



Artesia Historical Society Newsletter

August 2024

Volume 20 Issue 2

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Message from the Presidents:

Time flies. It's summer already! Hopefully the start of your year was happy and adventurous. During summertime the Artesia Historical Society launches into planning the **annual fundraiser gala**. This year's theme takes us back to the 1920's (can you believe that was 100 years ago?). It was the time of the "Roaring Twenties"-- Women's voting rights, the Charleston dance rage, Prohibition...and bootleg booze. Speakeasy establishments were tucked into hideaways and false storefronts. Often a password was needed to allow entrance.

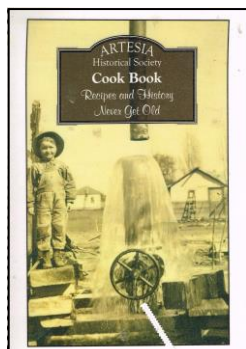
During the 1920's life and progress was booming in Artesia. Commercial buildings were added, new electric streetlights lit Main Street (currently Pioneer Blvd.), the population was expanding, agriculture was fruitful and dairy cows were seen everywhere. And hidden away were the speakeasies.

Our "**Blind Cow**" **Speakeasy Mystery Dinner** will be held at the Albert O. Little Community Center on Saturday, September 28, 2024. This fun community focused evening includes entertainment, dinner, raffle baskets, boutique and silent auction opportunities. The entertainment this year will take all the guests back into memories of early Artesia. Come help solve the Speakeasy Mystery!

If you have not yet received a "save the date" notice in the mail and would like to be included on the invitation mailing list, please contact us at artesiahistoricalsociety@yahoo.com or contact either Barbara Applebury at 562-865-3107 or Maria Dantema at 714-349-8722 to have your name added to the invitation list. Hope to see you there for a roaring time! (1920's attire is strongly encouraged.)

Maria Dantema and Barbara Applebury, Co-presidents

A few copies are still available of the **Artesia Historical Society Cook Book**. Place your order today by mailing your check or money order for \$20.00 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling per book to:



Artesia Historical Society
P.O. Box 83
Artesia, CA 90702

Also available

Images of America
Artesia 1875 - 1975

a pictorial history of old Artesia.

To order your copy call
Barbara Applebury
at (562) 865-3107



Number 7 in a Series: "Who was the school named for.....?" **Do you remember this school?**



**Elliott Elementary School
formerly
William F. Elliott Elementary School**

Elliott Elementary School, located at 18415 Cortner Ave., Artesia, opened November 30, 1959. It was named in honor of long-time Artesia School Board Member, William Fulton Elliott.

Elliott family tradition says that William's grandfather was born in North Carolina to a Quaker family who fled to Iowa to escape the South with the onset of the Civil War. Mr. Elliott was born November 26, 1877, in Scott, Iowa, the son of James Walter and Phoebe Ellen (Schee) Elliott. However, by 1900 his parents had relocated to California and William is found as a freshman at UC Berkeley in 1902. When or if he graduated is unknown. William married Ada M. Johnson on October 5, 1910; they eventually made their home in Artesia where William was in the farming industry.

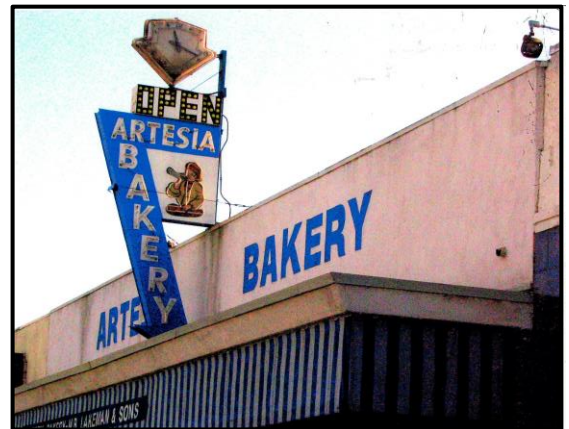
The Elliott's became the parents of two children, Marcia Kathryn and Robert William. He was active in the Artesia community and was a major contributor to the development of the Artesia School District, where he served from 1932 to 1957. The Artesia School District was one of the three predecessor districts of today's ABC Unified School District.

A background image of a bar interior with a counter, stools, and shelves of bottles.

**Join the
Artesia Historical
Society For A Gala
Mystery Dinner
At Old Artesia's
"Blind Cow" Speakeasy.**

**See The President's Message
In This Newsletter For Details
Or Call 714-349-8722 or
562-865-3107**

**Memories and Artifacts of the
Artesia Dutch Bakery and
the Lakeman family**



A special thank you to the Lakeman family for their recent donation of original cookie cutters used in the Artesia Bakery. Those items have been added to the collection received earlier of wooden cookie forms and other items from the former bakery. To view this collection, visit the kitchen in the Frampton-Dantema House Museum on the corner of 187th Street and Alburdis Avenue during their regular open hours on the second Saturday of each month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.



Artesia Historical Society School Tours Gear Up for Another Successful Year

by Elaine Burdick



Where are the numbers on the vintage phone? Why doesn't the iron or waffle maker have an electrical cord? What did girls and boys do without television, computers, or handheld devices? What were the "old-time" schools like? These are just some of the questions that are answered for local school children when they visit the Artesia Historical Society's (AHS) Museums on their school field trip.

Since its beginning during the 2004-2005 school year, the all-volunteer docents of the AHS have hosted more than 10,000 visitors (children, teachers, and class chaperones) in the highly successful educational program. Each year, third grade teachers from local schools opt to take advantage of the completely free historical opportunity. The program content focuses on the theme of "change over time in the local community" and is based on the Third Grade California State Content Standards for History-Social Science. Children learn what life was like in the past, how the environment impacted population and local economies, and how time has changed daily life.

The tours consist of visits to two museums. One is the Society's 1929 Spanish-style home built by Art and Helen Frampton, early business and social leaders. Children view items such as vintage irons, wooden shoes, a wringer clothes washer and artifacts from former Artesia resident, First Lady, Thelma (Pat) Ryan Nixon. Students also have "hands'-on" experiences with artifacts appropriate to the era.

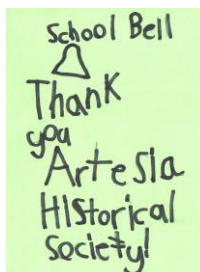
The other museum is Old Fire Station #30. This award-winning restored building served as the Artesia-Cerritos fire station from the early 1950's until 1985. It currently houses a completely restored 1942 fire truck, an assortment of miniature fire vehicles collected over a period of 60 years, artifacts from well-known Artesia businesses, and display cases focusing on youth group items as well as dairy memorabilia.

As part of their experience, children also create a historical postcard to take home with them and participate in "screen-free" activities that were popular during the early days. Horseshoes, beanbag toss, and drop-the-clothespin-in-the-bottle are among the favorites.

To maintain its "completely free" status, the AHS school tours program offers bus scholarships (upon request) to help offset transportation costs to and from the local facility. This funding is available to both private and public schools on a first come, first served basis.

School tours are given on selected Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the school year, and potential docents are always welcome. For additional information, please contact either of the group's co-presidents, Barbara Applebury at 562-865-3107, or Maria Dantema at 714-484-1474.

The Society is especially pleased to look forward to its 20th year of offering this unique educational opportunity to local school children. Please plan to join us!!!



Membership Application

(Renewals mailed in January; membership runs January through December)

Circle One Please: New Renewal

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____
(street, city, state, zip code)

Phone (including area code): _____ Email: _____

Membership Level:

Annual Individual \$20.00
Annual Business \$50.00
Annual Student/Senior \$15.00
Annual Family \$25.00
Annual Nonprofit Organization \$30.00
Lifetime Individual \$500.00
Lifetime Business \$1,000.00

Volunteer Opportunities:

Educational Outreach Docent
Museum Open House Docent
Programs & Events
Oral Histories
Archival Data Entry
Other _____

Please circle membership level you are applying for and volunteer opportunity that interest you! Volunteer hours can be applied to school community service requirements. Please note the day(s) of the week and the times you are available to volunteer _____

Return completed application and payment to:
Artesia Historical Society, P.O. Box 83, Artesia, CA 90702

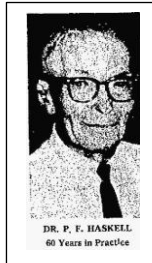
Are You A Member of AHS?

Anyone who is a current or former resident of Artesia, or just has an interest in our community, will enjoy membership in the **Artesia Historical Society**.

We also welcome genealogist and other researchers. We have many resources that could provide valuable information about the area and/or former residents of the area. We have many back issues of the Artesia News and can provide assistance in researching them.

Join Now and Volunteer to help!!

Number 8 in a Series: "Who was the school named for.....?" **Do you remember this school?**



Haskell Middle School Formerly Haskell Elementary School

Haskell Elementary School opened December 14, 1959. It was named for Dr. Pliny Fisk Haskell, a 12-year Trustee of the Artesia School District. Dr. Haskell was a physician for 60 years with a general practice in Artesia. He was born in Beaver City, Nebraska, the son of C. T. and Mary E. Haskell. He earned his medical degree from Battle Creek, Michigan Medical School, with additional studies at the American Medical Missionary College in Chicago, Illinois. His 1st wife, Coral R. Haskell was a graduate nurse. They were the parents of four sons Pliny Charles, John Eugene, Eugene Ryan, and Dr. Mortimer Haskell.

Dr. Haskell was instrumental in the creation of the original Artesia Hospital located on the Northeast corner of 183rd St. and Pioneer Blvd. He was also President of the Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Kiwanis Club and active in many other groups in Artesia. He was often seen riding his horse around the area and loved riding in community parades. After the death of his wife Coral, he married Effie O. Robinson in 1961. Dr. Haskell died in 1964 and was buried in Forest Lawn-Glendale. Mrs. Effie Haskell lived until 1970.

In the early 1950s with the growing population, it was determined there was a need for an additional Middle School in the Artesia School District, therefore in 1952 Haskell Elementary School was converted to a middle school. It became part of the ABC Unified School District in 1965 with the consolidation of the Artesia, Bloomfield and Carmentia School Districts.

Help! Help!

Do you have a 16 mm movie projector that you can give or loan to the Historical Society? If so, please call Co-President, Barbara Applebury at 562 865-3107.

Native Artesian and former Historical Society Board Member, Ronald Eveland passes!

Ronald Dean Eveland was born January 12, 1940, to Fred Daniel and Dorothea Irene (Grubbs) Eveland in the "old" Artesia Hospital. He was baptized at the Historic Artesia Methodist Church, now Artesia Cerritos United Methodist Church, where he was a current member. The Celebration of his Life was conducted there on March 2, 2024, with Pastors Robin Kim and Brian Kelly officiating.

Ron grew up in Artesia where he defined his childhood as being "free range." He just had to be home by dark! He was a paper boy and mowed lawns to earn money. He enjoyed Boy Scouts as a youngster.

At 16 he earned his Amateur Radio "Ham" License. His first radio call was W6HFZ, but after earning his extra class license, he changed it to W6QM. His "Ham" radio hobby allowed him to talk to other "Hams" all over the world, several of whom hosted him and his wife as they traveled in South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

Ron graduated from Artesia High School in 1958, in the first full four-year class at the new school. He attended Cerritos College majoring in Electrical Engineering; however, dropped out before graduating.

He served in the Army from 1962 to 1965, stationed in Woodstock, MD, and Ludwigsburg, Germany. While in Germany he established a "Ham" radio station and operated under a German radio call of DL5ER. He attained a Specialist 5 military rank before returning home in 1965 and being honorably discharged.

Ron and Delores Buell were married June 25, 1966. They first met when they were nine years old and were next door neighbors. They made their first home in Lakewood, however, they later moved to Cerritos where they lived for 53 years. They would have celebrated 58 years of marriage in June of 2024.

While working full time, Ron returned to college and majored in Business. He graduated from Cerritos College in 1970 with a degree in accounting, then in 1977 he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Manpower Management from California State University Long Beach

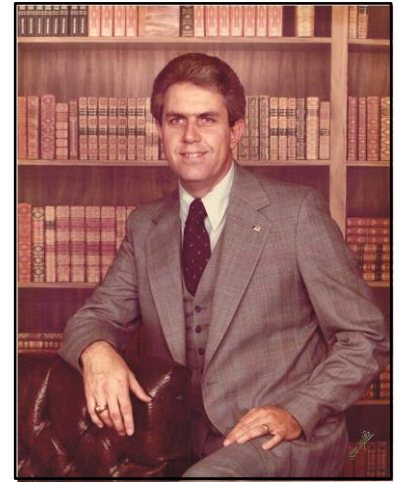
Ron was employed in the Aero-Space industry for 35 years: Prior to his military service, at North American Aviation in Downey and later the Autonetics Division of North American in Anaheim. In 1971 he transferred, as a Project Manager, to Irvine Electronics. In 1989 he returned to Anaheim where he continued to work as a Project Manager on Space Programs until his retirement in 1995.

Ron and Delores loved traveling. In 1995 they purchased a fifth-wheel travel trailer and traveled across North America and Eastern Canada twice. Through the years they took many additional RV trips, enjoyed both domestic and international tours, and several extended cruises.

During his retirement, Ron enjoyed volunteerism. He was Chair of the President's Scholars Program at CSULB, which supported a group of honor students and he volunteered at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center on campus. He was a member of the Friends of the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts and participated in the planning of several Galas, two of which he co-chaired. He and Delores joined the Artesia Historical Society, where he held the office of Museum Operations. As a radio Ham, he was a longtime member of the Downey Amateur Radio Club, where he held several offices. He enjoyed 29 years of retirement.

Ron was pre-deceased by his parents; his sister and brother-in-law Joan and Jimmy Lehning; and a nephew Larry Lehning. He is survived by his wife, Delores; three sons, Scott, Richard, and Paul Eveland; a daughter-in-law, Laurie Eveland; nine grandchildren: Kristen, Derek, Stephanie, Jessica, Curtis, Manuel, Christian, Tyler, and Serena; seven great-grandchildren: Gabriel, Farris, Xander, Emery, Harper, Lillian and Olivia; one great-great-grandson, Xavier; two nieces Lori Lehning and Lynn Lehning; and three nephews Tim Bell, Brian Bell and Mark Bell.

Burial was in the Historic Artesia Cemetery District.



In Loving Memory

First One of Artesia's Gems turns 100! (continued from Spring 2024)
by Jenny Kubinski

A bank robbery occurred in the original home of the First National Bank of Artesia at the Scott & Frampton Building. This might have been one of the reasons that the new, more secure bank was built. The following are abridged newspaper reports of the incident:

BANK ROBBERS GET BIG HAUL - *Artesia and Los Angeles, March 25, 1919 (By United Press Leased Wire and Associated Press)*

"Fifty to One Hundred Thousand Dollars is the range of estimates of the loot secured by a daring pair of bank robbers who robbed the First National Bank of Artesia here early today.

"Using explosives and an oxy-acetylene torch, they opened the outer vault and every safe deposit box in the bank. They did not reach the inner vault where a large amount of money was kept (Approximately \$50,000 which in 2024 is worth \$892,000). As near as bank officials and renters of safety deposit boxes could estimate three hours after the robbery was discovered the losses are about as follows:

Liberty Bonds taken from Safety Deposit Boxes \$50,000

\$900 in Post Office Stamps

\$400 in money

Unknown amount of valuables

"The robbery had been well planned. A blacksmith shop was first robbed of tools which were used to break open the door of a store adjoining the bank. A hole was then cut from the store through the partition into the bank. Blankets and old clothing were used to deaden the sound of the explosion. Deputy Sheriffs from Los Angeles are here searching for the robbers, who are believed to be nearby."

(untitled follow up article) - *Los Angeles, August 13, 1919*

"Lewis B. Harris convicted of having robbed the First National Bank of Artesia was sentenced today to serve 25 years in the State Penitentiary at San Quentin. Harris was sentenced by Judge Taft of the Superior Court, who had presided at the trial. He was convicted on two counts of robbery and grand larceny."

The bank experienced another major blow in 1932. The following abridged newspaper articles explain the events involving the President, George R. Frampton:

EMBEZZLEMENT CLAIM -Witness Claims Banker Stole \$5,500 from Him - *Los Angeles, April 22nd, 1932 (United Press)*

"George R. Frampton, former Artesia Banker, was named for embezzlement of \$5,500. Charles Gillis an Artesia Rancher declared that he was a patient at the Norwalk State Hospital, and when he returned to his Artesia home, he found only a handful of Frampton's personal notes instead of bank deposits."

(untitled follow up article) - *Los Angeles, May 7th, 1932 (United Press)*

"George R. Frampton was charged with embezzling \$32,000 today and placed in the Los Angeles County Jail. The complaint was made by rancher C Ghysels, a Westminster dairy operator who said he deposited \$32,000 in the Artesia Bank some time ago and that when he attempted to withdraw it, he was informed that the cash had been replaced by notes from Frampton.

"Frampton said Ghysels loaned him the money in a business transaction. 'I discussed the loan with Ghysels last week,' Frampton said. 'We agreed that 7 percent interest was too high, and he promised to reduce it.' "

Secret Federal Grand Jury Indictment - *Los Angeles June 3rd, 1932 (United Press)*

"George R. Frampton, former President of the First National Bank of Artesia today was arraigned on a federal charge of violation of the National Banking Laws in technical misapplication of funds. The arraignment resulted from a secret federal grand jury indictment. Frampton was released on a \$5,000 Bond.

"The indictment, it was disclosed, had been voted on some months ago but was not returned at the time. Federal authorities awaited the outcome of a case in state courts, in which Frampton was tried and acquitted on charges of theft."

Bank Not Affected by the Arrest of the President - *Los Angeles, June 6th, 1932 (United Press)*

"Surrender and arraignment by George R. Frampton, former President of the First National Bank of Artesia,
(continued Page 7)

(First One of Artesia's Gems turns 100! continued from page 6)

yesterday on charges of violation of the National Banking Laws, led to erroneous reports of the institution being closed. Authorities state today the institution had not been closed at any time. The charges asserted that money technically misappropriated by the former banker had been replaced, officials said, resulting in no loss to the bank. George R. Frampton spent two days in jail and released without further charges being filed.”

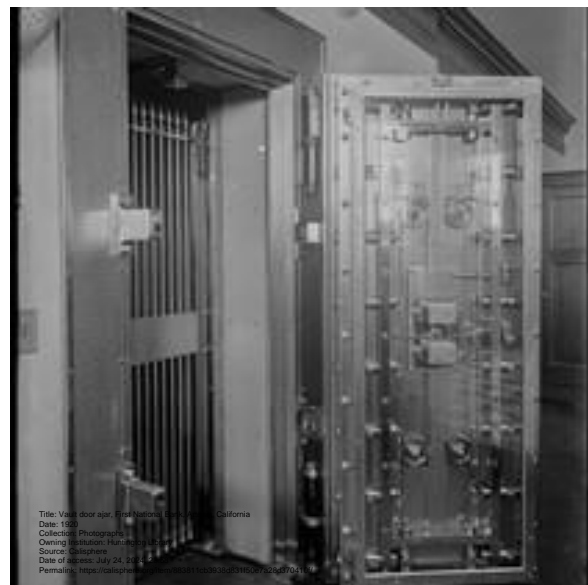
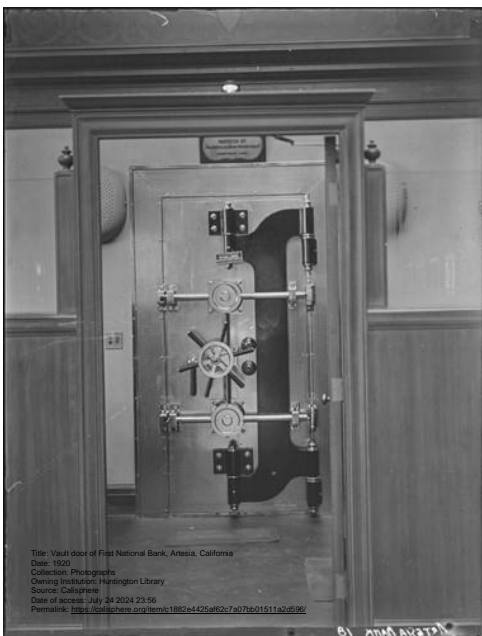
The First National Bank of Artesia was sold in 1931 and the bank closed its doors in 1932 due to the severe effects that the nationwide Great Depression caused from 1929 – 1941. This was the longest and deepest downturn in the economy in the history of the United States.

After the First National Bank of Artesia vacated the building, it has been home to several banks, the ABC Discount Store, the House of James Fashions and currently returned to its original roots as a bank and is home to Cathay Bank.

This stunning bank building in Artesia was designed by Henry F Withey, who also was the designer of our Artesia Grammar School built in 1911. (Pacific Coast Architecture Database-PCAD).”



Lobby First National Bank



Vault door of First National Bank

Mark your Calendars:

August 10, 2024 Museums are open 1 to 3 pm **FREE ADMISSION**



September 2, 2024 Labor Day



September 14, 2024 Museums are open 1 to 3 pm **FREE ADMISSION**

September 28, 2024 "Blind Cow" Speakeasy Mystery Dinner (annual fundraiser) →



Join the Fun!

October 12, 2024 Museums are open 1 to 3 pm **FREE ADMISSION**



October 31, 2024 Halloween



November 5, 2024 Election Day



November 9, 2024 Museums are open 1 to 3 pm **FREE ADMISSION**



November 11, 2024 Veteran's Day



November 28, 2024 Thanksgiving



The publishing dates for the Artesia Historical Society Newsletter are (usually) April, August, and December of each year. Any comments or questions may be directed to the Newsletter Editor at artesiahistoricalsociety@yahoo.com.



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P. O. Box 83
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Old Fire Station #30
18641 Corby Avenue
Artesia, CA 90701

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"Artesia Historical Society"