



**FREE**

**CHRISTMAS 2014 AT LYON SCHOOL  
 WITH SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS**

**FREE**

On December 14, 2014 the Brighton Area Historical Society will host Mr. and Mrs. Claus at Lyon School on Buno Road in the township. The 1885 One-room school will be decorated with an early 1890's 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 and 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

### THE BAHS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS THIS MONTH

The BAHS is involved in many efforts to preserve our local history. Including the ongoing support of the Lyon School, and the digitizing of thousands of archives including newspapers, photos, and maps. It also includes the cemetery preservation program, the headstone preservation program, the CoBACH (Old Town Hall) programs, and displays.

**Please consider renewing your membership  
 so these programs can continue.**

### ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

On Sunday November 16 the BAHS Annual Membership Meeting will be held at the Lyon School to elect the 2015 Board of Directors including Officers. A potluck gathering at 1pm will celebrate friendship and enable members to exchange pleasantries.

Official business will start at 2:00.

**Please consider how you can participate**

### POINTS OF INTEREST:

President's Editorial

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"50 LAKES IN A 5 MILE RADIUS"

Page 4

OFFERED BY THE BRIGHTON  
 AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The "The Brighton Area"  
 softcover photo-history book  
 \$20.00

or

From Settlement to City  
 Brighton, Michigan 1832-1945  
 Hardcover history book by  
 Carol McMacken  
 \$65.00

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

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## Thanks and Recognition

### Memberships:

**LIFE:** Brighton Veterans' Memorial Committee\*

**FAMILY:** Tim Hurst, Dave & Marilyn Pettigrove\*, Norma Jean Pless, Carole Scott.

\*Welcome to new members Brighton Veterans' Committee as LIFE Members and to Dave & Marilyn Pettigrove.

### THANKS:

- Marieanna Bair, Sue Garcia, Jeanette Johnson for preparing the October newsletter for mailing.
- CoBACH volunteers for October: Denise Daddino, Jim DeJohn, and Judy Kline, Bonnie Riutta, Bob Knight, Nancy Fredenburg, Joe Collins, Hank Winegar, Larry Lawrence, Mindy Kinsey, Tom Reinke and Jim Vichich.
- Dana Foster, Brighton City Manager, for his kind words and special recognition of the Brighton Area Historical Society and its volunteers at the City Council Meeting on September 18. Recognition was for outstanding community service at the Old Village Cemetery including the annual spring cleanups and headstone preservation project. A PowerPoint slide presentation showcased various headstones that have been restored. Each headstone project volunteer in attendance was recognized for their outstanding work!
- Lin and Clark Millar for taking down the recent display at CoBACH and thanks to Kathy Small, Marieanna Bair, and Mindy Kinsey for display items.

- The headstone volunteers at Old Village Cemetery who restore respect to these hallowed grounds by giving back countless hours in the process of rehabilitation of broken headstones. Thanks to our September workers: Paul Hunkele, Jerry Damon, Gary Reutter, Bill Dixon, Joe Collins, Bob Knight, Ed Vitez, Dave Pettigrove and Jim Vichich.
- The history preservationists whose perseverance allow lost and misplaced history to be recreated and saved every Thursday from 9am to noon at the 1885 Lyon one-room schoolhouse. The weekly volunteers are: Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Marieanna Bair, Lynn Strong, Lin Millar, Sue Garcia, Larry Lawrence, Mindy Kinsey and Jim Vichich.
- The volunteers from the Questers Plant Road #236 comprised of Judith Coebly, Heidi Clausnitzer, Sue Zimmerman, Elaine Saxton, Jeanette Johnson and Kay Flynn who spent a morning of their own time spraying cleaning solution on the headstones at Old Village Cemetery.
- Max Ziegler for the 1961 Brighton Homecoming book he donated.
- Norma Jean Pless for a donation with her dues to the Friends of Lyon School.

### CoBACH Future Exhibits:

Do you have items to loan?

**Jan-Feb 2015:** "Winter in Yesteryear Brighton"

Do you have old photos to loan for this exhibit that show you having winter fun like ice fishing, skiing, shoveling snow, outdoor hockey, snowmobiling, digging your car out of a snow drift?

### Society Life Members:

John & Deb Armstrong  
Tom Archer  
Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen)  
Shirley Barton  
Donald Black (N.J.)  
Marilyn Campbell (IN)  
Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan  
Nancy Fredenburg  
William & Lenore Harris  
Betsy & Bob Herbst  
Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN)  
Larry & Kate Lawrence  
Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)  
Carol McMacken  
Joyce Powers  
Douglas & Carole Rearick  
Robert & Pauline Schaffer  
Anne Stratigos  
Jim & Vicki Vichich

### 2014 Business /Professional Members:

Acorn Deck Accessories, Inc.  
Advance Craft Builders  
Fred Bonine, DDS, MSPC  
Buckley Jolley Group LLC  
Davis Multimedia, Inc.  
ERA Griffith Realty  
Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.  
Lindhout Associates\*\*  
Mancuso and Cameron P.C.  
Lawrence Autobody \*\*  
McCrie & Associates, P.C.  
Masonic Lodge No. 247 \*\*  
Patrick Financial Group, LLC\*\*  
Promess, Inc.\*\*  
Refrigeration Research \*\*  
Archer Huntley Financial Services \*\*  
Brighton Veterans' Memorial Comm.\*\*  
\*\* Life Members

**If you're not a member of the  
Brighton Area Historical Society  
See page 3**

## Dates to Remember

**November-December CoBACH Exhibit:** "Old Time Home Christmas" Exhibit will feature classic Christmas decorations and toys from the past. While some may consider these antiques, others like you and I know these as wonderful memories. Stop by and share your memories of family and friends with your children and grandchildren.

**November 2,5,9,12,16,19,23,26,30; 5pm—8pm:** BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday.

**November 6,13,20; 9am—12nn:** Archiving/Open House at Lyon School. **Closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov 27.** Share your Brighton photos and memories with archivists. Tour the

refurbished one-room school set in the early 1900s.

**November 16; 1pm—4pm:** Lyon Schoolhouse. General membership meeting with 2015 elections. Potluck from 1—2pm. Business meeting 2-4pm.

**November 19; 6pm:** BAHS final Board meeting for 2014 at CoBACH. This meeting is the third Wednesday due to Thanksgiving.

**NO December Board meeting.**

**December 14; 1pm—4pm:** Lyon School Christmas with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Great time to get those Christmas photos for this very popular FREE event.

**January 28; 6pm:** First BAHS board meeting for 2015 at CoBACH.

### WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

**November 7-8:** Michigan Oral History Conference, Lansing. Contact Historical Society of Michigan. Tel: 1800.692.1828.

**November 9-14:** Noon-4pm. Antique Appraisal Fair, Wixom City Hall.

wixomhistory@yahoo.com

**November 20:** A Service Man's Story. Milford Historical Society. www.milfordhistory.org

## 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:** Brighton Area Historical Society  
P. O. Box 481  
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

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

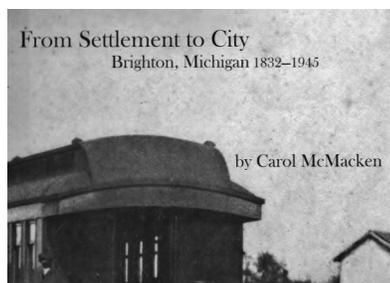
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales:**  Email  US mail  
(PLEASE CHECK ONE)

<b>Membership Plan:</b>	<b>Friend of Lyon School:</b>	<b>BAHS Projects Fund:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<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.



**From Settlement to City:**  
**Brighton, Michigan 1832-1945**  
By Carol McMacken  
450 plus pages  
Over 300 photos  
\$65.00

### Description:

This large volume hardcover book offers the reader an opportunity to gain insight into the chronology of the first one hundred and thirteen years of Brighton's existence. Through text and an extensive-photo collection it is possible to appreciate the effort of the early inhabitants as they endeavored to establish a viable community.

This book can be found at Lawrence Autobody and CoBACH Center or by calling 810-250-7276

## We Need Your Help

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

### 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

**Linda Millar**

Treasurer

**Jerry Damon**

Trail Tales Editor

**Jerry Damon**

Directors

**Bill Besso**

**Joe Collins**

**Nancy Fredenburg**

**Mindy Kinsey**

**Larry Lawrence**

**Thomas Reinke**

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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Permit #303  
Brighton, MI

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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**“50 LAKES IN A FIVE MILE RADIUS”**

To build one’s home on the shores of a lake is the dream of many. This possibility has made the SE quarter of Livingston County the goal of residents of large nearby cities. The advent of hard surfaced roads and the availability of convenient transportation spurred many to dream in the early 1920s. While traveling on Grand River, one saw road signs reading “50 LAKES IN A 5 MILE RADIUS” on the approaches to Brighton City. These 50 lakes were soon the major destination for many. It wasn’t long before a number of man-made lakes came into being. Developers and entrepreneurs realized the possibilities.

These lakes owe their existence to several streams. Mann Creek rises in Oakland County, joining Woodruff Creek and on to the Huron River in Green Oak Township. Draining the NE part of Brighton Township, Mann Creek gains volume from Beach Lake. A dam on the creek, just north of Buno Road, provides the shore line of Lake Moraine.

From Hartland Township Ore Creek flows south through Brighton Township, through the city, then into Genoa and Hamburg Townships and the Huron River. July 27, 1927, the Brighton Argus noted that the Capitol Land Company of Detroit had purchased about 1400 acres of farm land a few miles north of town. A dam was installed on Ore Creek, just north of Hilton Road creating a large lake on which soon many homes were built. A golf course, hotel, club house, dancing pavilion, ball playing field and an airfield were all promised on the beautiful new Woodland Lake.

In Brighton, on the north side of Main Street, in the middle of town, is the earliest area lake, man-made, the Mill Pond. On the south side of the street Orson Quackenbush installed a dam and built a mill on Ore Creek in 1840, creating the pond. His mill was a major attraction in the area. Farmers brought wheat to be ground into

flour and other grains for livestock. By the mid 1920s store-bought flour, bread, rolls, etc., became preferred by the homemaker and the mill closed.

A Brighton Argus reporter broke the news that a new lake was coming to Brighton in November 1926. Charles Howell a land developer from Detroit recently purchased the 280 acre Herbst farm in Section 36 of Genoa Township. His vision was to create a new large lake with home sites from the existing spring fed pond and the waters of nearby Ore Creek. The waters of the new Brighton Lake would flood the surrounding lowland by the construction of a dam on Ore Creek.

Work continued on the site but as money availability stiffened due to the impending financial disaster of the depression, the purchase of home sites dried up. In September 1937, the Brighton Argus reported that the Boy Scouts of America had purchased this property for their new Charles Howell Scout Reservation.

Quackenbush and others (Woodruff, Maltby, Kelley) could be noted as being the first to exploit the many streams in the county. Giving no thought to residential/recreational development possibilities, the very earliest settlers dammed Mann Creek, Ore Creek, Woodruff Creek, etc., for the power available. Saw mills, grist mills, etc., provided the settlers with many of life’s necessities.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: News clippings; 1880 History of Livingston County; “From Settlement to City, 1982-1945” by Carol McMacken; writings of Bill Pless. Additions/corrections requested. 810-229-6401.)