

SBGC Annual Luncheon
April 6, 2017

This year for the Annual Luncheon we decided to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the SaddleBrooke Genealogy Club. In doing so I took a look at the “oldest” scrap book that we have which spanned the first five years of the club. I would like to share some highlights of the first three years:

1997

- | | |
|------------|--|
| October 21 | First notice of a start up meeting |
| November 2 | 20 residents attend the first meeting to consider starting a genealogy club. |
| December 4 | First official meeting as an SB sanctioned club |

1998

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| February 5 | Proposed by-laws approved and dues set at \$10.00/\$15.00 |
| February 1998 | SBGC gained membership into the AZ State Genealogy Society |
| Fall 1998 | Participated in the SB “I Don’t Want It” sale |
| December 1998 | First Christmas Luncheon now a Spring Luncheon |

1999

- | | |
|------------|--|
| February 3 | Article announced that Ellis Island Records were going on the Internet |
| April 1999 | Second “I Don’t Want It” sale |
| May 1999 | familysearch.org was launched |

Remainder of 1999 was met with many speakers, classes, seminars, a variety of programs and general meetings, culminating in the traditional Christmas Luncheon.

2000 up until today was continued with great speakers, programs, trips and presentations.

One program I noticed was about the ability to photograph documents, treasured pictures and heirlooms as a way to preserve those valuable, memorable and treasured items. I point this out as I imagine many of you don't really give much thought to using your iPhone or Android as a camera, today it's just common place whereas in 2000 it was somewhat of a novel idea.

Today we have a large library and the ability to now check out our books through the MVLibrary any time. We are well funded and are able to purchase new books. We have improved our computers and added the ability to use not only PCs but Macs for presentations. Have a Members Helping Members group and are starting up SIGS such as DNA and Irish SIGS. SaddleBrooke Ranch residents are invited to attend and join our club and thanks to Lydia O'Connor we have detailed and interesting articles in both the SaddleBrooke papers.

Through all of this, today's members celebrate those founding members who had the foresight to put together this club. Not only do we celebrate our individual ancestors but we especially need to celebrate those early members who helped to shape our club into what we have today. In 1997 the club consisted of around 20-25 members and today we have over 75 members.

I'd like to ask those of you who were members during the first two years would you please stand. And those during the first five years please stand. Let's give these all a big hand and a huge thank you for considering not only their family history but helping to shape the history of SBGC.