

Trail Tales

Volume XXXV No. 7 July 2016







Birthday Party — Last Minute Reminder!!

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, July 17 in downtown Brighton.

The Brighton Area Historical Society invites all members and friends of Brighton to attend their 35th Birthday Party from 3:30PM to 6:30PM. West Street between the Yum Yum Tree Restaurant and the CoBACH Center will be closed for free birthday events that include old-time games, yummy ice cream and tasty birthday cake.

This is a wonderful opportunity for kids and adults alike to experience entertainment that was common nearly 100 years ago. There will be adults to supervise these games. Treat your children and grandchildren to the simple amusing activities that kept generations of kids busy in summer or during school recess.

All guests will enjoy the continuous slide show inside the air-conditioned CoBACH Center which will feature many old Brighton photos circa 1910. See cool large photos (30" x 48") displayed of Main Street and Grand River Avenue when only horses and carriages were used for transportation. Check out the businesses and building styles where everyone in town used to shop!

Souvenirs will be given to all. There will be helium-filled party balloons for the kids. Share Brighton's past with your family and friends. Great weather is guaranteed!

Immediately following the birthday party you can stay and enjoy the music of the "Persuasion Band" during the Sunday evening Kiwanis Millpond Concert.

Enjoy summer in downtown Brighton!

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

EXHIBITS at CoBACH

Sunday—Friday 5—8pm Saturday 11am—5pm Closed Monday



Through July 4
"G. B. Ratz & Son Hardware"

CoBACH Display July 5—August 31

"Old Brighton Memories: Photos and Memorabilia of the Past.

Check out photos of downtown Brighton, circa 1910 before there were cars on Grand River Avenue

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Thanks and Recognition

Memberships:

LIFE: Timothy & Giannine Corrigan*.

INDIV/FAMILY: MaryAnn Catrell, James & Lisa Hartman*, Jonathon Twork (2018).

*Welcome to new members Timothy & Giannine Corrigan and James & Lisa Hartman..

THANKS:

- Marieanna Bair, Judith Coebly, Denise Daddino, Jeanette Johnson, Gary Reutter, Jane Tomlinson and Jim Vichich for • preparing the June issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- May Headstone Restoration Team volunteers include Bob Knight, Ed Vitez, Jerry Damon, Dave Rebiger, Dave Pettigrove, Bill Dixon, Bill Goodwin, Larry Lawrence, Dave Fuller, Bob Pettengill, Joe Collins, John Park and Jim Vichich.
- CoBACH volunteers for June: Lin Millar, Bonnie Riutta, Lynn Strong, Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Nancy Fredenburg, Lynn Strong and Mindy Kinsey for help at the Farmer's Market Flower Day.

- Loretta Murray for her donation of dress hoops to the society.
- The Lyon School Team of Archivists who meet Thursday mornings from 9am until noon for work then recreate offsite for lunch from noon to 1:30pm: Marieanna Bair, Lynn Strong, Jerry Damon, Lin Millar, Peggy Van Sickle, Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich. Both sessions are very enjoyable!
- The team of Jerry and Carole Damon for their outstanding work as they prepare the publication of local historical writings done by Marieanna Bair over the past 30 years. These stories have graced the last page of the monthly newsletter, Trail Tales. This softbound book will be available in July and the price will be \$20. This book is a "must have" for the folks that enjoy our local history!
- Julius DeChavez of the DeChavez Design Co. for his design work on the new 35th Birthday Logo for the Society. Thank you for your touch-Julius!

Dates to Remember

July 5-August 31: CoBACH Center Exhibit, FREE! Old Brighton July 27; 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH. Memories: Photos and Memorabilia of the Past. Very cool old downtown photos from about 1910 that are 30" x 48". Great chance to check out downtown photos before there were cars!

July 3,6,10,13,17,20,24,27,31; 5-8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday.

July 7, 14, 21, 28; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.

July 4; 10am: Parade on Main Street; Duck Race at the Millpond follows parade.

July 25; 9am—2pm: Old Village Cemetery Headstone Restoration for: August 23, Sept. 26, October 24.

August 27: CoBACH Center, 5pm-6pm, FREE! Military bugle presentation by Dave Pettigrove from the Sons of the Union Veterans Camp 120 in Howell. Dave will explain and play many of the different bugle commands that allow soldiers to hear the battle orders in times of war when voice orders from Officer's couldn't be heard.

With Other Organizations:

July 9; 10am—3pm: Save the Flags. 150th Anniversary of the return of the Civil War Volunteers and their Battle Flags. More information: http://capitol.Michigan.gov/BattleFlagFlier.

Day. Team meets 4th Monday through October. Set your calendar August 13-14: Antique Tractor, Truck and Farm Equipment Show. Waterloo Area Historical Society. www.waterloofarmmuseum.org

Life — Business — Professional Members

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 — Timothy & Giannine 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 John G. Park & Madeline Kingston-Park — Richard Park (IL) — Bob & Donna Phillips — Joyce Powers — Douglas & Carole Rearick Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Jim & Vicki Vichich Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

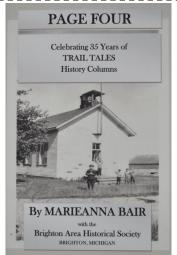
Business / Professional Members: (** Indicates Life Members)

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

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: E-Mail: How would you	Phone: () — State: Zip Code: prefer to receive Trail Tales: Email US mail	
\$25 Family \$500	usiness/Professiona Life	Donation to—Check One: Friend of Lyon School BAHS COBACH Events Old Village Cemetery Fund Amount of Donation: \$10 \$100 \$25 \$250 \$50 Other \$	



A NEW BOOK FROM THE BAHS

A selected compilation of the columns Marieanna Bair has written faithfully over the past 35 years. The reader will encounter here a glimpse of the merchants that plied their trade. You will also meet the farmers and local residents who walked the streets, worked the farms, worshiped in the local churches, and recreated along the plentiful Brighton area lakes for the past 150 years.

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.

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

Grand River Trail to Grand River Avenue

in mid Michigan before the mid 1850s although ancestors were born in New York before the end of the 18th century.

John Lorenzo Taylor, Sr., and wife Mahala bought 80 acres in Brighton Township November 8, 1856, in Section 10 along Hyne Road. There they raised five boys and five girls on their stock and produce farm and John's work as a thresher. The boys usually became local farmers and the girls often married local farmers.

The 1915 map of the township records 40 acres (Section 9) in the name of John L. Taylor, Jr., north of Brighton where Hilton Road (1875) ends at the well-traveled Grand River Road. Taylors were witness to Grand River as Plank Road, then gravel, before paving in the 1920s. It was variously titled M-16, then U.S. 16, when paved, on its way to the Capitol in Lansing.

John L. Jr., is owner of 80 acres on the south side of Hilton Road traversed by Ore Creek on its way to Brighton Village. His neighbor Charles Jacobs, father of wife, Flora Estelle, owns the Undeveloped land on the west side of Grand River soon was 80 acres just west. John's name is also on another 40 acres on both sides of the Grand River Road also south of Hilton Road. When tractors became available c. 1918, the Taylors were among the first to make use of them. John and Flora are parents of four children, Clarence, Lillian, Ruth and Mildred. All marry neighbors' children. Many of the Taylor children were educated in the area "...Continuing their well known and respected reputation of working diligently and being forward looking."

The 1959 map sports dash marks across the southern half of Brighton Township including, diagonally, through Clarence and wife, Ernestine Hicks' 370 acres which are under cultivation

Census records indicate members of the Taylor family arrived dedicated to various grains and potatoes. By 1930, Clarence also has a trucking business. These dash marks are the route of the proposed I-96 highway. Their only child, Horace, is very involved in the farm and soon assumes responsibility of Taylor Moving and Storage; still accessible from Hilton Road. Horace also has the distinction of being the first child born, October 22, 1921, in the new Mellus Hospital at 121 E. North Street, remodeled from a large home on the site.

> By 1965, the intersection of I-96 and Grand River involves much of Clarence Taylor's farm home site and acreage as well as others' cultivated land. Can we imagine driving through their barns and yard?

> Local governing bodies soon were reviewing various developers' proposals for that suddenly prime real estate. Ground was broken for the Brighton Mall, east of Grand River, south of I-96, in 1970; construction of the theater to the east of the mall began November 23, 1971.

> transformed into another mall with home improvement stores, clothing, furniture stores, restaurants, theater and a medical center (November 1997) etc., etc. In 1990 two lane gravel Challis Road has become a five lane paved thoroughfare and gas stations, banks, the Post Office, etc., spring up in its proximity.

> (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from township maps; census records; "Early Landowners and Settlers" by Milton Charboneau; "From Settlement to City-Brighton, Michigan 1832-1945" by Carol McMacken; interview with Clarence's granddaughter, Jane Jarvis Tomlinson. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)