

Santee Historical Society

Historical Happenings

Volume 11, Issue 4

October, November, December 2019



Santee Historical Museum

at the Barn

9200 Magnolia

**Open every Tuesday
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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Thompson, President
Robin Neece, Vice-President
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At Large -
Chuck Brack

President's Message



Alan Thompson

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, CA 92071
 619-449-1515
 santeechamber.com



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

Santee Historical Society

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.



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



Red Hat Society

San Diego County
Archaeological Society

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.

*Photos Courtesy of Jay Renard
East County Community Times*



*Photos Courtesy of
Jay Renard
East County
Community Times*

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".



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.



Presenters Karen Lacy and Sandra Pentney



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 Marrokai

New Acquisitions

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



Portrait 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 SPIN-
STER. — A young man in
Aroostook County, Maine,
advertising for a wife,
speaks of himself as fol-
lows: "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 po-
tatoes 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.

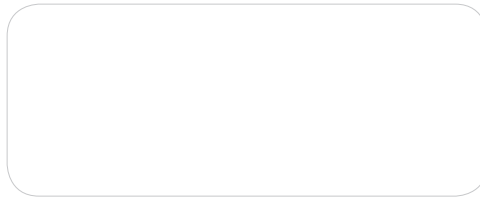
RSVP encouraged via phone or email
619-449-2024 thesanteehistoricalvolunteers@gmail.com
Follow Santee Historical Society on Facebook for more details

Santee Historical Society



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



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

