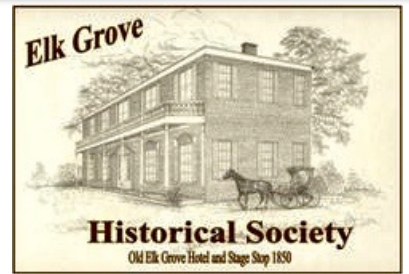


Elk Grove Historical Society

# The Stage Stop Gazette

May 2019 June



Volume 40 Issue 5 - 6

A publication of the Elk Grove Historical Society.

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



Inside the Museum Files:

## Elk Grove Movie Theatre

The Carl Amundson family moved to Elk Grove in 1946. Ord Leachman built the Cow/Cattle Palace Cattle Yard at the end of Webb Street in 1948. Carl started showing movies in the auction building on December 7, 1949 until 1954. Inside the theater, Amundson installed 500 theater seats and six wagon wheel chandeliers. Only 45 minutes was required for two men to change the building from an auction pavilion to a theater. After moving the seats onto the floor, the screen was then lowered into place and the curtains were drawn. On February 4, 1955 they built a new theatre on Elk Grove Boulevard that was again run by the whole family. In 1959 the Amundsons sold the theatre to Jerry & Esther Brown and Ben and Wilma DeWald who showed movies until 1965 when they sold it to the Assembly of God who converted it to a church. They held services there until 1977 when it partially burnt in January. Parishioners continued services at Joseph Kerr while looking for a buyer. It was in escrow when it burnt down six months later in May of 1977, which the fire department declared it as "suspicious." It was bought by a Sacramento business firm and was converted to a small business center in 1978 that is still in use today. It is on the corner of Williamson Drive and is now used by Enterprise Car Rental, a mailing store, and a dentist.

For many photos and much more detailed history, memories, and comments by family members and local citizens go on-line to our website

**elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com** and look on the Menu for "HISTORY TOPICS" and enjoy.

## President's Message April 2019

Holidays are special times when we celebrate significant events and individuals who have had a direct impact on our lives. Upcoming holidays include Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day and Independence Day. On these special days we will honor those who have personally sacrificed for our betterment – sometimes at the cost of their own life.



History is full of individuals who were willing to put the welfare of others ahead of their own. The song "America the Beautiful" expresses this type of unselfish love. "O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life! ...America! America! God shed his grace on thee and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

We can strive to be a mighty force for good and spread "brotherhood" in our own Elk Grove community. Paraphrasing President John F. Kennedy who said ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your fellow country men and women. Our first and foremost responsibility should be to those closest to us. No other interest in life should come before our service to those whom we can have the most direct and positive impact.

It is my hope as we celebrate these holidays this season that a sense of unselfish love and sacrifice will sink deeper into our hearts and souls. And I know that as we make these efforts, we will see miracles that will be a blessing to generations to come.

President Bryce Tanner



### Dismantling of the Reese School

The school is in such bad condition it is almost ready to fall down. We have accumulated \$150,000 for restoration, but the latest estimate says it will be at least \$300,000 to just put the front part on a foundation. For complete restoration we are talking double and maybe triple that amount. It has taken us 11 years to just earn that amount after we saved for

the Foulks House restoration. The worry is we think the school is very close to falling down and we have run out of time. We wanted you to know we are beyond hope, it has become unsafe, and we are giving up our dream of restoration. We are so sorry.

24 LITTLE HOURS  
CAN MAKE A **BIG**  
DIFFERENCE!

Big  
Day of  
Giving

## Thursday, May 2

The Sacramento region will come together for one Big Day of Giving from 12:01 AM to midnight. This is a national 24-hour online challenge to benefit local charities in the area.

Thanks to everyone who donated last year to make this an important income sources for the preservation of the Foulks House and for scholarships for the Rhoads School program.

This year, with completed architectural plans for renovation of the Foulks House, we went out for bids in February, accepted one, and expect to start the actual physical restoration very shortly.

Please help support these two important projects by donating again this year. You can donate on-line at

<http://bigdayofgiving.org/elkgrovehistoricalsociety>

Also, please stop by the museum on May 2nd between 10am and 3pm for a self guided tour, wine, hors d'oeuvres and we can even help you place your donation.

# Spring Tea



May 11<sup>th</sup>

11:00 am at the Museum

*There might be a few tickets left?*

Call Susan Hernandez at  
(916) 684-3181 or buy on line at  
[elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)







ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## YARD SALE fundraiser

**June 14, 15, 16 \* \* \* \* Friday, Saturday & Sunday**

It's time to start cleaning out your closets, cupboards, and garages to select treasures you no longer use and donate them to this year's 3-day yard sale. Tell your family, friends & neighbors! Copy this flyer so they'll know **WHAT TO DONATE:**

*Items in usable, clean condition (nothing broken or with missing pieces).*

*For example:*

table dishes & glasses	table, bed, bath linens & towels	tools of any kind
wearable clothing and shoes	kitchen pots, pans & dishes	furniture
artwork & frames	decorations & crafts	home decor
vintage phones & stereos	camping and sports gear	fabric & notions
kids toys & games	bikes, trikes & scooters	knick-knacks
suitcases, totes, purses	yard and garden equipment	area rugs
vintage doors & windows	bookcases & storage units	lamps & lighting
boom boxes & small speakers	books, DVDs, CDs, audio tapes & vinyl records	

*Items we do not accept:* TVs, computers, monitors & printers. We cannot take mattresses, bed pillows, baby car seats & carriers.

**Bring your donations to the Museum on these Saturdays from 12 - 4 pm**

**4/13    4/20    4/27    5/4    not 5/11    5/18    5/25    6/1**

Volunteers will be on site to accept your donation at these times and will give you a donation receipt you may use for tax purposes. Arrangements can be made after May 12 to have furniture, book shelves and other large items picked up at your location by calling Dennis at (916) 479-2158 or John at (916) 230-7198.

# Would you like to help, we could use you?

## 2019 YARD SALE Fundraiser Volunteers needed these dates and times at the Museum

### Sorting, Boxing and Labeling Donations

8:00 am to noon on these days

Tues May 14	Wed May 15	Thurs May 16
Tues May 21	Wed May 22	Thurs May 23
Tues May 28	Wed May 29	Thurs May 30
Tues June 4	Wed June 5	Thurs June 6

### Arranging items on tables or clothing racks, assisting with pricing

<u>Mon June 10</u>	<u>Tues June 11</u>	<u>Wed June 12</u>	<u>Thurs June 13</u>
8 am – noon or noon – 3 pm	8 am – noon or noon – 3 pm	8 am – noon or noon – 3 pm	8 am – noon or noon – 3 pm

### SALE DAYS Staffing: re-arranging/straightening up tables, tallying buyers' treasures prior to checking out, cashiering, etc.

<u>Fri June 14</u>	<u>Sat June 15</u>	<u>Sun June 16</u>
7:30 am – noon or noon – 4:30 pm	7:30 am – noon or noon – 4:30 pm	7:30 am – noon or noon – 4:30 pm

=====

Please let me know by phone, text or email if you can help with the Yard Sale this year by working any of these times. Even if you can't do a whole shift time listed, perhaps you can spend a couple of hours. Any time you can help will be much appreciated. Beverages, snacks, aprons and a good time provided!

Call or text me at 916 591-5363 or send me an mail [sallybergen@surewest.net](mailto:sallybergen@surewest.net)





# Rhoads School Report

By Director Roberta Tanner



We are in full swing in the busy part of our Living History Program with 82 classes scheduled this year. We are already fielding inquiries for next year.

The 2019-2020 calendar is ready and so are we.

I didn't think this program could get much bigger, but every year it seems to grow a little. We think we could reach 90 classes in the next few years and wouldn't be surprised if we reached 100 within ten years.

I know our big Rhoads School scholarship fundraiser, "**Plow To Plate**" isn't until September 21 during History Week, but I think it is more important than ever that we continue to make it a first class event.

We will try and hope you will consider it in your plans.

## Calendar of Events for May - June 2019

### May

May 2: **Big Day of Giving**

May 4: Free Museum & Rhoads School **Tours**,  
Noon – 4:00

May 11: **Spring Tea**

May 12: **Mother's Day**

May 13: EG Historical Society **Board** meeting  
3:00 PM at the Museum

May 20: EG Historical Society **General** meeting  
6:30 at Presbyterian Church

\*Speaker: Lorraine Croup

May 27: **Memorial Day**

### \* "The River Delta & Sen. William Johnson"

Ninety-Eight year-old Lorraine shares stories and antidotes of growing up in the Walnut Grove River-Delta Area and contributions by friend and Senator William Johnson.



### June

Jun 1: Free Museum & Rhoads School Tours,  
Noon – 4:00

Jun 3: Rhoads School Board Meeting – 9:00 am

Jun 10: EG Historical Society **Board** meeting  
3:00 PM at the Museum

Jun 14, 15, 16: **Yard Sale**

Jun 16: **Father's Day**

Jun 17: EG Historical Society **General** meeting  
6:30 at Presbyterian Church

\*Speaker: Dennis Buscher

### \* "Russian Germans settlers in Franklin/ Elk Grove"

Dennis is our local historian who was born in Franklin and is an expert in the region. He shares his extensive knowledge and ancestry of the Russian-German settlers and the profound affects they had on our community.



# A big THANK YOU

to all of those who helped with **"Early California Days"** on March 23-24. The rain was a little deterrent, but all in all we were pleased with the event. We had a lot of positive feedback and hope to be able to return next year. It is not a fundraiser, but we have to be able to financially support the event. We are in discussions at the moment.

To view many photos of the event go to  
**"PHOTO GALLERY"**  
 on the Menu on our website  
[elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)



## Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

<b>Operating Accounts:</b>	<b>Mar 2019</b>	<b>Apr 2019</b>
General Operating Fund	\$6,825.50	\$7,363.73
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$7,620.49	\$2,144.69
Approved Expenditures	\$2,040.00	\$1,580.00
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$16,485.99</b>	<b>\$11,088.42</b>

<b>Restoration Accounts:</b>		
General Restoration Fund	\$22,491.48	\$22,099.28
Donations	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Foulks House Fund	\$88,055.45	\$88,055.45
Reese School Fund	\$433.55	\$433.55
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$260,980.48</b>	<b>\$260,588.28</b>

<b>Real Estate Rental Account</b>	<b>\$11,402.22</b>	<b>\$12,927.04</b>
<b>Museum Store Account:</b>	<b>\$3,304.40</b>	<b>\$3,668.37</b>

<b>Rhoads School Account:</b>		
Operating Fund	\$817.74	\$642.20
Scholarship Fund	\$6,038.86	\$5,238.66
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$6,856.40</b>	<b>\$5,880.86</b>

**Total**      **\$299,029.49**      **\$299,850.95**



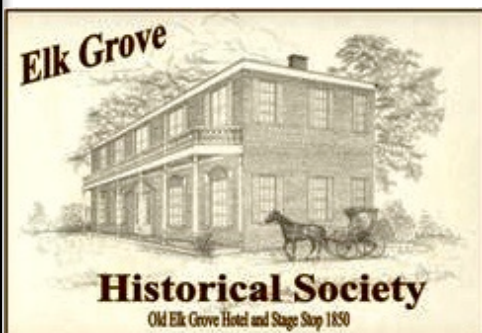
In the Stage Stop Museum, upstairs in the ballroom, we have an Elk Grove area school display of all 40 one-room schools (with photos) in the district just before the unification in 1959. Rhoads School is highlighted with a mock classroom and artifacts.

This is an opportunity to see how the Elk Grove school system began.

The display will last the whole year.

The Museum is open every first Saturday of the month from noon to 4:00 pm.

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



(916) 685-8115

Email:

[eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](mailto:eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)

Our website:

[www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://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, noon to 4:00 pm.

Research Library is now open by  
appointment only.

To schedule an appointment:

Email:

[eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](mailto:eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)

Or

[msjlaw@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:rhoadsschool@gmail.com)

(916) 685-8115

Newsletter Editor, Design, & Layout:  
Louis Silveira

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### 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