



# EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Summer, 2014

## Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society Welcomes the Community

It is that time of year again! Let's beat the heat together at the Historical Society's **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** on **Sundae, August 3, from 1pm – 4pm** at the Center for the Arts, 2225 Colorado Blvd. **FREE** admission for **ALL**. **DOLLAR-A-SCOOP** ice cream, "endless" toppings provided by the one and only AUNTIE EM'S, a delicious baked goods section, and our ever-popular raffle of prizes from local businesses! As usual our lovely old library is **AIR CONDITIONED ! Bring the kids!**

We will again have family entertainment. Folkdance favorites "Fifth Friday Folk Band" will play and encourage us to dance. Headlining will be the Eagle Rock High School Latin Jazz Band.

**ITS COOL!**  
THE EAGLE ROCK VALLEY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS  
**SUNDAE,**  
**AUGUST 3RD**  
**1-4 P.M.**  
**DOLLAR-A-DIP**  
**"ENDLESS" TOPPINGS**  
**ICY LEMONADE**  
**BAKE SHOP**



**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**  
**FREE ADMISSION ! BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY !**  
•ERHS LATIN JAZZ BAND  
•FIFTH FRIDAY FOLK BAND  
•MERCHANT DONATED PRIZE DRAWINGS  
•MRS. C.W. YOUNG "EMMA" AWARDS  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS, EAGLE ROCK 2225 COLORADO BLVD

### The "EMMA" Awards

For our second year, we will be recognizing people and projects that have contributed to the preservation of Eagle Rock's unique history. Come and hear who has made a difference big and small in our community! The name of the award commemorates Mrs. C.W. (Emma Elinor) Young. In 1905, Mrs. Young and her husband, Charles W. Young, came to Los Angeles. In 1906 they located in Eagle Rock and purchased the home known as "Castle Crag" that was built in 1888 and still stands beautifully restored, at 5027 El Verano Avenue. Mrs. Young organized the History and Landmarks Section of the Women's 20th Century Club of Eagle Rock, the forerunner of ERVHS. A noted historian of not only Eagle Rock but also of California, she is credited with working with Christine Sterling in the establishment of Olvera Street and with Mrs. A.S. C. Forbes in the marking of the El Camino Real.

Highlights from the archive will be shown! There is much to explore and discuss. Come and see what we have been up to this past year! Historical society postcards, notecards, books, and more will be available for purchase. Our president Eric Warren will be in-house to sign his and Frank Parrello's new book "Pioneers of Eagle Rock" and the earlier books "Eagle Rock: 1911-2011" and "Eagle Rock". And as always, a **FREE Historical Society T-shirt** will be given to all new members at the door. (Of course, supplies and sizes are on a first-come, first-serve, one per membership basis).

Please be sure to bring friends and the whole family! This is a wonderful event for all ages. We look forward to seeing new and old friends!

### Members and Friends

#### The "EMMA" Awards

Again this year, we will recognize people and projects that have contributed to the preservation of Eagle Rock's unique history. Come to the Social to discover who will receive this year's honors. The award commemorates Mrs. C.W. Young, profiled in our last issue.

#### City Hall Restoration

We are pleased to collaborate with Councilmember Huizar's local staff on the restoration and upgrading of the city hall. This important legacy of Eagle Rock City will become more usable and grow as a source of pride to our community. We are working on exhibits that show the rich history of the northern 14th district and are consulting on the proper restoration of the historic fabric of the building and its surroundings.

#### Street Trees

Thanks to the Council office, Neighborhood Council and CERB for continuing the ongoing effort to foliate our boulevards. We applaud this continuation of community beautification began by the Women's Club, Scott Wilson and many other committed Eagle Rockers.

#### Cindy's

I was pleased to meet the new owner of Cindy's restaurant. He seems committed to its restoration to its 1948 best. He is contemplating a Kickstart campaign to finance the restoration of the sign, a roadside icon.

#### The Haynes Foundation Grant

At long last, our pilot selection of Northeast Los Angeles newspapers are in the public California Digital Newspaper Collection. Of particular note, take a look at the Eagle Rock Sentinel issues for December 11, 1913. There are two issues -- one from the microfilm and one, which was a special color supplement. The online posting of this material represents a major step forward in this joint effort of the Occidental Library, ERVHS, and the Highland Park Heritage Trust. Planning and fundraising efforts are ongoing to post the rest of the archive.

#### Author! Author!

I am delighted that our new book "Pioneers of Eagle Rock" is now available. The long effort by Frank Parrello and myself has led to the discovery of many lively accounts of Eagle Rock's early days. All of our books will be available at the Social for purchase and signing. As always, we are awed by the depth of the information left to us by our predecessors in the Society.

#### Dues are due!

We were delighted with the response to our earlier appeal. Thanks to all of our loyal members who sustained us with their dues. Those pesky envelopes appear again in this newsletter for those who haven't yet paid for 2014. We include on the mailing label the last paid membership year in our records. If you disagree, we will adjust, as we value your membership.

#### 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  
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Visit our website at:

[eaglerockhistory.org](http://eaglerockhistory.org)

**It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2014 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.**

## Eagle Rock's City Hall



1922-The City Hall was built by Eagle Rock City to accommodate the offices of the rapidly growing community. (LAPL-Security Bank Collection photo)

Faced with the need to provide services to a rapidly growing city and the reoccurring question of disincorporation, the Eagle Rock Board of Trustees led a peripatetic existence. Funding a city-owned building was put off until the early 1920's, when it was decided that it was time to build a proper City Hall. The Trustees selected architect William Lee Woollet, who presented an elegant Italian Renaissance Revival design that was a compliment to its location on a slightly-raised site on the northeast corner of Colorado Boulevard and Maywood Avenue. Built to house the offices of the mayor, clerk, the city attorney, the water department, the chief of police, the fire department and the city council chamber, it was completed in 1922, just one year before Eagle Rock gave up its status as an independent city. Annexation to Los Angeles won by 15 votes out of 600. It is said that Eagle Rock was able to bargain for concessions because it had the building

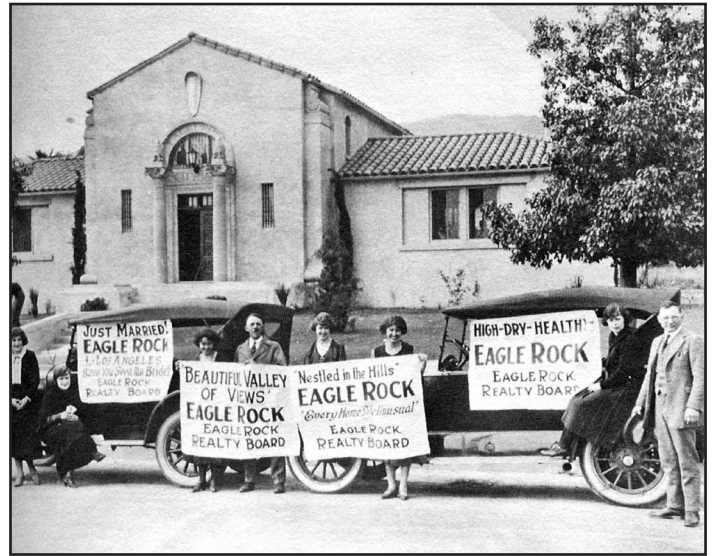
as an asset. Later, Councilman John Holland stated that the building was funded by a bond issue, voted by Eagle Rock residents before annexation, and that there was an agreement that it be used to provide local services.

A 1928 addition housed the city's Engine Co. 42 until 1959, when the current fire station was built. During World War II, the ration board and draft board occupied part of the building. In the 1950s, the YMCA utilized it. In 1964, when use as a community center was suggested, the Board of Public Works stated that the building was then used as: storage for the fire department; an office for the Building and Safety Department, which is open 2 hours each day; and a field office for Councilman Holland. The city owned parking area was leased to Citizen's Chevrolet. In 1969, the building was declared Historic Cultural Monument #59 at the



## Our Town, Our History

petition of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society. The building was refurbished and rededicated in 1971, at the urging of the Society and Councilman Arthur K. Snyder. It became the councilman's office, the Historical Society's museum and a public meeting hall. In 1982, a series of murals depicting the history of Eagle Rock was commissioned by the city from the Highland Art Guild, which hang there today. Earthquake upgrading and disabled access construction necessitated another closure. In 1994, Councilman Richard Alatorre reopened the building and relocated his office to the current location. An art gallery was opened upstairs and the Historical Society museum was moved to the lower floor. Subsequently, the building was taken over entirely for city offices due to a space crunch. Street Services occupied the top floor. Recently, the building was vacated by all but Councilmember Huizar's field office. Input is being sought and budget funds have been allocated for repair and restoration and to make it more accommodating for civic use. The building remains an asset to the community and is a reminder of an independent Eagle Rock.



1923-The City of Los Angeles took possession of the building upon its "marriage" to the City of Eagle Rock. The realty board was excited by the renewed potential for development.



1994- Reopened after earthquake and disability access retrofitting, the building was repainted inside and out. The historical Society museum was moved to the lower floor. (Joe Friezer photo)

## Dumped Before AND Dumped Again? Will history repeat?

The Scholl Canyon Dump was proposed in 1958 to solve a trash disposal crisis caused by the end of trash incineration in the region.

Glendale offered the canyon, a then pristine Oak and Sycamore foliated riparian canyon, as a land-fill site. Opposition arose from the homeowners of Glenoaks Canyon who lived along the existing access route through Glendale. Facing intolerable pressure, the Glendale City Council conditioned their offer on an alternative route. The county identified the Eagle Rock canyon as an alternative. Then Councilmember Holland; the citizens of Eagle Rock, led by the Chamber of Commerce; and eventually the Los Angeles City Council began a 3 year struggle to prevent this usage. A joint powers authority was formed, excluding Los Angeles, and the Board of Supervisors forced construction through Eagle Rock. In 1960, the dump's life was predicted at 20 years.

**The situation remains much the same today. Los Angeles is excluded from using or managing the dump despite the impacts of the facility on our community. This is our last chance to see that the impacts on the historic and environmental resources in the Eagle Rock canyon are addressed. The proposal would extend the usage of the Scholl Canyon access road for 13 to 19 years.**

The Draft EIR is available for review on the City's website ([www.ci.glendale.ca.us](http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us)), or the Sanitation Districts' website ([www.lacsd.org](http://www.lacsd.org))

We urge all concerned citizens to review the environmental report and comment to the sanitation district with copies to the council office as soon as possible.

Mail comments to:

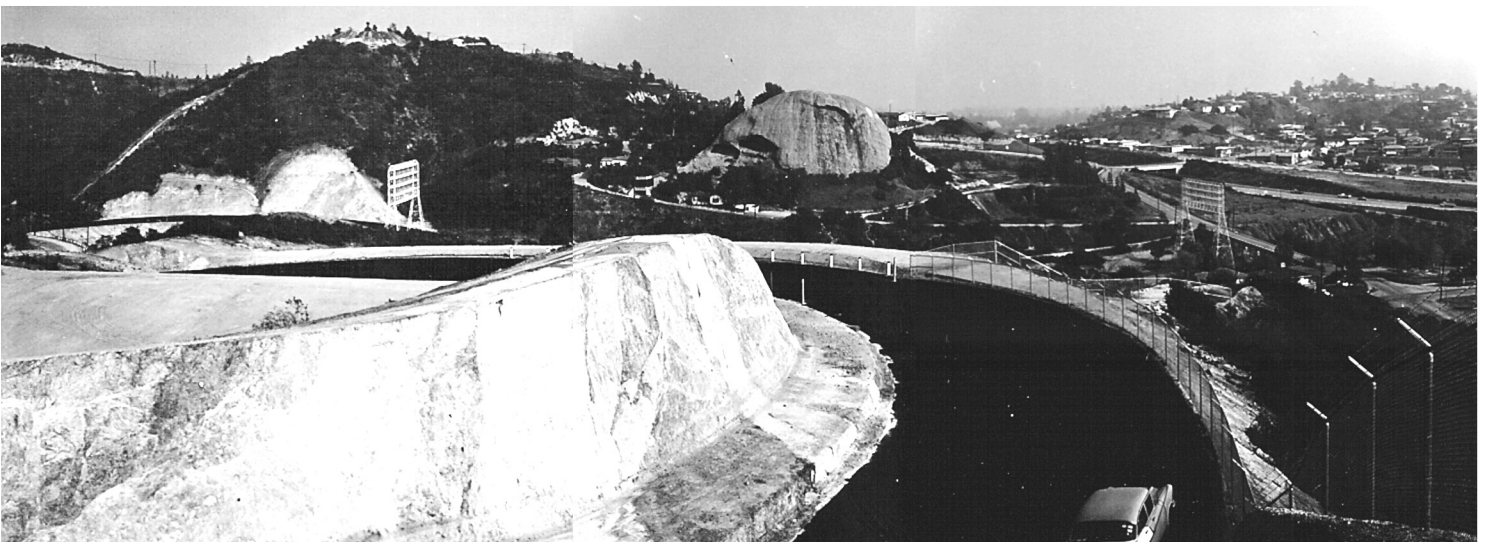
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Attention: Ms. Debra Bogdanoff

1955 Workman Mill Road

Whittier, CA 90601

Email comments to: [slcfair@lacsd.org](mailto:slcfair@lacsd.org)



The dump road completed in 1961 targets the Eagle Rock with its endless parade of trash trucks.  
(Joe Friezer photo—Eagle Rock Sentinel)





at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock  
2225 Colorado Blvd. Eagle Rock CA, 90041

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**  
**FRIENDSHIP, MUSIC, PRIZES**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2014, 1:00**

**CLANG ,CLANG, GONE !**  
**WENT THE TROLLEY**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014, 7:00**

**THEATRE IN EAGLE ROCK**  
**INDOOR, OUTDOOR, & MOVIES**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015, 7:00**

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 Eagle Rock High School Latin Jazz  
Band entertains at the  
2012 Ice Cream Social  
(Member's Corner is on vacation for  
this issue.)