Volunteers Needed But No Michaelangelos

On Monday, June 22 at 9am—2pm the Brighton Area Historical Society will start their third season of rebuilding broken headstones in Brighton’s earliest cemetery, the 1838 Old Village Cemetery adjacent to the Millpond.

Are you newly retired? Enjoy being outside in the fresh air? Looking for an uplifting once a month volunteer position? Then the fourth Monday of the month from June through October may be just what you are looking to achieve.

We need volunteers with a desire to help improve the appearance of broken and leaning headstones. We will teach you the appropriate conservation techniques that were taught to us by a professional headstone conservator in 2012. Teamwork is used to dig out the broken headstones and repair them. If you can use a shovel, get on your knees and partake in the friendly bantering of volunteers, then you are fully qualified! We also socialize at lunch for an hour at a local eatery around noon.

These beautiful burial grounds under a canopy of mature oak and evergreen trees overlook the Millpond and provide a downtown view that few have seen. You are guaranteed a beautiful setting and a fulfilling day. When you leave the cemetery your civic pride will show and you will truly know that you have made a difference!

Jim Vichich (810-250-7276)
President, Brighton Area Historical Society
jvichich@comcast.net

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY
The Brighton Area Historical Society extends sincere sympathies to the family of Esther Luttermoser Jarvis. Esther was a faithful, supportive member of the Society.

“Summer Wheels”
May 4 through July 6
At the CoBACH Center
Sunday—Friday 5-8 pm
Saturday 11am-5pm
Closed Monday
Thanks and Recognition

Memberships:

THANKS:
- Deb Armstrong for updating the Society’s Webpage. Visit the site at www.brightonareahistorical.com and checkout her latest updates.
- CoBACH volunteers for May: Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong, Nancy Fredenburg, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Archive Preservation Team for May whose diligent work in preserving and organizing historical records of the Brighton area occurs every Thursday at the Lyon Schoolhouse. Great work and fun times by Joe Collins, Lynn Strong, Jerry Damon, Marieanna Bair, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Sue Garcia and Jim Vichich. Also a shout out to new volunteers Jill Eastcott and Valerie Haggerty!
- May 2 cleanup crew at Old Village Cemetery. Wonderful community support on this Civic Pride Day as 62 volunteers spruced up the 1838 cemetery. Cemetery looks respectful and neat as we remembered our U.S. veterans buried there on Memorial Day.
- Vicki Vichich for the fine luncheon of home-made soup, salad, cake, cookies and muffins for the cemetery cleanup volunteers.
- Henry & Mary Lou Winegar for their donation to the Society projects fund with their dues.
- St. Paul Episcopal Church and Rev. Deon Johnson for allowing the volunteer luncheon to take place in their new refurbished community room in the lower level.
- Brighton’s DPW workers and staff for their vital work and support in assisting with the Old Village Cemetery cleanup.
- Bill Dixon, Tammy Sexton, Jim Vichich and the John Manutes family for assembling information for the new VA headstone for Brighton’s Civil War soldier, John Prosser. John was killed at the Battle of Spotsylvania and buried in an unmarked grave. This new memorial headstone for John Prosser will be positioned in the Prosser family plot of Old Village Cemetery between the headstones of his parents and his sister.
- Mindy Kinsey and Lin Millar for helping take down the Apron & Hat display at CoBACH.
- Bob & Karen Elsey, Judith Coebly, Sue Zimmerman, Jerry & Anne Dilloway, Shirley Knight and Jerry Damon for loaning their items for the Summer Wheels display at CoBACH.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jeanette Johnson and Jim Vichich for preparing the May issue of the newsletter for mailing.
- Ray & Bessie Maltby for notification of a change of address and their donation to the Society projects fund.
- Jerry & Carole Damon for their donation to the Society’s Old Village Cemetery restoration effort.
- Mary Lou Winegar for their donation to the Society projects fund.

Society Life Members:
- John & Deb Armstrong
- Tom Archer
- Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen)
- Shirley Barton
- Charles & Janice Beach
- Donald & Shari Black (N.J.)
- Marilyn Campbell (IN)
- Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan
- Jerry & Carole Damon
- Nancy Fredenburg
- William & Lenore Harris
- Betsy & Bob Herbst
- Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN)
- Larry & Kate Lawrence
- Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)
- Carol McMacken
- Richard Park (IL)
- Bob & Donna Phillips
- Joyce Powers
- Douglas & Carole Rearick
- Robert & Pauline Schaffer
- Anne Stratigos
- Jim & Vicki Vichich

2015 Business/Professional Members:
- Acorn Deck Accessories, Inc.
- Advance Craft Builders
- Buckley Jolley Group LLC
- Clark Eye Center
- Davis Multimedia, Inc.
- ERA Griffith Realty
- Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.
- Lindhout Associates**
- Mancuso and Cameron P.C.
- Lawrence Autobody**
- McCririe & 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

Date to Remember

June CoBACH Exhibit: “Summer Wheels” Check out the classic bikes and pedal car that helped kids have fun and stay busy in the summer.
- Sun-Fri: 5-8pm, Sat: 11am—5pm, Mon: Closed
- June 4, 11, 18, 25; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.
- June 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28; 5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sun. and Wed.
- June 12, 13 and 19, 20; 7:30pm: CoBACH Center. Meet the Remarkable Molly Brown! Sponsored by the Livingston Players. Tickets $10. www.livplayers.org, PayPal, credit card, or at CoBACH Center.

June 22; 9am—2pm: Old Village Cemetery Headstone Conservation Day. Help rebuild broken headstones at Brighton’s 1838 Cemetery. See Page 1 Article.
- June 24; 6pm: BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH.
- July 4; 10am: Parade on Main Street. Duck Race at the Millpond follows parade.

Sponsored by the Livingston Players. Tickets $10. www.livplayers.org, PayPal, credit card, or at CoBACH Center.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:
- June 5: Waterloo Area Historical Society — Museum opens for summer weekend tours. www.waterloofarmmuseum.org
- June 12: History Skills Workshop Series; Printed Marketing. www.hsmichigan.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: _________________________ State: _______ Zip Code: _________
City: _____________________________
E-Mail: ___________________________

How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales: [ ] Email [ ] US mail
(Please check one)

Membership Plan:
[ ] New [ ] $2 Student [ ] $50 Patron
[ ] Renew [ ] $15 Individual [ ] $60 Business/Professional
[ ] $25 Family [ ] $500 Life

Composer of Lyon School:
[ ] $10 [ ] $100
[ ] $25 [ ] $250
[ ] $50 [ ] Other $_______

BAHS Projects Fund:
[ ] $10 [ ] $100
[ ] $25 [ ] $250
[ ] $50 [ ] Other $_______

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

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 (one day a month), help set up displays, loan of personal items for displays of the early days of Brighton.
Contact Jim Vichich at 810-250-7276

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE UPDATES AT www.brightonareahistorical.com

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

BAHS Leadership 2015
President
Jim Vichich
Vice President
Marieanna Bair
Secretary
Carole Damon
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor
Jerry Damon

Directors
Bill Besso
Joe Collins
Nancy Fredenburg
Mindy Kinsey
Larry Lawrence
Lin Millar
Thomas Reinke
Tammy Sexton
Lynn Strong
Education Liaison
Judith Coebly, Sue Skwarski

BAHS Projects Fund:
Friend of Lyon School:

From Settlement to City:
Brighton, Michigan 1832-1945
By Carol McMacken

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.

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 Acquisition: In the spring of 1927, Burroughs Adding Machine Company started purchasing farmland about 3-1/2 miles west of downtown Brighton, Michigan. The new Burroughs Farms would be about 40 miles from Company headquarters. Eleven farms were eventually purchased. The land records, specifically the descriptions of the land purchased, aren’t easy to decipher. They aren’t as easy as “bought 10 acres from John Doe.” For this reason, it isn’t clear just how many acres made up the Farms. Some later publication from the Company put the number of acres somewhere between 580 and 700. The lake frontage on West Crooked Lake, or “Little Crooked Lake” as we knew it, was two-thousand feet.

The Vision is Realized — the 1927 Season: The Grand Opening and Dedication of Burroughs Farms took place at 1 o’clock on the afternoon of Saturday, May 28, 1927. It was a bright, sunny day with temperatures in the low 70’s. The festivities were attended by more than 500 Burroughs people gathered at the main farmhouse, including my grandfather, DeWitt D. Chapman, and my father, Richard “Dick” Chapman, then a 5-year old. Burroughs President, Standish Backus, gave a speech, which in part said, “Because it is a Burroughs enterprise, we hope that it will add to your health and happiness, subtract from your tribulations, multiply your pleasures and divide your worries.” A new U.S. flag was unfurled on the new flag post located on the lawn of the farmhouse, and the Burroughs Band played The Star Spangled Banner to commemorate the occasion.

Following the opening ceremonies, the hundreds in attendance fanned out around the property to get their first look at their new playground. Many hurried to the new picnic grove and its cooking stoves to have their first Farms picnic. Others took to hiking through woods and over hills. Sporting enthusiasts took to the new Gun Club & Archery Range.

The Company wasted no time in transforming the land for the use of the “family.” Over the years, the Farms included 2 phenomenal golf courses, a restaurant, a dance hall, a baseball diamond, grandstands where outdoor movies were shown, shuffleboard, rental boats, and 80 rental cottages as well as permanent trailer sites, private cottages, and campgrounds.

For more than 50 years, Burroughs Farms would be a summer home to hundreds of families, truly heaven on earth. I don’t believe there was any place like it anywhere else. It lives on vividly in our hearts and our minds, and those of us lucky enough to have called it “home” remain family to one another even 30 years after its closing.

(Thanks to Beth Chapman Smith for her submission. Beth’s grandfather, Dewitt D. Chapman and her father, Richard “Dick” Chapman, both worked for Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Grandfather 1909-1952 and Father 1947-1981. Her grandparents, then parents enjoyed using the Farms. Her parents bought a permanent trailer at the Farms in 1954 and raised all 5 of their children there until it closed in 1985.)

See CoBACH Exhibit in July-August featuring Burroughs Farms Memorabilia.