



EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter, 2019

Los Angeles' Visual History

We are starting 2019 off with lots of rain and, how timely, as our next FREE public program is all about a pioneering family who settled along the Los Angeles River. The Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society is honored to have author Mark Rozelle present his 2016 book: "Beside the LA River: The Story of Early Los Angeles Pioneers."

"Bazil and Edith Rozelle have just married in Cincinnati in 1891 and are living a very comfortable life. With lofty expectations, they trade that life in to take over her late brother's 114-acre farm in Los Angeles. Their dreams are

challenged as they try to farm in a drought, raise children in a tiny home and live in isolation a day's journey from the big city. The farm adjoins the Los Angeles River, which was but a trickle when they arrived. Over the next 40 years they grew wealthy from that river and then faced ruin before its raging fury. This book includes over 150 never-before-published photos the family took of early Los Angeles, Catalina Island and their primitive farm life. We follow the couple's romance, daring, tragedy and triumph as they experience the depression, a devastating earthquake and that moody Los Angeles River."

Please join us on Tuesday, February 19th at 7pm at the **Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock** at 2225 Colorado Blvd. for our quarterly **FREE public** program. Street parking is available and delicious Swork coffee and nibbles will be served. Please spread the word and join us for an interesting night of insight into our shared local history. Come meet your neighbors, learn new facts, and see some amazing photos from the past. See you then!

BESIDE THE LA RIVER THE STORY OF EARLY LOS ANGELES PIONEERS

WITH AUTHOR
MARK ROZELLE

Center for the Arts,
Eagle Rock
2225 Colorado

Tuesday,
February 19, 7:00
Free and
Open to All

EAGLE ROCK VALLEY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



VISIT OUR WEBSITE EAGLEROCKHISTORY.ORG

Hello, Eagle Rock!

Welcome to the latest edition of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society newsletter. Thank you to our continuing members who have been with us for a short time or for a long time. As you will see below, our dues are due for 2019. Please ask folks to join as we are facing a declining membership while our expenses continue to get higher. We really appreciate your support and loyalty..

Those of you new to the neighborhood, as I was only 7 years ago, may have already noticed that the people of Eagle Rock are engaged in the community, whether with the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council, TERA, CERB, the Women's Twentieth Century Club, the local schools, the local churches or with our Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society. While the focus of each of these groups is different, one big goal that we share is that we want Eagle Rock to be a nice place to live and work. If you want to learn how you can make a difference in the community, drop me an email or talk to me at one of the meetings. Simple things like coming early to meetings to setup chairs or staying a late to put them away again really help. Another way to help is if you have connections to a business in Eagle Rock whom you think might like to donate a prize for our Ice Cream Social this summer. This is our main fundraiser of the year and provides excellent exposure to local businesses.

As many of you know, the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society was founded by community members in 1961, in memory of and to carry on the work of Emma (Mrs. C. W.) Young and Elena Frackelton Murdock, both longtime members of the Women's Twentieth Century Club. They had the foresight to donate historic photographs and documents to a central archive and create an organization to oversee that archive. The archive still exists and is available to the public each Saturday

from 10-noon, curated by our Vice President, Eric Warren. Our archives are not stagnant, but continue to grow through donations and a few acquisitions. If you or someone you know has artifacts that could be donated or scanned, please let us know. One of the founding members of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society is board member Doris Theilen. Doris' 100th birthday is celebrated in this issue by featuring photos of her and her family selected from her extensive archive of their time in Eagle Rock. We could not be more proud of her

David Dellinger, President

president@eaglerockhistory.org

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, David Dellinger

Visit our website at:
eaglerockhistory.org

It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2019 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.

We Celebrate Doris Thielen on Her 100th Birthday



The Karger family is ready for a ride on El Rio Avenue. Theresia and Johann Karger, Doris' grandparents are in the back seat. They came here in 1905 and purchased a house that was built as a farmhouse in 1895 and moved to its present location on El Rio Avenue.

Fred Karger, Doris' father, came here in 1903 from Deutsch Liebau in Austria via Galveston Texas. He arrived here, before his parents, at age 14. Here he stands with his Maxwell, his dog, and his gun beside the family home.



Doris celebrates our victory in World War II.



Doris rides on the sidewalk in front of her family home on Yosemite Drive. A developing Eagle Rock is in the background.

Our Town, Our History

The ladies of the Women's Twentieth Century Club prepare to participate in the Eagle Rock Progress parade in 1961, celebrating 50 years from the City's incorporation. Doris is in the driver's seat.



Doris is second from the left in this 1963 dance line with members of the Women's Twentieth Century Club Juniors.

In 2010, Doris was given the Soaring Eagle Award by the Eagle Rock High School Alumni Association for her service to the community. Here she is seated with Peter O'Neil.



Taking Back the Boulevard

Our guest in March for our special free public meeting is professor Jan Lin from Occidental College. Lin has observed Eagle Rocks revitalization efforts and will place them in context with overall trends in Northeast Los Angeles.

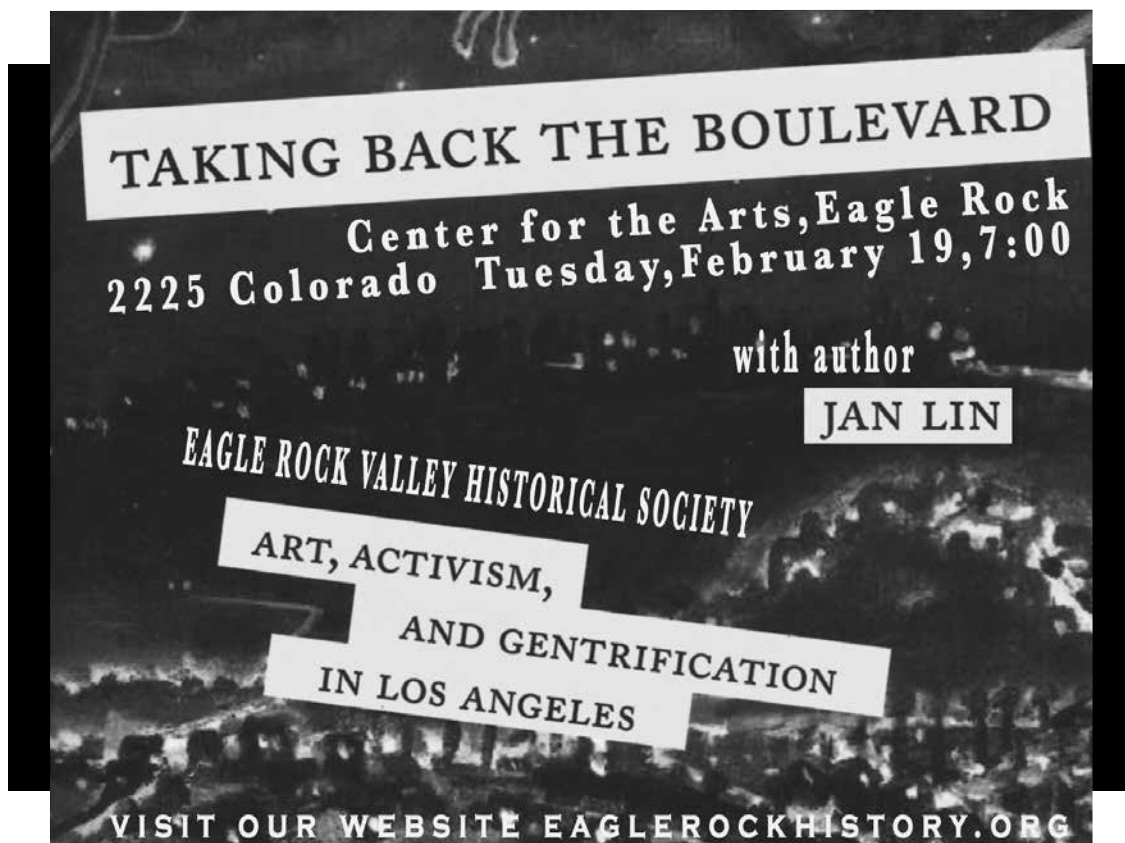
"Lin explores the promises and conflicts faced by public figures, artists, and leaders of Northeast Los Angeles as they enliven and defend their neighborhoods. Focusing especially on the cultural scene of Northeast Los Angeles, Lin shows how these gentrifying communities help satisfy a white middle-class consumer demand for authentic experiences of "living on the edge and a spirit of cultural rebellion."

"These neighborhoods have gone through several stages, from streetcar suburbs, to disinvested neighborhoods with the construction of freeways and white flight, to immigrant enclaves, to the home of Chicano/a artists in the 1970s. Those artists were then followed by non-Chicano/a, white artists, themselves later threatened with displacement by gentrifiers attracted by the culture, street life, and green amenities that earlier inhabitants had

worked to create. Lin argues that gentrification is not a single transition, but a series of changes that disinvest and re-invest neighborhoods with financial and cultural capital."

"Drawing on community survey research, interviews with community residents and leaders, and ethnographic observation, this book argues that the revitalization in Northeast LA by arts leaders and neighborhood activists marks a departure in the political culture from the older civic engagement to more socially progressive coalition work involving preservationists, environmentalists, citizen protestors, and arts organizers."

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

**B E S I D E T H E L A R I V E R
A STORY OF EARLY LA PIONEERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019 7:00**

**TAKING BACK THE BOULEVARD
WITH OXY PROFESSOR JAN LIN
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019 7:00**

**EAGLE ROCK'S FIRST PEOPLE
THE KIZH/GABRIELINO MISSION INDIANS
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019 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 Member's Corner



Will Bellaimey

Our newest member, Will, recently wandered into our archives with our Eagle Rock history publications in hand, ready to tackle the broader history of Los Angeles by first understanding Eagle Rock's history. Through membership he wants to connect with more neighbors and meet likeminded people (heck yes!).

Will was born into a family that valued education and teaching; his mother was a journalist, and his father a devoted teacher. Born in Boston and raised in Minneapolis, Will attended Middlebury College in Vermont where he considered a career in politics or law. After spending a summer in D.C. he changed his focus to teaching. He went on to receive his Masters in Education through Lesley University, taught at Shady Hill School, and eventually at the Riverdale Country School in the Bronx for 5 years. Will is currently a middle school history teacher at Flintridge Prep in La Canada.

Will visited friends who had moved to L.A. and discovered he unexpectedly loved it. Los Angeles held for him "all the qualities of New York City life but with the added bonus of nature, mountains, and a laid-back feeling." In August of 2017, Will made the leap and moved in with long-time friends to a house on Toland Way, fondly named "Rancho Corno" (ask him the story behind it!). Will's enthusiasm for Eagle Rock is palpable. We are honored to have him on our roster!

-Katie Taylor