

Jim Garrison

The Humboldt County Historical Society and Old Town Haunted History Tours will present “Ghosts of Christmas Past at the Eagle House” this Friday, December 1st.

The title of this presentation, “Ghosts of Christmas Past” fits into a Victorian tradition of telling ghost stories at Christmas-time, but it is also part of a much older tradition. For the ancient Celts and many other people of ancient Europe, the season from late October to early February was a time when the veil between worlds was at its thinnest.

In the United States today, we’ve tried to confine the ghosts and other sprites to a much more limited period of time – but in older traditions Halloween was just the beginning of a three-month-long season of ghostly and magical activity.

“Ghosts of Christmas Past at the Eagle House” ties in with these traditions. Our storytellers will share many tales of ghostly happenings in Old Town Eureka, and the history behind these hauntings. The ghosts of the Eagle House itself will be among the featured spirits. Dinner guests will learn of the late hotel owner who lingers on to ensure that her guests behave themselves; a specter who’s been known to get a little too hands-on with hotel guests while in their baths; and other mysterious happenings from the past.

The evening’s highlights include a tour of one of the Eagle House’s most famously haunted rooms, during the 6:00 o’clock cocktail hour. Attendees will have the chance to bid on a night in this room, with the proceeds supporting the Humboldt County Historical Society.

The Humboldt County historical Society is the largest repository of historic photographs, maps, ephemera, and other historical research materials related to the history of Humboldt County. Our purpose is to further an understanding and appreciation of all peoples, places, events, and activities of Humboldt County and related areas. Toward this end, we focus on acquiring, preserving, interpreting, and sharing historical information, and educating and assisting others to do the same.

Tickets for the fundraising dinner and historical presentation are \$75 per guest. All profits support the Humboldt County Historical Society’s research center and archive: raising money for a good cause while enjoying the historic Eagle House’s haunting hospitality. To reserve your ticket for “The Ghosts of Christmas Past at the Eagle House,” please contact the Humboldt County Historical Society bookstore at (707)445-4342

Our bookstore will also be offering Humboldt County History calendars, sweatshirts, and ready-to-frame prints of historic photographs – just in time for the holiday gift-giving season. Visit us at the Barnum House in Eureka, on the corner of H and 8th Streets, or give us a call at (707)445-4342 with questions about our collections and bookstore offerings.

Look forward to the Humboldt County Historical Society’s “Ghosts of Christmas Past at the Eagle House” this Friday, December 1st for dinner, a historical program, and ghostly tales!