



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

# The Start of Football in Elk Grove



When did “football” start in Elk Grove? In 1926, there is no photo or information in the Elk Grove High School yearbook about the team. The 1927 yearbook only contained photos (see photo right) with no written information. The following is from the 1928 EGHS yearbook:

“Since 1926, when the great game of football was introduced to Elk Grove High School, the football team has made rapid progress toward the goal, which is sought by all teams, that of championship of the league. When the game was introduced into the high school by Coach Harold Cunningham, nearly half of the boys in school reported for practice. The new football suits came and then work became harder and, as such is nearly always the case, half the boys cut practice and decided the game was too tough for them, so they quit.”

“Practice became more strenuous, and the boys became tougher and when time the first game rolled around, every boy thought he was a football player, but his mind was suddenly changed after the Christian Brothers college team had tromped on them to the tune of 50-0 score. The next Monday morning the members of the team came to the school hobbling, limping, and otherwise, but none were discouraged with their showing, as the college team was rated high in Sacramento Valley football circles.”

“The league games began and all the schools that played congratulated the team on their good showing for their first year of football. The Elk Grove team played some close games and even held their old rivals in athletics, the Galt high school, to a 0 to 0 tie and Galt had been playing football for two years.”

“When the 1927 season opened, Coach Cunningham put his warriors through limbering up exercises and the boys stuck to the job. As a result, the team progressed rapidly, being able to defeat two teams (out of seven games) of the league and keep others to small scores.”



## Founders Day Celebration

September 2, 2023

Elk Grove Heritage Park Museum

9941 East Stockton Blvd.

10 am – 4 pm

10:30 am: Presentations and Dedications Begin

- Presentation: "Elizabeth Pinkerton History Award"  
By: The Elk Grove Historical Society
- Presentation: "How Elk Grove Got Its Name"  
By: Roberta Tanner
- Dedication of Blacksmith Statue (Sculptor Bruce Carty)  
By: Jim Entrican

Historical activities by Laura Laney and Girl Scout Troop #3842

For children and adults—come and play!

Jacks



Marbles



Egg and spoon race



3-legged race



Metal punch art



Butter making



Weaving goat yarn



Old fashion laundry demonstrations



Plus other games, toys and activities

12:00 Noon: Museums open for free guided tours



Elk Grove House—Ballroom Display: Timeline of Elk Grove History



San Joaquin Township Justice Court



Foulks House



Covered Wagon



Blacksmith Shop

4:00 pm: Festivities and Guided Tours End

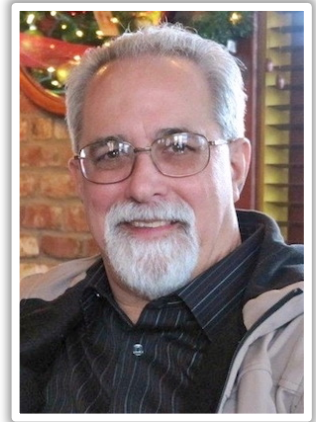
Website: <https://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com/>



Please join us for Founders Day and celebrate our community. A day filled with activities for the whole family; Games, Demonstrations, Awards, Dedications, Display unveilings, Tours, and more, all for Free! Open at 10:00 am, ceremonies start at 10:15. Games, demonstrations, and tours start at noon. All ends at 4:00 pm.

## Congratulations!

Louis Silveira is the recipient of this year's Elk Grove Historical Society Elizabeth Pinkerton History Award for his history work in the community.



Elizabeth Pinkerton writes...

"Louis is a very active member of the Elk Grove Historical Society and sends out regular information. He works on many historical projects and continues his searches for local history. He sends out regular emails to thousands of classmates, faculty, and friends in his Elk Grove High School UPDATE newsletter. Louis Silveira is very active in community events, including those of the City of Elk Grove, The Elk Grove Unified School District, Parks and Recreation, the Old Town Foundation, and many other community activities. I couldn't be more proud to give the 2023 Elizabeth Pinkerton History Award to Mr. History himself, Louis Silveira, my friend."



Sculptor Bruce Carty and wife Paulina will be attending the dedication of the Blacksmith Statue. He completed the 11' statue in 1986 and is well known for sculpting the massive Buffalo and the Native American Warrior in Sheldon.



The Valley Oak Press, Inc. who publishes our local newspaper is upgrading and downsizing. They publish the Elk Grove Citizen, the Laguna Citizen, the Galt Herald, the River Valley Times, and a variety of other community newspapers. Their present office property in Galt commands 19,000 sq. ft. to work. Upgrading to a private printing business allows them to downsize the old printing equipment that required upkeep, maintenance, and repairs. This allows them to move to a smaller more manageable office of around 1,000 sq. ft. A tremendous savings that they could put back into the publications. They are still figuring it out and haven't found a new facility yet. And there is interest by other publications in playing a roll. Presently, they felt there would be no noticeable changes in the publications during the transition period whenever that should take place.

One side highlight to this change is that Valley Oak Press asked the Elk Grove Historical Society if we would be willing to be keepers of the Elk Grove Citizen/Laguna newspaper archives; Three huge bookcases filled with about 170 volumes of yearly publications, sometimes requiring three volumes to hold the entire year. Fortunately, we have a climate-controlled basement, a fire protection system in place, and an electronic security system to protect the collection. We had to move a few items around, but they fit well, and we are all very excited about the acquisition.

The museum isn't continuously open weekly like the offices in Galt, but if anyone wants to view the books or do some research call the museum at (916) 685-8115 or Louis Silveira at (916) 682-1335 hm and we can make a 2-hour reservation at your convenience. We have our own files of individuals and subject matter that may be of assistance to you and an adjunct to your research. Of course, its free, and we have a copy machine at 25 cents per copy.







# Rhoads School Report



The broken window vandalism the school experienced this summer has been repaired. So now we are prepared for the 2023-2024 school year living history program at Rhoads School. We already have 32 schools scheduled and 11 have requested scholarships. We are looking to add more after classes and teachers settle into the new year.

We are fortunate to have three new docents Denise, Faith, and Joyce in training, as well as our current staff of Roberta, Susan, Robin, and Lisa who can't wait for the classes to begin.

It is truly an opportunity to experience local life in an 1890 one-room schoolhouse that will be remembered by students for a lifetime.

The covered wagon has been relocated to a safer location, which is better for viewing and photo ops. We are in the process of securing quotes to build a protective covering.

*(Note: Pardon the wall of the Foulks house. We are pressure washing it for re-painting.)*



# Stage Stop Spotlight

Highlighting and appreciating our many volunteers



## Jerry Marr

I was born in Denver, Colorado, lived 2 years in Pendleton, Oregon and made it to San Jose, California when I was 8. I made it through 3 ½ years of college but never got a degree. I hired on in 1967 as a computer operations trainee (having never seen a computer in my life!) for an IBM subsidiary and transitioned into Main Frame Programming for IBM after a couple of years. I was lucky enough to marry Bonnie in 1963 and she had a love of traveling. So, when IBM offered me an assignment in Winchester, England, it was easy to say yes and even easier to say yes to another assignment in Lidingö, Sweden (an island next to Stockholm). A few years later I discovered that San Jose and living with someone with wanderlust was not working so I transferred to Winchester, New York. We lived in Woodstock for several years before I transferred to Roanoke, Texas. We lived in Colleyville for several years when the IBM site closed and we ended up in Gilroy, California for a few years. We started thinking about where we might want to retire, and it wasn't Gilroy, so we moved to Mountain Home, Arizona where I retired in 2005. In 2015 we decided it was time to return to California and Elk Grove looked just right so here we are. I volunteered at the Historic Society because what they do is important and after being very involved in a Computer Users Group for 15 years, I missed having a real challenge and luckily there was an opening that would make use of my computer-oriented background. Working with the Archive software provides the challenge and working with so many friendly helpful people makes it a pleasurable experience.

*(Note: Jerry is our Archivist and utilizes our Past Perfect computer program, that keeps track of all our historical items, working well. We have needed someone of his caliber and are extremely lucky and pleased to have him. He is new to us, but we appreciate his expertise and dedication, and thought you should know who this crazy guy is that you see running around.)*



# Calendar of Events for September and October 2023



## September

Sept 2: **FOUNDERS DAY** 10-4 pm

Sept 2: **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Tour** of Museums noon to 4:00 pm, FREE

Sept 11: **Historical Society Board Meeting** at the Museum – 3:00 pm

Sept 18: **Speaker-** Dave Lema



### “The Adventurous Story of Richard Phelan & Marie Edgington”

This is the story of gold mines and electricity, of killings, conspiracy, convictions, pardons, enormous wealth, state and national politics, and the richest strike of gold and silver ever mined from anywhere in California and Nevada.



## October

Oct 2: Monday **Rhoads School board** meeting at 9:00 am – Mike’s Diner

Oct 7: **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Tour** of Museums noon to 4:00 pm FREE

Oct 9: **Historical Society Board Meeting** at the Museum – 3:00 pm

Oct 16: **Speaker** – Dave Freeman



### “The Mill and Early Development by Jared Sheldon – Sloughouse to Rancho Murieta circa 1843”

He will explore the early Mill and canals of the Consumnes River development of Jared Sheldon. The canals and mill were designed by another early California pioneer Peter Lassen with evidence that some or all of the water wheel components were sawn by the former President of the Bear Flag Republic, William B. Ide.



## Mark your calendars...



### Black Tie & Santa

Sunday, November 26th

### An Old Fashion Christmas



First three weekends of December



Bret Bartholomew  
(Lifetime membership)

Maryellen Burns  
Doug Galvine  
Genny Fulp  
Faith Hope-Patterson  
Shawn Hampton  
Susan Pricco

Thank you all for your  
support

2023

### Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Accounts:	June	July
General Operating Fund	\$21,084.98	\$51,350.05
General Restoration Fund	\$62,547.42	\$62,547.42
Feasibility-Barn Project	\$33,815.24	\$33,815.24
Wagon Covering	\$16,703.20	\$16,703.20
Library Digitalizing	\$101.33	\$101.33
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$134,249.17</b>	<b>\$164,517.24</b>
<b>Real Estate Rental Account</b>	<b>\$49,162.19</b>	<b>\$51,151.31</b>
<b>Museum Store Account:</b>	<b>\$7,225.63</b>	<b>\$6,558.25</b>
<b>Rhoads School Account:</b>		
Operating Fund	\$467.27	\$467.27
Scholarship Fund	\$9,904.04	\$12,255.64
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$10,371.31</b>	<b>\$12,722.91</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$201,008.30</b>	<b>\$234,949.71</b>



**Jim Ring Sr.** - Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of long-time Historical Society member, community volunteer, and our friend, Jim Ring.



Timeless Events  
by Dina Wilcox

D | W

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## Sana Tax Preparation

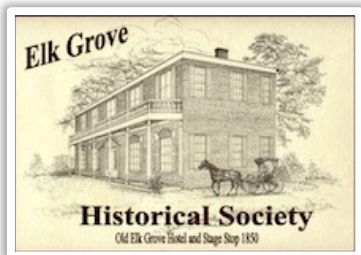
Sunny Prasad has been the Historical Society's preparer for five years and we are amazed at his knowledge and attention to detail.

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

**Our Phone: (916) 685-8115**

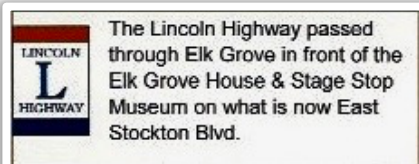
**Our E-mail:**

[eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](mailto:eghs@elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com)

**Our Website:**

[www.elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://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](mailto:hartville@comcast.net)  
(916) 684-3181 hm

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



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### 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