



EL CAJON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE



Volume 47 Issue 1

www.elcajonhistory.org

January 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am honored that you have chosen me to be your president for 2025. I agreed to this honor because of all the wonderful people I've been blessed to know since we moved to El Cajon in 1971, many are you, the members of the El Cajon Historical Society.

A little about myself. I'm a native Californian, born and raised in Stockton. I joined the Navy in 1961 and served twenty years as a Naval Aviator, most of my time on the West Coast and in the Far East. In 1963 I married the love of my life, Carla. We have three children, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. I have been in the background of the Society for several years. Carla has been the active member, serving as President, Office Manager and Treasurer among other duties. That is one of the reasons I accepted the Presidency; I have a built-in mentor, encourager, and accountability partner.

So many of you have been helpful to Carla and I that it is difficult to single out individuals without leaving someone important, but I'll try.

First, of course, is Carla, who not only kept me informed about ECHS activities, but raised our three children almost single-handedly while I was off playing Flyboy.

Rick Hall, whom I met when he was running Inland Supply, and I had a small cabinet shop. Rick's calm demeanor, his obvious caring for people, and his undying support for El Cajon in general and ECHS specifically has encouraged me not only here, but in all our dealings over the years.

George Dall, whom I've never met in person, has served as our CPA for many years without charge.

Linda Garity, who is always willing to help any way she can and recently taught me to scan documents to preserve them for posterity

Tom Garity, who keeps our computers up to date and running. I'd like to add that the Garitys now live in Arizona but continue to serve ECHS.

Linda Foltz, who publishes our newsletter

All the members of the Board of Directors who all contribute time, money, and good counsel.

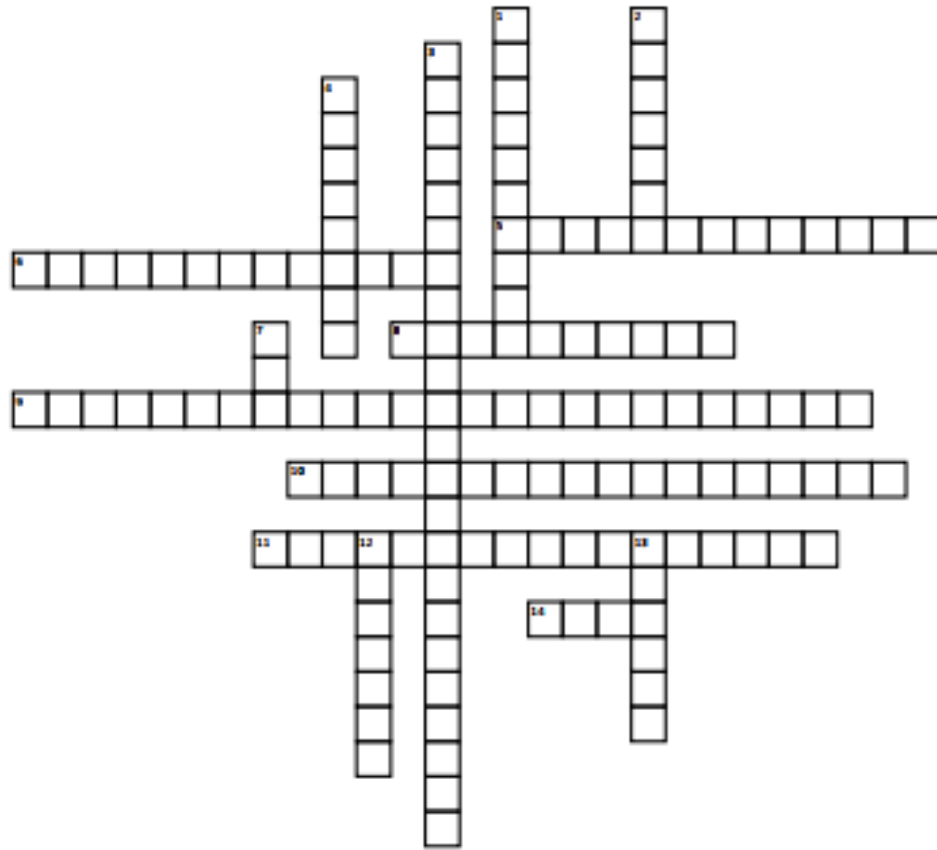
And finally, to you, our membership. Without your moral and financial support ECHS could not exist.

I pledge to do my very best to manage the Society with loving care and efficiency.

Sincerely,

Bob Nowak, ECHS Board President

A LITTLE BRAINTEASER TO START OFF 2025



Down:

1. Rancho owned by the Asher Family
2. First European explorers of San Diego
3. First mission built in Alta California
4. Early people who inhabited El Cajon Valley
7. After the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Alta California was ceded to this country
12. First discovered gold in Julian in December 1869
13. After gaining freedom from Spain, this country created land grants called "ranchos"

Across:

5. Ranch owned by Apolinaria Lorenzana
6. Ranch owned by Mr. Lankershim
8. Purchased a Mexican Land Grant and renamed it Rancho El Cajon
9. At only 28-acres, this was the smallest rancho in San Diego County
10. Built 18 of California's 21 missions
11. Ranch owned by the Pedroroña family
14. Built the Knox Hotel

Answers appear on page 7. No peeking—give it a try first!

MEMBERSHIP

2025 BUDGET

We are so grateful for your continued support of the ECHS. Your membership keeps us going. It's a new year and we would really like to encourage our existing members to consider becoming Enhanced Life Members. Enhanced Life Members never have to renew, so those reminders to pay dues become a thing of the past! We know it's a big commitment, but whether you decide to enhance your membership, or maintain it as is, please do send in your membership dues promptly.

Membership dues are:

\$15 for Individual, \$25 Family,
\$45 Business & Non-Profit,
\$500 Enhanced Life

Please make checks payable to ECHS
and send to:

P.O. Box 1973

, El Cajon, CA 92022-1973.

We are still gratefully accepting donations
to our budget expenses
(see our 2025 Budget on this page).

If you have any questions or would like
more information, please contact us at the
number below.

Telephone Messages: 619-444-3800.



El Cajon Historical Society – Budget 2025 Income

Book Sales	\$200.00
Donations	\$2,000.00
Dues	\$3,000.00
Investment Income	\$100.00
Opportunity Drawings	\$700.00
Quarterly Meetings	\$600.00
Special Events	\$1,700.00
	\$8,300.00

Expenses

Building Maintenance	\$50.00
Insurance	\$3,300.00
Memberships	\$25.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$100.00
Newsletter/Publications	\$200.00
Office Expense	\$100.00
PO Box Rental	\$200.00
Postage	\$100.00
Quarterly Meetings	\$600.00
Safe Deposit Box Rent	\$135.00
Sales Tax	\$40.00
Security	\$500.00
Storage	\$1300.00
Special Events	\$50.00
Telephone/Internet	\$1,600.00
	\$8,300.00

A LOOK BACK THROUGH THE HERITAGE

Below is the ECHS proposed budget for 1989, printed in the October 1988 Heritage. As current editor, I can smile at the typo showing that it is proposed through December 31, 1889. I am smiling with relief and understanding that no matter how many times something is proofread, or how many proofreading helpers, something unwanted always seems to slip into the final print. It's nice to see that has always been the case, despite all of our best efforts-and we do try! Sometimes errors can be entertaining. It also seems that our current board is doing a great job with our present day budgets, especially when compared to these 35 year old figures. Well done, ECHS Board!

EL CAJON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.

THIS PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE VOTED UPON AT THE
ANNUAL DINNER MEETING ON OCTOBER 27, 1988.

PROPOSED BUDGET: JANUARY 1 to DECEMBER 31, 1889

ITEM	1989 Proposed		1988 Actual		1987 Actual	
	Revenue	Expense	Revenue	Expense	Revenue	Expense
Memberships	\$3000		\$3500		\$3300	
Bazaar Sales	600	50	500	50	750	128
Raffles	500		500		00	
Donations	300		400		200	
Interest	500		100		50	
Other Sales	500		300		75	25
Quarterly Meetings	2000	1750	2000	1800	1500	1500
Tours & Activities	00	00	00	00		
P. O. Box rent		50	40	40		22
Legal & Dues		200		200		200
Insurance		900		1000		
Telephone		200		200		200
Bulletin & Membership		1200		1000		800
Hotel Maintenance		200		250		250
Office Supplies		200		250		250
Archive Operations		400		400		00
Essay Contest		400		400		00
Historical Preservation		100		100		100
Archive Storage		500		500		500
Equipment Acquisition & Repair		1000		1000		400
Hospitality		150		100		100
	\$7400	\$7400	\$8300	\$8300	\$7875	\$7875
Memorials	00		00		00	
Gazebo Fund	\$4200	4200				

MORE HERITAGE HISTORY

And from the same issue, a look back at some of the news from 1938!

50 years ago

EL CAJON VALLEY NEWS
PUBLISHED FRIDAYS

OCT. 7, 1938

Bing Crosby, Pat O'Brien and Leo Carrillo to appear at the county fair which opens tomorrow at Del Mar.

A.R. Hunter is in charge of the local Community Chest Drive which began Wednesday. He has 16 volunteers

City taxes are delinquent
Oct. 31.

American Legion Post plans a Nov. 11 Armistice Day Parade.

California Railroad Commission has denied application of San Diego Railway Commission for discontinuance of bus line service beyond La Mesa to El Cajon.

Grossmont School board gives large American Flag to fly over Grossmont High School athletic field during intercity contests.

Mrs. Annie Gray seeks donations of new or good used toys for the Toy Library.

El Cajon Farm Bureau reorganized. Lt. Com. I.Y. Thompson elected chairman.

Tasty Bake Shop celebrates second anniversary with open house. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wilson, owners.

Fire destroys large barn and contents at Chase Ranch, also barn and winter's hay at Hobart Brown's.

OCT. 14, 1938

Gov. Frank Merriam to set off blast at top of Mountain Springs grade Saturday during ground breaking for rebuilding of grade.

Two local shippers; Roether Bros. and San Diego County Cooperative Vegetable Growers, expected to ship 7½ million tomatoes during the current picing season.

Mayor Gail Wright presided at last Friday's meeting of San Diego County Division of California Municipalities League, meeting in El Cajon.

(more Oct. 14, 1938)

Mrs. Isabel Smith, local librarian, announces new shipment of books; will order any book desired.

El Cajon Farm Grange took first place in competition among granges at County Fair; also many poultry prizes awarded for local area.

OCT. 21, 1938

El Cajon Valley News to sponsor a motion picture "Star In My Kitchen" cooking school week of Nov. 14 at El Cajon Theater.

Bostonia area having a building book. List of new residents and projects told.

Cajon Valley grammar school teachers tell of summer trips; Grace Parsons visited Australia, spoke at Bostonia Woman's Club; Mabel Farley attended University of Mexico in Mexico City, spoke at Progress Club.

Philip Bancroft, candidate for U.S. Senate, to visit his old home on Bancroft Dr., Spring Valley. Invites voters to join him for lunch at Twigg's Cafe in El Cajon.

OCT. 28, 1938

Judge William Collard of El Cajon Township Court is on two weeks vacation. El Cajon City Judge C.M. Walz will preside Saturday at Small Claims Court.

John C. Shrade, a resident here the past 12 years, died Sunday at his home. He was born in 1870 in Pennsylvania. Survivors: wife Mary; sons John of Bostonia, Andrew of Los Angeles.

Mac Fleming and Wes Wolters have purchased the Jesse and Clyde Riggle garage at Mollison & Main.

El Cajon to receive \$379.37 as its share of liquor fees for licenses issued during the first six months of 1938, according to State Board of Equalization.

WHAT IS IT? MYSTERY ITEMS AT THE KNOX HOUSE



Front and back images of an antique wooden cabbage shredder, also known as a slaw board.

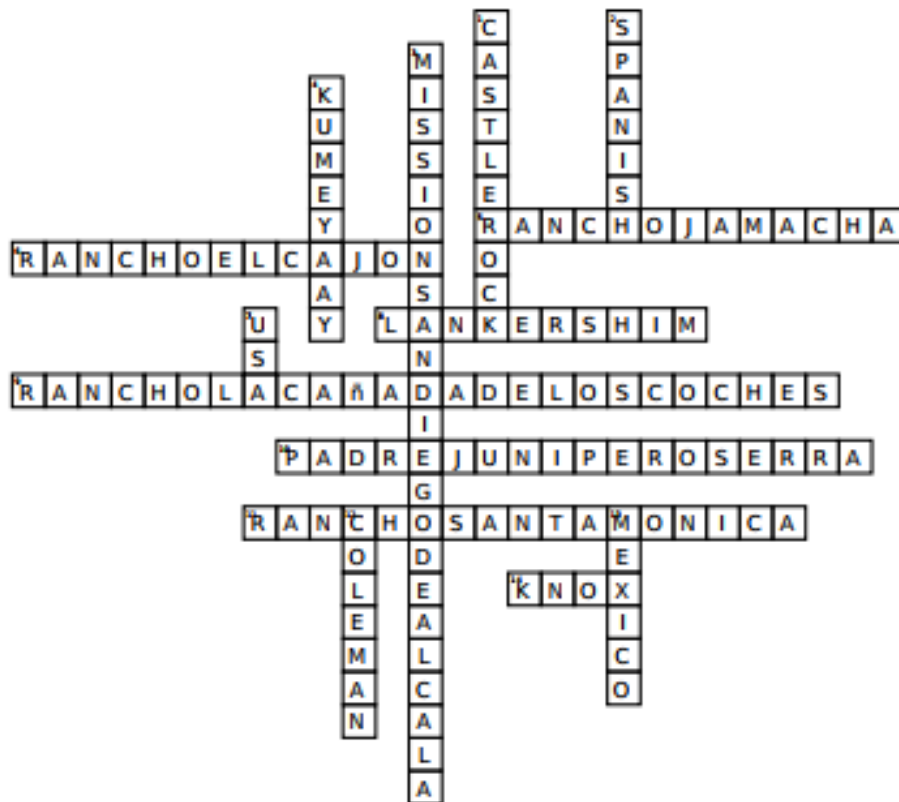
It was used to make coleslaw before the invention of modern food processors.

Thank you to Becky Taylor for sharing our mystery items... and de-mystifying them!

Some additional insight into our Dunlaps Universal Silver Blade Cream and Egg Whip that appeared in our July Issue. The first Patent date is May 15, 1906. A "cream and egg whip" refers to a mixture where both egg whites (whipped to a foamy consistency) and heavy cream (whipped to soft peaks) are combined, creating a light and airy texture often used in desserts like mousses, pies, or as a topping; essentially, it's a whipped cream that incorporates the added volume and stability from beaten egg whites.



BRAINTEASER ANSWERS



Down:

1. Rancho owned by the Asher Family
2. First European explorers of San Diego
3. First mission built in Alta California
4. Early people who inhabited El Cajon Valley
7. After the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Alta California was ceded to this country
12. First discovered gold in Julian in December 1869
13. After gaining freedom from Spain, granted lands, called "ranchos"

Across:

5. Ranch owned by Apolinaria Lorenzana
6. Ranch owned by Mr. Lankershim's
8. Purchased a Mexican Land Grant that became known as Rancho El Cajon
9. At only 28-acres, this was the smallest rancho in San Diego County
10. Built 18 of California's 21 missions
11. The name of the Pedröreña ranch
14. Built the Knox Hotel

Did you get them all correct? Or at least have fun trying and learning more about El Cajon History?

Thanks to Becky Taylor for creating the crossword puzzle!

From: El Cajon Historical Society
P. O. Box 1973
El Cajon, CA 92022

To:

QUARTERLY MEETING JANUARY 23 AT 12PM

The January quarterly meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23rd at 12:00pm noon at Hooley's Restaurant, located at 2955 Jamacha Road (Ste. 21 A) in Rancho San Diego, near the theaters.

Our guest speaker will be Ed Gauss. He will be giving a presentation about the history of the citrus and avocado industry in the East County and Southern California.

The cost is \$20 and we hope that you will be able to attend to share good food, friendship and hear more about the citrus and avocado industry in our area.

Reservations must be in by Saturday, January 18th.

Quarterly Meeting: January 23, 2025 at 12:00pm

Number attending @ \$20 per person _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE:

Saturday, January 18, 2024.

Mail reservations & checks to:

ECHS, P. O. Box 1973, El Cajon, CA 92022-1973

Reservations not kept become a donation.