



EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Summer, 2012

Event of the Year! Sundae, July 29!

Let's beat the heat together at the Historical Society's ICE CREAM SOCIAL on Sundae, July 29th from 1pm - 4pm at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock, 2225 Colorado Blvd. FREE admission for ALL, DOLLAR-A-SCOOP ice cream, "endless" toppings, and luscious baked goods await you! As usual our lovely old library is AIR CONDITIONED!

We will again have family entertainment, Peter Breede and his street organ music (it wouldn't be an ice cream social without him) and folkdance favorites "Fifth Friday Folk Band" (maybe they'll teach you a thing or two!). Headlining will be the Eagle Rock High School



Key clubbers Kirsten Gin, Jessica Cruz and Danielle Peterson serve Rich and Esther Monk at last year's social. Western re-enactors are in the background.

Latin Jazz Band! We will be able to meet the famous and infamous from California's past, courtesy of the Western Educators, Shooters and Troopers. Fabulous prizes donated by local merchants will be won by a lucky few!

Author Eric Warren will sign his "Eagle Rock: 1911-2011" and the earlier "Eagle Rock". Both books and the Centennial Video will be available for sale at the Social.

Highlights from the archive will be shown! Historical society postcards and notecards will be available!

As a special thank you to all Historical Society members who make it possible, with their membership fees and personal interest in this community's history, for us to sustain and continually add to our already rich archives. A FREE Historical Society T-shirt to all new and current members at the door!!! (Of course, supplies and sizes are on a first come, first serve, one per membership basis).

Be sure to stop by the event with friends and the whole family! We look forward to seeing new and old friends! See you then!

IT'S COOL!

THE EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS

**SUNDAE,
JULY 29TH
1-4 P.M.**

DOLLAR-A-DIP
"ENDLESS" TOPPINGS
ICY LEMONADE
BAKE SHOP

CENTENNIAL!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

CENTER FOR THE ARTS, EAGLE ROCK 2225 COLORADO BLVD

•ERHS LATIN JAZZ BAND

•FIFTH FRIDAY FOLK BAND

•PETER BREEDE, THE ORGAN GRINDER MAN

•MERCHANT DONATED PRIZE DRAWING

FREE ADMISSION! BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!



Members and Friends

Out and About

Our efforts to engage with a wider community at Heritage Day in the old plaza and Lummis Day at Heritage Square were rewarding and fun. We bring it all home with a booth at the Independence Day fireworks event, sponsored by CD 14, July 1st at the Eagle Rock Recreation Center. Our Ice Cream Social caps this season at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock, July 29. The youth and energy of volunteers from the ERHS Key Club will enhance the event serving our famous dollar-a-dip ice cream and floats. Join us for an afternoon of music and fun for the young and slightly older.

Featured folks

Frank Parrello's new knowledge of the amazing Galpin family is presented in this issue. The legacy of community builder, Godfrey Edwards and the dual life of "Medicine Man" and impresario James Ferdon, will be featured in future issues. We will also learn why the residents of "Happyland" were euphoric about Mr. Blackmer's development.

Modernism Upcoming

Most of our town's look is a legacy from the 20s and 30s. Since the war, shopping centers, public buildings and homes influenced by contemporary styles have been built, filling in vacant land, and replacing or remodeling earlier buildings. How do these fit in with the past and how can our responses to contemporary issues and styles add to our environment and not destroy or detract? We will explore how modernism and innovation has been expressed in our town and how its now considerable legacy has succeeded and failed.

Surfs Up in January

Fred Guapo will reveal his love for the waves in a presentation based on his amazing collection of surfing magazines. He recently donated an almost-complete run of them to Pepperdine for their surfing museum. Where did the popularization of this sport begin and how did young Angelinos join in this regional phenomenon? No wet suits will be necessary for this immersion in azure waters!

Women's Twentieth Century Club federal designation

The club has decided to pursue federal historic landmark designation for their remarkable clubhouse. Our Board member, Frank Parrello, and Christy McAvoy, well known preservation advocate, will aid their efforts. A recent search of the club safe has yielded the original construction contract with Edwards and Wildey and other important documents. Our reaserch in the archives and local newspapers is giving a broader picture of the club. Restoration efforts await further evaluation and funding.

The objectives of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society

- to preserve, clarify through research and to perpetuate the history of Eagle Rock Valley
- to make this history available to students, researchers, libraries and all interested persons
- to preserve and protect our local landmarks, especially the Eagle Rock

Membership is open to all who would further these objectives

Public Archive Hours 10 to 12 every Saturday
at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock
2225 Colorado Blvd. Eagle Rock CA 90041
for information call 323-257-1357

This journal is published quarterly by
The Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society
Editor, Eric Warren

Layout, David Mc Nutt

Contributors, Katie Taylor, Frank Parrello, Eric Warren

Visit our website at:

eaglerockhistory.org

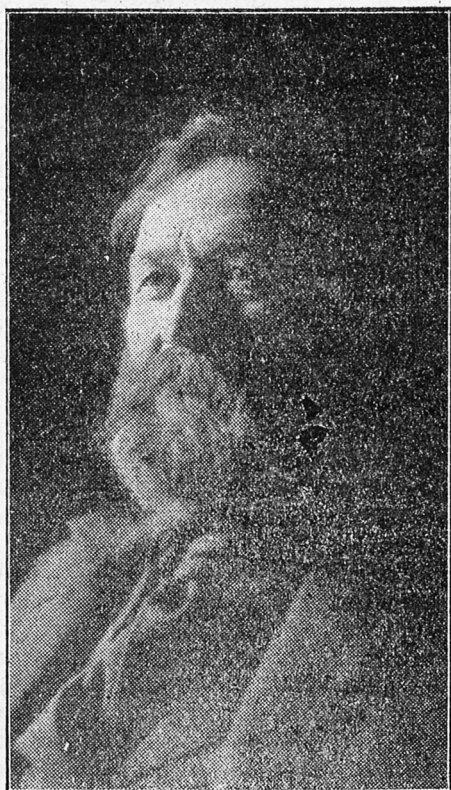
Visit us at eaglerockhistory.org or in person
Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon at the CFAER

It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2012 dues, thank you. If not, please take a moment and mail your check now. If we have not heard from you, a dues form and envelope are included with this newsletter.

Thanks, we depend on you.

The Galpins of Eagle Rock

Nominated on a slate of candidates by the new Eagle Rock Chamber of Commerce, Crom-



CROMWELL GALPIN
Newly lected Mayor of Eagle Rock

well Galpin was elected to the City Board of Trustees in 1914, and served as mayor from April 1914 to April 1916.

The Eagle rock Sentinel described him thus:

" Mr. Galpin is too well-known to need any personal mention. He is one of the oldest and most informed residents of this City and has been here and seen the valley develop from ranch to city. He was an appointed member of the Board a year ago; but resigned because he found himself out

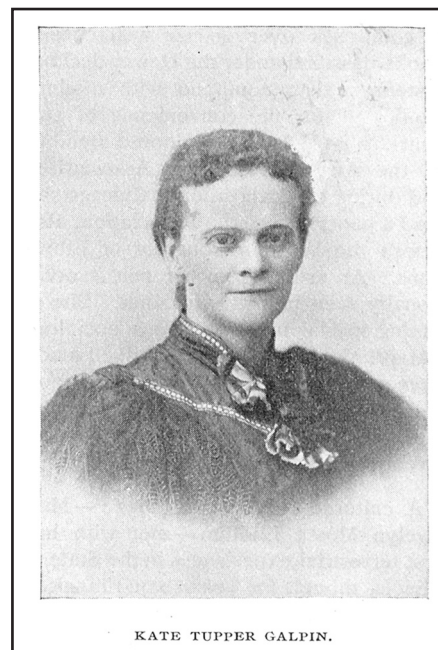
of harmony with many of the members of the board who had only a few weeks previous appointed him trustee".

Cromwell was born in Eagle, Wisconsin in 1853. His father, Alfred, moved the family to Appleton, Wisconsin to start a hardware business. The surviving family home is rumored by the local historical society to have been involved in the Underground Railroad during the time of Cromwell's childhood before the Civil War.

Galpin attended Laurence University in Appleton. He received his Law Degree from the University of Michigan in 1875. He then moved to Saginaw, where he began a law practice but soon become editor of the Evening News.

In Saginaw he married Julia Wood, (aka Clara). Galpin and she had three children, Lloy, Alfred and Hazel.

In 1883, according to John Steven McGroarty, Galpin was on his way to Hawaii, but upon his arrival in California, decided to make his home here. That same year on a hunting trip with friends to Eagle Rock valley, he became impressed with the area and soon purchased land. In an 1913 Eagle Rock Sentinel article, Galpin reminisced about his first impression of the valley and the efforts of he and his follow pioneers, "Addleman, Backus, Brown, Green, Parker, Woolley,



KATE TUPPER GALPIN.

Fish, Myers, Townsend, Martin Spier and Brierly", at farming the valley.

Julia Galpin died in 1888. In 1890, with three young children to care for, Cromwell married Kate Tupper. Tupper was, at the time, the first women to hold a full-time professorial position at the University of Nevada. An early advocate of equal rights for women, she had traveled the country advocating women's suffrage. Their daughter Ellen was born in 1892.

During their marriage, the Galpins seem to have made their primary home at 537 S. Fremont Avenue in downtown Los Angeles, now under the Harbor Freeway. It was near the Cumnock School on Figueroa Street where Kate taught and held meetings of the Shakespeare



California suffragists on the picket line, 1917.

Club, which she founded.

In addition to managing his farming interests in Eagle Rock, Galpin served as the editor of

the Los Angeles Herald and Express during this period. He also wrote adventure stories for Youth's Companion and St.

Nicholas magazines, among them "Timothy the Timid" and "Bronco's Best Race".

Like many in 1905, the Galpins took a grand tour of Europe. On their return in 1906, Kate became ill and passed away. Again left a widower, Galpin moved his family to the ranch house on W. Adams Avenue (today Addison Way) in Eagle Rock and established it as their permanent home.

Eldest daughter Lloy became a social science teacher at Los Angeles High School. Following her stepmother, she lectured on women's rights and formed the Equal Suffrage League to get out the vote for the 1911 California Women's Suffrage Amendment. She also was instrumental in founding the Los Angeles Women's Professional and Business Club, the Municipal League,



The Galpin home on Addison Way, Pelican Rock behind.

the Women's Athletic Club, the Lincoln Roosevelt League and the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Son Alfred Galpin was a sculptor and graphic designer who studied at the Mark Hopkins Institute. After serving in the Spanish American War, he joined the gold rush to Alaska. Returning to San Francisco he worked in the art department of the Chronicle for several years and then served as editor of the Standard Oil Bulletin. At Standard Oil, he designed the Zerolene Bear as both a sculpture and a product logo.

Hazel Galpin was the most traditional of the Cromwell's children. She married John (Jack) R. Lowe of Highland Park and had five daughters. Lowe was a civil engineer who surveyed his father-in-law's Shallot Tract in 1906. He later worked for the Pacific Electric Company in Los Angeles. In 1918, he moved his family to San Diego where he served as vice president of the Southern Pacific Arizona-San Diego Railroad. Hazel and her daughters performed for several years with the Ellen Galpin Players.

Ellen, the youngest of Cromwell Galpin's four children, attended Los Angeles High School where her interest in the theater resulted in her studying in Europe and touring England and Scotland with the Benson Theatrical Company. Upon her return to

California, she formed the Ellen Galpin Players. They performed locally at the Loomis Garden and in downtown Los Angeles at Cumnock School and Hamburger's Arrow Theater. Later she produced puppet shows for the Los Angeles playground department. In the late 1920's her puppet theater toured Hawaii and Alaska. She created and performed an Eskimo version of the Cinderella story, enlisting the help of local women and carried the show on her back 1500 miles to the nearest white settlement. Cromwell Galpin died in 1927. He had watched Eagle Rock grow from a scattering of farms to a thriving community of homes, businesses, schools and churches.

-Frank Parrello



The Alfred Galpin designed Zerolene sign.



Ellen Galpin's Dutch woman puppet.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2013, 7:00
 LOCAL SURFER TELLS ALL
 SURF'S UP!!!!!!

Eagle Rock Modern Aren't We Old Fashioned?

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2012, 1:00
 THE ROCK MUSIC MUSEUM
 2225 COLORADO BLVD.

at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock



Name(s)_____

Address_____

Phone #_____

E-mail_____

Membership Category:

☐ Individual \$20
 ☐ Business \$35
 ☐ New

☐ Family \$25
 ☐ Life \$300
 ☐ Renewal

Will you help with the ongoing activities of the ERVHS ?

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

☐ Archives
 ☐ Newsletter
 ☐ Oral history

☐ Meetings
 ☐ Fundraising
 ☐ E-mail me

☐ Publicity
 ☐ Displays
 to help

Other_____

Clip and mail to : **ERVHS**

c/o Center for the Arts

2225 Colorado Blvd.

Eagle Rock, CA 90041

Date_____

The Member's Corner



Wesley Cloys

Born in Glendale in 1945, Wesley Cloys grew up in Eagle Rock, then left, only to return in recent years. Wesley's parents moved to Eagle Rock in 1940, renting a house on the corner of Ave 46 and Westdale where he grew up. In 1959, they bought, and still occupy, their beloved 1914 bungalow next door. Wesley attended ER Elementary and ERHS, graduating in Winter '63. He then joined the army and served a one-year tour in Vietnam, which made a lasting impression on him. He married Bonnie on New Year's Eve 1971 in Las Vegas. His life then took him to Texas and back to California (San Bernardino and Rialto) but he always kept in touch and visited his family here. After Bonnie's long battle with breast cancer, they decided to come back to Eagle Rock, where she passed in 2003. Wesley has returned to Vietnam several times, volunteering there at a center for disabled children. Locally, he volunteers at Wellness Works for veterans in Glendale and as a bereavement facilitator at Glendale Adventist Hospital. He currently lives with his sister Wilma and son Adam. He is also a proud grandfather of three.

When asked how he finds living in Eagle Rock again, he said that although there are "an awful lot of changes, there is still a good sense of community," adding "The college is an anchor for the area." It seems Wesley has come full circle, home to Eagle Rock, where we are lucky to have him.

-Katie Taylor