



# The Kern Grapevine

Kern County Historical Society  
Post Office Box 141  
Bakersfield, California 93302

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<http://www.kchistoricalociety.org/>

MARCH, 2010

## Elisha Stephens Symposium in May

Elisha Stephens led the first party of wagon train immigrants over the Sierra Nevada Mountains in 1844, but he lay buried and unheralded for more than 110 years.

Recent discoveries by the Kern County Genealogical Society show that Captain Elisha Stephens is buried in Union Cemetery, located in southeast Bakersfield.

The Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA), the Kern County Genealogical Society, the Kern County Historical Society, and The Board of Trustees of Union Cemetery are joining in an Elisha Stephens Symposium Day in Bakersfield on May 1, 2010. OCTA, an organization founded in the 1930s to commemorate the epic journeys of early California pioneers, will erect an historical plaque at Union Cemetery recognizing Stephens as one of California's significant pre-Gold Rush wagon immigrants to California. For more information on the OCTA, please visit their website at [www.octa-trails.org](http://www.octa-trails.org).

The events of May 1, 2010 will include:

9:30 a.m. — Union Cemetery

Stephens gravesite dedication and placement of the OCTA historical plaque

10:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. - Stars Theater

Historical symposium on Elisha Stephens and Joseph Walker with guest lectures and showing of the PBS documentary "The Forgotten Journey"

12:00 p.m.—Stars Theater

Luncheon—\$22.00 per person

The program will include Gilbert Gia, KCHS; Tom Hunt, OCTA; John Codd, KCGS and KCHS; and Timothy Lemucchi, KCHS. For more information, please phone Timothy Lemucchi at 661-324-1100. Reservation forms will be mailed soon.

## Volunteer in the Local History Room

The Beale Memorial Library needs volunteers to work in the Jack Maguire Local History Room. The local history collection contains over 20,000 books, pamphlets, periodicals, newsletters, vault materials, and vertical files on over 900 subjects. The room's most popular items include Bakersfield City Directories dating back to 1899; Kern County Telephone Directories dating back to 1940; and donated elementary, junior high, high school, and college yearbooks mainly from the 1960s to 1970s. Some primary sources in the collection go as far back as the 1800s. Volunteers will receive training from Christopher Livingston, Special Collections Librarian at the Beale Library. If you are interested in volunteering in the Jack Maguire Local History Room, please contact Christopher Livingston at 661-868-0701.

## Welcome To Our New Members

### Annual Members

Shannon Burge and Mel & Marci Hedrick

## Schedule Of Programs

### April 17<sup>th</sup> – Saturday

Epsom Salt Monorail

By Rebecca Orfila

### May 16<sup>th</sup> – Saturday

Kern County Pets and People

By Sarah Woodman

## Check Out Our Website!

The Kern County Historical Society's website contains information on upcoming programs, membership benefits, current issues of The Kern Grapevine and Historic Kern Quarterly.



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## **Field Trip to the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles**

**Saturday, March 20, 2010**

**Meet at 8:00am at Orange Belt Adventures, 3640 N. Sillect Avenue**

**\$40.00 per person, Reservations due by Wednesday March 10, 2010**

Unfortunately, the March field trip to Boron was canceled by the Rio Tinto Borax Mine due to labor disputes. We will be going to the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles instead. Located atop the Santa Monica Mountains, the Getty Center in Los Angeles displays a collection of Western art from the Middle Ages to the present against a backdrop of dramatic architecture, beautiful gardens, and breathtaking views. An orientation film gives visitors an overview of the collections on display.

We will arrive at the J. Paul Getty Museum at 10:30am. The cost of our field trip to the Getty includes round trip transportation to the museum, admission, and a box lunch consisting of a sandwich, chips, chocolate chip cookie, and your choice of a bottled water or soda. We will leave the Getty Center at 2:30pm to ensure we return to Bakersfield by 5:00pm. Space is limited to 47 people so get your reservations in early.

Please observe the reservation deadline, and get your reservation in early. If you make your reservations by phone, please send your check for the full amount by the reservation deadline. Because of the time frame for ordering the food, we cannot honor late reservations.

Phone contact: 665-9864 or 852-5031

### **Reservation Form**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Reservation for \_\_\_\_\_ at \$40.00 per person for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Field Trip. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ham Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ Vege Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_

*Send your reservation form and check to:*

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