



The Mansion

Our Mission:

The Bidwell Mansion Association is dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and interpretation of Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park.

Newsletter of the Bidwell Mansion Association

Fall 2018

GREETINGS AND HAPPY FALL!

Thank you for helping us celebrate John Bidwell's 199th birthday back in August. It was wonderful to see you enjoying the Mansion and festivities, and supporting our efforts.

December is fast approaching and we are excited to once again be holding our annual **Christmas with the Bidwells** event on Friday, December 7. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the Mansion beautifully decorated for the holidays, and support the work BMA does in conjunction with Bidwell Mansion SHP.

There will be wonderful vignettes and music in the Mansion, delicious treats, a silent auction, wine tasting, and holiday cheer.

This is also the perfect opportunity to renew your membership and invite others to join the BMA. For current members, your ticket will renew your membership for the year. For non-members and guests, the ticket price also includes a one-year membership—a total win-win! For more information about the event and how to get tickets, go to: www.bidwellmansionassociation.com.

I hope to see you there!

Also, don't forget to stop by the General's Store in the Visitor's Center for a bit of holiday shopping. It's stocked with unique gifts for everyone on your list.

Thank you so much for your support—I hope you and yours have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Adrienne Glatz,
BMA Board President



Christmas with the Bidwells

*Bidwell Mansion Association
Holiday Party*

**Friday, December 7, 2018
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park

Silent Auction - Live Music

*Wine tasting with Almendra Winery and Distillery
and Bertagna Son-Kissed Vineyards*

Historic Vignettes - Holiday Cheer

**Tickets: \$30.00 per BMA member
\$35.00 per Guest - includes 1 year membership
RSVP to 513-1454**

Proceeds benefit education and interpretation at Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park

199th Birthday Party for John

General Bidwell celebrated his 199th birthday at Bidwell Mansion on Sunday, August 5th. It was a fun time for all his well-wishers, with music from a brass quintet in the gazebo, games for the children, entrance to the mansion, and the opportunity to meet and greet General and Mrs. Bidwell. Cake and ice cream were served by volunteers and burgers were available to purchase from the mobile Madison Bear Garden barbecuers.

The General (portrayed by Nick Anderson) told many stories of his many adventures in California as he was interviewed in the parlor by a lady reporter (Nancy Leek). He was also present as Nancy Overton announced the celebration of his bicentennial year in 2019.



Winners in the annual Annie's Lost Acrostic poetry contest were awarded certificates from the BMA and prizes donated by John Rudderow.

The winners were:
Aidan Bernson -- 1st prize: \$50
Camryn Bradshaw -- 2nd prize: \$25
Ian Hernandez -- 3rd prize: \$15
Landon Holt -- 3rd prize: \$15

2019 John Bidwell's Bicentennial Celebration

A tribute of John Bidwell's 200th Birthday year includes:

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|---------------|--|
| January 27 | Annual Association Meeting - Bidwell Party First Emigrant California Wagon Train with Dave Nopel |
| February 15 | Annie & John Love Letters Dinner at the Mansion |
| May 4 | Chico Pioneer Day Parade honoring John Bidwell |
| May 27 | Memorial Day at Bidwell Gravesite, Chico Cemetery |
| June 22 | Annie's Tea Party at the Mansion |
| July 13 | Slice of Chico celebrating Bidwell's commerce legacy |
| July 13 | Twilight Family Night at the Mansion |
| August 4 | 200th Birthday Party at the Mansion |
| September 8 | Admission Day Celebration at the Mansion |
| September 7-9 | Annie's Star Quilt Guild Exhibit at the Mansion |
| November 3 | Farm City at the Mansion honoring Bidwell's agriculture legacy |
| December 6 | Holiday Party at the Mansion |
| All Year: | Community Challenge to Honor Bidwell's Legacy
See www.bidwellmansionassociation.com for details. |



NEWS from BIDWELL MANSION STATE HISTORIC PARK

OPEN FRIDAYS

Holiday season is always a special time at the Mansion, but this year even more so. With the financial support of the Bidwell Mansion Association, the Visitor Center will be open on Fridays starting November 30 through December 21, 2018.

Tours will be available on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, on the hour from 11:00 to 4:00.

The General Store will be open for your Holiday shopping too!

HOLIDAY EVENTS

December 9, 2018: Holiday Open House with Orange Grove Rebekah Lodge # 84, Chico Women's Club Performances on the hour from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm featuring Apollo Academy of Music, Chico High School Choir, Sounds of the Valley, Celebration Gospel Choir of Chico, and Gesundheit! Tickets are required but are free to the public and will be available at the Bidwell Mansion SHP Visitor Center starting on Nov. 23rd.

December 14 and 15, 2018: Special Holiday Evening Tours of all three floors of the Mansion from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Mansion will be decorated in Victorian holiday style. Staff and volunteers dressed in period costumes will be available to answer questions or provide insight into the history of this special home. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$4.00 for youth under 12 years of age.



The poster features a holly branch with red berries in the top left corner. The main title "Christmas with the Bidwells" is written in a large, ornate, black serif font. Below the title, in a smaller, elegant script font, is "Bidwell Mansion Association Holiday Party". On the right side, there is an oval-framed black and white photograph of an elderly couple. Below the photo, the text reads "Friday, December 7, 2018 6:00 - 8:00 PM" and "Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park".

HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT THE GENERAL'S STORE

Shopping for the Holidays? Don't forget "The General's Store" at the Bidwell Mansion SHP Visitor Center. This year we have significantly increased our selection of gifts reflecting the history of Chico and the surrounding North State area.

On our shelves you'll find over 30 books, many by local authors, on subjects ranging from John and Annie Bidwell to the flora and fauna of Bidwell Park, the Gold Rush, Indians of the Chico Rancheria, John Muir, and more. For the serious history buff, we have the DVD "The Map of History: John Bidwell's California" and the John and Annie Bidwell Diaries. We also carry over 40 children's books, including historical coloring books, Victorian-era paper-doll books, and "small books" for stocking stuffers.

Our souvenirs include magnets, patches, ornaments, T-shirts and baseball caps, walking sticks and also a wide selection of colorful postcards depicting local landmarks. We also carry the 500 piece Bidwell Mansion puzzle and colorful reproductions of John Bidwell's cannery labels, olive oil prints along with the Bidwell Mills flour sack kitchen towels and the Bidwell Cattle Brand aprons in many colors, as well as historical toys and craft items such as crochet and knitting kits, wagon train rag-doll kits, the popular bird-and-animal finger puppets, tea sets, yo-yos and other "activity" toys, an amazing variety of pencil sharpeners, and metal and plastic pans for prospecting for gold.

Best wishes to all for the Holidays. And we cordially invite you to come in and check us out!
And remember, BMA members get a 10% discount at The General's Store.

Bidwell Mansion Association
P. O. Box 1303
Chico, California 95927

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Join Today!



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

BIDWELL MANSION ASSOCIATION

Memberships are due each January. Please help us restore, preserve and interpret at Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

	Student/Retired:	\$10
Send Membership to:	Individual:	\$20
BMA	Family:	\$35
P.O. Box 1303	Sustaining:	\$50
Chico, CA 95927	Patron:	\$75
	Life:	\$300

Keep in touch with Bidwell Mansion

BMA website:
www.bidwellmansionassociation.com

E-mail:
info.bidwellmansionassociation@gmail.com

BMSHP website:
bidwellmansionpark.com/

Goldfields: A blog about Life and History in Northern California
<https://goldfieldsbooks.com/>

