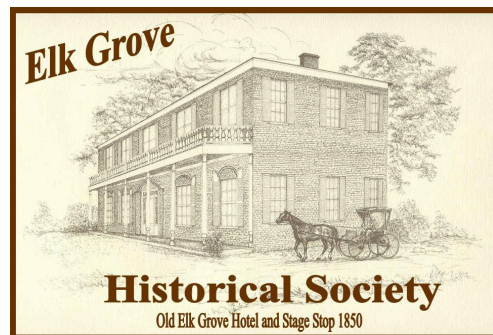


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 30 Issue 12

December 2009

A Message From the President



The Elk Grove Historical Society Presents An Old Fashioned Christmas



This is an early report on the success of the Black Tie & Santa event on Friday, November 27, 2009. We had a sellout crowd and made \$1685 on the sale of the tickets. The silent auction brought in \$2402 and expenses for the Black Tie event only \$713.87. So we made \$3373.87 on this very successful Christmas 2009 event. Now with a successful Old Fashion Christmas we will raise more money to go to the upkeep of the museum.

THANK YOU ALL FOR A GREAT NIGHT!

The interior designers have transformed the Elk Grove Hotel & Stage Stop Museum into a holiday wonderland of nostalgic scenes. "Old Town Christmas," "Welcome to the North Pole" and "Getting Ready for the Christmas Ball" are just a few themes running through the hotel's ballroom, three bedrooms, men's and women's parlors, dining room, kitchen and jail. Hot cider and cookies, pictures with Santa and cookie decorating for the kids round out the festivities of *An Old Fashion Christmas*, which runs Nov. 28 – Dec. 20, Friday through Sunday.

Jeanette deserves a special acknowledgement for her 4th year of hard work in managing this fund raiser. She put together the silent auction to raise money for our fence project that she started last year. The \$2400 plus dollars will enable us to start this project, with our goal of having a new gate in place for the Spring Tea. I have one bid in for consideration for the board to vote on and should have two more in by December 14th.

The fence will look similar to this and we will be fund raising for sections with the name of the donor in brass affixed to the fence. The cost of each section will be determined by the winning company. So once again we are very busy trying to improve the Museum and make it attractive for our guests when they visit.



Can you believe that Jeanette Lawson stuck her tongue out at me for taking this photo?





Calendar of Events for December 2009

December 14, 2009—EGHS Board Meeting 4:00 PM, Hotel & Stage Stop Museum. 9941 East Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove

December 21, 2009—General Meeting - No Meeting this month

**November 29—December 20— The Elk Grove Historical Society Presents
An Old Fashioned Christmas**



4th Annual Old Fashioned Christmas
At the Stage Stop Museum in Elk Grove
Park Entrance off East Stockton Blvd.
Each room of the MUSEUM is lavishly decorated
with period displays by local designers
Santa will be at the MUSEUM each day from 2:00 – 5:00pm
Take-home photographs with Santa \$10.00
\$5.00 Donation at the door
Bring an unwrapped toy for Santa to give to a needy
Elk Grove child and receive \$1 off admission!
For further information call 685-8115

Friday	December 4	1:00-8:00
Saturday	December 5	1:00-8:00
Sunday	December 6	1:00-5:00
Friday	December 11	1:00-8:00
Saturday	December 12	1:00-8:00
Sunday	December 13	1:00-5:00
Friday	December 18	1:00-8:00
Saturday	December 19	1:00-8:00
Sunday	December 20	1:00-5:00



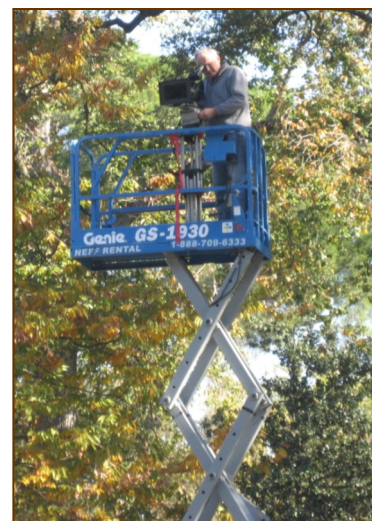
Rhoads School
Established 1872

RHOADS SCHOOL REPORT

Everlasting Picture Works Inc., a family film company upholding strong moral values paid a visit to the Rhoads School on Saturday, November 14, 2009 to film a segment for upcoming 2010 Christmas film titled "Stagecoach Santa" The story comes from the 1986 book by Randall A. Reinstedt. The setting of our School House will be in Carmel, California and the time is before the turn of the century. Eric has promised me that he will let us know when it will be televised.



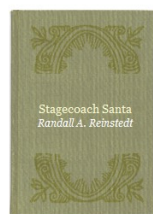
Eric Eurén, President/CEO
Everlasting Pictures Works



Stagecoach Santa

by **Randall A. Reinstedt**

Published in 1986, Ghost Town Publications (Carmel, CA)



Research Library

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

EGHS Treasurer, Dr. Phil Minghetti, is delighted to present the

Treasury Report for November 13, 2009.

The Grand Total for all accounts is broken down as follows:

<u>Operating Account</u>	
General Fund	\$1,204.29
Generations Fund *	\$420.00
Wightman Fund	\$412.45
General Restoration Fund	\$7,831.46
Luttig Memorial Fund	\$353.60
Museum Store	\$1,536.95
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$11,758.75
<u>Rhoads School Account</u>	
Operating Fund	\$376.06
Scholarship Fund	\$1,304.30
Steve Wright Memorial Fund	\$1,915.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$3,595.36
<u>Grand Total of All Accounts</u>	\$15,354.11

* The Generations Fund was re-established by Jeanette Lawson in July 2009. This fund is used to pay bills emanating from the Research Library located in the museum.

History Report

Time By Tom Russell January 2010

Do you know what time it is? In today's world, we have become so dependent on time that we have learned to live our lives on a time schedule. That schedule is dependent on our having some sort of device which tells us exactly what time of the day it is. I recently saw a news article about wrist watches becoming passé because cell phones and PDAs contain clocks. Imagine if every clock suddenly stopped!

From the dawn of time, animals and humans have lived their lives based on something which let them know it was time to do something. Geese know when to start their long journey south for the winter and north for the summer. Along came man and learned how to tell when it was time to migrate to their winter or summer sites. It took hundreds of thousands of years before man invented calendars or clocks, so what was it that guided humans before?

Indicators of the changing seasons through the observance of plant and animal behavior were taught to the young as a necessity of life. Winter was coming and it would be hard if they observed the squirrels gathering nuts early, an over abundance of acorns, the size of a spiders

web, the arrival or departure of certain birds, owls, caterpillars, tails of raccoons, color of leaves, all indicated a change of seasons and what to expect. Winter was especially important to predict because life was dependent upon how they fortified for it.

Even into the 1800's, life depended on indicators for time and weather. Farmers and ranchers may have had a pocket watch but if they forgot to wind it or it broke, what then? Well, work started at sunrise and when the sun was directly overhead, it was time for dinner, or what we now call lunch, and when the sun started to set, work was generally over and time to head back to the house for supper. Cattle were moved from their low ranches in late spring to the higher grazing grounds for summer then back to lower ranches before the snows came. There was a time for seeding, a time for harvesting and a time for plowing. Houses usually had wall clocks but the exact time was not as important as it is today. There was a fine balance of knowledge and observation of nature to know when the time was just right.

Natives of different countries watched the migration patterns of animals that indicated certain seasons but we now have official time and dates that we refer to. We have different time zones as well as date lines which we accept as standard. We have the official atomic clock that we can set our individual time pieces by, but it wasn't always that way. The first time pieces were water timers that were only used by royalty to let them know how long night was. It wasn't until 1577 that the minute hand was invented for clocks.

It was the ancients who took an interest in astronomy and gave us time periods. When stars, constellations, sun or moon were at certain areas in the sky, there was a time or season change and it was recorded. For hundreds of thousands of years, we humans ran our lives off of the sky, animal and plant indicators but today it's just plain easier to look at our quartz watch, computer, cell phone or PDA to tell us the exact hour, minute and second.

If it seems that there just isn't enough time, it may be nature's way of telling you to procrastinate.

EGHS Board Meeting Minutes November 9, 2009

Call to order: Jim Entrican

Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved.

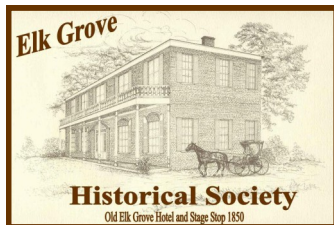
Committee Reports: The next General Meeting will be at Logan's on November 16. Jacqui Langenberg and Ed Keema will tell us about the Elk Grove Time Capsule.

Old Business: Phil Teeters, President of Gardeners of the Grove told of plans for a Kitchen Garden to be built on Hotel Grounds in the Spring. Flats of cyclamen and pansies were donated by Capital Nursery and Oaks Nursery for the Christmas Event. Jim Entrican is working on plans for restoration of Reese School and Foulks House with CSD. Jeannette updated the Christmas fund-raiser. The Gala is nearly sold out. A special fund was approved to use the funds from the Gala Silent Auction for a new fence.

New Business: The Historical Society is to participate in two parades, the Veterans Day Parade and the Parade of Lights. Milt Webb will drive his Model T and \$188 was approved to buy two magnetic signs to advertise the Historical Society. Sarah Johnson told of new businesses in Old Town and offers to schedule the shuttle from the Dickens Faire to the Hotel.

The meeting is adjourned by President Jim Entrican

The Stage Stop Gazette
Elk Grove Historical Society
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Elk Grove, CA 95759



We're on the web
www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

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Elk Grove Historical Society
P.O. Box 562
Elk Grove, CA 95759
Phone: 916-685-8115
E-Mail:
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
Or
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

New Member and Membership Renewal Form

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.**