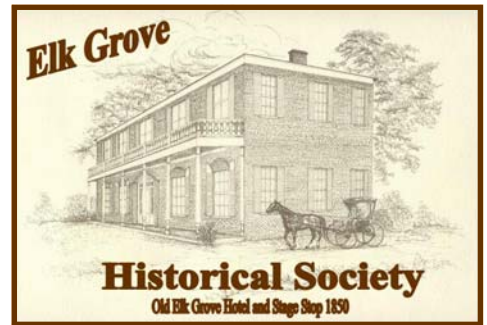


A PUBLICATION OF THE  
ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

# The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 35 Issue 1-2

January—February 2014

## Elk Grove Historical Society Elects 2014 Officers

Our election of officers was held at our general meeting on November 18. The 2014 officers are: Barbara Claire, President; Brookelea Lutton, First Vice President; Claudia Johnson, Second Vice President; Jeanette Lawson, Treasurer; Sally Bergen, Corresponding Secretary; and Diane Borden, Recording Secretary. Thank you to the officers who served in 2013. The meeting was held at Old Towne Creations where everyone had the opportunity to shop for holiday decorations after the meeting.

Thanks to Ray Baylas who provided cake and coffee.

Standing: Claudia Johnson, Diane Borden, Jeanette Lawson, Brookelea Lutton  
Seated: Sally Bergen, Barbara Claire



## Fountain of Love



On December 1 the Morse Family came to the museum for the dedication of the "Fountain of Love - in Memory of Archie A. Morse," who passed away in 2011. He was the grandson of George Washington Morse, who came to California in 1860 and settled on farmland in the Bruceville area. Archie was a long time member of the Elk Grove Historical Society. His daughter Sharon Morse Helmar lead the dedication, and each of her siblings told of some of their memories of their father. We thank the Morse family for this beautiful addition to our museum grounds where Archie Morse will be forever memorialized.



Sharon Helmar, Archie C. Morse,  
Barbara Morse Wackford,  
Bruce Morse and Bonnie Morse West

## Haunted Stage Stop a Success!

The museum was transformed into a Haunted House, opening the first weekend in October in conjunction with CSD's Giant Pumpkin Festival and continuing Friday and Saturday nights until Halloween. This was our first annual Haunted Stage Stop, and it far exceeded our expectations. Over 1,000 people came to check out the haunts, many of them returning a second and third time.

The Society profited \$5,000 which will help with our many projects and expenses.



**Calendar of Events for January—February**

- January 13, 2014: Board Meeting, 4 PM, Museum
- January 20, 2014: General Meeting - 6:30 PM, Museum, "Railroad Through Elk Grove"
- February 1, 2014: Open for Tours, Noon - 4 PM
- February 10, 2014: Board Meeting, 4 PM, Museum Kitchen
- February 17, 2014: General Meeting - 6:30 PM, check web site for details.

**The Railroad Through Elk Grove**

This year's exhibit at the Museum will be sponsored by the Pacific Coast Chapter- Railroad and Locomotive Historical Society and will give the history of the railroad in Northern California. The construction of the railroad in the Elk Grove area caused the town of Elk Grove to move from the intersection of highway 99 & Elk Grove Blvd to its current location so it would be adjacent to the railroad. The exhibit will give the history of the railroad in Elk Grove and will display many artifacts, including railroad china from various railroads.

**New Members**



Susan Saner  
Gary & Remy Claire  
Lee Miles Family

**Running Water in the Kitchen!!**

A few years ago we had a sink installed in the kitchen, however, we had no running water because we couldn't find the sewer line. Recently Roy's Plumbing came out and the sewer line was found rather quickly! Because it was found so quickly, they discounted the bill by \$500, for a total of \$3,340. The funds were taken from the Wightman Fund. Without donations such as the Wightman family's, it would be almost impossible to do projects like this. Thanks also to Ed Keema who built a nice cabinet for the small water heater.



A Big Thank You to all the docents who worked the Old Fashioned Christmas!!!

**Membership Dues Are Due**



Please use the renewal form on the last page of this newsletter. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

**Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson**

Operating Accounts	11/1/13	12/6/2013
General Operating Fund	\$8,614.25	\$7,958.23
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$6,807.32	\$5,467.32
<b>Total Account Balance:</b>	<b>\$15,421.57</b>	<b>\$13,425.55</b>
<b>Restoration Accounts</b>		
General Restoration Fund	\$16,981.63	\$14,981.52
Time Capsule Fund	-\$392.35	-\$369.35
Foulks House Fund	\$34,190.02	\$34,655.02
Reese School Fund	\$500.28	\$500.28
<b>Total Account Balance:</b>	<b>\$51,279.58</b>	<b>\$49,767.47</b>
<b>Museum Store Account</b>	\$2,696.52	\$2,846.56
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$69,397.67</b>	<b>\$66,039.58</b>
<b>Rhoads School Account:</b>		
Operating Fund:	\$1,144.67	\$1,443.43
Scholarship Fund:	\$1,198.74	\$3,783.82
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$2,343.41</b>	<b>\$5,027.25</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,741.08</b>	<b>\$71,066.83</b>



Rhoads School  
Established 1872

**Rhoads School Report  
Merry Leverton**

The Rhoads School Board recently held a No Bake Sale fund raiser which has been a great success. Thanks to the generous donations we are well ahead of our goal. We have made a good start in our maintenance fund which will be used to replace the wood burning stove and build a new fence around the school. Thank you very much.

This year five members of our board have semi-retired or completely retired from active participation. In June we honored Francis Fite at a picnic lunch and plaque dedication at the school. In December we honored Dave & Evelyn Raulien and Jim & Virginia Ring at a lunch held at the Elk Grove House and Stage Stop Museum. We thank these folks for their years of dedicated service to the Rhoads School. We hope they will stay in contact with us, and we always have a place for them at our meetings

We are in need of regular fire starters to fill in the openings these retirements have created. If you are interested in helping, please contact Merry Leverton at [marvis10@juno.com](mailto:marvis10@juno.com) or by phone at 685-3715.



Left to right. Francis Fite, Dave and Evelyn Raulien, & Jim Ring



### Proposed Highway Interchange at Elk Grove Regional Park

At the Elk Grove City Council meeting on 12/11/13, the members approved a large expenditure to proceed with feasibility and environmental impact studies to construct a highway interchange at Whitelock Parkway on the west side of Highway 99 and Stockton Blvd on the east side. The area designated in the proposal documents includes a large section of the regional park. Construction of an interchange there would have an extremely adverse effect on the northwest section including our Heritage Park where the Elk Grove House & Stage Stop museum is located along with other historic preservation buildings and commemorative markers. Entrance to the park from Stockton Blvd, Strauss Island and the lake surroundings on the west side, the dog park, picnic areas, parking spaces and softball diamonds would also be adversely affected.

The overwhelming response from citizens present at the meeting, including some of our society members, was in opposition to taking any part of the park for a proposed highway interchange. Granted, it is very early in the process; the council members said that input from the community would be sought before any formal plans were designed, and it would be several years before anything would actually be built. As historical society members and citizens of Elk Grove who value the regional park and our own museum building and grounds, we need to stay on top of this. Watch for notices of information and/or planning meetings about the proposed highway interchange, attend those meetings, and in the meantime, let your city council representatives hear about your concerns.



As a 501(c) (3) organization, we rely on donations and a large number of volunteers to keep the Elk Grove Historical Society running so we can continue our efforts in preserving history for the community to enjoy and understand. It takes a lot to restore our buildings as well as to maintain the Museum and grounds. Not only are donations important, but also good old "sweat equity." Fund raisers are especially important and require a lot of work. **We would welcome your participation.**

Please check anything you would like to volunteer for:

Docent (The museum is open the first Saturday of the month February-September from 12:00-4:00. Tours are self-guided as visitors are given a detailed brochure of all the rooms in the museum. New docents will be trained and helped quickly learn about the items in the rooms as they welcome visitors).

I would like to help on one of the following fund raisers:

Spring Tea (May)

Yard Sale (August)

Antique and Craft Show (September)

Haunted Stage Stop (October)

Old Fashioned Christmas (December)

Bus Tours

Other Opportunities:

Research Library

Yard Work

Archival Work

Serve on Board of Directors

Work on Newsletter

I have a child/grandchild who needs community service credits for school and can volunteer to help as needed.

Historical Presentations

Restoration Projects

Helping with Displays

Office Work

Grant Writing

Cleaning Museum Buildings

Community Outreach

Marketing/social media

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Help Preserve History for the Future

Mail to: Elk Grove Historical Society, PO Box 562, Elk Grove, CA 95759

## EGHS Board Meeting Minutes – December 9, 2013

### Call to Order: EGHS President Barbara Claire

Minutes of November 11 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

### Committee Reports:

New Railroad Display for 2014— Dennis met with the group who will be putting the display upstairs. It was suggested that the train set used for Christmas be a part of the display.

Newsletter - Along with the stated newsletter deadline, there was discussion about the importance of increasing our publicity activities

Nominating Committee - Lorraine expressed her appreciation to Merry and Phil for their assistance and reported there were no outstanding ballots. Claudia Johnson was introduced and welcomed as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

Programs for General Meeting—January 20, 2014--It was suggested that we invite someone from the Railroad display group. Dennis will ask them to make a half-hour presentation at the Museum. Another suggestion was a tour of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Governor's Mansion.

Old Fashioned Christmas--Black Tie & Santa was a huge success. 65 tickets were sold for a total of \$1,675, and the silent auction brought in \$2,001. Jeanette expects a net profit of approximately \$2,500. Attendance for the Old Fashioned Christmas has been good so far. Jim is still working on channel 3 coverage.

Docents— Several have signed up and Mary will be calling if additional help is needed. Barbara is working on putting together a docent handbook.

Spring Tea Committee--Sally requested assistance for the different sub-committees for this coming year's fundraiser and has scheduled a planning meeting for December 30 at 3:00 PM at the Museum.

Security System - Jim Entrican said a decision needs to be made soon. He is waiting for a quote from the alarm company.

### New Business: See page 1 for the new 2014 EGHS officers.

Unfilled Positions: Program Chair and Publicity Chair – Publicity Chair is a critical need and will be discussed in more depth after the first of the year.

Valley Oak Tree by Jail - After inspection, it was recommended that the tree be cut down due to the risk of it falling onto the jail. A second option is to first thin it out, which CSD can do next year. Jim and Dennis also want the lawn reseeded and to consider planting an additional oak.

Membership in the Chamber--Brookelea proposed that we join the Chamber of Commerce to help us have more visibility in the community. The Chamber offered us a membership in trade for old photos (jpeg on a CD). It was decided to join the Chamber and to accept the photo trade for dues.

Sidewalk Extension--Jim said the City is going to extend the sidewalk in front of the property and he has asked them to extend it around to our flagpole. He also reported one of the Boy Scouts will begin working on a fence project at Rhoads School in April.

### President Barbara Claire adjourned the meeting.

## Open Positions

We need to fill the following volunteer positions. If you have experience, or want to learn and be involved in your Society, we need you:

**Program Chair** - Responsible for arranging speakers for our monthly general meetings. Our general meetings are in jeopardy of being eliminated if this position is not filled.

**Publicity Chair** - Position will publicize our many events with various media outlets: newspaper, television, radio. It is helpful, but not necessary, to have contacts in the media outlets.

**Webmaster** - Responsible for keeping our website updated. We currently use Word Press for editing.

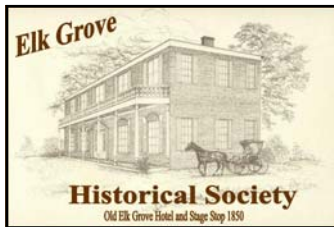
Some of the Board members are doing double duty helping with our various tasks. Please, if you can relieve us, contact Barbara Claire at 916-683-3604 or e-mail at [beclaire@surewest.net](mailto:beclaire@surewest.net).



### Research Library

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

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



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Newsletter Editor: Brookelea Lutton  
Design & Layout: Barbara Claire  
Printing: Jim Entrican, Jeanette Lawson  
and Barbara Claire

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We're on the web  
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**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)

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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

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Elk Grove House & Stage Stop 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.**