



Spring Cleaning at Old Village Cemetery, May 7, 2016

There is little doubt that spring is just around the corner. Warmer temperatures, more daylight in the evening and the growing number of potholes taking over the roadways provides the true evidence that we are about to move beyond the spring equinox.

The citizens of Brighton, along with members of the Brighton Area Historical Society and employees of Brighton's DPW are entering their 8th Annual Spring Refurbishing of Old Village Cemetery on **Saturday, May 7 from 9am — 12:30pm**. The goal is to have Brighton's oldest cemetery (1838), including all veteran gravesites, looking first class for the Memorial Day observance taking place on Monday, May 30th.

There have been tremendous joint efforts by many to improve the appearance of this burial ground after the Brighton Area Historical Society pitched the improvement plan to Dana Foster, former City Manager in February 2009.

Prior to the pitch, some many remember that the cemetery was locked and closed all day to any visitors. Brush and weed trees totally encompassed the cemetery making it impossible to see into the grounds. Many headstones around the perimeter were covered by brush and impossible to see.

Please join us to continue the transformation on May 7th. This is an important community event where you can participate and perform valuable civic duty. You are guaranteed a wonderful feeling when you are done!!

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

EXHIBITS at CoBACH

Sunday—Friday 5—8pm

Saturday 11am—5pm

Closed Monday



March 5 through April 30

"Bless the Little Ones"

A look at children's textiles

SAVE THE DATE

July 17

3:30pm—6:30pm

**35th Birthday Party for
the Brighton Area
Historical Society**

**Celebrate at CoBACH and
West Street**

**Bounce house, cake, slide
show of old Brighton pho-
tos, souvenirs, balloons
and more.**

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Thanks and Recognition

Memberships:

BUS/PROF: Clark Eye Center

PATRON: Margaret Bowland, Bob & Shirley Knight, Margo Metzger.

INDIV/FAMILY: Bill & Mary Kay Besso, The Ferreyras, Phil & Peggy Gage, Randall Klepinger*, Richard & Kathleen McKinnie, Pat Nelson, Tom Reinke, Lynn Strong, Yvonne Taylor, Bill & Gigi Vaillencourt, Robert Wilkinson, Sandra Willhide 2017.

*Welcome to new member: Randall Klepinger. The Society board and other active members are always encouraged with renewals and new members.

THANKS:

- Marieanna Bair and Jim Vichich for preparing the February issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Margaret Bowland, The Ferreyras, Margo Metzger and Pat Nelson for including a donation to the Old Village Cemetery project with their dues.
- Randall Klepinger, Richard & Kathleen McKinnie and Yvonne Taylor for including a donation to the Society's Project Fund with their dues.
- Bob & Shirley Knight for including a donation to Friends of Lyon School with their dues.

11th Annual Brighton Antique Show

Saturday, March 5th, 2016
9525 East Highland Rd (M59)
9am — 4pm

Admission proceeds provide scholarships for local area graduating seniors. Admission \$4 per person.

- CoBACH volunteers for February: Lynn Strong,, Nancy Fredenburg, Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Hank Winegar, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Thursday morning history archivists who research and file local history information and share a laugh or two include: Lynn Strong, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Marieanna Bair, Mindy Kinsey, Lin Millar, Peggy Van Sickle, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Carole and Jerry Damon for the first class production of the monthly *Trail Tales* newsletter.
- Mindy Kinsey and her wonderful talents for assembling interesting exhibits at CoBACH Center. Every exhibit ties in local history and presents information about Brighton's past.
- Joe Collins for bringing his Thursday morning delicacies of donuts or blueberry muffins to share with all archivists.
- Mel Sanchas for loaning his foot pedal scroll saw. It was a hit at the "Let the Chips Fly" exhibit at CoBACH.

MAY 7th — 9AM—12:30 PM 8th Annual Old Village Cemetery Spring Cleanup.

Bring your gloves and a leaf rake as we return beauty and dignity to Brighton's oldest cemetery.

All gravesites including the many Brighton veterans burial sites will be freed from winter's debris of branches and leaves in time for Memorial Day, May 30th.

Society Life Members:

John & Deb Armstrong
Tom Archer
Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen)
Marieanna Bair
Shirley Barton
Charles & Janice Beach
Donald & Shari Black (N.J.)
Marilyn Campbell (IN)
John & Jenny Conely
Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan
Jerry & Carole Damon
Emil Engel
Nancy Fredenburg
William & Lenore Harris
Betsy & Bob Herbst
Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN)
Larry & Kate Lawrence
Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)
Carol McMacken
Jere & Kay Michaels
James & Janis Miller
Richard Park (IL)
Bob & Donna Phillips
Joyce Powers
Douglas & Carole Rearick
Robert & Pauline Schaffer
Anne Stratigos
Jim & Vicki Vichich
Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

Business /Professional Members:

Acorn Deck Accessories, Inc. (2015)
Advance Craft Builders (2016)
Brighton Art Guild (2016)
Brighton District Library **
Buckley Jolley Group LLC (2015)
Clark Eye Center (2016)
Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2016)
ERA Griffith Realty
Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc. (2016)
Lindhout Associates**
Make Believe Manor, LLC (2016)
Mancuso and Cameron P.C. (2015)
Lawrence Autobody **
McCrie & Associates, P.C. (2015)
Masonic Lodge No. 247 **
Patrick Financial Group, LLC **
Preview Properties (2016)
Promess, Inc.**
Refrigeration Research **
Archer Huntley Financial Services **
Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.**

** Life Members

Dates to Remember

March 5 through April 30: CoBACH Center Exhibit, "Bless the Little Ones"

March 2,3,6,9,10,13,16,17,20,23,24,27,30,31; 5—8pm: BAHs hosts at CoBACH Center on Sun. and Wed. and Thurs.

Mar. 3,10,17,24,31; 9am—12nn: Archiving/ Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.

March 23; 6pm: BAHs Board Meeting at CoBACH.

April 28; 6:30pm—9pm: Spring Cluster meeting for local historical and genealogical societies, and libraries. To be held at the Hartland Crounse Library. Great format for sharing information & learning about local history.

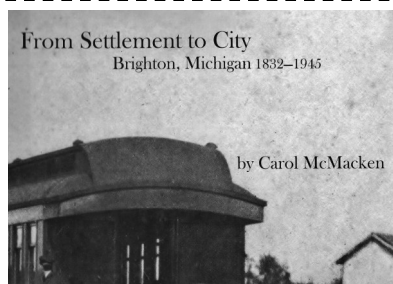
May 30; 10am—10:30am: Memorial Day Veteran's Parade on Main Street.

May 30; 9am—1pm: CoBACH Center in downtown Brighton. Special one-day **FREE exhibit** featuring Civil War memorabilia. Awesome local display of quality artifacts used in the Civil War. See long rifles, pistols, motor rounds, uniforms, drums, and more.

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: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-Mail: _____	Phone: () _____
How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> US mail		
Membership Plan: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron <input type="checkbox"/> Renew <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	Donation to—Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School <input type="checkbox"/> BAHS Projects Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund	Amount of Donation: <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <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.		



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

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 (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 2016

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

Lynn Strong

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.

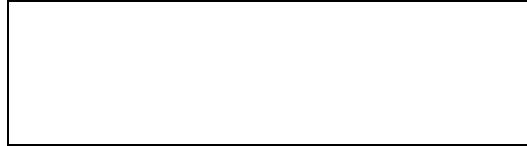
CoBACH Center

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.

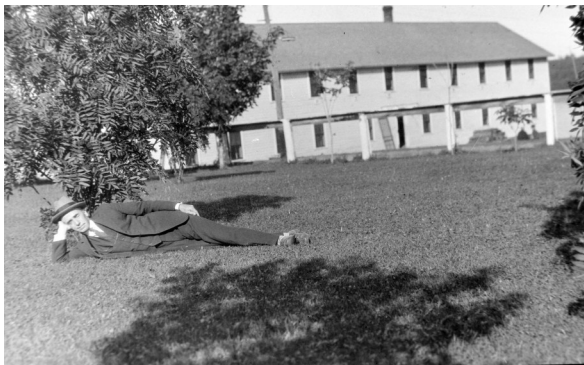
The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please help us fund our mission while also helping yourself with a tax-deductible contribution.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



A Story About Island Lake — Part 7



Dormitory at the Military Academy

The proximity of the State Park, William's Hillside Bathing Beach and Island Lake Hotel and Tom Leith's Michigan Military Academy was drawing hundreds of visitors to the south side of Island Lake in 1922. C.W. Burton, aware of competition, placed a large ad announcing the grand opening of his new Island Lake Pavilion across the lake. May 30, 1922, in the Brighton Argus. (The pavilion was on the north-westerly side of the lake.) "Dancing to Fisher's Orchestra led by Ike Fisher, himself." Over 350 attended. Fisher would also provide dance classes. Guests at Burton's Island Lake Pavilion came from Detroit, Ann Arbor, Flint, etc., to enjoy the beautiful and well made dance floor. The parking lot hosted Cadillacs, Dodges, Fords, Hudsons, Jordans, Lincolns, Pierce Arrows, and other well known makes. For dinner many drove to the other side of the lake to William's Island Lake Hotel. "Lena Bales was the cook and served really good food."

Burton's Island Lake Pavilion was built out over the water leaving a large open area below. The white stucco with blue trim dance hall, had half-moon shaped wood shutters and screens on the lake side. Lake people came in their row boats in order to dance. It was a nice lovers' place to rest after dancing, to look out to the blue water of the lake. There were always a few mischievous boys lighting firecrackers resulting in patrons screaming back up to the dance hall. A large room,

built by Chester Peach, for use by the musicians was also below the hall.

August 4, 1922, Manager Hearn offered the use of the Pavilion to the Federated Church (First Presbyterian) of Brighton which held Sunday services at Island Lake.

April 4, 1923, the Dodge Brothers of Detroit bought the property leased by the state, from Tom Leith, c. 22 acres. Included was the pavilion, athletic field and 1000 feet of lake frontage, and presented it to the state — Dodge Brothers State Park No. 1. Other amusements were also to be added. Leith retained use of the Academy buildings and property for ten years, when not open to the public; also his home and the little island. Leith's Michigan Military Academy would continue its schedule of programs and curriculum.

In 1925, the Island Lake Pavilion, 7325 Island Lake Drive, was named the Blue Lantern. Over the years big name bands — Hank Biagini's Casa Loma Band, the Corn Huskers, McKinney's Cotton Pickers, Red Nichols, Abe Lyman, Benny Goodman, Wayne King, Bob Crosby and the Bobcats, and the Dorsey Brothers performed at the Blue Lantern. Jean Goldkette, an orchestra leader from Detroit, was the booking agent for the bands. The first regular meeting of the Lions Club at the Lincoln Hotel (130 W. Grand River) in Brighton on 1926, was entertained by Goldkette's orchestra.

The Blue Lantern was not the only place for dancers to 'strut their stuff'. George Williams sold his Island Lake Hotel in July 1925, to Roy Downing, the manager.

The competition of the two dance halls resulted in many ads in the local press, the Brighton Argus. Area commercial establishments, real estate agents, builders, etc., all gained as thousands arrived each weekend and all summer. *To be Continued...*

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from "Yesteryears of Green Oak"; donated photographs and clippings. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)