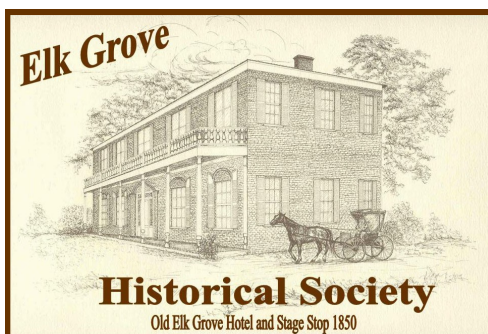


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

# The Stage Stop Gazette



Volume 31 Issue 1

January 2010

## A Message From the President



### Christmas

We have the total for the Old Fashioned Christmas and Black Tie & Santa events. This year the guests and donations totaled \$8,819.03 with expenses of \$2,607.34. This gave us a net profit of \$6,211.69. As president of the board, I want to thank everyone who worked the event and came to view and participate in this year's most successful fund raiser for the Elk Grove Historical Society.

### California Automobile Museum

The Elk Grove Historical Society consigned the 1946 Chevrolet Truck that was donated to us from the Beeman family to the California Automobile Museum. This was done in July of 2008 and I'm happy to report that this was sold on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2009. The selling price was \$10,058.00 and after deducting the 10% commission of \$1,005.80 and expenses of \$460.91 it leaves our Society with a net profit of \$8,591.29. If you are curious as to the buyer, he is Philippe Guerin from Bretagne, France. I would like to thank Milt Webb for his professionalism in making this project happen.



*Our truck did not look this good, but when the new buyer restores it, it will look this good.*



### Our Fence Project

We now have three bids for the fence project that will run two legs of the property. One will be North and South next to the frontage road and the second one will be East and West next to the parking lot. More information will be coming in next month's newsletter.



### Time Capsule Project

We are now accepting family donations for \$250. This level will have your name engraved as a sponsor at the permanent location where the Time Capsule will be mounted. Ed Keema will be building a miniature Stage Coach to hold the information in the Time Capsule to be opened in 25 years. Please make your check payable to the Elk Grove Historical Society and send it to Dennis Buscher's attention at our address P.O. Box 562, Elk Grove, CA 95759. I have paid my \$250 for the Entricans; let me see some of you do the same.



## Calendar of Events for January and February 2010

**January 11, 2010**—EGHS Board Meeting 4:00 PM, Hotel & Stage Stop Museum, 994I East Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove.

**January 13, 2010**—SacArea Consortium Meeting - 10 AM to 3 PM Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at the Hotel & State Stop Museum. Lunch will provided for the usual \$10 contribution.

**January 18, 2010**—General Meeting There is no program for our General Meeting at the time of this printing of the news letter. We will meet at the Logan's Roadhouse, 9105 W. Stockton Blvd. A no-host dinner will start at 5:30 PM with the meeting starting at 7 PM.

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

**February 15, 2010**—General Meeting (More information in February newsletter).

### Just my Opinion by Tom Russell—January 2010

The past has a way of slipping out of sight without anyone really noticing the changes. Each year we accept changes without much question and don't recognize the new technology that brought us something new.

Let's take transportation for instance. For hundreds of thousands of years, humans were few and far between and lived in small family groups. Their mode of transportation was basically walking from camp to camp carrying their possessions on their backs or using a log sled they would pull behind them. They only took what was absolutely necessary and left the rest because they would probably return to the same location the next summer or winter. Eventually, sometime around 3500 BC, the wheel was invented and based on ancient clay tablets; it was a potter's wheel. From there, it only took about three hundred years for the wheel to find its way onto chariots. Wheels seem to have evolved in the middle east then eventually developed in Europe only about 1400 years ago. This single invention was something that would forever change our lives and has only been around in a blink of an eye in evolutionary time. The basis for all that makes our lives so easy and practical today is only 5,520 years old.

Transportation has always been of utmost importance in the exploration and conquering of new lands. Transportation using wheel technology came to America only when Europeans settled in the Western Hemisphere. It changed very little in its use until the beginning of the nineteenth century. The Industrial Revolution finally changed the outlook for the simple wheel into thousands of ways in so many different mechanisms.

Our lives have become so dependent on the wheel that we forget what it would be like without it. Our westward expansion across America was because of wheel based transportation. Wagons allowed people and commerce to progress more rapidly further and further away from cities. Life is now greatly dependent on the evolution of the wheel.

In the early 1800's, the railroad came to America. Railroads moved products and people faster, safer and further than ever before. The thing that stood in the way of the ultimate progress in America was the Sierra Nevada Mountains. In November of 1863, the first Central Pacific railroad engine was shipped around the horn to Sacramento. This started the push to connect east and west and to realize great profits in trade, commerce and travel. In 1868, the railroad came through Elk Grove in its bid to be ready for the greater connection, the Transcontinental Connection of east and west on May 10<sup>th</sup> 1869 at Promontory Summit, Utah.

Even though the first steam engine automobile was invented around 1769, it wasn't until 1806 the development of the internal combustion engine happened, and then not until 1885 that the modern petrol fueled engine came to be. Around the turn of the century, the passenger automobile made its debut and changed forever how we live our lives. The automobile allowed us to travel further, carry more supplies and provided a certain type of convenience we now feel that we cannot live without.

Of course, we cannot disregard the invention of the airplane. Man has had dreams of flying like birds from time immemorial, but it wasn't until 1903 that the first controlled flight took place. Flight gave us a whole new mode of transportation that developed through dreams.

The three greatest inventions of transportation that changed our lives have only occurred in the last couple of hundred years. We need to acknowledge the great strides that have taken place in their development from then to now. Trains can now travel upwards of 186 mph and is the new wave to connect cities and communities in the shortest time possible. We now live miles away from our work place or recreation and think nothing of driving our car at 60 mph. The automobile has allowed us to travel further, save time and explore our world. From the invention of the airplane come the mass distribution of people and supplies. Each day, around the world, millions of people travel for their jobs, family or recreation.

We should remember the very beginnings of our transportation when people walked or rode animals as their only mode of transportation to the invention of the wheel and the use of carriages, the settling of the west with wagons and pull carts and eventually to the invention of the automobile which allowed for more freedom of travel and finally the ultimate of airplane travel. By knowing and understanding our short transportation past can we appreciate what we have today and what the future may bring tomorrow. And it all started with a potter's wheel!

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:

<b><u>Operating Account</u></b>	
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
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>\$15,266.76</b>
<b><u>Rhoads School Account</u></b>	
Operating Fund	\$376.06
Scholarship Fund	\$1,804.30
Steve Wright Memorial Fund	\$1,915.00
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>\$4,131.36</b>
<b><u>Grand Total of All Accounts</u></b>	<b>\$19,398.12</b>

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

**Treasures from Our Past**



**Crescentia's Doll**

By Brookelea Lutton

My first cousin-once removed, Crescentia Mary Wilson, was born in 1903 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. She was a sickly girl, having contracted rheumatic fever as a young child and spent her days in a wicker wheelchair, much like the wheelchair that sat in the men's parlor at our museum during Christmas. Crescentia spent her days

making rosary beads and playing with her dolls. This is one of her dolls. The doll's long hair is a wig made from Crescentia's hair. The doll wears the original dress and black high top boots. Although armless, her arms still exist and would need a trip to the doll hospital to be reattached.

As the disease progressed and her heart weakened, Crescentia's parents took her to various shrines hoping for a cure. Nothing worked, and in 1917 Crescentia passed away at the age of 14. Her doll, rosary beads, and a locket with her picture in it have been lovingly preserved and cared for by cousin Dorothy Crean who shared this picture with me.

Crescentia's doll is a tangible link to the past and to people whose blood flows through my veins. What do YOU have that's tucked away and is a link to YOUR past and that will be carried on into the future to be lovingly admired by YOUR descendants? If you would like to share an item for our newsletter, please send a picture (copy rather than original) and a short description of the item and what it means to you to Brookelea Lutton at [blutton2@surewest.net](mailto:blutton2@surewest.net). Or, mail to Brookelea at 9750 Parktree Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Send a SASE for return of the picture.

**EGHS Board Meeting Minutes December 14, 2009**

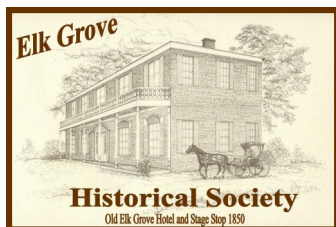
- **Call to order:** Jim Entrican
- **Committee Reports:** Lucille Christensen: Program for next General Meetings: No General Meeting this month.
- **Old Business:** Lorraine Croup – Recap and approve dues letter to members: Dear Member: Year 2010 is here and dues are ready to be paid - our records indicate your account is as Follows: Year or year's due Total \$\_\_\_\_. Your dues pay for the printing and mailing of the newsletter, office supplies, and other expenses necessary to operate the museum. We do appreciate your continued support of the Elk Grove Historical Society. (Note: We will hand write the members name and amount due and include a self-addressed envelope (no stamp). **CSD Board of Directors** has requested a detailed report on the restoration of the Foulks & Reese buildings. Jim's Report was presented to the CSD Board on November 18, 2009. **Jeanette Lawson** – Update on Old Fashioned Christmas.
- **New Business:** Kevin Pressey – **Foulks House Restoration Project:** Kevin is a principal with HMR Architects and is going to assist us with our restoration of the Foulks House. We have to make a decision as to how we are going to do this: Are we going to register the Foulks House with the National Register of Historic Places before we start the restoration, or restore it first then try to register it? Action: The board decided to restore the Foulks House without National Registry and pass this information to Kevin. **Time Capsule project** is in full swing and donations are requested from the membership of the Elk Grove Historical Society. If 20 members sponsor the \$250 Family Level it will generate \$5000 toward the \$30,000 needed to complete the project. Jim Entrican has made the first contribution of \$250 for his family and issues a request for other members to do the same. **Fence Project:** We are working on three bids for the construction of the fence. Dr. Bob's next **Sacramento Area Consortium meeting** will be on Wednesday, January 13th in Elk Grove at our Museum from 10 AM to 2 PM.
- 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](mailto:msjlaw@comcast.net)



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)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 86  
Elk Grove, CA

**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.**

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