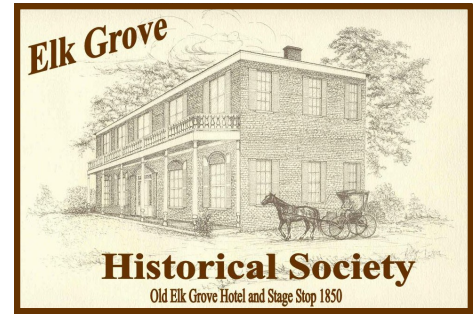


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 32 Issue 9-10

September-October 2011

President's Message

Hello, and thanks to everyone involved with the yard sale. What a great weekend it was for all. Also, congratulations to Tim and Liz Ehlers on acquiring a piece of local history. Tim and Liz now own a 1918 Chevrolet 490 which hopefully will be restored and put in local parades and on exhibit for all to see and learn from. What a great donation it was by local icon Bob Batey and family. Everyone remembers the Bob Batey Chevrolet dealership along Highway 99 in Elk Grove.

Next, welcome to all of our new members. All members are invited to participate in activities at the Hotel and Stage Stop Museum. We are currently looking for docents, volunteers and anyone who would like to be more active in the Society. Also, we currently have about twelve open projects that need to be finished. If you would like to help out please contact myself or any of the current Board members. Again, please feel welcome to actively participate beyond membership. Don't forget the upcoming Antique and Craft Show on September 17. See information in this newsletter. Norm Franklin

Yard Sale a Huge Success!



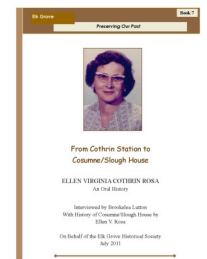
Customers stood in long lines to pay for their treasures at our Annual Yard Sale in July. By now most of you know that it was a huge success. The success is due to the generous donations of nice items that our members and the community donated. Most of all, the success is due to the following members who worked many hours to setup, unpack, sell, and cleanup the facility. They are: Sally Bergen, Dennis Buscher, Beverly Catchpole, Lucille Christesen, Lorraine Croup, Jim and Annaclare Entrican, Sandra Hampton, Norma Heim, Tom Herzog, George & Jan English, David Jeselink, Jeanette Lawson, Michael Luttig, Brookelea Lutton, Ed Metzler, Lesley Ostman, Sue Richter, Sandra

Murray Silva, Phil Teeters, Betty Wilson, Milt Webb, and Elaine Wright. Also, thanks to Mary Lewis for her cooperation in putting the notice in the paper each publication. We even had a customer sign up to become a member of the Society. The \$3,574.01 realized are funds toward the restoration of the Foulks House. Dennis & Lorraine thank you, and the Historical Society thanks you all for your generous volunteering - we could not have done it without you.

Dennis Buscher & Lorraine Croup

Now Available – From Cothrin Station to Cosumne/ Slough House

Many of you may know Ellen Rosa, long-time resident of Wilton. This series of *Preserving Our Past* focuses on her early life growing up in Cothrin Station, El Dorado County, moving to Wilton and going to Elk Grove High School. For many years she and her husband Joe worked on a dairy in Thornton, and then in Wilton. Ellen is a descendant of Jared Dixon Sheldon and Catherine Rhoads. The second portion of the book is her writings about the early beginnings of Cosumne and Slough House as written or told to her by her mother Kittie Sheldon Cothrin. You won't want to miss her fascinating story. Available in the Museum gift store.



Antique and Craft Show – September 17



It's Christmas in September, so be sure and come out to our First Annual Antique and Craft Show benefiting restoration of the Foulks House. We're anticipating approximately 30 vendors: Knitted and crocheted items, birdhouses, soaps, jewelry, solar light posts, totes, quilts, wood art, china, glasses, small furniture, wall hangings and embroidery items, just to name a few. Surely you'll find that one-of-a-kind handmade item or collectible for the house. Come and support our vendors who are supporting the Society. 8820 Elk Grove Boulevard in CSD's parking lot (former grammar school parking lot). 9:00-3:00.

Calendar of Events for September-October 2011

September 3: Museum open for tours, noon-4:00 PM

September 12: Board Meeting 4:00 PM, Museum

September 17: Antique and Craft Show. CSD's parking lot on Elk Grove Boulevard, 9-3 PM.

September 19: General Meeting, 6:30 PM, Elk Grove Library. Use the Elk Grove Blvd. entrance. Mark Gaffney, creator of the figures used in the Breuner's store windows each Christmas in the 1940's until about the 1960's will be our speaker and it is hoped he will bring one or two of the figures that he and his wife made.

September 24: Big Springs Gardens Bus Tour in the Sierra Valley, 8 AM-6 PM. Package Price \$75.00 per person includes lunch and bus fare. For ticket information contact Lorraine Croup at (916) 683-6893; mail your checks made out to Elk Grove Historical Society, 2932 Robinson Creek Lane, Elk Grove, CA 95758.

October 1: Museum open for tours, noon-4:00 PM and Harvest Festival - Elk Grove Regional Park.

October 2: Harvest Festival - Elk Grove, Regional Park

October 10: Board Meeting 4:00 PM, Museum

October 17: General Meeting, 6:30 PM, Elk Grove Library. Use the Elk Grove Blvd. entrance. Our speaker is Mr Larry Bowler who will speak about the history of the railroad. Mr. Bowler has been connected with the Railroad Museum in Sacramento for many years and presently owns (with others) a small stretch of railroad near Lone.



Tea Cups Needed

The Historical Society has many nice teacups for the annual tea; however, we need more. Please donate any you have

and continue to look for nice cups at antique stores, used stores, estate sales, yard sales, etc. Ask your friends. Call the museum or Lorraine at 683-6893 if you have some to donate.

EGHS Board Meeting Minutes August 8, 2011

Call to Order: Vice President Elaine Wright

- Sarah Johnson reported on Old Town activities.
- Minutes of July 11 were approved as amended.
- Annual yard sale brought in \$3,574 and Raley's script cards \$198.
- Board decided to put \$8,750 into Reese School Fund with the stipulation that money can be transferred to other accounts as needed.
- No General Meeting in August. September speaker will be Mark Gaffney who designed Bruener's show windows. Meet at Elk Grove Public Library.

Old Business

- Vendor openings still available for Antique and Craft Show.

New Business

- We are participating in the Dicken's Faire November 9.
- Black Tie and Santa will be November 27.
- We are looking for a new Docent Chairperson.
- We will have a booth at the Harvest Festival.
- Old Fashioned Christmas now has all rooms reserved by Decorators

President Norm Franklin adjourned the meeting

Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Accounts	7/2/11	8/8/11
General Fund	\$2,377.33	\$2,040.96
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$487.33	\$487.33
Total Account Balance:	\$2,864.66	\$2,528.29
Restoration Accounts		
General Restoration Fund	\$15,769.67	\$13,660.68
Time Capsule Fund	\$168.83	\$168.83
Foulks House Fund	\$13,315.78	\$16,894.84
Reese School Fund	\$0.00	\$8,750.00
Total Account Balance:	\$29,254.28	\$39,474.35
Museum Store Account		
	\$1,571.53	\$1,456.60
Subtotal	\$33,690.47	\$43,459.24
Rhoads School Account:		
Operating Fund:	\$316.92	\$316.92
Scholarship Fund:	\$857.73	\$1,056.29
Subtotal	\$1,174.65	\$1,373.21
Total	\$34,865.12	\$44,832.45

Welcome

New Member

Pat Coker



In Memory: Bob Batey Passes Away

We lost one of Elk Grove's finest civic leaders and Historical Society member on August 1, less than a month from his 90th birthday.

Bob Batey's Elk Grove history goes back to 1912 when his father Matthew came to Elk Grove from England; and along with his brother Bob, started the Chevrolet business in 1919. The business was located in a barn on Main Street; thus began over six decades of commitment to the community. Matthew married Edna Coons and four children were born: Robert (Bob), Nancy, Florence Rae, and Etta.

When Bob's father died in 1938, his brother took over sole ownership of the business until his death in 1956. When Bob was interviewed in 2009 he stated that he used to help out at the business as a child washing cars for 25-cents an hour. As a teenager he unpacked the cars that came in on the train and drove the cars to the dealership.

Bob met the love of his life, Olga Popovich, at a folk dance where she lived in Mountain View. He said what really impressed him about Olga was her long beautiful brown hair. Plus, she was a good dancer! Olga said what impressed her about Bob was: "He was just so nice. A gentleman." They were married on June 30, 1946 and had four children: Matthew, Christine, Stephanie, and Bobby.

After his Uncle Bob's death, Bob bought the dealership from his widow and renamed the business "Bob Batey Chevrolet." Bob remembered a farmer who came into town. "We were having a new car showing of the latest cars and we wanted everyone to come in and ride in the car, so I put this guy in the driver's seat. Come to find out, he'd never driven a car before. We weaved all over that highway from here out to Sheldon and back. I was scared to death." In 1966 Bob moved the dealership out to Highway 99 into a catchy building built with a steeple at the entrance to attract attention.

Continuing the Batey tradition of offering quality customer service, Bob dedicated himself to his business. "I did what I could to do my best," Bob said. He even made a few television commercials for Channel 10. In 1982 he sold the business to Walt Davis, and he retired and took up vegetable gardening. He prided himself in having the biggest and best tomatoes.

Tom Russell remembered Bob: Although few people remember the Bank of Elk Grove, the Bank of Italy or the early years of the Bank of America, many Elk Grove residents recall the First Security Bank of Elk Grove.

Bob Batey said that the bank was created as a service to the community. "A bunch of us old guys got together and thought we'd open a bank," Bob said. "We did it for money, but it was really a service to the community to have a second bank. It was good for the community to have a choice of where to put their money."

Frances Fite had these words about Bob: I'd like you to know what Bob Batey meant to me and my husband Bob Fite. The two Bobs became friends many years ago about the time the Elk Grove Rotary was being created.

Both Bobs were Charter Members, and Bob Batey was the first president. Gradually I got to know Bob and Olga Batey, and found them to be two of the most special people I know. Bob Batey was always, never fail, a good-natured, cheerful, and helpful man. It was hard to be glum around him. He had a way of making you smile. Did you ever catch his "Bob Batey Chevrolet commercials" on TV? In addition to being fun to watch, they showed the true outgoing, friendly, and honorable Bob Batey. Elk Grove will miss him.

Our condolences go out to his family.



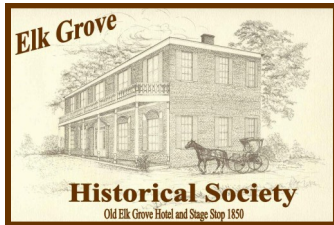
Rhoads School
Established 1872

Rhoads School Report – Frances Fite

The Rhoads School is closed for summer vacation, but August is the 'planning month' to get ready for the coming school year. The chief planners, lead docents Ellen McNeil and Nancy White, are counting school supplies, analyzing clean-up needs, going over important discussion topics, and generally getting things ready for the 'ANNUAL DOCENT MEETING' on August 22.

This meeting is a very important and valuable event for the Rhoads School Docents, since they work as individuals on their scheduled days, it is their only time to discuss program problems and new possibilities as a group. They also start their scheduling of dates that have been requested by the schools up to this time. The school requests will continue for several months, as schools begin the new year and their school schedules are established. Classes begin coming to the Rhoads School in October, and continue through May of the following year. Soon 2011-2012 will begin.

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



We're on the web
www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 86
Elk Grove, CA

Elk Grove Historical Society
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**