

○ ——— ○ **2022** ○ ——— ○

RUHKALA

Community Service Awards



Submissions for the 2022 Ruhkala Awards



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

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Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

INDIVIDUAL OR COUPLE

Denise Gaddis

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Denise has been an advocate for better developments that are in the interest of East Rocklin

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

She has been tireless in advocating on behalf of East Rocklin.

When did the community service take place?:

Over the last 5 years, she has been fighting for better developments that do not create traffic that the city has been failing to deal with that will make the quality of life in East Rocklin worse. She has helped hold our City counsel to meeting the legal requirements of development.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Denise has spent her own money to establish a website and has attended meetings to support East Rocklin. She has been a leader in getting our community involved in the cities decisions that negatively impact our part of Rocklin.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Tess Stirling Forsyth

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Tess has formed the Placer Repertory Theater Company (PRT) www.placerrep.org. In the short time she formed this professional theater group, they have hosted several performances, both on Zoom and in theaters, and PRT has already been nominated for awards. This is a great resource for the commercial and cultural development of Rocklin. Tess has a very credible background in the business operations of theater and as a script writer director. We are lucky she and her family chose to move to Rocklin.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

The PRT is new, so the benefits are largely in the future.

When did the community service take place?:

Since 2020

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Teresa Stirling Forsyth – Community Service highlights

Since moving to Placer County in July 2017, Teresa Stirling Forsyth has been affiliated with Compassion Planet in Rocklin CA as a volunteer, donor and advocate of the organization. She has volunteered her time to speak to local high schools regarding careers in the arts. She donates to local food banks, charities, a Boy Scout Troop in Rocklin, and other nonprofit organizations. She is also a member of the Rocklin Historical Society, Roseville Historical Society, and Friends of the Rocklin Library.

Primarily, however, she is known as founder and board President for Placer Repertory Theater company, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with the mission to offer educational and quality-of-life enriching professional performing arts and cultural programs relevant to the people of Placer County, while supporting area organizations and acting as an economic engine for the area. Her goal for the organization is “economic growth through the incubation and development of voices and works reflective of the community we serve, as we champion partnership and cultural exploration across a breadth of disciplines within the arts, culture and humanities.” She has reached out to individuals, organizations, corporations and government agencies throughout Placer County to connect people and resources through awareness and networking to maximize creativity, innovation and productivity of creatives throughout the county.

Some of the Placer County organizations that have participated in CoLABoration LAB to present their programs, or have been promoted and/or profiled at the LAB or via Facebook or website, include:

- Anita Menon /Anjali School of Dance
- Arts Council of Placer County
- Auburn Storytelling Festival
- Blacktop Comedy
- Blue Line Arts
- City of Rocklin – Events (like summer concert series)
- Dream Theater
- Foresthill Divide Chamber of Commerce
- Lake Tahoe Dance Collective
- Lincoln Theater Company
- Maidu Independent Theater
- Mountain Mandarin Festival
- Newcastle Packing Shed Art Gallery
- North Tahoe Arts
- Ohana Dance
- Placer County Library Services
- Placer County: Placer / Tahoe Film Office
- Placer Theatre Ballet



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

- Rocklin Chamber of Commerce
- Rocklin Community Theater
- Rocklin Friends of the Library
- Rocklin Historical Society
- Rockstar Music Academy of Lincoln
- Roseville Historical Society
- Roseville Theatre Arts Academy
- The Royal Stage
- Southern Pacific Railroad History Center (proposed for Rocklin)
- Tahoe Youth Ballet
- Take Note Troupe (Rocklin)
- ... and more.

Teresa also founded Placer Rep with the rule “local first” and not only does she source physical and human resources locally, but she also promotes, gives exposure and awareness to local businesses who support arts and culture – for the benefit of our local economy.

Prior to moving to Placer County, she was a board member, and President of the Solano County Arts Council, founded and operated A Place To Start in Santa Cruz County (an economic and workforce development nonprofit) for thirteen years, was a board officer for the Jaycees while teaching at a university in southern Ohio, donated to and volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America and Second Harvest Foodbank of Santa Cruz County, just to name a few highlights of her past philanthropy and community service.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Twiana Armstrong

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Twiana gives every minute of every day in service to the city of Rocklin. I have yet to meet someone who attends all the meetings, events, awards, organizations and info sessions as she does. She gives her time endlessly on the parks and rec committee, in service to the arts, as an RUSD volunteer and student admin, leadership rocklin, at the chamber of commerce and endless other local organizations.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Twiana constantly sings the praises of Rocklin and walks the talk when it comes to showing up and giving her time. I have not found another who is able to love living here as much as she does and loves the people who lives here just as much. She truly is Rocklin embodied.

When did the community service take place?:

Twiana shows up for everything. Truly, she loved and breathes Rocklin 365 days a year.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Twiana has also worked hard to bring all voices to the table and give everyone a fair shake. This attitude is hard to find these days. Meanwhile, she has founded a non-profit that strives to celebrate the achievements of children to ensure that each one is seen, heard and loved. Rocklin struck gold with Twiana.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Tyler Barton

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

He is a person who is always giving back. The kind of person all people should want to be around and know.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

He is kind to all and makes a effort to treat all people the way they should be treated.

When did the community service take place?:

I am not aware of specific service however he is known to be a person involved in the community here and where he lives.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

I can't stress the fact he is a genuine person who exemplifies what this award is for.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Jer Jarrett

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Jer is a founding member of the Rocklin Fine Arts organization, giving many hours and expertise since 2007. She was active in bringing the fine arts group to Rocklin. Originally called Art Matters, Jer and the officers approached the City of Rocklin for support. The name was changed to Rocklin Fine Arts.

Jer has held several officer positions in the club over the last 15 years and was passionate about arts being part of children's lives. When the City of Rocklin dissolved the Snowflake Art Show, Jer was instrumental in Rocklin Fine Arts' sponsorship of a Student Show. Working with Rocklin Unified and the VAPA teachers, the show was open to all Rocklin students and included an awards reception. She worked with VAPA teachers to identify the best academic dates for a show and also picked up artwork from schools.

When the new Rocklin Library opened, Jer was the volunteer who organized the hanging of public art. Student show winners and Rocklin residents were among the many whose art exhibits brightened the library walls.

With Jer's leadership Rocklin Fine Arts became a 501(c)3.

In 2017, Jer formed the Bill Jarrett Visual Arts Scholarship for graduating Rocklin seniors. The scholarship application includes an essay and an art piece. The scholarship award began at \$500 and has grown to \$1000.

Now, the RFA Student Show is open to all students in Placer County and the Jarrett Visual Arts Student Scholarship is open to any graduating senior residing in Placer County.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Jer Jarrett's efforts has brought fine arts to Rocklin. Participants in the art meetings, art shows, workshops, activities and exhibits are able to participate in art in many ways - as an artist, learner, student, exhibitor, collector, business owner, chamber events. Jer believes 'Art Matters' that art



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

should be a part of everyday living and the benefits of art are building of relationships and a higher quality of life for all.

Jer has supported the Friends of the Library and the Rocklin Theatre Group through fine arts and more.

When did the community service take place?:

2007 – 2022

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Dan Britton

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Dan has volunteered on Springview Jr high and Rocklin high for 8 years. Serving in multiple ways 1. Clubs like Game room, teen life and FCA. He serves as a mentor and faith based encourager.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Any teens and families that know Dan have been impacted because of his passion and drive to help families thrive. He's helped student grow by seeing their potential and self worth. He still to this day builds them up and encourages them that they can get through anything life throws them.

When did the community service take place?:

Sept. 2014-present

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

He serves as the NextGen pastor of 180 church and also oversees the South Placer Teen Center



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Henry "Hank" Lohse

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

For over 5 years Hank has been the President of the Rocklin Historical Society(RHS). This volunteer position requires an enormous amount of time, and carries with it significant responsibilities. As the leader of a 501C3 charitable organization he had the principal responsibility for Accounting Reports, Meeting minutes, Staffing of key positions (Treasurer, Secretary, Facilities, Museum Tour & Docents, Fundraising, and Quarry Quarterly publication) just to name a few. He led the RHS board meetings based on an agenda that he was responsible to produce with the input of others. In addition to conducting meetings in a business like manner, Hank has inspired the RHS to grow and expand its presence in Rocklin.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

A recent example of how his leadership has inspired others is his support and collaboration with RHS and members of the community to acquire and erect a monument to Capitol Quarry, that compliments the historical theme of Rocklin. He supported city government's aim of expanding business and recreational opportunity, thus attracting others to visit our community. The aforementioned example is merely one example of many similar accomplishments during his tenure as President. In his absence, there is no doubt that his drive and energy needs to be carried forward by others to insure Rocklin Historical Society's role remains a highly productive contributor to Rocklin's past and future.

When did the community service take place?:

5+ years ago

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Hank's efforts have been enhanced by a large cadre of committed volunteers, who have had to deal with all manner of difficulties (e.g. Covid, project funding, prioritization) but they all recognized Hank as a resource they could rely on to achieve consensus with ways forward.

Hank has been an invaluable leader.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Alan Wing

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Rocklin Police & Fire Volunteer

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Alan Wing has been an active member of the Rocklin community since 2005. Alan completed the required Rocklin Police and Fire Volunteer training (12 weeks) by the end of 2005 and subsequently, began additional training to become a patrol volunteer. He has been my patrol partner from day one and without his enthusiasm, drive, and commitment to serve as an Ambassador of the City of Rocklin, I truly believe the City would be less safe! He has seen this City grow significantly over the past 16 years and knows this City's streets in his sleep! Alan has stepped up on many occasions, when asked, to do special events, callouts for missing children and/or adults, traffic control at fires/cars accidents, maintaining first aid kits for the volunteer patrol vehicles. Alan assumed the role of Resources Manager for the Rocklin Police & Fire Volunteer program in 2014. He is tasked with keeping track of all of the volunteer equipment and supplies, as well as completing quarterly vehicle inspections of the RPD volunteer vehicles.

Alan has been a key logistics co-leader at our annual Patriot Day event, making sure that high school volunteers who assist vendors have the proper tables, chairs, tents, and other support equipment to assure a successful event. For the past 10+ years, Alan has assumed a key traffic control location for the annual Run Rocklin Event.

While working a full-time job, Alan has consistently provided his personal time and energy to conducting his many assignments with 110% effort. He has accumulated over 4000 volunteer hours through 2019 and was awarded the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award.

Alan and his wife have spent many hours over the years helping to train dogs for the for people who require help in everyday life. That has encouraged Alan to also provide our K9 program an annual \$500 donation, received through his former employer (retired from State Farm).

Alan is the "Poster Adult" of what a Police and Fire volunteer is committed to do...provide any help to assure we have a safer community where families can work and play, knowing there are people like him who truly care about our City.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

When did the community service take place?:

Volunteer since 2005

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Kent Dazey

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Kent Dazey led the "Citizens for Underground Powerlines" effort that prevented PG&E from installing 110 ft tall towers and high voltage power transmission lines through Rocklin's Historic District. Community volunteers, media, City of Rocklin all were brought on board in the effort that resulted in PG&E changing plans and installing underground transmission lines from Sunset Blvd to Midas Ave.

Please refer to the Rocklin Historical Society's Fall 2021 issue of Quarry Quarterly for the effort described by Kent in his own words.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Undergrounding of the transmission lines prevented the negative impact the towers and lines would have had on historic district aesthetics; residential home values, and future commercial development of Central Rocklin. Kent carried momentum of the undergrounding success to the Old St Mary's restoration project that, in turn, resulted in creation of Heritage Park transforming that railroad frontage from blight to beauty.

When did the community service take place?:

2001

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Kent is a Division Manager, at CommonSpirit Health, Rancho Cordova, CA.

Currently, Kent is involved in the effort to create a Southern Pacific History Center in the Rocklin area as well as assisting in enhancement of the historic roundhouse area of PH Heritage Park.

Reference re undergrounding effort: [Rocklin Historical Society Quarry Quarterly, Fall 2021 issue - Article -Power to the People.](#)

Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

President's Message

Hank Lohse



Well, it's only a few weeks away. On Monday, November 8, 2021, all Rocklin Historical Society members will meet at Old St. Mary's Chapel to vote on new board members. The slate will include Jim Hammes for President, George Salgado for Vice President, Allegra Hakim for Secretary and Russ McNeill for Treasurer. Both Allegra and Russ are continuing in their respective offices.

It has been an honor and privilege to be RHS President for these last 4 years. I leave knowing the RHS future is in good hands. The Rocklin Historical Society was the brain child of Marie Huson and Roy Ruhkala. In 1987 they, with some like-minded individuals started to put the pieces together. By May of 1988, they had secured their 501A tax exempt status as a nonprofit and elected their first slate of officers. Marie Huson and Roy Ruhkala were co-chairmen with Geoff McLennon as secretary and Lavene Splan as treasurer. And the rest is history!

As always with a nonprofit organization, we are continually searching for volunteers to continue the RHS mission. If you would like to volunteer, see page 12 for contact information. It's as easy as 1-2-3. Don't worry if you're not up-to-date on your Rocklin history. We will train you! This is also a great opportunity to meet new friends and connect with your city.

BREAKING NEWS

The Community Recognition Commission has just released the honorees for this year's inclusion on the Wall of Recognition. The Ray Johnson family will be honored for their contributions to our community. Also recognized will be the 13 original members of the Friends of the Library.

WHEN: November 1, 3:30 pm

WHERE: Wall of Recognition, Heritage Park (next to Old St. Mary's Chapel)

Watch for a complete story in the Winter issue of the Quarry Quarterly.



Power to the People

How community activism helped shape Rocklin's historic Front Street

This month marks the twentieth anniversary of what was to be a very fateful city council meeting. RHS board member Kent Dazey was presenting his views on the negative impact a proposed cell tower would have on the tri-cities baseball field when, after the meeting, then-Mayor Ken Yorde pulled him aside and suggested a much bigger concern. It was the installation of a huge overhead powerline through the middle of town.

Thus began the David (aka Kent) vs. Goliath (aka PG&E) battle that would save what PG&E termed a "nearly worthless" view of Rocklin from potentially dangerous and unsightly overhead lines and putting them underground. And in 20 years this area has turned out to be not a worthless blight, but instead what many people believe is Rocklin's crown jewel—historic Front Street.

Below is a part of a series of articles on the Power Line and St. Mary's victories requested of Kent by Dr. Jim Carlson, past president of the Rocklin Historical Society.

By Kent Dazey

Twenty years ago, Ken Yorde, then Mayor of Rocklin, urged me to direct my attention to the Power Line battle, in which the City was fully engaged. Along with the City, I was determined not to let PG&E ruin downtown with the massive, overhead transmission power lines.

After some research into PG&E's Atlantic-Del Mar Reinforcement Project ("Plan"), a project where badly needed power was to be transferred from Roseville to Rocklin, I contacted three TV news stations. By 6:00 that night, I had a David & Goliath story on the news, and Goliath was winning. We needed to find the flaws in PG&E's plan and prove the value of Downtown Rocklin.

On October 25, 2001, a few days later, PG&E, and their consultants, Aspen Environmental Group, came to town. They held both legal and public Meetings. By that time, my wife and I, along with Dave Rafferty and other neighbors, calling ourselves Citizens for Underground Powerlines, were ready for an uncertain, uphill battle.

At the Legal Hearing, after receiving cautions from the presiding California Public Utilities Commission judge that only legal comments could be heard, I jumped in. Referring to the maps in PG&E's plan, I challenged the judge to find the building in which she was sitting on PG&E's maps. After going off the record three times because the judge was frustrated with my questions, she finally



A pleased Kent Dazey, after the successful media blitz and campaign that thwarted PG & E's plan to install a high voltage overhead powerline through town. Taken from the Sacramento Bee, Jan. 5, 2003, the caption reads: "Kent Dazey stands on the east side of the Union Pacific tracks in Rocklin. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. had planned to string power lines overhead along Pacific Avenue between Sunset Boulevard and Midas Avenue, saying the railroad tracks in the area made the view nearly worthless."

looked at the maps. Discovering that the maps were 40 year-old Geological Survey maps that did not reveal the true impact of the project, she then mandated, in not so uncertain terms, that PG&E identify all buildings within 150 feet of the tracks within a week. This was our first victory.

Later that night at the public meeting, resident after resident objected to the overhead power lines, citing issues with visual, property value, traffic, public safety and map concerns. Terry Richardson, Rocklin's Community Development Director at the time, was quoted in the Placer Herald (10/23/2002) "the turning point was the public meeting at City Hall in October, 2001, (when) PG&E and their consultants were made aware of the serious visual impacts of an overhead power line." This was our second victory.

The race continued and we had only 20 days to file our response. We were on TV news two more times, we provided revealing graphics, canvassed neighbor-

(See DAZEY, pg. 2)

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Quarry Quarterly, Fall, 2021

(DAZEY, Cont. from page 1)

hoods, and gathered over 300 letters and over 1,000 petition signatures. The publicity we generated was our third victory.

However, our fourth and perhaps most influential victory was the safety issue we found. PG&E's plan to erect 110' transmission power poles between the tracks and the petroleum tank farm off Sunset, with-in striking distance of the Tanks in event of a train derailment, was the key argument.

In light of the 9/11 event that had just happened seven weeks earlier, safety was a serious concern and represented a potential violation of the California Environmental Quality Act. In the end, you will now see the power pole placed on the opposite side of the tracks, far away from the Tank Farm and then underground up to Midas. This was our fourth and final victory.

As the Sacramento Bee described in its January 5, 2003 article [Power to the People](#), "They held strategy sessions in a neighbor's living room, went door to door with flyers, created a Web page and manned booths in front of supermarkets. In the end, this grass-roots campaign by a small group of Rocklin residents forced utility giant Pacific Gas & Electric Co. to spend \$5.5 million more than it had planned to put up high-voltage power lines underground instead of along 100-foot poles near homes."

It is hard to know what really swayed the CPUC to force PG&E to underground 1.2 miles of power lines from Sunset to Midas. PG&E cited the visual impacts in the revised plan, but rest assured, due to the combined efforts of the City of Rocklin, our Citizens group and other community organizations, the judge made it very clear that PG&E's original plans had to change. This ruling preserved downtown Rocklin's Historical District, and now look at what it has become. I smile every time I think of what the PG&E spokesman said in the caption to the Sacramento Bee article: "that the railroad tracks made the view nearly worthless". As it is said, just because you are big, does not mean you are right. We know better. Look what we have now.



In their 2001 report, PG&E prepared simulations of how the powerline would look if installed. It would carry 65,000 kilovolts, but would be built to 115,000 kilovolt standards to allow for future expansion. Above is the view from Railroad Ave. which today includes the train depot, Old St. Mary's, and Heritage Park. The view below is Front Street, looking toward the firehouse and the community orchard.



"Rocklin Reads" collaboration with RHS culminates in special October 23rd events

By Gloria Beverage

Rocklin Friends of the Library are partnering with the Rocklin Historical Society for this year's annual Rocklin Reads program in October. This year's programs will focus on the Chinese laborers who built the Transcontinental Railroad as well as Rocklin's role during that period of history.

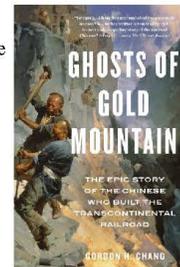
The Friends of the Library are encouraging book lovers to read one of two books. Gordon Chang's "Ghosts of Gold Mountain" is a definitive history of how Chinese laborers did the monumental work of building the Transcontinental Railroad from Sacramento to Utah for Central Pacific Railroad. (see Dr. Carlson's review of the book on pg. 9 of the QQ [here](#)). The second and more family-friendly book is "Dragon's Gate," which targets younger readers and their families. The 15-year-old main character leaves China to join his father at "The Golden Mountain" to work on the Transcontinental Railroad.

A variety of family-friendly events will be offered throughout October:

- Families will be encouraged to find answers to clues on the self-guided scavenger hunt, which will be available from Oct. 1

through Oct. 23 on the websites for the Rocklin Friends of the Library (rocklinfriends.org) and the Rocklin Historical Society (rocklinhistorical.org) or in person at either location. Participants can claim a prize by turning in the completed questionnaires at either the Rocklin Library or the Rocklin History Museum by Oct. 23.

- A presentation on the roundhouse and the site of the Chinese community will start at noon on Oct. 23 at the Historic Roundhouse site (rose gardens) on Rocklin Road. Dr. Jim Carlson and other Rocklin Historical Society members will share maps and memorabilia from the site of the Chinese community. Participants will be invited to view the Native American mortars as well as the Chinese-built granite drainage system.
- Keith Waddell, president of the Roseville Roundhouse Model Railroad Association, will give a presentation via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Oct. 23 on the history of the Transcontinental Railroad and the work of the Chinese. Register for this free event here: [Eventbrite](#).





Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Kevin Kiley

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

N/A

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

N/A

When did the community service take place?:

N/A

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Tiffany Saathoff

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

She has dedicated hours of her time helping the community by defending our rights and our children's rights as citizens.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Tiffany is working harder than anyone else I know for the mothers and fathers of the children in Rocklin.

When did the community service take place?:

2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Jana Mayer

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

2021 Ruhkaka Community Service Award - Individual Nomination

On behalf of the Rocklin Police Department Volunteer Program, and the Patrol Services Team, I am honored to nominate & recognize my colleague and fellow Rocklin Police Volunteer, Jana Mayer, as a candidate for the 2021 Ruhkala Community Service Award. Jana Mayer joined the Department in 2008, and has served the Rocklin Police Department and the Community of Rocklin and it's Citizens, with distinction, for 13 Years, (officially retiring from the Program in the Fall of 2021). Upon graduating from the Volunteer Academy Training, Jana very quickly took-on many important tasks, duties and assignments. Like all Leaders do, Jana recognized a need & opportunity, subsequently taking-on two major leadership & supervisory positions...specifically, Child Safety Education Coordinator, and Deputy Director, Patrol Services Team.

Under her Leadership, Jana and the Child Safety Education Team provided Child Safety Education classes to K-6th Grade Students attending our Rocklin Schools. Over a 10 year period, it is safe to say that over 15,000+ young students benefited from presentations conducted by Jana and her Team of Instructors. I'll also note, that on a regular basis, many current & former Students/young adults, who see Jana in the Community, come up to her in recognition (and often with an accompanying hug!) and proclaim, "I remember you!...You gave a Presentation at my school, and still remember it!...Thank you!". Without a doubt, Jana's efforts have left a lasting, positive impact on Rocklin's many Students over the years!

As my Patrol Services Team Deputy, Jana was my right-hand...sometimes my left-hand, and on more than one occasion, both my hands! Jana played a vital and instrumental role in assisting me with the development, implementation, and training of our Patrol Services Team on all policies & procedures and new initiatives. Jana was a Team Leader, Instructor and Mentor, modeling professionalism and high- standards, for all to follow. Whether Jana was working a Patrol Shift, performing Traffic Control, leading a Volunteer Emergency Response, or leading & supporting many Annual Community Events such as High School & College Graduations, High School Football Games, Patriot Day, or Rocklin Run...her presence and efforts have been felt all over our City, for over a decade.

There is no better Volunteer, Partner, Colleague, and Friend...and we will miss her.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Respectfully,

Manuel Alcala
Branch Director – Patrol Services
Rocklin Police Department Volunteer Program

(I'm also taking the liberty to include the Rocklin Police Chiefs Commendation-November 2021 as a part of my nomination, as it also speaks to Jana's valued tenure with the Department...)

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

See Above & Below...

When did the community service take place?:

August 2008 - November 2021

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Rocklin Police Department
Commendation To
Volunteer Jana Mayer

Jana Mayer has nearly 13 years and 3238 hours of dedicated volunteer service with the Rocklin Police Department. As one of the key members of the Rocklin Police Department Volunteers she has provided a valuable service to this community. Jana has served as Deputy Director over Patrol Volunteers. Jana was one of our Lead Volunteers of Child Safety Education and championed our Child Safety presentations in schools K-6th grade. At this time, I would like to formally thank Jana Mayer for her years of service to this department and the Rocklin community.

FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE,
BY ORDER OF ACTING CHIEF TRENT JEWELL,
THE ROCKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS THIS DEPARTMENTAL COMMENDATION
THIS EIGHTEENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2021



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Kimberly Hall

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Kim Hall is an animal rescue advocate. Kim started the local Facebook page “Rocklin lost and found pets”. When there is a missing pet, she is first to drop everything and help find the animal. Relentlessly. Night or day. Middle of the night, holidays. She will gather search parties. Set humane traps, she will counsel and support pet families with love and dedication. I’ve been lucky to have assisted her a couple of times and she is amazing. Selfless and has reunited so many lost fur babies and their human families. She does all of this at her own expense. Kim is a wonderful person, animal lover and has been devoted to the Rocklin community for years. There’s no one like her.

How has the nominee’s efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Kim’s unyielding dedication to the helpless lost fur babies in this community has reunited untold families with their beloved pets. She is always there. Every single time.

When did the community service take place?:

The last ten years

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Even if the animal doesn’t have a human family searching for it, she’s there. Dog abandoned in a parking lot? She’s there. Cat stuck in a field? She’s there. She would climb a tree, be battered by sharp branches, jump into water to save and or rescue an animal.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

BUSINESS, GROUP OR SERVICE ORGANIZATION

South Placer Rotary Club

Nomination Category: Business, Group or Service Organization

Describe the main goal of the businesses, group or service organization that is being nominated:

To fundraise and donate as much as possible to Rocklin area residents.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

We host a Brewfest which brings people into town, who then support local businesses. We donate money to put benches at Parks, To the Sierra College Food Closet and Emancipated Youth, Scholarships and Holiday Gift baskets.

Describe the community service performed by the business, group or service organization that merits consideration for a Ruhkala Award:

Since 2005 the club and it's members have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in the community.

When did the community service take place?:

Rocklin

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

S.P.A.R.T.A.N. (South Placer Area Relief Team Assistance Network)

Nomination Category: Business, Group or Service Organization

Describe the main goal of the businesses, group or service organization that is being nominated:

S.P.A.R.T.A.N. Is a non-profit group of first responders that are dedicated to serving other first responders, their families, and providing community support. Emphasis is placed on assisting families of fallen and injured first responders in our region that have had unexpected trauma thrust upon them.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

S.P.A.R.T.A.N. is heavily involved in community events and needs, recently providing 6 bicycles to under-privileged youth in Rocklin. They also donated bagels and coffee to Rocklin PD, Roseville Pd and Lincoln PD. S.P.A.R.T.A.N. purchased 20 tickets to the Sacramento Pig Bowl and donated them to Rocklin Fire so friends and family could attend without cost. S.P.A.R.T.A.N. has become a resource for first responders in our surrounding area for assistance with mental health and legal resources.

Describe the community service performed by the business, group or service organization that merits consideration for a Ruhkala Award:

As described above, SPARTAN serves those who serve us in the community. In addition, they often provide community support. Most of the work they do, and services they provide, are done quietly- in typical first responders fashion.

When did the community service take place?:

SPARTAN was formed in March of 2021, and has occurred on a daily basis since then.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Check them out online: spartanplacer.com

On Facebook: [South Placer Area Relief Team Assistance Network](#)

SPARTAN's board members work for Rocklin pd and Sacramento pd. All are Rocklin residents. Associates and assisting members reside in Rocklin, Placer County, and adjacent counties- and are involved as all types of first responders that assist the community on a daily basis.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Dawson Oil Company

Nomination Category: Business, Group or Service Organization

Describe the main goal of the businesses, group or service organization that is being nominated:

Operation of commercial business and beautification of industrial site at main pacific street entrance to downtown rocklin

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Outstanding. Design, landscaping, meticulous maintenance of rocklin business property at intersection of pacific street and dominguez road. An attractive entrance to rocklin old town business area.

Community improvement and pride;
community spirit; additional display on major holidays

Describe the community service performed by the business, group or service organization that merits consideration for a Ruhkala Award:

Design and maintence of dawson oil's site is an outstanding example of how a business/industrial property can enhance a community.

When did the community service take place?:

APPROXIMATELY 1990 THRU PRESENT.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

DAWSON OIL is a family owned (and run). Business headquartered in rocklin. Please see the short history of the company with images of the facility that is included with this nomination.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

DAWSON OIL HISTORY

Serving Northern California Communities for 50 yrs.

Dawson Oil Company is a family-owned business that has been serving the needs of communities within Northern California since 1971. We provide lubricants to many different industries, always with a focus on unparalleled customer service and a commitment to local businesses and families.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

HISTORY OF DAWSON OIL

HARD WORK, LASTING RELATIONSHIPS – HOW DAWSON OIL WAS BORN

Mel Dawson began his career in the fuel and lubricant industry in 1955 in Fresno, California. Born and raised in the small town of Sultana on the outskirts of Dinuba, Mel was no stranger to hard work.

He picked fruit during the seasons and built packing boxes throughout the winters. Mel graduated from Fresno State with a degree in Marketing and Business. He also met his future wife, Ellie, while at Fresno State. They were married for 58 years. Mel served two years in Okinawa, Japan during the Korean War. Soon after, he was hired by the Standard Oil company of California.

Mel consistently progressed within the company, picking up the business skills he would need to successfully run his own company. That opportunity arose in 1971 when Standard Oil Company sold off its downstream bulk plants.



Mel Dawson on the right.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

BUILDING A THRIVING BUSINESS AND SERVING CUSTOMERS

Mel and Ellie purchased the Sonora, California bulk plant and surrounding sales territory and began the work of developing their lifelong career – Dawson Oil Company. As an independent distributor with a contract to sell Standard Oil Company products, they worked hard to develop business relationships, many of which still exist today.

Their business model is embedded throughout Dawson Oil Company’s daily activities: “Put your nose down and work hard, have an unwavering commitment to customer service, put out a professional product, treat employees with the utmost respect, and never, ever give up.”

Through hard work and dedication, the Sonora business thrived. In 1978, they sold the business operations to W.H. Breshears, Inc. and moved to Roseville, California, later making their final move to their home in Rocklin, California.

FULFILLING FUEL AND LUBRICANT NEEDS THROUGHOUT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Today, Dawson Oil Company has established itself in the Northern California foothills, serving the agriculture, construction, and logging industries while also partnering with many family businesses. Dawson Oil currently has seven locations: three in Auburn and one each in Yuba City, Oroville, Diamond Springs, **and the main office in Rocklin**. Each location has a proprietary cardlock, bulk plant, warehouse, and office to serve each community’s needs.

Mel and Ellie’s son and daughter, Steve and Kasey, began working in the family business at a young age. They began taking the reins in the early ’90s and today have a partnership that continues to honor their parents’ belief in building long-time customer relationships.

Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations



STEVE, KASEY, ELLIE, MEL

STAYING TRUE TO DAWSON OIL'S SIMPLE GOALS

Mel Dawson passed away in 2011. Ellie, Steve, and Kasey continued to work together until Ellie's passing in 2018. Today, Dawson Oil Company continues to be true to the simple goal that was established all those years ago in Sonora, California – honesty, hard work and dedication to customer service. We look forward to taking on new opportunities and challenges!



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

YOUTH

Daniel Mota

Nomination Category: Youth

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Daniel has been a remarkable part of the Jessup community. He was the driving force behind the creation of the new entrepreneurship center and has also been the lead reason that Jessup has built a new partnership with Amazon Web Services.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Jessup is an integral part of Rocklin. Daniel is helping Jessup continue to thrive and grow.

When did the community service take place?:

Over the past 18 months on a regular basis. It continues today.

Does the individual attend school in Rocklin and if so, what grade are they currently completing?:

Yes, Daniel is a senior business major at Jessup

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

Luke Vellutini

Nomination Category: Youth

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Luke serves on the Executive Board of The Residential Hermès (TRH) a local non-profit organization that provides free online marketing and other resources to local small businesses and he is a founder of the Waste Management Association (WMA) at RHS which has held several organized events to collect trash at local parks in Rocklin & Roseville. Additionally, Luke provides free tutoring services 2-3 times each week through the RHS Peer Tutoring Program.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

TRH; Free advertising for local businesses on their website, theresidentialhermes.org. Luke heads the video productions department highlighting small businesses through videos on their Instagram, @theresidentialhermes, YouTube: The Residential Hermès, and website.

WMA: Trash pickup events at the following locations: Johnson Springview Park, Rocklin High School, Dollar Tree lot, Maidu Regional Park, Margaret Azevedo Park.

When did the community service take place?:

TRH began in Summer 2020 & WMA began in Fall 2021. TRH was more active during the pandemic when businesses were really struggling. WMA is active now and has 3-4 cleanup events each month.

Does the individual attend school in Rocklin and if so, what grade are they currently completing?:

Luke is a junior at Rocklin High School.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Luke is active in Rocklin Boy Scout Troop 349 and is currently beginning his Eagle Scout Project to benefit Koinonia Family Services.