



Milpitas Muse

October 2017

The Milpitas Historical Society Newsletter

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October 11 Meeting: History of the Sunnyhills Neighborhood

At the next meeting of the Milpitas Historical Society, at 6:30 pm (*our new start time*) on Wednesday, October 11th, in the Multipurpose Room (Auditorium) of the Milpitas Library, 160 North Main Street, local historian and writer Guy Haas will tell us the fascinating story of the origin and development of Milpitas's own Sunnyhills neighborhood, the first successfully integrated housing development in California!



Guy Haas

Guy Haas, a longtime member of the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association and of the Sunnyhills United Methodist Church, important movers in the success of the development, will share what he has learned about Sunnyhills' turbulent backstory from

sources that include the church's history, publications by local historians, as well as pamphlets and newspapers from the development's early days in the 1950s.



Section
Advertisement on Main Street during the Sunnyhills Cooperative Program in 1955

Our meetings are free and all are welcome. We hope you can join us then.



Milpitas Historical Society Revives its Annual Fall Yard Sale!

The Milpitas Historical Society is once again having a treasure hunter's opportunity of a yard sale at Kim Parker's Last Word Ranch (the historic Belshaw house) at 430 Evans Road on Saturday, October 7, from 8 am until 2 pm.

Come, browse, chat with fellow members, and find something you've always wanted! And if you have some treasures of your own that you don't use any more but are too good to throw away, please bring them to the sale place around 7 am on the morning of October 7 or call 408-945-9848 or email caleeson@aol.com before the day of the sale to arrange a pickup. Please, no clothing, shoes, or large furniture.

Change in Member Dues?

At the Society's Board meeting on Monday, October 2, the Board voted to increase the Society's annual individual membership dues (effective 2018) by \$5 to \$25 in order to help the Society keep from operating at a loss and to more effectively achieve its goals of educating the wider community about the history of Milpitas. But to be fairer to those who join the Society later in the year (rather than in January, the start of our fiscal year), the Board voted to lower the price of members joining after the June meeting to 40% of the yearly dues.

To legally make such changes, Article IV of the Society's Bylaws need to be changed to the following: (changes are indicated by underlining):

Section 1 Dues

Any person or organization qualifying for membership under the classifications outlined in Article III of these Bylaws shall become members of the Society upon payment of the necessary dues.

Section 2 Annual Dues Schedule

- (a) *Individual* – Dues shall be \$25.00 per annum.
- (b) *Institutional* – Dues shall be \$50.00 per annum.
- (c) *Sustaining* – Dues shall be \$100.00 per annum.
- (d) *Honorary* – Dues shall not be required.

Section 3 Annual dues shall be payable in advance and are due each year before March 1. Members who have not paid their dues by March 1 of each year shall be dropped from membership in the Society, though they may re-join at any time on payment of dues in the future.

Section 4: Prorated Dues

Dues for renewing members are the full per annum amount listed in Article IV, Section 2. Dues for new members joining the Society between January and the June general meeting are the full per annum amount. Dues for new members joining after the June general meeting are 40% of the per annum amount.

Article XI of our Bylaws specify that **“no less than one (1) month”** must pass between first notification of the recommended change and the date that members vote to approve such a change. This vote will be taken at our Christmas party in December.

The party invitation with the date will be sent out in about a month, so when you get it, reserve that date on your calendar and then come and vote, feast, and celebrate the holiday season with us!

New Developments at the Milpitas Historical Society’s Great Mall Display

Society members Joe Ehardt and Danny Cospers have provided a new method of presenting Milpitas history on an interactive basis at the Society’s exhibit area in the Great Mall. They have set up a 46” Samsung flat screen TV (Danny) driven by a Dell computer (Joe) that gives passing viewers a slide show of Milpitas history.

The society would like to increase the number of photos and historical narratives that will be presented on the new “kiosk.” Therefore we are asking that anyone who is a long-time resident or who went to school in

Milpitas to either outright donate to our collection or simply temporarily lend us their photos, school yearbooks, and memorabilia for us to scan or photograph to add to our archive of items to show our history to Milpitanas as well as to visitors with our new presentation system. The first slide show (96% complete) documents our high school marching band in the National 1776-1976 Bicentennial Celebration in Washington, D.C.



Visitors enjoying a test of the new “kiosk” system

Milpitas Historical Society Board Meetings

If you are interested, you are welcome to attend Milpitas Historical Society Board meetings, which are usually held on the first Monday of the month (except July and August) at 2:00 pm in Group Study Room A in the Milpitas Library. The October meeting was held on Monday, October 2; the November Board meeting will be held for (scheduling reasons) on Monday, October 30.

Milpitas Historical Society Contact Information

You can contact the Milpitas Historical Society:

- by mail at 160 N. Main Street, Milpitas CA 95035
- by email to tmhs@milpitashistoricalsociety.org
- our website: www.milpitashistoricalsociety.org
- long-standing: www.milpitashistory.org/home/index.html

You can contact President Mark Tiernan at 408-582-3782.

Milpitas Historical Society
160 N. Main Street
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First Class