



# FRIENDS of EAST UNION CEMETERY

Vol 1 ● Issue 3 ● February 2023

501(c)3

1035 N. Union Rd., Manteca, CA. 95336

**“Restoring, and preserving, our cemetery and its history for future generations”**

**President’s Corner** by Janice Zacharias

We’ve had a big year – it was so exciting that EUCA, the original pioneer cemetery in the area, and oldest business or entity of any kind in Manteca, got to celebrate 150 years as part of this community! You’ll see pictures and descriptions of that celebration on the next page, followed by pictures of other events and projects that were completed over the last year.

We not only depend on our regular volunteers, but for our annual Spring and Fall clean-ups, we always invite the community at large to come and give us some extra help. Be sure and watch for information on the upcoming April clean-up – polish up those shovels and weed-eaters, and bring a friend!

We will continue the drive to fund our columbaria project by seeking donations, applying for grants, and continuing to sponsor fundraisers – you’ll see details of a couple of those in the next few pages. We believe it’s important to ensure the future of the cemetery into the next century as a viable and beautiful place to inter our loved ones, and this project will help us accomplish that.

As excited as I am to see the progress being made to improve and renovate the cemetery, the true heart and soul of everything we do at EUCA is based on the amazing volunteers who support every single project and event that happens here. For eight years now we have kept the cemetery open with that all-volunteer force, along with help from donations & grants from generous members of the community – and we hope to continue that effort for the upcoming year. We invite you to come join us – we love getting to know new volunteers!

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  - Steve DeBrum
  - Veronica DeBrum
  - Victoria Estrada
  - Frank Fiore
  - Don Halseth
  - Jay Holmes
  - KC Moebius
  - Gloria Stanley
  - Willie Weatherford

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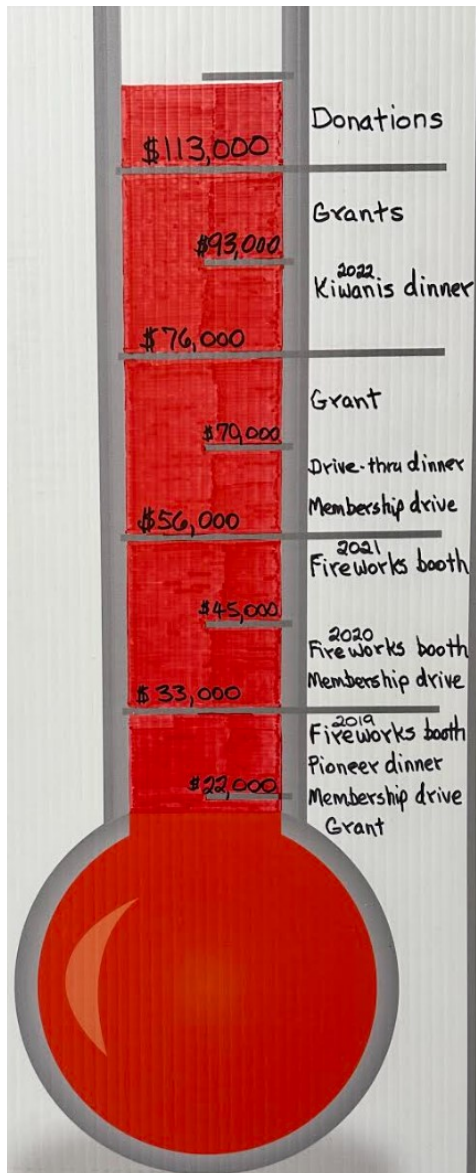
## 150th Anniversary

The cemetery in 2022 celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We threw a big party in September, featuring a walking tour with biographies of locally famous or interesting people; a “History Hunt” was held; and a raffle was conducted. Historic cemetery documents were on display on the patio, along with a “Tell Me about your Family” booth, and a BBQ hot dog lunch with drinks and cake was enjoyed by all.

Also featured was the initial phase of the long-awaited columbaria project, including the recently finished cement pad, planter areas, and the Veteran’s Plaza wall - complete with military flags and seals. We were able to restore the original veteran’s plaque at the base of the U.S. flag., and our local VFW and American Legion volunteers, led by Rocky Wilson, officially raised the flags over the memorial.

As background, when we started volunteering in 2014 we were aware of about 165 veterans interred. Through diligent work, Janet Fiore discovered that EUCA has 482 – and counting – veterans buried here, including vets from the Civil War, both World Wars, and almost every conflict since.

When we realized that our veterans accounted for almost 15% of those buried here, it became very important to create a more substantial memorial, in order to better honor veterans and other patriots in our community. The old veteran’s plaque was preserved, and once again sits at the base of our U.S. flag.



As seen on the fundraising thermometer, we have already raised over \$113,000! Those funds paid for the cement plaza, which is the base for the future columbaria; the Veteran’s memorial wall; landscaping, lighting, and bubblers; and the military seals. The cost for the purchase and installation of the five above-ground columbaria that will surround the pictured memorial is approximately \$160,000 – fundraising continues!



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?!



**Farrow patio:** The Farrow family donated funds to upgrade the patio area with a new water fountain, fencing, a stone bridge, and new and improved landscaping.



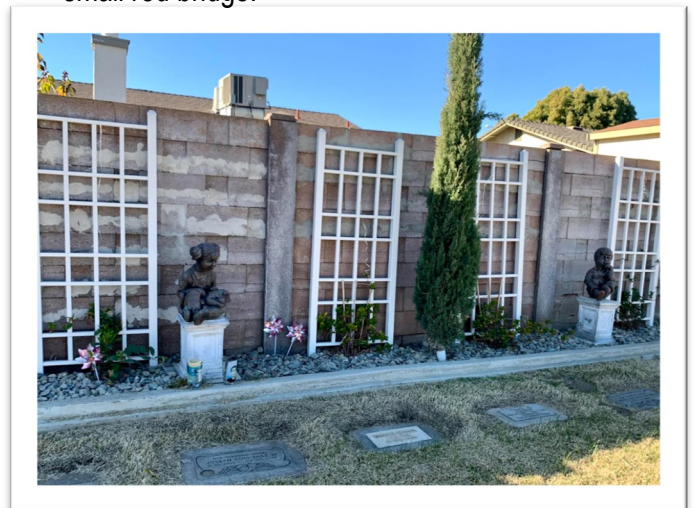
**Leonard Memorial:** In June we dedicated a memorial to the Leonard family, who had previously donated the wrought-iron fence and road paving. This area is just north of the office, and includes a plaque, landscaping set off with a small bamboo fence, a Japanese maple, and a small red bridge.



Pictured: Janet Fiore, Gloria Stanley and Janice Zacharias holding the centennial sign.

The City of Manteca held a ceremony to commemorate the 100 year founding of Manteca.

They had a short ceremony showcasing items to be encased in a time capsule, which will be buried out by the 1920 arch and hopefully opened in 2118!



**Baby area:** In June we dedicated a memorial to the Leonard family, who had previously donated the wrought-iron fence and road paving. This area is just north of the office, and includes a plaque, landscaping set off with a small bamboo fence, a Japanese maple, and a small red bridge.



The Best Gift is YOU!



## **Our dedicated all volunteer East Union Cemetery Board**

(1) William Loder, (2) Janice Zacharias (President), (3) Brandon Asuncion-Wofford, (4) Charles Halford, (5) Terri Rocha, (6) James Carter (Manager), (7) Steve Stroud (Treasurer), (8) John Harris, (9) Gloria Stanley, (10) Victoria Estrada (Vice-President), (11) Richard Hiatt, (12) Janet Fiore (not pictured-Photographer).

Team work makes the dream work!

**“Volunteers don’t necessarily have the time; they just have the heart” ~ Elizabeth Andrew**

The “Friends” of East Union Cemetery are always looking for opportunities to raise money for projects to improve the cemetery grounds.

2022 & 2023 has been and will continue to focus on the columbarium/Veteran's plaza project.

Many thanks to the Sunrise Kiwanis for inviting us to partner with them at their annual Spring fundraising dinner



## Keep on Truckin



We were fortunate to be able to raise funds with a fireworks booth last year – we have great volunteers!



Pictured: Jerry Metzler, Victoria Estrada, Bill Stanley, Gloria Stanley and Janice Zacharias—some of the volunteers who helped staff our booth, in the past. Rocky Wilson, was part of the great set-up/take-down crew who filled the shelves with fireworks every morning and packed them away securely every night.

**“Only a life lived for others is worth living” ~ Albert Einstein**



*“Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.” – Jim Rohn*

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Gloria Stanley  
Pat Stanley  
Tami Steele  
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Dewey & Rita Uecker  
James & Janie Wade  
Willie Weatherford  
Roger & Mary Wells  
Rocky Wilson  
Richard & Janice Zacharias*

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The “Friends of East Union Cemetery” is operated and maintained through generous memberships and gifts to benefit the care and maintenance of the all-volunteer historical East Union Cemetery.

### 2023

### January—December

Please make checks payable to “Friends of East Union Cemetery”

1035 N. Union Rd., Manteca, CA. 95336

We are a 501(c)3 organization

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You may visit [www.eastunioncemetery.org](http://www.eastunioncemetery.org), then Friends tab, to use Paypal or a Credit Card

Become a “FRIEND” by joining us today!

“Never was so much owed by so many few” —Winston Churchill

**FRIENDS OF EAST UNION CEMETERY  
Memorial Tile Order Form**

1. Tiles may contain four lines of text with up to 25 characters per line including spaces.
2. Messages on the tiles may include the name of the Honored, date of birth and passing, and a brief message. Veteran’s tiles may include branch of service, rank, campaigns served, and/or decorations.
3. No foul or offensive language will be allowed. All tile messages must be approved by Friends of the Cemetery (Friends) staff.
4. Only tiles supplied by Friends will be allowed. Font will be standard for all tiles.
5. Tiles will be placed on the Memorial wall in the order they are received. Individuals purchasing multiple tiles may request that all tiles purchased at the same time be grouped together.
6. Individuals purchasing Memorial tiles will be notified via text or email when the tile has been mounted on the memorial wall.
7. Make your \$200 tax deductible donation check to “Friends of East Union Cemetery”; mail to Friends of EUC, 1035 N. Union Road, Manteca, CA 95336

Name of Purchasing Individual - Please Print \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Purchase \_\_\_\_\_

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ Seq.# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email and/or text number where you wish to be notified

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Purchaser Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

For Friends Use Only

Sale by \_\_\_\_\_ Payment: Cash (or) Check# \_\_\_\_\_

Date message approved: \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

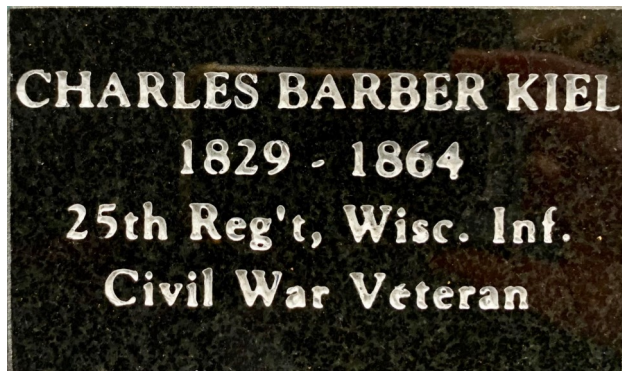
Date tile installed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date purchaser notified \_\_\_\_\_ : By \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

Date of completed copy to Cemetery: \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

Tile Application\_20221127.Docx

501c3 #81-2180247



We're excited to start 2023 by offering memorial tiles, to be placed on the east side of the Plaza Wall, as a way to honor loved ones buried here or elsewhere. The center section will be devoted to veterans, but the other walls are for everyone. We will use the funds raised toward completion of the columbaria project.

“Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name liveth for evermore.” — Ecclesiasticus 44:14



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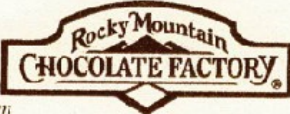


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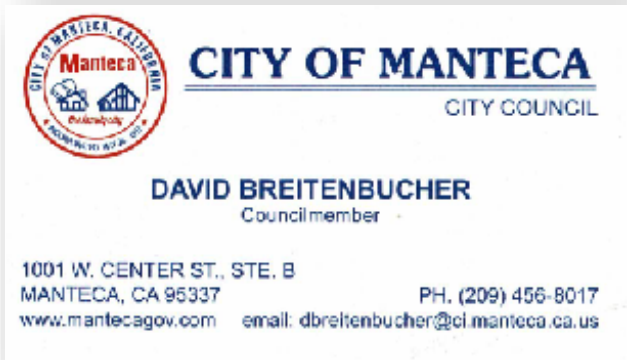
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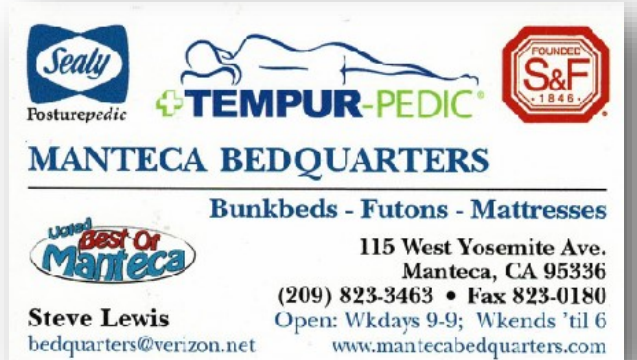
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"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" - Helen Keller

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If you are able to give of your time please leave a message on the office phone and we will get back to you with further details. (209) 823-8533

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." – Dr. Seuss



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