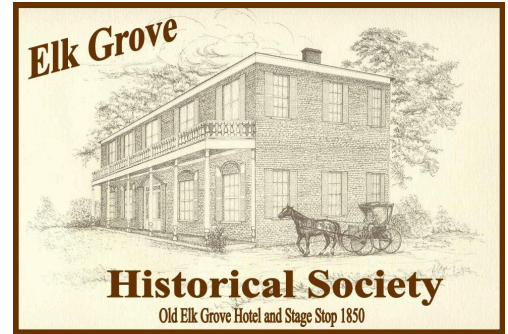


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 31 Issue 2

February 2010

A Message From the President

MUSEUM DAY

The year 2010 is here and we are going to open our Museum February 6th from 10AM to 4PM as extended hours to coincide with the Sacramento Area Museum Day celebration. If you have access to the internet, visit the information is at this site: <http://www.sacmuseums.org/findamuseum.html> for greater detail on the twenty-five (25) greater Sacramento area museums that will be offering free admission, all day long, during the 12th Annual Sacramento Museum Day. This event is presented by the Sacramento Association of Museums (SAM), and takes place Saturday, February 6, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (all participating museums close at 5 p.m., with the last guests admitted at 4 p.m.).

So before you go to Sacramento stop by our Museum at Elk Grove Heritage Park first and look at the new displays we have set up in all the rooms of the museum.

PARTICIPATING MUSEUMS for SACRAMENTO MUSEUM DAY 2010:

Aerospace Museum of California
California Automobile Museum
California Foundry History Museum
California State Military Museum
California State Capitol Museum
The California Museum
California State Indian Museum
California State Railroad Museum
Crocker Art Museum
Discovery Museum Science and Space Center
Elk Grove Heritage Park
Explorit Science Center (Davis)
Fairytale Town
Folsom History Museum
Governor's Mansion State Historic Park
Heidrick Ag History Center (Woodland)
Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park
Museum of Medical History
Old Sacramento Schoolhouse Museum
Old Sacramento State Historic Park
Sacramento Zoo
Sacramento Historic City Cemetery
Sacramento History Museum
Sojourner Truth Multicultural Arts Museum
Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
Wells Fargo History Museum (Old Sacramento location only).

ON DISPLAY IN THE BALLROOM

New This Year: On loan from Swanson & Sons Lock & Safe Company of Sacramento, we have an extensive collection of antique locks dating back to the 1800s. Some one of a kind and never been shown outside of the owner's store.



Eric Swanson



There are 4 antique locks in display cases

SLOUGHHOUSE RESIDENCE DISPLAY

From the families of the decedents of Thomas and Elizabeth Rhoads, Jared Sheldon, William Daylor and William Grimshaw (the 1846 settlers of the Sloughhouse area), we have assembled some never before seen heirlooms from their past. Photos and family tree will tell the story of the early settlement.

This is the watch Elizabeth Pinkerton wrote about in her first book describing how the two sisters found a large gold nugget and had it made into a watch.



May 8, 2010 Spring Tea

The Spring Tea Committee consists of the following: Dorothy Hrepich – Chairperson
Cindy Hrepich, Sandy Murray Silva, Frances Fite, Annaclare Entrican and Jim Entrican. Save the date of May 8 for a wonderful time under the shade trees of the Elk Grove Museum. We are looking for volunteers and want you to call any of the committee members or email Cindy Hrepich at cindyh_09@yahoo.com.



Calendar of Events for February and March 2010

February 8, 2010—EGHS Board Meeting 4:00 PM, Hotel & Stage Stop Museum, 994I East Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove

February 15, 2010—General Meeting will feature a presentation on Rose Hybridization in the 1800's by Sue Richter. The French rose growers in the 1800's just went crazy about roses and had a marvelous time coming up with new varieties. The row of Cecile Brunner Roses growing along the fence at the Hotel was one of their best and most enduring roses--hybridized in 1881. We will meet at the Logan's Roadhouse, 9105 W. Stockton Blvd. A no-host dinner will start at 5:30 with the meeting starting at 7 pm.

March 8, 2010—EGHS Board Meeting 4:00 PM, Hotel & Stage Stop Museum, 994I East Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove.

March 15, 2010—General Meeting (Save the date—more information in the March newsletter)

Just my Opinion by Tom Russell—February 2010

I'm sure that all of us, who have not had the experience of living on a ranch or farm, have had fantasies of living the pioneer life, even just for a week. I picture myself walking beside or driving a wagon across the plains and crossing the mountains - smelling the fresh country air, seeing the flower covered plains and watching herds of Buffalo and antelope. Of course, those fantasies come to a very quick halt when one of the wheels breaks or something happens that I can't figure out how to fix. Since I'm not a hunter, I cannot picture myself shooting, dressing and cooking a rabbit for dinner. I'm squeamish about harming an animal or myself. Yet, in those fantasies where things just don't go right, I always make a backup plan to survive in the wilderness. If a wheel breaks, I have another one in the wagon. For dinner, I always have some good food stored in the wagon somewhere. And it doesn't take me six months to get anywhere.

I guess the hardships and struggles that the pioneers had coming to California just does not hit home anymore. I started my life in the early '40s in Sacramento and there was always a grocery store or gas station just around the corner. The beach and the mountains were a two-hour drive and that was quite a trip for an antsy kid. California became a state on September 9th of 1850, but the news of becoming a state did not reach California until two months later. Having grown up with radio and television, it is hard to imagine such important news being so slow. Going without that ice cream bar, some sweet candy or even a soda would be a devastating experience. I can almost picture my withdrawals.

It is getting harder to think of Elk Grove, Franklin, Sheldon or Wilton as a vast open land with herds of deer, antelope and elk plus the occasional grizzly bear, mountain lion and wolf, and as the stories go, millions of Canada Geese that would barely move out of the way when someone rode by. No fences, roads or houses dotted the land. In the winter, parts of the area were like an inland sea where the rivers and streams overflowed their banks and flooded the land. In the summer there was tall dry grass and forests of Oak trees. It would have been deadly quiet - no airplanes in the sky, no traffic on a nearby highway, no train noises in the distance and certainly no far away gun shots to break the silence.

We in the Historical Society have an interest in preserving some of the past events of where we now live. Whether you were born here or moved here, you have an interest in how the area was in the "olden days." For many of us, our imaginations can run wild as to what the past was like; but as we find more written and pictured history, we see the events more clearly and in some perspective. You who are from pioneering families of Elk Grove may hold the key to the past for future generations.

For all of us today, it is only through our fantasies that we can imagine what Elk Grove will be like one hundred years from now. Could it be that in the year 2110, on the 65th floor of an apartment building sitting where Elk Grove Park used to be, an Elk Grove Historical Society member will be reading about the Elk Grove of 2010 and think, "so that is what it used to be like in the olden days."



Membership Dues are Due: Please use the Membership Renewal Form found in this newsletter to keep your membership current.

EGHS Treasurer, Dr. Phil Minghetti, is delighted to present the
Treasury Report for January 1, 2010
 The Grand Total for all accounts is broken down as follows:

Operating Account	
General Fund	\$644.56
Generations Fund	\$420.00
Wightman Fund	\$412.45
General Restoration Fund	\$10,704.02
Luttig Memorial Fund	\$353.60
Museum Store	\$2,518.13
Time Capsule Fund*	\$250.00
Subtotal	\$15,266.76
Rhoads School Account	
Operating Fund	\$376.06
Scholarship Fund	\$1,804.30
Steve Wright Memorial Fund	\$1,915.00
Subtotal	\$4,095.36
Grand Total of All Accounts	\$19,398.12

*The Time Capsule Fund has been set up to keep track of the donations paid to the Historical Society for this project.

New Members

Michelle & Chris Orrock, Gary Donaldson
 Harold Sodergren, Orlan Glantz

Member Update

Please note that Joyce Amundson has a new e-mail address: inwheel3@gmail.com

Jim Wright Passes Away



Long-time Elk Grove Historical Society (EGHS) member Jim Wright passed away on Saturday, January 16. Jim spent many long hours maintaining the grounds and facilities around the Elk Grove Hotel & Stage Stop Museum. He was on the Rhoads School Board, along with his wife

Elaine and Jim Wright

Elaine, and opened the schoolhouse for classes every week and did maintenance around the school.

Jim worked for Citizens Utilities for 30 years, was a volunteer fireman with the Elk Grove Fire Department when the department was almost entirely made up of volunteers, was a long-time member of the Elk Grove Lions Club, and was active in the Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce, along with Elaine.

Because of their tireless efforts in the community, Jim and Elaine were voted Elk Grove Citizens of the Year in 2007. Cosumnes Community Service District has named a park to commemorate their community service.

We will miss Jim and his involvement with the EGHS and the community. We extend our condolences to his family.

EGHS Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2010

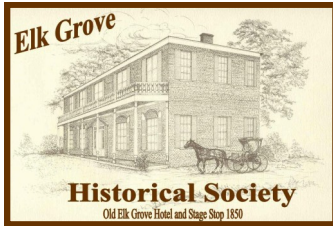
- **Call to order: Jim Entrican**
 Minutes of the December Board Meeting were read and approved by the Board
 Payment of a \$429 SMUD light bill for December was approved by the Board
 Treasurer's Report was read and approved by the Board
- **Committee Reports:**
 - (1) Discussion by the Board on ideas for speakers and locations of upcoming General Board Meetings.
 - (2) The next General Board Meeting will be held at Logan's Roadhouse on January 18.
- **Old Business:**
 - (1) Dennis Buscher is our representative for the Time Capsule project.
 - (2) The fence project is on hold.
- **New Business:**
 The Board voted to transfer \$1,000 from the Museum Store account to the General Fund on a motion made by Lorraine Croup and seconded by Brookelea Lutton and approved by a unanimous vote.
 The truck donated by the Beeman family will net \$8,591 for the Restoration Fund.
 Eric Swanson, Morris Grimshaw, Jessie Staner and Ellen Rosa have generously donated displays for the Hotel.
 Jeanette proposed to write a self-guiding tour brochure for the Hotel and told the Board of a work day on Saturday, January 30 from 10:00 a.m. to noon to prepare docents for the upcoming year.
- The meeting was adjourned by President Jim Entrican.

Research Library

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

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www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

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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.**