

March 2018

“Year of the Dog” Starts with Parade in Uptown

The Mai Wah Society celebrated the “Year of the Dog” during this year’s Chinese New Year Parade held in mid-February on a somewhat chilly day. Following opening remarks from Mai Wah President Pat Munday, the parade headed down Granite Street with the dragon stopping along the route to bless business sponsors. Community members in attendance fell in behind the dragon dancers and became part of the parade. Chris Fisk and students in his Butte High School History Club served as dragon dancers again this year and did a wonderful job.

We’d like to thank the Silver Bow County Development Disabilities Council for contributing many of the refreshments enjoyed by people at the reception following the parade at the Mai Wah Museum. For those looking for more of a meal, we were glad

to partner with Dish-Ability’s Hungry Squirrel Food Truck, which parked near the museum and served up beef pho and Banh bao.

We greatly appreciate all of the business sponsors and volunteers that made the 2017 Chinese New Year Parade a success! If you were unable to attend the parade this year, the Montana Standard provided some great coverage, including a front-page story and posting some video on YouTube. The article can be read at: <https://tinyurl.com/Butte2018>. The video can be viewed at: <https://tinyurl.com/VideoButte2018>.



Mai Wah Society



“Year of the Dog” Starts with Parade in Uptown Butte



Preserving and interpreting Butte’s Asian history and culture

2016 Membership

We have three calendar-year membership levels, \$25, \$50, and \$100. All levels are significant help in our operations and we hope you'll consider joining, using the membership form in this newsletter. All levels include free admission to the museum. We're thrilled to list here our members for 2016 as well as major donors—thanks! Your membership makes a difference!

Paid Members, 2016

\$100 and more level

Dee & Mike Antimisiaris
Julie & Robert Bushmaker
Karen Davidson
Yvonne & Robert Oliger
Joyce Chinn & Jon Roush
Pat & Jan Munday
James Garris & Michael Hampton
Travis & Jacquie McAdam
Thomas Nance
Nancy Kiraly
Janet Sperry
David Stonehocker
Andrew & Sallie Bowen Ulsher
Steve & Betty Wing
Ginger So & Reuben Chan
Jim Griffin & Jana Faught
Richard Gibson

\$50 level

Linda Borton & Alanna Zrimsek
Kathy Carlson
Judith Condren
Edwin Dobb
Celine & Steve Fisher
Kathy Griffin
Jim O'Brien
Lucy Pesanti
Rose & Jim Sladek
Victor Sloan & Sandra Gong
Bobbi Stauffer
Kim Visscher

\$25 level

Ray & Kay Campeau
Judy Chadwick
Sandra Champlin
Jasmine Chan
Ernest Chann
Tina Huie
Connie Kenney
Alexandra Koelle
Kim Kohn
Jeanette Kopf
Marlene & Dan Langfeldt
Byron & Kay McAllister
Murray McCord
Bruce & Chyrel McKee
Fred & Melinda Quivik
Don & Irene Scheidecker
Gibbs Smith
Henry & Carol Tong
Susan Vuke
Gary Weisz

谢谢 THANKS!

2016 donors (over \$50)

Dee & Mike Antimisiaris
Karen Davidson
in memory of Dr John Davidson
Yvonne & Robert Oliger
Joyce Chinn & Jon Roush
Ginger So & Reuben Chan
Pat & Jan Munday
Travis & Jacquie McAdam
Jim Griffin & Jana Faught
Julie & Robert Bushmaker
Janet Sperry
Hoyt Curator Fund



Chinese New Year Parade

2016 Business Blessings —Thanks!

Business blessings, started in 2010, have become a popular part of the Chinese New Year celebration in Butte. We appreciate the support and hope that the Dragon Dance brought prosperity to the following businesses this year:

2016 Business Blessing Donors

- **Montana Standard**
- **Quarry Brewing**
- **Butte Plaza Mall**
- **InstyPrints**
- **NorthWestern Energy**
- **Headframe Spirits**
- **Pita Pit**
- **Silver Dollar**
- **Taco del Sol**
- **Jade Studio**
- **Gamers**
- **Bad Beaver Bikes**
- **Tap 'er Light Coffee Roasters**
- **Phoenix (IBRC/MainStreet)**
- **Cavanaugh's**
- **Metals Sports Bar**
- **Dancing Rainbow**
- **M&M**
- **BSB MIS Dept.**
- **Hadnagy Butte Frame Shop**
- **Venus Rising**
- **ButteStuff**
- **Butte Labor History Center**
- **BSB Court House**
- **BSB Public Library**

Montana Shares

Montana Shares is a partnership of 40 statewide non-profit organizations and the Mai Wah is a proud member. Montana Shares and member groups are devoted to improving the quality of life for Montanans and their communities through workplace giving (payroll deduction) campaigns. You should also know that Shares will always honor donor choice and strive for strict fiscal accountability. Our annual campaign is underway at workplaces around the state.



You can participate in several ways: 1) contribute through your current workplace campaign or ask that Montana Shares be included in your workplace campaign, 2) contribute individually, and 3) if there is no campaign in your workplace, ask that Montana Shares be an option for all employees.

For more information, please call Montana Shares at 1-800-2625 or in Helena 442-2218, or visit the Shares website at www.montanashares.org. In Butte, please call Deb Bishop at 782-4867 or email at info@maiwah.org. There is a Montana Shares link on our webpage at www.maiwah.org. Every contribution, small or large, is acknowledged and truly appreciated.

2016 Display Case Sponsors

Travis & Jacquie McAdam

Wah Chong Tai

Tom Nance

Wah Chong Tai

Steve & Betty Wing

Butte Chinese Experience

David Stonehocker, Stonehocker/Parker family

Butte Chinese Experience

International Students of Butte Central Catholic High School

Digging Butte's Chinatown

Richard Gibson

Wah Chong Tai

Tom Nance

Digging Butte's Chinatown

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Paid Members, 2017 as of Feb 24, 2017

\$100 and more level

Janet Sperry
Dee & Mike Antimisiaris
Kathy Carlson
Ginger So & Reuben Chan
Roger So
Mr. and Mrs. Y.C. Chao
Joyce Chinn and Jon Roush
Karen Davidson
Butch Gerbrandt &
Gretchen Geller
Richard Gibson
Nancy Kiraly
David Stonehocker
Tom Nance
Steve & Betty Wing

\$50 level

Linda Borton & Alanna Zrimsek
Debbie Bishop
David & Gloria Carter
Judy Wong Hohmann & Michael
Hohmann
Debbie Mueller
Victor Sloan & Sandra Gong
Mark Syverson & Noorjahan
Parwana Debbie Mueller
Victor Sloan & Sandra Gong
Mark Syverson & Noorjahan
Parwana

\$25 level

Shihua Chen Brazill
Haoxian Cai
Ray and Kay Campeau
Chia-Chi Chang
Chiao-Chien Chen
Cari Coe
Harry Dziak
Yuanbei Fan
Zhan Feng He
Patrice Hoolahan
Jeong Hoon Lin
Tzu-Chen Lin
Byron and Kay McAllister
Bruce and Chyrel McKee
Charlene Meshnik
Fred and Melinda Quivik
Sheryl Ralph
Diego & Rachael Carroll Rivas
Gary Weisz

谢谢 THANKS!

2017 donors (over \$50) as of Feb 24, 2017

Janet Sperry
Dee & Mike Antimisiaris
Ginger So & Reuben Chan
Roger So
Karen Davidson
in memory of Dr John Davidson
Mr. and Mrs. Y.C. Chao
Jacquie McAdam, Copper City Physical Therapy
Joyce Chinn and Jon Roush
Kathy Carlson
Butch Gerbrandt & Gretchen Geller
Richard Gibson
Nancy Kiraly



Chinese Dragon from SYSU, China

2017 Business Blessings —Thanks!

2017 Business Blessing Donors

- Quarry Brewing
- Insty Prints
- Montana Standard
- Copper City Physical Therapy
- Butte Plaza Mall
- BSB court House
- Butte Central High School
- Jade Studio
- Headframe Spirits
- Dancing Rainbow
- Pita Pit
- BSB Library
- KBMF/Butte America Foundation
- Venus Rising
- Northwestern Energy
- M&M
- Metals
- Gamers Cafe
- Gamers Casino
- Butte Labor History Center
- Miner's Hotel
- Butte Stuff
- Imagine Butte Resource Center (Phoenix Building)
- Bad Beaver
- Taco del Sol
- Cavanaugh's
- Butte Hadnagy Frame Shop
- Silver Dollar Saloon



2017 Business Blessings



2017 Business Blessings

2017 Display Case Sponsors

Tom Nance

Wah Chong Tai

Steve & Betty Wing

Butte Chinese Experience

Richard Gibson

Wah Chong Tai



2017 Business Blessings

Summary of CTA findings and priorities

The Mai Wah Society is thrilled to announce finalization of the architectural assessment of our historic Mai Wah/Wah Chong Tai Building -- home to the Mai Wah Museum.

Prepared by CTA Architects Engineers, the assessment exceeded our expectations, providing a detailed condition analysis of the building's structural systems and envelope elements (windows and doors, for example) and recommendations for repairs to preservation standards, complete with copious photographs and other graphics.

We were pleasantly surprised to learn that the front gap between the older Wah Chong Tai building (1899) and Mai Wah building (1909) has stabilized. Work and costs to repair the foundation, vaulted sidewalks, roof, windows and other elements, however, is fairly extensive.

Prioritizing recommendations is underway and we are confident that all necessary work can be completed with the help of our friends. Details of our planned funding raising campaign are provided elsewhere in this newsletter.



Preserving and interpreting Butte's Asian history and culture

Qingming Festival

Du Mu's poem about Qing Ming Festival:

*The drizzling rain never stop on the Qing
Ming days,*

The gloomy people move alone on the their way.

*I ask where I can find the pub or wineshop on this sad
day--*

*And there the cowherd fingers the Apricot Blossom
Town in the distant place.*

清明

杜牧

清明时节雨纷纷，路上行人欲断魂。
借问酒家何处有，牧童遥指杏花村。

The explanation of this poem:

Qing Ming is a very sad festival in China. The purpose of this festival is to reminisce the dead people and worship the ancestor. People usually will go to the grave of their ancestors or families and pay respects to them in front of the tomb. They also will clean the leaves which are cover the grave, and they will lit the incense and burn the paper money, clothes, and houses to the dead people and they can use it in the other world.

Qing Ming is in March, and it is a rainy period, everywhere is wet especially in the southern China, people can hardly see the sunny sky, so they will feel sad and gloomy in those days. In the poem, people move along sadly, so they want to forget the sad things by drinking alcohol. In some place such as Guangzhou, people will not stay outside for a long time in this period in some places alone, especially at night, because the door of the underworld will open, and the ghosts of the dead and the evil staff will come out and follow you to your home and people will possessed by these staff. So usually there are few people will walk outside on the street in that period.



Qingming Festival in China



Qingming Festival in China : Flying Kites

Mark Johnson

Mark Johnson, Faculty of Supervision and Instruction of the ACE Program at the University of Notre Dame gave a lecture at Montana Tech on the Chinese Empire Reform Association.

He became interested in Montana's Chinese history while studying at Carroll College under the leadership of Dr. Robert Swartout. His article "From Kwangtung to Big Sky: The Chinese Experience in Montana, 1864-1900," set the standard for our understanding of the Chinese experience in Montana and the contribution made to the region's development by early Chinese Montanans.

One interesting part of the story was the Chinese Empire Reform Association's efforts throughout Montana. This group sought to use the practical experiences and knowledge gained through their time in the West to help strengthen China. They felt that a stronger China would help protect and support citizens worldwide. The Chinese Empire Reform Association was a global movement with twelve branches in Montana, showing the interconnectedness of the Montana's Chinese with their countrymen worldwide.

In 2007, I began teaching American and World history at an international high school in Shanghai, China. I returned to Montana every summer and realized my interest in the state's Chinese history could be an exciting opportunity for my students in Shanghai.

During a trip to the Montana Historical Society I found several large collections of documents in Chinese that had been housed at the Mai Wah building in the early 1990's. . He realized the language abilities of his students and their families in Shanghai could help unlock this important piece of Montana's history and tell the story through the words of the Chinese settlers themselves. Through several different projects, they worked to translate, interpret, and share this story with a broad audience.

Mark states, "The Mai Wah Museum and Society plays a key role in preserving a connection to Montana's diverse past. By documenting and preserving Butte's Chinese community, the Mai Wah keeps alive the rich culture that once flourished in Butte's Chinatown and keeps Montanans mindful of the diverse, global beginnings of the state's development. I have traveled throughout the American West and I investigate the Chinese experience everywhere I go. Without doubt, the Mai Wah Museum and Society is the leading historical site honoring, preserving, and sharing the stories of the Chinese experience in the American West."



Mark Johnson

A special thanks for Mark Johnson for his contributions to this article.

Gift Shop Manager: HeatherLynn Meeks

The Mai Wah Society is a frugal organization, with nearly all the work done by board members and other volunteers. Two exceptions are our professional curator, Janna Norby, and our gift shop manager, Heatherlynn Meeks.

As Heatherlynn's adopted home, she loves Butte for its rich diverse history. She loves the Mai Wah for the amazing building and the priceless Wah Chong Tai Mercantile collection that came "home" to us as a loan after the Montana Heritage Commission acquired the Bovay collection.

Heatherlynn has greatly increased the quality and diversity of merchandise for sale in the gift shop, and she sees that as a way of honoring the tradition of the original Wah Chong Tai Mercantile. In addition to managing the gift shop, she also often works as a docent at the front desk. The gift shop is a gateway to hospitality, and she enjoys chatting with visitors from all over the world.

Although our regular museum season is June to September, we offer tours year-round—just give us a few days' notice by phone 406-723-3231 or email info@maiwah.org. Come meet Heatherlynn, tour the Mai Wah, and experience Butte History.



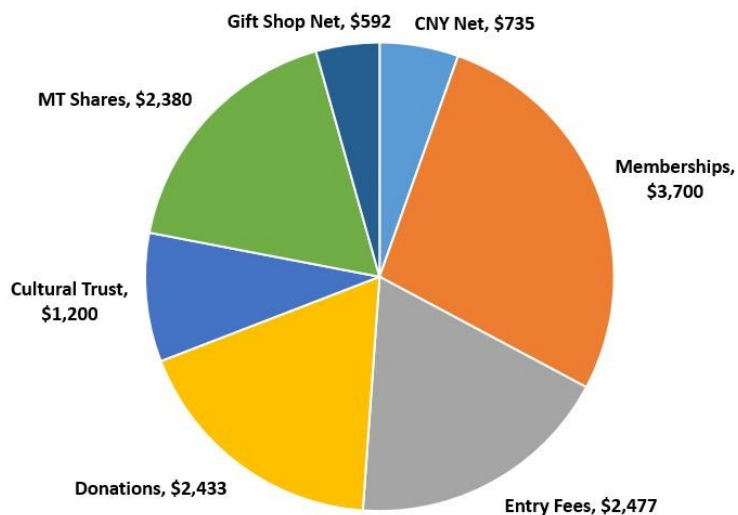
HeatherLynn Meeks

New Treasurer : Kim Tintinger

Kim was born and raised in Butte and attended Montana Tech earning a Bachelor degree in Business Information Systems and an Associate degree in Geographical Information Systems (GIS). She has worked in various positions that include office manager, bookkeeping, marketing, GIS mapping, report designing, and job cost reporting. Following graduation in 1992, she joined Renewable Technologies, Inc. (RTI) where she worked as the office manager working with cultural resource specialists for 13 years. In 2006, she joined the staff of Kenison Technical Services, Inc. (KTSI), a consulting firm that writes job cost reports for heavy highway and general contracting firms throughout the United States. Kim is excited to be part of the Mai Wah team and looks forward to working with the organization that is doing such a great job in preserving a part of Butte's history.

Finances

Mai Wah 2017 Unencumbered Revenue
Total: \$13,157

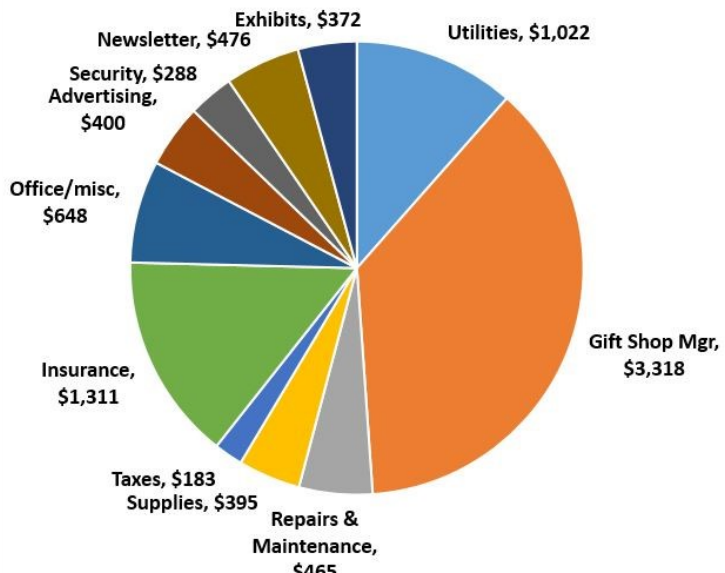


The Mai Wah is deeply appreciative of the memberships, sponsorships, and donations listed earlier in this newsletter. We also value donations in the form of time—sometimes the most valuable commodity.

The charts at left do not reflect income and expenses related to specific, encumbered accounts such as our curator and some exhibits.

If you are interested in helping the Mai Wah as a volunteer docent, someone who staffs the front desk during the summer and provides guests with their introduction to the Museum, we'd love to have you. If you would like to do a day here and there, or some more regular schedule, we'll train you in what you need to know.

Mai Wah 2017 Unencumbered Expenses
Total: \$8,878



谢谢 THANKS!



Kim Tintinger



Mai Wah Society

MEMBERSHIP & DONATIONS

Memberships and donations to the Mai Wah help make possible all the programs we have—from tours to special educational programs to new exhibits. The Mai Wah Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit, so donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

**For calendar
year 2018**

Membership levels (check one)

- \$25 (free museum admission, 2 guest passes)
- \$50 (free museum admission, 2 guest passes, \$5 discount on t-shirt)
- \$100 (free museum admission, 2 guest passes, \$5 discount on t-shirt, 15% gift shop discount, private tour for up to 10 people)

Amount enclosed for donation above membership: _____

**Please make check payable to Mai Wah Society
and send to
P.O. Box 404, Butte, MT 59703**

Thanks very much!



Mai Wah Society
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 Butte, MT 59703
 www.maiwah.org

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Mai Wah Society Newsletter
March 2018

**Regular season:
 June-September.
 Off-season tours can be
 arranged with advance
 notice.**

**MONTANA
 CULTURAL
 TRUST**



Partial funding for the Mai Wah's operations was provided by Montana's Cultural Trust

MAI WAH SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 Pat Munday, Travis McAdam, Shihua Chen Brazill, Kim Tintinger, Sonny Thornborrow, Mary McCormick, David Stonehocker