



**Christmas 2012 at Lyon School
with Santa and Mrs. Claus**

SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS VISIT LYON SCHOOL

On December 8, 2013 the Brighton Area Historical Society will host Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus at Lyon School on Buno Road in the township. The 1885 One-room school will be decorated with an early 1890s theme for the Christmas holidays. This is a wonderful time of the year for families to visit and tour the school that instructed children in Brighton Township from the 1880s through the 1950s. Allow your children to experience history at a one-room school that was rural America.

Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, take your Family Holiday Photos
Enjoy fresh Cookies and Hot Chocolate
Enjoy many Old Fashioned Christmas Decorations
Supervised "Make and Take Projects" for your children
Great Day for kids—Bring your Camera!

Jim Vichich,
BAHS President

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

On Sunday, November 17 the BAHS Annual Membership Meeting will be held at the Lyon School to elect the 2014 Board of Directors including Officers. A pot luck gathering at 1pm will celebrate friendship and enable members to exchange pleasantries.

Official business will start at 2:15 pm.

Please consider how you can participate

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

at

Brighton Area Historical Society

If you have not checked the Brighton Area Historical Society out on Facebook you are truly missing some very interesting historical information. Larry Lawrence is our Facebook master. He posts a photo, comment or story, which starts a dialog that gets our membership and friends adding comments, questions and very valuable local history.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

President's Editorial

See Page 1

There's music in the air

See Page 4

Looking for a great Stocking stuffer!

The "The Brighton Area" softcover photo-history book or
From Settlement to City Brighton, Michigan 1832-1945 Hardcover history of Book by Carol McMacken

Available at
Lawrence Autobody
CoBACH Center
Green Oak Township Hall
or by
Calling 810-250-7276

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Thanks and Recognition

Memberships:

FAMILY/INDIV:

Ian Carmichael*, George & Pamela Hicks* and Ray & Bessie Maltby (IN).

*Welcome to new members Ian and George and Pamela.

The Society is fortunate that area residents believe in its mission and support it with membership.

Thanks:

- Marieanna Bair, Jerry and Carole Damon, Sue Garcia, Jeanette Johnson, Jane Tomlinson and Larry Lawrence for the mailing of the October issue of Trail Tales.
- CoBACH volunteers for October: Joyce Powers, Mindy Kinsey, Bob Knight, Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Larry Lawrence, Hank Winegar, and Jim Vichich.
- The dedicated team of September 23 that are restoring broken and fallen headstones within Old Village Cemetery includes: Jerry Damon, Joe Collins, Bob Knight, Dave Pettigrove, Lynn and Clark Millar, Larry Lawrence, Don Thomas and Jim Vichich.
- Larry Lawrence for his management of the Facebook page which has drawn many into the conversation regarding the history of the Brighton area.

- Jerry Damon and his excellent work as editor of the monthly Trail Tales
- Many active society members who volunteer in the various BAHS community projects in support of the organization and community.
- Harvest Fest volunteers Hank Winegar, Tammy Sexton, Nancy Fredenburg, Shirley and Bob Knight and Mindy Kinsey and the many drop in visitors.
- Tammy Sexton for the fantastic job with the "Slightly Haunted Tour" of the Old Village Cemetery. The second year of a sold out event. Also thanks to her support crew, Nancy Fredenburg, Jerry Damon, Larry Lawrence, Genal Pratt and a special thanks to Steve Sexton.
- Nancy Fredenburg for the matching gifts program for her volunteer hours from Bank of America.
- Pat Franklin for the matching gifts program of Amica's Matching Gift Program.
- Jan Pitzer for the glass curio display case, and to Jerry Damon and Joe Collins for transportation.
- Bruce & Betty Schuman for copies of early photos of Brighton.
- D. Doss for the 1894 BHS Commencement program.
- The group on Thursday morning doing archival work at Lyon School, They work hard and have a great time while doing so.

Society Life Members:

Tom Archer
Shirley Barton
Marilyn Campbell (IN)
Nancy Fredenburg
William & Lenore Harris
Betsy & Bob Herbst
Larry & Kate Lawrence
Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)
Carol McMacken
Joyce Powers
Douglas & Carole Rearick
Robert & Pauline Schaffer
Anne Stratigos

2013 Business / Professional Members:

Acorn Deck Accessories, Inc.
Advance Craft Builders
Fred Bonine, DDS, MSPC
Brighton Bar and Grill
Robert Clark Eye Center, MD., P.C.
Caretel Inns of Brighton
Champ's Pub
Davis Multimedia, Inc.
Susan Doyle, realtor
Grace Pointe Church
Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.
Mancuso and Cameron P.C.
Schoolhouse Family Dentistry
SOS Livingston
Synergy Environmental, Inc.
Yum Yum Tree
Lawrence Autobody **
McCrie & Associates, P.C.
Masonic Lodge No. 247 **
Patrick Financial Group, LLC**
Promess, Inc.**
Refrigeration Research **
Archer Huntley Financial Services **
** Life Members

Our efforts are enhanced with the support of our Business/Professional members.

Dates to Remember

November 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27: 5pm-

8pm BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sun, and Wed.

November 7, 14 and 21: 9am-12nn

Archiving/Open House at Lyon School. Visitors are welcome. Please share your early life Brighton experiences.

November 17: 1:00 -4pm

32st Annual Meeting (Business meeting and election of the board) at Lyon Schoolhouse, 11455 Buno Road. A Potluck gathering followed by the general membership meeting. See Page 1 for additional information.

Please consider how you can participate.

November 20: 6 pm

BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH
One week earlier due to Thanksgiving holiday.

December 8, 1-4pm

Old time Christmas program at Lyon School

- Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus.
- Take your family holiday photos.
- Fresh made cookies and hot chocolate.
- Enjoy many old fashioned Christmas decorations.
- Supervised make and take children projects.

- Great day for kids—bring your camera!
- Set your calendar.

No December Board meeting!

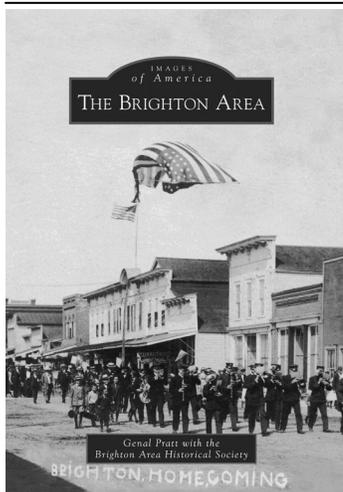
CoBACH closed Christmas Eve through
New Years day.

Support BAHS: Become a Member or Donate

The BAHS relies on participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to make a donation or become a member, please mail to the address provided on the form below.

Mail check or money order payable to:		Name: _____	Phone: (____) ____-____
Brighton Area Historical Society		Address: _____	
P. O. Box 481		City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Brighton, MI 48116-0481		E-Mail: _____	
		How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> US mail <small>(PLEASE CHECK ONE)</small>	
Membership Plan:		Friend of Lyon School:	BAHS Projects Fund:
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family		
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life		

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization . All donations are tax deductible.



New book released

Images of America: The Brighton Area

by Genal Pratt with the Brighton Area Historical Society

128 pages, and includes 199 pictures

\$20.00 Plus \$5.00 if shipping is required

Description: This new book contains a treasured collection of photographs and provides a fascinating historical record of the people, farms, and businesses that drove the growth of Brighton through the 19th and 20th centuries. The architecture, landscape, and cherished character of Brighton tell the stories that embody the foundation of our community today.

We Need Your Help

We are asking our members to step up and get involved. "Can you fill these jobs?"

Treasurer

Bookkeeping experience needed, knowledge of Quick-books a plus: Current Treasurer willing to advise.

Volunteers at CoBACH

Welcome desk, help set up displays, loan of personal items for displays of the early days of Brighton.

Contact Jim Vichich at 810-250-7276

BAHS Leadership

President

Jim Vichich

Vice President

Marieanna Bair

Secretary

Judith Coebly

Interim Treasurer

Mindy Kinsey

Trail Tales Editor

Jerry Damon

Directors

Joe Collins

Jerry Damon

Nancy Fredenburg

Larry Lawrence

Thomas Reinke

Tammy Sexton

Education Liaison

Judith Coebly

Sue Skwarski

BAHS: How to Contact Us or Find Us

If you would like to contact us, please use the following options:

E-Mail:

info@brightonareahistorical.com

Phone:

(810) 250-7276

US Mail:

Brighton Area Historical Society

P. O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Lyon School

11455 Buno Road, west of Pleasant Valley Road. The 1885 Lyon School is a fully restored, barrier-free one-room schoolhouse and serves as our organization headquarters.

CoBACH Center

202 W. Main Street, in downtown Brighton next to the Millpond. CoBACH is formally known as the City of Brighton, Arts, Culture and History Center. It is located in the historic 1879 two story brick building, also known as the Old Town Hall.

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please help us fund our mission while also helping yourself with a tax-deductible contribution.

The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

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There’s Music In The Air

How does one break ground to plant, cultivate, then harvest on a farm all day, keep house, preserve food, raise a family and still have energy and desire, to attend a barn dance? (Perhaps a month prior, these pioneers had helped their neighbor raise this very barn.)

Late historian Bill Pless, noted that though the work of surviving was never finished, time was still found for reading, socials and church.

Local musicians would have provided the music. Fiddlers, banjo players, horn players, and drummers, helped satisfy the need for this vital and integral part of these settlers’ lives.

These gifted neighbors were ready and willing to provide music for square dances at schools, social halls, etc. Potluck was arranged by the distaff side of the families. “Passing the Hat” helped pay expenses. Here was the opportunity to make new friends, hear the news, jokes and stories.

Pless writes, “Everyone went to a square dance to have a rip-roaring time. The men and boys came in home spun clothing, their leather shoes ‘shined’ with mutton tallow, while the girls wore the only ‘good’ dress they had; their hair curled with a hot iron, or perhaps in braids tied with a bright colored ribbon. They had all worked hard that day, but now at the first sound of music they were rearing to go, anywhere and everywhere... they cut the ‘buck’ on the corners, as they whirled, swung, sashayed, or did a do-si-do. ...as the caller put them through ‘make a little cage and put the birdie in, now birdie fly out and hawkie fly in, now hawkie fly out and give birdie a swing.”

Pless notes that, if the pioneers hadn’t brought an accordion, concertina, fiddle, clarinet, recorder, or a drum with them, they bought an instrument with the first money they came by, usu-

ally earned by trapping fur bearing animals, or from the bounty on wolves.

Stirred to action by the nation’s upcoming centennial in 1876, many in the community determined that music would be important to a proper celebration. Brighton Village and its environs hosted a number of residents to whom it was logical to form the Brighton Peerless Band in 1875. Egbert Albright, Dick Clark, Frank Hacker, Albert Herbst, Dr. Hill, Harold Hilton, Frank Marshner, Guy Pitkin, Frank Robbin, Richard Roberts, Ivan Sawyer, Jim, Louis and Bill Seger, John Thompson, and Will Winklehaus are identified on an early photo as members.

Research implies a Brighton Cornet Band was formed about the same period. Several members were also a part of the Peerless Band. Including: Egbert Albright, William Bigham, S. Davis, John P. Donley, J.D. Ellenwood, R.M. Fillmore, S.J. King, C. Kuhner, R. J. Lyons, Will Stuhrburg, Nelson Thomas, G.W. Thompson.

Many of these men were in their 20s and 30s. They held positions of prominence in the area, were civic minded, promoted education and conducted various commercial, industrial and agricultural undertakings.

(To be continued)

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: writings of Bill Pless; 1880 History of Livingston County; “From Settlement to City,” by Carol McMacken; Historical Society archives. Additions/ corrections requested. 810-229-6402.)