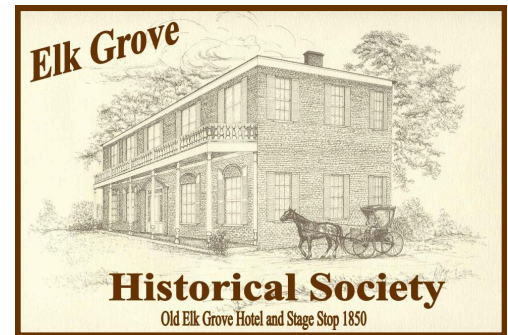


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

# The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 31 Issue 8

August 2010

## A Message From the President



### Annual Yard Sale

Thanks for all your donations to our Big Yard Sale which will be on the museum grounds on Friday, July 30 and Saturday July 31 from 8 AM to 4 PM ; and on Sunday, August 1 from 10 AM to 2 PM. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to mark prices on Thursday, July 29 from 9 AM to Noon and to work each day of the sale. Please call Lorraine at 683-6893 if you can volunteer a few hours. Tell your friends. Come on out and support this annual fundraiser.

### General Meeting in September

Our next General Meeting will be on Monday, September 20 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at Cosumnes River Elementary School, 13580 Jackson Rd., Sloughhouse. Principal Mike Gulden is interested in the history of Sloughhouse and surrounding area and displaying some of that history in the new school. We will discuss how the Elk Grove Historical Society can assist the Sloughhouse Area Genealogical Society and the Cosumnes Elementary School with this endeavor. Speaker(s) to be announced. Mark your calendar to be at the new school on the bluffs overlooking the historic Dalton Ranch area.

### RHOADS SCHOOL REPORT—Jim Entrican



Rhoads School  
Established 1872

Eric Euren, producer of the movie "Stagecoach Santa," informs us that filming at the Rhoads School has been completed and the project is in the distribution phase. Filming was underway last November as the company filmed a typical day at school in the late 1800s for the upcoming movie. Some networks are interested in showing the film this Christmas, with a DVD release at that time. Check the website for updates:

[www.everlastingpictureworks.com](http://www.everlastingpictureworks.com).

### Treasures from Our Past

#### VanHyning Lamp By Judy Carter Semas



*From VanHyning Family - about 1878. "Given to Crawford Carter, son, by his mother Beth"*

This is what remains today written on two pieces of tape on the bottom of this beautiful Kerosene lamp. It was written by my Grandfather, George VanHyning Carter (1882-1969), who received it from his mother, Margaret Ann VanHyning (1857-1929). It was passed down to my father, Crawford Frances Carter (1912-1979) and upon my father's passing given to me.

My grandfather converted the lamp to electricity. He was a very crafty handyman and I can remember spending many hours in his workshop in the basement of his home on Ordway Street in Berkeley. The lamp is sitting on one of the many tables he made. He worked over 30 years for DeMartini Candy and Soda Supply Company as their bookkeeper in San Francisco. The table was made from wooden crates that were used to ship the candy and soda supplies to DeMartini's. My grandfather would magically transform the crates into beautiful tables, cabinets, doll furniture and more in his workshop. I am very grateful to have many of his crafted pieces in my home. But the greatest gift of all, is his handwritten notes attached to the items telling us of the history, and who would receive the item upon his, and my grandmother Beth's passing.



## Calendar of Events for August 2010

August 1: Yard Sales at museum (Friday, July 30th; Saturday, July 31st; and Sunday, August 1st)

August 7: 12 noon to 4 PM: Museum Open, please volunteer to be a docent; contact Sue Richter at 685-7502

NO BOARD MEETING OR GENERAL MEETING IN AUGUST

### Treasurer's Report: Phil Minghetti

OPERATING FUND	6-6-10	7-5-10
General Fund Balance	5,563.57	4,833.89
Generations Fund	103.98	103.98
<b>TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$ 5,667.55</b>	<b>\$ 4,937.87</b>
RESTORATION FUND		
Restoration Fund Balance	19,729.92	21,580.71
Time Capsule Fund	20,590.45	21,120.71
Luttig Memorial Fund	353.60	353.60
<b>TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$ 40,673.97</b>	<b>\$ 43,055.02</b>
MUSEUM STORE ACCOUNT		
	1,116.19	1,035.60
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 47,457.71</b>	<b>\$ 49,028.49</b>
RHOADS SCHOOL ACCOUNT BALANCES:		
Operating Fund:	376.06	376.06
Scholarship Fund:	1,484.30	1,484.30
Wright Family Memorial:	2,625.00	2,625.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,485.36</b>	<b>\$ 4,485.36</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 51,943.07</b>	<b>\$ 53,513.85</b>



### New Members

Barbara Monroe  
Janet Hume  
Mr & Mrs Ron Stafford  
Hal Clark

### Research Library

Now open by appointment.  
Call Jeanette at 685-8115 or e-mail her  
at msjlaw@comcast.net

### Just my Opinion by Tom Russell

Oh what changes Elk Grove has had since the first settlers came to the Elk Grove area. That long dusty wagon rutted trail from Sacramento to Stockton and beyond has seen many travelers throughout the years. Some have just passed through this community and some have stayed.

In the early years, residents were few and far between. The Upper

Stockton Road was the vital link between residents, ranchers and farmers and the big city of Sacramento. A rutted dirt road, wide enough for one wagon, wound through the groves of Valley and Scrub Oak, through washes and dry open land. Tule Elk, Antelope, Canada Geese, rabbits, fox, wolves, coyotes, Salmon and birds of all kinds were plentiful. The following was written by George Yount, who passed through the area circa 1837.

According to Yount (1923:52), deer, elk and antelope:  
"...were numerous beyond parallel. In herds of many hundreds, they might be met so tame that they would hardly move to open the way for the traveler to pass. They were seen lying or grazing in great herds, on the sunny side of every hill and their young, like lambs, were frolicking in all directions. The wild geese and every species of water fowl darkened the surface of every bay and firth, and upon the land in flocks of millions, they wandered in quest of insects and cropping the wild oats which grew there in abundance. When disturbed, they arose to fly, the sound of their wings was like that of distant thunder. The rivers were literally crowded with salmon..."

Oak groves were so large that they were harvested as timber and the land was almost for the taking in that you

## Just my Opinion by Tom Russell (cont.)

could acquire an acre for \$2.

Life wasn't easy by today's standards, and more than likely area residents would have owned or worked on large ranches or farms either taking care of cattle or tilling and harvesting the land. The only relief from summer heat was working in the mornings then sitting under a good shade tree or taking a trip to the Cosumnes River for a swim. The town of Elk Grove was a very small centralized group of buildings for supplies and services but was not, by any means, a residential area. Elk Grove was the name of the Post Office but not necessarily the name of the community. In 1866, George Foulks listed himself as from Buckner's, the hotel at the crossroads of Upper Stockton Road and Elk Grove-Franklin Road (now called Elk Grove Blvd and Highway 99), even though the Post office had been called Elk Grove for nine years.

Even after the Railroad was built in 1868, it took eight more years (1876) for the first commercial building to be erected in the new Elk Grove. This first building was the General Store along the Railroad tracks; it was operated by Chittenden and Everson. Out of these beginnings, Elk Grove began to grow but remained mostly a ranching and farming community. Even as late as 1922, George Foulks mentioned to his wife Bess that he didn't know what was happening to this area when he saw the new sign erected "Population 400".

As the new Elk Grove became the hub of life, old Elk Grove at the crossroads, on Upper Stockton Road remained a stop over for travelers and the area locals for gas, "refreshing drinks" and rumored games for many years. In 1957 the expanded Highway 99 was built which essentially ended old, old Elk Grove.

From that rutted wagon trail and pioneers looking for a better life, Elk Grove now has a six lane freeway that passes through the City with over 140,000 residents and still growing. There are few reminders of this little country town's progress and growth but if you look hard, you can find a building that represents just about every era from 1850 to the present day. The farms and ranches that brought people here in the first place are now relegated to the past but should never be forgotten as they were Elk Grove's legacy.

### EGHS Board Meeting Minutes July 10, 2010

#### Call to order: Jim Entrican

- Minutes of the June 14 meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's report was approved as submitted.
- Approved a bill for \$402.38 for Time Capsule printing costs. Also approved a bill for \$220.77 for the Luttig Garden.
- The next General Meeting will be Monday, July 19 at the Hotel. J.B. Jones will be the speaker and an ice cream social will follow.

#### Old Business:

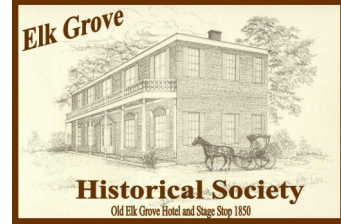
- President Entrican reported that the July 4 Time Capsule presentation was very successful.
- Brian of CSD spoke about the proposed tree trimming in front of the Hotel. Board approved the trimming and removal of a small cypress tree.

#### New Business:

- The fence project should start July 14.
- Phil Teeters of Gardens of the Grove said the footings for the raised beds should be in by September.
- Jeannette Lawson is in charge of getting the Hotel gutters cleaned.
- The Board thanked Michelle Orrick for donating a Hoosier cabinet.
- The Board discussed the upcoming Harvest Festival booth.
- Jeannette Lawson discussed adding a Parade of Trees to the Hotel Christmas fundraiser.
- President Entrican read a letter from a group in Sloughouse interested in possibly forming an Historical Society. Discussion followed on ways to support fellow historical groups.

President Jim Entrican 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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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.**