



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

## Inside the Museum Files: Chinese Joe

In a newspaper article in the February 1967 Elk Grove Citizen about the death of Mrs. Ada Beattie, wife of long time Elk Grove physician Hugh Beattie (Practiced 1897-1936), the following was included.

“..... She recalled, too, the Chinses who operated a wash house, back of the Masonic building and did the washing for the good ladies of the town. It was great sport for the young fry to toss rocks against the tin building and take to their heels as the Chinese came rushing out screaming imprecations in the high pitch Cantonese. The cook at the Toronto Hotel was also Chinese, and his excellent cuisine was known the length and breadth of the land. One of Elk Grove’s most colorful characters in those times was “Chinese Joe,” who appeared suddenly one day out of nowhere in the 1880’s. He considered himself above the common Cantonese as he came from another province and another Tong. He was a staunch and loyal friend of Dr. Beattie’s, and his most fervent wish was to be given a respectful man’s funeral when he went to join his ancestors. He was called the official watchmen of Elk Grove, because afflicted with insomnia, he roamed the streets all night, looking after the business establishments. When he failed to appear for several days in 1909, Dr. Beattie investigated and found him dead on the floor of his cabin, behind the Julius Everson store in the Odd Fellows building, with a bullet hole in the middle of its forehead. It was surmised that he had surprised thieves in the act of breaking into the store, and they had shot him. Dr. Beattie and other leading citizens of the town gave Chinese Joe his wish. He was buried in the Old Oddfellow Cemetery on Waterman Road with all the trappings and ceremonies of a respected man’s funeral.....”



## 2023 Board of Directors Officer Elections

The 2023 Nomination Committee is happy to introduce their candidates for the six elected Board of Director positions for the Calendar year 2024. The election vote count and results announcement will take place at the “Lacy & Ivy” Boutique (8739 Elk Grove Blvd.) on Monday, November 20th at 6:30.

Ballots were sent to every member in the newsletter. Mail them by Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> to the Elk Grove Historical Society, P.O. Box 562, EG. 95757 or hand carry them to the store on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Please join us for the vote count, cake, and hot apple cider!

We list the candidates here, but if you are interested in a more in-depth bio of each candidate go to our website, [elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com) and see what they have submitted.

The following is the slate of candidates for the six elected Officer Positions on the Board of Directors of the Elk Grove Historical Society for 2024:

### Candidate for President:



**Stan Lake**

“As President of the Elk Grove Historical Society, I look forward to seeing it continue to expand and serve our community. Thank you!”

### Candidate for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:



**Michael Vargas**

I am an attorney, on the Elk Grove Unified School District board, and have volunteered for the historical society many times. I feel I can add a new level of knowledge and in return, help me better understand and support the community. Thank you!

## **Candidate for 2nd Vice-President:**



**Susan Hernandez**

“As a long-standing member of the EGHS with many leadership positions being selected to be the Second Vice President on the Board would be an honor which I will take most seriously.”

## **Candidate for Recording Secretary**



**Pam Phelps**

“I have had the privilege to represent the membership on the Historical Society Board for the last four years. It would be an honor to be elected to a fifth term. Thank you!”

## **Candidate for Corresponding Secretary:**



**Pat Lake**

“I am starting my second year as Corresponding Secretary and look forward to another year. Thank you!”

## **Candidate for Treasurer:**



**Jeanette Lawson**

“I have been a member of the historical society for over 20 years and have been treasurer for 16 of those. I enjoy my job and the people I work with. I wish to continue helping the society in my position as treasurer. Thank you!”





# Founders Day



On September 2<sup>nd</sup> the Historical Society celebrated its 1<sup>st</sup> annual Founders Day at the museum. Chairwoman Susan Hernandez and her committee put together an exciting event. Louis Silveira was awarded the Pinkerton History Award. The Blacksmith statue was dedicated, and sculptor Bruce Carty attended. There were tours and several demonstrations, ie. Blacksmithing, butter churning, goat hair spinning, and several other attractions. An added highlight was District 10 Supervisor Stephanie Nguyen and City Council member Darren Suen presented to the historical society and history award winner Louis Silveira a Letter of Recognition from the California State Assembly. It was a well-organized event and well attended in spite of the early morning downpour.

## *Black Tie & Santa*



**Sunday, November 26th    6 pm – 9 pm**

Come celebrate with us for the first view and unveiling of the Christmas decorated museum and all the grounds.

There will be wine, refreshments, and many door prizes

\$50 tickets on sale starting October 9<sup>th</sup>

Mail checks to: Elk Grove Historical Society. P.O. Box 562, EG. 95759



# Old Fashioned Christmas



Come See the Lights & Visit with  
Santa

Tour Decorated Museum  
Cookie Decorating/Games/Crafts

Dates: Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays  
Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>;  
3pm - 7pm

## Christmas Week

Thurs, Friday & Saturday Dec 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>; 3pm-7pm

Event Fee: \$10 per adult & \$5 per child (with paying adult)

# Stage Stop Spotlight

Highlighting and appreciating our many volunteers



## Laura Laney

Laura Laney was born in Ferndale in 1968 to Grace and LeRoy Ellingson. She has two older brothers who live in Sacramento. Laura's family moved to Vista, California in the 1970. While in Vista her parents divorced, and she spent most of her time with her mom, grandmother, and brothers. In the mid 1970s her mother met her stepdad Clarke. In 1975 Clarke took a teaching job in San Jose. In 1976 Laura's family moved to San Jose to be with Clarke. Laura attended Lynbrook High School where she started playing field hockey. She graduated from Lynbrook in 1987 and received a field hockey scholarship from San Jose State. The hockey program was canceled a year later, and she transferred to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo where she studied Biochemistry. She did not quite complete her degree and returned to San Jose to start working. While working she met her future husband, Matt. They both enjoyed going to Disneyland. They married in 1999. In 2001 with the arrival of their first daughter, Caitlin, they moved to Elk Grove. In 2004 they had their second daughter, Megan. Laura was a stay home mother for most of her children's school years. She started a Girl Scout troop in 2010 which is still going strong today. Laura's daughters were also involved in 4-H where her daughters entered the fiber goat project. Laura loved to attend petting zoos and fairs with the goats, which she still enjoys to this day. Through 4-H, Laura learned of the historical society. She started helping with the events directed towards children. Now she can be found bringing her goats to Founder's Day and keeping the children entertained at the Old-Fashioned Christmas. Laura has met many wonderful people at the Elk Grove Historical Society and is looking forward to many more years of volunteering.

# Calendar of Events for November and December 2023



## November

Nov 11: - **Veterans Day**

Nov 13: **Historical Society Board Meeting** at the Museum – 3:00 pm

Nov 20: Historical Society **Elections** at 6:30 at the *Lace & Ivy Boutique*

Nov 23: Holiday - **Thanksgiving**

Nov 26: **Black Tie and Santa** at 6:00 pm at the Museum



We would like to express our deepest sympathies to family and friends of historical society members, volunteers, and our good friends Toni Farrow, Melba Mosher, and Sandy Russell.



## December

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

Dec 25: Holiday - **Christmas**

Dec 31: Holiday - **New Year's Eve**

## An Old Fashion Christmas

### Schedule:

**Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays:**

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> 3pm-7pm

### Christmas Week Special:

**Thursday, Friday, and Saturday**

21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> 3pm-7pm

### Event Fee:

\$10 per adult - \$5 per child (with paying adult)

**Santa is present all days.**

Tour the decorated museum and grounds, enjoy the snow making machine, cookie decorating/ games/crafts.





# Rhoads School Report



We were excited about training three other new docents, but family matters and work changed their options, so this year we welcome only Joyce Jones. We have 39 classes scheduled at present and we approved 14 scholarships to help financially compromised school's attend. That is because of your generosity. Thank you!



*welcome*  
NEW MEMBERS

Bob & Marcelle Crowe  
Stratton & Jean Barbee  
Tina Rieland  
August & Ann Saibeni  
Kristina Shade  
Anne Walker

## Temporary Courtesy

### Membership:

Richard Azevedo  
Bob Lilly  
Amardeep Singh

**2023**

## Treasurer's Report: Jeanette Lawson

Operating Accounts:	August	September
General Operating Fund	\$22,117.69	\$21,720.01
General Restoration Fund	\$62,103.58	\$61,659.74
Feasibility-Barn Project	\$33,815.24	\$33,815.24
Wagon Covering	\$24,078.00	\$24,078.00
Library Digitalizing	\$101.33	\$101.33
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$142,215.84</b>	<b>\$141,374.32</b>
<b>Real Estate Rental Account</b>	<b>\$51,153.04</b>	<b>\$52,789.31</b>
<b>Museum Store Account:</b>	<b>\$6,821.40</b>	<b>\$6,972.27</b>
<b>Rhoads School Account:</b>		
Operating Fund	\$467.27	\$164.59
Scholarship Fund	\$12,255.64	\$12,255.64
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$12,722.91</b>	<b>\$12,420.23</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$212,913.19</b>	<b>\$213,586.13</b>

Elizabeth Pinkerton will not be writing her HHH column for the new publishers of the Elk Grove Citizen, but don't fret, she will be writing for the Elk Grove Historical Society! Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of the month she will submit her articles and we will post them on our website. Go to [elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com), look for "History Happened Here by Elizabeth Pinkerton" on the Menu to the left and read her latest edition. We are excited she can continue her popular column and **hope you will spread the word.**



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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!



New in the Area?  
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Elk Grove Historical Society  
**BALLOT**  
Candidates for the 2024 calendar year

**President Candidate:**

- ☐ Stan Lake
- ☐ Write - in option \_\_\_\_\_

**First Vice-President Candidate:**

- ☐ Michael Vargas
- ☐ Write-in option \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Vice-President Candidate**

- ☐ Susan Hernandez
- ☐ Write-in option \_\_\_\_\_

**Recording Secretary Candidate**

- ☐ Pam Phelps
- ☐ Write-in option \_\_\_\_\_

**Correspondence Secretary Candidate**

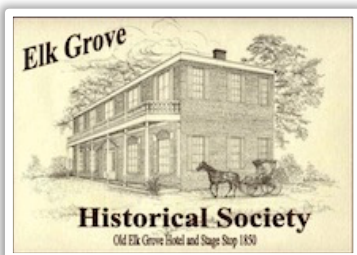
- ☐ Pat Lake
- ☐ Write-in option \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer Candidate**

- ☐ Jeanette Lawson
- ☐ Write-in option \_\_\_\_\_



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



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

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

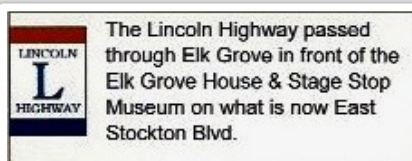
**Our Phone: (916) 685-8115**

**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



## 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)

_____ Individual Person .....	\$20.00
_____ Family Group .....	\$30.00
_____ Student (Full time under 25) .....	\$15.00
_____ Senior Citizen (65 to 79) .....	\$15.00
_____ Senior Citizen (80+) .....	FREE
_____ Business, Corporation, Association .....	\$30.00
_____ Lifetime (Member & Spouse) .....	\$400.00

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