



The Gazette

May 2010



P.O. Box 2393, Benicia, CA 94510

www.beniciahistoricalsociety.org

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Our Mission

The Benicia Historical Society began in 1973. The purpose of the society is to bring together people interested in the history of Benicia and California. The society works to preserve the history and heritage of our city for future generations. Our goal is to enhance historic Benicia through education, communication and community involvement.

Memorial Day Ceremony



It's that time again—be sure and mark your calendar to attend the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 31, 2010.

The Historical Society has hosted the Memorial Day Ceremony for over 25 years. Come join us

and other members of our community as we honor the memory of those veterans who gave their lives in defense of the United States Constitution and the freedoms we enjoy every day.

It is a moving event and an opportunity to show our gratitude to all those men and women who serve now or have served our country in every branch of the military. Come enjoy the history of the cemetery, the beauty of the day and be thankful.

The ceremony is held at the Military Cemetery off Hospital Drive. Try and get there early so you have a place to park. The ceremony begins promptly at 10:00 am. See you there!

Save the Date!

October 2, 2010

Join us for the Historic Cemetery Tour at the Benicia City Cemetery. This event will be presented by the Benicia Historical Society's Cemetery Restoration Committee. The committee is hard at work planning this event. For any questions, contact Chair Marnell Lloyd.



Voices from the Past

The first steamer that ever went above the mouth of Feather River, on the Sacramento, was constructed here in Benicia. She was a flat square thing about four times as large as her engine would warrant. She was named the *Lucy Long*, for the reason, probably, that she would take her time, being nine days on her first trip from this port to Sacramento city; she had no house or covering except a little shed over the engine and boiler, notwithstanding which, some ten or twelve persons took passage on her in November when it was raining hard. About the fifth day of the trip, and after the whiskey had all given out, a wild young fellow who had been the life of the party concluded he would take his first nap; so stowing himself among the timber and window sash, which composed part of the cargo, he proceeded to protect himself from the drenching rain, but covering up his body with the window sash, and went fast asleep, but awoke a few hours later soaking wet, and found that the sash were not glazed, such as his force of imagination.

~ Benicia Tribune ~ February 7, 1874

Learn more about Jack London

So what is Jack London's connection to Benicia? Find out Sunday, July 11, 2010 from Lou Leal, Head Docent and Scholar at Jack London State Historic Park in Glen Ellen. Lou's presentation includes a 12 minute video about London's life and will take place in the magnificently restored Commanding Officer's Quarters (COQ).

Event: Jack London's Life in Benicia

Date: Sunday, July 11, 2010

Time: 2:00-4:00pm

Place: COQ, Benicia Arsenal

Presenter: Lou Leal, Head Docent and Scholar, Jack London State Historic Park

Free to All

City Update

The Historical Society is working with the City to promote Historic Preservation Month. Together, we are developing a set of walking tours that will highlight some of the Mills Act homes in our community. Celebrate the month of May and think about how Historic Preservation helps connect the present with the past.

Newsletter



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The Benicia Historical Society

Connecting People With the Past

Calendar of Events

May 24, 2010 **Monday** **7:00 pm** **Board of Directors Regular Meeting**
Chamber of Commerce Conference Room—ALL ARE WELCOME
May 31, 2010 **Monday** **10:00 am** **Memorial Day Ceremony**
Historic Military Cemetery— ALL ARE WELCOME

June 2010
No Meetings

July 11, 2010 **Sunday** **2:00 pm** **General Meeting—"Jack London"**
Commanding Officer's Quarters—ALL ARE WELCOME
July 26, 2010 **Monday** **7:00 pm** **Board of Directors Regular Meeting**
Chamber of Commerce Conference Room—ALL ARE WELCOME

~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ~

October 2, 2010—Historic Cemetery Tour, Benicia City Cemetery

December 4, 2010—Holiday Parlor Tour