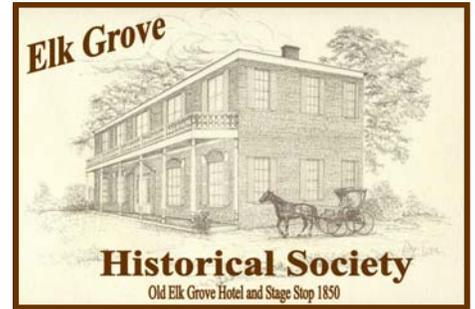


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

# The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 32 Issue 2

February 2011

## Message from the First Vice President

I would like to thank all the volunteers for making 2010 a very successful year. You all worked hard to make all the events wonderful and a pleasure to attend, not to mention profitable. Through your help we were able to bring in much-needed funds which will help with projects around the museum.

We are working on some very fun events again for this year. Have you heard that the Phantom Ball will take place on March 32, morning, noon or night at your Favorite Spot? If not, read your invitation that will be mailed to each of you or call Jeanette Lawson. May 7 will be our Spring Tea, which is an outstanding event held at the museum.

Also in the works for 2011: We will be working with local Miwok representatives to set up an exhibit at the museum on the history of the Miwok in the Sacramento Valley. We will have photos and artifacts from tribal collections upstairs in the museum; and we'll be working on an outside exhibit. Look for our Open House on February 5 for the Miwok display.

Remember, this is your museum and we would like your ideas on what you would like to have and see at the hotel site. Maybe you would like a bus trip that we could plan? Let us hear from you.

**PRESIDENT STILL NEEDED!**

- Elaine Wright

## Annual Spring Tea: "Hats from the Past"



Our annual spring tea will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2011 at the museum. This year's theme will be "Hats from the Past". The featured entertainment will be St. Mark's United Methodist Women's "Fashion Memories" - a fashion show with outfits from 1880 to the 1960's.

Tickets for this event will go on sale February 1 and are \$25 for members and their guests. Ticket sales will be limited to 160 tickets and once those are sold a waiting list will be established, so be sure to get yours early! Ticket sales to the general public will begin March 1 and are also \$25 each. We will have a silent auction and are looking for donations. If you would like to donate or purchase tickets, please contact Annaclare at 686-8238.

We're also looking for larger recycled baskets to make silent auction gift baskets. If you have any you'd be willing to donate, please bring them to the hotel or call 685-8115 to make other arrangements.



St. Mark's United Methodist Women's "Fashion Memories"

**Research Library**

Open by appointment. Call Jeanette at 685-8115 or e-mail her at [msjlaw@comcast.net](mailto:msjlaw@comcast.net)

Calendar of Events for February 2011

February 5: Museum open 12-4 PM. Come see our new exhibit for 2011!  
 February 14: Board Meeting, 4 PM, Museum  
 February 21: General Meeting 2-4 PM at the General Store in Old Town Elk Grove.  
 Our speaker will be Debra Lyon R.N. (member Steve Lambert's sister) who has worked 30 years in the ER at Kaiser Hospital. She also worked part-time for the Sacramento Metro Fire Department flying emergency trips of the critically injured to a hospital. Debra spent 16 days with a group in Haiti attending to the injured. She has many stories to tell and pictures to show us. Some members arrive at 12:30 to have lunch and then attend the meeting.



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

Miwok Exhibit

Also in the works for 2011: We will be working with local Miwok representatives to set up an exhibit at the museum on the history of the Miwok in the Sacramento Valley. We will have photos and artifacts from tribal collections upstairs in the museum; **and we'll** be working on an outside exhibit. Look for our Open House on February 5 for the Miwok display.

Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Accounts	12-6-10	1-10-11
General Fund	\$540.95	\$2,162.09
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$5,046.09	\$5,046.09
Generations Fund	\$103.98	\$103.98
Total Operating Account Balance:	<b>\$5,691.02</b>	<b>\$7,312.16</b>
Restoration Accounts		
General Restoration Fund	\$8,388.46	\$7,323.81
Time Capsule Fund	\$318.83	\$168.83
Luttig Memorial Fund	\$34.95	\$34.95
Foulk's House Fund	\$5,725.24	\$11,356.51
Reese School Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Restorations Account Balance:	<b>\$14,467.48</b>	<b>\$18,884.10</b>
Museum Store Account	\$895.25	\$1,533.01
<b>TOTAL OF MUSEUM Accounts:</b>	<b>\$21,053.75</b>	<b>\$27,729.27</b>
Rhoads School Account:		
Operating Fund:	\$327.02	\$327.02
Scholarship Fund:	\$1,327.73	\$1,977.73
<b>TOTAL RHOADS SCHOOL Accounts:</b>	<b>\$1,654.75</b>	<b>\$2,304.75</b>
<b>Total of all accounts</b>	<b>\$22,708.50</b>	<b>\$30,033.92</b>



Rhoads School Report



Rhoads School  
 Established 1872

The long-planned-for Handicap Ramp for the Rhoads School is now a reality. Construction was completed in December, thanks to the wonderful perseverance of Jim Entrican, Elaine Wright, and a dedicated CSD facilities administrator, Priscilla Oliver. It will be available to anyone with a need when school classes resume in February.

The School Board is now planning a Dedication Event that will be held at the school in March (date to be determined soon). The purpose of the dedication will be to show our thanks to the many individuals and organizations that have worked with us through the last four years, donating their time, their efforts, and their funds. It has been a long, and often frustrating experience, and we're happy to have it completed.

The March newsletter will have the date, and we hope to see you there.

- Frances Fite and the Rhoads School Board



New Members  
 Marcia & Arnie Andreani  
 Francis & Dolores Jacobson

### Just My Opinion By Tom Russell

Sometimes when we sit back and think of the olden days, we imagine what it must have been like here in Elk Grove. Unless we have lived during the time we are thinking about, we must create a mental image of that time, much like a movie. I sit in my chair and envision what Main Street must have been like in 1890, before the big fire. There were no cars, airplanes, televisions, electricity and basically no hot or cold running water. People happily went about their business and put up with what we, today, would consider major inconveniences.

We see old photographs that help us envision a single point in time of Elk Grove, but we have to create a movie in our mind to complete our vision. One of the pictures I recall is the photograph of the Toronto Hotel in 1888. A photographer had come to town and had been asked to take a picture so everyone gathered for the photo. In the street with his 8 X 10 camera, the photographer set up his tripod and equipment while Frank and Mary Graham stepped out on the balcony with their new baby daughter Elizabeth, and a friend, Mary Dolsen. The baby would eventually become Mrs. George Foulks. Down stairs, the staff and patrons gather and make small talk while waiting for the big moment. The barber and a friend see what is going on and decide to get into the picture also. Everything is ready and the photographer tells everyone that they need to hold perfectly still for ten seconds. The shout of "Hold It" is heard and everyone stops motion for the required ten seconds then life goes back to normal.

Possibly a train that could be heard chugging from along way off, rolls into town with its bell clanging and black smoke rolling out of the stack. If you are anywhere around the railroad tracks, you can feel the soot raining down. Ranchers, farmers and their wives and children have just returned from a trip to the big city of Sacramento while others are continuing on to Galt, Stockton or further. Wagons and carriages are arriving, kicking up dust as they proceed to pick up their cargo delivered via the train.

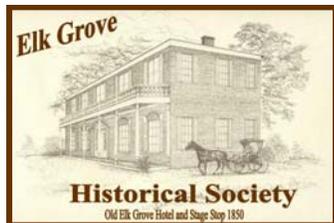
We look at the picture of a moment of the Toronto Hotel over 112 years ago, and wonder what it was like to get the photograph and what it was like to be there at that time. What was going on in Elk Grove on that afternoon? It is that mental movie that brings the image to life. As with many of the old photographs, either of people, buildings or gatherings, we have to create mental images so the picture has some life to it. Even with photographs that show nothing but a building with either a horse drawn wagon or an old 1920 car in front, we have to imagine that there is some life inside that building like people talking business, buying groceries, deciding on cloth for a dress or children looking at jars of penny candy?

As the years advance, the town and people change so it is forgotten what it was like before. The cherished memories of the old days come to us in the form of photographs. From these pictures we can imagine or remember what was happening. Even pictures from a few years ago can bring back mental images of what was happening at that moment, the family gathering, a party, a child's first steps or that first new car and make it exciting.

### EGHS Board Meeting Minutes - January 10, 2011

- **Call to Order: 1st Vice President Elaine Wright**
- Public Comment: Phil Teeters of the Gardeners of the Grove asked about the bricks that CCSD will be helping to remove from the site. It was clarified that the brick debris, not the bricks themselves, will be removed.
- The minutes of the December 13 meeting were approved as read.
- Two bills were submitted to the Board and approved: One for \$466 for the December SMUD bill, and one for \$477 for Elk Grove Lock and Safe for the hardware and locks on the new fence.
- Frances Fite received a \$600 donation for the Rhoads Scholarship fund.
- The Treasurer's report was approved as presented.
- The next General Meeting will be held at the General Store in Old Elk Grove on February 21 at 2:00 pm.
- **Old Business:** The Christmas lights will be removed and the gutters cleaned this month.
- Dennis Buscher reported on the Miwok exhibit which will be indoors in the ballroom. An outside exhibit is also planned.
- Sarah Johnson reported on Old Town news.
- Jeanette reported on this year's upcoming Phantom Ball.
- Jim Entrican presented the planning budget for 2011.
- Jim Entrican and the Board congratulated Jeanette Lawson and Lorraine Croup for their wonderful, successful fundraising work in 2010.
- First Vice President Elaine Wright 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](http://www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)

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PAID  
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Elk Grove, CA

**New Member and Membership Renewal Form**

Elk Grove Historical Society  
P.O. Box 562  
Elk Grove, CA 95759  
Phone: 916-685-8115  
E-Mail:  
[eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](mailto: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](mailto:eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)  
Or  
[msjlaw@comcast.net](mailto: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

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.**