Three large donations were made to the Society so the wonderful restoration work within Old Village Cemetery can hopefully continue with minimal depletion of Society funds that are used for other preservation and educational efforts.

Thank you to Dan and Anna Oginsky of Brighton for their $1,000 donation to become a 2017 Platinum Level Sponsor of the Society. The Platinum Level is the highest level for Sponsorship. It is hopeful that the generosity of the Oginsky Family will extend to other community members who can stretch a little further to help to preserve and share the historical past of our wonderful community!

Thank you to the City Council of Brighton, Mayor Muzzin and City Manager Nate Geinzer for their $2,000 donation to support the restoration work and to help defray Society expenditures within the Old Village Cemetery. The City’s working relationship with the BAHS is valued and has other municipalities investigating this work/volunteer arrangement. BAHS volunteer time with the Old Village Cemetery headstone restoration work to date is 1,790 hours. BAHS/community volunteer time with Old Village Cemetery spring cleanups to date is 1,630 hours.

Thank you to Brighton’s Masonic Lodge #247. The Masons donated $1,000 to become a 2017 Platinum Level Sponsor of the Society as the Society restores the many broken/damaged headstones of the early community families and leaders of which many belonged to the Masonic Lodge.

Thanks to everyone for your help! Remember the Society is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Your donations may be income tax deductible!

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

Memberships:
BUS/PROF: Preview Properties.

*Welcome to new members: Richard & Lettia Smith.

THANKS TO:
• Marianna Bair, Jeanette Johnson, Bob & Shirley Knight and Jim Vichich for preparing the February issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
• Bob Johnson and Hank & Mary Lou Winegar for their donation to the Old Village Cemetery Project with their dues.
• MaryAnn Catrell, Bob Johnson and Richard & Lettia Smith for their donation to CoBACH events with their dues.
• Jacqui Armstrong, MaryAnn Catrell, Sandra Everett and Bob Johnson for their donation to Friends of Lyon School with their dues.
• Joyce Hubbs for her donation in memory of Bernie Corrigan.
• C.G. & Lillian Mitsopoulos and Pam Hicks for their donations with their dues.
• Norma Jean Pless for donating WWI pictures and 1800’s Brighton City meeting minutes to the Society.
• Brighton Masonic Lodge #247 for their generosity in becoming a 2017 Platinum Level Sponsor for the Headstone Preservation Program at the Old Village Cemetery.
• Brighton residents Dan and Anna Oginsky for their strong desire to preserve history in Brighton by becoming a 2017 Platinum Level Sponsor for the Headstone Preservation Program in the Old Village Cemetery and the 1885 Lyon Schoolhouse.
• City of Brighton Town Council, Mayor and City Manager for their generous 2017 donation of $2,000 for assisting with expenses, repair work and restoration of the broken headstones in the Old Village Cemetery. The Headstone Restoration Team is starting year 5 and to date about 127 broken headstones that were lying in dirt and sod have been restored and are standing proudly upright. An equal number of leaning headstones have been removed and reinstalled into the vertical position. Volunteer time for headstone restoration to date is 1790 hours.
• The dedicated volunteers who strive to preserve and share history every Thursday morning from 9am—12noon at the Lyons Schoolhouse: Marianna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Val Haggerty, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Lin Millar, Norma Jean Pless, Lynn Strong, and Jim Vichich.
• Mark Mullinax of the Brighton Library for donating the 1873 Brighton Citizen newspaper.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibits — FREE!!
March—May: World War I
March 1,2,5,8,9,12,15,16,19,22,23,26,29,30; 5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
March 2,9,12,16,23,30; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.
March 22; 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH Center.
May 6; 9am—12:30pm: Old Village Cemetery 9th Annual Spring Cleanup. Your help is needed!
May 22; 9am—2:30pm: Old Village Cemetery Headstone Restoration Day #1—2017.
May 29; 9am—1pm: Memorial Day Special Civil War Exhibit at CoBACH Center.
August 13; 1pm—10pm: Brighton 150th Anniversary Celebration. Record on your calendar! Don’t miss!

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:
John & Deb Armstrong — Tom Archer — Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen) — Marianna Bair — Shirley Barton — Charles & Janice Beach
Donald & Shari Black (N.J.) — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — John & Jenny Conely — Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan — Timothy & Giannine Corrigan
Larry & Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) — Carol McMacken — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller
Douglas & Carole Rearick — Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos
Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Winternute

Business /Professional Members: (** Indicates Life Members)
Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Group, LLC (2017) — Clark Eye Center (2016)
Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2017) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Autobody **
Preview Properties (2017) — Promess, Inc.** Refrigeration Research **

2017 Sponsorships
Platinum Level: Masonic Lodge No. 247 — Dan & Anna Oginsky
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.

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

**BAHS Director — Lin Millar:** In 200 words or less, I am suppose to introduce myself and tell you a little bit about me. So, here it goes!

For the most part I am very typical of the great folks who dedicate much of their spare time to the BAHS. Born and raised in Brighton, I’ve had family here for generations. This October, if he continues to play his cards right, we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. Have two daughters, one born in the Philippines and one in Howell. There are two sons-in-law. One from Texas and one from Vermont. Also four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Won’t list their birth places. Sufficient to say we are a proud career military family and have spent the past 46 years living everywhere except Brighton.

Some of my life experiences may differ from yours. When we lived in Germany, I got to experience the Berlin Wall from both sides when I passed through Checkpoint Charlie and spent some time visiting my East German pen pal, Rosewitha. During my time in NY state, I worked for Oneida Indian Nation when they opened the first Indian Casino. In Louisiana I volunteered at a State museum that began as a WPA project. I am over my word limit, but not out of stories. More important, I would like to hear your stories. I invite you to join us at the Lyon Schoolhouse any Thursday between the hours of 9am—12noon. Let the stories continue!

**BAHS Leadership 2017**

**President**
Jim Vichich

**Vice President**
Marieanna Bair

**Secretary**
Carole Damon

**Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor**
Jerry Damon

**Directors**
Joe Collins
Nancy Fredenburg
Mindy Kinsey
Larry Lawrence
Lin Millar
Thomas Reinke
Lynn Strong
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.
Early Roads in Genoa Township — Bauer, Crooked Lake and Sweet Roads

Prior to the construction of Interstate 96, Bauer Road ran south from Grand River for five miles, through Genoa Township. On the way it intersected Crooked Lake Road, Challis and Brighton Roads passing Cunningham Lake Road, also Bishop Lake and Teahan Roads before ending at Hamburg Road in Hamburg Township. August 3, 1859, George Bauer and wife, Barbara, with five sons, buy 40 acres in Genoa, Section 24. Five years later more land was purchased and again in 1867. A total of 320 acres was acquired at various times. The five sons were surely kept busy. The Bauer name is still on signposts, however it now begins south of I-96. The 3/4 miles north of I-96, commencing at Grand River, are now name Hubert Road.

Construction of I-96 also interrupted Crooked Lake Road. In 1955, Crooked Lake Road began at Grand River, heading west, bisecting Genoa Township for six miles intersecting Bauer, Dorr, Latson and Chilson Roads. When the Detroit, Lansing, Lake Michigan Railroad was built, the Genoa Post Office was constructed at the crossing of the Crooked Lake and Dorr Road flag station. Joe Bogan managed the station in 1875. Post Offices were later located in nearby cities and villages on the railroad. By 1915, Crooked Lake Road crosses Chilson Road to the Marion Township line. The two miles east of I-96 have been named Herbst Road, commemorating the early Herbst family land purchases. Herbst Road ends a Dorr Road.

A family of hard working farmers named Sweet arrived in the area c. 1865. They continued their productive way. By the 1870 Census, Newberry C. 53, of Pennsylvania owned property valued at $7,500; Ambrose 45, of New York owned property valued at $4,000; and John B. 32 of Pennsylvania owned property valued at $2,200, all in Genoa Township. Ambrose and Newberry may have been brothers. In 1870-71, Newberry served as Justice of the Peace in Genoa. Other Sweet family landowners in 1875 were Cyrus S., Henry, Mrs. N.C., Miss Evalena, and Theodore, all in Sections 8, 9, 16 and 17.

The township plat map locates 450 acres in the Sweet name at the time. By 1961, the Sweet family disposed of all that acreage. Sweet Road ran east from Latson Road for one mile to Fishbeck Road on the line between Sections 9 and 16, crossing the Detroit, Lansing, Lake Michigan Railroad tracks. The construction of Interstate 96 causes Sweet Road to end at the half-mile mark. However, their name lives on in the half-mile off Latson Road. Maria, Ambrose Sweet’s wife, and two other members of the family are interred in the Old Village Cemetery in Brighton. Not only did Detroit Edison have a hand in road name assignments, it would appear interstate construction did also.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: John and Janice Field transcriptions of the Cemetery; “1880 History of Livingston County” by Milton Charboneau; and census records. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)