



# 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

Spring 2017

**BIDWELL MANSION ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**

**ANNIE'S BIRTHDAY TEA**



**a proper afternoon tea in the Bidwell Mansion**

**Saturday, June 24, 2017**

**seatings at 11:30am and 2:30pm · \$35 per person**

**tickets available at Bidwell Mansion SHP Visitor's Center and Made In Chico**

**proceeds will benefit education and interpretation at Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park**

## President's Message

*Greetings and Happy Spring!*

I'm excited to announce that the BMA Board will be hosting a proper tea June 24th **inside** the Mansion in celebration of Annie's 178th birthday! This is a wonderful and unique opportunity to support the Bidwell Mansion SHP, while enjoying delicious delicacies, tea, live music, and friends. Even "Annie" herself will be there!

The tea will have two seatings: one at 11:30 a.m. and other at 2:30 p.m. Because this tea is inside the Mansion, each seating is limited to 40 people. Be sure to purchase your tickets soon, and be one of only 80 people to sip tea and nibble on scones inside the Mansion.

As a friendly reminder, you can support BMA in several others ways such as by renewing your membership, encouraging friends and family to become members, making a donation, shopping at our fabulous General's Store in the visitor's center, joining the volunteer circle, and by attending events throughout the year. Your generosity is always gratefully appreciated.

Thank you and see you at the tea!

*Adrienne Glatz*, BMA Board President

## How to Plant Casaba Melon Seeds

From Annie Bidwell's Diary for 1907

How to plant Casaba seeds -

Plow ground twice and cultivate it until very fine. Furrow it out in rows eight feet apart. Then plant seeds in hills eight feet apart. Before planting dig holes and fill them with manure, one bushel to each hole and put ten inches of earth on top of manure. Plant seeds under one half inch of the earth. Put about ten seeds in each place.

—Reuben's report to me.



## Pioneer Day Parade

Chico founder John Bidwell (as portrayed by Nick Anderson) and his friend, the lady reporter from San Francisco (played by author Nancy Leek) represented the Bidwell Mansion Association in Chico's Centennial Pioneer Day Parade,

Their elegant ride in a 1939 Packard limousine was provided by Wayne Cook, owner of the Hotel Diamond. The BMA appreciates his generosity in conveying the General.

Annie, unfortunately, was out of town visiting relations, and missed the event. We are hoping she will be able to participate in the next Pioneer Day Parade.



Sue Evans and Gloria Veith hosted a booth on the city plaza where passers-by could guess the function of various gadgets from the 1800s. Children were invited to color pictures of Bidwell Mansion, and Noel Lopez from State Parks helped them construct paper pots which they filled with casaba melon seeds and took home to plant.

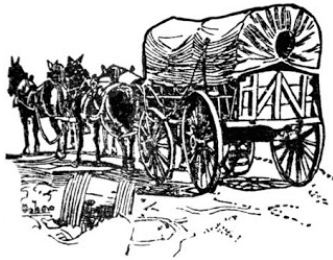
# NEWS from BIDWELL MANSION STATE HISTORIC PARK

## OPEN FRIDAYS THIS SUMMER

An additional Friday tour day will be available for visiting Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park starting in July. Friday tours are sponsored by the Bidwell Mansion Association to provide an extra day of tours during the summer.

Summer Visitor Center hours will be Friday through Monday from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Bidwell Mansion tours will be available on all four days with tours scheduled every hour beginning at 11:00 AM with the last tour at 4:00 PM.

Friday tour days will begin on July 7, 2017 and run through Sept. 8, 2017. Tours begin in the Bidwell Mansion SHP Visitor Center at 525 Esplanade,



## EXHIBIT AREA CLOSED

If you look inside the Visitor's Center at Bidwell Mansion SHP, you will see that the exhibit area is empty and bare. Exciting new exhibits are coming soon!

Currently the exhibit area is closed in preparation for the installation of new exhibits. The existing Visitor Center exhibits were installed in the early 1990s.

The updated exhibit space will include new information and multimedia technology.

The other areas of the Visitor Center including the General's Store and the theater will remain open.

## THE GENERAL'S STORE

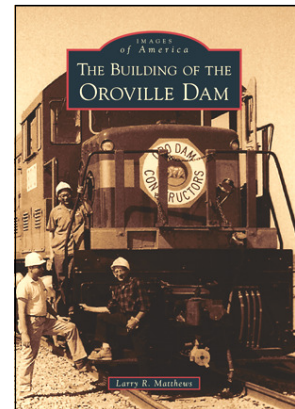
There's always something new and special in The General's Store. Visit soon and check out our new merchandise. If you're into hiking we have walking sticks and canes from "Whistle Creek, the Walking Stick Company," made in the U.S.A. from hickory, sassafras and sumac root.

If you like learning about local history, our latest selections from Arcadia Publishing include:

*The Building of the Oroville Dam*

*The Lost Communities of Lake Oroville*

*Cemeteries of the Western Sierra.*



For your green thumb, we have seed packets from the Sustainable Seed Company of Chico, including best seller Casaba melon, John Bidwell's favorite.

We continue to carry all our standard souvenirs, clothing items, and books related to the Bidwell Mansion—and children's toys.

Don't forget, BMA members get a 10% discount! The General's Store is open during the Visitor's Center renovation.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Keep in touch with Bidwell Mansion

**BMA website:**  
[www.bidwellmansionassociation.com](http://www.bidwellmansionassociation.com)

**E-mail:**  
[info.bidwellmansionassociation@  
gmail.com](mailto:info.bidwellmansionassociation@gmail.com)

**BMSHP website:**  
[bidwellmansionpark.com/](http://bidwellmansionpark.com/)

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

