



The Center for Art
Culture & History
EXETER

THE Exchange

FEBRUARY 2023

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



ABOVE: CACHE visitors turned out in large numbers for the January 15 opening reception for Austin McKinzie and Miguel Pujol's two-person show, which featured live music by James Spaite and catering by Hometown Emporium. (IMAGE: Dwight Miller)

A Word from our PRESIDENT

DWIGHT MILLER



Welcome to the first glimpse of The Exchange, your newsletter for the newly rebranded CACHE: The Center for Art, Culture and History, Exeter (formerly the Exeter Historical Museum and Courthouse Gallery of the Arts). We hope to publish a full quarterly edition online and in print. But for now, this abridged introduction will hopefully serve as a welcome to

a newly-energized regional institution that brings to life the art, culture and history of our fascinating area.

Thanks to our amazing team of volunteer board members, docents and our talented artists, Miguel Pujol and Austin McKinzie, we had an outstanding opening reception on January 15, 2023. In spite of the wet day, we had 102 visitors enjoy the art, food and music provided by James Spaite. *Differing Views* will be up until the end of February. Joanie Constable, our Art Selection Director, is seeking artists from Exeter for the March—April show. The gallery will be on the South Valley Art Tour the weekend of March 25-26. Please contact her at joanie.constable@gmail.com if you are interested in participating. In this issue we would like to introduce four of the new board members who have stepped up to volunteer to keep this gallery and museum a viable asset to the community of Exeter. We have some BIG dreams!



Get to Know Your CACHE Leaders



FROM LEFT: Dwight Miller, President; Robyn Stearns, Vice President; Laura Hamilton, Treasurer; and Patty Spott, Secretary.

DWIGHT MILLER, President. Dwight was born and raised in Exeter. He attended Lincoln and Wilson schools and graduated from Exeter Union High School. His father, James Miller, O.D. started his optometry practice in 1948, and continues today with Dwight's brother, Terry. His sister Rosemary Hellwig and husband Mark have also been active community members over decades. Dwight served numerous EUHS staff roles from 1976 to 1986. He retired from public education in 2011, the last 14 years as a small school district superintendent in the valley. His interest in Exeter history was piqued through the 2021 mural project on the wall at EUHS depicting the Invincibles—the two-time state champs of American Legion football in 1920 and 1921(www.exeterinvincibles.com). Though he lives in Fresno, he will be a regular back in his hometown serving CACHE. He has been married to wife Barbara, a fourth-generation Visalian, for 48 years with two children and four grandchildren who fill their lives with joy.

ROBYN STEARNS, Vice President. Former Exeter City Councilor and Mayor Robyn (2008-2016) is a lifelong consummate Exeterite who loves her community. She attended K-12 Exeter schools and COS. Her three children, two grandchildren, and some extended family also live in Exeter. She served on the Exeter Art Gallery and Museum Association board from 2009–2017, serving three years as president. She has worked for 20 years in the local Real Estate business with Avedian-Heaton properties, and has owned two other Exeter businesses: Robyn's Coffee Corner Cafe from 1991-1998 and E Street Market from 2017-2019.

LAURIE HAMILTON, Treasurer. Laurie's strong interest in Exeter goes way back to her parents, grandparents and great grandparents. Her ancestors, the Griggs, Wallace, Cunningham and Hamilton families all have deep Exeter roots. She has lived and traveled to numerous places and countries—but Exeter always seemed to be a home base, the home of her grandparents Al and Margaret Griggs. Laurie has extensive experience in

accounts receivable and payroll with numerous businesses over the years: Caroline Fisheries, Exeter Irrigation & Supply, AB/C Bookkeeping, Ken's Stakes & Supplies and J Heaton Coldwell Banker Sales. She served as treasurer for the Exeter-by-Design nonprofit, a past president of the Exeter Chamber of Commerce, past president of Kiwanis and current secretary of the Exeter Lion's Club. She was a previous member of the Exeter Art Gallery and Museum Board. She was honored as Exeter Chamber of Commerce's Woman of the Year in 2008. Laurie has distinguished herself as a leader and will continue to do so as treasurer with this new team.

PATTY SPOTT, Secretary. Patty is another Exeter native who is passionate about promoting her hometown. She began her insurance career fifty years ago as a part time employee at Exeter's NSE Insurance Companies, Inc. while attending college and has held virtually every position in the agency. She is currently the President of NSE. She was the president of both the Tulare/Kings Insurance Women's Association and the Kings/Tulare Counties Insurance Broker's Association. Spott holds the professional designations of Certified Insurance Professional (CIP), Certified Insurance Professional Women (CIPW) and Certified Worker's Comp Advisor (CWCA). Patty has a strong history of community involvement. She previously served on the Exeter Art Gallery and Museum Association board and is a past president of the Exeter Kiwanis and past president of the Exeter Lions Club. She was named Exeter Chamber's Woman of the Year in 2006. She is most proud of starting the first Relay for Life in Exeter 10 years ago which now boasts over \$1,000,000 in donations to cancer research. Outside the office she takes care of her six acres including the 13 goats, eight chickens, three dogs, and six cats, along with spending time with her "six Grand-Loves and one Great-Grand Love."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Joanie Constable, Art Selection Director; Kelsey Gilles, Jim Tyler, Members-at-Large. Donna Alfaro, Administrative Assistant. Special thanks to Erica Pine, Verissimo and Pine, CPAs.