

Milpitas Muse

March 2018

The Milpitas Historical Society Newsletter

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Our March 14th Meeting: Martial Cottle Park – A New Park and its Historic Heritage

The next meeting of the Milpitas Historical Society will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, March 14th, in the Multipurpose Room (Auditorium) of the Milpitas Library, 160 North Main Street.

The subject of the evening's presentation will be the recently-opened Martial Cottle Park, a 287.54-acre property located in South San Jose, bounded by Branham Lane, Snell Avenue, and Chynoweth Avenue. A farm that produced dairy products, beef, grain, and vegetables for four generations, Martial Cottle Park is jointly owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department.



Eric Goodrich

Eric Goodrich, a head docent at the Park, will tell us about the features of this large and unusual new park and about its heritage from the Cottle and Lester pioneer farmers for whom it is named.

The park provides an extraordinary range of activities and learning opportunities for visitors: arboretum tours, pop-up nursery sales of native plants, talks on edible and native plants, a Master Gardeners Spring Garden Market, and a DIY Lawn Conversion (to native plants) workshop.



View of Martial Cottle Park

One activity that might make a good field trip for Milpitas Historical Society members is an agricultural history tour offered every Saturday in April at 1:30-2:30 PM. We can take a poll at our March general meeting to see which of those Saturdays people might prefer.

Our monthly meetings are free and all are welcome. Hope you can join us then.



Milpitas Historical Society Board Meetings

The Society's March Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 5 at 2:00 PM in Group Study Room A at the Milpitas Library. Members are always welcome.

Our Society's Contact Information

You can contact the Milpitas Historical Society:

- by phone at 1-408-262-7979
- by mail at 160 N. Main Street, Milpitas CA 95035
- by email at tmhs@milpitashistoricalsociety.org

The Milpitas Historical Society's official website:

<http://milpitashistoricalsociety.org> contains information about the society, its upcoming events, and city history.

The traditional Milpitas history web page is here:

<http://www.milpitashistory.org/home/index.html>

Milpitas Historical Society's 2018 Board and Officers Installation Dinner

The Milpitas Historical Society held its annual dinner to celebrate the installation of its new officers and board of directors on Thursday evening, February 15th, at the Summitpointe Golf Club Restaurant. Fifty-eight people attended.

New President Bill Hare welcomed notable attendees -- Mayor Richard Tran, Vice-Mayor Marsha Grilli, Water District Chairman Richard Santos, guests of honor George and Linda Loughborough, Kim Parker and Peter Herrera, speaker Cheryl Ann Stapp and her husband Murry Stapp -- and, of course, our esteemed group of regular members.



Mayor Richard Tran, far right, after administering the oath of office to the Society's 2018 board members

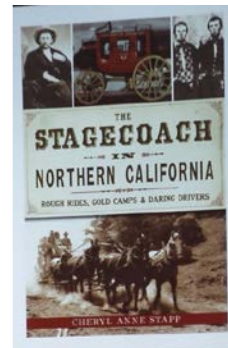
The 2018 board includes (left to right): Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Resources Commission Liaison Steve Munzel, Hospitality Director Lela Ehardt, Secretary Irma Munzel, Publicity and Public Relations Director Harriett McGuire, Membership Chair Mary Ann Udouch, President Bill Hare, Special Events Chair Linda Arbaugh, Vice President Catherine Pelizzari, Historian Joanne Souza, and Treasurer Joe Ehardt. Unfortunately, Archives and School Programs Director Craig Bunnell was unable to attend the occasion due to family circumstances.

In a brief business meeting, President Bill Hare presented to Kim Parker and Peter Herrera our Milpitas Historical Society Honorary Service Award (which bestows lifetime membership) to recognize their kindness and their hospitality in welcoming the Society into their home for our summer picnic and Christmas party events for many years. Afterward, Bill presented a Certificate of Appreciation to George Loughborough of Huntford Printing & Graphics for the wonderful printing services his company has provided to the Society for decades and in particular for his recent sponsoring of the Society's 2017 Historical Tour 16-page color printed handout. Finally, Special Events Chair Harriett McGuire presented to outgoing 2016-2017 President Mark Tiernan a thank-you card and gift for his excellent service to the Society.



Bill Hare and New Life Members, Kim Parker and Peter Herrera

The speaker for the evening, Sacramento historian Cheryl Anne Stapp, gave a most informative talk on the role of the stagecoach in the development of mining, overland transportation, communication, and trade in early California, and also how the daring drivers kept people, the mail, and valuable freight safe (or occasionally not) until the advent of the railroad and motor vehicles.



Stagecoach History presented by speaker Cheryl Anne Stapp

**Milpitas Historical Society
160 North Main St.
Milpitas, CA 95035**

First Class