

02-08-2021

Item #3

SCCHGS

Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society

POST MEETING MATERIAL

History of SCCHGS & City of Santa Clara

- SCCHGS was founded on May 29, 1957
- Current membership is 280-300 members
- About 60 volunteers
- In 1966, SCCHGS was invited to be housed at the Central Park Library
 - The Society's books created the core of a history and genealogy collection
 - Presentations by local historians drew people to the Library
- Legal agreement in effect since 1969 (will expire in 2029)
 - The Library provides space for books and volunteers to work
 - The Society agrees to teach a series of genealogy classes

History of SCCHGS & City of Santa Clara

In 2017, SCCHGS celebrated 60 years of service to the community

Mayor Lisa Gillmor stated in her proclamation commemorating the occasion:

“For fifty years, the Santa Clara City Library and the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society have had a reciprocal, productive and dynamic relationship that has benefitted the Santa Clara community.”

Benefits the Society Provides - Resources

- Genealogy Collection
 - 10,000+ volumes (genealogy, local history, atlases)
 - ~200 books/year are added to our collection
 - Journals, periodicals & newsletters from other societies
 - ~200 journals/year are added to our collection
 - Microfilm and microfiche holdings
 - Early settler files
 - Biography files
- Website (scchgs.org)
 - Monthly Newsletters and *Connections*
 - Recordings of speaker presentations
 - Links to online indexes

Benefits the Society Provides - Education

- Monthly speaker presentations on History or Genealogy
 - Average attendance ~ 80 people
 - Presentations are recorded and posted on website
- Genealogy Seminars and classes – previously 20/year
- DNA Kickstarter classes
- Special Interest Groups
 - Beginner Genealogy – new in 2020
 - DNA
 - German (inactive for now)

Benefits the Society Provides - Services

- Genealogy Consultants – 240 hours of consulting
 - Staff the Genealogy Help Desk (via email now)
 - Answer hundreds of genealogy and research questions
 - Supplement Library staff on genealogy and local history topics
- Research Team – served 70 patrons, earning ~\$950
- Publicity
 - Facebook & Twitter postings
 - Publicize Library events
 - Communication with local genealogy societies