

Elk Grove Historical Society

Stage Stop Gazette

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2022

Volume 43: Issue 1-2

A publication by the Elk Grove Historical Society, representing the communities of Elk Grove, Wilton, Sheldon, Franklin, Bruceville, Point Pleasant and Sloughhouse.



Arnie Zimbelman (teaching)



Arnie Zimbelman (present day)

Inside the Museum Files

“Giuseppe Frontage”

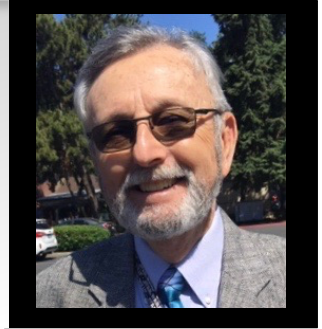
Local Elk Grove High School and Cosumnes College history teacher, Strauss Festival founder, and popular local icon, tried to make learning fun. Here is a cute story we hope you will enjoy.

“Here is the story I told you about that I used to ‘teach’ to my U.S. History students and wait for them to catch on.” – Arnie Zimbelman

“Giuseppe Frontage (Pronounced “Fron-Toggy”) was an Italian mathematician who developed the theory of non-intersecting parallel lines. The theory stated that as long as two lines were perfectly parallel, they would never meet. He wrote and sold several books about his theory until he raised enough money to become an explorer. This was during the Age of Exploration when several European nations were establishing colonies around the world. The Italians had no colonies at the time, so Frontage decided to travel to the New World to establish Italian colonies. Unfortunately, the Spaniards and Portuguese already dominated most of the land on the eastern coast of North America. So, Frontage sailed around the tip of South America and on up to the area of present-day California but, even there, the Spaniards had already settled much of the area and Frontage was unable to establish a colony there. Because of his lack of success, Frontage was largely forgotten until centuries later when the California Department of Transportation decided to recognize him for his theory of non-intersecting parallel lines. They decided that wherever a road ran parallel to a freeway, it would be called a Frontage Road.”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by KEN MILLER



Happy New Year!

Thank you for being a member of the Elk Grove Historical Society and donating your valuable time and energy. We have completed many successful projects, the past few years with your help, and I wanted to showcase some of our successes. This past year, the “Summer Kitchen” was completed in November as a multi-use room. The “Foulks House” was completed with a dedication by the Native Sons of the Golden West and was ready for Christmas showing. The Blacksmith Shop and Storage facility has been open for business the last few years. Similarly, the Quad pavement area was completed and has been used for multiple events, including Strauss Festival dancers from our partner organization. The Boy Scouts even constructed an outdoor privy similar to what you would find in the 1850s at the Foulks House. The Boy Scouts have been very active in other projects they completed, like the brick retaining wall around part of the Quad area. They helped with raised flower beds around the jail, the bell mounting, picket fence installation and the Heritage Park Roofed Entry. Storage capacity was enhanced with recently painted storage containers. New lawn was planted next to the Summer Kitchen.

These projects could not have been completed without your involvement by volunteering, helping with events or donations. I want to thank all those members and volunteers that helped decorating for the holidays. The process started the first week of October and will not be totally completed until after the first part of January. Come join us this year as a volunteer. We can always use your help.

Have a Great Year!

Ken Miller, President



1st Vice President's Message

by Rosemarie Miller

“I would like to thank John Fressetto and Louie Silveira who rallied around and filled in for Ken as Santa Claus this year. We hope the doctors will get Ken back to his jolly self and he will return next year with all of you as Santa Claus for Christmas. I hope your holidays were great and Happy New Year to everyone!”

Ray Bayles' Old Town Creations on November 15, 2021

Results of the general meeting voting—a great turn out!

The hot cider was delicious and everyone devoured the cake. It was a pleasant evening.



Ray Bayles



Ken, Rosemarie, Cindy, Dennis and Pam
(Jeanette is missing—back pain)



Wayne Gallup visiting with everyone.



A happy group of enjoyment!



Barbara & Pam enjoying!



So much to see for all!

Thank You
Volunteers.



We are so grateful to all the wonderful Christmas volunteers who helped decorate, take over docent assignments, clean up, be on hand and stay strong with all the needs to be fulfilled! It is because of each and every one of you that our 2021 Stage Stop Christmas showcase was successful!

Our 2021 Christmas Stage Stop decorations were the best ever!



MARK YOUR CALENDERS for 2022 GENERAL SESSION MEETINGS!

2022 General Meeting Speakers

January 17 – Douglas Hsia on “Locke”
February 21 – David Lema on The Elk Grove Southeast Asia Story
March 21 – Oscar Mix family
April 18 – Tom Herzog and his Family’s Delta Dairy
May 16 – Steve Ly on the Hmong
June 20 – Margie Jones & Beth Headland on Strauss History
July – ~~No general meeting~~ – Summer recess
August – ~~No general meeting~~ – Summer recess
September 19 – Dan Tarnasky & Janis Barsetti - Galt History
October 17 – Jonathan Lambdin on the EG Cemetery District & Cemeteries
November – Elections
December – Old Fashion Christmas

JANUARY 17, 2022 Douglas Hsia on “Locke”



The small town of Locke, sitting alongside the Sacramento River near Walnut Grove has been a local destination for many years and is filled with Chinese history. The town has a museum, many quaint shops, and the well-known and popular “Al The Wops” restaurant. We are fortunate to



have long time Locke resident and historian Douglas Hsia speak on the Chinese culture and its history in Locke. The free, hour-long event will take place Monday evening January 17, 2022, at 6:30 at the Presbyterian Church at 8153 Elk Grove Boulevard, Suite-50, Elk Grove, 95758 (That’s the NW corner of Big Horn, behind the Chevron Station). It will be hosted by the Elk Grove Historical Society and is part of their monthly speaker series. We have refreshments and hope you will attend.

FEBRUARY 21, 2022 David Lema on “The Elk Grove Southeast Asia Story”



David Lema is a lifelong resident of Sacramento County. In 2016, he helped form the Linda Mae Mahon Lema Foundation, an Elk Grove non-profit corporation created by the friends and family of David’s wife of nearly 50 years, Linda, who passed away in 2015. The mission of the LMML Foundation is to research, document, record and preserve, and present and publish the personal stories and family histories of the greater area of Elk Grove. The LMML Foundation is a member of the Elk Grove Historical Society. Tonight, David will present the 2021 LMML Foundation production titled “The Elk Grove Southeast Asia Story”.

The history of the Elk Grove area is not only deep and rich but continues evolving. One significant world event which affected this history was the Vietnam War. The War was profoundly felt within the community at the time, and its cascading effects have dramatically and permanently altered the fabric and vibrancy of the area; transforming it from an agricultural-based rural community to a thriving city of diverse and vast potential. Recognizing that this era is a very distinct chapter of ‘History Is Happening Here’, the LMML Foundation produced a one-hour YouTube audio-chronicle which captures local people telling their stories of the era; in their own words and voices. These voices paint a history, telling the story of those who served, those who were lost, and those who lived in Southeast Asia, including how, when, and why they fled to settle in Elk Grove. Each story is different and adds an important page to this chapter of Elk Grove area history.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS for HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

Civil War Days - 1st weekend in May

Big Day of Giving: May - Always the first Thursday – at the museum

Spring Tea: May - Always the Saturday before Mother's Day at the museum

Yard Sale: June - Usually on the second weekend - 4-day event at the museum

Elk Grove Historical Society-Elizabeth Pinkerton History Award - September sometime

Hop and Brew Fest - September sometime at the Mahon Ranch

Black Tie & Santa - Last Sunday (of November) before Old Fashion Christmas tours begin

An Old Fashion Christmas - December - 3 weekends before Christmas

First Saturday Tours - Held 9 months of the year (No January, November or December)

General Meeting Speakers - Third Monday of 8 months of the year (January, February, March, April, May, June, September and October)

Bus Trips - Haven't scheduled any for 3 years

Dedication or celebration - Occasional - May depend on many factors





Stage Stop Spotlight

(Welcome to our new feature, highlighting the connection someone has with the history of Elk Grove). We are searching for our next spotlight!

TOM & CINDY MAHON

Tom and Cindy Mahon are 4th generation ranchers and farmers on the historic Mahon Ranch in Elk Grove, California. The ranch is currently owned by the Mahon Family Partnership consisting of Robert Mahon, Jack Mahon, and Tom Mahon. It is the oldest family-owned business in the same location in Elk Grove. It was started by John Mahon in 1882

Tom and Cindy Mahon have been married since 1981. After ten years of working as a team together, we decided to have some children to carry on another generation. The children grew up on the ranch learning to irrigate, take care of livestock, and drive tractors. While they were in elementary school, they joined 4H and later FFA which gave them opportunities to host and support many other kids with their projects. As a bonus it gave their grandpa and grandma great pleasure to see their grandkids interact with other kids with similar interests.

When Tom and Cindy were first married, they did a lot of ranch work together. It included irrigating corn and Cindy being an exceptional siphon setter (although she could only pack 35 at a time). In those days, we had 160 acres of corn and the water had to be changed twice a day in the Summer. Other yearly chores were branding 250-300 calves a year, processing over 1,000 yearlings per year, and fixing fences. Every year in the late Spring, sections of fence totaling 20 miles had to be put up around our allotment in the Sierras near Silver Lake. The cattle that would go up were then chosen and belled for the truck ride to the summer range in the mountains, where Bob and his wife Alice would take care of them for three months.

Living by the Cosumnes river meant that there were a lot of stray animals in our lives. Sometimes we would find young animals or birds of prey that were too young to survive on their own and we would take them in until they were old enough to take care of themselves. Of course, living on a farm meant that there were always baby calves to raise as well.

We have always been keenly aware of local history and conservation, and very much enjoy our time with the Elk Grove Historical Society.



PLEASE ADVERTISE WITH US:

STAGE STOP GAZETTE

\$100.00 (Full Page) - \$50.00 (½ Page)

\$25.00 (¼ Page) - \$12.50 (1/8 Page)

(Add \$25.00 color to each ad run)!

Ads to: djaney@me.com

Payments to EGHS: <https://eghistory.org/>



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by Dina Wilcox

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ADVERTISING: We're looking for direct, personal advertising that will benefit our local community and families! If you have a local business that provides gift-able items or produce items at home, we can accommodate you! Did you write a book? Do you breed cockatiels? Do you make hair bows? Do you design ceramics? Any/all businesses are welcome! Provide links to your websites if applicable! **Thank you!**

2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Rhoads School Report

by Director Roberta Tanner



Sadly, local school districts still have restrictions, but this gives private and religious schools better options and flexibility to schedule for prime dates. We have currently scheduled 20 classes. Things are going well. Some of our long-time docents have retired and we are in need and willing to train new volunteers. Please contact Director Roberta Tanner (9160 214-8345) if you are interested.

Calendar of Events for January – February 2022

January

- Jan. 10** EG Historical Society **Board** meeting
3:00 PM at the Museum
- Jan. 17** EGHS General Session Meeting at the
Presbyterian Church as usual. Doors open
at 6:00 pm and presentation starts at 6:30
Douglas Hsia on “Locke” (Bio Pg. 5)
- Jan. 18** Historical Society Planning Meeting from
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM at Wackford Center

February

- Feb. 14** EG Historical Society **Board** meeting
3:00 PM at the Museum
- Feb. 21** EGHS General Session Meeting at the
Presbyterian Church as usual. Doors open
at 6:00 pm and presentation starts at 6:30
David Lema on “The Elk Grove Southeast
Asia Story” (Bio Pg. 5)



Cassie & Curtis Ayers

Angie Gergiannakis

Dan & Kathy Schmitt

Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Account:

November 2021 December 2021

General/Operating/Restoration Funds	\$81,593.47	\$67,311.00
Wightman Memorial Fund	\$12,999.13	\$12,761.83
Library Digitizing Project	\$101.33	\$101.33

Total Operating Account Balance **\$94,693.93** **\$80,174.16**

Real Estate Rental Account **\$32,267.46** **\$32,686.08**

Museum Store Account: **\$3,633.77** **\$3,633.83**

Rhoads School Account Balances:

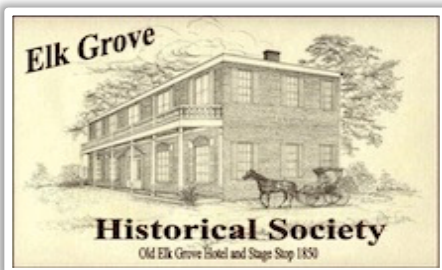
Operating Fund	\$409.81	\$313.41
Scholarship Fund	\$13,104.77	\$13,104.77

Total Rhoads School Account **\$13,514.58** **\$13,418.18**

Total of All Accounts **\$144,109.74** **\$129,912.25**

COME JOIN US! Meet wonderful friends, enjoy and participate in great activities all year long!

The Stage Stop Gazette
Elk Grove Historical Society
P.O. Box 562
Elk Grove, CA 95759



Elk Grove House & Stage Stop
Museum Is located at
9941 East Stockton Boulevard
Adjacent to the west entrance to the
Elk Grove Regional Park

Our Phone: (916) 685-8115

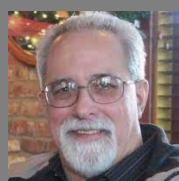
Our E-mail:
eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

Our Website:
www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com

There are over fifty local history subjects
listed on our website to peruse.

The museum is open for **FREE** tours
every first Saturday of the month
between 12:00 to 4:00.

The Research Library is open to the
public by appointment only.



Newsletter

*Archivist,
Historian &
Photographer*

Louis Silveira

Rhoads School

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If this is a business membership, please complete the following:

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Types of Membership and fee structure (check one)

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<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (80+)	FREE
<input type="checkbox"/> Business, Corporation, Association	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime (Member & Spouse)	\$400.00

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Dues may be deductible under IRS code 501(c)3**