



Old Village Cemetery Headstone Restoration for 2017

The 5th full season of the Headstone Restoration Project is set to begin on Monday, May 22 at Brighton's 1838 Old Village Cemetery. The goal is to have all broken headstones rebuilt and leaning headstones standing vertical once again. Excellent progress has been made as the Headstone Restoration Team hits the midpoint of this 10-year restoration/preservation program.

The team typically has 12-15 trained members at each work session throughout the summer season. **The work dates are the 4th Monday of each month from May through October. The work day begins at 9am and ends at about 2pm. Lunch is at the Yum Yum Tree restaurant from 11:30—12:30. The 2017 dates are: May 22, June 26, July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25 and Oct. 23.**

The work is very rewarding. So far 127 headstones that were broken, lying in the dirt and sod have been rebuilt and are standing tall again. An equal number that were leaning were removed and reinstalled upright.

If you have time and desire to bring respect to Brighton's earliest founders and military veterans, please consider joining the team. We have fun, laugh a lot and enjoy each other's company. We will train you while the work is being done. Feel free to call me and ask for details.

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

Save the date: August 13, Noon—10pm. Brighton's 150th Anniversary Celebration.
Community picnic on Main Street, free cemetery tours; Old Town skilled trade exhibits; Civil War music by the 5th Regimental Band; kids games; Kiwanis concert with 50 Amp Fuse Band and special LASER SHOW on Main St. and across the Millpond.

EXHIBITS at CoBACH

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

CoBACH Display
May — June
"World War I"



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Daily postings regarding
Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical
Society**

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Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:

PATRON: Jane Tomlinson (2018), Val & Kathy Jacoby.

INDIVIDUAL: John Rawcliffe, Peggy Van Sickle.

Dues-paying, donation-making and participating members keep this historical society viable.

THANKS TO:

- Jane Tomlinson for her donation to Friends of Lyon School with her dues.
- Peggy Van Sickle for her donation to the Old Village Cemetery project with her dues.
- Val & Kathy Jacoby for their donation to Lyon School, CoBACH events and Old Village Cemetery with their dues.
- Life member, Linda Wintermute for her donation to the Old Village Cemetery and CoBACH events.
- Marieanna Bair, Judith Coebly, Larry Lawrence, Gary Reuter and Jim Vichich for preparing the April issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Judith Coebly and Mindy Kinsey for their huge effort in researching local veterans for the current CoBACH display on WWI.
- Judith Coebly, Carole Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Susan Shearer and Lynn Strong for setting up the current CoBACH display.
- Dick and Mary Hutchins, Norm Roller, and Bill Rubin for the loan of items for the "Salute to WWI Veterans" currently at CoBACH Center.
- Marilyn Krueger for her donation of vintage clothing to the Society.
- Dan and Anna Oginsky (2017) and the Brighton Masonic Lodge (2016) for their generosity in becoming \$1000 Platinum Level Sponsors of Brighton Area Historical Society.
- Volunteers who donate their Thursday morning for preserving history of the past: Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Lin Millar, Norma Jean Pless, Peggy Van Sickle, Maris Wallog and Jim Vichich. Join us and share a story from the past. At noon we close up and head for a fun, talkative lunch at a local restaurant.
- CoBACH volunteers for April include: Joe Collins, Nancy Frenenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Bob and Shirley Knight, Larry Lawrence, Lin Millar, Norma Jean Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich. These volunteers work as docents at the CoBACH Center from 5-8pm on Sundays and Wednesday.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibits — FREE!!

May — June: World War I

May 3,7,10,14,17,21,24,28,31; 5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday.

May 4,11,18,25; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.

May 6; 9am—12 Noon: Old Village Cemetery 9th Annual Spring Cleanup. Your help is needed! Bring work gloves and a lawn rake.

May 22; 9am—2:30pm: Old Village Cemetery Headstone Restoration Day #1—2017. Remaining 2017 schedule: June 26, July 24,

August 28, Sept. 25, October 23.

May 24; 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting at Brewery Becker, 6pm. Brewery Becker, 500 W. Main St., Brighton. The board meeting will adjourn at 7pm for a tour of the facility. **NOTE: CHANGE OF LOCATION FOR MAY'S MEETING**

May 29; 9am—1pm: Memorial Day Special Civil War Exhibit at CoBACH Center. **(FREE)** Two private collectors display museum quality guns, uniforms, swords and more.

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) — 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 Frenenburg — 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 Greg & Pamela Park (OH) — 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 (2017) — Archer Huntley Financial Services ** — Brighton Art Guild (2017) Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm. ** — Buckley-Jolley Group, LLC (2017) — Clark Eye Center (2017) Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2017) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc. ** — Lindhout Associates ** — Lawrence Autobody ** Make Believe Manor, LLC (2016) — Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** — Power House Electric, Inc. (2017) 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.

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: _____
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		How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> US mail	
Membership Plan:		Donation to—Check One:	Amount of Donation:
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	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School	
		<input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund	

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



BAHS Director — Larry Lawrence: I'm sure that many people who know me think that I'm a Brighton native, but I'm not.

My ties to Brighton started about 1958ish when the new US23 expressway was being built right through our home in Whitmore Lake and we had to relocate. We chose Brighton as my stepfather, Neil Bird owned a combination barbershop/pool hall in downtown Brighton called Neil's Barbershop.

While in Whitmore Lake, Don Keehn was my homeroom science teacher and his wife, Sally, was my sister's 3rd grade teacher. Six weeks into the school year is when we moved to

Brighton at which time, Don Keehn came to Brighton to take over his uncle's funeral home. His wife, Sally, continued as my sister's 3rd grade teacher in the Brighton Area School system..

My interest in early Brighton history was spurred by two occasions. At about age 14, I discovered a couple of old Brighton postcards that started me on a collecting hobby. The second, at about age 18, I started stopping at a local restaurant for coffee. This happened to be where a lot of the old "Brightonites" were having their noon coffee klatch. Men like Marshall Cooper, Mike Michaels, Horace Taylor and the like. Soon they were inviting me over to sit with them so they had someone new to share their stories with. They found a willing listener and I was fascinated and learned so much about Brighton's history. Being a believer in "history repeats itself", I am now the old guy telling old stories many years later.

BAHS Leadership 2017

President
Jim Vichich

Vice President
Marieanna Bair

Secretary
Carole Damon

Treasurer & Trail Tales
Editor
Jerry Damon

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Joe Collins
Nancy Fredenburg
Mindy Kinsey
Larry Lawrence
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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:
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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

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Early Roads in Genoa Township — Latson and Dorr Roads

The 1859 map of Genoa Township indicates a north/south trail later known at Latson Road. Beginning at its junction with Chilson Road, about one mile north of Chilson, it proceeds north to the Genesee County line, a total of 16 miles. In the township it intersects Beck, Sweet and Crooked Lake Roads, and the railroad, constructed c. 1865-70. The trail, heading north, then crosses the Grand River Trail two miles east of the county seat, Howell.

The construction of I-96, beginning in 1961, dead ended Latson Road at the Beck Road intersection. The road south of the expressway was named Nixon Road. A great variety of business and commercial enterprises sprouted and flourished on Grand River and the need for an intersection with I-96 and Latson Road was recognized and completed in 2012. Latson Road now pursues its historical route and again assumes the name of Latson instead of Nixon.

November 12, 1835, Edward and Marian Latson purchased 160 acres in Section 7 of Genoa Township. By 1859 much of Section 7 had been bought and sold by Latson and by 1880 about 240 acres are still in his name. Ed, a member of the Livingston County Agricultural Society, exhibited colts at the Society’s first fair, held in 1853 in Brighton. In 1874 the “Latson & Wright” mill in Howell, was “...remodeled into a grist-and-flouring mill with two run of stones, and improved it to its excellent present condition.” (Walnut and Westmore Streets in Howell.)

Ed and Marian had six children, three boys and three girls. In 1874, son Albert, on his way home with a wagon load of recently-sawn lumber, was killed in an accident on the Detroit, Lansing, and Northern Michigan Railroad intersection at Latson Road. Ed, Marian and other members of the family are interred in Howell’s Lakeview Cemetery.

Across from Lake Chemung, Dorr Road proceeds south from Grand River two miles to Challis Road with an overpass at I-96. Genoa Township Hall is located on Dorr Road north of the railroad. Of the many who immigrated from Germany early in the 19th Century, Lewis and Elizabeth Dorr arrived with daughter, Catherine, purchasing 40 acres in Section 12, June 22, 1836. Adept at business and banking, Dorr was not a farmer. A carpenter and pattern maker by trade, he built his home in Section 14 on 80 acres and operated a tavern/stage stop on the south side of the Grand River Trail and Kellogg Road from 1840—1871. He hired a blacksmith and built a shop to better service the travelers on the Trail, a major route from Detroit to points west.

With the many other German immigrants in the neighborhood, he took part in organizing the German Evangelical Lutheran St. George Congregation, Genoa, Michigan on St. George’s Day, April 23, 1845.

Aware the future of this children would lay in land, by 1840, he has acquired 280 acres in the township. The 1895 plat map also notes the Dorr name on 236 acres bordering the east side of Crooked Lake, with about 1/2 mile of lake frontage in Section 22.

His children married fellow (often German) immigrants’ children. Much farm land was inherited by them; now sites of pleasant residences. Lewis and Elizabeth are interred in St. George Lutheran Cemetery on Herbst Road.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: plat maps; writings by Bill Pless; “Early Landowners...” by Milton Charboneau; 1880 History of Livingston County; census records. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)