



# EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Summer, 2016

## Our 55th Anniversary! Come celebrate at our annual Ice Cream Social!

The Ice Cream Social is happening **Sundae, August 7th from 1pm-4pm!** Join us in the air-conditioned **Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock at 2225 Colorado Blvd.** Admission is **FREE.** All are welcome!

Celebrate our 55th with delicious **dollar-a-scoop** ice cream, endless toppings, floats, our popular bakery section, and more. There will be **live family entertainment** by local talent including **The Fifth Friday Folk Band**, and the **Eagle Rock High School Latin Jazz Band**. As always there will be an ongoing **raffle** throughout the afternoon featuring **fabulous prizes donated by generous local businesses.**

The first meeting of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society was held on October 25, 1961, at the Women's Twentieth Century Clubhouse. Twenty-three interested people attended. Henry Welcome was chosen our charter president and Mrs. J.R. Zimmerman served as our first vice president. Mary Le Clere served as historian. Under their inspirational leadership, our organization acquired many photographs, photostats of the deeds from the history of the Verdugo Rancho and items of interest to community history. The publisher of the Northeast Newspapers, Oran Asa, contributed a complete microfilm copy of the most prominent local paper. This archive has proved invaluable in our collaborative efforts with Occidental College and Highland Park Heritage Trust to digitize and make this resource available to the public.

A dedicated team brought back this irreplaceable archive from a neglected condition to a state that allowed access and creative use by the community. John de La Fontaine, Mary Andrews, Pat Samson and Virginia Neeley worked for more than two years to organize and inventory our substantial collection including maps, artifacts, newspapers, memoirs, books, historical writings, and over 1000 photographs. In the years since their huge endeavor, other committed volunteers have continued this work. We are proud of what has been achieved. The Society is dedicated to keeping the archives ever growing, accessible, and meaningful for our community and beyond. We are enthusiastic to tell our institutional history through stories and displays at this year's Ice Cream Social.

Historical Society postcards, notecards, books, and more will be available for purchase. Our President Frank Parrello and Vice President Eric Warren will be in-house to sign the books "Eagle Rock: 1911-2011", "Eagle Rock", or "Pioneers of Eagle Rock." All three are a must-have for every citizen of Eagle Rock!

Please be sure to **bring friends and the whole family!** This is a wonderful event for all ages. We look forward to meeting new neighbors and connecting with old friends! It is always a great time; we hope to see you then!

**IT'S COOL!**  
THE EAGLE ROCK VALLEY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS  
**SUNDAE,**  
**AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>**  
**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  
•PETER BREEDE, THE ORGAN GRINDER MAN  
•MERCHANT DONATED PRIZE DRAWINGS  
**CENTER FOR THE ARTS, EAGLE ROCK 2225 COLORADO BLVD**

## President's Message

### Greetings Friends:

#### SurveyLA

After several delays, SurveyLA is beginning in Eagle Rock. The survey of historic resources is being done by Community Planning area and managed by the City's Department of a City Planning's Office of Historic Resources (OHR), as part of citywide survey. It is an important effort to protect its rich heritage by identifying and documenting significant historic resources. SurveyLA is partially funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the J. Paul Getty Trust. Additionally, the Getty Conservation Institute is providing significant technical and advisory support to the project. Since the Northeast Community Plan area is quite large, it will be surveyed by two preservation consultants. The Eagle Rock area will be surveyed by Historic Resources Group of Pasadena.

SurveyLA covers the period from approximately 1850 to 1980 and will include individual resources such as buildings, structures, objects, natural features and cultural landscapes as well as areas and districts. Archaeological resources will be included in a future survey phase. Resources determined to be significant are those that reflect important themes in the city's growth and development in various areas including architecture, city planning, social history, ethnic heritage, politics, industry, transportation, commerce, entertainment, and others. The surveyors will walk or drive every street in the community and will record properties that meet criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and California Register of Historical Resources, for designation as local Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM) and Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZ). Identification in a survey does not mean that a property or a neighborhood will automatically become a designated landmark or historic district; it merely provides information that would support such designation, if desired, at a later date. Designation requires public hearings and property owner notification. However, the survey data will be used in the planning process for Community Plan Updates, Zoning Decisions, Plan Approval and the preparation of Environmental Review documents.

#### How to Contribute Information to SurveyLA!

Many people who attended our April presentation by Tim Gregory, the "Building Biographer", indicated that they had researched their homes in Eagle Rock and would like to add their information to our archives. The SurveyLA project rep-

resents an opportunity for community residents and organizations to contribute information about important historic resources in our community. MyHistoricLA: Guide to Public Participation in SurveyLA provides step-by-step instructions for actions that individuals and organizations can take to help gather this information. You can contact ERVHS to share the information on your home or you may contribute information to directly to SurveyLA by filling out the online Historic Resource Identification Form, by going to the office of Historic Resources website at <http://preservation.lacity.org/survey>. For additional information on SurveyLA you can contact Janet Hansen, Deputy Manager, Office of Historic Resources, [Janet.hansen@lacity.org](mailto:Janet.hansen@lacity.org) or call (213) 978-1191.

#### Eagle Rock Ramblers Update

The ERVHS Board will be discussing plans for a guided tour of the Rubel Castle in Glendora and is working with the Autry Museum of the American West to plan a second tour of the Research Center in Burbank. If you are interested in attending either or both events, please let us know.

Frank Parrello

#### 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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Layout, David Mc Nutt  
Contributors, Katie Taylor, David Dellinger, Eric Warren

Visit our website at:  
[eaglerockhistory.org](http://eaglerockhistory.org)

**It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2016 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.**

## Our Colorful History



On the 1971 opening day of our museum in City Hall; past President Joe Northrup; charter member Catherine B Gualano; charter member, author and Gabrielino Indian expert Bernice E. Johnston are shown admiring our collection of Eagle Rock's Rose Parade trophies. Photograph by Joe Friezer.



Ralph and Eleanor Sherman are shown at the rear of our museum in costume for the Eagle Rock anniversary celebration in 1985.

The Historic Eagle Rock City Hall was restored to community use from a neglected state by then Councilman Art Snyder, at the urging of the Historical Society. Henry Welcome curated the museum exhibits. The museum was kept open for many years by dedicated volunteer docents led by Ralph Sherman. At the time of the earthquake reinforcement and code updating of the building, the museum was displaced by Council offices to the basement. There, due principally to the efforts of Carol Levy, the museum was re-established. After a short time, the museum was again displaced due to the need for additional office space. Our collection was then moved to the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock, where our archive now resides.



The 25th anniversary of the Society was celebrated in 1986. All of the past presidents were present in this Eagle Rock Sentinel photograph. Pictured were (l to r) Joe Northrup, 1969-73; Lois Woods, 1979-81; Henry Welcome, 1961-65 and 1981-83; Walter Dickey, 1983-85; Powell Greenland, 1965-69; and Ralph Sherman, 1973-77.

## Our Town, Our History



Ann Walnum, right, enlisted Pat Samson, left, and Virginia Neely, center, in the effort to catalog the archives of the Society when they were shelved at the Center. All were stalwart contributors to Highland Park Heritage. John de la Fontaine and Mary Andrews put our collection of the Eagle Rock Advertiser in order for microfilming. The efforts of the Society have been devoted to the inventory and preservation of the archive since the move. Access hours were established to promote public use of the materials.



We celebrated our 50th anniversary at Fatty's: A Place to Eat in 2011. Shown at the left hand table are Karen Warren, Don Krotser, Sarah (hands only) and Cory Stargel, Katie Taylor (hands only), Zach Taylor, Fred Guapo and Donna Guapo. In the background are John de la Fontaine, Mary Andrews, Linda Allen, and John and Sue Ann Miller. At the right hand table are Powell and Billie Greenland, Scott Wilson, Bob and Frances Moffitt, Bob Kieft, and Doris Thielen.



The Ice Cream Social has become our occasion to welcome, entertain and introduce ourselves to people of all ages. Doris Thielen is at the far left. The rest of the celebrants' names are unknown.

## Collaboration Preserves Local Photographic History

Over 100,000 negatives, from 1949 to 2002, taken by Northeast L.A. based freelance photographers Joe and Henk Friezer, were stored in boxes in Henk's garage. He knew the photographs represented an important photographic record of Los Angeles during an important growth and transition period. They had documented a vast array of events for diverse customers; regional and national news organizations, advertising for large and small companies and family celebrations. Eric Warren, then president of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society, had drawn on the negative archive for his books on Eagle Rock history. He introduced Henk to Dale Ann Stieber, Special Collections Librarian/College Archivist at Occidental College. "Henk's desire to preserve his family legacy coincided with the community outreach that Occidental College, ERVHS and Highland Park Heritage Trust were doing, with the dual purpose of collecting and sharing historical reference materials pertaining to Eagle Rock and Northeast Los Angeles," states Dale. In 2015, Special Collections staff picked up over 75 containers of negatives for long-term care at Oxy.

To launch the formal processing, Stieber applied to LA as Subject for help through their grant-funded residency program. Joanna Chen Cham, Resident Archivist, spent three months this spring laying the foundation for the long process of archiving the many negatives. When Joanna met Henk, she found a golden opportunity not afforded many archivists; the creator of much of the work was willing and able to tell stories and provide important context. She set up weekly interviews so that he could help her navigate the treasure trove. Joe and Henk had meticulously organized the negatives, numbering the batches, writing dates and notes on envelopes and stored them in old photo boxes. Since many of the boxes and file drawers were aged and torn, Joanna and Oxy student intern Myka Kielbon rehoused them in new boxes while recording any information that was found on the old containers.

Joanna's hard work is only the beginning. The story of Friezer Photography and a few representative photos have been scanned and are viewable at <http://friezerphotography.omeka.net>.

—David Dellinger



### Kickoff event photo:

(l-r) Anne Mar, Caroline Johnson (Henk's daughter), Ashley Johnson (Henk's granddaughter and Caroline's daughter), Henk, Wilhelmina Friezer (Henk's wife), Monique Friezer (Henk's daughter), Joanna Chen Cham and Dale Ann Stieber. Photograph by Florante Ibanez.

### Friezer Collection Photo:

"Sea Hunt" star Lloyd Bridges demonstrates his bowling skills at the July 1960 grand opening of the Eagle Rock Lanes at the corner of Colorado and Figueroa. Bridges was one of several celebrity investors in the business, along with producer Aaron Spelling (looking over Bridges' shoulder in the background). Photograph by Joe Friezer. Caption taken from Winter 2016 Occidental Magazine.



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

**FOR THE STUDY OF LOS ANGELES  
TUESDAY, OCT. 18, 2016, 7:00  
SAVE THE DATE  
AN UNTOLD HISTORY  
TUESDAY, FEB. 21, 2017, 7:00**

**OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE CENTER**

**FOR THE STUDY OF LOS ANGELES**

**TUESDAY, OCT. 18, 2016, 7:00**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**AN UNTOLD HISTORY**

**TUESDAY, FEB. 21, 2017, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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Clip and mail to : **ERVHS**  
**c/o Center for the Arts**  
**2225 Colorado Blvd.**  
**Eagle Rock, CA 90041**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The Member's Corner**



**James & Rosalva Arredondo**

We met James and Rosalva back in 2010. They became members of the ERVHS after they inquired about their historic 1898 home, located high on the hill where Las Colinas Ave. meets

College View Ave. Theirs is likely the oldest home on College View and, as James likes to tell people, "this is our first home and our last home."

James and Rosalva met in 1993 at Eagle Rock's Harvest Tabernacle Church. In 1999, they married and had their reception at the Women's 20th Century Club. They initially lived in Highland Park but had their eyes on Eagle Rock. As James and his business partner flipped homes in the area, they came across their current home and recognized its historic importance. Although the house was "a big mess", they moved in in 2009. Since, repairs have been made and diligent research done. The latest discovery was unearthed in their backyard by their dog: a boy's diary from 1877! Who this young man was and his ties to Eagle Rock and their home has yet to be discovered. We are honored that they have shared all their findings with the Historical Society.

This year their home will turn 118 years old! "Never gonna move!", they told me enthusiastically. On behalf of all of us, please don't!

-Katie Taylor