



EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall, 2010

Eagle Rock City, Growing toward the Metropolis 1911-1923

On March 1, 1911, Eagle Rock City was incorporated as a city of the 6th class with a vote of 72 to 57. The approximate total population was 600. Women gained the vote in California later that year.

On March 27, 1923, Eagle Rock voted for Annexation to the City of Los Angeles by a majority of 297 votes. 1,917 citizens voted out of an approximate total population of 6,700. Lewis B. Reed, 99 years old, was brought to the polls in an automobile and was cheered

as he stepped from the machine.

In the years between these controversial votes, Eagle Rock changed from a sparsely populated semi rural area to the suburban neighborhood we recognize today. (The approximate total population in the same area today is 18,225).

The school system was expanded to the east and west due to the new resident's demand for neighborhood schools. The City bought and expanded the local water

company, only to find that demand still exceeded the local groundwater available. Street lighting, curbs, and paving were added to the major streets. A library was built and supplied with books, and City Hall was constructed, ironically just before the annexation took place.

We will explore the reasons for these changes and the early development of our town on Tuesday, October 19, at 7:00 PM. The Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society's public meeting will be held at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock, 2225 Colorado Boulevard. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome to this free event.

Eric Warren, whose forthcoming book, "Eagle Rock 1911-2011", will emphasize our history since cityhood, will present photos and information from the period, some old favorites, and some newly gathered during research for the book. Come catch a glimpse of the beginnings of the town we will be celebrating at our Centennial next year.

EAGLE ROCK CITY 1911 1923

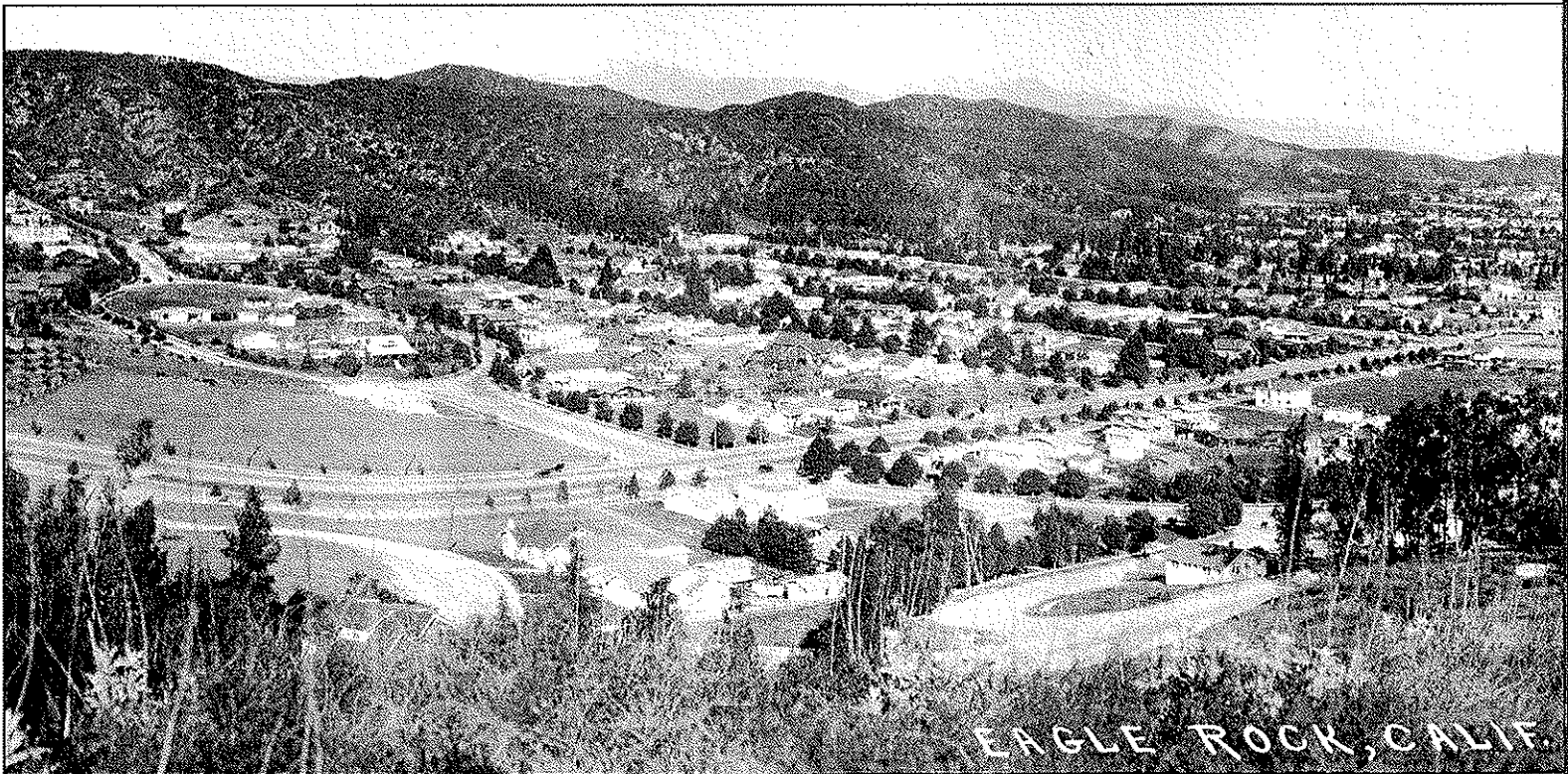
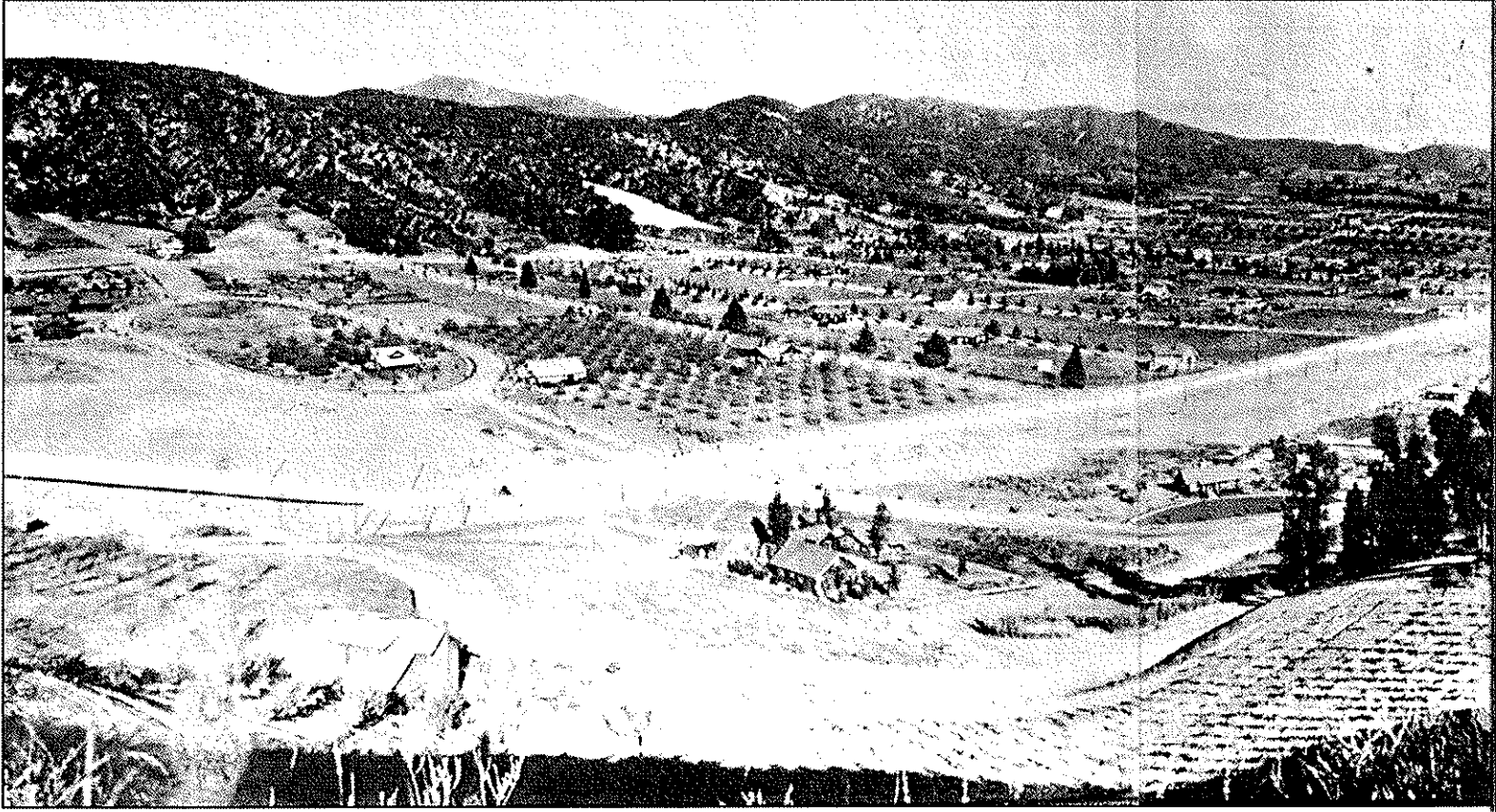
TUESDAY
OCT. 19
7 PM

CENTER
FOR
THE ARTS,
EAGLE ROCK
2225
COLORADO
BLVD.

A
VISUAL
HISTORY
BY
THE
EAGLE ROCK
VALLEY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

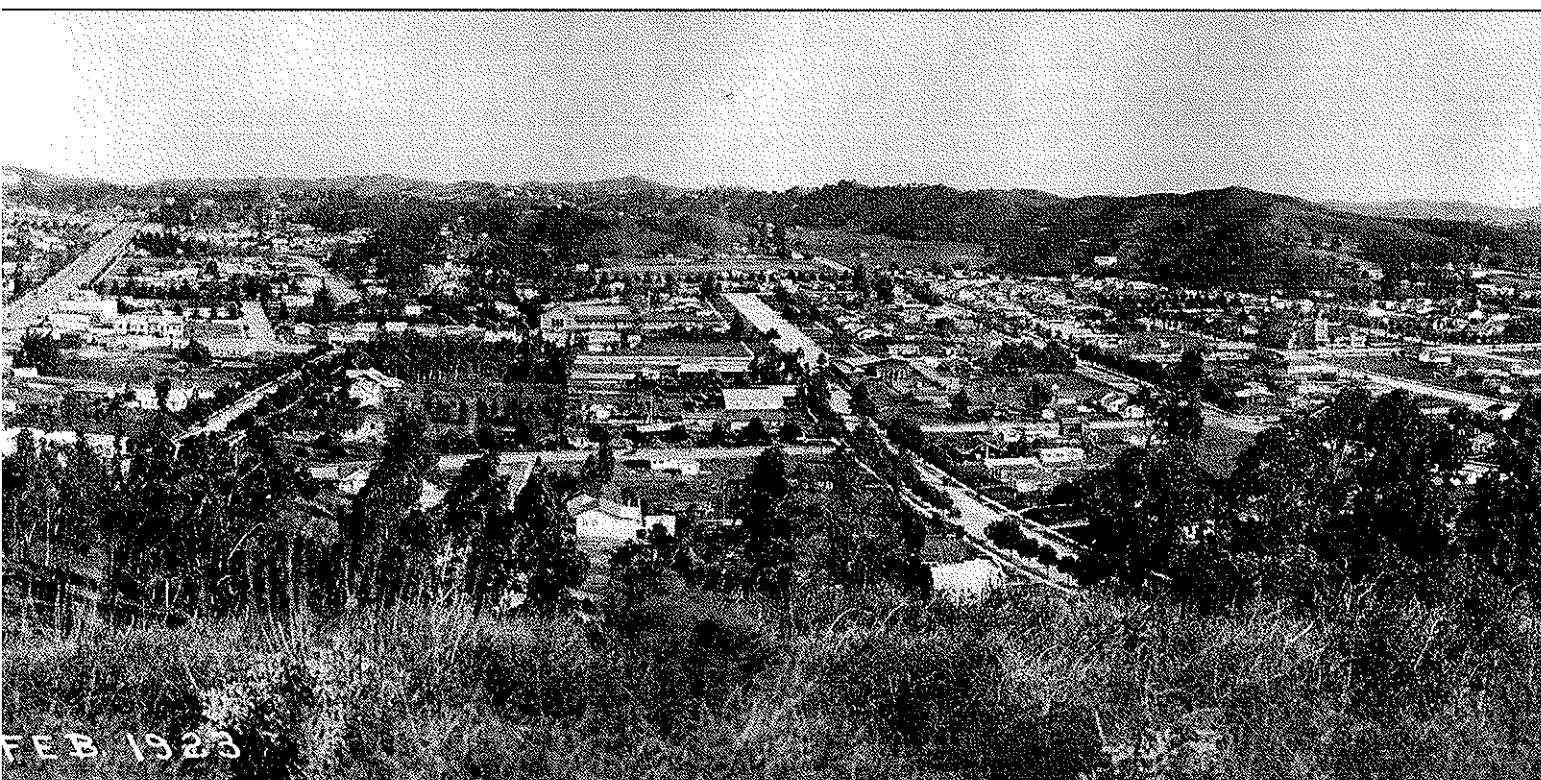
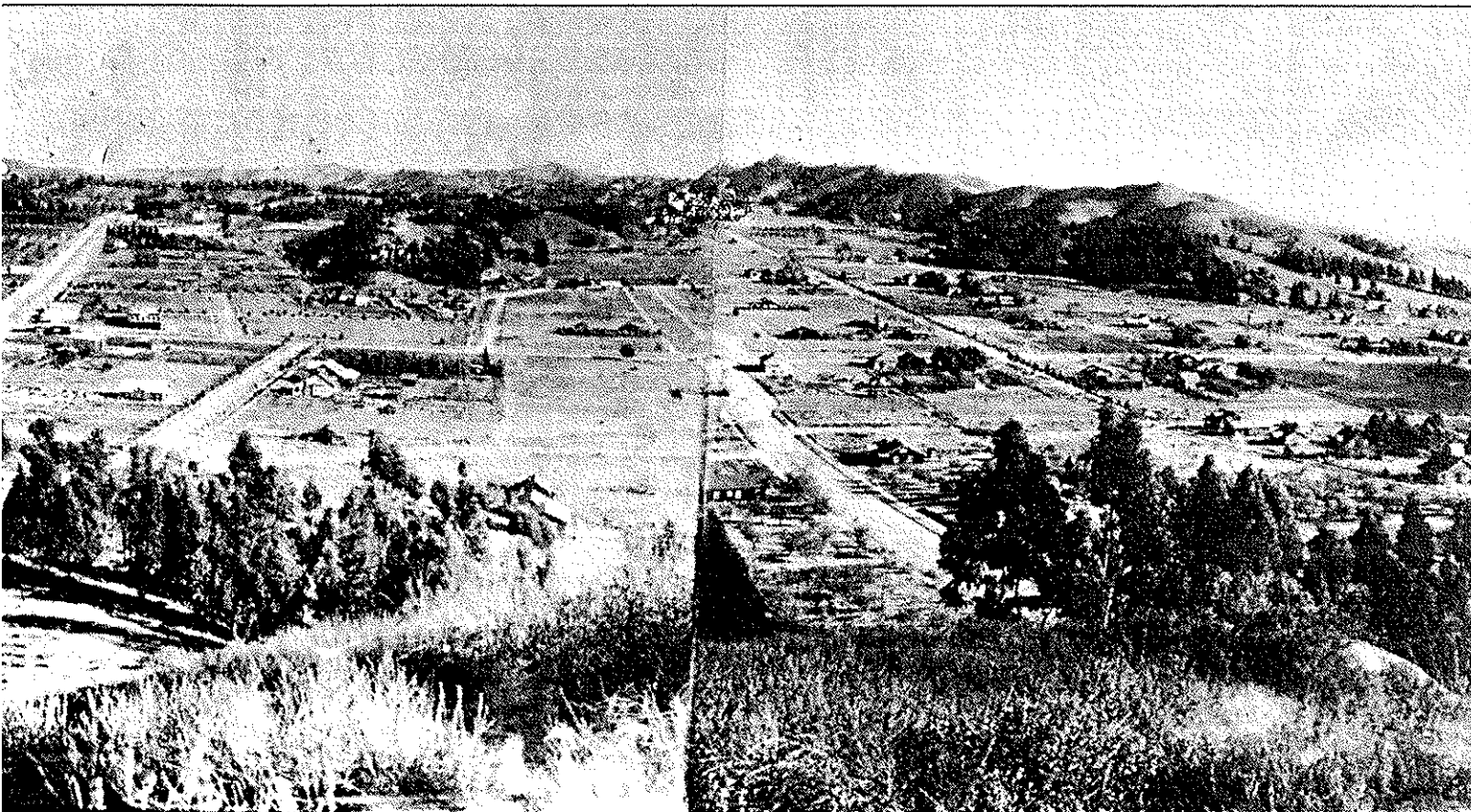
eaglerockhistory.org

The transformation of the area is clearly evident in these two panoramas. In 1911 there are still many fields and orchards in Eagle Rock, Colorado, which had become by 1911 the center of town (below the Rock in the center of the panoramas), the Eagle Rock estate offices stood on the southwest and southeast corners. By 1923 the Edwards and Wildey building and the Eagle Rock School building were torn down in 1927 and replaced by the building that now houses the Center for the Arts. The Eagle Rock School building was built. The new Occidental College can be barely seen beyond the trees on the far right.



ck 1911 and 1923

s. By 1923, only marginal agriculture is visible and houses have filled in much of the empty space. At Eagle Rock and
k Bank, the old Masons Hall (still standing), and the Occidental Café were all constructed by 1911. Two clapboard real
(Sierra) Theater fill half the block on the east side. Also constructed by 1923 is the old Carnegie Library, which would
ing is where it stands now, perpendicular to Fair Park Avenue. The East and West Schools (not pictured) had also been
nt. (The 1911 panorama is courtesy of the Allen family, 1923 is from our archive).

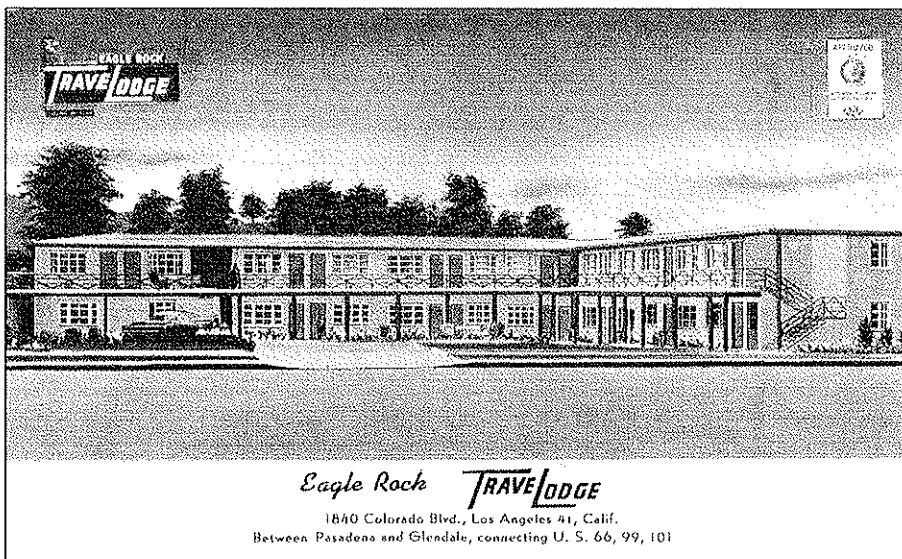
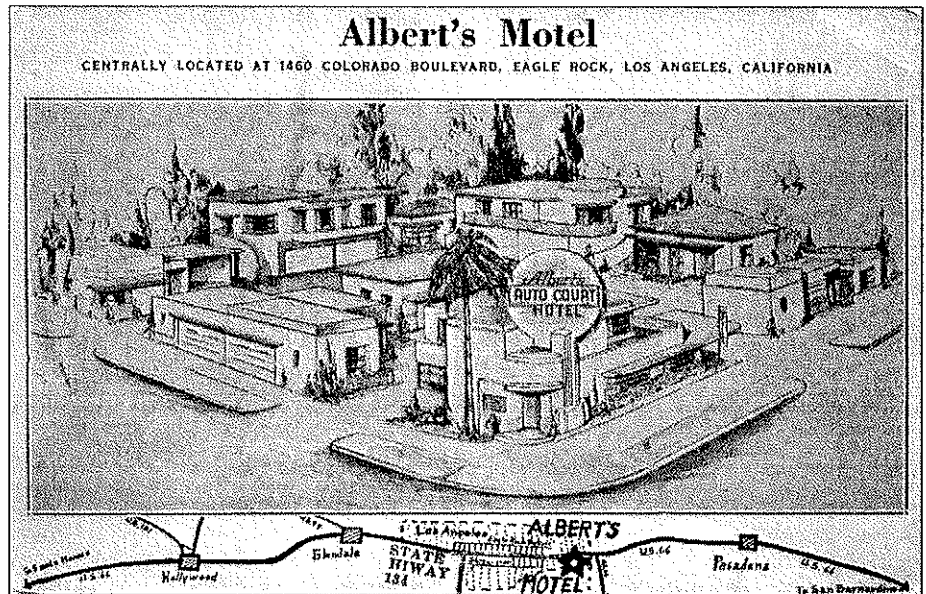


"Eagle Rock's Enduring Motels"



The Casa Lu-An Motel, shown here in this 1953 postcard, has retained its original name.

A postcard sketch of Albert's Autocourt Motel. It is now known as The Islander Motel. The back of the postcard advertises that the motel is "Located in 'The Healthiest Place in Los Angeles'".



Beginning in the 1920s, as car travel became more common, motels proliferated along important routes. Colorado Boulevard was no exception. Then, as now, it was lined with a variety of diverse motels. The images below show three of Eagle Rock's remaining motels as they appeared in their earlier days.

This linen postcard shows the Eagle Rock Travelodge, circa 1950. It's currently the Welcome Inn.

President's Message: Members and Friends

Upcoming: Eagle Rock City

This month we will consider Eagle Rock City, its history and reason for formation, and also the reasons for its eventual annexation to Los Angeles. Featured will be more from our wonderful photograph collection.

Thanks for a Great Ice Cream Social

Maxine Tichenor, Double O Salon, Colombo's Restaurant, Tritch Hardware, Trader Joe's, Colorado Wine Co., Katie and Zach Taylor, and Corey and Sarah Stargel contributed prizes for the drawing. Fine performances were heard from the Fifth Friday Folk Band and the Eagle Rock High Latin Jazz Band. Peter Breed and his street organ were cancelled due to car trouble. We were able to meet the famous and infamous from California's past, courtesy of the Western Educators, Shooters and Troopers, and our

own Fire Engine Co. 42 stopped by to greet us and enthrall the children. Thanks as always to the Eagle Rock High School Key Club and our own Fred and Donna Guapo, Katie Taylor, Karin Heyl, Karen Warren and Cory and Sarah Stargel. As always, thanks to the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock and its great staff for hosting our Society.

Centennial

As I hope everybody knows by now, the centennial of Eagle Rock's cityhood will be celebrated in 2011. A newly redesigned website is at: eaglerockcentennial.com. The calendar featuring many of our fine photos of the Rock will be available in November. The next steering committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 21, 6:30 to 8 PM at City Hall. The public is invited to attend and comments will be heard at the end of the scheduled business.

Next Year ERVHS 50th Anniversary Gala

Plans are afoot for a big bash honoring our anniversary next October (2011). Although we will participate enthusiastically in the centennial, we must not forget the history of our own organization. Look forward to a classy dinner at a local restaurant with limited speechmaking and lots of fun.

Renewals

We have had a wonderful response from our membership and we appreciate all of those whose continuing support makes the Society possible. As is our custom, we include an application and envelope in this newsletter only for those who haven't yet paid for 2010.

Unknown History

I am under contract to author a sequel to my earlier book "Eagle Rock" in which I will focus on the more recent history of our town and cover in more depth the west end and York Valley areas. I am seeking photos and history about these and other aspects of our later history. Please contact me at 257-1357 or erickaren@earthlink.net if you can help out. Thanks to all of those who have generously given already.

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, Corey and Sarah Stargel

Visit our website at:
eaglerockhistory.org

It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2010 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 CITY
Growing Toward the Metropolis
Tuesday, October 19, 2010, 7:00
EAGLE ROCK'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS
Identification, Designation & Preservation
(LA CITY HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY)
Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 7:00
Prosperity, Demolition, REVITALIZATION
Postwar Eagle Rock
Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 7:00
at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock
2225 Colorado Blvd.

EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 2225 Colorado Boulevard Eagle Rock, CA 90041



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



Megan McHone

Originally from Willits, California, Megan has made her way south, slowly but surely, and has found her home in Eagle Rock. After high school graduation in 1994, Megan moved to Berkeley. Shortly thereafter she was accepted at the California Institute for the Arts and moved outside of Lancaster. At school she met her future husband, Jeff Roe. They moved to Hollywood for a spell

and then to Silverlake. They were married in 2000 and after much searching, in 2001 on Jeff's birthday, they got the keys to their first home becoming only the third owners of a 1924 craftsman on Maywood Ave. Why Eagle Rock? They had friends and family living here and Megan loved the "small town vibe mixed with the easy access to the rest of Los Angeles."

Megan is currently an elder caregiver and loves hearing stories of L.A.'s history from her clients. She is also an avid supporter of the Center for the Arts. She and her family donate annually their collaborative art called IOFF to the art auction. Megan participated in the "Art Not Trash" project. You can see her mosaic panels outside of the Coffee Table, inspired by photos of Eagle Rock's Rose Parade floats from the 'teens. It was that project that got her interested in the Historical Society of which she is now a happy member.

Megan and Jeff live with their pets-Tigra, Trixie, Julip, Muddy Puddles, and always in their thoughts, Lola (R.I.P). Megan and Jeff have no plans to leave Eagle Rock. Ever.

-Katie Taylor