeded ten of it down. My buckwheat looks first-rate, and the oats and potatoes are bully. I have got nine sheep, a two-year-old bull, and two heifers, besides a house and barn. I want to get married. I want to buy bread-and-butter, hoop-skirts, and waterfalls for some person of the female persuasion during life. That’s what’s the matter with me. But I don’t know how to do it.”
Meet Our Volunteer

Denise Gullstrand

Denise decided to move to Santee while working as a student intern one summer for the city recreation program. She entered SDSU in 1980 and after graduation and marriage she moved to Santee in 1993 to raise a family.

Like her hometown of Porterville, California, she was attracted to the hills, lakes and wonderful climate of Santee. She spends a good portion of time volunteering and enjoys being part of the community, helping where help is needed and staying active.

She is a superstar volunteer at SHS events!

Join us for a presentation on

THE CITY OF EAST SAN DIEGO
AND ITS POLICE DEPARTMENT 1912-1923
by Gary E. Mitrovich

Saturday November 16th - 11 am

The little known City of East San Diego, once separate and independent of San Diego, was located in the area now called City Heights. The presentation profiles the short history (1912-1923) of the city and its police department.

Vintage photos of the area, and the officers who served there, will take you back to a simpler time when towns were separated by open land and scrub brush, connected by streetcars, a few ‘automobile machines’ and bumpy highways.

Gary Mitrovich served in the San Diego Police Department for nearly 33 years. He is the co-founder of the San Diego Police Museum, and was previously Vice-President of the Lakeside Historical Society.

Books will be available for signing and sale at the event.

RSVP encouraged via phone or email
thesanteehistoricalvolunteers@gmail.com
619-449-2024
Follow Santee Historical Society on Facebook for more details
Santee Historical Society

You are invited to an Old Fashioned Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 7th – 10:30-1:30 pm
at The Historic Santee Barn
9200 Magnolia Avenue • Santee

Children can visit with Santa
Tour the Museum and enjoy Holiday Refreshments
Festive holiday music by the Santee Community Chorus

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Santee, CA 92072

Alan Thompson, President
Robin Neece, Vice President
Arli Wolfson, Secretary
Gary Strawn, Treasurer
Carol Crafts, Past President
Robin Neece, Sunshine Committee