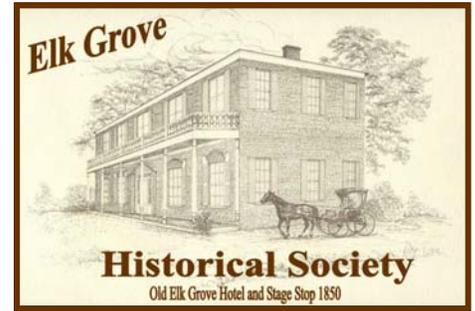


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REPRESENTING THE COMMUNITIES OF
ELK GROVE
WILTON
SHELDON
FRANKLIN
BRUCEVILLE
POINT PLEASANT
SLOUGHHOUSE

The Stage Stop Gazette



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May-June 2011

Message from the President

I would like to thank everyone involved with the planning and layout for approval and future development of the Native Interpretive Center area. The project is pending CSD's approval. The native community of California is happy upon hearing the news of a future Native Interpretive Center area for all to come and share. It has always been my first and foremost concern to educate all of those willing to learn of either their culture or the first people of this "Nature Land." It has been great to experience the wisdom of elder tribal members and their future vision of native affairs growth for the people.

My next point of interest is to thank all involved with the handicap ramp project at the Rhoads School, an educational site for future generations. Remember, we must be great ancestors for our grandchildren. -- Norm Franklin

Eagle Project for Troop 59 - Refurbish Flagpole



Andrew Stolzman's Eagle Project for Troop 59 was to remove and refurbish existing flagpole and base at the Historical Society grounds. One of his objectives was to bust up old concrete where he had no given information on depth or materials holding the old flag pole. It was decided to make a new base structure to hold the flag pole and remove the old pole base and haul it to the dump. First they tried to break it up using a sledge hammer after digging a very large hole around, deep enough to lower the scouts in up to their neck. Help arrived when the CSD crew with a Bobcat came to their aid and removed the pole mount. The new flag pole will be up and proudly flying our stars and stripes when the Spring Tea is held.

A testament to Carl Amundson and the crew he had to put 600 pounds of concrete to hold the flag pole.



Filoli Bus Tour



Lorraine organized another wonderful bus tour. Thirty-seven people got on the bus bright and early on April 9 for our tour of Filoli Gardens. It was the first nice spring day, and the crowds were out in full force. However, that didn't stop any of us from having a great time taking in the beauty of the tulips (53 varieties) and thousands of other flowers in bloom. The Bourn Mansion was a real treasure to walk through and admire. Imagine living in 36,000 sq. ft.!



Is This Building in Old Elk Grove Haunted?



Elk Grove Paranormal Investigations was called upon to investigate claims of strange noises heard by current and former employees of the old Masonic Hall/Mercantile Building on Elk Grove Boulevard. Footsteps both upstairs and downstairs on the east side of the building have been heard when no known person was present. Sounds of keys dropping upstairs on a wooden floor (the floor upstairs is carpeted), and the voice of a woman heard by the elevator by two different people on two different occasions. Construction workers have also claimed to hear strange sounds.

Judy Raderchak, Elk Grove Historical Society member and owner of the non-profit organization above, and her team of investigators set up their equipment in the building late one September 2010 night, and while doing so, the door closed and locked on them for no apparent reason. A voice calling “Ani” (one of the investigators), and “Can you hear me?” was caught on their recording device. Loud bangs were caught on the equipment both downstairs in the salon area and upstairs, as well as footsteps and doors closing on their own. Spirits? Or, as Judy concluded, since this building dates back to 1880, these could be settling noises. In her opinion, the building is not haunted. But, you be the judge after you listen to the audio/visual at the website below.

If you are hearing strange noises or strange things are happening in your house or other building, give Judy a call at 916-849-5092, and she will come out and investigate. There is no charge. You may also visit her website at www.elkgroveparanormalinvestigations.com.

Treasurer’s Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Accounts	3-3-11	4-1-11
General Fund	\$1,614.49	\$2,970.39
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$4,636.09	\$3,481.49
Generations Fund	\$103.98	
Total Account Balance:	\$6,354.56	\$6,354.56
Restoration Accounts		
General Restoration Fund	\$8,854.63	\$9,483.68
Time Capsule Fund	\$168.83	\$168.83
Luttig Memorial Fund	\$34.95	
Foulks House Fund	\$12,711.51	\$12,711.51
Reese School Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Account Balance:	\$21,769.92	\$22,364.02
Museum Store Account	\$1493.68	\$1,493.68
Subtotal	\$29,618.16	\$30,309.70
Rhoads School Account:		
Operating Fund:	\$506.99	\$470.19
Scholarship Fund:	\$1,337.73	\$1,017.73
Subtotal	\$1,844.72	\$1,487.92
Total	\$31,462.88	\$31,797.62

Welcome New Members

Dale Shinn
 Stan Van Vleck
 Rachel Crane
 Iris V. Mello
 Gladys Tyler-Gerweitz



Your 2011 membership dues are now due! Use the renewal form on the back of this newsletter.



Research Library

Open by appointment.
 Call Jeanette at 685-8115 or e-mail her at msjlaw@comcast.net

PICNIC at McFarland Ranch June 25 – 11 AM to 3 PM

Join us for our June picnic/general meeting at the McFarland Ranch. Bring a picnic lunch—drinks will be provided—and enjoy the beautiful setting. You’ll be able to view the original furnishings in the mansion and see how the restoration project is progressing. There’s plenty of parking.

Rhoads School Report – Frances Fite



Rhoads School
Established 1872

The Rhoads School now has the long-needed ADA ramp, which was officially dedicated on March 22. The Dedication event gave appreciation and thanks to the many individuals and organizations that contributed toward the project. Some of those individuals had worked long hours on the planning process, and others contributed money to make it possible.

One honored guest, David Simpson, took the opening ride on the ramp, and pronounced it accessible and easy to maneuver. David had been a ramp project planning member from the beginning in 2008. The Historical Society's own Poet Laureate, Joe Fabel, also an early planner, recited an original poem created for the occasion.

Priscilla Oliver, CSD Facilities Supervisor, was the ribbon-cutter, and was especially thanked for her years of dedication toward the successful completion of the ramp.

Less than three weeks after the ADA ramp's official opening, the first student use occurred. A wheelchair-using third-grade boy from Sierra Enterprise Elementary School found it a very successful way to get to class. Good planning all around.



EGHS Board Meeting Minutes - April 11, 2011

Call to Order: President Norm Franklin

- Minutes of the previous meeting were not read as Secretary Sue Richter, was absent.
- The Treasurer's report was approved as presented as were insurance bills totaling \$2,523.
- Due to a family death, the speaker for the April 18 General Meeting, Larry Bowler, will be rescheduled. In his place, Mrs. Mary Robinson, whose aunt was a maid for the Valensin Family in Elk Grove, will speak.

Old Business:

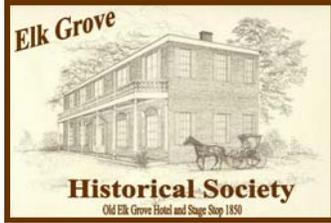
- Brookelea Lutton said the flyer for the craft show in September is almost ready. She requested the profits be directed to the restoration of the Foulks House.
- The proposed storage shed will be funded by the Phantom Ball next spring.
- Milt Webb will ask the Ford Museum for an appraisal price of the Batey Bros. truck.
- Preparations for the Spring Tea are going well with 104 tickets sold.
- The Filoli Bus Tour was a success with a profit of \$579.20.
- When the newsletter becomes a bi-monthly publication, it will include only the current Treasurer's Report and Minutes.
- The Gardeners of the Grove will be putting the brick facing on the cement blocks in the kitchen garden this week. They will also help with sprucing up the yard for the tea.

New Business:

- Parking spaces at the Hotel/Museum parking lot will be sold during the Western Festival April 30th and May 1. Museum will not be open.
- Discussion of the purchase of a Miwok basket for \$600 for permanent display will be continued.
- Possible future exhibit would be the oldest Boy Scout Troup in Elk Grove, #59. Would invite other troops to display memorabilia.
- The Generations\Research Library will sell historic Elk Grove photos for display in the upcoming Five Star Bank on East Stockton Blvd.
- The Native Americans were added to the membership and will be mailed a dues bill this month.
- Following the Spring Tea on May 7, the hotel will open at 2 PM. Holly Turnbull will ensure docents are present to help guests.
- During "Spotlight at the Ranch" on June 12th, several additional docents are needed. Jim Entrican will forward names and email addresses to Elizabeth Pinkerton.
- Lorraine Croup asked everyone to save unwanted items for the yard sale July 15-17. She will be available to accept donations at the hotel beginning Saturday, July 9th.

President Norm Franklin adjourned the meeting.

The Stage Stop Gazette
Elk Grove Historical Society
Post Office Box 562
Elk Grove, CA 95759



We're on the web
www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

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P.O. Box 562
Elk Grove, CA 95759
Phone: 916-685-8115
E-Mail:
eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

Museum Open the first Saturday of
each month or by Appointment

Research Library is now open by
Appointment Only
To schedule an appointment ,
E-mail:
eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com
Or
msjlaw@comcast.net
Or
Call 916-685-8115

The Stage Stop Hotel & Museum
Is located at
9941 East Stockton Blvd.
Adjacent to the West Entrance of Elk
Grove Regional Park

New Member and Membership Renewal Form

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

If this is a business membership, please complete the following

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Types of Membership and Fee Structure Check one: _____

Individual Person\$20.00

Family Group.....\$30.00

Student (full time under 25).....\$15.00

Senior Citizen (65 and over)\$15.00

Business, Corporation, Association \$30.00

Lifetime (Member and Spouse)\$400.00

**Note: EGHS is a California Non-Profit Corporation.
Dues may be deductible under IRS Code 501(c)3.
Make checks payable to the Elk Grove Historical Society**