



The Center for Art
Culture & History
EXETER

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THE Exchange

A newsletter on the Art, Culture, and History of California's Heartland



Hundreds attend The CACHE Benefit to celebrate Grand Opening



LEFT: A bust of late Exeterite Alva Joyner brings a spirit of history to the newly reinvigorated organization at The CACHE Benefit: A Grand Opening on June 10. **BELOW:** CACHE Board President Dwight Miller is flanked by CACHE Benefit Co-Chairs Laurie Hamilton and Patty Spott.

(IMAGES: Aaron Collins)

Dinner celebrates renaissance of local art, culture and history; area patrons honored for impact and contributions to region's cultural life

(EXETER, CA) - Attendees turned out in the hundreds for the chance to get the first view of CACHE's revamped exhibition programming and celebrate the organization's rebirth under a new brand. In the process, a new annual tradition was born for CACHE: The Center for Art, Culture and History-Exeter. The festive event drew around 250 guests who enjoyed appetizers, the *Betty Berk: Neo-Expressionist* art exhibition, dinner, two dedications, some grand fellowship, all under perfect June weather. Exeter's museum had been closed for the past year. "The opening was a showcase of a new vision for telling the stories of the community and our area," said Dwight Miller, Board President.

"The museum room itself is fairly small with only 1200 square feet. The CACHE team had to choose which of Exeter's many stories to tell first," Miller added. The room is divided into four separate color-coded galleries, and the team decided to focus on

four topics for the first year including: *Exeter on Fire—A History of the Exeter Fire Department*; *The Exeter Origin Story*; *Fibber Hirayama*, (an EUHS 1947 alumnus who recently had a school in Clovis Unified School District named for him); and *Nevada Governors*, an exhibition featuring the unlikely story of two Exeterites, Robert List and Kenny Guinn (EUHS '55), who both rose to the top of Silver State politics.





CLOCKWISE UPPER LEFT: Sharon Stanley Mumma and Bob Putnam; Gill sisters Linda and Sharon; Hirayama Family members; Rosemary Miller Hellwig; Amie and Matthew Rangel with Vicki Camilleri. (IMAGES: Aaron Collins)

Many Hirayama and Guinn family members attended. Amie Rangel, COS Art Gallery Director and Instructor, was instrumental in leading CACHE’s exhibition design team consisting of COS students and CACHE volunteers. “Her leadership, guidance and tireless efforts brought us to the finish line,” said Miller. “One of her many ideas was to extend the information using QR codes to include video files from YouTube on the subjects.” Space was reserved for telling future stories of local Native American tribal communities. “The CACHE team will be working with Wukchumni leaders on the best ways to tell and display their stories and add them as soon as possible.,” according to Miller.

CACHE was fortunate to receive various artifacts that enhanced the storytelling. Amy King-Sunderson of the Tulare County Historical Museum loaned a 1913 hose cart that had been part of the Mooney Grove display, the same cart used by Exeter volunteer firefighters to win a 1913 competition at the Kings County Fair. Objects on display from Exeter Fire Department history were lent by various individuals, including a local volunteer firefighter’s medal of honor presented by Governor Scharznegger to Exeter Fire Captain Wes Grimm for his heroism.

Come June 2024, the next CACHE Benefit will find an entirely new set of exhibits. The current offerings will be video archived and stored for future reference. A suggestion box was added for visitors to suggest possible future exhibit subjects—another Amie Rangel idea. The CACHE team will begin organizing those exhibits this month.

The evening also included the dedication of two longtime

artifacts from Exeter history. First, the 1902 Beinhorn trough was commissioned by Charlie Beinhorn of the Rocky Point Granite Company for his liquor store customers. The City moved it to Joyner Park in 1940. Once unidentified, a plaque now tells the story. Beinhorn descendants attended the dedication. Additionally, the “Stanley Bell,” Exeter’s first fire bell, was memorialized with a plaque. His daughter, Sharon Stanley Mumma donated her late father Chuck Stanley’s bell to the museum in 2012 but its story was never told. (for more info on these, visit the CACHE website: www.cach-exeter.org)

“There is considerable optimism with what has been accomplished thus far and excitement about the future for both the museum and the art gallery programming,” said Miller. ●

CACHE Art Exhibitions Changing

By Robyn Stearns

Our show with Betty Berk is closing at the end of July and we will open with a Nature Photography show on August 1st and our artists reception will be on Sunday August 6th from 2-4 in the afternoon. The gallery will feature several photographers with one well known name Brett Harvey, he is a local photographer.

Our end of the year show October 1st-December 31st will be “A Bovine State of Mind.” CACHE will also have a contest for a Bovine Statue. This statue will be our CACHE COW. We will use this statue to help us with future fundraisers.

“A great photograph is one that fully expresses what one feels, in the deepest sense, about what is being photographed.” -Ansel Adams