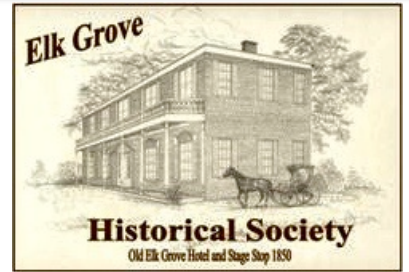


Elk Grove Historical Society

The Stage Stop Gazette

January 2019 February



Volume 40 Issue 1 - 2

A publication of the Elk Grove Historical Society.

Representing the communities of Elk Grove, Wilton, Sheldon, Franklin, Bruceville, Point Pleasant, and Sloughhouse.



Presidents Welcome



I would like to start by recognizing the wonderful job that Ken Miller has done as president over the last two years. His shoes will be difficult to fill, but I will put forth my best efforts. We are at the beginning of another year. As your new president, I would like to wish all of you the best in the New Year. Thank you for being a part of the Elk Grove Historical Society family. As residents of the Elk Grove area, we all share a common heritage in the lives of those who founded and built this community. Their lives have a direct impact on the life style and freedom that we enjoy today.

A thought from ancient Greece says, "A dwarf standing on the shoulders of a giant may see farther than the giant himself." The blessings that we enjoy today come from the sacrifice and hard work of many great and noble individuals who have gone before us. Many of these individuals blazed trails into the unknown and previously uncharted territories at personal sacrifice and risk, hoping that their efforts might bless generations to come.

At this season of the year, let us reflect on the contributions of these giants: founding fathers, pioneers, pilgrims, explorers, inventors, leaders and ancestors who have built the foundation upon which we stand. We come to know and appreciate them as we remember their lives, their stories, their struggles, their sacrifices, and their glories.

There is really no way to personally repay these giants. But as fellow travelers on the road of life, we can provide secure shoulders on which to build a better tomorrow for future generations. This is the mission of the Elk Grove Historical Society: preserve the past – build a foundation for tomorrow. We are making history every day. Be a part of history! – Bryce Tanner

The New Historical Society Board Members



L. to R.: Tim Knox – 1st Vice president, Cindy Mahon-Correspondence Secretary, Bryce Tanner-President, Jeannette Lawson-Treasurer, Ken Miller- Recording Secretary, and not pictured is Dennis Buscher-2nd Vice President



Past President Ken Miller would like to say a few words:

“Happy Holidays to everyone!! This is my final message to you as your president. I thought it appropriate to summarize accomplishments you and your board of directors have accomplished the last two years. **First, construction projects:** The Foulks House Final Plans and Permit application are at the City for approval. The Quad, Quad Wall, Blacksmith Shop/storage shed, shed lean-to and gatehouse, were all completed. Similarly, the patio was completed and side curtains were installed. The jail was redesigned by the Chamber. A decision process has begun regarding the Reese School. **Second, equipment:** Two fire resistant tents were purchased, outside space heaters are on site, and storage shelves and a roll-around safety ladder are in use. **Next, Events and Activities:** History week began and three new fundraisers were started: Plow to Plate, Pinkerton Picnic in the Park and the Hops Brew Festival. Lorraine’s Historical Bus Tours were established again. The Rhoads School is now open on 1st Saturdays, partnered with an Ice Cream Social held in summer months. The 1st Wedding was held per our new limited rental agreement. Early California Days are planned for March 23 & 24, 2019. **Finally, Special Donations:** We received a donation of the Brown Street rental property by the Wightman Sisters. In turn, we are donating gifts during the holidays to Chicks in Crisis. Thanks for letting me serve as president of such a fine organization. I welcome our new President Bryce Tanner to the board.” – Ken Miller



James Hall



Hotel at Main Street & Stockton Road

Inside the Museum Files:

Beginnings of Elk Grove

(Information taken from a historical society booklet published by Barbara Claire in 2012)

The original San Joaquin Township boundaries were established in 1851 and contained areas of the current towns of Florin, Elk Grove, Sheldon, Sloughhouse, Michigan Bar, Franklin, Freeport, and Hood. It wasn't until October 20, 1856 that the Sacramento Board of Supervisors established the final boundaries of the San Joaquin Township. Townships were made up of many large ranches, farms, and established towns within their boundaries.

The original site of the town of Elk Grove was about a mile west of its present location today. Elk Grove was named by James Hall, a settler from Missouri who built the Elk Grove House in 1850. He called his house "Elk Grove House" supposedly after the town where he lived, Elk Grove, Missouri. A second theory was that it was named for the Tule Elk in the wooded area behind the hotel, now called Elk Grove Park. Perhaps it is a combination of both that seemed to fit, but no one seems to know for sure. James Hall was a Post Master of Elk Grove, appointed in 1854, but also closing that same year. He was the first Justice of the Peace.

The original hotel needed to be demolished in 1957 to make way for the new Highway 99 expansion. The building was reconstructed in the 1990's by the Elk Grove Historical Society and presently serves as the society's centerpiece and museum in Heritage Park.

The second location of Elk Grove was at the intersection of Main Street (Elk Grove Boulevard) and Highway 99. A man by the name of Major James B. Buchner built a hotel at that location, and became the postmaster at that site which he called "Buckner." In 1857 the Buckner Post Office was officially changed to the name of Elk Grove.

The introduction of the railroad line through Sacramento and surrounding area in 1868, initiated the establishment of the town in its present location about 1876. A businessman named Julius Everson, conceived the idea that Elk Grove would make a good business center if it were near the railroad. He was right, for in 1880, the new town of Elk Grove was a thriving center of business with a population of 400.

If you go online to the elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com website and click on "HISTORY TOPICS" on the menu to the write, you can take a walking tour developed by Elizabeth Pinkerton of many of the old buildings in Old Town and their history. (FYI – The detailed booklet is in the Museum Store for \$5)



Rhoads School Report

By Director Roberta Tanner



The Living History Program is running smoothly with 82 classes scheduled. It takes many volunteers to put the program together and to run it each year. I am so proud to be part of this team and by all the students that benefit by participating in the program.

Actually, we all should be proud of the efforts. Thank you all.

Due to a lot of fundraising and the generosity of many members we earned enough to give out 24 scholarships this year, compared to 16 last year. When we notified the schools of their awards, many told us that we have no idea of what it means to them to have the financial help. Some said they couldn't have participated in the program if it weren't for the scholarships. So please know that because of your generosity 750 students are able to attend the program that otherwise may not have.

For several years the windows in the school have leaked. We have constantly pursued the repair and/or replacement and finally have been given permission by CSD to repair them. The work is slated from January 23 to February 1. We are very appreciative.

Calendar of Events for January – February 2019

January

- Jan 14: EG Historical Society **Board** Meeting
3:00 PM at the Museum
- Jan 16: Annual board planning meeting
9:00-3:00 at Wackford Cntr.
- Jan 21: EG Historical Society **General** Meeting
6:30 PM at Presbyterian Church
Speaker: Steve Beck*
- Jan 21: **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

“Donner Party”

Listen to expert Steve Beck from Sutter's Fort talk about the tragic events of the Donner Party and the rescue attempts.



February

- Feb 2: Free Museum & Rhoads School **Tours**,
Noon – 4:00
- Feb 4: **Rhoads School Board** Meeting – 9:00 am
- Feb 11: EG Historical Society **Board** Meeting
3:00 PM at the Museum
- Feb 18: EG Historical Society **General** Meeting
6:30 PM at Presbyterian Church
Speaker: David Stuart*
- Feb 18: **Presidents Day**



“The Earthmoving Capitol of the World”

Caterpillar, Holt, Le Tourneau invented equipment for agriculture and warfare. Wait for the Robocall with more details.



The Lorraine Croup Christmas bus tour to Placerville Museums on December 5 was fabulous.

Go to the elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com website and click-on "PHOTO GALLERY" to view the photos.



Thank you to all who made the Old Fashion Christmas possible and those who came to enjoy it and see Santa.



Founding member of our society, Milt Webb is in the hospital and could use a couple hours of conversation on any day. He is at Eskaton at the end of Florin Road. For information call his daughter at (775) 544-7867



Treasurer's Report: Jeannette Lawson

Operating Accounts:	Nov 2018	Dec 2018
General Operating Fund	\$18,422.84	\$24,302.73
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$10,871.28	\$10,027.68
Approved Expenditures	\$2,040.00	\$2,040.00
Total Account Balance	\$30,490.52	\$36,370.41

Restoration Accounts:		
General Restoration Fund	\$5,336.65	\$4,019.26
Donations	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Foulks House Fund	\$90,380.45	\$90,380.45
Reese School Fund	\$433.55	\$433.55
Total Account Balance	\$246,150.65	\$244,833.26

Real Estate Rental Account	\$5,626.96	\$7,064.11
Museum Store Account:	\$1,412.78	\$1,651.23

Rhoads School Account:		
Operating Fund	\$592.19	\$859.91
Scholarship Fund	\$7,638.66	\$7,158.66
Total Account Balance	\$8,230.85	\$8,018.57

Total \$291,911.76 \$297,936.58

welcome

New members

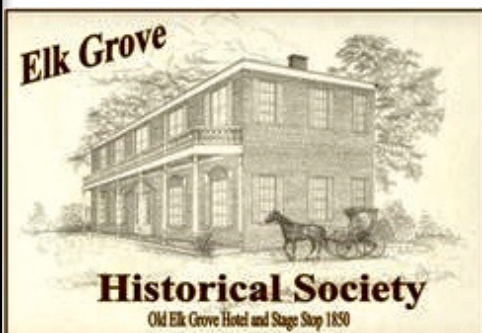
Ashley Bacon
Laura Bemis
John & Karen Jernigan
Brian & Kristyn Laurence

Our condolences to the family of Judy Tafoya, a long time supporter and friend of the EG Historical Society



REMINDER: Please don't forget to renew your membership. The money allows us to pay many bills and help with upkeep of the museum. You can use the renewal form on the next page or go to the website (elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com) and pay by credit card. Look on the Menu for "EG Historical Society Information" to find renewal.

The Stage Stop Gazette
Elk Grove Historical Society
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(916) 685-8115

Email:

eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

Our website:

www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

Elk Grove House and Stage Stop Museum
Is located at
9941 East Stockton Boulevard

Adjacent to the West Entrance of
Elk Grove Regional Park

Museum is open the first Saturday of
each month or by appointment

Research Library is now open by
appointment only.

To schedule an appointment:

Email:

eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

Or

msjlaw@comcast.net

Or

Call 916-685-8115



The Lincoln Highway passed
through Elk Grove in front of the
Elk Grove House & Stage Stop
Museum on what is now East
Stockton Blvd.

Rhoads School

Email: rhoadsschool@gmail.com

(916) 685-8115

Newsletter Editor, Design, & Layout:
Louis Silveira

Non-Profit
Org.
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Elk Grove, CA

New Member and Membership Renewal Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

If this is a business membership, please complete the following:

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Areas of Interest: _____

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 to 79).....\$15.00

___ Senior Citizen (80+).....FREE

___ Business, Corporation, Association.....\$30.00

___ Lifetime (Member & Spouse).....\$400.00

Note: EGHS is a California Non-Profit Corporation
Dues may be deductible under IRS code 501(c)3