

Elk Grove Historical Society

Stage Stop Gazette

July 2023 August

Volume 44 Issue 7-8

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

Inside the Museum Files: Elk Grove's 2nd Theatre



The first Elk Grove Theatre at the auction yard at the end of Webb Street lasted five years until the Amundson Family could build their own theatre, the *Boulevard Theatre* on Elk Grove Boulevard (On NE corner of present-day Williamson Drive) opening on February 4, 1955. They sold it in 1959 to the Brown and DeWald families who ran it for six more years. Then they sold it in 1965 and it became the Elk Grove Assembly of God church. In 1977 it burnt down under mysterious circumstances and the lot was then sold to a Sacramento investment group. Present-day it is a U-Haul truck rental, Box store, and dentist office.

The new theater included decorative carpets, baby-sitting rooms on each side of the theater, a snack bar and 500 padded theater seats, which Amundson purchased from an old theater in Oakland. When the DeWald's bought the theatre in 1958 they wanted to change the title to the "Elk Theatre," but Grandma Hattie Van Doran, got all upset because she won the contest for naming the Amundson's theatre the "Boulevard Theatre" and didn't want to change the name, so they didn't." The prize she had won was an onyx and diamond ring.

In the years the Amundson's, Brown's, and DeWalds owned it, it was also used for other local events like fashion shows, beauty pageants (Miss Sacramento South County), political rallies ("Congressman Moss Night"), and local plays. They even displayed race car driver Johnnie Parsons actual race car for a time. But it was always about the movies, remember the "*Tingler*," the "*Blob*," "*Sleeping Beauty*," "*Gidget Goes to Hawaii*," "*Gone With the Wind*," "*How To Marry a Millionaire*," "*River of No Return*," "*It Came From Beneath the Sea*," "*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*," and many, many more.

You can always go to the elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com website and on the menu look for "History Topics" and read many detailed stories and photos from the Amundsons and other locals.

Stage Stop Spotlight

Highlighting and appreciating our many volunteers



Pam Phelps

Both of my parents are from the East Coast. In fact, ancestors from both my mom and dad came to this continent from England in the early 1600's. Some of them built Plymouth, one designed the layout of Boston, and others were ship builders on Long Island. Although I was born in Syracuse, New York, I was raised in the Sacramento area. I graduated from Norte Del Rio High School and received a BA from Sacramento State University. After moving to Corvallis, Oregon for seven years, I returned to Sacramento and obtained a teaching credential and eventually a masters in Bilingual Cross-Cultural Studies. My career has afforded me some varied experiences. I was a banker starting as a data processor and eventually managing a department. I worked for a contractor for a few years where I learned to cost out and schedule housing projects. I even worked for a political law firm – on both sides. Finally, and with a bilingual degree, I began teaching, a career that I always had aspired for. Eventually, I was part of a team of teachers, parents and professionals that started our own two-way Spanish/English immersion K-8 school. I sat on the Board of the school for two three-year terms. This is an accomplishment I'm most proud of. In 2018 I retired, however, I worked an additional 2 ½ years teaching part time teaching math and theater. In 2008, I visited the Historical Society's Old-Fashioned Christmas. Eventually, I became an active member taking on involvement in many of the events. I've sat on the Board as Recording Secretary for a few years and co-chaired several projects and events. I love history and being part of the organization has really kept me busy. So much for any idle days of being retired. In my spare time (ha, ha) I like to craft, garden, and travel. My heaven on earth is anywhere near water. I love the peacefulness of kayaking, the beach, and the mountains. Someday, I hope to publish a children's book.



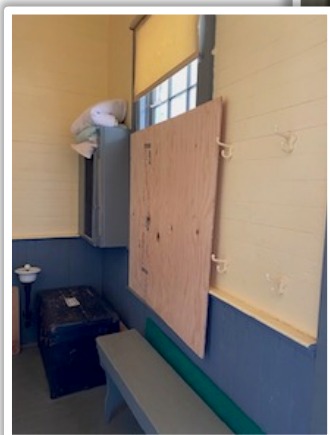
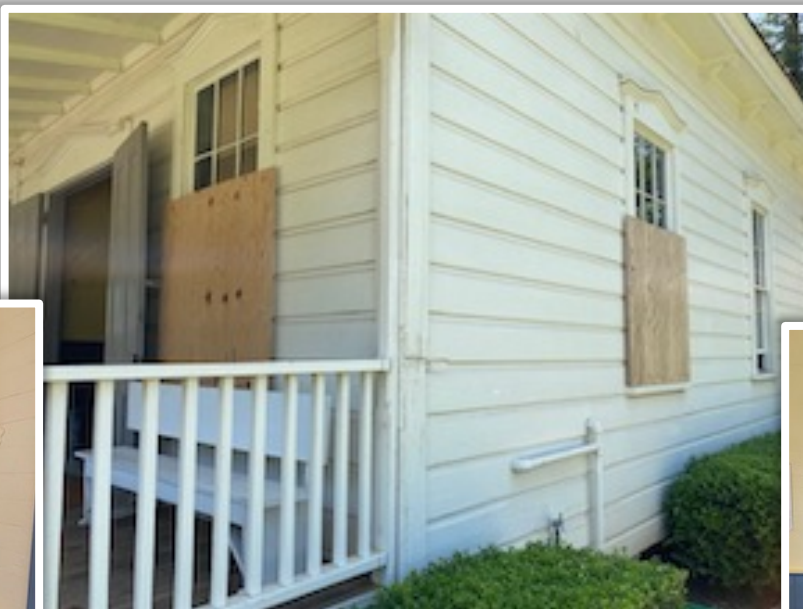
Rhoads School Report



We have one new docent, but we are still in the need of more for the Living History Program. If you know anyone that might be interested, please contact Head Docent and Rhoads School Director Roberta Tanner at clantanner@aol.com or (916) 214-8345 who would love to share details.

Unfortunately, there has been some vandalism in the park. At the Museum, the flagpole was pulled/pushed over and broken. At the School, several windows were broken by pieces of wood being thrown through them. CSD is investigating.

This so disheartening as there is so much community effort and history behind each building. It is hard to imagine why people do these things.



Calendar of Events for May and June 2023



July

July 1: **1st Saturday Tour** of Museums noon to 4:00 pm, FREE

July 4: **Independence Day**

July 10: **Historical Society Board Meeting** at the Museum – 3:00 pm

July 17: **No Speaker**- Summer Break



August

Aug 5: **1st Saturday Tour** of Museums noon to 4:00 pm FREE

Aug 7: Monday **Rhoads School board** meeting at 9:00 am – Mike's Diner

Aug 14: **Historical Society Board Meeting** at the Museum – 3:00 pm

Aug 21: **No Speaker** – Summer Break



Our next event is the 1st Annual Founder's Day on Saturday, September 2nd at the museum. This is a day where we celebrate the founding of Elk Grove and our community. It is also the day we present the Elk Grove Historical Society Elizabeth Pinkerton History Award to some deserving individual and this year we are including the dedication of the blacksmith statute plaque. It will be a day of fun and historical activities. We hope all can come.

Thank you Everyone!

**Big
Day of
Giving**



Since the beginning of May, we have been involved in four major events: Big Day of Giving, Civil War Days, Derby Day Spring Tea, and the Yard Sale. There is a lot of planning and work involved in staging these events, but it takes many volunteers to pull them off. So, in a sweeping THANK YOU to all of you for all that you did to make them all so successful.

Truly we couldn't do it without you.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

2023

Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Accounts:	April	May
General Operating Fund	\$20,472.63	\$32,683.06
General Restoration Fund	\$62,547.42	\$62,547.42
Feasibility-Barn Project	\$17,109.04	\$17,109.04
Library Digitalizing	\$101.33	\$101.33
Total Account Balance	\$100,230.42	\$112,440.85
Real Estate Rental Account	\$47,271.37	\$48,414.23
Museum Store Account:	\$8,483.53	\$6,891.67
Rhoads School Account:		
Operating Fund	\$555.91	\$501.55
Scholarship Fund	\$10,491.41	\$10,187.19
Total Account Balance	\$11,047.32	\$10,688.84
Total	\$167,032.64	\$178,435.59

welcome
NEW MEMBERS

Madonna Barlow

Chau Chung

STORIES IN STONE

Sloughhouse Pioneer
Cemetery Tours

June 10, July 8, Aug 12, Sep 9, 2023
second Saturdays, 11am-2pm



Tours are Free -
Donations Appreciated

Daughters of Utah Pioneers
Preserving the Past - Strengthening the Future
Questions? Call Roberta 916-214-8345

If anyone is interested in placing an ad in the Stage Stop Gazette, please contact Louis Silveira for details at lssilveira@comcast.net or (916) 682-1335.

1/8 page (business card) = \$25/newsletter

¼ page = \$50/newsletter

½ page = \$100/newsletter

Timeless Events
by Dina Wilcox

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Lace & Ivy Grand Opening

Thursday, July 6th

Open 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**4:00 pm Ribbon Cutting
Refreshments**

8739 Elk Grove Boulevard

A Home Décor and Garden Boutique – Formerly known as “Old Town Creations”



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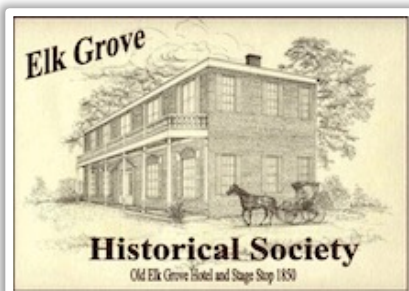
Sana Tax Preparation

Sunny Prasad has been the Historical Society's preparer for five years and we are amazed at his knowledge and attention to detail.

We couldn't be happier and hope you may consider his services. We believe you won't be disappointed.

Happy New Year!

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

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

Our Phone: (916) 685-8115

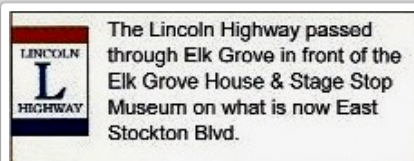
Our E-mail:

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. Docents available for free guided tours at other days and times upon request.
- The Research Library is open to the public by appointment only.



Rhoads School
Information or scheduling
hartville@comcast.net
(916) 684-3181 hm

Newsletter Editor,
Design,
Photography, and
Layout:
Louis Silveira



New Member and Membership Renewal Form

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Area of interest: _____

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

Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Types of Membership and fee structure (check one)

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Person	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Group	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (Full time under 25)	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (65 to 79)	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (80+)	FREE
<input type="checkbox"/> Business, Corporation, Association	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime (Member & Spouse)	\$400.00

Note: EGHS is a California Non-Profit Corporation
Dues may be deductible under IRS code 501(c)3