



REWARD YOURSELF—HELP RESTORE A HEADSTONE!

Join the team of men and women who have decided to restore the dignity of Brighton's Old Village Cemetery. This peaceful cemetery adjacent to Brighton's Millpond received its first burial in 1838. Tucked under the oaks and evergreens you will find the graves of the settlers that established this community known in its earliest years as Ore Creek.

The Brighton Area Historical Society is refurbishing this beautiful burial ground in the heart of the downtown. A professional headstone conservator was hired by the Society in 2012 and taught over 20 people the proper techniques in restoration of broken headstones. Work days are the 4th Monday of each month June through October from 9am—2PM. Our first workday is Saturday, May 3, 9am—1pm, as we clean winter debris from Old Village Cemetery and do some initial headstone work for 2014.

Your volunteer help is most important! Most volunteers are retired and join forces when their schedule permits. We are very informal, have fun and feel wonderful at the end of the

work day. No prior knowledge is necessary. We will train as we progress in the repair work.

The project is estimated to last 10-12 years due to the extensive repair work that is needed. Volunteer workers will come and go as we progress in this goal. If you have some time in your schedule and want to contribute to restoring dignity to our early founders' grave sites then please call me for information. This is truly a civic pride program. I look forward to hearing from you!

Thank You.

Jim Vichich (810-250-7276)

President, Brighton Area Historical Society

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
at
Brighton Area Historical Society

If your not a member of the
Brighton Area Historical Society
See page 3

ANNUAL CLEAN-UP — OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY
SATURDAY, MAY 3 FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM
A GOOD TIME WILL BE HAD BY ALL
CALL JIM TO PARTICIPATE: 810.250.7276

POINTS OF INTEREST:

President's Editorial

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Evolution of Area Roads (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

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Thanks and Recognition

Memberships:

PATRON: Mike Lenninger & Kathy Partridge, Margo Metzger

FAMILY/INDIV: Jim Birney, Lois Clark, Richard Hyne (Flrvl), Nora E. Miller, Tammy Sexton, Lynn Strong*, Dick & Lucille Weaire.

**Welcome to new member, Lynn Strong.*

Renewing members are what keeps the Society vital.

THANKS:

- Marieanna Bair, Jerry & Carole Damon, Jeanette Johnson, Clark Millar, Jane Tomlinson and Jim Vichich for preparing the April newsletter for mailing.
- Margo Metzger for her donations to Friends of Lyon School and to Society Projects with her Patron membership.
- Lois Clark for her donation to Friends of Lyon School with her membership.
- CoBACH volunteers for April: Bob Knight, Tammy Sexton, Joe Collins, Hank Winegar, Larry Lawrence, Sheryl Vigmostad, Mindy Kinsey and Jim Vichich.
- Bob Knight and Joe Collins for modifying the old wooden office desk to fit at CoBACH for the May-June exhibit called, "The Office Before Apple!".
- The volunteers who provided input at the planning meeting held on April 16 to discuss future programming and exhibits for CoBACH Center: Judith Coebly, Shirley and Bob Knight, Marieanna Bair, Tom Reinke, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Joe Collins and Jim Vichich.
- Jerry Damon, BAHS Tales Editor, for keeping members and the public updated with a great monthly newsletter.
- Jim Vichich for his work at Lyon School this early spring for not only snow clean-up but for the remains of winter.
- Tammy Sexton for collecting historical stories and researching information for the Brighton Community Reunion bus trip around the community on July 19.

Society Life Members:

John & Deb Armstrong
Tom Archer
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

2013 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.
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 **

** Life Members

Dates to Remember

May—June CoBACH: "The Office Before Apple! Exhibit" will feature office equipment and materials seen in offices before computers.

May 1, 8, 15, 23, 30; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse. Tour the school or share photos and stories with archivists.

May 3; 9am—1pm: Join the 6th Annual Spring Cleanup of Old Village Cemetery. Your help is needed as the revitalization of Brighton's oldest cemetery readies the graves of U.S. veterans and others for the Memorial Day observance. A free lunch for volunteers will follow the cleanup at 1 pm in CoBACH.

May 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25 and 28;

5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sun. and Wed.

May 26; 9am—1pm: Special CoBACH Civil War exhibit today only. See two wonderful private collections of Civil War memorabilia including rifles, swords, uniforms and other

armaments.

May 26; 10am—11:15am: Memorial Day Parade in downtown Brighton to honor American soldiers who died defending the freedoms of our country.

May 28; 6pm: BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH.

June 6, 7, 20, 21; 7:30pm: An Evening with Mary Todd Lincoln presented by the Livingston Players. Held at CoBACH. Tickets \$5, at CoBACH or Brighton Chamber of Commerce. Info 810-229-4292.

July 18, 19 and 20: Brighton Community Reunion (CoRe). This first annual event will celebrate the people and places of our unique community, BRIGHTON. This event is co-sponsored by the Brighton Area Historical Society and the Brighton Alumni Association. A full weekend of events is planned. For information see www.brightoncore.org or call Bev Barton 810-588-4510

July 19: Sign-up for the \$10 bus tour around Brighton and Island Lake. Learn about local history and hear amazing stories retold by special comic historian Tammy. This event will last about 1-1/2 hours, departing from CoBACH Center at 4pm and return to the same. This is one of many events of the CoRe weekend. Watch for more information in the Press & Argus and BAHS Trail Tails.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

May 15: Milford Historical Society. The CCC. www.milfordhistory.org

May 18; 1pm: Green Oak Township Historical Society, Cemeteries of Green Oak; pot luck. Greenoaktownshiphistoricalsociety.org

May 20: The Battle of Antietam by Bob Polasky. South Lyon Historical Society, 248-437-9929.

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: _____

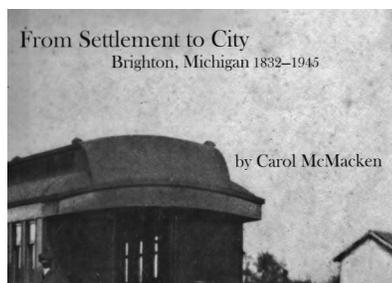
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

E-Mail: _____

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

Membership Plan:	Friend of Lyon School:	BAHS Projects Fund:
<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"/> \$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
<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 thirty 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	Directors Joe Collins
Vice President Marieanna Bair	Nancy Fredenburg
Secretary Linda Millar	Mindy Kinsey
Treasurer Jerry Damon	Larry Lawrence
Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon	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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Evolution of Area Roads (Part 3—Conclusion)

Following WW I, the Federal government had become acutely aware that better roads were a military necessity. In 1924, the U.S. Highway System was established. Michigan was included in this system the following year. The first five-year plan of this Highway System, which would include hard surfaces, began July 1, 1925. (The final stretch of paving of M-16, Grand River Road, was completed to the west side of the state, August 11, 1926.) West Main Street in Brighton was still not a hard surfaced street. Taking advantage of possible savings, Brighton determined to pave Main Street at the same time Grand River, through town, was being paved, in 1924.

In late 1927, the Ann Arbor-Flint Road, routed through Brighton, is known as U.S. 23. A Brighton Argus clipping December 21, 1927, announced the planned paving of U.S. 23 the next year. Included in the plan by the Federal War Department, U.S. 23 was to be a "Federal Aid Road" which would run from Grand River to Spencer Road, one mile north, bypassing Brighton City.

Another clipping, February 29, 1928, describes the dismay with which this news was received by business and professional men in Brighton with the headline reading "Business Men Meet To Discuss U.S. 23". About 50 people "... met at the Weiss Barbecue Monday evening, to discuss the proposed change which is likely to take place in the rerouting of U.S. 23, which it is understood will be paved this year." As soon as a hearing could be scheduled with Governor Green most of this group planned to present him with their strong recommendations for a route which would continue U.S. 3 through Brighton.

As is now evident the highway was constructed as planned. As U.S. 23 passed Buno Road it curved west to connect with Hilton just south of Skeman, removing a sharp corner. The route then curved around Indian Hill on the west shore of School Lake. Other sharp turns were restructured to become more easily and safely

negotiated curves; all necessary because of the speed at which vehicles traveled. At Hyne Road, U.S. 23 veered east to go through Hartland Village.

Another clipping, October, 1931 (beginning of the Great Depression) reads, "It was decided to widen Grand River from Farmington to Howell during the 1932 season and to start work on the grading at once." During the Great Depression much construction was contracted by the Federal government to provide jobs for the hundreds of thousands out of work" dams, roads, bridges and structures. The brick building on the northwest corner of Grand River and 23 was built as a state police post. One finds a few of these structures still in existence in Michigan — all in the same architectural style.

Again, after WW II, the U.S. government determined a more efficient, more dependable road system was necessary for the country's proper defense. The interstates came into being. Selection of routes in the Interstate Highway System was initiated in Michigan July 1, 1945. By the 1950s/60s, "internal improvements" were promoted by President Dwight Eisenhower designating I-94, I-96, I-75. March 4, 1959, I-96 was officially renamed from U.S. 16. April 10, 1961, the I-96/US 23 interchange, one of the world's largest at 175 acres, with eight overpasses was underway. A recent bulletin — new express lanes are to be built on I-96 at the interchange with US 23 in 2014.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from "From Settlement to City— Brighton"; news clippings. Additions/corrections requested. 810-229-6402.)