



## Lights! Camera! Action!

### Exhibit at CoBACH

The familiar sounds of “Lights! Camera! Action!” needs little explanation today. Did you know these words were uttered by a movie director for a Hollywood style movie that was being filmed in Howell and the area of Kensington Park almost 100 years ago? During this same time people in Brighton started to visit the new Rialto Theatre to experience this new entertainment technology known as “silent films”.

Visit the CoBACH Center at 202 W. Main Street during February and learn the story about a local family and major Hollywood actors used for these early silent movie productions. You will see Labadie family photos and learn about the family enterprises. Acquire information about the cowboys that rode in the movies that still have a prominent presence in the community today!

Brighton’s first silent movie houses were locat-

ed on the two main drags of the town. See early Main Street and Grand River Avenue photos and reproductions of early advertisements from the Brighton Argus showing the movies being shown in town.

Included are displays of movie projection equipment and early glassware that was given away to guests. Sit in the first movie theatre seats used at the Rialto Theater.

Many of the present Brighton residents will remember the photos of the Lakes Drive-in that was located at the present site of Ritter Ice Cream. Bring the kids and explain to them how the speaker system was used for movie sound in the family car. See an actual car movie speaker from the Lakes! You might also share with them your memories of fun at the Drive-in!

“The showing of silent movies has been cancelled due to the extreme cold weather, until summer or fall.”

Jim Vichich BAHS President (810-250-7276)

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**  
 at  
**Brighton Area Historical Society**

**LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!**  
 at CoBACH  
 Through February

## POINTS OF INTEREST:

President’s Editorial

See Page 1

There’s Music In The Air ( part 3)

See 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**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DATES TO REMEMBER **2**

THANKS AND RECOGNITION **2**

BAHS GIFT SHOP **3**

BAHS LEADERSHIP **3**

CONTACT BAHS **3**

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE **4**

## Thanks and Recognition

### Memberships:

#### BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL:

ERA Griffith Realty\*, Davis Multimedia International\*

#### PATRON:

Dr. Kathleen Alrubaiy (CO)\*, Jacque Armstrong, Don & Ricci Bandkau, Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL), Esther Jarvis, Tom & Mindy Kinsey, Phyllis Kerslake (Gr.Pt. Farms), Rudy & Doreen Meffert, Jere & Kay Michaels, Linda Wintermute (WI).

#### LIFE:

John & Deb Armstrong, Jim & Vicki Vichich.

#### FAMILY/INDIV:

Sally Baldwin (Gr.Rap.), Charles & Janice Beach, Tim Bennett, (Clio), Elaine Blight, Pat Burgess (Fntn), Nancy Cardle (Trntn), Joe Collins, Marianne Comiskey, Mary Jo Comiskey, Gabrielle Currin (Wtrfd), John Curry (Lns), Denise Daddino, William & Margaret Dixon, Janice Field, Jeanette Johnson, Robert Johnson, Whitney Kimble, Susan Lanning (Liv), John & Ruth LePatourel, Dennis & Marie Littleworth (KS), Richard & Kathy McKinnie, Clark & Linda Millar, Ted Miller (RochHls), Rosemarie Oldford, Brian Pawlak, Louis L. Pettit, Tedd & Linda Potter, Dr. Jon Redditt, Dick & Mary Jean Richter (Frs), Paul & Cindy Sawallich, Bruce & Betty Schuman, Yvonne Taylor, Jane Tomlinson, Bill & Gigi Vaillencourt, Alice Wyland, Bernon Young (FL).

*\*Welcome to new members, ERA Griffith Realty, Dr. Kathleen Alrubaiy.*

### THANKS:

- Bert & Marieanna Bair, Jerry Damon, Jeanette Johnson and Jim Vichich for preparing the January issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich for keeping the Lyon School parking area and sidewalk cleared of snow.
- Val & Kathy Jacoby, Robert Johnson, Charles & Janice Beach, William & Margaret Dixon, Esther Jarvis, Robert Johnson and Richard & Kathy McKinnie for donation to Society Projects remitted with their 2014 dues.
- John & Deb Armstrong for their extra donation with their LIFE membership.
- Val & Kathy Jacoby, Ted & Linda Potter, Jacque Armstrong, Tom & Mindy Kinsey, Robert Johnson, Richard & Kathy McKinnie and Jane Tomlinson for donation to Friends of Lyon School remitted with their 2014 dues.
- Jerry Damon for extra duty in delivery of Trail Tales to local businesses.
- CoBACH volunteers for January: Hank Winegar, Nancy Fredenburg, Larry Lawrence, Mindy Kinsey and Jim Vichich.
- Planning and setup for the CoBACH January-February Exhibit called "Lights! Camera! Action!". Large team effort of Judy Coebly, Gary Reutter, Bill Besso, Marieanna Bair, Mindy Kinsey, Jerry Damon, Nancy Fredenburg, Larry Lawrence, Jim Vichich and Livingston Players for their support.

### Society Life Members:

John & Deb Armstrong  
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  
Jim & Vicki Vichich

### 2013 Business / Professional Members:

Acorn Deck Accessories, Inc.  
Advance Craft Builders  
Fred Bonine, DDS, MSPC  
Brighton Bar and Grill  
Buckley Jolley Group LLC  
Clark Eye Center, MD., P.C.  
Caretel Inns of Brighton  
Champ's Pub  
Davis Multimedia, Inc.  
Susan Doyle, realtor  
ERA Griffith Realty  
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*

### IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP-TO-DATE

The year for which dues are paid is noted on the Trail Tales mailing label. LIFE membership is also noted on the label. The Society has many responsible members; of which readers of Trail Tales should consider being a part. ( if an error is noted please contact the Society)

## Dates to Remember

**February 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 and 26: 5pm-8pm** BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday.

**February 6, 13, 20, 27: 9am -12nn**

Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse. Join us and bring several old Brighton photos to share.

**February 26: 6pm**

BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH.

**May 3: 9am—1pm**

Join the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Cleanup of Old Village Cemetery. Your help is needed as we continue the revitalization of Brighton's oldest cemetery and ready the graves of U.S. veterans and others for the Memorial Day observance.

**February CoBACH: "Lights! Camera! Action!"** Movie Exhibit will feature movie memorabilia

from old Brighton movie theatres.

**With other organizations:**

**February 18: 7pm**

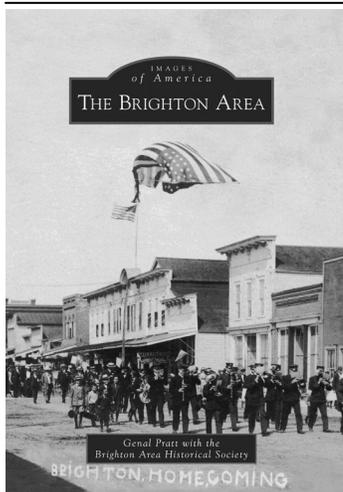
South Lyon Historical Society: "Well Behaved Women Seldom Make History". 248-437-9142.

## 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.

<b>Mail check or money order payable to:</b>		<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Phone:</b> (____) ____-____
Brighton Area Historical Society		<b>Address:</b> _____	
P. O. Box 481		<b>City:</b> _____	<b>State:</b> _____ <b>Zip Code:</b> _____
Brighton, MI 48116-0481		<b>E-Mail:</b> _____	
		<b>How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> US mail <small>(PLEASE CHECK ONE)</small>	
<b>Membership Plan:</b>		<b>Friend of Lyon School:</b>	<b>BAHS Projects Fund:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$_____

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 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

**Joe Collins**

**Nancy Fredenburg**

**Mindy Kinsey**

**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.

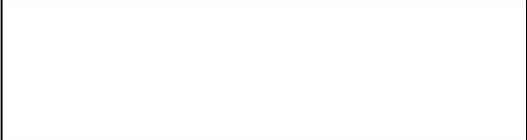
The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.

**BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**There’s Music In The Air (Part 4—conclusion)**

The love and enjoyment of performing or listening to music knows no season or era.

December, 1919, the American Legion Jesse B. Cooley Post #235, “...of young and active ex-service men” was organized. The list of 15 charter members includes many who loved making (and had been) music in Brighton. January 26, 27, 1928, the group of over 51 Legion members presented a “Legion Minstrel Review” at the Washington Theater (222 W. Grand River) which had opened August 12, 1926. A complete listing of the 47 members in the cast, all local, would be tedious. (Contact this compiler for information.) One of the ads in the souvenir program is for Bill Seger’s Band, “Music for all Occasions; Pep, Harmony, Rhythm”. Seger’s band was active into the 1940’s; recorded as performing the 2nd in a series of summer concerts on the east shore of the mill pond in June, 1944. In the orchestra are Frank Seger, trombone; Harold Seger, piano; Ned Seger, bass and William A. Seger, trumpet.

Copies of two original programs presented by the “Brighton Minstrels” reveal many local residents participating in comedy sketches, vocal and musical solos and instrumentals. Research indicates this group was active in the late 1920s/1930s.

To a public outcry of “There’s nothing to do”, the Livingston County Concert Band was formed, April 12, 1972. All ages, all vocations were represented. Family oriented activities assured everyone could be involved. This group followed the demise, c. 1963, of the first Livingston County Concert Band which was organized in the mid 1950s. For various reasons (the advent of TV?) this group did not last.

About 1975, Guy Smith, a Brighton Township resident, created the Fifth Michigan Regiment Band. This group emphasizes historically accurate music, uniforms, instruments and equipment of the original Civil War band.

July, 1977, the Livingston County Press announced the formation of a recreation of the 1863 United States Marine Band, President Lincoln’s own, in Brighton. Authentic music and instrumentation are the mainstay of this band. By 1979 members had logged 6000 miles performing at a variety of historical events in the U.S. and Canada. Kiwanis gazebo summer concerts by the mill pond were performed and Independence Day concerts.

Presently one finds local churches have chorale and instrumental groups that often perform in public in addition to worship services. Schools, elementary and secondary, offer many opportunities to musicians and listeners. Besides being part of the curriculum, groups of parents, local residents and merchants support and encourage school connected participation. Seasonal concerts and parades give players the occasions to bring joy to listeners. The Livingston Symphony Orchestra is playing locally and a number of community choruses and instrumental groups thrive in the county. There is still plenty of music in the air.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Brighton Area Historical Society archives and Carol McMacken's; “From Settlement to City” and Society archives. Additions/corrections requested. 810-229-6402.)