

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By now you should have received your reminder that dues are due. You are encouraged to continue your support of the Historical Society. We have kept our dues the same even in the current economy.

Your support of the Society helps us to continue to work for the preservation of the historical riches of Yolo County through the publication of books such as the "Hollywood Comes to Woodland" which will be published prior to Woodland's Stroll Through History on September 10<sup>th</sup> when a book signing will be held at the State Theater.

At this time each year (Fair Time) I can't help but think about the Society's Lemonade Stand which was, except for our yearly dues, one of the main sources for income. We were then able to give grants for various projects of an historical nature. Now our resources are limited.

You can look forward to another event planned for October when historical characters will again appear at the Woodland City Cemetery to tell their stories. This will be a fundraiser for the Society. Kathy Harryman and Reva Barzo are organizing the "production" and if you want to participate give one of them a call. Their phone numbers are on the back page of this newsletter.

Finally, the Board of Directors is planning some great programs starting this Fall and there will be additional day trips to interesting communities. And, of course we are always looking for new Board members.

Peace,

B. J. Ford, President  
Yolo County Historical Society

## JOHN BEMMERLY

(1824 – 1872)

Many German families settled in the hilly district along Cache Creek, Oat Valley, Dunnigan Hills, and Hungry Hollow in the 1850's, raising grain and livestock.

John Bemmerly, born in Württemberg, Germany, came to the United States in 1847 and worked in New York as a farm hand until he came overland to California in 1852. Several months of mining brought little success; he then squatted on the land in northwestern Yolo County that he later bought from the United States government. In 1860 he married Agnes Wimmer from Baden, Germany and had five children. He farmed and raised cattle on another ranch near Dunnigan. His premature death left his young wife to supervise the ranch on her own for many years. Agnes Bemmerly expanded the family's holdings to 7,200 acres and operated one of the largest ranches in the county.

[Extracted from Pioneers of Yolo County]

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

As all Society members are aware, the membership year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Starting with the September issue there will be a **Red Dot** on the label of those who have not paid their membership dues for the 2011 – 2012 year. While you are renewing your membership in the Society, please tell a friend about the many benefits of being a member – this newsletter, general membership meetings, day and overnight tours with discounts to members, and discounts on history books at the time of publication by the Society, etc., etc. The membership envelopes have been mailed.

**July/August 2011**

**“We were born to be free”**

**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>**

**It is that time again.** The Spring Lake Schoolhouse will be open for public viewing. That means we have to have volunteers who can welcome our visitors. Our School House Coordinator, Kathy Harryman, continues to add, and change a few things, but generally speaking it is just as it was in 1869. Information is available to answer people’s questions and it is always a joy to see a student who has visited during the school year drag parents in to show where he or she sat when their class visited.

We will again be closed on Sunday due to the entertainment which drowns out the ability to have conversations.

Now, here is where you come in. We need volunteers. See the back side of this front page. Fill it out and join us at the Fair or you may telephone Board member, Dennis Dingemans at 753-5959, or e-mail him at [rddd.dcn,davis.ca.us](mailto:rddd.dcn,davis.ca.us). We thank Dennis for volunteering to help organize our “workers” for this year’s Yolo County Fair.

There are always two people in the Schoolhouse at all times. Parking passes can be picked up at the Fair’s Office at the beginning of your shift and then returned at its completion.

**I WILL VOLUNTEER AT THE YOLO COUNTY FAIR!!!**

**The Society's Spring Lake Schoolhouse will be open Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**

I will volunteer to help in the School House on \_\_\_\_\_ day from \_\_\_\_\_ (first choice) and/or \_\_\_\_\_ day from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (2nd choice)

**Wednesday: 6 to 8:30 p.m.; 8:30 to 11 p.m.**

**Thursday- Saturday 12 to 2; 2 to 4; 4 to 6; 6 to 8:30; 8:30 to 11 p.m.**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup> TO:**

**Dennis Dingemans  
645 C Street  
Davis, California 95616**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_



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**KEEP THIS PORTION AS A REMINDER! Dennis will confirm your appointed time by telephone or e-mail.**

If you have questions, or need changes for work time, telephone Dennis Dingemans at 530-753-5959 or e-mail at [rddd@dcn.davis.ca.us](mailto:rddd@dcn.davis.ca.us).

Leave a message, if Dennis is not home. Your phone call will be returned. We thank Dennis for volunteering to organize our "workers" again this year.

I volunteered to help in the Spring Lake Schoolhouse on \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (1st choice) or on day \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (2nd choice)

# SAVE THE DATE

- What:** Mrs. Gibson's  
1<sup>st</sup> Annual Teddy Bear Tea
- When:** Saturday,  
September 17, 2011 
- Where:** Gibson House Museum   
512 Gibson Road  
Woodland CA 95695
- Time:** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Or 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
- Cost:** \$25.00 - 1 adult & 1 child  
Additional Child: \$10.00  
Adult: Single Ticket-\$17.50

Tickets available: Museum Office, 512 Gibson Road, Woodland, 530-666-1045  
Gifted Penguin, 716 Main Street, Woodland, 530-668-8215  
The House Dresser, 617 Main St, Woodland, 530-661-9596  
Mother & Baby Source, 714 - 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Davis 530-756-6667  
e-mail: [lori@motherandbabysource.com](mailto:lori@motherandbabysource.com)

Sponsored by: Gibson House Yolo County Historical Museum  
512 Gibson Road, Woodland CA 95695  
e-mail: [ychnoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ychnoffice@sbcglobal.net)  
website: [gibsonhouse.org](http://gibsonhouse.org)

