CAPTAIN ROSE RISES AGAIN

Captain George W. Rose, a Brighton resident, was killed in action during the Civil War at the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia in 1864. George Rose answered President Lincoln’s call for men in 1861 and joined the 5th Michigan Infantry, Company I, as a First Sergeant.

This distinguished white marble headstone bearing his name within a crest that is topped by an eagle with flags to either side has been lying broken in the dirt and grass for at least the last 70 years. The final record of this man’s life and service to country is finally standing upright again. The volunteers of the Brighton Area Historical Society Headstone Preservation Project will complete the Captain Rose restoration by the end of August.

To view this headstone, walk through the double arched entrance gates of Brighton’s Old Village Cemetery located downtown next to the Millpond and up the hill behind the gazebo. Walk straight about 200 feet under the beautiful canopy of trees and look three headstone rows to the right for the three small U.S. flags on veterans graves.

All broken and leaning headstones within the cemetery are being repaired in a ten year project financed by memberships and donations to the Brighton Area Historical Society. If you would like to join as a volunteer on the 4th Monday of each month during the summer or make a donation, please contact me.

Jim Vichich 810-250-7276
President BAHS
Jvichich@comcast.net

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY
The Brighton Area Historical Society extends condolences to the family of Margaret Wilcox
A long time member of the Society.

The Brighton Kiwanis Club and Dennis Dimoff are to be thanked for their 39th year of providing music by the mill pond during the summer. Not every community has such a perfect site for holding these kinds of events nor does every community have such dedicated individuals and groups such as Dennis Dimoff and the Brighton Kiwanis. (In fact, the Brighton area has a number of groups dedicated to the improvement, enjoyment and enrichment of this community.)
Thanks and Recognition

Memberships:

INDIV/FAMILIES: Joanne Bellmard, David & Jacque Fuller*, Rodney Goble*.

*Welcome to new members: David & Jacque Fuller and Rodney Goble.

Renewing and new members keep the Society vital.

THANKS:

- Marieanna Bair, Jackie Damm, Jeanette Johnson and Jane Tomlinson for preparing the August issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- CoBACH volunteers for August: Mindy Kinsey, Hank Winegar, Joe Collins, Sheryl Vigmostad, Nancy Fredenburg, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Mindy Kinsey for setting up the Burroughs Farms Exhibit at the CoBACH Center for July and August. Many wonderful comments shared by all the visitors!
- The fun-loving archivists who enjoy volunteering every Thursday at the Lyon Schoolhouse include: Jerry Damon, Marieanna Bair, Mindy Kinsey, Jill Eastcott, Joe Collins, Valerie Haggerty, Lynn Strong, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Ed Vitez as the dynamic Dr. Gatling as he presented about his Gatling gun at CoBACH Center on August 16. Thanks to Joyce Vitez for assisting with this presentation.
- To the following volunteers who helped setup, teardown and staff our BAHS booth during the Brighton Art Fair: Jerry and Carole Damon, Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Joanne Bellmard, Shirley and Bob Knight, Jeanette Johnson, Lynn Strong, Carol McMacken, Sheryl Vigmostad, Marieanna Bair, Sue and Lee Garcia, Genel Pratt, Valerie Haggerty, Hank Winegar, Betsy Herbst, Joyce Powers, Lin and Clark Millar, Tom Reinke, Tony and Beth Ferreyra, Tammy Sexton and Jim Vichich.
- Bob & Kitty Padget for their address change.
- Brighton Rotary for a hard cover edition of Old Brighton Village, and 1946 Brighton Victory Homecoming booklet.
- Trail Tales readers who send address changes.
- Rodney Goble for his donation to the BAHS Project Fund with his membership.

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK
at
Brighton Area Historical Society

Dates to Remember

September—October CoBACH Exhibit: “Youngsters View of Brighton History” Sun-Fri: 5-8pm, Sat: 11am—5pm, Mon: Closed
Sept. 2,3,6,9,10,13,16,17,20,23,24,27,30; 5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sun., and Wed and Thurs.
Sept. 3,10,17,24; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.
Sept. 23; 6pm: BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH.
Oct 1; 6:30pm—9pm: Cluster Meeting of Historical Societies and Libraries at Milford Historical Society Museum.
October 16 and 24 The Remarkable Molly Brown, and October 17 and 23 Mary Todd Lincoln: Encore Performances: 7:30 pm at CoBACH. Tickets are $10 at CoBACH or $10 + fee using PayPal at www.livplayers.org.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:
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: □ New □ $2 Student □ $50 Patron □ $10 □ $100
□ Renew □ $15 Individual □ $60 Business/Professional □ $25 □ $250
□ $25 Family □ $50 Life □ $500 Other $________

Friend of Lyon School: □ $10 □ $100 □ $25 □ $250
BAHS Projects Fund: □ $50 □ $250 □ $500 Other $________

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

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

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

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.
A Story About Island Lake — Part 1

The words Island Lake cause one to think of the state park, year round homes with lake frontage, recreation, fishing, swimming, etc. In the late 18th century it (with Fonda and Briggs Lakes) was often home to Indians of the Chippewa and Ottawa tribes, among others. They tended gardens of corn. Their diet was supplemented with nuts, roots, etc., they shot game and fished in the lake.

With the dawning of the 19th century settlers from eastern states arrived to farm (often finding arrowheads when plowing), displacing the Indians, who were forcibly moved farther west on to reservations.

By 1834, much of the Island, Fonda and Briggs Lakes area was purchased by speculators, few of whom ever came to see their claim. By the mid 1800s the names John Sowle, James Coe and Lewis B. Fonda appear as landowners in the records. They were putting down roots.

The majority of farmers included an ice house with their other outbuildings. By the 1850s, ice began to be harvested commercially. An ice house for storing ice cut from Island Lake was located on the southwest side of the lake.

In 1872, the Detroit, Lansing and Northern (D.L.&N.) Railroad put down tracks around the south end of Island Lake on its way from the Green Oak Station on to Brighton and beyond. Where the tracks crossed Academy Drive, a station was constructed.

The arrival of the D. L. & N. Railroad improved the commercial aspect considerably. A special siding for shipping ice was installed. Refrigerated cars made the transport of ice to far markets viable. Crystal McFadden Ice Company often hired 30-40 men, usually farmers, during the winter months. With the invention of electric refrigeration near the turn of the 20th century, most people by the mid 1930s, had the source of ice in their own homes. However, it was the mid 1950s before home delivery was discontinued.

Learning that the Michigan Militia was searching for a suitable training ground, B.T.O. Clark, a Brighton attorney, promoted the Island Lake site. Perhaps it was the proximity of the railroad with its depot and sidings, perhaps the water and ice from the lake, or perhaps the availability of suitable terrain, in any event the State Militia developed Camp Jerome in 1882 as a training site on the south side of the railroad at Academy Drive. The arrival of hundreds of men for training each summer assuredly improved the local economy. Militia from other states trained here also. When war was declared with Spain April 25, 1898, five National Guard regiments of over 5000 enlisted men and over 230 officers boarded the train at Island Lake for service, May 8/July 25, 1898. Thousands were on hand to watch and cheer on each day’s departure. The training grounds were later used sporadically. Workers took down the buildings to be reconstructed at a camp in Manistee, June 1901.

With declaration of WWI, April 9, 1917, the Island Lake campground site was considered inadequate because of the huge numbers of men involved. (To be Continued)

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from ”From Settlement to City, Brighton, Michigan, 1832-1945” by Carol McMacken and “Yesteryears of Green Oak, 1830-1930”. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)

BAHS has a large number of old photos that are available for purchase from the Society. Contact Jim at 810-250-7276 or visit the Lyon School on Buno Road any Thursday morning from 9am—12nn.